



## Indianapolis Bridge Center - February 2012

8030 Castleway Drive, Indianapolis, IN 46250 – (317) 845-5887

Congratulations to John Peer who is our Player of the Month. His party will be Wednesday, February 8, at the noon game. Also, congratulations to Dan Frank who is our Rookie of the Month. His party will be Wednesday, February 29, at the 7:00 NLM game. Please bring finger food to help them celebrate.

Two or three times a year we have a special game to honor those who have made Life Master or who have moved up a step to Bronze, Silver, Gold, or Diamond. It is during this game that we update the names on the boards in the front room. On Thursday, February 9, at the noon game we will honor the following:

**Life Master:** Mark Campbell, Patricia Logan, Patricia Rosiello, Joan Schaefer.

**Bronze Life Master:** Jerry Bergstein, Renee Bergstein, Peggy Collier, Carl Raymann.

**Silver Life Master:** Robert Bennett, Tom Bondus, Steve Davis, William Gheen, Claudia Kober, Eileen Kozey, Eileen Miller, Amy Richardson.

**Gold Life Master:** John Fosnaught, Robert Harding.

**Diamond Life Master:** Bob Lyon.

Finger food will be served. Please come and help them celebrate.

Cathy wanted to say a big THANKS to all her Bridge Center friends. She had some great parties and will miss all of us.

**Some Fun Facts:** Last year the Indianapolis Bridge Center had 868 different players who played a total of 28160 times (7040 tables). Rozanna Frankovitz played the most times (299). 70 people played 100 times or more. 6 people played more than 200 times.

We awarded 10,290.59 masterpoints. Bev Brown won the most (138.62). Three players won 100 or more, 41 won 50 or more.

We're having a Cherry Party on George Washington's Birthday, Wednesday, February 22, at the noon game. Cherry treats will be provided and anyone named George Washington will play FREE!!!

We will soon have a new director, Joyce Anderson. Welcome her and remember to be courteous to the directors. This is an act of love for the game that they direct, not for the big bucks.

The Bridge Center extends its condolences to Janet Meyer and her Bridge-playing family on the loss of Bob.

Condolences as well to Peggy Little and on the loss of her husband

Welcome back Gail Holman.

**Correction from last month:** John Fosnaught's "Not Your Father's Notrump" starts Wednesday, **Jan. 25** (4:00-6:00).

Remember: The computers and the copier are to be used by Bridge Center Staff only.

Also please don't remove or alter any of the party signs. These are a work of art by Anna Cagan and Wanda Cole and will be used again.

The Board of Directors has decided that children are not permitted at the Bridge Center unless they are playing, caddying, or taking a class

You can always find the latest newsletters and calendars on our web site at [www.indianapolisbridge.com](http://www.indianapolisbridge.com). Just click on the newsletter or calendar buttons on the left of the page. To receive the newsletter by email go to the website and click on the "Email List" button and follow the directions.

### IMPORTANT GAMES TO REMEMBER:

2/1-7:00 Club Championship

2/4-7:00 Singles Game, Social hour 6:00

2/8-12:00 John Peer POM

2/9-12:00 Life Master Update

2/9-6:00 Club Championship

2/11-1:00 (both games) Club Championship

2/13-2/19 Silver Week

2/17 7:45 Pitch-In at 7:00

2/18-7:00 Married Couples-Social hour 6:00

2/19-6:00 Club Championship

2/22-Noon President's Day, Cherry Treats provided

2/23-Noon Interclub Championship

2/27-6:00 Club Championship

2/28-2:00 Club Championship

2/29-7:00 Dan Frank ROM

## ALERT - Could be Short

(John Nichols)

There continue to be questions about the changes to "short club" openings. I'm going to try explaining this from a different direction.

If you open a natural 1 of a suit there are restrictions as to what artificial defenses your opponents may use. The most common of those that are allowed are takeout doubles, cue bids (such as Michaels), and the Unusual Notrump. Natural overcalls are of course always allowed. On the other hand if your opening is artificial then there are no restrictions on the defenses that your opponents can use. For example, some players use variations of the defenses that they use against 1 NT openings (Capelletti, DON'T, Suction, etc.) against artificial 1 Club openings.

For specifics as to what defenses are allowed against natural openings you can consult the "General Convention Chart" on the ACBL website at [www.acbl.org](http://www.acbl.org) or look for copies of it posted on our bulletin boards. Part of it is reproduced to the right. →

In the past, to be considered natural a 1 Club (or 1 Diamond) opening had to promise at least three cards in the suit. If it promised fewer than three cards and was non-forcing you were required to announce "Could be short" and the bid was considered artificial. If it was a forcing bid (*i.e.* a "strong club system" such as Precision) you would Alert it and it was also artificial.

Now if the only distribution in your non-forcing 1 Club agreement that contains only 2 clubs is 4=4=3=2 (specifically 4 spades, 4 hearts, 3 diamonds and 2 clubs) it is considered natural. You still must announce it as "could be short". If your agreement allows for opening 1 club on any "short" distribution other than 4=4=3=2 then it continues to be artificial and you announce "could be short". Forcing 1-club openings are also still artificial and must be alerted. All "could be short" 1 Diamond openings are artificial.

If your opponents announce their 1 club bid as "could be short" and you need to know if it is natural or artificial you must ask if the "short" distribution is limited to 4=4=3=2. To avoid giving your partner Unauthorized Information you should do this every time the bid is announced, not just when you might be interested in taking some action.

### From the ACBL General Convention Chart

#### COMPETITIVE

1. CONVENTIONAL BALANCING CALLS.
2. CONVENTIONAL DOUBLES AND REDOUBLES and responses (including free bids) thereto.
3. NOTRUMP OVERCALL for either
  - a) Two-suit takeout showing at least 5-4 distribution and at least one known suit (At the four level or higher there is no requirement to have a known suit.)
  - b) Three-suit takeout (at least three cards in each of the three suits.)
4. OVERCALLS
  - a) JUMP OVERCALLS INTO A SUIT to indicate at least 5-4 distribution in two known suits and responses thereto.
  - b) SIMPLE OVERCALLS INTO A SUIT to indicate a minimum of 10 HCP, at least 5-4 distribution in two known suits and responses thereto.
5. TRANSFER ADVANCES (responses to overcalls) where the call shows length or values in the suit of the transfer.
6. CUEBID of an opponent's suit and responses thereto, except that a cuebid that could be weak (fewer than 10 HCP) directly over an opening bid, must show at least one known suit.
7. DEFENSE TO:
  - a) Conventional calls (except see #10 RESPONSES and REBIDS above and #7 under DISALLOWED below),
  - b) Natural notrump opening bids and notrump overcalls, except that direct calls, other than double and two clubs must have at least one known suit.
  - c) Opening bids of two clubs or higher.
8. Numbers 4 through 10 under RESPONSES AND REBIDS above APPLY TO BOTH PAIRS.