



## Unit 174 November 2023 Newsletter



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***Choose Houston - Basic Online Schedule***

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***Fort Bend Duplicate Bridge Club - Sugar Land***

***Kingwood Duplicate Bridge Club***

***Lake Conroe Duplicate Bridge Club (LCDBC)***

***Lone Star Bridge Club (LSBC)***

***Pebble Creek Duplicate Bridge Club***

***Spring Branch Duplicate Bridge Club***

***Star Duplicate Bridge Club***

### **Contributors**

***Sam Khayatt and Jeff Kroll - Read the Lead; Do Not Finesse***

Please visit the Unit 174 [Website](#) to view additional information about the activities in our Unit and at our Clubs.



**Karen  
Nussbaum**

## **President's Message**

Starting November 6<sup>th</sup> is STaC week, and again starting Dec. 4<sup>th</sup>! Play at your club and earn some silver!

Mark your calendars for our Lone Star Regional that starts January 22, 2024 at the West Chase Marriott. The schedule is new and we have new events. We have been busy planning all these events and we know you will want to participate. We are trying to entice our bridge players that are reticent to return to F2F bridge, let us know what else we can do! Speaking about events... We are offering an online a two session pairs game on January 27<sup>th</sup> on BBO that is open to all District 16 members. The details can be found in this issue of the newsletter.

With all of these things happening, it seems a good time to remember our bridge manners:

Top 10 Goodwill Gestures:

1. Greet and welcome opponents.
2. Always say "Director PLEASE"
3. Lead or table dummy before you write
4. Mentor a new player
5. Say, "Thank You, Partner"
6. Compliment opponent's play
7. Discuss hands AFTER the game
8. Accept Victory and Defeat with grace
9. Leave a tidy table

Smile! Oh yes... That is number 10!

Karen Nussbaum  
[Karenunit174@gmail.com](mailto:Karenunit174@gmail.com)



## New Members and Rank Advancement



### New Members

ACBL notifies us each month about the members new to our Unit and those who transferred into our Unit. Please welcome the following players to our Unit:

**New Members:** Eric Cheng, Mei Dong, Lorraine Hart, Kyung S Lee, Sandra McNeir, Shangyou S Nie, Roslyn H Pittsford, Barbara Vilutis

**Transfers:** Lewis, Joyce Long, Gordon A Vogel, K Gayle Vogel

***Welcome!***



### Rank Advancements

Listed below are the Unit 174 Masterpoint Milestones reported by ACBL as of October 1, 2023. An explanation of ranks may be found on the [ACBL website](#).

**Junior Master**

R Scot Clark, Gwendolyn M Kirby, Peter W Nimmo, Sherry L Scarborough, Kaitlyn L Sharp

**Club Master**

Danielle G Donnelly, Julianne Farnsworth, Najet S Guinn, Lesley Kellet, Therese L Perez, Ann Starr

**Sectional Master**

Marilyn R Knatz, Larry D Koenig, Aisha C May, Dale Punshon

**Regional Master**

William R Belford, Sara Hundley, Mary R Malone, Ellen T Rochelle, Valerie J Salle, Edwin Tumlinson

**NABC Master**

Nancy Blackwell, Edna A Rice

**Life Master**

Paul Shack, Mr. Sid C Weiss

**Bronze Life Master**

Rhonwyn B Weissman

**Silver Life Master**

Mrs. Judi T Sulzbach

**Gold Life Master**

Mr. William C Griffith, Steve C Levinson, Mrs. Sherry L Scoggins

**!!! Congratulations !!!**

## Member Profile



### Joyce Gore - Unsung Hero!

BY BRIGITTE SANDIFER

I don't know where to begin and so the story goes...

**Joyce Gore** was a player at the Tracy Gee Community Center and helped the Manager of the Apple games, Ms. Hatley, with some of the duties around 2005. When Ms. Hatley suddenly exited in 2006, she left the game for Joyce to handle, it was a big job and so Joyce took on the Friday game and Marcella Thomas became manager of the Monday game. Joyce was instrumental in getting the handheld computers known as BridgePads for scoring.



Later she purchased a Dealer4 machine so all the boards could be dealt via a computer; that took away the prior application were the players had to deal the boards by hand and then pass them on to a table as instructed. She was elected to the Unit Board and served many years.

In 2015 Joyce announced that she "had enough" and wanted to retire, so she recruited me to run the Friday game; Marcella also wanted to retire, and another player/director was found to run the Monday game. One of the conditions of my take over was that Joyce would be my backup when I needed some time off and that was ok with her. When Paul Cuneo took the Monday game over, she also became his backup when he was not in town.

But Joyce could not say "NO" when someone asks her to help so she directed at several venues. Then the Unit Board needed help and she

agreed to serve after a board member resigned.

The years went by, we had one year without face-to-face bridge, and Joyce decided to “really hang it up” this year, no more backing up and with that we lost one of our BEST volunteers. She hasn’t given up playing bridge and I hope to see her at the tables for a long time.

She is one “Unsung Hero”.

Brigitte Sandifer is the manager of the APPLE II Bridge Club.



