

October Newsletter

Akron Unit 107 Bridge

Up the Ladder (*Congratulations*) and New Members (*Welcome*):

- ◆ Club Masters – Pat Bartholomew, James Chase and Susan Cook
- ◆ Sectional Master – Mary Dunham
- ◆ New Members – Cindy Hartman, Carole Manna, Ellen Moss and David Smith

District 5 Tournament Dates (*through March 2019*)

10/06-07	Erie GNT/NAP	11/02-04	Rocky River Sect.	1/09-12	Independence RGNL
10/16-21	Buffalo RGNL	11/02-04	Pittsburgh Sect.	1/25-27	Buffalo Sect.
		12/03-09	STaC D5	3/15-17	Pittsburgh Sect.

What is Bridge? (quote from the World Bridge Federation website)

“**Bridge is the ultimate trick-taking card game**, easily the greatest source of enjoyment that four people can have with a pack of cards. **Bridge is a sport** recognized by the International Olympic Committee, and just like every sport, Bridge offers enormous benefits to its players. It is enjoyed by tens of millions of people throughout the world – more so than any other card game. **Bridge may improve your health.** It is believed that Bridge can enhance team spirit, socialization, the development of mental abilities and helps the brain stay young and healthy.”

An interesting quote from investor and Bridge enthusiast, Warren Buffett:

“Bridge is such a sensational game that I wouldn't mind being in jail if I had three cellmates who were decent players and who were willing to keep the game going 24 hours a day.”

Doubling – (great tool, but beware)

In Bridge, the **penalty double** offers a formidable weapon that keeps your opponents from stepping all over you. If they know that you won't ever double them, they'll take all kinds of liberties in the bidding. However, you must use the penalty double wisely. You need to know the proper times to unleash this lethal weapon.

Here are two basic suggestions:

- ◆ Doubling when your opponents overbid to a sky-high contract – go ahead and double when you know that the opponents have just gotten beyond their depth.
- ◆ Passing when you have five or more cards in the suit bid to your right – like everything else, you can get carried away with too much success. You double a few contracts, you defeat (or 'set') the contracts, and suddenly you think that you created the game of bridge. Be careful. Don't double unless you have the proper hand. The worst possible moment to double a contract for penalties is when your partner thinks your double is takeout and expects a completely different hand type than the one you have.

Here is a list of some doubles that are **NOT** for penalty: Takeout, Negative, Re-Opening, Balancing, Responsive, Support and Lead-Directing. So beware and use the double wisely!



Final Notes:

Congratulations to all the winners at our Autumn Sectional - they turned their Tricks into Treats. Also, good luck to all the NAP qualifiers in our Unit as they compete in Erie at the District level.

Happy
Halloween