

# THE VILLAGE CARD CLUB

*www.villagecardclub.org*

## **NEWSLETTER**

**A Zero Tolerance Club**

**3rd QUARTER 2006**

**SEPTEMBER 2006**

### COMING EVENTS

#### **SEPTEMBER 2006**

- 4<sup>th</sup> – Club Championship (12:30 & 1:00)
- 6<sup>th</sup> – Club Championship (1:00)
- 9<sup>th</sup> – Club Championship (12:30)
- 11<sup>th</sup> – LM / NLM Mixer Game (7:00)
- 12<sup>th</sup> – Fall Class Orientation (9:00)
- 14<sup>th</sup> – ACBL Instant Matchpoint (7:00)
- 18<sup>th</sup> – Start of Fall Classes
- 19<sup>th</sup> – Unit Championship (12:30)
- 19<sup>th</sup> – Club Championship (7:00)
- 23<sup>rd</sup> – Unit Championship (12:30)
- 25<sup>th</sup> – Club Appreciation Game (12:30 & 1:00)
- 27<sup>th</sup> – Mentor Game (9:00)

#### **OCTOBER 2006**

- 4<sup>th</sup> – Club Appreciation Game (1:00)
- 5<sup>th</sup> – Club Appreciation Game (12:30)
- 9<sup>th</sup> – LM / NLM Mixer Game (7:00)
- 10<sup>th</sup> – Club Appreciation Game 12:30)
- 11<sup>th</sup> – Extended Team Game (9:00)
- 11<sup>th</sup> – Club Appreciation Game (7:00)
- 14<sup>th</sup> – Unit-Wide Championship (12:30)
- 15<sup>th</sup> – Club Appreciation Game (1:00)
- 16<sup>th</sup> – Club Appreciation Game (9:00)
- 18<sup>th</sup> – Extended Team Game (9:00)
- 21<sup>st</sup> – NAP B/C Unit Finals (9:00 & TBA)
- 21<sup>st</sup> – Regular Open Pairs Game (12:30)
- 23<sup>rd</sup> – Club Appreciation Game (12:30 & 1:00)
- 25<sup>th</sup> – Club Appreciation Game (9:00)

#### **OCTOBER 2006** (Continued)

- 25<sup>th</sup> – Mentor Game (9:00)
- 26<sup>th</sup> – Life Masters Party (12:30)
- 27<sup>th</sup> – Club Appreciation Game (9:00 & 10:30)
- 28<sup>th</sup> – Club Appreciation Game (12:30)

#### **NOVEMBER 2006**

- 1<sup>st</sup> – Club Championship (7:00)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – Club Championship (12:30)
- 3-5 – DeGray Sectional** (club closed to ACBL sanctioned games)
- 6<sup>th</sup> – Club Championship (9:00)
- 7<sup>th</sup> – Club Championship (12:30)
- 8<sup>th</sup> – Club Championship (1:00)
- 10<sup>th</sup> – Unit Championship (9:00 & 10:30)
- 13<sup>th</sup> – LM / NLM Mixer Game (7:00)
- 15<sup>th</sup> – Club Championship (9:00)
- 15<sup>th</sup> – Mentor Game (9:00)
- 17<sup>th</sup> – Club Championship (9 & 10:30)
- 20<sup>th</sup> – ACBL-Wide Championship (7:00)
- 22<sup>nd</sup> – Club Championship (9:00)
- 30<sup>th</sup> – Charity Club Championship Play Through (12:30 & TBA)

#### **DECEMBER 2006**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> – Unit-Wide Championship (12:30)
- 5<sup>th</sup> – Club Championship (7:00)
- 7<sup>th</sup> – Annual Meeting (12:30)
- 9<sup>th</sup> – Club Championship (12:30)
- 12<sup>th</sup> – Unit Championship (12:30)
- 14<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Party
- 18<sup>th</sup> – Club Championship (12:30 & 1:00)

## **DID YOU KNOW???**

### **Village Card Club Game percentages:**

- Shuffle, deal and play (no hand records)**  
– 90% of our games
- \$2 fee charged – 88% of our games**
- Travelers used – 85% of our games**

### **LIFE MASTER ACHIEVEMENTS**

#### **LIFE MASTER**

Evelyn Hayenga  
Bob Nagy  
Loretta Parks  
Bill Trimble

#### **BRONZE**

John Chaplik  
Norma Marvel  
Beverlee Redding

#### **SILVER**

Doris Ham

### **Stepping up from Average to a Good Bridge Player**

Allan Siebert

[Allan was a guest speaker at the recent Resort City Regional Tournament and made the following presentation which I would like to share with all who missed the opportunity to hear him.]

