



Unit 534 Chatter

June
2010
Vol. 17 No. 6

BASIC HAND EVALUATION

Bridge starts off as a simple game. There are four dealt hands, each consisting of 13 cards. Partnerships either play or defend each hand, depending upon the auction. The bidding levels are between one club and seven no trump. Depending upon your dealt hand and bids made by your partner and the opponents, you might decide to pass, bid, or do both. Sounds pretty simple!

In order to convey information to your partner and the opponents, we need to establish some basic guidelines in order to bid. Otherwise, the bids will not have any meaning. Bidding is like a language. Some contracts take very few bids (words) to achieve their goal. Other more complex contracts require additional words (conventional bids) in order to achieve their intended goals. The key to success is to understand the language which your partnership has agreed to speak.

The basic concept of hand evaluation has been utilized for many decades. Players have tried to change various aspects, but generally it has remained the same. This is particularly true regarding the value of high card points (HCP).

A. Maximum High Card Points (HCP) per suit:

Ace = 4 points
King = 3 points
Queen = 2 points
Jack = 1 point

Total HCP: 10 points x 4 suits = 40 HCPs per hand

The system isn't perfect, but it is quick and efficient. For instance, aces are generally undervalued, whereas jacks are overvalued (i.e. an ace takes a trick most of the time, whereas a stand alone jack will generally only take a trick if it is the thirteenth card to be played in the suit!). Remember, the system of point count is a guideline to ensuring that proper bids and contracts can be achieved. However, points don't take tricks!

B. Distributional Points for Short Suits:

This is one area of evaluation that has changed over the past years.

Older methods of evaluation were as follows:

Void = 3 points
Singleton = 2 points
Doubleton = 1 point

The problem with this system was that a void suit was given a value of 3 points when initially valuing the hand to bid.

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Membership Achievements

New Member: Andrew May
Welcome to Unit 534.

New Junior Master: None reported.
New Club Master: None reported.
New Sectional Masters: None reported.
New Regional Masters: None reported.
New NABC Master: None reported.
New Life Master: None reported.
New Bronze Life Masters: None reported.
New Silver Life Master: None reported.
New Gold Life Master: None reported.

Non LifeMasters (under 500 MP's):
Go get your Silver points at the NLM Sectional in Sun City. Webb Hall. August 28-29-30.

Recovery Room

Sally Carell is back home from the hospital after a bout with bronchitis.

Janet Dyer injured her foot and is in a soft cast.

Margie Jiran injured her leg after tripping on a trash can.

Mary Terrell fell at home while still recovering from her prior automobile accident injuries.

All of the above casualties are back playing bridge.

UNIT 534 UNIT GAME FINANCIAL REPORT

Sierra Dawn April, 2010
Regular Game Fee per person 6.00

RECEIPTS:

Total Tables in Play: 12.5
(# of tables x 4) Total # of Players: 50
Minus of Free Plays: 0
Net No. of players paid: 50
Total Regular Receipts: 300.00
Other Receipts 0.00
Total Receipts: 300.00

EXPENSES:

Directors Fee: 75.00
Site Rental 100.00
ACBL Sanction Fee: 15.63
Insurance + Other Expenses: 57.41
Game Supplies/prepare boards, etc. 0.00
Food supplies/food 6.93
Other
Total Game Expenses: 254.97

NET INCOME/(LOSS) 45.04

June Birthdays

6	7	Suzanne	Raymond
6	8	Del	Gero
6	16	Anita	Kingsbury
6	16	Flo	McClanahan
6	17	Gladys	Ernst
6	17	Joyce	Jacobsen
6	17	Rick	Kerbel
6	21	Rebecca	Dunscombe
6	21	Marion	Fawcett
6	23	Jim	Wooden
6	24	Simeon	Stern
6	25	Peter	Matthews
6	27	Keman	Ronan
6	28	Josie	Harring
6	29	Arden	Boomgaarden

Never side with an opponent against your partner. If you cannot support your partner, say nothing.

Marty Bergen's "21 Rules of Being a Good Partner."

HAND EVALUATION cont'd.

If the contract ended up in no trump, this void had no value. The other problem was that voids and singletons are more valuable when playing in a suit (see below).

The newer method of valuing distributional points is as follows:

Void = 5 points
Singleton = 3 points
Doubleton = 1 point

The major difference is that distributional points are not awarded until after the partnership agrees on a suit. The current method isn't perfect, but is more realistic in assessing the value of a hand to determine the proper level of a given contract.

C. Distributional Points for Long Suits (referred to as length points):

The method of valuing long suits has remained the same over the past few years, with a few modifications. Suits with more than four cards receive 1 extra point for each additional card; however, the suit must have two of the top three honors or minimum of KJ10XX.

