

The WBL Fall Sectional is back!

**75TH ANNUAL
D.C. CHAMPIONSHIPS
SEPTEMBER 29 - OCTOBER 2, 2005**



**New for Friday Night: IMP PAIRS, BEER
&
BRATWURST!**



Introducing IMP pairs... You only need one partner, but it scores like a team game. Your score will be averaged with all the other scores from your direction on each board. Then you will compare your actual score to the average. The difference is what you use to find your IMP score from the IMP score chart...

**It's Fall...Time to Get
Back to Bridge
& Other Sports**



Kick off **Saturday** with the
JOINT ABA/ACBL

STRATAFLIGHTED PAIRS AT 11AM

Play with a regular partner or contact Barbara Ames, 202-439-5667, fbacpa@aol.com or Winston Edwards, 301-776-8511, worledwards@aol.com to set up a game with an ABA member. *Mixed membership partnerships (ABA/ACBL) will be eligible for extra point awards!*

Get **Back to Bridge School** with
SATURDAY'S 2PM WORKSHOP

Get **Back** to the
**FAMOUS
WASHINGTON
HOSPITALITY**
with complimentary
snacks, drinks &
weekend
lunches.



Turn your friends onto bridge in **One Day** with the
INSTANT BRIDGE PLAYER LESSON!
1:30PM SUNDAY — BOOKLET, PIZZA, & SNACKS

Just \$20 with advance reservation; \$25 at the door. (Students \$10 with reservation; \$15 at the door) To reserve your spot, email Dr. Steven Forsythe: MAJSLF@aol.com or call 301/592-9177.

See page 3 for the full tournament schedule...

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 3100 N Leisure World Blvd, Apt. 606, Silver Spring, MD 20906.

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♣♦♥♠ ~~~~~ ♣♦♥♠

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TO SUBMIT NEW ARTICLES TO THE EDITOR FOR THE NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2005 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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 Ann Lindley — *Tournament Co-Chair* (301-438-1335)
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 Ted Ying — *Unit Game Chief Director* (301-490-3154)
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 Charleen Brand — *Unit Game Partnerships* (301-946-8483)
 Charity Sack — *Tournament Partnerships* (703-963-7027)
 Kitty Gottfried — *Unit Game and Sectional Hospitality* (301-587-3981)

WBL WEBSITE: www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org
 DISTRICT 6 SITE: www.districtsix.org

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~ ♣♦♥♠ ~

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

by WBL President, Dick Wegman

As you open this issue of the Bulletin, you may notice a new look on our cover page. Our Bulletin editor, Donna Rogall, has redesigned and modernized the logo for the Washington Bridge League. Members of our Board are very pleased with our new look, and I hope you like it too.

Our first sectional tournament for the 2005-2006 season will be held over the weekend of September 29-October 2, with Thursday evening and Friday games at Christ the King Church (as usual), and Saturday and Sunday events at our new location at the **Margaret Schweinhaut Senior Center** on Forest Glen Road in Silver Spring. The Schweinhaut Center is a very comfortable facility, with lots of playing space, good lighting, and two large parking lots just outside the front door. The center is located just a mile or so from the Beltway exit at Georgia Avenue, so it should be reasonably convenient for most of our players.

On Saturday morning during the sectional we will be holding a joint game with the **Washington Bridge Unit** of the **American Bridge Association**. You may recall that the ABA hosted a joint game with us earlier this year, and this is our turn to reciprocate. I hope many of you will be able to play in this event, and to welcome our good friends from the ABA. We very much hope to be able to schedule these joint events on a regular basis in the future.

I would like to encourage our intermediate and novice players to participate in our tournaments (and unit games) during the coming 2005-2006 season. At the recent Summer Nationals in Atlanta, almost 1,000 players competed in the newcomer and intermediate events, and several players from our area performed very well. The top newcomer/intermediate player at the tournament was **David Banh**, who recently graduated from Thomas Jefferson High School in McLean. Both **Shlomit Rind** and **Roma Chandra** made the Top 30 list of newcomer/intermediate players at the Summer Nationals. Congratulations to David, Shlomit and Roma on a great performance in Atlanta, and we look forward to seeing you at our games this fall.

Here's an interesting story from the Atlanta Nationals. Our team played in the semi-finals of the 0-5000 Spingold event against two strong young players – **Justin Lall** from Plano, Texas and **David Grainger** from Ontario. Justin picked up ♠ xx, ♥ AKQ109xx, ♦ Axxx, ♣ —, and he bid 1♥ after his partner opened the bidding 1♦. After his left-hand opponent (me) overcalled 1♠, his partner rebid 2♣, and he bid 2♠ (game force). His partner rebid 2N, he bid 3♥ and his partner raised to 4♥. Justin now decided that his hand was worth a cue bid of 5♣, but his partner assumed that Justin was showing secondary support for clubs, and he passed the cue bid. So they played in their 5-0 fit, down three, when 11 tricks are easily available in hearts. What really impressed me was that neither Justin nor David showed the slightest flicker of disappointment or disapproval about the contract, and when the hand was over, the two of them just went on to the next hand without comment. Their behavior was absolutely exemplary – I only hope that I can achieve the same high standard of behavior the next time I find myself in a similar situation.

We have also just arranged with the **Smithsonian Institution** for a beginners bridge course program to be held as part of the **Campus on the Mall** early next year. It will consist of six two-hour lessons, and will be taught by **Ron Kral**, one of the most experienced teachers in the Washington area. This is a wonderful opportunity to introduce new players to the exciting and challenging game of bridge – please be sure to let your friends know about this program. As soon as I have more details about this program, I will provide them to you.

Finally, I'm sorry to report that this month the **Washington Bridge Center** is closing its doors at its New Hampshire Avenue location, after many years of service to the Washington bridge community. **Jim Allen**, longtime owner and manager of the WBC, is hoping to reopen the club soon at another nearby location. Good luck, Jim, in finding a suitable site, and we look forward to playing at your club again in the very near future.

I hope to see you soon at the bridge table.

Dick Wegman

SILVER SPRING, MD: SEPT. 29-OCT. 2, 2005

75th Annual D.C. Championships

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

~~StrataFlighted Open Pairs (unlim/3000/1500/1000/500)10:30am~~
CANCELLED (Cancelled due to Washington Bridge Center closing.)

- ♦ StrataFlighted Open Pairs (AX unlim/3000, B/C/D Separate 1500/1000/500) (both sites); Stratified NLM Pairs (NLM/100/50) & 0-20 Pairs (Christ the King Church only); Stratified 199er Pairs (Beth El only)

Beth El Congregation, 3830 Seminary Rd, Alexandria7:00pm

Christ the King Church, 2301 Colston Drive, Silver Spring7:30pm

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—at Christ the King Church Only **FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30**

♥ StrataFlighted A/X Pairs (unlim/3000) & B/C/D Pairs (1500/1000/500)10:00am, 2:00pm



♠ **NEW! IMP Pairs, Beer, & Bratwurst:** Friday nights are your chance to try a different form of the game. This tournament will introduce IMP pairs... You only need one partner, but it scores like a team game. Your score will be averaged with all the other scores from your direction on each board. Then you will compare your actual score to the average. The difference is what you use to find your IMP score from the IMP score chart...

StrataFlighted A/X (unlim/3000) & B/C/D (1500/1000/500)7:30pm

♣ Intermediate/Novice Pairs (300/200/100/50/20) (single sessions)10:00am, 2:00pm, 7:30pm

♠ ♦ **BACK TO... the Margaret Schweinhaut Senior Center** ♥ ♠

SATURDAY & SUNDAY ONLY: 1000 Forest Glen Road, Silver Spring, MD: From Beltway exit Georgia Avenue north (toward Wheaton). Turn right at first traffic light which is Forest Glen. Go .7 mile. Senior Center is the building on your right.

GET BACK TO BRIDGE SCHOOL WITH SATURDAY'S 2PM WORKSHOP!
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1

♣ **Special! Joint ABA/ACBL** StrataFlighted A/X (unlim/3000) & B/C/D Pairs (1500/1000/500) ..11:00am

♦ StrataFlighted A/X (unlim/3000) & B/C/D Pairs (1500/1000/500)3:30pm

♦ Intermediate/Novice Pairs (300/200/100) (single sessions)11:00am, 3:30pm

♥ Newcomer Pairs (50/20/5) (single sessions)11:00am, 3:30pm

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2

♠ A/X Swiss Teams, VPs (unlim /3000, 7 round playthru w/short break)11:00am & TBA

♣ B/C/D Swiss Teams, VPs (2000/1000/500, 7 round playthru w/short break)11:00am & TBA

♦ 300/100/50 Swiss Teams, VPs (single sessions)11:00am, 3:00pm

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

I/N events: 0-5, 20, 50, 100, 200, 300; Stratification at Director's Discretion.



Famous Washington Hospitality includes snacks, drinks and **Friday, Saturday and Sunday** lunch free of charge. Chair: **Nadine Wood**, 301-565-9555, woodthere@comcast.net.

Co-Chair: **Ann Lindley**, 301-438-1335, aslindley@verizon.net. Volunteer Coordinator: **Barbara Summers**, 301-598-5838, jimbarb1184@aol.com Hospitality: **Kitty Gottfried**, 301-587-3981, kgottfried@hotmail.com Partnerships: **Barbara Ames**, 202-439-5667, barbara@fbacpa.com or try the easy **Online Partnership Bulletin Board:** www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org

SILVER SPRING, MD: JANUARY 5-8, 2006

44th Annual Presidential Tournament

THURSDAY, JANUARY 5

IT'S THE
FIRST OF THE
NEW YEAR...

TIME TO

**BE
FIRST!**

*Don't miss this special event
for the first time
throughout
the tournament*

- ★ **CANCELLED** Stratified Open Prize (m/lin/3000/1500/1000/500) 10:30am
(Tournament cancelled due to the Washington Bridge Center closing.)
 - ★ Stratified Open Prize (M/lin/3000, B/OD Separate 1500/1000/500) (both sites); Stratified M/D Prize (M/D/100/50) & 0-20 Prize (Christ the King Church only); Stratified 1999 Prize (Beth El only)
 - ★ **Beth El Convention, 3630 Seminary Rd, Silver Spring** 7:00pm
 - ★ **Christ the King Church, 2301 Colton Drive, Silver Spring** 7:30pm
- Capital Beltway to Connecticut Ave. South. Left on East-West Hwy. Right on Germán Rd. Left on Colton. Church is on the left before the next intersection.

