

# The Hawkeyer

## Prez Sez

By Rod Burnett

The December board meeting was called to order at 3:45 with nine board members and three newly elected board members present

Penny Rittgers, chairperson of the education committee reported on the fall schedule of classes. Mike Smith is planning a follow up class for his beginning class.

Gary Oliphant reported that the annual meeting and election was held on October 23<sup>rd</sup>. Margie Brennan was reelected and four new board members were elected, including Eric Hill, Barbara Maas, Penny Rittgers, and Kate Reynolds.

Craig Nelsen chairperson of the holiday party held on December 11th reported an excellent turnout with nineteen tables of bridge following the pot luck meal.

Minutes of the October 12<sup>th</sup> board meeting were passed around for everyone to view and were then approved as submitted. Margie Brennan was not in attendance and no Treasurers report was submitted.

Sally Nelson reported on the

upcoming Holiday Sectional Tournament to be held January 7<sup>th</sup> thru January 10<sup>th</sup>. Arrangements have been made with Flooring America to allow us to use some of their parking for the tournament. John Melberg has agreed to supervise the parking lot on Friday afternoon which was the problem time in September.

A flu shot clinic was held at the bridge center early in November. Attendance was lower than previous years because of the late scheduling. The board feels that there are a lot of other flu shot locations available and we might consider not hosting that event in 2016.

Des Moines Bridge Corporation has leased larger facilities and the Unit will be moving as soon as the facility has been remodeled to our suggested floor plan. Craig, Linda Johnson and Dianne Swieskowki have been selected as a committee to make color and material decisions. The selected Project manager has resigned and Craig will be acting as project manager. It appears that our April tournament will be held at the

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current location as the final floor plan has not been approved as of this date.

Corporation is raising rent to the game owners effective January 1<sup>st</sup> and game owners will be charging \$7.00 for all games effective January 1<sup>st</sup>.

Congratulations to Janet Thomas on becoming a life master and to June Rizzuti on becoming a bronze life master.

This edition of PREZ SEZ will be my last issue as I am leaving the board of directors. Thank you everyone for your support while I served on the board and as your President.

# Hawkeye Bridge Association

## Officers

Rod Burnett            President  
Dee Wilson            Vice Pres.  
Linda Johnson        Secretary  
Margie Brennan      Treasurer  
Stan Gustafson      Past Pres.

## Board of Directors

2016 Kathi Kellen  
Dee Wilson  
Gary Oliphant  
Sally Nelson  
2015 Margie Brennan  
Rod Burnett  
Charlotte Hubbell  
Marilyn Jones  
2017 Linda Johnson  
Gregg Walsh  
Bonni Newton  
Craig Nelsen

## Committees

Publicity: Gary Oliphant,  
Craig Nelsen

Appeals: Pete Wityk, Jim  
Swanson, Val Laing

Audit: Rich Newell

Calendar: Scott Riley

Conduct and Ethics:  
Tom Olsson, John Gustafson,  
Val Laing

Education Chair: Penny  
Rittgers

Webmaster: Kathi Kellen

Hawkeyer: Terry Swanson

# Unit 216 Club Directory

## DES MOINES

Bridge Center  
10190 Hickman Court  
Clive, IA 270-0868

Sun. 2-4:30 pm (0-50) New  
players Lesson/ Chat Bridge  
Nancy Wilson 285-9916

## Monday

12 pm (1000/2000/open)  
12 pm (100/300/500)  
Nancy Wilson 285-9916  
6 pm Free mini-lesson by  
Nancy 285-9916  
6:30 pm (0-50) Newcomer  
Game

## Tuesday

12:00 pm  
(0-2000 Stratified)  
(200/300/500)  
Nancy Wilson 285-9916

## Wednesday

12:00 pm Free lesson  
12:30 pm (20/50/199)  
Bonni Newton 778-0899  
7 pm (500/1000/1500 or  
any non-LM partnership)  
Gregg Walsh 771-4802