Suits without two of the top three honors can be revalued if partner supports the suit (i.e. AXXXX would originally have only a value of the ace; however, if partner supports the suit, an extra point can be added for length. The subtle change over the years has been to place more emphasis on suit quality when initially valuing a suit. Older methods added 1 point for each card over four in a suit, regardless of quality.

D. Learning to Revalue and Devalue the Worth of a Hand:

Listen to the auction. If the left hand opponent (LHO) bids a suit in which you have a stray king or queen, subtract the value of these points from your hand; it is unrealistic to assume you will get a trick with these cards. However, if the right hand opponent (RHO) bids the suit, the king could be given value and maybe even the queen.

Beware of the duplication of values in a specific suit. For instance, during the auction you have determined that your partner has either a void or singleton in a suit in which you hold the ace, king, and queen (9 HCPs). If your partner values his hand as 5 extra points for a void in the same suit, the combined hands have valued this suit as 14 points! Unfortunately, the suit is only worth three tricks.

Remember, tricks are taken by cards, not by points. Games and slams can be achieved with fewer HCPs when distributional points are properly utilized. Also, combined hands of 33 HCPs can easily be defeated if the points are not properly located (i.e. missing the ace and king of the trump suit!).

Conclusion:

Bidding is not an exact science. However, if partnerships utilize the proper bidding tools, approximately 85% of the proper contracts will be achieved. This is not a bad average considering the multitude of hand combinations within a deck of cards.

This mini-lesson is presented by Scott Campbell to improve novice/intermediate/advanced bridge technique.

Thanks to all of you who attended the 2010 Temecula Sectional.

Special thanks to Charlie Fox, Ron Williams, Del/Shirley Gero, Bill Maxson who helped set up the card tables Thursday evening.

Also, a special thanks to the Refreshments Chair Arden Boomgaarden and all of her helpers and those who donated food and/or cash.

Person of the Month.

This column will be discontinued until we find a new reporter to do the articles.

Thanks to Pat Reinhardt for doing the column for as long as she did. She did a good job.

If anyone is willing to take over this job, please contact Dennis Boomgaarden.

**Non Life Master (NLM) Sectional
August 27-28-29, 2010
Civic Hall, Sun City, CA.
26601 Cherry Hills Blvd.**

C: 0-99, B: 100-299, A: 300-500 (NLM)

Fri/Sat Pairs: 10:00 AM & 2:30 PM

All are single sessions with pre-duplicated boards. Sandwiches available for purchase.

Sunday Swiss: 11:00 AM

Play thru lunch provided.

Sponsored by
The Sun City Duplicate Bridge Club.

Unit 534 Board of Directors Election.

The annual election process will begin soon. Nominating Committees will be named this month. The nomination period will be July/August.

Please consider being a nominee. Each Board Member is elected for a period of 2 years. There are 4 seats up for election: 1 each from Murrieta & Hemet and 2 seats in Sun City.

Daily club results on our web site: www.acbldistrict22.com/534

Club Masterpoint Leaders for May

Mon/Wed/Thurs Sun City DBC: 4.43 Pat Reinhardt; 4.22 Velma Mallet; 3.30 Evelyn/Jack Guilliat; 3.08 Helen Telford; 2.55 Jim Eves; 2.52 Ben Brock; 2.17 Monty Fisher; 1.64 Charlie Fox, Nickolae Gerstner; 1.63 Joel Dreyer, Fred Fairbanks; 1.62 Cathy Garvin, Doug Murphey; 1.61 Marguerite Price; 1.55 Berna Lord; 1.52 Shirley Smith; 1.52 Ann Brown; 1.44 Del/Shirley Gero; 1.43 Ronni Armstrong; 1.42 Don/Kay Bolin.

Monday Homet: 2.47 Rosemary/Bill Dimitt; 2.21 Duane/Karen McComb; 1.59 Karen Brandt; 1.19 Barbara Revels; 1.02 Richard/ Marie Lawrence; 1.01 Carl Hoerberling; 0.96 Cyrus Rezayat; 0.89 William Wellman; 0.84 Mary Ellen Petersen/ Blair Bowe; 0.80 Fred Fairbanks; 0.70 Mary Terell; 0.68 Margo Olson; 0.52 Donna Janicek; 0.51 Dwight Shatto/Doris Waugh; 0.50 Judith McManus.

Tuesday Goodtime: 5.13 Troy Brown/James Wooden; 2.94 Edwin Oldham; 2.89 Donna Seyfried; 2.52 Fred Kunkle; 2.25 Douglass Murphey/Beatrice Corley; 2.09 Jamie Santistevan; 2.00 Dennis/Arden Boomgaarden; 1.50 David Mielke/Del Gero/Shirley Gero; 1.45 Rami Mina; 1.35 Janet Gleason; 1.30 Shirley Rubidoux; 1.28 Joel Dreyer/Terri Combs; 1.23 Janet Dyer; 1.10 Lloyd Scott/ Margy Jiran; 1.06 Peggy Cowherd; 1.05 Jean Wooden.

