

It's the
WASHINGTON BRIDGE LEAGUE'S

62nd Annual City of Washington Tournament

MARCH 27-30, 2008

The WBL March Sectional is **packed with special events and games** along with **great hospitality**.



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 the 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 **5th 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 **Famous Washington Hospitality** throughout the tournament with free lunches between sessions all weekend.

See page 3 for the full tournament schedule...

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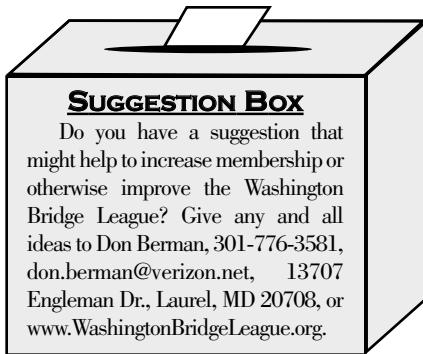
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WBL OMBUDSMAN
 Any player with helpful director issues including criticism or praise of the directing staff may contact the Ombudsman, Ann Lindley and be assured that the source of the information will remain confidential. Information should be provided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

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DEADLINE: MARCH 21, 2008
 TO SUBMIT NEW ARTICLES TO THE EDITOR FOR THE MARCH/APRIL 2008 ISSUE

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PRESIDENT'S LETTER

by WBL President, Fred King

We have just finished our January Sectional and we had a fantastic turn out—458 tables, the most we have had since 1999. We had good weather, a joint game with the ABA, and a new format for our Sunday team game. I want to thank all the ABA members who came and I hope we will see you at more of our future games. All of these conditions may have contributed, but I believe we did so well because we continue to have great hospitality, a wonderful venue and first rate directors. Special kudos must go to **Nadine Wood**, our sectional tournament chair and all of her volunteer help. Yet when I reflect on our successes (including what continues to be the best unit game in the country as well as our sectionals), I am always struck by what would be called the “thin red line” or the “thin blue line” in other contexts. We are so dependent on a few key volunteers and employees such as our chief unit game director and I would really like to see more volunteers come forward to help back them up or become trainees to replace them at some point in the future. If you have played at

WBL events for a long time and enjoyed your experiences, why not show your appreciation by speaking to a board member about how you can help? Be it bringing sodas or other supplies, helping with shopping, serving on committees or running for the board, there are always opportunities for people to help. How about you?

I am also happy to report that according to the ACBL's figures, our unit grew by 36 members in 2007 (We had 159 new members and only lost 123.) This led to a total membership of 1669, making us the fastest growing unit in District 6 and 42nd out of the 304 units in the ACBL. This reflects the work done by all those working on the newcomers games and others who helped recruit new members. The only negative note in the ACBL report was that we were only able to retain 58% of our new members going into their second year. This is well below the average for both District 6 and the ACBL. Anyone with ideas on how to improve this retention rate should give us their views.

—Fred King

46TH ANNUAL PRESIDENTIAL TOURNAMENT

—Honorees—

(See p. 25 for tournament results)



l to r: **Fred Steinberg** (Lovenberg, Open), **Lloyd Rawley** (Izzy Cohen, 0-1500), **Linda Marshall** (Tubbs, Non-LM), **Arun Guha** (Woolridge, 0-20)

(See p.16 for all of the 2007 final standings)

2007 WBL Sectional Top Point Winners



See p.21 for their stories

SILVER SPRING, MD: MARCH 27-30, 2008

THURSDAY, MARCH 27

- ♣ 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, 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. Church is on the left before the next intersection.

Friday—at Christ the King Church Only

FRIDAY, MARCH 28

- ♦ Stratified Pairs (unlim/2000/500)10:00am
 - ♥ StrataFlighted A/X (unlim/3000) & B/C/D Pairs (1500/1000/500) ... 2:00pm
 - ♣ **Barometer Pairs** 7:30pm
- StrataFlighted A/X (unlim/3000) & B/C/D Pairs (1500/1000/500)
- 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 Pairs10:00am, 2:00pm, 7:30pm
- (300/200/100/50/20) (single sessions)

SATURDAY & SUNDAY 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, MARCH 29

- ♣ **5th 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 Pairs (unlim/3000) 3:30pm
 - ♣ Intermediate/Novice Pairs (300/200/100) or Newcomer Pairs (50/20/5) (single sessions) 11:00am, 3:30pm

SUNDAY, MARCH 30

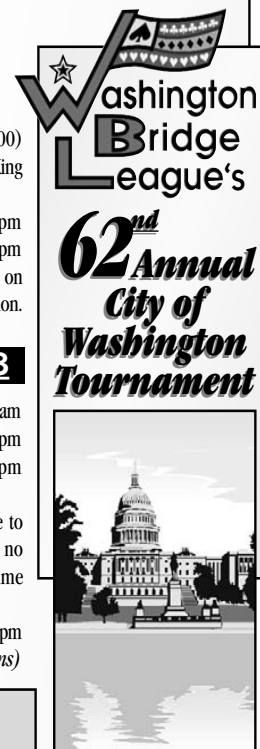
- ♣ **Instant Bridge Player:** Turn your friends onto bridge in this 1-day seminar! 11:00am
- ♦ A/X Swiss Teams, (unlim /3000, 7 round playthru w/short break)11:00am & TBA
- ♥ B/C/D Swiss Teams, VPs (2000/1000/500, 7 round playthru w/short break)11:00am & TBA
- ♣ 300/100/50 Swiss Teams, VPs (single sessions)11:00am, 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, Sectional Partner@DistrictSix.org or try the easy **Online Partnership Bulletin Board**: www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org





NORTHERN VIRGINIA BRIDGE ASSOCIATION

SPRING SECTIONAL TOURNAMENT

The Arlington/Fairfax Elks Lodge #2188

8421 Arlington Boulevard, Fairfax, VA; 703-560-2188

THURSDAY, APRIL 10

Beth El Hebrew Congregation, 3830 Seminary Road, Alexandria, VA (NVBA)
Christ the King Church, one block south of East-West Highway on
Colston between Washington and Grubb, Chevy Chase, MD (WBL)

	NVBA (Beth El)	WBL
Novice/Intermediate Lecture	6:30 p.m.	
STRATAFLIGHTED 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 ELKS LODGE...

FRIDAY, APRIL 11

STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS (2000+/2000/750)	. . . . .2 p.m.
299ER PAIRS (300/200/100) and 49ER PAIRS (50/20/5)	. . . . .2 p.m.
TRIPLE NICKEL SWISS—5 rounds, 5 boards, 5 minutes a board	. .7:30 p.m.
299ER PAIRS (300/200/100)	. . . . .7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, APRIL 12

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.
STRATAFLIGHTED 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 13

Novice/Intermediate Lecture (Jeff Roman)	. . . . .10:15 a.m.
FLIGHTS A/X (3000+/3000) & B/C (2000/750) SWISS TEAMS	. .11:00 a.m.
Both 2-session events, with one hour break—on-site food availability TBD	
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: (NEW!) From Route 50/Arlington Boulevard heading west from DC and Arlington AND from Route 495/Beltway: Continue on/Take Route 50 West about one mile outside the Beltway, and turn left at Javier Road (the second stoplight after the intersection of 50 and 495). Take an immediate right onto the access road that runs parallel to Route 50. The Elks Lodge will be two buildings down on your left—parking on the side and in the rear. From Fairfax, heading East on Route 50: Pass the intersection of Route 50 and Prosperity Avenue—the Prosperity Medical Center will be on your right. Between the first and second lights after Prosperity, turn right into the access road that runs parallel to Route 50 and look for the Elks Lodge immediately to your right—parking on the far side of the building and in the rear.

Plenty of free parking! On-site snack bar plus lots of free treats! Many great restaurants nearby!

Championship Events and a Full Schedule of 299er Events for Novice and Intermediate Players! Players with 0-5 Masterpoints play FREE in ALL games!

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

Tournament Chair
Margot Hennings,
703-560-0245

Partnership Chair
Mary Ann Kral,
703-437-0342 or
NVBA cell: 703-869-0852
...or check out our
On-line Partnership "Desk"
at www.nvba.org

Next NVBA Sectional
Sept. 4-7 at Arlington/
Fairfax Elks Lodge
(Thurs at Beth El)

WELCOME TO THE WASHINGTON BRIDGE LEAGUE

The WBL welcomes the following new ACBL members: **Mr Forest D Montgomery, Dr Marvin B Rosenblatt, Mrs Susan S Weiss, Mr David E Brown, Ms Joyce C Brown, Mr Miles Carlisle, Mr William H Choquette, Ms Ruth H Conant, Lynne Emmer, Mary Ann Goldenson, Mrs Marion F Holtz, Mrs Charla H Lerman, Miss Annie M Lowrey, Ms Antoinette B Miller, Linda Opack, and Mr Ghassan Osman.**

In addition, we welcome the following transfers from other units: **Mr David B Alpert, Miss I N Lawson, Mr Don E Probst, and Mr Raghavendra Rajkumar.**

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.

RUN FOR THE BOARD?

If you would like to run for the board, please submit a bio form and picture to the editor by March 21 to be published in the next issue. The offices of President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary are one year terms. The six Unit Director positions are two year terms, at least three of which will be open this year. Elections will be held at the Annual Meeting and Charity Game on May 15 at the Unit Game at Christ the King Church.

UNIT GAME CLOSINGS

The WBL Board met on Jan 23rd and discussed WBL Unit Game closing in the future. We will close the game only if: there is no director to run the game; the site is closed or unable to support a game; or during a hurricane, blizzard, flood or national emergency. The Board knows that its members are intelligent and will only play if they can handle the conditions.

If the game is closed, we will attempt ASAP (hopefully by 4:00) to put the news on

the Web site and put a message on the phone (301-395-2760). You could also call a Board officer who should know what's going on: Fred King 703-536-1914, Steve Robinson 703-379-4371, or Don Berman 301-776-3581.

BUILDING FUND

The Washington Bridge League is starting a building fund. The fund would be earmarked to purchase or lease playing space for bridge activities. This fund will be held in WBL accounts with separate accounting. Contributions would be welcome as non-deductible donations. The WBL will put five cents into the Building Fund for every table held at tournaments and the unit game starting with Jan 08. Since there were 458 tables at the Jan WBL Sectional, \$22.90 will be put into the building fund. A table of naming rights will be created, with the bigger the donation the bigger the naming right. In my dream world, if all approximately 1700 members of the WBL contributed \$1,000, there would be 1,700,000 dollars in the fund. With 1,700,000 dollars, I bet we could find an appropriate permanent place to play bridge. —Steve Robinson

2007 ROUND ROBIN WINNERS

Congratulations to the 2007 Fidelity and Trust Round Robin winners!

Flights B/C

B C	
1 1	Robert Schwab - Anne Derbes - Rex Settle - Jay Weinstein
2	Linda Marshall - Kathy Rabenstein - Bala Chandran - Jerry Miller - James Beller
3	Edwin Fuller Jr - Janet Dence - Jane Friend - Marie Nysten - Phyllis Sonen - Hilda Getz
4 2	Bryan Geer - Lois Geer - David Mead - Kathleen O'Toole - Roma Chandra - Shawn Stringer

...continued on p. 20, column 2, middle

JEREMY'S COLLEGE ESSAY

Jeremy Koegel is a Los Angeles high school senior and an avid bridge player. He occasionally plays in WBL events when he visits his uncle, Bob Bell, a WBL member who taught him how to play. For his college applications, he wrote an essay about why he likes bridge and what he's learned from playing. Jeremy will attend Wesleyan University in Connecticut in the fall.

I've always been infatuated with card games, but you have to play the field before you fall in love. At two, I began dating small timers such as War and Casino, managing sums far better than holding the cards in my tiny hands. Though initially satisfying, these youthful flings proved to be passing fancies. But at the age of six, I found the real thing. The game was bridge, and it swept me off my feet, enticing and frustrating me, pushing and pulling me, shaping and making me. Ten years later, bridge and I tied the knot when I achieved the status of Life Master. As I look back on our relationship, I realize that bridge and I have survived the test of time because we are so right for each other. And like all enduring life partnerships, our relationship has shaped who I am.

I became fascinated by bridge because I am a rational, analytical person who welcomes strategy challenges and complex decisions that have to be made quickly. In bridge, every hand is different and there are many possible solutions, but one has to find the solution that has the *highest probability* of working—often under pressure. bridge has taught me how important it is to stay focused and logical when facing a daunting task, to keep emotions in check, and to persevere. One of my strengths as a player is that if I mess up one hand, I make sure not to let it affect my play on the next hand. I've been able to take this important lesson to the tennis court and to other competitive endeavors.