## Unit News

## Coming Tournaments

Date	City	State	Unit	Category	Type
Oct 30- Nov 5	Puerto Vallarta	JA	205	Regional	Open
Nov 2-4	Denton	TX	183	Sectional	Local
Nov 3-4	Austin	TX	207	Sectional	I/N
Nov 6-12	Houston	TX	174	Sectional	StaC
Nov 15-18	Dallas	TX	176	Sectional	Open
Nov 16-19	Spring [Houston]	TX	174	Sectional	I/N
Dec 1-2	Austin	TX	207	Sectional	I/N
Dec 4-10	STaC U174		174	Sectional	STaC
Dec 4-10	STaC U176, U183, U225, U254		176	Sectional	STaC
Jan 4-7	Austin	TX	207	Sectional	Open
Jan 11-14	San Antonio	TX	172	Sectional	Open
Jan 13-14	San Antonio	TX	D16	GNT/NAP	2023-2024 Finals
Jan 22-28	Houston	TX	174	Regional	Open
Apr 5-7	Houston	TX	174	Sectional	Open
Apr 18-21	Spring [Houston]	TX	174	Sectional	I/N
Jun 7-9	Houston	TX	174	Sectional	Open
Jun 10-16	D16		All	Sectional	STaC
June 20-23	Spring [Houston]	TX	174	Sectional	I/N
Aug 8-11	Houston	TX	174	Sectional	Open
Sep 19-22	Spring [Houston]	TX	174	Sectional	I/N
Oct 25-27	Houston	TX	174	Sectional	Open
Nov 4-10	Houston	TX	174	Sectional	StaC
Nov 14-17	Spring [Houston]	TX	174	Sectional	I/N

You can find tournament information by clicking [ACBL Tourneys](#).

## 2024 Houston Unit 174 Lone Star Regional

# The Houston Unit 174 Lone Star Regional Jan 22-28, 2024



**Be Scent-sitive**  
*this is a fragrance-free tournament*  
*No offensive odors*

Sunday lunch  
 provided with  
 two session entry!



**Complementary ACBL entry labels**  
*(with your name and ACBL #)*

Click here for form to pre-order or email  
 Susan Banks-Johnson @ sisbjohnson@gmail.com

**HOUSTON MARRIOTT WESTCHASE**

2900 Briarpark Dr., Houston TX 77042  
 (713) 978-7400

**Room Rate: \$129.00**

Click [here](#) to book your group rate.

Contact Dave Becker if problems occur

**Cutoff Date: Jan 5, 2024 or until block filled**

**Tournament Chairs**

Karen Nussbaum  
 (832) 524-5233  
 Karenunit174@gmail.com

Sarah Springer (281) 904-5791 sarahspringerbridge@gmail.com  
 Dave Becker (214) 274-2978 dbecker03@hotmail.com

**Hospitality**

Hallie Eads (713) 569-7700 HallieEads@aol.com  
 Patti Mullendore (713) 467-1026 chmullendore@msn.com

**Event Naming**

Jane Armstrong (281) 798-3342 littlebit9@comcast.net

**Intermediate/Newcomer**

Janice Hardcastle (832) 643-1704 janice\_hardcastle@hotmail.com

**Partnership**

Harry Selldin (713) 899-3163 hselldin@me.com  
 Antoun Henri (832) 659-2310 antounhenri@gmail.com

**Best Practices Teacher Workshop**

Registration fee \$50  
 Certification fee is an optional \$25



Sat/Sun - Jan 20/21  
 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

For information or to register  
 Sarah Springer - (281) 904-5791  
 sarahspringerbridge@gmail.com

**Cashless Tournament** - credit cards only

Purchase in Advance with Entry Express  
<https://tournaments.acbl.org>

**Table Fees** (per session)

Monday thru Friday	\$15
Saturday (\$1 for NABC)	\$16
Sunday (lunch included w/2 session entry)	\$18

*\$4 more for lapsed member*



**LSR Speakers**

Mon-Sat at 2:00



*Please note new schedule change.  
1st game will be Monday at 10:00 am.*

**Future Life Master Games**  
*(Single session)*

**299er Pairs**  
Mon – Sat: 10:00 & 2:30  
Sun: 9:30 & TBA

**99er Pairs**  
Tue 10:00 & 2:30

Session and overall awards will be **red** points

**0-750 Gold Rush Schedule**  
*(Double session - Gold & Red points)*  
*(Single session - Red points)*

Mon – Sat: 10:00 & 2:30

**Pair Games**  
*(Double session unless noted)*

**MON/WED/FRI – JANUARY 22/24/26**  
A/X/Y Pairs ..... 10:00 & 2:30  
Morning Side Pair Series *(Single session\*)* ..... 10:00  
Afternoon Side Pair Series *(Single session\*)* ..... 2:30  
Evening Side Pair Series *(Single session\*)* ..... 7:00

**TUE/THU/SAT – JANUARY 23/25/27**  
A/X Pairs ..... 10:00 & 2:30  
Mid-flight Pairs ..... 10:00 & 2:30  
Morning Side Pair Series *(Single session\*)* ..... 10:00  
Afternoon Side Pair Series *(Single session\*)* ..... 2:30  
Evening Side Pair Series *(Single session\*)* ..... 7:00  
*(\*These games may be merged into the double session games at the director's discretion, but a player may still choose to play a single session)*

