



The Tri-City Signal

June 2022

Unit 442 Newsletter

Next Unit Game

Thursday, June 2

5:30 p.m.

Richland Community Center



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Unit is saddened to hear of the passing of two of its members, Audrey Pfluger and Gene Jensen. Many remember Audrey as the frequent winner of our Iron Man/Lady award, for the member playing in the most games during the year. Gene Jensen played at Bridge Buddies with his wife, Gerry. We encourage memorial contributions to the Unit's Cay Lewis Memorial Scholarship Fund. Please make checks payable to ACBL Unit 442 and give them to Jane Hunt (263 Rockwood Dr., Richland WA 99352).

Many Unit members have played in three weekly Bridgebase Online games the last couple of years. We express our gratitude to Clare Valente from Walla Walla, Susie Ball from Yakima, and our Marilyn Steele for the substantial effort of organizing and directing those games.

For those still interested in online play, Mercer Island has a nice BBO game at 7 pm on Monday evenings.

Jim Dukelow

IN MEMORIAM

AUDREY PFLUGER

7/9/1928 - 5/22/2022



Our "Iron Lady" in 2008



Audrey in 2013

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

6/06 Diane Chesney
6/08 David Orcutt
6/12 Dave Brouwer
6/17 Gary Metro
6/18 Karen DeMeritt
6/22 Judy Donaldson
6/23 Bruce Lang
6/28 Ann Roberts
6/29 Dolly Ammann
6/29 Jim Pierce



President's Award Winners:
Brad Baker (Flight C)
Usha Subrahmanyam (Flight A)
Karen DeMeritt (Flight B)

LOCAL GAMES SCHEDULE

TUESDAYS

Three Rivers DBC, 12:15 p.m.
Richland Community Center
May come without partner

WEDNESDAYS

Three Rivers DBC, 5:30 p.m.
Richland Community Center

First THURSDAY

June 2, July 7 - Unit Championship Game
Richland Community Center, 5:30 p.m.

IN MEMORIAM

Gene Jensen
9/24/1939 – 5/10/2022

alzheimer's
association

SUNNYSIDE JUNE UNIT GAME TO BENEFIT ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION

Sunday, 1:00 p.m., June 26th
At the bridge center at the Mini Mall
on 6th St in Sunnyside
Minimum donation: \$5.00



Correction
Newest
70% Club
Members

Bruce Dudzik and LeAnne Zaring
70.75% at Bridge Buddies
Tuesday, April 12th

WELCOME

NEW UNIT 442 MEMBERS

Farrah Bagunu

Franco Bagunu

Joaquin Bagunu

Claris Rogerson

Arleen Rountree



Attitude Leads Versus No Trump Contracts

By Larry Trickey

When deciding what type of leads you and your partner will make against no trump contracts, many partnerships agree to lead fourth best from your longest suit. You do it because it is safe. Hundreds of bridge columns and countless experts will discuss making fourth-best opening leads.

Fourth best leads are not perfect, as declarer can false card, but they can give you a good read on the number of tricks that might be available in the suit. It is even so popular that a counting rule known as the Rule of Eleven has been developed to aide partner in determining how many outstanding cards there are above the one led.¹

But what the experts do not tell you is that declarer knows the Rule of Eleven as well, and all too often, declarer can use this to determine the length of the suit being led. Say the lead is the Four, and dummy has the Two, and you as declarer have the Three, you can surmise that the lead is from a four-card suit. Similarly, if the lead is the Five, and dummy holds J6 while you as declarer hold A872 and right-hand opponent (RHO) rises with the King on trick one (which you duck) and returns the Three, you can be almost certain that

CONGRATULATIONS

New Sectional Master
(50+ MPS)

LIVINGSTONE PARKHILL

New Sapphire Life Master
(3500+ MPS)



ANDY HESSER

opening leader started with a five-card suit. So, in that case there would be no reason to hold up further, as RHO has no more cards in that suit to lead should she ever get back in.

Maybe it is just me, but I hate to give declarer any more information from what my partner and I are doing than I have to. And I find that declarer gains more information from the Rule of Eleven than my partner gets when leading fourth best. So, what can be done to avoid this?

When you look at your convention card, there is a box down in the lower left corner under leads which says "Attitude vs NT". What this is suggesting is that you lead low with interest in the suit (for subsequent tricks), and you lead high with length in the suit when help is needed from partner to develop additional tricks in the suit. My style when leading high in the suit is to lead my second highest, unless I am leading from a sequence, and then I lead my highest.

In addition, when I make attitude leads, my agreement is that I use a sliding scale: the lower the lead, the more interest I have in partner returning the suit when she gets in. Some examples of scaled leads include the lead of the Nine from J9762; the lead of the Seven from 9743; the lead of the Six from Q9653; and the lead of the Two from KT962.²

By making attitude leads, partner has some measure of my strength in the suit led, and can tell whether pursuing that suit as a source of tricks, or switching to another suit might produce a better result for our side. But just as importantly, declarer generally has no way to know the length of opening leader's suit, which makes the decision as to how long to hold up more

difficult. The Rule of Eleven is no longer available for partner or declarer to use, but partner knows whether I want the suit returned should she get in, and that is the most important thing.

¹For those who might be unfamiliar with the Rule of Eleven, it says that if you subtract the face value of the card led from eleven, the result is the number of cards in that suit held by the three hands other than the hand making the lead. As an example, say the opening lead is the Seven: subtracting seven from eleven tells you that there are four cards above the seven held by dummy, declarer and by you. If dummy has the Jack and one other, and you have the K84, you know declarer has only one card above the seven in the suit.

²You will notice that I did not lead the Ten from KT962. I never violate the principle of leading low from interest even if there is an interior sequence.

