

Lawson Bridge Studio News January 2026

Jerome "Jerry" Scholle, editor lawsonbridgestudio@gmail.com 773-209-7089
 Ryan Daniels, Club Manger lawsonbridgeclub@gmail.com 847-877-9645

Club Games – Rates are for each player

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

Jan 5	Junior Fund —\$14	Feb 2	Education Foundation —\$14
Jan 7	Junior Fund —\$14	Feb 4	Education Foundation —\$14
Jan 12	Junior Fund —\$14	Feb 9	Education Foundation —\$14
Jan 14	Junior Fund —\$14	Feb 11	Education Foundation —\$14
Jan 19	Junior Fund —\$14	Feb 16	Education Foundation —\$14
Jan 21	Junior Fund —\$14	Feb 18	Education Foundation —\$14
Jan 26	Junior Fund —\$14	Feb 23	Education Foundation —\$14
Jan 28	Junior Fund —\$14	Feb 25	Education Foundation —\$14

Modern Bridge Conventions as Recommended by William S. Root & Richard Pavlicek from their book Modern Bridge Conventions

Conventions make bidding and communication better; however, there is a downside of trying to learn too many conventions without first mastering a couple of new ones. Also, a convention needed may frequently occur and then not for a long time. See December 2025 Newsletter for hand statistics which are the backbone for conventions.

This chart was initially prepared in 2007. The four highlighted colors are from Larry Cohen article "What Should We Play?" November 2019. His philosophy of play is Keep It Simple Sweetheart (KISS). He lists the conventions by groups in order of recommendation: the 1st is highlighted in green, the 2nd is highlighted in blue, the 3rd is highlighted in yellow, and the 4th is highlighted in pink. Bold italics are later developments found in Larry Cohen's article. These were inserted in the chart's blank spaces and are not related to column headings. Other authors may have versions of these, such as Blackwood and Keycard blackwood. Also, other authors may have different lists for the skill levels.

★For all players	★★Experienced partnerships	★★★Tournament very experienced partners
Balanced Notrump Openings		
Stayman	Texas Transfer Bids	Minor-suit Transfer Bids
Jacoby Transfers Bids	Minor Suit Stayman	Splinter Responses
		Lebensohl
One of a Suit Opening		
Limit Major Raises	Inverted Minor Raises	Fourth Suit Forcing
One Notrump Forcing	Structured Reverses	New Minor Forcing
Weak Jump-shift Responses	Reverse Drury	<i>New Minor Checkback</i>
<i>Drury</i>	Preemptive Reraises	<i>Jacoby 2NT</i>
Interference after One of a Suit		
Negative Doubles	Truscott Two Notrump	Eastern Cue-Bid
	Limit Bidding After an Enemy Overcall	Invisible Cue-Bids
<i>Weak Jumps in Competition</i>		Competitive Doubles
<i>Support Doubles</i>		Maximal Overcall Double
Other Opening Bids		
Strong Artificial Two-Club Opening	ACOL Three-Notrump Opening	
Weak Two-Bids with 2NT feature		
Defensive Bidding		
Takeout Doubles	<i>Michaels Cue-Bid</i>	Jump-Cue-Bid Overcall
Optional Doubles	Invitational Cue-Bid	Defense to One-Club Forcing
Double of a One-Notrump Opening	Responsive Doubles	Defenses to Two-Level and Higher Conventional Openings
Lead-Directing Doubles	S-O-S Redouble	
Weak-Jump Overcalls	Astro	
Unusual Notrump Overcall	Disturb Opponents NoTrump (DON'T)	
Slam Bidding		
Control-Showing Bid	Voluntary Bid of Five in a Major	Extended Splinter Bids
Blackwood	Grand Slam Force	Mathe Asking Bids
Gerber		Control-Asking Bid