Wednesday Temecula: 8.34 James Wooden; 7.59 Bill Williams; 6.45 Virginia Hoppe; 5.95 Lucille Lockwood; 5.67 Anne Burdick/Isaac Perez; 5.20 Ali Selim/ Mo Anvari; 5.01 Paul Cameron; 3.67 Morris Cohen; 3.65 Donna Seyfried/Chuck Savage/Harrison Marsh; 3.60 Glenn Laving/Roy Long; 3.33 Shirley Rubidoux; 3.30 Felicia Hogan; 3.00 Janice Pond; 2.95 Wicker Gamble/Fran White; 2.72 Joyce Cellilli; 2.53 Barbara McPherson; 2.03 Vincent Tomasulo; 1.73 Ruth Brandt; 1.69 Jacqueline Craig/Ronnie Rue; 1.60 Jean Wooden.

Thursday Homet: 2.82 Karen/Duane McComb; 2.45 Marion/Mort Weingarten; 2.26 Margo Olson/Mary Ellen Petersen ; 1.58 Carl Hoerberling/Morgan Roberts; 1.43 Peggy Bailey/Fred Fairbanks; 1.22 Robert Judson/Robert Wiley; 1.17 Bob Lortie; 1.12 Richard Allerton; 0.96 Karen Brandt/Barbara Revels; 0.95 Marie/Richard Lawrence; 0.84 Kymber Hoover; 0.80 Donna Janicek/Mary Terell; 0.63 Joyce Cellilli; 0.60 Charlotte Cross; 0.40 Robert Nye; 0.34 Donna Guillaume/Itsuko Barton; 0.22 Marlene Anderson.

Thursday Goodtime: 6.49 James Wooden; 4.12 Sherril Maag; 4.05 Joseph Eves; 3.82 Bill Williams; 3.62 Carl Krantz; 3.38 Carolyn/Darrell Waska; 3.23 Shirley Rubidoux; 2.80 Lloyd Scott; 2.73 Joel Dreyer/Terri Combs; 2.67 Joyce Cellilli; 2.50 Donna Seyfried; 2.12 Anne Maxfield; 2.00 David Mielke/Fred Kunkle; 2.00 Helen Telford; 1.73 Jean Wooden/Barbara McPherson; 1.59 Beatrice Corley/Cleland Nelson; 1.42 Marlene Koerner/Edwin Oldham/ Mary Palmquist; 1.30 Margy Jiran.

Banning Thursday:

Friday Goodtime: 3.18 James Wooden; 2.47 Sherril Maag; 2.38 Joyce Cellilli; 2.38 Bill Williams; 1.75 Dale Klinzing; 1.67 Charles Fox; 1.59 Helen Telford; 1.58 Debra Cameron; 1.36 William Wellman/Peggy Bailey; 1.20 Beatrice Corley; 1.11 Frances Jackson/Peggy Cowherd/Bob Jackson; 0.92 W. Faye/Bill Miller; 0.79 Sarah Rambo; 0.64 Ben Brock; 0.60 Joseph Eves/Fred Kunkle; 0.56 Nickolae Gerstner/Douglass Murphey/Kenneth Chia/Cathy Garvin; 0.40 Andrea Park.

Saturday Temecula: 7.61 James Wooden; 6.05 Suzanne Raymond; 5.92 Bill Williams; 5.58 Cari Reuter; 5.27 Paul Cameron/ Morris Cohen; 4.44 Chuck Savage; 4.27 Ali Selim/Mo Anvari; 3.90 Janice Pond/Virginia Hoppe; 3.80 Fran White; 3.67 Cecil Leach/Magdalene Krish/Philip Machamer; 3.29 Isaac Perez/ Anne Burdick; 2.81 Marilyn Rumsey; 2.75 Cleland Nelson/Joseph Eves; 2.57 Dennis/Arden Boomgaarden; 2.53 Debra Cameron; 1.82 Lloyd Scott/Shirley Rubidoux; 1.70 Patricia Kell/Patsy Goodson; 1.70 Kemble Provorse/Rick Kerbel; 1.69 Joyce Cellilli; 1.55 Lucille Lockwood/Caryn Villalon.

Canyon Lake Sunday: 4.83 Jim Wooden; 2.50 Troy Brown; 2.33 Joyce Cellilli; 2.05 Kay/Monty Fisher; 1.88 Barbara Baisden, Ben Brock; 1.41 Jim Eves, Anita Kingsbuy; 1.31 Phil Machamer, Cecil Leach.

