

Congratulations to

The Leader Board in June was commandeered by Muriel Parr and Norman Taylor who were top on Monday 24th June with 68.22% and also 2nd on Monday 17th June with 67.61%. In 3rd place was Richard Dewe and his partner with 67.36% on Wednesday 19th June. Muriel, perhaps you could let us know what supplements you are giving Norman and where you can buy them!!!!

Editor's Achievers' Award this month goes to Diana Watts, one of our new improvers, who had a very good score of 52.60% on Thursday 13th June. Her partner in crime was Mary Varela.

Dates for your Diary

21st July SCCBA Green Pointed Teams at Patcham

21st August SCCBA Blue Pointed Midweek Swiss Pairs at Henfield.

Entry forms are available at the Club

Club Directors

***Anthony Andrews: Barbara Herold: Patrick Hutley:
and Hilary Levett***

Enjoy your bridge whenever and wherever you play

©K J Latty

Telephone 01424 422118 Mobile 0793 188 4715

Email: Lattyherold@aol.com Web site www.eastsussexbridgeclub.co.uk



East Sussex Bridge Club

Affiliated to the English Bridge Union

Newsletter

Volume 21 No. 7

July 2019

Editorial

Strangely, each month seems to throw up a recurring occurrence for which the director is called. This month I happened to be called several times because of confusion regarding Overcalls so I thought it might help if I gave a short definition of each of the different types of overcalls.

A simple overcall is where you overcall with a suit at the lowest possible level you can bid and it will be a suit containing a minimum of 5 cards and should contain two honours. Point count is usually a minimum of 8 points if non vulnerable and slightly better if vulnerable. Partner ideally will either pass or support the suit. Changing the suit implies a singleton or void in partner's suit and promises a good 6 card suit of your own.

A jump overcall may be weak (5 – 9 points), intermediate (10 – 15 points) or strong (16 points) and will contain 6 cards. As the partner of the overcaller you do not have to alert or specify the strength, it is up to your opponents to ask if they are intending to bid.

A pre-emptive overcall is a double-jump so over 1C, 1D or 1H, to pre-empt in spades you would bid 3 spades BUT over a 1S bid if you wanted to pre-empt in any of the other suits you would have to bid 4 Clubs, 4 Diamonds or 4 Hearts. Pre-emptive overcalls should normally promise 7 cards and 5 – 9 points or 6 – 10 points; any deviation from this, i.e. a 6 card suit should be noted on your convention card.

A double after a one or two level suit opening bid is for take-out and promises an opening hand (or close to) and should show tolerance for the other three suits.

A double after a 1NT bid is for penalties. If you play it as a take-out bid then it MUST BE ALERTED and stated on your convention card. Hope this is helpful.

Continued over

Continued from front page

Making the appropriate overcall is an important part of competitive bridge, designed to get you into the auction, sometimes to snatch a contract from your opponents, sometimes to make a sacrificial bid, sometimes to force your opponents out of their comfort zone and definitely to make life more difficult for your opponents. However, occasionally it back-fires and gives your partner a headache. This can be particularly true when partner makes a simple overcall and you have good support for your partner (at least 3 cards) and an opening hand. Should you raise your partner's bid and if so to what level? There is a nifty little convention that can help you here. It is called the Unassuming Cue bid and if you find yourself in this situation you CUE BID the opponent's opening bid, i.e. 1H from North, 1S from East, Pass from South, 2H from you, to tell your partner to have support for their spades and an opening hand, inviting partner to go to game in spades or to convert to 2 or 3 spades if they don't think game is on. Obviously you must agree to play this convention and it should be noted on your convention card.

There is still time to enter the EBU's Summer Congress in Eastbourne in July – there is the Seniors Congress 5th to 7th July for experienced competition players and for the less experienced there is the Really Easy Congress 2nd to 11th August where you will find something for everyone. Details may be found at the Club but entries have to be via the EBU either online or by telephone.

Stratification Upgrades for July

The players below all have NGS rankings of honour cards at the end of June and will therefore be upgraded to an "A" status for the month of July in addition to those players who have a life-time ranking which puts them into the A grade.

Paul Williams Mike Wood John Revell
Alan Townson Betty McKinlay Richard Dewe
Christine Williams Lynne Bayes Rod Bayes
John Clark Norman Taylor Pat Collings

Master Point Promotions for May Congratulations to Alison Lowe who has been promoted to County Master



Updates on our two invalids – Margo Nesbit is still languishing in the Conquest and it's not clear whether she will be moved to a care home or is able to go home with a care package. Barbara Goldsmith is keeping me informed and is taking our love and best wishes to Margo. Brian Bestley is having to have dialysis three times a week at Brighton Hospital which is dominating his week and his life at the moment. I've sent him some flowers and hope he will soon feel like his old self.

July's Interesting Hand

♠ 4	Board 15 Dealer South Vuln. NS.
♥ K986432	Another hand that defied everyone to find the slam. The board was played by 9 pairs and only 2 pairs failed to make 12 tricks.
♦ J862	As North when your partner opens the bidding with the correct bid of 1♥ you know you want to be in game and if you play the Losing Trick Count you have a 6 loser hand and should therefore rather than bid directly to game, either respond with 2♦ or bid Blackwood, Gerber or cue bid your first round control of clubs. One of those roads should lead you to the slam.
♣ A	
♠ J98763 ♠ K52	
♥ 7 ♥ 10	
♦ Q754 ♦ K3	
♣ J9 ♣ KQ108642	
♠ AQ10	
♥ AQJ5	
♦ A109	
♣ 753	