



## *Pensacola Duplicate Bridge Club Newsletter* *Issue 2016 –3: September 2016*

### **Changes in Rank**

#### **Regional Master**

Ginger Herm  
Fran Viviano  
Judith Watson

#### **Sectional Master**

Jody S. Crane  
Jodey McMillen

#### **Junior Master**

Jo Hammond  
Stella Jarina

### **From Your President**

Pensacola Duplicate Bridge Club has entered the electronic age as we are participating in a Pilot Gold Rush Tournament held in the club without travel, hotel, and restaurant bills. We had seven pairs participate in the two practice games—we placed a pair in what would have been the gold point range. I applaud those who were able to overcome their computer phobia and realized that even on electronic devices they were just playing bridge.

As we come into the fall season, I would remind people of normal precautions to avoid transmission of those pesky viruses. If you are sick, please don't come to the club, or if there is a question, wear a mask. And, try not to inadvertently touch your mouth and then the cards. I wish us all good health this fall and winter season.

Unfortunately, a few little squabbles arose at the club, which were noticeable because we haven't had many. I would remind you to just simply call the director early if putting the Play Nicely card does not stop the unpleasantness.

We just completed our last summer tournament, we had taken it over from Panama City when they couldn't do it but now they can and we will give it back. Staging three tournaments a year was a strain on our membership and particularly those few people (I would like to see more) who do most of the heavy work for the tournament. But, with that change, we also lose the approximately \$2,000 in income we derived from the tournament.

This is happening at a time when our table fees from the ACBL have increased to \$5.50 per table for the STaC games—up almost a dollar, tournament director fees are increased \$20, Pensacola State College fees are increased including the need to pay for a security guard during the tournament. Charity games are \$5 per table, and our directors have not received a raise for over 15 years despite more being asked of them. The general expenses of maintaining the building including cleaning, air conditioning, and repair have been controlled but are still up about \$800 with year to date comparisons. We pay \$600 per month to the ACBL. We must begin a conversation about how to absorb these costs. At this time, we have three general approaches, increase the membership fee or increase the table fee or a combination of both. The board members are anxious to hear the memberships' thoughts about how best to adjust our fees. (Continued on page 4)

### **70% Games**

Elaine Thompson & Dan Thompson	J&J	74.11%	05/31/16
Loretta Davis & Bob Hannah	PDBC	75.00%	06/01/16
Jennie Legge & Winston Legge	PDBC	76.79%	07/25/16

**Pensacola Duplicate Bridge Club**  
**850-432-3946**  
**1200 N. 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Pensacola, FL 32503**  
**<http://www.pensacolabridgeclub.com>**

## Upcoming Tournaments

Sectionals within a 4 hour drive

Regionals within a 5 hour drive

NABCs within a 7 hour drive

### *Regional*

**Atlanta, GA**

**Aug 30-Sep 5**

### *Sectional (I/N)*

**Vestavia Hills, AL**

**Sep 8-10**

### *Sectional*

**Flowood [Jackson], MS**

**Sep 23-25**

### *Sectional*

**Metairie, LA**

**Oct 7-9**

### *Sectional*

**Fort Walton Beach, FL**

**Oct 7-9**

### *Sectional*

**Flowood [Jackson], MS**

**Oct 14-16**

### *Sectional*

**Gulfport, MS**

**Oct 21-23**

### *Sectional*

**Mobile, AL**

**Oct 28-30**

### *Sectional*

**Pensacola, FL**

**Nov 4-6**

### *Sectional*

**Metairie, LA**

**Nov 10-13**

### *Sectional*

**Birmingham, AL**

**Nov 17-20**

### *Sectional*

**Flowood [Jackson], MS**

**Nov 18-20**

### *NABC*

**Orlando, FL**

**Nov 24-Dec 4**

### *Sectional*

**Baton Rouge**

**Dec 8-11**

*(The following was recently published by the ACBL - copied word for word for this newsletter)*

## Opening 1NT with a singleton: It's officially legal

The ACBL Board of Directors removed a legal gray area surrounding semi-balanced notrump openers when it approved a change to the definition of a notrump opening in the General Convention Chart. The change allows players to open 1NT with hands that include a singleton ace, king or queen, as long as they do not also contain a doubleton.

Here is the new definition, effective Aug. 1:

"A notrump opening or overcall is natural if, by agreement, it contains no void, at most one singleton which must be the A, K or Q and no more than two doubletons. If the hand contains a singleton, it may have no doubleton."

This includes hand patterns such as 5-4-3-1, 6-3-3-1 and 4-4-4-1, in addition to those that were previously allowed, such as 4-3-3-3, 5-3-3-2 and 5-4-2-2.

The change was recommended by the Competitions and Conventions Committee, a group of players appointed by the Board, in an effort to bring regulations in line with popular and expert practice, said ACBL Field Manager Sol Weinstein, who supervises tournament directors.

Before, opening notrump with a singleton was considered a psych. It was legal to do, but players could not have an agreement to open such hands 1NT or 2NT. The lack of clarity was a thorny issue for directors.

"Many players were doing it anyway," Weinstein said, particularly when a different opening would create a problematic rebid. "They decided it's not right to have a rule that's contrary to the way bridge is being played." The idea of expanding the definition has been discussed for years within the committee, but previous proposals have failed because they lacked the simplicity of the new definition.

