

**UNIT 174
EVENTS &
CLASSES
JUNE 2022**



Welcome to the June 2022 Unit 174 Events and Classes Newsletter.

Summer is here! Perfect time to play bridge in the air conditioning. Support your local clubs F2F and online.

Please send us your class schedules, special event news, and links by the 25th of the month. This newsletter is published on the 1st of each month.

The unique email associated with this newsletter is unit174classandevents@gmail.com.

Jeanne Phelps and Chris Duncan
Co-Editors

For more information about what is happening locally, go to the Unit 174 web page acblunit174.org.

UNIT 174 SPECIAL EVENTS



Unit 174 Proudly Presents the 2022



Awesome August Sectional

\$1 Soda



ARABIA SHRINE CENTER

10510 Harwin Dr.
Houston, TX 77036



Stratification

Stratified Open Pairs

A: 3000+ X: 750-3000 Y: 0-750

Stratified 299'r Pairs

B: 200-300 C: 100-200 D: 0-100

Bracketed Swiss

Brackets of 7-9 teams



Table Fees per Session

Thur, Fri & Sat: \$13 (\$4 more for lapsed members)

Sunday: \$15 (Sunday lunch included)

Table Fees are cashless (credit card only)

SPRINGHILL SUITES by Marriott

5851 Rogerdale Rd, Houston, TX 77072

(832) 300-0200 - Room Rate \$79 (AARP Discount)

HOUSTON MARRIOTT WESTCHASE

2900 Briarpark Dr., Houston TX 77042

(713) 978-7400 - Room Rate: \$99

Covid Safety

See Unit 174 website (acblunit174.org)
for latest guidelines

Playing Schedule

Thursday, Friday & Saturday, Aug 11-13

Stratified Open Pairs 10 & 3:00

Stratified 299'r Pairs (single sessions) 10 & 3:00

Side Game (single sessions) 10 & 3:00

FLM 0-50 Gemini Pairs 10 & 3:00

Bracketed Swiss 10 & 3:00

Sunday, Aug 14

Stratified Open Pairs (single sessions) 10 & TBD

Stratified 299'r Pairs (single sessions) 10 & TBD

Bracketed Swiss 10 & TBD

Please Be Scent-sitive

No Cologne

No Perfume

No Offensive Odors

Tournament Chairs

Charles Dalton

cdinc35@att.net

(713) 861-3399

John DuBose

jdubose2@comcast.net

(713) 315-1755

**For latest copy of flyer,
please visit unit 174 website**

<https://ACBLunit174.org>



Guest Speakers - TBD Thursday, Friday & Saturday

Thursday:

Friday:

Saturday:

ONLINE SPECIAL EVENTS

Online
Event Calendar



Coming up in June-

June 1-30

North American Pairs (NAP) Club Qualifying
Qualifiers move on to District NAP finals.

June 18-19 The Longest Day

The Longest Day is an annual fundraising event held to support the fight against Alzheimer's disease. Funds are distributed to the Alzheimer's Association in the US, as well as to the Alzheimer Society of Canada.

Every month on the ACBL website there is a list of special online games offered. To find what special online games will be available click [here](#).

THE LONGEST DAY Make it a charity day to remember



The ACBL has raised \$7.8 million for Alzheimer's patient care and research through participation in The Alzheimer's Association's The Longest Day fundraising event.

During 2021, approximately 300 Units and Clubs raised \$917,000. All Virtual Club Games held the weekend of June 18 and 19 are designated Alzheimer's Association games, and the ACBL

sanction fees will be donated to the Alzheimer's Association. **Clubs that have returned to F2F play will offer upgraded games with elevated masterpoints during the week of June 19-26.**

Please play in these games and support The Longest Day while earning more masterpoints!!! Click here to see -> [D16 Clubs Participating in The Longest Day Event](#)

ESPECIALLY FOR NEWCOMERS



Come Play with Us!
FLM Schedule for the On-Line Games:

