

It's the
WASHINGTON BRIDGE LEAGUE'S

63rd Annual City of Washington Tournament



February 26-

March 1, 2009

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**.

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 **Compact KOS**—*Four rounds of knockouts finish in one day!* You're guaranteed to play a full session of two rounds of the knockouts.

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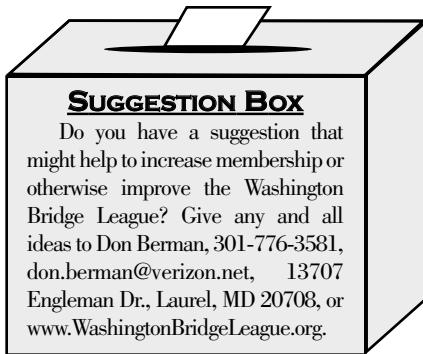
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WBL OMBUDSMAN
Any player with helpful director issues including criticism or praise of the directing staff may contact the Ombudsman, Ann Lindley and be assured that the source of the information will remain confidential. Information should be provided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

♣♦♥♠ ~~~~~ ♣♦♥♠
DEADLINE: MARCH 16, 2009
TO SUBMIT NEW ARTICLES TO THE EDITOR FOR THE MARCH/APRIL 2009 ISSUE

Washington Bridge League BULLETIN (usps #861-240)
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The opinions expressed by our columnists do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the ACBL, the WBL, or even the editors of this publication. The WBL is not responsible for the claims of its advertisers.

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PRESIDENT'S LETTER

by WBL President, Fred King

At the annual meeting, a small, informal survey was passed out. I would like to report on the results of that survey. The first question asked about what people liked most about the WBL. The most popular answer was bridge and especially the high level of competition. Clearly we are a competitive group with a minority who see bridge as just a social activity! A second positive aspect identified was the food and hospitality provided at both the unit game and the sectionals. Third was the friendly people and the volunteers who help run everything. A few even said "everything". Flattery will get you everywhere with us.

The second question asked about what you would like to see improved or done differently. Here the major complaint was about the condition of the facility we use for the unit game. Lighting, cleanliness of the bathrooms, and other areas of concern were voiced. Your board is aware of these issues and has tried to work with the church for improvements, without much success. At the same time we are always keeping an eye open for a new, better place to play. Finding places that are convenient, well lit, available every Thursday, with adequate parking and a kitchen is not easy. If you know of such a place, please let any board member know. A second concern was the attitude or unfriendli-

ness of some players. A third complaint dealt with starting the game on time. Fourth was dealing with slow play. The board has asked the directing staff to pay attention to these concerns and there is an article in this bulletin from **Barry Bragin**, our new recorder, telling you how to deal with behavioral problems. Continue to give us feedback on how we can improve. The board tries to stay on top of things, but you may have concerns we are unaware of and only by your comments can we learn about them.

The third question was more for those organizing the NABC here in Washington in late July. It asked about how those attending planned to get there and why those not attending were missing this great opportunity. Our major concern for local players is the high cost and limited availability of parking. However, only 2 of 100 players gave this as a reason for not attending. About half planned to use Metro (the Wardman Park hotel is right at the Woodley Park/Zoo stop), some were going to park at UDC (we hope to be able to arrange a shuttle from there), some were close enough to walk and a few knew of some secret places nearby where on street parking was still allowed. (Despite our best efforts, we could not learn where these spaces are.) Others were willing to park at the hotel (The ACBL has been able to negotiate a reduced rate of \$25.00 per day) or were planning to stay in the hotel. Thanks to all who answered our questions.

Election time is approaching! If you are interested in running for any of our officer positions or a seat on the board, please send (by March 16) a brief biography, photo and anything else you would like to see appear in the next *WBL Bulletin*. The election takes place at our annual meeting on May 7. To be placed on the ballot our constitution requires 25 signatures, but nominations from the floor are also acceptable. Please think about running and giving everyone the benefit of your ideas and experience.

Cheers, Fred King

ADVERTISE?

Advertisements are welcome in the *WBL Bulletin*. We distribute approximately 1900 copies of each issue, every other month. Advertising rates are:

\$125 for a full page ad

\$75 for a half page ad

\$50 for a quarter page ad

\$25 for an eighth page ad

The sixth consecutive appearance of an ad in one year runs free.

SILVER SPRING, MD: FEB 26-MAR 1, 2009

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26

- ♣ StrataFlighted Open Pairs (A/X unlim/3000, B/C/D Separate 1500/1000/500) (both sites); Stratified NLM Pairs (NLM/100/50) & 0-20 Pairs (Christ the King Church only); Stratified 199er Pairs (Beth El only)
- ♣ **Beth El Congregation, 3830 Seminary Rd, Alexandria** 7:00pm
- ♣ **Christ the King Church, 2301 Colston Drive, Silver Spring** 7:30pm
Capital Beltway to Connecticut Ave. South. Left on East-West Hwy. Right on Grubb Rd. ^{1st}Left on Colston. Church is on the left before the next intersection.

Friday—at Christ
the King Church Only

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27

- ♦ 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 Pairs 10:00am, 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, FEBRUARY 28

- ♣ **Compact KOs** Four rounds of knockouts finish in one day! 11:00am, 3:30pm
- ♥ **Tired of pair games?** You're guaranteed to play a full session of two rounds of the knockouts.
- ♦ Stratified Pairs (unlim/2000/500) (single session) 11:00am
- ♥ StrataFlighted A/X (unlim/3000) & B/C/D Pairs (1500/1000/500) (single session) 3:30pm
- ♣ Intermediate/Novice Pairs (300/200/100) or Newcomer Pairs (50/20/5) (single sessions) 11:00am, 3:30pm
- ♣ **Don't miss the between sessions Panel Show** 2:30pm

SUNDAY, MARCH 1

- ♦ A/X Swiss Teams, (unlim/5000, 7 round playthru w/short break) 11:00am & TBA
- ♥ B/C/D Swiss Teams, VPs (2500/1000/500, 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.

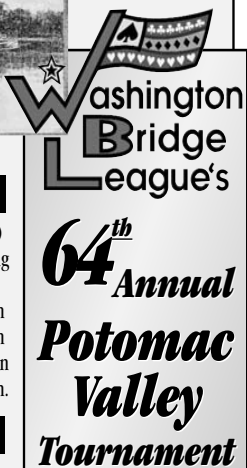


Famous Washington Hospitality includes snacks, drinks and Friday, Saturday and Sunday lunch free of charge. Chair: **Nadine Wood**, 301-565-9555, woodthere@comcast.net. Volunteer Coordinator: **Barbara Summers**, 301-598-5838, jimbarb1184@aol.com Hospitality: **Kitty Gottfried**, 301-587-3981, kgottfried@hotmail.com Partnerships: **Barbara Doran**, 301-608-0347, Sectional Partner@DistrictSix.org or try the easy Online Partnership Bulletin Board: www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org

Washington
Bridge
League's
63rd
Annual
City of
Washington
Tournament

SILVER SPRING, MD: MAY 14-17, 2009

Take a *Spring Holiday* in the *Potomac Valley!*



THURSDAY, MAY 14

- ♣ StrataFlighted Open Pairs (A/X unlim/3000, B/C/D Separate 1500/1000/500) (both sites); Stratified NLM Pairs (NLM/100/50) & 0-20 Pairs (Christ the King Church only); Stratified 199er Pairs (Beth El only)
 - Beth El Congregation, 3830 Seminary Rd, Alexandria** 7:00pm
 - Christ the King Church, 2301 Colston Drive, Silver Spring** 7:30pm
- Capital Beltway to Connecticut Ave. South. Left on East-West Hwy. Right on Grubb Rd. 1st Left on Colston. Church is on the left before the next intersection.

Friday—at Christ the King Church Only

FRIDAY, MAY 15

- ♦ Stratified Pairs (unlim/2000/500) 10:00am
 - ♥ StrataFlighted A/X (unlim/3000) & B/C/D (1500/1000/500) Pairs 2:00pm
 - ♠ **IMP Pairs** StrataFlighted A/X (unlim/3000) & B/C/D (1500/1000/500) 7:30pm
- The Friday Night IMPs are back!** Friday nights are your chance to try a different form of the game. With IMP pairs, you only need one partner, but it scores like a team game. Your result on each board will be IMPed against all the other results from your direction, then averaged for your final score.
- ♣ Intermediate/Novice Pairs (300/200/100/50/20) (single sessions) 10:00am, 2:00pm, 7:30pm

◇ **SAT. & SUN. ONLY at the Margaret Schweinhaut Senior Center** ♥

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

SATURDAY, MAY 16

- ♣ **64th 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) (single session) 3:30pm
 - ♦ Intermediate/Novice Pairs (300/200/100) or Newcomer Pairs (50/20/5) (single sessions) 11:00am, 3:30pm
 - ♠ Don't miss the between sessions **Panel Show** 2:30pm

SUNDAY, MAY 17

- ♣ **1-Day Bridge Class:** 2 sections: *Start to Play* or *Advance Your Play* 10:30am
- ♦ A/X Board-A-Match Teams, (unlim /5000, 2 session playthru w/short break) 11:00am & TBA
- ♥ B/C/D Swiss Teams, VPs (3000/1000/500, 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.



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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

BITS AND PIECES

NEW! BOARD ENACTS CHANGES TO THE 2009 WBL TROPHY RACES

In an attempt to allow more players to be competitive toward winning the Trophy Races this year, the Board has enacted changes toward which events will count toward the masterpoint totals for the year. The theory is that you shouldn't have to attend every single Unit game in order to have a chance at winning, yet should still be active in the Unit's main events throughout the year. Comments are welcome. This system will be re-evaluated at the year's end.

Events that Count this Year:

1. All WBL Sectional Thursday, Friday, and Saturday pair games at full MP value (except the team portion of a pair/bracketed team event).
2. All WBL Sectional Saturday and Sunday Team Games at 1/2 MP value
3. WBL Round Robin Team event at 1/2 MP value. (Note: the annual KO has been excluded)
4. Your top 5 WBL Unit Pair Game MP awards (includes STaC overalls if won at the WBL site, NVBA sectional overalls (Thursday only) if won at the WBL site, and NAP Qualifying games but NOT WBL Sectional pair games which are already counted in 1. above.)
5. If a GNT district semi-finals/finals take place during a WBL sectional the 2nd place team receives the full difference between 2nd & 3rd/4th and 1st place half the difference between 1st & 2nd.

2008-2009 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, 2008 through May, 2009). 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 nine Sectionals. The asterisk* indicates that the player has met eligibility requirements.

Open Leaders

Player	Points
1 Leo LaSota	132.60
2 Steve Robinson	119.53
3 Mark Shaw	106.84
4 Barry Falgout	97.48
5 Peter Boyd	77.00
6 William Cole	74.55
7 Rusty Krauss	70.78
8 Linda Marshall	63.03
9 Fred King	60.31
10 Brad Theurer	59.62
11 John Adams	58.98
12 Noble Shore	55.56
13 Helene Bauman	53.26
14 Leon Letwin	50.54
15 Kenneth Davis	48.81
16 Diane Walker	48.62
17 Steven Schatzow	41.99
18 Andrew Gofreed	41.77
19 Michael Gill	41.38
20 Donald Berman	40.92

NonLM Leaders

Player	Points
1 Francesco Parisi-Presicce	39.99
2 James Beller	31.37
3 Alan Walter	29.04
4 Albert Lauber	28.79
5 Kiyomi Shiba	25.98
6 Amanda Carter	25.70
7 William Goldman	24.86
8 Marco Latini	22.12
9 Patti Anschutz	20.22
10 Srinivas Kachibhatla	18.94
11 Joe Hertz	18.93
12 Jim Anschutz	17.90
13 Larry Moran	17.59
14 Richard Wedgewood	17.19
15 Roger Laumark	16.89
16 Abdul Etemadi	16.79
17 Joseph Pregosin	16.43
18 Eleanor Schwartz	16.34
19 Teri Harrison	16.33
20 Beverly Geurin	16.12

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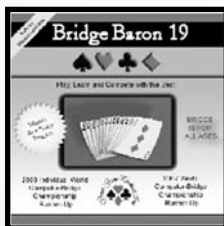
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Available on CD-Rom for Windows 2000/XP/Vista (English only)



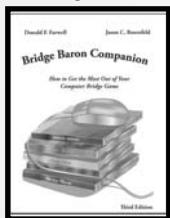
• Two New Editions: **Basic Conventions (Vol. 2)** and **More Basic Conventions (Vol. 3)** • Learn Conventions allows you to practice each convention in Bridge Baron. LPBC teaches you seven conventions in depth using the interactive Bridge Baron Teacher architecture, and allows you to practice these conventions as well.

