

*Come on out to the*  
**61st Annual**  
**City of Washington Tournament**  
**MAY 3-6, 2006**

The WBL May Sectional is **packed with special events** and **games** along with **great hospitality**. (See page 3 for a complete listing of the games.)

I/N players, check it out! There's a full schedule of **Intermediate & Novice events** and an **Instant Bridge Player Seminar** on Sunday.

Friday night it's the **Barometer Pairs!** It's a pair game where you can check your scores after every round!



Between sessions on Saturday attend the free **Panel Show**. At 11:00am and 3:30pm, check out the **4th Annual Washington Bridge League Trophy Pairs**. Sunday, between sessions, this traveling trophy will be presented to the winners.

Did we mention hospitality? Check out the **special Cinco de Mayo Fiesta Hospitality** throughout the tournament with free lunches between sessions all weekend.



**Check out the  
 Annual Meeting, Elections and  
 Charity Game on May 17 at the Unit Game**

*Come play bridge, vote for your new board, and feast at Christ the King Church on Thursday, May 17...*

Complimentary Buffet Dinner .....6:00 p.m.  
 Meeting and Elections .....7:00 p.m.  
 Charity Game .....7:30 p.m.

**Volunteers** are needed to help with cooking at Nadine's the night before, starting at 7 p.m. We also need volunteers to help prepare and set up food on the day, at the church, starting at 3 p.m. Any person who can help, even if only for an hour or two, will be welcome. For information, contact WBL Hospitality Chair, **Kitty Gottfried** at (301) 587-3981 or [kgottfried@hotmail.com](mailto:kgottfried@hotmail.com).

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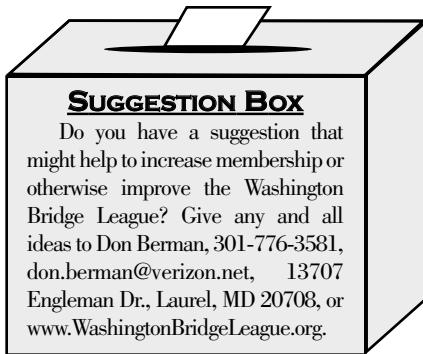
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**WBL OMBUDSMAN**  
 Any player with helpful director issues including criticism or praise of the directing staff may contact the Ombudsman, Ann Lindley and be assured that the source of the information will remain confidential. Information should be provided in writing and may be handed to her at any game, or mailed to her at 8822 Fircrest Pl., Alexandria, VA 22308.

◆◆♥◆ ~~~~~  
**DEADLINE: MAY 10, 2007**  
 TO SUBMIT NEW ARTICLES TO THE EDITOR FOR THE MAY/JUNE 2007 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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WBL WEBSITE: [www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org](http://www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org)  
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## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

by WBL President, Fred King

What does the WBL do? You all know that the Washington Bridge League, unit 147 of the ACBL, runs sectional tournaments. (Currently four of these every year.) In addition, we run what is undoubtedly the biggest and the best unit game in the country. The WBL also has a non-life masters game every Sunday. We just started this game less than a year ago and it is growing and nurturing new players. We also publish and distribute a bulletin six times a year. This magazine not only tells you of our games, but also offers instructional and educational information about bridge.

Did you know that we also run two team events during the year—a Knock Out event and a Round Robin event. These two team events are most often played at members' homes at a time and location convenient to both teams. There is a large social element to these games and they are a good way to meet other players in the WBL whom you might not meet otherwise. I would urge everyone to get up a team and enter this year's Round Robin. (See p. 13.) The deadline for entries is May 17, our annual meeting.

Every other year, the WBL hosts a regional tournament over the 4th of July week. This year we finally move back across the river. It is in North Bethesda, in the heart of WBL territory at the new Marriott hotel. It should be a great tournament with convenient access to Metro (White Flint stop), our world famous hospitality and lots of good restaurants in the area. Everyone put it on your calendar now (July 2-8) and come and win those gold points that you need. We can also always use volunteers to help with the tournament. (See p. 4.)

For the last three years we have run the annual "bridge and bowling" event. This is a fun event again for more social aspects than pure competition. Most of us only bowl this one time a year and the bridge teams are put together to try to make them of even strength, with all the players rotating partners each round. We also get together for dinner between the two sessions. If you have never tried it, come next year and I am sure you will enjoy it.

Do you have ideas for other bridge related events that the WBL can run? Speak to me or another officer or board member. We try to make all of our games fun and also a good learning

experience for everyone. I was disappointed to hear someone say recently that he didn't enter an event because he "knew" he couldn't win. I play in lots of events, especially at an NABC, where I know I can't win, but I still enter for the fun of the competition and to face top notch players. And besides, you never know! In the district Grand National Teams, the team seeded 6th beat the top seeded team in the district finals and they will be enjoying a trip to Nashville to represent us at the national level. In addition, I hope that all of you know by now that our own **Dick Wegman** and **David Abelow** won the **North American Open Pairs** in St. Louis, even though each of them still has under 5000 points. (It is also noteworthy that they had a 43% game in the first session, but didn't give up.) You can read more about their story on p. 20. So get out and play in our events. You will have fun, win or lose and you never know when you might win!

—Fred King

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—Paul Soloway  
*World Champion and  
#1 ACBL masterpoint holder*

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## ♣ Silver Spring, MD ♦ MAY 3-6, 2007 ♥

### 61st Annual City of Washington Tournament

#### THURSDAY, MAY 3

- ♣ StrataFlighted Open Pairs (A/X 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, 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. 1<sup>st</sup> left on Colston. Church is on the left before the next intersection.



#### Friday—at Christ the King Church Only

#### FRIDAY, MAY 4

- ♦ Stratified Pairs (2000+/1000/500) . . . . . 10:00am
  - ♥ StrataFlighted A/X (unlim/3000) & B/C/D Pairs (1500/1000/500) . . . . . 2:00pm
  - ♣ **Barometer Pairs** StrataFlighted A/X (unlim/3000) & B/C/D Pairs (1500/1000/500) . . . . . 7:30pm
- Check your scores every round!** Friday nights are your chance to try a different form of the game. This one session Barometer Pairs has no qualification necessary. Everyone plays the same boards at the same time and you can see how you're doing after every round.
- ♣ Intermediate/Novice Pairs (300/200/100/50/20) (single sessions) . . . . . 10:00am, 2:00pm, 7:30pm

#### ♦ SAT. & SUN. ONLY at the Margaret Schweinhaut Senior Center ♥

Always  
follow your  
partner's  
lead!



Even I  
can't ruff up  
against  
notrump!

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.

### Celebrate Cinco de Mayo...

with Fiesta Hospitality & a 2:30 Saturday Panel Show!

#### SATURDAY, MAY 5

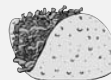
- ♣ **4<sup>th</sup> Annual: Washington Bridge League Trophy Pairs** . . . . . 11:00am, 3:30pm  
(Two session Open Pairs, qualifying and final. Single session entries available.)
- ♦ StrataFlighted B/C/D Pairs (1500/1000/500) (single sessions) . . . . . 11:00am, 3:30pm
- ♥ StrataFlighted A/X (unlim/3000) . . . . . 3:30pm
- ♣ Intermediate/Novice Pairs (300/200/100) or Newcomer Pairs (50/20/5) (single sessions) 11:00am, 3:30pm

#### SUNDAY, MAY 6

- ♣ **Instant Bridge Player:** Turn your friends onto bridge in this 1-day seminar! . . . . . 10:30am
- ♦ A/X Swiss Teams, (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 ♥

LN 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. Volunteer Coordinator: **Barbara Summers**, 301-598-5838, jimbarb1184@aol.com Hospitality: **Kitty Gottfried**, 301-587-3981, kgottfried@hotmail.com Partnerships: **Barbara Doran**, 301-608-0347, Sectional Partner@DistrictSix.org or try the easy Online Partnership Bulletin Board: [www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org](http://www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org)

# THE BRIDGE HIGHLIGHT OF THE YEAR IS HERE!

**JULY 2-7, 2007 at the Bethesda North Marriott**  
5701 Marinelli Road, North Bethesda, MD, 301-822-9200

**Magnificent! Exciting! Outstanding New Location! Special Programs! Celebration!**

These words describe what is in store for us at our annual **4TH OF JULY REGIONAL**. It is going to be a spectacular Holiday week of bridge. It is not too soon to make plans now to attend with your favorite partner and teammates. Or come alone and we will pair you up with someone of your ability. There will be bridge games from morning to night for players of all levels of experience. Pair games and Knockouts will be available at times convenient for all. WBL hospitality will be on display with fine food and drink available every day!

**SENIOR TRIALS** In addition to the Regional, we are also hosting the Senior Trials which will be selecting two teams to send to the World Championships in Shanghai this coming October. They begin play at 10:00 a.m. on Monday and will be playing all week. Kibitzers are welcome and the finals will be broadcast on **Bridge Base**.

**COURSES** Anyone who has an interest in becoming a bridge teacher or bridge director can enroll in courses being offered for that purpose.

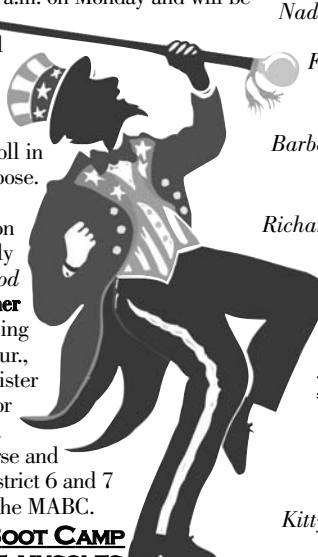
The **Club Director's Course** will be held just prior to the tournament on Saturday, June 30 and Sunday, July 1. Preregistration with **Nadine Wood** is required by **June 15**. The **Teacher Accreditation Program (TAP)** is being held during the tournament on Thur., Fri. and Sat. mornings. Please register with **Joanne Pretti**, 703-821-2254 or **Brdgmclean@aol.com** by **June 20**. The fee for both the director's course and the TAP is \$50 for members of District 6 and 7 and \$100 for members outside of the MABC.

