



Come on out to the

57th Annual City of Washington Tournament

March 4-7, 2004

The WBL March Sectional is **jammin' with special events** and **great hospitality** along with a **packed schedule of games** to choose from. (*See page 3 for a complete listing of the games.*)

I/N players, check it out! There's a full schedule of **Intermediate and Novice events** all through the tournament.

Stay late on Friday night to **run the boards** with commentary from **world champion, Steve Robinson**.

Saturday at 12:30pm, 1 hour before playing, Jeff Roman and Charity Sack will lead a forum on **finding and nourishing partnerships**. Get doubly nourished with the **free lunch** that will be given to you.

Saturday, during the afternoon session, we'll honor the **2003 Trophy Race Winners**. (*See the center spread for a list of all the winners and top finishers.*)

Saturday late night: **It's time for a roasting...** Nadine Wood goes over 10,000 masterpoints!

Did we mention hospitality? Check out the **special March Island Hospitality** throughout the tournament, and, during the break between sessions on **Sunday, get your free island-style meal**.

...We be jammin'...

SUGGESTION BOX

Do you have a suggestion that might help to increase membership or otherwise improve the Washington Bridge League? Give any and all ideas to Don Berman, 301-776-3581, don.berman@verizon.net, 13707 Engleman Dr., Laurel, MD 20708, or www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org.

WBL OMBUDSMAN

Any player with helpful director issues including criticism or praise of the directing staff may contact the Ombudsman, Ann Lindley and be assured that the source of the information will remain confidential. Information should be provided in writing and may be handed to her at any game, or mailed to her at 18518 Grackle Way, Gaithersburg, MD 20879-1767.

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DEADLINE: MARCH 29, 2004

TO SUBMIT NEW ARTICLES TO THE EDITOR FOR THE MAY/JUNE 2004 ISSUE

Washington Bridge League BULLETIN (usps #861-240)

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The opinions expressed by our columnists do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the ACBL, the WBL, or even the editors of this publication. The WBL is not responsible for the claims of its advertisers.

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PRESIDENT'S LETTER

by WBL President, Dick Wegman

Our first tournament of the year was a great success. We had 329 tables in play, one of the best turnouts we've had in the past several years. Most players seemed pleased by the facility at the Newport Mill School, where the parking is ample and the location is very convenient (just a few minutes from the Beltway exit at Connecticut Avenue). However, on Saturday afternoon the space was quite crowded, and getting the heat adjusted was a challenge. I'm confident that we'll work out these problems for our next sectional tournament, which will be held March 4-7.

One change we've instituted this year is that prize money is no longer awarded to the winners in flights A and B (although we are continuing to do so in the 0-300 events). The WBL has limited resources, and we've decided to allocate the money saved on prizes to increased hospitality, because this benefits a much larger number of people. The hospitality was a great hit at the January sectional (everyone really enjoyed Nadine's and Kitty's chicken wings on Saturday and Barbara Shaw's chile on Sunday). We plan to continue this and expand what we can offer at our upcoming events. In the future, if our financial picture improves, perhaps it will be possible to maintain our hospitality and resume awarding cash prizes, but we just can't afford to do both right now.

I'm pleased to report a fine example of active ethics that took place during our January tournament. After the Thursday

gained all of our respect. Thanks to both of you for setting a great example for the rest of us to follow.

When our games were at the Silver Spring Armory, one of our experts usually stayed after the game to discuss the hands with players who wanted to go over them. The sessions were fun, social, and informative. We haven't done this for several years, but we plan to try this again at the upcoming March sectional after the Friday evening game. Steve Robinson has volunteered to remain after the game to analyze and discuss the hands, joined by one or two other experts. The discussion should be stimulating and interesting, and we will provide free refreshments to anyone who decides to participate. If this proves popular we will do it again at future tournaments, and perhaps at our unit games on Thursday evenings.

Finally, several of you have written to me suggesting that it would be wonderful if the WBL could purchase a permanent site of its own. Several other units in the ACBL have acquired permanent locations, although I'm not aware of any that has done so in an area that is as expensive as ours. The WBL board recently decided that we should look into this, and I've appointed a group, headed by former WBL president Barb Doran (with Steve Robinson, Steve Forsythe, Barb Ames and Dave Ruderman) to look into the feasibility of setting up a building fund. The group will report to the Board on whether

purchasing a site would be feasible, and if so, whether contributions to a building fund would be eligible for tax deductible treatment. I've asked the group to give high priority to its work, and I hope to report back to you on this initiative in the near future.

That's it for now. I look forward to seeing you soon at our unit games and tournaments.

Dick Wegman

SENIOR GAMES

There is insufficient interest to support continuing senior games at this time. Therefore, there will be no Machlin Trophy Race this year.

John Edmonds and Larry Kahn had a section top in A/X, and were well up in the overall standings. John and Larry noticed, however, that one of their scores had been recorded as +170, when it should have been -170. John reported the error to me after the game, and the score was adjusted the next day. John and Larry may have dropped in the standings, but they've

57th Annual City of Washington Tournament

THURSDAY, MARCH 4

♣ Stratified Open Pairs (unlim/3000/1500/1000/500)10:30am
Washington Bridge Center, 1620 Elton Road, Silver Spring MD

♦ StrataFlighted Open Pairs (A/X unlim/3000, B/C/D Separate 1500/1000/500), Stratified 199er Pairs & 0-20 Pairs (Christ the King Church only), Stratified 99er Pairs (Beth El only)

Beth El Congregation, 3830 Seminary Rd, Alexandria 7:00pm

Christ the King Church, 2301 Colston Drive, Silver Spring 7:30pm

Capital Beltway to Connecticut Ave. South. Left on East-West Hwy. Right on Grubb Rd. 1st left on Colston. The church is one block on the left.



♦ **Friday held at Christ the King Church Only** ♠

FRIDAY, MARCH 5

♥ StrataFlighted A/X Pairs (unlim/3000) & B/C/D Pairs (1500/1000/500)10:00am

♠ StrataFlighted A/X (unlim/3000) & B/C/D Pairs (1500/1000/500) (single sessions)1:30pm, 7:30pm

♣ Intermediate/Novice Pairs (300/200/100/50/20) (single sessions)10:00am, 1:30pm, 7:30pm

♣ ♦ **Remainder of Tournament held at Newport Mill Middle School Only** ♥ ♠

11311 Newport Mill Road, Kensington MD

Capital Beltway to Georgia Ave North (Exit 31 – State Hwy 97) go 1.7 miles & bear left onto Veirs Mill Rd. (State Hwy 586). Go north 1.1 miles and turn left on Newport Mill Rd. School will be on the left.

“Hey, mah...
 Check out the special March Island Hospitality we are givin' to you.”

SATURDAY, MARCH 6

♦ StrataFlighted A/X Pairs (unlim/3000) & B/C/D Pairs (1500/1000/500)10:00am

♣ Intermediate/Novice Pairs (300/200/100/50/20) (single sessions)10:00am, 1:30pm, 7:00pm

♦ StrataFlighted A/X Pairs (unlim/3000) (single sessions)1:30 pm, 7:00pm

♥ StrataFlighted B/C/D Pairs (1500/1000/500) (single sessions)1:30pm, 7:00pm

♠ Newcomer Pairs (0-5 MPs)1:30pm

SUNDAY, MARCH 7

♣ A/X Swiss Teams, VPs (unlim /3000)10:30am & TBA

♦ B/C/D Swiss Teams, VPs (1500/1000/500)10:30am & TBA

♥ 300/100/50 Swiss Teams, VPs (single sessions)10:30am, 2:30pm

♣ **Full Schedule of Intermediate and Novice Events** ♥



I/N events: 199er, 99er, 49er, & 0-20; Stratification at Director's Discretion.

Open Stratified and StrataFlighted Events vary as listed above.

Washington Hospitality includes snacks and drinks for all players every day. **Sunday Lunch** provided between sessions free of charge. **Chairs:** *Kathy Kruskal*, (202) 662-3430, elfenq@hotmail.com., *Nadine Wood*, (301) 565-9555, woodthere@erols.com. **Volunteer Coordinator:** *Steve Forsythe*, (301) 592-9177, majslf@aol.com. **Hospitality:** *Kitty Gottfried*, (301) 587-3981, kgottfried@hotmail.com. **Partnerships:** *Charity Sack*, (703) 963-7027, charity@charitysack.com, or, try the easy **On-line Partnership Desk:** www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org.



NON LIFE MASTER TOURNAMENT

Sectional: All Silver Points!

- ❖ Free Lessons ❖ Non Smoking
- ❖ Great Hospitality ❖ Pizza Parties ❖ Trophies
- ❖ Lectures and/or Mini Lessons before each session



THURSDAY KICK OFF SESSION HELD AT CHRIST THE KING
ALL OTHER SESSIONS AT THE WASHINGTON BRIDGE CENTER

THURSDAY - APRIL 29

7:30 PM ... Stratified Kick-off Pairs – WBL Site
NLM/100/50/20/10/5

FRIDAY - APRIL 30

1:30 PM Stratified Pairs
NLM/200/100 & 50/20/0-5

6:30 PM Pizza Party

7:30 PM Single Session

SATURDAY - MAY 1

9:00 AM Special Lecture

9:30 AM Game time

1:30 PM ... ❖ Steve Robinson Trophy Pairs ❖

6:30 PM Pizza Party

7:00 PM Expert Panel – bring questions

7:30 PM Game time

SUNDAY - MAY 2

11:00 AM & TBA ... 1 or 2 Session Swiss Teams



**Sherrie Schrama
& Margaret Buda**
TOURNAMENT CO-CHAIRS

Jackie Thompson
CHIEF DIRECTOR

Need a partner?
Frances Burke
PARTNERSHIP CHAIRMAN

Come one hour
before the game.

WASHINGTON BRIDGE CENTER



1620 Elton Road Suite 200
Silver Spring, MD 20903
301-590-9250

WBC: Exit 28A (New Hampshire Ave. North). First right at the light onto Elton Road and Park on the left in shopping center on the hill. CHRIST THE KING CHURCH: 2301 Colston Dr., Silver Spring. Capital Beltway to Connecticut Ave. South. Left on East-West Hwy, Right on Grubb Rd. 1st left on Colston. The church is one block on the left.

BITS AND PIECES

BOARD MEMBER RESIGNS

Robert Gunnell has resigned from the WBL Board as he was unable to attend meetings due to surgery. He will return to duties as a director at the unit game. Since there are only 2 more meetings before a new Board is elected, he will not be replaced.

RUN FOR THE BOARD?

