

A publication of District 4 of the American Contract Bridge League

MARCH 2012

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE WALTER S. MITCHELL, JR.



Our relatively mild winter is almost behind us, and now begins the "Year of the NABC". This summer the nationals come to Philadelphia (July 12-22), where hundreds of volunteers will show off the warm hospitality that exemplifies members of District 4 in the "City of Brotherly Love". Co-Chairs Joann Glasson, John Marks

and Craig Robinson have assembled a dynamic and devoted committee to handle the myriad of details behind the mounting of such a mammoth undertaking.

The last time the NABC came to Philadelphia was the first time I experienced a national tournament. Just witnessing for the first time thousands of bridge players competing in one gigantic ballroom was a sight to behold. As a relative newcomer to duplicate bridge, I was overwhelmed by the kindness and TLC shown to my wife and me in the I/N area. And while we didn't win any major awards, we nonetheless made sure we played against many of the world's best in open events. I would strongly suggest the same for anyone attending his/her first NABC

By now your unit president/volunteer coordinator should have notified all directors and managers of the specific day when volunteers will be needed from your unit. Please offer to help, if only for two hours. And I promise you won't miss any bridge playing time! Areas where volunteers are assigned include registration, partnership, and prizes/awards, Here are the dates & units responsible: Unit 112: July 14 & 15; Unit 120: July 20; Units 121 & 217 jointly: July 18; Unit 133: July 19; Unit 141: July 12, 13 & 22; Unit 168: July 21; and Unit 190: July 16 & 17. And when you see Joann, John or Craig, please thank them for their tireless devotion to this awesome responsibility.

The District 4 Executive Committee took two significant actions recently. 1) Because of a scheduling snafu by the Host Resort in

Host Resort in (Continued on page 9)

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DISTRICT 4 WEBSITE - DISTRICT4.INFO

Unit Websites

- ▼ 112 acblunit112.org
- ↑ 120 nepab.com
- 121 unit121bridge.com
- ♣ 133 lvbabridge.org">lvbabridge.org
- ▼ 141 philadelphiabridge.info
- ▲ 168 web2.acbl.org/hosted/units/unit168/index.htm
- ◆ 190 unit190.org
- ♣ 217 unit217.nepab.com

DISTRICT DIRECTOR'S REPORT

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The ACBL had 2,200,000 tables of bridge at clubs again in 2011. That number has remained constant for most of this century even in the face of online play. In our District, attendance at clubs suffers this time of the year due to snowbirds. August is the worst month at clubs over all the ACBL. The growth of online bridge has slowed and the masterpoint awards have been reduced to bring the awards more in line with club games. Personally, I am not a fan of online bridge but it certainly has its place. People can play with partners who are not local, working people and young players find that online bridge fits better in their schedules as well as those who find it physically difficult to navigate.

We probably have too many (~44) sectionals in District 4. Although I didn't have as much interaction with our eight units last year, my past experience is that most of the sectionals show a profit. One exception is in my own unit. The Philadelphia unit has close to 2700 members and at our most recent sectional only 198 members played at least one session. That is less than 8 percent of the membership. Why STaCs were ever invented is beyond me. Sectional tournaments showed a tremendous increase when silver points were invented and a steady decline since STaCs began and it is not clear that STaCs increase attendance at clubs very much. Tournaments need participation from players of all skill levels to prosper.

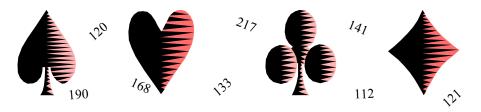
District 4 has really had trouble with our regionals. Overall attendance for our four regionals has shown decreases for quite some time. Attendance in regionals throughout the ACBL has shown small growth this decade. Why? First, let's look at our decline. Our membership has stayed constant but has aged, they travel less and if they do travel they go outside District 4 for additional bridge. Why doesn't the age factor hurt overall? Well, the Board of Directors increased the number of regionals from three to four per district about 20 years ago. 25 districts times 4 regionals equals 100 tournaments but additions for this or that have been made so now there are over 120 regionals per year. The average number of tables per tournament has declined.

The 3 NABCs have been fairly constant, averaging around 12,500 tables per tournament. If you have never been to an NABC you should come to the Philadelphia NABC this summer, July 12-22. I have attended many NABCs and I can honestly say that the Marriott in Philadelphia is the best facility anywhere! The playing space is all in one building, escalators move the players easily, and the eating facilities are varied and excellent led by the Reading Terminal Market.

Philadelphia

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From The Four Corners



CENTRAL NEW YORK 112

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The first thing I want to do is to thank Walt Gable for leaving Unit 112 in great shape. I inherited a well functioning board with great people in key positions. He also agreed to stay on as VP, providing me with the support I need.

Our next big event is the April 14-15 Rainbow Sectional in Waterloo. This will also host our Annual Awards program where we will honor our 2011 Unit Champions, New Life Masters and Ace of Clubs Awards. Mary Miller is working hard to make this a great event. All profits from the weekend will be donated to the Food Bank of the Southern Tier. This will be followed by Sectionals in Ithaca (April 28-29) and Rochester (May 19-20).

This summer, Unit 112 will be responsible for providing volunteers for the first Saturday and Sunday, July 14th and 15th, for the NABC in Philadelphia. We will need in excess of 30 people to man registration, partnership, hospitality and award positions. If you are interested in helping, please contact me or Dan Boye (skipbid2003@yahoo.com) who will be in charge of the partnership desk.

Last but not least, I want to encourage our membership to get out there and promote this great game that we play. In the Utica playing area, we were successful with the help of the ACBL youth program at starting a club at Hamilton College. They were very enthusiastic and did well enough to qualify for a free trip to Toronto to participate in the Collegiate Championship. The board is looking for suggestions to assist our unit teachers and prospective teachers in their work. Feel free to drop me a line if you have any ideas.



NORTHEASTERN PA 120

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According to ACBL-provided statistics, members of Unit 120 have maintained their affiliation for an average of 17 years. That's the most years of any of the eight units in District 4. Why are our members so devoted to this great game that they continue to renew their membership and play duplicate bridge regularly? There are several factors in play, not the least of which is the spirit of active ethics being practiced in most of the clubs throughout Northeastern PA. This is vital if we are to attract intermediate and newcomers who may "fear" the duplicate process. The other is the warm and

friendly atmosphere that I experience whenever I visit one of our unit club games.. Club directors & managers set the tone for their games, and the players react to the positive attitude on display. But despite the membership renewals, we are falling behind on the recruitment of new players/members. As I said in my District President's message, I challenge everyone to invite a non-duplicate player to a club game. Once "newbies" feel the kindness and empathy that pervades Unit 120 games, they'll quickly get over their trepidation to play duplicate. After all, weren't we all new once? (except for Dave Hall, who according to legend was born with a bidding box in one hand and a no trump opener in the other).

Our annual Jeanne Liese Tourney is scheduled Sunday, April 15th at the Best Western East Mountain Inne on Rt. 115 just off I-81 in Wilkes-Barre. Registration at 12:30 pm, first session at 1 pm. Buffet dinner to follow, w/second session TBA. Donation just \$25, (\$30 for non Unit 120 members) as the event is subsidized by the unit. Congratulations to the 2011 Ace of Clubs winners who will be formally recognized at the tourney: Peggy O'Keefe, Lynn Gonchar, Pat Jordan, Judith Stillinger, Kate Shumaker, Martha O'Connor, Kim Michelstein, Carole McCallum, Tom Myers & Ray Depew. As of this writing, Ray is just a few points shy of the 5.000 masterpoint level. If he performs as usual at the regional in King of Prussia, he should be a **Diamond Life Master** by the first week in March.

Best wishes to long-time unit member and good friend Betty Lyons, who is moving to the Philadelphia area to be closer to her children and grandchildren. Beth Rosenthal, the Bridgelady, hosted a going-away party as part of her regular Wednesday game February 22nd.

***** * *

BERKS MONTGOMERY 121

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The Myrtle Quier Annual Christmas Unit Game was played at the Green Valley Country Club with Diana and Wendell Wylie the winners.

Our Annual Pro-Am Unit game will be held on April 15th in the Bridge Room at 1:00 pm. Come out for a day of food and fellowship!

Please mark your calendars for our Spring Sectional, May 18-20. For any questions regarding this event contact Greg Kiddy, our tournament coordinator, gregkiddy@gmail.com or 484-332-6871.

Our sincere thanks to Louise Remley for serving the unit so wonderfully as our former Tournament Coordinator. She did an outstanding job in every way.

Congratulations to Lucia DiPaolo for advancing to Sectional Master.



LEHIGH VALLEY 133

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The unit held its annual memorial charity game in December and raised \$742 for the Lehigh County Senior Citizen Center. The annual Souper Bowl charity game raised \$315 plus lots of cans of soup for the 6th Street Harvest Food Bank.

Our next unit game is Sunday, March 18 at the Senior Citizen Center at 2:00 PM and is a team game called 8 is enough. The total points for a team is 8, with an A player (1000+) counting as 3, a B player (301-1000) counting as 2 and a C player counting as 1. The total team points cannot exceed 8. This is a

great way to have teams of mixed player strength and should be a very attractive event. There is also a stratified pairs charity game on Tuesday, April 3 at the Senior Center at 7:00 PM.

The unit will hold its spring sectional on 4/27 through 4/29 at the Lehigh County Senior Citizen Center, 1633 Elm Street in Allentown. We are returning our sectionals to this great playing facility where we had numerous sectionals, NAP's and GNT's in the past. Please see the flyer on page 38.

The unit Ace of Club winners are: Vadali Sastry (0-5); Diane McGilloway (5-20); Ray Patridge (20-50); Judy Cary (50-100); Kay Hays (100-200); Gary Hillenbrand (200-300); Madison Morgan (300-500); Jane Havighurst (500-1000); Barbara Stabile (1000-2500); Rhoda Prager (2500-5000); and Ella Auch (5000-7500). The unit Mini-McKenney winners are: Sy Traub (0-5); Diane McGilloway (5-20); Barry Griswold (20-50); Mimi Lengel (50-100); Helena Yurconic (100-200); Gary Hillenbrand (200-300); Naim Rizk (300-500); Jane Havighurst (500-1000); John Schwartz (1000-2500); Bill Parks (2500-5000); and Ella Auch (5000-7500). Congratulations to all.

Also congratulations to Naim Rizk and Madison Morgan for becoming Bronze Life Masters.



PCBA 141 John Marks 215-891-0602 JGMMarks@aol.com

Every year the Philadelphia Contract Bridge Association (PCBA) pays tribute to the member player who excels at the six sectional tournaments during the calendar year. Last year's Player of the Year (or the Jordon Trophy Winner) was Ken Cohen of Philadelphia, PA with a total of 96.83 masterpoints. Congratulations, Ken; second was Myer Kotkin, Cherry Hill, NJ 79.31; third was Marty Rabinowitz, Narberth, PA 58.01; fourth Neal Satten, Wynnewood, PA 54.68; and fifth was Donna Morgen, Haverford, PA 53.05.

Unit 141 also pays tribute to the Non Master member player who excels at the six sectional tournaments during the calendar year. Last year's Non-Master Player of the Year (or the Gough Trophy Winner) was Nancy Chorpita of Haddonfield, NJ with a total of 15.72 masterpoints. Congratulations, Nancy; second was Kim Guinan, Doylestown, PA 15.36; third Marianne Burni, Manchester, NJ 13.06; fourth was Larry Abramovitz, Warrington, PA 12.66; and fifth was Rachel Wubker, Cinnaminson, NJ with 12.42.

The January (New Year) Sectional Tournament was held on January 6 to 8, 2012 at the Fireman's Memorial Hall in Conshohocken, PA. Ken Cohen of Philadelphia, PA led all the other players with 17.08 master points; Ray Raskin of King of Prussia, PA was second with 14.45 master points and Rick Rowland of Wilmington, DE was third with 13.99 master points.

The February (Winter) Sectional Tournament was held on February 10 - 12, 2011 at the Knights of Columbus, 235 Limekiln Pike, Glenside, PA. Ken Cohen of Philadelphia, PA led all the other players with 15.20 master points; Meyer Kotkin of Cherry Hill, NJ was second with 15.02 master points and John Marks of Langhorne, PA was third with 11.69 master points

The Spring Sectional Tournament will be held on April 13 - 15, 2012 at the Knights of Columbus, 235 Limekiln Pike, Glenside, PA. The Annual PCBA Membership Meeting and the Sonny Jaspan Trophy Game will take place at this April Sectional Tournament after the Afternoon Session on Saturday, April 14, 2012. There will be plenty of hospitality at this tournament. See the tournament schedules on our web site.