Friday - at Christ the King Church Only

FRIDAY, JANUARY 6

- ★ Stratified M/D Prize (m/lin/3000) & B/OD Prize (1500/1000/500) (single session) . . . 10:00am, 2:00pm
- ★ **NEW! Get Played Triple Mikel Swiss & Shoveout Prizes!** Friday nights are your chance to try a different form of the game. This tournament will introduce Triple Mikel Swiss: 5 rounds of Swiss teams, 5 boards each round, & 5 minutes a board.
- ★ **Triple Mikel Swiss Teams - M/D (m/lin/3000) & B/OD (1500/1000/500)** 7:30pm
- ★ **Intermediate/Novice Prize (300/200/100/50/20) (single session)** 10:00am, 2:00pm, 7:30pm

SAT. & SUN. ONLY at the Margaret Schweinhaut Senior Center

1000 Forest Glen Road, Silver Spring, MD. From Beltway exit Georgia Avenue north (toward Wheaton). Turn right at first traffic light onto Forest Glen Rd. The Senior Center is .7 mile on your right.

Panel Show & Party

SATURDAY, JANUARY 7

to Honor New Life Masters between sessions

- ★ Stratified M/D (m/lin/3000) & B/OD Prize (1500/1000/500) (single session) . . . 11:00am, 3:30pm
- ★ **Intermediate/Novice Prize (300/200/100) (single session)** 11:00am, 3:30pm
- ★ **Newcomer Prize (50/205) (single session)** 11:00am, 3:30pm

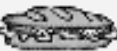
SUNDAY, JANUARY 8

WBL Trophy Race Winners' Presentation between sessions

- ★ **M/D Board-to-Board Tennis, (m/lin/3000, 2 session playtime w/short break)** 11:00am & 1:30pm
- ★ **B/OD Swiss Teams, 1/2s (2000/1000/500, 7 round playtime w/short break)** 11:00am & 1:30pm
- ★ **300/100/50 Swiss Teams, 1/2s (single session)** 11:00am, 3:00pm

★ **Full Schedule of Dates, Events and Novice Events**

WBL events: 0-5, 20, 50, 100, 200, 300; Stratification at Discretion



Food on Washington Hospitality includes snacks, drinks and Friday, Saturday and Sunday lunch free of charge. Check Member Weekly, 301-565-9555, wbl@wbl.com or contact

Volunteer Coordinator Barbara Stronover, 301-598-5698, jimbart1164@aol.com. Hospitality
Adopt a Game, 301-567-3961, adopta@wbl.com. Postcard info: Barbara Ames, 202-439-5667,
barbaraa@wbl.com or try the new 0 dollar Postcard by E-mail to www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org

WASHINGTON BRIDGE LEAGUE SECTIONAL

INSTANT BRIDGE PLAYER REPORT

by Dr. Steven Forsythe

On March 5, 2005, we held our most successful **Instant Bridge Player** program yet. **74** students participated.

The “Advanced” **Instant Bridge Player** class provided an opportunity for those who “know how to play” to improve their skills by teaching slightly advanced conventions such as Stayman and Jacoby transfers, plus card play and defense topics as well.

For the “cost” of some free plays, four excellent helpers gave up a Saturday during the sectional to spend six hours encouraging new bridge players. These excellent helpers are **Mike Henderson, John Mattioli, Arthur David Olsen, and Aaron Navarro.**

The following Thursday, we had nine new people at the 0-20 game. A number of people drove up from Virginia for the IBP and asked about similar programs near them.

I would like to thank **Mary Jane Von Moss** and my wife, **Sandy** for teaching, marketing and course preparation, and all those who helped who aren’t named here for emailing, putting up flyers, changing web sites, etc. The team effort paid off in spades!

**ONE-DAY BRIDGE LESSON!
LEARN NEW TRICKS.
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2
(DURING THE SECTIONAL)**

Pass the following to your friends and family who do not know how to play bridge or who haven't played for a long time.

Have you wanted to learn to play bridge, but can't find time for lessons?

Want to play in a duplicate game, but afraid your skills aren't quite up to par?

Here's your chance to join the fun!

You can learn to play bridge, or review the basics of play and modern bidding, in just one day! Mark your cal-

endar now for **Steve Forsythe's Instant Bridge Player** seminar:

- Sunday, October 2 • 1:30pm-6:30pm
- **Margaret Schweinhaut Senior Center**
1000 Forest Glen Road, Silver Spring
- **Directions:** Take I-495 to Georgia Ave North. Take the first right onto Forest Glen Road. The senior center is approximately one half mile on the right after crossing Sligo Creek Parkway.

It's two classes in one: we'll have one room for people who have never played, and one room for those who need a refresher or want to review Steve's *One Page Bidding System* in detail.

The cost is just \$20 with a reservation or \$25 at the door. (Students \$10 with reservation; \$15 at the door.) A free booklet, pizza lunch, coffee and snacks are included. For more information or to make a reservation, email majslf@aol.com or call **Steve** or **Sandy Forsythe** at 301/592-9177.

**MIXED MEMBERSHIP GAME AT THE NEXT WBL SECTIONAL
SAT., OCT. 1, 11AM**

Kick off Saturday of the next WBL sectional with the joint ABA/ACBL pair game at 11am. Your choice: either play with a regular partner or sign up to play with an ABA player. Contact Barbara Ames, 202-439-5667, hacpa@aol.com or Winston Edwards, 301-776-8511, worldwards@aol.com to set up a game with an ABA member. Mixed membership partnerships (ABA/ACBL) will be eligible for extra point awards!

UNIT GAME UPDATES

by Ted Ying, WBL Club Manager and Unit Game Chief Director

Some recent changes at the WBL Unit Game have been very well received lately

...continued on p. 18

WBL SOLVERS' CLUB

Moderated by Steve Robinson
robinswr@erols.com

♣ Arlington, VA ♦ OCTOBER 20-23, 2005 ♠

NVBA FALL SECTIONAL TOURNAMENT

Notes: All Virginia Events are at KOCH!

Knights of Columbus Hall (KOCH)
5115 Little Falls Road, Arlington, VA
Call 703-536-9656 and bid "0"

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20

*Knights of Columbus Hall (KOCH), Arlington, VA (NEV)
Cross the King Charles, the Backbone of East West Highway on
Columbian Washington and Gentl., Cony Gans, RCD (NSL)*

*Novice International Lecture		6:30 p.m.**	
STRATAFLIGHTED PAIRS (A/N=5000+5000; B/C=2000/750)	7:00 p.m.		7:30 p.m.
NVBA 199ER PAIRS (200/100/50/20); WBL NLM PAIRS (NLM/100/50)	7:00 p.m.		7:30 p.m.

...REST OF TOURNAMENT AT KOCH...

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21

STRATAFLIGHTED PAIRS (A/N=5000+5000; B/C=2000/750)	..2 p.m.
299ER PAIRS (500/200/100)	..2 p.m.
49ER PAIRS (50/20/5)	..2 p.m.
STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS (2000+2000/750)	..7:30 p.m.
299ER PAIRS (500/200/100)	..7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22

STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS (2000+2000/750)	..9:30 a.m.
STRATIFIED SENIOR PAIRS (2000+2000/750)	..9:30 a.m.
299ER PAIRS (500/200/100)	..9:30 a.m.
49ER PAIRS (50/20/5)	..9:30 a.m.
STRATAFLIGHTED PAIRS (A/N=5000+5000; B/C=2000/750)	..2 p.m.
299ER PAIRS (500/200/100)	..2 p.m.
49ER PAIRS (50/20/5)	..2 p.m.
STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS (2000+2000/750)	..7:30 p.m.
299ER PAIRS (500/200/100)	..7:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23

*Novice International Lecture (Buff Room)	..10:15 a.m. **
FLIGHTS A/N(5000+5000) & B/C (2000/750) SWISS TEAMS	..11:00 a.m.
<i>Both flights are 2-session events, with one 30-minute break—see lunch available!</i>	
299ER SWISS TEAMS (500/200/100; Single session)	..11:00 a.m.
49ER SWISS TEAMS (50/20/5; Single session)	..11:00 a.m.
299ER SWISS TEAMS (500/200/100; Single session)	..5:15 p.m.

WALKING TOUR from 9:45 (the balcony) to the point West of the Edgewood Park 66. Drive to the Washington Blvd. and Lee Highway exit. Take right the rest of the way, and left onto Lee Highway. Go approximately 1.5 mile, turn right onto Hanson Street. Go 5 miles, turn right onto Dale Toll Road. The KOCH is on your left, 2.6 miles down Dale Toll. Turn R onto the Highway, Park 66. Walk to the Synonym Spa. At the end of the spa ramp, turn right onto Synonym. At the second light, turn right onto Lee Highway, and go 1/2 mile, turn left onto Hanson Street. Follow the house from the point. CB from R. Go past the house, turn left onto the bank, turn left onto the pool. From the light at the end of the street, turn right onto Dale Toll. Park 66 is on the right, see the sign for "Williamburg Blvd." One mile, turn right onto the driveway, and go 1/2 mile to the KOCH on your right. Turn R. At the house, turn up the driveway, and go past the house, follow the driveway. The entrance will be in the middle of the building. "KOCH 2" is down the hill to your right.

NVBA (KOCH) WBL

Contingency Events and a Full Schedule of 299er Events for Novice and International Players!

P04-Chart Conventions permitted in all B/C, E, & Open Stratified Events

Special Fall Hospitality—apple cider and pecans, apples and oranges, apple pie and pumpkin pie; Fall menu cards; and more!!

Tournament Chairs:
Margot Hinkley,
703-560-0245
Kathryn Kelly,
703-756-0966

Partnership Chair:
Dale Dullave,
703-527-5915
...or check out our On-line Score-keeping "Dink" at www.kochva.com

Host NVBA Sectional February 23-26, 2006

Congratulations to **Matthew Mallory** who came in first with a score of 480. He wins a free entry to the Unit Game and will be invited to be on a future panel. Tied for second were **Mark Rosen** and **Barry Bragin** with a score of 460. Tied for fourth were **Jackie Sincoff**, **Arnie Frankel**, **Ben Stauss** and **Richard Ferrin** with a score of 440. Tied for eighth were **Brad Theurer** and **Raghavendra Rajkumar** with a score of 430. Tied for tenth were **Bill Otey**, **Tom Musso**, **Steve Carton**, **Walt Flory** and **Charles Sadowski** with a score of 420. Tied for fifteenth were **Jason Rosenfeld**, **Don Berman**, **Larry Kahn**, **John Montgomery**, **Barbara Summers**, **Manuel Paulo**, **Mike Kovacich**, **Fred Allenspach** and **Robert Stone** with a score of 410. Tied for twenty-fifth were **Arnold Kling**, **Gerald Lerner**, **Donna Rogall**, **Dave Smith**, **Bruce Kretschmer**, **Jim Murphy**, **Terry Jones** and **Kenn Pendleton** with a score of 400. The average score of the 234 solvers was 313. The average score of the experts was 402.