• LPBC teaches you and allows you to practice responses and rebids for conventions, while Learn Conventions does not offer practice of responses and rebids for conventions. • In LPBC, if

you make an incorrect bid, the program usually explains to you what is wrong with that specific bid. In Learn Conventions, the program does not explain to you why a specific bid is incorrect. • LPBC has an improved user interface.

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Get up and running with Bridge Baron quickly or explore parts of the program you may not be aware of how to use.



WBL SOLVERS' CLUB

Moderated by Steve Robinson

robinswr@erols.com

Congratulations to **Mark Laken, John Flynn** and **Seymour Baden** who tied for first with a score of 470. They win a free entry to the Unit Game and will be invited to be on a future panel. Tied for fourth were **Enid Hughes** and **Craig Olson** with a score of 460. Tied for sixth were **Tom Fukawa, Beryl Chaby, Randall Holden, Rex Settle, Elgin Burrows** and **Joe Lentz** with a score of 450. Tied for twelfth were **Robert Boorman, Terry Lavender, Penny Stoever, Merril Hirsh** and **Carl Gutschick** with a score of 440. Tied for seventeenth were **Marvin Elster, Barry Bragin, Jim Allen, Barbara Summers, Lloyd Rawley, JC Clement, Prahalad Rajkumar, Owen Byer, Fran McNaught, Henny Dorsman, Ellen Cherniavsky, Jon Farber, Arnie Frankel** and **Mike Richey** with a score of 430. Tied for thirty-first were **Carol Elfant, Rick McDaniel, Norris Hekimian, Dorothy Russell, Meil Zussman, Davis Bonner** and **John Lawrence** with a score of 420. The average score of the 274 solvers was 373. The average score of the experts was 469

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 accept only one answer from each solver.

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 \$29.80 that includes \$4.80 for priority mail.

1) IMPs, None Vulnerable

♠♥AQ7♦K10532♣QJ1054

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
			2♠
3♦	Dbl	Pass	Pass
????			
Action	Score	Votes	Solvers
Redbl	100	11	83
4♣	70	1	77
Pass	60	0	107
3♥	40	0	03
3♠	30	0	02
3NT	20	0	01
5♣	20	0	01

3♦ might not have been the best bid but if you decide to show both minors it is the way to go. A takeout double, however, puts all suits in play. There are two good reasons not to make a takeout double over 2♠. Partner might leave it in and you do not have a defensive hand. The other reason is that partner would bid 3♥ with the 5432.

If two players, West and me, don't think we can't make 3♦, it's time to get out of Dodge.

Of course you could be running from the fire pan to the fire. So if we are going to get out of Dodge, how should we leave? The popular way is to redouble. Redouble puts all strains in play and allows partner to leave it in if he thinks that West made a mistake. Redoubles after a penalty double have two possible meanings. I think they made a mistake or I think I made a mistake and I need help. In some auctions there could be disagreement about the

meaning but here the only logical meaning is help. Making 3♦ doubled is game so you don't need to redouble to get a good score.

Parker: "Redouble—I would have doubled 2♠ and hoped for the best if partner bid hearts. He should assume my clubs are longer than my hearts since I did not double the first time."

Musso: "Redouble—Seems clear to run. Redouble, unambiguously SOS since 3♦ doubled would be great score, and 4♣ only viable alternatives. Redouble seems slightly better because it caters to 5-3 heart fit at three-level. Partner should expect approximately this distribution."

Redouble also caters to 3NT. Since spades weren't raised, partner probably has a lot of them.

Adams: "Redouble—I believe them. It's too late for me to bid clubs. I imagine partner will know I have exactly three hearts for this action. Maybe 3NT is the right spot, so I can't bid 4♣. I have an admiration for 3♥, with the idea that Hearts is a likely fit and played from my side avoids a round-one diamond lead, and who the heck can defend optimally. Of course partner with the black suits might not be humored."

Woolsey: "Redouble—When two people at the table think I'm going down and I'm one of them, I run. If 3♥ gets doubled I'll simply have to go on table feel to decide whether to sit or run to 4♣. Incidentally, I think South should overcall 3♣, not 3♦. There is no constructive sequence where I'll be bidding both suits, so I might as well bid the more internally solid suit as well as leaving a three-level runout in case I get doubled."

If partner bids 3♠, you have an easy 4♣ bid. If you overcall 3♣ and partner bids 3♠, now what? I don't think you overcall with the intention of getting doubled.

Smith: "Redouble—Call 911 — we're in big trouble. I think this gives us the best chance to escape."

Hopkins: "Redouble—I'm going to bet we have a better place to play and this should give us our best chance of getting there."

Cappelletti: "Redouble—Then Stop, Look and Listen. You might have to guess whether or not to pull to 4♣."

Schwartz: "Redouble—I don't like the 3♦ bid with such a poor suit to begin with, I prefer double, so it certainly right to run. I might as well redouble to keep hearts in the picture as I can always bid clubs later if it seems right."

Roman: "Redouble—Get me outta here, partner."

King: "Redouble—Why didn't I start with a take out double instead of an overcall on this awful suit?"

One expert bids 4♣. You could easily belong in hearts if partner holds ♠Kxxx ♥Jxxxxx x♣xx or in notrump if partner holds ♠QJ10xxx♥Jxxx♦J♣xx.

Landen: "4♣—3♦ doubled is almost certainly doomed, so I might as try to find a better spot."

When two players think that you're going down and you're one of them and you have alternative places to play, get out of Dodge.

2) IMPs, Both Vulnerable

♠ 107♥ AJ2♦ AQJ10876♣ 4

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1♦	2♦ *	Dbl	2♥
????	*5-5 or better in the majors		
Action	Score	Votes	Solvers
Pass	100	9	16
3NT	80	2	25
3♦	70	1	133
4♦	70	0	27
5♦	40	0	31
3♥	40	0	19
2NT	30	0	06
3♠	30	0	05
2♠	30	0	01
Dbl	20	0	09
4♣	20	0	01
4♥	20	0	01

Partner has made a strength showing double. His double shows at least ten HCP, promises a rebid and usually he wants to double at least one of the opponent's suits. If he can't double one of the opponent's suits he hopes you can double it. ♠KQJx♥xx♦Kxx♣Axxx would be a typical double of 2♦. If the opponents bid 2♠ he'll double. If the opponents bid 2♥ he'll hope that you can double. He could also have a balanced strong hand. The double is similar to a redouble after a takeout double.

I like the following call. Let's see what partner has for his redouble. If it goes 2♥ all pass, get a new partner.

Musso: "Pass—Partner's double is interest in penalizing at least one of overcaller's majors, assumed to be Spades, and requires another bid if 2♥ passes around to him. Since this hand could play anywhere from a diamond partial to 3NT to 5♦ or 6♦, let's see what partner bids next to help clarify the situation."

Smith: "Pass—And see what happens. A direct 3♦ bid would be weaker than this hand."

Hopkins: "Pass—Partner owes me a bid and I am going to see what it is. Unless we play 2♥ doubled, I will be looking for a Diamond game/slam or possibly 3NT."

Landen: "Pass—Partner is forced to act. I assume he will do something other than double. This would imply he had spades stopped. After partner makes a call other than double, I'll probably continue with 3NT, possibly with 5♦. 3♦ directly over 2♥ would be not forcing and I must drive to game with this hand."

If partner does not double 2♥, he probably has spades.

Cappelletti: "Pass—A forcing auction and lets partner make his 3♣ bid. If you had bid 3♦, then he might bid 4♣."

Schwartz: "Pass—An immediate 3♦ bid is not forcing so I am too good for that so I might as well pass to see what partner has to say. With the opponents bidding hearts and partner not likely to have a stiff, I should not be preempted."

Roman: "Pass—Bidding now would show a bad hand. Pass and then bid diamonds shows offense."

King: "Pass—This is not a hand to defend with, but passing and then bidding is stronger than bidding immediately. Partner has promised a call."

The following experts make an assumption and you know what an assumption is. What would partner bid over 2♦ holding ♠43♥KQxx♦Kxx♣AKxx? East could be trying to confuse you and get a heart lead against a diamond contract by bidding 2♥ holding ♠QJ10xxx♥♦xxx♣xxxx. They can run the first five or six spades against 3NT. Partner's more likely to have ♠Axxx♥Kx♦Kxx♣Axxx and 6♦ is cold.

Adams: "3NT—It might make, Partner has spades so I bid 3NT. Perhaps not everyone's answer, but this one I feel strongly about. There really is no second choice."

Woolsey: "3NT—Partner has said he can double one of the majors, and if East is picking hearts that major is spades. This means we have both majors stopped, so bid the most likely game."

I don't think the following bid is forcing. If you use the same logic after 1♠ - double - redouble - Pass, direct bids show a minimum opener and are not forcing. You bid 2♣ holding ♠KQJxx♥xx♦x♣KQxxx to show a weak hand with spades and clubs. With an

ace more you pass and later bid your clubs.

Parker: "3♦—Partner can now bid 3♥ if he wants me to bid 3NT with a heart stopper. I should describe my hand and that is long diamonds. With my good hearts a pass will only force partner to bid clubs and I will not have described my hand. Please don't tell me to double here."

Double of Michaels or the Unusual Notrump and redouble of a takeout double promise a rebid.

3) IMPs, Both Vulnerable

♠ J107♥ 10876♦ 54♣ KQ43

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1♥	Dbl	1♣	Pass
?????		3♣	Pass
Action	Score	Votes	Solvers
3NT	100	5	32
4♣	90	4	62
Pass	80	0	142
5♣	70	2	30
3♠	50	1	06
3♦	50	0	01
3♥	20	0	01

Partner has shown a good hand and you know that it is not based on solid clubs. 3♣ could have been based on AKQJxxx of clubs and another honor. Holding the KQ of clubs, I'd expect him to have 16 HCP and at least six clubs. He has to have honors outside the club suit. Unless partner has only Kings and Queens, you should be able to take nine tricks unless the opponents take the first five. Sometimes the opponents can take five tricks but only if they find the correct opening lead.

I like 3NT since it's likely to succeed and is worth a bonus if it does. A typical hand for partner would be ♠Ax♥Kx♦Ax♣A109xxxx. Since his clubs are bad he can't jump to 3NT. Even opposite xxx♥Ax♦AK♣Axxxx, they have to be able to take five spade tricks in order to beat 3NT. Remember, they pay bonuses for bidding and making games.

Adams: "3NT—I seem to recall holding a hand like this, passing and thinking afterwards, "that was dumb." Without these clubs, partner has the beef. Again, 3NT might make so bid it. Read last months Bridge world. Meckwell bid every sick notrump imaginable."

Woolsey: "3NT—This may seem weird with no stoppers, but North will produce some stoppers. A lot of the time 3NT won't

make 3♣ won't make either, so let's shoot for the game bonus when North produces the stoppers in the right places or the opponents miss on the opening lead."

Schwartz: "3NT—Probably the only game with a chance as with partner lacking club honors, he is more likely to have seven. If we go down, they could easily have game instead."

Roman: "3NT—I'm prepared to look foolish here, but there are just so many hands partner could have where we have nine fast ones, that I'm willing to go for it. His clubs are bad, so the rest should be pretty good, and they might have to find the right lead to beat us. This hand is an excellent example of why, while I'm not a big fan of support doubles, I think support redoubles are ridiculous. We're much better off being able to redouble to show a big hand, and a jump to 3♣ gets moved down a notch, making it harder for the opponents to gauge their degree of fit and whether they belong in game."

I think you are wrong about support doubles. You could use the same logic about 2♣ over 1NT. If you play Stayman, you can't play in 2♣ holding ♠xxx♥xxx♦xx♣QJxxx. This hand does not come very often and you're willing to pay off when it does come up. Showing partner the difference between a three-card raise and a four-card raise comes up far more often than the strong hand and there's usually another way to show a strong hand.

Four experts bid 4♣. Since there is only one way to set clubs as trumps, 4♣ should be natural and forcing. If you play it as non-forcing, they don't pay a bonus for bidding and making 4♣.

Cappelletti: "4♣—This is a very clear bid. Not enough for 5♣."

Parker: "4♣—I don't know where the spades are but bidding 5♣ rates to go for a number. Let partner know I have support and he can decide what to do if they bid 4♣. They may have a slam but it should be hard to bid. At the table I would bid 3NT, which says I have club support and want to save if you do, but it needs to be discussed. 4♣ would then mean I have defense."

Not sure why you're worried about the opponents. You do have over half the deck.

Smith: "4♣—I hate to go zooming past 3NT, but we rate to have a hole somewhere. It's not the end of the world to play in clubs. I would bid 5♣ with some of my partners."

King: "4♣—Partner has jumped without a good suit, so he has points or shape and I

don't want to let the opponents bid again at the three-level. We should be safe at the four-level with at least ten trumps"

Two experts jump to 5♣.