**EXCITING NEWS IN THAT WE HAVE HAD
WELL, OVER 240 TABLES ONLINE TO DATE...**

**NOTICE THAT WE HAVE CHANGED OUR
TUESDAY 3:05 GAME TO INCLUDE 0-50 MP HOLDERS!**

**ALSO, WE ARE IN THE PROCESS OF
ENHANCING OUR FLM PROGRAM
SO STAY TUNED!**

**NEWCOMERS, CONTINUE TO HAVE
FUN...YOU GET TO "MEET" NEW PLAYERS
AT A SIMILAR LEVEL, ACCENTUATE YOUR
OWN SKILLS, ETC.**

Come Play with Us!
FLM Schedule for the On-Line Games:

Apollo - 0-20 MPs
2nd Saturday - 9:00 am - Houston FLM Apollo 0-20 Assisted
Play & Board Review

Gemini - 0-50 MPs
Monday - 4:00 pm - D16 0-50 FLM Gemini
Tuesday - 3:05 pm - Houston U174 FLM Gemini 0-50 Assisted Play

Discovery - 0-99 MPs
Tuesday - 2:45 pm - ChooseHouston FLM Discovery
Thursday - 2:45 pm - ChooseHouston FLM Discovery

We Encourage All of our Newcomers to Join Us!
To learn more about our FLM Playing Groups, [CLICK HERE](#): Future Life
Masters

**DISTRICT 16 GAMES FOR NEW
PLAYERS**

**District 16 Daily 0-99ers Games with
Pre & Post Lessons and Analysis**

District 16 offers our 99ers a game just for them - the "99er Nite
Club"! These games are offered 7 days a week at 6 pm. If you are a

99er, ask your Club if they are participating. Your Club has to "opt-in" for these games to participate. If your Club has any questions, ask them to contact Nancy Strohmer, nastrohmer@yahoo.com.

District 16 wants every 99er to have the opportunity to play as much as possible and have the best experiences. There are extra perks of this game: Lynn Berg provides mini-lessons @ 5:30 pm, a wide variety of professionals (including Larry Cohen) conduct a postmortem at about 7:30 pm and these are bigger games offering more masterpoints!

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 99ER NITE CLUB game.

*Contact Nancy Strohmer for details:
nastrohmer@yahoo.com*

New Game in Town



LOCAL BRIDGE CLASSES OFFERED

BRIDGE CLUB OF HOUSTON

Monday Mornings with Bill

Bill Riley will give a series of lectures on various bridge topics. These topics are geared to the advanced beginner and intermediate player but are open to all. Other topics, in addition to those specified below, will include: Transfers, Interfering with the Opponents opening 1NT, Doubles, and Nuances of 2/1, to name just a few.

Bill Riley is a Diamond Life Master, certified ACBL director, as well as an outstanding and entertaining teacher. Having taught Pediatrics for 40 years, he is now teaching bridge.

Lessons begin at 10:30. The usual cost of the lecture is \$2.00, which we will collect at the door [when we verify COVID vaccination cards for those at the club for the first time].

Should there be enough participants, there will be a 499er game as well as an open game on those Mondays.

Next class June 27th - check the [BCOH](#) website for topic

We are bringing back the 0-50 game Tuesday mornings

Julie Halperin will give a free lesson from 9:30 to 10:10. The game begins at 10:30. The game fee for 0-50 games is \$5.00. The open game is \$10.00. 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!

CLEAR LAKE BRIDGE CLUB

Clear Lake Bridge Club is located at 16614 Sea Lark Road Houston, TX 77062 - Telephone: 281 480-1911. We welcome all to any of our F2F games - open or limited or special. Enjoy games, a friendly environment, and challenging competitive games. Or visit the Virtual Club at BBO: "CHOOSE HOUSTON". The web page address is www.clearlakebridgeclub.org.

Visit the web page at www.clearlakebridgeclub.org for details on open games, I/N games, and special games.

SPECIAL GAMES

Breakfast, Bridge & Lesson

When: Second Wednesday
9:00 AM Breakfast
9:20 AM Lesson
10:00 AM Game

Where: At the club!

Eight is Enough

Sunday Teams
When: Second Sunday
1:00 PM Game

Where: At the club!

Mentor Mentee Game

When: Third Wednesday
1:30 PM Lunch
2:00 PM Game

Where: At the club!

Bridge Lab

Supervised Practice
When: Every Tues & Sun
2:00 PM

Where: At the club!



