

*Come on out to this year's*

**WBL**  
**Non Life Master**  
**Sectional**

**October 16-17, 2010**

*at the*  
**NEWPORT MILL MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
11311 Newport Mill Road  
Kensington, MD

*See page 3 for the full tournament schedule...*

**DEC. 16, 2010**  
**ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY**



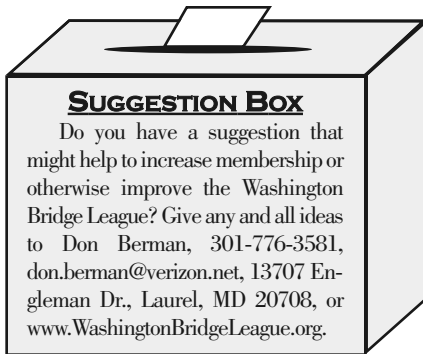
*Thursday Unit Game held at the*  
*\*Kensington Town Hall/Armory\**



Buffet Dinner starts at 6 p.m.  
Game starts at 7:20 p.m.

The Annual **WASHINGTON BRIDGE LEAGUE HOLIDAY PARTY**, which includes dinner and a bridge game will be held at the Thursday night Unit Game on December 16. Everyone is asked to bring their favorite goodies (appetizers, salads, casserole, desserts, etc.). The main course and holiday drinks will be provided. Dinner will be served from 6 to 7 p.m., followed shortly after by the game. If you have any questions or would like to help with the party, please call Kitty at (301) 587-3981 or email her at [kgottfried@hotmail.com](mailto:kgottfried@hotmail.com).

*Come on out for great feasting, great bridge and great fun!*



**SUGGESTION BOX**

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

**WBL OMBUDSMAN**

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



**DEADLINE: OCTOBER 28, 2010**

TO SUBMIT NEW ARTICLES TO THE EDITOR FOR THE NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2010 ISSUE

**Washington Bridge League BULLETIN** (usps #861-240)

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WBL WEBSITE:  
www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org

DISTRICT 6 SITE:  
www.districtsix.org

TO GET ON AN EMAIL LIST FOR **BRIDGE NEWS & BRIDGE PROBLEMS**, SEND A NOTE TO STEVE ROBINSON AT **ROBINSWR@EROLS.COM** REQUESTING SUCH.

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## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

by WBL President, Don Berman

Congratulations to **Barbara Doran**, our Sportsman of the Year and Machlin Trophy winner. Barbara has contributed to the WBL for many years and in many capacities including President. Currently she is Partnership Chair-

person and is doing a great job in that capacity. At the risk of repetition, the saga of finding a venue for our Sectionals continues. We have again secured the Kensington Armory (aka Civic Center) for the January Sectional but had to reschedule it for the weekend of January 13-16 to do so. Our search for a permanent

future home will continue. Watch our website [www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org](http://www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org) for details.

As those of you attending the recent sectional and our unit games have noticed we are testing the use of Bridgmate® wireless scoring machines. At two recent unit games the machines failed to work properly. As we are considering several options including purchase and rental, the reliability of the system is a key element in the decision. Nothing will be decided until we are sure of the machines reliability and we have examined all possible options. At present we are renting their use.

A note on slow play: Recently a couple of pairs given a penalty for slow play felt they were unwarranted or at least they were not warned. In the past we have received numerous complaints about the pace of play at our games. The Board agreed and set about putting in place procedures to alleviate

the situation. The key to the solution is the directors recognizing and taking action (e.g., late plays & penalties) when warranted. It is not an easy task and no one wants to penalize anyone. Nevertheless the directors have taken to the task and in general

are doing a fine job at it. I ask for your cooperation in this endeavor. Things that you can do include: a) Do not discuss the hands when you have more to play that round. Take out the cards immediately and begin the next board; b) Enter the contracts and scores in the Bridgmate machines as soon as they are known. This can be mon-

itored by the directors on the computer and they can see where slowdowns occur; c) Start on time. Backups begin in the early rounds and completing the early rounds will help move the game along. I am sure you can think of others. Please help us make the game more enjoyable for all.

If you have any problem with (or praise for) our directing staff, you can contact Ann Lindley, our Ombudsman. Information should be in writing and will be held confidentially. 8822 Fircrest Pl., Alexandria, VA 22308. Questions? 703-360-9087.

*Update:* So far only about 30 members have opted to receive this Bulletin via the Internet rather than in a print version. I will continue to collect names and urge you to add your name to the list by emailing me at [don.berman@verizon.net](mailto:don.berman@verizon.net). In the meantime printing will continue for the foreseeable future.

### OPT OUT?

If you'd like to stop receiving the printed version of the *WBL Bulletin*, please send your e-mail address to Don Berman at [don.berman@verizon.net](mailto:don.berman@verizon.net). Once enough names have been collected to start lowering the number of copies we print, you will start receiving an e-mail link to the on-line version of the bulletin in lieu of your printed copy.

## BITS AND PIECES

### WELCOME TO THE WASHINGTON BRIDGE LEAGUE

The WBL welcomes the following new ACBL members: **Mr Timothy B Clark, Ms Beth L Kimel, Dr Betty Ann Ottinger, Phyllis M Rumbarger, Lynn M Bennett, Joan H Brown, Dottie L Donnelly, Sandra E Goldsmith, Mr Thomas J Grahame, Mr Ronald F Greenbaum, Mr Richard**

**P Haller, Mr Todd R Heidenreich, Ms Joia M Hertz, Mrs Emily L Kesser, Mr Irv C Kesser, Mrs Alice Y Lachin, Marcia B McMahon, Mr Stephen P Nagy, Nancy J Porten, Dr Les Robinson, Susan Rohnick, Mr Kenneth C Rossato, Judy M Rovner, Mrs Shirley Rubin, Mrs Barbara C Shafer, Mrs Maureen Snowden, Ms Jami L Taff, Joan Marie**

...continued on p. 5

SILVER SPRING, MD: OCTOBER 16-17, 2010



## Non Life Master Sectional

NEWPORT MILL MIDDLE SCHOOL

11311 Newport Mill Road  
Kensington, MD 20895

### Play for Silver

*NLMs with fewer than  
500 MPs*

### Maryland Hospitality

*Lunch and refreshments  
included both days!*

### Saturday, October 16

NLM Stratified Pairs (0-20, 20-100, 100-500 MPs) . . . . . 11:00 am

★*Expert analysis/discussion during lunch between sessions*

NLM Stratified Pairs (0-20, 20-100, 100-500 MPs) . . . . . 3:15 pm

### Sunday, October 17

Stratified Swiss Teams (*playthrough with lunch break*) . . . . . 11:00 am

**-Join us for a fun weekend!-**

### TOURNAMENT CHAIR

**Shawn Stringer**  
301-275-6363  
[shstringer@aol.com](mailto:shstringer@aol.com)

### PARTNERSHIPS

**Lois Geer**  
301-236-0014  
[lgeer@verizon.net](mailto:lgeer@verizon.net)

**DIRECTIONS:** From I-495 (Washington Beltway) take Exit 33 (Connecticut Ave/MD-185) North towards Kensington. Go 2 miles and keep Left as Connecticut Ave splits. After the split, take the third Right onto Lawrence Avenue. Take the first Left onto Newport Mill Road. The school is one-half mile on the Right.

WASHINGTONBRIDGELEAGUE.ORG

SILVER SPRING, MD: JANUARY 13-16, 2011

# 2011... Cheers to a New Year & a New Deal!

THURSDAY, JANUARY 13



## 49<sup>th</sup> Annual Presidential Tournament

- ♣ Stratified Open Pairs (unlim/1500/500) .....11:15am  
Rockville Duplicate Bridge Club, 301-503-3348 (Mark Lavine)  
St. James Episcopal Church, 11815 Seven Locks Rd., Rockville
- ♦ 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 (Ohr Kodesh Congregation only); Stratified 199er Pairs (Beth El only)  
Beth El Congregation, 3830 Seminary Rd, Alexandria .....7:00pm  
Ohr Kodesh Congregation, 8300 Meadoubrook Ln., Chevy Chase .....7:30pm  
I-495 to Connecticut Ave. South. 4<sup>th</sup> light left E-W Hwy 410. Left Meadoubrook Ln. 1<sup>st</sup> left Freyman Dr. Parking lot on left. No outside food allowed.

### FRI, SAT & SUN AT THE KENSINGTON TOWN HALL/ARMORY

495 Beltway Exit 33, Connecticut Ave. North (Rt. 185N—to Kensington). 1.5 miles, right at light—Knowles Ave. 1<sup>st</sup> right at stop—Armory Ave. 1<sup>st</sup> left at stop—to 3710 Mitchell St. & parking lot on right. Additional parking in nearby lots—see website maps.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 14

- ♥ Stratified Pairs (unlim/2000/500) .....10:00am
- ♥ StrataFlighted A/X (unlim/3000) & B/C/D Pairs (1500/1000/500) .....2:00pm
- ♠ **IMP Pairs** StrataFlighted A/X (unlim/3000) & B/C/D (1500/1000/500) .....7:30pm  
*It's the Friday night IMPs!* With only one partner, it scores like a team game. To get your IMP score on a board, we take your result and IMP it against each result at the other tables, then get the average.
- ♣ Intermediate/Novice Pairs (300/200/100/50/20) (single sessions) .....10:00am, 2:00pm, 7:30pm

### Panel Show & Party SATURDAY, JANUARY 15 to Honor New Life Masters between sessions

- ♦ **Special! JOINT ABA/ACBL** StrataFlighted A/X (unlim/3000) or B/C/D Pairs (1500/1000/500) 11:00am
- ♥ StrataFlighted A/X (unlim/3000) or B/C/D Pairs (1500/1000/500) .....11:00am, 4:00pm
- ♠ Intermediate/Novice Pairs (300/200/100) or Newcomer Pairs (50/20/5)(single sessions) 11:00am, 4:00pm

SUNDAY, JANUARY 16

### WBL Trophy Race Winners' Presentation

- ♣ **Bracketed Teams.** (2 session playthru w/short break) .....11:00am & TBA  
**Check out this format!** Each bracket of eight teams (by masterpoints) will play a complete round robin. *Each team plays all of the other teams in its bracket!* The top bracket will hold an unlimited number of teams and will play a Swiss format. Your team may choose to play up—but only into the top bracket. *If you like playing A teams, you can—otherwise, play against your peers!*
- ♦ 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.



Famous Washington Hospitality includes snacks, drinks and Friday and Sunday lunch free of charge. Chair: **Nadine Wood**, 301-565-9555, woodthere@verizon.net. Volunteer Coordinator: **Barbara Summers**, 301-598-5838, jimbarb1184@aol.com Hospitality: **Kitty Gottfried**, 301-587-3981, kgottfried@hotmail.com Partnerships: **Barbara Doran**, 301-608-0347, SectionalPartner@DistrictSix.org

Mid-chart allowed in all events except I/N

WASHINGTONBRIDGELEAGUE.ORG

Bits & Pieces, continued from p. 2...

Thomas, Jacob H Zeigler, Mrs Sharon Zeigler, Mr Sastry V Dhara, Minna Golden, Mrs Sara F Hayes, David A Hirschberg, Oliver Thomas, and Mrs Shirley H Weiss.

