



**Indianapolis Bridge Center – March 2017**  
 8030 Castleway Drive, Indianapolis IN 46250 – (317) 845-5887  
[www.indianapolisbridge.com](http://www.indianapolisbridge.com)

### See What's Going On at the IBC!

Plan ahead to attend the IBC Annual Meeting, and Elections, Saturday, April 8<sup>th</sup>. If you are in your seat when the meeting starts at 12:30 p.m., you will play free in the 1:00 game. Get a partner, participate, vote, and play free (if you are on time).

The ACBL-wide **Senior Pairs** will be held at the IBC on Monday, March 27<sup>th</sup>, at noon. The event is restricted to persons born before January 1, 1959. Pairs that score really well will be recognized on the ACBL website and in the *ACBL Bulletin*, and, of course, in a future IBC newsletter. There is an extra charge. Hand records and analyses will be provided (but alas, afterwards).

The **Shark-Free Zone** game continues Sunday evenings at 6:00. Masterpoint limits are 200-1250. Every player must be between those limits.

**Learn & Play** continues through March, on Thursday evenings at 7:00: a short lesson, then play bridge! Tell your bridge-playing friends.

### Swiss Team Games in March

We will have three Swiss Team games in March at the IBC.

- Open on Thursday evening 3/9 at 6:00;
- Limited (0-500) on Wednesday 3/22 at 6:30, and
- Perfect 10 Thursday evening 3/30 at 6:00.

### Championships

There are five unit and club championships in March:

Saturday afternoon 3/11, at the 1:00 games;
Tuesday 3/14 at the 2:00 open game;
Monday morning 3/20 at the limited 10:30 game,
Wednesday 3/22 at 6:30 in the limited game;
Tuesday morning 3/28 at the 10:30 limited game.

Table count for January was 480, down from 536 for January 2016.

The **Singles/Individual** game is Saturday evening March 4<sup>th</sup>. Socialize at 6:00, play at 6:00.

The **Married Couples** game is Saturday, March 18<sup>th</sup>. Social hour is at 5:30 in the evening, and the game starts at 6:30.



### Winners

**Randy Helmink** is now a Diamond Life Master. Party with him Wednesday March 15<sup>th</sup>. Lunch will be at 11. Feel free to bring a salad or snack to share.

Player of the Month for January is **Kendra Bridges**. Celebrate with her before the game on Saturday, March 11<sup>th</sup>.

Rookie of the month for January is **Ginny Blevins**. Her party will be before the 6:00 evening games on Sunday, March 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Congratulations to all!**



**Indianapolis Bridge Center – March 2017**  
8030 Castleway Drive, Indianapolis IN 46250 – (317) 845-5887  
[www.indianapolisbridge.com](http://www.indianapolisbridge.com)

## ALERT!

John Nichols

### Know Your Agreements

Some of our advancing players are trying out some new conventions without a good understanding as to how the convention must be handled. When you and your partner decide to play a convention it is required that you:

- Make the proper alerts. Alerts are governed by the ACBL Alert Procedures. There is also an Alert Chart that summarizes some of those procedures. Both documents can be found on the ACBL website under “Charts, Rules and Regulations.” If you have questions about what is alertable or how to alert you can ask me.
- Be able to explain, when asked, your partnership understanding of the convention and of any follow-up bids. Explaining a bid does not just mean naming the convention. A proper explanation includes what strength it shows (high-card point range) and what distribution it indicates. Statements like “No agreement” or “It’s just Bridge” are rarely acceptable. Remember, the obligation to explain a bid extends not just to conventions or explicit agreements but to all partnership understandings.
- Know when the convention applies and when it does not. Does it apply if the opponents interfere with an overcall? How high of an overcall? How about after they double?

If you fail on any of the above and the opponents are damaged you should expect the director to assign an adjusted score.

If someone has taught you a convention or other bidding method and they haven’t covered the above requirements they have only done half the job. If you need some help you can ask me or one of the other directors or teachers.

## GOOD LUCK

&

## HAVE FUN