The Unit 141 Shore Spring Sectional Tournament will be held May 18 - 20, 2012 at the Oakcrest

High School in Mays Landing, NJ. A Unit STAC is schedule for Monday, April 16 to Sunday, April 22, 2012. Units 112, 120, 133 and 190 will also participate in this STAC.

The PCBA "Late Summer" Sectional tournament will be held September 7 to 9, 2012 at the Fireman's Memorial Hall in Conshohocken, PA and the "Fall" Sectional tournament will be held October 12 to 14 at the Knights of Columbus, 235 Limekiln Pike, Glenside, PA. Again, there will be great hospitality at these tournaments.

The following are important future dates to remember:

2012 Valley Forge Regional at the DoubleTree by Hilton, February 27 to March 4.

2013 Valley Forge Regional at the DoubleTree by Hilton, June 17 to 23.

2014 Valley Forge Regional at the DoubleTree by Hilton, June 16 to 22.

2012 PHILADELPHIA NABC JULY 12 TO 22.

Hope to see at all of these above events.



CENTRAL PENN 168

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What's happening Unit #168 Members? Winter blues, got you down? Not to worry, winter is coming to an end and there is plenty to do when the warmer weather hits. Mark your calendar for these upcoming Unit events:

April 20-22 Lancaster Sectional - War Memorial Building - Leola, PA

April 27-29 Chambersburg Sectional - Recreation Center

May 12th - NLM Harrisburg

June 29- July 1 York Sectional - Springetts Fire Hall

Aug 19 - York NLM Bridge Boardroom

Sept 21-23 Hagerstown Sectional

Here are the Standings for the Unit Sectional Masterpoint Races: OPEN - John Sheaffer 16.33; Judy Groenenboom 13.58; Kurt Kilhefner 10.67. 0-1500 - Steve Valensic 10.52; Thomas Coxey 8.92; Doug Hoke 8.53. 0-500 - Kathy Gaither 7.57; Harry Stutts 7.52; James Jenkins 7.52. These results were tallied after the Harrisburg Sectional in January, but there are plenty of opportunities to earn Silver points at the Sectionals in the Unit that are listed above.

Whatever your reason for playing, keep playing.....See you at the tables.





DELAWARE 190

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Hope you are all looking ahead and planning to participate in our upcoming Delaware Regional. Unit 190 had been hosting a District 4 Regional every three years, but we have now moved to an every-two-year schedule. Tournament Chairman Tom Grabowski reports that the Regional, scheduled for June 18 - June 24, will be at the same location as our 2010 Regional but the hotel has changed to a Crowne Plaza. The hotel is right off Interstate 95 and only about 15 minutes from Philadelphia Airport. Events for players at every level will of course be included. Newcomer/Intermediate players may be especially interested to know that their schedule will include Golden Opportunity Pairs, scheduled for Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of the tournament.

Winners of the DSBA Achievement Awards for 2011 have been announced. The awards are given to players in six master point categories who win the most master points during a given year in DSBA run events. A \$100 prize is given to each category winner. Paul and Elizabeth Akana were the 0 - 49 winners, and Rae Wolfe won in the 50 -199 group. Other winners were: Lois Ewing (200 -499), Joe and Jean Brown (500 - 999), Jeff Ruben (1000 - 2499) and Rick Rowland (2500 - unlimited). Congratulations to all! We also have three new Bronze Life Masters to congratulate...Bruce Gwaltney, Judith Gwaltney, and Colin Mackay.

Unit 190's series of Pro/Am events for 2012 successfully began with a team game on January 26th at the Bridge Studio. Fourteen teams competed. A Pro/Am pairs event is scheduled for June 27th statewide, with a game both upstate at the Bridge Studio and another downstate in Sussex County. Then, in August, Sussex County will hold its Pro/Am team game. For the last several years a variety of pro/am events have been enjoyed by players at all levels in Unit 190. Thanks to our Newcomer/Intermediate Chairman, Mike Mocella for all his efforts in organizing and scheduling these games.



SUSQUEHANNA 217

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We not only look forward to spring, but to the upcoming 2012 sectional tournaments hosted by members of Unit 217. The "Spring Out of Winter Tournament" will be held at the Williamsport Bridge Club March 30-31 and April 1. What a great way to start the new season!

The "State College Sectional Tournament" will take place from June 8-10. We have settled into our new location for weekly games at the Unitarian Fellowship. However that venue is not large enough to accommodate our sectional tournament, so that event will be held at the Boalsburg Fire Hall. It is a terrific site with plenty of parking and is located in the lovely historic town of Boalsburg, just a few minutes east of State College on Business Route 322. The address is 113 East Pine Street, Boalsburg, PA and it is very easy to locate.

Our final unit sectional for 2012 is the "Susquehanna Sectional Bridge Tournament" which will be held September 7-9 at the Williamsport Bridge Club.

Please make plans to attend as many of these tournaments as possible. Many of our members work very hard to provide these opportunities to earn Silver Points within the boundaries of our own unit. However, the success of each tournament depends upon strong attendance by our own players and by players from other areas. Bridge players at all levels of proficiency are encouraged to join us and enjoy the hospitality and friendliness of fellow enthusiasts.

A special congratulations to our newest Life Master, Susan Nichols.

The following are the first place finishers for the Mini-McKenney and Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs 2011 awards:

Mini-McKenney	Ace of Clubs
Mary Lisko	Mary Lisko
Janice Lindsey	Robert Secor/Marie Secor
Jill Anderson	Jill Anderson
Shirley Miller	Shirley Miller
Susan Nichols	Susan Nichols
Irene Harpster	Irene Harpster
Shirley Krentz	Shirley Krentz
Jacqueline Humilovich	Alan Stiffler
Barbara Mateer	Virginia Marshall
Jim McKeown	Sandy Gilbert
Ed Bissell	Ed Bissell
	Mary Lisko Janice Lindsey Jill Anderson Shirley Miller Susan Nichols Irene Harpster Shirley Krentz Jacqueline Humilovich Barbara Mateer Jim McKeown





(Continued from page 1, President's Message)

Lancaster, the normal week for the Lancaster Regional was booked to another group. So rather than the last week in October/first week in November, this year's Lancaster tournament will be held December 3-9. Subsequent dates of the first or second week in December will be decided by the board of directors. 2) The committee approved spending up to \$2,000 for replacement cards in bidding boxes. To complement the new cards, Joann Glasson personally passed more than 200 bidding boxes through her dishwasher, so visitors to the Valley Forge Regional were treated to some "spankin' clean" bidding boxes and their contents

Thought for the quarter: have you invited a party bridge-playing friend to a duplicate game? If not, why not? The only way in which any volunteer organization grows in size is through active recruiting by its current members. Ask a friend to play bridge; you may by responsible for a life-changing experience!



There will be no Summer 2012 Bidding Challenge. Whether the column resumes, either with me as Moderator or someone else, depends on you. Please answer the following questions and send your responses and any comments to **4Spot1@comcast.net**.

- (1) Do you read the D4 Bidding Challenge?
- (2) Do you want the column to continue?
- (3) At present the Challenge quotes both Panelists and Solvers.

 A) Do you like this? Or, B) would you prefer comments only from panelists?
- (4) Some years ago the column rotated authorship.

 If you would like the column continued, would you prefer that resumed?

Henry Bethe

DISTRICT 4 MASTER SOLVERS CLUB HENRY BETHE, DIRECTOR

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Before we start let me introduce the guest panelists. **Michael Becker** is one of the great American players. He is a Hall of Fame member and a Bermuda Bowl winner. **Dick Budd** is almost certainly the best player in Maine, and used to be one of the more successful players in the NY Metro area. **Lew Finkel** was on the 2011 USA1 Senior team, which finished fourth, and has two seconds in other Senior World Team Championships. **Bob Heitzman** is an outspoken expert who makes frequent comments on "Bridgewinners.com." If you have not yet discovered that site, I recommend it highly.

Problem 1.

```
IMPs, Neither VUL, Dlr S
South holds
S - H - A95 D - K1062 C - AQ9863

West North East South
-- -- 1C
1S X 3S ??

4D 25 (6); 4C 20 (0); X 18 (3); 4H 14 (3); P 12 (2); 4N 10 (1); 4S 9 (1)
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Lets start by getting all seven(!) of the suggested calls in play.

Teukolskys: P. You could be pushing them into a makeable 4S, which they wouldn't bid on their own. You need a fourth heart to bid 4H. *You could pass, I suppose, but I think partner will play you for a more balanced hand with less offense.*

Greco: X. This is an action double. Typically I would have more points here but my huge extra shape makes passing very wrong as it might go all pass and double is perfect with no clear suit to bid. But I at least would expect you to be 1=3=4=5 with another highcard, or even a 2=3=3=5 18 count. See Michael Becker's comment.

Rock: 4C. Too strong to be shut out by preempt but not certain what right contract is yet. My bid is invitational and asks partner to describe his hand. If partner bids 4D, I will raise to 5. If partner bids 4H, I will bid 4S. I disagree that this is "invitational," and that it asks partner to do anything in particular. I think 4C shows extra values and extra clubs. Which, as it happens, is exactly what you have.

Shuster: 4D. A negative double of 1S promises hearts and nothing else. That makes 4D a reverse, which is perfect. I get the extra club length, diamond length and extra strength off my chest at once. I'm not interested in a 4-3 heart fit, so unless partner can bid hearts himself, we will play in a minor. The only exception I take to this comment is the description of a negative double. I think a negative doubler must be prepared to play in a suit other than the other major.

Heitzman. 4H. I must do something ("6-4 bid more"). Double is takeoutish but at this level, it will be converted to penalty fairly often and with a spade void I probably don't ever want that to happen; besides "double" is not a bid. *I'm* not particularly interested in playing in hearts. Partner promised four, not five, and if a high card has to be knocked out, or hearts break badly, this could be a tragedy.

Raskin: 4S. Let partner choose the suit and the level, I am willing to play in game or slam and in any of three suits. I suppose "willing to play game or slam" relies on the opponents to have most of the spade highcards. Despite what Wachsman says (see below) I think hearts are very much in the picture after 4S, and that you don't really want to encourage hearts at a high level.

Rowland: 4NT. Great problem. Anything could be right. I'll try 4NT (pick a minor). Depending on fit and shape, both sides might make game.

Of the various arguments given above, I find those for 4D and 4C more compelling than the others. It depends on what to expect for partner's double. Would KQxx/Qxxx/xxx/xx qualify? It would not with me, but many would. If partner can have that, pass or double could work out best.

- **Foster:** P. Partner says she holds 4 or more hearts and maybe some diamonds with 7 to 10 HCPs. Our hands do not appear to fit very well, and I have told my story. If she cannot act again, I don't think we've missed anything. I don't think you have quite finished your story. You could have had a balanced 12 or 13 count; instead you have a prime distributional hand perhaps a little better than minimum. I don't think responder's hand is limited.
- **Dye**: X. An "action" double, promising extras and asking partner to do something intelligent. This double should be taken out most of the time. It leaves room for 3NT and describes a hand flexible as to strain while leaving open the possibility of defending should partner choose to convert for penalties. Partner will be aware I am short in spades, and whatever he elects to do my hand will be suitable.
- **Becker**: 4D. 4D is highly invitational, and suggests at least 4-6 in the minors. Those who play double as showing short spades and extra values will have to explain what they do with a balanced 18-19 and weak spades. That said, double is a close second choice, (and should be a popular choice), since it brings hearts into the picture and partner will not bid hearts without five of them. But when partner does not have a 5-card red suit or 4 clubs, he may have to pass and roll the dice that we can beat them. Say he has: Jxx, KJxx, Qxxx, Jx. I'd rather play 4D than defend 3S doubled.
- **Straguzzi**: 4H. If a double were for takeout that would be ideal, but let's not kid ourselves: in BWS, it's undefined. Partner would be right to take it as a "cards" double or a Spike Lee double ("Do the right thing, partner"), not 13 points and 0=3=4=6 shape. I have too much playing strength to pass and too little to look beyond game. I'll take a stab at what I hope is our most likely game, with spade ruffs coming in the short trump hand. A side benefit to 4H is that LHO may misjudge the degree of our fit and take a save in 4S, which partner might be able to double in bloodthirsty fashion. I think one can make a good case that 4D would show roughly this hand, but it's not worth torturing partner on our first board out of the chute. Nick, to remind you, we don't play BWS. We play 2/1 with Walsh in the sort of loose form that you might have with a very good partner after spending ten minutes filling out the card just before game time.
- **Robinson**: 4D. Should show a good hand with 5+ clubs and 4+ diamonds, which is closer than I usually come to showing my hand. I agree with both parts of your comment!
 - **Goldberg**: P. I don't fault bidding 4 of either minor. But if Partner has 8 cards in the majors I may well regret it. **Apfelbaum**: 4D: Too much distribution to keep quiet.
- **Schwartz:** 4S. Logically would seem to say I have too much to pass, fewer than 4 hearts, ok at the five level in either minor. Looks like what I have. *Why doesn't 4D show that?*
- Marlow: X. I believe this is more 'card-showing' than a responsive double, but I am fine with either of partner's interpretations.
- **Filandro.** 4D. Not a true reverse, since partner has "bid" the suit although I do need almost reverse strength due to the level. I love this hand in the 30-point deck. If partner continues on to 4H, 5C, or 5D, I am optimistic for a make
- **Glassons**: X. Responsive. Most flexible call. Offers partner a choice of contracts, including pass if her spades are good enough. Now I think X suggests "it is our hand and if you have a reasonably balanced 8 or 9 count, lets play here." Like for instance xxx/Kxxx/QJ/Kxxx. My partners wouldn't remove that double.
 - **B.Cohen**: X. Responsive through 3S I hope.
- A word about vocabulary. As far as I know, "responsive" doubles occur in two auctions: (Bid)-X-(raise)-X, and (Bid)-overcall-(raise)-X. In this auction, Bid-(overcall)-Neg. X-(raise)-X, the final double is called an "action" double because it suggests that the doubler would like to take action but is unsure what action to take. FYI, a parenthetical action is one taken by the opponents.
- **Shahaf:** 4D. The auction improved the offensive prospects of my hand and I expect game to be good. I think 4D should be forcing to at least 5C since partner never promised diamonds. We might get too high with no play for game but the only purely competitive option I have is 4C, which is no better since it might miss a much better fit in a red suit. I don't like making a responsive double with a void since my partner who is marked with some length in spades is very likely to leave it in and we could only be getting 100 or 300 (or worse -530) when cold for game or even a slam. A big advantage of 4D is that partner can bid 4H with a hand that includes 5+ hearts but that wasn't strong enough for 2H earlier.
- **Sprungs**: 4H. We can then bid 4N takeout over the opponents' 4S and partner should have a decent idea of what we have.
- **Wachsman**: 4S. Cuebid to show strong hand with first round spade control. Partner should realize that assets are in the minors with some tolerance for hearts. *I do not see why.*
- **L. Harris**: 4D. While my hand is "only" 13 points, it could not have better values. I have three first round controls and second round control in the fourth suit. 4D shows a good playing hand after East bid 3S since I could pass and partner would be able to keep the bidding alive. Partner could have 4H and a poor to great hand. Whatever partner has in HCP, spades are not one of the suits where values would be expected. I expect partner to have 4H and 4+ diamonds.

If partner holds only the HK and DQJ, four should still make. If partner has additional useful cards (HQ, DA, CK) anything up to a grand is possible.

Budd: X if we have discussed it, 4D if not. If partner will clearly take X as takeout, that will always get us to 4H when he has long H, and to an appropriate number of C when he is balanced.

Finkel: 4D. Very difficult. Right spot could be 3SX; 3NT; 4, 5, 6, or 7 of either minor, or 4H. 4D is my choice with a random good partner. Would risk X with a partner who takes out card showing X's.

Problem 2.

