

MARITIME BRIDGE LINE



Official Newsletter and Tournament Schedules of the Canadian Maritime Unit 194 and Acadian Unit 230 of the American Contract Bridge League

Volume 28 Number 1

February, 1999

NEW SECTIONAL EVENTS

STRATIFLIGHTED EVENTS

What are Stratiflighted events? A stratiflighted event is two separate events. In one event, the Flight A players play among themselves while the second event is stratified containing all the other flights.

What are the advantages: For the flight A players, events are no longer decided by who piles up the greatest number of matchpoints or IMPs against the weaker pairs and teams. For the B, C and sometimes D flights, there is the comfort of knowing that you won't have to butt heads against the best players in the Maritimes. (The majority of them will be competing against each other in Flight A.) Flight A awards are based on the total number of tables in Flight A added to the total number of tables in the B/C event.

Awards for flight B are determined by the upper master point limit and the number of tables in B and C. Flight C awards are based upon upper master point limit and the number of tables in C.

Naturally the awards are much greater in Flight A as there is no upper master point limit. Unlike the Stratified events where all flights play in the same section, B and C players cannot place in Flight A in a Stratiflighted event. B and C players may, however, play up by buying an entry in Flight A during the sell.

What are the disadvantages? Well, from a player's point of view, there are few disadvantages. From the director's perspective, there is the very real possibility of a half table in each of two sections (One in Flight A and one in B/C - The A players cannot play down and often the B/C players refuse to play up).

Worse still is the real possibility of two three-way matches in the Swiss teams if both A

and B/C are odd and no B or C team is interested in moving up to play in A.

The format has been used in the Swiss Teams at the last three tournaments and in the Open Pairs in Halifax on February 6.

To date reports from players at all levels have been positive. Let me know how you feel about Stratiflighted events. ☺

ACBL ALERT PROCEDURE

In the last issue, the final four pages contained the first of three installments outlining the complete ACBL Alert Procedure. This issue contains the next four pages.

The pages are intended to be removed from the Bridge Line and stapled together as a reference.

The remainder of the ACBL Alert Procedure will appear in the next issue. ☺

CNTC UNIT FINALS

CNTC Unit Finals will be held at the following locations.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20

HALIFAX BRIDGE WORLD UNIT 194

3600 Kempt Road, Halifax, NS

contact: Paddy Gouthro 902-454-4098

LION'S CENTER UNIT 230

George Street, Moncton, NB 1 pm & TBA

contact: Mike Hartop 506-384-7272

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21

NEWCASTLE UNIT 230

contact: Shirley Matchett 506-622-7648

SYDNEY UNIT 194

Cape Breton Bridge Club Rooms, 1:30 pm

contact: Bernie Britten 902-562-8220

99 MASTER POINT RACES

LAGAN

1. Ian Crowe	35.93
2. Balon Buckley	35.18
3. Daniel Landry	29.17
4. Roy Landry	28.38
5. Joe Currie	24.78
6. Dave Scammell	24.48
7. Ken Eisner	23.14
8. Ron MacDonald	22.47
9. Gerry Callaghan	21.99
10. Boyd Wells	18.97

SPRINGHILL

1. Claude LeBlanc	23.83
2. Brian Hannon	23.28
3. Heinz Paschke	20.05
4. Mike Hartop	19.01
5/6. Bill Campbell	13.55
5/6. Al Hackett	13.55
7. Jack O'Brien	12.62
8. Bill Brock	10.75
9. Leo Mahoney	10.55
10. Bob Losier	8.48

MCLEOD

1. Jo Ann Lynds	19.72
2. Kathie MacNab	17.68
3. Virginia Giza	14.77
4. Myrtle Moulton	14.35
5. Judy Walker	13.94
6. Hattie Cashin	13.92
7. Anna Mae McIsaac	13.55
8. Zelda Zelikovitz	11.37
9. Elsie Adams	11.33
10. Betsy Eisner	10.51

CALLAGHAN

1. Ursula Paschke	20.05
2. Ann Hartop	19.01
3. Bea O'Brien	12.62
4. Marie Carragher	12.12
5. Ellen Brock	10.75
6. Ann Mahoney	10.55
7/8. Elizabeth Fortunato	8.93
7/8. Stania Truka	8.93
9. Judy Losier	8.48
10/11 Gloria Currie	8.44
10/11 Illona Schnarr	8.44

These are the cumulative totals of Master points won by players in the 1999 Sectional Tournament at Clubs and the Halifax Winter Sectional held February 5-7, 1999.

THE MARITIME BRIDGE LINE

The Maritime Bridge Line is published three times a year and is the official newsletter and tournament schedule of Canadian Maritime Unit 194 and Acadian Unit 230 of the American Contract Bridge League.

The Maritime Bridge line is published in February, June and October. Articles are welcome and encouraged. This year is the twenty-eighth year of publication. Copies are sent in bulk to each club in the Atlantic Provinces. Personal mailings are available by sending your name, mailing address and a cheque for \$5.00 to the editor

Karl Hicks
PO Box 6
Dominion, Nova Scotia, B0A 1E0

1998 TROPHY WINNERS

LAGAN

1. Gerry Callaghan	109.50
2. Ron MacDonald	106.11
3. Bill Halliday	104.39
4. Kathie MacNab	98.53
5. Joe Currie	94.85
6. Ian Crowe	84.75
7. Myrtle Moulton	68.78
8. Jo Ann Lynds	67.62
9. Elizabeth Legacy	66.64
10. Balon Buckley	63.62

SPRINGHILL

1. Mike Hartop	116.49
2. Brian Hannon	94.14
3. Gerry LaFlamme	80.28
4. Claude LeBlanc	67.52
5. Norm O'Brien	57.81
6. Dale Murray	49.76
7. Edward Hynes	34.65
8. Bob Losier	33.13
9. Neil O'Brien	25.49
10. Rod McInnis	25.40

McLEOD

1. Kathie MacNab	98.53
2. Myrtle Moulton	68.78
3. Jo Ann Lynds	67.62
4. Elizabeth Legacy	66.64
5. Louise Fisher	58.74
6. Judy Walker	40.42
7. Glenda Hansen	31.03
8. Mary Moulton	23.43
9. Linda Holland	21.08
10. Bea O'Brien	19.41

CALLAGHAN

1. Sandy Fox	111.41
2. Ann Hartop	105.10
3. Mary Cotter	85.43
4. Linda Cobham	78.49
5. Carol Mann	59.60
6. Judy Losier	34.07
7. Alice Manzer	32.28
8. Ursula Paschke	23.63
9. Sue Burns	22.82
10. Joyce Michieli	20.05

The Lagan Trophy goes to the player in Canadian Maritime Unit 194 who wins the most master points at Sectional tournaments in the Atlantic Provinces.

