



The Tri-City Signal

August Unit 442 Newsletter

NEXT UNIT GAME
Thursday, August 5

5:30 p.m.
Richland Community Center

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

8/02 Normand Dominique
 8/03 Kay Teal
 8/11 Sherrye Lysiak
 8/17 Tom Quayle
 8/27 Ed Strieper



GAMES SCHEDULE

TUESDAY

Bridge Buddies
 Richland Community Center, 12:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

WallaWalla/Tri-Cities/Yakima/Wenatchee
 BRIDGE BASE ONLINE (BBO), 12:30 p.m.

August 5: FIRST THURSDAY

Monthly Unit Championship Game
 Richland Community Center, 5:30 p.m.

FRIDAY

WallaWalla/Tri-Cities/Yakima/Wenatchee
 BBO, 6:30 p.m.

SATURDAY

WallaWalla/Tri-Cities/Yakima/Wenatchee
 BBO, 3:30 p.m.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dudley sent us news on his August Unit Games and the October Sunnyland Sectional; be sure to get the dates on your calendar. It is always fun to head up the valley and see our friends there.

However, with the resurgence of the COVID pandemic, ACBL has just cancelled all August sectionals and regionals. September is questionable, and there are no predictions for October. So, you can make plans for the Sunnyland Sectional, but be prepared for a cancellation. Unfortunately, that is one thing we are now accustomed to happening!

Due to the Richland Community Center reopening for card games this month, we are leaving All Saints Episcopal Church as a playing venue. We are extremely grateful for their community support. Because that is part of their mission, we were able to resume our face-to-face games there in June.

Marilyn Hesser

CONGRATULATIONS

Silver Life Master
 (1000+ MPs)

KAREN DEMERITT



Sunnyland 2021 Sectional

October 21 - 23, 2021

At the Sunnyside Bridge Club in the Mini Mall, 214 S. 6th St., Sunnyside, WA

Thursday & Friday: 10:30 a.m. & 3:30 p.m. Stratified Pairs – Single Sessions

Saturday: 10:00 a.m. & TBA. Stratified Swiss Team – Victory Pts, 20 Pt scale

Strata based on average pair or team MP

A = > 1500 MP, B = 500 MP to < 1500, C = <500 MP

Tournament Chair & Partnerships

Dudley Brown (509) 882-2728

Or Cell during tournament (509) 439-7252

dudley6855@gmail.com

Free coffee, juice & snacks daily & continental breakfast Saturday

Paid ACBL members \$10 per session for pairs & \$104 per team (includes lunch). Unpaid or lapsed members pay surcharge.

Director: Matt Koltnow

Non-smoking – Sanction 2110375

Note: Current ACBL Covid 19 restrictions observed, which means proof of vaccination, but masks not required

Sunnyside August Unit Games

Potluck and pair game starting at 12:30 p.m., August 14th, at Dudley's home (66 11 W 5th St, Grandview)

Barbecue and team game starting at 12:30 p.m., August 15th, at Dudley's home

OPENING A HAND

When is a hand worth opening?

You're probably familiar with Marty Bergen's **Rule of 20**. Add the lengths of your longest and second-longest suits to your hand's high card points, and if the total is 20 or more, open the hand. This rule applies to first and second seats only (opening bids are often more relaxed in third and fourth seats.)

Most bridge experts believe that the Rule of 20 is a good starting point, but that there are many other factors that need to be taken into consideration. To keep things simple, you might try the following approach:

1. Does my hand meet the rule of 20?
2. Do I have two quick tricks?
3. Are my points working?

If the answer to these three questions is yes, open the hand.

Quick Trick

Here is how to calculate the number of quick tricks (QT) in your hand.

- AK in the same suit: two QTs
- AQ in the same suit: 1-1/2 QTs
- A: 1 QT
- KQ in the same suit: 1 QT
- Kx: 1/2 QT

Working Points

Basically, this means that your points are concentrated in your long suits. **Note:** Do not count singleton honors, other than Aces, as working points.

A Word to the Wise...

Keeping these principles in mind will help you when you open with fewer than the usual 13 points, and your partner insists on a notrump contract. There's nothing worse than opening a lousy 11-point hand that happens to meet the rule of 20 but not the other requirements, winding up in 3NT, and going down like a lead balloon. The fact that your points are working, and that your hand has at least two quick tricks, will help tip the scales in your favor.