Musso: "5♣—5♣ should have a play and is laydown opposite this typical hand for partner: ♠Ax♥x♦AKx♣AJTxxxx. Slam is unlikely and 3NT is practically impossible to investigate. Direct 5♣ describes great trumps with no outside controls quite well."

Hopkins: "5♣—If the opponents can set us -500, then I expect they will be cold for game somewhere. Bidding it this way gives them the hard choice whether to double us, bid on, or pass as we could be bidding to make!"

One expert shows one of his non-stoppers. Tough decision which of the three non-stoppers to show.

Landen: "3♠—It doesn't seem right to pass with the KQ of clubs, we probably have seven club tricks and my major suit garbage may be sufficient to stop both suits with partner's help. I bid 3♠ hoping partner can grab 3NT."

When 3NT is a possibility, it's usually the best bid.

4) Matchpoints, Both Vulnerable

♠4♥65♦Q543♣AJ7654

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
		1♦	Pass

?????*

*2♦ is inverted (10+ with diamond support)

*3♦ is preemptive

Action	Score	Votes	Solvers
2♦	100	5	56
3♦	90	5	84
4♦	60	1	05
1NT	60	1	63
2♣	40	0	40
5♦	30	0	02
3♠	30	0	01
Pass	20	0	13
3♣	20	0	05
2♥	20	0	05

This hand is a perfect mixed raise. A mixed raise is 7-9 HCP with at least four-card support. Weaker than a limit raise but stronger than a preemptive raise. You can't show a mixed raise in Standard. There is a new gadget where you can show a mixed raise after a minor-suit opener. A jump to 2♥ shows three types of hands. Type one is the strong jump shift in hearts. Type two is 11-12 balanced. The third type is a mixed raise. Over 2♥, partner bids 2♠ asking

for further description. 2NT then shows 11-12 balanced, 3♦ shows a mixed raise and all other bids show a strong jump shift in hearts. Using this method, a direct jump to 2NT shows 13-15 balanced, which is the best way to play 2NT. A mixed raise is the perfect description of this hand but we don't have the 2♥ gadget available. So do we underbid with a preemptive 3♦, overbid with an inverted 2♦ or possibly preempt with 4♦?

I'm an overbidder. If we play in a suit, partner might like my hand. In notrump, he might be disappointed unless he can run the clubs. By bidding 3♦ at your next turn, you can show partner a minimum inverted minor. It's very important to limit your hand ASAP.

Musso: "2♦—Better to overbid slightly to ensure the right strain than bid 1NT with that pitiful major suit holding. I plan to pass 3♦ or bid 3♣ over 2♥, 2♠ or 2NT."

Adams: "2♦—This one I am not so happy about. 2♦, 3♦, or 1NT could all be right. Since you did not list 2♥ as a mixed raise, I assume I am not allowed to bid that in whatever version of Washington Standard you are using. If I am allowed to use 2♥, then I change my bid, as that is a standout call on these cards."

Woolsey: "2♦—Don't we count three points for a singleton when raising partner? Seriously, anything else is a gross distortion."

Roman: "2♦—Partner, you'll never guess! I've overbid my hand! 1♥, 1NT, 2♣, 3♣, 3♦ are all out of the question."

One expert bids 1NT. 1NT is a perfect description and you have great major-suit stoppers. I guess you would open 1NT playing 15-17 holding ♠x♥xx♦AQJxx♣AKJxx.

Smith: "1NT—Life in the fast lane."

Five experts preempt. One expert goes overboard. Why should this be the opponent's hand? Can't partner have a 2NT jump rebid?

Landen: "4♦—I have to choose between 2♦, 3♦ and 4♦, and nothing else makes sense.

As it's matchpoints and I have only three cards in the majors, I'll try to block. Partner will expect more diamonds, but the overall playing strength is about right."

Five experts show a weak hand with diamonds. This is not a weak hand and I don't think you want to emphasize the diamonds.

Cappelletti: "3♦—It's OK to be a little heavy at matchpoints and might well shut out majors."

Parker: "3♦—Partner will have at least four diamonds 80% of the time and they

have the majors, so bid-em up."

Schwartz: "3♦—Would prefer a fifth diamond but any other bid is more misdescriptive. At least since it's diamonds partners likely to have at least four."

Hopkins: "3♦—95% of the time partner will not be 4=4=3=2 and we will be in a reasonable spot here or partner can carry on knowing the limitations of my hand."

King: "3♦—I am a little strong for this bid, but I want to make it difficult for the opponents to find their major fit. I hope partner is not 4=4=3=2. Maybe I will get a chance to show my clubs later."

Inverted minors can be based on distribution.

5) IMPs, Both Vulnerable

♠AJ10854♥105♦43♣K54

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
		1♥	4♣

?????*

Action	Score	Votes	Solvers
Pass	100	8	103
Dbl	80	2	82
4♣	70	2	78
4♥	20	0	11

In order to decide whether to bid or pass, give partner hands where he would pass out 4♣ and you would want to be in 4♣. Most of the hands he would pass out 4♣ contain length in clubs. Length in clubs means that they could get a club ruff. Give partner a typical 2542 hand that he would pass 4♣ such as ♠Kx♥AQxxx♦Kxxx♣xx. On very good days you might make 4♣ especially if West can't lead a club. What is needed to have a play for 4♣ is for partner to have short clubs and be able to reopen with a double. Bidding 4♣ could be right if you could bar your partner but if you can take ten tricks with spades as trumps partner will likely bid again. There's also a problem about a club ruff if partner has two little clubs. Since East has seven or eight clubs, suits are not going to split well. If you make the king of clubs a red king, or if you switched the minors then there would be more votes for 4♣.

Passing seems clear. Place this hand in the category of being conservative when long in the opponent's suit and aggressive when short.

Parker: "Pass—I would like to bid 4♣ and not allow partner to bid again, but sometimes you are just fixed by the opponents. If partner doubles I will bid 4♣. It can easily go a club and a ruff if partner has two so no

slam even if partner has a great hand.”

Musso: “Pass—Other possible choices are 4♠ and double, which get us to game with only one sure working card (as the King of Clubs is likely to be ruffed out) and no known fit. Partner is unlikely to have the hand to convert a double to penalty. 4♠ is a tempting alternative because of the power of AJTxxx, which plays well opposite such poor trump holdings as stiff Queen and two or three small. If the king of clubs were the Ace, I would choose 4♠ even though light in HCP. I plan to pass 4♥, bid 4♥ over 4♦, or bid 4♠ over partner’s double. I expect to pay off when partner passes the hand out with something like: ♠ Qxx♥ AKxxx♦ KQxx♣x.”

Partner would clearly double holding ♠ Qxx♥ AKxxx♦ KQxx♣x. However, if partner holds ♠ xx♥ AQxxx♦ AKx♣xxx, he would pass out 4♣, and 4♠ has play since West is probably void in clubs.

Adams: “Pass—On close hands, better to let the short hand take action. If partner invites me back in, I can try 4♠. If partner rebids 4♥, we will be in a good spot. If partner passes, we are might have a better spot, but not clear.”

Woolsey: “Pass—I have three clubs, so North is probably short in clubs. If he isn’t able to re-open, we won’t have a game.”

Smith: “Pass—But if it doesn’t work out, and partner yells at me, I will understand.”

Schwartz: “Pass—Not close in my view. If my Club King was elsewhere it’s a different story.”

Roman: “Pass—For me, completely in tempo and with no regrets. I look forward to hearing from the panel what else I might do.”

Roman is correct. If you’re going to pass, you must wait approximately eight seconds and

act like your hand is ♠ xxxx♥ xx♦ xxx♣xxx.

If I were going to do something other than pass, I would double. Double allows you to play 4♣ doubled if partner somehow passes. It also allows you to play 4♥ if partner bids 4♥ and keeps you in 4♠ if partner bids 4♦ or 4♠. The downside of double is that partner can jump to 5♦.

Landen: “Double—I’ll pass 4♥ or 4♠ and correct 4♦ to 4♠. I have decent defense so if partner passes we should beat them. 4♠ might work out, but seems too committal about strain.”

King: “Double—I have too much to pass and not enough to bid 4♠, so I will start with a double. At least I have a trump trick to contribute to the defense.”

Two experts bid 4♠. Partner has ♠ xxx♥ AKxxx♦ AKQx♣x, tries 4NT and it’s unlucky that both spade honors are offside and you go down.

Cappelletti: “4♠—You could be cold for 4♠ opposite many of partner’s hands that would pass if you pass.”

I would say ‘few’ not ‘many’ hands where you would want to be in 4♠. I’m not talking about hands that need three finesses.

Hopkins: “4♠—Well, since partner is likely to be short in Clubs, there is some chance he has something in Spades. And I expect to see good news in the red suits in dummy if we play here. My real worries are a Spade stack on my left and, conversely, my partner’s having a good hand and getting too excited.”

If partner has what you want him to have, he’ll reopen. On the other hand if he doesn’t have what you need he’ll pass.

When long in the opponent’s suit, go conservative.

SOLVERS’ SCORES

John Adams	Rdbl	3NT	3NT	2♦	Pass	480
Mike Cappelletti	Rdbl	Pass	4♣	3♦	4♠	450
Fred King	Rdbl	Pass	4♣	3♦	Dbl	460
Robbie Hopkins	Rdbl	Pass	5♣	3♦	4♠	450
Steve Landen	4♣	Pass	3♠	4♦	Dbl	360
Tom Musso	Rdbl	Pass	5♣	2♦	Pass	470
Steve Parker	Rdbl	3♦	4♣	3♦	Pass	450
Steve Robinson	Rdbl	Pass	3NT	2♦	Pass	500
Jeff Roman	Rdbl	Pass	3NT	2♦	Pass	500
Alan Schwartz	Rdbl	Pass	3NT	3♦	Pass	490
Dave Smith	Rdbl	Pass	4♣	1NT	Pass	450
Kit Woolsey	Rdbl	3NT	3NT	2♦	Pass	480



NORTHERN VIRGINIA BRIDGE ASSOCIATION SPRING SECTIONAL TOURNAMENT

The Arlington/Fairfax Elks Lodge #2188

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

THURSDAY, APRIL 23

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, Silver Spring, 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 24

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 25

STRATIFIED OPEN 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.

NEW!! BRACKETED COMPACT KO 2 and 7:30 p.m.

Four 12-board matches starting Sat aft ending Sat eve.

All teams will play first two matches.

STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS (2000+/2000/750) 2 p.m.

299ER PAIRS (300/200/100) and 49ER PAIRS (50/20/5) 2 p.m.

STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS (2000+/2000/750) 7:30 p.m.

299ER PAIRS (300/200/100) 7:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, APRIL 26

Novice/Intermediate Lecture (Jeff Roman) 10:15 a.m.

FLIGHTS A/X (3000+/3000) SWISS TEAMS 11:00 a.m.

& BRACKETED FLIGHT B TEAMS (0-2000) 11:00 a.m.

B Teams Bracketed by Total Team Masterpoints: three overall places in each.

Both Flights are 2-session events, w/one 30-minute break—on-site food available.

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

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Margot Hennings,
703-560-0245

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Mary Ann Kral,
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NVBA cell: 703-869-0852

...or check out our
On-line Partnership “Desk”
at www.nvba.org

Next NVBA Sectional
Sept. 10-13 at Arlington/
Fairfax Elks Lodge
(Thurs at Beth El)

**CONGRATULATIONS, 2008
WBL ROUND ROBIN WINNERS!**

Flights A/X

- 1A **Leo LaSota - William Hacker - Michael Gill - Noble Shore**
- 2A Fred King - Robert Bell - Earl Glickstein - Brad Theurer - Richard Wegman - Barry Bragin
- 3A David Fleischer - Rose Berman - Beta Nahapetian - James Stormes - Carole Banks
- 1X **Jason Meyer - Lloyd Rawley - Larry Kahn - James Edmonds**
- 2X James Geist - Ellen Cherniavsky - Christopher Miller - Thomas Musso - Ted Ying - Ronald Zucker

Flights B/C/D

- 1B **Barry Bragin - Eleanor Bragin - Melissa Price - Richard Price**
- 2B Robert Schwab - Jay Weinstein - Rex Settle - Anne Derbes
- 3/4B Albert Lauber - Ned Griffith - Merrill Hirsh - Walter Smith
- 3/4B Margie Coccodrilli - Jerry Miller - Edwin Fuller Jr - Janet Dence
- 1C **Paul Stygar - Willis Paley Hume - Gil Krawitz - Jerry Nolte - Elizabeth Nolte**
- 2C/1D **Jennifer Elliott - Frank Turley - Ronnie Loeser - Leslie Jessell -Ernie Schuler - Robert Sturm**

**WELCOME TO THE
WASHINGTON BRIDGE LEAGUE**

The WBL welcomes the following new ACBL members: **Maryann Bishop, Steve Deakins, Sandra El-Khodary, Ms Kathleen T French, Dr Peter R Gluck, Mrs Roberta S Gluck, Carol Krafka, Mr Michael Kuehl, Mr Richard J Moss, Ms Alice V Murphy, Ms Gillian M Spooner, James E Swann Jr, Mr Robert T Best, Ms Natalie Brodsky, Mr Daniel D Churchill, Michael B Jones, Ms Joy A Knox, Mr Robbie Marks, Mrs Claudia Rathbone, Dr Bhima Sastri, Mrs Sally Schlein, Ms Karen R Tupek, Mr John C Lowe, Louise Owen, Dr Srinivasan Rangarajan, Mr Matthew K Roskoski, Gail Rubinstein, Leonard Rubinstein, and Stephen S Wood.**

In addition, we welcome the following transfers from other units: **Mr Michael T McQuistan, Mr Helene M Saunders, Ms Joanne B Wharton, Mrs Edna L Doigan, Ms Janet Earle, Ms Carol Elfant, Dr James A Ferretti, Ms Elizabeth P Hester, Mrs Ruth K Schneider,**

Joan B Brooks, and Randi R Vickers.