```
MPs, N-S Vul, Dlr W
South holds
S - AK10954 H - K D - 92 C - QJ74

West North East South
P 1H P 1S
1N* 2H** 3D ??
* Minors, more shape than X
** Support X was available

4H 25 (10); X 14 (2); 3H 12 (1); 4D 11 (0); 3S 9 (2); 4S 7 (1)
```

Shuster: 4H. Admittedly a guess, but it sounds like partner doesn't have any strength in diamonds, so he will show up with strength in the rounded suits and we will have play for game. Partner probably has something resembling xx, AQJxxx, xx, Axx. Absent a special agreement, double is not a game try and is not takeout - it is 100% penalty. I don't think anything can be 100% penalty when your opponents have advertised at least a nine-card fit and you haven't yet been in a position to show a good hand.

Foster: 2S. Partner could still have more spades than I have hearts. Unless her 2H call was a significant underbid, I hope we stop at 2S. The only real problem with this bid is the immediate director call. But if you get away with it, it might well lead to a top. Sorry, I could have let you change your insufficient bid, but the temptation was too great. I have scored you as correcting it to 3S.

Dye. 3S. I go low on what started as a game forcing hand but now looks far less promising. 3S is invitational only, and that's okay. The opponents diamond fit increases the likelihood partner has two spades, but if we are on a choice of 6-1 trump fits, I would rather have the overcaller on lead and partner's hand may will make a better dummy than mine. I fear a minus score but have too much to pass.

Finkel: 4H. Stiff K is as good or better than 2 small, opposite a freely rebid major.

Shahaf: 3S. Our offensive prospects have shrunk as the auction progressed. I don't believe I ever made a non forcing bid before with a hand that has solid opening bid values opposite what also should be a solid opener (2nd seat Vul) but the auction suggests that not only we are facing a misfit but also that the suits are not going to break favorably for us. 3S should be considered highly invitational after the denial of 3 card support and partner, who was also listening to the auction, will upgrade minor suit aces and the SQ and might also deduce my tolerance for Hearts since I was not forced to bid.

Greco: X. Another clear-cut action double. I want to see if partner can bid 3S as we might have an 8-card spade fit and only 7 hearts between us. I will correct 3N to 4H. This can't be penalty when rho makes a free bid.

Heitzman. X. Too much to pass. I can't tell if we belong in a major, so I double to tell partner to bid on with some distribution, or pass with a relatively balanced hand in context (e.g., he has already shown 6 hearts and denied 3 spades).

The problem I see with double is that our major suit primes will only take three tricks, and my D9 is not enough of an uppercut threat. Although the double is not strictly penalty, I think partner is supposed to pass with, say, xx/AXI AQJ10xx/xx/Axx, and it will be tough to get an adequate score from 3DX.

Sprungs: 4H. It would be nice if for this hand 4 of a minor was a choice of games noise, but we are afraid partner will take it as a slam try.

L. Harris: 4H. Partner should have a decent hand and at least AQxxxx or AJTxxx in H as there was no support double and a free bid was made. Partner should have some values in clubs and diamonds and should be OK with the lead to his hand. It is possible for one of the defenders to obtain a ruff, but there is no intelligent way to find out. 4C or 4D by me should be a control showing bid.

Rock: 4H. We need to be in either 4H or 4S but opponents' interference has made it very hard to explore. I would like

to bid 3S but that would not be forcing. I have nothing that I can ruff but hearts, which is my partner's strong suit. His bid tells me he has at least six hearts and he could have more. My HK is a big card. Partner may be able to ruff both diamonds and clubs and my spades could be useful for discards. 4S is my second choice for a bid and may be right.

Filandro. 3S. The normal knee-jerk reaction with an opener facing an opener is to force to game. But all the signs are bad. Give LHO 5 - 5 in the minors and RHO will have a BIG stack in one - or both - of our suits. Partner has only 0 - 2 of my suit and I have only 1 of his suit. I have the "death holding" in diamonds, and a slew of club losers in front of the person advertising long clubs.

Raskin: 4H. Partner didn't have to bid and the stiff K may be at least as good as two small.

Schwartz: 3H. If partner passes, we may not have missed anything. The majors are not splitting well, the slow club values are looking dubious, and this is pairs.

Rowland: 4S. Another great problem. 4S seems right with spade spots.

Straguzzi: 4H. Ouch. I have no idea which major to bid nor what level to bid it at. I have a sinking feeling that this might be one of those rare deals where we belong in a part-score despite having an opening bid opposite an opening bid. But 3H or 3S is just too big of a position to take. Stiff king should be adequate support for partner's freely-rebid suit, and if not, too bad. 4D as choice-of-games has some merit, provided partner is on board with the "game before slam" principle.

Apfelbaum: 3H. Many high card points, but not enough of a fit to insist on game. Partner should have a pretty good heart suit.

Robinson: 3S. Seems I should compete but not get carried away.

Teukolskys: 4H. Clear cut.

Wachsman: 4D. Cuebid to show game forcing values with a focus on the majors.

Glassons: 4H. The lack of a support double makes rebidding spades not as desirable and the HK is a good card for partner.

B.Cohen: 4H. Gotta bid something and I want to get to game. (I believe 3S would be invitational.)

Budd. 4H. Partner should have good H and not a terrible hand. I intended to force to game and it's too deep for me to change that. Partner's most likely side value is in C.

Marlow: 3H. Partner appears to have 9-10 cards in hearts/clubs, likely with a doubleton diamond, and I would expect 7 hearts more often than 6. The HK, albeit singleton, should be an excellent card for partner. I am unwilling to bid game directly here, however, because of the likely bad splits and small doubleton diamond.

Becker: 4H. Even with an opening bid and a partner who has bid freely, there is no certainty of game. 3S is invitational, but I feel it's not enough. I wish four of some minor would be a choice of games, but partner will interpret such a call as a cue bid. I'll try a practical 4H, which is more likely to make than not.

On balance I think the heart raisers have the better of the argument. Whether 3H or 4H is better seems fairly close to me. At imps I think the Teukolskys are right: 4H is clear. Matchpoints is a conservative game, and I would not be surprised to find 3H to be the winner. But I would be with the majority.

Problem 3.

