



# THE BRIDGE TEACHER

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## Introducing ... the new Education Program Manager



Hello, my name is Bryan Delfs. I am thrilled to be part of the HACBL team and to work with people every day who are dedicated to sharing the game of bridge. This truly is a dream job opportunity, and I am excited about our future.

While I have talked to some of our teachers, there are many out there that I have not yet had the opportunity to speak with. I look forward to hearing your success stories and am here to help however I can.

One thing you will see consistently from me is my ability to have fun. I could tell you, in paragraph form, about myself. That would be boring. Instead, I've created a collage below of most of my favorite things. Feel free to ask me about any of them, and share some of your own interests with me the next time we meet or chat.

Sincerely,

*Bryan Delfs*



## For your information...

**King/Queen of Bridge:** Murphy Green, of Alpharetta, GA is the 2012 King of Bridge. Look for an article about him in your October Bulletin.

**Free-Play for Youth NABC:** During the Philadelphia NABC, the Junior Committee, a subcommittee of the Board of Directors, determined that a previous approved measure offering free plays for players 19 and younger also included the Youth NABC. Therefore, the Youth NABC in Philadelphia was free, and future Youth NABCs will be free as well.



## San Francisco TAP



The next NABC TAP is in San Francisco. The ACBL website has been updated and registration is now open!

[www.acbl.org/TAP](http://www.acbl.org/TAP)

Please inform and encourage your local teachers to attend this seminar, which can give them better insights to teaching the game of bridge and the wide variety of materials available.

Free to all Accredited Teachers to help with ongoing education. You never know what new tips or tricks you will discover from the teacher or the group, as you stay up to date on the latest materials.

Free to players 25 and younger. High school and college students who run a class that meets the ACBL School Bridge Program requirements qualify for a \$500 scholarship in addition to the teacher stipend. Please share this information with any of your local high school and college students, who might not even know the program is available.

**Clip Art Now Available**

**Good news!** After receiving requests from Clubs, Teachers and Members, the ACBL is now providing free clip art which can be used on flyers, brochures and other marketing documents.

The clip art is available in various formats on the ACBL website at [www.acbl.org/clipart](http://www.acbl.org/clipart).

This is part of a project to build an entire ACBL clip art library. You will find cards, shapes, backgrounds and more. Some examples are shown here.



# Business of Bridge — Right in Your Own Backyard

By Lynn Berg

If we teach bridge, we're always looking for hands: to illustrate teaching points, for practice. It's hard to find good hands; this difficulty is one of the big reasons we purchase teaching materials instead of making our own. The author has already gone through the exacting process of finding and testing hands. But if you want to teach a limited workshop or even just need a 15 minute "tip," you're on your own. You probably have great hands in your collection already, and now you need to mine this rich deposit.

Let's say you've developed a hand for the auction 1NT—3NT. N has a balanced hand with 17 HCP. South with 11 and no four card major jumps to 3NT. How can you use this hand in other ways?

	♠ A K J 8	
	♥ Q 6 4	
	♦ A J 10 7	
	♣ Q 2	
♠ Q 10 9 7		♠ 3 2
♥ J 10 2		♥ K 9 7 5 3
♦ 9 8 5		♦ Q
♣ K 10 3		♣ J 9 8 6 4
	♠ 9 5 4	
	♥ A 8	
	♦ K 6 4 3 2	
	♣ A 7 5	

- **For absolute beginners**, have them sort their cards and put only honor cards out, dummy style around the table. Count the high card points and reinforce the 4-3-2-1 point count. Then, one hand at a time, starting with East, have them put out all 13 cards and add the idea of length points.
- **Introducing hand valuation**, stress the idea of distinguishing between balanced and un-balanced hands. Ignoring the North hand, ask what the response would be if partner had opened 1C, 1D, 1H, 1S, 1NT. Demonstrate how the playing value varies depending on the strain named by partner.
- **Mainly teaching to duplicate players?** Discuss the idea of preferring NT with the South hand. Remind them of the 20, 30, 40 points trick values. Why doesn't South want to tell partner about her diamonds if he opens 1NT—or even if he opens 1C?
- **Trade North's ♣Q and South's ♣5.** Why would North still open 1NT? Lead them toward the idea that a balanced 15-17 is best described with a 1NT opener, even without all the suits stopped.

- **Swap the South and East hands.** What valuation should be placed on a 5-5 hand? Even with only six HCP, the hand has great potential. Should South transfer and then pass[Yes!]? Make South's hand just a little stronger—give her KJ of Clubs instead of only the Jack, and South would need to remember "5-5 come alive!"
- **Swap the South and West hands.** Now responder to the 1NT opener has a four card major but only six HCP. Why shouldn't she use Stayman? At what point is balanced hand so weak it should try to get out of NT? And what must the hand look like for it to be safe to run[♠10975 ♥J102 ♦98542 ♣3 would be a good example of "Garbage Stayman"]?
- **Now restore the ♠954 ♥A8 ♦K6432 ♣AQ5 hand to South** and make her the dealer. South would open 1D. What would North's response be [1S]? What is North's responsibility when he knows that his partner has an opening hand? Discuss why South rebids 1NT and not 2D. Will the rebid help North know what to do now? Stress that calling North the Advancer rather than the Responder helps clarify who is in charge in the auction.
- **Look at each hand for potential opening leads.** Assuming that the auction has been 1D—1S; 1NT—3NT, what would West lead? This would be a good time to introduce the grid on the back of the convention card as well as the term "interior sequence."
- **Swap the East and West hands.** What does East lead? Do they know the Rule of Eleven?
- **Declarer at 3NT is running the Diamonds.** What does East discard? West? Disabuse them of the idea that first discard, no matter if it is the deuce, is the desired return.
- **Discuss the idea of having a plan**—using whatever acronym you find easy to remember. I like the PLAN from the basic bidding series. Remind them that in NT we count winners and look for more.