**PRE-TOURNEY BRIDGE BOOT CAMP**  
**WARM UP YOUR BRIDGE MUSCLES**

**OR LEARN FROM SCRATCH IN ONE DAY!** **Steve Forsythe** will be conducting his popular **Instant Bridge Player** class on Monday, July 2 from noon until 5:00 p.m. at the hotel. Tell your relatives, friends and neighbors who are new to bridge or new to duplicate, have never played or used to play and need a refresher. Students will be invited to the hospitality suite after the class for refreshments and an opportunity to discuss bridge hands. They will also be given a free play to the Monday evening game. Then, on Tuesday, all players with less than six masterpoints **play for free!** **Steve & Sandy Forsythe** will be taking advance reservations at **MAISLF@aol.com** or 301-592-9177. The cost is \$25 or \$20 for those that call or email in advance to reserve a space.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR OUTSTANDING NEW LOCATION** It has been 16 years since we last hosted this regional in Maryland and we are working very hard to make the tournament a success, so we can continue at this site whenever the WBL is the host. To do so we need the help of many volunteers, starting with you! Just contact **Barbara Summers** at (301) 598-5838 or **jimbarb1184@aol.com** to help with Partnerships, Prizes, Information, Hospitality or I/N. We especially need many Intermediate/Novice volunteers for varying duties in the I/N games. Except for hospitality, most tasks will only need about a 45 minute commitment before game time. We also need a lot of people to help with hospitality, which varies from helping with food preparation, filling bowls and trays, bartending, cleanup, both before and after bridge sessions. You can also sign up with any committee chairman.

**SEE THE APRIL/MAY 2007 DISTRICT 6 TABLETALK FOR THE FULL SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**



## QUESTIONS?

Any Committee Chair will be happy to help you...

## Tournament Chairs

**Nadine Wood** (301) 565-9555  
woodthere@comcast.net

**Fred King** (703) 536-1914  
The5kings2@aol.com

## Partnership Chair

**Barbara Ames** (301) 977-3465  
Barbara@fbacpa.com

## Prize Chair

**Richard Ferrin** (202-265-0718)  
rferrin@hunton.com

## Information

**Ellen Cherniavsky**  
301-649-1350  
eachernia@yahoo.com

## Intermediate/Novice Chair

**Frances Burke**  
(301) 384-6103  
edbfmb@comcast.net

## Hospitality

**Kitty Gottfried** 301-587-3981  
kgottfried@hotmail.com

# BITS AND PIECES

## WELCOME TO THE WASHINGTON BRIDGE LEAGUE

The WBL welcomes the following new ACBL members: **Ms Joanne H Berens, Mr Harry T Dewey, Betty Frain, Henry Frain, Mrs Brenda M Gehan, Dr Edmund A Gehan, Mr Carl R Hansen, Mr Peter R Hartogensis, Mrs Christine A Hinchliffe, Mrs Peggy M Hurley, Ms Martha L Stout, Mr Mark C Williams, Mrs Mercia C Decker, Paula J Desio, Ms Regina A Ewig, Kristen S Gehlhaus, Marylou Hansen, Mrs Ronnie G Hirschberg, Ms Judith M Jacobi, Ms Gertrude E Jones, Ms Carol V Kuehl, Edith Mueller, Dr Madeline M Nevins, Ms Jean Noonan, Ursula K Quin, Ms Patricia L Rengel, Parviz Steeds, Isabelle M Thabault, Ms Sandra J Thompson, and Ruth Zook.**

In addition, we welcome the following transfers from other units: **Mr Ernie Gruenfeld, Mrs Rhona P Prenskey, Mr Herbert Rubinstein, Mrs Marilyn S Rubinstein, Mr Elliott S Turley, Dr Robert Casady, Norman Cowen M.D., Mr Richard N Freedman, Fredi A Fries, Mr Maurice M Greenman, Mrs Dorothy Guttman, Mr Newman Guttman, Mr Paul M Mc Lean, Mr Michael B Richey, Ms Elaine K Salen, Mr Mel Schloss, Mr Albert Shayne, Mrs Florence Shayne, and Mrs Charlotte Zaret.**

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](http://www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org).

## 2006-2007 WBL/NVBA PLAYER OF THE YEAR

**To be eligible**, a player: (1) Must be a member (or pending member) of either the NVBA or the WBL; (2) Must attend at least three WBL and three NVBA sectionals during the contest period (August, 2006 through May, 2007). Points won on Tournament Thursday evenings are included in the totals, but do not count towards eligibility; (3) Must be a member in good standing of the ACBL and a local affiliate throughout the contest period and remain so through the award presentation.

**Awards:** Two trophies will be awarded.

**Standings:** Here are the standings after six of eight Sectionals. The asterisk\* indicates that the player has met eligibility requirements.

Player	Open Leaders	Points
1 Steve Robinson	.....	106.97*
2 Mark Shaw	.....	102.97*
3 Alfred Steinberg	.....	85.11
4 Earl Glickstein	.....	84.37*
5 Robert Bell	.....	80.44
6 William Cole	.....	79.41*
7 Peter Boyd	.....	76.26
8 Prahalad Rajkumar	.....	75.46
9 Noble Shore	.....	69.83
10 Jay Kelkar	.....	65.11
11 John Adams	.....	64.43
12 Raghavendra Rajkumar	.....	62.72
13 Stan Schenker	.....	62.40
14 Helene Bauman	.....	61.39*
15 Angeliki Magklara	.....	59.71*
16 Shuba Dey	.....	56.98*
17 Michael Gill	.....	56.16
18 Lloyd Rawley	.....	52.07*
19 Kenneth Davis	.....	51.45*
20 David Milton	.....	50.51

## NonLM Leaders

Player	Points
1 Raghavendra Rajkumar	.....62.72
2 Angeliki Magklara	.....59.71*
3 Alfred Liepold	.....35.20*
4 Linda Marshall	.....34.61*
5 Katherine Rabenstein	.....31.27*
6 Martha Bley	.....26.92
7 Ross Bley	.....26.92
8 Jose Porres	.....22.84*
9 Roger Laumark	.....22.61*
10 Joe Lentz	.....22.57*
11 Susan Miskura	.....21.96
12 Dennis Schwanz	.....21.96
13 Helen Long	.....21.48*
14 Francesco Parisi-Presicce	.....21.28
15 Carl Noller	.....19.98
16 Kevin O'Brien	.....16.56
17 Shawn Stringer	.....15.65
18 William Kingery Jr	.....15.20
19 Albert Lauber	.....14.74
20 Howard Grunin	.....14.26
Neil Selvin	.....14.26

...continued on p. 16



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- ♦ **NEW!** 24 Bridge Challenges have been added, totaling 216 problem deals in all to help you sharpen your declarer play
- ♣ **NEW!** 4 new bidding conventions: Namyats, Lead-Directing Doubles, Wolff Sign-Off Bids, and Artificial Minor Bids after 1M-X
- ♣ **IMPROVED!** Bidding and play
- ♥ **IMPROVED!** Now chose to open 1NT with a 6-card minor or a stiff honor
- ♦ **IMPROVED!** Now chose to play Puppet Stayman after 1NT, after 2NT, or both
- ♣ **IMPROVED!** Graphical user interface

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Available on CD-Rom for Macintosh/iMac/MacOS 8.6 or later (English/French). Built for MAC OS X



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- ♣ See how you would have scored in the tournament with Bridge Baron as your partner

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## WBL SOLVERS' CLUB

Moderated by Steve Robinson

[robinswr@erols.com](mailto:robinswr@erols.com)

Congratulations to **Mel Welles, Amy Bloom, Dave Smith, Mark Laken** and **Carol Elfant** who tied for first with a score of 480. They win a free entry to the Unit Game and will be invited to be on a future panel. Sixth was **Nancy Terry** with a score of 470. Tied for seventh were **William Adams, Goldie Brody, Jerry Miller** and **Lynda Flanger** with a score of 460. Tied for eighth were **Seymour Baden, Rossi Lindstrom, Barbara Israel, Ken Harkness, Ed Molner** and **Davyd Breeskin** with a score of 450. Tied for ninth were **John Sommer, Pal, Jerry Haney** and **Yi Zhong** with a score of 440. Tied for twenty-first were **Jose Cortina, Jim Allen, Neil Selvin, Paul Hwang, William Nason, Perry Khaklar, Ed Kinlaw, Larry Kahn, Suzanne Abrams, Stu Fkeischmann, Ted Wilkinson** and **Audrey Warren** with a score of 430. The average score of the 251 solvers was 389. The average score of the experts was 431.

On the November/December 2006 problems, somehow I missed the following entries: **Craig Olson** had a 460, **Stu Fleischmann** had a 450 and **Roman Kaluzniacki** had a 430.

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](mailto: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 \$29.05 that includes \$4.05 for priority mail.

### 1) Matchpoints, Both Vulnerable

♠ 93♥ K65♦ KJ5♣ AQ654

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1♣	1♠	Dbl	Pass
????			
Action	Score	Votes	Solvers
2♣	100	8	149
1NT	90	3	26
2♥	40	1	60
3♥	20	0	01
Pass	20	0	07
3♣	20	0	01
2♠	20	0	03
2♦	20	0	04

One of those hands, where there is no perfect answer. 2♣ show clubs but you would like to have six. You would like to have four to bid a red suit. There is the default response. 1NT describes your lack of six clubs or lack of four of a red suit. The problem is the lack of a spade stopper? To be in a more knowledgeable position, we should discuss partner's negative double. The negative double promises four hearts and at least six HCP but says nothing about the rest of the hand. By making a negative double any time you have four hearts, you don't have to worry about later bidding hearts in response to opener's takeout double and find opener with only

three hearts. ♠ KJxx♥ Axxx♦ xxxx♣ x and ♠ QJxx♥ AQxx♦ xxx♣ xx are sound negative doubles. Opposite these hands you want to play in 1NT unless opener has four hearts.

Two experts join me and bid 1NT. One of the few times when it makes sense to bid 1NT even without a stopper in the opponent's suit.

**Adams:** "1NT—I like for 2♣ to show six clubs, and for 2♥ to show four hearts. 1NT is the catch all response and can't guarantee a stopper. Note that this style let's responder make a negative double with ♠ KJ9x♥ Axxx♦ xxx♣ xx. If opener refuses to bid 1NT on balanced hands, then responder is left to guess if a negative double is appropriate on hands with four hearts and the spade suit stopped. I've bid 2♥ on these hands before, and thus far it has not worked out. All 1NT requires is a careful partner that will check back for a stopper before bidding 3NT, and not leave me in 1NT with hands like problem five."

**Hopkins:** "1NT—I have decided to make the same bid I would have had there been no interference. Who knows, partner may have a stopper. And I am well placed if I decide to act over a 2♠-bid by the overcaller. The only real downside I see is when partner gallops into 3NT and we can't stop the spade suit."

Maybe the 1NT-bid will deter West from leading a spade.

Eight experts bid 2♣. Works when doubler has at least two clubs. Doesn't work when doubler is 4-4-4-1.

**Parker:** "2♣—Why bid a three-card suit when you have a good five-card club suit. Why bid 1NT when you don't have a spade stopper. One does not have to be creative on every deal when there is an easy bid. Let partner further describe his hand without misinformation from you."