```
IMPs, E-W Vul, Dlr E
South holds
S -K653 H - J10 D - A5 C - Q10973

West North East South
-- - P P
1H P 4H P
P X P ??
4S 25 (8); 5C 23 (1); P 20 (7)
```

Teukolskys: 4S. Partner probably has something like SQJxx, H---, DKxxxxx, CKxxx, - too weak to double, but a shapely hand that suggests a sac.

Greco: 4S. This may be a two-way look at your hand double. Since the opponents are vul partner obviously has a shapely hand that was too light on points to double the first time so bidding 4S is automatic as I have little defense. *In response to both of these and other comments, I think partner is likely to be light in high cards, but those held should*

have some defensive value since you must be allowed to pass. Two aces, or an ace and a king and a little something else feels about right to me.

- **Rowland**: 4S. Welcome to the bizarre world. Partner can't have many hearts, couldn't conjure up a spade overcall (even on a four bagger) and now wants to enter the auction without having any idea that I have all of this stuff. I'll bid 4S on the way to the partnership desk. *Rick was the only one who wanted a new partner and bid out over 4H. Other new partner seekers:*
- **Shuster**: P. After this session, we will be heading to the partnership desk (unless partner actually has a penalty double), as I am not fond of my partners acting ambiguously at the 5-level after they fail to act at the 2-level.
- **Shahaf:** P. I will likely look for a new partner after this session... I can't come up with a hand that passed 1H and then doubles 4H. Theoretically this sequence is penalty with trump tricks but my hand rules that out. Partner should not have 4 spades since he could have bid 4S as takeout (his failure to overcall 1S makes this interpretation clear). With 5-5 in the minors partner could have used 2NT earlier. Since I can't see us making a game opposite a partner who couldn't act over 1H hopefully we have enough to set them opposite a partner who doubled 4H.
- **Straguzz**i: P. That's it -- next time I take partner for his electroshock therapy session BEFORE the game. No clue what to do here except hope that we can beat it.
- **Budd**. P. If partner were short in H, he would have acted over 1H. The only alternative is that he had a trap pass and W is probably psyching. This is really the only logical alternative explanation. I consider it less likely than that partner has a 4 -0-(5-4) hand too light for a direct takeout double, particularly because of the vulnerability.
- **Dye**: 4S. It seems clear that the opponents are making, as partner did not have the values to make a takeout double the first round despite heart shortness. Partner will have a soft 6-8 HCPs but good shape, making this "insurance" cheap enough. Pass could be right, but think how'd you'd feel if partner doesn't have a trump to lead.
- **Foster**: 4S. Partner will have four (or more) spades and a void or singleton heart, and judges to sacrifice against their vulnerable game scoring 620 by going only minus 300 or minus 500.
- **Raskin**: 4S. Partner is short in H and did nothing over 1H so it looks like he is distributional but not loaded with defensive tricks.
- **Rock**: 4S. The double has to be for takeout. What is a little confusing is that partner did not double right away. I think the worst that may happen is that we will be in a 4-3 fit which may still make and, if not, be a good sacrifice against a vulnerable 4H game.
- **Hickes**: P. Third hand may have opened on four-card suit. Partner has three good hearts and a side winner; if I bid it would be to make and I don't see making anything.
- **Wachsman:** 4S. A process of elimination indicates that partner's delayed double must show a 4 card spade suit with a 5 card or longer minor. He did not bid Michaels so is not holding 5 spades and a long minor. He did not bid unusual NT so is not 5-5 in the minors. He did not make an immediate takeout double as he did not have the traditional shape for that action. QED You have a 4-4 spade fit with a good chance for game.
- **Heitzman**: P. My first thought was to run to 4S, since partner, as a passed hand, rates to be distributional for his double, and either has 4 spades or both minors and will know what to do. But then I remembered that he passed over 1H, which he might do with a decent hand with some heart length, and he wouldn't rate to do with the kind of hand I at first thought he had. I think there's a fair chance the opponents are having a misunderstanding of sorts and are over their heads. Maybe W thinks they play 4-card majors in third seat and E doesn't.
- **Schwartz:** 5C. Partner has at most 1 heart and the values to double at this level but did not double or bid 2NT at first opportunity. Her problem that first time may have been not having 4 spades. She probably is 3-1-5-4 or 3-1-4-5. Pass could very well be our best opportunity, but bidding my longest suit seems right. *Most people will not wait for four cards in the unbid major to make a takeout double with the right strength and shortness in the opened suit.*
 - **B.Cohen**: 4S. Why no double or S overcall the first time by partner?
- **Marlow**: 5C. Hmm, is partner making a light takeout double at the 4-level? I think it more likely partner has a good hand, has short hearts, but could not make a takeout double or bid 2NT previously -- something like 2-2-4-5. In that case my hand is rather poor for defense, so I will try 5C -- whether it is a save or making, I will not know until after the hand. I consider it very unlikely that partner has two hearts; none seems more probable unless **Becker** and **Budd** are right about the auction.
- **Sprungs**: P. Partner can't be doubling 4H for takeout when they could have doubled 1H. Partner probably has a flawed takeout double with some prime cards.
- **Filandro:** 4S. I envision partner with exactly 4 spades (no overcall), about 9 HCP, and 1, or zero, hearts. Although 5C (doubled) may score as well as 4S (doubled), there is a downside. If the opponents continue to 5H and partner leads from Axxx in the suit we bid, the club lead may blow a trick.
- **L. Harris:** 5C. If partner had a hand such as Axxx, x, Kxxx, AJxx double would be close to unanimous. So partner probably has a hand such as A10x, x, Kxxxx, AJxx where an overcall should not be made, and neither should an immediate double. Partner could have a hand such as Axx, x, KJxxxx, Kxx and we should not be that bad in 5 of a minor. *On*

your first hand and probably your second partner would have doubled 1H. On your third partner would have overcalled 2D

Goldberg: 4S. Sounds like partner has a weak distributional hand.

Glassons: P. Partner's failure to double over 1H suggests a hand that is short in clubs so defending seems like a winning option. *I do not see why short in clubs is likely. Surely on the face of it short in hearts is most likely.*

Robinson: 4S. Partner paid his card fee and wants to bid. This is take-out, so I will order take-out.

Becker: P. This is a strange auction, one that I play this strictly penalty. Even if partner had doubled **3H** I would think it penalty! Sure, when I look at my hand, I must wonder how partner can have a penalty double, but one is insane to make a takeout double on the four-level having had the opportunity to act on the one-level. We are going to win a lot of IMPs on this hand – West has psyched. *Or lose a lot! I guess Mike expects partner to double on the first round on, say, Axxx/none/xxxxx/KJxx, or the Teukolskys example hand.*

Apfelbaum: 5C. Partner did not show a spade suit over 1H, and is surely void in hearts for the double. I bid my long suit and trust the extra trump will mean at least two extra tricks.

This hand is an approximate rerun from an ancient BW problem. Our group did far better than the 1950s BW panel, at least in my opinion. About 80% of the old-timers passed. Our hearts say partner is not doubling on a heart stack unless opener psyched. The vulnerability suggests no psyche. And our cards say we might even have a chance to make a game in the thirty-point deck. After long consideration I think I agree with Apfelbaum on which black suit to bid. I promoted 5C because the consensus of the panel was to bid, not pass.

Problem 4.

```
IMPS, Both Vul, Dlr N
South holds
S -AQ H - AQ5 D - AK92 C - 7632

West North East South
-- P 1C ??

