

April 2020

Akron Unit 107 Bridge

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

- ◆ New Members – Walid Kahwaji, Kathy Klingele and Stephen Piesciuk
- ◆ Junior Masters – James Chapman, Lawrence Hangiofsky and Gerald Mafield
- ◆ Club Master – Andrea Blazer
- ◆ Sectional Master – Linda Phillips
- ◆ NABC Masters – Carol Altman and Bharati Desai
- ◆ Life Master – Woodrow Ban



Tournament Dates (*through Aug 2020 – cancelled tournaments indicated – may change*)

4/17-19 – Rocky River Sect.	5/02-03 - Erie GNT/NAP	6/26-28 - Canton Sect.
4/20-26 – Gatlinburg RGNL	5/19-25 - Independence RGNL	7/17-19 - Pittsburgh Sect.
4/24-26 – Buffalo Sect.	6/15-21 - Dist.5 STaC	8/07-09 - Rocky River Sect.

Hand of the Month (*by Dick Early*)

If partner overcalls, how do you play a new suit by you? Is it forcing or not? What does it show? These are questions all partnerships should discuss.

Do not play a new suit as an escape. If you have a weakish hand and no fit with partner's overcall, just Pass. On your convention card there are three choices listed under "Responses": New suit is Forcing, Not Forcing Constructive or Non-Forcing. My choice is Constructive - a decent suit (5 cards or more) 9 points or more and no fit with partner. Having this understanding, consider hand #19 at the Akron Unit Game on February 14th. Here is the auction:

P - 1C - 1S - P
2D - P - 3NT

Dir: S	♠ A K Q 10 2	19
Vul: EW	♥ 9 7 2	
15	♦ K 7	
12 3	♣ K 10 3	
10		
♠ 9 7 3	♠ J 8 5	
♥ K Q 10 6	♥ 5 4 3	
♦ Q 5	♦ 10 8 3	
♣ A J 9 4	♣ Q 7 5 2	
	♠ 6 4	
	♥ A J 8	
	♦ A J 9 6 4 2	
	♣ 8 6	

After passing, South can make a "constructive" bid of 2D, and North can now bid 3NT knowing partner has a decent hand and the Diamond King is very valuable. Do not worry about the heart suit. 3NT says I have a Club stopper and a good hand. This hand was played 6 times and game was reached once.

Message from the Board (*by Bob Ryan, President*)

Typically, at this time of the year I take the opportunity to thank all of the people who have helped make our Sectional Tournament a success. This time, I have to change my story as I am sure all of your stories have changed too. Covid-19 has changed our days from our usual routine in many ways; to which we have been forced to "deal". Our Club games and all other tournament games have been cancelled until what is now anticipated to be mid-May.

Many of us Bridge "junkies" have begun to play online Bridge on **Bridge Base Online** and the link to reach it is <https://bridgebase.com>. It helps fill the vacancy in our schedule. I have found that you can play with a partner or reserve a table to play with up to 3 others, including the people you have come to know from local club games or from players around the world. There are many choices and it takes some getting used to it. All you need to get started is to go to the site and select a username and password for yourself and then dive in. For some help, there are at least 10 members of our unit who already play, and if you have interest, then please contact me and I will see who would like to give you some assistance in getting involved.

Sooner or later, we will get back to the live game, but we are not going to start until most of us agree that it is generally safe for all of us. This is more awkward than any of us ever anticipated.

Dear Easter Bunny,
this year could you please fill
my eggs with
health and happiness
and deliver them
to everyone that
I love.
Thank you.