"The Laws don't allow you to limit bridge judgment," Weinstein explained. "Regulations have to conform to the Laws."

The new definition prohibits opening notrump with more shapely hands, such as 5-5-2-1, 6-4-2-1 or 7-2-2-2. "All of this has to do with your agreements," Weinstein noted. "That doesn't prohibit an out-and-out psych, but you can't keep doing that or it becomes an agreement, and an illegal one at that."

The change does not impact the one allowable exception of a partnership agreement where 1NT is treated as a 100% forcing opening bid (and not considered "natural" with any distribution). The use of such an unbalanced, non-natural 1NT opening must be alerted.

[http://www.acbl.org/clubs\\_page/club-administration/club-directors/rulings-faq/opening-1nt-with-a-singleton/](http://www.acbl.org/clubs_page/club-administration/club-directors/rulings-faq/opening-1nt-with-a-singleton/)

## Lifetime Honorary Members

On Wednesday, August 17, 2016, Carol and Gordon Guimond were honored by Pensacola Duplicate Bridge Club with Lifetime Honorary Membership Awards for their invaluable services to our club.



They have done it all including owning their own club, teaching, mentoring, and both are Directors (Gordon became a tournament director) They brought the first computer into the club to be used for scoring.

Carol served on the unit board for 20 years as Educational Coordinator. Carol and Gordon are both past presidents of PDBC's Board, took on any job that needed to be done. They always greeted everyone with a smile and it was all for the love of the game.



### Don't Miss the Fun!

August 20, 2016  
October 15, 2016  
December 10, 2016

### Mark your Calendars Now for our Upcoming Parties

Dog Days of Summer Party – Unit Championship  
Building Birthday Party – Unit Championship  
Christmas Party – Unit Championship

## **PDBC Board Members**

Alexa Canady-Davis, President  
Helen Michel, Vice President  
Vicki Schell, Secretary  
Myrl Eisinger, Treasurer  
Mary Ann Abrams  
Jean Askew  
Carla Burke  
Rod Fullerton  
Joyce Gardner  
Laura J. White

## **Unit 219 Reps**

Hilda Cox  
Jeri Edge, President  
Kay Huke, Secretary/Treasurer  
Garlan Sisco

## **Club Managers**

Sue Smith  
Stuart Siegel

## **Directors**

John Eisinger  
Rod Fullerton  
Murray Hall  
Stuart Siegel  
Larry Westholm  
Laura J. White

## **Committee Chairs**

*Vacant*, Duplicating Chair  
Jean Askew, Sunshine Chair  
Carla Burke, Education Chair  
Barbara Chesterfield, Parliamentarian  
Barbara Chesterfield, Decorating Chair  
*Vacant*, Computer Chair  
*Vacant*, Membership Chair  
Alexa Davis, Publicity Chair  
John Eisinger, Tournament Chair  
Kathleen Fullerton, Judiciary Chair  
Rod Fullerton, Bldg. Maintenance  
Rod Fullerton, Nominating Chair  
Joyce Gardner, PSC Liaison  
*Vacant*, Partnership Chair  
Stuart Siegel, Director Chair  
Sue Smith, Webmaster  
Elaine Thompson, Finance Chair  
Fran Viviano, Social Chair  
Laura J. White, Newsletter Chair

## **Our Club**

*The PDBC Board serves the membership. This only works if you share your ideas and concerns with the committee chairs and the board members. One of the standing items on the board agenda is now suggestions and concerns of the membership. Please speak with your board members and committee chairs or if you prefer use the suggestion box on the bookshelf. Also, please review the monthly board meeting minutes so that you stay informed about issues affecting our club. The minutes are posted on our bulletin board by the bathrooms and posted on our website.*

## **Sunshine Committee**

Please contact Jean Askew or write on the Cares and Concerns list by the front door of the club if you or another member is encountering problems and have any special needs or could just use a bit of sunshine during difficult times.

## **NABC Name the Game**

Sue Smith, as manager of the Pensacola Duplicate Bridge Club, works tirelessly to make the club run smoothly and to grow and remain vibrant. Often her work seems to go unnoticed, but that is not the case. To show their appreciation, the members of the club have arranged to have a game at the upcoming NABC Championship in Orlando named after Sue.

The “Sue Smith of Pensacola” game will be held on Tuesday, 29 November, at 10:00 a.m. The game is open to 0-299 players, as Sue is always so encouraging to our novice players. “Name the Game” was a fundraising opportunity offered by the hosts of the game.

## **From your President (continued)**

The Sandestin Regional Bridge Tournament is January 23-29, 2017 and the Orange Beach Regional is February 27-March 8, 2017. These tournaments offer opportunities to get gold and red points close to home—I hope you plan to take advantage of these opportunities. If you like, I would be happy to arrange a teaching session about all the kinds of bridge games at a regional including, knock-outs, Swiss teams, gold rush, board-a match and the different strategies for IMP scoring versus Matchpoints scoring.

I was watching the Little League Baseball Game the other night. They interviewed the winning pitcher and asked him how he handled all the pressure and he said “Remember it is just a game and have fun,” I could not say it better. *Alexa Canady-Davis*