## Thursday

12 pm (1500/2500/open)  
12 pm (300/750/1000)  
Gregg Walsh 771-4802

## Friday

9:30-11:30 Supervised Play  
Bonni Newton 778-0899

## Saturday

12 pm (300/500/750 or  
non-LM (partnership)  
12:30 pm (Open)  
Gregg Walsh 771-4802

## AMES

Heartland Senior Services  
205 South Walnut  
Sun. 1:30 pm (open)  
Ira White 292-5616

Tue. 7:00 pm (open)  
Ray Schoenrock 232-4717

Thur. 7:00 pm (open)  
Ira White 292-5616

## MARSHALLTOWN

Wed. 6:15 p.m.  
Senior Center; 20 E State St.  
Larry Park 641-752-6121



**Hawkeye Holiday  
Tournament  
Jan 7-10, 2016**

**TH: 7PM**  
**FRI: 1PM and 7PM**  
**SAT: 9:30 (brunch)  
10 AM  
3 PM**  
**SUN: 10 AM**



# Learning Resources

## New Mentoring Approach

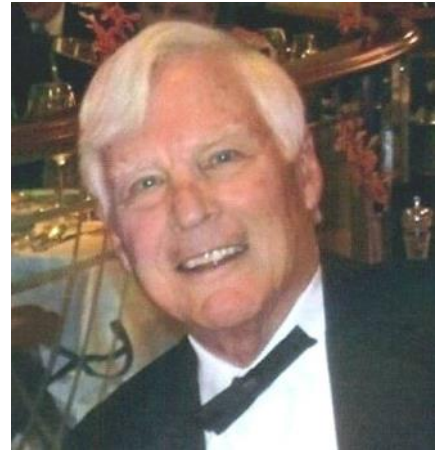
By Paul Spong

Mentoring sessions were offered on the last two Fridays in Sept. and the first two Fridays in Oct. Our “experiment” with a new mentoring format appears to have been a very positive experience for all who participated. We had a “high” of 10 tables, and a “low” of 6 tables. All of the mentees gave very positive reviews and expressed a desire to repeat the sessions in the future. Thanks to all of the mentors who helped make this work, with special thanks to Pete Wityk who provided the logistics for getting the playing

hands into the boards. The education committee is looking at a couple of “tweaks” to the format when the mentoring sessions are offered again.

Here are a few comments that the mentees wrote after their last session:

- “This has been great. Once a month in the future”
- “Like the immediate feedback.”
- “So much better than the other way --- “
- “Great training tool. I learned a lot.”
- “Let’s do this again. Very



- helpful!”
- “Helpful. Makes a big difference in learning to have the personal help.”
- “Teachers were excellent and very, very helpful.”
- “I would like to continue at least once a month.”
- “This is a great class, hope you offer it again.”

## Upcoming Resources

By Penny Rittgers

“A Day of Bridge for the Beginner with Audrey Grant” was very successful. Ninety-seven people attended the workshop held at the Urbandale Senior Center on Saturday, September 5. Several of the participants are now playing in the Sunday afternoon, Monday evening and Wednesday afternoon games. Nancy Wilson held a follow-up class on Sunday, September 20, to finish teaching the material that Audrey Grant did not have

time to cover.

We offered a wide variety of classes this fall for bridge players. Nancy Wilson taught Beginning Bridge at the West Des Moines Library and Mike Smith taught Beginner Bridge at the Bridge House. Bonni Newton presented Brush-Up Bridge and team-taught Two Over One with Craig Nelsen. Jessica Chance held Suit Preference classes for five weeks and then followed with End Plays for



three weeks. Rich Newell continued his Saturday morning classes on Counting the Hand and Peter Wityk

*(Resources cont. on page 5)*

# Under Pressure

By Pete Wityk

I am fourth chair with none vulnerable on the last board of a sectional single session match-pointed pairs event. I am doing well with a new partner against an occasional A partnership who really should have been a top seed. I pick up

