



District 4 Spot

A publication of District 4 of the American Contract Bridge League

MARCH 2013

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE **TOM WEIK**



Greetings to all. I am proud to be the President of District 4. It is a particularly high honor because our district is truly outstanding. It is my privilege to work with a board that brims with extremely capable and dedicated individuals.

I want everyone to know that my sentiments about our board are sincere and share in my pride. We are so fortunate to have these dedicated volunteers. I salute the officers, committee chairs, and all of the other board members who work so hard to the benefit of all of us. Please join me in recognizing them and expressing appreciation. A list of our board members can be found on our District 4 website.

To be sure, there are many others who deserve recognition. Someone, for example, has found a site where a club game can be held or established a special unit game. Someone may have prepared or obtained refreshments. Someone has provided you information as to where to find a duplicate bridge game or tournament to enjoy. Recognize them when you have an opportunity. Thank them and all who contribute their time and energy.

Most of us are devout bridge players. We want organized bridge to prosper and have become concerned about membership and attendance. Many of us ask what can be done to attract new participants and retain them. As with many complex challenges, it can be best to focus

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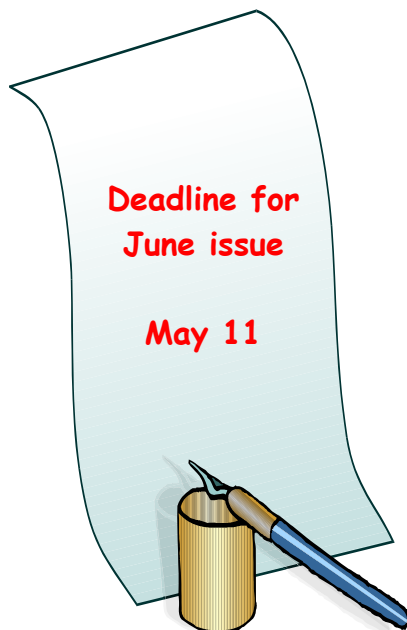
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DISTRICT 4 WEBSITE - DISTRICT4.INFO

Unit Websites

- ♥ 112 - acblunit112.org
- ♠ 120 - nepab.com
- ♦ 121 - unit121bridge.com
- ♣ 133 - 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

CRAIG ROBINSON

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Ten years ago when I was first elected as District 4 Director, Dave Treadwell sat me down to express his view that 55 was too young an age for Senior events in an organization such as the ACBL.

As expected he was right as only a little over 10% of our membership was under the age of 55. It did seem ridiculous. But after looking into who are playing in Senior events, I found the following:

- 1) Senior events were usually at 10 & 3 versus 1 & 7 and some players preferred the earlier times.
- 2) Senior events pay far less masterpoint awards than Open events so they tend to draw players looking for an easier game.

A motion in Philadelphia in 2003 to raise the senior age to 60 failed.

Dave is no longer with us and a new motion is on the books for St. Louis to raise the senior age from 55 to 60. Senior events at regionals have also passed on. At the National level, however, the Senior Swiss, Silver Ribbon Pairs, and Senior KO are thriving. This year's motion is different in that it just changes the age from 55 to 60, the 2003 motion raised it one year at a time for five years. So this motion actually will keep people out of Senior events who previously played in them until they turn 60. If anyone has an opinion on the 'fairness' of this motion, let me know at Bod4@comcast.net.

Dave had actually wanted the age raised to 65 or even 70. In 2010 I introduced a motion to hold a Super Senior Pairs (minimum age 70) at the Fall NABC. After a slow start it was moved from the last weekend to the first Sunday/Monday and in San Francisco it nearly tripled in size. Even though the inspiration for all this came from Dave, it didn't seem right to name the Super Senior Pairs the Dave Treadwell Pairs because Dave was proud of the fact that he had never played in a Senior event.



(Continued from page 1, President's Message)

on the most basic elements. Simplicity. Why do we play in organized bridge games? Why do we return? Why would others join us? I believe the answer is for enjoyment. Create an enjoyable experience, and they will come.

We should focus intensely on how to make our games and tournaments more enjoyable. We can each contribute kindness, respect, and good humor. Let's laugh and have fun. And just as importantly, let's ensure that others have the same experience. Feel free to let me know of any suggestions you may have to make our games a bright, positive experience. We can make our events a favorite destination for all players.

Our District recently purchased a program entitled "Learn Bridge in a Day." We are excited about its potential to interest newcomers. Many thanks to Mary Poplawski, past Education Committee Chair, for promoting the idea, and to Corey Krantz, the current Chair, for following up and rolling it out. If you would like to learn more about this one-day seminar, please contact Corey (coreykrantz@hotmail.com).

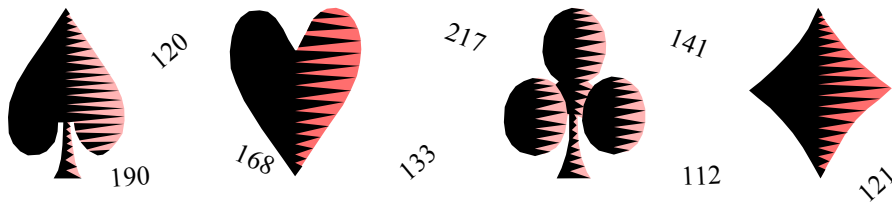
In order for our district to better understand the perceptions and preferences of our newer players, I am inviting an individual that is representative of this group to attend our Board meetings this year. I am happy to report that Caroline Hughes, a Delaware player, has agreed to attend our next meeting. Caroline will briefly present her thoughts and those of her I/N friends. She will also have an opportunity to learn more about district proceedings and share this knowledge with her friends. Caroline came highly recommended to me by Ala Hamilton-Day, who chairs our Intermediate-Newcomer committee with gusto. Thanks to both Ala and Carolyn.

I close with the strongest possible endorsement for our upcoming regional at The Woodlands. From past experience, I can advise you that this Wilkes Barre tournament (March 4-10) will be great fun. Ray Depew, tournament chair, and a very talented team, know how to throw a tournament! I never miss a tournament in the Wilkes Barre / Kingston/ Scranton area if I can help it. I hope to see you there! Look for me at the refreshments table!

District Director, Craig Robinson, presenting one of District 4's 2013 Charity grants to Barbara Loeslein of the Ronald McDonald House of Wilmington for their Adopt A Room Program at the Bridge Studio.



From The Four Corners



CENTRAL NEW YORK 112

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At our last board meeting, the Unit 112 Board of Directors voted unanimously to return our Regional to Rochester for 2015. The event will be held at the Rochester Institute of Technology Inn and Conference Center. Plans are to alternate with the Liverpool site from that point on. The Rochester Regional will be held in May instead of July/August. More details will be available as a formal committee and plans are finalized.

Also, at the last board meeting, the board elected the following officers: President, Mike Mihevc; Vice-President, John Gazak; Secretary, Peg Clark; Treasurer, Warren Marsland; and Member-at-Large, DeWitt Hendricks.

Please keep in mind the following events: April 6-7, Webster; June 1-2 Watertown; July 13-14 Rochester; and our Regional, July 22-28. Please put these days on your calendar and make an effort to support our Unit 112 events. Our organizers and volunteers work hard to make these events available to you. As always, you can keep informed about all things Unit 112 by visiting our website.



NORTHEASTERN PA 120

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Now's the time of year when we recognize those in our unit who have earned plaudits for their play. First the Ace of Clubs masterpoint race, those points earned at club games: **Ellen Preece** (0-5); **Jane Bovard** (5-20); **William F Burns III** (20-50); **Lynn Gonchar** (50-100); **Jody Sorrell** (100-200); **Richard Michelstein** (200-300); **Martha O'Connor** (300-500); **Leslie Sloan** (500-1,000); **Thomas Myers** (1,000-2,500); and **Raymond Depew** (2,500-5,000). The Mini-McKenney list (overall points earned during 2012) includes many of the same names and point categories: **Preece, Bovard, Burns, Gonchar, Sorrell, Michelstein, Sloan & Depew**. Other winners include **Diane Berkowitz** (300-500) and **Judith Argento** (1,000-2,500).

By the time this goes to press, we will be hosting the Wilkes-Barre Regional Tournament for District 4 at the Woodlands Inn & Resort (March 4-10). Our reputation for top-notch hospitality (Judy Argento), Intermediate/Newcomer opportunities (Beth Rosenthal) and

overall streamlined organization (Tournament Chair Ray Depew) has attracted players from all over the Middle Atlantic states. The Woodlands was fully booked by Valentine's Day. Some professionals use this regional as their opportunity to "tune up" for the NABC in St. Louis.

Wife Connie and I were the guests in January of Irma and Tom Henson at their winter getaway in Ajijic, Mexico near Guadalajara. In addition to the warm hospitality (and weather), we were able to play bridge at the Lake Chapala Bridge Club. It's located in Unit 205, and I was able to compare notes with my counterpart, Unit President Skip Johnson (shown w/me).



Remember: **EACH ONE REACH ONE!** Make it your 2013 resolution to invite at least one person to play duplicate bridge. Someone asked you at some point. Now it's time to return the favor!



BERKS MONTGOMERY 121

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The Annual Meeting was held on November 18th at the YR Club. The election produced the following results: Sue Wessner, President; Sandy Deeds, Vice President; Diana Mulligan, Secretary; Phil Presby, Treasurer. Board members: Albert Bingaman, Lee Ernst, Jack Gechter, Lise Gerhard, Jerry Hartle, Irish Murphy, Eugene O'Brien, Emily Troutman. Walter Mitchell presented Sue Wessner with a check for \$5,000 which was then given to the Hamburg Library as part of the ACBL charity grant award program. Winners of the stratified open pairs game were Vicky & Ellis Sokoloff.

The Myrtle Quier Annual Holiday Unit Game was played at the Bridge Room at The Villa on December 16th. The winners were Sue Wessner and Dr. Ed Katz. The Annual "Left Over Fruitcake" game was played on January 20th. Sandy Deeds and Janice Repko were the winners.

The Unit has decided to launch a campaign for people to learn to play duplicate bridge. Through the help of ACBL, advertising has been put into place and we are off and running! This project is available only through the dedication and hard work of our members, who will donate their time to teach others the game. Additionally, complimentary beginner duplicate bridge lessons will be offered at the Wyomissing Public Library in March/April. Call for more info 610-374-2385. At the end of this vast teaching effort, there will be a weekly invitational bridge game which will cater to our "newcomers" effective Monday, May 6th. The game will be played at The Highlands In Wyomissing. Feel free to call Sue with any questions.

Our Annual Pro-Am Unit game will be held on April 15th in the Bridge Room at 1:00 pm, Jack Gechter and Jerry Hartle co-chairs. Come out for a day of food and fellowship and most important, mentoring!

Please mark your calendars for our Spring Sectional, May 18-20, at The Highlands In Wyomissing, 2000 Cambridge Ave. Wyomissing, PA. How fortunate we are to have such a lovely site. For any questions regarding this event please contact Louise Remley, louiseremley@msn.com or Anne Alderman, pennyenna@aol.com our tournament coordinators. The Unit extends their thanks and gratefulness to both of these ladies for the fantastic work they have done for our Unit, as Vice President and Secretary, and thousands of other jobs along the way! The new Unit Tournament Coordinator for our Fall Sectional will be Irish Murphy vagabond4@hotmail.com.

Congratulations to Lucia Di Paolo for advancing to Sectional Master, and Lee Ernst for achieving NABC Master.



LEHIGH VALLEY 133

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The unit held a one day 199er sectional on January 13 which was very successful, so much so, that future such sectionals will require a larger facility. The unit held its annual souper bowl Sunday charity game and raised \$335.00 for the Second Harvest Food Bank. The unit also hosted a free membership game in conjunction with the presentation of the ACBL charity grant check to the Lehigh County Senior Citizen Center on December 22 at the center.

