

Lawson Bridge Studio News November 2020

Jerome "Jerry" Scholle, editor lawsonbridgestudio@gmail.com 773-209-7089

In light of the Shelter-in-Place order and the reopening stages as well as the current surges in COVID-19 cases in Chicago, there will be no games scheduled until it is safe to hold them. Olympia DBC tried to reopen on October 12th but didn't get enough players to hold the game. They are undetermined when to try again.

We lost two of our main stay players in the past three months: Jane Kennedy passed on August 13, 2020 and Phyllis Camber passed on October 21, 2020.

Thanks to those who are enjoying playing bridge online and designating Lawson Bridge Studio as their club to support.

ACBL Convention Charts: Before presenting the Open Chart, the following are the Definitions continuing from August 2020 Lawson Bridge Studio Newsletter issue:

28. "Takeout": A call that shows support for two or three suits and/or a strong hand.

29. "Three-Suited": A hand with 4-4-4-1, 5-4-3-1, or 5-4-4-0 shape

This completes the Definitions portion which were presented in the April, May, and August issues. The three asterisks (***) for definitions 2, 3, 4, (not shown in newsletters for these three) and 15, 23, 25, and 27 indicates that one or more examples are in the Example Section at the end of the Chart.

Hopefully, we will be able to open again in the spring as we get through this winter dealing with both flu and COVID-19. The key even with a vaccine as I see it will be wearing masks as they minimize the transmission of both diseases. When we open, we will allow the Basic, Basic +, and Open Chart to be used. I am presenting the Open Chart first and later will present the Basic and Basic + charts.

ACBL Convention Charts—Open Chart:

Open Chart

Bidding Agreements are allowed unless they are specifically disallowed. 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.

Disallowed Bidding Agreements

Passes Before an Opening

1. An opening pass that is Forcing.
2. An opening pass in first or second seat that could be a stronger hand than an opening 1-level bid with the same shape; i.e., if two hands are exactly the same except that an honor is replaced with a low card in the same suit, you cannot open the hand with the low card and pass the hand with an honor.

Opening Bids

Disallowed Opening Bids

1. A Natural or Quasi-Natural 1-level opening bid in any seat that could contain less than Near-Average Strength.
2. An Artificial 1-level opening bid in any seat that could contain less than Average Strength.
3. In segments of fewer than 6 boards, an Artificial 1-level opening bid showing length only in a known suit other than the one opened, unless that bid is also Strong and Forcing.
4. A Natural 1NT opening bid that could contain fewer than 10 HCP.
5. A Natural 1NT opening bid that has a Range greater than 5 HCP.
6. A non-Forcing 1NT opening that does not meet the definition of Natural.
7. An Artificial opening Preempt below 3NT; except, 2NT may be used to show two known suits.
8. An Artificial opening bid showing two suits, neither of which is known.

To be continued in a future Newsletter.