



Indianapolis Bridge Center – January 2018

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

www.indianapolisbridge.com

Special Events in January

Back by popular demand: Fast Pairs! On Thursday evening 1/11, starting at 6:00, we will play quickly and get home early! And it is also a Unit Championship!

We'll hold a NLM **Swiss Teams** on Wednesday evening 1/17 at 6:30, and a **Perfect 10 Swiss Teams** Thursday 1/25 at 6:00. Make up your team and join us! Sign up in advance, please.

The Central Indiana Bridge Association (CIBA) will again hold its Getting Ready for Tournament Play seminar at the IBC. It will start on Saturday 1/13 at 9:00 a.m., with a game to follow. See posters for details. There will also be an IBC game that afternoon at 1:00.

There's an **Inter-Club** game Tuesday morning 1/9 at 9:30 for both games.

The 2017 mentoring program has concluded. Many thanks to all the mentors and mentees who participated.

Bridge classes start at the IBC on Tuesday 1/9. Classes are available at all skill levels. See the IBC homepage for details.

STaC ends Monday January 1st. There will be games that day – regular Monday schedule.

The Indianapolis Regional tournament starts 1/29. The IBC will be closed 1/29 to 1/31, and through February 4th.

There are six championships in January:

Thursday evening 1/11 at 6:00 for Fast Pairs;

Friday morning 1/12 at 10:30, NLM 0-500;
--

Tuesday evening 1/16 at 6:30, 0-20;

Wednesday 1/17 at noon, open;

Monday morning 1/22 at 10:30, NLM 0-500;
--

Tuesday afternoon 1/23 at 1:15, both games.



The **Singles/Individual** game is Saturday evening January 6th. Socialize at 5:00, play at 6:00.

The **Married Couples** game is Saturday 1/20. Social hour is at 5:30 in the evening, and the game starts at 6:30.

Winners!

Liz Brown was the 2017 winner of the Fran Pettijohn Award, which is given for service and contributions to bridge at the IBC and in Central Indiana.

Mary Ann Kanervo is now a **Life Master**. Party with her on Saturday, January 20th, before the 1:00 games.

Player of the Month for November is **Tom Feeney**. Party with him before the noon game on Thursday 1/11.

Jim Schutter is **Rookie of the Month** for November. His party will be Monday, January 8, at the 10:30 game.

Table count for November is 448, up from 400 in 2016 and down 10 from 2015. We are up approximately 70 tables YTD from 2016. Good news! Thanks to all who play regularly.

Those who are sensitive to strong scents, both perfume and aftershave, report they have fewer problems these days. Thanks for your help, and please keep it up.

Winter and cold weather are upon us. Note that the IBC telephone number will have a message if the center is closed. Just call the IBC and use option 3.



ALERT!
 John Nichols

Unauthorized Information

In the past couple of months I have made several score adjustments for use of Unauthorized Information (UI). It seems that many of our players do not understand their responsibilities. The new Laws don't bar partner quite as often. This is so we can get a valid "bridge result" more often, but it leaves more opportunities to make a call when you have UI. There is a long list of unauthorized information. It includes partner's hesitations, unwonted speed, alerts, failures to alert, mannerisms, questions and explanations. Law 73C1 says you must "carefully avoid taking advantage" when you have UI. Law 73C2 says that a penalty may be assessed if you violate 73C1. It also says that the director should adjust the score if the opponents are damaged.

Let's look at an example: East deals and the auction goes:

W	N	E	S
		P	1S
X	4S	P	P
X	P	5D	<u>P</u>
P	X	P	P
6C	P	P	P

The director was called when North doubled the 5-diamond bid. East stated that South had hesitated significantly before passing after the 5-diamond bid. Both North and South agreed that there had been a definite break-in-tempo. The director told the table to continue and the hand was played in 6 Clubs down 1. The director was called back to the table and asked North why they had doubled.

North held KJ982, T9, J943, 96 and said they doubled because they "had diamonds". The director said he would review the hand and return later with a ruling. Law 16B1a tells us "A player may not choose a call or play that is demonstrably suggested over another by Unauthorized Information if the other call or play is a logical alternative." Law 16B1b defines Logical Alternative as "an action that a significant portion of the class of players in question ... would seriously consider and some might select." The (agreed) hesitation was UI. The director investigated if passing was a logical alternative by polling five players – showing them the North hand and the auction through West's pass of 5D. All five players said that they would pass. About one player of five qualifies as a significant portion, so Pass is definitely a Logical Alternative. Since the hand makes the same 11 tricks in diamonds as it did in clubs the director adjusted the score to 5 Diamonds making 5.

It is worth noting that both North and South are Gold Life Masters. Apparently, I need to spend more time explaining players' obligations when they have Unauthorized Information. Watch this space in future months.

Beginning with this issue, the newsletter is starting an educational feature about proper behavior at the bridge table. It will take the form of questions and answers. If you have a question, please send it to the editor, or place it in the suggestion box at the IBC.

Dear Bridget:

At the recent tournament, my partner claimed with a few cards left to play. An opponent objected, rather loudly I thought, and an argument ensued. What should have happened?

Confused

Dear Confused:

Who's your best friend in duplicate bridge? It's the director! If you call the director immediately, he or she will:
 calm everyone down;
 allow only one person to talk at a time;
 consult with other directors, as necessary;

In this case, the director will likely ask your partner for a specific line of play and make the ruling. In any case, there should be no voices raised at the table.

As a general rule when you claim – as declarer or on defense – your claim should be accompanied by a line of play. For example, "I will trump the dummy's last heart, draw the last trump, then lead clubs from the top, and they will all be good."

Bridget