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

**ATTENTION STUDENTS!
Prepare to play in the
Summer Nationals!**

Why not find a partner now and play with him/her to practice for the tournament?

If you need a partner, just email me and I'll add your name to the partnership list.

Ellen Rosenthal, Partnership Chairperson
ellenandneal@gmail.com, 301-299-9298

SAD NEWS

Ben Laden passed away on Tuesday, January 20th. He was a member of the WBL board for a number of years. Funeral services were held at the Tifereth Israel Congregation, 7701 16th Street NW, Washington, DC 20012. Interment Judean Memorial Gardens, Olney, MD. Contributions may be made to AFTD (the Association for Frontotemporal Dementias), 1616 Walnut St., Suite 1100, Philadelphia, PA 19103.

MORE SAD NEWS

Long-time WBL member, **Gloria Schulstad**, passed away on Friday January 23 of cancer. Her service was February 10th at Arlington Cemetery. Gloria was mother to Lynn Creecy, who served on the WBL board.

GOOD NEWS

Peter Boyd has won the 2009 Sidney Lazard Jr. Sportsmanship Award. The Sportsmanship Award was established by Sidney Lazard in honor of his son, Sidney Jr., who died in 1999 at the age of 41 after a year-long battle with cancer. Administered by the ACBL Educational Foundation, the award is given annually to a top-level player, one who has scored a high-level finish in a major national contest. According to Lazard, the object of the award is to "enhance sportsmanship among the top players and to salute those who try to win with class and dignity."

Previous winners of the Lazard Sportsmanship Award include Paul Soloway, 2001; Rose Meltzer, 2002; Larry Cohen, 2003; Lynn Deas 2004; Nick Nickell 2005, Ralph Cohen 2006; Semone Deutsch, 2007 and Georgio Duboin 2008.

...continued on p.23, column 2

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SHEILA'S BRIDGE CRUISES

2008 FINAL TROPHY RACE STANDINGSwww.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org

Updated by our Webmaster, Don Berman

The Lovenberg Race is open to all WBL members; the Izzy Cohen Race is open to all WBL members who started the calendar year with less than 1500 masterpoints; the Tubbs Race is open to all WBL members who started the calendar year as a Non-Life Master with less than 500 masterpoints; the Woolridge Race is open to all WBL members who started the calendar year with less than 20 masterpoints.

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

This list is final for 2008. All points are subject to audit by the WBL Director. **Congratulations to the 2008 Winners!** (Their pictures appear on p. 25)

Lovenberg**1220.21 Leo LaSota**

- | | | |
|----|--------|-----------------|
| 2 | 202.74 | Brad Theurer |
| 3 | 199.78 | Steve Robinson |
| 4 | 173.22 | Barry Bragin |
| 5 | 170.69 | William Hacker |
| 6 | 165.62 | Fred King |
| 7 | 162.78 | Robert Bell |
| 8 | 155.12 | Mark Shaw |
| 9 | 121.84 | Peter Boyd |
| 10 | 113.79 | Ronald Zucker |
| 11 | 113.17 | Noble Shore |
| 12 | 111.75 | Martin Graf |
| 13 | 110.83 | Lloyd Rawley |
| 14 | 108.99 | Leon Letwin |
| 15 | 106.77 | Steven Schatzow |
| 16 | 104.46 | Michael Gill |
| 17 | 100.79 | Michael Richey |
| 18 | 98.02 | William Cole |
| 19 | 95.88 | Lynn Jones |
| 20 | 95.79 | Clyde Kruskal |
| 21 | 92.90 | James Geist |
| 22 | 92.30 | Richard Wegman |
| 23 | 90.42 | David Ruderman |
| 24 | 90.42 | Earl Glickstein |
| 25 | 86.05 | John Adams |

Izzy Cohen**1113.79 Ronald Zucker**

- | | | |
|----|--------|----------------------|
| 2 | 110.83 | Lloyd Rawley |
| 3 | 104.46 | Michael Gill |
| 4 | 100.79 | Michael Richey |
| 5 | 76.55 | Robin Taylor |
| 6 | 74.65 | Linda Marshall |
| 7 | 63.42 | Daniel Koch |
| 8 | 60.25 | Katherine Rabenstein |
| 9 | 55.19 | Margie Coccodrilli |
| 10 | 53.16 | Joel Miller |
| 11 | 52.52 | Mark Rosen |
| 12 | 50.39 | Arun Guha |
| 13 | 50.29 | Howard Tash |
| 14 | 47.76 | Janet Dence |
| 15 | 47.72 | Shawn Stringer |

Tubbs**1 50.39 Arun Guha**

- | | | |
|----|-------|--------------------|
| 2 | 46.13 | Kiyomi Shiba |
| 3 | 45.89 | William Goldman |
| 4 | 44.81 | James Wisman |
| 5 | 43.10 | Mirsad Mujezinovic |
| 6 | 43.10 | Namik Haveric |
| 7 | 38.85 | Shyamalendu Pal |
| 8 | 34.86 | Albert Lauber |
| 9 | 34.77 | Kay Miller |
| 10 | 33.60 | Calvin Konner |

Woolridge**1 29.51 Edmund Gehan**

- | | | |
|----|-------|--------------------|
| 2 | 20.25 | James Metzger |
| 3 | 17.38 | Joseph Pregosin |
| 4 | 16.08 | Stanley Katzman |
| 5 | 15.22 | Douglas Woods |
| 6 | 11.80 | Martha Stout |
| 7 | 10.39 | Patricia Mitchell |
| 8 | 9.16 | Maxine Penn |
| 9 | 8.98 | Phyllis Cohen |
| 10 | 8.50 | Herbert Rubinstein |

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 **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 Bryan or Lois Geer at 301-236-0014 or by email at bgeer@verizon.net or lgeer@verizon.net.

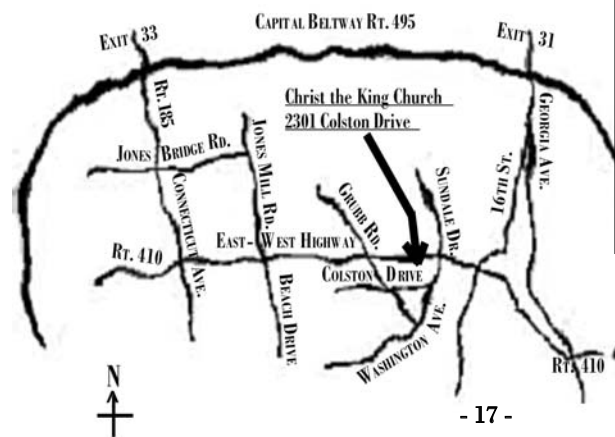
~ ♦ ♦ ♥ ♠ ~

~ ♦ ♦ SCHEDULE ♥ ♠ ~

All Games held at Christ the King Church

- | | |
|------------|--|
| 02/19/2009 |StrataFlighted Unit Championship |
| 02/26/2009 |WBL Sectional |
| 03/05/2009 |StrataFlighted Unit Championship |
| 03/12/2009 |StrataFlighted Unit Championship |
| 03/19/2009 |StrataFlighted District 6 Charity Pairs |
| 04/02/2009 |StrataFlighted Unit Championship |
| 04/09/2009 |Closed Maundy Thursday |
| 04/16/2009 |StrataFlighted Unit Championship |
| 04/23/2009 |NVBA Sectional |
| 04/30/2009 |StrataFlighted Club Championship |
| 05/07/2009 |Annual Meeting/DC NABC Fund Game |
| 05/14/2009 |WBL Sectional |
| 05/21/2009 |StrataFlighted Unit Championship |
| 05/29/2009 |StrataFlighted Membership Game |
| 06/04/2009 |StrataFlighted North American Pairs |
| 06/11/2009 |StrataFlighted Unit Championship Teams |
| 06/18/2009 |Stratified STaC Pairs |
| 06/25/2009 |StrataFlighted Unit Championship |
| 07/02/2009 |StrataFlighted North American Pairs |
| 07/09/2009 |StrataFlighted Unit Championship |
| 07/16/2009 |StrataFlighted Unit Championship |

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

This column answers some frequently asked questions about the WBL Unit Game. **Ted Ying** is the former Club Manager and Chief Director of the WBL unit game. The new Club Manager and Chief Director, **Chris Miller**, can be reached at unitgamedirector@districtsix.org

After five years, I am stepping down from the position of chief director and club manager for the WBL. I truly felt that I was giving back to the game that I loved, especially here in the WBL. However, I have less time these days for all of the extra chores. Although I will no longer be the chief director, I will still remain in the directing staff of the unit game. I will be directing once or twice per month and I will be at the game playing most of the other Thursdays, so I will still be a part of the unit game.

During the last two years, I have been training Chris Miller to assume the role that I held. Many of you are familiar with Chris as one of the directing staff who has worked for me for several years. Chris has also worked the last couple of years as a tournament assistant and many of you have seen him directing sessions at our local sectionals and regionals. Chris has played in this area for quite some time and I am sure that I leave the unit in capable hands. Chris assumed the positions of club manager and chief director of the unit game on January 1, 2009. Please make sure to take a moment to speak to him on Thursday night when you have a moment free.

If you have any questions about how the Unit Game is run, please send them to Chris Miller at unitgamedirector@districtsix.org.

UPCOMING SECTIONALS

♠	♥
<u>Feb. 26-March 1, 2009</u>	<u>September 10-13, 2009</u>
Silver Spring, MD	Fairfax, VA
♣	♦
<u>April 23-26, 2009</u>	<u>October 1-4, 2009</u>
Fairfax, VA	Silver Spring, MD
♦	♥
<u>May 14-17, 2009</u>	<u>November 12-15, 2009</u>
Silver Spring, MD	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 #63

by Rich Colker, rcolker@mail.com

This appeal from the first final session of the Von Zedwitz Life Master Pairs this past summer in Las Vegas gives me agida. See if you can figure out why.

Bd: 1; Vul: None; Dlr: North

<u>North</u>			
♠ Q7			
♥ AK976			
♦ Q105			
♣ AJ7			
<u>West</u>		<u>East</u>	
♠ AJ9542		♠ K863	
♥ Q102		♥ J2	
♦ J7		♦ 982	
♣ 82		♣ 10965	
<u>South</u>			
♠ 10			
♥ 853			
♦ AK643			
♣ KQ43			
<u>West</u>	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>
	1♥	Pass	2♦
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♥
3♠	4♣	Pass	4♦
Pass	4♥	Pass	4♠
Pass	4NT(1)	Pass	5♥(2)
Pass	Pass	Pass	

(1) Roman Key Card Blackwood.

(2) Break in tempo.

The Director was called after the play of the hand. Both sides agreed to a short BIT by South before bidding 5♥. (E/W agreed but said it was short they claimed 6-7 seconds). The Director ruled that there had been a noticeable BIT which demonstrably suggested passing over the LA of bidding slam when N/S had shown they held all the key cards (but missing the trump queen). Therefore, in accordance with Laws 16 and 12C2, the result was adjusted to 6♥ by N/S down one; -50 for N/S.

N/S appealed the Director's ruling; only North attended the hearing. North told the Committee he passed 5♥ because he was worried that the opponents would lead a

spade and he would have to lose a spade and a trump trick (missing the ♥Q). (He knew South had exactly three-card heart support because South would have used one of their other methods with four or more trumps.)