♠AQ ♥A2 ♦AK98642 ♣J10

I'm sure that I have the best hand at the table and I can only wait to see what hijinks the opponents will engage in ahead of me. However, the opponent sitting East can only find a **Pass**. Partner also finds a **Pass**. However, The opponent sitting West finds **One Club**. I **Double**. East calls **One Heart**. Over partner's **One Spade**, West calls **Two Hearts**. I now bid **Three Diamonds** to show both my suit and strength. Over West's **Pass**, partner surprises me with **Three Hearts**. After a **Pass**, I rebid **Three NoTrumps**, which closes the auction. No one has anything else to say other than **Pass**. The auction has been:

N	E	S	W
	P	P	1♣
X	1♥	1♠	2♥
3♦	P	3♥*	P
3N	P	P	P

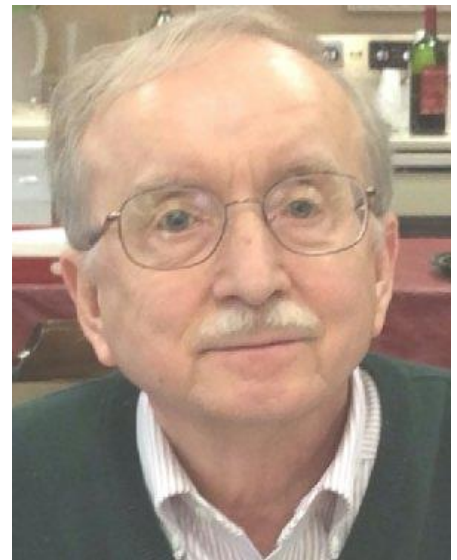
\* A "do something clever" bid. From my point of view, partner can't have more than 4 points in spades, 3 in dia-

monds and unknown points in hearts and clubs. But partner has 7-10 points to make the free bid and then tell me we need to be in game. Partner doesn't have a clear 3♠ rebid and doesn't want to bypass 3N with a diamond raise. Why not bypass 3NT? Partner probably has some ♣ honor(s)! And the J10 should fit well with them. So, 3NT is an option if I have a heart stopper. Since I don't have a spade fit, but do have spade plus heart stoppers and 7 diamond tricks with a fit of Qx or xxx, 3N seems the obvious intelligent thing to bid.

The Jack of ♥ is led and the following dummy appears:  
♠J1075 ♥85 ♦Q3 ♣AQ962

I hold  
♠AQ ♥A2 ♦AK98642 ♣J10

We are missing 13 HCP. West could have anywhere from all 13 down to 8 or 9 for the 3rd seat opener. If diamonds break, I have 10 top tricks. And, I have a lot of pressure to put on both opponents, but mainly West. To maximize the pressure, I need to duck the first trick. I'm not sure how this will play out as that depends on both the actual lie of the cards and what my opponents do to disguise the lie of the cards. I call for the



eight, West plays the queen and I play the deuce. West continues with the heart four, I play the ace, East the trey and dummy the five. It appears that hearts are 5 -4, the king of clubs is probably off-side while the king of spades is probably right. It would seem that I can take a lot of tricks. But, I don't want to take the spade finesse early and go set when I have 10 top tricks if diamonds are not 4-0. Going down in a cold contract is not a recipe for many match-points! Who knows what NV 3<sup>rd</sup> hand openers look like these days; 8 point and a singleton or void may be more than sufficient. And, putting the opponents under the pressure of a lot of discards is generally a winning tactic. So cash winners;

N-(me)-2♦, E-5♦, S-Q♦, W-J♦.  
S-3♦, W-10♦ N-A♦, E-7♦.  
N-K♦, E2♠, S2♣, W4♣.

*(Pressure cont. on page 5)*

*(Resources cont. from page 3)*

continued his Moving to the A Side on Fridays.

The Joint Education Committee members, Penny Rittgers, Nancy Wilson, Bonni Newton, Jessica Chance, Paul Spong, Jay Winter, Terry Swanson, Marilyn Jones and Herb Strentz, will meet on Monday, January 18, to begin planning the classes to be offered in the spring.