Bridge has also helped me identify the values I use to take the measure of people. There are few young players in the national bridge world, and I've thus garnered a lot of attention. I discovered early on that adult bridge players fell into two groups: those who saw me as a bridge player, and those who saw me as a child. The former, including some of the best bridge players in the world, judged me by my talent, play, and

demeanor at the table. The latter dismissed me, like the woman at a local club who asked the Director to identify the best player so that she could shadow him but declined to do so when she realized it was a 10-year old. Such experiences taught me that it is far better to judge others by their actions and abilities rather than by appearances; that adults are not always fair; and that respect and authority need to be earned.

I'm proud of the fact that I have earned the respect of the senior citizens who attend the weekly bridge class I have taught since ninth grade. Teaching has given me an incredible perspective on my own teachers. Never before had I realized how exciting it felt when a struggling student finally "got it" or the patience it takes to explain complicated concepts that seem simple. When I dance around the room in my upbeat manner, "high-five" my 75-year old students to celebrate their accomplishments and make them laugh, I appreciate how enthusiasm and energy can affect the learning experience.

Although I am a top player in the nation in my age group and compete regularly at regional and national levels, I've deliberately kept bridge as an avocation, rather than an obsession. I treasure having time for everyday pursuits and my other passions. I am an avid tennis player, a dedicated sports analyst, and a creative chef. And while I've touted my bridge accomplishments here, most of my friends know little about my standing in the bridge world.

One of my goals for the near future is to obtain a place on the ACBL "Junior Team," an elite group that travels around the world competing against bridge players below the age of 25 from different countries. This would be yet another way in which the game can be my "bridge" to deeper understandings, rich connections, and an ability to approach life with just the right kind of "finesse."

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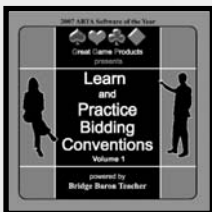
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Available on CD-Rom for Macintosh/iMac/Mac OS X 10.4 or later (English/Francais)



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More Basic Conventions (Volume 3): Unusual 2NT, Michaels, Splinters, Limit Major Raises, Forcing 1NT, Jacoby 2NT, Negative Doubles

Practice conventional bids, responses, rebids on thousands of deals with feedback tailored to reinforce conventional understandings and correct bidding mistakes.



A Computer's Twist:

Play Problems for You with Bridge Baron \$19.95

Not just your average book of bridge problems, “A Computer's Twist: Play Problems for You with Bridge Baron Analysis” provides challenging and entertaining bridge problems for you to enjoy and also includes a never before seen look inside the world of computer bridge!

Bridge Baron Companion: How to Get the Most out of Your Computer Bridge Game \$24.95

If you are new to Bridge Baron, this book will help you get up and running quickly; if you are a long-time user, this book will point you to parts of the program you may not have previously explored and help you to use Bridge Baron to improve your bridge game.



WBL SOLVERS' CLUB

Moderated by Steve Robinson

robinswr@erols.com

Congratulations to **Dave Abelow** 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. Second was **Marvin Elster** with a score of 470. Tied for third were **Chris Marks** and **David Epstein** with a score of 450. Tied for fifth were **Ken Davis**, **Zbych Bednarek**, **Manuel Paulo**, **Brad Theurer**, **Jack Goldhaber** and **Bill Meeks**, with a score of 440. Tied for eleventh were **Audrey Warren**, **Mark McEneaney**, **Tom Musso**, **Clyde Kruskal** and **Dave Smith** with a score of 430. Tied for sixteenth were **Edith Black**, **Jim Wade**, **Rob Boorman**, **Jake Hudson**, **Chuck Yaple**, **Gerald Lerner**, **Robert Stone** and **Richard Riseberg** with a score of 420. The average score of the 244 solvers was 351. The average score of the experts was 427.

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 \$29.60 that includes \$4.60 for priority mail.

1) IMPs, None Vulnerable

♠ AQ42♥ Q43♦ A42♣ 654

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
	Pass	1♣	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♣	2♥
?????			
Action	Score	Votes	Solvers
3♣	100	1	35
3♥	80	5	77
2NT	70	4	62
3NT	60	1	40
Double	50	1	21
4♣	20	0	01
3♦	20	0	07
Pass	20	0	01

Strange auction. Your RHO overcalled at the two-level but for some reason couldn't overcall at the one-level. If I was the 2♥-bidder, I pulled the wrong card on the previous round. There is no hand that could overcall at the two-level but not overcall at the one-level. If East hadn't bid 2♥, there would be votes for 2NT, 3♣ and 3NT. Give opener a minimum hand such as ♠ Kx♥ xx♦ Kxx♣ KQ9876 and 3NT needs a lot of luck and 5♣ has no play. You belong in 3♣. If partner can have a hand like that means that you should not force this hand to game. You want to show strength but still be able to play in a partscore if partner has a minimum.

Four experts bid 2NT. 2NT is the one contract that you don't want to play. You're very unlikely to make exactly eight tricks. If the clubs run and they can run the hearts, you make a lot of tricks. If hearts don't run you're unlikely to make anything. When partner shows a six-card suit, 2NT should be forcing. With a maximum 2♣-bid opener bids 3NT or makes a descriptive bid above 3♣. With a minimum 2♣-bid, opener retreats to 3♣. There's a problem with you bidding 2NT. You don't want to play the hand in notrump with the lead com-

ing through partner's heart holding especially if he has Kx. Holding Qxx of hearts, you would like partner to play the hand if he has heart help. If he has two little hearts, you might not be able to stop the suit especially since East is unlikely to have the AK of hearts.

Cappelletti: "2NT—The "book bid" and don't force to 3NT game with puny stopper. Because the 2♥ overcaller did not overcall his first opportunity, could mean that he has club length and maybe strength - which supports bidding 2NT rather than 3♥."

Woolsey: "2NT—I don't see why I should let East's unexpected call stop me from making the bid I was going to make. If North has a weak hand with a long club suit, he can go back to 3♣."

Schwartz: "2NT—It makes sense to play this as forcing to 3♣ as 3♣ is needed as a competitive raise and 2NT is unlikely to be bid without a fit. With no fitting club honor a soft heart stopper and NT possibly being wrong sided, it's an overbid to force to game not vulnerable. If partner has good clubs, he can raise."

Roman: "2NT—Natural, invitational, something like a heart stopper. What's not to like?"

Five experts cue bid. Cue bids are generally forcing to game. If partner does not have a heart stopper, you will end up in at least 4♣. However, if partner bids 3♣, your subsequent 4♣-bid would be forcing.

Adams: "3♥—In Washington standard, we have 3♦ available as a forcing call, thus 3♥ shows a stopper, and asks partner to bid 3NT with an appropriate hand. Partner with help in hearts, or with solid clubs, should find a 3NT call. Give partner Kx of hearts, or even Kxx, and 3NT from his side is more attractive. Should 3♥ get doubled for the lead, partner can always pass, letting me bid 3NT. If 3♥ does not get doubled, chances are we belong playing 3NT from his side. Not clear what inference we should take from the delayed 2♥ call. Could be screwing around, could be bad hearts. Note that although I am minimum, my side suit quick tricks bode well for 3NT working, should partner's clubs deliver a source of tricks."

Adams makes a mention of "Eastern cue-bids". When there is another forcing bid available, the cuebid promises a stopper and the other forcing bid suggests that partner bids 3NT with a stopper. That works well when a minor suit has been raised and there is very little possibility of a major-suit fit. However, here there is another reason why you might want to cuebid. If you held five or more spades, you might need to check for spade help.

Parker: "3♥—My first impulse was to

make a card showing double but, partner did not bid 1NT so he is unbalanced. He must have six clubs and if he is 3-1 or 2-2 in the majors then the opponents have at least eight hearts and we don't want to defend at the two-level. My hope is that he can bid 3NT with Kx of hearts. If he bids 4♣ I will pass. He may have three spades and we can try a 4-3 fit at 4♠."

Cardillo: "3♥—Given our lack of help in the club department, I only want to contract for 3NT with a double heart stopper. (This also caters to Kx in partner's hand). Second choice would be a tricky 3♦ — correcting 3♣ to either 3NT or 4♣ depending on my confidence level in partner."

Hopkins: "3♥—I want partner to have a little something in Hearts (Kx is perfect) and bid 3NT. If partner temporizes with 3♣, I will shoot out 3NT and hope we have nine fast tricks."

King: "3♥—I have too many clubs to make a double of 2♥ worthwhile. I want to be in game, but would like partner to have help in hearts and declare 3NT if that is the right contract, so I cue bid."

One expert bids 3NT. 3NT does make sure you play 3NT. The problem is that it's from your side and partner gets no say. That's why I think 2NT should be forcing when one has shown a six-card suit. You don't want to play 3NT opposite a singleton heart for instance.

Landen: "3NT—I'd prefer partner declare 3NT, but there's no bid to that gives him a chance and still guarantees we can play 3NT so."

One expert doubles. This would work well if this was a pure takeout double. You would get the same information that a 3♥ cuebid would get but at a lower level. However, most play that this double says that East made a mistake. The trouble with double is that you have three clubs so that partner's club honors will not take many defensive tricks.

Shaw: "Double—This is not a pure penalty double. Double here is cooperative and says that it is our hand. Partner should expect us to have ten or more points with this double and have no clear direction on where to go. Partner can expect us to have two or three hearts."

I like 3♣ and I think it is the correct bid. If partner passes 3♣, that will be the limit of the hand. In order to make 3NT partner needs either solid clubs or a one-loser club hand with a heart stopper. If partner has solid clubs he won't pass 3♣. In order to make 5♣, partner needs heart shortness and extra values. If partner has heart shortness and extra values he won't pass 3♣. If partner has a normal 2♠-rebid hand such as ♠Kx♥xx♦Kxx♣KQ9876, 3♣ could easily be the limit of the hand. If partner can't bid over

3♣, you probably are high enough.

When partner shows a six-card suit, play 2NT as forcing. Even if you have 16 HCP, bidding 2NT, forcing, to learn more about partner's hand will help you get to the correct game.

2) IMPs, None Vulnerable

♠ AKJ2♥ AJ2♦ -♣ AKQJ104

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
	Pass	Pass	1♦
Dbl	3♦	Pass	Pass
Dbl	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♦	Pass	4♥	Pass
?????			
Action	Score	Votes	Solvers
6♣	100	5	47
5♣	80	4	37
Pass	60	3	64
4NT	40	0	11
5♥	30	0	18
5NT	30	0	11
6♥	30	0	39
4♠	20	0	09
5♦	20	0	06
7♥	20	0	02

You have dragged partner kicking and screaming to the four-level. Is there any reason why he couldn't have ♠xxx♥xxxx♦xxx♣xxx or even ♠xxx♥xxx♦xxxx♣xxx? Of course he could have the king or queen of hearts, enough to have a play for 6♣. Since partner has been forced and could have anything you have to make a guess. I don't see any scientific way of getting partner's help.

Four experts guess to play in 5♣. Since partner doesn't know what you have, he'll pass 5♣. If you play in clubs you won't lose any trump tricks.

Hopkins: "5♣—I need heart length from partner to play there. I hope he can work out that I am offering an option to play in hearts so I must have three-card support."

King: "5♣—I think this is the safest game, as partner might have only xxxx in hearts. I have bid this hand as strongly as possible, so I give up on slam."

Partner knows that you have a good hand and can raise if he has some values.

Adams: "5♣—Object to 4♦ call. Now I can't tell if partner has hearts, or if we are in a 3-3 fit (♠xxx♥xxx♦xxxx♣xxx). 4♦ does not say "Pick again." Surely 5♣ now shows my massive hand, and will make if partners hearts are good enough to make 4♥."

If you don't bid 4♦, you have to guess what's trump and at what level you belong. By bidding 4♦ you postpone your decision.

Roman: "5♣—Whether or not partner will now be able to get us to our best contract, I'm not leaving him in what could be a 3-3 fit."

Good reason to bid clubs. Avoid the 3-3 fit.

Four experts agree with me and jump to slam. Will have a play if partner has a heart honor. East opened in third seat and which means that West is a passed hand. Partner is more likely to have a stray honor. The queen of spades, nine of clubs and the 109 of hearts would make slam very reasonable and there is no reason why partner can't have a stray honor.