**SATURDAY – JANUARY 27**  
LSR On-Line Pairs ..... 10:00 & 2:30  
*(Instructions on Unit 174 website)*

**SUNDAY – JANUARY 28**  
A/X/Y Pairs ..... 9:30 & TBA  
Side Pairs *(Single sessions\*)* ..... 9:30 & TBA

**Team Games**  
*(Double session)*

**MON - SAT – JANUARY 22-27**  
Bracketed Teams ..... 10:00 & 2:30

**TUE/WED – JANUARY 23/24**  
Mini-Soloway *(2 day, 4 sessions)* ..... 10:00 & 2:30  
Handicapped Swiss *(2 sessions)* ..... 7:00

**THU/FRI – JANUARY 25/26**  
Mini-Soloway *(2 day, 4 sessions\*)* ..... 10:00 & 2:30  
*(\*at director's discretion)*  
Handicapped Swiss *(2 sessions)* ..... 7:00

**SUNDAY – JANUARY 28**  
A/X Swiss Teams ..... 9:30 & TBA  
Bracketed Teams ..... 9:30 & TBA  
*(No player with > 3000 MPs)*

**STRATIFICATION & FLIGHTING**

A/X Pairs ..... A: 5000+ X: 0-5000  
A/X/Y Pairs ..... A: 5000+ X: 2000-5000 Y: 0-2000  
Mid-flight Pairs ..... B: 1500-3000 Y: 0-1500  
Gold Rush Pairs ..... C: 300-750 Z: 0-300  
Side Pairs ..... A: 3000+ B: 750-3000 C: 0-750  
299er ..... A: 200-300 B: 100-200 C: 0-100  
99er ..... A: 50-100 B: 20-50 C: 0-20  
*Strats may vary at the director's discretion*

Bracketed Teams ..... grouped by average MP  
A/X Swiss ..... A: 4000+ X: 0-4000  
Sunday Bracketed Teams ..... B: 0-3000  
*No player with > 3000 MPs*

*Team or pair average used for all stratified events*

**DAILY START TIMES**

Monday - Saturday ..... 10:00 & 2:30 & 7:00  
Sunday ..... 9:30 AM & TBA

## 2024 Houston Unit 174 Online Lone Star Regional Event

Unit 174 will be hosting a two-session ONLINE PAIR GAME Saturday, January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Sign up for the game by logging into BBO and registering for the event. Payment will be made with BBO\$ and all players must be in District 16.

## 2024 Houston Unit 174 Lone Star Regional Event Naming

# LONE STAR REGIONAL EVENT NAMING OPPORTUNITY

JANUARY 2024



*The Lone Star Regional provides an excellent opportunity to recognize deserving Unit 174 members or memorialize those who have left us by naming an event after that person.*

*Please ask Jane Armstrong for details.  
281-798-3342 [littlebit9@comcast.net](mailto:littlebit9@comcast.net)*

*Opportunities are available between \$75 to \$7,500.  
(Price list on reverse page)*



2024 Lone Star Regional Naming Event

Sponsor for the Entire Tournament	\$7,500
All games on a day (excluding 0-5 pair games)	\$1,000
Sponsoring promotional gifts for hospitality (with sponsor name on it)	\$1,000
Mini Soloway 2 day teams game	\$400
0-5 Pairs Games (package-includes all)	\$200
Gold Rush Pairs Double-session (Monday thru Saturday at daily rate)	\$200
Mid-Flight double-session Pairs (Tuesday, Thursday or Saturday at daily rate)	\$200
A/X Pairs double-session(Tuesday, Thursday or Saturday)	\$200
A/X/Y Pairs double-session(Wednesday, Friday or Sunday)	\$200
Bracketed Swiss Teams 1 day, 2-session (Monday-Sunday)	\$200
Sunday A/X Swiss	\$200
Charity Fund Pairs single session	\$125
Future Life Master	\$125
Morning/Afternoon/Evening Side Pairs single-session	\$125
Sponsoring Candy for Hospitality per day	\$100
Sunday Side Games single-sessions	\$75

If an entire day is named, then all events on that day will be included along with the Side Games, FLM games, Gold Rush Pairs and Swiss Teams games. Games spanning over two days will not be included in entire day naming.

The 0-5 games package is being offered for all 0-5 games that are not included in another purchase. Purchaser must provide a writeup about the honoree of about 100 words, and a photo. There will be a poster with pictures of the honorees at the game that day, and the writeup and photo will be in that day's bulletin. Sponsoring corporate or other promotional gifts for Tournament Hospitality will be handled on an Individual basis.

Please ask Jane Armstrong for details.  
281-798-3342 [littlebit9@comcast.net](mailto:littlebit9@comcast.net)

If you are interested in naming an event, please email [Jane Armstrong](mailto:jane.armstrong@bcoc.org).

## BCOH November 499er Sectional





SILVER POINTS ! SILVER POINTS! SILVER POINTS!

# 499er Tournament

NOV.16 - NOV.19, 2023

4688 Louetta Rd., Spring TX  
281-651-6550 | thebridgeclub@sbcglobal.net

## Partnership Chair

Sherry Deal  
sadeal4@gmail.com

## Stratification

A = 500 B = 300 C = 100

*Strats may vary at the Director's discretion*

## Lunch / Snacks

snacks and drinks available all days. Lunch available for \$7 on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, if ordered by 10am.