There will be a Play of the Hand class offered in February and March. We will post the specifics about that class on the Learning Resources information window as well as the other classes as soon as the decisions are made. We are always interested in knowing what classes or suggestions you have. Please let one of the members know if you have an idea for a class.

I want to thank the instructors who have willingly given their time and talent to craft lessons that help many of us improve our play at the bridge table. Thank you Jessica Chance, Craig Nelsen, Rich Newell, Bonni Newton, Paul Spong, Mike Smith, Nancy Wilson, and Peter Wityk. We look forward to the classes that you will provide in the New Year!

*(Pressure cont. from page 4)*

N-8♦, E-4♠, S-9♣, W-5♠.

N-4♦, E-6♠, S-5♠, W-K♥.

My 6♦ gets a smirk from East and a shake of the head from West; then E-3♥, S-Q♣, W-8♣.

We're down to it now.

N-J♣, E-3♣, S-A♣, W-K♣.

S-J♠, W-9♠, N-Q♠, E-8♠.

I claim with the A♠ and 10♣ which are both winners.

The full hand was

♠AQ	
♥A2	
♦AK98642	
♣J10	
♠K9	♠86432
♥KQ74	♥J10963
♦J10	♦75
♣K8754	♣3
♠J1075	
♥85	
♦Q3	
♣AQ962	

### **Post Mortem**

*Three No Trumps making 6 was 11 of 12 matchpoints; a three way tie for top. There were 4 pairs not in game, 3 pairs in 5♦, and 3 pairs in 3N taking 11 tricks. This and the companion board on the final round, against this pair, left us securely in 1st place and our opponents for this round barely in 2nd place.*

*The play had a lot of options. Double-dummy, there are 13 tricks available on any lead because of the fortuitous doubleton king of spades. But, it's absurd to risk the contract on an immediate finesse and the*

*doubleton spade king! I played the hand as a criss-cross squeeze because of the limited entries. Basically, at the critical point, we need to come to a position of*

*S holding: ♠J107 ♣AQ*

*W holding: ♠K9 ♥7 ♣K8*

*N holding: ♠AQ ♦4 ♣J10*

*The four of diamonds forces West to discard one of the three spot cards after I discard the club queen from dummy. I have to be able to read if a king is now singleton, play that ace and use the other ace as transportation to the winner. Technically this is a pseudo-criss cross squeeze because there is an idle card that West could have discarded. By throwing the heart seven, West could have held me to 5.*

*Some people will say that I should have gone all out for the maximum tricks ( 13 ) to get all the match-points. That is fallacious reasoning. When you are doing well, you should not make top or bottom plays which is what taking an early spade finesse is. You should play to get a reasonable score; 7+ or better. Making a 50% play is no way to achieve that result. As the cards lay and the results came in for that board, we would have had to get a complete bottom by going set to end in a tie for 1st with the pair we played. Being held to 11 or even 10 tricks would still let us win albeit by a lesser margin. Risking 11 or 12 match points to gain one is not a good bet; especially at even odds!*

**Happy New Year!**

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# Depression: A Common and Very Treatable Condition

By Mike Harvey D. O.

One of my first articles in the Hawkeyer years ago was on depression. This is such a common problem that it warrants a review.

Depression affects nearly everyone, either by having the disorder or by having a close association with someone effected. Nearly 40 % of individuals have at least one major depression episode in their lifetime. Depression can be intrinsic, coming from genetics and development, or extrinsic, coming from a stressful life event or illness. Intrinsic or extrinsic depression have the same set of symptoms and treatment.