The next unit game is the stratified Swiss teams on March 17 at the senior center. The unit will have its Spring sectional on April 26 through 28 at the Lehigh County Senior Center. Please see the flyer on page ____.

Special congratulations to the unit's newest life master, Fay Pacchioli, who in addition made Bronze Life Master. Also congratulations to Tom Kriz for becoming a Silver Life Master.

The unit was saddened by the passing of long time member Joan Bergstresser.



PCBA 141

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The "New Year" Sectional was held on January 4 – 6, 2013 at the Bala Golf Club in Philadelphia, PA. This was the first time that we used this site. After a two year search, the Unit has finally found a permanent site to hold five of its six sectional tournaments each year. The players who attended the January and/or February Tournaments gave high praises and accolades concerning the new facility. Mike Giesler, the current Vice President of Unit 141, deserves most of the credit for finding this facility and arranging the negotiations with the Bala administration and personnel.

Hospitality was provided before the morning sessions and between sessions each day of tournament by the Hospitality Committee, namely, Allison Brandt and Wendy DeChadarevian. Bagels, cakes and coffee were served in the morning and pizza, hoagies and cheese steaks were provided between sessions. Many thanks to Wendy and Allison for their time and effort they put into making the hospitality successful.

The Bala Golf Club is located off of I-76 (City Line Avenue or Montgomery Drive) and is easy to find from any direction. There are plenty of parking spaces on the grounds and valet parking is also available.

Bracketed Swiss Teams using duplicated boards with hand records were tried for the first time at the February Tournament. From the few comments received, the players appear to like this format. There were a few kinks that need to be straightened out in running this event. These problems will be resolved for the April Tournament. Duplicated boards and hand records were used in the Swiss Team event at the January Tournament.

Every year the Philadelphia Contract Bridge Association (PCBA) pays tribute to the member player who wins the most masterpoints at the six sectionals during the calendar year. This year's Player of the Year (or the Jordan Trophy Winner) is Meyer Kotkin of Cherry Hill, NJ. Along with the Jordan Trophy, the PCBA also recognizes the player who began the year as Non Life Master and accumulated more master points than his/her contemporaries during the year. This year's winner of the Gough Trophy is Nancy Chorpita of Haddonfield, NJ. Congratulations to both Meyer and Nancy.

At the January tournament held on January 4 to 6, 2013, Ken Cohen of Philadelphia, PA led all the other players with 25.44 master points; Marty Rabinowitz of Narberth, PA was second with 23.46 master points and Richwarf of Philadelphia was third with 18.63 master points.

At the February tournament held on February 8 – 10, 2013, Barry Gorski and Albert Bingaman Jr. of Reading, PA were tied for first with 25.43 master points; and Ken Cohen of Philadelphia, PA was third with 22.43 master points.

The normal election for the PCBA Unit 141 Board of Directors was not held this year at the January Sectional because there were no additional challenges entered against the nominated candidates.

The election of Unit Officers for the year for 2012 will take place on March 12, 2013. The current list of officers are: Unit President is Joann Glasson; Vice President is Mike Giesler; Secretary is Jay Apfelbaum, Treasurer is Phyllis Taxin and the Business Manager is John Marks.

The schedule for the rest of the year that will be held at the Bala Golf Club is as follows:

- Spring will be held on April 12 – 14, 2013
- Summer will be held on September 6 – 8, 2013.
- Fall will be held on October 11 – 13, 2013.

The Unit 141 Shore Spring Sectional Tournaments will be held on May 17 – 19, 2013 at the Oakcrest High School in Mays Landing, NJ.

The Annual PCBA Membership Meeting and the Sonny Jaspen Trophy Game will take place on Sunday, April 18, 2013.

The Unit 141 STAC's are scheduled for Monday, April 15 to Sunday, April 21, 2013 and Monday, November 11 to Sunday, November 17, 2013. Units 112, 120, 133 and 190 will also participate in this STAC.

The following are important future dates to remember:

- 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.
- 2015 Valley Forge Regional at the DoubleTree by Hilton, June 22 to 28.
- The District 4 STAC, Monday, August 19 to Sunday, August 25, 2013.

Hope to see at all of these above events.



CENTRAL PENN 168

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Hello there Unit #168 Members.

The Results are in for the Unit 168 Silver Materpoint Players of the Year for 2012.

OPEN

H Philip Monyer 70.02

Steve Valencic 47.18

Melvin Lubart 43.49

0-1500

Steve Valencic 47.18

Thomas Coxey 22.89

Ed Scanlon 21.91

NLM 0-500

James Jenkins 20.42

Harry Stutts 18.93

Richel McClune 13.92

Nice job everyone.

Here are the Events scheduled for Unit 168 in the upcoming months:

April 5-7 Lancaster Sectional - Leola, PA

April 19-21 Chambersburg Sectional

May 4-5 GNT Dist 4 Finals

May 11-12 NLM Harrisburg Sectional

July 22-28 Harrisburg Split Regional - Watch for more details in a later issue of the *Dist 4Spot* and *Bridge Bits* - Another chance to GO for Gold.... in the neighborhood!

See you at the tables.



DELAWARE 190

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As you are reading this, Rick Rowland has already been roasted and toasted as Unit 190's new Grand Life Master during the February Blue Hen Sectional. As I am writing this I can hardly wait to hear what people will have to say at the roast! Rick won the Truscott Senior Swiss Teams at the Summer Nationals in New Orleans in 2010. Then, at the Lancaster Regional last December, he won his 10,000th master point. These two accomplishments qualified him for this outstanding rank. Congratulations, Rick!

The 2012 Mini-McKenney and Ace of Clubs Awards have been finalized. In Unit 190 players who won in both categories are: Jill Itzkovitz (5-20) Barbara Saulsbury (20-50) Caroline Hughes (50-100) Peter Harris (500-1000) Randy Berseith (2500-5000) Lois Stuart (5000-7500) and Rick Rowland (7500-10,000). Other Mini-McKenney winners are: Karen Pollak (0-5) Pieter Vanbennekomp (100-200) Toni Notarnicola (200-300) Christine Matus (300-500) and Marie Anzilotti (1000-2500). Other Ace of Clubs winners are Donald Pyne (0-5) Scott Freber (100-200) Timothy Schenck (200-300) Carol Hopson (300-500) and Elizabeth Mallon (1000-2500).

Players who are in need of silver masterpoints will be interested in the NLM Spring Sectional, March 25 - March 29th at the Bridge Studio in Wilmington. NLMs with less than 500 masterpoints may participate. Stratified pair events are scheduled each day, and on Thursday evening there is a Stratified NLM teams. For complete details visit bridge-studio.org.

Congratulations to two of our members who have advanced in rank. Debby Purbrick is a

new Silver Life Master and Barbara Rhoades is our newest Gold Life Master. Unit 190 also has two new District 4 appointees to the ACBL Goodwill Committee - Jeff Ruben and Andy Stayton.



SUSQUEHANNA 217

Jacqueline Humilovich

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Throughout the winter months the State College bridge site at the Unitarian Fellowship has been undergoing extensive renovations. As spring and summer arrive, we are looking forward to the completion of these improvements and the resulting enhanced facility. The staff at the Unitarian Fellowship has been nothing but warm and receptive since we began play there in September 2011.

The results for the *Unit 217 2012 Mini-McKenney Award* and the *Unit 217 2012 Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs Award* are as follows:

	<i>Mini-McKenney</i>	<i>Ace of Clubs</i>
<i>0-5</i>	<i>Sally Manning</i>	<i>Sally Manning</i>
<i>5-20</i>	<i>Mary Lisko</i>	<i>Mary Lisko</i>
<i>20-50</i>	<i>Janice Lindsay</i>	<i>Esther Lester</i>
<i>50-100</i>	<i>Shirley Miller</i>	<i>Shirley Miller</i>
<i>100-200</i>	<i>Mitchell Marcello</i>	<i>Andrew Kleit</i>
<i>200-300</i>	<i>Susan Nichols</i>	<i>Susan Nichols</i>
<i>300-500</i>	<i>Dolores Ritter</i>	<i>Dolores Ritter</i>
<i>500-1000</i>	<i>Jacqueline Humilovich</i>	<i>Hayden Clark</i>
<i>1000-2500</i>	<i>Judy Stein</i>	<i>Fred Gilbert</i>
<i>2500-5000</i>	<i>Carol Reitz</i>	<i>Sandy Gilbert</i>
<i>5000-7500</i>	<i>Jim McKeown</i>	<i>Jim McKeown</i>
<i>10,000+</i>	<i>Ed Bissell</i>	<i>Ed Bissell</i>

We are eagerly anticipating the ***Spring out of Winter Bridge Tournament*** which will be held ***April 5-7*** at the Williamsport Bridge Club. The ***State College Bridge Tournament*** will take place ***June 7-9*** at the Boalsburg Fire Hall. Please make plans to attend both tournaments and by doing so, support our Unit 217.

Finally, we are saddened by the loss, this past January, of two longtime members and friends of the Williamsport Bridge Club. Dodi (Doris) Cotner was a member of the club for approximately 20 years and accumulated over 1000 master points. Bridge was one of her varied interests in life, and she will be missed by her many friends. Ellen Marvin had been a member of the club for about 45 years and was a Gold Life Master. She was a great player and a wonderful friend to her fellow players.

The next unit sectional will be held April 5-7 at the Williamsport Bridge Club.





DISTRICT 4 MASTER SOLVERS CLUB
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Problem 1.

Matchpoints, N-S Vul, Dlr West
South holds
S - AK83 H - Q75 D - 96 C - A983
West North East South
P P P 1C
P 1H P 1S
P 1N P ??

a) Do you agree with 1S (5 pts)
Yes 5 (12) (46); 1N 3 (0) (11); 2H 3 (1) (32); P 3 (0) (17)

Note: I posted the problems on "Bridgewinners.com". The number in the first parentheses is how many panelists voted for the action; the second parentheses show the number of votes in the Bridgewinners poll. Votes from John Diamond, Josh Donn and Danny Sprung are taken from Bridgewinners.

Wachsman: Yes. 1S is the correct bid in any system.

It is not: although the vote here was nearly unanimous, there is broad disagreement in both the expert and the non-expert community. One school believes it is right to bid 2H and reserve 1S followed by 2H for hands with extra values. Another group believe that opener should rebid 1N with all balanced hands. A third think that with partner a passed hand it is right to pass. As you can see from the large numbers in parentheses, more players do not bid 1S than do, although 1S was the plurality answer.

Shuster: No. The actual problem is easily predictable (and we'd have a similar problem if partner preferenced to 2C). My partners expect me to raise their major with 3-card support, minimum values and a doubleton somewhere. If it is a game hand, we can still recover a 4-4 spade fit after 2H, and if it is a partscore deal, hearts rates to play adequately.

Straguzzi: Yes. There are some hands in which it's right to raise immediately with honor-third in support of responder's major. There are other hands in which it's preferable to rebid 1NT rather than show a four-card spade suit. This one is neither. I have a suit-oriented hand, a very good four-card major I haven't mentioned, and a weak doubleton in the unbid suit. 1S seems clear.

Raskin: Agree with 1S. Could play 1N from the right side if partner has decent diamonds.

Barry Passer: Yes. Agree with 1S. An immediate raise to 2H should show four card support, unless Axx or Kxx and a side singleton. Why hide the excellent spade suit?

Foster: I agree with 1S. Partner could still have 4 spades (or 3 good enough to pass my 1S call - we are looking for a place to play this hand!)

S. Teukolsky: Yes. But pass would be OK in matchpoints, where there's no reward for bidding close games. An immediate 2H raise could also work, with Qxx and a little doubleton.

Marlow: Yes. I prefer bidding spades in this sequence unless the suit is very poor. Skipping spades to bid notrump (or hearts) too often leads to missing a good 4-4 fit.

Schmidt: Yes. Of course. Move the club 3 to diamonds, then I'd rebid 1N.