**Woolsey:** "2♣—If partner has a game force it won't matter whether I bid 1NT or 2♣, except bidding 2♣ will avoid a silly 3NT contract if we happen to be off the whole spade suit — not likely since East passed over the negative double, but West is allowed to hold a solid suit. If partner is weak, 2♣ is likely to work out as well or better than 1NT for competitive purposes. If I knew it would go all pass whichever I bid, then 1NT would get the nod, but that usually doesn't happen."

**Hughes:** "2♣—I may still get to show my three-card heart suit."

**Schwartz:** "2♣—I try not to bid 1NT with-

out a stopper. A doubleton spade with five clubs is a good enough reason to bid 2♣. Bidding a red suit seems more misrepresentative."

**Landen:** "2♣—I'm not adverse to bidding 1NT without a stopper in the opponents suit, but I have a decent club suit and partner will often have support. Bidding a three-card suit is out of the question."

**King:** "2♣—1NT would be my second choice. I don't like to bid three-card suits."

**Cappelletti:** "2♣—Tell partner that you have a real club suit. He might want to compete over a two-of-major balance."

**Roman:** "2♣—This isn't the same as "rebidding" clubs. Partner made a negative double and we are bidding our best suit. 2♥ is for heroes."

One expert tries to be a hero.

**Pokorny:** "2♥—Torn between 2♣ and 2♥, I'm bidding 2♥ only because the scoring is matchpoints. I hope partner holds five hearts, but even if I play a Moysian (4-3 fit), two small hearts will provide some useful spade ruffs. Playing IMPs my bid would probably have been 2♣. If LHO is going to bid 2♠, partner with competitive values and four hearts should double again allowing me to bid 3♣ showing this kind of hand."

This is one of the few situations where you can bid notrump without a stopper in the enemy's suit.

## 2) IMPs, None Vulnerable

♠ K2♥ KQ95♦ K10♣ KQ654

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
????	Pass	Pass	1♠
Action	Score	Votes	Solvers
Double	100	8	108
1NT	60	3	100
2♣	40	0	34
Pass	40	1	07
2♥	20	0	02

You have a normal 1NT-overcall but there are two major flaws. You have only one spade stopper. Against 1NT, a spade lead will probably net the defenders four or five spade tricks. You have no aces. If dummy has J10 of clubs and J10 of hearts, you have to knock out both aces. Each of these flaws will decrease your chances of getting a plus score. If partner has four hearts and six HCP, overcalling 1NT will cause you to miss your eight-card heart fit.

Six experts join me and make a takeout

double. I don't mind making a takeout double when I'm short in a minor. However, if my hand was ♠ K2♥ K10♦ KQ95♣ KQ654, I would never think about making a takeout double.

**Woolsey:** "Double—My tricks are way too slow to play any number of notrump with a single stopper in the enemy suit. Hearts is our most likely game, as well as our most likely part-score. If partner responds 2♦, maybe he will have five of them and 2♦ will be okay."

Notice that if partner responds 2♦ to the slightly off-shape takeout double, the experts pass. This hand is not strong enough to double and bid again. Good partners bid hearts or have six diamonds.

**Adams:** "Double—Close between 1NT and double. Overcalling 2♣ loses the heart suit, so that is out. Double lets us push to game opposite ♠ xxx♥ Axxx♦ xxx♣ Jxx. 1NT loses the strong-suit-playing ability of this hand. The lack of Aces also bodes poorly for a 1NT contract. Against that, I risk going down in the wrong part score, but the scoring is IMPs, and I run that risk no matter what I bid."

**Schwartz:** "Double—I don't like double without support for all unbid suits. My hand is over-strengthened and under-suited for 2♣. The poor spade holding and lack of aces argues against 1NT. The most likely game is 4♥."

**Hopkins:** "Double—I will just have to live with a 2♦ response. Partner might even have five or more of them. I have too few Aces for notrump to play well."

**Landen:** "Double—Best chance for game is in hearts so I double. 1NT is unappealing with a single spade stopper and no quick tricks. If partner bids 2♦ so be it, I'll pass."

**King:** "Double—I hate bidding 1NT with a stopper of Kx as I cannot hold up and have wrong sided the contract if partner has Qxx. Partners don't always bid diamonds when you double."

If partner has Qxx of spades, it doesn't matter who plays 1NT. However, it does matter if partner has Q10x of spades and West has an entry. Since East opened 1♠, being unable to hold up probably makes no difference. It could be a different story if East preempted and might not have an entry.

**Roman:** "Double—Brings hearts to the party, and what I lack in diamonds I make up for with extra strength."

Usually it's best to overcall 1NT when you have any hand that is close to a 1NT opener.

I've even seen players overcall 1NT over a minor-opening without a stopper in opener's suit. Three experts follow that principle.

**Hughes:** "1NT—Tell my whole story at once."

**Parker:** "1NT—Seems clear cut, 16 points and a stopper in their suit. Partner can still look for hearts with system on."

**Cappelletti:** "1NT—Conveys more information than double, over which partner might bid 2♦. Stayman is available if partner has eight points or more."

One expert doesn't like any bid. If his partner has ten points and four hearts, he will miss an easy game.

**Pokorny:** "Pass—I don't have the right shape for a takeout double; I have a poor pattern (no aces, bad suit, bad stopper) for bidding 1NT; I don't have a long/decent suit for overcalling 2♣. Since my partner is a passed hand and we are playing IMPs, the bid I like the most is - pass! We will rarely miss a game and will never go for a number. The competitive battle is still on. If LHO bids 2♠ and it is passed back to me I'll balance with 3♣."

Usually it's always right to overcall 1NT when holding a notrump opener however there's no such word as always in Bridge. This hand is an exception.

## 3) Matchpoints, You're Vulnerable

♠ KQ2♥ 1073♦ 93♣ 87652

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
		1♦	2♣
Pass	Pass	Dbl	Redouble
????*			

\*(If you pass, partner must pass also)

Action	Score	Votes	Solvers
Pass	100	3	66
2♦	80	5	48
2♠	80	3	101
2♥	50	1	28
2NT	20	0	04
3♦	20	0	01
3♣	20	0	02
3♠	20	0	01

Why must partner pass 2♣ redoubled? Suppose you held ♠ Ax♥ xxx♦ xxx♣ KQ1098 and the auction went the same except that East didn't redouble. You would pass partner's takeout double in a flash. Why should you let East's redouble take away your penalty pass? Whenever partner doubles for takeout and you're sitting behind the doubler, and it is possible that you could have a penalty pass, the bidder's redouble should not deprive you of the opportunity to get a penalty. This also applies after any opening

bid, which gets passed around to balancer who doubles. If the opening bidder redoubles, pass by the player who's sitting behind the opener says that he would have passed the double for penalty. After 2♠ - Pass - Pass - double (by balancer) - redouble (by the 2♠ -opener); pass (by the player sitting behind the 2♠ -opener), is a penalty pass. If you hold ♠ xxxx♥ xxx♦ xxx♣ xxx, you have to bid a three-card suit. This does not apply if you're sitting in front of the bidder. If it goes one grape - double - redouble, pass just denies a good reason to bid.

On this hand, if you don't want to play 2♣ redoubled, you must choose your poison. Similar if you held ♠ xxx♥ Qxx♦ Qxx♣ xxxx and the auction went 1♣ by RHO, pass - pass - double by partner, redouble by opener, you have to bid a three-card suit. I wouldn't think you'd want to defend 1♣ redoubled. Here, holding five clubs and some defense, it would not be unreasonable to play to take six tricks on defense against 2♣. This is match-points. Beating 2♣ will get you a top. Bidding anything could find you in a silly spot and could get you a zero there.

**Woolsey:** "Pass—Why shouldn't we beat them? Give partner something like ♠ Axxx♥ KJxx♦ AQxx♣ x and it will be close — might depend on whether East has five or six clubs. And partner is allowed to be stronger. Just where would we play it if I bid anything? At best we have a seven-card fit, and if I guess wrong it will be a six-card fit. We have a better chance of taking six tricks in clubs than eight tricks in whatever I guess."

**Landen:** "Pass—They haven't made it yet, just another zero if they do."

The following experts deserve to find partner with ♠ AJxx♥ AJxx♦ xxx♣ Jx. Would going down at least two in 2♦ be any worse then having them make 2♣ redoubled?

**Parker:** "2♦ —I don't want to defend 2♣ redoubled with such poor club spots. Opener must reopen with shortness in clubs but does not guarantee both majors. Why go out of your way to play a 3-3 fit. Opener must have at least five diamonds since he has at most one club."

You wouldn't reopen with a 4-4-3-2 fourteen-count? I would reopen with a 4-4-3-2 eleven count.

**Adams:** "2♦ —Loses if partner 4-4-4-1. I expect partner has a stiff or void club, making it likely he has five or six diamonds. If I bid 2♠ and partner is 2-4-6-1, I will play

3♦, so 2♠ is out. 2♥ runs the risk of playing a bad 3-3 fit, where they pull trumps and run clubs. Bidding 2♦ wins if I get a fast double, as I can then ask partner to pick a major. Pass seems deep, because I do not expect to beat 2♣."

**Pokorny:** "2♦ —Double is just protective. Partner with short clubs could have a pretty weak hand. Since I want the opponents to declare this board, I run to 2♦. This is the most discouraging bid I can find. Doing anything else is pure gambling."

Only a board if they make 2♣ redoubled, but if they go down you get all the marbles.

**Schwartz:** "2♦ —Partner is likely to have five and this leaves me room for a SOS redouble if it seems right."

**King:** "2♦ —I don't want to defend and don't want to guess partner's majors. He could be 3-4-5-1 with either major being four cards. Of course he could be 4-4-4-1, but then it is only a board."

The following expert deserve to find partner with ♠ AJxx♥ xxx♦ AKxxx♣ x. Would going down at least two in 2♥ be any worse then having them make 2♣ redoubled?

**Hughes:** "2♥ —I would like to pass showing equal length in the majors."

The following experts deserve to find partner with ♠ xxx♥ AJxx♦ AKxx♣ xx. Would going down at least two in 2♠ be any worse then having them make 2♣ redoubled?

**Hopkins:** "2♠ —This is least likely to get doubled since I have strength, if not length. It might even be the best 4-3 or 3-3 fit to play in as we cross-ruff with high trumps."

**Cappelletti:** "2♠ —Least of evils and might get you to a good 4-3."

Why isn't passing 2♣ least of all evils? If you beat 2♣ redoubled you get a top.

**Roman:** "2♠ —Standard practice for when we have to make up a bid is to make the cheapest bid, but here 2♦ is out because partner might not be able to stand the club taps, and it may well be that the strength of my spades are what will allow us to survive this hand."

Why can't overcaller have ♠ xxx♥ xxx♦ AK♣ AKQ43 and his partner have ♠ xxxx♥ xxxx♦ xxxx♣ 10? 2♣ -redoubled gets you 1000.