X 25 (9); 1D 15 (4); 1NT 12 (3); P 6 (0)
```

This hand demands a lie: a lie about strength (P, 1D, 1N), or about shape (X). Eric Kokish aka Koach would say that 1D is not a lie about strength but about suit. The panel by a 9-7 margin prefers to lie about shape.

Becker: X. I plan on rebidding a flawed 1NT, which gets my points right. Passing and acting later may create more problems.

Filandro: X. Seems normal. A better question is how I plan to react to partner's likely bids. Over 1D or 1NT, I raise partner to 3. Over 1H, I raise to only 2. Over 1S, I bid 1NT and hope partner bids again - or that I outplay the other declarers in 1NT. Those would not be my plans. I would tend to bid 1NT over any one level response.

Finkel: X. Expect to rebid 1NT. I don't underbid vulnerable at IMP'S.

Glassons: X. Lack of club stopper and 19 HCP are two strikes against bidding 1 NT. We will start with double and if partner shows values we will cuebid to get notrump played from the right side.

Greco: X. I have way too many points to pass and my honor strength in all suits makes this an easy double.

Rowland: X. What else? The real question is what happens on the next round.

Straguzzi: X. To be followed by a NT bid. Stoppers are for sinks. Besides, on a good day, one of my regular partners will be my LHO on this deal. I can't begin to tell you how many times they've been on lead against NT after I've opened in one minor, they lead the other minor, and a stopperless declarer wraps up nine fast tricks while I sit there holding aceking-queen-jack-low and smoke pouring from my ears. "So if I had bid diamonds, partner, would you have led a \$\%^\& \text{club?"}

Sprungs: X. Pass is out: we are too strong. 1NT is a close second choice, but let's try to get NT played from partner's side. A 2C cue bid over either major should deny 4-card support for what it's worth. **Teukolskys**: X. There's no attractive bid with this, but the other bids are worse. 1C could easily be passed out when we're cold for 3NT, and 1D could be passed out too. Over partner's probable major suit response, our plan is to bid 3C, inviting 3NT. If it doesn't work out as planned, well, nothing in life is perfect.

Are you all convinced? If not, how about these arguments for the strength lie?

Budd. 1NT. Hopefully partner has a five card major. The quality of my C stopper makes me demote a

little. If partner has xxxx Kxx Qxx xxx and I make 3NT, I will apologize. The point that partner might have a five card major – and will show it unambiguously over 1N is a good one. The problem, though, is that partner will have no reason to think of game on, for example, KJ10xx, J10x, xxx, xx.

Raskin: 1NT. A double followed by a NT bid later shows the power of the hand but no club card is a major flaw so I would rather get my lie in as early as possible.

Robinson: 1NT. Best way to show 19 hcp balanced unless you are playing 'Eagle'. What, pray tell, is "Eagle?" On to the third proposal, the suit and strength lie.

Apfelbaum: 1D. Could easily miss game, but this is the safest advance. If partner does show a major suit, I can at least be sure it is long enough to be a legit trump suit.

Goldberg: 1D. I don't see how passing will help me describe my hand later, and I don't like doubling.

Heitzman. 1D. With all these values, passing initially doesn't seem right. I am too strong to overcall 1N and don't have a club stopper to boot, so that is out. If I double and partner jumps in spades, I won't know what to do. 1D is certainly not perfect but it rates to work out ok.

Shuster: 1D. It will be too hard to judge (or bid NT naturally) after passing, so I might as well start with a natural call and hope the auction develops favorably. Or develops at all.

Just to show my honesty and folly, I would (and did) pass. And accept my loss when we make a game and partner cannot balance. When I played this hand partner had a 5-4-2-2 two count (spade and diamond Jacks and the 10 8 of hearts), opener a 2-4-3-4 fourteen. The SK was off for us. Not that this proves anything.

Can the Solvers add anything enlightening?

Wachsman: X. Least of all evils. This action is likely to generate an auction that will put the partnership into the correct contract.

Shahaf: 1NT. The extra values compensate for the lack of a full stopper (don't they teach that you only count losers for the first 3 cards of the suit which imply that the 4th card should be considered a winner...). The only other alternatives are 1D which is much less appealing or Pass (ugh). They never lead clubs anyway.

Marlow: X. No worries (yet). I am not bidding 1NT with such a strong hand, and I should be able to handle most continuations.

Schwartz: X. Too much to pass, so what are my other choices? Partner is a passed hand so not likely to go ballistic and bid 4S next, although if she has that hand we may be ok anyway.

Foster: 1NT. OK, so I do NOT have a club stopper! I do have 19 points. If I doubled, partner would expect at least four-three in the majors with short clubs, which is NOT what my hand looks like.

Dye. X. Nothing else makes sense. On the next round, 2NT seems right despite the lack of a club stopper. I am rooting for a 2C bid from LHO and any call from partner other than pass.

B.Cohen: X. Start with a double - big hand, finesses in hearts and spades should be working

Hickes: 1NT. Sue me for not having a club stopper; partner is still in the game and if he has a 5-card heart suit we will be fine.

Rock: X. I am too strong to bid INT although it is tempting. If partner bids 2S, I will bid 2NT. Wouldn't it be great if he bid INT?

L.Harirs: 1D. Yes, this could go P-P-P but could well be the best contract. A double gives up all chance of finding a diamond fit. After the 1D overcall, I can bid NT on most auctions, which shows my hand better than a double followed by a NT rebid. If 1D gets passed out, I suspect you would rather go back and defend 1C. And if by some miracle you get another chance, as in partner or LHO bids a major over 1D, I don't think 1N will be advisable in either case.

Congratulations to guests Lew Finkel (100) and Mike Becker (95) and regular Nick Straguzzi (95). Also to Solvers Bill Rock (95), Barry Cohen (93) and Christopher Marlowe (91). My score would have been 79.



Panel	1	2	3	4	Score
Lew Finkel	4 D	4 H	4S	X	100
Mike Becker	4 D	4 H	P	X	95
Nick Straguzzi	4 H	4 H	P	X	95
Joann&Bob Glasson	X	4 H	P	X	88
Ros&Saul Teukolsky	P	4 H	4S	X	87
Michael Shuster	4 D	4 H	P	1D	85
Peter Filandro	4 D	3S	4S	X	84
Jo&Danny Sprung	4 H	4 H	P	X	84
Eric Greco	X	X	4S	X	82
Connie Goldberg	P	4 H	4S	1D	77
Jay Apfelbaum	4 D	3Н	5C	1D	75
Dick Budd	X	4 H	P	1N	75
Bob Heitzman	4 H	X	P	1D	74
Ray Raskin	4S	4 H	4S	1N	71
Craig Robinson	4 D	3S	4S	1N	71
Rick Rowland	4N	4S	4S	Χ	67
Solvers	1	2	3	4	Score
Bill Rock	4C	4 H	4 S	Χ	95
Barry Cohen	Χ	4 H	4S	X	93
Christopher Marlowe	Χ	4 H	5C	X	91
Lynn Harris	4 D	4 H	5C	1D	88
Dave Wachsman	4S	4 D	4S	X	84
Douglas Dye	Χ	3S	4S	X	77
Robert Hickes	X	4 H	P	1N	75
Dolores Birnbaum	4C	3S	P	X	74
Jackie James	P	3S	5C	X	69
Don Hill	4C	ЗН	P	1D	67
Aviv Shahaf	4 D	3S	P	1N	67
	4S	3H	5C	Χ	66
John Schwartz	45	511	50	2.2	0 0

ACBL MASTERPOINTS AWARDED IN 2011

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137,962 Members won
                      6,086,835.25 points at Any level of play
 12,215 Members won
                      632,796.29 points at Online Clubs
 49,705 Members won
                        220,924.81 points at NAP Games at Clubs
  6,797 Members won
                        25,059.36 points at Other NAP Games
 13,262 Members won
                        42,626.87 points at GNT Games at Clubs
                        30,555.57 points at Other GNT Games
  4,235 Members won
133,401 Members won
                      2,931,437.27 points at Club Games
 70,216 Members won
                      309,202.96 points at STaC Games
 65,359 Members won
                       580,044.28 points at Sectionals
 53,069 Members won
                      1,041,003.97 points at Regionals
 10,631 Members won
                      126,668.70 points at Regional Events at NABC
                        28,306.23 points at NABC Events (Not NABC+)
 1,741 Members won
                       118,208.94 points at NABC+ Events
 2,999 Members won
 1,729 Members won points at Online Clubs Only
 56,148 Members won points at Face-to-Face Clubs Only
 80,085 Members won points at Sectionals or Higher
 55,497 Members won points at Regionals or Higher
  4,109 Members won points at NABC Events Only
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8

June 18 – June 24, 2012



NEW NAME

SAME LOCATION

Crown Plaza Wilmington

630 Naamans Road, Claymont DE 19703

(302) 792-2700

Located at I-95 and Naamans Road - 15 minutes from Philadelphia Airport

FREE PARKING

Room Rate \$112 Single/Double - Reservation Deadline 5/19/12

SCHEDULE OF OPEN EVENTS

Monday June 18

Bracketed KO Teams I 7:00 pm

(KOs continue 9 am, 1 & 7 pm Tues)

Stratified Charity Pairs

Tuesday June 19

9 am Stratified Morning Side Game Series

1 & 7 pm Bracketed KO Teams II

> (KOs continue 1 & 7 pm Wed) Open Pairs (2000+/0-2000) Stratified Side Game Series I

Golden Opportunity Pairs (300-750/0-300)

7 pm Stratified BAM Teams

Wednesday June 20

Stratified Morning Side Game Series 9 am

Compact Morning Bracketed KOs I

(KOs continue 9 am Thursday)

Bracketed KO Teams III 1 & 7 pm

(KOs continue 1 & 7 pm Thursday) Open Pairs (2000+/0-2000)

Stratified Side Game Series I

Golden Opportunity Pairs (300-750/0-300)

Stratified Swiss Teams

Thursday June 21

9 am Stratified Morning Side Game Series

Stratified Swiss Teams

1 & 7 pm Stratified Swiss Teams

> Open Pairs (2000+/0-2000) Stratified Side Game Series II

Golden Opportunity Pairs (300-750/0-300)

TOURNAMENT NOTICES

Open Strats: 2000+/750-2000/0-750 Strat B/C/D: 1250-2000/750-1250/0-750

Stratifying all events by average

Mid-Chart conventions in separate Open and

Top bracket KO events

Friday June 22

Compact AM Bracketed KO Teams II

(KOs continue 9 am Sat)

Stratified Morning Side Game Series

1 & 7 pm Bracketed KO Teams IV

Stratified Pairs

Stratified Side Game Series II

Stratified BAM Teams Late-Night KO Teams 11 pm

Saturday June 23

Stratified Morning Side Game Series 9 am

Stratified Swiss Teams

1 & 7 pm Open Pairs

(Qualify w/barometer final) Stratified B/C/D Pairs Stratified Side Game Series II

Sunday June 24

10 am Bracketed Round Robin Swiss

> 7 rounds - Teams are split into brackets by avg masterpoints and play a round robin within their bracket. The top bracket is a Swiss event open to all teams upon request. Gold points awarded in

each bracket.

NLM SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Stratified NLM Pairs

7:00 pm Monday 1 & 7 pm Tuesday - Saturday

Stratified NLM Teams 10 am & 2 pm Sunday

0 – 5 Pairs play free on Tuesday.

REGIONAL TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE

Co-chair: Tom Grabowski (302) 239-3969 Co-chairs: Bruce & Judy Gwaltney (302) 478-2396 Partnerships: Julie Hockersmith (410) 398-8511

NLM Events: Mike Mocella (484) 354-0152

NIGHTLY HOSPITALITY



DISTRICT 4 GRAND NATIONAL TEAMS MAY 5 - 6, 2012

DISTRICT 4 GNT COORDINATOR

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Raymond Depew Telephone: 570-239-3056

E-mail: rdepew@intergrafix.net

The 2011-2012 District 4 Grand National Teams Event will be conducted in one stage, a District Final, on Saturday, May 5 and Sunday, May 6, 2012 at the Independent Fire Hall, 166 S. Sprague Avenue in Kingston, PA.

No qualification from the club or unit level is required.

FLIGHT MASTERPOINT REQUIREMENTS

Masterpoint requirements for each player are as follows:

Open Championship Flight - unlimited

Flight A - 0-5000

Flight B - 0-2000

Flight C - NLM, 0-500.

DISTRICT WINNERS

The winning team from each Flight qualifies to compete in the National Finals at the Summer NABC in Philadelphia.

District 4 will reimburse each team that qualifies for the National GNT Finals for all entry fees as long as each team survives in the event, as well as \$1,000 for the first two days and a additional \$400 per day after the second day of the event

FOR CONDITIONS OF CONTEST AND FURTHER INFORMATION SEE THE DISTRICT 4
WEBSITE



DISTRICT 4 STARS

2011 MASTERPOINT RACES



Mini-McKenney Awards

0 to 5	•	
1. 2. 3.	Richard Rosenfeld, Philadelphia PA Richard Hall, Milford NY Amanda Huff, Haddonfield NJ	66 50 48