Harris: Yes. 1C followed by 1S should show a 4S-4C hand. Should rebid 1NT if we hold a 4-3-3-3 hand.

Shapiro: Agree with 1S. When I choose not to play my preferred weak NT, where a possible loss of major suit fit is balanced by very limited information given to the opponents, I take advantage of the easy rebid of 1S, and here the hand looks "suitish." As an aside, it's difficult to come up with a hand for partner in this specific case where NT should be played from my side. In any case, I think bidding 1S over 1H is clear when I can't raise, unless I have 4=3=3=3 shape.

R. Teukolsky: Yes, I like my spade suit. Since partner is a passed hand I flirted with the idea of passing, but not seriously.

Despite Mike Shuster's assurance, I do not think it is that easy to find spades after a raise to 2H. My own style - not necessarily best - is to raise a passed partner immediately with a minimum opener only with four trumps, but to bid 1S over 1H - and bid 2H over partner's 1N rebid with short weak diamonds.

b) What now? (20 pts)
Pass 20 (11) (79); 2H 8 (2) (12)

Marlow: 2H. Pass could easily be best where partner has diamond values and poor hearts, but the small doubleton sways me toward the major suit contract.

Greco: P. This is really a matter of style. Bidding 1S seems perfectly normal. I think bidding 2H, over 1N, is right if you will do it on any hand with three, however, many people play this shows some extras or at the least a singleton diamond.

Footman: P. At matchpoints the 10 extra points for NT is big. My hand is a good one to lead through, not up to. I would expect to be wrong at least 40% of the time. For all I know, it might be wrong 60% of the time; a diamond ruff might easily produce an extra trick.

Schmidt: P. 2H would show more strength.

Shuster: Pass. In context we must pass, as 2H now would show a stronger hand, patterning around a singleton diamond.

Foster: Pass. Apparently partner has fewer than four spades, only 4 hearts, and fewer than 4 clubs, with something in diamonds to stop the almost automatic lead by the opponents as we try avoid disaster. If we are at a stage of desperation in the event I would consider placing partner in 2H, which is almost for sure a four - three fit.

I don't understand this comment, at least the second part. Surely partner with, say, S-xx H-K10xxx D-Qxx C-Kxx would rebid 1N over 1S. Walsh creates some doubt about responder's red suit lengths, but she has equal or more hearts at least half the time.

Cohen: 2H. With prime cards and the small doubleton, I want to go for the extra trick(s) in a heart contract.

Wachsman: Pass. Should West now balance with a 2D bid, I can conveniently show my 3 card heart support.

Robert Smink: Pass. Partner is probably 2=4=5=2 so looks like best chance for a plus score.

Straguzzi: 2H. With a shrug. Sometimes it's right to pass 1NT; sometimes it's right to support partner's major. Here I have prime cards and that ugly doubleton in diamonds, so I'll guess to play in the major. As it's matchpoints facing a passed hand, I'm obviously not looking for anything more than a part score, but the raise does come with a side benefit: partner might scrape up a 3H invitation (with a nice 2=5=4=2 11-count, say) that I can raise to game.

Filandro: 2H. If partner has 5 hearts, 2H outscores 1NT perhaps 80% of the time. If only 4 hearts, the Moysian (4 - 3 fit) is a perfecto - aces and kings, and ability to take ruffs in the short trump hand - and a better score perhaps 65% of the time. Because we agreed on Walsh, I'm lowering that to 60% to cater to partner being 2=4=5=2 with 4 tiny hearts. (We would essentially be playing notrump, but a level higher.)

Barry Passer: 2H. Since I have 3½ quick tricks, why not complete my description?

Isaacs : P. You have 13 points and a fairly flat hand; partner may have as little as 6 points. If he had more, he'd bid 4th suit forcing (2D), so she's weak. Pass and hope to make it.

Harris: P. We have what we should have. Partner should have H & D. Partner could have 5H and a minimum hand, but my QH can help if this is the case. Partner is a passed hand and we do not have anything more than we indicated.

Shapiro: Pass. Could well belong in 2H, but I can't get there, as I think 2H now shows extra high card or playing strength that I barely don't have. Yeah, if your style is for responder to rebid 2H with a mediocre 5-card suit over 1N, a 1N rebid might have worked better, but rebidding 5-card junk isn't our style, either.

Both Teukolsky's: Pass. 2H now would show a better hand.

My view is that opener should either bid 2H immediately or over 1N with this shape. I don't mind either approach. I think it is wrong to ignore the fact that your hand has heart support and a ruffing value. As far as I can tell, the majority of the panel and solvers prefer to play 1N opposite partner's 2=5=3=3 even though they would never do so if partner opened 1N and they had five hearts. Or maybe they routinely rebid five card heart suits as responder. I sure don't.

Problem 2.

Imps, Both Vul, Dlr North
South holds
S - K73 H - D - K8743 C - AQ974

West	North	East	South
--	P	1H	??

Would it make a difference if East were dealer?
Double 25 (12) (65); 2NT 7 (1) (33); Other 3 (0) (9)

Shapiro: Dbl. I have too much shape to pass and overcalls or a terrible 2N should be reserved for clients who have been ordered never to double 1H without 4 spades. Passed hand status wouldn't change this, as failure to make a vul weak 2-bid doesn't deny a longish suit in the wrong hand (weak suit, wrong side cards, etc.)

Greco: Double. It makes no difference who is dealer this is an automatic double. I think its a terrible distortion to bid 2NT minors with three spades in my hand.

Some divergence of opinion from the Ithaca Bridge Club:

S. Teukolsky: 2NT. Even though partner is a passed hand, we can still have a good minor suit fit. If partner were not a passed hand, double might work, but I would still bid 2NT. If I double and it goes 4H - P - P back to me I'll be forced to pass.

R. Teukolsky: Double. I have support for three suits. If my left hand opponent bids 4H, and it goes pass-pass, I'll suck it up and pass. I would never in a million years bid 2NT with that diamond suit---I have my standards.

Footman: 2D. This is the system that I play for 5-5; 12-14 points is not 2NT. This might not be right, but it is my system.

Barry Passer: 2N. Double encourages north to bid 4S over 4H with 10 points and 4 spades. Sorry, it's a sucker's bet.

Back to the rest of the world for still other notions:

Schmidt: 2C. Tough problem, and the answer comes from Goldilocks. Dbl puts too much emphasis on spades, 2N too little. 2C, allowing partner to advance spades on the 2-level is just right. If East were dealer that would demote 2N from a very close second choice to third.

Smink: Pass. May be a misfit so will wait to see what happens - the bidding isn't over. Might be more inclined to bid 2NT if partner were not a passed hand.

Shuster: Double. Since I would be fine with partner bidding spades, I'll treat this hand as a three-suiter rather than a 2-suiter.

Marlow: DBL. I like the takeout double as the most flexible call, keeping spades in the picture. Bidding 2D or 2NT with such poor diamonds is a little too scary for me, so my second choice would be 2C.

Straguzzi: X. This too comes with a shrug; collect the whole set, kids! It might be right to bid 2NT or to try to bid both minors, but at this vulnerability I'd rather make one call that more or less describes my hand and be done with it. The trouble with an Unusual Notrump is that if we happen to belong in spades, we'll never get there, and the trouble with 2D followed by 3C is that those are awfully strong bids on awfully weak suits, vulnerable, facing a passed partner and an unlimited LHO. Obviously I'd prefer a fourth spade, but they only dealt me three and besides, the heart void ought to temper partner's disappointment at my dummy. I'd double even if East were dealer.

Isaacs: Double. You're shy a spade, it's true, but bidding 2D or 2C you're shy one of those suits and double is most likely to get you into play. If E were dealer, I would P and see if partner can make a reopening double and then jump in a minor.

Foster 2 NT (Unusual for the minors.) I would make the same bid even if East were the dealer.

Cohen: 2N. I want to let my partner in on my hand before they get too high.

Filandro. D. If East were dealer, no difference. Perhaps even better, since I could have hopes that partner holds 6 spades, which his initial Pass often denies. The suits are not meaty enough for a vul 2NT, nor are the diamonds good enough to start with a 2D overcall. Edgar Kaplan would approve, saying, "Double is a standout, and the only way to reach our 3 - 3 spade fit."

Wachsman: 2NT. Unusual NT is most appropriate following North's opening pass. If East were the dealer, I would make a Takeout Double as it is more likely to uncover the best N-S fit.

Screaming his responses this time (or accidentally pushing the caps lock key):

Raskin: X. CAN SUPPORT ANY SUIT AND WANT TO MAXIMIZE CHANCES TO FIND SPADES IF WE HAVE A FIT. SLIGHT EFFECT IN THAT CHANCES OF A GAME FOR US INCREASES BUT HAND STILL SEEMS WRONG TO USE AN UNUSUAL NT BID.

Harris. 2C. I want to emphasize C and not indicate C & D by a 2NT bid. This is especially important for a lead by partner. If and when H are raised by the opponents, I have a perfect double with less than 4S and a D tolerance. I would rather double initially than bid 2NT because of the poor D. If east was the dealer, I would be much more comfortable bidding 2C and then doubling since east could have a better hand.

Goldberg. Double. It makes no difference if East were dealer, double is more flexible as it keeps spades in the picture, and far less dangerous than 2N or 2 of a minor.

I'm with the doubler. Partner does not deny five (or even six) spades by passing, and it is easy to envision a 4-3 spade fit playing very well. It's also easy to see it going down a lot. I dislike using Unusual NT with three cards in the other major unless I am really strong and can bid three of the major over partner's response to 2N.

Problem 3.

IMPs, E-W Vul, Dlr W
South holds
S - KJ H - Q10973 D - 74 C - A1052

West	North	East	South
1D	1S	P	??
2S 25	(6) (21);	2H 15	(2) (52); 1N 10 (2) (7); 2D 7 (1) (12)

Donn: I object because if a new suit is forcing [there is] nothing good to bid on normal hands like this.

In the Bridgewinners poll it was specified that a new suit would be forcing. But I do not see the objection - in old fashioned bridge this would be a 2H response to 1S. It is only in 2/1 that this has become too weak.

Footman: 2H. 10 points, 5 hearts, short diamonds, spade tolerance. What am I missing?

Raskin: 2H. If partner raises or passes we rate to be in a decent contract. I can stand it if partner retreats to spades.

Shuster: 2S. In my continuing quest to lower my score in this panel, I'll go ahead and make the bid that wins big at the table but not on the panel. Just watch our law-abiding opponents misjudge and over-compete. And if partner bids game, I won't be ashamed to put this hand on the table. A similar theme with problem one, raising a trump short with a suitable hand - have you ever had a partner say to you, "I wish you'd raise my suits less often?" Me neither, and I raise with both these hand types. *Just watch your partner misjudge and over-compete because he thinks you have at least three card support. Just watch your partner try to handle the 4-2 fit.*

Schmidt: 2H. Playing advances as "non-forcing constructive", this seems clear-cut. If the bidding proceeds P - P - 3D, I'll have a difficult decision, but that's in the Summer problem set.

Shapiro: 2D. Toughest problem of the set. If we're playing that a cue-bid promises a rebid, I'll reconsider, since I intend to pass 2S, but I don't think that's the modern style. As a very occasional bonus, maybe we'll find a 9-card heart fit. Second choice would be 2S.

Straguzzi: 2S. Let's just cut to the chase. I have too much to pass, and while bidding something else (2H, say) might be the winning action, it's more likely to lead to heartache, no pun intended. Any time the auction starts this way, I'm likely going to have to support spades sooner or later. Might as well do it sooner.

Greco: 2S. This is an awkward hand where any of 2D, 2H, 2S or even 1N might be right. Given I have two honors for partner I will treat it is three but will downgrade it for a cuebid.

Filandro: 2S. I must show some sign of life. Raising an overcall with only 2-card support is quite rare. But this hand meets the requirements.