## Entry Fees

**ACBL Member (current)**  
\$10 per session per player  
**Lapsed ACBL Member**  
\$14 per session per player

## Tournament Chair

**Bob Ziegler**  
**Co-Chair Marsha Boyer**

A Swiss Team sign-up sheet will be available at the Club

## Event Schedule

### Thursday Nov. 16<sup>th</sup>

♠ 499r Pairs 10am  
♠ 499r Pairs 2pm

### Friday, Nov. 17<sup>th</sup>

♠ 499r Pairs 10am  
♠ 499r Pairs 2pm

### Saturday, Nov. 18<sup>th</sup>

♠ 499r Pairs 10am  
♠ 499r Pairs 2pm

### Sunday, Nov. 19<sup>th</sup>

♠ 499r Swiss Team 1:30pm

## Ask the Expert

Sunday Nov. 19<sup>th</sup>  
12:30-1:15pm

Your Expert will be  
**Bill Riley**

*No proof of COVID19 vac. Required*

*Masks are optional*

## 99er Nite Club

**THE 99ER NITE CLUB**

**GREAT PLAY, LESSONS & LOADS OF FUN!**  
**And...It's Only for You, New Players!**

District 16 now has a BBO game just for the 0 to 99 player—  
**the "99er Nite Club"!**

When: 6pm, 7 days a week  
Where: Your Online Club\*

Perks:

- ✓ More Masterpoints (cross club scoring)
- ✓ Mini-Lessons by Lynn Berg at 5:30 pm

\*Check to make sure your club is participating. If your club has questions they should contact Nancy Strohmer at: [nastrohmer@yahoo.com](mailto:nastrohmer@yahoo.com)

## 199er Nite Club



**199ER NITE CLUB**

*Ready to Graduate from  
the 0 to 99 Game?*

**D16's 199ER NITE CLUB GAME  
ON BBO IS YOUR NEXT STEP!**

**7 DAYS A WEEK AT 6:05 PM CST**

- ✓ Recent graduates of the 0 to 99 group can play in a game with players of the same ability.
- ✓ Work during the day? Graduates continue to grow skills at a time that's "worker friendly".
- ✓ Safe environment where no sharks are allowed, because the game is limited to 199 mpts.
- ✓ Clubs benefit too and continue to receive payments for their participating players.

*Clubs must be signed up to participate, just like for the 99's NITE CLUB game.*

*Contact Nancy Strohmier for details:  
nastrohmier@yahoo.com*

*New Game in Town*



## Future Life Masters



### Future Life Masters of Unit 174

[www.flm174.org](http://www.flm174.org)

#### Special Club Games

◆ **Nov 11th at BCOH 299ers**

Thanksgiving Luncheon  
4688 Louetta Rd, Spring  
Potluck Lunch at 11:00/Game at Noon  
Lunch & Game \$10.00

◆ **Nov 12th at BAWH - FLM 199ers**

Arabia Shriners 10510 Harwin, Houston  
**Game at 1:30 PM -> NEW TIME**  
Snacks & Game \$5.00

#### 499er tournament for NonLife Masters!

**Hosted by Bridge Club of Houston**

**Nov 16 - 19**

**BCOH Website for more information**

**[WWW.BridgeClubofHouston.org](http://WWW.BridgeClubofHouston.org)**

#### For our Newest Players....those with fewer than 20 Masterpoints

**BBO 'Second Saturday' game & hand review...NOV 11**

Players must have an ACBL # linked to their BBO Account

Questions? Contact Sam Khayatt: [samkhayatt@outlook.com](mailto:samkhayatt@outlook.com)

Find us on BBO: CHOOSE HOUSTON! FLM 0-20

#### Regular Club Games

##### Face-to-Face

###### 199er Games

- Clear Lake Bridge Club WEDNESDAYS at 2:00 PM

###### 299er Games

- Clear Lake Bridge Club MONDAYS at 2:00 PM
- Bridge Academy of West Houston THURSDAYS at 10:30

##### Online at BBO

- **0-49er FLM Tuesdays at 3:05**
- All are welcomed! If new to the game, make sure you have your ACBL# linked to your BBO Account
- Questions? Contact MaryEllen Vail: [mevail48@gmail.com](mailto:mevail48@gmail.com)



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## Club Table Counts

Unit 174 has many ACBL-sanctioned clubs so that means many games both Face-to-Face and Online. The following information might be interesting:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Table Count</u>	<u>Number of Clubs in Unit 174</u>
2019	32,137.00	30
2020	30,122.50	50
2021	29,241.50	24
2022	19,285.50	24

The 25 clubs in the unit have played a total of 12,807.5 tables since January 1, 2023. The top 20 club table counts are:

1. Clear Lake Bridge Club - 3270.00 tables
2. Bridge Club of Houston - 2052.00 tables
3. Bridge Academy of West Houston - 1868.50 tables
4. Lone Star Bridge Club - 1181.00 tables
5. Apple II DBC - 874.00 tables
6. Apple DBC - 690.00 tables
7. Star DBC - 588.50 tables
8. Kingwood DBC - 461.50 tables
9. Ft. Bend DBC - 431.50
10. Cypress NW DBC - 353.00 tables
11. Lake Conroe dbc - 313.00 tables
- 12 Galveston DBC/Unit 174 - 291
13. Spring Branch Duplicate - 276.00 tables
14. Pebble Creek DBC - 198.50 tables
15. Galveston DBC - 163.00 tables
16. Houston Raquet Club - 159.50 tables
17. Gulf Coast DBC - 142.50 tables
18. Katy Duplicate Bridge - 138.00
19. Sugar Land Bridge - 121.00
19. Forest Club - 121.00
20. La Grange Bridge Club - 111.00

Where will your club rank by the end of 2023?