Cappelletti: "6♣—The two jacks could be tricks - and with third seat opener and possibly weak 3♦ preempt, partner might have a good card."

Woolsey: "6♣—The bid I probably should have made at each of my last three turns. After East has opened the bidding there is no way I can possibly find out whether we have a grand slam, a small slam, or no slam, so I just take the percentage action. I know what trumps are and where we likely belong. I think that South's second double is a serious error — too great a risk that North will pass."

Cardillo: "6♣—Hat's off to the folks who bash 4NT RKC for hearts, find partner with the KQ of hearts and bid a grand! For those of us more down to earth, game may be the limit here. Still, if I only bid 5♣, will partner know to move with ♠xx♥Qxxxx♦xxx♣9xx?"

Schwartz: "6♣—I would strongly prefer a 5♣ bid the previous round as now 5♣ sounds like a cue bid. Since partner might have only four hearts I have to bid clubs at some point, so might as well shoot out six."

There is nothing about this auction that makes hearts the trump suit.

Three experts pass. If partner has Qxxx of hearts or worse, you could go down in 4♥ cold for 6♣. Diamond leads are going to make it difficult to get off dummy.

Parker: "Pass—Hopefully partner has at least five hearts. Once we get tapped in dummy it will be hard to make more than four hearts unless he has the KQ of hearts, which seems impossible from his bidding. This will become a declarer play problem."

Landen: "Pass—I don't have five-level safety, so I'll pass and hope for the best. I'm not sure I agree with the 4♦-bid. If I bid 5♣ now will partner know if that's a cuebid or a suit?"

Shaw: "Pass—I have already described my hand to partner. Partner should have a bad hand with five or six hearts and just wants to play 4♥. Partner already knows that I do not have four hearts since I would have raised hearts at some

point with four. Rather than bidding 4♦ the last time, I would have bid hearts if I had held four. Partner also knows that I probably have exactly four spades, since I probably would have bid spades at some point in the auction with five or more. Finally, partner is likely to expect a diamond void on the auction, or at most a stiff. Therefore, partner knows that I have at least five good clubs, probably six. If partner had a 3=4=3=3 zero count, for example, they would have bid 5♣ over 4♦ rather than 4♥. That is why I am confident that partner has at least five hearts and a very weak hand, so I pass."

Since cuebids are random, I don't know what I'd bid over 4♦ holding 3=4=3=3.

There are some hands like this where you just have to guess. On good days you'll make what you bid.

3) IMPs, None Vulnerable

♠ AK♥ 43♦ AQ9832♣ AJ9

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1♦	Pass	1♠	Pass
????			
Action	Score	Votes	Solvers
3♦	100	6	135
3♣	90	4	64
2♣	50	0	17
2NT	50	2	16
3NT	40	0	03
1NT	20	0	02
2♦	20	0	02
2♥	20	0	02
4♦	20	0	01
4♠	20	0	01
3♥	20	0	01

Three and a half diamonds is the correct answer. Shows a hand too strong to bid only 3♦. Is this hand better than a 3♦-bid? Six experts think this hand is worth bidding only 3♦. To make 3NT, you need partner to have diamond help and a heart stopper. If partner has that, he is very unlikely to pass 3♦. Opposite ♠ Qxxx♥ xxx♦ Jxx♣ Kxx, 3♦ is high enough. Give partner a little more strength and he'll bid over 3♦. Just like problem one, if partner passes your jump bid, you will be high enough. Let's hear from the five experts who agree with me and bid 3♦.

Adams: "3♦—Must be missing something. This shows 16-18 and a decent suit, that is what I have."

Cardillo: "3♦—This hand is not as good as its HCP. The suit is a little shaky, the spade blockage detracts from the hand, and the jack of clubs could be worthless. Take the low road."

The hand would be better if the AK were in hearts.

Hopkins: "3♦—There is just no other good bid and at least this says extra values with Diamonds and partner can try 3NT, or show a heart stopper and club worries on the way, with some cards and help in diamonds."

Schwartz: "3♦—A slight underbid but AK in partner suit is many times a liability unless he has extra length. Only other real option is 3♣, which creates other problems."

Roman: "3♦—Right out of a textbook."

How do you show a hand that's better than a 3♦ bid? To make a forcing bid you have to either jump shift or reverse. Both jump shifts and reverses are forcing. Jump shifts to game, reverses promise one rebid. If you reverse into 2♥ you don't have an answer if partner has four hearts and raises. Since 3♣ is lower than diamonds, you can always correct any club bid to diamonds. You might actually belong in clubs if partner has five or more. Four experts bid 3♣.

Parker: "3♣—Too good for 3♦ and no heart stopper for notrump. Let's see what he bids next. I should have an easy next bid over 3♠, 3♥, 3♦ or 3NT."

Cappelletti: "3♣—Much too good for 3♦ - thus jump shift."

Woolsey: "3♣—I hate jump-shifting into a phony suit, but the other alternatives look worse. 3♦ is an underbid, and 2NT is misguided. At least this forces to game. North will bid 3NT with a heart stopper, 3♠ with a good spade suit, or 3♦ with even a mild diamond preference. If North raises to 4♣, I'll have to bid 4♦ and hope to survive."

King: "3♣—I want to force to game, so I jump shift and see what partner does next."

Two experts bid 2NT. Not my cup of tea holding xx in hearts.

Landen: "2NT—Seems right, nothing else appeals."

Shaw: "2NT—There are five choices of bids on this hand, each with a flaw. A jump rebid of 3♦ is right on describing the six-card suit, but it is too much of an underbid. A simple 2♣ rebid is another possibility. If the auction stays alive after 2♣ by me, we are likely in good shape. However, partner would pass 2♣ with a 5=4=1=3 eight-count and we miss game. A 3♣ strong-jump-shift has some merit to it. It is right on strength of hand, and partner will know that you have club cards. Therefore, partner could bid 3NT with many minimums that have hearts stopped. However, the problem with 3♣ is what happens when partner raises to 4♣? A bid that may work at the table is a "reverse" to 2♥. If you

and partner play that a reverse here is 100% forcing for one round, the reverse bid may work. It may deter the opponents from leading hearts against 3NT, for example. The bid that comes the closest to describing the hand is 2NT. You are right on HCP, 2=2=6=3 shapes are ok for notrump also. Another plus is that partner knows that you have two or three spades. There is a bid that I play that would be great for this hand. Over 1♦ -1major, 2♣ is artificial and is a variation on Cole. In the system that I play, over 1♠, I would bid 2♣. Cole, then rebid 3♦ to show a 3.5 diamond bid (18-19 w/ 6+ diamonds)."

When you are trying to make a decision whether to underbid or overbid, try giving partner hands where he would pass your underbid and you would miss a game. If there are only a few, then take the underbid.

4) IMPs, You're Vulnerable

♠ -♥ K43♦ AJ54♣ KQ9876

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1♠	Pass	3♠	
????			(limit raise)
Action	Score	Votes	Solvers
4♣	100	8	61
Pass	70	3	121
Double	50	1	55
5♣	20	0	02
4NT	20	0	01
4♠	20	0	01
3NT	20	0	03

I have always said that this is a bidder's game so passing is cowardly. For every time you go for a number, there will be at least five hands where bidding gets you a better result than passing. On good days partner has ♠ xxx♥ Q10xx♦ Kx♣ J10xx and you want to be in 5♣. On bad days partner holds ♠ xxxx♥ xxxx♦ xxxx♣ x and you go for a telephone number. Even opposite that garbage, you could be saved if your LHO has a 4♠ bid. Since good days occur more often than bad days, you want to bid. If you're going to bid, what's your poison?

Seven experts agree with me and bid their long suit. Double might work when partner has long hearts, but partner's have been trained to bid hearts, even four-carders, in response to a takeout double. I would bid 4♥ holding ♠ xxx♥ xxxx♦ xxxxx♣ x.

Parker: "4♣—Not double, I don't want him to pass, or bid a three-card suit if he is 4=3=3=3. I can decide what to do next over 4♠. Over 4♠ I might pass, double or bid 4NT to show 6-4 in the minors. It's all about table feel at that point. Perhaps that would be a good future quiz."

Cappelletti: "4♣—I have studied similar situations and it is very low percentage to double without four hearts. Even if you get lucky and partner does have five or more hearts, the opponents will probably outbid you in spades. And if partner bids 4♥ with four, you could be going for very big number."

Adams: "4♣—Pass is wimpy. Double is shy a heart, and risks partner passing out of fear of no fit."

Woolsey: "4♣—My longest suit, and even the lead I want. Passing is absurdly cowardly, and a takeout double is shooting for too thin a target."

There's another reason to bid clubs. If the opponents bid 4♠, you want a club lead.

Landen: "4♣—I have enough offense to bid and partner might have what I need to make eleven tricks."

King: "4♣—Any action could be dangerous, but so is passing. Double is more flexible, but there is too much difference between my length in clubs and hearts and my club spots provide some protection. The next question is whether to reopen with a double if it goes 4♠ - pass-pass back to me or just to go quietly."

Roman: "4♣—The problem with double is that if it goes Pass - 4♥ - double back to me I won't know what to do. If over my 4♣ - bid it goes 4♠ - Pass - Pass back to me, I will double."

Three experts pass. Wimpy but could be right.

Cardillo: "Pass—Wrong vulnerability and we have too much defense. A second factor—we want partner to make his normal lead against spades. A club lead could waste a vital tempo. The chance that we have game is slight, so ease off of the trigger."

Not sure why a club lead would be bad. If declarer has a club loser you would want to get your club trick before it gets pitched on a red suit.

Hopkins: "Pass—This is an impossible situation. I can construct minimum hands where we are cold for 6♣ (♠ xxxx♥ QJ10x♦ x♣ A10xx) to those where we go for our lives at the four-level (♠ KJxx♥ Jxxx♦ Qxx♣ xx) so I am going quietly and hoping the auction goes the same way at the other table."

Even opposite ♠ KJxx♥ Jxxx♦ Qxx♣ xx, they still have to get you.

Shaw: "Pass—At imps there are two major priorities: First, bid your games and slams. Second, do not go for unnecessary numbers. While it is true that players are more aggressive these days and may open a little bit light, we cannot expect partner to have more than six points on this auction. Given that we only have three bad hearts, the chances that the

opponents will be stealing a game from us are slim. Therefore, if we compete with double or 4♣ or something like 3NT, we are more likely to be going for an unnecessary number than we are to be bidding a cold game our way."

My two major priorities are: First, bid your games and slams, and second compete. If they can make 3♠ and you can make 4♣, you lose seven IMPs by passing 3♠. If a club lead beats 4♣ you win ten IMPs by bidding 4♣. There are a lot of ways to gain IMPs by bidding.

One expert doubles. The problem with doubling is that partner is going to bid a four-card heart suit and I don't think you want to play in a 4-3 fit at the four-level. Second, you really want a club lead.

Schwartz: "Double—Pass, Double and 4♣ can all be right, but I might as well make the bid with the most upside potential (and downside too). Afraid 3♠ might be bid with extra spades and less HCP at this vulnerability."

This is a bidder's game. Even if bidding 4♣ is wrong in theory, you might get saved. For instance, the 3♠-bidder has five clubs but his partner bids 4♣ in front of him.

5) IMPs, You're Vulnerable

♠ K4♥ AQ97♦ AK1095♣ AQ

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
2♣	Pass	2♦ (neg)	2♠
????			
Action	Score	Votes	Solvers
Pass	100	9	47
3♦	70	1	58
2NT	70	2	68
3♠	30	0	09
3NT	20	0	06
5♦	20	0	02
3♣	20	0	01
3♥	20	0	04
Double	20	0	46
4♥	20	0	01
6NT	20	0	01

Here, you opened 2♣ planning on rebidding 2NT. Partner responded 2♦. 2♦ should deny a five-card suit and a good hand. If I had a five-card suit and at least eight HCP, I would bid my suit unless the suit had no honor. I would treat a non-honor five-card suit as a four-carder. If I held as little as ♠ Qxxxx♥ Kx♦ QJx♣xxx, I would respond 2♠. Keycard will keep you out of slam off trump honors. So if partner has a five-card suit, he has a weak hand.

RHO has interfered with 2♠. Double of 2♠ should be for penalties. Pass shows a 2NT-opener or a hand with short spades. Passing is

like making a takeout double. Sometimes partner has the rest of the spades and can double.

Eight experts agree with me and pass.

Parker: "Pass—This shows a strong 2NT opening and lets partner decide the next logical bid. His double will be for penalties."

