



Marin Unit 508



# DOUBLE DUMMY

JANUARY-MARCH 2010

## MASTERPOINT LEVELS FOR UNIT 508 (AS OF 11/01/09)



*Elizabeth Hotchkin, Barbara Prior & Phyllis William on the Panama Canal cruise.*

Many members of our unit enjoyed a Panama Canal cruise this past Fall. The cruise through the Panama Canal is an all day affair of about 51 miles. The bridge room was perfect for Peggy's workshops and a lot of bridge games! We had stops in Cartegna, Columbia, Costa Rica, Hualtuco, Acapulco, Puerta Vallarta, and Cabo which kept us busy. The next bridge cruise will be the Hawaiian Islands in October 2010.

B. Prior

Grand Life Master (10,000 +)	2
Platinum Life Master(10,000)	0
Emerald Life Master(7500)	3
Diamond Life Master(5000)	1
Gold Life Master(2500)	16
Bronze Life Master(500)	69
Life Master(300)	32
NABC Master((200)	32
Regional Master(100)	61
Sectional Master(50)	86
Club Master(20)	64
Junior Master(5)	88
Rookie(0-5)	80

Total Membership: 592

## UPCOMING EVENTS

January 4-10, Monterey Clambake Regional

January 16-17, San Francisco Winter Sectional, Janet Pomeroy Center

January 23-24, Livermore Valley Sectional, Pleasanton

February 9-15, SF President's Day Regional, Airport Marriott Hotel, Burlingame

February 21, Unit 508 Vicki Lerner Lecture: "Slam Bidding"

March 6-7, B-E-R (Almost) Spring Sectional, El Cerrito

March 11-21, Spring NABC, Reno NV



# CONDUCT AND ETIQUETTE

*By Bob Liss*

I have been playing and enjoying duplicate bridge for about 25 years. Nothing has bothered me more than the behavior of a few players. I have often written about Zero Tolerance but I am disappointed that some of our club owners and directors do not enforce Zero Tolerance. The cry from our membership is why we play with the few unpleasant players. In the past, I have requested that our Unit Board of Directors form a committee to meet with our club owners and directors to discuss this subject. I am sorry to report that I am unaware of any such meeting taking place. I hope our new Board of Directors under the leadership of President Gene Simpson will take on this project.

Shown below are items that all of us should be aware of regarding Law 74, Conduct and Etiquette:

## A. Proper Attitude

### 1. Courtesy

A player should maintain a courteous attitude at all times.

### 2. Etiquette of Word and Action

A player should carefully avoid any remark or action that might cause annoyance or embarrassment to another player or might interfere with their enjoyment of the game.

### 3. Conformity to Correct Procedure

Every player should follow uniform and correct procedure in calling and playing.

## B. Etiquette

As a matter of courtesy a player should refrain from:

1. Paying insufficient attention to the game.
2. Making gratuitous comments during the auction and play.
3. Detaching a card before it is his turn to play.
4. Prolonging play unnecessarily (as in playing on although he knows that all the tricks are surely his) for the purpose of disconcerting an opponent.
5. Summoning and addressing the Director in a manner discourteous to him or to other contestants.

## C. Violations of Procedure

The following are considered violations of procedure:

1. Using different designations for the same call.
2. Indicating approval or disapproval of a call or play.
3. Indicating the expectation or intention of winning or losing a trick that has not been completed.
4. Commenting or acting during the auction or play so as to call attention to a significant occurrence, or to the number of tricks still required for success.

## CONDUCT AND ETIQUETTE (CONT'D)

5. Looking intently at any other player during the auction and play, or at another player's hand as for the purpose of seeing his cards or of observing the place from which he draws a card (but it is appropriate to act on information acquired by inadvertently seeing an opponent's card).
6. Showing an obvious lack of further interest in a deal (as by folding ones cards).
7. Varying the normal tempo of bidding or play for the purpose of disconcerting an opponent.
8. Leaving the table needlessly before the round is called.

I thought that you might also be interested in reading LAW 90, Procedural Penalties.

### A. Director's Authority

The Director, in addition to enforcing the penalty provisions of the these Laws, may also assess penalties for any offense that unduly delays or obstructs the game, inconveniences other contestants, violates correct procedure, or requires the award of an adjusted score at another table.

