

Lawson Bridge Studio News March 2024

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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

Mar 4	Club Game—\$13	Apr 1	Unit 123 STaC
Mar 6	Club Game—\$13	Apr 3	Unit 123 STaC
Mar 11	Quarterly Club Championship—\$13	Apr 8	Charity Club Championship
Mar 13	Quarterly Club Championship—\$13	Apr 10	Charity Club Championship
Mar 18	Grass Roots FUNd—\$14	Apr 15	Charity Club Championship
Mar 20	Grass Roots FUNd—\$14	Apr 17	Charity Club Championship
Mar 25	Club Game—\$13	Apr 22	Charity Club Championship
Mar 27	Club Game—\$13	Apr 24	Charity Club Championship
		Apr 29	Charity Club Championship

New CDC Guidelines for Respiratory Viruses Control

On Friday, March 1, 2024, top CDC health officials announced a new policy focusing on actions people can take to reduce the spreading of a variety of common respiratory viruses, such as influenza, respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) and COVID-19. This guidance is meant to target respiratory viruses more broadly because the flu, RSV, and COVID-19 all have similar symptoms such as cough and fever; have similar means of spread; and require the same protection strategies.

The actions to prevent the spread include staying at home when sick, staying up to date with vaccines, practicing good hygiene, and improving indoor air quality.

Americans can return to public life if they have been fever-free for at least 24 hours and symptoms are improving, regardless of a positive test if COVID-19, agency officials told reporters on Friday. When they return to normal activities, the CDC recommended people use preventative strategies for the next five days. These includes limiting close contact with others, enhancing hygiene like hand-washing, improving ventilation, masking, and testing as needed. (This was adapted from a March 1, 2024, MSN report on the new COVID-19 guidance.)

Alert Procedure

Alert Procedure Effective Date: April 4, 2022 <https://web2.acbl.org/documentLibrary/play/Alert-Procedures.pdf> In a discussion of a system playing 2C-2H showing a bust 0-3 HCP, which often means no King, the Alert Procedure in the examples section calls for an ALERT. Then it follows that 2N showing hearts would require an ALERT also. This latter is not defined in the Alert Procedure.

This Alert Procedure was covered in the several Newsletters from November 2021 through March 2023. A new convention card was issued, however, players liked the current format so Baron Barclay updated the current card with changes to match the new Alert Procedure. You may be encountering the new format of the current convention card and not noticing differences. This table highlights the differences between the cards.

Change	Current	New
Major Opening Response “Double Raise Forcing”	Not-Alerted	Alerted
Minor Opening Response “Double Raise Forcing”	Not-Alerted	Alerted
Minor Opening Response “Transfer Response”	N/A	New and Announced
2♣ Opening	Strong	Very-Strong
Other Conv Calls Weak Jump Shifts “Not in Comp”	Alerted	Not-Alerted
Special Doubles Support: Dbl...Rdbl	Alerted	Not-Alerted
No Trump Overcalls Jump to 2NT : Minors	Not-Alerted	Alerted
Direct Cuebid Strong T/O both Minor and Major	Not-Alerted	Alerted
Direct Cuebid “Artif.Bid: Natural, Strong T/O, Michaels”	N/A	New and Not-Alerted
Leads from 2 small second card “normal higher of the 2”	Alerted if the lower	Not-Alerted

We are still using the old cards and hopefully we will shift to the new cards in April when the current supply of old cards should be exhausted. I have some new cards with me at the games.