Adams: "Pass—Since double is penalty, pass is takeout."

Cardillo: "Pass—Easy for now. The continuation after partner doubles or bids 3♦ would be more challenging. It will surely be easier for partner to describe his hand than for us to describe ours, so leave room for partner!"

Landen: "Pass—Shows a minimum balanced 2♣ opener with no particular reason to bid notrump. Double may or may not be takeout, but partner will assume I have this hand type."

Hopkins: "Pass—I think the implication is a balanced hand with not any great spade holding."

King: "Pass—Shouldn't this show a balanced 22 or 23 count?"

Why limit pass to 23. Why can't you have ♠ QJ♥ AKQ♦ AKQJ♣ AKQJ?

Roman: "Pass—Forcing, since once we open 2♣ the opponents never get to declare anything undoubled. Double by me would be a penalty double. Bidding 2NT shows better spades, and bidding a suit would show more like a strong two-bid with that suit. With this, we pass and hear what partner has to say for himself."

Shaw: "Pass—Pass seems right since partner knows that if I had a suit of my own, I would be bidding it now. Passing should show the minimum balanced hand (22-23). Therefore, pass by me should NOT be played as forcing. If partner has a balanced yarborough, they should pass out 2♠. Partner will do something with three or more points, so we will not miss a game. Also, 2NT is not a good bid since we are vulnerable and I have no sure source of tricks with only one spade stopper."

If you pass, can partner allow them to play 2♠? Partner can pass a 2NT rebid since that bid shows a balanced hand with 22-24 HCP. Partner can also pass if you bid a major, he bids the second negative and you rebid your major. 2♣ - 2♦ - 2♥ - 3♣ (second negative) - 3♥ can be passed. When you open 2♣ your hand is unlimited. If you were dealt ♠ xx♥ AKQ♦ AKQJ♣ AKQJ and the auction went the same, you could and should pass allowing partner to describe his hand. Therefore a pass is 100% forcing.

Two experts rebid 2NT.

Schwartz: "2NT—I would pass with a "normal" 2NT rebid so this tends to show a more offensive hand. BTW, if I did pass, what would 3♣ be by partner?"

Maybe the best way to play responder's bids over 2♠ - Pass - Pass is as follows. All bids above 2NT are the same as if opener had rebid 2NT without interference. Transfers, Stayman etc. Use 2NT to get out in three-of-a-minor.

Woolsey: "2NT—Keep it simple, and get us back into chartered waters where North can locate a 4-4 heart fit. Otherwise, I'll take

my chances at 3NT. Any other action leads to potential ambiguity."

One expert bids a suit. When you open 2♣ and rebid a minor you should have at least ten tricks.

Cappelletti: "3♦ —Changing horses. 3NT might not be the best spot."

When you open 2♣, all passes are forcing.

SOLVERS' SCORES

John Adams	3♥	5♣	3♦	4♣	Pass	460
Mike Cappelletti	2NT	6♣	3♣	4♣	3♦	430
Frank Cardillo	3♥	6♣	3♦	Pass	Pass	450
Robbie Hopkins	3♥	5♣	3♦	Pass	Pass	430
Fred King	3♥	5♣	3♣	4♣	Pass	450
Steve Landen	3NT	Pass	2NT	4♣	Pass	410
Steve Parker	3♥	Pass	3♣	4♣	Pass	430
Steve Robinson	3♣	6♣	3♦	4♣	Pass	500
Jeff Roman	2NT	5♣	3♦	4♣	Pass	450
Alan Schwartz	2NT	6♣	3♦	Dbl	2NT	390
Barbara Shaw	Dbl	Pass	2NT	Pass	Pass	330
Kit Woolsey	2NT	6♣	3♣	4♣	2NT	430

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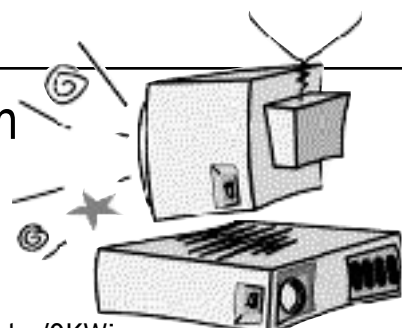
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2007 FINAL TROPHY RACE STANDINGS

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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 receive four sessions of free plays. Second place gets two and third place gets one.

This list is final for 2007. All points are subject to audit by the WBL Director. **Congratulations to the 2007 Winners!** (Their pictures appear on p. 2.)

Lovenberg

- 1 **212.09 Alfred Steinberg**
- 2 195.50 Steve Robinson
- 3 191.64 William Cole
- 4 152.84 James Geist
- 5 152.74 David Ruderman
- 6 146.86 Leo LaSota
- 7 146.24 Arnie Frankel
- 8 144.71 Mark Shaw
- 9 142.00 John Adams
- 10 134.91 Peter Boyd
- 11 130.37 Earl Glickstein
- 12 126.20 Robert Bell
- 13 118.71 Lloyd Rawley
- 14 111.15 Fred King
- 15 98.54 Alan Tenenbaum
- 16 98.46 Michael Gill
- 17 98.12 Richard Wegman
- 18 98.09 Clyde Kruskal
- 19 93.70 Noble Shore
- 20 88.47 Barry Bragin
- 21 88.15 Brad Theurer
- 22 86.08 Donna Rogall
- 23 81.97 Benjamin Brill
- 24 79.71 Barbara Shaw
- 25 72.06 Mita Banerjee

Izzy Cohen

- 1 **118.71 Lloyd Rawley**
- 2 98.46 Michael Gill
- 3 88.47 Barry Bragin
- 4 68.87 Steven Schatzow
- 5 60.15 Linda Marshall
- 6 59.42 Richard Ferrin
- 7 56.51 Mark Rosen
- 8 52.82 Janet Dence
- 9 49.57 Katherine Rabenstein
- 10 46.27 Edwin Fuller Jr
- 11 45.55 Arun Guha
- 12 42.54 Ronald Zuckner
- 13 42.28 Michael Richey
- 14 42.27 Ellen Rosenthal
- 15 41.54 Shyamalendu Pal

Tubbs

- 1 **60.15 Linda Marshall**
- 2 45.55 Arun Guha
- 3 41.54 Shyamalendu Pal
- 4 40.40 Alfred Liepold
- 5 38.86 Daniel Koch
- 6 37.14 Calvin Konner
- 7 36.16 Mirsad Mujezinovic
- 8 35.80 William Kingery Jr
- 9 29.28 Terry Coates
- 10 29.09 Larry Moran

Woolridge

- 1 **45.55 Arun Guha**
- 2 41.54 Shyamalendu Pal
- 3 28.98 John Horner
- 4 27.47 Frank Hatten
- 5 22.29 Beth Wisinski
- 6 21.88 Garry Grossman
- 7 17.33 Alan Walter
- 8 16.16 Suzanne Kilczewski
- 9 15.50 Robert Kazdin
- 10 15.03 Amelia Montjoy

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.

**0-20
LESSON
& GAME**

**GUARANTEED
PARTNERS!**

**7:30PM -
10:30PM**

JOIN ANYTIME

The cost is \$5. This includes a 30 minute lesson 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, contact Shawn Stringer at (301) 622-5619 or by email at shstringer@aol.com

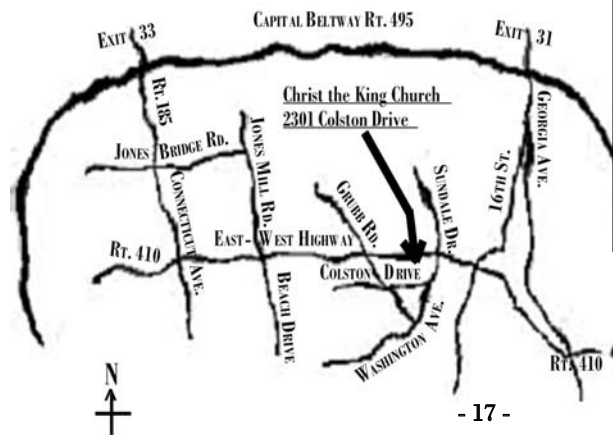
~ ♣ ♦ **SCHEDULE** ♥ ♠ ~
All Games held at Christ the King Church

- 02/21/2008NVBA Sectional
- 02/28/2008StrataFlighted Club Championship
- 03/06/2008StrataFlighted Unit Championship
- 03/13/2008StrataFlighted Unit Championship
- 03/20/2008Closed Maundy Thursday
- 03/27/2008WBL Sectional
- 04/03/2008StrataFlighted District-Wide Charity Pairs
- 04/10/2008NVBA Sectional
- 04/17/2008StrataFlighted Unit Championship
- 04/24/2008StrataFlighted Club Championship
- 05/01/2008StrataFlighted Unit Championship
- 05/08/2008StrataFlighted NABC Promotional Pairs
- 05/15/2008Annual Meeting StrataFlighted Charity
- 05/22/2008StrataFlighted Unit Championship
- 05/29/2008StrataFlighted A/X BAM; B/C/D Swiss
- 06/05/2008StrataFlighted North American Pairs
- 06/12/2008Stratified STaC Pairs
- 06/19/2008StrataFlighted Unit Championship
- 06/26/2008StrataFlighted North American Pairs
- 07/03/2008Closed Reston Regional
- 07/10/2008StrataFlighted North American Pairs

For a Last-Minute Partner, to say you'll be late, to hear announcements (closings posted by 4pm), or to contact the Unit Game for any reason, call the WBL Cell Phone:

(301) 395-2760

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.

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 or barbd@starpower.net, or call her at (301) 608-0347 between 9am and 10pm.

Partnerships Close At 7:25pm

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

THE UNIT GAME

by Ted Ying, unitgamedirector@districtsix.org

This column will answer some frequently asked questions about the WBL Unit Game. **Ted Ying** is the Club Manager and Chief Director of the WBL unit game. He can be reached at unitgamedirector@districtsix.org

WHERE ARE MY MASTERPOINTS?

Players frequently ask when masterpoints will be recorded with the ACBL. For recording purposes, the unit game is run like an ACBL club and only reports once monthly. All masterpoints for a given month are recorded with the ACBL around the 10th of the following month. The ACBL club department takes 3-5 business days to record the points after they receive the information from the club manager. If you earned masterpoints anytime in January (including the first week), then those points will be recorded around February 10th. If you check your points on-line, then they should appear somewhere around the 13th to the 15th of the month. This will usually miss the deadline for the March ACBL Bulletin so it will not appear in your Bulletin update until the April issue.

The one exception are WBL or NVBA Sectional tournaments. Although the unit game participates in these tournaments, those games are run through the tournament chief and separately sanctioned by the ACBL. These weekend tournaments, including the Thursday night games, must be closed by the tournament chief director by the Monday after the tournament ends and the reports are filed with the ACBL on that Tuesday. In general, Sectional tournament results are recorded by about the end of the week after the tournament runs.

If you have any questions about how the Unit Game is run, please send them to me and I will try to answer them in upcoming columns.

UPCOMING SECTIONALS

♠ <u>March 27-30, 2008</u> Silver Spring, MD	♥ <u>September 4-7, 2008</u> Fairfax, VA
♣ <u>April 10-13, 2008</u> Fairfax, VA	♦ <u>October 2-5, 2008</u> Silver Spring, MD
♦ <u>August 7-10, 2008</u> Silver Spring, MD	♥ <u>October 23-26, 2008</u> Fairfax, VA

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,

COMMITTEE ACTION #59

by Rich Colker, rcolker@mail.com

One aspect of the Alert procedure that causes confusion, even among experienced players, is knowing what information the opponents are entitled to when a player makes a bid whose meaning is interpreted differently by his partner. The confusion is often made worse if screens are in use since then the Alerts and explanations often differ on the two sides of the screen (unlike without screens where only the bidder's partner Alerts and explains the bid). This deal from the 2007 NABC Senior Knockout Teams in San Francisco last November illustrates the problem.

For those unfamiliar with screens, a screen extends from the N-W to the S-E corner of the table (as shown by the diagonal line in the diagram below) and contains a small trap door at the bottom which is kept closed during the bidding, but is opened during the play. The screen prevents the two players seated on each side of the screen from seeing or communicating with their counterparts seated on the opposite side. Bids are shuttled back and forth under the screen on a tray which holds the bid cards for the auction to that point. The two players seated on the same side of the screen are referred to as 'screenmates'.