In addition, we welcome the following trans- fers from other units: **Alice B Barr, Mr Bernard Barr, Ralph Bestock, Mr Charles L Cromwell, Mrs Paula Left, Mr Thomas F McDow V, Mrs Gertrude Rogers, Lt Col Anthony J Russo, Mrs Judith A Russo, Mr Hugo H Van Dyke, Mrs Adele Waggaman, Benjamin E Epstein, Mr Charles A Jones, Suzanne R Spurlock, Jean S Black, Mrs Diana B Friedman, Mrs Faustina L Lees, Mr John R Lees, Mrs Lori J Lerman, Mr Robert E Powers, and Mr Charles A Yu.**

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

### INCOMING CONDUCT AND ETHICS COMMITTEE MEMBERS

**Barry Falgout, Shawn Stringer, and Albert Lauber** are the WBL's newest Conduct and Ethics Committee members.(The rest of the committee is made up of **Mike Gill, Mike Richey, Hadi Abusharkar,** and board members, **Richard Ferrin,** Chair, **Ellen Cherniavsky,** and **Clyde Kruskal.**)

### 2010 SUMMER NABC NEW ORLEANS, LA

We extend special congratulations to **Beth Palmer, Winner** of the *Wagar Women's Knockout Teams*

### WBL Member Performance List

- 1 156.59 Barry Falgout
- 2 122.50 Beth Palmer
- 3 84.05 Peter Boyd
- 4 82.47 Steve Robinson
- 5 61.71 Nadine Wood
- 6 47.38 Adair Gellman
- 7 43.66 Mike Cappelletti Sr
- 8 42.19 Fred King
- 9 41.42 Martin Graf
- 41.42 Mark Shaw

### LESLIE SHAFER & CHARLIE WILLIAMS BRIDGE CLASSES!

Leslie and Charlie have their Fall 2010 schedule of bridge classes ready for viewing. Classes are starting in September and October. You can find a complete list of all classes at their

website: [www.bridgeteacher.com](http://www.bridgeteacher.com) There are all levels being taught, from brand new beginner classes up through Advanced. Of special interest to you is a 2/1 Game Force class (2/1; 1NT Forcing; Handling Competitive Auctions) and Major Suit Raises in the 21st Century (Limit Raises, the Weak Freak, Losing Trick Count, Help Suit Game Tries and Jacoby 2NT Raises).

If you have any questions about the schedule, email Leslie at [slamhand@verizon.net](mailto:slamhand@verizon.net) or call 301-977-0314.

### FANTASTIC I/N PROGRAM HELD AT BETHESDA REGIONAL



Report from Bryan & Lois Geer, I/N Chairs

The Intermediate/Novice (I/N) portion of the 2010 National Capital Regional, Bethesda, Maryland was well attended. Approximately 46% of the players at the tournament were under 300 master points (799 of 1739 attendees). A total of 545 players played in at least one single session 0-300 or lower event, adding up to 1434 sessions.

We had many wonderful speakers at this year's tournament, including **Leslie Shaffer, Ron Kral, Steve Robinson, Jeff Roman, Jeff Meckstroth, Eric Rodwell, Mike Passel, Mike Cappelletti, Sr., Chris Compton,** and **Barry Harper.** Their talks were well received and well attended.

Many thanks go to the volunteers in the I/N area. Without our volunteers, the tournament would not have been successful! Special thanks go to **Ross Bley & Marty Bley, Kathy O'Toole,** and **David Mead** for assisting multiple times.

### 1-DAY BRIDGE CLASS

Report from *Shawn Stringer*

We held our **One Day Bridge Classes** twice recently - at the Bethesda Regional and at the August WBL Sectional. We had our biggest turnout ever at the Regional, with 12 full tables of enthusiastic participants. This advanced class focused on defensive signalling, and most of the students had never had a lesson on this topic. They learned the importance of showing their attitude toward partner's opening lead. They re-

...continued on p. 19



## Great Game Products

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### Bridge Baron 20 \$64.95

• Greatly expanded the defensive lead and signal agreements • Added 26 new play problems from the bridge book entitled *A Computer's Twist*  
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Bridge Baron is now available for the iPhone

Available on CD-Rom for Windows 2000/XP/Vista (English, Francais, Deutsch)

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



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• Teaches both bidding and play • Paced appropriately for beginners  
• Lessons 1-3 teach the mechanics, trick taking, and provide the background for bidding • Lessons 4-6 teach opening bids and their responses • Quizzes to reinforce your understanding • Provides an

extensive glossary and reference section • Includes 38 carefully crafted instructional deals, and 92 BONUS practice hands • Presented in an easy-to-use, interactive format

### Learn and Practice Bidding Conventions \$29.95

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

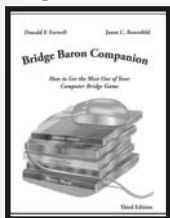


• Two New Editions: *Basic Conventions* (Vol. 2) and *More Basic Conventions* (Vol. 3) • Learn Conventions allows you to practice each convention in Bridge Baron. LPBC teaches you seven conventions in depth using the interactive Bridge Baron Teacher architecture, and allows you to practice these conventions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

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

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 **Paul Setzer** and **Hy Chansky** who tied for first with a score of 480. They win a free entry to the Unit Game, and will be invited to be on a future panel. Third was **Fred Allenspach** with a score of 470. Tied for fourth were **Enid Hughes** and **Ron Conlon** with a score of 460. Tied for sixth were **Kefu Xu, Jon Matthew Farber, Mark McEneaney, Bill Sharp, Mel Yudkin Clyde Kruskal Tom Musso** and **Chris Miller** with a score of 450. Tied for fourteenth were **Chuck Yaple, Kees Schaafma, Lloyd Rawley** and **Kevin Barnes** with a score of 440. Tied for eighteenth were **Marvin Elster, Ellen Cherniavsky, Robert Zier, Charles Yu, Michael Mayer, Leon Letwin, Frank Guido, Mark Gaspodnetic, Ed Borodkin, Hank Strauch** and **Merril Hirsh** with a score of 430. The average score of the 217 solvers was 357. The average score of the experts was 450.

All readers are encouraged to send answers and/or new problems to Steve Robinson, 2891 S. Abingdon St. #A2 Arlington, VA, 22206-1329. In addition to the winner receiving a free play at the WBL Unit Game, Steve will play with anyone who gets a perfect score or who exactly matches all five of his answers. If you send a self-addressed stamped envelope to the above address along with your answers, I will send you a copy of the new problems to ensure that you can meet his next deadline. You can pick up a copy of the problems at the WBL Unit Game in Maryland, and can send answers or requests for problems to [robinswr@erols.com](mailto:robinswr@erols.com). You can also see and answer the problems at the WBL web site. WBL Solvers Club uses *Washington Standard* as published July 1996. I accept only the first answer from each solver unless it is clear that the solver wants to correct his answer.

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 whenever you see him or can send him a check for \$29.95 that includes \$4.95 for priority mail.

### 1) IMPs, You're Vulnerable

♠ A75♥ J7♦ AK♣ K98732

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
?????	2♠	3♥	4♠
Action	Score	Votes	Solvers
4NT	100	7	54
Double	80	1	66
5♣	70	1	17
5♥	50	0	34
5♠	30	0	12
6♥	30	0	22
6♣	30	0	5
5NT	30	0	2
5♦	20	0	1
6NT	20	0	1
7♥	20	0	1
Pass	20	0	1

You have a very good hand but guess what, the opponents have preempted and now you have to guess what to do. Does partner have ♠ x♥ Axxxx♦ Qxx♣ AQx and you could easily make 7♣ but would go down in 6♥? Does he have ♠ x♥ AKQxxx♦ xxx♣ Ax where you probably could make 7♥? We would like to be able to bid 6♣ saying pass if you have good club support but bid 6♥ if you have solid hearts but that is not in our vocabulary. You could bid 5♣ which gives partner a choice be-

tween hearts and clubs. Unless partner is brain dead, he'll not pass 5♣ with solid hearts. But he could have semi-solid hearts such as AQ109xx, which would play well opposite Jx. Since he has to have an opening bid and he doesn't have the top diamond honors and probably doesn't have much in spades, he must have either good hearts or good clubs or both.

Six experts join me and bid Roman Keycard Blackwood (RKCB). If partner answers 5♦ showing one of the three missing keycards, you can signoff in 5♥. If partner bids 5♠ showing two of the three missing keycards plus the queen of hearts, you can try 6♥. But what if partner bids 5♥? You are missing one keycard and the queen of hearts. You don't want to be in 6♥. If you're really hungry for IMPs, you could bid 6♣ over 5♥ thinking that if partner does not have the queen of hearts, he could have the queen of clubs. Since you can bid RKCB, there is no reason to jump to slam. 6♥ will not be a good contract if you're off two keycards.

**Parker:** "4NT—RKCB. This can't be to play or pick a minor, since partner has come in at the three-level vulnerable. He must have a good suit. If partner has AKQ of hearts and the club Ace I will bid 7♥."

Over majors, 4NT is RKCB. Some play that over minors 4NT is natural. In other situations 4NT is choice of suits.

**Adams:** "4NT—We have a grand opposite AKQxx of hearts and Ace of clubs. Not settling for +800 against 4♣. After we bid slam or grand, I will take my +1400 or 1700. I do not expect to get to play it at any level. Double shows cards, and partner with extreme shortness is likely to pull, but in doing so I will not have learned anything."

**Hopkins:** "4NT—This should be RKCB for Hearts. Even if partner has a light overcall, he should have a good suit, which is all I need to have a play for slam."

**Landen:** "4NT—Optimistically heading for 6♥. If we're not off too many keycards, 6♥ rates to have a decent play. I can't see how to allow for playing in clubs, without bidding the suit, which overstates its strength."

**Woolsey:** "4NT—Five-of-a-minor would be natural, not a cue bid, and 5♥ wouldn't suggest slam. We are not in a force, since North didn't jump to game. So I might as well take the bull by the horns. If North has two

keycards and the queen of trumps slam will have some play, and it might be laydown."

5♥ is just competitive and new suits are natural and non-forcing but show values.

**Schwartz:** "4NT—Followed by 6♣, implies tolerance for hearts."

One expert tries another strain. New suits at the five-level show good suits. I don't think K987xx is good enough.

**Shore:** "5♣—Since partner is very short in spades and didn't bid Michaels over 2♣, he is likely to either have long hearts or three or four clubs. If he has long hearts he may rebid them, but if he has something like AQx in clubs, we can get to clubs only if I bid them. Slam looks possible but we're vulnerable to bad breaks or minimum values from partner, and it's usually better to just try to go plus when under pressure."

If you really want to go plus, the following expert has the sure answer.

**Cappelletti:** "Double—Unless your partner is super sound overcaller."

When in doubt, bid RKCB.

## 2) IMPs, Both Vulnerable

♠ 5♥ -♦ J10542♣ AQ109432

	<u>SOUTH</u>	<u>WEST</u>	<u>NORTH</u>	<u>EAST</u>
	?????			Pass
<u>Action</u>		<u>Score</u>	<u>Votes</u>	<u>Solvers</u>
4♣		100	4	43
5♣		90	2	24
Pass		80	2	58
3♣		70	1	65
1♣		70	0	18
1♦		20	0	4
4NT		20	0	2
2♣		20	0	1
2♦		20	0	1
2NT		20	0	1

How many clubs do you open assuming you open at all? There is a case for all possible club openers other than 2♣. There's even a case for passing. 5♣ will probably buy the contract. 4♣ allows the opponents to bid four-of-a-major which could go down if partner has a stack. 3♣ is a wimpy bid allowing the opponents to get in at a low level. Passing is even wimpier allowing the opponents to start at the one-level.

Two experts start the bidding at the five-level. Some would open AQ seventh at the

four-level so adding the five-card diamond suit makes it a reasonable five-level opener. Seven-five come alive.

**Hopkins:** "5♣—This is impossible. I am taking a chance on winning big or losing big."

**Parker:** "5♣—If you are 6-4 you bid one more, so with 7-5 come alive? Someone has the majors and it's not me so I bid the max with this distribution. "

Three experts join me and open 4♣.

**Landen:** "4♣—Close between 4♣ and 5♣, but 4♣ seems more like the middle of the road bid. 3♣ woefully understates the playing strength."

**Woolsey:** "4♣—I'm certainly going to preempt something with this hand - passing is losing bridge. 4♣ looks just about the right level."

**Adams:** "4♣—Who knows what's right? If they double me in 4♣, I might actually make it when partner fits diamonds. They are going to have a tough time getting to the right major over 4♣. 3♣ gives them room to bid both majors, and will leave me feeling like I want to bid again. 5♣ will buy the hand doubled or not. I'd rather give them a bidding option that might be really wrong. 1♣ is just silly as I will be the only person guessing when it comes back to me. 4♣ is the second to the last guess, and that is what I like to make."