Barry Passer: 2H. Forcing for 1 round by an unpassed hand, right? If it isn't and partner passes, is that so terrible?

Foster 2 H. Shows what I have: 5 hearts, 10 HCP's, probable tolerance for spades, and forcing for one round: "New suit by an unpassed hand."

Wachsman: 2H. A constructive bid showing values that include 5 hearts and tolerance for spades. The inability to cue bid 2D, limits my hand. *I don't see why it shows spade tolerance. Wouldn't you bid 2H on S-x H-KJxxxx D-xx C-Axxx? I would.*

Cohen: 2H. I've got some excellent cards for partner and a small doubleton in their suit. I'll make a non-forcing 2H bid.

S. Teukolsky: 2S. I have to bid something, since passing can miss a vulnerable game. 2H followed by a spade raise is a bit of an overbid - and 2H isn't forcing in BWS.

Smink: 2D. Would like to have 3 spades but quality makes up for the doubleton. Don't want to risk passing out when game is available.

Isaacs: 2H. You have enough to bid some suit, and Hearts is as much a major as Spades. If Partner rebids 2S, I'll raise to 4S.

R. Teukolsky: 2S. The hand is too strong to pass, and my heart suit isn't good enough to bid 2H. Even though I only have a doubleton spade, it's a good doubleton.

Harris: 2H. While this is not forcing, it is definitely constructive. Even though I have KJ of spades, I do not like raising immediately. It is possible we may have a 5-3 H fit and only a 5-2 S fit. Depending on the bidding, I would be willing to bid 3S in the absence of a H raise by partner.

Goldberg: 2H. A constructive bid with a constructive hand.

Marlow: 2H. The least bad bid. New suits by advancer are, constructive and non-forcing, which is what I have. I hope I will be able to show the good spade tolerance on the next round, but I really do not think this hand is strong enough to start with a cue bid. Transfer advances, anyone? "

Some confusion here. Let me start with this reminder: in this forum we do not play Bridge World Standard; we play "2/1 with Walsh" in the sort of loose configuration that you would have sitting down with an expert partner ten minutes before game time. Now whether we play new suits by advancer (the partner of an overcaller) are intended to be forcing or simply constructive is not systemically dictated. My own preference is to play them as a one round force but not promising another bid. Obviously that is not universal. I would bid 2H. Among the reasons I would choose that

is the predilection among today's expert community for four-card overcalls with decent suits and good hands not suitable for 1N or a takeout double. I have this aversion to playing in six card fits.

Problem 4.

Matchpoints, Neither Vul, Dlr S
South holds
S - K65 H - A52 D - AJ8732 C - 6

West	North	East	South
--	--	--	1D
P	2D*	4H	??

2D = Limit or better

5D 25 (9) (76); 4N 12 (0) (11); 4S 10 (0) (5); 5C 8 (1) (2); Double 6 (1) (5);

Pass 5 (1) (9)

Let me deal with a few issues before I open this to the panel. First of all, responder has not promised more than a good nine-count with five diamonds and no four-card major. Therefore "Pass" is not forcing. Second, although many people play that initial responses of 3H or 3S would be splinters that is not universal.

Shapiro: Double. At least it's only matchpoints, so I'm not risking 14+imps. I'd like this to show transferrable values, but it doesn't. In our style I could have 4=4=3=2 shape. Partner can pull with an extreme hand. I'll lead a club and hope partner has enough entries to beat this two or three. +300 does not have to be a hopeless result in a minor suit hand. It would be nice to make a forcing pass, but pass is not in the least forcing. Second choice is 5D. S. Teukolsky: 5D. My hand has too much playing strength to pass, but not enough to cue bid 4S.

Marlow: Pass. I will pull partner's double as a strong slam try. This hand is huge with the big diamond fit; with a double of controls from partner, I definitely want to be in at least 6D. *Are you sure you will get another chance?*

Goldberg: 5C. I think slam is likely. I have controls in every suit and extra trump. *Why 5C on the stiff and not 4S?*

Harris: 4S. With two first round controls and 2 second round controls, plus a minimum ten card trump suit, it is imperative to make a slam effort by bidding 4S. It can not be an effort to play S as partner has denied four spades. 4NT is the only other bid to consider. By bidding controls, we may find that partner, not west has a stiff H (which we are unlikely to find out by using 4NT).

Raskin: P. See what partner does since the strength of his hand on the upper side is unknown.

Filandro: 5D. I would not play this as a forcing Pass situation so I will bid game, a compromise between my minimal high card strength but excellent controls and extra trump length. 4NT is tempting, but even a 5S response is no guarantee of a makeable slam. Imagine partner with xxx, xx, KQxxx, AKx, where even 11 tricks are in jeopardy.

R. Teukolsky: 5D. Easiest hand of the bunch. I wouldn't lose even one minute of sleep if 5D didn't make. *And when you claim six opposite S-QJx H-x D-Kxxxxx C-Axxx? A minute? An hour? More?*

Straguzzi: 5D. Yeah, I get it: we've got a huge diamond fit and I can diagnose that partner is short in hearts, and there's no obvious slam invitation available anyway, so I'm supposed to be a real buckaroo and bid six (or Blackwood) here. Sorry, it's not happening. Too much can go wrong, and like Charlie Brown every time I try to play the hero I wind up the goat. Pass isn't forcing, so bidding 5D in front of my *unlimited* partner shows extras, and that's plenty for the time being. Gotta run, Lucy is calling for me to kick the football.

Barry Passer: 5D. Odds on to make. The real problem comes after LHO 5H, pass, pass, when I double and lead my club.

Isaacs: 5D. Too many things can be wrong to try for slam; an opening Ace of Clubs will mean that partner must have both D- KQ or you're lucky in a finesse. Partner doesn't have long spades (2D denies 4 card major) so if he has S-A J 10 another finesse will have to come in. And heaven forbid she have 2 or worse yet 3 hearts!

Smink: 5D. Game before slam - if partner has extras should bid 6.

Wachsman: 5D. Game in diamonds seems very likely and should be bid. Partner, with a slam-oriented hand, can cue bid 4S with the AS which would propel us to slam.

Cohen: 4N. I've got to try for slam. I'll try 4N vice 4S and go to slam if partner shows at least 2 controls.

Foster: 5D. Until I rebid diamonds to show that is really my suit, partner cannot be sure that I hold more than 3 diamonds. We might have a slam in either diamonds or no trump, but if partner does not have extras over and above a limit raise, the five-level should be high enough. Once I define my hand as minimum with a real diamond suit, she will know what to do.

Schmidt: 5D. Showing my diamond length, and hoping partner can bid 6. I'd prefer pass, if I knew it was

forcing. Prospects for +500 or even +800 are good, but I don't think I can double with 6-card diamonds.
 Shuster: 5D. Pass and pull to 5D is tempting, but I'm not convinced a limit raise puts us in a force at the 5-level and all pass would be a disaster.

Footman: 5D. There are good possibilities for slam, but even if my partner has two key cards, I am not sure its there. Where does the third spade go? Also, if my partner has two hearts, an opening lead to an ace followed by a heart ruff would be very depressing. If I'm wrong, I'm wrong. Everyone at the table will be allowed to make clucking noises when I make six.

Greco: 5D. I have a very good hand but no obvious way to make a slam try. I could bid 5C but what is that really going to tell partner. Bidding 5D has to show something and after all, I only have a 12 count and partner did not splinter the first time so is unlikely to have a strong hand with short hearts.

I can't envision pass being right. And I don't understand why 5C would be a better slam try than 4S. Or are the 4S bidders afraid that it will be taken as a suggestion to play? I think this is a very slammish hand despite having only twelve HCP. But I understand the 5D bid: partner does not need to have a stiff heart.

Congratulations, I guess, to Eric and Ros for perfect scores. Certainly way better than my 63. A tough set for solvers, partly because they virtually all chose 2H on problem 3, and because so many rejected the takeout double on 2. Also I scored many answers fairly low. But new solver Morton Isaacs came through with a fine 90.

Panel	1A	1B	2	3	4	Score
Eric Greco	Y	P	X	2S	5D	100
Ros Teukolsky	Y	P	X	2S	5D	100
Michael Shuster	N	P	X	2S	5D	98
Josh Donn	Y	P	X	*	5D	90
Pete Filandro	Y	2H	X	2S	5D	88
Nick Straguzzi	Y	2H	X	2S	5D	88
John Diamond	Y	P	X	1N	5D	85
Danny Sprung	Y	P	X	1N	5D	85
Saul Teukolsky	Y	P	2N	2S	5D	82
Connie Goldberg	Y	P	X	2H	5C	73
Ray Raskin	Y	P	X	2H	P	72
Ed Shapiro	Y	P	X	2D	X	63

* ABSTAIN; HAS BEEN ASSIGNED 2H FOR SCORE

Solvers

Morton Isaacs	Y	P	X	2H	5D	90
Bridgewinners	Y	P	X	2H	5D	90
Dave Wachsman	Y	P	2N	2H	5D	72
Bill Foster	Y	P	2N	2H	5D	72
Bill Schmidt	Y	P	2C	2H	5D	68
Courtenay Footman	Y	P	2D	2H	5D	68
Chris Marlowe	Y	2H	X	2H	P	60
Barry Passer	Y	2H	2N	2H	5D	60
Robert Smink	Y	P	P	2D	5D	60
Lynn Harris	Y	P	2C	2H	4S	53
Barry Cohen	Y	2H	2N	2H	4N	47

D4 Bidding Challenge Summer 2013

Answers to hbethe@aol.com not later than April 15, 2013. Please format your answer as #. Last Name: Answer. Comment. E.g. "1. Beth: 4H. I must be blind but I see no alternative." Put your full name somewhere in the e-mail. Please note: Our methods are 2/1 with Walsh, not BWS. Therefore, 1C-1D is either no four card major or game forcing.

Problem 1.

Imps, Neither Vul, Dlr West

South holds

S - K3 H - 75 D - 1096 C - KQJ973

West	North	East	South
1C	X	1H	??



Problem 2.

Imps, N-S Vul, Dlr North

South holds

S - K7 H - A2 D - Q8743 C - Q1094

West	North	East	South
--	1H	1N*	X
3S	P	P	??

* "RAPTOR" 4S, 5 CARD MINOR, 8+-12

Problem 3.

Matchpoints, E-W Vul, Dlr E

South holds

S - J85 H - 3 D - AK1074 C - Q1052

West	North	East	South
--	--	P	P
2S	3H	P	??

Problem 4.

Matchpoints, Both Vul, Dlr S

South holds

S - K5 H - AJ52 D - AQ C - 108654



West	North	East	South
--	--	--	1C
P	1D	P	1H
P	3H	P	??