The Committee briefly discussed the fact that South showed a better hand than he actually held by continuing beyond 4♥. They then discussed North's stop in 5♥ after apparently finding the ♠A and ♦A in South's hand. Playing South to have the doubleton ace of spades would present a problem in 6♥ if the trump queen scored (West's 3♠ bid made it almost certain that the opening lead would be a spade through the ace). A spade lead should not present a problem in 6♦, however, due to North's ♠Q and giving South a typical hand (e.g., ♠Ax ♥Jxx ♦AKJxx ♣Qxx) with which he would proceed past 4♥. Were the ♣K favorably placed 6♦ would be a good contract, perhaps better than 5♥. The Committee determined that the pause, short though it was, was a BIT and provided UI to North which suggested doubt about the RKCB response, and that such doubt demonstrably suggested pass over 6♦. In accordance with Laws 16 and 12C2 the Committee adjusted the result to 6♦ by South down one, -50 for N/S. The appeal was judged to have merit.

Okay, see if you can figure out what's bothering me about this case before reading on.

This should have been a quick, easy decision for both the Director and Appeal Committee but somewhere along the way they all seem to have lost sight of basic principles. First, 6-7 seconds on the fifth round of a slam auction should not constitute a BIT (20-30 seconds maybe, but not 6-7 seconds). Second, in an ace-asking auction experienced players anticipate a possible problem on the next round of bidding if asker sits there and thinks about what to do over his partner's response. For example, if asker signs off in five after thinking for a while he will almost certainly compromise his partner's right to bid on with something

...continued on p. 20

Committee Action 63 continued from p. 19...

extra (an unshown void, enough HCP to guarantee slam given the previous bidding, or bidding on to slam after giving a 0-3 or 1-4 response holding the higher number of key cards). The ace asker should take his time *before asking for aces/keycards* and decide what he will do on the next round after any expected response.

The same principle applies to responder, although the issues are slightly different. First, responder must bid slowly and carefully to insure that he knows how many key cards he has and makes the correct response for that number. Second, in auctions such as the present one where two suits have been bid and supported naturally (here hearts and diamonds), how many key cards are there? Isn't the king of the "other" suit just as critical for slam purposes as the trump king given that both players have length in both suits? (And what about the "other" queen?) What are your agreements on this issue? Responder must take time to consider such matters. Third, what will responder do if opener next invites seven, or if he unexpectedly bids the small slam in notrump instead of in one of the two suits? Responder may not spend a lot of time

thinking through all of these issues in great detail before responding aces, but he will probably form some sort of opinion about where he would like to play slam—at least in which of their two suits he thinks they should play if given a choice. And how about if asker tries for a grand? Will responder cooperate? Does he have anything extra for his previous bidding? (South really did not have enough to justify bidding past game on his own initiative, as he did, and as the Committee noted in their deliberations.)

The bottom line is that taking 6-7 seconds to bid on the fifth round of an auction, let alone a slam auction, is normal and expected. There is just too much to think about in such auctions and caution should always be exercised by both partners in these situations. Merely taking a few extra seconds in these situations should never constitute a BIT or compromise either player's right to use his bidding judgment on subsequent bids.

Oh, and by the way, if you are in the habit of bidding *quickly* in these situations you deserve to get a table ruling and a Committee (if you appeal) just like the one in the present case.



2008 WBL NEW LIFE MASTERS

Congratulations! Amy Bloom, Robert Claypool, Karen Fireman, John Flynn, Albert Lauber, Alfred Liepold, Jon Ranhand, Phyllis Sonen, Winnie Yonkeers, and Jan Zaal.



Robert Claypool first learned bridge as a senior in high school at the kitchen table where his mother, sister and brother-in-law taught him the rudiments of bridge. His family always liked card games, so he was 'hooked' from that point on. Robert didn't play regularly, though, through his school years. Later on, he and his wife played intermittently including some early duplicate back in the 1970's when he was stationed in Korea. They also played with the U.S. Embassy personnel in Seoul. He says he clearly remembers one of the foreign service persons telling him that if he liked the game as much as he professed, he ought to learn how to play it! With that sharp rejoinder to always remember, Robert was finally able to try to seriously learn bridge in the past few years.

His professional life encompassed 34 years in the U.S. Army after which he served an additional 6 years divided between the Department of Veterans Affairs and Health and Human Services. He retired in 2006 and initially planned both to learn Spanish and play bridge, but bridge won out, and he quickly jettisoned his Spanish speaking goals. Robert says, "I love bridge and play it as often as I can. As for bridge players, well, we are all rascals who love the game for different reasons. Bridge has been a centerpiece of my retirement.

In addition to bridge, though, I have four children and four grand children whom I see as often as I can. Unfortunately, none of them lives in the DC area. Two of my grandsons are visiting me for a week next month, and I plan to try to bait their love of games away from computer games to the world of cards. Wish me luck."



Albert Lauber lives with his domestic partner, Craig Hoffman. Albert is a Professor and Director of the Graduate Tax Program at Georgetown Law School. Prior to Georgetown, he was a Partner in the law firm, Caplin & Drysdale and a lawyer in the D.O.J. Solicitor General's office. Albert went to Yale University ('71), Cambridge University for his M.A. ('74) and Yale Law School for his J.D. ('77). From '78-'79, he served as a Law Clerk to Supreme Court Justice, Harry Blackmun.

Albert's parents introduced him to bridge at age four. He remembers that summer, playing on the floor, with all four hands exposed. In college, he briefly played some tournament bridge, then stopped until 2000 when he joined the WBL. Albert currently plays in the Unit game at Christ the King Church and at Beth El. He says he'll read anything by David Bird and Standard American, with a few bells and whistles, is Albert's preferred system. An amusing bridge moment occurred at the Detroit NABC last year. Zia was declarer in 3♠. Albert's side set Zia seven tricks! It turned out that they had had a bidding misunderstanding and ended up in a 3-2 trump fit, while Albert and his partner had no game to make.



Alfred Liepold's family includes his wife, Mary Liston Liepold, son, Nathan Wolff, daughter, Miriam Liepold Tau, son Micah Jacob Liepold and son Jeremiah David Liepold. Alfred is a retired Inspector for the USDA. He earned a DVM from Auburn, an MS from Michigan State, and a U-JD from from American University. In 1948, Alfred's parents intro-

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duced him to bridge. He played in some tournaments in 1955, but then took a 40+ year hiatus before joining the WBL three years ago. His other hobbies include reading, stamp collecting, movies, ping pong and pool.

Alfred has played bridge in Memphis and St. Louis. William Root is his favorite bridge writer. To date, his biggest thrill came last year when, as a non-Life-Master, he played in VA in the 119 table Life-Master/Non-Life-Master game and won. As far as the future goes in bridge, Alfred says he'd like to go as far as he can with it, but still stay sane.



Jon Ranhand and his wife Barbara have two daughters: Sharon Bernstein and Carla MacGibbon; and four granddaughters: Hannah and Jessica Bernstein (twins, age 3); Casey (age 6) and Paige (age 4) MacGibbon.

Jon is a retired microbiologist who worked at the NIH for 39 years. During that time he was a bench scientist for 18 years at the NIAID and a Health Scientist Administrator for 21 years at the NIAID, the NHLBI, and the NICHD. In addition, he served in the United States Public Health Service for 30 of his 39 years.

He earned degrees from the City College of New York, Johns Hopkins University and the University of Cincinnati.

Jon says, "I was introduced to the game of bridge in the late 1960s by my wife Barbara, who is an excellent player and partner. Fortunately, I became really interested in playing bridge after I earned my degrees. If I had started earlier, I might not have received any of them. I started playing

Tournament Bridge in the early 70s. My quest to become a Life Master started with my first fractional Master's point. In the early days, I played using the Precision bidding system. I then went to Standard American, and now I play mostly 2/1 with a lot of added conventions.



After a 10 year hiatus, I started playing again in early 2000 with Donald Goldman. I enjoy reading the *ACBL Bulletin* and I have a small library of bridge books that include declarer play and bidding. I also like to play *Bridge Baron*.



I thank all of my partners over the years who made it possible for me to attain the level of Life Master. They include my knockout team partners Don Goldman, Neal and Ellen Rosenthal and Margie Coccodrilli. This past summer, at Hunt Valley, I needed less than 2 gold points to reach Life Master. I joined a great team that consisted of Marilyn Udell, Remi Malloy, and Maida Crocicchia, Bethesda MD. We did well in the Senior Swiss. We each earned over 5 gold points. It was exciting."



Phyllis Sonen has been playing bridge since 1956 due to as she puts it, "an embarrassing experience. It was my first year of teaching and it was spring vacation.

My best friend, who was teaching in Brooklyn (that's in NY) had asked two colleagues to come to Forest Hills (where we resided) to play bridge one day during the vacation. She asked me if I played and I of course said yes, because I played many other card games. How hard could it be to play bridge? Well after the horrible experience and the realization that there was much more to this game than I thought, I decided to learn. I never took a course or read a book but I played, played, played and am still playing.

Bridge is my salvation—whenever I have had difficult times or am down in the dumps I play bridge and forget my troubles and get happy.

I have had two husbands who died, have raised 6 children, have 14 grandchildren, had 3 careers (teaching, administrative assistant to a VP of engineering and an engineering head hunter) and now live in Bethesda with my significant other and play bridge all the time."



Winnie Jonkeers has two grown children, Pamela and Vernon. Her educational background includes a B.S. degree from the University of Pittsburgh and an M.A. degree from

George Washington University. She then worked as a Reading Specialist for the DC Public Schools before retiring to enjoy reading, bowling, genealogy, and of course, bridge.

Winnie first played in 1961, filling in as a fourth when her co-workers played at lunch time. Before that, she had played bid whist. Winnie joined the WBL about 10 years ago and tried her first tournament five years ago where she immediately won her first gold points. She continues to play locally at the Schweinhaut Senior Center, Burtonsville, Holiday Park and some other clubs. In addition, Winnie travels to play in Pennsylvania, the Carolinas, Virginia and even the Caribbean Islands. She likes books by Audrey Grant and Mike Lawrence and plays Two-Over-One. Her favorite bridge moment is bidding TNT and making it.



Jan Zaal is a retired Geodesist for NOAA. He graduated from Texas Christian University with a B.S. in Physics. Colleagues introduced him to bridge during his employment in the geo-

physical business in Saudi Arabia, the Persian Gulf and Africa. Jan joined the ACBL in 1982 and currently plays at the Rockville Duplicate Bridge Club and Grosvenor Bridge. He prefers playing the Standard American bidding system. Edgar Kaplan is Jan's favorite bridge author.



Amy Bloom



Norman Cohen

Bits & Pieces, continued from p. 14...

THE YELLOW FLAG

by Barry Bragin, WBL Recorder

The results of the unscientific survey conducted by the WBL at a recent Unit game showed that a significant number of responders wanted harsher penalties against players that make our game less enjoyable. I have an idea. Let's say that an East-West pair shows up at your table in full bickering mode: "Where did you find that opening lead?" "The lead was fine; it was your ridiculous spade signal that gave the contract away!" "What are you talking about? All you had to do was save a high club and she has to go down!" At this point wouldn't it be great if a guy in a black and white striped shirt came up to the table, threw a yellow flag down, and announced "Fifteen match point penalty for unsportsmanlike conduct."

Unfortunately, the league can't afford to hire professional referees (though I imagine some people might volunteer for that role) as they have in football. But what we can do is make better use of the system we have in place – the director to resolve the immediate problem and the recorder to remind players of their ethical and behavioral responsibilities and to keep a file of incidents for possible future reference. As of January 1, 2009 I will be taking over the role of recorder for the WBL. I want to take this opportunity to remind everyone what the recorder does and how you can use the recorder system to improve the game we enjoy.

First a little history. In the early 1970's, the New York City unit hired someone to attend all their tournaments and receive complaints from players about matters of boorish behavior or suspicious bidding or play. This was reported by Walt Walvick in his opinion column in the *Bulletin* in the Spring of 1973 with the suggestion that the WBL take similar action. Soon thereafter I volunteered to accept and collect written complaints from members and forward them to the Conduct and Ethics (C&E) committee if suggested by the weight of evidence presented. This position evolved over time, and with the incorporation of an official ACBL position, into what we call the recorder today.

Unlike the referee in the hypothetical example given above, the recorder does not

...continued on p.24

have the power to enforce any penalties. There are only two situations that necessitate one-on-one interaction between the recorder and WBL members:

Assist the person submitting the report (player memo) so that the situation is described fully and, to the extent possible, without bias.

If warranted, inform the subject of the player memo that a complaint has been received so as to:

- educate the less experienced player, or
- advise the subject of the player memo so that he can work towards modifying his behavior.

The recorder maintains a file of all complaints for up to ten years. A single player memo may not call for any further action. However, if a pattern of behavior is observed by different reporters over time, this could result in a complaint filed by the recorder in behalf of the league to the C&E committee. If a hearing ensues, the recorder serves as an impartial presenter of evidence to the disciplinary group hearing the case.