If you would like to run for the WBL Board, please submit a bio form and picture to the editor by March 25 which will be published in the next issue. The offices of President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary are one year terms. The six Unit

Roy was a frequent player at the Washington Bridge Center for many years. He was our insurance agent, carried a lot of information in his head, and could accurately describe our insurance policies and alternatives at a drop of a hat. Roy was quite sharp which sometimes led him to impatience. Once, in his characteristic manner, he announced to the other three players at the table, "Come on someone, bid." Our reply was, "You dealt!" Roy loved to play with any good player and frequently substituted. He was especially good with odds and could be counted on to describe the odds of a successful contract just as well as the rates for different insurance risks. —*Jim Allen*

ROY BECKER REMEMBERED

I played bridge for the first time with Roy in November 1994. I found out how much he loved the game, and particularly how much he loved to win. I learned a lot about bridge from Roy, but I also learned that more important to Roy than bridge was his family. He cherished the time he spent with his wife, Elaine, his son, Jeff, his daughter and son-in-law, Wendy and Jay, and his grandson, Scott. He was my friend and I will miss him. —*Barbara Rothkin*

Roy was my friend, my insurance agent, and my bridge partner for 36 years. After so many years we reached an accommodation. I put up with his restlessness and occasional wildness, and he put up with my aggravation over it! Roy loved the game, and he loved to win. His proudest moment came when he strolled into a tournament and became a fill-in in the Women's Pairs – and won the event! I am happy to say that our last game together during his long illness was also a winner. Roy and I played several Fridays a month at the club, and my Friday housekeeper always asked if this was a "Roy day." There will be no more, and for that I am forlorn. —*Sylvia Levy*

Roy was a good friend for over 25 years. We

started playing bridge at Kitty Pickett's game on Monday evenings and Wednesday afternoons, then proceeded to win a few Sectionals and Regionals. Roy's most famous hand was when he risked taking a hook for an overtrick in a slam. It won, and like Roy, was a real winner in life. Roy

was the best horserace handicapper I ever knew. Even Andy Beyer, a handicapper for the Washington Post, would ask his advice. I always said that Roy knew races like I knew Aces. I am going to miss him. —*Glenn Lublin*

In the early 90's, at the Washington Bridge Center, Bill Wilson introduced me to Roy Becker. Bill asked me to grab a chair and kibitz. I did so, and as I watched, I saw the different approaches of the two men. Whereas Bill seemed almost casual as he slipped his cards onto the table, Roy gave the impression that this was a "take-no-prisoners" struggle. After the third round, Bill whispered to me that they would be in first place when the game ended. His prediction was realized when the results were announced by the director, Norris Peterson (Pete). Several years thereafter Roy became a regular at a club that I manage and I got to know him quite well. He was a big help to me, would arrive long before game time to arrange the tables, put out the bidding boxes, and sell the entries. As long as he was in town, he came to help, even when he did not have a partner. Several months ago, Roy apologized for being unable to help more than sell the entries because of the pain in his back. Of course, we now know that the pain was cancer. Yet, he continued to sell the entries and play the game he loved until his condition forced him to quit. I miss his greetings when I arrived, usually about 15 minutes after him. I miss the conversations we had before the players arrived. I shall always remember him as a gentleman and a friend. —*Lee Biggs*

President positions are two year terms, three of which will be open this year. Elections will be held at the Annual Meeting and Charity Game on May 13 at the Unit Game at Christ the King Church.

SAD NEWS

Regretfully, Dawn McGruder, long time WBL member died of complications of Parkinson's Disease at her home in Sarasota Florida. She is survived by husband John.

We would also like to express our condolences to WBL member Betsy Crenshaw for the loss of her husband, Darrell Roos. Surrounded by his friends and family, long-time member of the MBA, Darrell Roos, passed away quietly at 5 p.m. January 5, 2004 from "carcinoma of unknown origin." Darrell had been ill since early November. In addition to Betsy, Darrell is survived by his parents Irma and Harold, his brother Dennis, and his sister Laurie.

2003-2004 WBL-NVBA PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Eligibility

Players must attend at least three WBL and three NVBA sectionals during the contest period (September, 2003, through April, 2004). Points won on Tournament Thursday evenings are included in the totals, but do not count towards eligibility.

Awards

Two trophies will be awarded.

Standings

Here are the standings after five of eight Sectionals. The asterisk* indicates that the player has met eligibility requirements.

Player	Open Leaders	Points
1	Leo LaSota	.89.60
2	Mark Shaw	.87.75
3	Steve Robinson	.70.25
4	Yi Zhong	.57.91
5	Kenneth Davis	.54.90
6	Mita Banerjee	.52.31
7	Alfred Steinberg	.48.22
8	William Cole	.43.42
9	Hailong Ao	.40.83
10	Richard Ferrin	.40.34
11	Eugene Kales	.39.87
12	Fred King	.38.41
13	Barbara Shaw	.37.85
14	Helene Bauman	.35.97
15	Frank King Jr	.35.02
16	John Lowe III	.33.65
17	John Ashe	.33.31
18	Robert Gookin	.33.24
19	Robert Hopkins Jr	.32.41
20	John Adams	.31.63

NonLM Leaders

Player	Points
1	Wanda Avila15.71
2	Robert Boorman14.96
3	Christon Johnson14.96
4	Charlie Garrod14.92
5	Noble Shore14.92
6	Paul Krueger14.05
7	Samuel Bowlin13.03
8	Danut Gliga12.97
9	Marshall Kramer12.86
10	Randy Zeibert11.48
11	Stephen Mac Arthur10.29
12	Mirsad Mujezinovic9.16
13	Namik Haveric9.16
14	Herbert Behre III9.13
15	David Chechelashvili9.07
16	Gloria Halstead9.05
17	K Soderberg9.03
18	Anne Derbes8.95
19	Robert Schwab8.95
20	Maurine Kuiken8.14

CONGRATULATIONS, 2003 UNIT KNOCKOUT WINNERS!

The winners of bracket A were **Lyle Poe, Les Bart, Gloria Silverman, Arnie Frankel, and Steve Carton**. The winners of bracket B were **Jim Geist, Mark Rosen, Gene Fisher, Carole Banks, Khon Lien, and Marlys Moholt**.

CONGRATULATIONS, 2003 ROUND ROBIN WINNERS!

The winners of flight A were **Steve Robinson, Peter Boyd, Bill Cole, Mark Shaw, Ai-Tai Lo, and Alan Schwartz**. The winners of flight X were **Don Berman, Terry Feetham, Leon Letwin and Joel Miller**. The winners of flight B were **Khon Lien, Jim Geist, Michelle Cantave, David Hamilton, Cecelia Valdivieso and Carole Banks**.

WELCOME TO THE WASHINGTON BRIDGE LEAGUE

The WBL welcomes the following new ACBL members: **Mrs Camille Cook, Mrs Stacey A Flynn, Mr Stuart N Goodman, Mr Jay R Gordon, Mrs Sandra S Gordon, Mr Zvi Gur, Patricia B Houston, Patricia E Mitchell, Ms Amelia L Montjoy, Ms Nancy J Rice, Mr Barry E Tash, and Ms Darlene M Thom**.

In addition, we welcome the following transfers from other units: **Mrs Muriel D Kert, Ms Nina L Schneyer, and Mr Mark P Shaw**.

Please join us at our weekly Unit Game on Thursday evenings and frequent the local bridge clubs in the area. Information can be found on our website, www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org.

WBL SOLVERS' CLUB

Moderated by Steve Robinson

robinswr@erols.com

Congratulations to Peter Gray who came in first with a score of 490. He wins a free entry to the Unit Game and will be invited to be on a future panel. Tied for second were Victor Cohen, Jennifer Lin, Todd Zimnoch, Bill Wade, David Wakefield, Mike Henderson, Richard Wimberley, Kenn Pendleton, Ruth Cohen, Irving Weinstein, Marc Umeno and Bill Martin with a score of 470. Tied for fourteenth were Stuart Sessions, Mike Kovacich and Robert Spencer with a score of 460. Tied for seventeenth were Mike Richey and Kieran Dyke with a score of 450. Tied for nineteenth were, Lloyd Rawley, Hailong Ao, Mike Zane, Ron Daringer, Natalie Aronsohn, Tony Graziano, Richard Allison, and Rick Bingham with a score of 440. Tied for twenty-seventh were Fred Steinberg, Jake Hudson, Ken Berg, Rick Eissenstat, Ravi Arulandhy and Forrest Swope with a score of 430. Tied for thirty-third were Michael Lutz, Gail Adams, Betsy Wilson, Mary Mudd, Chris Marks, Lynn Connelly, Eric Branfman, Patti Wingfield, Dennis Faber, Tom Fukawa, Terry Jones, Brian Childers and John Ferman with a score of 420. The average score of the 263 solvers was 345. The average score of the experts was 426.

All readers are encouraged to send answers and/or new problems to Steve Robinson, 2891 S. Abingdon St. #A2 Arlington, VA, 22206. In addition to the winner receiving a free play at the WBL Unit Game, Steve will play with anyone who gets a perfect score or who exactly matches all five of his answers. If you send a self-addressed stamped envelope to the above address along with your answers, Steve will send you a copy of the new problems to ensure that you can meet his next deadline. You can pick up a copy of the problems at the WBL Unit Game in Maryland, and can send answers or requests for problems to robinswr@erols.com. WBL Solvers Club uses Washington Standard as published July 1996.

The book *Washington Standard* second edition is out. If you are a serious bridge play-

er, this book is a must. You can purchase a copy from Steve for \$25.00 at the Unit Game and at tournaments or can send him a check for \$28.95 that includes \$3.95 for priority mail.

1) Matchpoints You're Vul

♠AQ9654♥A43♦A103♣K

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass
????			

Action	Score	Votes	Solvers
2♦	100	3	23
3♠	90	4	143
2NT	70	1	19
2♣	40	1	1
2♠	40	0	49
4♠	30	0	18
3♦	30	0	2
3NT	30	0	6
3♥	20	0	1
2♥	20	0	1

A jump to 3♠ shows 16 to 18 HCPs with at least six spades. But is this hand worth 3♠? Five experts say no. Change the King of clubs to the Jack of spades and I would bid 3♠. Make the King of clubs the King of spades and I would bid 4♠. In this hand, the King of clubs might be worthless. This hand will not play well in spades if partner has fewer than two spades.

Four experts agree with me and think this hand is not a 3♠-bid. If you're not going to bid 3♠, what is the alternative? Two experts agree with me and bid 2♦. There are at least two advantages of bidding 2♦. Usually when partner holds two spades, he will take a preference to 2♠. The only time partner passes 2♦ is when he holds fewer than two spades. When partner holds fewer than two spades, 2♦ might play better than 3♠. Playing in spades could be a disaster if partner is void. Another advantage of bidding 2♦ is that 2♦ makes it easier for part-

ner to bid hearts when he holds five or more. ♠x♥KQJxx♦Jxx♣Qxxx for instance.

Let's hear from the four experts agreeing with me that 3♠ is the wrong bid for this hand.

Roman: "2♦—Going slow with a flexible hand, we could easily belong in hearts or diamonds. Those spades are too frail a basket to put all of our eggs in."

Schwartz: "2♦—Most flexible as it leaves room for investigating hearts. If I rebid 3♠ and partner passes, I rate to go minus opposite a stiff."

Another way of avoiding a bad spade fit is to bid 2NT. 2NT is my second choice on this hand.

Parker: "2NT—Shows the top of a strong notrump with five spades. Partner can bid a suit if he is weak or take a spade preference. Not good enough for 3NT and too much on the outside to bid 3♠."

A strange way of avoiding a bad spade fit is to bid 2♣. Not going to be happy if partner passes 2♣.

Adams: "2♣—Spades not good enough for direct 3♠, buy time with Bart 2♣. Technically 2♣ shows two or more, but what the heck. Hearts could easily be right."

Four experts jump in spades.

Woolsey: "3♠—This is about right on strength. I'd like a better suit, but it's an imperfect world. Partner is allowed to do the right thing knowing that I have six spades. Any other call is more of a distortion."

Cappelletti: "3♠—Book bid - and spades might play better than notrump."

And spades might play worse.

Hopkins: "3♠—About right on values. Partner can pay particular attention to his values (or lack thereof) in the Spade suit."

As a partner, I'd be more likely to look at my outside strength. I expect partner to have a good spade suit.

Fred King: "3♠—The suit quality is not great, but I think the hand is more suited for suit play than notrump and bidding 2NT with a singleton could be a real problem. 2♦ could work out well and might be the bid most likely to protect the plus score—key at matchpoints, but seems a large underbid."

Bidding 2♦ is only a disaster when partner passes it, would have bid game over 3♠, and game is cold.

When you open 1♥ or 1♠ and partner responds 1NT, consider how well your major will play opposite a singleton before jumping to three-of-your-major. If you have a weak major, consider bidding two-of-a-minor instead. Bidding two-of-a-minor will help you avoid playing bad 6-1 or 6-0 fits.