Depression is a mood disturbance, and nearly always is associated with a component of anxiety. Symptoms of depression include:

- Changes in sleep, either insomnia or hypersomnia
- Changes in appetite, up or down, commonly with weight change
- Fatigue, both mental and physical
- Moodiness and irritability, commonly with swings in mood that are unpredictable
- Crying easily
- Loss of interest in work and play, associated with withdrawal from social activities/school/friends
- Loss of concentration
- Suicidal thoughts or actions

Anxiety symptoms include:

- Tremor
- Palpitations
- Racing and wandering thoughts
- Sweats
- Inability to fall or stay asleep

Many illnesses coexist and/or result from depression including:

- Alcohol abuse/addiction
- Drug abuse/addiction
- Excessive smoking and related health issues
- Other mental health illnesses including bipolar disorder, obsessive-compulsive disorder, attention deficit disorder and conduct disorders

Although much has yet to be learned, depression is one of few medical conditions that is relatively easy to treat and shows quick and obvious responses. Antidepressant medications are generally safe, the minor side effects can frequently be tailored to the individual advantage, are not addicting, and can be used short or long term. These drugs restore the neurotransmitters serotonin, dopamine or norepinephrine back to normal levels. This occurs in the limbic center of the brain where our “psyche” activities are controlled. The goal of treatment is to get one back to their normal



self.

Treatment can usually be obtained through your primary care provider; a psychiatric evaluation is not usually needed. A single medication will treat most depressions, although occasionally additional medication, counselling or specialty consultation may be added. Response is usually quick; noticeable effects occur within one week and full response in 2-8 weeks. Treatment is usually for 9-12 months, although some people with intrinsic depression will benefit from lifelong treatment. Most of the medications are generic and inexpensive.

Many people are reluctant to accept the diagnosis or treatment. Reasoning and education will usually convince

*(Continued on page 7)*

# BBO Bidding

by Rich Newell

I was playing on Bridgebase Online and picked up the hand below. Follow along and make your bidding decision before looking at my action.

♠K987653 ♥K2 ♦- ♣AQ52

Obviously I open 1♠. LHO doubles and my partner bids 4♣ which is a splinter bid promising four spades and 0-1 clubs.

What I know about partner's hand:

♠xxxx ♥xxx ♦xxxxx ♣x

## WHAT NOW?

This is good news, I can ruff your clubs so my only losers are ♠AQ ♥A. I want to cue bid 4♦ now to show first-round control. LHO doubles my cue bid and partner cue bids 4♥.

What I now know about partner's hand:

♠xxxx ♥Axx ♦xxxxx ♣x

## WHAT NOW?

1430 can be problematic with a void, but all indications point to LHO having that card. (LHO made a take-out double and doubled my 4♦ bid. Plus partner's four spades could easily include the AQ.) So I bid 4NT. Partner replies 5♠ showing two key cards and the queen of

What I now know about partner's hand:

♠AQxx ♥Axx ♦xxxxx ♣x

## WHAT NOW?

The whole point of the hand is to safely take three club

ruffs in dummy. I bid 7♠ to end the auction.

N	E	S	W
1♠	X	4♣	P
4♦	X	4♥	P
4NT	P	5♠	P
7♠	P	P	P

Partner's hand:

♠AQT2 ♥AJ75 ♦9543 ♣6

My hand:

♠K987653 ♥K2 ♦- ♣AQ52

The lead is the ♦K. There is one more thing I need to be careful about in the declarer play.

## WHAT IS IT?

If trumps break 1-1 I can just claim. But the ♠J is missing; suppose RHO has both trump. If I start with the ♠K and then ruff clubs with the ♠AQT, I will lose to the jack. So, the play is Ruff the diamond lead, small diamond to the ace (LHO shows out), club to the ace, ruff small, heart to the king, ruff a club, ruff a diamond. The last club is ruffed with the queen, one more diamond ruff and I can draw the last trump and claim.

This line required LHO to have at least 3 clubs. With 17 hcp outstanding, a heart finesse was an unappealing risk although it would have worked.

18 people stopped in game and lost 5 IMPs. 15 people bid to the small slam and won 6-7 IMPs. 2 people bid the grand and made it winning 15 IMPs.