Two experts pass. Let's give the opponents lots of room so they can scientifically get to the correct level.

**Schwartz:** "Pass—I would preempt in first seat but the opening pass increases the odds that it's our hand so I will chance having a constructive auction."

**Shore:** "Pass—3♣ is too wimpy, 4♣ stops us from reaching 3NT or diamonds, and 5♣ is just silly. Passing now leaves me flexibility later to make a one or two suited call depending on how the auction develops."

One expert makes an insufficient bid.

**Cappelletti:** "3♣—Foreseeing a 4NT bid if opponents arrive at four-of-a-major."

Preempts make it difficult for the opponents.

## 3) IMPs, Both Vulnerable

♠ AK2♥ J103♦ AKQJ43♣ 2

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

	<u>Action</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Votes</u>	<u>Solvers</u>
	2♠	100	5	72
	3♦	80	1	57
	1♠	70	2	25
	3♥	60	0	3
	3♣	60	1	9
	3NT	40	0	3
	2♦	40	0	5
	4NT	30	0	8
	4♣	30	0	17
	2♥	30	0	2
	4♥	30	0	7
	2NT	30	0	2
	2♣	30	0	1
	1NT	20	0	2
	Pass	20	0	1
	4♦	20	0	3

We have a very strong hand with no clear way to show it. There is no bid in Washington Standard or most natural systems, which show a game-forcing diamond hand. 3♦ shows 16-18 HCP and is non-forcing. The only way to force is to jump shift into a third suit. Jumps to 2♠ and 3♣ are game forcing. If you jump to 2♠, I can see responder holding ♠ Jxxx♥ AKQx♦ xx♣ xxx. Over 2♠ he bids 3♠. You're cold for 6♦ but forced to play in spades. Partner assumes that you have four spades and will keep on supporting you. If you're going to jump into a short suit, it should be lower than your primary suit. 3♣ is lower than diamonds. You can correct any club bid to diamonds. If you jump shift into clubs, partner will explore other possibilities even with a club fit, such as 3NT or if he has five hearts he'll look for an eight-card heart fit.

Seven experts bid the highest suit spades.

**Parker:** "2♠—Typical nightmare hand. Bill Cole will have the answer. Over whatever partner bids I can raise hearts. Hand is too good for 3♦ and not good enough to raise hearts with three."

Jumping in hearts, which shows four-card support, could lead to similar problems.

**Adams:** "2♠—Lacking special systems to handle this shape, a jump shift can sometimes be made in a good three-card suit. Over 3♠ I will bid 4♥ and partner should work it out. Might end up in a 4-3 when partner has 4-4 majors and good clubs, but I can't cater to everything. I dislike blasting to 3NT with

such good suit playing strength and obvious flaw. Against players that have been leading passively I would psyche my clubs and bid 3NT at matchpoints, but at this scoring I might as well stay honest.”

I like this new treatment. A jump shift to 2♠, the highest suit, can be made on a good three-card suit. I have the perfect follow-up. After 1♦ — 1♥ — 2♠, 3♣ asks how many spades you have. In my 2300 version of *Washington Standard* you’ll see it.

**Shore:** “2♠ — I can’t bid anything else! I want to play 3NT if partner has ♠ xx♥ Kxxx ♦ xx♣ KQ10xx, 6 if partner has ♠ Qxxx ♥ AKxx♦ xx♣ xxx, 6 if partner has ♠ xxx ♥ KQ9xx♦ xx♣ Axx. Therefore I can’t raise hearts, which forces us to play in hearts. I can’t bid 3NT since partner will have no idea what I have in the side suits and I can’t bid any number of diamonds.”

**Landen:** “2♠ — I must drive this hand to game and 2♠, though not perfect, uses the least space and is my most natural game force. If partner raises spades, I’ll bid 4♥ and hope for the best. Unlucky if partner is 4-4 in the majors.”

**Schwartz:** “2♠ — If partner is 4-4 in the majors, it might get ugly, but I should survive other auctions. Jump shifting to my stiff is just too misdescriptive and it’s just too good for 3♦.”

Two experts bid 1♠. Over 1♠, 2♣ is the how-many spades asking bid that’s assuming he doesn’t pass 1♠.

**Cappelletti:** “1♠ — I will get the most information from partner and opponents by staying low if partner make abortive pass still might be ok.”

**Woolsey:** “1♠ — Rule one: Never rebid a three-card suit. But that is overridden by rule zero: Never say never. My follow-up 3♥-call, if there is a follow-up, gives a reasonably accurate description of my hand. Ah, to be playing my transfer rebids after 1♦-one-of-a-major, with which this type of hand is no longer a problem.”

The following expert bids what he has. If he gets by this bid, he’ll be in good shape.

**Hopkins:** “3♦ — This is an underbid, but it will work well if partner can rebid Hearts or try 3NT.”

If you’re going to invent a bid, invent a bid other than some number of spades.

#### 4) IMPs, They’re Vulnerable

♠ A10♥ -♦ AKJ7643♣ KQ97

<u>SOUTH</u>	<u>WEST</u>	<u>NORTH</u>	<u>EAST</u>
1♦	1♥	Pass	1NT
?????			
<u>Action</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Votes</u>	<u>Solvers</u>
3♦	100	5	53
2♣	70	1	17
2♥	70	2	8
Double	60	1	56
3♣	50	0	13
2♦	50	0	29
Pass	30	0	14
4♦	30	0	8
5♦	30	0	11
3NT	30	0	2
3♥	30	0	2
4NT	30	0	2
2NT	30	0	1
4♣	20	0	1

We have a very good hand but it’s the opponents who probably have most of the remaining strength. Since the opponents did not bid spades, partner could have four spades. If LHO has only five hearts, then partner could have four spades and six hearts. If this is true, partner doesn’t have room for many minor-suit cards, no matter how strong he is. On bad days, partner holds ♠ xxxx♥ xxxxxx♦ -♣ xxx and you probably make 1♦. On good days he holds the J10 of clubs and one diamond and if diamonds are 3-2 you actually make 5♦. Since partner probably has very few minor-suit cards, you will not get any help from partner in the auction so it’s your guess. This is very likely a misfit, so you shouldn’t get too carried away. On the other hand there is a tactical reason to bid 3♦. West could have a good hand with six hearts. By bidding 3♦, you force him to bid them at the three-level, which could make partner happy.

Four experts join me and jump to 3♦. If LHO has six hearts, bidding 3♦ stops LHO from showing them at the two-level. How bad can it be to rebid a seven-card suit?

**Parker:** “3♦ — And if they compete in hearts I will bid 3NT to show clubs.”

Not sure why you expect partner to have length in clubs.

**Landen:** “3♦ — I have a very good hand, but indications are that diamonds are breaking badly and partner might be broke. We might belong in clubs, but I need five-card support to make bidding clubs right.”

**Woolsey:** “3♦ — West doesn’t get a chance to rebid his hearts at the two-level against me. I have adequate values for this call. If West does bid 3♥, partner may have a hammer.”

**Schwartz:** “3♦ — Can’t bid clubs with a three-card difference and double implies spade length.”

One expert bids 2♣. Gives the opponents lots of room and doesn’t show what we have which are diamonds. It might make sense to bid clubs when you’re 6-4 but not when you’re 7-4. How can partner have five clubs, when there’s a good chance he has ten major suit cards? If partner does have four clubs, you still want to play in diamonds.

**Adams:** “2♣ — Looks a little odd given my seven-card diamond suit, but this is the only chance to get a raise from partner, and therefore the only remaining chance for us to find game if we have one. I have the safety of retreating to diamonds if needed. Seems likely that West will bid more hearts and that doubling to protect partner’s heart length is a waste of space. Let’s say I bid 2♦, then when it goes 2♥ — Pass — Pass back to me, I still will want to bid clubs and I will lose the possibility of partner finding a raise with Axxx or Jxxxx. Let’s say I double and it goes all pass. Now what? We could actually have a club slam with Axxx of clubs.”

Two experts cue bid. All this will accomplish is to allow West to double showing a reasonable hand with six hearts or bid 3♥ showing a good hand with six hearts. Cue bidding doesn’t start describing your hand.

**Shore:** “2♥ — With this strong a hand I have to either double or cue bid. Cue bidding shows more distribution/playing strength. This hand is too good for a 3 bid even opposite a passing partner, and bidding 3 would tend to show five clubs.”

**Cappelletti:** “2♥ — Double with short spades often gets awkward.”

One expert doubles. Do you want to encourage partner to bid spades. Do you want to defend 1NT not knowing how many hearts they can run?

**Hopkins:** “Double—I like my chances if they sit it out. If not, I can compete effectively with this powerful distribution.”

Sometimes you can use the opponent’s bidding or lack bidding to tell you what partner has.

#### 5) Matchpoints, None Vulnerable

♠ K2♥ Q765♦ KQ32♣ Q65

<u>SOUTH</u>	<u>WEST</u>	<u>NORTH</u>	<u>EAST</u>
		1♠	2♥
?????*			
<u>Action</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Votes</u>	<u>Solvers</u>
Double	100	7	91
3NT	80	1	52
Pass	60	1	15
3♦	50	0	26
2♠	50	0	6
3♠	30	0	1
4♠	30	0	1
3♥	20	0	17
2NT	00	0	8

\*2NT will be given zero points (GF spade raise)

You would like to bid an invitational 2NT, however, 2NT is this problem is Jacoby (game-forcing major-suit raise) so you have to find an alternative bid. The two most logical bids are double and 3NT. You could pass but I don’t see what that would accomplish. If partner has three hearts and passes you could miss a cold 3NT. Double leaves all options open. Double allows you to see if partner has six spades. If partner happens to have a heart stopper, double gets notrump played from his side. If partner happens to be void in hearts, double will get help you avoid getting to 3NT. Double will even get you to a strong 5-2 spade fit if that’s where you belong. There are some hands where it makes sense to raise on a doubleton but I don’t think this is that hand. If you bid 3♦, partner will expect you to have five and could propel you above 3NT where you could easily belong.

Six experts join me and make a negative double.

**Adams:** “Double—Playing eastern cue bids, I can double and over three-of-minor I can bid 3♥ showing a heart stopper and asking partner to bid 3NT. And if partner wants to bid more spades instead, then we found a superior fit. I’d hate to bid 3NT myself, and find Kx, J9x or singleton honor of hearts in

partners hand. I can't bid 3♥ directly as that shows a limit raise in Spades and I have soft values that do not compensate for lack of third spade."

Eastern cue bids wouldn't work in this type of auction. If you double and partner bid 3♦, 3♠ would be a natural preference. Therefore 3♥ would be asking not telling.

**Shore:** "Double—Playing these methods, my only options are double and pass. I am a little worried about missing a game if I pass, and I don't intend to pass a reopening double for penalty at all white. I want to bid an invitational 2NT. The usual way to do this in these methods is to double, and then if opener has a minimum he supposed to bid 2NT with all 5-3-3-2s and most 5-4-2-2s even if he doesn't have hearts stopped. If opener bids 2NT I'll pass, and if he doesn't, I won't pass."

If Opener holds ♠ Axxxx♥ xxx♦ Jxx♣ AK, he has a rebid problem over your negative double. With very bad spades, 2♠ would be my last choice.

**Hopkins:** "Double—This appears to be the easy part. My problem is what to do if partner bids 2♠ or three-of-a-minor."

Follow-ups are easy. You bid 4♠ if partner bids 2♠. If partner bids three-of-a-minor, you bid 3NT.

**Landen:** "Double—Even if natural, 2NT would be wrong, notrump will play better from partner's side of the table. If partner bids 2, I'll probably continue with 2NT, I don't think this hand is worth a game force."

If partner bids 2♠ in response to your negative double, there's a good chance that he has six spades. Why would you not want to play in the 6-2 spade fit?

**Woolsey:** "Double—My subsequent notrump call will show doubt about notrump, since if I had hearts double-stopped I would have bid 3NT immediately. Partner will remove with a singleton heart."

When there are two ways to get to 3NT, the slow way shows some doubt. If you really wanted to play 3NT, you would bid it immediately.

