

LAGUNA WOODS BRIDGE CLUB



TABLE TALK



OCTOBER 2026
ISSUE 14

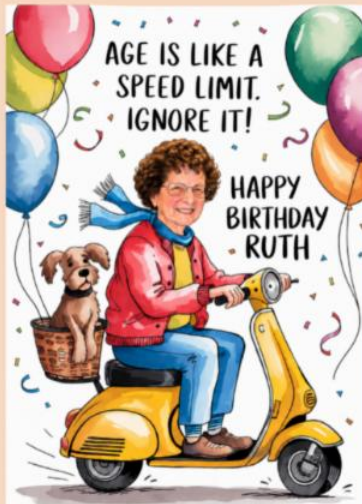
THE MONTH AHEAD

There are 10 days this month with

Special Games

- There are 7 Club Appreciation games
- There are 2 Club Championship games
- There is an Instant Matchpoint game

See the Schedule on the following page



Ruth Salzberg
celebrates her
100th Birthday,
October 29th 2026!

Join us at the club
on that date for cake
and a chance to
offer her warm
birthday wishes

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Just for Laughs

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Upcoming Education

**Bill Shane teaches
"Hand Evaluation"**

Tuesdays - October 13th and 20th

Board Elections

Do you want to contribute your expertise to the Club? Do you want to have a say in how the Club operates? See page 4 to learn about this year's Board elections, coming in November, and download a Candidate form on page 5 or pick one up at the Club.

This Month's Special Games

CLUB APPRECIATION GAMES – EXTRA POINTS, NO EXTRA FEE

Thursday 10/1.....Wednesday 10/7 Tuesday 10/13
Friday 10/23.....Monday 10/26.....Thursday 10/29
Saturday 10/31

SATURDAY OCTOBER 10TH

Club Championship game

FRIDAY OCTOBER 16TH

Club Championship game

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 21TH

Instant Matchpoint game- extra fee, extra points

A **Club Appreciation game** is an event that awards 100% Sectional-rated black points, which are higher value than local Club points, with no extra fee.

A **Club Championship game** is a special, sanctioned duplicate bridge event held at the local club level that awards significantly higher masterpoints

An **Instant Matchpoint game** is where matchpoint scores for every contract result are pre-determined based on previous play, letting players know their score immediately, and Gold and Red points are awarded in addition to Black points.

Congratulations are in order for:



70% Games

Ben Holtman - Don Joynt - 78%

SEPTEMBER RANK ACHIEVEMENTS

NABC Master

Pat Donahue

Regional Master

Cherie Joel

Nancy Lynd

Adil Mujtaba

Sectional Master

Dave Hoskins

Club Master

Paul Wener

Junior Master

Diane Theron

John Theron

Stephanie Walsh

Just for Laughs



Duplicate bridge is a game where four people sit down with exactly the same cards everyone else will play.....and spend the next three hours proving **their** result was unique,

.....

Our bidding system is based on complete trust. I trust my partner has a reason for every bid. She trusts I'll never figure out what it is.

.....

The perfect bridge partnership is where each player is convinced the other one is the lucky one.

ATTENTION - Laguna Woods Bridge Club Members

Bridge Club Board of Directors Election for 2027/2028

Each year, terms expire for five members of our Board of Directors. An Election Panel is assigned to ensure that those positions are filled to help our club continue to be a vibrant ACBL bridge club for Village residents and their guests. This year's panel needs your help to elect five members to serve on the Board of Directors for a 2 year term beginning 2027.

The Election will be held Thursday, November 19, 2026, but early voting is available as early as **Thursday, November 12th**.

First we need candidates! A candidate must be a Laguna Woods resident and play bridge at our club. We very much appreciate the service of Current Board Members whose terms are expiring - Gary Fredericks, Bud Wilson, Ben Holtman, Linda Bourassa, and Bob Kulpa - and invite them to become candidates for another term of service.

Although the Election Panel will not be endorsing any candidate, it is responsible for soliciting candidates, publicizing a short bio for each candidate, and ensuring that the election process is fair and efficient.

Self-nomination is encouraged. We ask all candidates to complete the Candidate Information Form attached here and available in the Bridge Room at the front table. Please place your completed form in the "Election Panel" mail slot in the bridge room office. **Deadline for receipt is Saturday, October 31 2026.**

If you have questions, contact Election Panel Chairperson Cathy Cram at cathycram1@gmail.com or text her at 949-855-8441. You may also contact the other Election Committee members: Laura Turknett, Shirley Miller, Don Reynolds or Gene Watkins.

Note: If you are not a resident of Laguna Woods Village, you are not eligible to vote in the election.

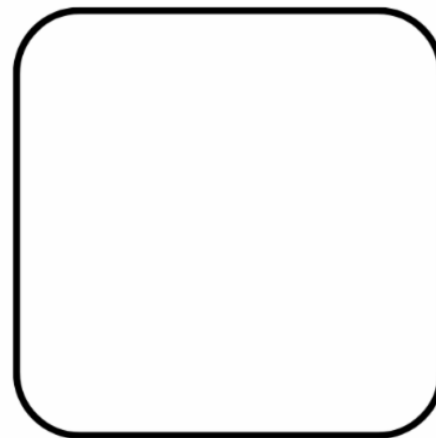
LWBC Board of Directors Candidate Information

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____

Email Address: _____



Attach or send an electronic photo with your application, or contact Cathy Cram at 949-855-8441

Why would you like to be on the Board of Directors?

Tell us about your bridge experience. This might include mentoring, teaching, and directing, for more advanced members, but we also need the perspective of less experienced players as well.

Explain your background as it relates to the Bridge Club Board (i.e., planning, finance, management, media, volunteering, service on other boards, and special skills such as computer, photography, event planning, or other).

Do you have an interest in a specific function of the Club, such as education, events, hospitality, or technical areas?

Place your completed form in the “Election Panel” mail slot in the bridge room office

Bridge Notes from the Random Fact-ory



Strategic Guidelines for Declarer Play

- **Missing 4 Cards (9-card fit):** Because the 2-2 split happens about 41% of the time, but dropping a singleton honor in a 3-1 split adds another 12%, the classic bridge adage "**Eight ever, nine never**" applies. You should usually play for the high card (like the Queen) to drop rather than taking a finesse.
- **Missing 5 Cards (8-card fit):** The 3-2 break is heavily favored at nearly **68%**. If you have to choose between a 3-2 break or a standard 50% finesse to make your contract, always play for the break. The exception would be if you need an honor to drop - if so, then take the finesse (50% chance) vs. the drop (28%).
- **Missing 6 Cards (7-card fit):** A 3-3 break only happens roughly **36%** of the time. If you need three extra tricks from this suit, taking a finesse is mathematically superior to just banging down your top honors and hoping for a flat break.

Little-known rule: ACBL rules state that after a skip in the bidding (like opening 2 spades, or using a jump bid (1 diamond....2 hearts, etc.), the left-hand opponent (next to bid) is required to sit there and do nothing for 10 seconds and give the appearance of studying their hand before bidding!

Uh-oh: In 2015, the world's number one player suspected his competition was colluding. He launched a website to crowdsource an investigation by the global bridge community.

Thousands of players analyzed hours of recorded footage and broke the code. The pair was communicating by how they placed the board on the table. If the board was placed perfectly straight, it meant one thing; slightly tilted to the left or right signaled specific card strengths or suit distributions.