



# SOUTH BEND BRIDGE CLUB

Volume 13, No. 8

Website: [www.sbbc.info](http://www.sbbc.info)

Phone: 574-255-6613

February 2023



Director Dawg wishes you a Happy Valentine's Day! On the first and third Tuesdays, February 7 and 21, we will be holding our monthly Swiss Team games both of which are Education Fund games. This is a wonderful way to earn special points. There are also six additional Education Fund games offered. Check your calendar which is mailed to you each month or the online schedule at [www.sbbc.info](http://www.sbbc.info). Keep you and yours safe. *Jo Ann Steigmeyer, Editor*



## Zero Tolerance

Since we have welcomed so many new faces at our open and Swiss games recently, we are printing the ACBL Zero Tolerance Policy. If you encounter any of these 11 behaviors at the club, please call the Director or ask to fill out a Zero Tolerance form.

1. Badgering, rudeness, intimidation, profanity, threats, or violence
2. Negative comments, criticism or verbal abuse directed at partner's or opponents' bidding or play
3. Disputing or arguing with a Director's ruling
4. Throwing cards, showing anger or displeasure at a bid or a play of the cards
5. Constant and gratuitous lessons and analyses at the table
6. Excessive gloating over good results
7. Objecting to a call for the Director
8. "Acting" as a Director by stating Bridge law to the opponents
9. Conduct/behavior which consistently delays the progress of the game
10. Poor personal hygiene, grooming, or dress
11. Any behavior or conduct which may interfere with another player's enjoyment of the game.

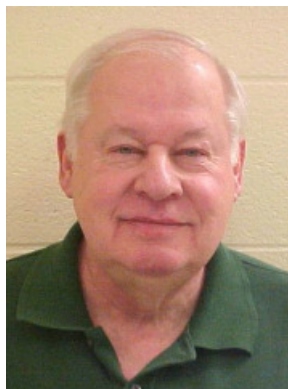
We hope you never experience any of these, but, if you do, call the Director immediately to handle the situation.

### Correction to an error in SBBC January issue:

The most masterpoints earned in 2022 were by:

- John Killeen
- Tricia Killeen
- Virginia Stipp

## Don Groch Silver Life Master



If you're looking for words of wisdom along with a bit of wit, look no further than Don Groch. Our softspoken SBBC member is not only an excellent bridge player, but he is also a director. We really appreciate his taking on that responsibility.

Don was born in Michigan City to Gabby and Celia (Schultz) Groch. Gabby was a tavern owner and Don considers that part of his education. He also went to Notre Dame, New Mexico and graduated from IU Bloomington. In 1962 he married Joanne Taylor and did military service in Heidelberg Germany. They really enjoyed it. After Military Service Don went to work as a computer software analyst for Honeywell and Clark Equipment. After that he formed a company with several partners called Intracomp. Don started playing lunch hour Bridge 40 years ago and changed to Duplicate 20 years ago. Don has two daughters (Amanda and Melissa) and about sixty aunts, uncles, cousins, in-laws, nieces and nephews.

**CONGRATULATIONS DON!**

## DOUBLE BOOKING

1. It happens! You book two partners for the same date by mistake and then they both show up. The thing to do is volunteer to return home and let the two play together if they would like.

2. It also happens that your partner does not show up to your designated game. So it is always wise to call, text or e-mail at least a day or so before to make sure that you have a game together on that date!

## DON'T MISS OUT!

Make sure you sign up for membership in the Club by the end of the month. Beginning on March 1, non-members will be charged an extra dollar to play. Paid up members will continue to enjoy the benefits of the club which include the newsletter, phone and e-mail lists, and calendars. Bring your checkbook and get the latest bargain. Only \$30 for the whole year.



## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Leslie Garvey,
- 12 Bob Knoblock
- 14 Maureen Skurski
- 14 Gerry Wardzinski
- 15 Carol Kraabel
- 16 Pam Johnson
- 22 Sara Marcus



## Top Games in January 2023

- Swiss: 1st Lee Boser, Reggie Lowenhar, Linda Podlin and Raji Sundararian  
1/3/23
- 2nd Cappy Gagnon, Pat Kovarik, Bruce Sokol and Mike Young
- Swiss: 1st Lena Howard, John & Tricia Killeen and Ren Singleton  
1/17/23
- 2nd Cappy Gagnon, Jeff & Trudy Gallagher and Pat Kovarik
- Open: 1/30 John & Tricia Killeen 70.49%  
1/30 Sharon Novotny & LaDora Sloan 69.05%

## Membership Update

A hearty welcome to the following New Members:

- Gene Bruce 574-220-8851
- Jane Bruce 574-220-8861
- Evelyn Gaba 574-360-1090
- Jeff Gallagher 712-470-4484
- Trudy Gallagher 712-470-5594
- Mary Matthews 574-274-6877
- Shari McCarthy 561-512-1939
- Renee Preniczny 612-741-5262
- Stanislaus Slevinski 716-361-7998
- Bob Werner 574-532-2257
- Kathy Werner 574-855-4746
- Tom Widman 574-855-4746
- Heather Yang 574-360-2111



**What a plus it is to have you with us!!**

*And a Big Thank You  
to all our returning members*

### Positive tolerance



Here are some examples of positive behavior that is encouraged and will contribute to the improved atmosphere at the club:

- \* Being a good "host" or "guest" at the table
- \* Greeting others in a friendly manner
- \* Praising the bidding and/or play of the opponents
- \* Having two identical completed convention cards on the table
- \* Doing everything possible to make bridge enjoyable for you, your partner and your opponents.

## The Sputnik Double (aka the Negative Double)

In 1958, Al Roth of the Roth-Stone system, faced a dilemma; every time he or his partner opened one of a minor, the opponents would overcall one spade with four, five, or six spades, and Roth and his partner could never show a hand with four or five hearts and fewer than ten points. Then he realized that penalty doubles at the one level were infrequent. He felt that, like the Russians, he could launch a satellite (the Sputnik) over the spade bid, in the form of a double that would show the hand with four or five hearts and limited to ten or fewer points. You know this bid as the negative double. This is the foundation of many low-level doubles today.



Basics of the Negative Double: Your partner Opens, RHO overcalls, Double is made by responder (you) showing as a general rule the unbid suits. 6+ HCP are needed at the one level, more at higher levels, emphasis is on the unbid major(s).

### Example:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 6 4<br>♠ A Q J 6<br>♠ 7 5 3<br>♣ J 10 4 3 | Partner opens 1♦. You are ready to respond 1♥, but your RHO overcalls 1♠<br><b>NOW WHAT?</b><br>1. Can you pass? Not very enterprising or competitive.<br>2. Can you bid 1NT? No, that would show a stopper in spades.<br>3. Can you bid 2♣? No, you need at least 10 HCP to bid a new suit at the two level<br>4. Can you bid 2♦? No, you should not support opener's minor with only three cards.<br>5. Can you bid 2♥? No, responder must satisfy the requirements of five and ten (Kresge bid) to introduce a major at the 2 level ( five card or longer suit and at least 10 HCP). |
|---|---|

**WHAT TO DO!!** The negative double can solve this problem and many more. To learn more, watch for the Education Updates (see below) featured in the monthly newsletters to see where and when this concept is being taught.

## Education Updates

The Monday morning (9:30) J & J class schedule for February is as follows:



**2/6 - Bidding Sequences**

**2/13 - Leads and Reading Cards**

**2/20 - Negative Doubles**

After each lesson, there will be hands to play. For more information, e-mail Jo Ann at joann1107@comcast.net or call Jo Ann at 574-243-1355. No partner necessary. Cost \$5



The Tuesday lessons will be over at the end of February and that group will merge with Come and Play on Thursday.

### Schedule of lessons for Tuesday:

2/07 & 2/14: Opening a strong hands. Parts 1 & 2  
2/21 & 2/28: Slam Bidding, Parts 1 & 2

**Come and Play Lessons will be on defense, bidding quizzes, and card combinations**