### B. Offenses Subject to Penalty

Offenses subject to penalty include but are not limited to:

1. Tardiness  
Arrival of a contestant after the specified starting time
2. Slow play  
Unduly slow play by a contestant.
3. Loud Discussion  
Discussions of the bidding, the play or the result of a board, which may be overheard at another table
4. Comparing Scores  
Unauthorized comparison of scores with another contestant
5. Touching Another's Cards  
Touching or handling of cards belonging to another played
6. Misplacing Cards in Board  
Placing one or more cards in an incorrect pocket of the board
7. Errors in Procedure  
Errors in procedure (such as failing to count cards in one's hand, playing the wrong board, etc.) that require an adjusted score for any contestant
8. Failure to Comply  
Failure to comply with tournament regulations or with any instruction of the Director

### PENALIZE OR SUSPEND

#### A. Director's Power

In performing his duty to maintain order and discipline, the Director is specifically empowered to assess disciplinary penalties in points or to suspend a contestant for the current session or any part thereof (the Director's decision under the clause if final)

#### B. Right to Disqualify

The Director is specifically empowered to disqualify a contestant for cause.

## Reading Suggestion for Bridge Players

“The Devil’s Tickets, a Fatal Hand and a New American Age” by Gary M. Pomerantz, Crown,, 2009, 26.00

Contract bridge was a new sensation in the roaring twenties in America and elsewhere.

It was popularized by a larger than life couple, Ely Culbertson and his wife Vera. Bridge gained notoriety with an actual murder at the bridge table of a wife shooting her husband for misplaying a cold 4 spade contract.

“The devil’s tickets” are what playing cards was termed over seventy years ago, by certain disapproving people. Bridge became a battlefield of the sexes, a place for women to assert their intelligence in a level playing field. Before the era of television and computers, it was an important social ritual as well. And what couples who play together have not contemplated the actions of Myrtle Bennett? This book is an entertaining read combining social history and a murder trial with a surprise ending.

## Members on the Move

**NEW MEMBERS:** Barton Council, Stephanie Council, Dr. Doris Jansen, Dr. Paul Sather

**NEW JUNIOR MASTERS:** James Hanavan, Julie Kleinbauer, Roberta Lasota, Barbara Lockhart

**NEW CLUB MASTERS:** Dr. Charles Molosky, Everett Near

**NEW SECTIONAL MASTERS:** Terry Hope, Noryne Turner

**NEW REGIONAL MASTERS:** Susan Angel, Marla Kravat, Phyllis Kreider, Carol Painter, Carmella Sogge

**NEW NABC MASTER:** Vicki Quinn

**TRANSFERS INTO OUR UNIT:** Dr. Allen Beallo, Alan Comer, Gene Pudberry, Beverly Russell

## Reporting Disciplinary Violations

by Jim Cohen

If you feel there has been a violation of ACBL’s Code of Disciplinary Regulations, <http://www.acbl.org/play/disciplinarycode.html> submit a written memo to the appropriate Recorder or Director listing the time and place of the alleged infraction, what happened, and any witnesses. If the problem occurred at a tournament, start with the Director in Charge. If the problem occurred within the unit, contact the current Unit Recorder, Jim Cohen, [james\\_cohen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:james_cohen@sbcglobal.net), of FAX to 415/479-8444. If the problem occurred at a regional event, contact the current District 21 Recorder, Sid Lorvan, [slorvan@california.com](mailto:slorvan@california.com), 650/359-4427.

The Recorder will consider the misbehavior alleged and, if appropriate, will interview the people involved and any witnesses. After that there are several options available depending on the seriousness of the behavior alleged. The Recorder may: 1) decide that the matter does not warrant further attention; 2) maintain a record of the incident against future alleged infractions and counsel the subject about appropriate behavior; or 3) recommend that the matter receive formal attention by the discipline committee -- which could lead to suspension from play for a period of time or even, ultimately, expulsion from all ACBL events. All actions of the disciplinary committee are filed with ACBL in Memphis, remain a permanent record, and the disciplinary actions taken are more serious for repeat offenders.

As the Hat Lady says, “y’all play nice now.”

*(Editor’s note: Who is the Hat Lady???)*

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