The McLeod Trophy goes to the lady in Unit 194 winning the most silver points.

The Springhill Trophy goes to the male player in Acadian Unit 230 who wins the most master points at Sectional tournaments in the Atlantic Provinces.

The Callaghan Trophy goes to the lady in Unit 230 winning the most silver points.

The competition and friendly rivalry associated with these trophy races adds to our sectional tournaments. This year the races were close and went right down to the last tournament of 1998.

The four winners receive free entries to 1998 sectional tournaments in both units. Congratulations to all of our successful competitors. Good luck in 1999!

SPUD ISLAND RESULTS

October 16-18, 1998

Rodd Travelodge Inn, Charlottetown, PE

S9810155

SPUD ISLAND PAIRS

Flight A 18 tables

- | | |
|---|---------------|
| 1. Barbara Paton - Dorothy Riteman, Halifax, NS | 167.48 |
| 2. Joe Gaudin - Olive Fleming, Charlottetown, PE | 162.45 |
| 3. Eeveelyn Tower, Amherst, NS - Bob Brown, Sackville, NB | 157.36 |

Flight B 11 tables

- | | |
|---|-----|
| 1. Paton - Riteman | |
| 2. Catherine MacNeill - Des MacNeill, Charlottetown, PE | 153 |

Flight C 4 tables

- | | |
|---|------------|
| 1. Mike Lafferty, Charlottetown, PE - Paddy Gouthro, Halifax, NS | 139 |
|---|------------|

STRATIFIED PAIRS

Flight A 32 tables

- | | |
|--|---------------|
| 1. Balon Buckley - Ian Crowe, Halifax, NS | 216.50 |
| 2. Helen MacDonald, Summerside, PE - Brian Hannon, Miramichi, NB | 194 |
| 3. Louise Fisher - Ralph Fisher, New Glasgow, NS | 192 |

Flight B 18 tables

- | | |
|--|--------------|
| 1. Fred Arsenault, Marion Bridge, NS - Syed Husain, Halifax, NS | 185.5 |
| 2. Gerard Whalen - David MacDonald, Souris, PE (Also won C) | 179 |

FRIDAY ZIP KO TEAMS 12 teams

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Sandra Fox - Mary Cotter - Louise Fisher - Ralph Fisher | |
| 2. Boyd Wells - Jo Ann Lynds - Gerry Callaghan - Gerry LaFlamme | |

KNOCKOUT TEAMS BRACKET I

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Jim Praught - Carol Mann - Gerry Callaghan - Kathie MacNab - Bill Halliday | |
| 2. Gerry Soucy - Bryan Rapson - Myrtle Moulton - Joe Currie, Halifax, NS | |

KNOCKOUT TEAMS BRACKET II

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Shane Lafferty - Dale Murray - Ron MacDougall - Gene Ward | |
|---|--|

OPEN PAIRS

Flight A 38 tables

- | | |
|--|------------|
| 1. Rod McInnis, Tignish, PE - Alice Manzer, Fredericton, NB | 353 |
| 2. Balon Buckley - Ian Crowe, Halifax, NS | 347.5 |
| 3. Bryan Rapson - Gerry Soucy | 332 |

Flight B 18 tables

- | | |
|--|------------|
| 1. Peter Luard - Cyril Smith, Antigonish, NS (Also Won C) | 308 |
| 2. Barbara Paton - Dorothy Riteman | 394 |

SATURDAY ZIP KO TEAMS 9 teams

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Karl Hicks - Shane Lafferty - Joe Hortle - Dale Murray | |
|--|--|

SWISS TEAMS

Flight A 24 teams

- | | |
|---|------------|
| 1. Gerry LaFlamme - Linda Cobham - Elizabeth Legacy - Ron Legacy | 115 |
| 2. Al Millman - Jeannine Law - Balon Buckley - Ian Crowe | 106 |
| 3. Shane Lafferty - Dale Murray - Ron MacDougall - Gene Ward | 102 |

Flight B/C 11 teams

- | | |
|---|------------|
| 1. Margo Beveridge - Barbara Landry - Liz MacDonald - Mary Moulton | 111 |
| 2/3. Olive Hencher - Mary Rodd - Dorothy Roper - Joyce Gallant | 95 |
| 2/3. Mike Lafferty - Paddy Gouthro - Gerard Whalen - David MacDonald | 95 |

HALIFAX FALL

November 13 -15, 1999 Keddys Inn, Halifax, NS S9811061

CHOCOLATE LAKE PAIRS

Flight A 15 tables

1. **Jill McCormick - Sharon Jefferson, Halifax, NS (Also Won B & C)** 177
2. Don Brown, Centreville - John Tickner, Hantsport, NS(Also 2nd in B) 154.5
3. Elaine MacKeigan, Bras D'Or, NS - Sylvia Allen, New Waterford, NS 152

FRIDAY STRATIFIED PAIRS

Flight A 20 tables

1. **Cyril Connolly, Truro, NS - Eldon Mills, Aspen, NS** 103.5
2. Louise Smith - Mabel Moffatt, Halifax, NS 101.5

Flight B 11 tables

1. **Lloyd Knickle - Edward Grant, Halifax, NS (Also Won C)** 100
2. Flo Smith, Newport, NS - Lorna Stock, Falmouth, NS 90.5

Flight C 3 tables

1. **John Rafferty - Terry Thorsen, Truro, NS** 117.53

FRIDAY ZIP KO TEAMS 7 teams

1. **Dan Landry - Gail Moore - Carol Mann - Ron MacDonald**

KNOCKOUT TEAMS OF FOUR 9 teams

1. **Ken Eisner - Gerry Murphy - Boyd Wells - Jo Ann Lynds**
2. Gerry Callaghan - Judy Walker - Brian Hannon- Ed Risley

OPEN PAIRS

Flight A 30 tables

1. **Carol Mann, Summerside, PE - Mike O'Neil, Halifax., NS** 408.21
2. Ken Eisner, Truro, NS - Gerry Murphy, Kentville, NS 400.5
3. Gerry Callaghan - Alan Doane, Halifax, NS 393.5
4. Ian Crowe - Balon Buckley, Halifax, NS 386.5

Flight B 14 tables

1. **Kathleen Diprofio, Windsor, NS - David Chute, Berwick, NS** 353
2. Bob Tumilty - Gordon Flewwelling, Annapolis Royal, NS 330.5

Flight C 9 tables

1. **Ann D'Entremont - Judy D'Entremont, Mid West Pubnico, NS** 319

SATURDAY ZIP KO TEAMS 10 teams

1. **Bob Chase - Bill Davidson - Glendon Dominoe - Elaine MacKeigan**
2. Gordon Way - Jim Gray - Valerie Best - Elianor Kennie

