

# Northwest Arkansas Bridge Players

ACBL Unit 247



April 2013

Issue 15

In almost all cases, the opener will Pass rather than rebid. If opener has a very weak hand with a long suit, then (and only then) opener can rebid; letting the opponents off the hook.

In all other deals, opener will pass and wait for partner to act. At this point, all doubles are for penalty. Any bids/rebids are constructive and semi-forcing. Sometimes it seems like open hunting season for opponents as this auction shows:

1S	DBL	RDBL	2D
DBL	2H	DBL	2NT
DBL	3D	DBL	all pass

If you have a decent 3 or 4-card holding in the opponent's suit, you double. Otherwise, you pass and see if your partner can double. In this scenario, without bidding any suits, you and your partner are still describing the shapes of your hands.

Key Points:

Go for the best score on each hand. Sometimes that means defending 2D X rather than making 3NT.

As opener, your main obligation is to pass the Redouble rather than making a rebid. Your partners' Redouble was not forcing. Instead, it tells you that he/she has 10+ HCPs. Only rebid if you have a weak, non-defensive hand.

Low-level penalty doubles can be very profitable. So go forth and double.



## Redouble?

Last month we began our process of exploring profitable penalty doubles. This month, we will use the following auction as our discussion topic:

1S DBL RDBL Pass  
?

**Opps are Vulnerable, we are not.**

On this auction, we seem to have 23 HCP's (13 + 10). That leaves the opponents with 17 or less. The chances of them making a 2-level contract are low. Therefore, we can expect to profit by doubling any contract the opponents fall into.

The vulnerability favors us and a two trick set will be +500 and that scores more than a game bid our way.

So how do we, as partners, proceed from this point?

## Silver Point Bonanza

Twice each year, players have a chance to earn Silver Masterpoints at their club. These games – Sectional Tournaments at the Clubs (STaC) – are played throughout our District. Players who score well at their clubs can earn a lot of Silver points.

The game results from each club are combined with all other participating clubs and the awards for first overall can be over ten Silver points.

The games are stratified (A, B & C), so there are overall point awards in each of the three strats.

If you need Silver points for rank advancement, then be sure to play as often as possible, during our semi-annual STaC week.

Our next STaC week will be June 10 -16. So line up a partner and play nice.



## Climbing the Ladder

### Rank advancements reported in the 1st Quarter of 2013

#### **Junior Masters (5+ MP's)**

Joan Bain – Bella Vista  
Janet Davis – Bella Vista

#### **Club Masters (20+ MP's)**

John Buck – Cotter  
Michael Jirka – Mt. Home

#### **Sectional Masters (50+ MP's)**

Jimmy Dime – Ft. Smith  
Diane Raley - Lakeview

#### **Silver Life Masters (1000+ MP's)**

Linda Jirka – Mt. Home

Way to go players!

## Tournament Schedule – 2013

Wichita Sectional (0-500) - April 20 - 21

Wichita Sectional - May 3 -5

Hot Springs Regional - May 13 -19

Lenexa, KS Sectional - May 17 -19

Jonesboro, AR Sectional - May 31 - June 2

Oklahoma City Sectional - May 31 - June 2

**STaC - D14 - D 15 - June 10 - 16**

Lenexa, KS Sectional - June 28 - 30

Tulsa Regional - July 7 -14  
 Little Rock Sectional - July 19 - 21  
 Atlanta National - Aug. 1 - 11  
 Hot Springs Village Sectional (0-500) -  
 Aug. 16 - 18

**Bella Vista, AR Sectional - Sept. 20 - 22**

We have a longer-range tournament schedule on our web site.

### **Grand National Teams**

Each year, we have a Grass-Roots team event. The qualification begins at the Club level and progresses through the Unit and District levels. The top teams at the District level then go on to the National level and compete against qualifying teams from all over North America.

**Our Unit qualifier will be held in Mt. Home on Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup>.**

Two sessions – 9 am and 1 pm, at the Senior Center, 1101 Spring St. Entries are \$8 per person and it includes lunch. Contact Stan Stankus (870-424-5602) for more details.

If your club did not hold a club qualifying event, then there is a provision for teams to 'buy-in' at the Unit qualifying game. Please see the [Conditions of Contest](#) for more details.

The District GNT qualifying event will be at the Kansas City Sectional, May 18-19, 2013.

The GNT club level competition for 2014 begins on September 1, 2013 and will conclude on March 31, 2014. Talk with your Club Manager if you are interested in participating.

At the National tournament in St. Louis, several bridge players submitted limericks. Here are some of the best.

With 13 tricks in his sights  
 He bid to the highest of heights  
 But he was missing an ace,  
 And went down in disgrace  
 His partner then put out his lights.

by Jim Munday, South Haven, MS.

The pros thought they'd have a field day  
 When a novice team sat down to play  
 But their system extensive  
 Proved far too expensive  
 When their games were all one away.

by Donna Fortunate, Grand Blanc, MI

The bidding for us never slows  
 My partner says "He who knows goes"  
 She thinks every hand  
 Is a game or a slam  
 I call her my wild Irish Rose.

by Andy Avery, Jamaica, VT

Web Site

Several new pages have been added to our web site; including a Club Manager Section.

There is a wealth of information there. If you have not yet checked out the site, please do.

<http://www.acbl-unit-247.org>



Editorial Policy

We plan to make mistakes in the content of this newsletter. If we have omitted someone or misstated information, please let us know. We will cheerfully announce corrections in the following issue. Information has been collected from a variety of sources that we feel are reliable and whose content we believe to be Public Domain.

Contact us at:  
Nwa.bridge@gmail.com

Purpose: To promote contract bridge play in Northwest Arkansas.

Our aim is to build a sense of community among all of the bridge players – young, old, new, veterans, party bridge or competitive – Let's work together to promote bridge play at all opportunities. If you feel that playing bridge has been good for you, then accept the challenge to give something back to the world of bridge play.