**“Aside from having a burning desire to get better, here are habits I highly recommend:**

1. Play with and against good players—Observe with an open and analytical mind. Don’t be afraid to ask questions when appropriate.
2. Believe in your worth as a human being—Don’t be intimidated by a more experienced player. In the scheme of things is he or she a better person than you? No! Also along this same line, be selfish with your time and take as much time as you need and are allowed to solve your problem; you’re entitled!

3. Bid or play the best percentage action. For example don’t be overly influenced by a negative possibility: “I’ll go down six if the finesse loses”. Take the darn finesse if it’s the percentage play to get you the best results—period!

4. Go over the various scenarios when declaring a hand and based on what your objective is, choose your best percentage play.

5. Study—There are many good books and magazines to absorb. Make use of them and don’t turn the page until you have come up with an answer to the problem, right or wrong.

6. Visualize the other hands during the bidding, especially on critical and close decisions.

7. Learn from experience—There’s nothing more important than trial and error, but you must learn with an open mind and a strong ego. Learn mainly from your own mistakes. Be willing to be a fool and acknowledge your errors—bless them as a valuable opportunity to advance and move on!

8. Be a good partner—Do this in two ways: (1) never look over your partner’s shoulder and criticize and (2) always work on a definitive clear partnership understanding on defense and bidding. Work as a helpful and supportive partner and you will reap the rewards by the bushel in success and pleasure!

9. Be disciplined in your thought process—Don’t “Triple W”: Worry, Wonder, Wander. Think clearly and concisely. Mainly, master the art of counting points and distribution, the real hallmark of a great player!”

### **VCC SECTIONAL**

**March 30, 31 & April 1, 2007**

Be a part of the 2007 tournament! Planning and working before and/or during our sectional are very enjoyable—**be a team member!**

If you would like to be part of the “behind the scenes” action, please let Marilyn Biegler, tournament chairman, know. We have just the spot for you!

## **Message from the President**

### **Introduction to Zero Tolerance:**

Bridge is a game played in a social setting. Duplicate bridge tends to be more competitive than Rubber Bridge. When you consider that everyone plays the same hands, good natured competition arises as a result. With Duplicate bridge come two sets of rules intended to encourage polite competition, while not interfering with others' enjoyment of the game. One set is the Laws of Duplicate Bridge. These govern the rules of bidding and play. The other set of rules governs behavior; ACBL calls this set of rules "Zero Tolerance".

The words "Zero Tolerance" sound tough. What does Zero Tolerance mean?

The idea is to be pleasant to everyone you encounter and to be tough on BAD behavior.

### **What should I do?**

We play duplicate bridge for fun. We should strive to model good behavior. Talking, joking and social interaction are all perfectly normal and are encouraged. Keep the volume level as low as possible so as not to disturb others' train of thought. All bridge related comments should be very brief and positive such as "nice bid" or "nice play" to partner or to an opponent. When your opponents do something that turned out to be brilliant, compliment them on their nice play or bid regardless of whether you believe it was intentional. Be a good host. Just as you would greet someone who comes to your home, greet opponents when they come to your table and be a gracious host while they are there. Keep your tone of voice pleasant at all times.

### **What should I not do?**

Do not discuss hands in detail. Some players feel the need to tell others what they did wrong during or after the hands just played. We call this kind of conversation a "lesson". Lessons should never be given without a specific request from your partner or your opponents. If you are running behind or if the round has been called, there should be no discussion whatsoever of the prior round.

When you know you just got a good result, do not say anything about it to your partner in front of your opponents. Such comments can be taken as

"boasting" or "rubbing it in", so we should avoid these examples of poor sportsmanship.

Do not criticize your partner publicly for their bid or play. Suggestions to your partner on bidding or play should be handled away from the table.