4. 5.	Myrna Shervin, Philadelphia PA Barbara Monie, Cooperstown NY	47 43
5 to 20	·	
1.	Forbes Tuttle, Syracuse NY	97
2.	L Irish Murphy, Pottstown PA	77
3.	Lynn Gonchar, Kingston PA	67
4.	Harry Stutts, Chambersburg PA	60
5.	Kathleen Harter, Mechanicsburg PA	57
20 to 50		
1.	Nancy Chorpita, Haddonfield NJ	157
2.	Margaret Venesky, Cicero NY	99
3.	Dorothy Disney, Mechanicsburg PA	82
4.	Barbara Spohn, Gettysburg PA	81
5.	Richard Spohn, Gettysburg PA	81
50 to 100		
1.	Patricia Jardin, Endwell NY	135
2.	Wes Maneval, Selinsgrove PA	96
3.	Kathy Kutschera, Ocean City NJ	75
4.	Pieter Vanbennekom, Wilmington DE	73
5.	Carl Bjork, Manlius NY	68
100 to 200	Kannath Hamia Basa Batan El	405
1.	Kenneth Harris, Boca Raton FL	125
2. 3.	Dick Tuttle, Cazenovia NY	119 119
	Robert Dewey, Fairport NY	
4. 5.	Hollis Rosenthal, Ambler PA	117 115
200 to 300	Kathryn Shumaker, Stroudsburg PA	115
1.	Gary Hillenbrand, Lehighton PA	300
2.	Loredana Bosis, Kutztown PA	169
2. 3.	Christina van Leeuwen, Cherry Hill NJ	162
3. 4.	Gina Bresler, Fort Washington PA	143
- . 5	Charles Meister Martinsburg WV	137







3.

Suzanne Goldberg, Harrisburg PA	208			
Bitsy Klein, Bethany Beach DE	195			
Michael Young, Stewarts Town PA	186			
Mary Boyd, Lewes DE	166			
Dennis Gross, Camp Hill PA	156			
John Dickenson, North Wales PA	408			
Ella Zimmerman, Hummelstown PA	303			
Steve Valencic, Mechanicsburg PA	289			
Peter Harris, Milton DE	238			
Gregory Kiddy, Reading PA	198			
000 to 2500				
Elaine Clair, Gwynedd Valley PA	438			
Albert Shrive, Dalton PA	309			
	Bitsy Klein, Bethany Beach DE Michael Young, Stewarts Town PA Mary Boyd, Lewes DE Dennis Gross, Camp Hill PA John Dickenson, North Wales PA Ella Zimmerman, Hummelstown PA Steve Valencic, Mechanicsburg PA Peter Harris, Milton DE Gregory Kiddy, Reading PA Elaine Clair, Gwynedd Valley PA			



296



4.	David Abuhove, Falling Waters WV	295
5.	Barbara Rhoades, Wilmington DE	290
2500 to 500	0	
1.	Corey Krantz, Drexel Hill PA	966
2.	John Sheaffer, Lancaster PA	469
3.	Jim McKeown, State College PA	437
4.	Raymond Depew, Kingston PA	405
5.	Andy Kaufman, Fort Washington PA	393
5000 to 750	0	
1.	Carl Berenbaum, Elkins Park PA	521
2.	Meyer Kotkin, Cherry Hill NJ	472
3.	Mary Poplawski, Vestal NY	407
4.	Melvin Lubart, Hummelstown PA	380
5.	Arnold Selig, Cheltenham PA	367
7500 to 10,0	00	
1.	Thomas Weik, Reading PA	731
2.	Rick Rowland, Wilmington DE	625
3.	Craig Robinson, Lansdale PA	450
4.	Bob Glasson, Pennington NJ	348
5.	Kenneth Chatzinoff, Cinnaminson NJ	320
Over 10,00	0	

Marie Anzilotti, Wilmington DE



Selena Swanson, Mechanicsburg PA 3. 571

4. Ed Bissell, State College PA 532 Eric Greco, Wynnewood PA 5. 439



Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs Awards

0 to 5		
1.	Richard Rosenfeld, Philadelphia PA	54
2.	Amanda Huff, Haddonfield NJ	41
3.	Douglas Taillon, Norfolk NY	35
4.	Ricky Boyer, Mechanicsburg PA	34
5.	Margaret Helmick, Hedgesville WV	33
5 to 20		
1.	Forbes Tuttle, Syracuse NY	59
2.	Lynn Gonchar, Kingston PA	55
3.	Robert Stile, Middletown PA	41
4.	Jack Thorp, Mechanicsburg PA	40
5.	Harry Stutts, Chambersburg PA	39
20 to 50		
1.	Nancy Chorpita, Haddonfield NJ	54
2.	Dorothy Disney, Mechanicsburg PA	50
3.	Irene Appleyard, Harrisburg PA	49
4.	Caroline Hughes, Wilmington DE	46
5.	David Hallman, Green Lane PA	43
50 to 100		
1.	Kathy Kutschera, Ocean City NJ	65
2.	Wes Maneval, Selinsgrove PA	59
3.	William Zuzack, Mechanicsburg PA	49
4.	Patricia Jardin, Endwell NY	48
5.	Martha Lewis, Lancaster PA	47
100 to 200		
1.	Robert Dewey, Fairport NY	82
2.	Kathryn Markley, Mechanicsburg PA	75
3.	Kenneth Harris, Boca Raton FL	73
4.	Mary Lou Stephano, Longport NJ	71
5.	Joseph Bellwoar, Ocean City NJ	67
200 to 300		
1.	Barbara Gordon, Oreland PA	93
2.	Kenneth Spear, Cherry Hill NJ	88
3.	Martha O'Connor, Scranton PA	78
4.	Charles Meister, Martinsburg WV	76
5.	Christina van Leeuwen, Cherry Hill NJ	73
300 to 500		
1.	Suzanne Goldberg, Harrisburg PA	182
2.	Edward Magee, York PA	126
3.	Michael Young, Stewarts Town PA	120
4.	Dennis Gross, Camp Hill PA	111
5.	Mary Boyd, Lewes DE	103





500 to 100	0	
1. 2. 3.	Steve Valencic, Mechanicsburg PA Ella Zimmerman, Hummelstown PA Peter Harris, Milton DE	217 172 151
4.	Sy Silverman, Warminster PA	139
5.	Barbara Beard, Hagerstown MD	129
1000 to 250		123
1.	David Abuhove, Falling Waters WV	245
2.	Elaine Clair, Gwynedd Valley PA	211
3.	Lillian Schaube, Dover DE	194
4.	Elizabeth Mallon, Bethany Beach DE	181
5.	Robert Keeney, Lewes DE	180
2500 to 500	• ·	
1.	Judith Groenenboom, Mechanicsburg PA	236
2.	John Sheaffer, Lancaster PA	232
3.	Randall Berseth, Bear DE	198
4.	Francis Taylor Jr., Coatesville PA	195
5.	Raymond Depew, Kingston PA	190
5000 to 750		
1.	H Philip Monyer, Middletown PA	234
2.	Arnold Selig, Cheltenham PA	229
3.	Sam Maitra, Webster NY	202
4.	Lois Sanders, Fairport NY	201
5.	Buddy Hano, York PA	194
7500 to 10,0	000	
1.	Rhoda Kauffman, Willow Grove PA	207
2.	Jane Segal, Villanova PA	161
3.	Rick Rowland, Wilmington DE	132
4.	Bobbie Gomer, Willow Grove PA	129
5.	Craig Robinson, Lansdale PA	113
Over 10,000)	
1.	John Swanson, Mechanicsburg PA	425
2.	Selena Swanson, Mechanicsburg PA	425
3.	Ken Cohen, Philadelphia PA	167
4.	Charles Gray, Philadelphia PA	139
5	Henry Bethe Ithaca NY	80





Youth 2011 Leaders

Ί.	Jeremy Adelman, Clinton NY	17
2.	Samuel Amer, Newark DE	9
3.	Shane Zeller, York PA	7
4.	Zachary Felix, Dillsburg PA	6
5.	Jack Gillispie, Elizabethtown PA	4



Juniors 2011 Leaders

1.	George Mansour, Scranton PA	106
2.	Zhuo Wang, Philadelphia PA	87
3.	Raghavendra Rajkumar, Ithaca NY	60
4.	Nick Migliacci, Stroudsburg PA	30
5.	Peter Cooke, Celebration FL	22

Seniors 2011 Leaders

1.	Arnold Fisher, Clementon NJ	107
2.	Ken Cohen, Philadelphia PA	60
3.	Thomas Weik, Reading PA	49
4.	Elaine Landow, Lansdale PA	29
5.	Craig Robinson, Lansdale PA	29



Barry Crane Top 500

1.	Ken Cohen, Philadelphia PA	1074
2.	Corey Krantz, Drexel Hill PA	966
3.	Thomas Weik, Reading PA	731
4.	Rick Rowland, Wilmington DE	625
5.	John Swanson, Mechanicsburg PA	571

Lifetime Top MP Holders

1.	Ken Cohen, Philadelphia PA	20,859
2.	Arnold Fisher, Clementon NJ	18,023
3.	Eric Greco, Wynnewood PA	14,511
4.	Charles Gray, Philadelphia PA	13,285
5.	Selena Swanson, Mechanicsburg PA	12,811



Bronze LM 2011 Leaders

1.	John Dickenson, North Wales PA	408
2.	Ella Zimmerman, Hummelstown PA	303
3.	Steve Valencic, Mechanicsburg PA	289
4.	Peter Harris, Milton DE	238
5.	Gregory Kiddy, Reading PA	198

	1. 2. 3. 4. 5.	Silver LM 2011 Leaders Elaine Clair, Gwynedd Valley PA Albert Shrive, Dalton PA Marie Anzilotti, Wilmington DE David Abuhove, Falling Waters WV Barbara Rhoades, Wilmington DE	438 309 296 295 290
	1. 2. 3. 4. 5.	Gold LM 2011 Leaders Corey Krantz, Drexel Hill PA John Sheaffer, Lancaster PA Jim McKeown, State College PA Raymond Depew, Kingston PA Andy Kaufman, Fort Washington PA	966 469 437 405 393
	1. 2. 3. 4. 5.	Diamond LM 2011 Leaders Carl Berenbaum, Elkins Park PA Meyer Kotkin, Cherry Hill NJ Mary Poplawski, Vestal NY Melvin Lubart, Hummelstown PA Arnold Selig, Cheltenham PA	521 472 407 380 367
	1. 2. 3. 4. 5.	Emerald LM 2011 Leaders Thomas Weik, Reading PA Rick Rowland, Wilmington DE Craig Robinson, Lansdale PA Bob Glasson, Pennington NJ Kenneth Chatzinoff, Cinnaminson NJ	731 625 450 348 320
•	1. 2. 3. 4. 5.	Platinum LM 2011 Leaders John Swanson, Mechanicsburg PA Selena Swanson, Mechanicsburg PA Ed Bissell, State College PA Daniel Boye, Farmington NY Charles Gray, Philadelphia PA	571 571 532 245 219
	1. 2. 3. 4. 5.	Grand LM 2011 Leaders Ken Cohen, Philadelphia PA Eric Greco, Wynnewood PA Joann Glasson, Pennington NJ Arnold Fisher, Clementon NJ Henry Bethe, Ithaca NY	1074 439 379 227 104



FALL NABC

Seattle WA November 24 - December 4, 2011 October 31 - November 6

1 2 3 4 5 6.	124.96 108.15 91.99 80.30 54.03 48.45	Eric Greco, Wynnewood PA JoAnn Sprung, Philadelphia Danny Sprung, Philadelphia Corey Krantz, Drexel Hill PA Richard Popper, Wilmington DE Carl Berenbaum, Elkins Park PA
7 9	39.20 39.20 37.47 37.47	Craig Robinson, Lansdale PA Elaine Landow, Lansdale PA Joann Glasson, Pennington NJ Bob Glasson, Pennington NJ



(Continued from page 28, A Spot 4 the Advancing Player)

variation we are playing.

Still, there will be times when we will have no idea what partner has and the proper bid to make in response. In most cases, the best answer is to bid something that gives partner a chance to clear up the mystery about his hand. That means we will not pass. It usually means to bid something that will not take the partnership past what are the most likely contracts.

This brings me to the one piece of advice that we all should remember: when we eliminate the impossible, whatever remains must be the case!

A Spot 4 the Advancing Player



by Jay Apfelbaum japfel@verizon.net

This is a continuing series of articles written for the advancing player. I welcome any questions or suggestions about future articles. Please send them to the publisher. Who knows? You may be mentioned in a future article! Since beginning this series, I have been asked about several conventions. Keep asking! Your questions give me direction about what the next article should be about.

In this article we will discuss what we should do when we don't know what to do. Partner bids something, and we are just not sure what it means and what we should do. For example, we are playing two and four level transfers after an opening bid of 1NT or 2NT. We open 1NT and our partner bids 4S. We have never discussed this auction. What now?

Auctions like these happen all the time, particularly in new partnerships. It happens to more experienced partnerships as well. For example, we open 1H and our partner responds 1NT. We play this as forcing for one round, but the bid does not promise a good hand. We rebid 2C, and our partner now bids 2S or, perhaps, 3D. What does this mean?

The truth for most of us is that we just do not know. The problem for most of us is that we wind up doing something and getting a terrible score because we guessed wrong. What follows are partner's recriminations; something along the lines of "how could you NOT know?"

The fact is that there are ways of dealing with problems like this that can at least give us a chance of getting it right. The first thing to do is consider the bids that partner could have made and did not. On the auction 1H - 1NT - 2C - 2S (opponents pass throughout), we know that partner did not bid 1S over our opening bid. This tells us that partner cannot have a spade suit. Partner did not bid 2D or any number of hearts. This tells us that partner does not have a diamond suit or heart support. The only possibility is that partner has club support, but with what strength? A simple raise to 3C would show something like a hand worth about ten points in support. Anything less and partner would pass. We are forced to conclude that partner must have a hand that is worth too much to bid only 3C. Why did partner choose 2S instead of 4C? Because that would take us past 3NT.

A similar line of reasoning leads to the conclusion that on the auction 1H - 1NT - 2C - 3D (opponents pass throughout), partner must be showing shortness in the diamond suit with tremendous support for our club suit. Partner would bid 2D directly over 1H with game forcing values, and 1NT followed by 2D with less than game forcing values. Since the jump to 3D over our 2C rebid cannot show a diamond suit, it must show a hand that became tremendous because of something we bid. It cannot be heart support because with really strong heart support partner would not respond 1NT on the first round of bidding.

The real problem hands are those when this process of elimination does not work. For those hands, we have to consider what is possible and decide what we should do for each of those possibilities. It may be that the same bid is the best choice for each possibility. Suppose that we have found our heart fit. We have enough strength to consider slam possibilities, and we started a cue bid auction at the four level. Partner now bids 4NT. We are not sure whether this is just another cue bid or an Ace-asking convention. It may be that our next bid is the same whether it is another cue bid or the proper answer to the particular Blackwood convention

(Continued on page 27)



Dear New Player,

Lies abound in this world: "The check is in the mail." "I'm with the government and I'm here to help you." "I didn't realize I had overlooked that \$37,000 tax bill." And my all-time favorite, "One size fits all." Yeah, right. Unfortunately, the bridge world is just as full of fibs.