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Monday, March 4, 2013

- 7:30 Anthracite Kick Off Bracketed KO Teams (1st round of four)
Mon/Tue Side Game (1st session of four)

Tuesday, March 5, 2013

- 10:00 Anthracite Kick Off Bracketed KO Teams (2nd round of four)
Mon/Tue Side Game (2nd session of four)
Tue Compact KO (1st session of two)
2:30 Anthracite Kick Off Bracketed KO Teams (3rd round of four)
Mon/Tue Side Game (3rd session of four)
Swiss Team (single session)
Tue Compact KO (2nd session of two)
7:30 Anthracite Kick Off Bracketed KO Teams (4th round of four)
Tue/Wed Evening Compact KO (1st session of two)
Side Game Mon/Tue Side Game 4th session of four)

Wednesday, March 6, 2013

- 10:00 Wed/Thurs Side Game (1st session of six)
Wed/Thurs Bracketed KO Teams (1st Session of four)
Stratified Open Pairs (2000+) (0-2000) (1st of two)
Gold Rush Pairs (300-750) (0-300) (1st of 2) Gold Points*
2:30 Wed/Thurs Bracketed KO Teams (2nd round of four)
Wed/Thurs Side Game (2nd session of six)
Stratified Open Pairs (2nd of two)
Gold Rush Pairs (2nd of 2) GOLD POINTS*
7:30 Tue/Wed Evening Compact KO (2nd session of two)
Side Game Wed/Thu (3rd session of six)

Thursday, March 7, 2013

- 10:00 Wed/Thurs Side Game (4th session of six)
Wed/Thurs Bracketed KO Teams (3rd round of four)
Norman Kay Stratified Open Pairs (1st session)
2:30 Norman Kay Stratified Open Pairs (2nd session)
Wed/Thurs Side Game (5th session of six)
Wed/Thurs Bracketed KO Teams (4th Session of four)
7:30 Wed/Thurs Side Game (6th session of six)
Thurs/Fri Evening Compact KO (1st session of two)

MORE INFORMATION AT

www.district4.info or www.nepab.net entry fee 12.50 each
Tuesday 0-5 masterpoints play free 0-20 PAIR 10.00 each

Friday, March 8, 2013

- 10:00 Fri/Sat Side Game (1st session of six)
David Treadwell Stratified Open Pairs (2000+) (0-2000) (1st of two)
Gold Rush Pairs (300-750) (0-300) (1st session of two)
GOLD POINTS*
Friday Saturday Bracketed KO Teams (1st round of four)
2:30 David Treadwell Stratified Open Pairs (2nd session)
Fri/Sat Bracketed KO Teams (2nd round of four)
Fri/Sat Side Game (2nd session of six)
Gold Rush Pairs GOLD POINTS*
7:30 Thurs/Fri Evening Compact KO (2nd session of two)
Fri/Sat Side Game (3rd session of six)

Saturday, March 9, 2013

- 10:00 Fri/Sat Side Game (4th session of six)
Saturday Compact (1st session of two)
Fri/Sat Bracketed KO Teams (3rd round of four)
Dave Hall Stratified Open Pairs (1st session)
2:30 Saturday Compact (2nd Session of two)
Fri/Sat Bracketed KO Teams (4th round of four)
Fri/Sat Side Game (5th session of six)
Intermediate/Newcomer pairs
Single Session Swiss
Dave Hall Stratified Open Pairs (2nd session)
7:30 Side Game (Thu/Fri/Sat series; 6th session of six)

Sunday, March 10, 2013

- 10:00 & TBA A/X Swiss Teams 7 rounds of 7 or 8 rounds of 6
B/C/D Swiss Teams
A/X stratification 5000+ and 0-5000
B 1000-2000 C 500-1000(LM) D 0-500 (NLM)
Stratifications:
A 2000+ B 500-2000(LM) C 0-500 (NLM)
Intermediate/Newcomer:
A 200-300 B 50(100)-200 C 0-50(100)

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MAY 4 - 5, 2013

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Raymond Depew

Telephone: 570-239-3056

E-mail: rdepew@intergrafix.net

The 2012-2013 District 4 Grand National Teams Event will be conducted in one stage, a District Final, on Saturday, May 4 and Sunday, May 5, 2013 at the Independent Fire Hall, 166 S. Sprague Avenue in Kingston, PA.

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Masterpoint requirements for each player are as follows:

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Flight B - 0-2000

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



FOR NOVICES ONLY

by

MARTI RONEMUS

mronemus@comcast.net

Dear New Player,

I am like Perry Como (raise your hand if you remember him!)...I get letters, only now of course they are emails. Just as exciting.

I got a cheerful, triumphant email that I want to share. It will reflect back on my life-long theme of “Don’t bite your partner’s head off.”

“Dear Marti. I think I’ve finally grasped the flexibility of the opening 2♣ bid. I’ve been struggling with it, so I felt pretty good. In last night’s game, I picked up this hand...what a freak! ♠AKQJ98742 ♥---- ♦A ♣xxx. I never had a hand with a 9-card suit before and wasn’t sure what to do. Then I remember my teacher saying that the 2♣ opener isn’t just for high point hands, but for when you’ve got 8-1/2 tricks in your hand. AHA!! I count actually 10 tricks, so I opened 2♣. Cindy and I play step responses, so her 3♣ bid showed 13-15 points. Well, I wasn’t sure what to do then, so I asked for aces, and she showed one. I was stuck. I had to figure – and pray – that since she had no points in spades, she had some in clubs. So I held my breath and bid 6♠.

“My RHO then doubled. He did, after all, have the missing ace and all the points. It was a lock for the slam and we got the only top board on the hand!! Others were in the slam, but no one else was doubled.

“My gosh, you should have heard the wife berating her poor husband for the double! She started on him the minute the dummy came down and she was still carrying on two tables away! I shouldn’t laugh, but it was funny.

“So, Cindy and I would like to know how the experts would handle this hand? There was a lot of discussion in the bar last night, especially from the people who opened 4♠. Signed, Happy in My Ignorance.

Dear Happy,

I rarely offer advice to the guy who gets the top on the board! Your story, after all the sad, pathetic emails I get, gives me hope. I’m certainly not going to give you advice, but I am going to offer a few thoughts.

You are so right about the flexibility of the bid. 2♣ is the perfect opening when you can see 8-1/2 tricks in hand, OR (and this is perfectly legitimate!) you would die if your partner passed. Now, don’t misuse that as an excuse for bad bids! You aren’t going to see another 9-card suit this decade (I’ve **never** had one!), but you **are** going to see a lot of hands that aren’t chock-full of points, but are real trick-takers. Go for it!

Now about the step response bids. Personally I don’t like them. They take up too much room, and often have the big hand unnecessarily on the table rather than hidden. Usually step responses are used by less experienced players. It sounds like you’ve got a good partnership going, so sit down with your partner and study the 2♦ waiting scenarios. Once you understand them, you’ll see that you’re not going to miss your slams, and will actually find the right spot easier and faster...or be able to bail out earlier!

The other thing I want you and Cindy to study, and that's using cuebids rather than Blackwood/Gerber when you've got a void and are searching for slam. It isn't as easy as B/G, but you asked what the Big Dogs would do, and they would use cuebids. There is a lot of very good information on Cuebids, or ask when there will be some lessons on them at your local club. It just isn't that hard, and very accurate (well, as accurate as anything can be in the bridge world!).

The important thing, Happy, is you got to the right bid. Sometimes I think it doesn't matter if you got there on the wings of an angel, just that you get there!

The other important thing is that you and Cindy have a partnership where you want to learn together, and never place the blame for a bad board on each other. The Bickersons you played against are going to have a terrible game, both in percentage and the "emotional content." You are more of a winner than you even know! You have learned the important Life Lesson of careful treatment of partners. Go forth and conquer.

Well, y'all, I want to hear from you, and no question is too dumb, no story is too weird. By now you know I have an answer for everything! Email me at mronemus@comcast.net. You'll see yourself in print eventually.

Points Awarded by the ACBL in 2012

138,859 Members won 6,021,182.41 points at Any level of play
12,944 Members won 522,939.05 points at Online Clubs
52,162 Members won 237,578.03 points at NAP Games at Clubs
6,760 Members won 25,920.37 points at Other NAP Games
14,092 Members won 45,678.45 points at GNT Games at Clubs
4,000 Members won 30,179.91 points at Other GNT Games
134,295 Members won 2,920,245.19 points at Club Games
72,452 Members won 315,345.53 points at STaC Games
63,946 Members won 552,715.85 points at Sectionals
54,714 Members won 1,092,218.56 points at Regionals
10,986 Members won 123,426.37 points at Regional Events at NABC
1,779 Members won 29,579.63 points at NABC Events (Not NABC+)
3,191 Members won 125,355.47 points at NABC+ Events

1,859 Members won points at Online Clubs Only
56,775 Members won points at Face-to-Face Clubs Only
80,225 Members won points at Sectionals or Higher
57,247 Members won points at Regionals or Higher
4,267 Members won points at NABC Events Only



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!

In this article, I will discuss why discipline in the bidding is vital to success. There are too many variations on this theme for this article to be a truly comprehensive discussion of this subject, so we will begin with an overview on the merits and problems that discipline can bring. We will follow up with some hands that illustrate this principle.

To begin we must remember that a bidding system is nothing more than a series of agreements as to what a particular bid or series of bids might mean. In short, a codified language. The hand that one partnership promises to open One Club might be completely different for another partnership. One pair might promise at least 16 high card points and any distribution (Precision Club). A second pair might promise a balanced hand with 12 to 14 points or any strong hand (Polish Club). A third pair might not promise any particular length in clubs at all, other than to promise at least one four-card major suit along with an opening bid. Finally, a fourth pair might promise no more than two clubs.

Consider the possible hands for partner when we open One Club and partner bids Two Spades after the next player passes. Partner could have a long spade suit and very few high card points, a long spade suit and game invitational values, or a long spade suit with possible slam values. This ignores other possible agreements that would not promise a spade suit.

The obvious lesson here is to have a thorough understanding of your bidding agreements. Most partnerships have a good understanding of the basics, but it is when a player has a hand that is difficult to bid that there can be problems. For example, suppose we pass and our partner opens One Heart in third chair. We hold: S - x; H - J x; D - QJ10xx; C - Kxxxx. As it happens, our agreement is that a bid of One No Trump would not be forcing, a bid of two of either minor suit would promise a good fit for partner's heart suit, and a jump to three of either minor suit would promise a long minor suit. There is no good bid on this hand. And yet, we surely have enough strength to bid something.

I have found that no system of bidding is perfect. There will always be a hand that cannot be bid. The question of how to deal with that impossible hand.

The best solution is to choose a bid that offers the best chance of recovery without overstating the overall strength of the hand. In the last example, that would mean responding One No Trump. This probably will not work out well if partner passes, but in every other instance we will be well placed. We can raise partner on any suit bid (except spades), and we may be able to show our minor suits if the opposition competes in spades.

There are rare occasions when bidding a three-card major suit makes some sense. Let us

consider our choices when partner opens One Diamond and we hold: S - Kxx; H - x; D - Jxx; C - KQxxxx.

We do not have enough strength to bid our club suit (Two-over-One). We are too strong to bid Three Clubs (weak jump shift, even if an option). Bidding One No Trump looks like a poor idea considering that partner will never have more than a four-card heart suit and an opening lead through that holding will probably work out badly for us.

We are left with bidding One Spade on our three-card suit. There are very few things that can happen at this point which will be bad for us, other than partner raising us to the two-level on three-card support. There is a slightly greater downside for responding One Heart. If partner rebids One Spade, we could be left with few choices beyond a One No Trump rebid. This would be especially awkward if we really wanted to find a way to play in a club contract (bidding Two Clubs might be the Fourth Suit convention).

Sometimes, good discipline and some imagination will combine to make a difficult hand much easier to bid. Consider this hand. You hold: S - Jxxxx; H - KJxxx; D - A10; C - A. It happens that your side is vulnerable and the opposition is not vulnerable. Your right hand opponent opens One Club. You decide to bid Two Clubs (shows both major suits). After the next player passes, your partner bids Four Spades. Your right hand opponent thinks for awhile and then bids Four No Trump.

The first thing to consider is the type of hand we have already shown. The Two Club bid, promising both major suits, is known as a "Michaels Cue Bid." It generally shows either a preemptive hand or a very strong hand. We decided to bid Two Clubs because our suits were not particularly great and we wanted to give ourselves the best chance to find our correct fit. We do not have a preemptive hand, and the two minor suit aces are sure defensive tricks to a minor suit contract. The opposition will never play in this Four No Trump contract, so there is no rush to bid our own contract.

The proper move over the Four No Trump bid is to double. This strongly suggests a good hand for the Michaels Cue Bid. Partner will be in a great position to decide what is best for the partnership. Partner's hand is: S - AQxxx; H - Qx; D - Kxxx; C - xxx. After our double, partner must know that we have a better hand than: S - KJxxx; H - AKxxx; D - x; C - xx. Given that we have to have at least one minor suit ace along with these values to justify a double, partner has an easy bid of Five Spades. On the actual hand, partner will lose a heart and spade for plus 650. A double will net no more than a plus 300, with the opponents losing a spade, two diamonds and one club.