All readers are encouraged to send answers and/or new problems to Steve Robinson, 2891 S. Abingdon St. #A2 Arlington, VA, 22206-1329. 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, I 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. You can also see and answer the problems at the WBL web site. WBL Solvers Club uses *Washington Standard* as published July 1996.

I personally score all the problems. If a majority of the solvers vote for an answer, and the answer is reasonable I will give that answer 100 points. I will not give 100 points to an answer that I consider bad no matter how many experts vote for it. There are times when I want to make a point. I will give that answer 100 points and will therefore give the

majority answer 90 points. For the other answers I consider how good the answer is and how many experts vote for it for its score. If you submitted an answer that got 20 points, that bid would get a bad score at the table. A good exercise would be to figure out why I gave your answer 20 points. You might have misread the problem.

The book *Washington Standard* second edition is out. If you are a serious bridge player, this book is a must. You can purchase a copy from Steve for \$25.00 at the Unit Game, at tournaments or can send him a check for \$28.85 that includes \$3.85 for priority mail.

1) IMPs None Vulnerable

♠ A1073♥ JT3♦ A8♣ J876

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1♠	Pass	1♦	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♠	Pass
????			

Action	Score	Votes	Solvers
5♣	100	5	18
4♦	90	2	12
4♠	70	2	67
4♥	70	2	8
4♣	60	1	28
Pass	50	0	84
3NT	20	0	13
4NT	20	0	2

When opener opens 1♦ and rebids 2♣, he could have a minimum hand such as ♠xx♥xx♦KQxxx♣AQxx. He could also have a very good hand such as ♠KJx♥x♦KQJxx♣AKxx or ♠Qxx♥x♦KQJxx♣AKQx, a hand that is not quite good enough to force to game. Since opener can have as much as 17 HCPs, it's right to raise clubs. Even if 3♣ goes down, the opponents might be able to make two-of-a-major. Opener bid 3♠, which shows at least 14 HCPs with three-card spade support. But if you play in spades, dummies three spades have to do double duty. They're needed to draw trumps and ruff the losing hearts. If spades split 4-2, I'm not sure you can handle the hand. This hand must be played in clubs.



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Another clue is opener's previous bid. If he had three good spades and four poor clubs, he might have raised 1♠ to 2♠. I would raise spades holding ♠KQx♥x♦KQJxx♣Kxxx, but bid 2♣ holding ♠Jxx♥x♦KQJxx♣AKxx.

Two experts invite partner to make the decision. How does partner know which contract is best? Why couldn't 4♥ be a cuebid? You could have an extra club.

Woolsey: "4♥—I can't be making a slam try since I am a limited hand, so this has to be choice of games. Either 4♠ or 5♣ could be right. Partner can look at his black suits and hopefully make the right decision."

Hopkins: "4♥—I want partner to pick the contract. I'm hoping he can read the message. For example, with ♠KQx♥x♦KQJxx♣A109x, I would like to play 4♠. With ♠Qxx♥♦KQJxxx♣AQxx, I want to play 5♦. With ♠Kxx♥x♦KJxxx♣AKQx, I want to try 5♣. Hopefully partner will choose based on where his strength is."

Four experts agree with me and make the decision to play in clubs.

Adams: "5♣—3♣ was a courtesy raise. I've a pretty good hand considering. With little wastage in Hearts, game seems likely. Need another club to cue-bid. My Spades are not good enough to try the Moysian."

Lublin: "5♣—Hope to throw spade losers away on diamonds."

I agree with Lublin. Cappelletti: "5♣—Partner has either 3-1 or 3-0 in the majors AND a reason for not raising 1♠ to 2♠ directly (perhaps three small). Thus he probably has most or all of the missing 15 points in the minor suits. Should make 5♣ cold or at least good play."

Steve Bunning: "5♣—Partner is likely 3154 with enough extra strength to consider game opposite invitational values. With two aces and little wasted in hearts, bid the game. A club contract should prove easier than the Moysian spade fit."

Two experts make the decision to play in spades. Since you could have five spades, partner is never going back to clubs.

Parker: "4♠—We know that partner is 3154 with about seventeen points. With fewer he would have passed 3♣. We should have a good play for game and ten tricks should be easier than eleven. Give him something like, ♠Kxx♥x♦KQJxx♣AKxx and 4♠ plays better than 5♣."

King: "4♠—Partner is showing extra

values and 3154 shape. Ten tricks in spades should be easier than eleven in clubs."

In the example hands, 5♣ plays very easily. Play AK of clubs and run the diamonds. In 4♠, you have to worry about hearts and a 4-2 spade break.

One expert goes conservative.

Landen: "4♣—I have nothing really special for my previous bidding. I don't feel the need, not vulnerable, to stretch to bid an eleven trick game (5♣) or try for ten tricks in a seven-card fit (4♠). If vulnerable, I would probably bid 5♣."

Two experts try for slam. If partner were 3055 with a good hand, he would have jump-shifted.

Schwartz: "4♦—Slam is still possible particularly if partner is 3055. Might as well show something on the way to 5♣. Don't think 4♦ should be an offer to play in diamonds."

Roman: "4♦—Critical to show the diamond card here. We could belong anywhere from 4♠ to 7♠ - ♠Kxx♥♦KQxxxx♣AKQx."

Partner's hand is limited by his failure to jump shift so he can't really have your example hand.

It's up to you to make the final decision when you know more about the hand.

2) Matchpoints None Vulnerable

♠AKQ65♥AK54♦K2♠AK

Table with 4 columns: SOUTH, WEST, NORTH, EAST. Shows bidding results for various contracts like 2♣, 2♠, 3♥, etc.

*Artificial, shows one ace or two kings

Table with 4 columns: Action, Score, Votes, Solvers. Shows scores and votes for various contracts like 7NT, 6♣, 6♦, etc.

What can partner have for his 5♥-call? If he held ♠x♥Qxxx♦Axxxx♣xxx, he would raise 3♥ to 4♥. He could even have as much as ♠x♥Qxxx♦Axxxx♣Qxx to raise to 4♥. 4♥ doesn't stop partner from investigating further. Jumping to 5♥ shows a better hand such as ♠x♥Qxxx♦AQxxx♣Qxx or ♠x♥QJxx♦AQJxx♣Qxx. He should have

all of the missing queens as well as the Ace of diamonds to jump to 5♥. 5♥ shows a hand that should be in slam unless you're missing two keycards or the top two clubs. Notice that 7NT is either cold or has good play opposite three queens and the ace. Opposite ♠ x♥ Qxxx♦ A Qxxx♣ Qxx 7♥ needs hearts 3-2 while 7NT will make whenever hearts are 3-2, diamonds are 3-3 or when there is a squeeze. Either red Jack would make 7NT cold.

The experts are trying to tell partner what they have. The problem with all of the expert's bids is that there is no consensus about the meanings of any of these bids. How can you make a bid when only your clone knows what it means?

6♣ shows the ace of clubs but what else does it show?

Adams: "6♣ — We are playing a grand as partner can't lack the HQ for the 5♥ call. Over 6♥ or 6NT, I will bid 7♦. Partner should work out that I have both minor suit Kings and am looking for tricks for 7NT. Second choice is 6♦ directly, focusing on our source of tricks, but partners can get confused and think that denies the club king."

I'm confused about your follow-up.

Landen: "6♣ — I assume 5♥ asks me to bid six with good hearts. Well, I have pretty good hearts and I'm interested in bidding seven. If partner signs off in 6♥ I'll probably pass. 6♦ by partner will get us to seven of something. I'll continue with 7♦ showing the diamond king and let partner decide between 7♥ and 7NT."

There's not even a consensus about what 5♥ means.

Woolsey: "6♣ — Partner has shown his controls, so his eyes are going to be glued upon his heart holding after I make a grand slam try. He won't get it wrong."

This assumes that you're playing with someone with the same understandings that you have. Unless you're cloned, there is no such person.

King: "6♣ — I think 5♥ is asking for a club control. I will show a first round control. With only a second round control I would bid 6♥."

So what is partner going to do over 6♣?

What does 7♣ mean? To play with 5404, or choice of red suits?

Parker: "7♣ — This shows top controls in all suits. 5♥ ask for total controls across all suits. If he wanted to find out just about hearts he could bid 5NT. If he has good diamonds and poor hearts we want to play 7NT, if poor

diamonds and good hearts we want to play in hearts. He can bid 7♦ with good diamonds and I will be 7NT otherwise he bids 7♥."

I think one reason partner bid 5♥ is because he's worried about clubs. Wouldn't you bid the same holding ♠ AKQJxx♥ AKJx♦ x♣ Jx?

What does 5NT mean? The two usually meanings of 5NT is choice of slam or grand slam force. Which meaning applies here?

Hopkins: "5NT — Should be Grand Slam Force. I'm willing to be in a 68%+ grand slam."

AKxx opposite Qxxx is 32% to have a loser. You don't want to be in 7♥ down with 13 top tricks.

Cappelletti: "5NT — Better check for Q♥ in case partner has something like ♠ x♥ Jxxx♦ AQJxx♣ Qxx."

If partner has that hand you have 13 tricks in notrump.

Is 6♦ a choice of slams or is a cuebid?

Roman: "6♦ — When I next bid 7♥, partner will know to correct to 7NT with something like ♠ xx♥ Qxxx♦ AQJ10xx.".

How can partner have less than AQ of diamonds and a Queen for his 5♥ -call?

Schwartz: "6♦ — 5♥ should be a general slam try. If partner can bid 7♥ opposite the DK and the outside controls, I can try 7NT."

Lublin: "6♣ — Assuring partner no losers. Also says bid seven with one of top three heart honors."

A Lublin-ism. He makes a bid, assigns a meaning based on his hand and assumes partner will know what it means. I think all of the experts have done that in this problem.

One expert agrees with me and ends the auction.

Steve Bunning: "7NT — Partner is inviting slam, but we know he has only one ace and no kings. He likely has extra heart length, spade shortness and a queen or two. With a 26-point monster and every AK, bid the grand. Hearts might make seven and notrump only six, but the reverse is also possible. Go for the match-point gold and bid 7NT."

There is only one correct answer to this problem. 7NT! And I'm sure everyone knows what 7NT means. When you can count 13 tricks in aces, kings and queens bid 7NT.

3) IMPs You're Vulnerable

♠ K109765♥ 654♦ A32♣ 3

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
_____	_____	1♠	Dbl
????			