Do not do anything that makes bridge less enjoyable for anyone. Naturally certain kinds of behavior are never acceptable, such as badgering, rudeness, insinuations, intimidation, profanity, loud and disruptive arguing, and threats or violence.

If someone behaved like that in your home, how would you feel? You would not want that to happen again and you would probably take action to avoid reoccurrence by not inviting them back. Surely we all have a right to have a pleasant experience at our bridge club as well!

### **What can I do to help the club enforce Zero Tolerance?**

First, model the best behavior as described above and set that expectation with your partner.

If you experience bad behavior here are 3 helpful approaches that you can take:

1. Most violations of Zero Tolerance are very minor and can be easily handled by a tactful and simple comment. If minor in nature, then politely let the person know of your suggestion to them for future behavior. For example, some of us have a voice that is unintentionally disruptive (too loud and it carries). It is doubtful that any of us do that intentionally so a polite reminder is a good approach. Only try this if you think the person involved will respect and listen to your opinion.
2. For more serious bad behavior, call the director to your table and report the incident. The director is responsible to help you have a pleasant playing experience.
3. For serious bad behavior and especially for serious behavior of a repetitive nature, write to the Conduct and Ethics Committee.

Please help the club help you to have a pleasant playing experience.

The VCC Zero Tolerance policy is posted at the club and is available online in the general standing rules section.

Thanks very much for your support!

## UP COMING TOURNAMENTS \*

### **NATIONALS (NABC)**

November 16-26, Honolulu, HI

### **REGIONALS**

September 11-17, Tunica, MS

November 2-5, Baton Rouge, LA (299er)

January 8-14, Jackson, MS (**District 10  
NAP Finals, Flights B & C**)

### **SECTIONALS UPCOMING**

Sept.29-Oct. 1, Monroe, LA

October 12-15, Nashville, TN

October 20-22, Jackson, MS

October 27-29, Shreveport, LA

October 27-29, Kimberling City, MO

**November 3-5, DeGray State Park, AR**

November 9-12, Metairie, LA

Nov. 30-Dec. 3, Baton Rouge, LA

Jan.5-7, Germantown, TN

\* Check ACBL's *The Bridge Bulletin* for other games and details.

## VCC Fall Classes Scheduled

### **"Share the Pleasure"**

Dick Condon

Orientation will be held September 12<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM and Fall Classes will start September 18<sup>th</sup>. Details are in the flyers, bulletin boards, website and the *Village Voice*; hard to miss.

Do your friends and loved ones a favor and get the information into their hands. Further, do that reluctant friend a favor and give the gift that keeps on giving, not guilt, the other one, a class certificate. It's quite simple. Fill out a registration form with your friend's name and a check made out to VCC. Make sure your friend knows about it with a copy. If the friend doesn't show up for Orientation or Class, the check will be returned to you.

Education is one of the main entries into this wonderful game which we love and it doesn't behoove us to put it off at our tender age. Neither does delay benefit your friends or your spouse. Get them here so they can see what they are missing. Our classes are one of the major benefits offered by the Village Card Club for entry level beginners and advanced players. Don't miss out!

## I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO ASK...

What are DOPI and ROPI?

When the opponents interfere with your 4♣ Gerber bid or 4NT Blackwood bid, DOPI and ROPI are two conventional methods to combat the interference.

DOPI stands for "Double with none (0) and Pass with one (1)."

If you are playing regular Blackwood you are asking your partner how many aces he/she has. Double with none and Pass with one.

Example:

Partner	RHO	You	LHO
1♠	3♥	4NT	5♥
	?		

With no aces you Double, with one you Pass, with 2 you bid 5♠ (cheapest bid) and with three bid 5NT (next cheapest bid).

ROPI is an extension of DOPI. If an opponent doubles your ace-asking bid, Redouble shows no aces, Pass shows one, cheapest bid shows 2 and next cheapest bid shows 3.

"Bridge should become a mandatory subject in school, like they do it in Europe. It is a very social game, so it helps you develop social skills, like golf. And it grooms the mind and does so many things for the brain. Children who learn bridge learn logic, math and concentration, and they have fun while they're doing it. They also learn teamwork, because you have to work with a partner."