Bd: 25; Dlr: North; Vul: E/W

North
♠ K
♥ AQ987
♦ Q8632
♣ 65

<u>West</u>	<u>East</u>
♠ 76532	♠ AJ8
♥ 104	♥ J652
♦ A4	♦ K107
♣ AK107	♣ 832

South
♠ Q1094
♥ K3
♦ J95
♣ QJ94

<u>West</u>	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>
	Pass	Pass	Pass
1♠	3♦ (1)	Dbl	4♦
Pass	Pass	Dbl	All Pass

(1) N to E: Alert: 5-5 in ♦ +♥; S to W: no Alert

4♦ x went two down, -300 for N/S. South did not Alert the 3♦ bid because he believed his agreement was that 3♦ was natural and preemptive (3♣ would have shown the red two-suiter). After the comparison, West called the Director and explained that had he known that North had a red two-suiter he would have defended differently at trick three. (The opening lead had been the ♠ A followed by a club to the jack and king. At trick three West shifted to a heart, allowing North to pitch his second club on the ♠ Q and escape for down two instead of down three.)

The Directors ruled that N/S's convention card indicated that South was correct not to Alert 3♦ (which was marked as natural and preemptive). Thus, there had been no violation and West had been given accurate information about the 3♦ bid's meaning, which was all he was entitled to. Therefore, the table result of 4♦ doubled down two, -300 for N/S, was allowed to stand.

E/W appealed the Directors' ruling. West told the Committee that had he been informed that North had a red two-suiter, as East was, he would not have led a heart at trick three. He believed he was entitled to the same information as East. Also, if there was any question about the bid's meaning he believed the bidder's intent should be assumed correct, or that 'no agreement' should be assumed, in which case both explanations should potentially be treated as misinformation.

North explained that he intended his 3♦ bid to show the red suits (he was temporarily confused about his agreement) and Alerted his screenmate, East, to what he thought 3♦ showed. However, his convention card and system notes (both carefully examined by the Directors and Committee) showed that 3♣

would have shown the two-suiter and 3♦ was a natural single-suited preempt.

The Committee acknowledged that North had Alerted his 3♦ bid and provided information that agreed with his hand and what he believed his bid showed. South did not Alert West because, per N/S's agreement, as clearly documented on their convention cards and in their notes, 3♦ was a natural single-suited preempt and was thus not Alertable. West was not entitled to know the contents or distribution of North's hand; he was only entitled to know its Alertability status (non-Alertable) and, upon inquiry, to receive an accurate description of the partnership's agreement. He was not entitled to know that North had misbid, which was what clearly happened.

The only infraction the Committee could find was that East was misinformed about N/S's agreement as to the meaning of the 3♦ bid. But East's defense had not been affected by the mis-information; only West's defense was at issue, and it was unrelated to any infraction. Therefore, the Committee allowed the table result of 4♦ doubled down two, -300 for N/S, to stand.

This case illustrates that an isolated instance of a player forgetting his agreement is not an infraction of either law or regulation, although repeated forgetting may be judged disruptive by a Director and penalized either procedurally (by deducting matchpoints,imps or VPs from the offenders' score) or by prohibiting the pair from using the offending method. For example, if a pair is found to be using an illegal convention they may be required to play the ACBL Yellow Card until they show the Director that they have removed the offending method from their card. If a pair is playing a method that requires more preparation and/or memory ability than they are capable of providing, leading to frequent Director calls and disruptions, they may be required to remove those methods from their convention card (if practical) or to play the ACBL Yellow Card otherwise.

Finally, your opponents are entitled to be Alerted to any Alertable calls that you make and to be given a complete and accurate explanation of them upon proper request. They are not entitled to know if you have forgotten your methods, or have misbid, as long as they are properly Alerted to your call's meaning (as documented on your convention card or in your

partnership notes), even if your hand does not match the stated meaning. Otherwise, you would have to inform your opponents (without your partner finding out) every time you misbid, forgot your methods, or psyched, which is clearly not only impractical, but undesirable.

Bits & Pieces, continued from p. 5...

Flights A/X

- A X**
- 1 William Cole - Mark Shaw - Steve Robinson - Peter Boyd**
 - 2 Fred Steinberg - Dave Ruderman - Alan Tenenbaum - Andrew Gofreed - Lyle Poe Jr - Arnie Frankel
 - 3/4 Leo LaSota - Barbara Shaw - Jian-Jian Wang - John Adams - Hailong Ao
 - 3/4 Fred King - David Abelow - Robert Bell - Richard Wegman - Barry Bragin
 - 1 Millard Nachtwey - Mike Carrood - Terry Lavender - Thomas Lavender - Diane Walker - Kenton Schoen**
 - 2 Donna Rogall - Charity Sack - Michael Chelst - Clyde Kruskal

SAD NEWS

We are sad to report that WBL member, Brenda Bingham, who struggled with ovarian cancer, passed away on February 8.

2007-2008 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, 2007 through May, 2008). 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 five of eight Sectionals. The asterisk* indicates that the player has met eligibility requirements.

...continued on p. 24, column 2, top



2007 WBL NEW LIFE MASTERS

Congratulations! Edward Alexander, Theodore Chamberlain, Norman Cowen, Maida Crociccia, Mike Frosch, Judy Glick, Patrice Gordon, Michael Henderson, Eunsun Kil, William Kingery, Jr., Daniel Koch, Angeliki Magklara, Linda Marshall, David Mead, Kathleen O'Toole, Katherine Rabenstein, Thomas J. Reckford, Rena Rutstein, Terri Sanker, and Jian-Jian Wang. (See group photo on p.2.)

Edward Alexander is a self employed C.P.A. who graduated from the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania. He learned to play bridge while at school. Edward's favorite bridge author is Marty Bergen and his biggest thrill in bridge came when he attained the rank of Life Master.

Theodore (Bear) Chamberlain is a retired Attorney and Realtor. He was also an Administrative Aide to an Illinois Congressman. He has a B.S. from Northwestern and his J.D. from Marquette. His family includes three daughters, two son-in-laws and two grandchildren. Bear has been with his current partner, Hilda Prins, for ten years.

They recently had a big game together (close to 70%) to achieve a tournament win during the September 2007 WBL sectional. Bear first learned to play social bridge at age 15 from his parents. He entered the duplicate scene for a couple of years in the '70s and then picked it up again in '92 with Eddie Alexander at the Christ the King Church unit game. He joined the WBL at that time. Bear currently plays frequently at Mark Lavine's or Roz Dixon's games. His most exciting moment in bridge came when he won his final gold to become a Life Master.

Outside of bridge, Bear has many interests. He is a social and political activist. He volunteers twice a week teaching Latino children while their mothers learn English as a second language. He is active at church (NBUMC), managing his real estate, seeing plays and movies, and with his grandchildren and Hilda.



Judy Glick began her duplicate bridge career by playing once a week on Sunday afternoon at the Washington Bridge Club in Hillandale. There, she found some wonderful mentors like Rossie Lindstrom, Barbara Rothkin and Leslie Shafer who were always willing to offer advice as to how she should have bid a hand or played it.

Once Judy gained some experience and started to play more regularly, she found that everyone she knew was hard at work to become a life master. For Judy, this presented certain problems. She could easily win silver points from our sectionals, but since she could only attend our two local regionals, the red and gold points were much more difficult to achieve. She says, "For overcoming this hurdle and helping me to reach the goal of life master I have two people who deserve my heartfelt thanks. First, is my partner, Roma, who persevered through thick and thin until that glorious day when I reached that magic total of 25 gold points. Second, is my husband who provided transportation when emergencies arose and graciously endured my extended absences to attend the various tournaments."



Daniel Koch, an attorney specializing in, government contracts & computer law, and his wife, Leah Brasch, a pediatrician, have two children: Milton, age 20, at Macalester College, and Bernie, age 17, a former caddy at the unit game.

Daniel attended a boarding high school. One winter, he received a phone call telling

him that there had been a smoky fire in the dormitory. The school relocated exactly four students into auxiliary housing, and the two who knew how to play insisted on teaching the other two. For the rest of that school year, they enjoyed a steady congenial foursome.

Daniel's grandmother became a life master early in her widowed retirement years, and played steadily well into her 80's. She was a founding member of a cooperative (member - owned) bridge club in Queens, New York City, the Barclay Bridge Club. They played together with some success. Once, they finished fifth overall in a five-section side game at a regional, and got their names in the New York Times bridge column— but he still remembers that if he'd only worked that end play, they could've finished second. . . . Daniel especially enjoyed school vacation evenings when she would cook dinner, they'd play bridge and return to her apartment for hand reviews and midnight snacks.

Due to life happening, Daniel stopped playing for nearly 20 years. Then, he met Bill Kingery through their sons' friendship. The game had changed: bidding boxes and two-over-one systems, for example, were new and had become standard. They bought copies of Steve Robinson's book, and studied it all. Over time, the game again became a source of great pleasure and new friendships.

Daniel says, "The Thursday night unit game here is one of this region's treasures, offering so much good competition at all different levels. Kitty Gottfried also does a fabulous job on hospitality. WBL members should cherish the great environment we enjoy for our game here."



Linda Marshall and her husband, David, have two kids: Josh (14) and Adam (17). She regulates pension plans as an Attorney with the Internal Revenue Service. Linda earned her BSE from Princeton, where she learned to play bridge from a group of friends who played. She went on to earn her JD from the

University of Michigan at which point bridge was sent to the back burner. Her 1980 membership lapsed and until about 2003, she only played occasionally with her family. In addition to spending time with family, work, and bridge, Linda also likes to read and knit.



Since rejoining the duplicate world, Linda has brought bridge back to the forefront. She has enjoyed studying *Matchpoints*, by Kit Woolsey and *Card Play Techniques*, by Victor Mollo and Nico Gardner. Her tournament successes include placing first in a Flight B Swiss at the Hunt Valley regional and placing second at the Bethesda regional last year. Nevertheless, her most exciting win came when her team won their match against the number two seed in last year's WBL Flight A KO. In addition, Linda actively contributes to the WBL as a member of the board.

David Mead and **Kathleen O'Toole** have one son, Ryan Mead (24). Kathleen is employed as an Administrative Aide by Montgomery College. She previously has worked as a bookkeeper and an editor and has spent 13 years as a volunteer in Montgomery County public schools. She received a B.M. from Catholic University. David is an Economist with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. He received his Ph.D. in Economics from Clark University.

In addition to bridge, Kathleen enjoys gardening, reading and music. David also enjoys music. He plays the piano and the clarinet in the Montgomery College Wind Ensemble and other ad hoc groups. He also plays poker.

David's parents taught him bridge at age ten, as it was a game that his whole extended family would play together. David and his family originally introduced Kathleen to bridge in 1980. They played some social bridge with another couple who had young children. Then, when Ryan entered college 5 years ago, Kathleen and David ventured to the Sunday night duplicate game at the former Washington Bridge Center and joined the

WBL then and there. They have since traveled to many east coast regionals and play locally at KOCH, the Rockville Senior Center and the Gaithersburg Bridge Club.

They both prefer 2/1. Kathleen especially enjoyed the Seagram, Bird, Smith series whose titles always start with, "25 Ways..." David likes bridge books by Mike Lawrence. His biggest bridge thrill to date occurred when his was the only pair at an open pairs' game at a Phoenix regional to bid and make 7NT. Kathleen enjoyed it when, holding less than 50 masterpoints, she won her first gold points in Ocean City. Her main goal for the future is to continue traveling to tournaments with friends. David would mainly like to work on improving his bridge play.



Katherine Rabenstein is an Association Executive with the American Nurses Credentialing Center. Her former occupations include: Meeting / Incentive Travel Planner for Hawaii-based Trade Wind Tours; VP Marketing, Art Director, GTU, Inc; VP, Riva Market Research; and Staffer, US House of Representatives Select Committee on Hunger. Her education includes: Technical degree in Computer Programming; special weekend/summer program at Carnegie-Mellon University for the artistically gifted; BSFS, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service (Developmental Economics, History); graduate work in Nonprofit Administration, Languages/Linguistics, Publication Design, Economics at Georgetown, George Washington, and Trinity Universities. She was also Hagiographical Contributing Editor for the *New Catholic Encyclopedia* (in which she wrote about 3,000 articles and edited another 2,000).

She loves all the Arts: painting, drawing, sculpting, crocheting, embroidery, knitting, dance, languages (some now-rusty facility in several dozen), and music. Lately, Kathy is collecting and trading American Girl historical dolls.