SWISS TEAMS

Flight A 16 teams

1. **Peter Jangaard - Margaret Jangaard - Anne Laffin - Priscilla Bauld** 80
2. Leo Weniger - Ron MacDonald - Blair Sullivan - Mary Cotter 79
3. Brian Hannon - Carol Mann - Myrtle Moulton - Joe Currie 77
4. Eric Balkam - Sandy Fox - Louise Fisher - Ralph Fisher 75

Flight B 14 tables

1. **Carol Thompson - Peter Ineson - Barbara Paton - Zelda Zelikovitz** 91
2. Hazel Leiper - Ann Poole - Jaye Fraser - Valerie Best 76

Flight C 6 tables

1. **Eddie Cormier - Joe Bryne - Roy Van Buskirk - Gail Moore** 71

HALIFAX WINTER

February 5 - 7, 1999 Keddys Motor Inn, Halifax, NS S9902075

CHOCOLATE LAKE PAIRS

Flight A 14 tables

1. **H L Stewart, Halifax, NS - Fred Struve, Bridgewater, NS** 170.5
2. Peter Jangaard - Margaret Jangaard, Halifax, NS 161.27

Flight B 8 tables

1. **Tom Cheng - Stewart Eastwood, Halifax, NS** 149.27
2. Sheila McLeod - Jean Jarvis, Fredericton, NB (Also Won C) 145.6

STRATIFIED PAIRS

Flight A 24 tables

1. **Ann Mahoney - Leo Mahoney, Moncton, NB (Also Won B & C)** 275.5
2. Bob Tumilty - Gordon Flewwelling, Annapolis Royal, NS 268
3. Elaine MacKeigan - Sylvia Allen 267

KNOCKOUT TEAMS OF FOUR 9 teams

1. **Ken Eisner - Gerry Murphy - Ian Crowe - Balon Buckley**
2. Mike Hartop - Ann Hartop - Ron MacDonald - Blair Sullivan

FRIDAY ZIP KO TEAMS 9 teams

1. **Gerry Callaghan - Judy Walker - Kathie MacNab - Bill Halliday**
2. Bram Schwartz - Joe Currie - Virginia Giza - Sharon Jefferson

OPEN PAIRS

Flight A 31 tables

1. **Bill Knoll, Jr, New Glasgow, NS - David Scammell, Truro, NS** 492.55
2. Jo Ann Lynds - Boyd Wells, Truro, NS 383.3
3. Ian Crowe - Balon Buckley, Halifax, NS 354.06
4. Kathie MacNab - Bill Halliday, Halifax, NS 349.69

Flight B 14 tables

1. **Bob Tumilty - Gordon Flewwelling, Annapolis Royal, NS** 391.39
2. Scott Greenough - Glendon Dominoe, Bridgewater, NS (Also Won C) 345.51
3. Ann Mahoney - Leo Mahoney, Moncton, NB (Also 2nd in C) 341.73

SATURDAY ZIP KO TEAMS 7 teams

1. **Gerry Callaghan - Judy Walker - Kathie MacNab - Bill Halliday**

SWISS TEAMS

Flight A 33 teams

1. **Ian Crowe - Balon Buckley - Brian Hannon - Claude LeBlanc** 134
2. Ken Eisner - Gerry Murphy - Betsy Eisner - David Scammell 130
3. Myrtle Moulton - Leo Weniger - Bram Schwartz - Joe Currie 127
4. Roy LeBlanc - Martin Pink - Zelda & Leon Zelikovitz 112

Flight B 11 teams

1. **Lorna Stock - Flora Smith - Beth Woolaver - Frank Woolaver (Also Won C)** 124
2. Bob Chase - Bill Davidson - Glendon Dominoe - Scott Greenough 114

Sectional Tournament at Clubs ST9901067

RESULTS

MONDAY STRATIFIED PAIRS January 04, 1999

FLIGHT A 97.5 tables

1.	13.89	Mark Spear - Gerard MacMaster, Port Hawkesbury	67.71
2.	10.42	Randy Bennett - Roy Perry, St John's, NF	66.94
3.	7.81	Marie Carragher - Jean MacPhail, Charlottetown, PE	66.18
4.	5.86	Ursula Paschke - Heinz Paschke, Miramichi, NB	65.97
5.	4.39	Mr and Mrs Robert Turtle, Charlottetown, PE	65.63
6.	3.30	Ken Eisner - Ralph Fisher, New Glasgow, NS	65.61
7.	2.47	Dale Murray - Mark Golding, Amherst, NS	65.42
8.		Ellen Brock - Bill Brock, Dalhousie, NB	65.35
9.	1.54	Judy Losier - Bob Losier, Bathurst, NB	64.88
10.	1.39	Elizaneth Crosby - Anna Mae McIsaac, New Waterford	64.17

FLIGHT B 51 tables

1.	6.10	Brock - Brock	
2.	4.58	Ray Boudreau - John Rafferty, New Glasgow, NS	63.39
3.	3.43	Andrew Kingston - Jackie Kingston, Dalhousie, NB	62.88
4.	2.57	Pramila Paddock - Shan Naidu, St John's, NF	60.88
5.	1.93	Howard Kirk - Frank McGillivray, Antigonish, NS	60.42
6.	1.45	Kim Uhm - Gill Flanagan, Dalhousie, NB	59.72

Flight C 29 tables

1.		Boudreau - Rafferty	
2.		Kingston - Kingston	
3.		Kirk - MacGillivray	
4.		Uhm - Flanagan	
5.	1.03	Joseph Boulay - Ike Uhm, Dalhousie, NB	59.23
6.	.77	M Joyce Gallant - Arlene Mayme, Charlottetown, PE	59.00

Monday (0-200) Pairs 2 tables

1.	1.19	Carolyn Dempsey - Harold Wood, Halifax, NS	65.00
2.	.89	Diane Muise - Fred Muise, Halifax, NS	60.00

TUESDAY STRATIFIED PAIRS January 5, 1999

Flight A 60.5 tables

1.	11.83	Bea O'Brien - Jack O'Brien, Summerside, PE	68.57
2.	8.87	Ursula Paschke - Heinz Paschke, Miramichi, NB	68.12
3.	6.65	Greg Homer - Stuart Eastwood, Halifax, NS	67.86
4.	4.99	Ron MacDonald - Frank Starzomski, Sydney, NS	63.00
5.	3.74	Marie Carragher - Leo Carragher, Summerside, PE	62.96

6.	2.81	Gloria Currie - Iiona Schnarr, Bathurst, NB	61.90
7.	2.11	Jo Ann Lynds - Boyd Wells, Halifax, NS	61.01

