



## Indianapolis Bridge Center – October 2017

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[www.indianapolisbridge.com](http://www.indianapolisbridge.com)



### Special Events and Games in October

#### Bridge Seminars

It is very near the last chance to sign up for the Robert Todd seminars, to be held Saturday and Sunday October 14-15. The registration deadline is October 4<sup>th</sup>. See posters and sign-up sheets for details. Note that the bridge games Saturday evening and Sunday afternoon are open games.

#### Club Appreciation Month!

October is the ACBL's Jane Johnson Club Appreciation Month. Jane Johnson was the long-time and much-respected manager of The ACBL Club Department.

Each club may have a special game in October for each regular game. The IBC has chosen Thursday evening 10/12 and all games from Sunday 10/15 to Saturday 10/21. Successful players at all the games will receive extra masterpoints

On that Thursday evening 10/12 we will have a Perfect 10 Swiss Teams game at 6:00. Mentors will be able to play with their mentees. There will also be a NLM Swiss Teams game Wednesday evening 10/18 at 6:30. Both pay 5% gold.

At noon Thursday October 19th is an Inter Club game.

Good news! The IBC ranks first among all similar firms in Indiana for fund-raising for **The Longest Day**®, and fourth in the entire ACBL. Many cheers! Good work by all!

Table count for August 2017 was 656, up 39 tables over last year. Thanks!

#### Look: Six championships in October:

Tuesday evening 10/10 at 6:30, 0-20;
Thursday morning 10/12 at 9:00, 0-50;
Monday morning 10/23 at 10:30, 0-500;
Wednesday evening 10/25 at 6:30, 0-500;
Thursday evening 10/26 at 6:00, open; and
Tuesday afternoon 10/31 at 1:30, both games.

We have heard that with a minor tweak, the Sunday evening **Shark-Free** game would be more popular. We will test it: For the month of October one member of a partnership may have between 200-1250 masterpoints, and the other partner may have fewer. Neither may be over 1250 points.

The new **2017 Laws of Bridge** are effective September 25<sup>th</sup>. If you wish to see the new laws – with changes highlighted - go to the bottom left button on the IBC home page.

Effective October 1<sup>st</sup>, the Tuesday afternoon game will start at 1:15 – you will finish even earlier!

The Singles/Individual game is Saturday evening 10/7. Party at 5:00, play at 6:00.

The Married Couples game is Saturday 10/21. Social hour is at 5:30 in the evening, and the game starts at 6:30.

**John Jordan** was Player of the Month for August. Party with him between the morning and afternoon games on Tuesday 10/10. Rookie of the Month for August was **Ed Poe**. Celebrate with him Friday 10/20 before the 10:30 game.

Mark your calendar: on Veterans' Day 11/11, we will hold a **Golden Life Master** party for **Annette Clark**. Veterans, of course, will play free. Look for details in the future.

Remember: If you feel a cold coming on, please keep it to yourself. We'll be happy to see you at the bridge center when you are healthy again.

Please be careful when parking. One IBC member suggested: "People who take up two parking spaces should receive a flogging and a one-board penalty." That may be a good idea, but the one-board penalty is likely against ACBL rules.



## ALERT – Comparable Calls!

John Nichols

The biggest change in the new Laws involves a new concept of “Comparable Call.”

So, what is a “Comparable Call?” A call is comparable if it meets one (or more) of the following three criteria:

1. It has the same or similar meaning as that attributable to the withdrawn call, or
2. It defines a subset of the possible meanings attributable to the withdrawn call (i.e. is more precise), or
3. It has the same purpose (e.g. an asking bid or a relay) as that attributable to the withdrawn call.

Comparable Calls apply in many situations after insufficient bids or calls out-of-turn that are not accepted. If the offender’s replacement call is “Comparable” the director can permit the auction to continue normally in many situations that in the past would bar partner. The objective is to get a normal Bridge result on the hand. If the replacement call is not comparable the offender’s partner will be required to pass just one time.

If after the hand is played the director judges that the offending side gained an advantage from the infraction he will adjust the score.

If you make an insufficient bid or a call out-of-turn the director will inform you of your options, one of which will frequently be to make a “Comparable Call.”

**Examples:** based on simple standard or 2/1 bidding. If your methods vary the comparable calls may vary as well

1. Your partner is dealer and you pass at his turn. He opens 1 heart and RHO passes. Your opening pass shows a hand with fewer than opening points, but says nothing about distribution. Your call:
  - a. Pass – Comparable
  - b. 2H – Less than opening count and 3+ hearts – Comparable (subset)
  - c. 1S – 6-20 Points, 4+ spades. – Not Comparable – the point range is not a subset of pass
  - d. 1NT (not forcing) – 6-9 points, < 3 hearts – Comparable (subset)
  - e. 1NT (forcing) – almost always less than opening points, says little about distribution – Comparable (subset)
2. Your partner is dealer and you open 1 heart at her turn. Partner opens 1 heart and RHO passes. Your call:

- a. 2, 3, or 4 hearts – Not an opening hand – not comparable
  - b. 2NT (Jacoby) – opening hand with at least 4 hearts – Comparable. (more precise) The extra heart shown by opening is rarely significant.
  - c. 4 diamonds (Splinter) – same as 2NT above but the replacement call is even more precise.
3. Partner opens 1 diamond. RHO bids 1 spade. You bid 1 heart (insufficient).
    - a. 2H – shows 11+ points and 5 hearts – Comparable (more precise)
    - b. X (negative) – Shows 6+ points and 4+ hearts but denies the 2-heart hand – Comparable – shows a subset of the insufficient bid.
  4. Partner opens 2NT. RHO Passes. You bid 2C (Normal Stayman but insufficient)
    - a. Your replacement bid is 3C. This is comparable regardless if it is normal Stayman or Puppet -It “has the same purpose” – asking about the majors.

Lots more info on the 2017 Laws on the IBC website. Click the “2017 Laws” button on the bottom left.