2) Matchpoints Both Vul

♠AJ5♥AJ9♦AKJ1093♣10

<u>SOUTH</u>	<u>WEST</u>	<u>NORTH</u>	<u>EAST</u>
1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
????			
<u>Action</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Votes</u>	<u>Solvers</u>
3♦	100	3	87
3♣	90	1	11
3♥	50	1	15
3NT	50	0	5
1♠	40	2	37
2♠	40	2	62
2NT	40	0	9
4♥	30	0	12
5♦	20	0	1
4NT	20	0	3
2♦	20	0	2
2♥	20	0	2
3♠	20	0	1
4♣	20	0	13
4♦	20	0	2
2♣	20	0	1

A jump to 3♦ shows 16-18 HCPs with at least six diamonds. However, 3♦ is non-forcing. What do you bid when you have a hand that is too strong to jump to 3♦? Invent a forcing bid such as a jump shift or a reverse. If one is going to jump shift in a suit with fewer than four cards in it (called invent), one should jump shift in a suit that is lower than your real suit. 3♣ is safe because you can correct any club bid to diamonds and stay at the same level even at the seven-level. Reversing into suits with fewer than four cards has the same problem. If partner had responded 1♠, you could reverse into a three-card heart suit, when you hold three spades, since if partner has four hearts, he must have five spades. 3♣, is flexible enough to allow you to get to 4♥ when partner has five, get to a slam when partner has strength, or get to 3NT when partner has an average balanced hand. If partner has

four clubs, he thinks about playing in clubs but his first thought is to play in 3NT. Bidding 3♣ could stop a damaging club lead against 3NT. If partner raises clubs, you can always go back to diamonds showing that your club bid might not be real.

Four experts jump in a red suit with one expert jumping in hearts. Jumping in hearts means that you will play in hearts no matter how bad or how good partner's hearts are. Similar to bidding a three-card spade suit and finding partner with four spades. Aren't you going to be sick if partner keycards over 3♥?

Woolsey: "3♥—Rebidding a three-card suit is not part of my vocabulary. The choice is between 3♦ and 3♥. Both have obvious flaws. 3♦ may miss a 5-3 heart fit, while 3♥ may get us to a 4-3 heart fit. At least a 4-3 heart fit might survive, while missing a 5-3 heart fit almost certainly won't survive. This hand illustrates how important a convention such as Cole can be."

But is jump raising in a three-card suit part of your vocabulary? I can see jump raising a five-card major with only three.

Three experts jump in diamonds, a slight underbid. Jumping in diamonds will tend to bury the heart suit. Give partner ♠Q10x♥KQxxx♦xx♣Qxx and he'll bid 3NT over 3♦. Give partner ♠Qxx♥Kxxxx♦x♣xxx and he'll pass 3♦.

Hopkins: "3♦—You hope for partner to bid three-of-a-major and pray for a Club stopper if he bids 3NT."

Roman: "3♦—See partner? I'm not ALWAYS minimum for my bidding. This hand is the poster-child for playing that 2NT here shows a big 3♦-rebid, possibly with three-card support for partner's major."

If 2NT shows a diamond rebid, what do you do with 18-19 balanced?

Adams: "3♦—Unlucky that Washington Standard does not include Cole, or I could bid a singleton twice in a row."

Cole is a convention where you can rebid 2♣, a forcing bid with a lot of options, and over partner's 2♦ relay, you can bid 2♠ showing three hearts with at least 15 HCPs.

Four experts bid spades. Bidding spades will lead to a spade contract if partner has four spades. If partner holds ♠Jxxx♥KQxx♦x♣QJxx he will raise

spades and continue supporting spades no matter what you bid next. There is no way that partner is going to allow you to play 3NT or 4♥ when he holds four spades. However, if partner doesn't have four spades, you'll probably get to the right strain assuming he bids again.

Two experts guarantee that partner will bid again.

Schwartz: "2♠—Opposite partner's heart response this hand is worth a game force. Although I hate jump shifting into the higher ranking major, jump shifting into clubs is even worse. How can partner bid correctly after I show my hearts later? I can stomach an underbid of 3♦ if my hearts weren't so strong as 3♦ could cause us to miss a 5-3 fit. Rebidding 1♠ won't solve my problems as I will have to jump the next round to show my strength and still won't be able to show both my red suits adequately."

Parker: "2♠—I don't want to bid 3♦ and miss our possible heart fit. I don't want to raise hearts on three with this good a hand. If I bid 1♠ partner can pass and I can never show this good a hand over a 1NT bid by him. Over 2♠ I can handle any bid even a spade raise."

What are you going to do if partner jumps to 4♠?

Two experts make a non-forcing bid. But, what if he passes 1♠? Give partner ♠Kxx♥Kxxxx♦x♣xxx and you'll play in 1♠.

Cappelletti: "1♠—Let's hear more from partner. If he raises spades, I'll go back to hearts."

And he'll go back to spades since your heart bid will be a cue bid in support of spades.

Fred King: "1♠—If I survive this bid I should be all right. There is no right answer to this old chestnut except 2♣—Cole or to be playing a forcing club system. 3♦ risks missing a Heart game, but 3♥ risks ending in a 4-3 Heart fit when Diamonds or notrump is better."

When bidding suits you don't have, you have to be careful to choose the suit least likely to get you in trouble. In this case clubs is that suit. If someone asks you why you jumped in a singleton club, you say that you thought your spades were clubs.

3) IMPs, None Vul

♠K107432♥K♦J84♣A62

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1♠	Pass	1♥	Pass
????		2♣	Pass
Action	Score	Votes	Solvers
2♠	100	6	84
3♠	70	2	101
2♦	50	1	48
3♣	30	0	10
2NT	30	0	10
Pass	30	0	1
3NT	20	0	5
3♦	20	0	2
3♥	20	0	2

A jump to 3♠ shows six good spades and around 11 HCPs. You have a hand that is a tad too weak to jump to 3♠ and a tad too strong to bid 2♠. That's assuming you even want to rebid your spades. If partner is 1534, you could belong in spades or notrump but if partner is 2542 you belong in spades. If partner is void in spades you probably belong somewhere else. If you bid 2♠ and partner has a minimum, he will pass no matter how many or how few spades he has.

Five experts agree with me and take the low route. On possible misfitting hands take the low route.

Parker: "2♠—At IMPs non vulnerable there is no reason to be optimistic. If partner bids again I will be well placed to bid on. A six-card spade suit is worth bidding again. It would be tougher problem if I had two hearts."

This would be a tougher problem if you were vulnerable at IMPs.

Adams: "2♠—Too strong to pass. Nothing else looks appealing."

Schwartz: "2♠—Can't see rebidding 3♠ with such a poor suit. 2NT with no full diamond stopper doesn't seem right either with possible entry problems."

Woolsey: "2♠—If partner passes, this might be the best contract and even if not best it could come out okay. If partner is strong enough to act again he knows I have six spades, which is a good place to start. Other actions appear to be a lot worse."

Roman: "2♠—I'm hoping partner bids again, but in the meantime, I'm in something

I can probably make."

Two experts jump in spades
Cappelletti: "3♠—Don't force to game on likely misfit."

Fred King: "3♠—The hand seems a little too strong for 2♠ and while the suit is very weak to bid 3♠, all other bids also have flaws. 2♦ is game forcing and the hand is not that strong. 2NT lacks a diamond stopper and would seem to deny a sixth spade. 2♥ is possible as a mark time bid, and the stiff King is probably as good as two small."

One expert makes a game-forcing bid. But will that help you get to the correct strain? In some systems 2♦ is forcing for only one round and in that system 2♦ could be the correct bid.

Hopkins: "2♦—I am a little light for this forcing call, but I like my cards in partner's suits and want to explore for strain and level. I do play you can get out at four-of-a-minor in this situation (for when partner has a minimum two-suiter), but don't know how common that is."

When considering whether to underbid or overbid, look at your spots.

4) Matchpoints, EW vul

♠KQT743♥J8♦A96♣K2

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1♠	Pass	2♦	1♣
????			Pass
Action	Score	Votes	Solvers
3♦	100	5	65
2♠	80	2	78
3♠	60	1	69
3♣	50	1	29
2NT	30	0	10
4♠	20	0	1
Pass	20	0	6
3NT	20	0	3
2♥	20	0	2

You overcalled 1♠ with a reasonable hand and partner has advanced with 2♦, non-forcing in Washington Standard. He could have ♠xx♥xx♦KQJxxx♣xxx or as much as ♠Ax♥Axxx♦KQJxx♣xx. Opposite the former, you want to play in a 2♠. Opposite the latter you want to be in 4♠. He could also have fewer than two spades. This is matchpoints where majors score more than minors.

You want to play in spades if partner has two. Even if partner has only one spade, leading a spade to the 10 will result in five spade tricks when the Jack is third onside. Since partner will not support you with two spades, the only way to get to spades is to rebid them.

Two experts agree with me and rebid spades. The question is whether this hand is worth a jump? Since 2♦ is non-forcing, you don't have to bid again with a very bad hand so bidding 2♠ shows something extra.

Cappelletti: "2♠—Better to rebid spades before showing three-card diamond fit. If you bid 3♦, it might go 3NT and you might miss 4♠ when it is a better game."

This hand is close to a 3♠ jump but I would need the KQJ10xx of spades.

Fred King: "3♠—Partner's bid has made my hand better and at matchpoints it is hard to give up on the major, so I will jump and hope that he has enough to bid game."

Five experts raise diamonds. Are you going to be happy no matter what partner does next assuming he doesn't support spades. If he passes or bids 3NT, won't you be worried that you belong in spades? I don't think he will take you back to spades when he holds a small doubleton.

Parker: "3♦—Three-card support for partner. What more could I show here? He could have a good hand or just long diamonds. Of course where are the hearts? Sounds like he has a good hand with a spades misfit. We can get to 3NT if he bids 3♥."

Schwartz: "3♦—Obviously would like to rebid spades, but at least 3♦ will go plus and encourages partner."

Woolsey: "3♦—I do have diamond support, and the opponents' silence suggests that partner has either four hearts or a good hand. If he has a good hand the raise can't hurt matters since I can then bid spades to show the sixth spade. If he has four hearts he is likely to have at most one spade, and we will belong in diamonds, not spades. Transfer responses to overcalls, anyone?"

Hopkins: "3♦—Support partner. What a novel concept!"

Roman: "3♦—I'll bid 3♠ over 3♥."

One expert cue bids. What does a cue bid mean and what will a cue bid lead to?

Adams: "3♣—When in doubt, cue bid."

When in doubt, play in a major at matchpoints.

5) IMPs Both Vulnerable

♠10932♥AJ8♦Q10♣K765

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1♠	Pass	1♦	Pass
????		4♣*	Pass
Action	Score	Votes	Solvers
4♠	100	6	167
4♦	80	2	3
4♥	60	1	83
5♣	20	0	3
4NT	20	0	6
6♠	20	0	1

???? *4-card spade support, club shortness, game hand

Partner showed four-card spade support, club shortness with game-forcing values. He could have ♠Kxxx♥KQx♦AKJxx♣x where on bad days you could go down in 4♠. He could also have ♠AKQx♥Qxx♦AKJxx♣x where 6♠ needs a 3-2 spade break, plus one of two finesses or a club lead or a heart lead. He could have ♠AKQx♥Kxx♦AKJxx♣x where 6♠ needs only a 3-2 spade break. Your 109 of spades will even allow you to make slam some of the times when trumps split 4-1. Is your hand worth a move? A move is not bidding a slam. A move is not even bidding above game. A move is making a bid below game other than signing off. Your two keycards, the Ace of hearts and the Queen of diamonds, make your hand worth a move. You also have three pushers, the Jack of hearts, the King of clubs and the ten of diamonds, which could be the difference between making and going down in slam.

Two experts agree with me and make a forward-going move. If you are going to move, what is your best forward-going bid? If you bid 4♥, partner has two choices, sign-off or bid above game. If you bid 4♦ however, partner has a third option. He can bid 4♥, the Last Train, putting the ball back in your court. Over 4♥, you have an easy 4♠. The Ace of hearts and the Queen of diamonds are good but your spades are bad.

I like 4♦. At the four-level, bids can show Aces, Kings or even Queens. One can support partner's first-bid suit with honors or length. After showing either strength or length at the three and four level, bid keycard to make sure you're not off two keycards.