**Cappelletti:** "Double—I have to bid something and would need another heart spot for pass."

If your hearts were Q1097, it would make some sense to pass and go for penalties. Passing has the drawback that if partner has heart length, he'll pass also and you would miss your probable making game.

One expert jumps to 3NT. Jumping to 3NT is premature. It works when you belong in 3NT from your side. On this hand, however, there are many other possible scenarios such as playing in spades, playing in a minor or even playing 3NT from partner's side.

**Parker:** "3NT—No other call works well here. If I double and partner bids three-of-a-minor then 3♠ is a punt. A direct raise of 3♠ may be OK but if partner has two or three hearts we are doomed on a cross-ruff. I will take my chances in notrump and partner can remove if he is very distributional."

One expert passes. When you're long in the opponent's suit, usually its right to pass but only if you have a clear follow-up if partner reopens with a double.

**Schwartz:** "Pass—If partner can't reopen game is unlikely and a plus score should score well."

When in doubt make the bid that has the most flexibility.

### SOLVERS' SCORES

John Adams	4NT	4♣	2♠	2♣	Dbl	470
Mike Cappelletti	Dbl	3♣	1♠	2♥	Dbl	390
Robbie Hopkins	4NT	5♣	3♦	Dbl	Dbl	430
Steve Landen	4NT	4♣	2♠	3♦	Dbl	500
Steve Parker	4NT	5♣	2♠	3♦	3NT	470
Steve Robinson	4NT	4♣	3♣	3♦	Dbl	460
Alan Schwartz	4NT	Pass	2♠	3♦	Pass	440
Noble Shore	5♣	Pass	2♠	2♥	Dbl	420
Kit Woolsey	4NT	4♣	1♠	3♦	Dbl	470

## Do you get along with your computer?

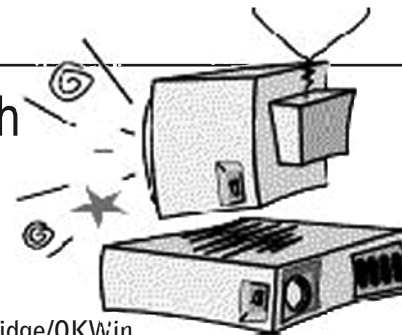
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**2010 TROPHY RACE STANDINGS**

[www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org](http://www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org)  
 Updated by our Webmaster, Don Berman

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

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

This list is up to date through September 9. All points are subject to audit by the WBL Director.

**Lovenberg**

- 1 110.94 Leo LaSota
- 2 105.40 Steve Robinson
- 3 91.64 John Adams
- 4 80.41 Mark Shaw
- 5 78.07 Steven Schatzow
- 6 77.44 Barry Bragin
- 7 75.14 William Hacker
- 8 71.14 Brad Theurer
- 9 71.01 William Cole
- 10 60.55 Leon Letwin
- 11 57.23 Peter Boyd
- 12 57.01 Michael Gill
- 13 55.14 Clyde Kruskal
- 14 53.46 Lloyd Rawley
- 15 53.35 Arnie Frankel
- 16 52.64 Mark Cohen
- 17 50.21 Donna Rogall
- 18 49.24 Robert Bell
- 19 48.27 Linda Marshall
- 20 43.16 Fred King
- 21 43.15 James Geist
- 22 41.83 Noble Shore
- 23 40.98 Donald Berman
- 24 39.64 Richard Wegman
- 25 36.09 Patrick Stanton

**Izzy Cohen**

- 1 36.09 Patrick Stanton
- 2 32.50 Alfred Caponiti
- 3 30.23 Michael Richey
- 4 27.27 William Goldman
- 5 22.44 Arun Guha
- 6 21.99 Margie Coccodrilli
- 7 21.56 Daniel Falk
- 8 21.46 Ronald Zucker
- 9 20.68 Kitty Gottfried
- 10 20.14 Anne Derbes
- 11 20.14 Robert Schwab
- 12 20.08 Daniel Koch
- 13 19.84 Adrienne Kuehneman
- 14 19.27 Merril Hirsh
- 15 19.16 William Gill

**Tubbs**

- 1 36.09 Patrick Stanton
- 2 32.50 Alfred Caponiti
- 3 27.27 William Goldman
- 4 22.44 Arun Guha
- 5 21.56 Daniel Falk
- 6 19.84 Adrienne Kuehneman
- 7 19.07 Michelle Zygielbaum
- 8 18.73 Larry Wallace
- 9 18.66 Annapurna Satpathy
- 10 18.25 Guillaume de Decker

**Woolridge**

- 1 17.15 Fred Caponiti
- 2 13.50 David Pen
- 3 7.15 Joseph Abita
- 4 6.30 Kathleen Zellmer
- 5 4.90 Ilana Rappaport
- 6 4.90 Carl Rappaport
- 7 4.58 Nancy McIntyre
- 8 4.28 Jean Schoen
- 9 4.13 Jane Dolkart
- 10 4.11 Alexander Gretsinger

**0-20  
LESSON  
& GAME**

**GUARANTEED  
PARTNERS!**

**7:00PM  
LESSON**

**7:30 - 10ISH  
GAME**

**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 [geerbridge@verizon.net](mailto:geerbridge@verizon.net).

~ ♣ ♦ **SCHEDULE** ♥ ♠ ~

Most games held at Ohr Kodesh

- 10/07/2010 .....Stratified STaC Pairs
- 10/14/2010 .....StrataFlighted Appreciation Pairs
- 10/21/2010 .....StrataFlighted BAM **Teams**
- 10/28/2010 .....NVBA Sectional
- 11/04/2010 .....StrataFlighted Unit Championship
- 11/11/2010 .....StrataFlighted Unit Championship
- 11/18/2010 .....StrataFlighted Grand National **Teams**
- 11/25/2010 .....Closed Thanksgiving
- 12/02/2010 .....StrataFlighted Unit Championship
- 12/09/2010 .....StrataFlighted Grand National **Teams**
- 12/16/2010 .....**Holiday Party:** Stratified STaC Pairs  
—held at the Kensington Armory—

\* Buffet Dinner: 6pm \* Game starts **EARLY: 7:20pm** \*

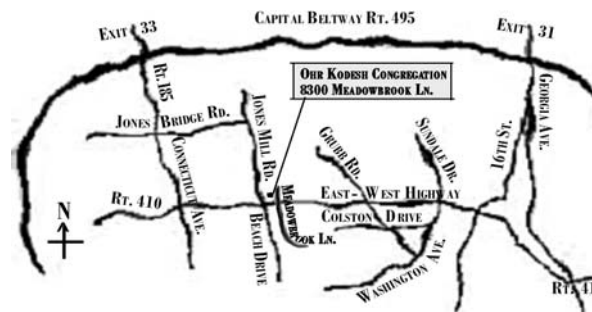
- 12/23/2010 .....StrataFlighted Unit Championship
- 12/30/2010 .....StrataFlighted Grand National **Teams**
- 01/06/2011 .....tba
- 01/13/2011 .....WBL Sectional

01/20/2011  
and on .....tba

**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 OHR KODESH CONGREGATION**



**ALERT!** The Unit Game is now played at Ohr Kodesh. NO OUTSIDE FOOD IS ALLOWED. Snacks and drinks will be provided.

**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** by email at [UnitGamePartner@DistrictSix.org](mailto:UnitGamePartner@DistrictSix.org) or [barbd@starpower.net](mailto:barbd@starpower.net), or call her at (301) 608-0347 between 9am and 10pm.

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.

**Partnerships Close AT 7:25pm** TO START THE GAME PROMPTLY AT 7:30PM. CALL IF YOU'RE LATE, OR YOU MAY NOT BE ACCOMMODATED.

**UNIT GAME CARPOOL AVAILABLE**

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



## THE UNIT GAME

Please contact **Chris Miller**, Club Manager and Chief Director, at [unitgamedirector@districtsix.org](mailto:unitgamedirector@districtsix.org) if you have any questions about how the WBL Unit Game is run. This column answers some frequently asked questions.

### PRE-PLANNING YOUR DEFENSE TO

**1m-(P)-2♥\***

(\*SHOWING ONE OF THREE HAND TYPES)

from Unit Game Chair,

**Clyde Kruskal**, [cpkfam@gmail.com](mailto:cpkfam@gmail.com)

Many pairs in the WBL play 1m-(P)-2♥ shows one of three hand types:

1. Strong jump shift in hearts
2. Invitational hand in NoTrump
3. Constructive raise in the minor

Opener is expected to bid 2♠, at which point responder will clarify the hand type. As a Mid-Chart convention, this convention is pre-alertable: any pair playing this convention must warn you (pre-alert) before the round starts and must have a written description of their convention available (such as what's written here above this paragraph). However, the defenders must memorize a defense if they want to use one; they cannot refer to a written defense at the table. This article provides a simple defense, and a more comprehensive one, both of which have been suggested by expert players. While a partnership is entitled to discuss defensive methods at the table (before hands are removed), it is much better to agree on defensive methods before starting the game. Since this convention is played by a large number of pairs, especially in the open (A/X) game, this will prevent delaying the game with discussions at the table.

The heart of the defense is to double 2♥ with hearts. The only time the opponents will actually have hearts is when the 2♥ bid is a strong jump shift; it is unlikely you will be tempted to double in that situation. If you want to make a takeout double, you must pass first.

#### The simple defense:

DBL = hearts

PASS then DBL = takeout of opener's minor

All else "standard"

The full defense is exactly the same; it just clarifies the meanings of

...continued on p. 19

## 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.

*Thank you in advance for any assistance you can provide.*

**Barbara Summers**, Volunteer Coordinator, 301-598-5838, [jimbarb1184@aol.com](mailto:jimbarb1184@aol.com),

### UPCOMING SECTIONALS

- ♣ Oct. 16-17, 2001, NLM, Kensington, MD
- ♦ October 28-31, 2010, Fairfax, VA
- ♥ January 13-16, 2011, Silver Spring, MD
- February 24-27, 2011, Fairfax, VA
- ♣ May 12-15, 2011, Silver Spring, MD
- ♥ August 11-14, 2011, Silver Spring, MD
- ♠ Sept. 29-Oct. 2, 2011, Fairfax, VA

## COMMITTEE ACTION #70

by **Rich Colker**, [rcolker@gmail.com](mailto:rcolker@gmail.com)

In the first qualifying session of the Edgar Kaplan Blue Ribbon Pairs, at the 2009 San Diego NABC last fall, two appeals occurred dealing with the same irregularity, at the same point, in the same auction, on the same deal. Here's what happened.

Bd: 14; Dlr: East; Vul: None

North  
♠ 7643  
♥ J10  
♦ QJ9  
♣ QJ98

West  
♠ Q5  
♥ A53  
♦ A862  
♣ 7653

East  
♠ AK982  
♥ K9872  
♦ K54  
♣ —

South  
♠ J10  
♥ Q64  
♦ 1073  
♣ AK1042

<u>West</u>	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>
1NT <sup>(1)</sup>	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♠ <sup>(2)</sup>	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

<sup>(1)</sup> Forcing; <sup>(2)</sup> Slow

At both tables South led the A, after which 4♥ by East made six, +680 for E/W.

At one table the Director was not called until play had ended; at the other table the Director was called both after the 3♥ bid and again at the end of play. At the first table all four players agreed that West had taken at least 10 seconds before bidding 2♠. At the second table, when asked to estimate the length of West's hesitation before bidding 2♠, North and South both said 10 seconds while East and West both denied a substantial break (West said two seconds, East said not noticeable—but a slight break). The first Director judged there had been a BIT and that the UI demonstrably suggested bidding rather than passing, and that pass was a LA. The result at that table was adjusted to 2♠ by East made three, +140 for E/W. E/W appealed, saying

that the score should have been adjusted to 2♠ made four, +170 for E/W.

The second Director judged that the UI did not demonstrably suggest one action over another and allowed the table result to stand. This time it was N/S who appealed the ruling. However, at screening the Director changed the ruling to 2♠ by West made three, +140 for E/W, just as the first Director had done. E/W then appealed the screening Director's ruling.