When you are sitting behind a redoubler and you pass, this is a penalty pass. You don't want the redoubler to rob you of your penalty. When every bid has flaws, make the bid that has the most to gain.

#### 4) IMPs, None Vulnerable

♠ K54♥ 8765432♦ 4♣ 54

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
	1♦	Dbl	1♥

????\*

\*(All heart bids and double show hearts)

Action	Score	Votes	Solvers
3♥	100	4	07
Pass	80	4	143
2♥	70	3	41
4♥	60	1	10
Double	60	0	42
2♦	20	0	01
1♠	20	0	07

Two is the maximum number of hearts partner can have assuming East is an honest person. If East hadn't bid 1♥, I would have jumped to at least 3♥, probable 4♥. Since East bid 1♥ and partner can have at most two hearts it's best to make a conservative bid. Why bid 3♥? If partner has only two hearts, he must have at least 17 HCPs. This hand will not play well in any other suit, so it's best to tell partner that you have a long string of hearts with a weak hand. Bidding 3♥ now is the only way to get that message to partner.

Three experts agree with me and make the preemptive heart bid.

**Parker:** "3♥ —Same bid I would make if East had passed. Shows long hearts and weak hand. If you believe East, then partner must have a hand too good to overcall with a good suit so he can bid it at the four-level or decide that pass is correct."

**Adams:** "3♥ —4♥ might shut out partner from bidding 4♠ with a strong one-suiter. 3♥ lets partner bid his suit, which I can then raise. If partner actually has hearts, he can raise with extras, or pass with a minimum. This preempts the diamond bidder. Unless partner is very strong, the opponents have a huge diamond fit. 2♥ could work also, but understates my desire to play in hearts. 4♥ overstates, 3♥ is just right."

**Landen:** "3♥ — Seems enough. Partner will know I have at least six hearts and a weak hand. Either RHO is fooling around or partner will be bidding."

One expert jumps to 4♥. That's another way to show long hearts.

**Pokorny:** "4♥ —1♥ is obviously a psyche - where are all these diamonds? Had RHO bid some number of diamonds, I would have bid 4♥. Since I don't have a valid reason not to make the same bid now, my call is

4♥, a nice pressure bid. This usually shows a hand with long hearts, good shape and limited strength."

Three experts bid 2♥. I think partner would expect you to have more high-cards and fewer hearts. KQJxx of hearts and maybe an outside queen.

**Hughes:** "2♥ —How fortuitous that almost all actions show hearts. Double would certainly indicate more defensive strength."

**Hopkins:** "2♥ —Normally I play this to show a weak-two in hearts and would bid 3♥ with seven of them, but I'm going to pull in a notch due to the weak trumps."

**Cappelletti:** "2♥ —If all 2♥ shows hearts (BTW I usually play only a double shows hearts). If opponent is not psyching, you have many heart losers."

Four experts pass. I don't know what they plan to do next. Since you didn't double or bid hearts, any later heart bid will not be natural. Since partner has to have a strong hand, you won't have any answer if his suit is clubs.

**Schwartz:** "Pass—I don't play the opponents to psych so I am off a lot of heart tricks. Also I don't want a heart lead against NT or diamonds. If it's our hand, I will hear again from partner."

**King:** "Pass—Pass for now. They won't stay in 1♥ and partner will expect more high card points from me if I bid now."

**Roman:** "Pass—One of two things is true, and I think it overwhelmingly more likely that partner has a great hand then that RHO psyched. Given that, I'll wait and see what my guy has to say for himself. If I bid some number of hearts now, partner will get the wrong idea about my hand (and who could blame him?)."

**Woolsey:** "Pass—Either East has psyched or partner has some kind of very strong off-shape double (or both!). I think my best bet is to listen to what everybody else has to say and then decide what to do rather than attempt to describe a totally indescribable hand and cut across partner's intentions."

Best way to not cut across partner's intentions is to show long hearts.

The only way to show a seven-card heart suit is to bid it.

#### 5) Matchpoints, You're Vulnerable

♠ 10♥ 109642♦ AKJ72♣ 104

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

Action	Score	Votes	Solvers
2♥	100	6	61
2♦	70	3	103
Pass	70	3	68
3♥	20	0	02
3♦	20	0	03
2♠	20	0	10
3NT	20	0	01
2NT	20	0	03

Three possible partscores. You could pass 1NT. The diamond suit looks like four or five tricks and the lead is coming up to partner. You could also bid 2♥. If partner opened an 11-14 1NT, you would transfer to hearts and pass. The only drawback is that in this auction partner could have a singleton heart. Actually, Opener could be 4-3-1-5 or 4-1-3-5 and rebid 1NT especially if his spades are strong. The third possibility is to bid your best suit, diamonds. There are two drawbacks to playing in diamonds. One drawback is that it is a minor suit and who wants to play in a minor suit at matchpoints? The second and biggest drawback is that if the opponents compete in spades, you will not be able to introduce your other five-card suit.

Three experts go for the highest scoring partscore, notrump. When I have a singleton, I try to avoid playing in 1NT. Passing 1NT will make your next bid awkward if an opponent bids 2♠ which is very likely since the opponents have at least eight spades.

**Woolsey:** "Pass—I know that opener doesn't have four hearts. I know that West didn't show any interest in spades, and I know that East didn't rebid 2♠ even though the opponents have close to half the deck. That means that partner certainly has four spades, and probably decent spades at that. He might have only a doubleton heart, and even if he has three hearts notrump may be better. Those diamonds are a nice potential source of tricks."

Why does partner have to have decent spades? Wouldn't he rebid 1NT with Jxxx of spades?

**Hughes:** "Pass—At least partner has the lead advantage."

**Landen:** "Pass—I have a source of tricks for partner and no good reason to think that playing in either red suit will be safer or score better than 1NT."

This is not IMPs where any plus score is OK.

Nine experts bid two-of-a-red suit. Three bid their stronger but poorer paying five-card diamond suit. If the opponents compete, they will be unable to bid their five-card heart suit. 2♦ is not new minor. To force, you have the cuebid available.

**Parker:** "2♦—Opener does not have four hearts and my diamonds are much better than hearts so I bid them now. The hand figures to be a misfit since there was no raise of spades. Opener figures to have four spades."

Might be OK at IMPs but this is matchpoints.

**Pokorny:** "2♦—5-5 hands are best played in some trump suit. Partner with two diamonds and three hearts will know to correct to 2♥. If he instead has some 4225, 2♦ is probably as good as 1NT, at least in occasions when the diamonds do not provide a source of tricks. Furthermore, if the opponents bid 2♠, my partner will be able to raise diamonds holding some suitable hand say: ♠Axx♥Ax♦Qxx♣Kxxxx."

**Hopkins:** "2♦—Again, I prefer to bid where my strength is. Partner, might even take a heart preference with 3-2 in the reds! Also, if LHO competes with a delayed raise to 2♠, I can compete further to get hearts in the picture, or quit and expect partner to lead diamonds unless he has a good lead of his own."

Don't know why partner would take a preference since you could be 46 in the reds.

Five experts join me and bid their major. Bidding 2♥ allows you to bid 3♦ if they compete in spades.

**Adams:** "2♥—They have at least eight spades. I can bid 3♦ over 2♠ and can expect law protection. If I play 2♥, should be OK opposite a doubleton. With a singleton, I hope partner pulls. I will be on lead, so no concerns over bidding my weak suit. Ask the question differently. Partner opens a weak NT, what do you bid? You transfer to hearts of course, where is the problem? No reason to think we have more diamonds than hearts."

**Schwartz:** "2♥—With the opponents non-vulnerable it's overwhelming someone will find a 2♠ bid and this leaves me well placed for a 3♦ bid. It would be a different story if I was 2-1 in the blacks."

**King:** "2♥—It is matchpoints, so I want to play my major. I don't think 1NT will play well opposite this hand."

**Cappelletti:** "2♥—Very clear at match-

points; and welcome opponents bidding 2♠ which allows you to bid 3♦."

**Roman:** "2♥—Pass could be the winner, but I would never do it, so that leaves 2♦ or 2♥. Yes, bidding 2♥ here could lead to a

silly contract, but we don't bid minors unless we simply have no choice, and here we do. I would bid 2♦ at IMPs."

Try not to play in 1NT when you have a singleton.

### SOLVERS' SCORES

John Adams	1NT	Dbl	2♦	3♥	2♥	470
Enid Hughes	2♣	1NT	2♥	2♥	Pass	360
Mike Cappelletti	2♣	1NT	2♠	2♥	2♥	410
Robbie Hopkins	1NT	Dbl	2♠	2♥	2♦	410
Fred King	2♣	Dbl	2♦	Pass	2♥	460
Steve Landen	2♣	Dbl	Pass	3♥	Pass	480
Steve Parker	2♣	1NT	2♦	3♥	2♦	420
Dean Pokorny	2♥	Pass	2♦	4♥	2♦	290
Steve Robinson	1NT	Dbl	Pass	3♥	2♥	490
Jeff Roman	2♣	Dbl	2♠	Pass	2♥	460
Alan Schwartz	2♣	Dbl	2♦	Pass	2♥	460
Kit Woolsey	2♣	Dbl	Pass	Pass	Pass	460

## 2007 FIDELITY & TRUST ROUND ROBIN DEADLINE MAY 17

It's time to get a round robin team together. Round Robin Coordinator, Steve Robinson will gladly help you to form or join a team of four to six players to play in the flight of your choice. League play runs from May 17<sup>th</sup> through the summer to determine qualifiers for the knockout portion of the event. This fun event can be played in a relaxed home setting or at a club. Sign up with Steve Robinson by phone: (703) 379-4371, by email: [robinswr@erols.com](mailto:robinswr@erols.com), or use the entry form below to sign up by mail or in person.

## 2007 FIDELITY & TRUST ROUND ROBIN ENTRY FORM

Enclose check (made out to the WBL) for \$50 for Flight A/X, 0-3000/unlimited, \$40 for Flights B/C/D which will be stratified or bracketed depending on the number of entries and number of teams that fall into different brackets.

Return entry and entry fee by May 17 to  
**Steve Robinson**, 2391 Abingdon St. #A2, Arlington, Virginia 22206-1329

Open (A/X) Flight     Flight B/C/D

Name	ACBL #	E-Mail Address
_____, captain	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____



**2007 TROPHY RACE STANDINGS**

[www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org](http://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 less than 1500 masterpoints; the Tubbs Race is open to all WBL members who started the calendar year as a Non-Life Master with less than 500 masterpoints; the Woolridge Race is open to all WBL members who started the calendar year with less 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 March 22. All points are subject to audit by the WBL Director.