Adams: "4♦—Leaves room for Last

Train, after which I can sign off. Two very big cards warrants keeping slam open.”

One expert bids 4♥. Gives partner only two options.

Woolsey: “4♥—Close your eyes and pretend that the king of clubs is a small club. Now you say: Not such a bad minimum – an Ace, seven points where they are all working, and the 109 of spades. Surely worth more than a signoff — you might have held: ♠xxxx♥xxx♦xx♣KQxx. The king of clubs is just gravy. Maybe 4♦ is better, giving partner Last Train room, but it probably doesn’t make much difference — the important thing is that this hand is worth a below game cue-bid. Yes I know the hand, but that was my feeling at the time and I haven’t changed my mind.”

Six experts signoff.

Parker: “4♠—I can’t envision a hand where we don’t have at least a spade loser and a club loser. I really want to play three notrump but can’t get there anymore. At best we are on a finesse. Give partner ♠AKxx♥Kxx♦AKxxx♣x and we have no play. If he has ♠AQJx then we are on a finesse and some good breaks in all suits.”

You are giving partner only 17 HCPs. He could have 19 or even 20. Your hand could be ♠8765♥xxx♦xxx♣KQJ, a zero-count opposite a club splinter.

Schwartz: “4♠—Will not make a slam try with no honor in spades. Partner probably has a good enough trump holding to force past game if I make a peep and I don’t have five-level safety.”

Cappelletti: “4♠—Because splinter devalues my club king and because I have no trump honors in a 4-4 fit (a great slam

defect), I bypass heart Ace if making five could be a problem (partner has ♠Axxx♥KQx♦AKJxx♣x type hand). If I bid 4♥, partner will play me for “slam interest” and often bid 4NT.”

But if you bid 4♦, he can bid 4♥ with the above hand and you can stay at the four-level.

Hopkins: “4♠—Not quite worth a try. Even if partner has very good fitting cards such as ♠AKQx♥Qxxx♦AKJx♣x, you would probably need the Heart finesse and a 3-2 trump break (unless the Club Ace is onside and the Spade Jack is doubleton so you can ruff two Clubs in dummy). Partner should not have ♠AKQx♥xx♦AKJxxx♣x which is a 4♦ call.”

But he could have ♠AKQx♥Qxx♦AKJxx♣x. If you get a club or heart lead slam is on a 3-2 spade split. Otherwise slam is on finding either the ace of clubs or the king of hearts onside.

Fred King: “4♠—Partner’s splinter has degraded the value of my King of clubs and while my red suit cards are good, my trumps are so bad that I don’t want to encourage partner at this point.”

Roman: “4♠—Because ♠AKQx♥Kxxx♦AKJx♣x isn’t enough to make slam laydown.”

But if you get a heart or club lead, slam is on a 3-2 trump split.

After partner’s splinter, you have seven working points, which makes this hand worth a move. You could have as little as zero working points and as many as 14. Moving is safe when opener can use the Last Train convention to show three levels of strength.

SOLVERS’ SCORES

John Adams	2♣	3♦	2♠	3♣	4♦	370
Mike Cappelletti	3♠	1♠	3♠	2♠	4♠	380
Fred King	3♠	1♠	3♠	3♠	4♠	410
Robbie Hopkins	3♠	3♦	2♦	3♦	4♠	440
Steve Parker	2NT	2♠	2♠	3♦	4♠	410
Steve Robinson	2♦	3♣	2♠	2♠	4♦	450
Jeff Roman	2♦	3♦	2♠	3♦	4♠	500
Alan Schwartz	2♦	2♠	2♠	3♦	4♠	440
Kit Woolsey	3♠	3♥	2♠	3♦	4♥	450

WBL SOLVERS’ CLUB’S NEW PROBLEMS

March/April 2004

1) IMPs None Vulnerable

♠A765♥K♦A7♣AKJ1087

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
ZZZZ	Pass	Pass	1♣
?????			

2) Matchpoints None Vulnerable

♠1054♥K54♦A543♣Q32

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
Pass	1♠	2♣	Pass
?????			

3) IMPs None Vulnerable

♠AQ654♥QJ543♦3♣32

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
Pass	Pass	1♦	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♣	Pass
?????1			

¹2♥ would be 4th suit GF

4) Matchpoints None Vulnerable

♠AKJ4♥-♦QJ8765♣AK9

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1♦	Pass	2♣ ²	Pass
?????		² GF	

5) IMPs They’re Vulnerable

♠K98632♥QJ1043♦A♣K

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1♠	Pass	2NT ³	Pass
?????4		³ GF spade raise	

⁴3♣, 3♦ show shortness in bid suit, 4♥ shows 5-5 or better in bid suit

Return answers by March 25 to:

Steve Robinson

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robinswr@erols.com

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2003 FINAL TROPHY RACE STANDINGS

www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org

Updated by our Webmaster, Don Berman

Congratulations to the 2003 Winners!

The Lovenberg Race is open to all WBL members; the Izzy Cohen Race is open to all WBL members who started the calendar year with fewer than 1500 masterpoints; the Tubbs Race is open to all WBL members who started the calendar year as a Non-Life Master; the Woolridge Race is open to all WBL members who started the calendar year with fewer than 20 masterpoints; the Machlin Race includes only those points won in senior events at the five WBL Sectional Tournaments.

Winners in each category will receive four sessions of free plays. Second place gets two and third place gets one.

This list is final for 2003. All points are subject to audit by the WBL Director.

Lovenberg

- 1 241.10 Steve Robinson
- 2 232.05 Leo LaSota
- 3 183.81 Alfred Steinberg
- 4 147.86 Mark Shaw
- 5 134.14 Alan Kleist
- 6 127.29 John Adams
- 7 115.92 Fred King
- 8 115.40 John Lawrence
- 9 107.47 Lloyd Rawley
- 10 103.96 Charity Sack
- 11 97.34 Andrew Gofreed
- 12 95.28 Barbara Shaw
- 13 94.68 Eugene Kales
- 14 89.99 Richard Wegman
- 15 84.19 Mita Banerjee
- 16 83.65 Warren Kaufman
- 17 83.50 Hailong Ao
- 18 81.10 Ellen Klosson
- 19 79.92 David Ruderman
- 20 79.10 Richard Ferrin
- 21 78.54 Ellen Cherniavsky
- 22 76.18 Charleen Brand
- 23 75.73 Leon Letwin
- 24 74.39 Arnie Frankel
- 25 70.06 Earl Glickstein

Izzy Cohen

- 1 115.40 John Lawrence
- 2 107.47 Lloyd Rawley
- 3 103.96 Charity Sack
- 4 84.19 Mita Banerjee
- 5 83.50 Hailong Ao
- 6 79.10 Richard Ferrin
- 7 67.49 James Geist
- 8 65.35 William Hacker
- 9 53.51 Kitty Gottfried
- 10 53.24 Kevin Barnes
- 11 52.93 John Lowe III
- 12 52.70 Joel Miller
- 13 52.57 Charles Young Jr
- 14 51.78 Andrew Kaufman
- 15 49.08 Alice Wegman

Tubbs

- 1 53.24 Kevin Barnes
- 2 52.93 John Lowe III
- 3 44.97 Steven Sacks
- 4 42.78 Mark Rosen
- 5 42.75 Ellen Rosenthal
- 6 41.95 Neal Rosenthal
- 7 34.44 Suzanne Abrams
- 8 34.18 Carole Banks
- 9 33.22 Michelle Cantave
- 10 33.09 William Gill

Woolridge

- 1 37.72 Neal Rosenthal
- 2 13.61 Rachelle Sladoff
- 3 12.78 Cielle Block
- 4 11.17 James Andre
- 5 11.16 Jean Agenbroad
- 6 10.74 William Kingery Jr
- 7 8.88 Lily Andre
- 8 8.00 Ron Starr
- 9 7.70 David Mead
- 10 7.70 Kathleen O'Toole

Machlin

- 1 6.84 Audrey Marbach
- 2 5.26 Alice Miller
- 3 4.30 Eugene Davidson
- 4 4.09 Mary O'Neil
- 5 4.09 Jim O'Neil
- 6 3.92 David Wakefield
- 7 3.88 Juline Glaz
- 8 3.88 Daniel Shankle Jr

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SCHEDULE

All Games held at Christ the King Church

- February 26Stratified District 6/Club STaC
- March 4WBL Sectional
- March 11Strataflighted District 6 Charity Game
- March 18Strataflighted Unit Championship
- March 25Strataflighted Club Championship
- April 1Strataflighted Board-A-Match Teams
- ***April 8Strataflighted Unit Championship at **WBC**
- April 15Strataflighted Unit Championship
- April 22NVBA Sectional
- April 29Strataflighted Membership/NLM Sectional
- May 6Strataflighted Club Championship
- May 13Annual Meeting/Strataflighted Charity Game
- May 20Strataflighted Unit Championship
- May 27Strataflighted Unit Championship
- June 3Stratified NAP Qualifying

~ ♣♦♥♠ ~

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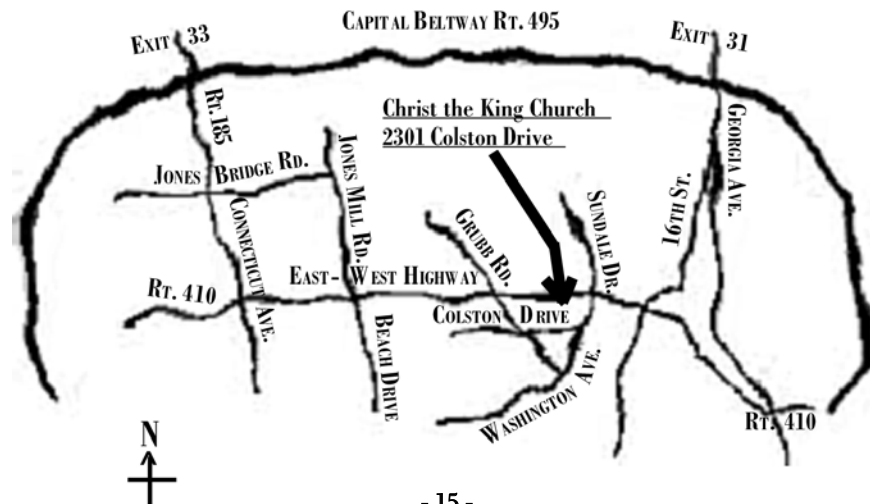
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To find a partner before the game, contact Barbara Shaw: barbshaw@comcast.net, 301-598-3339, or Charity Sack: charity@charitysack.com, 703-963-7027. Please call at least 2 days before game time.Or log on to the WBL's new **Partnership Desk Online** at: www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org.

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COMITTEE ACTION XLV

Part I

by Rich Colker, rcolker@worldnet.att.nat

The following deal, from a Flight A Swiss Teams, contains a number of useful lessons for players and potential Appeals Committee members alike. The match was between the teams that eventually finished first and third in the event. E/W were top experts, N/S were of a somewhat lesser skill level.

Bd: 18

Dir: East

Vul: N/S

- ♠ xxxx
- ♥ 87xxx
- ♦ xx
- ♣ 10x

- | | |
|-----------|------------|
| ♠ Q10 | ♠ KJ9x |
| ♥ QJ109xx | ♥ — |
| ♦ x | ♦ AQ10xxxx |
| ♣ AKxx | ♣ J9 |

- ♠ Axx
- ♥ AK
- ♦ KJ9
- ♣ Qxxxx

<u>WEST</u>	<u>NORTH</u>	<u>EAST</u>	<u>SOUTH</u>
		1♦	1NT
Dbl	2♦(1)	Pass	Pass
4♥	Dbl	All Pass	

(1) *Not announced; intended as a transfer*

4♥ doubled was set two tricks, +300 for N/S. The Director, who was called at the end of the play, determined that North intended 2♦ as a transfer. He also discovered that N/S, who only played together occasionally, played weak (12-14) notrump openings and 15-18 notrump overcalls. N/S said they had discussed that if their weak notrump opening was doubled for penalties, two-level bids of 2♦, 2♥ and 2♠ were runouts showing that suit and the next higher suit (2♠ showed spades and clubs, 2NT the minors). They had not discussed playing runouts if their 1NT overcall was doubled and their convention cards, which were otherwise filled out in great detail, said nothing about any conventional agreements in those auctions. The Director believed that North's intended

transfer was evidence that his side had an agreement to play transfers in this auction and the laws instructed him to presume MI rather than misbid. He ruled that there had been a failure to Alert which damaged E/W, and changed the contract for both sides to 2♦ doubled down five, +1400 for E/W.

