



Alice Travel



ACBL REGIONAL at SEA with Larry Cohen

WELCOME BULLETIN

Saturday, February 3 & Sunday, February 4, 2018

Welcome aboard Royal Caribbean's **Harmony of the Seas**. During this 7-night cruise from Ft. Lauderdale to Labadee, Haiti; Falmouth, Jamaica; Cozumel, Mexico, and return to Ft. Lauderdale you'll have plenty of opportunities to play bridge and win ACBL points, all while having a wonderful time.

In this Welcome Bulletin we give basic information about our Regional Tournament at Sea. We clarify the difference between Open Pairs and Gold Rush Pairs; and explain about Side Games and the Side Game Series, Bracketed Swiss Teams, and Knockout Teams so that you'll be able to determine which event(s) will be best for you. You'll also learn how to earn Gold and/or Red Points, how events are stratified, which events are one-session and which are two-session, and why it's important to know the difference. You might want to keep this Bulletin handy for reference.

There will be a Daily Bulletin every day, Monday through Friday but none on Saturday the day we disembark. Daily Bulletins will keep you up-to-date with lecture times, playing schedules, Overall Results, and other helpful information.

At the end of play on our last day, Friday, we'll finish up with a Cocktail & Awards Party.

YOUR HOST – LARRY COHEN



Larry will present lectures at 9:00 AM Sunday thru Friday, ending at 9:45 AM (morning bridge games will begin promptly at 10:00 AM.) He will have a Q&A session at the end of afternoon Open Pairs/Gold Rush games on Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday.

Larry Cohen is one of the most respected experts in the world of bridge. He earned the rank of Life Master at 17, won his first National Championship at age 22, and was named ACBL Honorary Member of the Year in 2011. After a full-time career playing in numerous national and international tournaments, Larry retired from the tournament-playing circuit. He now teaches, writes columns for bridge magazines, has published many highly-acclaimed bridge books, and gives seminars globally – both on land and at sea. Check out his Web site (<http://larryco.com>) for more information about his extensive career. You'll also find the Daily Bulletin, information about future bridge cruises, as well as hundreds of free instructional articles. Larry and his wife Eugenia, who will be with us on this cruise, live in Delray Beach, Florida.



Alice Travel Representative

Cheryl Angel will be available at the registration area prior to each morning's lecture, and before each session throughout the day. She will be

happy to help with any of your cruise-related questions.

TODAY (SATURDAY) SCHEDULE

Conference Center, Deck 3

Registration will begin immediately following the Life Boat Drill until 5:30 PM

8:00 PM Welcome Pairs*
*will include 1st game in Evening Side Game Series

Gold and Red Points

Points awarded at this Regional at Sea are either GOLD or RED, and are computed exactly as they are done for Regionals on land. To earn GOLD you must ...

- 1) Place in the Overalls of any two-session event
- 2) Earn a Section Top in two-session Pairs games, or
- 3) Earn a Section Top in a one-session Side Game (as long as you play in another session of the same Series).

All other points awarded are RED.

Stratifications ... Open & Gold Rush Pairs

These events are always two-sessions. Pairs compete according to their averaged master point holdings, as follows:

OPEN PAIRS		GOLD RUSH PAIRS	
Flight A ...	Unlimited	Flight D ...	300-750
Flight B ...	1250-2000	Flight E ...	100-300
Flight C ...	750-1250	Flight F ...	0-300

To qualify to play in **Gold Rush Pairs**, no one player can have more than 750 points. Again, points are averaged. For example, if one partner has 700 points and the other has 100, those points will be averaged out to 400 points, i.e. $700 + 100 = 800 / 2 = 400$.

Side Games and Side Game Series ...

These are one-session events. For those who prefer to play only one-session and still have an opportunity to win gold points, Side Games will be offered throughout this Regional in conjunction with all other games.

Side Game Stratifications:

A = 1000+ B = 300 – 1000 C = 0 – 300

Side Games are separated into three different Series: the **Evening Side Game Series** will be offered at 8:00 PM Saturday thru Thursday; the **Morning Side Game Series** will be offered at 10:00 AM Sunday thru Friday; and the **Afternoon Side Game Series** will be offered at 2:00 PM Sunday thru Friday.

We hope to offer six games per Series but because ACBL requires a minimum number of tables for each Side Game there is always the possibility that a game could be integrated into the main game; however, in this case you would have to play only that one session.

GOLD points for Side Game Series can be won in two different ways: (1) by placing in the Series overalls at the end of the week, or (2) by earning a Section Top in a Side Game and also playing in at least one other game

Tomorrow (SUNDAY) Schedule

9:00 AM	.....Lecture
10:00 AM	.....Caribbean Open Pairs (1 st /2)
10:00 AM	....Caribbean Gold Rush Pairs (1 st /2)
10:00 AM	.....Morning Side Game
2:00 PM	.....Caribbean Open Pairs (2 nd /2)
2:00 PM	....Caribbean Gold Rush Pairs (2 nd /2)
2:00 PM	.....Afternoon Side Game
4:30 PM	.....Q&A with Larry
8:00 PM	.....Evening Side Game

Side Games Series..... continued

in the same Series. NOTE that in (2) the points will be RED initially but will convert to GOLD if you play in at least one other game in the same Series.

Although you must play in at least two games in a particular Series to be eligible for Gold points, it is not necessary to play with the same partner each time because you will score as an individual, not as a partnership, and your final score will be the total of your own two best scores.

Bracketed Swiss Teams

Bracketed Swiss Teams are non-eliminating, two-session tournaments in which we play 7-board matches against other teams in the same bracket.

Knockout Teams

In this event, teams are divided into groups (brackets) but this is an eliminating tournament played over three evenings. Losing teams are eliminated after each round so that on the final evening only two teams remain to play for 1st and 2nd place in each bracket.

**PLEASE BE SURE TO WEAR YOUR
NAME BADGE TO EVERY BRIDGE EVENT.**

MONDAY Schedule

9:00 AM	.....Lecture
10:00 AM	.....Haiti Open Pairs (1 st /2)
10:00 AM	.....Haiti Gold Rush Pairs (1 st /2)
10:00 AM	.....Morning Side Game
2:00 PM	.....Jamaica Open Pairs (1 st /2)
2:00 PM	.....Jamaica Gold Rush Pairs (1 st /2)
2:00 PM	.....Afternoon Side Game
4:30 PM	.....Q&A with Larry
8:00 PM	.....Evening Side Game