She learned to play duplicate online at Bridgebase.com, then joined the WBL about 3½ years ago. Kathy much prefers the stiffer competition of tournaments. She went to her



first ACBL Nationals in Pittsburgh (spring 2005) without a partner. She picked up partners to play in every ACBL+ event she could enter. Since then, she's gone to

Dallas, Chicago, Honolulu, Denver, St. Louis, and Nashville. Kathy loves playing in National events and would encourage ALL players, no matter how inexperienced to try it.

Her biggest thrill was finally earning her 50 Black Points. She met her goal of earning LM, BLM, and SLM the same year, if not at the same time. Kathy's next goal is to play in the Bermuda Bowl in 5 years - but says she'll settle for the Venice Cup!



Thomas J. Reckford is now Vice Chairman of the World Affairs Council of Washington, D.C. after seven years as President. He is also a Senior Associate at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, where he was a Senior Fellow in the 1980s, and Vice Chair of the International Committee at the University Club. In addition, he is President of the Malaysia-America Society. A pioneer in applying the techniques of political risk analysis and country assessment to the business world, he currently advises corporations and institutional investors operating in East and Southeast Asia. Before entering the business world, he served in the Office of National Estimates at the Central Intelligence Agency. A Harvard graduate, magna cum laude in history, Mr. Reckford has taught political risk analysis at Georgetown University and is the co-author of "Building ASEAN" (Praeger, 1987).

Tom, who is from New York, began playing bridge when he was eight years old, but has concentrated on duplicate for the last fif-

teen years. The Captain of Kenwood Country Club's Interclub Bridge Team, he plays primarily at Bethesda Country Club and the Knights of Columbus Hall in Arlington. His favorite bridge experience was winning his first regional knock-out with three friends who were born in Iran.



Jian-Jian Wang is a research scientist working for NASA and likes to travel around the world in addition to playing bridge. He started to play bridge in 1982 in high school in China, and join tournament play in 1984. His bridge play was stopped in 1990, as he came to the States to pursue his PhD degree. J.J. resumed play and joined the ACBL in 1996, and the WBL in 1999. He prefers 2/1 and Precision. His favorite bridge authors are H.W. Kelsey, Terence Reese and Mike Lawrence. J.J. is the author of *Bridge Training Using Precision System* (published in 1991, in Chinese).

In 1989, J.J. placed second in the Chinese Pair Championships. Then, in 1990, he placed second in the Chinese International Team Trials. Most recently, J.J. reached the semi-finals of the Spingold at the 2007 summer NABC.



Mike Frosch



Patrice Gordon



William Kingery, Jr.



Angeliki Magklara

Bits & Pieces, continued from p. 20...

Open Leaders

Player	Points
1 Steve Robinson	101.55
2 Leo LaSota	85.79
3 Mark Shaw	78.98
4 Helene Bauman	78.93
5 Richard Ferrin	71.11
6 William Cole	69.57
7 Peter Boyd	66.47
8 Robert Gookin	65.25
9 Alfred Steinberg	59.69
10 Eugene Kales	57.21
11 Steven Schatzow	55.28
12 Barbara Shaw	52.31
13 Janet Gookin	51.73
14 Fred King	50.43
15 Jim Wakefield	49.72
16 Donald Berman	48.59
17 Arnie Frankel	46.21
18 John Adams	45.78
19 Margot Hennings	44.73
20 Diane Walker	41.04

NonLM Leaders

Player	Points
1 Alfred Liepold	31.33
2 Francesco Parisi-Presicce	29.54
3 Kiyomi Shiba	27.52
4 Albert Lauber	23.84
5 Neil Selvin	21.44
6 Jose Porres	19.53
7 Helen Long	19.01
8 Ned Griffith	18.29
9 Minako Komura	17.68
10 Amanda Carter	17.17
11 Kevin O'Brien	16.94
12 Arun Guha	16.75
13 Terry Vann	16.24
14 Art Hartstein	16.24
15 Joyce Currie	15.77
16 Robert Claypool	15.59
17 Shyamalendu Pal	15.17
18 Joe Lentz	14.51
19 Howard Grunin	14.38
20 Amy Bloom	14.24

...continued on p. 30, column 2, top

46TH ANNUAL WBL PRESIDENTIAL TOURNAMENT

January 3-6, 2008

Results

TOP TEN CUMULATIVE POINT WINNERS

Congratulations to the new 2008 Presidential Tournament winners! Awards will be presented to the winners in each of the four masterpoint categories for all of the 2008 sectionals during next year's Presidential Tournament. See page 2 for pics of the 2007 winners.

All Players

1 35.02	Steve Robinson
2 29.52	Mark Shaw
3 22.77	Peter Boyd
4 21.04	Robin Taylor
5 18.73	William Cole
6 18.42	Richard Ferrin
7 17.99	Barry Bragin
8 17.82	Ellen Cherniavsky
9 16.62	Helene Bauman
10 16.18	Jim Wakefield

Players with fewer than 1500 masterpoints

1 21.04	Robin Taylor
2 18.42	Richard Ferrin
3 13.76	Robert Henry
3 13.76	Danijel Zenko
5 12.81	Edwin Fuller Jr
6 12.35	Michael Gill
7 11.87	Rosemary Shaw
8 10.53	Arun Guha
9 10.32	Paul Black
10 10.32	Sam Westgate

Players with fewer than 500 masterpoints

1 10.53	Arun Guha
2 9.37	Francesco Parisi-Presicce
3 9.28	Kiyomi Shiba
4 9.21	Virginia Gibbons
5 9.17	Elaine Conway
5 9.17	Suzanne Floyd
7 8.68	William Goldman
8 8.21	Shyamalendu Pal
9 7.72	Amanda Carter
10 7.68	Alfred Liepold

Players with fewer than 100 masterpoints

1 10.53	Arun Guha
2 9.21	Virginia Gibbons
3 8.21	Shyamalendu Pal
4 7.72	Amanda Carter
5 5.88	Joe Hertz
6 5.66	Kay Miller
7 5.64	Bernadette Merceron
8 5.15	Richard Wessman
9 4.58	Terry Vann
9 4.58	Art Hartstein

THURSDAY A/X PAIRS

Stratum A, 39.5 Tables/Based on 95



1 Danijel Zenko - Robert Henry	65.10
2 Paul Black - Sam Westgate	61.86
3 Brad Theurer - Barry Bragin	61.41
4 Saul Penn - Edwin Fuller Jr	61.26
5 Andrew Gofreed - Stephen Swearingen	61.22
6 Robin Taylor - Rosemary Shaw	60.69
7 Jim Wakefield - Helene Bauman	60.26
8 Alfred Steinberg - Steve Robinson	59.88
9 Donald Geerhart - Kenneth Davis	59.78
10 Noble Shore - Michael Gill	59.55

Stratum X, 24.0 Tables

1 Danijel Zenko - Robert Henry	65.10
2 Paul Black - Sam Westgate	61.86
3 Saul Penn - Edwin Fuller Jr	61.26
4 Robin Taylor - Rosemary Shaw	60.69
5 Noble Shore - Michael Gill	59.55
6 Richard Price - Melissa Price	59.21

THURSDAY B/C/D PAIRS

Stratum B, 26.0 Tables



1 Kevin O'Brien - Francesco Parisi-Presicce	60.65
2 Namik Haveric - Mirsad Mujezinovic	60.59
3 Judy Glick - Joyce Currie	60.25
4/5 Carl Noller - Jim Wildey	58.33
4/5 Kathrine Loh - Cathy Stryker	58.33
6 Steven Fox - Albert Lauber	58.10

Stratum C, 22.5 Tables

1 Kevin O'Brien - Francesco Parisi-Presicce	60.65
2 Namik Haveric - Mirsad Mujezinovic	60.59
3 Judy Glick - Joyce Currie	60.25
4/5 Carl Noller - Jim Wildey	58.33
4/5 Kathrine Loh - Cathy Stryker	58.33
6 Steven Fox - Albert Lauber	58.10

Stratum D, 12.5 Tables

1 Namik Haveric - Mirsad Mujezinovic	60.59
2 Judy Glick - Joyce Currie	60.25

- 3 Carl Noller - Jim Wildey58.33
- 4 James Wisman - Edgar MacArthur56.47
- 5 Timothy Stewart - Reni Malloy55.87
- 6 Susan Miskura - Dennis Schwanz55.79

THURSDAY 0-300 PAIRS @ WBL

Stratum A, 18.0 Tables



- 1 Rosmarie Suitor - Jan Zaal69.94
- 2 Shyamalendu Pal - Arun Guha64.37
- 3 Alfred Caponiti - John Ryan63.39
- 4 Richard Wessman - Kay Miller62.80
- 5 Winnie Yonkers - Tsung Lee61.69
- 6 Louis Coccodrilli - Stephen Weiner60.71

Stratum B, 12.5 Tables

- 1 Shyamalendu Pal - Arun Guha64.37
- 2 Richard Wessman - Kay Miller62.80
- 3 Louis Coccodrilli - Stephen Weiner60.71
- 4 Jeanne Ferraro - Alan Ferraro55.65
- 5 Herb Schulken - Ronnie Loeser54.46
- 6 Carol Elfant - Elizabeth Nash52.98

Stratum C, 6.0 Tables

- 1 Edmund Gehan - Alan Walter52.72
- 2 Ernie Schuler - Frank Hatten52.64
- 3 Ruby Brooks - Melba Battle50.00
- 4 Ellinor Legg - Suzanne Kilczewski49.92

THURSDAY 0-200 PAIRS @ NVBA

Stratum A, 11.0 Tables

- 1 Taraneh Shahin - Bahman Shahin64.58
- 2 Alexander Shafer - Ike Oren63.10
- 3 Reiko Lynch - Jo Ann Hutchison55.95
- 4 Loretta Mathews - Susan Pettit55.06
- 5 Bruce Kasold - Gary Hinson54.17
- 6 Judith Heit - Betsy Summer53.57

Stratum B, 7.0 Tables

- 1 Taraneh Shahin - Bahman Shahin64.58
- 2 Alexander Shafer - Ike Oren63.10
- 3 Loretta Mathews - Susan Pettit55.06
- 4 Bruce Kasold - Gary Hinson54.17
- 5 Judith Heit - Betsy Summer53.57

Stratum C, 4.0 Tables

- 1 Alexander Shafer - Ike Oren63.10
- 2 Loretta Mathews - Susan Pettit55.06
- 3 Judith Heit - Betsy Summer53.57

FRIDAY AM OPEN PAIRS

Stratum A, 24.0 Tables/Based on 37



- 1 Rosemary Shaw - Robin Taylor63.08

- 2 Kiyomi Shiba - Minako Komura62.42
- 3 Janet Dence - Edwin Fuller Jr62.10
- 4 Kenneth Davis - Herbert Fallin Jr60.96
- 5 Ann Ingram - Hanna Schepps60.65
- 6 Ronald Orr - Timothy Smith60.31

Stratum B, 20.5 Tables

- 1 Robin Taylor - Rosemary Shaw63.08
- 2 Kiyomi Shiba - Minako Komura62.42
- 3 Janet Dence - Edwin Fuller Jr62.10
- 4 Ronald Orr - Timothy Smith60.31
- 5 Bert Chansky - Stanley Rabin59.73
- 6 Roma Chandra - Robert Claypool57.29

Stratum C, 8.5 Tables

- 1 Kiyomi Shiba - Minako Komura62.42
- 2 Douglas Fox - Larry Moran54.40
- 3 Phyllis Kristianson - Lois Kay52.40
- 4 Donald Goldman - Steve Schlosser51.37
- 5 Maribel Newby - Donald Brown50.69

FRIDAY AM NONLM PAIRS

Stratum A, 13.0 Tables



- 1 Arun Guha - Edmund Gehan62.12
- 2 Jeanne Ferraro - Alan Ferraro61.74
- 3 Ernest Culman - Millie Reizenstein60.80
- 4 Amy Bloom - Linda Burton59.85
- 5 Alfred Caponiti - Alfred Liepold57.01
- 6 Phyllis Cohen - Stephen Salitrik55.30

Stratum B, 9.5 Tables

- 1 Arun Guha - Edmund Gehan62.12
- 2 Jeanne Ferraro - Alan Ferraro61.74
- 3 Amy Bloom - Linda Burton59.85
- 4 Phyllis Cohen - Stephen Salitrik55.30
- 5 Jim Anschutz - Patti Anschutz55.11
- 6 Norman Sweed - Ronnie Sweed54.55