Only North and East attended the hearing from the first table. East said he would have made 10 tricks in spades by ruffing a heart with dummy's ♠ Q (he did not agree with adjusting the contract to 2♠, but said he would have made 10 tricks in 4♠ as well). North, his opponent, agreed saying he was sure East would have made 10 tricks in 2♠.

In the appeal from the second table (E/W's English was not good, so they spoke through an interpreter) West admitted she had taken about 10 seconds to bid 2♠, saying she had been deciding among pass, 2♠, 2NT and 3♥. Despite this East continued to insist she did not think there had been a BIT. When asked how she would have played a spade contract on a club lead she said she would have discarded a diamond, ruffed the club continuation, played three rounds of hearts, ruffed the club return and drawn trumps. North and South both said that there had been a clear BIT and they called the Director immediately after the 3♥ bid because of it.

The Committee in the first case disallowed the 3♥ bid (with one dissenter) and accepted the reasoning of the two players as to the number of tricks East would have taken. The result was changed to 2♠ by East made four, +170 for E/W.

The Committee in the second case also judged there had been a BIT and disallowed the 3♥ bid (again with one dissenter). The line of play stated by declarer there was also accepted (even though it was not as good as the first declarer's line had been) and the result was adjusted to 2♠ by East made three, +140 for E/W.

...continued on p. 18

So, what do you make of the differences in the two table rulings and in the number of tricks finally assigned to the two declarers? When you've decided read on.

First, once it is judged that a hesitation occurred, as everyone except East at the second table (who had a personal interest in insisting it didn't, since he knew his 3♥ bid would have been improper if it had been made following a BIT by his partner) agreed, it must then be decided whether the UI from it demonstrably suggested taking further action. Clearly if West had bid a forcing notrump planning next to bid 2♠ with a very weak raise (e.g., something like ♠xxx♥Jxx♦Q10xx Qxx), the 2♠ bid would not have been out of tempo. So the BIT suggests West either does not have a very weak spade raise, or has one of several other hand types which include: (a) extra values, just shy of an invitational 2NT, with a doubleton spade (something like the actual hand, though one could argue that hand is worth a 2NT rebid); or (b) a hand with a minor suit of its own that was not good enough to bid at the three level (perhaps something like ♠Qx♥xxx♦QxxAJxxx); or (c) a hand almost strong enough to make a three-card limit raise in spades, but lacking three spades (again, something like the actual hand); or finally (d) a good hand with 2=3 in the majors that was thinking of raising hearts (something like ♠Qx♥KQx♦xxxx Jxxx).

All of these hands have one thing in common: they all have sound values to go with at least a modest fit for one or both of East's suits, making bidding again with the East hand more attractive.

So, once we decide that the BIT demonstrably suggests further action by East, the next question becomes "Is pass a LA for East." In other words, would some non-negligible number of players of comparable ability to East pass with those cards? Several Directors and eight of the ten players who made up the two Committees answered yes to this question, which means reverting the contract from 4♥ back to 2♠ was proper.

(As an aside, if you were wondering, I would not have passed 2♠. I would have bid 3♦ —not 3♥—over 2♠ to cater to a West hand similar to (b) above, but with the minors reversed. Now partner could pass, raise diamonds, or bid hearts with a hand like (d) having already denied holding four of them.)

The final step in the adjudication process is to decide on a result in a 2♠ contract. Law

12C1(e) instructs the Director, and thus an Appeal Committee, to resolve any doubts in assigning a score in favor of the non-offending side (they get "the most favorable result that was likely had the irregularity not occurred") and against the offending side (they get "the most unfavorable result that was at all probable had the irregularity not occurred").

In this case, the Directors had to decide how many tricks East would take in 2♠. Ruffing a spade with dummy's ♠Q against a forcing defense is a good play that perhaps only an expert would find, paying dividends (as it does here) when the ♠J10 fall doubleton. However, since declarer is a member of the offending side it is proper for the Director not to take his word that he would have found the play at face value since he already knew the ♠J10 were doubleton, after having playing the hand in 4♥, and that might have made it easier to find the play. It is better for Directors to leave it to the bridge experts on an Appeal Committee to determine whether assigning the extra trick is justified. In my opinion, once declarer knew all four hands after having played out the deal in 4♥, I would be very reluctant to assign the extra trick to any but the most skilled declarer. Perhaps that's what happened in the first case here. But it was clear that the declarer at the second table did not even see how best to play the hand, even looking at all 52 cards, so the different assignments seem to have been justified.

It is not as unusual as one might think for two Directors to make different rulings, even when they are confronted with the same set of facts (as here). While Directors may well be competent players, that is not a requirement of the job (I know Directors who do not even play the game) and it is rare to find one who is truly an expert player. Indeed, that is why, when more than one Director is available, the ACBL asks its Directors to consult with one another (and expert players if possible) before making a ruling that may require bidding or play expertise. And that is precisely why the laws give players the right to appeal Directors' rulings.

So, if you to suspect that a ruling at your table may be in error, it is reasonable, and well within the spirit of the game, to ask for a Committee (if one is available) to review it. Of course, it is also possible for an appeal to be a total waste of a Committee's time and for the Committee members to judge that the player(s) who filed the appeal should have known better. So to avoid being penalized for an appeal that lacks merit, it may be wise to solicit the opinions of others before filing an appeal.

the other bids: 2NT should be unusual for the two lower unbid suits (hearts and the other minor). It is doubtful you will want to bid 2NT naturally when the opponents have shown almost half of the HCPs. 3 of their minor should be Michaels, and 3 of the other minor should be natural. 3 of a major is more interesting: We already have ways to show the majors at the two level (bidding 2♠ and doubling 2♥). So 3 of a major can either be strong and invitational (about 16-18 points) or preemptive. It is reasonable vary the meaning depending on seat, vulnerability, and suit. I suggest that you play preemptive when non-vulnerable (based on computer simulations).

With all of this in mind, here is the **full defense**:

- DBL = hearts
- PASS then DBL = takeout of opener's minor
- 2♠ = natural
- 2N = unusual (hearts and the other minor, 5-5)
- 3 of their minor = Michaels
- 3 of the other minor = natural
- 3 of a major = natural (*choose the range*)
- 3N = to play

Some pairs play slight variations of the 1m-(P)-2♥ convention, for example it is only a 2-way bid or it shows a limit raise rather than constructive raise of the minor. You can use the same defense. Some pairs have similar meanings for 1m-(P)-2S. Once again, the same defense works (with the obvious adjustments).

Here is a very rough estimate of how often you will need a defense to this convention: First of all, you rarely need a defense other than when the opponents open first seat, which happens 1/2 of the time. (Otherwise, the hand bidding after the 2♥ call has already had a chance to bid.) Computer simulations suggest that you will see a first seat 1m opener followed by a 2♥ response about once every 280 hands, depending on your partnership's overcalling style and the opponent's opening and responding styles. It turns out that a reasonable fraction of the time, you would actually like to enter the auction in this situation. For the sake of argument, let's say it is

1/2 the time. Finally, assume that 1/2 your opponents play this convention. Putting it all together, this works out to about once in every 2240 hands, or about once in every 93 sessions (with 24 boards per session).<sup>1</sup> Even if you have great defensive methods and the bid does come up, your methods may not fit your particular hand; or, if they do fit, bidding might not change the final result, or, as sometimes happens, bidding might lead to a worse result. This suggests that, unless you have a very experienced partnership, you can get by without a defense or, at worst, a very rudimentary one.

*Acknowledgments:* The author thanks the WBL committee whose work included investigating the convention (which, besides himself, consisted of Hank Meyer, Ellen Cherniavsky, and Donna Rogall) and the experts who suggested the defenses (including Bill Cole, Steve Robinson, and Mark Shaw).

<sup>1</sup> As a sanity check, for those who actually play this convention, my simulations suggest that you will use it about once every 40 sessions, which is roughly in line with my experience.

**Bits & Pieces**, cont. from p. 5...

viewed various card combinations and discussed 1) whether they liked the lead (and why) and 2) how to tell partner whether or not to continue the suit. They also reviewed topics such as how they should be communicating when their partner leads an Ace and dummy hits with a singleton.

At the August sectional, we held both beginner and advanced classes. The beginner class attracted two tables of new players, and Lois Geer taught the basics of counting and hand evaluation, how to open the bidding, and how the play proceeds around the table. Before long the class was playing simple bridge hands. Several of the students have continued to play and learn by participating in the 0-20 game on Thursday nights.

The advanced class spent the day learning about the End Play. We broke the topic down into small bites, and by the end of the day even the most timid declarers knew how to recognize the hand type, the order in which to play their suits, and how to throw in the defender to save declarer from having to make a guess. The students then played a game where they could practice their new skills.

...continued on p. 20

**MABC BETHESDA REGIONAL  
JULY 5-11, 2010**

Check out the two minute video from the University of Maryland about the regional at [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4\\_Wb5zydd9s](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4_Wb5zydd9s)

**PERFORMANCE LISTS**

**WBL Members**

- 1 88.24 John Adams
- 2 86.94 Steve Robinson
- 3 74.90 Paul Benedict
- 74.90 Lynn Jones
- 5 64.15 Fred King
- 6 62.67 Alan Tenenbaum
- 7 60.52 Lou Reich
- 8 60.14 William Pettis
- 9 57.46 Steven Schatzow
- 10 56.89 William Cole

**WBL Members under 2000 masterpoints**

- 1 53.06 Michael Gill
- 2 43.71 Jeffrey Kosnett
- 3 40.99 Rosemary Shaw
- 4 36.12 Raghavendra Rajkumar
- 5 35.94 James Beller
- 6 34.16 Margie Coccodrilli
- 7 33.59 Michael McQuistan
- 33.59 Brian Hartwig
- 9 32.62 Ronald Susi
- 10 30.00 Suzanne Abrams

**WBL Members under 750 masterpoints**

- 1 35.94 James Beller
- 2 33.59 Brian Hartwig
- 33.59 Michael McQuistan
- 4 28.64 Kiyomi Shiba
- 5 27.81 Hsiaoou Hsiung
- 6 24.24 Daniel Koch
- 7 22.19 William Goldman
- 8 22.17 Dale Sanders
- 9 22.13 Hadi Abushakra
- 10 21.81 Gabriel Cornett

**WBL Members under 300 masterpoints**

- 1 27.81 Hsiaoou Hsiung
- 2 22.17 Dale Sanders
- 3 21.81 Gabriel Cornett
- 4 21.16 Stanley Barg
- 5 20.22 Shyamalendu Pal
- 6 19.73 Richard Levin
- 7 17.63 Guillaume de Decker
- 8 16.66 Eldon Compton
- 9 15.99 Scott Landrum
- 10 15.82 Forest Montgomery

**A BRIDGE PUZZLE—BOARD 12,  
MONDAY AFTERNOON OPEN  
PAIRS, BETHESDA REGIONAL**

Reprinted from Bryan Coleman's write-up in the *Daily Bulletin* (with minor edits for convenience); Hand submission and analysis by John Adams

Once in a while you encounter a hand that is simply just a work of art. John Adams did so Monday afternoon in the Open Pairs when he played Board 12 in 6NT and made it after a slight defensive miscue. What truly sparked his interest was the unique line of play that allows 6♣ to come home (double-dummy even against best defense) after West leads his singleton heart. It was this problem which was published as a quiz and a few intrepid players tried to come up with the winning solution. One was successful. Congratulations to **Larry Kahn**, of Vienna, who was the only person to submit the fully correct answer.

You, South, (hands rotated for convenience) have contracted for 6♣ and you receive the opening lead of the ♥6. East smartly follows small. This being a double-dummy problem, can you come to twelve tricks given best defense?