N/S appealed. North told the Committee that while he played weak notrumps with this partner (after their weak notrump openings they played two-way Stayman, not transfers, and two-suited runouts if they were doubled), he played strong notrumps, transfer responses and “system on” after notrump overcalls with all his other partners. He said he had no special agreements with this partner about runouts after their 1NT overcall was doubled; he said he bid 2♦ reflexively after the double and when South did not say “transfer” he realized he had misbid. He did not think E/W had been misinformed (in this auction 2♦ was natural, and thus non-Alertable) and thought E/W achieved their poor result through their own misadventures.

The Committee believed that East, who knew from his own hand that North did not hold diamonds and almost certainly intended 2♦ as a transfer, took a gamble by not doubling 2♦ and that this, rather than the failure to Alert, was responsible for E/W's poor result. They further noted that players who, by virtue of their experience or expertise, are aware that an opponent has probably failed to Alert a call are responsible for protecting themselves. The Committee restored the table result to both sides but assessed a 3-imp procedural penalty (PP) against N/S for their failure to Alert 2♦.

Well, there you have it, an awkward situation all around. This case abounds with misconceptions and errors of various sorts, so there'll be plenty to talk about next time. Think about how you would have decided this case if you had been on the Committee and in Part II I'll share my thoughts on what I think went wrong here and how I would have decided the case.



Suzanne Abrams, Carole Banks,
Howard Bender, Faye Burke,
Michelle Contave, Joana Da Silva,

Betsy Depristo, Bess Eastin, Leonid M. Fastovsky, Willa Garner,
Sandra Forsythe, Susan Graham, and Maurice Greenman.



David Hamilton, David Harris,
Nancy Jose, Charles King,
Marshall Kramer, John Laurim,
John H. Lowe III, Helene Oliver, Martin Reed, Mark Rosen,
Penny Stoeber, Howard Tash, and Lynn Weidman.

Michelle Cantave is employed by REDA International Inc. as a Survey Center Manager. She earned her BA in Psychology from the University of Maryland. During her freshman year, another student taught bridge to Michelle, but they rarely played because they couldn't find enough players. The next summer, visiting family in the Cayman Islands, Michelle managed to find a bridge club and even won there with a pick-up partner. Toward the end of college, she met current partners David Hamilton and Khon Lien, but her interest in the game deepened only when she started playing online in 2000. One year later, Michelle joined the ACBL and has since traveled the Mid-Atlantic and to the Las Vegas Regional (a favorite locale) for tournament bridge.

Michelle and David had an exciting experience in the 2002 District Final of the Flight C NAP. Considered one of the favorites going into the event, they unfortunately had a horrible first session and were 34th out of 37 pairs with only 18 qualifying to the second day. After the second session, they were 19th, but there was a scoring error to move them up to 18th to qualify. Despite having no carryover, a huge third session brought them up to 4th and they finished the day in 2nd winning a trip to the Philadelphia Nationals.

Michelle's hopes to continue finding people her age that play bridge.

Sandy Forsythe and her husband Steve have a daughter Mira, 10, learning to play bridge and a son Aaron, 7, not quite ready yet. They run the Suit Yourself Forest Glen Bridge Club with a 0-750 game. They're now averaging seven or eight tables! One of their goals is to introduce as many people as possible to our great game of bridge. So Sandy really doesn't mind giving up playing in the Unit game to run the weekly 0-20 game, now in its second year. They love their newbies and it's an enjoyable evening.

Sandy currently works at home doing freelance editing/proofreading, specializing

in bridge publications. She has a Bachelor's degree in journalism from Kent State University and an Associate degree in Legal Assisting from Sinclair Community College, both in Ohio.

Her twin sister taught her how to play bridge during high school. Sandy played off and on in college up until she married her first husband, who is not a card player. She says that those mixed marriages can be tough! Marrying a bridge player in Steve, the day they picked up her engagement ring, they played at the local club and Sandy bid nothing but diamonds for the first three hands!

One of her biggest thrills in bridge was winning the Instant Matchpoint Game on September 12, 2001 with Steve. She remembers the WBC was packed with lots of good players. Sandy was amazed to keep seeing scores in the 80's and 90's. That was one hard earned gold point!

They never go on a long trip without hitting at least one sectional or regional. They've played duplicate in CA, IN, MD, MO, NC, NJ, NM, NY, OH, OK, PA and VA. They want someday to hit all 50!

Leonid Fastovsky has 2 grown children, Oleg and Itay. Leonid works for the U.S. Patent Office as a patent examiner. He received a B.S. in mechanical engineering and has also worked as an engineer. His other interests include walking, skiing and dancing.

Leonid began playing bridge in 1996 when his friend Howard Tash introduced him to social bridge. It didn't take long before Leonid became a WBL member in 1997 and started playing in tournaments right away. He has played on from the east coast in New York, to Chicago, to the west coast in Long Beach. Leonid prefers a 2/1 style. His favorite bridge authors include Kaplan, Lawrence, Robinson, and Hardy.

Dave Hamilton works for GEICO as an actuary. He has degrees in Computer Science, Math, Greek, and Latin from

University of Maryland 1999. He was the captain of the Maryland Academic Quiz Team. They were consistently one of the top three teams in the country. He currently is an officer in the Academic Competition Federation, which creates high quality questions for collegiate academic competition.

Dave's favorite authors are Terence Reese and Hugh Kelsey. He says, "Kelsey and Ottlick's "Adventures in Card Play" is by far the most awe-inspiring analytical work in the corpus of bridge literature."

The bridge hand Dave best remembers occurred during his first duplicate game. He and partner Michelle Cantave didn't even know Standard American bidding, and definitely had never seen bidding boxes and boards. Against one pair who David feels "was obnoxious even for bridge players," he and Michelle got to a 5D contract, but the opponents kept bidding spades. "Out of pure spite," they kept bidding until they reached 7D, which made because they each had a void. Dave says, "The schadenfreude factor was diminished once we learned about matchpoint scoring at the end of the session, though."

Dave asserts that although it's harder to combat the rudeness that drives younger players away, the hygiene and funk issues should definitely be taken care of.

Nancy Jo Jose has 4 grown children, Cynthia, Lisa, Phillip and Andrew. Before she retired, Nancy was a realtor for 25 years with Long and Foster. She enjoys writing and writing discussion groups. Nancy is a member of the Washington Sep. 11 Women's Assn., Friends of Pakistanis. She also donates her time to visit residents at nursing homes. Nancy was introduced to bridge through party bridge games at country clubs. Her biggest thrill in bridge came when she won her first tournament points.

Charles B. King and wife Lianna have 2 grown children, Chas and Jen. Charles is retired from the U.S. Army, IBM and his own business. He has an MBA from GWU.

Charles currently dabbles in real estate. He also enjoys outdoor activities such as bird hunting, fly fishing, golf and paddle tennis.

In 1948, while stationed in Japan, his mother taught him the fundamentals of bridge. Charles says that his most influential teacher, motivator and mentor since then has been Peggy Reich. His favorite books include Hardy's "Bridge Bidding for the 21st Century" and Lawrence's "How to Read Your Opponent's Cards". Other than winning a 199er event with Cal Coff at the 2002 D.C. Nationals, Charles' most exciting bridge moment came during a game with an attractive woman he was dating. He transferred her to hearts, placed the contract in 6H, and watched her face drop. She had passed holding a singleton heart. Nevertheless, she retained her composure, made the contract, and won many points with Charles.

Marshall B. Kramer and wife Joan have 3 grown children, Alex, Bryand and Craig. Marshall is a retired engineer who earned his BS in EE in 1963 from Johns Hopkins University. He initially was introduced to bridge as an after school activity in high school. He also enjoys softball and basketball. Marshall's most exciting moment in bridge came when he became a Life Master after 44+ years of playing. He says that becoming a Life Master was something that he never thought was possible until he started playing again in November of 2001.

John Lowe is a retired psychiatrist who attended Stanford University and Loma Linda University, receiving his M.D. in 1967. He had trouble finding a foursome for party bridge, so while working in Long Beach, CA in the summer of 1964, John went to the duplicate bridge studio there. John has been a WBL member for 36 years, but he didn't start playing regularly until 2002. Since then, he has enjoyed winning several knockouts in 2003-2004. John also has a strong interest in genealogy.

...continued on page 21

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2003 NEW LIFE MASTERS *continued...*

Marty Reed and wife Judy have a son Geoff, and a daughter Kim. Marty learned bridge after college, watching social games at work during lunchtime. He played in a few duplicate games in 1978 and then stopped playing completely for 15 years (job, kids). He resumed in 1993, basically learning the game all over again at Mary Jane Von Moss's free lessons during the summer at the old Silver Spring Armory. He played weekly in the unit game, but didn't play in any Regional or National until a few years ago when he started getting interested in trying to achieve Life Master.

Bridge thrills: Trying to teach his kids to play when they were younger, and playing once with each one when they were 12 or 13. They won about 0.05 masterpoints each time. His next biggest thrill was winning a KO event at Hunt Valley in 2002, partnered with Howard Tash and teamed with Ken Kaufman and Rick Larkin. Marty's biggest thrill was earning the last 1.02 gold points needed for LM, in KO at Hunt Valley this past Fall, partnered with Howard Tash and teamed with Leslie Shafer and Richard Hopp. After the winning session, he and his pard returned to our teammates table where they had a round of drinks ready for the celebration.

Mark Rosen studied to become a doctor at the U. of PA. He had a standing bridge game there at his fraternity. Mark initially got interested in bridge seeing his parents play, but he managed to teach himself the game by reading Sheinwold's "5 Weeks to Winning Bridge" one summer while away at camp.

After college, Mark stopped playing until his and wife Louise's 3 children left home. His colleague, Dr. Marty Graf encouraged Mark to come play at the unit game about 4 years ago; so, he did just that.

Mark's favorite bidding system is "Stevie Standard" and his favorite book is Cohen's "To Bid or Not to Bid...the Law of Total Tricks". When he won his first knockout at the 2002 Lancaster Regional, Mark was doubly excited because it earned him enough masterpoints to become a Life Master.

"THE SURVEY SAYS..."

The survey results that began with the Nov./Dec. 2003 issue continue here with results from questions 9, 10, and 11. Again, there were 106 total respondents (A/X: 49, B/C: 48, D/N: 9). The tabulation continues here as described in our last 2 issues. The next issue will continue publishing the results.

9. Sectional Location

a. Which qualities are most important for the site of our sectionals to have?

91.5% of all respondents answered.

RANKED BY VOTE TOTAL. (EACH VOTE EQUAL)

Parking	.86
Lighting	.76
Ease of Getting To	.69
Temperature	.64
Noise	.61
Proximity to Restaurants	.50
Food/Drink Available at Site	.48
Reliability	.44
Overall Atmosphere	.40
Time Restrictions	.28
Food Restrictions	.22
Kitchen Space	.14

RANKED BY WEIGHTED VOTE TOTAL

Lighting	.174
Parking	.168
Ease of Getting To	.152
Noise	.126
Temperature	.100
Proximity to Restaurants	.099
Reliability	.093
Food/Drink Available at Site	.085
Overall Atmosphere	.050
Time Restrictions	.046
Food Restrictions	.031
Kitchen Space	.023

b. Would you be willing to pay \$2 more per session for a high quality playing site?

87.7% of all respondents answered.