UNIT GAME MASTERPOINT WINNERS - May 2, 2010

3.26 Troy Brown - James Wooden; 2.45 Donna Guillaume - Margo Olson; 1.83 Annabelle Salisbury - Sally Carell; 1.38 Carol Wood - Joyce Cellilli; 1.03 Barbara Baisden - Ben Brock; 0.82 Duane McComb - Karen McComb; 0.77 Dwight Shatto - Doris Waugh; 0.55 Cecil Leach - Philip Machamer; 0.57 Janet Gleason - Anne Maxfield; 0.33 Sara Cassidy - Berna Lord;

Stellar Games

75 % Level A 2500 + MP: 85.00 % Bill Dimitt/Rosemary Dimitt.

70 % Level Ax 750-2500 MP: 76.67% Patricia Reinhardt/Berna Lord, 71.00 % Doug Murphey.

65 % Level B: 300-749: 70.00 % Carl Hoerberling/Pauline Gilbert

60 % Level C: 100-299: None Reported.

55 % Level D: 0-99: None Reported.

Ask The Director For a Free Unit Game Play (if you are a paid up member of Unit 534).

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Contributors: Whom ever we can get plus Scott Campbell, Pat Reinhardt and Club Directors/Managers. Chief Proof Reader-Arden Boomgaarden

We try to publish by the 8th of the month, or, no later than the Unit Game.

Also posted on www.acbldistrict22.com/534 Chatter & Club News.

<u>Jun-10</u>				
DATE	DAY	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION / NOTE
3	Thur	6:15	Club Championship	Sun Lakes-Banning
5	Sat	11:30	Charity Pairs	Mary Phillips Sr Ctr-Temecula
6	Sun	6:00	Jr. Fund Game	Canyon Lake POA Bldg
7	Mon	12:15	Club Championship	Simpson Center-Hemet
10	Thur	12:15	Club Championship	Simpson Center-Hemet
10	Thur	6:00	Club Championship	Civic Hall-Sun City
12	Sat	11:30	Charity Pairs	Mary Phillips Sr Ctr-Temecula
13	Sun	1:00	Unit Game	Civic Hall, Sun City
13	Sun		Cancelled	Canyon Lake POA Bldg
19	Sat	11:30	Swiss Teams/Charity	Mary Phillips Sr Ctr-Temecula
20	Sun	6:00	Jr. Fund Game	Canyon Lake POA Bldg
22	Tues	1:00	Club Championship	Murrieta Senior Center
23	Wed	12:00	Charity Pairs	Mary Phillips Sr Ctr-Temecula
24	Thur	1:00	Club Championship	Mary Phillips Sr Ctr-Temecula
25	Fri	12:00	Club Championship	Masonic Lodge-Sun City
26	Sat	11:30	Charity Pairs	Mary Phillips Sr Ctr-Temecula
27	Sun	6:00	Jr. Fund Game	Canyon Lake POA Bldg
<u>Jul-10</u>				
DATE	DAY	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION / NOTE
4	Sun		4th of July Holiday	
3	Sat	11:30	Charity Pairs	Mary Phillips Sr Ctr-Temecula
4	Sun	6:00	Jr. Fund Game	Canyon Lake POA Bldg
5	Mon	CLOSED		Simpson Center-Hemet
10	Sat	11:30	Charity Pairs	Mary Phillips Sr Ctr-Temecula
11	Sun	1:00	Unit Game	Mary Phillips Sr Ctr-Temecula
11	Sun		Cancelled	Canyon Lake POA Bldg
17	Sat	11:30	Swiss Teams/Charity	Mary Phillips Sr Ctr-Temecula
18	Sun	6:00	Jr. Fund Game	Canyon Lake POA Bldg
19	Mon	12:30	Club Championship	Civic Hall-Sun City
24	Sat	11:30	Charity Pairs	Mary Phillips Sr Ctr-Temecula
25	Sun	6:00	Jr. Fund Game	Canyon Lake POA Bldg
28	Wed	12:00	Charity Pairs	Mary Phillips Sr Ctr-Temecula
31	Sat	11:30	Charity Pairs	Mary Phillips Sr Ctr-Temecula
<u>Aug-10</u>				
DATE	DAY	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION / NOTE
Aug 16-22			STAC Pairs-Western Conf.	Check w/director
1	Sun	6:00	Jr. Fund Game	Canyon Lake POA Bldg
2	Mon	12:30	Club Membership Game	Simpson Center-Hemet
5	Thur	12:15	Club Membership Game	Simpson Center-Hemet
7	Sat	11:30	Charity Pairs	Mary Phillips Sr Ctr-Temecula
8	Sun	1:00	Unit Game	Sierra Dawn- Hemet

NLM Sectional
Aug. 27-28-29, 2010
Webb Hall
Sun City

Fall Sectional
Nov. 19-20-21, 2010
Webb Hall
Sun City

Summer Sectional
May 20-21-22, 2011
Comm. Rec. Center
Temecula

June 13, Sun City

UNIT GAMES

July 11, Temecula