*(Depression cont. from page 6)*  
the depressed individual to give treatment a try. Not treating the depression will have far-reaching negative effects on the individual involved and those he or she loves and cares for the most. Successful treatment can restore normal relationships, careers and lives.

Do not be afraid to speak to your family or friend about treatment, it may be all they need to seek help.



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# The Top 5 Ways to Use the Blue (XX) Card

## By Toby White

This is a follow-up article to my three-part series on doubling (see all three issues of *The Hawkeyer* in 2015). One can view ‘redoubles’ as an extension of doubling, so call this an appendix or coda, if you will. Below, I will cover five situations to exploit the criminally under-utilized ‘XX’ card, which if employed effectively, can significantly increase your chances of winning a board. They will be listed in descending order (most to least) for how often I observe them in practice, which is hardly ever among ‘B/C’ players, but a fair amount among ‘A’ players.

**1) Strength-Showing Redoubles** - The most popular application of XX is when partner opens the bidding, and RHO makes a takeout double. If you have 10+ HCP and a lack-of-fit for partner’s suit, XX is the clear winning bid. Example: 1H (part.) – X (RHO, takeout) – XX (you). At this point, you will often have the opponents on-the-run and can collect big penalties by doubling them, since if you and partner don’t have a fit but do have

the majority of points, the opponents will likely not have a fit either, and will struggle to make more than 3 or 4 tricks. The vulnerability will often affect your big decision as to whether you should defend or declare. Also important is whether your side has enough of a suit fit or HCP for game, and whether your score for a made game will exceed the projected plus score you will reap by penalizing the opponents. Beware of sitting for the double if you perceive the opponents have a fit (even if they lack HCP), especially since this increases the likelihood that you also have a fit and should declare. Also, consider pulling the double if partner opens light, as is often the case in 3<sup>rd</sup> seat.

**2) Rescue Redoubles** - The second most frequent use for XX is a ‘rescue redouble,’ where your partner made a bid that subsequently was doubled for penalty, usually when the suit is splitting as badly as possible. Here are two common examples: 1C (you) – X



(LHO, takeout) – P – (part.) – P (RHO, penalty conversion) – XX (you). Also, 2S (part.) – P (RHO) – P (you) – X (LHO, takeout) – P (part.) – P (RHO, penalty conversion) – XX (you). If you are short in partner’s suit, but have length in the unbid suits, you may be able to lower the absolute value of your negative score by redoubling and asking partner to run to a different suit. If you are lucky, the opponents may not double the new suit, or may rescue you by bidding on themselves! A third common example often bid is 1N (part.) – X (RHO, penalty-oriented) – XX (you), which typically signals weakness or a 1-suited hand, after which partner

*(Doubles cont. on page 9)*



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*(Doubles cont. from page 8)*

bids 2C and you pass/  
correct to your suit.

### 3) Support Redoubles –

Here, the ‘redouble,’ which can only be made by opener, shows exactly 3-card support for partner’s suit, which is usually a major. Example: 1D (you) – P (LHO) – 1H (part.) – X (RHO, takeout) – XX (you). Note that if RHO had bid 1S instead of doubling, you would then double instead of redouble to show 3-card support. At this point, responder is in control, since she knows opener has 3 hearts (whereas opener does not know whether responder has 4 hearts or more). If responder has 5 or more hearts, she will likely advance the bidding in that suit. If responder has only 4 hearts, she can pass with a minimal hand if the opponents are competing, or otherwise do something sensible, which may include bidding hearts anyway, and settling for a 4-3 fit. On a personal note, I would say that opportunities for support doubles/redoubles arise quite often, perhaps on average about once per session.

