



Indianapolis Bridge Center – January 2016

8030 Castleway Drive, Indianapolis In 46250 – (317) 845-5887

www.indianapolisbridge.com

Happy New Year!

Worn out by the stress of the holidays? Come relax with bridge at the IBC!

Back by popular demand: Team Games

Swiss Teams Thursday 1/7 at 6:00 p.m., open,
Swiss Teams Wednesday 1/13 at 6:30, NLM
Perfect 10 * Thursday 1/21 at 6:00.

*In the **Perfect 10** game, no team may total over ten points. See the bulletin board for the calculation of member points. This has been a popular event, mixing players at different levels. Make up your team and join us! Sign up in advance, please.

The Men's Challenge game continues on Thursdays when Women's Contract is meeting. January games are 1/7 and 1/21 at noon.

There are five club championships in January:

Monday evening 1/4 at 6:00, open
Thursday evening 1/14 at 6:00, open Unit Championship
Sunday afternoon 1/17 at 1:00, open
Wednesday 1/20 at noon, open
Tuesday evening 1/26 at 6:30, 0-20

Winners!

John Beltz is a new Life Master! Celebrate with him on Saturday afternoon 1/30, before the 1:00 p.m. Games.

Player of the Month for November is Ken Gilliland. His party is Saturday, 1/9 before the 1:00 games

Ed Hardwidge is Rookie of the Month for November. Celebrate with him on Tuesday, 1/5 at the 10:00 games.

Kendra and Geoff Bridges, Tom Bondus, and Bill Gheen won the GNT Tuneup game. Best of luck to them going forward!

Advance notice – Special Day

Go right now and mark your calendars for Saturday, February 6! There'll be a full day devoted to special games, good food, good fun, and a chance to spread a little cheer to some in the Indianapolis area who are not as fortunate as we. That day will be a charity event in support of Gleaners Food Bank. Details to come.

Bridge Classes!

Bridge classes start the week of January 4th. Classes are available at all skill levels. See the IBC website for details. Thursday evening 1/7 at 7:00 is the start of Learn and Play. Tell your friends and neighbors! See posters for details.

JANUARY



philipmartin.info

Honoring Mentors

We honor mentors, past and present, on Thursday evening 1/14 at 6:00. Come help us salute them! It's a Unit Championship so extra points will be awarded

Reminders:

The IBC Holiday Party is Friday, December 18th. A catered meal will be served at 6:30, and game time is 7:30. Cost for the evening is \$18 per person. Please sign up with your menu choice. We've also heard mention of prizes!

You can get this **newsletter** delivered to your email instead of snail mail. That's both quicker and cheaper! Just open our website at www.indianapolisbridge.com and click on the "Email List" button. Fill in your name and email address. You will receive an email asking to confirm your request. **You must follow the instructions in that email to complete your subscription.** And you can always find the newsletter and calendar on the website.



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ALERT!

John Nichols

Hesitations – A Real Example – Do I Have to Pass?

When I was called to the table this was the auction (dealer was north) P/P/P 1NT(15-17)/P/2H(transfer)/P 2S/P/3S/P. I was told that the two-spade bid had been very slow. All four players agreed. West, the NT bidder asked “I have to pass, right?” I told him “No, you must bid your hand but ‘carefully avoid taking advantage’ of the hesitation”. So he passed, and the auction was passed out. I asked West what the hesitation meant. Was it deciding between Pass and 3S or between 3S and 4S. West was sure it was the former, showing a hand not quite as strong as the bid. I’ll take his word for it (but see below). West held a 17 count with 4 spades to the AK. The 3 spade bid is invitational with a 6-card suit in most anyone’s system. And West would certainly be accepting. 3 spades makes easily. 4 spades was made (but can be set on an inspired opening lead and the correct return).

Looking back to last month

1. Was there unauthorized information (in this case a hesitation)? – Yes.
2. Did the hesitation suggest a particular action? – The West player thought so, so I’ll take his word for it – Yes. If East’s hesitation was showing weakness it suggests passing.
3. Did the player make the bid suggested by the hesitation? – Yes.
4. Did the player have a logical alternative to the bid they made? – I would suggest that most players would bid 4 spades with the West hand so that is a logical alternative – Yes.
5. Were the opponents damaged? – No – the logical alternative (4S) would have scored better for West than the bid they actually made (3S).

However, had the hand only made 3, I would have adjusted the score to 4S down 1. The logical alternative would have been less successful than the bid that was actually made, so there would have been damage.

So, if my partner hesitates do I have to pass – NO. Sometimes you HAVE TO BID.

It could be argued that the hesitation followed by 3S does not “demonstrably suggest” a hand a bit weaker than a 3S bid nor a hand between 3S and 4S. It could be either. But in this case West was quite sure that it showed the weaker hand. I took his word for it. He knows his partner’s bidding habits better than I do. And, by the way, he was right. East had 8 HCP and five spades to the 10!

ACBL Live

Your New Home for
Tournament Results

Starting January 1, 2016 all ACBL tournament results will be posted to the ACBL website at live.acbl.org. Our Progressive Final in October and our Sectional in November can be found there

In addition, you can receive nearly instantaneous reports of your results by email or by a text message. To subscribe to these messages:

- Go to the main ACBL website at www.acbl.org
- Log into your MyACBL Portal
- Go to Privacy settings (located under “Membership”)
- Change privacy preferences to SUBSCRIBE for General Email Communication and/or SUBSCRIBE for Cell Phone Text Communication.

“Fast Results” is being phased out for most tournaments in favor of ACBL Live.

Table count for November was 458.5, down from 473.8 in 2014.