Stratum C, 4.5 Tables

- 1 Arun Guha - Edmund Gehan62.12
- 2 Phyllis Cohen - Stephen Salitrik55.30
- 3 Jim Anschutz - Patti Anschutz55.11
- 4 Betty Thompson - Henry Thompson51.14

FRIDAY AFT A/X PAIRS

Stratum A, 13.0 Tables/Based on 45



- 1 Jim Allen, Jr - Steve Robinson66.48
- 2/4 Charleen Brand - Shou-Ling Wang56.63
- 2/4 Barbara Doran - Mickie Kivel56.63
- 2/4 Mark Rosen - Eugene Fisher56.63
- 5 Linda Marshall - Margie Coccodrilli54.73
- 6 Clyde Kruskal - Donna Rogall54.17

Stratum X, 6.0 Tables

- 1 Mark Rosen - Eugene Fisher56.63
- 2 Linda Marshall - Margie Coccodrilli54.73
- 3/4 Ronald Orr - Timothy Smith53.60
- 3/4 Steven Schatzow - Sarah Goodstein53.60

FRIDAY AFT B/C/D PAIRS

Stratum B, 16.0 Tables



- 1 Edward Anania - Billie Hecker68.56
- 2 Terry Vann - Art Hartstein62.31
- 3 Peter Van Zijl - Richard Wissing57.77
- 4 Aaron Navarro - Howard Tash56.82
- 5 Elaine Conway - Suzanne Floyd56.44
- 6 Robert Lawrence - Frances Lawrence56.06

Stratum C, 15.0 Tables

- 1 Terry Vann - Art Hartstein62.31
- 2 Peter Van Zijl - Richard Wissing57.77
- 3 Aaron Navarro - Howard Tash56.82
- 4 Elaine Conway - Suzanne Floyd56.44
- 5 Robert Lawrence - Frances Lawrence56.06
- 6 Roma Chandra - Robert Claypool55.68

Stratum D, 9.0 Tables

- 1 Terry Vann - Art Hartstein62.31
- 2 Peter Van Zijl - Richard Wissing57.77
- 3 Elaine Conway - Suzanne Floyd56.44
- 4 Robert Lawrence - Frances Lawrence56.06
- 5 Carolyn Becraft - Susan Slattery52.46

FRIDAY AFT NONLM PAIRS

Stratum A, 15.5 Tables



- 1 Arun Guha - Shyamalendu Pal67.69
- 2 Neil Selvin - Howard Grunin66.89
- 3 Phyllis Cohen - Stephen Salitrik66.08
- 4 Norman Sweed - Ronnie Sweed63.99
- 5 Joe Hertz - Amanda Carter62.05
- 6 Shirley Kwiatkowski - Harry Walger58.29

Stratum B, 9.5 Tables

- 1 Arun Guha - Shyamalendu Pal67.69
- 2 Phyllis Cohen - Stephen Salitrik66.08
- 3 Norman Sweed - Ronnie Sweed63.99
- 4 Joe Hertz - Amanda Carter62.05
- 5 Shirley Kwiatkowski - Harry Walger58.29
- 6 Jennifer Elliott - Ronnie Loeser56.60

Stratum C, 3.0 Tables

- 1 Joe Hertz - Amanda Carter62.05
- 2 Shirley Kwiatkowski - Harry Walger58.29

FRI EVE FLIGHT A TEAMS

14 Tables/Based on 27



- 1 Fred King - Sandra Stern - Roger Stern - Charleen Brand (not pic.)63.00
- 2 M Cassandra Smith - Kitty Gottfried - Barry Depristo - Steven Schatzow58.00
- 3 Eleanor Bragin - Barry Bragin - Ronald Zucker - Donald Berman45.00
- 4 Anita Gutschick - Carl Gutschick - David Ruderman - Leo LaSota39.00
- 5 Dede Flieder - Peter Salmon-Cox - Donna Rogall - Clyde Kruskal35.00

FRI EVE FLIGHT B TEAMS, 13 Tables



- 1 Jason Stewart (pic.) - Richard Jones (pic.) - Michael Lawrence - Craig Olson60.00
- 2 Brian Childers - Mary Baxter - Alfred Caponiti - Alfred Liepold58.00
- 3 Marco Latini - Amanda Carter - Ronald Orr - Timothy Smith22.00
- 4 Mary Ann Kral - Elizabeth Huffman - Namik Haveric - Mirsad Mujezinovic18.00
- 5 Gerald O'Dell - Algene Kuchinka - Mike Frosch - Francesco Parisi-Presicce17.00

FRI EVE FLIGHT A/X PAIRS

Stratum A, 14.0 Tables/Based on 27



- 1 Clyde Kruskal - Donna Rogall56.09
- 2 Fred King - Charleen Brand45.18
- 3 Barry Depristo - Steven Schatzow40.27
- 4 David Ruderman - Leo LaSota35.36
- 5 Andrew Gofreed - Alfred Steinberg34.36
- 6 Ronald Zucker - Donald Berman28.09

Stratum X, 8.0 Tables

- 1 Barry Depristo - Steven Schatzow40.27
- 2 M Cassandra Smith - Kitty Gottfried25.55
- 3 Eleanor Bragin - Barry Bragin23.91
- 4 Roger Stern - Sandra Stern17.27
- 5 Anita Gutschick - Carl Gutschick5.18

FRI EVE FLIGHT B/C/D PAIRS

Stratum B, 13.0 Tables



- 1 Alfred Liepold (pic.) - Alfred Caponiti 49.18
- 2 Namik Haveric - Mirsad Mujezinovic 43.82
- 3 Jason Stewart - Richard Jones33.64
- 4 Mike Frosch - Francesco Parisi-Presicce 32.73
- 5 Michael Lawrence - Craig Olson28.18
- 6 Roma Chandra - Ajaz Rahman19.18

Stratum C, 10.0 Tables

- 1 Alfred Caponiti - Alfred Liepold ... 49.18
- 2 Namik Haveric - Mirsad Mujezinovic 43.82
- 3 Jason Stewart - Richard Jones33.64
- 4 Mike Frosch - Francesco Parisi-Presicce 32.73
- 5 Robert Brady - Raghavendra Rajkumar 13.45
- 6 Neil Selvin - Howard Grunin13.09

Stratum D, 5.0 Tables

- 1 Jason Stewart - Richard Jones33.64
- 2 Marco Latini - Amanda Carter7.73
- 3 Cynthia Harrison - Kay Miller5.27
- 4 Gerald O'Dell - Algene Kuchinka ...-9.00

SATURDAY AM A/X PAIRS

Stratum A, 20.0 Tables/Based on 73



- 1 Alfred Duncker - Ann Lindley63.27
- 2 Noble Shore - Michael Gill62.83
- 3 Robin Taylor - Alan Sontag60.42
- 4 Harold Minus,Sr - Victor Stewart ...58.66
- 5/6 Brad Theurer - Barry Bragin58.44
- 5/6 Leon Letwin - Donald Berman58.44
- 7/8 Leo LaSota - William Hacker57.57
- 7/8 Larry Kahn - James Geist57.57

Stratum X, 7.5 Tables

- 1 Noble Shore - Michael Gill62.83
- 2 Larry Kahn - James Geist57.57
- 3 Avril Rodney - David Rodney56.14
- 4 M Cassandra Smith - Betty Bursey ...53.07
- 5 Steve Bunning - Kris Miller52.96

SATURDAY AM B/C/D PAIRS

Stratum B, 29.0 Tables



- 1 Gerald Marcovsky - Linda Smith ...65.91

- 2 Howard Tash - James Wisman65.53
- 3 Marilyn Udell - Reni Malloy60.04
- 4 Mark Rosen - Kiyomi Shiba59.28
- 5 Martha Bley - Ross Bley57.95
- 6 Raymond Gallucci - Sym Gallucci ...57.77

Stratum C, 23.0 Tables

- 1 Howard Tash - James Wisman65.53
- 2 Marilyn Udell - Reni Malloy60.04
- 3 Mark Rosen - Kiyomi Shiba59.28
- 4 Martha Bley - Ross Bley57.95
- 5 Mike Frosch - Francesco Parisi-Presicce 57.20
- 6/7 Elaine Conway - Suzanne Floyd ...57.01
- 6/7 Donald Goldman - Steve Schlosser ...57.01

Stratum D, 12.5 Tables

- 1 Marilyn Udell - Reni Malloy60.04
- 2/3 Elaine Conway - Suzanne Floyd ...57.01
- 2/3 Donald Goldman - Steve Schlosser ...57.01
- 4 Cathy Stryker - Ellie Clark53.79
- 5 Tanya Rodich - Louise Hellwig52.27
- 6 Michael Goldman - William Mendez Jr 50.95

SATURDAY AM NONLM PAIRS

Stratum A, 24.0 Tables

- 1 Loretta Mathews - Susan Pettit60.42
- 2 Joe Hertz - Amanda Carter59.67
- 3 Daniel Finn - Bernard Finn57.92
- 4 Garry Grossman - Ernie Schuler ...57.82
- 5 Bettye Whitney - Robert Moss57.52
- 6 Cliff Hendrickson - Mary Hartman ...57.33

Stratum B, 19.0 Tables

- 1 Loretta Mathews - Susan Pettit60.42
- 2 Joe Hertz - Amanda Carter59.67
- 3 Daniel Finn - Bernard Finn57.92
- 4 Garry Grossman - Ernie Schuler ...57.82
- 5 Cliff Hendrickson - Mary Hartman ...57.33
- 6 Mary Ann Kral - Linda Burton57.17

Stratum C, 14.5 Tables

- 1 Loretta Mathews - Susan Pettit60.42
- 2 Joe Hertz - Amanda Carter59.67
- 3 Daniel Finn - Bernard Finn57.92
- 4 Garry Grossman - Ernie Schuler ...57.82
- 5 Cliff Hendrickson - Mary Hartman ...57.33
- 6 Shirley Kwiatkowski - Harry Walger .56.31

SATURDAY AFT A/X PAIRS

Stratum A, 19.5 Tables/Based on 60



- 1 Martin Graf - Mark Shaw64.81
- 2 Leo LaSota - William Hacker64.77
- 3 Julian Boyce - Rose Berman60.61
- 4 Peter Boyd - Steve Robinson59.34
- 5 Jim Wakefield - Helene Bauman ...57.75
- 6 Ellen Cherniavsky - Richard Ferrin .57.32
- 7 Alan Sontag - Robin Taylor56.37

Stratum X, 7.5 Tables

- 1 Ellen Cherniavsky - Richard Ferrin .57.32
- 2 Barry Depristo - Daniel Feldman ...54.63
- 3 Avril Rodney - David Rodney53.41
- 4 James Prentiss - Margaret Whalen ...52.02
- 5 Timothy Smith - Virginia Gibbons ...51.97

SATURDAY AFT B/C/D PAIRS

Stratum B, 20.0 Tables



- 1 Pamela Bowman - Livingston Johnson 69.94
- 2 Ned Griffith - Albert Lauber69.05
- 3 Roma Chandra - Robert Claypool ...60.12
- 4 Michael Goldman - William Mendez Jr 59.52
- 5 Leonid Fastovsky - Bernadette Merceron 57.74
- 6 Joyce Currie - Betsy Depristo57.44

Stratum C, 16.0 Tables

- 1 Pamela Bowman - Livingston Johnson 69.94
- 2 Ned Griffith - Albert Lauber69.05
- 3 Roma Chandra - Robert Claypool ...60.12
- 4 Michael Goldman - William Mendez Jr 59.52
- 5 Leonid Fastovsky - Bernadette Merceron 57.74
- 6 Joyce Currie - Betsy Depristo57.44

Stratum D, 8.5 Tables

- 1 Ned Griffith - Albert Lauber69.05
- 2 Michael Goldman - William Mendez Jr 59.52
- 3 Joyce Currie - Betsy Depristo57.44
- 4 Katherine Cave - Thad Uehling55.65
- 5 Jeff Youngen - Terry Jones54.46

SATURDAY AFT NONLM PAIRS

Stratum A, 19.5 Tables



- 1 Rachelle Sladoff - Rochelle Hilton .64.16
- 2 Donna Stoker - Edward Stoker63.39
- 3 Michelle Zygielbaum - Kay Miller ...60.76
- 4 Joe Hertz - Amanda Carter58.55
- 5 Tapendu Basu - Swapan Das58.04
- 6 Agnes Gavin - M. Josette Johnson ...55.95