North

- ♠ J87542
- ♥ QJ
- ♦ K6
- ♣ KJ6

West

- ♠ Q3
- ♥ 6
- ♦ T985432
- ♣ T84

East

- ♠ KT9
- ♥ K87532
- ♦ QJ
- ♣ 95

South

- ♠ A6
- ♥ AT94
- ♦ A7
- ♣ AQ732

**Solution**

Eleven tricks is clear enough: five clubs, two diamonds, one spade, and three hearts given East's duck of the ♥K of both the ♥Q at trick one and the ♥J later in the hand. As for the slam-going trick, it appears that the most likely source will come from setting up the spade suit with a ruff. The sticking point is to do so without permitting East to gain the lead before trumps are pulled (to prevent West from getting his heart ruff), and to do so in such a way as to retain late communication to the dummy to score the established spade. Pulling trumps and then playing two rounds of spades won't work unless the defense kindly leads a third round of spades for you.

**80TH ANNUAL WBL  
D.C.  
CHAMPIONSHIPS**

August 12-15, 2010

**TOP TEN CUMULATIVE  
POINT WINNERS**

**All Players**

- 1 33.89 ..... **Barry Bragin**
- 2 28.64 ..... Brad Theurer
- 3 27.55 ..... Mark Shaw
- 4 23.80 ..... Steve Robinson
- 5 23.70 ..... Peter Boyd
- 6 19.67 ..... David Milton
- 7 18.97 ..... John Miller
- 18.97 ..... Jay Kelkar
- 9 18.08 ..... Donna Rogall
- 18.08 ..... Clyde Kruskal

**Players with fewer than 1500 masterpoints**

- 1 13.24 ..... **Robert Schwab**
- 13.24 ..... Anne Derbes
- 3 12.26 ..... Patrick Stanton
- 4 11.08 ..... Stephen Drodge
- 5 10.40 ..... Dan Emmons
- 6 10.30 ..... Eleanor Bragin
- 7 10.02 ..... Michael Richey
- 8 9.89 ..... Steve Reed
- 9 9.75 ..... Kathrine Loh
- 10 8.86 ..... Amanda Carter

**Players with fewer than 500 masterpoints**

- 1 12.26 ..... **Patrick Stanton**
- 2 11.08 ..... Stephen Drodge
- 3 10.40 ..... Dan Emmons
- 4 8.45 ..... James Beller
- 5 7.37 ..... Michelle Zygielbaum
- 6 7.00 ..... Richard Levin
- 7.00 ..... Marc Weiner
- 8 6.36 ..... Suzanne Floyd
- 9 5.69 ..... Patti Anschutz
- 10 5.15 ..... Daniel Falk
- 5.15 ..... Larry Wallace

**Players with fewer than 100 masterpoints**

- 1 3.89 ..... **Frederic Caponiti**
- 2 3.60 ..... Geane Schubert
- 3.60 ..... Mary Iglehart
- 4 3.53 ..... William Glen
- 5 3.50 ..... David Bubes
- 6 2.71 ..... Hsiaoou Hsiung
- 2.71 ..... Phillip Tseng
- 8 2.62 ..... Ruth Glen
- 2.62 ..... Richard Barth
- 2.62 ..... Donna Setzer

**2010  
MACHLIN TROPHY WINNER**



WBL President Don Berman presented the Machlin Sportsmanship Award Trophy to the 2010 Winner: **Barbara Doran**

**—RESULTS—**

**THURS MORN PAIRS @ ROCKVILLE  
Stratum A, 18.0 Tables**



- 1 Eleanor Bragin - Barry Bragin ..... 72.69
- 2 Donna Hjerpe - David Bubes ..... 62.04
- 3 Audrey Warren - Marlys Moholt ..... 60.42
- 4 Mark Lavine - Amanda Carter ..... 59.72
- 5 Maurice Greenman - Richard Ray ..... 58.80
- 6 Terri Sanker - Kiyomi Shiba ..... 57.41

**THURS MORN PAIRS @ ROCKVILLE  
Stratum B, 10.0 Tables**

- 1 Donna Hjerpe - David Bubes ..... 62.04
- 2 Maurice Greenman - Richard Ray ..... 58.80
- 3 Terri Sanker - Kiyomi Shiba ..... 57.41
- 4 Daniel Falk - Larry Wallace ..... 56.94
- 5 Thomas Din - Kathrine Loh ..... 54.40
- 6 Annapurna Satpathy - Patti Anschutz 52.78

**THURS MORN PAIRS @ ROCKVILLE  
Stratum C, 5.5 Tables**

- 1 Daniel Falk - Larry Wallace ..... 56.94
- 2 Annapurna Satpathy - Patti Anschutz 52.78
- 3 Michael Platt - Terry Vann ..... 51.39
- 4 Walter Laessig - Juanita Beeson ..... 49.31

**THURSDAY EVE FLT A/X PAIRS**

**Stratum A, 13.5 Tables / Based on 31**

- 1 Stephen Drodge - Dan Emmons ..... 64.33
- 2 Steve Reed - Jeff Roman ..... 61.67
- 3 Andrew Gofreed - Stephen Swearingen 61.32
- 4 Ross Bley - Martha Bley ..... 57.43
- 5 Ed Lewis - Vonnice Lavender ..... 56.21
- 6 Ann Lindley - Robert Bumgardner ..... 54.45

**Stratum X, 6.0 Tables**

- 1 Stephen Drodge - Dan Emmons ..... 64.33
- 2 Ross Bley - Martha Bley ..... 57.43
- 3 Annie Schwartz - Elliot Itkin ..... 54.17
- 4 Paul Black - Ronald Kral ..... 52.97

**THURSDAY EVE FLT B/C/D PAIRS**

**Stratum C, 8.0 Tables**

- 1 Terry Jones - Amanda Carter ..... 68.75

- 2 Michael Goldman - William Mendez Jr 68.45
- 3 Jay Simon - Mark Jones .....57.14
- 4 W Karl Van Newkirk - Virginia Gibbons 56.25
- 5 James Beller - Albert Lauber .....54.76

**Stratum D, 6.0 Tables**

- 1 Michael Goldman - William Mendez Jr 68.45
- 2 Jay Simon - Mark Jones .....57.14
- 3 W Karl Van Newkirk - Virginia Gibbons 56.25
- 4 Gaye Itkin - Mary Alice Vogt .....50.00

**THURS EVE 199ERS @NVBA**

**Stratum A, 9.0 Tables**

- 1 Onorica Luculescu - Alina Galaszewska 62.20
- 2 Georgette Weiss - Ike Oren .....58.33
- 3 Walt Pumo - Janice Pumo .....57.14
- 4 James Gerding - James Mentzer .....53.27
- 5/6 Mary Hinkley - Barbara Bieger .....52.68
- 5/6 Joan Axilbund - Mary Lou McMorrow 52.68

**Stratum B, 6.0 Tables**

- 1 Walt Pumo - Janice Pumo .....57.14
- 2 James Gerding - James Mentzer .....53.27
- 3/4 Mary Hinkley - Barbara Bieger .....52.68
- 3/4 Joan Axilbund - Mary Lou McMorrow 52.68

**Stratum C, 2.5 Tables**

- 1 Joan Axilbund - Mary Lou McMorrow 52.68
- 2 Jonathan Haley - Tim Rauhen .....52.38

**FRIDAY MORNING OPEN PAIRS**

**Stratum A, 19.0 Tables / Based on 26**



- 1 John Miller - Jay Kelkar .....68.51
- 2 Linda Marshall - James Beller .....61.77
- 3 Alfred Caponiti - Frederic Caponiti .....61.24
- 4 Donald Berman - Leon Letwin .....60.33
- 5 G. de Decker - Michelle Zyguelbaum .57.44
- 6 Benjamin Brill - Leo LaSota .....57.19

**Stratum B, 12.5 Tables**

- 1 Alfred Caponiti - Frederic Caponiti .....61.24
- 2 G. de Decker - Michelle Zyguelbaum .57.44
- 3 Behnaz Fardshisheh - Charles King .....57.08
- 4 Susan Miskura - Dennis Schwanz .....56.47
- 5 Jerry Pruzan - Ron Starr .....56.35
- 6 Shawn Stringer - Hadi Abushakra .....55.59

**Stratum C, 6.0 Tables**

- 1 Alfred Caponiti - Frederic Caponiti .....61.24
- 2 G. de Decker - Michelle Zyguelbaum .57.44
- 3 Jerry Pruzan - Ron Starr .....56.35
- 4 Larry Moran - Douglas Fox .....52.95

**FRIDAY MORNING NONLM PAIRS**

**Stratum A, 6.5 Tables**



- 1 Brenda Thomas - Mary Monfre .....61.20
- 2 Joseph Abita - Sandy Mitchell .....60.30

- 3 Charles Meister - David Rife .....60.00
- 4 Geane Schubert - Mary Iglehart .....58.58
- 5 Paul Setzer - William Glen .....54.40

**Stratum B, 3.5 Tables**

- 1 Joseph Abita - Sandy Mitchell .....60.30
- 2 Geane Schubert - Mary Iglehart .....58.58
- 3 Gabriel Cornett - Eldon Compton .....51.00

**FRIDAY AFTERNOON AX PAIRS**

**Stratum A, 15.0 Tables / Based on 35**



- 1 James Wakefield - Helene Bauman .....65.53
- 2 Eleanor Bragin - Barry Bragin .....60.42
- 3/4 Leo LaSota - Mark Shaw .....58.71
- 3/4 John Miller - Jay Kelkar .....58.71
- 5 Ann Ingram - Steven Schatzow .....58.14
- 6 Kevin O'Brien - Amanda Carter .....56.63

**Stratum X, 7.0 Tables**

- 1 Kevin O'Brien - Amanda Carter .....56.63
- 2 Alice Wegman - Seema Bhagwat .....54.55
- 3 Anne Derbes - Robert Schwab .....53.60
- 4 John Wang - John Lowe III .....51.52
- 5 G. de Decker - Michelle Zyguelbaum .48.67

**FRIDAY AFTERNOON BCD PAIRS**

**Stratum B, 12.0 Tables**

- 1 Linda Barton - Suzanne Floyd .....63.58
- 2 Susan Miskura - Dennis Schwanz .....62.31
- 3 Albert Lauber - Steven Fox .....59.63
- 4 William Glen - Paul Setzer .....59.04
- 5 Francesco Parisi-Prsicce - Mike Froesch 56.29
- 6 Neil Selvin - Howard Grunin .....54.54

**Stratum C, 9.5 Tables**

- 1 Linda Barton - Suzanne Floyd .....63.58
- 2 Albert Lauber - Steven Fox .....59.63
- 3 William Glen - Paul Setzer .....59.04
- 4 Francesco Parisi-Prsicce - Mike Froesch 56.29
- 5 Neil Selvin - Howard Grunin .....54.54
- 6 Jane Reifler - Ronald Reifler .....53.71

**Stratum D, 4.0 Tables**

- 1 Linda Barton - Suzanne Floyd .....63.58
- 2 William Glen - Paul Setzer .....59.04
- 3 Jane Reifler - Ronald Reifler .....53.71

**FRIDAY AFTERNOON 299ER PAIRS**

**Stratum A, 8.0 Tables**

- 1 David Montague - Norman Mitchell .....63.10
- 2 George Green - Jeffrey Zaller .....62.50
- 3/4 Charles Meister - David Rife .....56.55
- 3/4 Pat Kibler - Donald Smith .....56.55
- 5 Brenda Thomas - Mary Monfre .....54.76

**Stratum B, 6.0 Tables**

- 1 David Montague - Norman Mitchell .....63.10
- 2 Pat Kibler - Donald Smith .....56.55
- 3 James Gerding - James Mentzer .....50.89
- 4 Ernie Schuler - Elizabeth Nash .....50.30

**Stratum C, 3.5 Tables**

- 1 Pat Kibler - Donald Smith .....56.55
- 2 James Gerding - James Mentzer .....50.89
- 3 Donna Setzer - Ruth Glen .....49.70



**FRIDAY EVE A/X IMP PAIRS**

**Stratum A, 10.0 Tables / Based on 28**

- 1 Martin Graf - Mark Shaw .....45.43
- 2 Steven Schatzow - Jason Meyer .....41.14
- 3 Leo LaSota - Barbara Shaw .....34.29
- 4 Margot Hennings - David Milton .....21.57
- 5 Earl Glickstein - Barry Falgout .....15.29
- 6 Robert Bell - Eileen Houghton .....13.43