## Club News

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Below please find the information reported by some of the clubs in our unit. Please send your club news to: [unit174news@gmail.com](mailto:unit174news@gmail.com).

Additional information about all of the clubs can be found on the [Unit 174 website](#). Or, click a club name to jump to their website.

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## Apple Clubs

Our games begin at 11:30 am sharp at the Tracy Gee Community Center, 3599 Westcenter Dr. 77042. Please plan to arrive by 11:15. All games at \$3/person.

### **New Clubs' Policy:**

APPLE clubs' (Susan and Brigitte) have agreed to let members of the board play free with a FLM that has less than 50 pts.

*APPLE II has raised the offer:* Any player who pairs up with someone under 100 points plays for *FREE!* Since many of your FLM's didn't take advantage

of playing with a board member, the club is offering *FREE* plays to pairs that average less than 200 points! What a DEAL!

For information, please contact:

Monday - Apple - Susan Johnson  
[sisbjohnson@gmail.com](mailto:sisbjohnson@gmail.com) - 281-536-1451

Friday - Apple II - Brigitte Sandifer  
[sandiferdb@gmail.com](mailto:sandiferdb@gmail.com) - 281-494-1464

Results and additional information [here](#).

Only drinks in bottles or covered containers are allowed. No food is allowed at the tables during play. You are welcome to bring food and eat before the game starts.

*EARLY WARNING:* Apples DBCs will be closed November 3<sup>rd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> for the upcoming election. We will resume our regular schedule on Friday November 10<sup>th</sup>. We look forward to having everyone back at the tables.



## Bridge Academy of West Houston



### Silver Life Master party

On Thursday, October 12<sup>th</sup>, everyone had a great time at the party to celebrate Sarah Springer, Elizabeth Cabiness and Linwood Olson achieving Silver Life Master.

**Sarah Springer &  
Linwood Olson**

### Diamond Life Master party

On Thursday, November 16<sup>th</sup>, there will be a celebration for Sandra Clark who achieved the rank of Diamond Life Master, 5,000 masterpoints! A lite lunch and cake will be served. Find your partner NOW!

### Mentor/Mentee

Our monthly Mentor/Mentee game is held on the first Tuesday of the month at 10:30 a.m. However, due to voting at the Shriners Center, the November game will be on the second Tuesday this month.

*November 14<sup>th</sup> - Mentor/Mentee*

If you have not signed up and would like to participate please contact our coordinator Bert Onstott by clicking [here](#).

Mentees must have fewer than 300 masterpoints and Mentors greater than 300 points.

### Future Life Masters and 8 is enough Swiss Teams

Our Future Life Masters and 8 is enough Swiss Team games are held once a month on a Sunday at 1:30 p.m.

*November 12<sup>th</sup> - FLM & 8 is enough Swiss Team*

The stratifications are:

- Level 1** - 0-1000 masterpoints (1)
- Level 2** - 1000-3000 masterpoints (2)
- Level 3** - 3000+ masterpoints (3)

For example one Level 3, two Level 2 and one Level 1 players total 8 as would four Level 2 players. Another example would be three Level 2 and one Level 1 players whose team total is 7 and it is OK to be less than 8.

### Mini-lesson

Before each Wednesday game there is a mini-lesson beginning around 10:00 a.m. taught by Joe Quinn.

## Game Schedule

**Tuesday - Mentor/Mentee**  
**Wednesdays - Invitational**  
**Thursdays - Open & 299'er**  
**10:30 a.m.**

**Sunday - Future Life Masters & Swiss Teams**  
**1:30 p.m.**  
**Arabia Shriners Center**  
**10510 Harwin Dr.**

- \$5 per person
- Coffee & Snacks are provided
- Jennifer Breihan, John Herzer and Tom Jahnke directors

## Game Calendar

Wed – Nov 1	Charity Game	Tue – Nov 14	Club Championship
Thu – Nov 2	Charity Game	Wed – Nov 15	Club Game
Wed – Nov 8	STaC	Thu – Nov 16	Club Game
Thu – Nov 9	STaC	Wed – Nov 22	Club Championship
Sun – Nov 12	STaC	Wed – Nov 29	Club Game
		Thu – Nov 30	Club Game

## Need a Partner?

Contact Linda or Tom Martinsen at 713-398-4907 [martinsens@comcast.net](mailto:martinsens@comcast.net).



## Bridge Club of Houston

Please consult our monthly calendar online: [BCOH Calendar](#).

**BCOH: Online Choose Houston** - Tuesday and Thursday 7:00 p.m.

**BBO - Mentor/Mentee Games:** 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays at 7:00 p.m. (**Protege should invite and pay for game of mentor.**) Contact Mike Linkins if you have any questions: [minkins@swbell.net](mailto:minkins@swbell.net).

**BCOH Open Games (Face-2-Face):**  
Monday: 11:55 a.m.  
Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday: 10:30 a.m.

\*\*\*\***1:00 p.m. Saturday game every weekend**\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*Please note the time change.\*\*\*\*

Saturday F2F 299er and Open games - check BCOH [website](#) for details each week.