Larry Cohen

*Palm Beach Post*, Jan. 20, 2003

Author of *To Bid or not to Bid*, the best-selling bridge book in the world, with 60,000 copies sold in seven languages

Larry Cohen and his partner, David Berkowitz, were guest speakers at the recent Resort City Regional and their presentation "Partnership" was excellent. I hope that you were there to enjoy it.

Sue Wyatt

**PLAYERS OF THE MONTH \***

**June**

**Flight A Jack Leach**  
**Flight B Jan Farnsworth**  
**Flight C Dick Condon**  
**Flight D Johnnie Niemann**

**July**

**Flight A Joe Fischer**  
**Flight B Greg Bono**  
**Flight C Greg Bono**  
**Flight D Donna Noss**

**August**

**Flight A Ray Banks**  
**Flight B Barbara Stiff**  
**Flight C Randy Lusk**  
**Flight D Gladys Dohrer**

\* VCC player who earns the most MP at the club in each Flight. A=unlimited, B=less than 1,000, C= less than 300 & D=less than 20.

Oops – omitted in the last issue

Marilyn Anderson and Peg Tempos each earned 6.16 masterpoints at the Resort City Regional Tournament. Congratulations!

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**WORLD-WIDE BRIDGE CONTEST**

June 2 & 3, 2006

The world-wide bridge contest was held at clubs through out the world; all playing the same duplicated hands. The Village Card Club had four pairs who placed in the top 4 percent of the participating players.

On Friday Greg Frank and Frank Matthews were in the top 3.46 percent of 5,550 pairs from 306 clubs and 45 countries. The overall winning pair was from Italy.

Saturday Gina Doss & Billie Roberson placed in the top 2.53 percent, Jack & Louallen Leach in the top 3.00 percent and Betty Schultz and Ned Irving in the top 3.13 percent of 5,332 pairs from 252 clubs and 33 countries. The overall winning pair was from Japan.

**Congratulations to our world class players.**

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**Masterpoint Achievements**

**5MP Glynn Jackson**  
**Bob Jackson**  
**Betty Price**  
**Jim Reilly**  
**20 MP Ruth Hanson**  
**Winnie Perilloux**  
**Peggy Pratz**  
**50 MP Sherry Aper**  
**Bev Estes**  
**Jerry Heisler**  
**Don Henderson**  
**Susie Hultz**  
**Phyllis Mathias**  
**Sandy Stevens**  
**100 MP Frank Ames**  
**Bob Brown**  
**Joan Choyce**  
**Beth Mainord**

**StaC Tournament**

June 12-18, 2006

The District 10 (Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi & Tennessee) StaC Tournament had 1,812.5 tables of bridge and 3,113 participating players. 2,100 players earned 5,118.92 silver masterpoints. Did you get your share?

The Village Card Club had 200 players who earned a total of 481.27 silver masterpoints.

This is a wonderful way to earn silver points without leaving home. Plan to play often in the next StaC January 29 – February 4, 2007.

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If you finish play after the round has been called, DO NOT fill out the traveler. Just pass the board on. If you have time later in the game, you can go back and fill it in.

## NEBRASKA REGIONAL

Council Bluffs, IA

July 31 – August 6, 2006

Loretta Parks and Evelyn Hayenga placed in two Knockouts earning 12.09 masterpoints and enough gold to earn their Life Masters. Congratulations!

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## SAINT LOUIS REGIONAL

Saint Louis, MO

August 14-20, 2006

The following VCC players earned masterpoints at the St. Louis Regional Tournament:

Betty Schultz & Ned Irving – 9.78

Alice & Hadley Kurtz – 9.22

Diana & Jim Podawiltz – 4.22

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**There is a defibrillator in the Woodlands building near the POA office. All POA personnel are trained in its use and CPR. On Saturdays and Sundays the staff is not here. Is any club member trained in either? If so, please let a Board member know.**

DeGray Sectional Tournament  
November 3-5, 2006

**Be sure to put this date on your calendar. The tournament is sponsored by our Unit 161 and Teri and Gene LaBove are the co-chairs. It is always a great tournament and such a beautiful spot to be this time of year. Come, have a good time and earn silver masterpoints. Check our website [www.villagecardclub.org](http://www.villagecardclub.org) for the schedule of events.**

“Bridge is a game you can play at any age. If you take it up young, you have fun doing it the rest of your life. A lot of games don’t have that depth. This one does.”