FLIGHT B 27 tables

1.		Homer - Eastwood	
2.		Currie - Schnarr	
3/4.	1.82	Jim McCarthy - Ray MacDonald, Halifax, NS	58.33
3/4.	1.82	Chris Wilcox - Syed Husain, Halifax, NS	58.33
5.		Diane Bernard - Robert Stewart, Chatham, NB	58.08
6.	.88	Diane Banks - Donna Steeves, Saint John, NB	57.78

Flight C 14 tables

1.		Currie - Schnarr	
2.	1.50	Bernard - Stewart	
3.	1.13	Caroline Dempsey - Shawn Young, Halifax, NS	55.95
4.	.84	Beth Alexamder - Mardi Cockburn, Fredericton, NB	55.65
5.	.63	Emily Blacquiére - Joanne Postma, Summerside, PE	55.55
6.	.47	Lorna Stock - Pam Grey, Kentville, NS	53.75

WEDNESDAY STRATIFIED PAIRS January 6, 1999

Flight A 93.5 tables

1.	13.71	Dan Landry - Roy Landry, Halifax, NS	71.50
2.	10.28	Bill Campbell - Al Hackett, Miramichi, NB	69.16
3.	7.71	Brenda Kirby - Jim Kirby, St. John's, NF	68.55
4.		Denise LaFlamme - Joyce St. Onge, Campbellton, NB	67.00
5.		Ellen Brock - Bill Brock, Campbellton, NB	65.70
6.	3.25	Balon Buckley - Ian Crowe, Halifax, NS	64.50
7.	2.44	Nicole Martin - Jacques LeBlanc, Maria, QC	64.24
8.	1.83	Judy Walker - Gerry Callaghan, Halifax, NS	64.06
9.	1.52	Sharon Landry - David Ross, Moncton, NB	62.31
10.	1.37	Therese Butler - Aline Doucet, Bathurst, NB	61.46

FLIGHT B 51.5 tables

1.	6.20	LaFlamme - St.Onge	
2.	4.65	Brock - Brock	
3.		Bernie Poirier - Leo O'Brien, Moncton, NB	60.80
4.		Pauline Gauvin - Joan Mahoney, Miramichi, NB	60.05
5.	1.96	Martha Ramey - Doris Hughes, Bridgewater, NS	59.52
6.		Ron Poirier - Al Boucher, Moncton, NB	58.94

Flight C 32 tables

1.	3.50	Poirier - O'Brien	
2.	2.63	Gauvin - Mahoney	
3.	1.97	Poirier - Boucher	
4.	1.48	Ann Mahoney - Leo Mahoney, Moncton, NB	56.80
5.	1.11	Joseph Galliah - Phyllis Curtis, Miramichi, NB	56.38
6.	.84	Joan Regimbal - Dan Regimbal, Bridgewater, NS	56.35

THURSDAY STRATIFIED PAIRS January 6, 1999

Flight A 64 tables

1.	12.04	Anna Mae McIsaac - Hattie Cashin, New Waterford	64.17
2/3.	7.90	Dan Landry - Roy Landry, Halifax, NS	63.43
2/3.	7.90	Elsie Adams - Paddy Gouthro, Halifax, NS	63.43
4.	6.77	Glenda Hansen - Brian Hansen, Kentville, NS	63.34
5.	5.08	Barry Budge - David Robertson, Saint John, NB	62.59
6.	3.81	Claude LeBlanc - Brian Hannon, Miramichi, NB	62.20
7.		Carolyn Yates - Doug Mullin, Miramichi, NB	61.90

FLIGHT B 27 tables

1.	3.70	Yates - Mullin	
2.	2.78	Bernice Donovan - Shirley MacNeil, New Waterford, NS	58.75
3.	2.08	Andrew Endendijk - Brian Stilwell, New Glasgow, NS	58.63
4.	1.56	Grace Stephens - Jean Bakeeff, New Glasgow, NS	58.33
5.	1.17	Verna Petrie - Lorinne Williams, New Waterford, NS	57.08
6/7.	.66	Ray MacDonald - Larry Mock, Halifax, NS	56.71
6/7.		Gloria Currie - Ilona Schnarr, Bathurst, NB	56.71

Flight C 13 tables

1.		Endendijk - Stillwell	
2.		Stephens - Bakeeff	
3.	1.08	Currie - Schnarr	
4.	.81	Florence Erskine - Bernice Jardine, Bathurst, NB	56.02
5.	.61	Ann MacGibbob - Jessie MacNeil, New Waterford, NS	53.75
6.	.46	Irene Babin - Lillian Comeau, Bathurst, NB	51.16

NEWCOMERS(0-200) PAIRS 2 tables

1.	1.19	Peggy MacDonald - Sharon Maillet, Halifax, NS	64.50
2.	.89	Diane Muise - Fred Muise, Halifax, NS	56.25

FRIDAY STRATIFIED PAIRS January 8, 1999

FLIGHT A 32.5 tables

1.	7.17	Virginia Giza - Joe Currie, Halifax, NS	67.00
2.	5.38	Gerry Callaghan - Sam Baney, Halifax, NS	65.63
3.	4.03	Louise Fisher - Ralph Fisher, New Glasgow, NS	64.88
4.	3.02	Dorcas Cando - Edward Cando, Miramichi, NB	62.63
5.	2.27	Balon Buckley - Ian Crowe, Halifax, NS	62.50
6.	1.70	Margaret Jangaard - Peter Jangaard, Halifax, NS	62.00

FLIGHT B 14 tables

1.		Cando - Cando	
2.	1.80	Fred Hegenbarth - Charles Fortune, New Glasgow, NS	60.71
3.	1.35	Alister Fraser - Clarence Porter, New Glasgow, NS	55.95
4.	1.01	Verna Petrie - Lorinne Williams, New Waterford, NS	53.00
5.	.76	Simone Landry - Alice Lavigne, Bathurst, NB	52.78
6.		Shirley Kirk - Howard Kirk, New Glasgow, NS	52.38

Flight C 7 tables

1.		Cando - Cando	
2.	1.07	Kirk - Kirk	
3.	.80	Diane Muisse - Fred Muisse, Halifax, NS	50.00
4.	.60	Ray Boudreau - John Rafferty, New Glasgow, NS	48.51
5.	.45	Elizabrth Crosby - Bernice Donovan, Glace Bay, NS	47.00

SATURDAY STRATIFIED PAIRS - 2 Sessions January 9**Flight A 18 tables**

1.	7.00	Elizabeth Dale - Tom Dale, St. John's, NF	127.01
2.	5.25	Jo Ann Lynds - Boyd Wells, Truro, NS	125.79
3.	3.94	Ron MacDonald - Fred Arsenault, New Waterford, NS	120.24
4.	2.95	Ian Crowe - Balon Buckley, Halifax, NS	120.00
5.	2.21	Sylvia Allen - Elaine MacKeigan, Sydney, NS	117.26
6.	1.66	Kathie MacNab - Bill Halliday, Halifax, NS	115.00