2NT=LR+; 3NT=good 4♠ -bid; 4♣ =splinter

Action	Score	Votes	Solvers
4♣	100	6	59
2NT	80	3	13
3NT	80	1	21
4♠	50	2	124
ReDbl	40	0	4
Pass	30	0	1
2♠	20	0	3
3♠	20	0	4
6♠	20	0	1
4♥	20	0	2
5♠	20	0	2

This is a good hand to tell partner what you have. You have a game-forcing spade hand with short clubs. All other bids are a distortion. If the opponents compete, you want partner to have a chance to get the follow-up correct. If partner has ♠ Axxxx♥ x♦ Kx♣ Axxxx, 4♣ will make him very happy. He'll also know what to do if the opponents compete holding ♠ Axxxx♥ KQx♦ xx♣ KQJ.

Two experts jump to game. What will they do if the opponents bid at the five-level? Bid 5♠ and find partner with ♠ AQJxx♥ xx♦ xxx♣ KJx (-800) or pass and find that you are cold for 6♠.

Adams: "4♠ — Yes, I have a good one, but the opponents have a good save. If partner doubles them, I will know not to bid on. If I show a strong hand first, I will wonder if I'm to overrule partner."

Parker: "4♠ — No sense in allowing them in at a low level or allow them to double 4♣ or 4♦. The big question is what do I do over five-of-a-minor."

Three experts show part of their hand. 2NT shows a four-card limit raise or better, usually balanced.

Cappelletti: "2NT — Tactical limit raise (or better) - opponents less likely to save."

Schwartz: "2NT — Since we have the master suit, its more likely to be "our hand", so I can show some values instead of just bidding 4♠. I am not good enough for 4♣."

Steve Bunning: "2NT — A splinter bid risks pinpointing a sacrifice for the opponents while a slam for our side is unlikely given the eight-loser dummy. With two extra trump, an ace and a singleton, the vulnerable game is odds on."

One expert shows a good 4♠ preempt.

Roman: "3NT — We didn't get a footnote about what 3NT means, but whether it's a good raise to four or the weak end of a two-tiered splinter (it must be one or the other), it's what I have."

Five experts agree with me and describe

their hand.
Woolsey: "4♣ — It always pays to make the more descriptive call, even if it is a slight overbid. Partner has room to cuebid if he only has interest, and I can then sign off. If partner drives to slam, my hand will not be a disappointment. In addition, the descriptive splinter will help if the opponents bid to the five-level."

Landen: "4♣ — Reluctantly. At the table, I might bid 4♠. I don't like letting LHO bid 4♦ or 4♥. On the other hand I have an awfully good hand to bid a "preemptive" 4♠. Many partnerships now play 3NT in this type sequence shows a good 4♣ bid with about one defensive trick. I'm a tad strong even for that."

Hopkins: "4♣ — Is this a push for the modern style of using 3NT in this situation to show one prime/defensive trick in an otherwise preemptive hand?"

King: "4♣ — Not the usual number of high-cards for this bid, but I want partner to know how to evaluate his clubs as offense or defense."

Lublin: "4♣ — To get the bidding up and tell partner not much defense."

Another Lublin-ism. Game forcing splinters deny defense. He couldn't have ♠ xxx♥ AQJ♦ AQJx♣ x and splinter.

When you can make a descriptive bid in a competitive auction, partner is more likely to be able to make a knowledgeable decision.

4) IMPs Both Vulnerable

♠ A32♥ 6♦ 765♣ J98654

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
_____	_____	1♣	1♥
????			

Action	Score	Votes	Solvers
3♣	100	6	101
4♣	80	2	40
5♣	50	1	23
2♥	50	1	7
2♣	50	1	57
Pass	50	0	4
3♥	50	1	0
1♠	20	0	2

The typical jump to 3♣ shows a weak hand with five clubs. This hand has a sixth club and an outside ace. The sixth club and the ace change the hand from a weak hand to a mixed raise type of hand. There are many minimum hands where game is cold. Opposite ♠ Kxx♥ Axx♦ xxx♣ AKxx, 3NT is practically cold. Opposite ♠ KQxx♥ xxx♦ x♣ AKxx 5♣ is cold. The big problem is that hearts are going to

be raised. You want to make a bid, which will help partner make a decision when hearts are raised. If 2♣ shows four-card support, 3♣ shows five-card support, then 4♣ shows six-card support. Bidding 4♣ shows how many clubs you have and puts West into a position where he has to make a decision at the four-level. He has to deal with the wide range 1♥ overall. The overall could be eight HCPs or it could be sixteen.

Six experts bid 3♣. Could be right if partner has a 2NT-jump rebid.

Adams: “3♣—Seems obvious.”

Landen: “3♣—Preemptive raise. There’s no law that says you can’t have a little extra every once in a while.”

Roman: “3♣—I’m unsure as to system here, but it’s my intention to show a club preempt. So if we’re “flip-flopping”, put me down for 2NT. Bidding 4♣ is too much with this dog.”

Woolsey: “3♣—If this isn’t a preemptive raise, what is? Yes we might make 3NT on some hands where partner can’t move, but on balance the 3♣ -call figures to work out fine.”

Steve Bunning: “3♣—With a weak hand, long clubs, and limited information about partner’s hand, describe your hand and let partner decide if it’s appropriate to bid more. Immediately bidding more than 3♣ is too unilateral.”

Hopkins: “3♣—Preemptive.”

One expert jumps to game.

Parker: “5♣—Why be fancy, someone has a game and it may be us. Partner can have a minimum such as ♠KQxx♥xxx♦xxAKxx and we go down one and they make 4♥. If he has a better hand with a singleton Diamond we make 5♣. Why let them exchange information and have to guess later.”

One expert agrees with me and makes a Law bid. Allows partner to make the final decision knowing that you have six clubs. If LHO bids 4♥ and partner doubles, you can live with it.

Schwartz: “4♣—Can live with 3♣, but want to increase the odds of us not losing a double game swing. With no top club honor, 3NT very unlikely.”

One expert allows the opponents to describe their hand. West can show a simple heart raise, a limit heart raise and a forcing heart raise. West could even show club shortness by jumping to 4♣. You don’t do well when the opponents know what they have.

King: “2♣—I don’t want to drive the opponents to a game they might not reach otherwise.

If they don’t know about how big our club fit is, they may underestimate their heart fit.”

Two experts overbid. They won’t know what to do if their partner doubles the opponents.

Cappelletti: “2♥—Even more tactical limit raise or better, but does have one defensive trick.”

Lublin: “3♥—Splinter preempt but still vulnerable and will accept game tries in clubs.”

Lublin’s splinters are preemptive.

If you tell partner about your six clubs, he will be in a better position to get you to your best spot.

5) IMPs You’re Vulnerable

♠ AQ543♥ KQ2♦ J65♣ AQ

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1♠	2♦	Double	Pass
????			
Action	Score	Votes	Solvers
Pass	100	1	9
3♦	90	7	149
3♥	50	3	12
2♠	40	1	11
2♥	40	0	18
2NT	30	0	13
4♥	30	0	6
3♠	30	0	4
3NT	30	0	7
3♣	20	0	3
4NT	20	0	1
4♠	20	0	1

We probably have enough strength to make game but we might not have an eight-card major suit fit and we might not have a diamond stopper. Give partner a typical negative double such as ♠xx♥Axxx♦xxx♣KJxx and what contract do you want to play? I’d want to play 2♦ doubled. There is no game and you could easily get 500. Make West pay for overcalling 2♦ holding ♠Jxx♥Jx♦AKQxx♣Jxx. Partner will not blow a trick with his opening lead. He’ll probably lead a spade and you can then decide how the defense should go. When thinking about passing a negative or takeout double, think about partner’s opening lead. If your spade holding was Jxxxx, partner could blow the suit by leading the King from Kx. A second reason to pass the double is that East didn’t raise diamonds. Partner should have a few diamonds. A third reason to pass is that you know that partner does not have primary spade support. I don’t often pass negative doubles but this seems clear-cut. So clear-cut that I don’t think that there is any other reasonable bid.

Seven experts cuebid. Nice if partner has five hearts or a diamond stopper but the typical negative double shows four hearts and does not have a diamond stopper. If partner has five hearts, he has fewer than ten HCPs. Bidding 3♦ does not guarantee getting to a makable spot. What is partner vulnerable to bid over 3♦ holding ♠Jx♥Axxx♦xxx♣KJxx? 3♥ and play the 4-3? 3♠ and play the 5-2?

Adams: “3♦—Who knows? Sometimes partner has five Hearts, so passing 2♦ seems a big risk (+300 vs Vulnerable Game).”

What game?

Landen: “3♦—What else. I’m forcing to game, come hell or high water. We might go down, but at least we should find the right strain.”

The right strain could end up in a 4-3 heart fit or a 5-2 spade fit.

Roman: “3♦—Good hand, uncertain direction. I will pass 3NT (and wish I had passed 2♦ doubled, raise 3♥ to 4♥, and bid 4♦ (pick a game) over 3♠ or 4♣. It’s tempting to pass (dummy is likely not to be a thing of beauty) and that might well be the winner, but with no trump tricks and red-on-white it’s just too big a position to take.”

Woolsey: “3♦—I’m strong enough to force to game, but I have no idea about the strain. If I bid any suit or notrump, that is a distortion. The cuebid tells partner what my problem is.”

Partner might know the problem but might not have a solution.

King: “3♦—Show partner I have a good hand without clear direction.”

Steve Bunning: “3♦—Opening 1♠ could have worked well, but I’m wishing I had

opened the hand 1NT. Now, I’m stuck looking for the “least bad” bid. Notrump is a shot in the dark. A heart or spade bid risks ending in the wrong strain. Pass could be right, but that’s a pure gamble. A cuebid is forward going and hopefully conveys some doubt as to where the hand should be played.”

Hopkins: “3♦—Help! This one is vicious. I can just see partner getting forced if we end up in a 4-3 Heart fit. Maybe I’ll be lucky and partner will bid 3NT.”

One expert rebids his spades. Could end up playing in a 5-1 fit and the best would be a 5-2 fit.

Parker: “2♠—I do not bid three-card suits if I do not have too. I should be able to scramble lots of tricks based on my high card points. If partner can bid again we will find a better spot. Give him ♠xx♥Axxx♦xxx♣Kxxx, and we are high enough. If I bid 2NT and he has some extras but not in Diamonds we get to 3NT and go down off the top.”

Three experts guarantee that hearts will be trumps. You’d wouldn’t be happy to play in hearts opposite ♠Kx♥Jxxx♦xx♣KJxxx or even ♠Kx♥Jxxx♦xxx♣KJxx.

Cappelletti: “3♥—Since you are Vulnerable at IMPs - might make game.”

Lublin: “3♥—Going to game and give partner cuebid room.”

Schwartz: “3♥—Just too good a hand opposite a vulnerable negative double at the two-level to just rebid 2♥. 3♦ is forcing to game, so I am short of that.”