	<u>EACH VOTE EQUAL</u>	<u>WEIGHTED</u>
Yes:	64.5%	60.0%
No:	35.5%	40.0%
No Response:	12.3%	12.3%

c. How far will you travel and still play as often as you would prefer in WBL sectionals?
89.6% of all respondents answered

	<u>EACH VOTE EQUAL</u>	<u>WEIGHTED</u>
0-20 min.:	1.1%	1.6%
20-30 min.:	32.6%	33.2%
30-45 min.:	35.8%	36.4%
45-60 min.:	20.0%	18.7%
60-90 min.:	9.4%	8.5%
A very long time:	1.1%	1.6%
No Response:	10.4%	10.4%
AVERAGE:	40.4 min.	40.0 min.

d. Would you be willing to pay \$2 more per session for a closer playing site?

84.0% of all respondents answered.

	<u>EACH VOTE EQUAL</u>	<u>WEIGHTED</u>
Yes:	51.7%	47.6%
No:	48.3%	52.4%
No Response:	16.0%	16.0%

e. Do you like the White Oak Armory at Randolph Rd. & Rt. 29?

76.4% of all respondents answered.

	<u>EACH VOTE EQUAL</u>	<u>WEIGHTED</u>
Yes:	69.1%	66.4%
No:	30.9%	33.6%
No Response:	23.6%	23.6%

f. Is it ok to have some sections of an event at one site and some at another?

84.0% of all respondents answered.

	<u>EACH VOTE EQUAL</u>	<u>WEIGHTED</u>
Yes:	61.8%	61.8%
No:	30.2%	30.2%
No Response:	16.0%	16.0%

g. Is it ok to have Thurs. at one site, Fri. at another and Sat. and Sun. at a third site?

91.5% of all respondents answered.

	<u>EACH VOTE EQUAL</u>	<u>WEIGHTED</u>
Yes:	77.3%	75.0%
No:	22.7%	25.0%
No Response:	8.5%	8.5%

10. Unit Game Start Time

a. What time would you like to see the Unit Game begin?

84.9% of all respondents answered

	<u>EACH VOTE EQUAL</u>	<u>WEIGHTED</u>
5:00 pm:	1.1%	1.6%
5:30 pm:	0.0%	0.0%
6:00 pm:	1.1%	1.1%
6:30 pm:	1.1%	.6%
7:00 pm:	25.6%	23.5%
7:30 pm:	67.8%	71.0%
8:00 pm:	3.3%	2.2%
No Response:	15.1%	15.1%
AVERAGE:	7:21 pm	7:20 pm

11. Food During the Unit Game

a. What time would you like to see the Unit Game begin?

87.7% of all respondents answered

RANKED BY VOTE TOTAL, (EACH VOTE EQUAL)

The current selection is good	.62
Veggies	.15
Soda	.14
Sandwiches, Just drinks are necessary	.each 13
Juice	.9
Fruit	.8
No food or drink is necessary	.7
Salads, Pizza, Chips	.each 5
Subs	.4
Danish, Trail Mix, Water	.each 3
Wine/beer, Dinner, Candy,	
Cookies, Coffee	.each 2

RANKED BY WEIGHTED VOTE TOTAL

The current selection is good	.99
Just drinks are necessary	.28
Veggies, Soda	.each 24
Sandwiches	.21
Fruit	.16
Juice	.15
No food or drink is necessary	.13
Chips	.10
Water	.9
Pizza	.8
Salads, Subs, Trail Mix	.each 7
Danish	.6
Coffee	.5
Cookies	.4
Wine/beer, Dinner, Candy	.each 3

b. Would you like dinner before the game?

81.1% of all respondents answered.

	<u>EACH VOTE EQUAL</u>	<u>WEIGHTED</u>
Yes:	25.6%	19.0%
No:	74.4%	81.0%
No Response:	18.9%	18.9%

c. Would you like dinner during the game?

80.2% of all respondents answered.

	<u>EACH VOTE EQUAL</u>	<u>WEIGHTED</u>
Yes:	9.4%	6.1%
No:	80.6%	93.9%
No Response:	19.8%	19.8%

d. How much would you pay for dinner?

60.4% of all respondents answered

	<u>EACH VOTE EQUAL</u>	<u>WEIGHTED</u>
\$0:	48.4%	56.9%
\$4 - \$6:	15.6%	14.7%
\$6 - \$8:	18.8%	15.5%
\$8 - \$10:	10.9%	9.5%
\$10 - \$12:	6.3%	3.4%
No Response:	39.6%	39.6%
AVERAGE:	\$3.77	\$3.05

WASHINGTON BRIDGE LEAGUE'S 40TH ANNUAL PRESIDENTIAL TOURNAMENT

January 8-11, 2004

Results

TOP TEN CUMULATIVE POINT WINNERS

All Players

1	28.61	Mark Shaw
2	17.87	Jane Sturgis
3	17.50	Leo LaSota
4	15.91	Steve Robinson
5	15.61	Peter Boyd
6	15.29	Robert Hopkins Jr
	15.29	Joan Lewis
8	14.92	Charlie Garrod
	14.92	Noble Shore
10	14.30	Shou-Ling Wang

Players with fewer than 1500 masterpoints

1	17.87	Jane Sturgis
2	14.92	Noble Shore
	14.92	Charlie Garrod
4	11.37	Alice Wegman
5	9.75	Joe Wallen
6	9.45	Walter Kerns
7	9.05	Randy Zeibert
8	7.33	Richard Ferrin
9	7.31	Jim Gaarder
	7.31	Jimmy Ritzenberg
	7.31	Richard Price
	7.31	Melissa Price

Players with fewer than 500 masterpoints

1	14.92	Charlie Garrod
2	5.98	Samuel Bowlin
3	5.48	Maurine Kuiken
4	5.41	Mark Rosen
5	4.92	Robert Charkovsky
6	4.74	Irish Grandfield
7	4.25	Herbert Behre III
8	4.21	Eve Ingber
9	4.00	Eric Beard
	4.00	Shlomit Rind

Intermediate/Novice Game Point Leaders

1	3.97	David Epstein
	3.97	Azmat Ali
3	3.22	Eric Beard
	3.22	Shlomit Rind
5	2.41	Rama Kapur
6	2.38	Susan Graham
	2.38	John Graham
8	2.29	Millie Reizenstein
	2.29	Albert Leon
10	2.22	Raymond Hays
	2.22	Ruth Freedman

THURSDAY MORNING

OPEN PAIRS

Stratum A, 17 Pairs

1	Frank King Jr - Joan Shields	.70.24
2	Jackie Thompson - Jim Allen, Jr	.59.26
3	Emil Rassofsky - John Laurim	.58.20
4	Alfred Steinberg - Andrew Gofreed	.54.76
5	Marie Creisher - Alice Miller	.54.17

Stratum B, 9 Pairs

1	Emil Rassofsky - John Laurim	.58.20
2	Pat Tyler - Allen Lord	.53.87
3	Noble Shore - Charlie Garrod	.48.94
4	Morris Tepper - Wallace Oliver	.48.51

Stratum C, 6 Pairs

1	Emil Rassofsky - John Laurim	.58.20
2	Noble Shore - Charlie Garrod	.48.94

THURSDAY EVENING

A/X PAIRS



Stratum A, 88 Pairs

1	Warren Kaufman - Shou-Ling Wang	.65.91
2	Jane Sturgis - Mark Shaw	.64.02
3	Stuart Fleischmann - Scott Merritt	.63.94
4	Richard Ferrin - Eugene Kales	.62.88
5	Morris Rosen - Irwin Aisenberg	.62.31
6	Glenn Lublin - Leo LaSota	.60.61
7	Joan Lewis - Robert Hopkins Jr	.59.29
8/9	Philip Mittleman - Danut Gliga	.58.52
8/9	Larry Kahn - H John Edmonds	.58.52

Stratum X, 56 Pairs

1	Stuart Fleischmann - Scott Merritt	.63.94
2	Morris Rosen - Irwin Aisenberg	.62.31
3/4	Philip Mittleman - Danut Gliga	.58.52
3/4	Larry Kahn - H John Edmonds	.58.52
5/6	Joel Miller - Leon Letwin	.58.33
5/6	Lynn Jones - Joseph Trapani	.58.33

B/C PAIRS



Stratum B, 48 Pairs

- 1 Studmuffin - The Amazon Queen63.10
- 2 Herbert Behre III - John Lowe III . . .60.71
- 3 Christon Johnson - Robert Boorman .59.23
- 4 Lois Simms - Stella Perry58.00
- 5 Walter Kerns - Daniel Feldman57.44
- 6 Namik Haveric - Mirsad Mujezinovic 57.14

Stratum C, 27 Pairs

- 1 Christon Johnson - Robert Boorman .59.23
- 2 Lois Simms - Stella Perry58.00
- 3 Namik Haveric - Mirsad Mujezinovic 57.14
- 4 Yussuf Seraj - Abdul Etmedi57.00
- 5 Suzanne Abrams - Livingston Johnson .56.85
- 6 Steven Sacks - Ellen Rosenthal55.95

1999 PAIRS



Stratum A, 12 Pairs

- 1 Azmat Ali - David Epstein62.08
- 2 Eric Nash - Wilma Middleton61.25
- 3 Jane Lee - Audrey Bourke55.00
- 4 Francie Gingrich - Judy Condon . . .53.33

Stratum B, 6 Pairs

- 1 Francie Gingrich - Judy Condon . . .53.33
- 2 Galia Steinbach - Joav Steinbach . .49.17

Stratum C, 5 Pairs

- 1 Francie Gingrich - Judy Condon . . .53.33
- 2 Galia Steinbach - Joav Steinbach . .49.17

FRIDAY MORNING

OPEN PAIRS



Stratum A, 30 Pairs

- 1 Leo LaSota - Randy Zeibert74.26
- 2 Kenneth Davis - John Ashe61.94
- 3 Eugene Fisher - Mark Rosen56.32
- 4/5 Kim Smith - Louise Borden56.15
- 4/5 Melody Jenkins - Robert Jenkins . . .56.15
- 6 Phyllis Kristianson - Ann Parrott . . .54.82

Stratum B, 23 Pairs

- 1 Eugene Fisher - Mark Rosen56.32
- 2 Melody Jenkins - Robert Jenkins . . .56.15
- 3 Phyllis Kristianson - Ann Parrott . . .54.82
- 4 Noble Shore - Charlie Garrod54.35
- 5 Walter Kerns - Ronald Allen53.53
- 6 Carol Poland - Edna Hargrave53.32

Stratum C, 15 Pairs

- 1 Eugene Fisher - Mark Rosen56.32
- 2 Phyllis Kristianson - Ann Parrott . . .54.82
- 3 Noble Shore - Charlie Garrod54.35
- 4 Carol Poland - Edna Hargrave53.32
- 5 Martin Aronsohn - Darrell Wyatt . . .52.13

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

OPEN PAIRS



Stratum A, 45 Pairs

- 1 Terry Feetham - Leon Letwin68.06
- 2 Kenton Schoen - Charles Yapple . . .66.90
- 3 Alfred Steinberg - Steve Robinson . .59.03
- 4 Lucy McCoy - M Cassandra Smith . .57.18
- 5/6 Mark Shaw - Lyle Poe Jr56.94
- 5/6 Candace Kushner - Marshall Kushner 56.94

Stratum B, 23 Pairs

- 1 Noble Shore - Charlie Garrod54.17
- 2 Audrey Stern - David Wakefield . . .52.08
- 3/4 Marshall Kramer - Nelu Schwartz . .50.00
- 3/4 John Hartwell - Robert Von Moss . .50.00
- 5 Avinash Bhagwat - Marlys Moholt . .49.54
- 6/8 Herbert Behre III - John Lowe III . .49.31
- 6/8 Richard Allison - Kitty Gottfried . .49.31
- 6/8 Wonjoo Goldstein - Ruth Zimmerman 49.31