FLIGHT B 9 tables

1.	2.85	Darleen Doucette - Brenda Woodman, St. John's, NF	112.56
2.	2.14	Joyce MacNab - Sam Baney, Halifax, NS	109.00
3.	1.60	Wanda S,ith - Peter Smith, St. John's, NF	108.00
4.		Cyril Connolly - Kenneth Tully, Truro, NS	104.37
5.	.90	Blanche Vatcher - Kathleen Barry, St. John's, NF	103.36

Flight C 5 tables

1.	1.88	Connolly - Tully	
2.	1.41	John MacDonald - Jean Pierre LeBlanc, Truro, NS	100.60
3.	1.06	Harold Wood - Fred Muisse, Halifax, NS	84.00

SATURDAY AFTERNOON PAIRS, JANUARY 9, 1999**Flight A 14.5 tables**

1.	4.17	Margaret Whelton - Edith Young, Bathurst, NS	64.81
2.	3.13	Noreen Doucet - Ron Doucet, Miramichi, NB	62.04
3.	2.35	Ann Hartop - Mike Hartop, Miramichi, NB	61.16
4.	1.76	Elizabeth Fortunato - Stania Truka, Miramichi, NB	60.31
5.	1.32	Diane Bernard - Peter Hare, Miramichi, NB	59.72

Flight B 6 tables

1/2.	1.40	Helen Boyle - Bernice Jardine, Bathurst, NB	57.41
1/2.	1.40	Bob Stewart - Eddie Pinder, Chatham, NB	57.41

- | | | | |
|----|-----|--|-------|
| 3. | .90 | Diane Donovan - Pat Underhill, Chatham, NB | 56.53 |
| 4. | .68 | Jean Knowles - Karen Sobey, Miramichi, NB | 54.39 |

SATURDAY EVENING PAIRS, JANUARY 9, 1999

Flight A 13.5 tables

- | | | | |
|----|------|---|-------|
| 1. | 4.00 | Joyce Michieli - Don Sanderson, Halifax, NS | 64.50 |
| 2. | 3.00 | Rob McCosh - Neil O'Brien, Miramichi, NB | 62.04 |
| 3. | 2.25 | Ann Hartop - Mike Hartop, Miramichi, NB | 59.03 |
| 4. | 1.69 | Elizabeth Fortunato - Stania Truka, Miramichi, NB | 56.48 |
| 5. | 1.27 | Dale Murray - Kevin Hare, Miramichi, NB | 56.02 |

Flight B 6 tables

- | | | | |
|----|------|---|-------|
| 1. | 1.50 | Lillian Gouchie - Deborah Matheson, Miramichi, NB | 53.24 |
| 2. | 1.13 | Diane Donovan - Pat Underhill, Miramichi, NB | 51.62 |
| 3. | .84 | Bob Stewart - Eddie Pinder, Miramichi, NB | 50.23 |
| 4. | .63 | Kay Pinder - Barbara Waye, Miramichi, NB | 48.38 |

CHARLOTTETOWN SWISS TEAMS 9 Tables

- | | | | |
|----|------|---|-----|
| 1. | 3.17 | Gladys Reid - Chris Larrabee - Bill Frederickson - Dave Steeves | 102 |
| 2. | 2.38 | Olive Hencher - Dorothy Roper - Cecilia Dalziel - Mary Keefe | 86 |
| 3. | 1.78 | Esther Cox - Gwen MacDonald - Joe Gaudin - Olive Fleming | 85 |
| 4. | 1.34 | Margaret Foley - Mary Rodd - Margaret Romcke - Beverly Boswell | 84 |

SWISS TEAMS SUNDAY, JANUARY 10, 1999

MIRAMICHI (1 Session) Flight A 10 teams

- | | | | |
|----|------|---|----|
| 1. | 3.33 | Elizabeth Fortunato - Stania Truka - Ursula & Heinz Paschke | 97 |
| 2. | 2.50 | Ann Hartop - Mike Hartop - Sandra Fox - Dale Murray | 92 |
| 3. | 1.87 | Claude LeBlanc - Brian Hannon - Allan Hackett - Bill Campbell | 79 |

Flight B 3 teams

- | | | | |
|----|--|---|----|
| 1. | | Lillian Gouchie - Delta Steeves - Deborah Matheson - Pauline Gauvin | 52 |
|----|--|---|----|

HALIFAX (2 Sessions)

HALIFAX BRIDGE WORLD Flight A 10 teams

- | | | | |
|----|------|---|-----|
| 1. | 5.00 | Myrtle Moulton - Joe Currie - Dan Landry - Roy Landry | 113 |
| 2. | 3.75 | Bilgin Batman - Ray MacDonald - Zelda & Leon Zelikovitz | 112 |
| 3. | 2.87 | Jill McCormick - Sharon Jefferson - Tadeuzj Mejzner - Ella Morris | 92 |

Flight B 3 tables

- | | | | |
|----|------|---|----|
| 1. | 1.85 | Bob Chase - Bill Davidson - Glendon Dominoe - Scott Greenough | 86 |
|----|------|---|----|

MARITIME CARDS AND GAMES 4 teams

- | | | | |
|----|------|--|--|
| 1. | 3.50 | Bill Halliday - Kathie MacNab - Gerry Callagan - Judy Walker - Doug Miller | |
|----|------|--|--|

SYDNEY (1 Session) 5 teams

1. 2.50 Ron MacDonald - Bram Schwartz - Elizabeth & Ron Legacy 56
2. 1.88 Sylvia Allen - Jane MacDonald - Hattie & John Cashin 41

BATHURST (1 Session) 8 teams

1. 3.00 Florence Erskine-Illona Schnarr-Carmel MacDonald-Gloria Currie
2. 2.25 Rita Theriault - Tejane Pinet - Mary Rogers - Edie Warren
3. 1.69 Beverly Losier - Judy Losier - Bob Losier - Hazel McDougall

FREDERICTON (1 session) 7 teams

1. 2.83 Sam Ghosh - Alice Manzer - Noreen Valenta - Mary Cotter 122
2. 2.12 Mike Ames - Richard LeSage - Suzanne LeSage - Carole Berry 113
3. 1.59 Garnet Demerchant - Deanne Dennison - Barbara MacKay - Bob Melles

STAC STATS

The 1999 Sectional Tournament at Clubs had a second high total of 482 tables in spite of the flu. Virtually all clubs in the Atlantic provinces participated. Thanks to all our club managers and players who helped make this fifth annual STAC a success.

Our goal for our sixth STAC next year is still the elusive 500 table mark. !

TOTAL ATTENDANCE

Acadian Unit 230	255 tables
Canadian Maritime Unit 194	227 tables

LOWELL SOMERS

The bridge community was saddened by the sudden passing of Lowell Somers last month.

