

Lawson Bridge Studio News March 2020

Jerome "Jerry" Scholle, editor 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

Mar 2	Open Pairs—\$12	Apr 1	O/I Pairs ACBL Charity Month—\$13
Mar 4	O/I Pairs—\$12	Apr 6	Open Pairs ACBL Charity Month—\$13
Mar 9	Open Pairs Grass Roots Fund—\$13	Apr 8	O/I Pairs ACBL Charity Month—\$13
Mar 11	O/I Pairs Grass Roots Fund—\$13	Apr 6	Open Pairs ACBL Charity Month—\$13
Mar 16	Unit Game L2003123A—\$12	Apr 15	O/I Pairs ACBL Charity Month—\$13
Mar 18	O/I Pairs—\$12	Apr 6	Open Pairs ACBL Charity Month—\$13
Mar 23	Open Pairs Club Championship—\$12	Apr 22	O/I Pairs ACBL Charity Month—\$13
Mar 25	O/I Pairs Club Championship—\$12	Apr 27	Swiss Teams ACBL Charity Month—\$13
Mar 30	Open Pairs—\$12	Apr 29	O/I Pairs ACBL Charity Month—\$13

Reading Ruling the Game in the February 2020 issue of the ACBL Bulletin triggered that I should write on the Alert System so that you may know what is expected of you in communication with partner and opponents. This will be taken from the following article ACBL Convention Charts dated 9/18/2019. If you wish to review yourself, the web link is http://web2.acbl.org/documentLibrary/about/CONVENTIONCHARTS9_19.pdf. Remember for club and tournament play you are expected to know the Laws of Duplicate Bridge and what is permitted by the country's ruling body, in our case, the American Contract Bridge League (ACBL).

The Law 40.A.1(b) of Duplicate Bridge specify that "Each partnership has a duty to make available its partnership understandings to opponents before commencing play against them." The ACBL General Conditions of Contest specify that "Each member of a partnership must have a completely filled out convention card available for the opponents." There are four charts for describing partnership understandings depending on the type game and level of player's skill:

Chart Type	Description
Opening comment to all charts	Bidding Agreements are disallowed unless they are specifically allowed. 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. Note that almost all Agreements are allowed beginning with Responder's initial action. <i>Specifics for each chart follows in the document, and I will organize the specifics in later issues this year.</i>
Club Use	
Basic	Recommended for masterpoint restricted games.
Basic +	Mainly catering to newer players may prefer this chart. <i>Maybe the correct chart when we have an intermediate game with the open. We haven't done this for a while as many of you have expressed the desire to play with and in opposition to more advanced players.</i>
Open	Recommended for most open club games. <i>This is the chart we will use for our games.</i>
Open+	Particularly advanced clubs may prefer to use the Open+ Chart
Tournament Use	
Pair Events and non-Bracketed Team Events	
Basic	Applies in any event where the upper limit per player is 750 or less.
Basic +	Applies in any event where the upper limit per player is 3000 or less.
Open	Different usages dependent on tournament level: Sectional, Regional, Nationally Rated Events
Open+	Different usages dependent on tournament level: Regional, Nationally Rated Events
Bracketed Events	
Single Bracket	Open Chart applies.
Two or more brackets	Open Chart applies with these exceptions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic Chart--Any bracket where the highest team averages less than 750 masterpoints per player. • Basic+ Chart--Any bracket where the highest team averages 751 to 1500 masterpoints per player. • Open+ Chart--Top bracket (regardless of team masterpoint holdings), and any other bracket where the lowest team averages more than 3000 masterpoints per player. <p>Note: In all types of events, when the directors allow a team to play in a higher bracket than its masterpoint holding would qualify the team for, that team's masterpoint total is ignored in determining which Chart applies.</p>