The key elements to passing partner’s takeout double are strength and misfit.

SOLVERS’ SCORES

John Adams	5♣	6♣	4♠	3♣	3♦	420
Steve Bunning	5♣	7NT	2NT	3♣	3♦	470
Mike Cappelletti	5♣	5NT	2NT	2♥	3♥	330
Robbie Hopkins	4♥	5NT	4♣	3♣	3♦	410
Steve Landen	4♣	6♣	4♣	3♣	3♦	430
Glenn Lublin	5♣	6♣	4♣	3♥	3♥	380
Fred King	4♠	6♣	4♣	2♣	3♦	390
Steve Parker	4♠	7♣	4♠	5♣	2♠	260
Steve Robinson	5♣	7NT	4♣	4♣	Pass	480
Jeff Roman	4♦	6♦	3NT	3♣	3♦	430
Alan Schwartz	4♦	6♦	2NT	4♣	3♥	370
Kit Woolsey	4♥	6♣	4♣	3♣	3♦	440

2005 TROPHY RACE STANDINGS

www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org

Updated by our Webmaster, Don Berman

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.

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

This list is up to date through August 25, 2005 not including the Unit KO or the Fidelity and Trust Round Robin. All points are subject to audit by the WBL Director.

Lovenberg

- 1 122.29 Steve Robinson
- 2 120.69 David Ruderman
- 3 106.02 Alfred Steinberg
- 4 99.65 John Adams
- 5 91.91 Mark Shaw
- 6 69.80 Benjamin Brill
- 7 66.09 James Geist
- 8 65.46 William Hacker
- 9 60.35 Mark Rosen
- 10 57.93 Jason Rosenfeld
- 11 56.15 William Cole
- 12 53.38 Earl Glickstein
- 13 53.01 Michael Gill
- 14 52.53 Leon Letwin
- 15 52.30 Hailong Ao
- 16 50.59 Robert Bell
- 17 50.23 Weizhong Bao
- 18 50.03 Barbara Shaw
- 19 49.42 Peter Boyd
- 20 49.00 Diane Walker
- 21 47.25 Yi Zhong
- 22 47.16 John Glynn
- 23 46.02 Dalia Kende
- 24 44.59 Donald Berman
- 25 44.18 Lloyd Rawley

Izzy Cohen

- 1 66.09 James Geist
- 2 65.46 William Hacker
- 3 60.35 Mark Rosen
- 4 57.93 Jason Rosenfeld
- 5 53.01 Michael Gill
- 6 52.30 Hailong Ao
- 7 44.18 Lloyd Rawley
- 8 43.99 Eugene Fisher
- 9 43.59 Robert Ellis
- 10 41.97 Noble Shore
- 11 35.48 Barry Bragin
- 12 34.79 Kitty Gottfried
- 13 32.09 Janet Dence
- 14 29.80 Ronald Suji
- 15 29.41 Mirsad Mujezinovic

Tubbs

- 1 57.93 Jason Rosenfeld
- 2 29.41 Mirsad Mujezinovic
- 3 27.71 Neal Rosenthal
- 4 27.59 Jian-Jian Wang
- 5 23.87 Ellen Rosenthal
- 6 23.38 Prem Garg
- 7 23.17 Shyam Giridharadas
- 8 21.18 James Andre
- 9 20.12 Behnaz Fardshisheh
- 10 19.84 Lily Andre

Woolridge

- 1 10.14 Joav Steinbach
- 2 6.92 Brian Julius
- 3 4.24 William Goldman
- 4 3.87 Ronnie Sweed
- 5 3.24 Stanley Fineman
- 6 2.81 Ruby Brooks
- 7 2.53 Christopher Miller
- 8 2.49 Melba Battle
- 9 2.36 Michael Watts
- 10 1.86 Roger Williamson

0-20 LESSON & GAME

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~ ♣ ♦ ♥ ♠ ~

UNIT GAME PARTNERS GUARANTEED

To find a partner 1 day or more before the game, call Charleen Brand (301-946-8483) or log on to the **Online Partnership Bulletin Board** at: www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org.

SCHEDULE

All Games held at Christ the King Church

- 09/22/2005STaC Stratified Pairs
- 09/29/2005WBL Sectional
- 10/06/2005Club Appreciation Teams (A/X=BAM, B/C/D=Swiss)
- 10/13/2005StrataFlighted Appreciation Pairs
- 10/20/2005NVBA Sectional
- 10/27/2005Grand National Teams Qualifying
- 11/03/2005StrataFlighted Unit Championship
- 11/10/2005StrataFlighted Unit Championship
- 11/17/2005StrataFlighted Unit Championship
- 11/24/2005**CLOSED for Thanksgiving**
- 12/01/2005StrataFlighted Upgraded Club Championship
- 12/08/2005StrataFlighted Unit Championship
- 12/15/2005Holiday Party & MABC STaC
- 12/22/2005Grand National Teams Qualifying
- 12/28/2005StrataFlighted Unit Championship

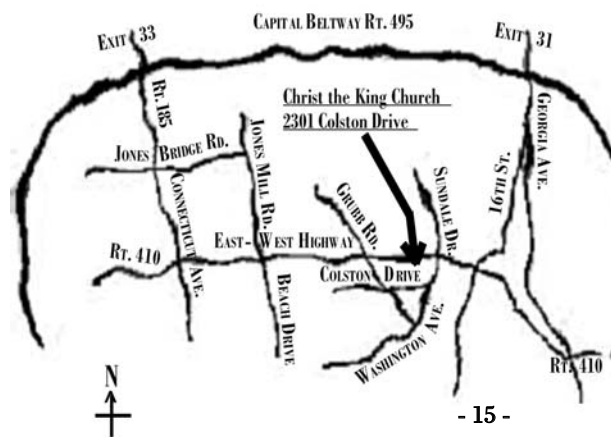
~ ♣ ♦ ♥ ♠ ~

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MAP TO CHRIST THE KING CHURCH



DO YOU HAVE ANY MUSCLE OR BRAINS TO SPARE?

The Washington Bridge League could use a little of either! In order to keep events exciting and entry fees low, the WBL relies on the goodness of our members to volunteer for small jobs at the Unit Game and Sectional Tournaments. Some jobs require brains while others require muscle. We'll be happy to employ either.

From setting up and breaking down tables, to publicity and events development, a little effort from you will make our bridge community even better. Busy schedule? No worries. Most volunteer assignments take only 15 minutes to 1 hour a month.

Here's how to help:

1. Reply by email, phone or in person if you are willing to help in any way.
 2. Please indicate if you can offer any special skills (such as marketing or a strong back).
 3. Someone will contact you shortly with a choice of assignments you can pick from.
- BONUS** – You will be invited to the summer Volunteer Gathering and BBQ Party. Thank you in advance for any assistance you can provide.

Barbara Summers, Volunteer Coordinator, 301-598-5838, jimbarb1184@aol.com,

GAME IS TO START PROMPTLY AT 7:30PM FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 301-649-1812

UNIT GAME CARPOOL AVAILABLE

To arrange a carpool, contact Don Berman, Carpool Coordinator, at 301-776-3581 or don.berman@verizon.net.Or log on to the WBL's new **Online Carpool Notices** at: www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org.



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COMITTEE ACTION #50

Part 1

by *Rich Colker*, rcolker@worldnet.att.net

It's the first qualifying session of the Reisinger Teams at the Orlando NABC last fall. Playing with a top expert partner you pick up, as North, ♠ KQ2 ♥ K8543 ♦ 742 ♣ 73. You're the dealer, at favorable vulnerability, and you and top expert are playing Precision. You pass and the auction proceeds:

(You)	(Partner)
Pass	1♣ (1)
1♦ (2)	(Dbl) (3) 2♠ (4)
3♠	4♠
?	

- (1) Strong, artificial, forcing
- (2) Artificial, 0-8 HCP; (3) Diamonds;
- (4) Game Force

What is your call?

First, let's consider what sort of hand partner might have to bid this way. He surely has good spades (he jumped in the suit, suggesting that it be trumps even though he's missing the king-queen in the suit), so he must have at least seven of them including the missing intermediates, perhaps something like ♠ AJ1098xx. The rest of his hand must be pretty good as well, maybe ♠ AJ1098xx ♥ x ♦ Ax ♣ AKx (which an aggressive partner might count as nine winners since as little as ♣ Q10xx in your hand might make game even without a spade fit). On the other hand, partner might hold something like ♠ AJ1098xx ♥ A ♦ Qxx ♣ AK (where as little as the ♦ KJ in your hand would make game an excellent bet), in which case a diamond lead could make even the five level unsafe.

So, have you decided what your call will be? Knowing whose column you're reading you probably suspect that everything is not as copacetic as it seems. After all, there has to be a Director call and an appeal lurking somewhere, doesn't there? And you'd be right, because partner's 4♠ bid came after a significant break in tempo. Well, what's your action now?

Some expert experienced Precision players who were given this hand as a bidding problem bid on over 4♠, while about an equal number passed, some without much thought and some reluctantly. If you bid over 4♠ partner will bid the slam. The actual auction continued (after the 4♠ bid):

(You)	(Partner)
	4♠ (5)
5♥	6♠

(5) Break in tempo (slow)

The ♦ K was led and there was nothing much to the play as 6♠ came home easily for +980. The complete deal was:

Bd: 9

Vul: E/W

Dir: North

North

- ♠ KQ2
- ♥ K8543
- ♦ 742
- ♣ 73

West

- ♠ 74
- ♥ Q109
- ♦ KQJ8
- ♣ Q984

East

- ♠ 8
- ♥ J762
- ♦ A10963
- ♣ J106

South

- ♠ AJ109653
- ♥ A
- ♦ 5
- ♣ AK52

Think about what type of hand partner might hold for this auction. Think about whether partner could have taken any stronger or weaker actions. Think about what partner's break in tempo implies about his hand and whether or not that information could have come to you from any other-source (a legal source). Then decide how you would rule and next issue you can see how your ruling compares to the one made by the NABC committee.

and I thought I'd pass these on to our members. The unit game starts are 7:30 pm every Thursday night. There had been some complaints in recent years about the game starting late or running late. In the last few months, last call for buying entries is announced at 7:30 pm. At that point, anyone in line will be sold an entry. When all players in line have been sold an entry, the directors start to set up the game and get boards distributed. All of our boards are now pre-duplicated by the WBL card dealing machine and are ready to play as soon as they are distributed. After the movements are set, if any late players arrive, they will be accommodated as the movements allow. If they cannot be added in without creating a problem, they will not be allowed to play. If they can be added in without a problem, they will be accommodated. Since the July 4th regional, the game has been started every week by 7:45 pm.