I was watching a group of inexperienced players this morning and saw a couple whoppers. And interestingly enough, both had the same cause: An attempt to squash a big hand into a not-so one-size-fits-all-bid. Watch.

Hand #1: ♠AJx ♥KJx ♠AKJx ♠Qxx. A gorgeous 19 HCP. I could tell "Suzie" had picked up a big hand from across the room, because she was (as we say in Pennsylvania Dutch country) "rutching" in her chair. I wandered over, and saw her hand dancing all over the bid box. She fiddled with almost every card, giving special attention to the NT family. Finally, after some heavy sighs, she pulled out 1NT. Pard held ♠KQx ♥Axxx ♠xx ♠AJxx and, after a brief detour through Stayman, they ended up in 3NT. After the opening lead of a club, it was a lay-down for small slam.

I asked Suzie how she selected her bid. "Well, it was the biggest bid I could think of." Suzie, Suzie, Suzie. That evening's class was on "The Perfect No Trump Bid for Every Balanced Hand." Let's review... a 1x opening, followed by 1NT says 12-14—I have no trump shape, but not enough money to buy a 1NT opening. 15-17 is 1NT. 1x with a *jump* to 2NT is exactly 18 or 19. 20-21 is 2NT. Then we get into the 2♣ bids: 2♣ - 2NT is usually 22-23 and 2♣ - 3NT is usually 24+. Write these down. Memorize them. The perfect bid for every hand. You don't need one-size-fits-all.

The next fiasco was this: Hand #2 ♠xx ♥AK10 9xx ♠KQx ♠Qx. There was no rutching from "Louie," who yanked out the 2♥ so fast it almost caught fire. He couldn't wait to show he held a 6-card suit. He also was trying to jam a giant hand into a small bid. Naturally they missed game, because Louie's pard was sure he held no more than 9 HCP. Louie rationalized that he wanted to be sure his partner knew he had six hearts. Louie, Louie. Just rebid them!!

There is too much in bridge to memorize. (There are some who can memorize it all, but this is for the Rest of Us.) There are, however, some guidelines that if you will learn them, will enable you to "think bridge" instead of relying on memory. These to me are the absolute minimum.

- 1. The rebid of an unsupported suit (one your pard didn't raise) shows a 6-card suit.
- 2. Any new suit at the two-level promises at least 10 points, whether by responder, advancer or overcaller. If you ain't got the money, you can't buy the bid.
- 3. Normally, if you jump *at your first time to bid*, you are showing a *weak* hand. Jumping at your *second bid* shows strength. Pard opens 1♥, you say 2♠. You are making a Weak Jump Shift!!
- 4. We've talked about this before, but remember: Rebids of an old suit at the 2-level show a minimum hand, rebids at the 3-level promise intermediate values.
- 5. If you open a suit, understand that it will take you *two bids* to describe your hand. Don't try to do it all in one bid!!

Enjoy your games today, and try to be truthful. Let me know how it goes.

Tournament Schedule

FEBRUARY 27 - MARCH 4 VALLEY FORGE REGIONAL - KING OF PRUSSIA PA	PG. 31
March 9 - 11 Unit 120 - Kingston PA	Pg. 32
March 30 - April 1 Unit 217 - Williamsport PA	Pg. 33
April 13 -15 Unit 141 - Glenside PA	Pg. 34
April 14-15 Unit 112 - Waterloo NY	Pg. 35
April 16 - 22 STaC - Units 112, 120, 133, 141, 190	Clubs
April 20-22 Unit 168 - Leola PA	Pg. 36
April 27 - 29 Unit 168 - Chambersburg PA	Pg. 37
April 27 - 29 Unit 133 - Allentown PA	Pg. 38
April 27 - 29 Unit 112 - Ithaca NY	Pg. 39
May 4 - 6 Unit 120 - Kingston PA	Pg. 40
MAY 5 - 6 GNT FINALS - KINGSTON PA	PG. 20
May 7 - 13 STaC - Unit 112	Clubs
May 23 Unit 168 I/N - Camp Hill PA	Pg. 41
May 18-20 Unit 121 - Reading PA	
May 18-20 Unit 141 - Mays Landing NJ	Pg. 42
May 19-20 Unit 112 - Webster NY	Pg. 43



VALLEY FORGE REGIONAL TOURNAMENT

ACBL DISTRICT 4. PHILADELPHIA, PCBA UNIT 141

FEBRUARY 27 TO MARCH 4, 2012

DOLCE HOTEL AND RESORT VALLEY FORGE



Website: www.district4.info



For Hotel Information: John Marks (215) 891-0602 Special Bridge Rate: \$109

NEW LOCATION

Dolce Hotel Valley Forge 301 West DeKalb Pike King of Prussia, PA 19406 (877) 851-5551 (610) 337-1200

Reservation cutoff date is February 1, 2012. After February 1 rooms may not be available and rate will be higher

Event Starting Times

10:00 AM and 2:45 PM Evening Games 7:30 PM Sunday Games 10:00 AM

Schedule Features

Kickoff Charity Swiss Teams on Monday at 2:00 PM

New Knockouts begin on Wednesday and Friday

Compact KO Teams across 2 evenings—Wed-Thurs & Fri—Sat

Bracketed KO Teams across 3 evenings

Single Session Swiss Teams - Tuesday through Saturday

Afternoon and Evening Stratified Open Pairs on Wednesday

Knockout Teams

Monday Kickoff KO Teams - (continues Tuesday)	7:30 PM
Tuesday Compact KO Teams	
Wednesday—Thursday KO Teams	10:00 AM & 2:45 PM
Friday—Saturday KO Teams	10:00 AM & 2:45 PM
Saturday Compact KO Teams	10:00 AM & 2:45 PM
Tues-Wed-Thurs // Thurs-Fri-Sat KO Teams	7:30 PM

Open Pair Games

Monday Charity Open Pairs			. 2	00	PV
Tues, Wed, Fri, Sat Stretified or Streti-Flighted Pairs	10:00	AM	82	45	PI.
New Wednesday Stratified Pairs	2:45				
Tues, Wed and Fri Golden Opportunity Pairs	10:00	AM	8.2	45	PV

Team of Four Games

Monday Charity Swiss Teams, single session	2:00 PM
Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri & Sat Swiss Teams, single session	2:45 PM
Wednesday-Thursday Compact KO Teams, 2 sessions, gold	7:30 PM
Thursday Streti-Flighted Swiss Teams, 2 sessions, gold	10:00 AM
Thursday Golden Opportunity Swiss Teams, 2 sessions, gold	10:00 AM
Friday-Saturday Compact KO Teams, 2 sessions, gold	7:30 PM
Sunday Streb-Flighted Swiss Teams, 2 sessions, gold	10:00 AM

Side Game Series

Monday Eve-Tuesday, single sessions	SGS #110:00) AM 2:45 PW 7:30 PM
Wednesday-Thursday, single sessions) AM 2:45 PM 7:30 PM
Friday-Saturday, single sessions, SGS		AM 2:45 PW 7:30 PM

I/N Events (0-5 MP Play Free on Tuesday!!)

Monday Charity I'N Pairs, single session	20	0 PM
Tuesday through Saturday, single sessions	45 PW 7:3	0 PM
	0 AM & 245	
_ ''	0 AM & 2-4	5 PM

Tournament Highlights

Terrific Hospitality Every Day

Pre-Duplicated Boards and Hand Records in all Pair Events

Speakers Every Day
 Sunday Early Start and Finish

Tournament Chairman: John Marks (215) 891-0602 jgmmarks@aol.com (215) 429-6887 (Cell)

Pertnership Chairman: Tom Punl (610) 518-6790 tpunl@hotmail.com
Caddie Master Jill Dorman (215) 601-4009 jdorman@mail.ups.edu
I/N Chairperson Ala Hamilton-Day (610) 891-9001 alabridge@aol.com

MARCH 9 - 11, 2012

Northeast Pennsylvania Bridge Association Spring Sectional Tournament

March 9 to March 11, 2012

Independent Fire Company, 166 S Sprague Avenue - Kingston, Pa (Wilkes-Barre)

Driving instructions from Route I-81:Take exit 170 (Rt 309); Take Route 309 to exit 4; Turn left on Rutter Avenue; Take Rutter to Pierce Street (Rutter becomes a one-way the other way) Turn right on Pierce Street. Drive to the end of Pierce Street (two blocks). Make a left turn on Wyoming Avenue (Route 11). Drive to 'Kingston Corners' (Intersection of Market Street and Wyoming Avenue) Turn right on to Market Street and watch for Sprague Ave. on the left. From Route 11: Drive to Market Street in Kingston and turn west to Sprague Avenue on the left. Excellent refreshments will be served at each session Continental breakfast (pastry and coffee) Saturday and Sunday mornings. Box lunches sold for between sessions on Sunday



Stratification subject to appropriate changes by the director. Average MP's used.

Friday, March 9, 2012 1:30 PM - Stratifed Pairs (0-500) (500-1000) (1000+) I/N 199er 99er 49er 7:00 PM - Stratified Pairs (0-500) (500-1000) (1000+) I/N 199er 99er 49er

PLEASE NOTE TIME CHANGES FOR SATURDAY

Saturday, March 10,2012 10:00 AM Stratified Pairs (0-500) (500-1000) (1000+) I/N 199er 99er 49er 3:00 PM - Stratified Open Pairs

(0-500) (500-1000) (1000+) I/N 199er 99er 49er

Sunday, March 11, 2012 Stratified Swiss Teams 11:00 AM & TBA

(0-500) (500-1000) (1000+) Swiss Teams stratification based on average masterpoints of each team. Tournament Chairperson: Ray Depew Partnerships: Ray Depew (570) 239-3056 rdepew@intergrafix.net





VISIT OUR WEB SITES AT:

www.district4.info www.nepab.com and at bridgelady.net

GREAT SNACKS AND HOSPITALITY



MARCH 30 - APRIL 1

SPRING OUT OF WINTER BRIDGE SECTIONAL WILLIAMSPORT BRIDGE CLUB 1042 HIGH STREET WILLIAMSPORT, PA 570-322-3035

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

ACBL Sanction #S1204036

Stratification Levels-A=1500+; B=500-1500; C=0-500 (Stratification levels may be changed at Director's discretion.)

FRIDAY, MARCH 30, 2012

Stratified Open Pairs 11:00 am

Stratified Open Pairs 4:00 pm

SATURDAY, MARCH 31, 2012

Stratified Open Pairs 11:00 am Stratified Open Pairs 4:00 pm TOURNAMENT CHAIRPERSON

Sue Pierce 570-275-2142

suewpierce@gmail.com Cell- 570-490-2949

TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR

Marc Labovitz

PARTNERSHIP

Connie Bamer 814-466-6767 Vera Peters 570-368-1872

HOSPITALITY

Susan Nichols Nancy Pfieffer Virginia Marshall Jane Watts

SUNDAY, APRIL 1, 2012

The Ace of Clubs and Mini-Mckenny Awards will be awarded during the "half time". Swiss Teams, 1st session 11:00 am

Swiss Teams, 1 session 11.00 an Swiss Teams, 2nd Session TBA

Entry Fees: \$8.00 per session for ACBL Members

\$9.00 per session for non-ACBL Members and unpaid ACBL members Sunday, April1, \$90.00 for 2 sessions per team (Includes lunch)

Free Coffee, Soft Drinks, and Snacks at all sessions

DIRECTIONS TO THE BRIDGE HOUSE:

From Harrisburg: follow Routes 11/15 North to Shamokin Dam, stay left following Route 15 North, until it becomes Market Street in Williamsport:

From Lewisburg: follow Route 15 North, until it becomes Market Street in Williamsport:

After you arrive on Market Street, go to 2^{nd} light, turn Left on W. 4^{th} Street, go to end of 1 way street, turn Right on Campbell Street, go to 2^{nd} light and turn Left on High Street. Go 6 blocks to 1042 High Street, parking in back.

From East and West: follow Interstate Route 180 to Market Street Exit, after you turn on Market Street, follow directions above.

APRIL 13 - 15, 2012



PCBA

APRIL SECTIONAL TOURNAMENT

APRIL 13-15, 2012

Knights of Columbus 235 Limekiln Pike Glenside, PA 19038

FRIDAY, APRIL 13

10:00 STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS (A = 2000+; B = 750—2000; C = 0—750) STRATIFIED NON-LIFE MASTER PAIRS (<500)</p>

FREE PIZZA LUNCH

2:30 STRATIFLIGHTED PAIRS (A/X) ★ STRATIFIED B/C/D PAIRS STRATIFIED NON-LIFE MASTER PAIRS (<300)

SATURDAY, APRIL 14

10:00 STRATIFLIGHTED PAIRS (A/X) ♣ STRATIFIED B/C/D PAIRS STRATIFIED NON-LIFE MASTER PAIRS (<300)

FREE SANDWICHES

- 2:30 STRATIFLIGHTED PAIRS (A/X) & STRATIFIED B/C/D PAIRS
- 6:00 PCBA ANNUAL DINNER MEETING, AWARDS CEREMONY & OPEN PAIRS (TICKET REQUIRED—SEE BOX ON RIGHT)

SUNDAY, APRIL 15

10:00 STRATIFLIGHTED SWISS TEAMS ♣ STRATIFIED B/C/D TEAMS STRATIFIED NON-LIFE MASTER TEAMS (<300)</p>

FREE SALAD LUNCH SERVED BETWEEN SESSIONS

PCBA ANNUAL MEETING

Saturday Evening

April 14, 2012

6:00 pm

Awards Ceremony

Sonny Jaspan Trophy Pairs

Light Dinner and Cash Bar

Tickets are \$25 for PCBA Members

\$30 for Guests

(Fee includes light dinner and

bridge)

Reserve by 3/31/12

Email Ricki Rogers for a registration form

rickirog@gmail.com

\$24.00 per pair per session • Full time students play free • Strats may be combined based upon attendance
All stratification by average masterpoints • X Strat MP limit will be adjusted to include 40% of entries
Stratified Pairs: A=2000+ B=1250-2000 C=750-1250 D=0-750 • Non-Life Master: A=150-300 B=50-150 C=0-50

Tournament Chairman: Meyer Kotkin guymath@comcast.net (856) 424-8149

Partnerships: Tom Purl tpurl@hotmail.com (610) 518-6790

DIRECTIONS

From the East: Take PA Tumpike West to Exit 339, Fort Washington. Take PA Route 309 South to East Road and exit in Glenside. Take a left turn onto Easton Road to Route 152 (Limekiln Pike). Go north on Limekiln Pike to Knights of Columbus on right.

From the West: Take PA Tumpike East to Exit 339, Fort Washington. Then follow above directions.

From the South: Take Schuylkill Expressway (I-76) West to Route 1 North. Exit at Broad Street. Go north on Broad Street and take a left onto Stanton Avenue and then a right onto Ogontz Avenue. Stay on Ogontz Avenue to Limekiln Pike (Route 152). Go north on Limekiln Pike to Knights of Columbus on right.