Starting June 8, 2022 - Free Beginning Bridge Lessons every Wednesday at the Embassy Suites at Park Row and I-10 for the months of June, July, and August.

Geared towards Novices and Beginners who want to learn or improve their game of bridge. The class is free. The setting is very relaxed and social. This class will be held concurrent with the Neighbors and Newcomers of Greater Houston (NNGH) Learn to Play Bridge class.

Schedule: Wednesdays during the summer

10:00 - 11:30 am: Lesson and Play

11:30 - 12:30 pm: Lunch Buffet at Embassy Suites (\$7 includes meal,

drink, and dessert) free coffee and ice water available.

12:30 - 2:00: Play bridge

We will be following the lesson plan in the "ACBL Series Bidding in the 21st Century". There will be handouts emailed to you every week so you do not need to buy the book ([ACBL Bidding In The 21st Century - Baron Barclay Bridge Supply](#)) but it will be very helpful for following along and reviewing what we went over in the class that day.

If you are interested in attending please email your name and phone number to Jeanne Phelps at houstonschoolofbridge@gmail.com.

THE LONE STAR BRIDGE CLUB

The first Monday of each month before the game, at 11 am, DLM Jeff Kroll teaches a lesson to benefit all levels of players. On June 6 at LSBC he will have his third session on the new convention card. It will include responses to 1 of a major, including:

- Jacoby 2NT (what's partnership agreement and what's not)
- Mixed Raises
- Splinters
- Jacoby 3NT
- Bergen
- Bidding over interference
- Drury choices
- 1NT forcing vs 1NT semi forcing (When to bypass a 1S bid when your partner opens a heart, and you have 4 spades)

THOMAS RUSH ONLINE BRIDGE CLASSES

Intermediate or Advanced Pairs Workshop on BBO

Scheduled according to your calendar, online

Two-hour sessions designed for a partnership, \$100/pair/session.

I've been running these very successful sessions with a limited group and am ready to roll it out to more people. In these two-hour online sessions, we'll set up a teaching room on BBO with audio for one or two pairs, with me working as a coach to help you analyze auctions declarer play and defense at a higher level.

Because we're playing online, we can discuss a hand immediately after and replay it to see the benefit of different bids or order of play. We can also give you practice on particular conventions or types of

hands - it's really up to the people in each particular class!

For more information, or to register, contact Thomas Rush at 832-228-7835 or email PlayBridgeWithThomas@gmail.com.

ASK JEFF by Jeff Kroll

Board	Result	We	They	We	They
12	2♠N-2		200	21.1%	79.0%
13	3♠S-2		200	2.6%	97.4%
14	3♥S-1		50	44.7%	55.3%
15	3NTW=		400	18.4%	81.6%
				37.6%	62.4%

Previous deal Previous trick Next trick Next deal Other Tables

Question:

Once my partner got to the board to take the spade finesse, she got the bad news that spades were 5-0 in the LHO. When that happens to me, I just panic. But there must be some way to try to make the best of this type of situation. Any advice? Should I have left trump alone?

Also, my reasoning for raising her 2-spade bid was that one opponent opened weak, the other one passed and I had some support for spades. Should I have just figured the opponent that passed must have some spades?

Answer:

Great question! South is showing a solid opener with at least a good 5 card spade suit for her 2S bid. I would upgrade the South hand as the protected King of hearts is behind the 2H bidder, making the King of hearts a likely trick. So, 2S was a normal bid by South.

North's 3S was also normal. The Jack of hearts isn't worth much in

front of the heart bidder but the 2 minor suit kings are golden opposite a hand with opening values, and J x x in spades is nice support, 3S by North was a normal bid.

Looks like a very normal auction to me. Going to the board to try the finesse in spades was also very normal.

One of the benefits of matchpoint bridge is that sometimes you don't need to make your contract to get a good result. The idea is just to do better than the others who have your cards.

5-0 splits happen about 4% of the time so on the rare occasion they happen, make the best of them. Personally, when I'm in a contract that I think most of the field will be in, I like when there are challenges to playing the hand, so hopefully I can play it better than the others in my position.

Even if the declarer has already counted winners and losers before the play started (like she should have), after finding there is a 5-0 spade split, now is a good time to count again...