In addition we have a clock that is set to match the A/X game (the game that typically ran the latest) and any other events that share the same number of boards. Any pairs that run beyond the time on the clock are given a warning and a set amount of time to catch up (typically until the end of the next hospitality break or two rounds). Any pairs that have not caught up by the warning period are assessed a late penalty. Four late penalties have been assessed since the regional and to four separate pairs so we have not had any repeat offenders yet.

Due to these policies, all games have been ending by 10:45 and all scores are posted and available by 11:05 each week. So far, these changes have been well received and players are learning to adapt. For those people who were discouraged from playing in recent years due to the late end to the game, please come back and see how the game runs now. We'd love to have you back to join us. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me at unitgamedirector@districtsix.org.

**LOST AND FOUND
AT THE REGIONAL**

I have several glasses, one cell phone and three watches. If any are yours, please check with me. —*Kitty Gottfried* (301-587-3981)

**WELCOME TO THE
WASHINGTON BRIDGE LEAGUE**

The WBL welcomes the following new ACBL members: **Mr Dwight D Adams, Mr Emilio Cecchi, Mr Paul L Chassy, Ms Reina L Chassy, Mrs Ruth B Lee, Dr Alfred J Liepold, Stephen R Salitrik, Jake A Schuessler, Elinor Stolar, Mr Ronald Goldberg, Kathryn W Graham, Dr Betty K Koed, Alex Kruskal, Justin Kruskal, Dolores Polakoff, Mr Richard Weiser, Carolyn Stewart, and Ms Edna Warsowe.**

In addition, we welcome the following transfers from other units: **Robert D Abbo, Mrs Sonny F Adelson, Mr Robert E Brady, Mr Robert L Ellis, Ms Catherine Harris, Woodie McLean, Mr Bertram R Remer, Mr Leonard W Halpert, Mr Jason R Holderness, Clara M Howard, Mrs Ann M Ingram, Sajid Masood, Mr Randall J Rubinstein, Mr Steve M Schlosser, Mrs Amy J Bloom, Mr Joseph H Horwath, Mr Theodore Kahn, Mr Tom W Neal, and Mrs Adele Waggaman.**

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.

**LOOK FOR UPCOMING WBL
AND NVBA SECTIONALS**

September 29-October 2 .Silver Spring, MD
October 20-23Arlington, VA
January 5-8, 2006Silver Spring, MD
February 23-26, 2006Arlington, VA
March 2-5, 2006Silver Spring, MD
April 27-30, 2006Arlington, VA

SAD NEWS

Leon Hammerman passed away July 29th from Leukemia. A memorial service was held at the Goodwin House in Alexandria.

—CLUB NEWS—

**TO CLUB OWNERS &
MANAGERS:**

All WBL and metro area bordering clubs are encouraged to post listings of special games or news of interest here in this space.

**SCHWEINHAUT CENTER
CLUB GAME**

Wonjoo Goldstein has a game at the Margaret Schweinhaut Senior Center 1:00 pm on Thursdays. It is an invitational bridge club with a limitation of 3500 masterpoints. People over 3500 can play, but will not win masterpoints.

LAUREL BRIDGE CLUB

We at the Laurel Bridge Club were very sorry to hear of the closing (hopefully temporary) of the Washington Bridge Center. In light of that fact, we will add a Saturday afternoon game at 1:30 pm starting on Saturday, August 15th, and will also add a Monday night non-life master game at 7:30 pm. We hope to continue to provide playing opportunities for Maryland bridge players. Call Rose Berman at 301.776.3581 or check the Laurel Bridge Club web site at www.districtsix.org/laurel/laurel.htm for further information about games and times.

**2005-2006
NORTH AMERICAN PAIRS
DISTRICT 6 FINALS
OCTOBER 8-9, 2005**

The District 6 Final for all flights will be held October 8-9, 2005. You must be a member of a Unit in District 6 and have qualified for the event at the club level to

play in the District 6 Final.

The Open Flight Finals will be held at the Knights of Columbus Hall (KOCH), 5115 Little Falls Road, Arlington VA. Game times will be 1:00 pm and 7:00 pm on Saturday, October 8 and 11:00 am and TBA on Sunday, October 9. Mid-chart conventions will be allowed in the Open Flight only.

The Finals for the Non-Life Master (NLM up to 500 MPs) and 0-2000 flights will be played at two sites on October 8-9: the KOCH in Arlington at 1:00 pm and 7:00 pm on Saturday, and the Williamsburg Marriott, 50 Kingsmill Road, Williamsburg, VA, on the same dates at 10:00 am and 3:00 pm on Saturday and 10:00 am and TBA on Sunday, the same times as the sectional events are held in Williamsburg that weekend.

NLMs and players with 0-2000 MPs may play at the site of their choice.

Three pairs in each flight will qualify to represent District 6 in the National Finals, which will be held during the Spring 2006 NABC in Dallas, TX. For the NLM and 0-2000 players, the pair finishing first overall at each site will qualify for the National Final. The formulas for qualifying the third pair and determining the order of qualification will be announced before the start of the event. The Open Final will be held at the Dallas NABC on March 29-30, 2006; the 0-2000 and NLM Finals will be held in Dallas on April 8-9, 2006.

The winners of each flight are reimbursed by the ACBL for airfare and three hotel room nights apiece to attend the National Final. Second place pairs receive airfare from the ACBL and \$200 apiece from District 6 to subsidize hotel expenses. Third place pairs receive \$300 apiece from District 6. Membership dues or Life Master service fee must be current and continuous from the start of the District Final competition to the completion of the North American Pairs Final at the NABC in order to play in the National Final.

For more information, visit the District 6 web site or contact **Barbara Doran** by phone

at (301) 608-0347 or by email to barbd@starpower.net. For information specific to the Williamsburg site, contact **Wyatt Mapp** at (757) 827-6130 or by email at mappowell@yahoo.com.

2005-2006 GRAND NATIONAL TEAMS

It's time to get out to your local club and qualify to win a subsidized trip to Chicago, IL, at the Summer 2006 NABC to represent District 6 in the national finals of this grassroots competition.

The club qualification period begins October 15, 2005 and extends through April 2, 2006. District-level competition for the B and C flights begins in February 2006 and the Open flight in March 2006. So make sure you qualify early for those flights. However, you can go out and play as often as you want with whomever you want!!

Once again, the competition will contain four flights at the District level. The Open Flight is open to all players; Flight A is limited to players with 0-5000 master points; Flight B is limited to players with 0-2000 master points; and Flight C is limited to Non-Life Masters with fewer than 500 master points. At the club level, the Open and A flights will be combined.

Masterpoints awarded at the club level are half red—an easy way to earn red points without traveling to a Regional or changing your normal local playing habits. In the District level competition, the match awards are red and the overall awards are gold.

Remember, players qualify as individuals at the club level and may form new teams with qualified players for the District phase of the competition. What this means is that you can play with all of your friends at the club level no matter what their flight eligibility and then form one or more teams to compete in one or more flights at the District level. So y'all come out and play!

Call your club manager to find out when the club is holding qualifying games. As club dates are made available to the District

GNT Coordinator, they will be posted on the District 6 web site, www.districtsix.org.

We will be holding the first weekend of the District finals of Flights B and C at separate northern and southern sites; however, they will be the same weekend. To start your planning process, the dates for the District competition are as follows:

	<u>1st Weekend</u>	<u>2nd Weekend</u>
Open	March 11-12	April 29-30
Flight A	May 20-21	June 3-4
Flight B	February 18-19	March 11-12
Flight C	February 18-19	March 11-12

All the information about pre-registration, sites and times for the District final will be in the December/January issue of your *District 6 TableTALK*. District level competition dates, sites, results and other pertinent information will be published in subsequent editions. The Conditions of Contest will also be available at www.districtsix.org. If you have any questions, feel free to contact **Rae Dethlefsen**, District 6 GNT Coordinator, at 703-709-5205 or by email at raed824@comcast.net.

GIFT HORSE?

by John P. Glynn

You are in 6N by North, no E-W bidding. East, Jim Geist, leads ♦ Q. How do you read the hand? How do you play it?

South

- ♠ K2
- ♥ A2
- ♦ AT976
- ♣ AQJ2

North

- ♠ AJT4
- ♥ Q53
- ♦ K32
- ♣ K85

July 18 Unit Game: Board 19

Dealer: South

Vul: E/W

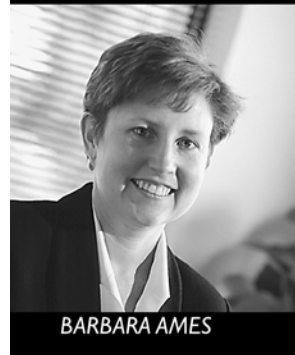
Lead: ♦ Q

...continued on p. 22 bottom, col. 1

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SPEEDING UP THE GAME

by Fred King

One of the most common complaints made by bridge players is slow play. I would like to suggest two things that we all can do to speed up the game and they could also improve your results!

The first of these is to minimize the time between hands. Talking about what happened, who made a bad play or call, etc. will distract your concentration on the next hand as well as increasing the time needed to finish all your boards. Get the score recorded quickly, the new board put on top and start the next board. Decreasing the time spent between boards will speed up the game.

Secondly, you may not play or bid until it is your turn to do so, but you can and should THINK before it is your turn. If partner or declarer is almost certain to play a suit in which you are void, decide

what card you will discard before it is your turn. If your RHO is taking a long time before making a bid, decide what call you will make based on his likely actions and be ready when it is your turn. This will not only speed up the game, but if you know in advance what you are going to do, you can act in tempo and not hesitate. Since hesitations create the biggest headaches in our game, eliminate them by being prepared when your turn arrives. Just like voting in Chicago, thinking early and often can speed up the game, improve your results and eliminate unauthorized information problems.

Gift Horse, continued from p. 20...

I tell this story on myself because I spent the drive home thinking about it. I played Jim for the QJ8x of Diamonds. Took the K, led a low diamond to finesse. Jim pitches the ♥4 and I can no longer make the contract. Geist's hand is Q9873, K8764, Q, 63. When his partner gets in with the ♦J, he will lead a heart and I am dead, and even if I am willing to finesse the spade I do not have enough entries to do so. The point is that strong players do not lead Q from QJ8x against 6N and Jim is a strong player. But even if you suspect a trick what do you do? Of course he could not imagine how damaging his lead was in terms of communications. Nice lead Jim.

