



Indianapolis Bridge Center – May 2017

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www.indianapolisbridge.com

See What's Going On at the IBC!

Loyalist Party: On Wednesday, May 17, we will honor those members who played more than 100 times in IBC games in 2016. Please come, applaud their success, and bring a snack to share.

How often do you and your partner finish a round and have 5, 6, or even 8 minutes to wait for the next round? Is that a clamor we hear for Fast Pairs? If so, show up at 6:00 in the evening on Thursday, May 4th. In fast pairs, you play two boards in 10 minutes, not fourteen. Besides being fun (and not having to wait for slowpokes to finish), fast pairs get you home sooner.

We'll have two Swiss Team games in May:

- Limited game on Wednesday 5/10 at 6:30, and
- Perfect 10 on Wednesday 5/18 at 6:00.

The update of the life master board will take place between the daytime games on Tuesday, May 30th. We celebrate all those who have reached a new level, *e.g.* bronze, silver, ruby, gold, and so forth.

The Indianapolis Spring Sectional is Friday 5/5 to Sunday 5/7. The IBC will be closed those days.

Learn&Play sessions have ended.

At the **Annual Meeting** on Saturday, April 8, **Ray Batty, Beth Morton, and Joyce Pepple** were elected for three-year terms on the Board. At the Board meeting later in the day the following officers were elected:

President – Perry Olsen

VP – Pam Rhine

Secretary – Beth Morton

Treasurer – Mary Jo Erdberg



There are three club championships in May:

Tuesday 5/16 at 10:00 a.m. for both games;
Friday 5/19 at 10:30 a.m., limited 0-500; and
Wednesday 5/31 at 6:30 in the evening, limited.

There are also two Inter-Club games in May:

Wednesday 5/3 at noon, open; and
Monday 5/22 at 6:00, open.

Table count for March was 576.3, the best March in the last five years! Many thanks to all who played.

Congratulations to Columbus, Ohio, who will host an NABC in 2020! That's an ambitious and expensive undertaking, and the clubs in our District will raise money for them. The week of May 8th to 14th, there will be a \$1 surcharge per person. The games will pay black points at 82% of sectional rating. That is nearly **triple points**.

There is no Singles/Individual game in May.

The Married Couples game is Saturday 5/20. Social hour is at 5:30 in the evening, and the game starts at 6:30.

Winners!

Don Florida is now an **Emerald Life Master!** Watch for the announcement of his party.

Heather Harmeyer, Caryl Shideler, and John Klepfer are now Life Masters. Look for their party announcements.

Rookie of the Month for March is **Ed Hardwidge**. His party is Tuesday May 9th.

John Fosnaught is Player of the Month for March. Look for his party on Wednesday, May 24 at noon.



ALERT!

John Nichols

The STOP card

There was a couple who started playing duplicate after many years of party Bridge. Like most party Bridge players they had always played strong twos. But then they learned about weak twos. They liked that – they could preempt on a 6-card suit. Their problem was how to tell the difference. Simple solution – use the STOP card before bidding a weak two but not before a strong two – problem solved.

There is a rumor floating around that the ACBL is going to outlaw the STOP card. It's just that – a rumor. This is not the first time that rumor has gone around. The truth is that eliminating the STOP card from the bidding box has actually been discussed by the ACBL board, but **no action** has been taken.

Please remember: The STOP card is just a reminder to the next player that they are **required** to pause for about 10 seconds after a skip-bid before they make their call. That requirement to pause has nothing to do with the STOP card. It is a result of the skip bid.

Why the pause? Players are expected to be thinking ahead as to what calls they would make in a normal auction and to make those calls in a consistent tempo. When a surprise comes along, like a skip-bid, the other players **may** need a bit of extra time to think about their hand. If you sometimes bid or pass quickly and sometimes take a bit of think-time it tells your partner how easy your call was to make. And that creates Unauthorized Information. By pausing after every skip-bid you hide your need to sometimes think from your partner – thus avoiding UI. And it makes no difference whether you bid or pass, you must pause.

As I said above, there has been some real discussion about the STOP card. But nothing has been decided yet. And there has been no discussion about removing the requirement for the pause after a skip-bid.

Please Help Us Out And help one another as well

Because duplicate bridge requires players to be in close proximity to each other, individuals who suffer from fragrance-related reactions cannot avoid those who are wearing them. Among the commonly reported symptoms are intense headaches (indeed, fragrances can frequently be a trigger for migraine sufferers) or breathing-related problems. For these individuals, the issue is much more serious than simply disliking a particular smell — it's a real health problem. Please, if you're going to play in our club, do not wear cologne, perfume or scented lotions.

As I was writing this, over a week or so, two of my bridge partners called to each cancel a game due to a bad cold. I write about this because they did exactly the right thing: no-one wants to catch a bug at the IBC. If you are sick, please stay home until you are better.

Please try to park within the spaces. When you don't you deprive another IBC member of a space.

We have heard recently of impolite actions by IBC members. Please note that **Zero Tolerance** still applies and will be enforced by the directors. Please call the director if someone violates Zero Tolerance.