This is only one hand. I've gotten a lot of mileage from it. I could take any one of these points and turn it into a 10-15 minute bridge tip. I'd make copies of the hand on decent paper so the group could make notes. I could keep using this one hand for a month or more. It could even be the focus of a NT workshop of 2-3 hours. In my local club, we use hand records for all pair games, so I have 36 new hands to consider every day. I call them a rich lode of material for my classes.



## Seminars and Meetings at the San Francisco Fall NABC

*There are more than games at the NABCs. Members have an opportunity to take advantage of numerous educational and social activities. Here is a listing of seminars offered at the Marriott Marquis Hotel. For more information, contact [education@acbl.org](mailto:education@acbl.org).*

### Free Lessons & Play (Bridge+)

**November 24 – November 26**

The Free Lessons and Bridge+ is specially designed for players looking to learn more about the game of bridge in a relaxed atmosphere.

**Fee:** **FREE**; Registration On-Site Only

**Date:** Saturday, November 24, Sunday, November 25 and Monday, November 26

**Time:** Lesson: 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.;  
Play: Noon – 2 p.m.

### Club Directors Course

**November 19, 20, 21**

Comprehensive course that prepares candidates for directing club and bridge cruise games. Anyone interested in becoming a club director or a director aboard a cruise ship is invited to participate. Study materials may be purchased through Baron Barclay Bridge Supply [www.baronbarclay.com](http://www.baronbarclay.com).

You can pre-register online by Nov. 12 at [www.acbl.org/CDC](http://www.acbl.org/CDC).

Contact Joyce Stone at 662-253-3138, or send an e-mail to [directorcourses@acbl.org](mailto:directorcourses@acbl.org).

**Fee:** **\$50**

**Date:** Monday-Wednesday, November 19, 20 and 21st

**Time:** 1-10 p.m. Monday with dinner break  
9 a.m.-10 p.m. Tuesday with lunch and dinner breaks  
9 a.m.-noon Wednesday followed by lunch break and testing

### Reception for Club Officials and Teachers

**Friday, November 23**

This is the ACBL's "thank you" reception for the club officials and teachers who recruit and retain our members. All club managers, teachers and club directors are encouraged to attend.

**Fee:** **Free of charge.**

**Date:** Friday, November 23

**Time:** 4:30 pm – 6:00 pm

### The TAP – Teacher Accreditation Program (TAP)

**November 24-26**

Introduction to the ACBL Bridge Series material and other popular teaching products. Learn modern teaching techniques from one of the ACBL's premier teachers in this 10-hour interactive learning course which includes three hours of hands-on experience. Learn the business side of teaching bridge and be introduced to 64 weeks of class material and more! There are even techniques to move your students into duplicate faster. Leave with the tools needed to develop a successful teaching career.

*(Continued on page 6)*

## Seminars and Meetings ... The TAP — Teacher Accreditation Program (TAP) — *(Continued from page 5)*

Players age 25 and under are eligible to participate in these seminars for free. Classes can be taught in colleges, high schools, middle schools, elementary schools, churches, community centers or anywhere that space is available. Younger players will be more encouraged to participate when they see a peer is teaching the class, so if you are age 25 or under, or know someone who is that would be great at teaching the game, we encourage you to reach out to us to attend this seminar.

Use the link at [www.acbl.org/TAP](http://www.acbl.org/TAP) to pre-register. Contact [education@acbl.org](mailto:education@acbl.org) for more information.

**Fee:** Age 26 and Over: **\$125** *(Previously ACBL Accredited Teachers can take the course for no fee.)*  
Age 25 and Under: **FREE**

**Date:** November 24-26.

**Time:** 9:00 a.m. to noon

### Club Manager and Teacher Q & A

**Saturday, November 24**

Come by for coffee and meet with members of the ACBL staff. This interactive information session will be hosted by Carol Robertson, Director of Club and Member Services and Bryan Delfs, Education Program Manager. We will be there to answer your questions and share thoughts about club games, marketing tools and programs. Special guest, Nicholas Hammond, will be available to answer questions about the new ACBLscore+ that is in development. So bring your best ideas and hear from others about growing the game of bridge.

**Fee:** **FREE** of charge.

**Date:** Saturday, November 24

**Time:** 10:00 am – 11:00 am

### Board of Governors Meeting

**Sunday, November 25**

All members of the ACBL Board of Governors are invited to attend the Fall NABC meeting. Discussion will include recent actions of the Board of Directors, reports from the CEO and treasurer and new proposals from the Board of Governors.

**Fee:** **FREE** of charge.

**Date:** Sunday, November 25

**Time:** 9:00 am

### Club Director Refresher Course

**Monday and Tuesday, November 26 and 27**

Continuing education for bridge directors to increase their skills.  
Must attend both sessions (Monday and Tuesday).

**Fee:** **\$15** covers both sessions. Sign up at door.

**Date:** Monday and Tuesday, November 26 and 27

**Time:** 9:00 am - noon, both days

### Celebrity Speakers

**Daily**

Daily presentations (except the final Sunday) by some of the best-known players and teachers at 12:15 pm and 6:45 pm. **FREE** of charge. See [Celebrity Speaker site](#) for details.