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A REGIONAL, A NATIONALS, AND A STAC

WBL Members' Tournament Trails

ADIEU TO ALEXANDRIA

The WBL hosted the annual **Fourth of July Regional** at the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center from June 28 to July 4. This was the last time that our unit will host the Regional in Virginia for the foreseeable future. Starting in 2007 when the WBL hosts the July 4th Regional, it will be at the new Bethesda North Marriott on Rockville Pike near White Flint. (The NVBA, who alternates hosting with us, will be in Alexandria for one more year, 2006, and then they will be moving to the Reston Hyatt.) We are looking forward to using the new facilities and having the tournament held within the physical boundaries of the WBL.

As a result of our moving, you might think that the hotel would be even more difficult to work with especially in food prices. But no, they actually lowered prices at the snack bar and had a much greater variety of items for sale. For the first time in the 13+ years the July 4th regional has been held at the this hotel, there actually was enough food on the last day. Hamburgers ran out early, but there was plenty of food left so that there were several choices and everyone got something to eat. The hotel staff was outstanding and accommodating throughout the tournament and we received no complaints from the directing staff or any players, which was another first.

Unfortunately there was one big glaring exception — the Saturday night food after the session. The tournament chairman, **Nadine Wood**, has been ordering and preparing food for bridge players all over the United States and Canada in excess of 35 years. Imagine her shock and chagrin when the hotel servers said the food was gone when less than half of the players had eaten anything. This was the first time in those 35 years that not only was everyone not fed, but there weren't any leftovers either.

The hotel claimed that they delivered everything that was ordered and the reason the food ran out so quickly was that about half of the attendees did not eat dinner expecting to eat later in the evening. After some discussions with Nadine, who was sitting at a table across from the food stations the entire time observing the small amount brought out, the hotel agreed to reduce the bill.

All in all, this year's tournament had plenty of hospitality, lots of bridge and was a success even though attendance was down about 5% from last year. As always, this success was the result of the hard work put in by our many volunteers who make things happen with hours of selfless work. They deserve the credit. Besides Nadine, special thanks to: Tournament Co-Chairman, Fred King; Partnership Chair, Barbara Ames; Prizes, Carole Geagley; Information, Ellen Cherniavsky; Daily Bulletin Editor, Bryan Coleman; Intermediate/Novice Chairs, Frances Burke and Sherric Schrama; Hospitality, Ann Lindley and Kitty Gottfried; Restaurant Guide, Helene Baumann; Volunteer Coordinator, Barbara Summers; Publicity, Charity Sack and their many volunteers.

ALEXANDRIA, VA, REGIONAL
28 JUNE — 4 JULY, 2005

WBL Top Ten Lists

All WBL Members

1	91.75	.....	John Adams
2	83.86	.....	William Cole
3	79.82	.....	Steve Robinson
4	60.47	.....	Mark Shaw
5	59.70	.....	Janet Lee
	59.70	.....	Frederick Allenspach
7	55.33	.....	Peter Boyd
8	48.12	.....	Ellen Cherniavsky
9	47.07	.....	Fred King
10	45.52	.....	Katherine Paramore

Members with fewer than 1500 masterpoints

1	37.22	John Glynn
2	36.57	William Hacker
3	27.05	Theodore Wilkinson
4	26.98	Victoria Selph
5	26.67	Steven Schatzow
6	25.74	James Geist
7	24.50	Katherine Rabenstein
	24.50	Randy Zeibert
9	24.44	Jason Rosenfeld
10	23.65	Andres Doernberg

Members with fewer than 500 masterpoints

1	27.05	Theodore Wilkinson
2	26.67	Steven Schatzow
3	24.50	Katherine Rabenstein
4	24.44	Jason Rosenfeld
5	23.65	Andres Doernberg
6	23.56	Ross Bley
	23.56	Martha Bley
8	23.40	Behnaz Fardshisheh
9	23.14	Barry Lieberman
	23.14	Thomas Din

2005 SUMMER NABC
ATLANTA, GEORGIA**District Six Honor Roll**
Overall Placings in NABC+ Events**Sheinwold Flight B Grand National Teams**

5/8	Larry Kahn, Vienna VA; James Edmonds, Arlington VA; Dharendra Ghosh, Mc Lean VA; Jay Kelkar, Oak Hill VA
-----	--

Life Master Pairs

25	Ai-Tai Lo, Reston VA
30	Peter Boyd, Silver Spring MD; Steve Robinson, Arlington VA
38	William Cole - John Adams, Silver Spring MD
43	Andrew Gofreed, La Plata MD; Alan Tenenbaum, Rockville MD

Bruce LM-5000 Mini-Life-Master Pairs

9	Ann Lindley, Silver Spring MD; Vonnie Lavender, Burke VA
21	Robert Graves, Greenbelt MD; Donna Graves, Severn MD

Young LM-1500 Mini-Life-Master Pairs

14	Carmon Lee Woodley, Nokesville VA; Matthew Mallory, APO AE
----	--

Spingold Knockout Teams

9/16	Peter Boyd, Silver Spring MD; Steve Robinson, Arlington VA
17/32	David Butler, Keswick VA; Mark Dahl, Richmond VA
17/32	William Pettis, Silver Spring MD; Ai-Tai Lo, Reston VA;
17/32	Sumner Steinfeldt, WashingtonDC; Hal Hindman, Annandale VA; Mark Chen, Oak Hill VA

Wagar Knockout Teams

1	Beth Palmer, Silver Spring MD;
3/4	Rae Dethlefsen, Reston VA

0-5000 Mini-Spingold Knockout Teams

2	Richard Wegman, Bethesda MD; Gloria Silverman Bart, Gambrills MD
---	--

0-1500 Mini-Spingold Knockout Teams

5/8	Ronald Kral, Reston VA; Dan Moore, Burtonsville MD
9/16	Laurie Scheinman, Baltimore MD

Senior Swiss Teams

1	James Murphy, Chesapeake VA
4	Divakar Bhargava, Richmond VA
9	Mike Cappelletti Sr, Alexandria VA
12	Shou-Ling Wang, Bethesda MD; Ronald Spath, Severna Park MD
22	Ed Lazarus, Baltimore MD
23	Eugene Davidson, Washington DC
24	Martin Graf, Chevy Chase MD; Mark Shaw - Arnie Frankel, Laurel MD; David Ruderman, Burtonsville MD
26	Hanna Schepps, Silver Spring MD

National 199er Pairs

2	David Banh, Annandale VA
---	--------------------------

NABC Fast Pairs

17	Raghavendra Rajkumar, Arlington VA
----	------------------------------------

Mixed Board-A-Match Teams

16	Mark Dahl, Richmond VA
25	Robert Gookin, Falls Church VA
27	Jeff Roman, Alexandria VA; Cecily Kohler, Washington DC

Open Swiss Teams

11	James Murphy, Chesapeake VA; William Pettis, Silver Spring MD
17	Steve Robinson, Arlington VA; Peter Boyd, Silver Spring MD
18	Robert Gookin, Falls Church VA
21	Alan Sontag, Gaithersburg MD
31	Mike Cappelletti Sr, Alexandria VA

WBL Top Ten Lists
Atlanta NABC**All WBL Members**

1	114.62	Peggy Allen
2	103.31	Steve Robinson
3	102.96	Beth Palmer
4	101.96	Peter Boyd
5	90.59	Frederick Allenspach
6	90.03	Richard Wegman
7	78.56	Gloria Silverman Bart
8	69.46	Mark Shaw
9	60.02	William Pettis
10	54.35	Mike Cappelletti Sr

Members with fewer than 2000 masterpoints

1	35.22	Alice Wegman
2	33.13	Dan Moore
3	30.32	Linda Maloney
4	27.21	Jane Sturgis
5	23.97	Kenneth Kaufman
6	19.85	Eugene Fisher
	19.85	Adrienne Fisher
8	19.19	Jason Rosenfeld
	19.19	James Geist
	19.19	Charity Sack

Members with fewer than 750 masterpoints

1	19.85	Adrienne Fisher
2	19.19	Jason Rosenfeld
3	14.39	Shlomit Rind
4	12.49	Roma Chandra
5	11.63	Madeline Delahan
	11.63	Franz Delahan
7	11.43	Reni Malloy
8	9.92	Emerita Hayward
9	9.88	Anne Derbes
	9.88	Robert Schwab

SECTIONAL TOURNAMENT AT
CLUBS***13-19 June 2005*****Performance Lists****Top twenty-five point winners**

1	27.71	Beverly Flaschentrager, Virginia Beach VA
2	21.93	Arnie Frankel, Laurel MD
3	20.95	Rita Davidson, Timonium MD
4	19.30	Wendy Richardson, Cambridge MD
5	19.06	Warren Stone, Ocean City MD
6	18.91	Peter Hughes, Alexandria VA
7	17.91	Harold Jordan, Wilmington DE
8	17.86	Lee De Simone, Alexandria VA
9	17.58	Donald Geerhart, Springfield VA
10	17.48	Georgie Feldman, Cambridge MD
11	16.99	Howard Siegel, Chestnut Hill MA
12	16.42	Darwin Afdahl, Virginia Beach VA
13	16.13	Jess Stuart, West Chester PA
	16.13	Lois Stuart, West Chester PA
15	15.86	Jerry Keller, Laurel MD
16	15.71	Eliezer Solomon, Ocean City MD
	15.71	Charlotte Hahn, Ocean City MD
18	15.58	Enid Asherman, Alexandria VA

AREA BRIDGE CLASS OFFERINGS

LESLIE SHAFER'S FALL SCHEDULE

Questions: Call **Leslie Shafer** at 301-593-6828 or email slamhand@verizon.net.