**Stratum X, 4.0 Tables**

- 1 Patrick Stanton - Mark Cohen .....12.00
- 2 James Geist - Michael Richey .....6.00
- 3 Merrill Hirsh - Monique Smith .....0.57

**FRIDAY EVE B/C/D IMP PAIRS**

**Stratum B, 9.5 Tables**



- 1 Larry Wallace - Daniel Falk .....70.06
- 2 Peter Van Zijl - Michael Berard .....43.34
- 3 Jim Anschutz - Patti Anschutz .....41.55
- 4 Neil Selvin - Howard Grunin .....38.38
- 5 Barbara Israel - Irv Kipnis .....19.65
- 6 Calvin Konner - Richard Wedgewood .8.41

**Stratum C, 8.0 Tables**

- 1 Daniel Falk - Larry Wallace .....70.06
- 2 Peter Van Zijl - Michael Berard .....43.34
- 3 Jim Anschutz - Patti Anschutz .....41.55
- 4 Neil Selvin - Howard Grunin .....38.38
- 5 Calvin Konner - Richard Wedgewood .8.41

**Stratum D, 5.0 Tables**

- 1 Daniel Falk - Larry Wallace .....70.06
- 2 Jim Anschutz - Patti Anschutz .....41.55
- 3 Donna Stoker - Edward Stoker .....1.38
- 4 Lorraine Tyler - David Fitzwilliam .....-0.12

**FRIDAY EVE 299ER PAIRS**

**Stratum A, 8.0 Tables**



- 1 David Rife - Charles Meister .....60.63
- 2 Gerald O'Dell - Victor Van Rees .....58.83
- 3 Charles Maplethorpe - Ike Oren .....56.22
- 4 David Montague - Norman Mitchell .....54.63
- 5 Onorica Luculescu - Alina Galaszewska 53.86

**Stratum B, 6.0 Tables**

- 1 Charles Maplethorpe - Ike Oren .....56.22
- 2 David Montague - Norman Mitchell .....54.63
- 3 Onorica Luculescu - Alina Galaszewska 53.86
- 4 Charles Pritzlaff - Olivia Pritzlaff .....53.82

**Stratum C, 3.5 Tables**

- 1 Charles Pritzlaff - Olivia Pritzlaff .....53.82
- 2 Joia Hertz - Benjamin Yeung .....53.64
- 3 Jean Schoen - Kathleen Zellmer .....51.82



**SAT AM FLIGHT A/X PAIRS**

**Stratum A, 24.0 Tables / Based on 59**

- 1 Robert Schwab - Anne Derbes .....61.78
- 2 Brad Theurer - Barry Bragin .....61.23
- 3 Steve Robinson - Peter Boyd .....60.51
- 4 Arnie Frankel - Helene Bauman .....58.97
- 5 Herbert Fallin Jr - Carole Grob .....58.70
- 6 Robert Bell - Fred King .....56.25
- 7/8 Earl Glickstein - Barry Falgout .....54.44
- 7/8 Stan Schenker - David Milton .....54.44

**Stratum X, 13.0 Tables**

- 1 Robert Schwab - Anne Derbes .....61.78
- 2/4 Rose Berman - Michelle Zyguelbaum .54.17
- 2/4 Monique Smith - Merrill Hirsh .....54.17
- 2/4 Michael Klein - M Webster Ewell Jr .54.17
- 5 Ross Bley - Martha Bley .....53.80
- 6 Shawn Stringer - Hadi Abushakra .....53.26

**SAT MORN FLIGHT B/C/D PAIRS**

**Stratum B, 19.0 Tables**



- 1 Anita Gutschick - Carl Gutschick .....63.10
- 2 Ann Ruth Volin - Carol Fouts .....59.82
- 3 James Beller - Albert Lauber .....58.93
- 4 Katherine Rabenstein - James Adams 58.63
- 5 Richard Levin - Marc Weiner .....58.33
- 6/7 Bryan Geer - Lois Geer .....55.95
- 6/7 Eric Poskanzer - Francesco Parisi-Prsicce 55.95

**Stratum C, 15.0 Tables**

- 1 James Beller - Albert Lauber .....58.93
- 2 Richard Levin - Marc Weiner .....58.33
- 3/4 Bryan Geer - Lois Geer .....55.95
- 3/4 Eric Poskanzer - Francesco Parisi-Prsicce 55.95
- 5 Terry Carlton - Candace Carlton .....54.46
- 6 Fred Gramlich - William Prosser .....53.87

**Stratum D, 8.5 Tables**

- 1 Richard Levin - Marc Weiner .....58.33
- 2 Terry Carlton - Candace Carlton .....54.46
- 3 Fred Gramlich - William Prosser .....53.87
- 4 Reina Chassy - Paul Chassy .....53.27
- 5/6 Lynne Beresford - Eleanor Schwartz .52.68
- 5/6 Saul Franklin - Alan Skvirsky .....52.68

**SAT MORN 299ER PAIRS**

**Stratum A, 16.0 Tables**



- 1 Richard Barth - Gerald O'Dell .....63.31
- 2 Ernie Schuler - Elizabeth Nash .....62.76
- 3 Mary Iglehart - Geane Schubert .....59.44
- 4 Jo Turner - Betty Brawley .....58.63

- 5 Stephen Colevas - Richard Leonardon 58.33
- 6/7 Edward Anania - Joan Anania . . . . .55.65
- 6/7 Tamara Vetter - Jayne Lynch . . . . .55.65

**Stratum B, 12.0 Tables**

- 1 Ernie Schuler - Elizabeth Nash . . . . .62.76
- 2 Mary Iglehart - Geane Schubert . . . . .59.44
- 3 Jo Turner - Betty Brawley . . . . .58.63
- 4 Tamara Vetter - Jayne Lynch . . . . .55.65
- 5 Ken Kimball - Marsha Ann Brown . . . . .55.10
- 6 Ellen Pollack - Diane Liebman . . . . .55.06

**Stratum C, 6.0 Tables**

- 1 Jo Turner - Betty Brawley . . . . .58.63
- 2 Tamara Vetter - Jayne Lynch . . . . .55.65
- 3 Ken Kimball - Marsha Ann Brown . . . . .55.10
- 4 Sherry Griffin - Sheila Walker . . . . .54.59

**SAT AFTERNOON AX PAIRS**

**Stratum A, 21.5 Tables / Based on 51**



- 1 Clyde Kruskal - Donna Rogall . . . . .62.50
- 2 Brad Theurer - Barry Bragin . . . . .61.04
- 3 Robert Boyd - Steven Schatzow . . . . .59.48
- 4 Alfred Duncker - Ann Lindley . . . . .58.41
- 5/6 Stan Schenker - David Milton . . . . .58.33
- 5/6 Bruce Houston - Kenneth Davis . . . . .58.33

**Stratum X, 9.5 Tables**

- 1 Sandra Stern - Roger Stern . . . . .55.11
- 2 Merrill Hirsh - Monique Smith . . . . .52.60
- 3 Roma Chandra - Lynda Flanger . . . . .51.98
- 4 Alice Wegman - John Glynn . . . . .51.70
- 5 Steve Reed - Kiyomi Shiba . . . . .51.04
- 6 Rose Berman - Michelle Zyguelbaum .50.83

**SAT AFTERNOON B/C/D PAIRS**

**Stratum B, 17.0 Tables**



- 1 Franz Delahan - Madeline Delahan . .58.90
- 2 Phillip Tseng - Hsiao Hsiung . . . . .58.71
- 3/4 Kathrine Loh - Charles Maplethorpe .57.77
- 3/4 Suzanne Floyd - Elaine Conway . . . . .57.77
- 5 Francesco Parisi-Presicce - Eric Poskanzer 56.82
- 6 Kathleen O'Toole - David Mead . . . . .55.11

**Stratum C, 13.5 Tables**

- 1 Franz Delahan - Madeline Delahan . .58.90
- 2 Phillip Tseng - Hsiao Hsiung . . . . .58.71
- 3 Suzanne Floyd - Elaine Conway . . . . .57.77
- 4 Francesco Parisi-Presicce - Eric Poskanzer 56.82
- 5 Kathleen O'Toole - David Mead . . . . .55.11
- 6 Calvin Konner - Richard Wedgewood 54.55

**Stratum D, 7.0 Tables**

- 1 Phillip Tseng - Hsiao Hsiung . . . . .58.71
- 2 Pat Lonergan - J J Jayaraman . . . . .51.70
- 3/4 Roseann Romito - Robert Blatt . . . . .50.38
- 3/4 Fred Gramlich - William Prosser . . . . .50.38
- 5 Lynne Beresford - Eleanor Schwartz .49.62



**SAT AFTERNOON NONLM PAIRS**

**Stratum A, 12.0 Tables**

- 1 Susan Weiss - Bernice Felix . . . . .59.64
- 2 Marilyn Courtot - Jeremy Billones . . .57.80
- 3 Elizabeth Nash - Ernie Schuler . . . . .55.84
- 4 Joseph Pregosin - Stanley Katzman . .55.82
- 5 Deanna Shuman - Lawrence Shuman .55.09
- 6 Robert Rich - Rhonda Rich . . . . .54.87

**Stratum B, 8.5 Tables**

- 1 Marilyn Courtot - Jeremy Billones . . .57.80
- 2 Elizabeth Nash - Ernie Schuler . . . . .55.84
- 3 Joseph Pregosin - Stanley Katzman . .55.82
- 4 Deanna Shuman - Lawrence Shuman .55.09
- 5 Robert Rich - Rhonda Rich . . . . .54.87

**Stratum C, 4.5 Tables**

- 1 Marilyn Courtot - Jeremy Billones . . .57.80
- 2 Robert Rich - Rhonda Rich . . . . .54.87
- 3 Oliver Thomas - Julia Thomas . . . . .53.70
- 4 Kenneth Rossato - Joia Hertz . . . . .51.34

**SUN FLIGHT A/X SWISS**

**Stratum A, 14 Tables / Based on 56**



- 1 Mark Shaw - William Cole - Steve Robinson - Peter Boyd . . . . .99.00
- 2 Stan Schenker - David Milton - Brad Theurer - Lyle Poe Jr . . . . .98.00
- 3 Robert Hopkins Jr - Barry Falgout - Jay Kelkar - John Miller . . . . .86.00
- 4 Barry Bragin - Fred King - David Abelow - Richard Wegman . . . . .79.00
- 5 James Wakefield - Helene Bauman - Sarah Anne Cressy - Cecily Kohler . . . . .72.00

**Stratum X, 5 Tables**

- 1 Clyde Kruskal - Michael Richey - Lloyd Rawley - Donna Rogall . . . . .67.00
- 2 Jian-Jian Wang - Hailong Ao - Sven Pride - Mark Chen . . . . .64.00

**SUNDAY FLIGHT BCD SWISS**

**Stratum B, 32 Tables**



- 1 Patrick Stanton - Melissa Price - Richard Price - Mark Cohen . . . . .108.00
- 2 Kathrine Loh - Bruce Bucklinger - John Lowe III - Steven Rothman . . . . .98.00
- 3 Jerry Miller - Margie Coccodrilli - Janet Dence - Katherine Rabenstein . . . . .94.00
- 4/5 Robert Stearns - William Goldman - Charles Young Jr - Lynn Boardman . .93.00
- 4/5 Steve Reed - Amy Bloom - Stephen Drodge - Dan Emmons . . . . .93.00

- 6/7 Marc Weiner - Richard Levin - Ellen Rosenthal - Neal Rosenthal . . . . .88.00
- 6/7 Donald Goldman - Gail Singer - Paul Leopold - Seymour Baden . . . . .88.00
- 8 Dennis Schwanz - Susan Miskura - Robert Padgett - Linda Padgett . . . . .87.00
- 9 Roma Chandra - Nelson Waks - Gerard Mulvena - Marshall Kramer . . . . .85.00