Bill Gates, Microsoft founder and ACBL member

## NORTH AMERICAN PAIRS

### UNIT #161 FINALS

October 21, 2006

Casa de Carta 9:00 AM

If you have qualified for B or C in the North American Open pairs, be sure to attend the unit finals—bring a lunch. Players who place in the top 50 percent will qualify to go to the District 10 Finals in Jackson, MS January 13 & 14, 2007. The top two or three pairs in each flight will earn a trip to the Nationals in St. Louis to compete in the NAP. In 2006 three VCC pairs earned a trip to Nationals

## EMMY CLARK MEMORIAL GAME

August 4, 2006

The names of the winners of the Emmy Clark Memorial Game are engraved on a plaque in Casa de Carta. The 2006 winners are:

Flight A

Betty Schultz & Andy Cosby

Flight B

Sherman Olson & Peter Smit

Flight C

Jeannine Huber & Bob Engels

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If you are planning to go to a tournament, please be sure to take some of our Sectional flyers and DeGray Sectional flyers along with you. Check with Teri LaBove or Marilyn Biegler

## Seventy Percent Club

8-25 Ray Banks & Gina Doss (74.04)

8-28 Ned Irving & Tony Hofstede (73.32)

8-28 Ray Banks & Frank Matthews (70.31)

8-31 Marilyn Norton & Emma Thomas (70.83)

8-31 Bob & Junell O’Hara (70.83)

# National Masterpoint Races

## **Unit 161 2005 Mini-McKenney**

Results through 8-6-06

### **0-5 MP**

5) Dennis Teel 6) Judy Belt 7) James Rush

### **5-20 MP**

1) Hadley Kurtz 2) Alice Kurtz 7) Diana Madden  
8) Marge Gortsema

### **20-50 MP**

3) Diane Condon 7) Jean Ramsey 8) Sondra  
Welch 9) Sherry Evans

### **50-100 MP**

1) Becky Rice 7) Ken Pyles 10) Diana Podawiltz

### **100-200 MP**

1) Greg Bono 3) Marcy Jordan 4) Randy Lusk  
7) Lu Hagen 8) Nancy Luehring

### **200-300 MP**

1) Valerie Smeltzer 2) Don Smeltzer 6) Mary Jo  
Kilker 7) Dave Barrow 8) Glenda Barrow  
9) Bob Engels 10) Voncel Haggard

### **300-500 MP**

1) Bob Case [HS] 2) Barbara Meiners [HS]  
10) Tom Martick

### **500-1,000 MP**

2) Doris Ham 5) Verdi White [HS] 6) Teri LaBove  
7) Peg Birzer 8) Joan Burlingame  
9) Bonnie McDonald [HS] 10) Barbara  
Schlesinger [HS]

### **1,000-2,500 MP**

2) Ned Irving 3) Carolyn Chunn [HS] 4) Andy  
Cosby 7) Joe Fischer 9) John Hegner

### **2,500-5,000 MP**

1) Betty Schultz 3) Jack Leach 4) Louallen Leach  
5) Gina Doss 6) Frank Matthews 8) Billy  
Roberson 9) Virginia Matthews

### **5,000-7,500 MP**

1) Ray Banks

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## **Unit 161 2005 Ace of Clubs**

Results through 8-6-06

### **0-5 MP**

4) Judy Belt 6) James Rush 7) Donna Noss  
8) Dennis Teel 9) John Madden

### **5-20 MP**

1) Hadley Kurtz 2) Alice Kurtz 5) Diana Madden  
7) Ronnie Rice 10) Marge Gortsema

### **20-50 MP**

2) Diane Condon 4) Jean Ramsey 7) Sondra  
Welch 8) Sherry Evans 10) Marilyn Jones

### **50-100 MP**

1) Becky Rice 2) Ken Pyles 5) Carolyn Myatt  
6) Lee Kern 7) Carolyn Reed

### **100-200 MP**

1) Greg Bono 2) Marcy Jordan 3) Randy Lusk  
5) Nancy Luehring 6) Bob Prestridge 7) Bernie  
Payne 8) Bob Davis 9) Dick Condon

### **200-300 MP**

1) Velma Dewitt 2) Valerie Smeltzer 3) Don  
Smeltzer 4) Bob Engels 6) Dave Barrow  
7) Ann Hill 8) Glenda Barrow