- 19 15.56Craig Robinson,
Lansdale PA
- 20 15.48Kenneth Davis,
Alexandria VA
- 21 15.38Barbara Blitz,
Pikesville MD
- 22 15.05Danijel Zenko,
Chevy Chase MD
- 23 14.77Julian Boyce,
Silver Spring MD
- 24 14.70Hanna Schepps,
Silver Spring MD
- 25 14.60Pamela Bowman,
Towson MD

Players with more than 1500 masterpoints

- 1 21.93Arnie Frankel,
Laurel MD
- 2 19.06Warren Stone,
Ocean City MD
- 3 18.91Peter Hughes,
Alexandria VA
- 4 17.91Harold Jordan,
Wilmington DE
- 5 17.86Lee De Simone,
Alexandria VA
- 6 17.58Donald Geerhart,
Springfield VA
- 7 16.42Darwin Afdahl,
Virginia Beach VA
- 8 16.13Jess Stuart,
West Chester PA
- 16.13Lois Stuart,
West Chester PA
- 10 15.86Jerry Keller,
Laurel MD

Players with more than 500 and fewer than 1500 masterpoints

- 1 14.60Pamela Bowman,
Towson MD

- 2 13.61E Nock,
Ocean City MD
- 13.61Robert Nock,
Ocean City MD
- 4 13.46Ellen Mendelson,
Pikesville MD
- 5 13.24Charles Carrington,
Silver Spring MD
- 6 11.68William Hacker,
Germantown MD
- 7 11.33Noble Shore,
North Potomac MD
- 8 11.29Jeff Ruben,
Wilmington DE
- 9 10.49Paul Leopold,
Potomac MD
- 10 9.76Florence Silverman,
Baltimore MD

Players with fewer than 500 masterpoints

- 1 27.71Beverly Flaschentrager,
Virginia Beach VA
- 2 20.95Rita Davidson,
Timonium MD
- 3 19.30Wendy Richardson,
Cambridge MD
- 4 17.48Georgie Feldman,
Cambridge MD
- 5 16.99Howard Siegel,
Chestnut Hill MA
- 6 15.38Barbara Blitz,
Pikesville MD
- 7 15.05Danijel Zenko,
Chevy Chase MD
- 8 14.51Theresa Browning,
Towson MD
- 9 12.96Jules Blitz,
Pikesville MD
- 10 12.76Ellie Isaacs,
Ocean Pines MD
- 12.76Becky Rendler,
Ocean Pines MD

Hi all - Here is the eagerly awaited 2005 Fall Bridge Schedule of all of my classes. Please remember only Kenwood classes will you need to send ME your registration via email. All MCRD classes you must register with them either online or send in via fax.

Thanks — Leslie

Beginner Bridge Part 1

For absolute beginners or those who haven't played in a loooooong time. **Kenwood Country Club**. Starts Sept. 7th, Wed. 10 a.m.-noon. Tuition: \$125; 8 weeks. Register thru Leslie at slamhand@verizon.net) For those of you who play bridge already, please tell your non-playing friends.

Brush Up Bridge at OASIS

Good for students who have not played in a while or feel rusty about their bridge knowledge. Basic bidding and play reviews. Fridays 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. There are two 5-week sessions. First 5-week session starts Sept 23rd. Second 5-week session starts Oct. 28th. \$80 tuition each semester. Call **Oasis** directly to register (202-686-9760). Advanced Beginners.

Beginner Bridge Part 2

Introduces more basics such as takeout doubles, overcalls, etc. **Coffield Com Center**. Starts Sept. 19th, Mon., 7:15 - 9:15 pm; 8 weeks. \$71 tuition; \$15 material fee. Register w/MCRD.

Basic Conventions

(Stayman, Blackwood, Transfers, etc.) Tuesdays 7:30 - 9:30 pm. 8 weeks. Starts Sept. 20th at **Potomac CC**. Register thru MCRD. \$71 tuition and \$15 material fee. Level: Adv'd beg. - Interm.

Slam Bidding

Want to learn how to bid those elusive slam contracts? Impress your friends and scare your opponents!! 8 weeks; Two locations — **Kenwood Country Club** starting Sept. 7th on Wed. 1-3 p.m. (\$125; register thru me); **or** Starts on Sept. 21 at **Leland Com. Center** on Wed. 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. \$71 tuition plus a \$15 material fee. Register thru MCRD. Level: Interm. To Adv'd Players.

More Magic Hands!

There's a "trick" to every hand and we will be playing LOTS of hands each week. This class will train you to problem solve and develop card sense. Starts Sept. 26, Monday 10 a.m. - noon; 8 weeks. \$71 tuition plus a \$15 material fee. Register thru MCRD). Level: Advanced players.

~ ♣♦♥♠ ~

If you are a member of the **Washington Hebrew Congregation (JBC)** there are two classes there — Introduction to Signaling (Tues., 12:30-2:30 pm begins Sept. 13th) or Beginner Bridge Part 1 (Thurs., 1:30 -3:30 p.m. begins Sept. 15th). 8 weeks. Register through WHC Sisterhood.

~ ♣♦♥♠ ~

I've had several requests from intermedi-ate thru advanced students who wanted an evening class. Note the slam bidding course at the Leland Rec Center on Wednesday nights through MCRD.

~ ♣♦♥♠ ~

MCRD classes - To register online, go to: <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/rec>

I hope that answers some of your ques-tions. Feel free to email me if you need more info at slamhand@verizon.net.

Best of luck with your bridge, but more importantly – have fun with it!!

~ ♣♦♥♠ ~

Tip of the Week: A takeout double by a passed hand shows 9-11 HCP plus shortness in the enemy's bid suit. Example: you hold S: xx H: Axxx D: KQxx C: Qxx

<u>You</u>	<u>West</u>	<u>Partner</u>	<u>East</u>
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♠
??			

Double to show almost an opening hand plus support for the unbid suits!



NLM MASTER POINTERS

by I/N Columnist, Sandy Forsythe, majslf@aol.com

THINK BEFORE YOU LEAD!

Let's say you're West, and this is your hand:

- ♠ QT62
- ♥ 63
- ♦ A97542
- ♣ 6

You're on lead against a 6♥ contract. What do you lead?

Did you automatically choose the singleton club, hoping to score your ace of diamonds and a club ruff? Not so fast! Let's consider all the information available to us so we can choose the best plan, starting with the auction:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
P	1♠	P	1♥
P	3♥	P	4NT
P	5♦	P	6♥

South's 4NT bid was Blackwood; North showed one ace. Do you think South would bid slam missing two aces? Maybe, if he had a void, but with a void, he probably wouldn't have used Blackwood. So if the ace of clubs isn't in your partner's hand, how are you going to get your ruff? Won't declarer win the opening lead and pull your trump?

Let's see if we can come up with a better plan. C'mon, it's only two tricks; this should be easy, right? We know partner has no aces, but maybe she has a king. Wouldn't it be great if she had the king of diamonds? Sometimes you have to use your imagination: visualize a lay of the cards that will let you set the contract (or make the contract) and then play for that lay.

This hand came up at a Suit Yourself game at my house. Here's the full deal:

North

- ♠ A843
- ♥ KQ92
- ♦ QT6
- ♣ J4

West (You)

- ♠ QT62
- ♥ 63
- ♦ A97542
- ♣ 6

East

- ♠ KJ97
- ♥ J8
- ♦ K3
- ♣ 87532

South

- ♠ 5
- ♥ AT754
- ♦ J8
- ♣ AKQT9

As you can see, you can set the contract by leading the ace of diamonds and another diamond to partner's king. How will you know to continue diamonds after partner plays the itty bitty three? Visualization, once again! After the first trick, only the king and the jack of diamonds are missing (unless South sneakily falsecards). Partner can't signal with a card she doesn't have! Pard's three could even have been a singleton. You know that South has a big hand and your tricks are likely to go away if you don't grab them fast. Stick to your plan!

On any lead other than a diamond, declarer can win the lead, pull trump in two rounds, throw dummy's losing diamonds on his good clubs and ruff his two diamonds in the dummy: making seven. At the table, only one North-South pair out of 12 bid the 26 HCP slam, but several pairs took 12 or 13 tricks. Against a game contract, I would lead the singleton club: partner may very well have the ace of clubs. When you or your opponents have reached the most normal contract, it's okay to be with the field and make the normal lead.

Whatever the contract, you should always think carefully when you're on lead. Consider the auction, estimate partner's HCP, and make your plan. Opening leads are blind, but they shouldn't be deaf!

STEPPING UP TO NEW HEIGHTS

As of September 1, 2005

Junior Masters (5 Masterpoints)

Leon Blitman	Barbara Brisentine
J J Jayaraman	Patricia Minami
Charles Morton	Jose Porres
Stephen Salitrik	Minal Shah
Rebekah Viola	Myra Weinberg
Margarett Wilden	

Club Masters (20 Masterpoints)

Kathy Attlan	Murat Berk
Ruby Brooks	Jennifer Elliott
Brian Julius	Carolyn Kier
Porter Kier	Ajaz Rahman
John Ryan	Shawn Stringer
Corinne Zimmermann	

Sectional Masters (50 Masterpoints)

Mark Cohen	Linda Marshall
Pat Mascari	Robert Moss
Yasmina Patel	Kenn Pendleton
Harriette Plotkin	Lorraine Tyler

Regional Masters (100 Masterpoints)

Lucille Allor	Dale Collinson
Andres Doernberg	Alex Goldenberg
Wesley Gray	Evelyn Knapp
Barry Reich	Kenneth Rosenau
Gerry Wixson	

National Masters (200 Masterpoints)

Calvin Cobb Jr	Elaine Conway
Danut Gliga	Donald Goldman
Bob Grudberg	Robert Krueger
Gerard Mulvenna	Jon Ranhand
Thomas Reckford	

Do you get along with your computer?

Help is here!

- Get on the internet
- Computer purchase
- Computer setup
- Email setup
- Software installations
- Programming
- OKBridge/OKWin
- Microsoft Word
- Microsoft Excel/Access
- Web Page Design
- Uploads and Downloads
- Phone support



Diane Walker

dibasoft
Computer Consulting

301-990-8534

diane@dibasoft.com

**NEED A RIDE TO THE UNIT GAME?
NEED A PARD FOR THE UNIT GAME?**

Contact Charleen Brand (301-946-8483) one day ahead to find a partner for the unit game. For a last minute partner, call the **WBL cell phone (301-395-2760)**. Try the country's first **On-Line Partnership Bulletin Board**: www.washingtonbridgeleague.org.

Don Berman, Carpool Coordinator can be contacted at 301-776-3581 or (don.berman@verizon.net) or log on to the **On-Line Carpool Notices** at www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org.

Good luck! We look forward to seeing you on Thursday evenings.

THE WASHINGTON BRIDGE LEAGUE
14517 PERRYWOOD DRIVE
BURTONSVILLE, MARYLAND 20866

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WBL SOLVERS' CLUB'S NEW PROBLEMS

September/October 2005

1) IMP's You're Vulnerable

♠ 3♥ KQ104♦ AKQ14♣ 1032

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1♦	3♣	3♠	Pass
????			

2) Matchpoints None Vulnerable

♠ A54♥ A6543♦ A4♣ K87

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1♥	Pass	2♥	3♣
???			

3) Matchpoints You're Vulnerable

♠ A♥ A6♦ AQ107654♣ A87

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
???	---	---	3♣
???			

*4♦ is not a legal bid and will be given 10 points.

4) IMP's None Vulnerable

♠ J83♥ 1082♦ AJ65♣ A52

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

5) IMP's Both Vulnerable

♠ K96♥ AKJ762♦ K65♣ J

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1♥	Dbl	1♠	2♣
Dbl*	3♣	Pass	Pass
3♥	Pass	3♠	Pass
???			

*Dbl=3-card spade support

Return answers by October 24 to:

Steve Robinson
2891 S. Abingdon St #A2,
Arlington VA, 22206
robinswr@erols.com