Lowell was employed for many years as a Computer Systems Technologist for Public Works Canada but his passion was the game of bridge.

Lowell served the Moncton Duplicate Bridge Club as Club Director for the past several years and was instrumental in what can only be described as an "incredible" resurgence of duplicate bridge in the Moncton area.

He was a true gentle man and will be sorely missed.

UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS

DON COX MEMORIAL

APRIL 23 -25, 1999

Keddys Motor Inn, 437 Prince St, Truro, NS
S9904045

Friday, April 23

2:00 pm TIDAL BORE PAIRS
KNOCKOUT TEAMS 1
8:00 pm STRATIFIED Prs
KNOCKOUT TEAMS 2
11:30pm ZIP KO TEAMS
KNOCKOUT TEAMS 3

Saturday, April 24

1:30 pm STRATIFLIGHTED OPEN 1
7:30 pm STRATIFLIGHTED OPEN 2
11:00 pm ZIP KO TEAMS

Sunday, April 25

9:00 am STRATIFLIGHTED SWISS
two session playthrough. Half hour
break after second round.

Tournament Chairperson & Partnerships:

Jo Ann Lynds 902-893-9544

Accommodations:

Keddys Motor Inn 902-895-1651

CHATHAM

MAY 7 - 9, 1999

Knights of Columbus Hall
Chatham, NB

Friday, May 7

2:00 pm MIRAMICHI PRS
KNOCKOUT TEAMS 1
8:00 pm STRATIFIED PAIRS
KNOCKOUT TEAMS 2
11:45 pm ZIP KO TEAMS
KNOCKOUT TEAMS 3

Saturday, May 8

1:30 OPEN PAIRS 1
7:30 OPEN PAIRS 2
11:15 ZIP KO TEAMS

Sunday, May 9

9:00 am SWISS TEAMS
two session playthrough

Chairperson: Leona Ogilvie 506-773-7071
Partnerships: Gordon Steeves 506-773-5406

Accommodations

Rodd Miramichi River Lodge 506-773-3111
(\$69 if reserved before March 31, 1999)
Morada Motel 506-773-4491
\$44 - \$54 (less 10% for bridge players)

NAOP FLIGHT A RESULTS

Halifax, NS October 24 - 25, 1998

1. ERIC BALKAM - DON PRESSE, Halifax, NS	365
2. Mike Betts, Halifax, NS - Carol Mann, Summerside, PE	345
3. Balon Buckley - Ian Crowe, Halifax, NS	339.5
4. Elsie Adams - Virginia Giza, Halifax, NS	323.5
5. Gerry Soucy - Bryan Rapson, Halifax, NS	317
6. Kathie MacNab - Bill Halliday, Halifax, NS	312.5
7. Edward Hynes, Sussex, NB - Bram Schwartz, Sydney, NS	311
8. Gerry Callaghan - Judy Walker, Halifax, NS	308
9. Barbara Paton - Dorothy Riteman, Halifax, NS	305.5
10. Myrtle Moulton - Joe Currie, Halifax, NS	304.5

UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS

SOUTH SHORE

MAY 28 - 30, 1999

Wandlyn Inn, 50 North Street, Bridgewater, NS
S9905072

Friday, May 28

2:30 pm SOUTH SHORE PAIRS
KNOCKOUT TEAMS 1
8:00 pm STRATIFIED PAIRS
KNOCKOUT TEAMS 2
11:45 pm ZIP KO TEAMS
KNOCKOUT TEAMS 3

Saturday, May 29

1:30 pm OPEN PAIRS 1
7:30 pm OPEN PAIRS 2
11:30 pm ZIP KO TEAMS

Sunday, May 30

9:00 am SWISS TEAMS
two session playthrough

Chairperson and Partnerships:

Glendon Dominoe 902-543-6833

Accommodations

Wandlyn Inn Motel 902-543-7131

ST. JOHN'S

JULY 30 - AUGUST 1, 1999

St. John's Curling Club, St. John's, NF
S9908087

Friday, July 30

2:00 pm METRO PAIRS
KNOCKOUT TEAMS 1
8:00 pm STRATIFIED PAIRS
KNOCKOUT TEAMS 2
11:45 pm ZIP KO TEAMS
KNOCKOUT TEAMS 3

Saturday, July 31

1:30 pm OPEN PAIRS 1
7:30 pm OPEN PAIRS 2
11:30 pm ZIP KO TEAMS

Sunday, August 1

9:00 am SWISS TEAMS
two session playthrough

Chairman and Partnerships:

Jim Kirby 709-754-4733

**TAKE ADVANTAGE OF WORLD FAMOUS
NEWFOUNDLAND HOSPITALITY!**

NAOP FLIGHT B RESULTS

November 7 - 8, 1998 Moncton, NB

1. RUBY PREMDAS, Rothesay, NB - DORA SMITH, Saint John, NB 413.25
2. Balon Buckley - Mike O'Neil, Halifax, NS 413.02
3. Claude LeBlanc - Brian Hannon, Miramichi, NB 399.16
4. Boyd Wells - Jo Ann Lynds, Truro, NS 389.74
5. Joe Austin, Springhill, NS - Lyn Leighton, Amherst, NS 387.01
6. Bernie Boyle - David Rubin, Moncton, NB 382.47
7. Donna Steeves - John Steeves, Sussex, NB 382.23
8. Bea Brown - Evelyn Campbell, Halifax, NS 374.76
9. Kathie MacNab - Bill Halliday, Halifax, NS 370.83
10. Dan Landry - Roy Landry, Halifax, NS 367.70

SUGARLOAF

AUGUST 6 - 8, 1999

Lions Club Hall, Ramsey Street
Campbellton, NB

Friday, August 6

- 2:00 SUGARLOAF PAIRS
KNOCKOUT TEAMS 1
8:00 STRATIFIED PAIRS
KNOCKOUT TEAMS 2
11:45 ZIP KO TEAMS
KNOCKOUT TEAMS 3

Saturday, August 7

- 1:30 OPEN PAIRS 1
7:30 OPEN PAIRS 2
11:30 ZIP KO TEAMS
KNOCKOUT TEAMS 3

Sunday, August 8

- 9:00 STRATIFLIGHTED SWISS
two session playthrough

Tournament Chairman and Partnerships:

BILL BROCK 506-759-7740

Accommodations:

Howard Johnson 506-753-4133
Maritime Inn 506-753-7606
Forty Winks 506-753-3395
Journey's End 506-753-4121
Sugarloaf Campground 506-789-2366