## SAVE THE DATES:

8 is Enough Swiss Teams - November 7<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> at 10:30 a.m. (**Register at the club.**)

**Mentor/Mentee F2F:** November 14<sup>th</sup> and November 28<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m. Please contact Judy Cupps at [judy\\_n\\_al@yahoo.com](mailto:judy_n_al@yahoo.com) by phone 713-320-5592 for November 14<sup>th</sup> and Bob Zeigler@713-829-6928 for November 28<sup>th</sup>. Also contact them with any questions.

## TUESDAY TIDBITS

Build a solid foundation with Julie Halperin, Diamond Life Master and ACBL Teacher. Enjoy a free lesson from 9:30-10:10 a.m. Game to follow begins at 10:30 a.m. We will set up partnerships for those who need it. Text Julie at 713-857-8004 with questions or concerns. **Lessons are open to all.**

November 3<sup>rd</sup> - Pizza Friday! Enjoy a free pizza lunch

**Gobble Thanksgiving Gobble Game Gobble Celebration**

Saturday November 11<sup>th</sup> – Turkey will be provided by BCoH. Bring a side or dessert to share. Lunch will be served at noon with the games (**Open and 299r**) to follow at 1:00 p.m. Preregistration (not mandatory but appreciated) will be set up on website to help make sure we have enough Turkey for all.

499er Tournament November 16<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> - Watch for details on [website](#).

## CHOOSE HOUSTON BASIC SCHEDULE - BBO ONLINE GAMES

Online Games for all levels every day! These dates will change if the ACBL has approved special games online so please check the Bridge Club of Houston and Clear Lake Bridge Club for updates.

Playing online? CHOOSE HOUSTON!

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
9:00 AM	<i>Monthly, usually second Sat; hand review after the game →</i>					<b>FLM 0-20</b>	<i>flm174.org</i>
10:00 AM							
10:10 AM							
11:50 AM							
12:00 PM							
3:00 PM							
3:05 PM	<b>FLM 0-50</b>						
	<i>↓ First and third Mondays only. Visit <a href="http://www.bridgewebs.com/bcoh">www.bridgewebs.com/bcoh</a> for details</i>						
7:00 PM	<b>Mentor</b>	<b>Open</b>		<b>Open</b>			

*Check the club and FLM websites for the most up-to-date information.*

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## Clear Lake Bridge Club

### Weekly Game Schedule:

Open Games: Monday - Wednesday and Friday at 10:00 a.m., Thursday at 2:00 p.m. and Saturday at 1:00 p.m.

0-299 Games: Monday at 2:00 p.m.

0-199 Games: Wednesday at 2:00 p.m.

0-749 Games: Tuesday at 10:00 a.m.

Swiss Teams: Sunday at 1:00 p.m. October 8<sup>th</sup> is 8 is enough. The B players' upper limit is 2000 - 2500 masterpoints.

*Please arrive no later than 15 minutes before the game start times.*

Game table fee is \$6.00 for members, \$7.00 for guests.

### Bridge Labs (Supervised Play):

Sunday and Tuesdays from 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. - *New!*

Bridge Lab table fee is \$8.00.

STaC is November 6<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>. Come get more silver!

Wednesday, November 15<sup>th</sup> is the Mentor/Mentee Game at 2:00 p.m. This

game is reserved for members only. For more information and to submit a contact form, visit the [CLBC Mentor/Mentee site](#).

Wednesday, November 8<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. Bridge, DoNuts and Lesson (Speaker and topic to be announced). DoNuts at 9:00 a.m. with lesson at 9:15 a.m. Open game follows at 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday, November 15<sup>th</sup>, Thanksgiving Party in conjunction with our Mentor/Mentee game. Katie Gardner and JoAnn Pierce are the party coordinators.

Wednesday, December 20<sup>th</sup>, Christmas Party again in conjunction with our Mentor/Mentee game. Darlyn Dusek and her committee will serve as party coordinators.

Bobbie Moutz  
2nd Vice President  
281-546-9199  
[natcolemmed@comcast.net](mailto:natcolemmed@comcast.net)

P.S.

For more information, please visit our [website](#).



## CYPRESS NORTHWEST DBC & KATY DBC

**Cypress NW DBC** meets at the Richard and Meg Weekley Community Center, 8440 Greenhouse Rd, Cypress, TX, and games are played every Tuesday and Thursday starting at 11:30, with sign-up beginning at 11:00.

Coffee, tea, and snacks are provided. Games are \$3.

**Katy DBC** meets every Wednesday. Sign-in starts at 11:00, and the game begins at 11:30. The club meets at the Steve Radack Community Center - 18650 Clay Road, Houston, Texas 77084.

Coffee, tea, and snacks are provided. Regular games are \$3.

For more information, contact Jim Warren at **832/851-4745** or [jwarren760@gmail.com](mailto:jwarren760@gmail.com) or visit our [website](#).

### **CLUB OWNER RETIRING - BRIDGE CLUBS FOR SALE**

Cypress Northwest DBC  
Meets Tuesday and Thursday at Weekley Community Center

Katy DBC  
Meets Wednesday at Radack Community Center

Will sell both or separately.  
If interested please contact

Jim Warren  
832-851-4745  
[jwarren7602gmail.com](mailto:jwarren7602gmail.com)



## Fort Bend Duplicate Bridge Club

**Open Game Mondays in Greatwood**

Please Arrive by 9:45 a.m. to start at 10:00 a.m.  
COMMUNITY CENTER  
7225 Greadwood Parkway  
Sugar Land, TX 77479

The club is open on Monday Holidays.  
Entries for regular and upgraded games are \$6.00.