From the North: Take PA Route 309 South to East Road exit in Glenside. Take a left turn onto Easton Road and a left on Route 152 (Limekiln Pike). Go north on Limekiln Pike to Knights of Columbus on right.

APRIL 14 - 15, 2012

Proceeds from this tournament will go to the Food Bank of the Southern Tier

Unit 112 Rainbow Tournament April 14-15, 2012

Seneca County Office Building, Senior Center DiPronio Drive, Waterloo, NY

♦ Events Schedule ▼

Sat. 11:00am

- ♥ Open Pairs 2 session event (Stratified 1000+; 300-1000: 0-300)

Sat. 3:30pm

- 299er Pairs (Stratified: 200-300; 100-200; 0—100)
- ♠ Continuation of Open Pairs

To increase the money available for charity, we are asking players to consider bringing a snack on Saturday

There will be a short dinner break on Sunday with refreshments available to purchase.

<u>Directions</u>: NYS Thruway Exit 41(Waterloo exit); go 4 miles south on Route 414, turn right on North Road, go 3/10 mile and turn left on DiPronio Drive (Note - if you get to Routes 5&20, you passed North Road)

<u>Lodging:</u> Holiday Inn, 2468 Route 414, Waterloo (315) 539-5011; Microtel Inn and Suites, 1966 Routes 5 & 20, Seneca Falls (315) 539-8438 (both hotels are within one mile of the playing site)

> Chairperson: Mary Miller (585) 394-7899 mmiller028@rochester.rr.com

APRIL 20 - 22, 2012



Lancaster Sectional

UPPER LEACOCK TOWNSHIP WAR MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION

54 WEST MAIN STREET, LEOLA, PA

April 20 – 22, 2012

11:00

Friday 20, April Afternoon

Open Pairs (0-750, 0-2500, 2500+) 1100 Stratified Pairs (0-20, 0-200,0-500) 1100 Friday 20, April Evening Open Pairs (0-750, 0-2500, 2500+) 7:30 Stratified Pairs (0-20, 0-200, 0-500) 7130 Saturday 21, April Morning Open Pairs (0-750, 0-2500, 2500+) 10100 Stratified Pairs (0-20, 0-200, 0-500) 10100 Juturday 21, April Afternoon Open Pairs (0-750, 0-2500, 2500+) 3100 Stratified Pairs (0-20, 0-200, 0-500) 3100 Sunday 22 . April Open Swiss Teams (0-750, 0-3000, 3000+) 11100

PARTNERSHIPS: BONNIE HEILIG 314-6597

Non-Life Master Swiss Teams

0-300 PARTNERSHIPS: ANDIE SHEAFFER 581-1008

CHAIRPERSON: DEB KLINGER 394-0171

PIZZA WILL BE AVAILABLE ON SUNDAY FOR A SHORT BREAK.

APRIL 27 - 29, 2012

CHAMBERSBURG SECTIONAL TOURNAMENT

April 27-29, 2012

Chambersburg Recreation Center, 235 South Third Street, Chambersburg, Pa, 17201

Friday, April 27

12:00 pm Stratified Open Pairs (0-500: 500-1000, 1000+)

Intermediate/Newcomer pairs (0-100, 100-200, 200-300)*

6:00 pm Stratified Open Pairs (0-500, 500-2000, 2000+)

I/N pairs (0-100, 100-200, 200-300)*

Saturday, April 28

10:30 am Stratified Open Pairs (0-500, 500-2000, 2000+)

I/N pairs (0-100, 100-200, 200-300)*

2:00 pm Bridge Lecture: Tim Smith

3:00 pm Stratified IMP's Open Pairs (0-500, 500-2000, 2000+)

I/N pairs match play (0-100, 100-200, 200-300)*

Sunday, April 29

12:00 pm Two Session Swiss Teams with food. \$100.00 per team.

*Stratified by team average at discretion of director (Everything subject to change)

ACBL members with 0-5 points, play free

Session fees: \$9.00; Unpaid and Non ACBL members \$10.00

Contact: Tom Silverwood (717) 261-0336; Phil Davis (717) 352-8434

Barbara Spohn (717) 334-0810; Diane Shriver (717) 263-0311.

Partners: Alan Walter (717) 709-0949 Assisting Manager: Bob Knuff (717) 263-0911

Hotel: Quality Inn, 1095 Wayne Ave. (717) 263-3400: \$60 standard room; \$80 Suite

Directions: From I-81N, take exit 16 (US 30) west about a mile to Third Street. Turn left (south) two and one-half blocks (past Washington St.). Rec Center is on your right.

From I-81S, take exit 14 (Wayne Ave.) west by northwest to Fourth Street. Right on Fourth Street to Liberty Ave. (about a mile or so). Left on Liberty Ave. to Third Street. Right in Third Street Rec Center on your left.

From the West: Take US 30 which becomes Queen Street one way east to Third St. Right on Third St. one and one half blocks to Rec Center on right.

APRIL 27 - 29, 2012

≜♥♦ Lehigh Valley Spring Sectional April 27-29, 2012 **≜♥♦**

Friday April 27 1:00 pm - 6:30pm Stratified Open Pairs 0-500 (NLM) Pairs* Single sessions

Saturday April 28 10:30am - 3:30pm Stratified Open Pairs 0-500 (NLM) Pairs* Single sessions

Sunday April 29
10:30am – with short break
Stratified Open Swiss Teams
2 session playthrough
0-500 (NLM) Swiss Teams*
single session

There will be a short break for hinch on your own on Sunday (no arranged lunch on-site). Free coffee/snacks throughout

Strats: A=2000+, B=750-2000 C=0-750 (NLM 100, 300,+) if separate NLM game If no separate NLM game, then A=2000+, B=500-2000, C=0-500 NLM

Games marked * will be merged into the Stratified Open Events if fewer than 4 tables. NLM<500 is Non-Life Master less than 500MP. Stratification will be done on average masterpoints. Lehigh County Senior Citizens Center 1633 Elm Street Allentown, PA

This site is handicap accessible.

The parking lot is in the rear of the building off Fairview St.

From PA Turnpike: take Allentown - Lehigh Valley exit. Go East on Rt. 22 to 15th Street exit. At end of ramp, make a right. This is Mauch Chunk Rd/15th Street. In a very short distance, bear right to continue on 15th street. Continue south on 15th street. About 3 blocks after Hamilton Blvd., make a right onto Fairview. The parking lot is on your left at West St. and Fairview.

From New Jersey using route 22: Continue west to Allentown exits. Take the 15th Street Exit. At the end oif the ramp, turn left (south). You are now on Mauch Chunk Road/15th Street. Pick up the directions above.

From New Jersey using Interstate 78. Stay on 78 until it also becomes route 309 going North. Take the Hamilton Blvd. exit towards Allentown. This is also route 222. Follow Reading directions below.

From Reading: take route 222 into Allentown.

Make a right onto 17th Street. In a couple of
blocks, at a 4-way stop, make a left onto
Fairview. The parking lot will be on your right.

Director: Marc Labovitz

Chairperson: John Schwartz 610-391-0261

Partnership Contact: Joe Miller 610-351-4166 or mai829@rcn.com PARTNERS GUARANTEED.

LEHIGH VALLEY BRIDGE ASSOCIATION -- UNIT 133

APRIL 28 - 29, 2012

April 28 & 29, 2012 VFW HALL 423 WEST STATE ST. ITHACA, New York



Schedule of Events

Saturday, April 28

11 AMFlight A/X Pairs, First of 2 Sessions (Open and <4000) Stratified Flight B Pairs, 1 Session (2000, 750, NLM) 99er Pairs, 1 Session (If at least 3 Tables)

3:30 PM Flight A/X Pairs, Second Session Open Stratified Pairs, 1 Session (Open, 1500, 300)

Sunday, April 29

11:00 AM Stratified Swiss Teams (six 8 board matches OR seven 7s)
(Strata based on average MP of team, Open, <2000, <500)
Approx 45 minute break mid-afternoon
Lunch will be available- Wegman's subs, chips and a drink for \$5.00
United States Bridge Federation VP scale will be used.

Directions

From Binghamton: From 79 or 96B, take Seneca St. West to Corn St. Left on Corn to Green St. Left on Green to parking lot on left.

From Syracuse: Take Route 13 - which branches to Fulton St. Take left at Green St. two and one-half blocks. Parking lot on left. Parking is also available on Green Street.

From Rochester: From 96 turn South (right) on Route 13 then follow Syracuse directions.

From Elmira: From 13 turn right on Green St 1 1/2 blocks.

Bridge is on 2nd Floor (elevator).

Entry Fees \$9 per Session for ACBL members, \$10 for non & unpaid members, \$5 for students and for 99er game.

Further Info and Partnerships: Ellie O'Connor 607 387-5538 or e-mail elocon4@yahoo.com

Come and enjoy our Ithaca Hospitality! Great food, great fun. Excellent tournament for your first time out.

MAY 4 - 6, 2012

Northeast Pennsylvania Bridge Association Sectional Tournament

and

District 4 Grand National Teams – Qualifying Round

May 4th - May 6th, 2012 (NEW LOCATION)

Northeast Pennsylvania Bridge Association Sectional Tournament

Partnerships: Ray Depew (570) 239-3056 rdepew@intergrafix.net

FRIDAY, MAY 4TH, 2012

1:30 PM - Stratified Pairs (0-500) (500-1000) (1000- OPEN) I/N 299er 199er 99er 49er 7:00 PM - Stratified Pairs (0-300) (300-750) (750+)

SATURDAY, MAY 5TH 2012

12:30 PM - Stratified Open Pairs (0-300) (300-750) (750+) I/N 299er 199er 99er 49er 7:00 PM - Stratified Pairs (0-300) (300-750) (750+) 299er Pairs

SUNDAY, MAY 6TH, 2012

11:00 AM and TBA - Stratified Swiss Teams (0-300) (300-750) (750+)

District 4 Grand National Teams Qualifying Round SATURDAY, MAY 5[™], 2012

First Session

REGISTRATION CLOSING 12:15 - (OPEN LEVEL and A)
REGISTRATION CLOSING 1:15 - (STRATS B & C)

START TIME OPEN and A First Session 12:30 PM START TIME STRATS B&C First Session 1:30 PM START TIME - Second Session 7:00 PM

SUNDAY, MAY 6TH, 2012

START TIME 9:00 AM - Third Session (OPEN LEVEL)
START TIME 10:00 AM - Third Session (Strats A, B & C)
START TIME TBA - Fourth Session (if necessary)



Visit our websites for updated schedules and events www.district4.info www.nepab.com www.bridgelady.net

Independent Fire Hall

166 s. Sprague Avenue Kingston Pa. 18704 Route 81, Exit 170B

For customized directions go to www.randmcnally.com

Enter your starting address and the destination address above.

MAY 12, 2012

Harrisburg NLM Sectional

Saturday May 12 @ 12 Noon

Preregister by May 7 - Mail Registration and Check for \$50:

Make the check payable to Robert Priest, 108 Hanna St, Harrisburg PA 17104

MAY 18 - 20, 2012

UNIT 141 SHORE SECTIONAL MAY 18—20, 2012

OAKCREST HIGH SCHOOL

1824 DR. DENNIS FOREMAN DRIVE
MAYS LANDING, NJ 08330



Friday - 7:30 PM Open Pairs (single session)

Non-Master Pairs (single session)

Saturday - 10:00 AM, Handicap Knockout Teams (3 sessions)

2:30 PM & 7:30 PM Open Pairs (single session)

Non- Master Pairs (single session)

Sunday - 10:00 AM Stratified Swiss Teams (2 sessions)

(Play-through with 30-45 minute break)

\$10.00 per session (\$1.00 add for non-ACBL members) Strats may be combined if necessary

Strats A = 2000+ B = 750-2000 C = 0-750 Non-Master Pairs A = 100—300 B = 20-100 C = 0-20

Tournament Chair: Meyer Kotkin (856) 424-8149 guymath@comcast.net
Partnerships: Tom Purl (610) 518-6790 tpurl@hotmail.com

Jerry Craige (609) 965-2275 antiqua1@comcast.net

Directions to Oakcrest High School (use 1824 Vienna Ave. if using Mapquest)

From Philadelphia: Take Atlantic City Expressway south to Exit 17. Turn right onto Route 50 towards Mays Landing. After 2.8 miles make a left onto Black Horse Pike/US-322, toward Atlantic City. Travel 2.5 miles past Atlantic City CC, turn right at sign that says: Oakcrest High School and Davies Middle School. Oakcrest is .5 miles on right.

From Atlantic City: Take the Atlantic City Expresssway to Hamilton Mall to Exit 12. Turn left, then a right only Black Horse Pike/US-322. Travel 3 miles to Cologne Avenue Exit on right. Turn left and cross the Black Horse Pike/US-322 to Oakcrest High School .5 miles on right.

From Delaware: Take Route 40 after the Delaware Memorial Bridge. Route 40 and Route 50 merge at Mays Landing. Follow Route 50 North about 3 miles to Black Horse Pike/US-322. Make a right toward Atlantic City. Travel 2.5 miles past Atlantic City CC, turn right at sign that says: Oakcrest High School and Davies Middle School. Oakcrest is .5 miles on right

MAY 19 - 20, 2012



Entry Fees: ACBL Members:

\$9.00 per session

\$4.00 discount for students

under age 25

Non-members: \$10 per session

Rochester Spring Sectional

May 19-20, 2012

Webster Recreation Center 1350 Chiyode Drive Webster, NY

SATURDAY, MAY 19

11:00 AM STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS (Two Sessions)

> STRATIFIED 299er PAIRS (Choose One or Two Sessions)

FREE One Session: Newplicate 0-5 MP

3:30 PM STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS STRATIFIED 299er PAIRS

SUNDAY, MAY 20

11:00 AM STRATIFIED OPEN Swiss Teams (Two Session Play-through)

> STRATIFIED 299er Swiss Teams (One Session)

SANDWICH & SALAD BUFFET AVAILABLE ON SUNDAY Tournament Chairperson PAUL CHERIN 585-425-1701 cherintec@frontiernet.net

Open 299er A: 1500+ 100-299 B: 500-1500 50-100 C: 0-500 0-50

DIRECTIONS: From Rochester: Take 490E to 590N to Rt-104E towards Webster. Exit at Phillips Rd, going north. Proceed .2 miles to Chiyoda Dr. on left

From NYS Thruway (East of Rochester): NYS Thruway Exit 45 to 490E to 590N to Rt-104E towards Webster. Continue as above.

From the South and NYS Thruway (West of Rochester): NYS Thruway Exit 46 to 390N to 490E to 390N to Rt-104E towards Webster. Continue as above.