**Stratum C, 15 Tables**

- 1 Marc Weiner - Richard Levin - Ellen Rosenthal - Neal Rosenthal . . . . .88.00
- 2/3 Neil Selvin - Howard Grunin - Kiyomi Shiba - Adrienne Kuehne . . . . .75.00
- 2/3 Merna Hart - Michael Hart - Jim Wildey - Michael Ford . . . . .75.00
- 4 Jeffrey Caplan - Julie Connor - Eva Vorn-dran - Nadira Vorn-dran . . . . .68.00
- 5 Barbara Steingaszner - Laszlo Steingaszner - Herman Bluestone - Robert Kubal .66.00

**Stratum D, 5 Tables**

- 1 Merna Hart - Michael Hart - Jim Wildey - Michael Ford . . . . .75.00
- 2 Jeffrey Caplan - Julie Connor - Eva Vorn-dran - Nadira Vorn-dran . . . . .68.00

**SUN MORNING NLM SWISS**

**Stratum A, 10 Tables**



- 1 Dev Chattopadhyay - Annapurna Satpathy - Patti Anschutz - Jim Anschutz . . . . .64.00

- 2 Paul Setzer - William Glen - Ruth Glen - Donna Setzer . . . . .50.00
- 3 Geane Schubert - Mary Iglehart - Barbara Levine - Maxine Penn . . . . .44.00
- 4/5 Albert Stolpe - M. David Jackson - Stephen Colevas - Andrea Stanley-Miller . . . . .39.00
- 4/5 Dennis Sponholtz - Joan Kindle - Bob Patel - Chieko Franck . . . . .39.00

**Stratum B, 6 Tables**

- 1 Paul Setzer - William Glen - Ruth Glen - Donna Setzer . . . . .50.00
- 2 Geane Schubert - Mary Iglehart - Barbara Levine - Maxine Penn . . . . .44.00

**Stratum C, 3 Tables**

- 1 Geane Schubert - Mary Iglehart - Barbara Levine - Maxine Penn . . . . .44.00

**SUN AFTERNOON NLM SWISS**

**Stratum A, 6 Tables**



- 1 Albert Stolpe - Andrea Stanley-Miller - M. David Jackson - Stephen Colevas . . . . .61.00
- 2 Michael Watts - Sheila Kaplan - Ronnie Loeser - Elizabeth Tevelow . . . . .50.00

**Stratum B, 3 Tables**

- 1 Michael Watts - Sheila Kaplan - Ronnie Loeser - Elizabeth Tevelow . . . . .50.00

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**Bits & Pieces, cont. from p. 25...**

More likely they will simply lead diamonds when in with the spade leaving you an entry short to both ruff out the spade and then enjoy the resulting spade winner.

So, if pulling trumps is out, the only viable alternative is to lead spades now. A spade to the ace another spade won't work well - East will happily overtake his partner's queen with his king and set the slam with a heart switch. Nor can declarer attempt to duck a round of spades since East will win the first round with his nine or ten. The only thing left is to lead out the ♠ J and when you do an interesting thing happens. If East chooses to duck this, you simply let it ride around to West who is powerless to prevent you from now cashing the other spade, pulling three rounds of trumps ending in dummy where you can now ruff out the ♠ K while you still have the ♣ K as an entry to score your established spade. So East covers the jack with his king and you have no choice but to win the ace.

Now it is West's turn for some marginal amount of brilliance. He must get out of East's way by following with the queen under your ace so that you do not simply throw him in. This will allow West to win the second spade before the spades can be established. Declarer at this point cannot play another spade for the heart ruff. South cashes his last club and East is faced with a dilemma. If he pitches a heart declarer's ten will promote into a winner, so he lets go what appears to be an idle spade. Of course declarer has just executed a strip squeeze and he now finishes East off by exiting a spade who must now lead a heart into declarer's tenace (no pun intended - literally the ten and ace of hearts).

**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](mailto:mlavine@gcsii.com)

**Open Games:** Sat.: 1pm, Mon, Thurs & Fri: 11:15 am  
 Tue: 7pm (Tues. only at Rockville Senior Center—see [www.rockvilledbc.com](http://www.rockvilledbc.com) for directions.)

Strip squeezes are often pedestrian and occasionally we encounter them as if by chance. In this case declarer had to carefully construct the position so that the squeeze would fall into place. Simply running winners without cramming the ♠ J through the defense would ultimately fail because West can easily guard the spade suit thereby taking East off the hook. One of the truly beautiful aspects of this hand is the specific layout of spade suit. There are other distributions that would allow the contract to come home, such as both spade honors being in either hand; when West has them he can be thrown in early with two rounds of spades; when East has them he is simply strip squeezed without the need to run the jack first. When

<u>North</u>		
♠	8752	
♥	-	
♦	-	
♣	-	
<u>West</u>		<u>East</u>
♠	3	♥ T9
♥	-	♠ K8
♦	T98	♦ -
♣	-	♣ -
	<u>South</u>	
	♠ 6	
	♥ AT	
	♦ -	
	♣ 2	

the honors are split, and West holds three spades, declarer needs the ten and the nine to be with West. When the honors are split and West holds two spades, as above, this is where the spade spots really become important. West's spot is smaller than either of East's remaining spades, allowing declarer to pull off his squeeze. Had West been dealt the nine or the ten in lieu of the three, the squeeze fails because East can jettison his two remaining spades to avoid the throw in since West's spade spot (the nine or the ten) would beat declarer's six as well as any of dummy's spades.



# NLM MASTER POINTERS

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

## PASSING CHANGES EVERYTHING!

If you've heard it once, you've heard it a million times: new suits by responder are forcing! But is that really the rule? What's the difference between the following auctions?

1) West	North	East	South
	1♠	P	2♣
P	?		
2) West	North	East	South
	1♠	P	2♣
P	?		

The difference is that in Auction 1, South's 2♣ bid is *unlimited*. That is not the case in Auction 2, since she failed to open. (If you said the difference is that 2C is Drury in Auction 2, this column is way too basic for you! Go read the *WBL Solver's Club* on page 7.) Since South's hand is unlimited in the first auction, North must bid again because game or even slam may be possible. New suits by an *unpassed* responder are forcing.

In Auction 2, South's hand is limited to 11-12 points, and North may pass if he knows there's no chance for game. In fact, if North opened "light" in third seat, he *should* pass, to keep the partnership from getting too high. North needs a solid opening hand to bid again. A minimum opening hand needs another opening hand to get to game, and South failed to open. Do the math!

Once you've failed to open the bidding, there is no bid you can make that is forcing on the opener. (Unless your RHO overcalls after partner's opening bid: bidding the opponent's suit is a cuebid and it's always forcing.) How does that change the passed hand's responding bids? A lot!

Your options in order of preference are:

**1. Raise partner's major.** The most important thing to remember when you're a passed hand is that opener can pass *any* bid you make, so if you have support for his major suit, you must show it right away. You don't have the luxury of bidding a new suit at the two level to show 10 points, and then supporting pard's suit at your next turn to call. Since pard can pass, you run

the risk of missing your fit if you bid a new suit.

With three or more cards in partner's major, raise his suit immediately! Raise one level with 6-10 points. With 11-12 points, jump to three to show a limit raise. Normally the jump raise shows four-card support, but as a passed hand, your options are limited. Unless you're playing an advanced convention (such as Drury), there's no way for you to describe your strength *and* tell pard how many cards you have in his suit, *and you may only have one chance to bid*. So make a limit raise and hope pard has read this column and knows he can't count on you for four trumps.

By the way, don't forget to add support points when you evaluate your hand! If you find that your passed hand is now an opening hand because of your trump fit with partner, you may want to jump right to game...but keep in mind that pard may have opened light, so don't do it unless your hand has one or more "pluses": honors in your long suits; more aces and kings than queens and jacks; lots of tens, nines, and eights; five trumps; or a side void or singleton.

**2. Bid a new suit at the one level.** If partner opens a minor, you'd still like to find a major suit fit if you can. With 6 or more HCP, you can bid your suit at the one level, just as you would if you hadn't passed originally. The only difference is that your bid of a new suit is not forcing. Partner will pass with tolerance for your suit and less than a full opening hand.

Since pard is allowed to pass, do you need to jump in your suit to show 10-12 points? No! Partner will bid again if she has a full opening hand or better. If she supports your suit, be sure to add distribution points when you're choosing your rebid.

**3. Bid notrump.** The biggest difference between passed hand and unpassed hand notrump responses is your point range: 6-10 instead of 6-9 for 1NT, and 11-12 instead of 10-12 for 2NT, because partner may have opened light. Otherwise, 1NT is the same bid you would make if you hadn't passed, showing a minimum hand and no other bid at the one level, and denying support

for partner if she opened a major.

(Also, if you're playing "1NT forcing," 1NT by a passed hand is no longer forcing. Some partnerships play that it's "semi-forcing," but isn't that like being "a little pregnant"?)

As a passed hand, responding 2NT shows 11-12 points, no support for partner and no long suit. If pard opened a minor, 2NT denies a four-card major, the same as if you hadn't previously passed. If you have a four-card suit you can bid at the one level, you should bid your suit instead of bidding notrump, even if you have 11 or 12 points. Even as a passed hand, bidding a new suit at the one level doesn't deny invitational values.

### 4. Bid a new suit at the two level.

Beware: the requirements for bidding a new suit at the two level as a passed hand are *much* stricter than if you hadn't passed! You now need 11-12 points instead of 10+, and you should have a five-card or longer suit. Partner will pass if he has less than full opening values, even with as few as three or (in a pinch) a doubleton honor in your suit, so use caution when you make this bid. With a bad suit or minimum values, consider bidding 1NT instead.

**5. Raise partner's minor.** As always, only with enough trumps and no four-card major.

### What comes next?

Opener should be prepared to pass any new suit you bid when she opens light in third seat, so if she bids again, you can assume she has a full opening hand. With 11-12 support points, you may want to invite with a fit in case partner has a little extra and can go to game.

You should probably discuss these bids with your partner to be sure you're both on the same wavelength. Then remember to choose your response wisely when you're a passed hand: you might be setting the final contract. And *you'll* have to play it!

## STEPPING UP TO NEW HEIGHTS:

As of September 1, 2010

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Parviz Steeds  
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Mr Lennart Eckerberg  
Mr James M Gerding  
Mr Michael Kuehl  
Mr Leon Masiewicki  
Mrs Ellen H Pollack  
Mr Daniel Syed  
Mrs Hanna Wagner  
Hakan Berk  
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Dr Allen Ginsberg  
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Mrs Annapurna Satpathy  
Mr Marc Weiner



1) Matchpoints, You're Vulnerable

♠ 765♥ 8765♦ A32♣ J65

<b>SOUTH</b>	<b>WEST</b>	<b>NORTH</b>	<b>EAST</b>
Pass	Pass	Dbl	Pass
????*	*2NT (asks for better minor)		

2) IMPs, They're Vulnerable

♠ -♥ 8765♦ AK32♣ K10872

<b>SOUTH</b>	<b>WEST</b>	<b>NORTH</b>	<b>EAST</b>
1♠	Pass	2NT*	2NT*
????	*2NT (game forcing spade raise)		

3) IMPs, You're Vulnerable

♠ AQJ♥ AK9643♦ J6♣ A4

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

4) IMPs, Both Vulnerable

♠ 852♥ 10954♦ KQJ65♣ K

<b>SOUTH</b>	<b>WEST</b>	<b>NORTH</b>	<b>EAST</b>
Pass	1♠	Dbl	Pass
????			

5) IMPs, None Vulnerable

♠ QJ2♥ 54♦ Q865♣ AJ32

<b>SOUTH</b>	<b>WEST</b>	<b>NORTH</b>	<b>EAST</b>
Pass	Pass	1♦	2♣
????			

Return answers by October 28 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](mailto:UnitGamePartner@DistrictSix.org), (301-608-0347 between 9am and 10pm) to find a partner in advance. For a last minute partner, call the **WBL cell phone (301-395-2760)**.

**Ron Zuecker, Carpool Coordinator** can be contacted at 202-986-2166 or ([ron@motherzuecker.com](mailto:ron@motherzuecker.com)) or log on to the **On-Line Carpool Notices** at [www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org](http://www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org).

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