

# Lawson Bridge Studio News March 2016

Jerome "Jerry" Scholle, editor [lawsonbridgestudio@gmail.com](mailto:lawsonbridgestudio@gmail.com) 773-209-7089

## Club Games – Rates are for each player

*Games: 6:20 pm at Ann Sather's Restaurant, 909 West Belmont Ave, Chicago, IL 773-348-2378*

Mar 2	I/N Pairs—\$11	Apr 4	<b>Open Pairs Unit 123 STaC</b> —\$13
Mar 7	Open Pairs—\$11	Apr 6	<b>I/N Pairs Unit 123 STaC</b> —\$13
Mar 9	I/N Pairs—\$11	Apr 11	<b>Open Pairs ACBL Charity Month</b> —\$12
Mar 14	<b>Open Pairs Grass Roots Fund</b> —\$12	Apr 13	<b>I/N Pairs ACBL Charity Month</b> —\$12
Mar 16	<b>I/N Pairs Grassroots Fund Game</b> —\$12	Apr 18	<b>Open Pairs ACBL Charity Month</b> —\$12
Mar 21	Open Pairs—\$11	Apr 20	<b>I/N Pairs ACBL Charity Month</b> —\$12
Mar 23	I/N Pairs—\$11	Apr 25	<b>Swiss Teams ACBL Charity Month</b> —\$12
Mar 28	<b>Open Pairs Unit Game L603123B</b> —\$11	Apr 27	<b>I/N Pairs ACBL Charity Month</b> —\$12
Mar 30	I/N Pairs—\$11		

## ACBL Regulations Regarding Bidding Boxes

- ♣ A player is obligated to choose a call before touching any card in the box.
  - ♥ Deliberation while touching the bidding box cards or removing bidding cards prior to a call being considered “made” may subject the offending side to the adjustment provisions of Law 16 (Unauthorized Information).
- ♣ A call is considered made when a bidding card is removed from the bidding box and held touching or nearly touching the table or maintained in such a position to indicate that the call has been made. Until a call is considered made, the director will treat the situation as unauthorized information and apply Law 16. After a call is considered made, the director will apply Law 25, Legal and Illegal Changes of Call
  - ♥ Directors should use unauthorized information where reasonably appropriate (where they can rule that a bid has not been made). For close cases simply judge that the card had not left the confines of the box; therefore, a call has not been made.
- ♣ A call may be changed without penalty, under the provisions of Law 25, only if a player has inadvertently taken out the wrong bidding box card, and the player corrects, or attempts to correct, without pause for thought, and partner has not subsequently called.
  - ♥ The onus is on the player to convince the director that a mechanical irregularity has occurred.
    - ♦ If the Director is reasonably certain that the original call was a mechanical problem, they should be liberal in judging pause for thought. It is difficult, however, to justify pulling a bid in place of a pass, double or redouble as a mechanical error.
    - ♦ Calls from different pockets should rarely, if at all, be judged as inadvertent. One understandable exception is placing the double card out followed shortly with a bid card that skips the bidding. This appears clear that the double card was placed inadvertently on the table.

## Some Bridge Jargon

- ♣ Is it a **Bid** or a **Call**? The Laws of Duplicate Bridge makes a distinction between these terms.
  - ♥ A **Call** is a Bid, Pass, Double, or Redouble.
    - ♦ A **Bid** is a potential contract by stating a denomination or strain (ranking Clubs, Diamonds, Hearts, Spades, or No Trump from the lowest to the highest) and the level (number of tricks to be taken: 1 through 7 after **Book**). In partnership agreements a **Bid** may convey other meanings than a potential contract: sometimes it needs to be **ALERT**ed and other times not. Each subsequent **Bid** names a higher ranking suit and/or level than the previous bid.
    - ♦ A **Pass** is a **Call** indicating that the player does not want to name a potential contract or change the previous contract. In partnership agreements a **Pass** may convey other meanings and will need to be **ALERT**ed.
    - ♦ A **Double** is a **Call** after the last preceding bid by an opponent; no other call than **Pass** may intervene. The meaning is established by the partnership, the position in the call rotation, and previous bids.
    - ♦ A **Redouble** is a **Call** after the last preceding **Double** by an opponent of who made the **Double**, typically by the **Responder**. No other **Call** than **Pass** may intervene.
      - ♣ When there are infractions in the use of **Calls** and **Bids**, the restitution of equity (commonly referred to as penalties) in these situations are different.
- ♣ Who is **Opener**?
  - ♥ The **Opener** is the first player to make a **Bid**; only Passes may precede this by other players starting with the Dealer. Dealer makes the first call with either a **Pass** or a **Bid**. If dealer makes a bid, then he is **Opener**.