

Lawson Bridge Studio News April 2022

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Club Games – Rates are for each player

Games: 6:20 pm at Ann Sather's Restaurant, 909 West Belmont Ave, Chicago, IL

Apr 4	2021 Open Pairs Club Championship —\$12	May 2	2022 Open Pairs Club Championship —\$12
Apr 6	2021 O/I Pairs Club Championship —\$12	May 4	2022 O/I Pairs Club Championship —\$12
Apr 11	Open Pairs Royal STaC —\$14	May 9	2022 Open Pairs Club Championship —\$12
Apr 13	O/I Pairs Royal STaC —\$14	May 11	2022 O/I Pairs Club Championship —\$12
Apr 18	2021 Upgraded OP Club Championship —\$12	May 16	Open Pairs Grass Roots Fund Month —\$13
Apr 20	2021 Upgraded O/I P Club Championship —\$12	May 18	O/I Pairs Grass Roots Fund Month —\$13
Apr 25	2021 Open Pairs Club Championship —\$12	May 23	Open Pairs District 13 STaC —\$14
Apr 27	2021 O/I Pairs Club Championship —\$12	May 25	O/I Pairs District 13 STaC —\$14
		May 30	No Game Memorial Day

Susan Eggebrecht passed on March 26, 2022. She was a regular Monday player, often partnering with Jane Kennedy who has also passed.

COVID-19 Update

All indications are that we have passed through the worst of the pandemic and now are entering the endemic phase. There still is uncertainty about the variant of omicron known as B.2. From other countries it is not causing a wave as the previous variants; however, we are seeing in the U.S. and here in Chicago an uptick in cases without seriousness for hospitalizations if you are vaccinated and boosted. All indications from health officials are that we will be returning to masks being optional depending on your comfort when in a group, such as our bridge games.

Cub Games in April

Baseball season is here so traffic may be snarled on these April Cub home dates as per the published Cub's schedule. If there are changes due to weather etc., I will not be aware of these:

Monday 6:40 pm game: **Apr 18**

Wednesday 6:40 pm game: **Apr 20**

Team Games Monday April 25th and April 27th?

Since April is an even number month and we have before the pandemic held team games on the last Monday of even numbered months, we could hold team games if there is enough interest for them. The small size of the pair games raises the question whether team games are really feasible. We have not held team games on Wednesdays, so this is a new option. Please let me know of your interest in team games and whether we should proceed to hold them. The schedule would then be updated for these games.

Alert Procedure

The November and December 2021 Newsletters started the review of the new Alert Procedure being effective on 1/1/2021. This was the first major revision in 20 years. The synopsis of changes noted as Red Alert, may be found at <https://www.acbl.org/red-alert/> and the revision <https://web2.acbl.org/documentLibrary/play/AlertProcedures2.pdf>. Reviewing the final key summary of changes affecting most club play, it is noted that the pre-alert changes had not been presented. **The other key summary information was presented in the November and March Newsletters.**

Pre-Alerts

The first changes are at the beginning of the round. As before, you must pre-Alert the opponents if you play canape methods or different systems depending on seat or vulnerability (but not just because you play different ranges for opening 1NT). Additionally, you now are required to pre-Alert if you play a system that includes at least one one-level opening bid that is not natural or that is forcing. This can be as simple as saying, "We play a strong club" or "We play 1♣ could be short." You are no longer required to pre-Alert if you lead low from small doubletons. However, if you play this, it must be included in your answer when a declarer asks about your leads and carding.

Alert Procedure Changes in detail (continued from December 2021 Newsletter and the Revision Introduction for the March 2022 Newsletter):

The default rule for Natural bids and Passes is that they should not be alerted, with exceptions shown in italics. The default rule for Artificial bids, Doubles, and Redoubles is that they should be alerted, with exceptions shown in plain text.

The rules for Alerts change when playing online. See Appendix O (<https://web2.acbl.org/documentLibrary/play/AppendixO.pdf>) for the rules for playing online.