- Spades 3 winners, let the Jack of spades ride to the King, then the A Q 10 are good
- Hearts 1 winner, most would lead a heart to the ace on the opening lead and then the King is good
- Diamonds 2 winners, and as the 6 will go under the 9 of spades, I would ruff a diamond with it, giving me: 1 Ruff (this is the exception to ruffing with the trumps in the long hand)
 - Clubs 1 (as East preempted, it's likely that West has the Ace of clubs. So, I'd lead low to King early in the plays as I know East has no trump and won't ruff)
- 8 total tricks taken - down 1. -100

I would be satisfied with this result at match points. If the defense slips, maybe East will get in with a club and be end played into playing a heart to the Jack. If the Queen of hearts has already been played, then it would make. Course you can't count on opponents to be kind.

Down 1 after dealing with a 5-0 trump suit with the 5 behind the 5 card trump suit is pretty good. Sure it's not as good as 2S making, but North/South had a normal auction.

The first Monday of each month before the game, at 11 am, DLM Jeff Kroll teaches a lesson to benefit all levels of players. Here is a link to a video of May 2, 2022 and April 4, 2022 classes.

5/2/22 class given by Jeff Kroll: <https://vimeo.com/705986809>

4/22/22 class given by Jeff Kroll: <https://vimeo.com/696098987>

2 Beginner Games - Results and Video

by Robert Hanly's Durham DBC

Every week Robert Hanley of the Durham DBC takes two hands from his beginner games and shows how he would have bid and played the hand. Please note that he uses a BBO screen to show his solution so be aware of the positions in BBO, they may or may not match the hand record. This month's example is from his April 21, 99er game.

The link to the video

is: <https://share.vidyard.com/watch/WV7NxJ1JLwEA6iRtkGw37G>

Dir: N
Vul: None

14
12 9
5

♠ 8 3
♥ AKQ 9
♦ J 8 7
♣ A 9 7 6

♠ J 9 7 4 2
♥ J 4
♦ AK 3
♣ Q J 2

♠ AK 5
♥ 10 8 7
♦ Q 9 6 4 2
♣ 8 4

♠ Q 10 6
♥ 6 5 3 2
♦ 10 5
♣ K 10 5 3

Board 1: Robert and his partner are sitting E/W. Bidding:

N	E	S	W
1C	P	1H	P
2H	P	P	2S
3C	P	3H	P
P	P		

lead AD

E/W sets the opponents down 1 for +50

In this example, Robert discusses overcalls and later balancing to force the opponents to a higher

contract. In addition, he and his partner use signaling to encourage and discourage the next card played.

Contract	Lead	Result	Score		Matchpoints	
			N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W

2♣ W

♥A

=

-110

110

1.50

6.50

Dir: E

Vul: E-W

11

8 15

6

♠ 9 6 5 3

♥ A Q 6 4 3

♦ Q 10 5

♣ 10

♠ Q J 8 7

♥ J 10

♦ A K 9 4

♣ 9 6 3

♠ K 10

♥ K 9 8 5

♦ 6 2

♣ A K Q 8 5

♠ A 4 2

♥ 7 2

♦ J 8 7 3

♣ J 7 4 2

6

Board 6: Robert and his partner are sitting E/W. Bidding:

S	W	N	E
			1N
P	2C	P	2H
P	3H	P	4H

lead 2C

E/W makes an overtrick for a total of 5H or a score of +650

In this example, Robert discusses the logic used when bidding 1NT with two doubletons and the importance of position with a Tenace (K10).

Contract	Lead	Result	Score		Matchpoints	
			N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W
4♥ W	♠A	-1	100	-100	6.50	1.50
4♥ W	♠A	-1	100	-100	6.50	1.50
4♥ W	♠A	-1	100	-100	6.50	1.50
4♥ W	♠A	-1	100	-100	6.50	1.50
2♥ W	♠A	+1	-140	140	3.00	5.00
3♥ W	♠A	=	-140	140	3.00	5.00
3♥ W	♠A	=	-140	140	3.00	5.00
3♥ W	♠A	+1	-170	170	0.50	7.50
3♥ W	♠A	+1	-170	170	0.50	7.50

**"Happiness is when
what you think,
what you say, and
what you do are in harmony"**

Mahatama Gandhi

Every Bridge Player's Goal