### 4) Rosencrantz Redoubles

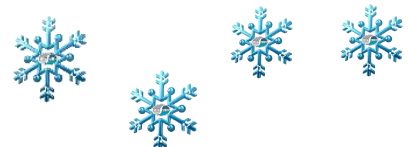
– Now, the ‘redouble,’ which can only be made by the

partner of an overcaller, specifically shows at least 3 card support in overcaller’s suit and also an honor in that suit (i.e., the ace or the king, although some also include the queen in this definition). Example: 1C (LHO) – 1S (partner) – X (RHO, negative) – XX (you). If you had instead raised directly to 2S, you’d still be showing at least 3 spades, but now no spade honor. Let’s also contrast this with ‘Rosencrantz doubles,’ where responder would bid a third suit instead of doubling, and you would now double instead of redoubling to show 3 spades with an honor, while still raising to 2S with 3+ spades and no honor. Example: 1C (LHO) – 1S (partner) – 2H (RHO) – X (you). Note: do NOT use Rosencrantz doubles if the opponents are bidding the same suit; then, ‘X’ by the partner of the overcaller becomes ‘responsive’, showing the 2 unbid suits.

### 5) In-your-face Redoubles

– This is the ‘score-magnifying’ bet that one can make a contract that was doubled for penalty by opponents. Example: 1S (part.) – P (RHO) – 6S (you)

– P (LHO) – P (part.) – X (LHO, penalty) – XX (you). In this example, it is likely that the doubler holds a pair of aces (or more) but the redouble has an extremely shapely hand with a void or two. I realize that ‘in-your-face’ is a somewhat crude label, but the tone of the bid is actually somewhat unsporting by nature. Why? If you think you can make a contract that is doubled for penalty by opponents, you are typically headed for a top board anyway; furthermore, a ‘redouble’ may warn your opponents of this outcome, which may give them another chance to bail to a less unfavorable scenario. Exceptions to this logic would occur if you are playing ‘rubber bridge’ (or dare I say ‘money bridge?’), or are in an IMPs-scored ‘knockout’ match, and you need to make up a large deficit. Then, a ‘redouble’ of a ‘penalty double,’ while reeking of desperation, might be your best hope! Note: this ‘business-oriented’ XX only occurs about once every two years.



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## Up the ACBL Ladder (May, June, July)

**New Members:** Alan Beecher, Christopher Jones, Kaye Lozier, David Slick, Christine Schneider, Christy Spooner, Carol Curnes

**Jr. Master:** Doug Nuehring, Katie Albers, Dana Terndrup, Holly Terndrup, Feng Zhang

**Club Master:** Brad Albers, Richard Kimm, Mary Jo Madvig, Libby Drew, Lorrie Hayes, David Nelmar, Georgia Patterson

**Sectional Master:** Linda Brown, Rebecca Joseph, Kathy Zumbach, Vicky Daniel, Norma Mishoe, Maggie Nelsen, Carlotta Paul, Rose Wilcox

**Regional Master:** Joyce Knock

**NABC Master:** Linda Johnson, George Philips, Carol Testa

**Adv NABC Master:** Gwen Swanger

**Life Master:** Joanne McPhail, Sheryl Morrow, Janet Thomas

**Bronze LM:** Sharon Calkins, Jan Carr, June Rizzuti

**Silver LM:** Cindy Rovner

**Gold Life Master:**

**Diamond Life Master:** Peter Wityk



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## Suggestion

A reader sent in a suggestion that we might want to consider. After the bidding is finished, and bidding cards have been returned to the boxes, leader asks her partner, “Any questions?” Sometimes, fairly often in fact, the question is, “How did the bidding go?”

A local player has suggested we implement a procedure whereby the bidding cards are left on the table until the opening lead is made. Some clubs require the final bid to be left on the table until the opening lead is made. This idea just carries that thought a bit further.

Talk to the directors—yeah or nay about the idea.

## 15-17 Pts. And A 5-Card Major

Do you struggle with what to bid when you pick up a hand that’s semi-balanced or balanced with 15-17 points and a 5-card major? Perhaps it looks like one of these

1.  
♠Q10974 ♥AJ5 ♦AQ ♣K94
2.  
♠AKJ85 ♥A9 ♦J73 ♣K43

According to Max Hardy, an early guru of 2/1 bidding, there are a couple of questions you should ask about a 15-17 point hand with a 5-card major. First you should decide whether it is a NT hand or a suit hand. A NT hand has the correct number of points, AND the points are *soft* (not just As and Ks but also Qs, Js, 10s, and 9s.)