Stratum C, 13 Pairs

- 1 Noble Shore - Charlie Garrod54.17
- 2/3 Marshall Kramer - Nelu Schwartz . .50.00
- 2/3 John Hartwell - Robert Von Moss . .50.00
- 4 Herbert Behre III - John Lowe III . .49.31
- 5 Candy Greenway - Ron Starr49.07

2999 PAIRS



Stratum A, 18 Pairs

- 1 Ruth Fidelman - Morris Fidelman . .60.12
- 2 Joseph Farruggio - Judy Glick58.63
- 3 Darrell Wyatt - Rama Kapur57.74

- 4 Margaret Buda - Nancy Weil57.14
- 5/6 Johnghvb Terauds - Edwin Tums . . .55.65
- 5/6 Nancy Loomis - Carolyn Becraft . . .55.65

Stratum B, 10 Pairs

- 1 Morris Fidelman - Ruth Fidelman . .60.12
- 2 Nancy Loomis - Carolyn Becraft . . .55.65
- 3 Laurence Pearl - David Hartman . . .53.87
- 4 Azmat Ali - David Epstein51.79

Stratum C, 5 Pairs

- 1 Laurence Pearl - David Hartman . . .53.87
- 2 Eric Beard - Shlomit Rind48.21

FRIDAY EVENING

A/X PAIRS



Stratum A, 24 Pairs

- 1 Alice Wegman - Richard Wegman . .66.48
- 2 Glenn Lublin - Randy Zeibert56.63
- 3 Tom Cogan - Helene Bauman55.87
- 4 Jane Sturgis - Mark Shaw55.68
- 5 Ellen Klosson - Steve Robinson . . .54.73
- 6 Frank King Jr - Richard Veach53.79

Stratum X, 10 Pairs

- 1 Alice Wegman - Richard Wegman . .66.48
- 2 Elliot Grant - James Davenport Jr . .51.89
- 3 Bryan Coleman - Katherine Hilbers .51.70
- 4 Clyde Kuskal - Donna Rogall50.95

B/C/D PAIRS



Stratum B, 26 Pairs

- 1 Jan Garber - Allen Lord68.09
- 2 Mohsen Esfandiary - Pari Khoshkish .61.45
- 3 Steven Fox - Albert Lauber58.67
- 4 Hy Chansky - Kitty Gottfried58.44
- 5 Steven Forsythe - Sandra Forsythe .56.15
- 6 Deitrich Ford - Henry Shelton Jr . . .55.03

Stratum C, 21 Pairs

- 1 Mohsen Esfandiary - Pari Khoshkish .61.45
- 2 Steven Fox - Albert Lauber58.67
- 3 Steven Forsythe - Sandra Forsythe .56.15
- 4 Deitrich Ford - Henry Shelton Jr . . .55.03
- 5 Marshall Kramer - Gerard Mulvenna .53.13
- 6 Juanita Fernandez - John Mattioli . .52.56

Stratum D, 18 Pairs

- 1 Mohsen Esfandiary - Pari Khoshkish .61.45
- 2 Steven Fox - Albert Lauber58.67
- 3 Steven Forsythe - Sandra Forsythe .56.15
- 4 Deitrich Ford - Henry Shelton Jr . . .55.03
- 5 Marshall Kramer - Gerard Mulvenna .53.13

2999 PAIRS



Stratum A, 8 Pairs

- 1 Eric Beard - Shlomit Rind60.32
- 2 Samuel Bowlin - Wanda Avila59.79
- 3 Audrey Bourke - Jane Lee57.94

Stratum B, 6 Pairs

- 1 Eric Beard - Shlomit Rind60.32
- 2 Audrey Bourke - Jane Lee57.94

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Steve Forsythe is the new volunteer coordinator for the Washington Bridge League. He's making two lists:

1) Volunteers who might be willing to play with someone who's looking for a partner, and

2) Volunteers who might be willing to play to help out at a sectional. For example, we will need help taking winners pictures at the sectionals after each session. We may need help with hospitality: i.e., baking or shopping. Once Steve has this list, he can just send out an email whenever a need arises.

Please email Steve Forsythe at majself@aol.com or call him at **301-592-9177** with the following information:

- (a) name, email, phone,
- (b) volunteer to help (Y/N),
- (c) volunteer to be a partner (Y/N)

This is a great opportunity to meet people, make new partnerships, and have fun! You can volunteer to help, or be a partner, or both. He's not asking you to commit to anything specific yet, and you can always say no. So please consider adding your name to our database of people who would like to hear from us when we need a little help.

Thanks!

SATURDAY MORNING

OPEN PAIRS



Stratum A, 22 Pairs

- 1 Irish Grandfield - Allan Sitterson . . .63.66
- 2 Robert Charkovsky - Samuel Bowlin .62.50
- 3 Noble Shore - Charlie Garrod60.88
- 4 Bruce Houston - Kenneth Davis58.10
- 5 Eric Branfman - Carl Nelson57.41
- 6 Walter Kerns - Ronald Allen56.02

Stratum B, 15 Pairs

- 1 Irish Grandfield - Allan Sitterson . . .63.66
- 2 Robert Charkovsky - Samuel Bowlin .62.50
- 3 Noble Shore - Charlie Garrod60.88
- 4 Walter Kerns - Ronald Allen56.02
- 5 Juanita Fernandez - John Lowe III . .54.63

Stratum C, 12 Pairs

- 1 Irish Grandfield - Allan Sitterson . . .63.66
- 2 Robert Charkovsky - Samuel Bowlin .62.50
- 3 Noble Shore - Charlie Garrod60.88
- 4 Juanita Fernandez - John Lowe III . .54.63

299ER PAIRS



8 Pairs

- 1 Jon Ranhand - Donald Goldman . . .59.72
- 2/3 Jeff Youngen - Mary O'Shea54.17
- 2/3 Edwin Brawn - Susan Brawn54.17

SATURDAY AFTERNOON

A/X PAIRS



Stratum A, 41 Pairs

- 1 Ron Sukoneck - Peter Boyd61.66
- 2 Leo LaSota - Mark Shaw60.87
- 3 Betty Bursey - M Cassandra Smith . .59.69
- 4 Martin Graf - Jane Sturgis58.73
- 5 Noble Shore - Charlie Garrod57.57
- 6 Daniel Shankle Jr - Juline Glaz56.66
- 7 Donna Rogall - Ellen Cherniavsky . .55.79

Stratum X, 21 Pairs

- 1 Betty Bursey - M Cassandra Smith . .59.69
- 2 Martin Graf - Jane Sturgis58.73
- 3 Noble Shore - Charlie Garrod57.57

- 4 Daniel Shankle Jr - Juline Glaz56.66
- 5 Donna Rogall - Ellen Cherniavsky . .55.79
- 6 Mita Banerjee - Hanna Schepps . . .54.88

B/C/D PAIRS



Stratum B, 52 Pairs

- 1 Mary Mudd - Barry Sparks61.45
- 2 Robert Padgett - Linda Padgett61.22
- 3 William Kingery Jr - Daniel Koch . .59.75
- 4 Marie Nysten - Jane Friend59.55
- 5 Richard Penn - Barry Reich58.65
- 6 Leila Whiting - Audrey Stern57.85

Stratum C, 40 Pairs

- 1 Robert Padgett - Linda Padgett61.22
- 2 William Kingery Jr - Daniel Koch . .59.75
- 3 Marie Nysten - Jane Friend59.55
- 4 Richard Penn - Barry Reich58.65
- 5 Robert Charkovsky - Samuel Bowlin .57.69
- 6 Linda Marshall - Charlotte Olesker . .56.73

Stratum D, 23 Pairs

- 1 William Kingery Jr - Daniel Koch . .59.75
- 2 Robert Charkovsky - Samuel Bowlin .57.69
- 3 Eve Ingber - Craig Perry54.81
- 4 Bradley Tash - Barry Tash53.69
- 5 James Beller - Lawrence Heinen . . .53.51
- 6 Ruth Schridder - Patrice Gordon . . .52.08

299ER PAIRS

Stratum A, 24 Pairs

- 1 Raymond Hays - Ruth Freedman . . .65.15
- 2 Azmat Ali - David Epstein62.12
- 3 Jack Schiff - Gaye Itkin61.17
- 4 Barry Lieberman - Thomas Din . . .60.42
- 5 Cathy Stryker - Nancy Loomis57.77
- 6 Millie Reizenstein - Albert Leon . .56.25

Stratum B, 18 Pairs

- 1 Azmat Ali - David Epstein62.12
- 2 Jack Schiff - Gaye Itkin61.17
- 3 Barry Lieberman - Thomas Din . . .60.42
- 4 Cathy Stryker - Nancy Loomis57.77
- 5 Millie Reizenstein - Albert Leon . .56.25

Stratum C, 7 Pairs

- 1 John Graham - Susan Graham53.41
- 2 Eric Beard - Shlomit Rind52.46
- 3 Ellie Clark - Elizabeth Parker47.54

SATURDAY EVENING

A/X PAIRS



Stratum A, 21 Pairs

- 1 John Adams - Steve Robinson62.14
- 2 Helene Bauman - Charles Yaple . . .59.26

- 3 Robert Gookin - Linda Maloney . . .58.23
- 4 Alan Kleist - David Chechelashvili .56.79
- 5 Mark Shaw - Leo LaSota56.48
- 6 Robert Bell - Don Probst53.01

Stratum X, 12 Pairs

- 1 Roy Tibery - Kim Smith52.47
- 2 Noble Shore - Charlie Garrod49.30
- 3 Brad Theurer - R Eissenstat48.61
- 4 Mita Banerjee - Hanna Schepps . . .48.56

B/C/D PAIRS



Stratum B, 22 Pairs

- 1 Bill Gainer - Benjamin Stauss64.44
- 2 Eve Ingber - Jeffery Smith61.30
- 3 Alice Wegman - John Glynn59.20
- 4 Sandra Forsythe - Steven Forsythe .58.59
- 5 Cathy Stryker - Nancy Loomis57.96
- 6 Michael Polunin - John Mason Jr . .54.86

Stratum C, 20 Pairs

- 1 Eve Ingber - Jeffery Smith61.30
- 2 Alice Wegman - John Glynn59.20
- 3 Sandra Forsythe - Steven Forsythe .58.59
- 4 Cathy Stryker - Nancy Loomis57.96
- 5 Michael Polunin - John Mason Jr . .54.86
- 6 Shlomit Rind - Eric Beard54.31

Stratum D, 14 Pairs

- 1 Eve Ingber - Jeffery Smith61.30
- 2 Sandra Forsythe - Steven Forsythe .58.59
- 3 Cathy Stryker - Nancy Loomis57.96
- 4 Shlomit Rind - Eric Beard54.31
- 5 Candace Carlton - Terry Carlton . .52.75

SUNDAY A/X SWISS TEAMS



Stratum A, 18 Teams

- 1 Rusty Krauss - Barry Falgout - Robert Hopkins Jr - Joan Lewis112.00
- 2 Thomas Lavender - John Klayman - Randolph Beckham - Joe Wallen . . .86.00
- 3 Richard Price - Melissa Price - Jim Gaarder - Jimmy Ritzenberg84.00
- 4 Robert Klein - Maurine Kuiken - Les Bart - Gloria Silverman82.00
- 5 Steve Robinson - Peter Boyd - William Cole - Mark Shaw81.00

Stratum X, 7 Teams

- 1 Thomas Lavender - John Klayman - Randolph Beckham - Joe Wallen . . .86.00
- 2 Richard Price - Melissa Price - Jim Gaarder - Jimmy Ritzenberg84.00
- 3 Stephen Czecha - Nelson Waks - Koko Soderberg - Ann Ruth Volin79.00

B/C/D SWISS TEAMS



Stratum B, 18 Teams

- 1 Jerry Miller - Walter Kerns - Daniel Feldman - Margie Coccodrilli102.00
- 2 Kathryn Kiley - Betty Bursey - Jackie Thompson - Marlys Moholt85.00
- 3 James Prentiss - Carl Lerman - Ephraim Salins - Mildred Lieder83.00
- 4 Penny Stoever - Todd Zimnoch - Robert Wissman - John Christensen82.00
- 5 Bill Gainer - Robert Stearns - Lynn Boardman - Charles Young Jr77.00