**Open Games Tuesday**

Arabia Shrine Center  
10510 Harwin Dr.  
Houston, TX 77036  
Please arrive by 10:15 a.m. Games starts at 10:30 a.m.  
Entries are normally \$5.00.

**FOR ALL GAME AND LOCATIONS:**

- We use Bridge Mate II Bridge pads.
- At least 36 upgraded games are held each year.
- Hand records are available after every game.
- Our players are a nice balance of friendly A, B and C players.
- Coffee and substantive snacks are provided.
- All games are fully sanctioned by the ACBL.
- Results available immediately.

**CALLING AHEAD WILL FACILITATE STARTING GAMES ON TIME.  
CONTACT:**

John Eric Watson  
[ewat2004@aol.com](mailto:ewat2004@aol.com)  
832 287 9107



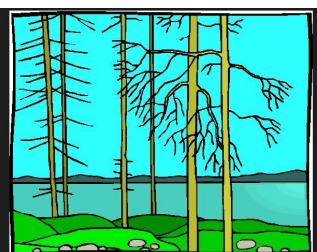
## KINGWOOD DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

**Kingwood Duplicate Bridge Club has added a second game on Thursday starting September 8!**

Both games (Wednesday and Thursday) start at 10:00 am at the Kingwood Community Center, 4102 Rustic Woods Drive, Kingwood, TX 77345.  
Entries are still \$2 and \$3 for upgraded games.

On Thursday morning, Bill Riley will be giving a short 20-30 minute presentation on various topics, conventions, etc., starting at 9:20 a.m. A schedule of topics will be published shortly. Coffee is available.

For information, contact any of the following:  
Jim Simmons at (281)913-0441 or [jrsimmons2102@gmail.com](mailto:jrsimmons2102@gmail.com).  
Bill Riley at (832)289-3833 or [ichibanbill@yahoo.com](mailto:ichibanbill@yahoo.com).  
Kingwood Community Center Phone: (281) 348-2570  
Or Visit our [website](#).



## LAKE CONROE DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

**November 2023**

Our Bridge Club is a very welcoming and friendly Club. We have players from all levels, so all duplicate players will feel comfortable. We would like to invite you and your bridge friends to join us every Friday.



We begin playing at 10:30 a.m. The game fee is \$5.00. We always offer complimentary snacks, sweet and savory, and coffee and iced tea. Please bring your lunch as we have microwaves for heating and refrigerators for keeping your food cold.

Our games are played in the Fellowship Room at April Sound Church, located at 67 1/2 April Wind Dr. S, Montgomery. There is easy access from Hwy 105 into the church parking lot.

No Partner?? No worries! Call Gerry Earnest, 936-447-6958, and she will do her best to find you a partner.

- November 3 - Unit Club Championship
- November 10 - Unit STaC
- November 17 - Junior Fund - Complimentary Pizza Lunch
- November 24 - No Game - Thanksgiving Holiday

**We look forward to seeing you on Friday's at LCDBC and invite you to join us at the table for a great day of bridge.**

Penny Grassedonio  
Club Manager  
832-361-4577  
[czthdaypjg@gmail.com](mailto:czthdaypjg@gmail.com)  
[website](#)



## LONE STAR BRIDGE CLUB

Lone Star Bridge Club (LSBC) in Conroe, Texas, plays at St Paul Global Methodist Church, 1100 Semands Drive, Conroe; the church is located within easy access from Interstate 45. Directions to our game may be found on our [website](#).

Weekly OPEN games are Mondays at 11:45 a.m. and Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. All games are stratified.

We provide Coffee, bottled water, and only individually wrapped snacks.

Our games are **always** \$5.00.

Monday, November 6<sup>th</sup> will be a busy day! Starting at 11:00 a.m. with a free lesson from Diamond Life Master Jeff Kroll. The topic is: The Play of the Hand. The game follows at 11:45 a.m. and is a Unit 174 STaC game - **SILVER**.

We will also be celebrating our monthly membership Birthday Party for all our November babies with cake and ice cream.

Tuesday, November 7<sup>th</sup> - Unit 174 STaC game at 10:30 a.m.  
Thursday, November 9<sup>th</sup> - Unit 174 STaC game at 10:30 a.m.  
Pizza will be served during our lunch break!

Monday, November 20<sup>th</sup> - Join us for turkey and potluck at our annual **Thanksgiving Luncheon**. We are planning to start serving and eating at 11:00 a.m. to be ready to start the bridge game at 11:45 a.m. This game will be an Upgraded Club Championship!

Tuesday, November 21<sup>st</sup> - Our monthly Mentor/Mentee bridge game will begin at 10:00 a.m. If you want to participate, please sign up at the club, OR contact Anita Rothfuss by phone or email. #936-537-5039 , [larryandanita@gmail.com](mailto:larryandanita@gmail.com). This game will be an Upgraded Club Championship!

Thursday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> - **HAPPY THANKSGIVING!** No bridge game.