So the next time you feel like throwing a yellow flag or blowing a whistle and issuing

a technical foul, call the director and then contact me in person, call me, or send me an email. Or, if something unusual occurs at your table that arouses your suspicion but doesn't justify a call to the director, don't start a rumor – contact the recorder. I can be reached at bbragin@comcast.net and all communication is strictly confidential.

THE WASHINGTON, D.C. SUMMER NABC IS COMING!

2009 is going to be one of the most exciting years for bridge in our unit because the Summer NABC will be held in Washington, DC. Hosting an NABC is a great honor and we want to show the ACBL that their decision was a wise one. That can be accomplished in many ways, not the least of which is for the local players to show up in great numbers.

We need your assistance in ensuring that we will not have disappointing attendance. The most direct way to achieve this is to have all of us who are already playing frequently continue to do so at the Summer NABC. However, we would like to go beyond the call of duty and make an additional effort to bring in as many new players as possible. In order to be successful with this by next July we must begin now by getting these

...continued on p.31

47TH ANNUAL WBL PRESIDENTIAL TOURNAMENT

January 8-11, 2009

Results

TOP TEN CUMULATIVE POINT WINNERS

All Players

1	40.11	.....	<i>Leo LaSota</i>
2	36.47	.....	John Adams
3	28.05	.....	Mark Shaw
4	25.05	.....	Steve Robinson
5	22.03	.....	Eugene Fisher
6	21.25	.....	Glenn Lublin
7	20.27	.....	Barry Falgout
8	17.25	.....	Hailong Ao
9	15.55	.....	Peter Boyd
	15.25	.....	Linda Marshall

Players with fewer than 1500 masterpoints

1	22.03	.....	<i>Eugene Fisher</i>
2	15.25	.....	Linda Marshall
3	13.37	.....	Mark Rosen
4	12.32	.....	William Goldman
5	11.00	.....	Rick Uhrig
6	10.89	.....	Daniel Koch
7	10.30	.....	Dennis Schwanz
	10.30	.....	Susan Miskura
9	10.03	.....	Raghavendra Rajkumar
10	9.59	.....	Alfred Liepold

Players with fewer than 500 masterpoints

1	12.32	.....	<i>William Goldman</i>
2	11.00	.....	Rick Uhrig
3	10.89	.....	Daniel Koch
4	9.59	.....	Alfred Liepold
5	8.61	.....	Douglas Fox
	8.61	.....	Larry Moran
7	7.65	.....	Roger Laumark
	7.65	.....	Arun Guha
9	6.95	.....	Jose Cortina
10	6.41	.....	Albert Lauber

Players with fewer than 100 masterpoints

1	5.49	.....	<i>Jane Culver</i>
2	4.90	.....	Marco Latini
3	3.83	.....	Ed Krest
4	3.66	.....	Bruce Kasold
5	3.60	.....	Joseph Pregosin
6	3.30	.....	Bernadette Merceron
7	3.28	.....	Douglas Woods
	3.28	.....	Donna Hankey-Woods
9	2.68	.....	Ellinor Legg
	2.68	.....	Char Letchford

2008 TROPHY RACE WINNERS



On Saturday, WBL President Fred King presented trophies to the 2008 Trophy Race Winners: l to r: *Leo LaSota* (Lovenberg, Open), *Ron Zucker* (Izzy Cohen, 0-1500), *Arun Guha* (Tubbs, Non-LM), *Edmond Gehan* (Woolridge, 0-20) (See p.16 for all of the 2008 final standings)

THUR EVE A/X PAIRS

Stratum A, 35.0 Tables / Based on 87

1	Eugene Fisher (pic.) - Mark Rosen	.....	.65.49
2	Brad Theurer - Barry Bragin	.....	64.31
6	David Ruderman - Alfred Steinberg	.....	.59.51
3	Helene Bauman - Jim Wakefield	.....	.61.72
4	Larry Kahn - H John Edmonds	.....	.60.51
5	Barry Falgout - Rusty Krauss	.....	.60.18
6	David Ruderman - Alfred Steinberg	.....	.59.51
7	Steven Reed - Jeff Roman	.....	.58.71
8	Donna Rogall - Clyde Kruskal	.....	.58.61
9	Charleen Brand - Mark Shaw	.....	.57.43

Stratum X, 18.0 Tables

1	Mark Rosen - Eugene Fisher	.....	.65.49
2	Larry Kahn - H John Edmonds	.....	.60.51
3	Charles Young Jr - Marlys Moholt	.....	.55.62
4	James Witting - Robert Zier	.....	.55.47
5	Marjorie Gazzola - Marsha Brown	.....	.55.30
6	Howard Tash - Martin Reed	.....	.54.53

THUR EVE B/C/D PAIRS

Stratum B, 27.0 Tables

1	William Nicolai - Lynda Flanger	.....	.67.86
2	Mark Cohen - Rochelle Cohen	.....	.62.50
3	Susan Miskura - Dennis Schwanz	.....	.61.91
4	Edward Rodrigues - Mohsen Efsandiary	.....	61.74
5	Fred Gramlich - James Raber	.....	.61.01
6	Michael Lawrence - Craig Olson60.61

Stratum C, 22.5 Tables

1	Mark Cohen - Rochelle Cohen62.50
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- 2 Susan Miskura - Dennis Schwanz . . .61.91
- 3 Fred Gramlich - James Raber61.01
- 4 Michael Lawrence - Craig Olson . . .60.61
- 5 Marilyn Udell - Reni Malloy59.09
- 6 Bernadette Merceron - Elinor Stolar .58.14

Stratum D, 14.0 Tables

- 1 Mark Cohen - Rochelle Cohen62.50
- 2 Fred Gramlich - James Raber61.01
- 3 Bernadette Merceron - Elinor Stolar .58.14
- 4 Marco Latini - Amanda Carter55.95
- 5 Mirsad Mujezinovic - Namik Haveric .54.55
- 6 Jay Simon - Mark Jones53.87

THUR EVE 199ER PAIRS @ NVBA

Stratum A, 12.0 Tables

- 1 Kenneth Linder - James Hewitt63.10
- 2 Thomas Feick Jr - Stefan Popoveniuc .60.42
- 3 Reiko Lynch - Anne Medlin60.12
- 4 Jim Shoehard - Diane Godding . . .59.23
- 5 Roy Robson - Kenneth Marshall . . .53.27
- 6 William Adams - Gerald O'Dell52.98

Stratum B, 8.5 Tables

- 1 Kenneth Linder - James Hewitt63.10
- 2 Thomas Feick Jr - Stefan Popoveniuc .60.42
- 3 Jim Shoehard - Diane Godding . . .59.23
- 4 Roy Robson - Kenneth Marshall . . .53.27
- 5 John Holt - Joseph Drodge52.38

Stratum C, 5.0 Tables

- 1 Kenneth Linder - James Hewitt63.10
- 2 Jim Shoehard - Diane Godding . . .59.23
- 3 Roy Robson - Kenneth Marshall . . .53.27
- 4 John Holt - Joseph Drodge52.38

THUR EVE NLM PAIRS @ WBL

Stratum A, 13.0 Tables



- 1 Roger Laumark - Arun Guha62.95
- 2 Ernie Schuler - Robert Sturm61.53
- 3 Suzanne Kilczewski - Maxine Penn .60.61
- 4 Jerry Pruzan - Ronnie Loeser58.40
- 5 Martha Stout - Michael Kuehl57.30
- 6 Joan Fitzpatrick - Gail Morgenweck .56.94

Stratum B, 8.5 Tables

- 1 Suzanne Kilczewski - Maxine Penn .60.61
- 2 Jerry Pruzan - Ronnie Loeser58.40
- 3 Martha Stout - Michael Kuehl57.30
- 4 Jim Anschutz - Patti Anschutz56.42
- 5 Stephen Weiner - Louis Coccodrilli .54.67

Stratum C, 5.5 Tables

- 1 Suzanne Kilczewski - Maxine Penn .60.61
- 2 Martha Stout - Michael Kuehl57.30
- 3 Susan Holbeck - Anne Menkens . . .51.89
- 4 Terry Coates - John Horner50.33

FRIDAY MORN OPEN PAIRS

Stratum A,

25.5 Tables /
Based on 34



- 1 William Foster Jr - Linda Marshall .66.51

- 2 Douglas Fox - Larry Moran65.06
- 3 Alfred Caponiti - Alfred Liepold . . .63.07
- 4 Leo LaSota - Barbara Shaw62.18
- 5 Hanna Schepps - Mita Banerjee . . .60.42
- 6 Eugene Fisher - Steve Robinson . . .58.14

Stratum B, 17.5 Tables

- 1 Douglas Fox - Larry Moran65.06
- 2 Alfred Caponiti - Alfred Liepold . . .63.07
- 3 Ann Parrott - William Backof57.69
- 4 Barry Deprieto - Jerome Ostrov56.12
- 5 Roma Chandra - Robert Claypool . . .55.61
- 6 Lorraine Morgan - Leila Whiting . . .55.29

Stratum C, 6.0 Tables

- 1 Douglas Fox - Larry Moran65.06
- 2 Alfred Caponiti - Alfred Liepold . . .63.07
- 3 Beth Wisinski - Kay Miller52.24
- 4 William Rogers - Stephen Salitrik . .49.84

FRIDAY MORN NONLM PAIRS

Stratum A, 8.0 Tables

- 1 Henry Thompson (pic.) - Betty Thompson56.02
- 2 Alan Walter - Joseph Pregosin55.66
- 3 Stephanie Hoover - Frank Hollis . . .55.28
- 4 Richard Wessman - Jose Porres54.89
- 5 Temma Kanowith - Carol Kahn53.55



Stratum B, 5.0 Tables

- 1 Henry Thompson - Betty Thompson .56.02
- 2 Alan Walter - Joseph Pregosin55.66
- 3 Stephanie Hoover - Frank Hollis . . .55.28
- 4 Temma Kanowith - Carol Kahn53.55

Stratum C, 2.5 Tables

- 1 Temma Kanowith - Carol Kahn53.55
- 2 Douglas Woods - Donna Hankey-Woods 51.65

FRIDAY AFT A/X PAIRS

Stratum A, 14.0 Tables / Based on 42



- 1 Arnie Frankel - David Ruderman . . .71.40
- 2 Linda Marshall - William Foster Jr .63.64
- 3 Earl Glickstein - Barry Falgout . . .63.26
- 4 Leo LaSota - Glenn Lublin58.90
- 5 Ronald Zucker - Steven Schatzow . . .57.20
- 6 Cynthia Helms - Eugene Kales55.11

Stratum X, 5.5 Tables

- 1 Ronald Zucker - Steven Schatzow . . .57.20
- 2 Barry Bragin - Eleanor Bragin52.08
- 3 Jerome Ostrov - Barry Deprieto . . .51.33
- 4 Ellen Rosenthal - Neal Rosenthal . .50.38

FRIDAY AFT B/C/D PAIRS

Stratum B, 17.0 Tables

- 1 Leila Whiting - Lorraine Morgan . . .69.13
- 2 Roma Chandra - Robert Claypool . . .66.29
- 3 Douglas Fox - Larry Moran58.71
- 4 Barbara Israel - Jean Buchsbaum . . .57.20
- 5 Mary Ann Kral - Elizabeth Huffman .56.63
- 6 Phyllis Sonen - Kiyomi Shiba55.87

Stratum C, 14.5 Tables

- 1 Douglas Fox - Larry Moran58.71
- 2 Barbara Israel - Jean Buchsbaum . . .57.20

- 3 Mary Ann Kral - Elizabeth Huffman .56.63
- 4 Phyllis Sonen - Kiyomi Shiba55.87
- 5 Edward Jaffe - Roberta Feldman . . .55.30
- 6 Jack De Vivo - Alexander Gottesman 54.92

Stratum D, 8.0 Tables

- 1 Douglas Fox - Larry Moran58.71
- 2 Mary Ann Kral - Elizabeth Huffman .56.63
- 3 Edward Jaffe - Roberta Feldman . . .55.30
- 4 Norman Sweed - Ronnie Sweed54.73
- 5 Amy Bloom - Prem Garg51.33

FRIDAY AFT NONLM PAIRS

Stratum A, 11.0 Tables



- 1 Steven Mendelsohn - Sidney Mintz .63.10
- 2 Roger Laumark - Arun Guha61.61
- 3 Jennifer Elliott - Ronnie Loeser . . .59.82
- 4 Richard Wessman - Jose Porres57.44
- 5 Albert Stolpe - Amanda Carter56.25
- 6 Edwin Rosenberg - Mel Walger55.36

Stratum B, 7.0 Tables

- 1 Jennifer Elliott - Ronnie Loeser . . .59.82
- 2 Albert Stolpe - Amanda Carter56.25
- 3 Jeffrey Caplan - Robert Kerr53.57
- 4 M Amey - David Amey52.38
- 5 Henry Thompson - J J Jayaraman . .50.30

