



# JANUARY 2017 NEWSLETTER



## ANNUAL ELECTION

The new year brings us our annual election. We will be electing two new Board members and voting on a proposed amendment to our By-Laws. Ballots, and voting instructions, will be available at the Club by the second Monday of January and the voting period will end at the conclusion of the Annual Membership Meeting on January 25, 2017. To be eligible to vote you must pay your 2017 dues prior to the Annual Membership Meeting.

We have four nominees for the two Board of Director positions. They are, in alphabetic order, Marc Carney, Cathie Lindler, Phyllis Pellarin and John Pickett. You will be asked to vote for two of them but multiple votes for one are not allowed.

The proposed By-Law amendment is to make a slight change to our duplicate game structure. We propose that the first Wednesday of each month be for duplicate Parcheesi and the third Friday for duplicate Chutes and Ladders ..... No No No ..... just kidding .....

OK, back to serious. The actual proposed amendment is to increase the size of the Board to eight members, with the new position filled by the previous Club Manager. The purpose is to insure that the Club does not lose the wealth of knowledge only the previous Manager possesses. Since my name is not Vlad and I don't do election tampering (or windows) I **will not** tell you that, although they are, your Board is highly supportive of this amendment and recommends a vote in favor.

## NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

As required by our By-Laws, we will hold our annual meeting on Wednesday, January 25<sup>th</sup>. The meeting will consist of a summary of our financial condition by our Treasurer, Mike, followed by some noise from the Club Manager, concluding with a period for member comments.

There is also a Board Meeting on Wednesday, January 11<sup>th</sup> at 11:30.

## ANOTHER NOTICE

The Life Master Party is absolutely, positively, and finally scheduled for Wednesday, January 18<sup>th</sup>. If you don't know who the honorees are, you are probably living under a rock, but please see the last six or seven newsletters.

## JANUARY SCHEDULE

January is Junior Fund Month. All games will award additional masterpoints, just like charity games, with the extra fees going to the ACBL Junior Fund. The supposed purpose of the Junior Fund is to attract younger players to our game. I will let it go at that, the party line.

The team game on January 13<sup>th</sup> (oh oh, be careful) will be under the "Perfect Ten" format. An updated list of who is in what category is on the bulletin board, but it looks suspiciously like the previous list.

### Game Schedule - January 2017

Monday 1:30pm	Wednesday 1:30pm	Friday 1:30pm
2-Jan Open Pairs#	4-Jan Open Pairs#	6-Jan Open Pairs#
9-Jan Open Pairs#	11-Jan Open Pairs#	13-Jan Teams -- Perfect 10#
16-Jan Open Pairs#	18-Jan Open Pairs#	20-Jan Open Pairs#
23-Jan Open Pairs#	25-Jan Open Pairs#	27-Jan Open Pairs#
30-Jan Open Pairs#		
# = All January Games are Junior Fund		

## THE PRO – AM FIX IS NOT IN

While it saddens me that some of you think I manipulate the Pro – Am pairings to someone's (whose is not at all clear to me) advantage, I will play along and explain the procedure yet once again.

After sign-up is complete, two vectors are created, with the top half of masterpoint holders assigned to one vector and the remainder to the other. Symbols are then assigned to the two vectors using a six level randomness algorithm. Next, the two vectors are merged and sorted to create the pairing vector. Then I review. If any regular established partnerships have been created, that is the only reason for intervention. In the November Pro – Am there was one, Doug and Don, who I switched with the second most established, Sara and Mike. So, that's the end of it, right?

Well, no. We now wait until the morning of the game for cancellations (three in November). This is followed by the game time no-shows (only one this time). So, this puts us in "do the best you can" mode, and that's what we do. This time karma was with us since we had Jay Rogaski volunteer to fill in if we had an odd number of no shows, and she and Becky Scoggin won the event.

Putting it another way, this methodology replicates putting Pro names in one hat and Am's in another and drawing them out of the hats, except it eliminates the proximity and gravitational bias inherent in that method.

If you have a better way, I am all ears.

$$EV(TT) = T + (P - 20)/3$$

## HOLIDAY WRAP

As almost all of you know, we tried something a little different this year for our Holiday Party, and I was very gratified with the results. The Woodside Plantation Country Club was decorated in a very festive manner, and so were we. Pretty sure I have never seen so many shades of red and green in one place at one time ever before. Many thanks to Diane Davies and Bonnie Fabian for arranging and coordinating this event for us.

Our bidding boxes, cards, computer equipment, printer, bridgemates (thanks to Jay Rogaski for bringing hers), convention cards, etc. magically appeared at Woodside on Wednesday morning after having been at Croft House for Monday's game and reappeared at Croft House for Friday's game. I have no idea how this happened but could be Alan, Jay J, Mike and Pat B were somehow involved.

We had 82 players for bridge in the afternoon and closer to 90 for dinner afterwards. It was great to meet the spouses of many of our members.

So, it being a bridge event, we need to know the winners. They were ..... everyone who came.

To wrap up the season, let me wish each of you a very Happy New Year. See ya next year!

## WHO DAT – CIRCA 1998