The second suggestion Hardy has is that with NT points and a 5-card major, the other major should have 3-cards, just in case partner transfers. If that happens you will land in a nice contract if not you’ll probably find some level of NT.

The first hand is a perfect example of a 1NT bid: 5 spades, 3 hearts, and soft points.

The second example should be opened 1S. Though it has 5 spades it only has 2 hearts and 14 of its points are in 4 cards.

Does this help? Certainly something to think about.

**Rebuttals or thoughts?**  
Email

We know you are pining to come to the

# Hawkeye Holiday January 7-10, 2016

Greater Des Moines Bridge House  
10190 Hickman Court Clive, IA

## Newer Player Events

Strata for newer player events:

A 200-300, B 100-200, C 0-100

**Friday, Jan. 8 1 p.m. 0-300 pairs**

**7 p.m. 0-300 pairs**

**Saturday, Jan. 9 Light brunch at 9:30 a.m.**

**10 a.m. 0-300 pairs**

**3 p.m. 0-300 pairs**

Events held if sufficient attendance.

## Open Events

Strata for pairs events: A 1500+, B 750-1500, C 0-750

**Thursday, Jan. 7 7 p.m. Stratified pairs**

**Friday, Jan. 8 1 p.m. Stratified pairs (single session)**

**7 p.m. Stratified pairs (single session)**

**Saturday, Jan. 9 Light brunch at 9:30 a.m.**

**10 a.m. Stratified pairs (single session)**

**3 p.m. Stratified pairs (single session)**

Table fees: \$8/person/session for ACBL members; \$11 for non and unpaid life masters.

**Sunday, Jan. 10 10 a.m. Two session Strata-flighted Swiss Teams**

**Flight A ( Strata: A 2000+ AX 0-2000) Flight B ( Strata: B 500-750 C 200-500 D 0-200)**

(2 session play-through \$84/team)

**Director in charge: Larry Brobst**

Chairperson: Sally Nelson 563-503-9187

grandma.sally@live.com

Co-chair: Laurie Taake 515-222-0933

deantaake@msn.com

Partnerships:

0-500 Norma Comp 515-987-4821

njcomp@q.com

500+ Carolyn Sabroske 515-201-2295

carolyn.sabroske@gmail.com

For tournament results, visit our web site:

<http://www.bridgeunit216.org/>

Sectional Bridge  
Tournament  
Sanction # S1601004



For all events points  
are averaged.



Note Saturday  
times!

Motels  
Wildwood Lodge  
11431 Forest Avenue  
515-222-9876  
or  
Sleep Inn  
11211 Hickman Rd.  
Urbandale, IA  
515-270-2424  
or  
Hotel Renovo  
(previously Comfort Suites)  
11167 Hickman Road 1-800-  
395-7675 or 515-276-1126  
or  
Try booking on the internet

ZERO TOLERANCE & NO  
CELL PHONE  
TOURNAMENT,  
PLAY AND HAVE FUN!



THE HAWKEYER  
UNIT 216 OF ACBL  
10190 Hickman Court  
CLIVE, IA 50325

name  
street  
City st zp

## Mark Your Calendar

### Unit 216 Sectionals

#### **Holiday Sectional**

Clive, IA  
Jan. 7-10, 2016

#### **Spring Festival**

Apr. 7-10

#### **Stars of Tomorrow**

Aug. 20-21

### District 14 Regionals

#### **Gopher Regional**

Bloomington, MN  
May 23-29, 2016

#### **Coralville IA**

June 27-Jul 3

#### **Council Bluffs**

Aug 8-14

### ACBL Nationals

#### **Reno, NV**

Mar. 9-20, 2016

#### **Washington DC**

July 21-31