**Lovenberg**

- 1 54.63 Steve Robinson
- 2 54.59 William Cole
- 3 49.96 Mark Shaw
- 4 44.43 Peter Boyd
- 5 44.23 Alfred Steinberg
- 6 43.56 Noble Shore
- 7 41.76 Michael Gill
- 8 38.51 Benjamin Brill
- 9 35.47 William Hacker
- 10 31.75 Barry Bragin
- 11 31.27 Lloyd Rawley
- 12 30.84 Angeliki Magklara
- 13 28.29 Robert Bell
- 14 28.26 Clyde Kruskal
- 15 27.22 Joan Lewis
- 16 26.71 Donna Rogall
- 17 25.21 David Ruderman
- 18 24.93 Barry Falgout
- 19 24.89 Donald Berman
- 20 24.83 John Adams
- 21 24.66 Fred King
- 22 24.60 Alan Tenenbaum
- 23 23.38 Earl Glickstein
- 24 22.34 James Geist
- 25 21.70 Marie Creisher

**Izzy Cohen**

- 1 41.76 Michael Gill
- 2 31.75 Barry Bragin
- 3 31.27 Lloyd Rawley
- 4 30.84 Angeliki Magklara
- 5 21.07 Linda Marshall
- 6 19.97 Charity Sack
- 7 17.68 Katherine Rabenstein
- 8 15.97 Steven Schatzow
- 9 15.67 Martin Reed
- 10 14.98 William Kingery Jr
- 11 14.92 Jason Rosenfeld
- 12 13.90 James Stormes
- 13 13.32 Shyamalendu Pal
- 14 13.18 Robert Levey
- 15 12.65 Arun Guha

**Tubbs**

- 1 21.07 Linda Marshall
- 2 14.98 William Kingery Jr
- 3 13.32 Shyamalendu Pal
- 4 12.65 Arun Guha
- 5 12.48 Calvin Konner
- 6 12.37 Daniel Koch
- 7 11.06 Norman Sweed
- 8 11.06 Ronnie Sweed
- 9 11.02 Alfred Liepold
- 10 8.22 Marie Berard

**Woolridge**

- 1 13.32 Shyamalendu Pal
- 2 12.65 Arun Guha
- 3 7.87 John Horner
- 4 7.71 Jeanne Ferraro
- 5 7.12 Garry Grossman
- 6 5.99 Andrew Jacknain
- 7 4.96 Beth Wisinski
- 8 4.34 Arun Guiha
- 9 4.19 Frank Hatten
- 10 4.14 Lynn Johns

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**0-20  
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The cost is \$5. This includes a 30 minute lesson by Dr. Steven Forsythe followed by fun, enjoyable bridge for players with 0-20 masterpoints.

Lessons will cover slam bidding, weak twos, 3 level+ pre-empts, overcalls, takeout doubles, negative doubles, opening leads, and signaling. Each lesson will be tailored to the needs and interests of the players.

This is a great program for beginners as well as experienced social bridge players! Partners will be provided if needed. For more information call or email Steve or Sandy Forsythe at (301) 592-9177 (email: majslf@aol.com)

~ ♦ ♠ ♥ ♣ ~

**SCHEDULE**

All Games held at Christ the King Church

- 04/12/2007 .....StrataFlighted Unit Championship
- 04/19/2007 .....NVBA Sectional
- 04/26/2007 .....StrataFlighted Charity Game
- 05/03/2007 .....WBL Sectional
- 05/10/2007 .....StrataFlighted Unit Championship
- 05/17/2007 .....Annual Meeting & StrataFlighted Charity
- 05/24/2007 .....StrataFlighted Club Championship
- 05/31/2007 .....StrataFlighted Club Championship
- 06/07/2007 .....Team Games (A/X: BAM; B/C/D: Swiss)
- 06/14/2007 .....Stratified STaC Pairs
- 06/21/2007 .....StrataFlighted NAP
- 06/28/2007 .....StrataFlighted Unit Championship
- 07/05/2007 .....CLOSED Bethesda Regional

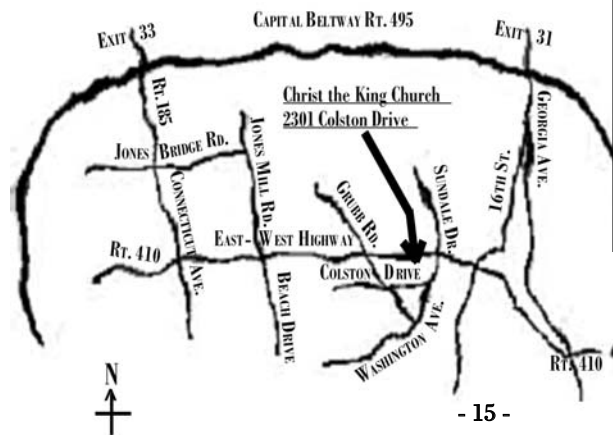
**For a Last-Minute Partner, to tell someone you'll be late, to hear announcements, or to contact the Unit Game for any reason, call the WBL Cell Phone:**

**(301) 395-2760**

**UPCOMING SECTIONALS**

- April 19-22 .....Arlington, VA
- May 3-6 .....Silver Spring, MD
- April 19 - 22 .....Arlington, VA
- August 9-12 .....Silver Spring, MD
- September 6-9, 2007 .....Arlington, VA
- October 4-7, 2007 .....Silver Spring, MD

**MAP TO CHRIST THE KING CHURCH**



**WBL GUARANTEED  
PARTNER PROGRAM**

You never need to miss the unit game because you don't have a partner at the last minute! The WBL has a guaranteed partner (GP) program for players who occasionally need a partner for the unit game. Here's how it works: we provide a standby partner; if an odd number of people in need of a partner arrive, we match the players as best we can, and the GP plays with the one who is left. (If there is an even number of players looking, the GP goes home). You can always get a game.

Players in search of partners should try to arrive between 7:00 and 7:15 (or call ahead). The partnership desk closes at 7:25. You can call the WBL cell phone **(301) 395-2760** at the last minute if are on your way and know you'll be at bit late.

To find a partner at least a day in advance, contact **Barbara Doran** (see below), or log on to the **Online Partnership Bulletin Board** at: [www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org](http://www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org).

You might want to volunteer for the GP program yourself. It's a great way to meet people. If you play on the night you're the GP, you play free. If you volunteer, you receive a free play for any future unit game whether or not you play that night.

Email **Barbara Doran** at [UnitGamePartner@DistrictSix.org](mailto:UnitGamePartner@DistrictSix.org) or [barbd@starpower.net](mailto:barbd@starpower.net), or call her at (301) 608-0347.

**Partnerships Close At 7:25pm**

TO START THE GAME PROMPTLY AT 7:30PM. CALL IF YOU'RE LATE, OR YOU MAY NOT BE ACCOMMODATED.

**MAY IBP**

Do you know someone who wants to learn to play bridge? Would you like to brush up on your basics, or learn some new conventions? Our one-day **Instant Bridge Player** seminar could be just what you're looking for!

It's actually two classes in one: our "basic" class is perfect for those who are new to bridge or new to duplicate, have never played or used to play and need a refresher. The "advanced" class is great for those who already play and would like to expand their knowledge of Stayman, Jacoby, cue-bids, declarer play, signals and more.

Both classes will be held on Sunday, May 6, 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., at the Margaret Schweinhaut Senior Center in Silver Spring (in conjunction with the WBL sectional). The cost is just \$25, or \$20 if you call or email in advance to reserve your space. (Advance payment is not required.) Students \$15, or \$10 with reservation. A free booklet, lunch, coffee and snacks are included.

For more information or to make a reservation, email [majslf@aol.com](mailto:majslf@aol.com) or call **Steve** or **Sandy Forsythe** at 301/592-9177.

**CORRECTED TOP TEN LISTS**  
**FROM THE WBL'S**  
**45TH ANNUAL**  
**PRESIDENTIAL TOURNAMENT:**  
**JANUARY 4-7, 2007**

In our last issue, these top point winners from the January sectional were mistakenly left out. (The winners from the previous October 2006 tournament were accidentally reprinted.) *Congratulations to the Presidential winners!*

**All Players**

1	33.99	.....	William Cole
2	29.10	.....	Leo LaSota
3	28.79	.....	Mark Shaw
4	25.09	.....	Robert Bell
5	21.50	.....	Angeliki Magklara
6	20.77	.....	Steve Robinson
7	20.14	.....	Peter Boyd
8	19.98	.....	Lloyd Rawley
9	18.59	.....	Robert Hopkins Jr
9	18.59	.....	Joan Lewis

**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](mailto:jimbarb1184@aol.com),

**Players with fewer than 1500 masterpoints**

1	21.50	.....	Angeliki Magklara
2	19.98	.....	Lloyd Rawley
3	18.46	.....	Raghavendra Rajkumar
4	17.93	.....	Prahalad Rajkumar
5	12.22	.....	Robert Levey
6	11.69	.....	Linda Marshall
7	10.94	.....	Jason Rosenfeld
8	10.05	.....	Edwin Fuller Jr
9	9.48	.....	Michael Gill
10	9.00	.....	Hadi Abushakra
	9.00	.....	James Adams

**Players with fewer than 500 masterpoints**

1	21.50	.....	Angeliki Magklara
2	18.46	.....	Raghavendra Rajkumar
3	11.69	.....	Linda Marshall
4	9.00	.....	Hadi Abushakra
5	8.66	.....	Carl Noller
6	8.23	.....	Albert Phillips
7	7.99	.....	Alfred Liepold
8	7.88	.....	William Kingery Jr
9	7.28	.....	Juanita Fernandez
10	6.89	.....	Chuck Chang

...continued on p. 20, column 1, midway

**COMMITTEE ACTION #56**

**Part 2**

by **Rich Colker**, [rcolker@worldnet.att.net](mailto:rcolker@worldnet.att.net)

*Last issue, we began consideration of an appeal from the first qualifying session of the Blue Ribbon Pairs in Hawaii last November. Recall the auction:*

<u>West</u>	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>
1♥	Dbl	2NT <sup>(1)</sup>	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♥	All Pass

(1) Explained as a relay to 3♣

*and what occurred:* North led the ♣ A against 3♥, which made three; +140. E/W's agreement was that 2NT showed a limit raise or better in hearts; West confused two auctions and misexplained 2NT (no one asked about it). E/W played that 3♣ was a help-suit game try over a 2NT bid in this auction. The Director and the committee found that East had UI from the misexplanation of 2NT and the contract was adjusted to 4♥ by East down one, -50 for E/W. *Have you figured out what was wrong with this ruling?*

By the numbers: (1) UI is clearly present. West's unsolicited explanation clearly indicates that he interpreted 2NT as some sort of relay (ala lebensohl) and not a heart raise. So East "knew" that 3♣ was not intended as a game try. Both the Director and Committee seemed to think this implied that West was weak—and indeed he might have been. But that doesn't mean he had to be weak. What sort of hand would you bid 3♣ with over partner's lebensohl-type relay (i.e., expecting him to hold a weak hand with long clubs)? Here are four opening bids that I would bid 3♣ with if I thought partner was relaying: (A) ♠ Ax ♥ AKQxx ♦ Q10xxx ♣ x, (B) ♠ Ax ♥ AQ10xx ♦ Q10x ♣ xxx, (C) ♠ QJx ♥ KQ10xx ♦ K10x ♣ Jx, (D) ♠ Jxx ♥ AQxxx ♦ xx ♣ Axx. Hand (A) needs only the diamond finesse to make slam. Hand (B) is a minimum in high cards (including a presumed misfit in clubs) and needs two of three finesses (♣ J, ♦ K, ♥ K)—50 percent—for game. Hand (C), also a minimum, has four top losers but will be quite unlucky not to make 3♥. And Hand (D), also a minimum, may make 3♥ on a good day but in all probability will be lucky to go down only one. So West could hold many strengths and distributions for his 3♣ bid, except that he will not hold a very good

hand which includes an exceptional "club fit." (Then he would have bid something other than 3♣ so as not to allow responder to pass.)