Stratum C, 2.5 Tables

- 1 Jeffrey Caplan - Robert Kerr53.57
- 2 M Amey - David Amey52.38

FRIDAY EVE A/X IMP PAIRS

Stratum A, 12.0 Tables / Based on 30

- 1 Steve Robinson - John Adams (pic below) 55.64
- 2 Barry Falgout - Earl Glickstein . . .40.64
- 3 Ronald Kral - David Fleischer30.73
- 4 Diane Walker - Benjamin Brill24.36
- 5 Leo LaSota - Noble Shore23.91
- 6 Irv Kipnis - Terry Jones16.55

Stratum X, 5.5 Tables

- 1 Irv Kipnis - Terry Jones16.55
- 2 Steve Reed - Richard Ferrin10.27
- 3 Steven Schatzow - Ronald Zucker . . .9.55
- 4 M Cassandra Smith - Kitty Gottfried .9.18

FRIDAY EVE B/C/D IMP PAIRS

Stratum B, 10.0 Tables



- 1 Char Letchford - Ellinor Legg40.40
- 2 Richard Levin - Marc Weiner29.12
- 3 Roma Chandra - Ajaz Rahman17.02
- 4 Norman Sweed - Ronnie Sweed15.67
- 5 Patrice Gordon - Arthur Olson11.67
- 6 Helen Long - Alfred Liepold10.74

Stratum C, 8.5 Tables

- 1 Char Letchford - Ellinor Legg40.40
- 2 Richard Levin - Marc Weiner29.12

- 3 Norman Sweed - Ronnie Sweed15.67
- 4 Patrice Gordon - Arthur Olson11.67
- 5 Helen Long - Alfred Liepold10.74

Stratum D, 6.0 Tables

- 1 Char Letchford - Ellinor Legg40.40
- 2 Richard Levin - Marc Weiner29.12
- 3 Norman Sweed - Ronnie Sweed15.67
- 4 Patrice Gordon - Arthur Olson11.67

FRIDAY EVE NONLM PAIRS

Stratum A, 8.0 Tables



- 1 Jeanne Ferraro - Alan Ferraro61.31
- 2 Edwin Rosenberg - Mel Walger60.71
- 3 Alan Walter - Joseph Pregosin53.57
- 4 Douglas Woods - Donna Hankey-Woods 53.27
- 5 Gerald O'Dell - Joe Hertz52.68

Stratum B, 6.0 Tables

- 1 Alan Ferraro - Jeanne Ferraro61.31
- 2 Alan Walter - Joseph Pregosin53.57
- 3 Douglas Woods - Donna Hankey-Woods 53.27
- 4 Gerald O'Dell - Joe Hertz52.68

Stratum C, 3.0 Tables

- 1 Douglas Woods - Donna Hankey-Woods 53.27
- 2/3 Steven Nesseler - Brenda Thomas . .51.79
- 2/3 Michael Watts - Sheila Kaplan51.79

SATURDAY MORN A/X PAIRS

Stratum A, 22.0 Tables / Based on 71



- 1 Leo LaSota - Mark Shaw62.20
- 2 Ronald Kral - Eugene Kales60.81
- 3 Julian Boyce - Donald Berman58.83
- 4 John Adams - Lou Reich57.24
- 5 Arnie Frankel - Helene Bauman . . .56.55
- 6 Barry Falgout - Rusty Krauss56.05
- 7 Lowell Sawyer - Don Probst55.36
- 8 Brad Theurer - Lyle Poe Jr55.16

Stratum X, 9.5 Tables

- 1 Eugene Fisher - James Geist53.97
- 2 Steve Reed - Richard Ferrin53.37
- 3/5 La Quitta Talbot - Herbert Fallin Jr .53.27
- 3/5 Robert Krueger - Priscilla Krueger .53.27
- 3/5 John Glynn - Benjamin Stauss53.27
- 6 Richard Veach - Richard O'Keefe Jr .52.78

SATURDAY MORN B/C/D PAIRS

Stratum B,
32 Tables



- 1 Daniel Koch - Margie Coccodrilli . .64.39

- 2 Lorraine Morgan - Leila Whiting62.31
- 3 David Mead - John Mattioli62.12
- 4 Susan Miskura - Dennis Schwanz . . .60.61
- 5 Nelson Waks - Donald Jacobs60.42
- 6 Michael Lawrence - Craig Olson . . .60.04

Stratum C, 25 Tables

- 1 David Mead - John Mattioli62.12
- 2 Susan Miskura - Dennis Schwanz . . .60.61
- 3 Michael Lawrence - Craig Olson . . .60.04
- 4 Ned Griffith - Albert Lauber59.66
- 5 Elaine Conway - Suzanne Floyd . . .58.90
- 6 Barbara Israel - Frederick Mueller . .57.95

Stratum D, 13.5 Tables

- 1 Ned Griffith - Albert Lauber59.66
- 2 Calvin Konner - Jerome Gumbiner . .57.58
- 3 Jane Culver - Kay Miller56.82
- 4 Mary Ann Kral - Linda Burton55.87
- 5 Jerry Nolte - Elizabeth Nolte55.49
- 6 Terry Vann - Art Hartstein55.30

SATURDAY MORN NONLM PAIRS

Stratum A, 17.0 Tables



- 1 Terry Mitchell - Albert Dimillio . . .63.10
- 2 Terry Coates - John Horner58.63
- 3 Richard Leonardon - Stephen Colevas58.04
- 4 William Hughes - Barbara Hodges . .57.74
- 5 Robert Smigal - Carolyn Kier57.44
- 6 Beth Wisinski - Gary Wisinski . . .56.55

Stratum B, 14.0 Tables

- 1 Terry Mitchell - Albert Dimillio . . .63.10
- 2 Terry Coates - John Horner58.63
- 3 Richard Leonardon - Stephen Colevas58.04
- 4 William Hughes - Barbara Hodges . .57.74
- 5 Robert Smigal - Carolyn Kier57.44
- 6 Beth Wisinski - Gary Wisinski . . .56.55

Stratum C, 7.0 Tables

- 1 Terry Coates - John Horner58.63
- 2 Richard Leonardon - Stephen Colevas58.04
- 3 Barbara Pohl - Larry Hieb54.76
- 4 Lynn Johns - Craig Perry54.46
- 5 Julie Connor - Eugene Massey . . .53.57

SATURDAY AFT A/X PAIRS

Stratum A, 23.0 Tables / Based on 56



- 1 Rick Uhrig - S James Elliott63.02
- 2 Lowell Sawyer - Don Probst62.55
- 3 Lou Reich - John Adams60.17
- 4 David Rodney - Leon Letwin57.96
- 5 Stan Schenker - David Milton56.78
- 6 Peter Boyd - Steve Robinson56.23

Stratum X, 10.0 Tables

- 1 Mary Dresser - Michael Mayer55.04
- 2 Jason Meyer - Lloyd Rawley52.37
- 3 Robert Stearns - William Goldman .51.75
- 4 William Nicolai - Jeffrey Boak51.13
- 5 La Quitta Talbot - Herbert Fallin Jr .50.43
- 6 Hank Meyer - Jane Shaw50.29

SATURDAY AFT B/C/D PAIRS

Stratum B, 20.0 Tables



- 1 Jay Cherlow - Abigail Nichols62.80
- 2 Teri Harrison - Sorina Negulescu . .59.95
- 3 Michael Lawrence - Craig Olson . . .59.23
- 4 Jane Culver - Kay Miller58.93
- 5 Ned Griffith - Albert Lauber58.33
- 6 Gerald Marcovsky - Linda Smith . .58.04

Stratum C, 17.5 Tables

- 1 Teri Harrison - Sorina Negulescu . .59.95
- 2 Michael Lawrence - Craig Olson . . .59.23
- 3 Jane Culver - Kay Miller58.93
- 4 Ned Griffith - Albert Lauber58.33
- 5 Mike Frosch - Francesco Parisi-Presicce 57.74
- 6 Alan Walter - Alfred Liepold57.44

Stratum D, 10.0 Tables

- 1 Teri Harrison - Sorina Negulescu . .59.95
- 2 Jane Culver - Kay Miller58.93
- 3 Ned Griffith - Albert Lauber58.33
- 4 Alan Walter - Alfred Liepold57.44
- 5 Calvin Konner - Jerome Gumbiner . .55.06
- 6 Candace Carlton - Terry Carlton . .54.42

SATURDAY AFT NONLM PAIRS

Stratum A, 13.0 Tables



- 1 Gail Morgenweck - Patti Anschutz . .62.31
- 2 Terry Mitchell - Albert Dimillio . . .61.55
- 3 Douglas Woods - Donna Hankey-Woods 59.09
- 4 Roger Laumark - Arun Guha57.58
- 5 Isabelle Thabault - Steve Graves . .56.06
- 6 Betsy Summer - Judith Heit55.49

Stratum B, 10.0 Tables

- 1 Terry Mitchell - Albert Dimillio . . .61.55
- 2 Douglas Woods - Donna Hankey-Woods 59.09
- 3 Isabelle Thabault - Steve Graves . .56.06
- 4 Betsy Summer - Judith Heit55.49
- 5 Ed Krest - Anne Vaeth53.41
- 6 Lynne Beresford - Eleanor Schwartz .53.22

Stratum C, 5.0 Tables

- 1 Douglas Woods - Donna Hankey-Woods 59.09
- 2 Isabelle Thabault - Steve Graves . .56.06
- 3 Betsy Summer - Judith Heit55.49
- 4 Dennis Sponholtz - Janet Henrichsen 50.76

SUNDAY FLIGHT A TEAMS

15 Tables / Based on 59



- 1 Leo LaSota - Hailong Ao - Glenn Lublin - John Adams101.00
- 2 Steve Robinson - Peter Boyd - William Cole - Mark Shaw94.00
- 3 Clyde Kruskal - Prahalad Rajkumar - Raghavendra Rajkumar - Donna Rogall . . .82.00
- 4 Stan Schenker - Kenton Schoen - Diane Walker - David Milton79.00
- 5 Barbara Ames - Ralph Hoffman - Joseph Machotka - Joan McKeon77.00

SUNDAY BRACKETED TEAMS-2

8 Tables / Based on 32



- 1 Lynn Boardman - Robert Stearns - William Goldman - Charles Young Jr (not pic) 100.00
- 2 Jose Cortina - Jeffrey Boak - Jim Allen, Jr - Shawn Stringer92.00
- 3 John Glynn - Benjamin Stauss - Ronald Susi - Mark Lavine77.00

SUNDAY BRACKETED TEAMS-3

8 Tables / Based on 16

- 1 Daniel Feldman - Rodney Severson - Steven Schatzow - Daniel Koch84.00
- 2 John Lowe III - Audrey Stern - Mohsen Esfandiary - Edward Rodrigues77.00
- 3/4 Neal Rosenthal - Ellen Rosenthal - Jerry Miller - Margie Coccodrilli76.00
- 3/4 Janet Dence - John Sedgewick - William Kingery Jr - Edwin Fuller Jr76.00

SUNDAY BRACKETED TEAMS-4

8 Tables / Based on 13

- 1 Rex Settle - Robert Schwab - Anne Derbes - Gail Zamboni97.00
- 2 John S. Jr. Mason - Dennis Schwanz - Susan Miskura - Katherine Rabenstein . . .93.00
- 3 Steven Fox - Jonathan Siegel - Malcolm Stewart - Albert Lauber90.00

SUNDAY BRACKETED TEAMS-5

8 Tables / Based on 11

- 1/2 Aaron Navarro - Tobi Bear - Susan Klaber - Howard Bender88.00
- 1/2 Mike Frosch - Joan White - Francesco Parisi-Presicce - Eric Poskanzer . . .88.00
- 3 Terry Carlton - Candace Carlton - Mary O'Shea - Barbara DiCicco83.00

SUNDAY BRACKETED TEAMS-6

8 Tables

- 1 Alfred Liepold - Helen Long - Arun Guha - Roger Laumark101.00
- 2 Jane Culver - Veronica Flynn - Teri Harrison - Sorina Negulescu81.00
- 3 Richard Wedgewood - Bernadette Merceron - M. Josette Johnson - Calvin Konner 72.00

SUNDAY MORN NLM SWISS

Stratum A, 12 Tables



- 1 Bruce Kasold - Gary Hinson- Amanda Carter - Marco Latini55.00
- 2 David Fitzwilliam - Lorraine Tyler - Ed Krest - Anne Vaeth53.00
- 3/4 Richard Weiser - Susan Weiser - William Morris - Susan Morris47.00
- 3/4 Bahman Shahin - Taraneh Shahin - Christine Brooks - Eleanor Schwartz .47.00

Stratum B, 8 Tables

- 1 Gary Hinson - Bruce Kasold - Marco Latini - Amanda Carter55.00
- 2/3 Richard Weiser - Susan Weiser - William Morris - Susan Morris47.00
- 2/3 Bahman Shahin - Taraneh Shahin - Christine Brooks - Eleanor Schwartz .47.00

Stratum C, 4 Tables

- 1 Richard Weiser - Susan Weiser - William Morris - Susan Morris47.00

SUNDAY AFT NLM SWISS

Stratum A, 9 Tables



- 1 Jerry Pruzan - Ronnie Loeser (pic) - Renee Barnow - Elizabeth Tevelow53.00
- 2 Gary Hinson - Bruce Kasold - Marco Latini - Amanda Carter51.00
- 3 Lorraine Tyler - Ed Krest - Anne Vaeth - David Fitzwilliam47.00
- 4 Louis Coccodrilli - Stephen Weiner - Joseph Pregarin - Alan Walter46.00

Stratum B, 6 Tables

- 1 Jerry Pruzan - Renee Barnow - Elizabeth Tevelow - Ronnie Loeser53.00
- 2 Gary Hinson - Bruce Kasold - Marco Latini - Amanda Carter51.00

Stratum C, 4 Tables

- 1 Jerry Pruzan - Renee Barnow - Elizabeth Tevelow - Ronnie Loeser53.00



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

new players addicted — I mean acclimated to the game over the next few months by playing and/or taking lessons at tournaments, local clubs, and in particular at our unit game on Thursday nights.