Stratum B, 15.0 Tables

- 1 Rachelle Sladoff - Rochelle Hilton .64.16
- 2 Donna Stoker - Edward Stoker63.39
- 3 Michelle Zygielbaum - Kay Miller ...60.76
- 4 Joe Hertz - Amanda Carter58.55
- 5 Tapendu Basu - Swapan Das58.04
- 6 Neil Selvin - Terence McCarthy55.36

Stratum C, 7.5 Tables

- 1 Joe Hertz - Amanda Carter58.55

- 2 Tapendu Basu - Swapan Das58.04
- 3/4 Shirley Kwiatkowski - Harry Walger .54.76
- 3/4 Taraneh Shahin - Bahman Shahin ...54.76
- 5 Daisy Smith - Clayven Smith54.46

SUNDAY FLIGHT A SWISS

16 Tables/Based on 62

- 1 Steve Robinson - Peter Boyd - William Cole - Mark Shaw116.00
- 2 Richard Ferrin - Eugene Kales - Thomas Musso - Ellen Cherniavsky89.00
- 3 Jim Wakefield - Kenton Schoen - Diane Walker - Helene Bauman85.00
- 4 David Milton - Stan Schenker - Mark Laken - Harvey Charkatz81.00
- 5 Donald Berman - Leon Letwin - Michael Richey - Clyde Kruskal77.00

SUNDAY SWISS BKT 2

8 Tables/Based on 32



- 1 Lynn Boardman - Robert Stearns - Charles Young Jr - William Goldman90.00
- 2 Merrill Hirsh - Robert Levey - Carole Grob - Robert Boyd84.00
- 3 Richard Price - Melissa Price - Eleanor Bragin - Barry Bragin79.00

SUNDAY SWISS BKT 3

8 Tables/Based on 29

- 1 David McIntyre - Timothy Smith - Virginia Gibbons - Lee McClary82.00
- 2 Elaine Conway - Audrey Warren - Mildred Lieder - Suzanne Floyd80.00
- 3 Peter Salmon-Cox - Dede Flieder - Carl Gutschick - Anita Gutschick76.00

SUNDAY SWISS BKT 4

8 Tables/Based on 13



- 1 Michael Polunin - Abdul Etemadi - Bernadette Merceron - Youssef Seraj .96.00
- 2 Carolyn Becraft - Nancy Loomis - William Pepelko - Jean Schoepe87.00
- 3 Pat Tyler - Winnie Yonkers - Gwendolyn Harllee - Joan Anderson78.00

SUNDAY SWISS BKT 5

8 Tables/Based on 11



- 1/2 Robert Kubal - Herman Bluestone - Barbara Steingaszner - Laszlo Steingaszner 84.00
- 1/2 Jon Ranhand - Azmat Ali - Agnes Gavin - M. Josette Johnson84.00
- 3 Joyce Currie - Betsy Depristo - Mike Froesch - Francesco Parisi-Prisicce ..79.00

SUNDAY SWISS BKT 6, 8 Tables



- 1 Alfred Liepold - Arun Guha - Helen Long - Shyamalendu Pal103.00
- 2 Neil Selvin - Howard Grunin - Frank Alden - Terence McCarthy96.00
- 3 Marc Weiner - Richard Levin - Terry Vann - Art Hartstein80.00

SUNDAY MORN 299ER SWISS

Stratum A, 6 Tables



- 1 Louis Coccodrilli - Stephen Weiner - Jose Porres - Richard Wessman59.00
- 2 Ronnie Loeser - Michael Watts - Sheila Kaplan - Asher Hyatt45.00

Stratum B, 3 Tables

- 1 Ronnie Loeser - Michael Watts - Sheila Kaplan - Asher Hyatt45.00

SUN AFT 299ER SWISS, 5 Tables



- 1 Jose Porres - Stephen Weiner - Richard Wessman - Louis Coccodrilli54.00
- 2 David Fitzwilliam - Lorraine Tyler - Anne Vaeth - Ed Krest47.00

Bits & Pieces, continued from p. 24...

YOUTH NORTH AMERICAN BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Any player 19 years of age or younger with less than 5000 ACBL masterpoints (or equivalent) as of July 1, 2008 can attend this inaugural Youth NABC tournament (in conjunction with an open sectional).

Calling all youth to ATLANTA, GA July 3-6, 2008

Patty Tucker says that when she first thought of having a big tournament for young players, she didn't get a lot of encouragement. "People told me flat out it wouldn't work, that kids don't want to learn to play bridge," she recalls. "I thought they were wrong." Atlanta Junior Bridge was incorporated as a 501C3 (tax exempt) organization two years ago, Tucker says, and 600 youngsters have learned to play bridge though AJB.

Poker expert Phil Gordon has stepped up to sponsor the Sportsmanship Trophy for the tournament and Tucker is looking for other sponsors. She says that young players who don't feel up to the two-session championship events will have one-session games to play in. Entry fees will be \$5 per person per session for non-national events, \$7 per person per session for the two-session events.

Pre-register with Barbara Heller, bhellerb@bellsouth.net, or 404-634-8491. For partnerships, contact Carolyn Eckert, carolyn@atlantajuniorbridge.org or 770-475-3888. For more information, go to www.youthnabc.org. After 2008, the Youth NABC will be played in conjunction with ACBL Nationals, starting with the 2009 Summer NABC here in Washington DC.

WBL SPRING YOUTH TOURNAMENT

Calling all students! Trophy & Master Point Awards! Watch for Information as to Date, Time & Place. This will be a local youth tournament coming soon this Spring.

...continued on p. 33, top



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NLM MASTER POINTERS

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

NOT ALL RUFFS ARE CREATED EQUAL!

When you're declaring in a trump contract, ruffing always gets you an extra trick...or does it? Your trump may be a winner, but it's not necessarily an *extra* trick. When you have longer trump in one hand than in the other, *only a ruff in the shorter hand will produce an extra trick.*

Say your trump suit looks like this:

Dummy
Q94

Declarer
AKJ73

How many trump tricks can you win with these cards? If you pull three rounds of trump, leaving no trump in dummy and two trumps in your hand, you'll score a total of five trump tricks no matter what you do with your remaining trump. You can lead them or use them to ruff, but either way, you get five tricks.

On the other hand, if you use two of dummy's trump to ruff losers in your hand before pulling trump, you'll still have two trumps left in your hand that you can play later. Whether you lead them or use them for ruffs, you'll have scored a total of seven trump tricks. Ruffing in the "short" hand *did* gain extra tricks.

Now, don't get excited! I'm not saying you never want to use declarer's trumps for ruffs. There are many situations where you will use the long trumps for ruffs, and we'll talk about those in a minute. But first, let's look at some examples.

1. Ruffing in the long hand

Contract: 4♠ ; Lead: ♣ K

- ♠ Q94
- ♥ AK62
- ♦ 874
- ♣ T97

- ♠ AKJ73
- ♥ 87
- ♦ AK3
- ♣ A65

No matter what plan you choose to play these cards, you'll score the same 10 tricks: five spades, two hearts, two diamonds, and one club. You can ruff dummy's little hearts in your hand if you like, but it gains you nothing: you'll still lose a diamond and two clubs. Ruffing in the long hand didn't help you.

2. Ruffing in the dummy

Contract: 4♠ ; Lead: ♥ K

- ♠ KJ64
- ♥ 75
- ♦ AQ2
- ♣ QT94

- ♠ AQT73
- ♥ A42
- ♦ K86
- ♣ 86

Counting losers in your hand, you have two in hearts and two in clubs. But you can make this contract easily by ruffing your third heart with one of dummy's trump, giving you five spade tricks, three diamond tricks, one heart and a heart ruff. The heart ruff, in the short hand, gets you your tenth trick.

But notice: After you win the ace of hearts on the first trick and pull trump, you must give up the lead by playing another heart, which one of the opponents will win. If they cash two clubs and lead a third club, you'll ruff in your hand to get the lead back. *The club ruff maintains control, but it doesn't get you an extra trick.*

Bits & Pieces, continued from p. 30...

DOES SOMEONE YOU KNOW WANT TO LEARN TO PLAY BRIDGE?

You can share the fun and challenge of duplicate bridge with your friends and family! Tell them about our **Instant Bridge Player** seminar, Sunday March 30, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the Margaret Schweinhaut Center in Silver Spring (during the WBL sectional). They can learn to play bridge, or review the basics of play and modern bidding, in just one day! 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 our *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, lunch, drinks and snacks are included. For more information or to make a reservation, email IBPStringer@aol.com or call Shawn Stringer at (301) 622.5619.

We are most indebted to Steve and Sandy Forsythe for, among their many contributions, creating the "Instant Bridge Player" format and the materials. Shawn has agreed to manage and teach the seminar now that the Forsythes have moved. She currently runs the 0-20 section of the WBL Unit game, and has taught the IBP program in the past.

Directions to Margaret Schweinhaut Center: Take I-495 (Beltway) to Georgia Ave North exit. Take the first right onto Forest Glen Road. The center is approximately one half mile on the right after crossing Sligo Creek Parkway, at 1000 Forest Glen Road. Use the second entrance.

SUNDAY BRIDGE FIESTA!

♣ ♦ ♥ ♠
We're still working hard to keep this popular game, started by Steve and Sandy Forsythe, going. Please check the WBL website: districtsix.org/WBL or washingtonbridgeleague.org for the latest information.

STEPPING UP TO NEW HEIGHTS:

As of January 1, 2008

Junior Masters

(5 Masterpoints)

Rita R Capon
Dr Jacques J Delente
Mr James M Gerding
Mr Larry L Hieb
Dr Robert Maman
Mrs Cheryl C Rudzinski
Mrs Donna Weinstein
Rick Weinstein
Mrs Susan S Weiss

Club Masters

(20 Masterpoints)

Jim Anschutz
Patti Anschutz
Gail W Ginsburgh
Mr Robert A Kazdin
Mr Jack Schiff
Charline K Coakley
Ms Donna L Hankey-Woods
Mrs Ellen A Kelley
Betty Thompson

Sectional Masters

(50 Masterpoints)

Dr Cynthia E Harrison
Ms Amelia L Montjoy
Mrs Beth E Wisinski
Mrs Erika Emery
Mr Frank Hatten

Regional Masters

(100 Masterpoints)

Mrs Edith Black
Ms Yasmina Patel
Mr Paul L Chassy
Mrs Priscilla J Krueger

NABC Masters

(200 Masterpoints)

Mr Murat O Berk
Robert G Claypool
James P Davenport, Jr
Mrs Roberta Feldman
Mr Robert Blatt

Look what happens if they switch to diamonds instead of clubs: you'll win, ruff your heart, cash your remaining diamonds and play your spades, giving them their two club tricks eventually. Whether you ruff a club or just lead your spades, you'll still get the same five tricks from the five spades in your hand.

Choose carefully! There are many good reasons to ruff, but not all of them gain tricks. In example 2 above, you ruffed to get rid of a loser and to maintain control of the hand. Other reasons for ruffing with the long trump include transportation, setting up a long side suit and crossruffs, and for the advanced

student, dummy reversals. It's okay to use your long trump for these.

When dummy and declarer start with equal length in trump, you can use either hand as the ruffing hand, and ruffs from that hand will produce extra tricks. But when one hand has longer trump, only ruffs in the short hand produce extra tricks. Most of the time, ruffing in the long hand is just barking up the wrong tree!

1) IMPs, You're Vulnerable

♠ KQ4♥107♦J109♣109642

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

2) IMPs, They're Vulnerable

♠ 43♥AKQ542♦-♣A10742

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

3) IMPs, Both Vulnerable

♠ K10♥AQJ2♦9854♣J74

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1♥	2♦	Pass	Pass
????	Dbl*	Dbl*	Pass
		*negative double	

4) IMPs, Both Vulnerable

♠ 4♥5♦AKQ765♣AQJ32

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
2NT	4♠	Pass	Pass
????			1♥

5) Matchpoints, None Vulnerable

♠ 32♥Q76♦5432♣AK43

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
Pass	1♣	1♥	Pass
????			Dbl

2♦ = 7-9; 2♥ = 0-6, 3-card raise; 3♥ = weak

Return answers by March 17 to:

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

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

Contact **Barbara Doran** UnitGamePartner@DistrictSix.org, (301-608-0347 between 9am and 10pm) to find a partner in advance or go to www.washingtonbridgeleague.org to try the **On-Line Partnership Bulletin Board**. For a last minute partner, call the **WBL cell phone (301-395-2760)**.

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.