So, does the UI make the conservative 3♥ bid more attractive? Well, the UI indicates that West could not take a positive action opposite a hand willing to compete at the three level, which is actually less information than if West had explained 2NT as a limit raise or better in hearts. In the latter case East would know that West did not have enough to bid a game but was not bare minimum (he was good enough to make a help-suit game try). So the UI actually leaves the West hand less well defined: It could be anything from a bare minimum to a non-game force. The UI tells East that West doesn't know of East's heart fit so he may be bidding either more conservatively or more aggressively than if he did know about it. West might have less than a game try, more than a game try, or even a hand that would have made a game try but in a different suit. Thus, East's 3♥ bid increases his chance of missing a laydown game or slam in exchange for which he avoids game when West has a bad 11- or 12-count and game fails. All things considered, that's a pretty poor bargain.

Let's look at this another way. If East bids a conservative 3♥, as he did, the opponents can claim that a 4♥ bid is so clear with the East cards that the UI must have induced the 3♥ bid. On the other hand, if he bids an aggressive 4♥ they could claim that he took advantage of the UI that West could hold a much better hand than E/W's agreement permits. So whatever East does, if it works out well a case can be made for not allowing him to keep his good result. In essence, whatever East does, if it works out well, he's screwed. Sorry, but you can't punish a player just because it's his turn to bid. If you find it possible to take away a good result no matter what action a player takes, you can bet the UI did not favor any one action over another and the player should be free to make whatever bid he chooses.

So, in my opinion, the Director and Committee got this one wrong. The UI did not make bidding 3♥ more attractive (if anything it might have made it less attractive). The error here was focus-

ing on the “normal” action with the East hand after a presumed (according to E/W’s agreements) help-suit game try instead of first asking what action(s) the UI (that West’s 3♣ bid was just a “noise”) makes more attractive. Without the UI, opposite a 3♣ game try most experts would normally bid 4♥ with the East hand (in part due to its good club intermediates). Based on this (inappropriate) analysis the Director and Committee viewed East’s “abnormal” 3♥ bid as having been induced by the UI.

There is a common misconception, when UI makes it clear that you and partner are not on the same wavelength, that you should make your “normal” bid based on what you thought the auction meant before you received the UI. But that’s not what the Laws say. The Laws do not require East to bid “normally” assuming 2NT is a good heart raise. (Indeed, we all know players who wouldn’t recognize a “normal” bid if it leapt out of the bid box onto the table in front of them.) Law 16 says “... the partner may not choose from among logical alternative actions one that could demonstrably have been suggested by the extraneous information.” Law 73C says “... [the partner] must carefully avoid

taking any advantage that might accrue to his side.” The Laws clearly instruct East to decide what actions the UI demonstrably suggests and “carefully avoid” them. (That is, a player in possession of UI is not simply told to ignore the UI but rather is instructed to use it in order to avoid taking any action that is suggested by it.) In the present case the UI suggests little about the strength of West’s hand (it could just as easily be argued that it makes bidding 4♥ more attractive as that it favors bidding 3♥); opener could as easily hold a hand stronger than the E/W agreement suggests as a weaker one.

If you missed this one don’t worry. When I sent this case to several top appeals analysts asking for their reactions to the decision (I told them only that I had a problem with it, but not why), most failed to see the problem until I explained it. Even now a few of them fail to appreciate my concern and continue to believe the case was decided correctly. Two of the six experts I sent the case to saw the issue clearly immediately. One commented: “3♥ was not demonstrably suggested by the UI. West could have held ♠ Axx ♥ KQxxx ♦ Kxxxx ♣ void and they would have been playing a slam in a partial.”

## THE GADGET-MATIST

### Transfer Responses to Takeout Doubles, Part 1

by Barry Bragin, bbragin@comcast.net

*After nearly 30 years in hibernation, the mad scientist of bidding treatments has returned with gadgets for the 21st century. His first offering is transfer responses to take-out doubles. This combines the benefits of Jeff Rubens’ useful space principle and making the strong hand declarer. This first article will describe sequences after 1♣ - double - pass. Later articles will describe other take-out double sequences.*

#### GROUND RULES:

- RHO passes
- Opener passes (more on this later)
- Doubler either
  - Accepts the transfer with standard take-out values
  - Bids INT with a hand too good for a INT overcall
  - Jumps in the transfer suit with 16-18 and four trumps
  - Double jumps with 19-21 and four trumps
  - Bids a new suit if that is what he would have bid over the standard response

#### RESPONSES

**(NOTE: AN IMMEDIATE 4♦ OR 4♥ RESPONSE IS A TEXAS TRANSFER):**

#### 1♦ shows hearts:

- any weak hand (follow w/pass or re-transfer over INT), or
- 4-card invitational (bid 1♠ w/4-4 non-forcing or INT w/club stopper or 2♣ w/no stopper, or 2♦ w/4-5 non-forcing), or
- 4-card game force (bid 2♠ w/4-4, 2N w/club stopper, 3♣ w/no stopper, 3♦ w/4-5), or
- 6-card slam invite (bid 4♥ or splinter – 3♠ /4♣ /4♦ )

#### 1♥ shows spades:

- any weak hand (follow w/pass or re-transfer over INT), or

- 4-card invitational (bid 1NT w/club stopper, 2♠ w/no stopper, or 2♦ w/4-5 non-forcing), or
- 4-card game force (bid 2♥ w/no club stopper, 2N w/stopper, or 3♦ w/4-5), or
- 6-card slam invite (bid 4♠ or splinter – 3♥ /4♣ /4♦ )

#### 1♠ shows diamonds (doubler bids 2♣ with extras else 2♦):

- any weak hand (follow w/2♦ or pass), or
- 4-card invitational (must be 3244 or similar, pass 2♦ but over 2♣ bid 2NT w/club stopper or 3♣ without and pass next bid), or
- 4-card game force (bid 3N w/stopper else 3♣ and bid again), or
- 4/6 forcing hand (bid 2M over 1N/2♣ /2♦ ), or
- 6-card slam invite (bid 3♦ or splinter – 3♥ /3♠ /4♣ )

#### 1N shows 8-10 HCP, no 4-card major, and club stopper

#### 2♣ shows exactly 5 diamonds, no 4-card major, 9+ HCP; doubler bids

- 2♦ to play (responder bids on with game-going values), or
- 2N w/good 14 count and stopper, or
- 3♣ w/game values no stopper (responder can bid 3M w/max looking for Moysian or 3N w/ stopper), or
- 3♦ invitational in diamonds

#### 2♦ shows exactly 5 hearts, 9+ HCP; doubler bids

- 2♥ to play (responder bids on with game-going values), or
- 2N w/good 14 count, 3 trumps, and stopper; responder can re-transfers at 3 or 4 level, pass or bid 3NT; or
- 3♥ invitational w/4 trumps.

#### 2♥ shows exactly 5 spades, 9-11 HCP; doubler bids

- 2♠ to play (responder bids on with game-going values), or
- 2N w/good 14 count, 3 trumps and stopper

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per; responder can re-transfers at 3 or 4 level, pass or bid 3NT; or  
 • 3♠ invitational w/4 trumps.

**2♠ shows a balanced, 11-12 HCP, no stopper 3334 or similar.**

**2N shows a balanced, 11-12 HCP w/stopper 3334 or similar.**

**FINAL COMMENTS:**

- Over any 1-level take-out double, 3♠ shows solid 6-card suit (doubler can figure it out) and nothing else (xx/AKQxxx/xxx/xx); doubler sets the final contract

- If opener doubles the relay bid,
  - Redouble shows extra values
  - Pass shows minimum trump support
  - Accepting the transfer shows Lawful trump support
- If opener rebids his suit,
  - Pass implies minimum (may have trump support)
  - Double shows extra values (remember, partner may be broke)
  - Accepting the transfer shows Lawful trump support and extras
  - New suit shows strong 1-suiter, too good for original overcall

**Bits & Pieces, continued from p. 16...**

**Players with fewer than 100 masterpoints**

1	7.99	.....	Alfred Liepold
2	6.62	.....	James Beller
3	5.12	.....	Craig Smith
4	4.96	.....	Helen Long
5	4.06	.....	Amy Bloom
6	4.01	.....	Neil Selvin
7	3.54	.....	Calvin Konner
8	3.15	.....	Joav Steinbach
9	2.43	.....	Ahren Ames
	2.43	.....	Meg Massie-Taylor

**ROBERT GUNNELL  
1966-2007**

*from Kathy Rabenstein, Ted Ying, Jim Allen, and Ronnie Gunnell*

The life of **Robert D. (Rob) Gunnell** came full circle when he died on Tuesday, March 20, 2007, in Lexington, Kentucky, where he was born in 1966. Rob was always a fun bridge partner—telling jokes (more often puns that made everyone groan, then laugh) before and after the round and creating new systems and gadgets. He liked to play a either a form of Precision or 2/1 that included weak no trumps and used “Beta,” a system of two-way transfers and run-outs that changed every session and wasn’t quite ready for Prime Time. He would grin as he announced that he had another thought about how Beta should be played.

Among those who regularly enjoyed Rob’s partnership are Leslie Powell (now in New York), Kitty Gottfried, Carole Banks, Deitrich

Ford, Bruce Roberts, Allen Shaw, Bob Wissman, Tibor Roberts and Kathy Rabenstein. He frequently played with John Lowe and Tsung Lee or Jim and Lily Andre for team events. These and others helped Rob on his way to becoming a B player and Bronze Life Master in 2006, in which he took great pride.