We already have in place the **Each One Reach One** Membership Drive (flyers available at unit game for further details), which also is focused on the Thursday night unit game. Thursday night is ideal because it offers so many different levels for players to learn and compete. Remember that some "new" players are already very skilled and experienced, but we define them as "new" if they haven't been playing regularly in recent months. What we request of you, the players who are currently playing on a regular basis, is

to reach out to at least one individual, one couple, or a group who have displayed an interest in bridge. Almost all of us already know at least one such person, whether that person has played in the past or is just now taking up the game. It is up to us to proactively bring these prospective players into our amazing world of bridge by means of providing them as much encouragement as possible to come out and get involved, not to mention to give them all a warm welcome when they do.

The thrill and satisfaction of the game will keep them coming back, but oftentimes a player needs prodding to get started which is why we are so focused on making sure that everyone is offered the opportunity. With your help we will continue to have one of the best unit games in the country and the Summer NABC will be a smashing success.

PARTNERSHIP DESK NEWS

Did you know that the WBL has an on-line partnership desk? You can list yourself (or delete your listing), lookup others, and even create a convention card! You can access the desk by clicking on the [Partnership Chat Room](#) (although it isn't really a chat room) link on the left side of the WBL home page. Of course you can always find a partner the old

SATURDAY 0-NLM GAME & MINI-LESSON

Every Saturday, the **Rockville Duplicate Bridge Club** holds a 0 - Non Life Master game with a mini-lesson.

Mini-Lesson: Saturdays, 12:30 pm

0-NLM Game: 1:00 pm

Cost: \$6.00

Location: St. James Episcopal Church
11815 Seven Locks Road

Directions: Take Rt 270 to Exit 4B (from either direction) Montrose Road. This will take you to Seven Locks Road. Left on Seven Locks Rd 3 blocks. St James Church is on the left (going south), between Post Oak and Gainsboro Rd. There are two buildings, the game and mini-lesson are in the building on the left facing the church. There is plenty of parking in the rear, and a rear entrance to the building (1 flight of stairs if you enter from the rear of the building).

For additional information, contact **Mark Lavine**, 301-503-3348 or mlavine@gcsii.com

Open Games: Sat.: 1pm, Mon & Fri: 11:15 am

Tue: 7pm (Tues. only at Rockville Senior Center—see www.rockvilledbc.com for directions.)

fashioned way – by emailing Barbara Doran at barbd@starpower.net or calling her at (301) 608-0347. Or you can just show up and find a partner at the game. The WBL guarantees a partner for the Thursday night Unit Game (but not for sectionals).

Don't forget that you win a free play (worth \$7.00) for true section tops (that is, section tops in the highest strata) at Unit Games. Free plays are recorded on index cards. To use one, pick it up at the partnership desk any Unit Game, and hand it in to the Director, treating it like a seven dollar bill, when you buy your entry. Free plays can't be used at sectionals. They expire after three years.

If you aren't already involved in the **Guaranteed Partner Program**, please consider joining it. Guaranteed Partners are solicited on a monthly basis – you can volunteer as often or as seldom as you like. If an odd number of players comes looking for partner, the GP is assigned to one of the players and plays for free. If an even number (or no one) comes looking, the GP doesn't play. In either case, the GP receives a free play for a future game.

To enroll in the program, contact Barbara Doran (see above).



NLM MASTER POINTERS

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

CHOOSE WISELY, YOUNG GRASSHOPPER!

If it hasn't happened to you yet, it will: the auction is over, you're the declarer, and before you can say anything your right-hand opponent has laid a card face up on the table. An opening lead out of turn! Of course you call the director immediately. Then get comfortable while the director explains your five options! How do you know what to choose? You can't phone a friend, so it's smart to be familiar with the choices and some of the pros and cons.

You Can Accept the Lead

If you choose to accept the lead, you have the following options:

- 1) You can put your hand down as the dummy and let partner play the hand, in which case play proceeds as normal.
- 2) You can accept the lead but still choose to play the hand yourself! If that's your choice, things get a little weird: partner will put his dummy down before you play any card, but the first card you play will be from your hand, to keep the play of the cards in the normal order. Left-hand opponent will play to the trick next, and a card from dummy will be played last. This lets you make your plan before playing a card...I know you always do that, don't you?

You Can Require the Correct Opponent to Lead

If you choose not to accept the lead out of turn, you have the following options:

- 3) You can allow LHO to lead any card she chooses. If this is your choice, RHO's card becomes a *major penalty card* which must be played at the first legal opportunity. That means he must play it the first time that suit is led, or when he can't follow suit, or when he is on lead.
- 4) You can require LHO to lead the same suit her partner led *if she has any cards*

in that suit. (If she doesn't, she can lead any card she chooses.) If this is your choice, RHO's card goes back into his hand and he can play it at any legal opportunity. He does not have to play it to the first trick or when he's on lead. Even if LHO is void in the suit her partner led, RHO still picks up his card and there are no further penalties.

- 5) You can forbid LHO to lead the same suit *for as long as she holds the lead.* If this is your choice, RHO's card goes back into his hand and he can play it at any legal opportunity. As above, he does not have to play it when the suit is led or when he's on lead.

Note that if you choose not to accept the opening lead, any information derived from seeing the card is authorized for declarer but *unauthorized* for the offender's partner. That means that for the duration of the play, LHO can't make any inferences from her partner's lead, and must pretend she doesn't know he has that card. However, if you choose option 3, everyone is allowed to know that RHO will play the penalty card when the suit is first led or when he first has to discard.

Which Option Should You Choose?

You must make your decision without consulting with partner or looking at his hand. It's all up to you! The lead out of turn will stay on the table until you make your choice, so take your time and consider all the information. Remember, it's perfectly legal to choose the option that's to your advantage.

First, think about the lead: is it fourth-best? Top of a sequence? A singleton? Next, think about the auction and what it told you about partner's hand. Who has the stronger hand: you or partner? Where does pard's strength lie? Which of your hands has been more thoroughly described by the bidding?

Reasons to Accept the Lead

Accept the lead when you want partner to play the hand. (See option 1 above) If pard's

hand is stronger than yours, it can be advantageous to keep his hand hidden. It's harder for the opponents to defend if they don't know what honors your side has. Plus, if the lead is a low spot card suggesting a fourth-best lead, having it come around into partner's presumed AQ or KJ will often give you an extra trick.

Another reason to let partner play the hand is if your hand has been revealed in the bidding. If your strength and distribution are known, but partner's are not, accept the lead and put your hand down as the dummy. Conversely, if pard's hand is known but your hand has hidden strengths, such as a void (if you're playing in a suit contract) or a long running side suit, you probably want to play the hand yourself. But if pard's hand is stronger, you still might want the lead coming into partner's honors. In that case, accept the lead but play it yourself. (See option 2.)

Reasons Not to Accept the Lead

If yours is the stronger hand, or your hand and partner's are about equal in strength, there's no real advantage to letting partner become declarer or having him play last to the first trick. In that case, you may be able to gain by having LHO lead. If you have broken honors in the led suit, such as AQ or even KQx, you can win an extra trick by requiring LHO to lead that suit if she's holding the missing king or ace. (See option 4.)

On the other hand, if RHO led your weak suit, you may want to forbid LHO from leading that suit, especially if it looks like a fourth-best lead and you're playing notrump. (See option 5) But remember, the prohibition lasts only for as long as LHO retains the lead initially; when she gains the lead later, she may lead any card she chooses.

If you want to play the hand and you don't want to forbid or require the lead of suit RHO led, you can allow LHO to lead any card she likes and RHO's lead out of turn becomes a penalty card. (See option 3) You might choose this option if you want to

see what LHO's natural lead is; it should tell you something about her hand. Again, she must make the same lead she would have if there had been no lead out of turn; knowledge of her partner's card is unauthorized.

Other Considerations

You can also choose to have partner play the hand if you're tired or if he's a better declarer than you are, or if he put you in a ridiculous contract, but you didn't hear it from me! Remember that the best way to improve your declarer play is to play more hands. So before you blithely say, "Great, let partner play it!" consider your options and choose wisely, Grasshopper!

STEPPING UP TO NEW HEIGHTS:

As of February 1, 2009

Junior Masters (5 Masterpoints)

Dolores Battle
 Ms Joanne H Berens
 Mr Gabriel C Cornett
 Mrs Ellen H Pollack
 Ms Debra F Bieber
 Mrs Heide Blaker
 Mr J.R. (Jim) Campbell
 Mrs Gary C Lorenz
 Mrs Ellen Parker
 Ms Jean G Schoen
 Alan L Skvirsky
 Ina A Smith-Tornberg
 Mrs Jean C Barquin
 Mr Miles Carlisle
 Ms Diane S Liebman
 Mrs Sondra Schoenfeld
 Ms Anne H Shields
 Dr Donna B Stone
 Sarah P Watson
 Mr Uli Werner

Club Masters (20 MPs)

Charles S Haynes
 Mr Thomas M Loughney
 Mr Eugene A Massey
 Anne E Menkens
 Parviz Steeds
 Mr Richard Weiser
 Susan F Weiser
 Mrs Georgette B Weiss
 Mr Larry L Hieb
 T S L Perlman

Mrs Ruth N Tyler
 Ms Carol F Webster
 Mrs Madeleine S Devaney
 Mr Steven W Mendelsohn
 Ms Sheila A Odell
 Ms Barbara S Sadick
 Ms Martha L Stout

Sectional Masters (50 MPs)

Mr Jeffrey D Caplan
 Ms Betsy Cox
 Mr Andrew Jacknain
 Mrs Vivian Pollock
 Ms Marie P Saeger
 Betty Frain
 Dr Edmund A Gehan
 Ms Donna L Hankey-Woods
 Betty Thompson

Regional Masters (100 MPs)

Patti Anschutz
 Mr John W Ryan
 Alan M Walter
 Robert H Wilbur
 Ms Narda A Ehrlich
 Mr Frank Hatten
 Peter M Pecori
 Mr Jay M Weinstein

NABC Masters (200 MPs)

Mrs Candace Carlton
 Mr Terry Carlton
 Mr Geoff Lewis
 Dr Robert Kay
 Ms Kay Miller
 Dr Richard B Wedgewood

1) IMPs, They're Vulnerable

♠ A104♥ Q1094♦ 3♣ A5432

<u>SOUTH</u>	<u>WEST</u>	<u>NORTH</u>	<u>EAST</u>
Pass	1♣	Dbl	1♦
?????			

2) IMPs, They're Vulnerable

♠ AK9872♥ K3♦ KQ♣ J72

<u>SOUTH</u>	<u>WEST</u>	<u>NORTH</u>	<u>EAST</u>
1♠	Pass	Pass	2♠
?????			

3) IMPs, They're Vulnerable

♠ Q86♥ A854♦ 976♣ 872

<u>SOUTH</u>	<u>WEST</u>	<u>NORTH</u>	<u>EAST</u>
Pass	Pass	1♦	Pass
Pass	Pass	Double	Pass
?????			

4) IMPs, None Vulnerable

♠ 52♥ K98753♦ A9♣ A QJ

<u>SOUTH</u>	<u>WEST</u>	<u>NORTH</u>	<u>EAST</u>
1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass
?????			

5) IMPs, None Vulnerable

♠ AQ872♥ AJ10952♦ -♣ J2

<u>SOUTH</u>	<u>WEST</u>	<u>NORTH</u>	<u>EAST</u>
?????	5♦	Pass	Pass

Return answers by March 5 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.