There are many hands that are difficult to bid. My advice is to carefully consider your first bid in light of what choices may be available and make the bid that is easiest to follow up with. In short, plan your auction. This will avoid the most difficult trap of all - being forced later in the auction to take a bid that must be a losing proposition.



DISTRICT 4 STARS

LANCASTER WINTER REGIONAL TOURNAMENT

December 3 - 9, 2012



- 1 125.42 Kenn Cohen, Philadelphia
- 2 121.59 Neal Satten, Wynnewood PA
- 3 96.61 Thomas Weik, Reading PA
- 4 84.34 Rick Rowland, Wilmington DE
- 5 83.25 Marty Seligman, Philadelphia
- 6 78.77 Kenneth Meyer, Lititz PA
- 7 70.64 Meyer Kotkin, Cherry Hill NJ
- 8 62.10 John Dickenson, North Wales PA
- 9 60.01 John Sheaffer, Lancaster PA
- 10 55.05 Corey Krantz, Drexel Hill PA



- 1 196.98 Eric Greco, Wynnewood PA
- 2 122.99 Joann Glasson, Pennington NJ
- 3 45.72 Arnie Fisher, Clementon NJ
- 4 43.64 Alan Gross, Newtown PA
- 5 43.64 Estelle Bogart, Newtown PA
- 6 41.44 Barry Gorski, Reading PA
- 7 39.76 Ken Chatzinoff, Cinnaminson NJ
- 8 39.10 Mike Giesler, Philadelphia
- 9 37.33 Gail Bell, King of Prussia PA
- 10 25.36 Amal Dasgupta, Wilmington DE

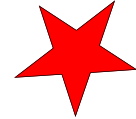




DISTRICT 4 STARS

2012 MASTERPOINT RACES

Mini-McKenney Awards



0 to 5

1.	Bruce Lang, Philadelphia PA	152
2.	Graham Holroyd, Webster NY	127
3.	Charles Goldman, Havertown PA	81
4.	James Boyer, Mechanicsburg PA	71
5.	Jack Hund, Mechanicsburg PA	66

5 to 20

1.	John Pino, Newtown Square PA	107
2.	Eva Train, Willow Street PA	75
3.	Kathleen Catrambone, Broomall PA	67
4.	Sandy Tilney, Philadelphia PA	63
5.	Charles Andersen, Hanover PA	60

20 to 50

1.	W. F. Burns III, E Stroudsburg PA	137
2.	Richard Hall, Milford NY	110
3.	Ricky Boyer, Mechanicsburg PA	89
4.	Jeremy Lynch, Millersburg PA	88
5.	Barbara Saulsbury, Rehoboth Bch DE	88

50 to 100

1.	Caroline Hughes, Wilmington DE	145
2.	William Schadler, Red Hill PA	138
3.	James Jenkins, Fayetteville PA	129
4.	Harry Stutts, Chambersburg PA	116
5.	Gail Bishop, Hummelstown PA	114

100 to 200

1.	Joel Bees, Bethlehem PA	177
2.	Pieter Vanbennekorn, Wilmington DE	155
3.	Dorothy Disney, Mechanicsburg PA	119
4.	Nancy Chorpita, Haddonfield NJ	118
5.	Peter O'Neill, Fayetteville NY	101

200 to 300

1.	Dick Tuttle, Cazenovia NY	144
2.	Robert Dewey, Fairport NY	143
3.	Larry Kemmerer, Bath PA	113
4.	Hollis Rosenthal, Ambler PA	111
5.	Patricia Jardin, Endwell NY	107



300 to 500		
1.	Christina van Leeuwen, Horn Lake MS	180
2.	Barbara Gordon, Orelan PA	168
3.	Ralph Collins, Warminster PA	166
4.	Myrna Kinman, Waynesboro PA	143
5.	Christine Matus, West Chester PA	143
500 to 1000		
1.	Steve Valencic, Mechanicsburg PA	334
2.	Gary Hillenbrand, Lehigh PA	315
3.	Gregory Kiddy, Reading PA	310
4.	Edward Magee, York PA	278
5.	Suzanne Goldberg, Harrisburg PA	251
1000 to 2500		
1.	Elaine Clair, Gwynedd Valley PA	421
2.	David Legrow, Eagleville PA	404
3.	John Dickenson, North Wales PA	382
4.	Robert Smink, Fort Myers FL	303
5.	Susan Kestenbaum, Huntingdon VY PA	288
2500 to 5000		
1.	Corey Krantz, Drexel Hill PA	888
2.	Barbara Kepple, West Chester PA	600
3.	Neal Satten, Wynnewood PA	400
4.	Randall Berse, Bear DE	390
5.	Harry Nuckols, Vestal NY	374
5000 to 7500		
1.	Carl Berenbaum, Elkins Park PA	761
2.	Meyer Kotkin, Cherry Hill NJ	522
3.	Barry Gorski, Reading PA	492
4.	Melvin Lubart, Hummelstown PA	478
5.	H Philip Monyer, Middletown PA	443
7500 to 10,000		
1.	Rick Rowland, Wilmington DE	529
2.	David Hoffner, Galloway NJ	422
3.	Craig Robinson, Lansdale PA	384
4.	Thomas Weik, Reading PA	359
5.	Jane Segal, Villanova PA	292
Over 10,000		
1.	Ken Cohen, Philadelphia PA	788
2.	Eric Greco, Wynnewood PA	643
3.	John Swanson, Mechanicsburg PA	560
4.	Selena Swanson, Mechanicsburg PA	560
5.	Ed Bissell, State College PA	557



Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs Awards



0 to 5

- | | | |
|----|-------------------------------|----|
| 1. | Graham Holroyd, Webster NY | 92 |
| 2. | Bruce Lang, Philadelphia PA | 55 |
| 3. | Charles Goldman, Havertown PA | 55 |
| 4. | Ellen Preece, Dallas PA | 55 |
| 5. | James Boyer, Mechanicsburg PA | 44 |

5 to 20

- | | | |
|----|--------------------------------|----|
| 1. | John Pino, Newtown Square PA | 79 |
| 2. | Sandy Tilney, Philadelphia PA | 46 |
| 3. | Marc Goldberg, Harrisburg PA | 46 |
| 4. | David Waterman, S Harpswell ME | 43 |
| 5. | Jane Bovard, Waverly PA | 38 |

20 to 50

- | | | |
|----|--|----|
| 1. | Jeremy Lynch, Millersburg PA | 71 |
| 2. | W. F. Burns III, E Stroudsburg PA | 65 |
| 3. | Ricky Boyer, Mechanicsburg PA | 58 |
| 4. | Myrna Shervin, Philadelphia PA | 57 |
| 5. | Barbara H Saulsbury, Rehoboth Beach DE | 53 |

50 to 100

- | | | |
|----|--------------------------------|----|
| 1. | Lynn Gonchar, Kingston PA | 81 |
| 2. | James Jenkins, Fayetteville PA | 79 |
| 3. | Gail Bishop, Hummelstown PA | 70 |
| 4. | Robert Stile, Middletown PA | 66 |
| 5. | Caroline Hughes, Wilmington DE | 62 |

100 to 200

- | | | |
|----|----------------------------------|----|
| 1. | Joel Bees, Bethlehem PA | 73 |
| 2. | Dorothy Disney, Mechanicsburg PA | 70 |
| 3. | Kathy Kutschera, Ocean City NJ | 63 |
| 4. | Scott Freber, Rehoboth Beach DE | 55 |
| 5. | Nancy Chorpita, Haddonfield NJ | 54 |

200 to 300

- | | | |
|----|------------------------------|-----|
| 1. | Robert Dewey, Fairport NY | 112 |
| 2. | A. M. Goldfarb, Wynnewood PA | 71 |
| 3. | Hollis Rosenthal, Ambler PA | 65 |
| 4. | Tibor Guthin, Rochester NY | 64 |
| 5. | Theron Abrams, Mt Holly NJ | 61 |

300 to 500

- | | | |
|----|-------------------------------------|-----|
| 1. | Barbara Gordon, Orelan PA | 105 |
| 2. | Christina van Leeuwen, Horn Lake MS | 99 |
| 3. | Ralph Collins, Warminster PA | 98 |
| 4. | Charles Meister, Martinsburg WV | 94 |
| 5. | Kenneth Spear, Cherry Hill NJ | 78 |





500 to 1000		
1.	Steve Valencic, Mechanicsburg PA	241
2.	Edward Magee, York PA	228
3.	Suzanne Goldberg, Harrisburg PA	219
4.	Michael Young, Stewarts Town PA	141
5.	Edward Scanlon, York PA	124
1000 to 2500		
1.	Elaine Clair, Gwynedd Valley PA	220
2.	Mark Henderson, Harrisburg PA	202
3.	Elizabeth Mallon, Bethany Beach DE	177
4.	Richard Briggs, Pittsford NY	167
5.	Susan Kestenbaum, Huntingdon Vy PA	162
2500 to 5000		
1.	Randall Berseth, Bear DE	257
2.	Judith Groenenboom, Mechanicsburg PA	247
3.	David Abuhove, Falling Waters WV	229
4.	Norma Bernstein, York PA	187
5.	Rhoda Prager, Boca Raton FL	173
5000 to 7500		
1.	Melvin Lubart, Hummelstown PA	281
2.	H Philip Monyer, Middletown PA	271
3.	Arnold Selig, Cheltenham PA	246
4.	Buddy Hano, York PA	217
5.	Lois Sanders, Fairport NY	207
7500 to 10,000		
1.	Rhoda Kauffman, Willow Grove PA	190
2.	Rick Rowland, Wilmington DE	155
3.	Jane Segal, Villanova PA	146
4.	Bobbie Gomer, Willow Grove PA	136
5.	David Hoffner, Galloway NJ	124
Over 10,000		
1.	John Swanson, Mechanicsburg PA	394
	Selena Swanson, Mechanicsburg PA	394
3.	Ken Cohen, Philadelphia PA	153
4.	Charles Gray, Philadelphia PA	119
5.	Arnold Fisher, Clementon NJ	71

Youth YTD Leaders

1.	Samuel Amer, Newark DE	69
2.	Jack Gillispie, Elizabethtown PA	27

Juniors YTD Leaders

1.	Raghavendra Rajkumar, Ithaca NY	145
2.	Kendrick Chow, Philadelphia PA	70





Seniors YTD Leaders

- | | | |
|----|-----------------------------|-----|
| 1. | Arnold Fisher, Clementon NJ | 140 |
| 2. | Ken Cohen, Philadelphia PA | 55 |

Barry Crane Top 500

- | | | |
|----|---------------------------------|-----|
| 1. | Corey Krantz, Drexel Hill PA | 888 |
| 2. | Ken Cohen, Philadelphia PA | 788 |
| 3. | Carl Berenbaum, Elkins Park PA | 761 |
| 4. | Eric Greco, Wynnewood PA | 643 |
| 5. | Barbara Kepple, West Chester PA | 600 |

Lifetime Top MP Holders

- | | | |
|----|----------------------------------|--------|
| 1. | Ken Cohen, Philadelphia PA | 21,647 |
| 2. | Arnold Fisher, Clementon NJ | 18,479 |
| 3. | Eric Greco, Wynnewood PA | 15,334 |
| 4. | Charles Gray, Philadelphia PA | 13,469 |
| 5. | Selena Swanson, Mechanicsburg PA | 13,371 |

Bronze LM YTD Leaders

- | | | |
|----|----------------------------------|-----|
| 1. | Steve Valencic, Mechanicsburg PA | 334 |
| 2. | Gary Hillenbrand, Lehigh PA | 315 |
| 3. | Gregory Kiddy, Reading PA | 310 |
| 4. | Edward Magee, York PA | 278 |
| 5. | Suzanne Goldberg, Harrisburg PA | 251 |