Rob was a willing director at the Washington Bridge Center during it’s last years. He took any game offered inspite of a difficult commute and he was especially good with novices. Rob always put the players and the game ahead of himself. He also directed the WBL unit during the 2002-2004 time frame. Rob suffered several health issues. He had diabetes. He needed a kidney. He had bone spurs in both feet that had to be removed by major surgery. After the surgery, his mobility declined first from crutches to cane then to walker and finally to a wheelchair, at which point he stopped directing.

Those who knew Rob were glad to hear that he received his long-awaited kidney and pancreas transplant after the disappointment of learning his brother Rondal (Ronnie) was not a suitable candidate. Although the pancreas had to be removed that same week, Rob’s physical condition improved with physical therapy. When he left the Washington area in January 2007 to begin a new job in Lexington, he was again walking without a cane and able to use his hands. In the last two months of his life he suffered two coronary events, which weakened him and led to his demise.

Many in the Washington area will miss Rob’s charm. May flights of angels carry him home!

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**NORTH AMERICAN PAIRS  
NATIONAL WINNERS**



*Congratulations to former WBL President, Dick Wegman (current District 6 President) and his fellow District Six partner, Dave Abelow for winning the Open*

*North American Pairs at the March Nationals in St. Louis! The following is a reprint from the Daily Bulletin of the 50th Spring North American Bridge Championships, Saturday, March 10, 2007 Volume 50, Number 2, editors: Paul Linxwiler and Dave Smith.*

**Perseverance**

The winners of the Baldwin North American Pairs, Flight A, Dave Abelow and Dick Wegman, suffered through the pain of a 43% game in the first qualifying session of the event. The pair refused to give up, however, and after a strong second session, they qualified for the final, in which they eventually emerged as the champs.

Keeping your wits about you when you're getting clobbered is not easy, but that's exactly what Wegman did on this deal from that dreadful first set:

Dlr: South  
Vul: Both

North  
♠ QT64  
♥ KQJ3  
♦ J6  
♣ Q65

<u>West</u>	<u>East</u>
♠ K2	♥ AJ983
♥ T84	♠ 752
♦ T9873	♦ 5
♣ 973	♣ AK84

South  
♠ 75  
♥ A96  
♦ AKQ42  
♣ JT2

<u>West</u>	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>
	<u>Abelow</u>		<u>Wegman</u>
Pass	2♣	Pass	1NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	2♦

Wegman and Abelow play a 15 to 17 INT range vulnerable, but Wegman (South) upgraded the excellent 14-count. West led the ♦ T.

Declarer has nine tricks if the diamonds behave, but after winning the ♦ J and playing another diamond to the ace, Wegman had to come up with another plan when East discarded a heart.

Although it's possible to go after clubs, Wegman felt sure that the opponents would soon shift to spades: It would be obvious at that point that his weakness lay in that suit.

To put the opponents off the right track, therefore, Wegman played a low spade himself! West won the king and, understandably, switched to a club. Now, there was no way for the defense to succeed since West had no more entries to play a spade for his partner.

Plus 600 was worth 18 out of 25 matchpoints. On this deal from the second final session, Abelow went for 800, but it turned out to be a good score, not because the opponents can make a slam, but because many other pairs were doing worse. Much worse. Take a look (deal rotated):

Dlr: East  
Vul: Both

North  
♠ 96532  
♥ AT962  
♦ -  
♣ KJ4

<u>West</u>	<u>East</u>
♠ KT8	♠ A74
♥ J43	♥ KQ85
♦ AJT6	♦ 5
♣ 762	♣ AQT85

South  
♠ QJ  
♥ 7  
♦ KQ987432  
♣ 93

<u>West</u>	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>
	<u>Wegman</u>		<u>Abelow</u>
Pass	Pass	1♣	3♦
		Dbl	All Pass

Abelow lost two spades, three diamonds and two clubs for down three. Doubled and vulnerable was minus 800. Other Souths were more aggressive, however, jumping to 4♦ over the 1♣ opening. They paid 1100 for their view of the hand. Even worse scores were generated on this layout when several North players tried to rescue their partners by issuing an SOS redouble. With nowhere to go, however, these South players passed the redouble and went minus 1600 or 2200, depending on level. Minus 800 was worth 8.5 out of 13 matchpoints.

**SILVER SPRING, MD: AUGUST 9-12, 2007**

*Take a Summer Holiday in the Potomac Valley!*



**THURSDAY, AUGUST 9**

- ♣ StrataFlighted Open Pairs (A/X 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, 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. 1<sup>st</sup> Left on Colston. Church is on the left before the next intersection.

*Friday—at Christ the King Church Only*

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 10**

- ♦ Stratified Pairs (2000+/1000/500) . . . . . 10:00am
  - ♥ StrataFlighted A/X (unlim/3000) & B/C/D Pairs (1500/1000/500) . . . . . 2:00pm
  - ♣ **Bracketed Pairs and computer assigned Board-A-Match Teams . . . . . 7:30pm**
- 2 chances to win!** Friday nights are your chance to try a different form of the game. This tournament, you and your partner will play in a pair game. In addition, the computer will assign you teammates. You'll compare your scores on each board with them (after the whole pair game) as a win (1 point), loss (no points), or tie (half a point). Add up your points to see if your team placed in the team event for extra masterpoints.
- ♣ Intermediate/Novice Pairs (300/200/100/50/20) (single sessions) . . . . . 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.

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 11**

- ♣ StrataFlighted A/X Pairs (unlim/3000) (single sessions) . . . . . 11:00am, 3:30pm
- ♥ StrataFlighted B/C/D Pairs (1500/1000/500) (single sessions) . . . . . 11:00am, 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
- ♣ *Don't miss the between sessions Panel Show . . . . . 2:30pm*

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 12**

- ♦ A/X Swiss Teams, (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. **Volunteer Coordinator: Barbara Summers**, 301-598-5838, jimbarb1184@aol.com **Hospitality: Kitty Gottfried**, 301-587-3981, kgottfried@hotmail.com **Partnerships: Barbara Doran**, 301-608-0347, SectionalPartner@DistrictSix.org or try the easy **Online Partnership Bulletin Board: www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org**

WASHINGTON BRIDGE LEAGUE SECTIONAL

**Washington Bridge League**  
**62<sup>nd</sup> Annual Potomac Valley Tournament**

♠ Arlington, VA ♠ APRIL 19-22, 2007 ◆



NORTHERN VIRGINIA BRIDGE ASSOCIATION  
**SPRING SECTIONAL TOURNAMENT**

**Knights of Columbus Hall (KOCH)**

5115 Little Falls Road, Arlington, VA; 703-536-9656

*So long, farewell, auf wiedersehen, good-bye—  
Come play in the last tournament to be held at KOCH!*

**THURSDAY, APRIL 19**

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)

**Novice/Intermediate Lecture	6:30 p.m.**
STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS (A/X=3000+/3000; 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.
NEWCOMER PAIRS (0-5)	7:00 p.m.

**...REST OF TOURNAMENT AT KOCH...**

**FRIDAY, APRIL 20**

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

**SATURDAY, APRIL 21**

STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS (2000+/2000/750)	9:30 a.m.
STRATIFIED SENIOR PAIRS (2000+/2000/750)	9:30 a.m.
299ER PAIRS (300/200/100) and 49ER PAIRS (50/20)	9:30 a.m.
NEWCOMER PAIRS (0-5)	9:30 a.m.
STRATA-FLIGHTED PAIRS: Flights A/X (3000+/3000)	2 p.m.
Flights B/C (2000/750)	2 p.m.
299ER PAIRS (300/200/100) and 49ER PAIRS (50/20/5)	2 p.m.
STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS (2000+/2000/750)	7:30 p.m.
299ER PAIRS (300/200/100)	7:30 p.m.

**SUNDAY, APRIL 22**

**Novice/Intermediate Lecture (Jeff Roman)	10:15 a.m.**
FLIGHTS A/X (3000+/3000) & B/C (2000/750) SWISS TEAMS	11:00 a.m.
<i>Both 2-session events, with one hour break—food no longer available on-site</i>	
299ER SWISS TEAMS (300/200/100) (Single session)	11:00 a.m.
49ER SWISS TEAMS (50/20/5) (Single session)	11:00 a.m.
299ER SWISS TEAMS (300/200/100) (Single session)	3:15 p.m.

**DIRECTIONS:** From Rte. 495 (the Beltway) or points West of the Beltway, 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 2473" down the hill to your right.

NOTE: ALL VIRGINIA EVENTS ARE AT KOCH

NVBA (KOCH) WBL

Championship Events and a Full Schedule of 299er Events for Novice and Intermediate Players!  
Players with 0-5 Master-points play free in all games!

Mid-Chart Conventions permitted in all A/X & Open Stratified Events

Special Spring treats... including lemon drop candies & cookies, lemon meringue pie, lemonade & pretzels, & lemon danish

**Tournament Chairs**

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

**Partnership Chair**

Mary Ann Kral, 703-437-0342

...or check out our On-line Partnership "Desk" at [www.nvba.org](http://www.nvba.org)

Next NVBA Sectional Sept 6-9 '07 at Arlington/Fairfax Elks Lodge (Thurs at Beth El)



**RealtyToWeb.com**

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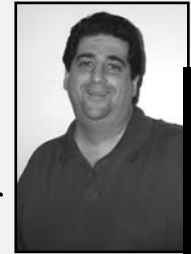
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This year's Annual Meeting and Elections will be held on Thursday, May 17, at Christ the King Church, the site of our Unit Game, prior to play. As usual, there will be a complimentary dinner buffet at 6:00 p.m. The meeting and elections will take place at approximately 7:00 p.m. All WBL members whose dues are paid as of April 1 are eligible to vote. The church will be open at 3:00 p.m. for ballot casting to those players who will be unable to attend the elections. Copies of the WBL Policies and Treasurer's Report will also be available. A charity game will begin when the meeting concludes.

**2006 MASTERPOINT RACES**

During the evening, we will recognize our 2006 Mini-McKenney and Ace of Clubs winners for their achievements.

**ELECTIONS**

The election portion of the meeting will begin with our Elections Chairperson, Jim Allen, introducing the candidates before they each speak briefly to the membership. Nominations will be accepted from the floor. The four officer positions are one-year terms. The three Unit Director positions consist are two-year terms.

*Candidate for President*



**Fred King** has been a member of the league since moving to Washington, D.C. in 1973. He worked for the World Bank until his retirement in 2001. He has been on the Board the past six years, serving as vice-president for three years and as president last year. In addition he has been caddy master for over 16 years.