### **300-500 MP**

2) Estelle White 3) Tom Martick 4) Rita Martick  
6) Fran Anderson 8) Bob Rogers 9) Jeanette  
Campbell 10) Bob Case [HS]

### **500-1,000 MP**

1) Doris Ham 3) Teri LaBove 4) Dolores Pilarski  
5) Jan Farnsworth 6) Astrid Wolf 7) Joan  
Burlingame 9) Cecil Grattafiori 10) Peg Birzer

### **1,000-2,500 MP**

1) Joe Fisher 2) Andy Cosby 4) Wen Wenger  
6) Ned Irving 7) Carolyn Chunn [HS] 8) Mickey  
Washington 9) John Hegner 10) Lou Agnew

### **2,500-5,000 MP**

1) Jack Leach 2) Louallen Leach 3) Betty Shultz  
4) Gina Doss 5) Frank Matthews 6) Billie  
Roberson 7) Virginia Matthews 8) Tony Hofstede  
9) Jean Pritchett

### **5,000-7,500 MP**

1) Ray Banks

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**WE WELCOME LIZ COONFER TO THE  
VILLAGE CARD CLUB BOARD OF  
DIRECTORS. LIZ WILL SERVE AS GAME  
MANAGER UNTIL THE NEXT ELECTION.**

**THANK YOU, LIZ.**

## VCC Board of Directors

President—Ned Irving  
Vice President--Dick Condon  
Treasurer--Allan Walker  
Secretary—Lois Schoenrock  
Game Manager—Liz Coonfer  
Purchasing Agent—Betty Schultz  
Membership Chairman--Teri LaBove  
Player Development Director—Vicki Jennings  
Publicity Director--Marilyn Biegler  
Parliamentarian--Mabel Serpa  
Club Manager--Richard Robertson

## VCC SCHEDULE OF GAMES

### Monday

9:00 AM -- 0-299 Stratified Pairs  
12:30 PM -- 0-20 Newcomer Pairs  
1:00 PM -- Open Stratified Pairs

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday

7 PM -- Non Life Master/Master Mixer Pairs

### Tuesday

9:00 AM -- Rubber Bridge  
12.30 PM -- Open Stratified Pairs  
7:00 PM -- 0-299 Stratified Pairs

### Wednesday

8:45 AM -- Men's Duplicate  
9:00 AM -- 0-299 Stratified Pairs  
1:00 PM -- 0-999 Stratified Pairs  
7:00 PM -- Handicapped Pairs  
7:00 PM -- Better Bridgers

### Thursday

8:45 AM -- 0-5 Bridge Plus  
12:30 PM -- 0-299 Stratified Pairs  
12:30 PM -- Open Stratified Pairs

### Friday

9:00 AM -- 0-99 Stratified Pairs  
10:30 AM -- Open Stratified Pairs

### Saturday

12:30 PM -- Open Stratified Pairs

### Sunday

1:00 PM --0-750 Stratified Pairs

Do you know the differences between stratified, flighted, stratiflighted, handicapped and bracketed games?

Stratified: Everyone plays together, but is scored in their strata. Examples: 199er game (0-99 and 100-199) or open game (0-500, 500-1000 and 1000+). The player with the most MPs will determine which strata the pair will score in. If you place in a higher strata, you will earn the MPs awarded in that strata.

Flighted: The event is broken down into two or three fields based on MPs. Each field competes as a separate event. The flight for which a pair is eligible is determined by the MP holding of the player with more MPs. Pairs may opt to play in a higher category but not in a lower one. Tables in any restricted sections count toward MP awards for any unrestricted section in play during that session.

Stratiflighted: Same as Flighted except the fields are stratified. Normally only two flights.

Handicapped: Everyone plays together and is scored together, but a handicap is awarded to make the event more evenly contested. The handicap is based on pre-determined numbers using the MP holdings of the higher of the two players.

Bracketed: Bracketed games are used in knockouts. The average MPs of all players on the team is used to determine which bracket it falls into. Each bracket comprises a separate event with its own MP awards. There is no interplay between brackets.

Marilyn Biegler, *Newsletter* Editor  
[biegler@cox.net](mailto:biegler@cox.net)