Silver LM YTD Leaders

- | | | |
|----|------------------------------------|-----|
| 1. | Elaine Clair, Gwynedd Valley PA | 421 |
| 2. | David Legrow, Eagleville PA | 404 |
| 3. | John Dickenson, North Wales PA | 382 |
| 4. | Susan Kestenbaum, Huntingdon VY PA | 288 |
| 5. | Estelle Bogart, Newtown Square PA | 271 |

Gold LM YTD Leaders

- | | | |
|----|---------------------------------|-----|
| 1. | Corey Krantz, Drexel Hill PA | 888 |
| 2. | Barbara Kepple, West Chester PA | 600 |
| 3. | Neal Satten, Wynnewood PA | 400 |
| 4. | Randall Berseth, Bear DE | 390 |
| 5. | Harry Nuckols, Vestal NY | 374 |

Diamond LM YTD Leaders

- | | | |
|----|--------------------------------|-----|
| 1. | Carl Berenbaum, Elkins Park PA | 761 |
| 2. | Meyer Kotkin, Cherry Hill NJ | 522 |
| 3. | Barry Gorski, Reading PA | 492 |
| 4. | Melvin Lubart, Hummelstown PA | 478 |
| 5. | H Philip Monyer, Middletown PA | 443 |



Emerald LM YTD Leaders

1.	Rick Rowland, Wilmington DE	529
2.	David Hoffner, Galloway NJ	422
3.	Craig Robinson, Lansdale PA	384
4.	Thomas Weik, Reading PA	359
5.	Jane Segal, Villanova PA	292

Platinum LM YTD Leaders

1.	John Swanson, Mechanicsburg PA	560
	Selena Swanson, Mechanicsburg PA	560
3.	Ed Bissell, State College PA	557
4.	Raymond Raskin, King of Prussia PA	349
5.	Daniel Boye, Farmington NY	189

Grand LM YTD Leaders

1.	Ken Cohen, Philadelphia PA	788
2.	Eric Greco, Wynnwood PA	643
3.	Arnold Fisher, Clementon NJ	456
4.	Joann Glasson, Pennington NJ	379
5.	Henry Bethe, Ithaca NY	70

Sectional YTD Leaders

1.	Corey Krantz, Drexel Hill PA	161
2.	Raymond Raskin, King of Prussia PA	145
3.	Barry Gorski, Reading PA	144
4.	Ken Cohen, Philadelphia PA	130
5.	Meyer Kotkin, Cherry Hill NJ	112

Online YTD Leaders

1.	Deepak Khanna, Blandon PA	716
2.	Daniel Boye, Farmington NY	458
3.	Arthur Korth, Galloway NJ	410
4.	Marty Seligman, Philadelphia PA	391
5.	Thomas Weik, Reading PA	388



REGIONAL PREVIEW

By John G. Marks

VALLEY FORGE REGIONAL TOURNAMENT

June 17 to 23, 2013

DoubleTree by Hilton – Valley Forge

301 West Dekalb Pike (US 202)

King of Prussia, PA 19406

(610) 337-1200

Mark your calendar and reserve the following dates: June 17 to 23, 2013 for the Valley Forge Regional Tournament to be held at the DoubleTree by Hilton in King of Prussia. This tournament site is very conveniently located for all players in the district and the surrounding districts and this will be the third year that the Regional Tournament will be held at this location. Also, this will be the first time in five years that this regional tournament will be held in its normally traditional time slot, namely, starting the day after Father's Day.

There will be plenty of free parking for either those players who choose to travel back and forth each day; or those who decide to stay overnight for the reasonable room rent rate of \$119.00 per night. The hotel staff will be very helpful and will cater to the bridge players to satisfy their various needs. Players who will be traveling back and forth each day should park in the parking garage near the entrance to the lower level of hotel's convention center.

All the guestrooms are equipped with coffee makers, hair dryers, voice mail, individual climate control, computer hook-ups with sitting area and writing desk. The hotel has two restaurants that will also be catering to all the bridge players. T. Burke's Restaurant serves American cuisine for dinner seven days a week from 4:00 PM – 11:00 PM. Restaurant Three01 serves breakfast and lunch.

Hospitality provided by the tournament committee will be available Tuesday through Saturday during the day. The District President, Tom Weik, will also host players in an open suite each evening. Make sure you read the *Daily Bulletin* on line and signs that will be posted in the playing area for more information. Hospitality will be provided by our Hospitality Chairperson, Joan Brandeis. It will be provided before each morning session, Tuesday through Sunday. Check the *Daily Bulletin* each day for information concerning hospitality and various other activities that are occurring, for example, meetings.

Many types of events are available to accommodate the levels of ability and wishes of the players. All the major events will start at 10:00 AM and 2:45 PM every day. Why 10:00 AM and 2:45 PM? This was the consensus (2 to 1) to a survey taken a few years ago; over 500 players took part in this survey. Evening Events (7:30 PM) are available for those who cannot get enough Bridge. The Evening Sessions will be K/O teams, Compact K/O Teams and Side Series Pair Game. A Stratified Pairs will be held on Wednesday at 2:45 PM and 7:30 PM for those players who like to sleep late.

Golden Opportunity Pairs will be held on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday; the Golden



Opportunity Swiss Teams will be held on Thursday. Golden Opportunity events are scheduled for 10:00 AM and 2:45 PM.

Partnerships can be arranged prior to the start of the games by our Partnership Chairman, Tom Purl. Players who may need a partner for any event on a particular day should report to the Partnership Desk one hour before game time.

A full Intermediate/Newcomer program will be provided and managed by Intermediate/Newcomer Chairperson Ala Hamilton-Day (Unit 141 and District 4). Experts that are attending the tournament will be giving formative instructions to the players before each I/N session. One day during the tournament, all I/N participants will be invited to a reception. Single I/N sessions are scheduled as follows:

- Monday Evening 7:30 PM
- Tuesday through Saturday 10:00 AM/ 3:00 PM /7:30 PM
- Sunday 10:00 AM /2:00 PM

The masters point limitations and ranges for the Stratified and Strata-Flighted events were increased last year. These ranges are basically as follows:

A. Stratified Events:

1. Stratum A: 2000+
2. Stratum B: 750+ – 2000

B. Stratum C: 0 – 750

C. Strata-Flighted Events (Tuesday through Friday):

1. Stratum A: 3000+
2. Stratum X: 0 – 3000

D. Golden Opportunity Events:

1. Stratum B: 300+ to 750
2. Stratum C: 0 – 300

E. Strata-Flighted Team Game (Sunday)

1. Flight A:
 - a. Stratum A: 5000+
 - b. Stratum X: 0 – 5000 (a guarantee minimum of 40%)
2. Flight B:
 - a. Flight B: 0 – 3000 (Round Robin Brackets)

Please check the District 4 web site (www.district4.info) for more detailed information.

All of us on the Tournament Committee are looking forward to seeing you again this year and certainly there are enough activities to keep the most avid bridge player occupied and enthused for the seven days.





VALLEY FORGE REGIONAL TOURNAMENT

ACBL DISTRICT 4, PHILADELPHIA, PCBA UNIT 141

JUNE 17 – JUNE 23, 2013

DOUBLETREE BY HILTON



Doubletree by Hilton
301 West DeKalb Pike
King of Prussia, PA 19406
(800) 222-TREE (610) 337-1200

Website: www.district4.info

Reservation cutoff date is May 17, 2013. After May 17 rooms may not be available and rate will be higher



For Hotel Information:

John Marks (215) 891-0602

Special Bridge Rate: \$119



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
KO Event may be handicapped at discretion of the Head Director
MID CHART: Top Bracket in KO's & Sunday Swiss Teams Flight A/X
GENERAL CHART: For all other events

Knockout Teams

Monday Kickoff KO Teams - (continues Tuesday).....7:30 PM
Tuesday Compact KO Teams.....10:00 AM & 2:45 PM
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 PM
Tues, Wed, Fri, Sat Stratified or Strati-Flighted Pairs.....10:00 AM & 2:45 PM
Wednesday Stratified Pairs.....2:45 PM & 7:30 PM
Tues, Wed and Fri Golden Opportunity Pairs.....10:00 AM & 2:45 PM

Team of Four Games

Monday Charity Swiss Teams, single session.....2:00 PM
Tuesday & Saturday Compact KO Teams, 2 sessions, gold.....10:00 AM
Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri & Sat Swiss Teams, single session.....2:45 PM
Wednesday-Thursday Compact KO Teams, 2 sessions, gold.....7:30 PM
Thursday Strati-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 Strati-Flighted Swiss Teams, 2 sessions, gold.....10:00 AM

Three Side Game Series (SGS)

Monday Eve-Tuesday, single sessions, SGS #1.....10:00 AM/ 2:45 PM/ 7:30 PM
Wednesday-Thursday, single sessions, SGS #2.....10:00 AM/ 2:45 PM/ 7:30 PM
Friday-Saturday, single sessions, SGS #3.....10:00 AM/ 2:45 PM/ 7:30 PM

IN Events (0–5 MP Play Free on Tuesday!!)

Monday Charity IN Pairs, single session.....2:00 PM
Tuesday through Saturday, single sessions.....10:00 AM/ 2:45 PM/ 7:30 PM
Tues, Wed & Fri Golden Opportunity Pairs (0-300/300+–750).....10:00 AM & 2:45 PM
Thurs Golden Opportunity Swiss Teams (0-300/300+–750).....10:00 AM & 2:45 PM

Tournament Highlights

- ♣ Terrific Hospitality Every Day
- ♥ Pre-Duplicated Boards and Hand Records in all Pair Events
- ♦ Two Speakers Every Day
- ♣ Sunday Early Start and Finish

Tournament Chairman: John Marks (215) 891-0602 jgmmarks@aol.com
(215) 429-6887 (Cell)
Partnership Chairman: Tom Purl (610) 518-6790 tpurl@hotmail.com
Caddie Master: John Marks (215) 891-0602 jgmmarks@aol.com
IN Chairperson: Ala Hamilton-Day (610) 891-9001 alabridge@aol.com



VALLEY FORGE REGIONAL TOURNAMENT

ACBL DISTRICT 4, PCBA UNIT 141

JUNE 17—JUNE 23, 2013



REGIONAL WEBSITE: www.district4.info

Monday, June 17

Stratified Charity Swiss Teams, single session.....	2:00 PM
Stratified Charity Open Pairs, single session.....	2:00 PM
Charity 299er Pairs, single session.....	2:00 PM
Mon - Tue Bracketed KO Teams - Round 1.....	7:30 PM
<i>Continues with Rounds 2 - 4, Tuesday 10:00 AM, 2:45 and 7:30 PM</i>	
Stratified Pair Side Game Series #1 (1st of 4 Sessions).....	7:30 PM
299er Pairs, single session.....	7:30 PM

Tuesday, June 18

Tuesday Compact KO Teams (4 players only).....	10:00 AM & 2:45 PM
Stratified Open Pairs—X: 0-3000/ A: 3000+.....	10:00 AM & 2:45 PM
Golden Opportunity Pairs - C: 0-300/ B: 300+ -750.....	10:00 AM & 2:45 PM
299er Pairs, single sessions.....	10 AM / 2:45 PM / 7:30 PM
Mon-Tue Bracketed KO Teams—Rounds 2, 3 & 4.....	10 AM / 2:45 PM / 7:30 PM
Stratified Pair Side Game Series #1 (2nd of 4 Sessions).....	10:00 AM
Stratified Pair Side Game Series #1 (3rd of 4 Sessions).....	2:45 PM
Stratified Swiss Teams, single session.....	2:45 PM
Tue - Wed - Thu Evening Bracketed KO Teams (1st Round of 3).....	7:30 PM
Stratified Pair Side Game Series #1 (4th of 4 Sessions).....	7:30 PM