Stratum C, 14 Teams

- 1 Daniel Feldman - Jerry Miller - Margie Coccodrilli - Walter Kerns102.00
- 2 Penny Stoever - Todd Zimnoch - Robert Wissman - John Christensen82.00
- 3/4 Janet Berman - Rena Rutstein - Carol Schuman - Shirley Coll76.00
- 3/4 Kenneth Kaufman - Larry Gomborg - J J Armour - Rachel Bethe76.00
- 5 Alice Wegman - John Glynn - Kitty Gottfried - Eileen Houghton75.00

Stratum D, 11 Teams

- 1 Penny Stoever - Todd Zimnoch - Robert Wissman - John Christensen82.00
- 2 Janet Berman - Rena Rutstein - Carol Schuman - Shirley Coll76.00
- 3 Richard Cassell - Mitchell Karlick - Stephen Goldstein - Edward Taborek 71.00
- 4 Donald Goldman - Jon Ranhand - Steven Sacks - Marc Weiner70.00

SUNDAY MORNING

299ER SWISS TEAMS



Stratum A, 7 Teams

- 1 Walter Lafferty - Mary Lafferty - Millie Reizenstein - Albert Leon58.00
- 2 Susan Graham - John Graham - Rama Kapur - Tsung Lee51.00
- 3 Robert Lawrence - Frances Lawrence - M. Josette Johnson - A. Edwin Johnson .43.00

Stratum B, 4 Teams

- 1 Susan Graham - John Graham - Rama Kapur - Tsung Lee51.00



NLM MASTER POINTERS

by I/N Columnist, Vince Wilmot, vwilmot@erols.com

In this issue, we will focus on how to continue after partner opens 1NT, and we utilize the Stayman convention to determine whether partner has a four card major.

As you recall, a 2C response to a 1NT opener is an artificial call. It asks partner whether they have a four card major. Once partner answers, you are in a better position to place the final contract.

Let's look at a few sample auctions:

Opener	Responder
AK6	532
AT98	KQ54
AQ4	K432
432	K6
1NT	2C
2H	4H
P	

Responder bid 2C to search for a major suit fit. When partner showed four hearts, responder knows that there is a fit. Since responder knows that the combined hands have enough points for game, responder simply bids 4H. Opener should not bid any more, as responder is captain of this auction.

Opener	Responder
AK6	QJ98
AT98	KQ5
A65	K432
Q32	K6
1NT	2C
2H	3NT
P	

In this case, opener showed four hearts. Responder was interested in spades, and just signs off in 3NT. Note that responder again can evaluate the total assets of the partnership, and places the final contract.

Opener	Responder
AK65	QJ98
AT98	KQ5
A6	K432
Q32	K6
1NT	2C
2H	3NT
4S	P

Similar to the last auction, opener shows hearts and responder signs off. However, in this case opener knows that partner must have had four spades because she used Stayman. Opener can bid 4S with confidence, knowing that there is a 4-4 fit.

Opener	Responder
KQ6	9852
K43	AQJ7
A653	742
KT9	Q43
1NT	2C
2D	2NT
P	

Responder looked for a major suit fit. When opener bid 2D, responder, with 9 HCP is unsure whether the partnership has sufficient assets for game. 2NT invites opener to bid more with a maximum hand (17 HCP). Opener, with the minimum (15 HCP) hand passes, and plays the hand in 2NT. Note that on the combined hands, 2NT may even be too high.

Opener	Responder
KQ6	9852
K43	AQJ7
KQJ32	742
KT	Q43
1NT	2C
2D	2NT
3NT	P

When responder invited game, opener has a maximum hand (17 HCP), and accepted the game invitation.

Opener	Responder
AK6	5432
AT98	5432
A87	65432
Q32	—
1NT	2C!
2H	P

This hand shows why you always bid 2D when you don't have a 4 card major. Responder chose to bid 2C to try to find a safer place to play than 1NT. Note that to do this, responder had to have diamonds. If a 4-4 major suit fit did not exist, we need someplace safe to play. Observe the next example.

Opener	Responder
AK6	5432
AT9	5432
A87	65432
Q832	—
1NT	2C!
2D	P

Here, when responder did not have a four card major, responder passed 2D. Note that 2D is a much better contract than 1NT. You can ruff diamonds in the dummy, and come close to making the contract. In 1NT, you have no source of tricks and will likely just make your three aces and king of spades.

Next time, we will begin to explore a very useful convention, the Jacoby transfer.

STEPPING UP TO NEW HEIGHTS

As of January 1, 2004

Junior Masters (5 Masterpoints)

Kathy M Attlan Mrs Huguette L Kelsey
Ken M Marx Katherine I Rabenstein
Mary Ann Wade Marvin D Raines

Club Masters (20 Masterpoints)

Murray Howder Phyllis T Fredericks
Ms Ruth Woods Maxine E Strieter

Sectional Masters (50 Masterpoints)

Anton P Ganev Neal H Rosenthal

NABC Masters (200 Masterpoints)

Michael Henderson Madeline A Delahan

PARTNERSHIPS AND CARPOOLS

Need a Partner or a Carpool for Unit Games or Tournaments?

Players who would like assistance can obtain help either on-line or by contacting one of the WBL's partnership coordinators or Don Berman, the carpool coordinator.

(1) **On-Line Partnership Desk.** The WBL has established an on-line partnership desk on its web site (www.washingtonbridgeleague.org). The WBL is the first unit in the country to do this. Sign up, indicate which events you are available for, and find out if other players are available for the games you wish to play in. Simply log on to the WBL website and click on the partnership desk. Please give it a try.

(2) **Partnership Coordinators.** For those who prefer assistance in person, three people have volunteered to help players find partners in advance of the unit game or sectional events. For the unit game, Barbara Shaw will assist players in Flights A/X (BarbShaw@comcast.net; 301-598-3339). Charity Sack will assist players in Flights B/C/D for the unit game, and all players for the sectionals (charity@charitysack.com; 703-963-7027). Please let them know as early as you can what game or events you would like to play in.

(3) **On-Line Carpool Notices.** Post your requests and look at others at the WBL website. To post requests, send an e-mail to the Web Master (don.berman@verizon.net). Include your name, when you need a ride (either a specific date or a general request, e.g., all unit gmes), and how to contact you (E-mail or phone numbers).

(4) **Don Berman, Carpool Coordinator** can also be contacted at 301-776-3581.

Good luck, and we look forward to seeing you on Thursday evenings and at the WBL sectionals.

LESLIE SHAFER'S CLASSES — New Class for Advancing Players!

Starting March 2nd — Tuesdays 7:30-9:30 pm at the Washington Bridge Center: An Introduction to the 2/1 Game Force System. This is a new four-week course designed to introduce you to the differences between Standard American and 2/1. It is easy to convert to this popular system. Course will study in detail the 1NT Forcing Convention — An integral part of the 2/1 approach. The 2/1 system allows you to keep the bidding low while searching for the best game or even those hard to find slams. Course lasts for four weeks. Handouts provided. Teachers: Leslie Shafer and Charlie Williams. Please call the Washington Bridge Center to register for the class: 301-445-0276. Any questions, contact Leslie Shafer by email at slamhand@verizon.net. Cost \$60.



APRIL 22 - 25, 2004
NORTHERN VIRGINIA BRIDGE ASSOCIATION

SPRING SECTIONAL TOURNAMENT

Knights of Columbus Hall (KOCH)
5115 Little Falls Road, Arlington, VA
703-536-9656

THURSDAY, APRIL 22

Note: All Virginia Events are at KOCH!

Knights of Columbus Hall (KOCH), Arlington, VA (NVBA)
Christ the King Church, one block south of East-West Highway on Colston
between Washington and Grubb, Chevy Chase, MD (WBL)

NVBA (KOCH) WBL

STRATAFLIGHTED PAIRS (A/X=3000+/3000; B/C=2000/750)7:00 p.m.7:30 p.m.
299ER PAIRS (300/200/100)7:00 p.m.
199ER PAIRS (200/100/50)7:30 p.m.
EASYBRIDGE! PAIRS (20/5)7:00 p.m.

...REST OF TOURNAMENT AT KOCH...

FRIDAY, APRIL 23

STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS (2000+/2000/750)2:00 p.m.
299ER PAIRS (0-300)2:00 p.m.
MINI-STRATIFIED PAIRS (100/50/20/5)2:00 p.m.
STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS (2000+/2000/750)7:30 p.m.
INTERMEDIATE STRATIFIED PAIRS (300/200/100)7:30 p.m.
49ER PAIRS (50/20/5)7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, APRIL 24

STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS (2000+/2000/750)9:30 a.m.
STRATIFIED SENIOR PAIRS (2000+/2000/750)9:30 a.m.
MINI-STRATIFIED PAIRS (100/50/20)9:30 a.m.
STRATA-FLIGHTED PAIRS: Flights A/X (3000+/3000)2:00 p.m.
Flights B/C/D (2000/750/300)2:00 p.m.
STRATIFIED SINGLE SESSION SIDE GAME (1000+/1000) 2:00 p.m.
STRATIFIED SENIOR PAIRS (2000+/2000/750)2:00 p.m.
299ER PAIRS (0-300)2:00 p.m.
MINI-STRATIFIED PAIRS (100/50/20)2:00 p.m.
EASYBRIDGE! PAIRS (20/5)2:00 p.m.
STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS (2000+/2000/750)7:30 p.m.
INTERMEDIATE STRATIFIED PAIRS (300/200/100/50) ..7:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, APRIL 25

Novice/Intermediate Lecture (Jeff Roman)10:15 a.m.
FLIGHTS A/X (3000+/3000) & B/C (2000/750) SWISS TEAMS .11:00 a.m.
Both Flights are 2-session events, with one 30-minute break—box lunch available
299ER SWISS TEAMS (0-300; Single session)11:00 a.m.
MINI-STRATIFIED SWISS TEAMS (100/50/20; Single session) .11:00 a.m.
STRATIFIED 299ER SWISS TEAMS (300/200/100; Single session) .3:15 p.m.

DIRECTIONS: From Rte. 495 (the Belway) or points West of the Belway, take Rte. 66 East to the Washington Boulevard/Lee Highway exit. At the light at the end of the exit ramp, turn left onto Lee Highway. Go approximately 1.5 miles and turn left onto Harrison Street. Go .5 miles and turn right onto Little Falls Road. The KOCH is on your left .2 of a mile down Little Falls. From D.C. or Arlington, take Rte. 66 West to the Sycamore Street exit. At the end of the exit ramp, turn right onto Sycamore. At the second light, turn right onto Lee Highway and go a little over 1 mile and turn left onto Harrison Street. Follow the above directions from that point. OR from D.C., go straight across Chain Bridge and then keep left to stay on Glebe Road. From the light at the end of Chain Bridge, proceed 1.8 miles and turn right onto Little Falls Road (the second right past the light at Williamsburg Blvd.). Cross Old Dominion (.3 miles) at the stop sign and proceed on Little Falls another .3 miles to the KOCH on your right. From all directions, turn up the drive and circle past the stone lodge. Follow signs for visitor parking. The tournament will be held in the brick building marked "KOCH"

*Gibbitz the best teams
in District 6 in the Semis
& Finals of the Champion-
ship Flight GNTs between
sessions on Sat. & Sun.*

**Mid-Chart Conventions
permitted in all Flt A, B,
& Open Stratified Events**

*Free Snacks Every Session
Snack Bar On-Site to
Provide Reasonably-Priced
Sandwiches, Hot Dogs,
Fruit, Cookies, Coffee,
Sodas, Wine, and Beer*

Tournament Chairs

*Margot Hennings,
703-560-0245
Kathryn Kiley,
703-758-0366*

Partnership Chair

*Pete Hughes,
703-768-4083
On-line Partnership "Desk"
on www.nvba.org*

**Next Sectional:
Sept. 9-12**