MONCTON

SEPTEMBER 10 - 12, 1999

Keddys Brunswick Hotel
1005 Main Street, Moncton, NB

Friday, September 10

- 2:00 MONCTON PRS
KNOCKOUT TEAMS 1
8:00 STRATIFIED PAIRS
KNOCKOUT TEAMS 2
11:45 ZIP KO TEAMS
KNOCKOUT TEAMS 3

Saturday, September 11

- 1:30 STRATIFLIGHTED OPEN 1
7:30 STRATIFLIGHTED OPEN 2
11:30 ZIP KO TEAMS

Sunday, September 12

- 9:00 STRATIFLIGHTED SWISS
two session playthrough

Tournament Chairman

Michael Hartop 506-384-7272

Partnerships

Ann Hartop 506-384-7272

Accommodations:

Keddys Brunswick Hotel
506-854-6340
Rooms: \$68.00 single, double, triple

NAOP FLIGHT C RESULTS

October 24 - 25, 1999 Moncton, NB

- | | |
|--|--------|
| 1. MARK GOLDING, Moncton, NB - ROB KITCHEN, Salisbury, NB | 781.83 |
| 2. Brian Hannon - Claude LeBlanc, Miramichi, NB | 772.67 |
| 3. Charles Belliveau, Saint John, NB - Jess Bagnall, Lepreau, NB | 720.17 |
| 4. Glendon Dominoe - Scott Greenough, Bridgewater, NS | 716.50 |
| 5. Dale Murray, Moncton, NB - Mike Covey, Halifax, NS | 707.54 |
| 6. Bonnie Cole - Roy Cole, Miramichi, NB | 685.83 |
| 7. Diane Banks - Donna Steeves, Sussex, NB | 671.83 |
| 8. Bob Chase - Bill Davidson, Bridgewater, NS | 648.42 |
| 9. Gordon Steeves - Delta Steeves, Miramichi, NB | 645.63 |
| 10. Peter MacKay - Edgar Wolman, Halifax, NS | 643.58 |

TOURNAMENT CALENDAR

1999

February 20 (Sat)	CNTC Unit Final	Halifax, Moncton
February 21 (Sun)	CNTC Unit Final	Sydney, Miramichi
February 22 (Mon Aft)	ACBL Seniors Game	Clubs
March 9 (Tues)	Canada-Wide Int'l Fund Game	Clubs
March 12 - 14	CAN - AT CALCUTTA	Halifax, NS
March 23 (Tues)	ACBL - Wide Charity Game	Clubs
March 26-28	CALCUTTA	Sheraton Halifax
APRIL 10 - 11	CNTC ZONE 1 FINAL	AMHERST, NS
April 20 (Tues)	CBF Rookie - Master Game	Clubs
APRIL 23 - 25	DON COX MEMORIAL SECT'L	TRURO, NS
MAY 1-2	CWTC ZONE 1 FINAL	HALIFAX, NS
MAY 7 - 9	MIRAMICHI SECTIONAL	CHATHAM, NB
May 12 (Wed)	ACBL International Fund Game 2	Clubs
May 22 (Sat)	GN TEAMS Fit C District Final	Ottawa, ON
May 23 (Sun)	GN TEAMS Fit B District Final	Ottawa, ON
MAY 28 - 30	SOUTH SHORE SECTIONAL	BRIDGEWATER, NS
June 1 - 30	NAOP Flts A, B & NLM Qualifying	Clubs
June 4, 5	WBF World-wide Pairs	Clubs
JUNE 29 - JULY 4	CAN - AT REGIONAL	FREDERICTON, NB
July 1 -31	NAOP Fit A, B, & NLM Qualifying	Clubs
July 11 -17	CNTC,CWTC,COPC Nat'l Finals	Toronto, ON
July 23 (Fri)	ACBL International Fund Game 3	Clubs
JULY 30 - AUGUST 1	ST. JOHN'S SECTIONAL	ST. JOHN'S, NF
August 1 - 30	NAOP Flts A, B,& NLM Qual	Clubs
AUGUST 6 - 8	SUGARLOAF SECTIONAL	CAMPBELLTON, NB
September 1 - 30	NA 49er pairs qualifying	Clubs
SEPTEMBER 10 - 12	MONCTON SECTIONAL	MONCTON, NB
SEPTEMBER 24 - 26	ANNAPOLIS VALLEY SECT.	COLDBROOK,NS
OCTOBER 15 - 17	SPUD ISLAND SECTIONAL	CHARLOTTETOWN
NOVEMBER 12 - 14	HALIFAX FALL SECTIONAL	HALIFAX, NS

ACBL ALERT PROCEDURE (page 5)

PART II : CONVENTIONS

A convention is defined as any call that serves, by partnership agreement, to convey a meaning not necessarily related to the denomination named.

Examples of calls deemed to be conventional are: showing support for a previously bid suit and shortness in the bid suit (such as in a splinter bid) and bidding your worst suit for takeout.

ALMOST ALL CONVENTIONS MUST BE ALERTED.

In general, conventional calls require an Alert. In ACBL-sponsored events, however, there are some common conventions that do not require an Alert during the Auction: Stayman, ace-asking bids, most meanings of cue-bids, strong artificial 2C openings, takeout doubles, and expected negative doubles in specific auctions. Some Alerts are delayed until the auction is completed..

(SEE PART X: DELAYED ALERTS)

1) STAYMAN

No Alert is required for any bid of 2C over partner's 1NT opening or 3C over a 2NT opening if it requests opener to bid a four-card major, regardless of whether the Stayman bidder promises a four-card major. Likewise, a 2D response to Stayman (or a 3D response after 2NT - Pass - 3C) is not Alertable if it denies a four-card major.

EXAMPLE: 1NT - Pass - 2C and 2NT - Pass - 3C

Partnerships do not need to Alert their Stayman bids in order to differentiate between those that promise a four-card major and those that don't. Opponents may assume that an immediate bid of clubs over a natural notrump opening is conventional, asking opener to bid a four-card major.

However, when it becomes evident that the 2C bidder either does not have or tends not to have a four-card major, an Alert is required at that time.

EXAMPLE: 1NT - Pass - 2C - Pass:
2(D, H, or S) - Pass - 2NT

If the 2NT is or tends to be a raise in notrump without a four-card major, an Alert is required at the time of the notrump bid.

NOTE: A 2NT rebid after a strong 2C opening is deemed to be a strong notrump opening for purposes of this regulation.

EXAMPLE: 2C - Pass - 2D - Pass
2NT - Pass - 3C

3C is not Alertable if it asks opener to show a four-card major. If, however, 2C or 3C asks opener to bid a five-card major (commonly referred to as "puppet" Stayman) an Alert is required.

Alerts are still necessary when the bid is not obviously asking for a major, such as a 'check-back' auction where the club bid may be mistaken for one showing a club holding.

EXAMPLE: 1C - Pass - 1D - Pass
1NT - Pass - 2C

If the 2C call is artificial, such as asking partner to show a four-card major, it requires an Alert.

