

Lawson Bridge Studio News November 2017

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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

Nov 1	O/I Pairs Grassroots Fund Game —\$13	Dec 4	Open Pairs Unit 123 STaC —\$14
Nov 6	Open Pairs—\$12	Dec 6	O/I Pairs Unit 123 STaC —\$14
Nov 8	O/I Pairs—\$12	Dec 11	Open Pairs Grass Roots Fund —\$13
Nov 13	Open Pairs District 13 STaC —\$14	Dec 13	O/I Pairs Grassroots Fund Game —\$13
Nov 15	O/I Pairs District 13 STaC —\$14	Dec 18	Swiss Teams Club Championship —\$12
Nov 20	Open Pairs Grass Roots Fund —\$13	Dec 20	ACBL-Wide International Fund Game
Nov 22	O/I Pairs—\$12	Dec 25	No Game Christmas Day
Nov 27	Open Pairs—\$12	Dec 27	O/I Pairs—\$12
Nov 29	O/I Pairs Club Championship —\$12		

♠ **STaC games November 13th and 15th**

Since these STaC games are sanctioned by District 13, there will be no pre-dealt hands. This allows for smaller clubs with playing directors to participate as the person preparing the deals is not permitted to play. The STaC awards are based on the percentages earned by the players in each club and then those are polled and ranked to determine the awards and winners.

♠ **STOP card elimination**

Starting in January the **STOP** card will no longer be used in tournaments because of abuses in its use. The original intent was to aid in the SKIP BID warning when a player bids one or more levels above the last bid or opens with a 2-level bid or higher. In my discussions with Rulings at ACBL both **STOP** card and SKIP BID warning will be eliminated. However, the ACBL directive is that the left-hand opponent (LHO) is to pause 10 seconds before making a call when the level of bidding is two or more levels above the previous bid. Since none of these directives (**STOP** card, SKIP BID, or pause) are mentioned in the Laws of Duplicate Bridge, I questioned why have these directives in the first place. Rulings is to address these in one of the next two issues of the Bridge Bulletin.

We will be removing the **STOP** card from the bidding boxes in January.

♠ **2017 LAW 6: THE SHUFFLE AND DEAL**

♥ **B. The Deal**

The cards must be dealt face down, one card at a time, into four hands of thirteen cards each; each hand is then placed face down in one of the four pockets of the board. **No two adjacent cards from the deck shall be dealt into the same hand.** The recommended procedure is that the cards be dealt in rotation, clockwise.

♥ **C. Representation of Both Pairs**

A member of each side should be present during the shuffle and deal unless the Director instructs otherwise.

Comments:

- ♦ The highlighted change does not affect our pair games since we use random dealing software for generating our pair deals; however, it should be adhered to in our team games. My observation is that most of you do this. The only time that this is violated is when four hands are dealt separately in one direction and then the next deal of a cards starts on the last card dealt going in the reverse direction from the initial direction.
- ♦ Because of our time constraint for the use of the room, for our team games I as director consider it advantageous for the boards to be made by the players before assignments for the next round, whether an opposing or even any players coming to that table are present. Please leave some note when the boards have been made.

♠ **2017 LAW 7 - CONTROL OF BOARD AND CARDS**

♥ **A. Placement of Board**

When a board is to be played it is placed in the center of the table **where it shall remain, correctly oriented,** until play is completed.

Comments:

- ♦ The purpose of the highlighted change is to prevent fouled boards where hands get interchanged from their original position.
- ♦ There is no problem in moving boards not in play off the table to improve visibility of bid cards for all players or for dummy's cards for declarer. Care must be taken that the boards, when they are returned to the center of the table, are correctly oriented relative to the guide card orientation.