



Indianapolis Bridge Center – March 2016
 8030 Castleway Drive, Indianapolis IN 46250 – (317) 845-5887
www.indianapolisbridge.com

Special Games in March

Join the St Patrick's Day celebration, and play in the **Board-a-Match** (BAM) event at 6 in the evening on March 17th. Wear your green and don't be mean! Bring green snacks!

In a BAM, a team plays a small number of boards—usually two, three or four—against one opponent, then moves on to take on another opponent. The movement is set up in such a way that your team always plays any given board against two opposition pairs of the same team.

At the end of a BAM session, the members of a team gather to compare scores. Each board is scored separately as a win, a tie or a loss.

In **Swiss Teams**, you play a number of boards against another team, then report your results in International Match Points (IMPs). Those results are converted to victory points by the director. After each round, winners are matched against winners. After four matches, the results, in victory points, show which teams did well.

Swiss Teams will be held on Wednesday 3/9 at 6:30 (NLM), and on Thursday evening March 31st at 6:00 (Open).

By the by, Swiss methods for non-elimination tournaments are also used in badminton, chess, curling, squash, and scrabble. Who knew?

Learn & Play continues through March, on Thursday evenings at 7:00: a short lesson, then play bridge! Ibc

Heather Harmeyer is leading a **Mini-Mentoring** opportunity. We are working to make the transition from our 0-20 and 0-50 games into Non-Life_master games smoother. We will match players with 10 to 50 masterpoints with players with 50 to 200 masterpoints to play in NLM games. Interested? There is a sign-up sheet on the front bulletin board.

The ACBL has created two new **masterpoint** color levels: **Ruby** at 1500, and **Sapphire** at 3500 (each with appropriate numbers of colored points). Many members of the IBC are now automatically advanced to the new colors; we will have a party for them at noon on 3/16. Come celebrate with us, and bring a snack to share.

Congratulations

Linda Leedy was Player of the Month for December and will have her party Wednesday 3/2 at noon.

Player of the Month for January is Patty Cole. Her party will be announced later.

Rookie of the Month for February is Ray Batty. His party is Sunday evening 3/20 at 6:00.

Table count for January 2016 was 536.8, up 40 from 2015 and up 100 over 2014.

Plan ahead to attend the **IBC Annual Meeting**, and Elections, Saturday, April 9th. If you are in your seat when the meeting starts at 12:30 p.m., you will play free in the 1:00 game.

Back by popular demand! Play three Sunday afternoons a month, and receive a free play for a Sunday Afternoon the following month.

There are four club championships in March:

Tuesday afternoon 3/8 at 2:00, open
Thursday morning 3/17 at 9:00, 0-50
Monday morning 3/21 at 10:30, NLM
Wednesday evening 3/30 at 6:30, NLM



he **Men's Challenge** continues on Thursday afternoons through June 9th. March dates are the 3rd and the 24th. Grab your partner and come enjoy!



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ALERT!

John Nichols

Listen Carefully!

Sometimes when I make a ruling it seems like the players don't quite hear what I am saying.

Make It Sufficient!

When your right-hand opponent has made an insufficient bid you are given two options. You may accept it or you may reject. Frequently people want to choose to require that the insufficient bidder "make it sufficient", but that is not your choice.

If you accept the insufficient bid you are the next person to call and the insufficient bid becomes the high bid in the auction. That means if that bid is passed out that is the contract, even though someone else made a high bid earlier in the auction. Likewise, the next bid simply needs to be higher than the (accepted) insufficient bid.

On the other hand, if you reject it the insufficient bidder has some options. They may simply make it sufficient in which case the auction simply continues. Or they may make some other legal call (including pass, but not double or redouble) and their partner will be barred. But the call they make is their choice, not yours.

Penalty cards.

When your partner has a penalty card (or has made an opening lead out of turn) the declarer has an option to require or forbid you to lead that suit. They may also have the card remain a penalty card and have you make your normal lead. Players sometimes miss the word "normal". This means what you would normally lead if you hadn't seen the penalty card. Penalty cards are unauthorized information to you. You may not take advantage of having seen them. So, if your partner has lead an ace you must not lead that suit unless you would have good reason to if you hadn't seen your partner's card. If the penalty card is returned to your partner's hand it is still unauthorized information for you.

Help Us Out

Directors want to run an enjoyable game for you. Part of that means having a fair game that starts on time. So, how can you help us out.

1. Be in your seats at game time. Get that coffee refill 5 minutes before game time
2. Quiet down quickly when the director is ready to begin. If you continue your conversation everyone else in the room must wait on you.
3. Sit at a table that is marked for your average masterpoints. Keeping our games balanced is an important part of fairness. If you need to know your masterpoints or our partner;s you can ask us. We can look it up for you.
4. If you need a North/South please call before 9:00 a.m. for a daytime game. We will do our best to accommodate everyone.
5. Understand that we will move players from higher number tables to fill in holes and balance the movement. When we ask you to move, please move quickly so that we can get the game started.

Thanks for your help!