Tuesday, November 28<sup>th</sup> - **SPECIAL NEW GAME** - "Eight is Enough Swiss Teams Game" at 10:30 a.m. This game is an excellent opportunity for newer players to become familiar with the Swiss Teams format in preparation for

the upcoming 2024 Houston Lone Star Regional Tournament. Please sign up at the club, or speak to Linda Sutton or Mary McDonald for help in forming teams.

**ALSO - PLEASE ADD** Monday, December 18<sup>th</sup> to your bridge calendar for our annual Christmas Party. Details will follow later.

If you would like to play and need a partner, please contact our partnership chairperson, Sandra Maalouf, at 936-597-8756 or [smaalouf@icloud.com](mailto:smaalouf@icloud.com).

For more information, contact Linda Sutton, Club Manager at [lindasutton212@gmail.com](mailto:lindasutton212@gmail.com).

Please visit our website by clicking [here](#).

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## PEBBLE CREEK DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

Face-to-face games are held on Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. For further information, please contact Richard Duble at 979-324-8421 or [richard.duble@yahoo.com](mailto:richard.duble@yahoo.com) or visit our [website](#).

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## SPRING BRANCH DUPLICATE CLUB

Games are now on Tuesdays and Thursdays starting at 11:00 a.m.

Location: Trini Mendenhall Sosa Community Center, 1414 Wirt Road, Houston, Texas. Located in the northeast corner of the intersection of Wirt Road and Westview in the Spring Branch area.

Regular games are \$1/person. Totally non-profit in accordance with County rules.

Manager & Director  
Judith Hoffing  
713-467-5805  
[hoffing2007@comcast.net](mailto:hoffing2007@comcast.net)  
[website](#)

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## STAR DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

Games are on Mondays and Fridays at 9:30 am and are **now \$5** per person.

You must have a partner.

For more info, contact Richard Duble at 979-324-8421 or [richard.duble@yahoo.com](mailto:richard.duble@yahoo.com) or visit our [website](#).

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# Contributors



## Read the Lead; Do Not Finesse

BY **SAM KHAYATT**  
&  
**JEFF KROLL**

<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">6</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block; margin-left: 5px;">D</div> </div>		<b>N Robot</b> ♠ QJ ♥ KQ10752 ♦ 8 ♣ 10974	<table border="1"> <tr> <th>WEST</th> <th>NORTH</th> <th>EAST</th> <th>SOUTH</th> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>1♥</td> <td>2♦</td> <td>1♣</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>3♥</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>3NT</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>4♥</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	Pass	1♥	2♦	1♣	Pass	3♥	Pass	3NT	Pass	4♥	Pass	Pass	Pass			
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<b>W Robot</b> ♠ K10976 ♥ 9864 ♦ Q5 ♣ K6	<b>S texashen</b> ♠ 54 ♥ A ♦ K963 ♣ AQJ532		<b>E Robot</b> ♠ A832 ♥ J3 ♦ AJ10742 ♣ 8																				

4♥ North  
NS: 0  
EW: 0

	W	N	E	S	
			P	1♣	
	P	1♥	2♦	3♣	
<i>Some Wests might bid 3S; partner has promised 10 points.</i>	P	3♥	P	3NT	<i>South has a decent diamond holding behind the diamond bidder and is not worried about spades because no one bid them.</i>
<i>North might assume there are two hearts with the 3NT bid.</i>	P	4♥			

East leads the ♦ A (a spade lead from Axxx is unattractive) and shifts to the ♣ 8.

Declarer (North) must think twice before automatically finessing the ♣ Q. Three clubs are out: ♣ K86.

- Holding all three, East would have led the ♣ 6, low from an honor.
- Holding two, East would lead the top of the doubleton, either the ♣ K or the ♣ 8.
- Holding a singleton ♣ 8, East might lead it, even though N/S has bid clubs.

It appears the club finesse will fail. And when the club finesse fails, West might be able to give East a club ruff. That ruff, in addition to the ♦ A already lost, the ♣ K, and two losing spades gives the defense five tricks. The contract will be down 2.

So, declarer wins the ♣ A. Now, if trumps are 3-3 or if the ♥ J falls doubleton, declarer will lose only the ♦ A, the ♣ K and a spade.

Declarer plays the ♦ K from dummy, pitches a spade and then plays the ♥ A. Next is a small diamond is lead, overruffing West, if West trumps. Then the ♥ KQ. When the ♥ J falls doubleton, declarer makes the contract.

Chances of a favorable heart position are a little better than 50%. Chances of the club finesse working are close to 0%.

co-authors of the ACBL Bulletin Notes since 2015 as well as a former co-editors of this Newsletter for 3 1/2 years. Sam is also the District 16 Intermediate / Newcomer Coordinator. Both Sam and Jeff teach bridge.

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## From the Editor



Thank you to all of the people who contribute to the Newsletter. It takes a team of fellow bridge players to bring this information to you. Unit 174 runs on volunteers' energy.

*If you are interested in volunteering for Unit 174 events and activities, please contact Karen Nussbaum, Unit 174 Board President - [Karenunit174@gmail.com](mailto:Karenunit174@gmail.com).*

If you would like to have your club information or an article of interest published, or if you have a bridge accomplishment for which you are proud and would like to share in the Unit 174 Newsletter, please send your name, phone, email, and subject title to [unit174news@gmail.com](mailto:unit174news@gmail.com).

Evvie Gilbert  
Editor  
[unit174news@gmail.com](mailto:unit174news@gmail.com)