He says, "If re-elected I would like to continue to build upon the strong base and

good momentum that has built up in recent years. I would work to help our games grow, strengthen our volunteer base, and maintain our strong financial position. I would encourage increased feedback from the membership as a key way of guiding the board."

*Candidate for Vice-President*



**Don Berman** is the incumbent Vice President and has been a member of the WBL Board of Directors for 11 years and thanks the membership for its support. He asks for your support toward continuing in the office of Vice President. He is the WebMaster for both the WBL and District 6 and the Recorder for the WBL. He has been a bridge player (sort of, he says) for over 40 years.

*Candidate for Secretary*



**Richard Ferrin** has been a WBL member since 1993. He has participated regularly in the Unit Game and other WBL events for the past seven and a half years, and is a silver life master. For the past three years, he has served as WBL Secretary. He says, "I would be honored to continue serving the WBL in that capacity. The WBL is growing and participation in the Unit Game and WBL sectionals grew significantly in the last year. We have an opportunity to grow further in the coming years, particularly with demographic changes (i.e., retirement of baby boomers),

and with outreach efforts (i.e., building on programs in schools). I hope to provide ideas and any other assistance to the bridge community in those efforts. I also hope to work with other WBL members on making all of our bridge events a more enjoyable experience for everyone, of all levels of experience and expertise."

*Candidate for Treasurer*



**Steve Robinson** has served as treasurer for 17 years, and board member for 13 more years. He is retired having worked as a computer specialist for the Dept of the Army. He hopes that every player will use his book "Washington Standard" to become proficient bidders.

*Candidate for the Board*



**Ellen Rosenthal** hails from Boston and started playing many card games including hearts and whist in her teens before going onto bridge. She has been competing in the DC area since 1969 with her husband, Neal. While raising their 2 daughters, and working full time as a marketing researcher, duplicate bridge was placed on the back burner for several years. Now, retired from her most recent career in the advertising department of *The Washington Jewish Week* newspaper, she enjoys giving something back to this wonderful game. She helps students at Richard Montgomery High School become interested in the

game, has introduced point count to her grandson, Matthew and looks forward to doing more if elected to the Board.

*Candidate for the Board*



**Clyde Kruskal** is an Associate Professor in Computer Science at the University of MD. He doesn't remember learning how to play bridge, but it was sometime as a child. He has one step child, Eric Foskett, who used to play and direct. His three younger children (triplets), Justin, Rebecca and Alexander, often caddy. Once in a while, he can even drag them out to a game. Clyde is happy to be an insane voice on a sane board.

*Candidate for the Board*



**Carole Banks**, CPA, is Director of Finance at Washington Gas Light Company. Carole's enthusiasm for bridge stems from her mother who is a long-time duplicate bridge player and member of the American Bridge Association (ABA). Carole began her bridge life six years ago at an "Easy Bridge" course taught by Charlie Williams and Leslie Shafer, and has been "hooked" ever since. She says, "Since playing bridge, I have gained a new family of close friends and strong supporters." If elected, she would like to support efforts that reach out to potential new members of all ages, while strengthening the support of existing members.



# NLM MASTER POINTERS

by I/N Columnist, Sandy Forsythe, [majslf@aol.com](mailto:majslf@aol.com)

## I LOVE LONG SUITS!

Not setting up your long side suit is like throwing tricks away. It doesn't have to be headed by AKQJ to be a great source of tricks!

Dealer: West  
Vul: E/W  
Lead: ♦ 3

### North

♠ Q97  
♥ 963  
♦ 9  
♣ AQ9765

### West

♠ A43  
♥ 42  
♦ K7532  
♣ KJ3

### East

♠ J865  
♥ QJ108  
♦ Q104  
♣ 102

### South

♠ K102  
♥ AK75  
♦ AJ86  
♣ 84

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass (1)	Pass	1NT*
Pass (2)	3NT (3)		*(15-17)

- (1) Some players might choose to preempt 3♣ with this hand: it's only a six-card suit, but 2♣ is strong, not a preempt! This North chose to pass.
- (2) West wanted to show his diamond suit, but over a strong notrump, he needed one more diamond or a much beefier suit.
- (3) North added a point each for the fifth and sixth club, came up with 10 and raised her partner to game. She remembered what her teacher said about the power of long suits!

West leads his fourth-best diamond, and South stops to make a plan: where are her nine

tricks coming from? She can see four top tricks, plus a possible spade or a second diamond, but that doesn't add up to nine. Partner optimistically put us in game because of her long suit, so South would do well to use it! She'll need to play carefully to preserve her entry to the dummy once the clubs are set up. The ♠ Q could be an entry if West has the ace: a 50-50 chance. To increase her odds of making her contract, South should try to find a way to turn the ♣ A into the entry she needs.

Declarer plays low from dummy on Trick 1, East plays the queen, and South wins with the ace. Now she leads the ♣ 8, and no matter what West plays, she should play a low card from the dummy! South must win the second and third club tricks to preserve her entry. (If she plays the queen, then the ace and then loses the third club, the suit will be set up, but now she's back to relying on that ♠ Q to get back to dummy!) In the layout above, East wins her 10, but even if she leads a diamond back, South's ♦ J86 is a stopper as long as she covers whatever diamond East plays. West will win and cash one more diamond, but South's fourth diamond will now be high.

Now declarer repeats the club finesse, playing the queen if West doesn't play the king. If both opponents follow suit, South calls for the ♣ A next and smiles as the king falls, making dummy's three little clubs good. South takes five club tricks, two diamonds, and two hearts, making her contract and encouraging her partner to keep overbidding! If this ratty suit can be set up, think how much easier it would be with a *good* suit.

Ducking the first club works whenever the clubs split 3-2 (the expected split) and East doesn't hold *both* the king *and* the jack or 10: about 67% of the time when the suit splits 3-2. (Some 4-1 splits would also allow you to make the contract, but we'll leave those calculations to the serious student.) If South loses two clubs, she'd have to rely on the ♠ Q

## STEPPING UP TO NEW HEIGHTS:

As of April 1, 2007

### Junior Masters (5 Masterpoints)

Ms Phyllis K Arnow	Ms Betsy Cox
Arun K Guha	Mr George M Hooley
Ms Lynn Johns	Mr Shyamalendu Pal
Betty Thompson	Henry L Thompson
Mr Jeffrey D Caplan	Mr Winifred Farah
Betty Frain	Henry Frain
Robert L Kerr	Louise L Mayer
Dr Madeline M Nevins	Ms Lisa Pumphrey
Carlyn Ring	Mrs Ruth N Tyler

### Club Masters (20 Masterpoints)

David Abraham	Garry S Grossman
Mr Andrew Jacknain	Ms Elizabeth J Tevelow
Mr Alan J Ferraro	Mrs Jeanne E Ferraro
Stanley J Fineman	Mr David Garrett
Mr Lawrence D Hollman	Mr Shyamalendu Pal

### Sectional Masters (50 Masterpoints)

Mrs Amy J Bloom	Mrs Minako Komura
Mr Calvin M Konner	Mr Stanley M Barg
Mr Alfred W Caponiti	Garry S Grossman
Mr John W Ryan	

### Regional Masters (100 Masterpoints)

Jose Porres	Mr Rex V Settle
Mr James L Beller	Mrs Suzanne J Floyd
Mr Marvin D Raines	Arthur L Sherwood
Ms Catherine G Smith	Mr Joav Steinbach
Mr Jon Weintraub	

### NABC Masters (200 Masterpoints)

Ms Linda S Marshall

to get to dummy to run the clubs, but West will grab his ♠ A and cash another diamond, setting the contract.

South made her contract because she made a plan, preserved her stoppers, and preserved her entries. Sometimes you have to lose a trick to set up your suit; if you can, make sure you lose the lead when you still have the other suits stopped! Make your plan at Trick 1, set up your long suit, and you'll be more likely to take all the tricks you're entitled to.

## SUNDAY BRIDGE FIESTA!

♣ EVERY SUNDAY ♣  
**Steve Forsythe's**

### Friendly Bridge Game

0-300 masterpoints

&

### Ultra Friendly Bridge Game

0-20 masterpoints

~Relaxed House Rules~

Refreshments . . . 12:30 p.m.

Lesson . . . . . 1 p.m.

Game . . . . . 1:30 - 5 p.m.

### Location: Methodist Home

4901 Connecticut Ave.,  
Washington, DC

(just south of the intersection of  
Connecticut and Nebraska  
Avenues)

\$10 (includes lunch)

### Partners Guaranteed

~Social bridge  
players welcome~

For more information:  
**Steve or Sandy Forsythe**  
(301) 592-9177,  
[majslf@aol.com](mailto:majslf@aol.com)

[www.districtsix.org/WBL/  
Novice/Novice.htm](http://www.districtsix.org/WBL/Novice/Novice.htm)



**WBL SOLVERS' CLUB'S  
NEW PROBLEMS**

**1) IMPs, Both Vulnerable**

♠ Q98763♥ J♦ Q9643♣ A

<b>SOUTH</b>	<b>WEST</b>	<b>NORTH</b>	<b>EAST</b>
????*			

Pick a letter:

- A) 2♠ showing 10-13 with six spades
- B) 2♠ showing 3-9 with five or six spades
- C) 3♣ D) 4♠ E) 1♠ F) Pass

**2) Matchpoints, None Vulnerable**

♠ AKJ103♥ KQJ♦ QJ7♣ 54

<b>SOUTH</b>	<b>WEST</b>	<b>NORTH</b>	<b>EAST</b>
1♠	2♣	4♣*	5♣
????			

\*splitter (short clubs, 4-card spade support GF)

**3) IMPs, You're Vulnerable**

♠ KQJ43♥ -♦ A76♣ AK654

<b>SOUTH</b>	<b>WEST</b>	<b>NORTH</b>	<b>EAST</b>
1♠	2NT*	Pass	3♥
????		*minors	

**4) IMPs, You're Vulnerable**

♠ A7♥ A10643♦ AK3♣ J109

<b>SOUTH</b>	<b>WEST</b>	<b>NORTH</b>	<b>EAST</b>
		1NT*	4♠
????		*15-17	

**5) IMPs, None Vulnerable**

♠ A42♥ A93♦ Q94♣ J1087

<b>SOUTH</b>	<b>WEST</b>	<b>NORTH</b>	<b>EAST</b>
????		1♦	1♥

Return answers by May 3 to:

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

**NEED A RIDE OR A PARTNER  
FOR THE THURSDAY UNIT GAME?**

Contact **Barbara Doran** UnitGamePartner@DistrictSix.org, (301-608-0347) to find a partner in advance or try the **On-Line Partnership Bulletin Board:** [www.washingtonbridgeleague.org](http://www.washingtonbridgeleague.org). For a last minute partner, call the **WBL cell phone (301-608-0347)**.

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

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