



Indianapolis Bridge Center – September 2019

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

www.indianapolisbridge.com

Many Special Games in September!

The **Mentoring Kickoff** is September 12th. The bridge starts at 6:00 but *come early for a pizza party*. To be a mentee you must have between 50 and 300 master points and have taken a class at the IBC. You may find your own mentor, or we will find you one. Please sign up on the front room bulletin board by Thursday, September 5th.

Of course, this game is not limited to mentors and mentees. Any pair can come, play, eat pizza on 9/12, and have fun!

Wednesday 9/11 is **Patriot Day**, and we will celebrate at the open game at noon and the NLM game at 6:30.

There will be a **Perfect 10 Swiss Teams** game. Thursday evening 9/26 at 6:00. The guidelines will be modified so mentors can play with mentees. Any other team that qualifies is, of course, welcome. See the bulletin board for details.

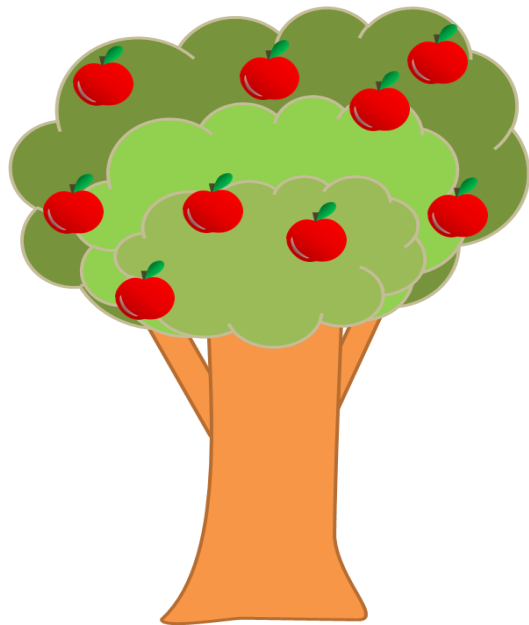
Women's Contract Club starts Thursday September 5th, off-site.

Beer & Brats continues Friday evenings. If you are under 1500 masterpoints, come, eat, and play, starting at 6:30.

Table count for July was 833.5, a new record. Thanks to all!

There will be a party honoring **Sharon's Sunday Helpers** on Wednesday, September 18, at the noon game. Helpers play free

Silver Point Week runs from Monday September 23rd to Sunday, September 29th. Silver point finals are Sunday at noon (July qualifiers) and 5:00 (September qualifiers). The usual Sunday evening games will not be played.



The **Singles/Individual** game is Saturday evening 9/7. Socialize at 5:00, play at 6:00. The **Married Couples** game is Saturday 9/21. Social hour is at 5:30 in the evening, and the game starts at 6:30.

We look forward to four club championships

Wednesday 9/4 at noon, open;

Monday 9/9 at 6:00 in the evening, open;

Tuesday 9/10 for both afternoon games;

Thursday 9/12 at 9:00, NLM 0-50.

Now would be a good time to sign up for the Robert Todd seminars, to be held Saturday and Sunday October 12 & 13. The registration deadline is October 1st. Registration forms are available at the club or from our website

Winners!

Player of the Month for July is **Mike Hellmer**. Look for the announcement of his party. **Nancy Wylie** is Rookie of the Month. Her party is Thursday, August 15th, at the 0-50 game.

Defense Class

Defense at bridge is where we can truly separate ourselves from the pack, and it can be so much fun! Too often we don't really appreciate the vigor and joy that defending can bring to us. After all, we defend, on average, 50% of the time, so we *should* enjoy the exercise of interfering with declarer on a regular basis. In Defense in the 21st Century, not only will we analyze and practice different defensive techniques, we will also begin to build partnership trust. Please sign up for Defense classes starting on Monday, September 9th at 4:00 Matt Cory



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ALERT!

John Nichols

Illegal NT openings – Opening NT with a Small Singleton

The latest convention charts allow a partnership understanding of a natural NT as including hands with singletons only if that singleton is an Ace, King, or Queen.

All four charts specify that “If an Agreement would be disallowed unless it satisfies a specific High Card Point or shape requirement, a player may not use judgment to include hands with fewer High Card Points or a different shape.”

We have been treating NT openings with a small singleton as a psych, legal unless repeated often enough to become somewhat expected.

However, in the Examples the new charts describe a psych as “Generally, 2 cards fewer or an Ace weaker than the minimum expected for a bid would meet the definition of a Psych, as would an Ace stronger than the maximum expected.” Thus, opening a natural NT with a small singleton is NOT a psych.

Putting all this together, opening a natural NT with a small singleton is an illegal bid. This will be subject to a score adjustment if the opponents are damaged. A Procedural Penalty is also possible for flagrant or repeated violations.

The above does not apply to artificial (non-natural) NT openings such as a Gambling Notrump. But note that an artificial 1NT bid is not allowed on the Basic Chart. On the Open Chart and Open+ Chart an artificial 1NT bid must be forcing and must be alerted.

Blackwood Individual

The Blackwood individual was held on Saturday, August 3rd. The winner was **Linda Benedix**. This was her second time to win the award.

News from the Las Vegas Nationals:

Tom Koralewski, playing with friends from Ohio, tied for 5/8 in the Sheinwold Flight B Grand National Teams

Kay Beck, John Bridgewater, Jim Cunningham, John Hinton, Bob Lyon, and Jerry Premo were 3rd in the Sunday A/X Swiss

Sharon Austin and Charlene Lutz were 27th in the Wagar Women's Pairs

Tom Bondus, Bill Gheen, Alan Tavel, and Mel Ward tied for 7/9 in the X bracket of the Tuesday A/X Daylight Swiss, and fifth in the X, 1st in Y bracket of the Wednesday A/X/Y Daylight Swiss.

The team with **Dennis and Jerry Clerkin** finished 10th in A in the Thursday A/X/Y Swiss, and first in the Sunday A/X/Y Swiss.