ACBL ALERT PROCEDURE (page 6)

2) STRONG, ARTIFICIAL 2C

Forcing 2C opening bids, either natural or artificial, do not require an Alert. Intermediate 2C openings, such as those used in Precision systems, must be Alerted.

After a strong, artificial 2C opening, an artificial 2D bid which is either negative or waiting is not Alertable. Those who play a 'semi-automatic' 2D bid do not need to Alert. If 2D guarantees the values for game, or has any meaning other than negative or waiting, it must be Alerted.

3) ACE ASKING BIDS

4NT Blackwood (any variety over suits) and 4C Gerber (any variety over notrump) do not require an Alert of any kind. All other ace-asking bids require an Alert, but some of these Alerts must be 'delayed'.

An ace-asking bid at the level of 3NT or below and usages on the first round (other than the Blackwood and Gerber as described above), require an **Immediate Alert**. Unusual ace-asking bids above the level of 3NT starting with opener's rebid require a **delayed Alert**.

EXAMPLES: 1S - Pass - 4H - Pass
 4S

If you have agreed to play 4S as an ace-asking bid, make a delayed Alert! Furthermore, the responses to 4S and subsequent asking bids require a delayed Alert.

 1C - pass - 4C

If this is Gerber, the 1C opener should say "Alert" immediately after the 4C bid.

 1H - Pass - 4NT

If this 4NT is Blackwood, no Alert or delayed Alert is required.

Ace answering bids other than the old-fashioned Step 1 = zero or four; step 2 = one; step 3 = two; step four = three, require a delayed Alert.

REMEMBER!

THE DEFENDERS ALSO HAVE THE RESPONSIBILITY TO MAKE DELAYED ALERTS.

4) CUEBIDS

Most cuebids are not Alertable. There are two cases, however, in which an Alert is required.

a. The cuebid is a natural bid and in a suit BID by the opponents.

EXAMPLE. 1D - 1H - 1S - 2D

If the 2D bid is an offer to play the hand in diamonds, an Alert is required.

However, no Alert is required if the opponents have not actually bid the suit. Two examples are:

EXAMPLES: 2D (four spades and five hearts) - 2H or 2S

If the 2H or 2S is natural, no Alert is required. Also, no Alert is required if the 2H or 2S bid conveys normal cuebid information.

However, if 2H were to show a club overcall, an alert is required.

ACBL ALERT PROCEDURE (page 7)

b. The bid has a very unusual or unexpected meaning.

EXAMPLE: 1S - 2H - Pass - 2S

If the 2S bid is a heart raise with values or some constructive hand, no Alert is required. If the 2S bid is a transfer to clubs, an Alert is required.

5) NEGATIVE DOUBLES

While most non-penalty doubles that are made after your partner has made a bid require an Alert, the usual negative double in the following auction does not.

1 of a suit - an overcall in a suit through 4H - Double

The above double does not require an Alert if it shows length in an unbid major and is for takeout or, if there is no unbid major, is for takeout. A penalty double on this auction requires an Alert. Also, a non-penalty double other than that described above requires an Alert.

EXAMPLE: 1C - 2D - Double

If this double shows length in at least one major and is for takeout, no Alert is required. Any other meaning, penalty or "values", requires an Alert.

EXAMPLE: 1H - 1S - Double

If this is for general takeout, no Alert is required. Any other meaning requires an Alert.

PART III: PRE-ALERTS

Pre-Alerts are designed to act as an early warning system of any unusual methods for which the opponents may need to prepare. Pre-Alerts must be given before the auction period begins on the first board of a round.

1) 'TWO-SYSTEM' METHODS

Some pairs vary their system by position, by vulnerability, or a combination of the two. While this is legal, it is also something that the opponents may need to know ahead of time. One example of this is agreeing to play a forcing club system not vulnerable and "two over one" vulnerable.

Minor variations such as varying notrump range or jump overcall strength by vulnerability do not require a Pre-Alert. These methods do require, when expected, an Announcement (notrump ranges not within 15 to 18 HCP) or Alert (strong jump overcalls).

As an aside, please note that it is not legal to vary your system during a session for subjective reasons, such as the skill level of the opponents which you happen to be playing at the time. You may, of course, alter your defences in response to the opponents' methods.

2) SYSTEMS BASED ON VERY LIGHT OPENINGS OR OTHER HIGHLY AGGRESSIVE METHODS

If it's your partnership style to routinely open hands with fewer than 11 HCP, preempt with very weak (frequently less than Qxxxxx) suits, and/or overcall with fewer than 6 HCP at the one level, the opponents must be pre-alerted.

ACBL ALERT PROCEDURE (page 8)

3) SYSTEMS THAT MAY BE FUNDAMENTALLY UNFAMILIAR TO THE OPPONENTS

Players are expected to be prepared for the vast majority of systems that they encounter at the bridge table. Common methods include either strong or weak notrumps with or without five-card majors. The forcing opening bid will most often be either a natural, strong two bid or an artificial forcing opening of 1C or 2C.

When you play a system structured along different agreements than these, you should draw the opponents' attention to your convention card before the round begins. In short, if you play a system that most players would not immediately recognize (such as a canape system) or one the opponents may wish to discuss before the auction begins (a 10 to 12 1NT range with distributional requirements for minor suit openings, for example), you are required to Pre-Alert the opponents.

PART IV: DOUBLES

Doubles have been separated into two general types.

Type I doubles are those made when partner has made no call other than PASS, it is EARLY in the auction and BELOW the level of 4S, or it is the usual negative double (*See Part II, 5, Negative Doubles*) below 4S after partner has opened one of a suit.

Type I doubles for takeout or the lead of the suit doubled (lead-directing doubles) do not require an Alert. Type I doubles which are penalty or unusual non-penalty require an Alert.

EXAMPLES:

3H - Dbl

Penalty is Alerted. Takeout is not.

1H - 1 S - 2H - Pass -

Pass - Dbl

Penalty is Alerted. Takeout is not.

1S - Pass - 4C (splinter bid) - Dbl

If this double asks for a club lead, no Alert is required. If this double asks for the lead of a diamond or a heart, an Alert is required.

1H - Dbl

If this double is penalty, an Alert is required. If this double is for takeout, an Alert is required if, BY AGREEMENT, the doubler could have minimum high card values without three-card support for the unbid suits.

Balancing doubles do not have to be Alerted if they are for takeout or general strength showing. Balancing doubles that are mostly or strictly for penalty must be Alerted.

EXAMPLE: 1C - Pass - 1S - Pass

2C or 2S - Pass - Pass - Dbl

If this double is generally takeout, no Alert is required. However, an agreement to treat this as mostly for penalty is Alerted.

The conclusion of this article will appear at the end of the next issue.