Wednesday, June 19

Wed - Thu Bracketed KO Teams - Rounds 1 & 2.....	10:00 AM & 2:45 PM
Strati-Flighted Open Pairs - X: 0 - 3000 / A: 3000+.....	10:00 AM & 2:45 PM
Golden Opportunity Pairs - C: 0 - 300 / B: 300+ - 750.....	10:00 AM & 2:45 PM
299er Pairs, single sessions.....	10:00 AM / 2:45 PM / 7:30 PM
Stratified Pair Side Game Series #2 (1st of 6 Sessions).....	10:00 AM
Stratified Open Pairs (2 sessions) 0-750/ 750-2000/ 2000+.....	2:45 PM & 7:30 PM
Stratified Pair Side Game Series #2 (2nd of 6 Sessions).....	2:45 PM
Stratified Swiss Teams, single session.....	2:45 PM
Tue - Wed - Thu Evening Bracketed KO Teams (2nd Round of 3).....	7:30 PM
Wed - Thu Evening Compact KO Teams (1st and 2nd Rounds).....	7:30 PM
Stratified Pair Side Game Series #2 (3rd of 6 Sessions).....	7:30 PM

Thursday, June 20

Strati-Flighted Swiss Teams—X: 0-3000/ A: 3000+.....	10:00 AM & 2:45 PM
Golden Opportunity Swiss Teams—C: 0-300/ B: 300+ -750.....	10:00 AM & 2:45 PM
299er Pairs, single sessions.....	10:00 AM / 2:45 PM / 7:30 PM
Wed - Thu Bracketed KO Teams - Rounds 3 & 4.....	10:00 AM & 2:45 PM
Stratified Pair Side Game Series #2 (4th of 6 Sessions).....	10:00 AM
Stratified Pair Side Game Series #2 (5th of 6 Sessions).....	2:45 PM
Stratified Swiss Teams, single session.....	2:45 PM
Thu - Fri - Sat Evening Bracketed KO Teams (1st Round of 3).....	7:30 PM
Tue - Wed - Thu Evening Bracketed KO Teams (3rd Round of 3).....	7:30 PM
Wed - Thu Evening Compact KO Teams (3rd and 4th Rounds).....	7:30 PM
Stratified Pair Side Game Series #2 (6th of 6 Sessions).....	7:30 PM

Friday, June 21

Fri - Sat Bracketed KO Teams - Rounds 1 & 2.....	10:00 AM & 2:45 PM
Strati-Flighted Open Pairs - X: 0 - 3000 / A: 3000+.....	10:00 AM & 2:45 PM
Golden Opportunity Pairs - C: 0 - 300 / B: 300+ - 750.....	10:00 AM & 2:45 PM
299er Pairs, single sessions.....	10:00 AM / 2:45 PM / 7:30 PM
Stratified Pair Side Game Series #3 (1st of 6 Sessions).....	10:00 AM
Stratified Pair Side Game Series #3 (2nd of 6 Sessions).....	2:45 PM
Stratified Swiss Teams, single session.....	2:45 PM
Thu - Fri - Sat Evening Bracketed KO Teams (2nd Round of 3).....	7:30 PM
Fri - Sat Evening Compact KO Teams (1st and 2nd Rounds).....	7:30 PM
Stratified Pair Side Game Series #3 (3rd of 6 Sessions).....	7:30 PM

Saturday, June 22

Compact KO Teams (4 players only).....	10:00 AM & 2:45 PM
Stratified Open Pairs, 0 - 750 / 750 - 2000 / 2000+.....	10:00 AM & 2:45 PM
Fri - Sat Bracketed KO Teams - Rounds 3 & 4.....	10:00 AM & 2:45 PM
299er Pairs, single sessions.....	10:00 AM / 2:45 PM / 7:30 PM
Stratified Pair Side Game Series #3 (4th of 6 Sessions).....	10:00 AM
Stratified Pair Side Game Series #3 (5th of 6 Sessions).....	2:45 PM
Stratified Swiss Teams, single session.....	2:45 PM
Thu - Fri - Sat Evening Bracketed KO Teams (3rd Round of 3).....	7:30 PM
Fri - Sat Evening Compact KO Teams (3rd and 4th Rounds).....	7:30 PM
Stratified Pair Side Game Series #3 (6th of 6 Sessions).....	7:30 PM

Sunday, June 23

Strati-Flighted Open Teams (Finish by 5:30 PM).....	10:00 AM
Flight A: 5000+ A/X: 0 - 5000	
Flight B: 0 - 3000 (Round Robin Brackets, 3 teams in each bracket earn gold points)	

Championship Pair and Team events will be stratified as listed

Open single-session events, including the side series are 0 - 750 / 750 - 2000 / 2000+ 299er pair games 0-5/ 20/ 50/ 100/ 200/ 300, stratified based on attendance.

Stratification in all events will be based on the average for the pair or team. In any event or flight with an upper limit, no individual player's Master Point total may exceed that upper limit.

Head Director: Doug Grove
Sanction Number R1308028


Tournament Chairman:
John Marks Cell (215) 429-8887
Jgmmarks@aol.com Home (215) 891-0802






Tournament Schedule & Calendar

MARCH 4 -10	WILKES-BARRE PA REGIONAL	18-19
March 25 - 29	Wilmington DE (NLM)	39
April 5 - 7	Lancaster (Leola) PA	40
April 5 - 7	Williamsport PA	41
April 6 - 7	Rochester (Webster) NY	42
April 12-14	Philadelphia	43
April 15 - 21	Unit 141 STaC	
April 19 - 21	Chambersburg PA	44
April 22	Doylestown PA (0-199)	45
April 26 - 28	Allentown PA	46
May 3 - 5	Kingston PA	47
MAY 4 - 5	GNT	20
May 6 - 11	Unit 112 STaC	
May 11 - 12	Camp Hill PA (I/N)	48
May 17-19	Wyomissing PA	49
May 17-19	Mays Landing NJ	50
May 31- June 2	Wilmington DE	
June 1 - 2	Watertown NY	51
June 7 - 9	Kingston PA	52
June 7 - 9	Boalsburg PA	
JUNE 17 - 23	VALLEY FORGE PA REGIONAL	32-35

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
MARCH				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
WILKES-BARRE REGIONAL						
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
ST LOUIS SPRING NABC						
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
ST LOUIS SPRING NABC						
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Wilmington DE NLM						

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
1 APRIL	2	3	4	5	6 Webster NY	7
					Leola PA	
					Williamsport PA	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
					Philadelphia PA	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Unit 141 STaC						
					Chambersburg PA	
22 199er Teams Doylestown PA	23	24	25	26	27 Allentown PA	28
					Syracuse NY	
29	30					

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
MAY		1	2	3	4 GNT	5
					Kingston PA	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Unit 112 STaC						I/N Sectional Camp Hill PA
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
					Wyomissing PA	
					Mays Landing NJ	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27  Memorial Day	28	29	30	31	1	2
					Wilmington DE	

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
JUNE				31	1	2
					Wilmington DE	
					Watertown NY	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
VALLEY FORGE REGIONAL						
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

MARCH 25 - 29



2013 NLM Spring Sectional

March 25-29, 2013



The Bridge Studio of Delaware

1409 Foulk Rd, Suite 101
Wilmington, DE 19803

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

MONDAY, MARCH 25

12:30 pm Stratified NLM Pairs
7:00 pm Stratified NLM Pairs

TUESDAY, MARCH 26

9:00 am¹ Stratified NLM Pairs
12:30 pm Stratified NLM Pairs

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27

12:30 pm Stratified NLM Pairs
7:00 pm Stratified NLM Pairs

THURSDAY, MARCH 28

12:30 pm Stratified NLM Pairs
7:00 pm Stratified NLM Teams

FRIDAY, MARCH 29

9:00 am¹ Stratified NLM Pairs
12:30 pm Stratified NLM Pairs

SILVER POINT BONANZA

*Only NLMs with less than 500 MPs may participate
Stratification will be Director's discretion based on actual attendance*

¹ Not much time between sessions so bring a sandwich if staying for the afternoon.

The Bridge Studio of DE, Foulkstone Plaza
1409 Foulk Road, Suite 101, Wilmington, DE 19803

Directly across Foulk Road from Brandywine High School

From the North via I-95 South:

As you approach the Delaware State line, bear right onto I-495 South. Almost immediately (0.2 mi.), take exit 6 (SR-92/ Naamans Road. Bear right onto Naamans Road/ SR 92 West. After 2.5 miles, turn left on to Foulk Road/ DE- 261. Follow Foulk Road 2.0 miles to Foulkstone Plaza on the right.

From the North via US Route 202 South: Follow US Route 202 South. Turn left onto Naamans Road DE-92 East.

In 0.8 miles turn right onto Grubb Road
In 1.4 miles turn right onto Foulk Road/ DE- 261
Follow Foulk Road 1.3 miles to Foulkstone Plaza on the right

From the South via I-95 North: Follow I-95 North to Delaware Exit 8, US- 202/ Concord Pike North.

Bear left on the ramp to US-202 North
When ramp divides again, bear right to Foulk Road/ DE-261
Follow Foulk Road 2.0 miles to Foulkstone Plaza on the left.

After turning into Foulkstone Plaza

Continue straight through the guard gate and straight to the rear of Foulkstone Plaza. Watch for the speed bumps!!

The Bridge Studio is located in the last building # 1409 on the first floor. Look for the sign out front and park in the back corner of the plaza.

Tournament Chair:

Alexis Ciccone
302-571-9092
alexicic@aol.com

Partnerships:

Carole Everitt
302-528-2680
everitcad@yahoo.com

Tournament Director

Head Director
Harold Jordan
Harold@bridge-studio.org

NEARBY ACCOMMODATIONS:

Holiday Inn	4000 Concord Pike	302-478-2222
Best Western	1807 Concord Pike	302-656-9436
Homewood Suites	350 Rocky Run Parkway	302-479-2000
Courtyard	320 Rocky Run Parkway	302-477-9500
McIntosh Inn	300 Rocky Run Parkway	302-479-7900



APRIL 5 - 7

Lancaster Sectional
April 5-7, 2013
War Memorial Building
54 W. Main Street
Leola, PA
Friday, April 5th

Stratified Pairs (0-1000, 1000+) 1:30

Stratified Pairs (0-50, 50-100, 100-300) 1:30

Stratified Pairs (0-750, 750-1500, 1500+) 7:00

Stratified Pairs (0-100, 100-200, 200-500) 7:00

Saturday, April 6th

Stratified Pairs (0-1000, 1000+) 10:00

Stratified Pairs (0-100, 100-200, 200-500) 10:00

Stratified Pairs (0-750, 750-1500, 1500+) 2:30

Stratified Pairs (0-100, 100-200, 200-500) 2:30

Sunday, April 7th

A/X Swiss (0-3000, 3000+) 10:00

BCD Swiss (0-300, 300-500, 500-1000) 10:00

Pizza tickets sold before the session. 30 minute break.

All Games, flights set by high player MP, strata by average MP

Chair: Deb Klinger (717) 394-0171 dhklinger@epix.net

Partnership: Andie Sheaffer (717) 581-1003

APRIL 5 - 7

SPRING OUT OF WINTER BRIDGE SECTIONAL

**WILLIAMSPORT BRIDGE CLUB
1042 HIGH STREET
WILLIAMSPORT, PA
570-322-3035**

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

ACBL Sanction #S1304109

Stratification Levels-A=1500+; B=500-1500; C=0-500

(Stratification levels may be changed at Director's discretion.)

Friday, April 5, 2013

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

TOURNAMENTCHAIRPERSON

Sue Pierce
570-275-2142
suewpierce@gmail.com or
Cell- 570-490-2949

SATURDAY, April 6, 2013

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

TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR

Marc Labovitz

PARTNERSHIP

Vera Peters 570-368-1871 (H)
570-220-9437 (C)
Connie Bamer 814-466-6767

HOSPITALITY

SUNDAY, APRIL 7, 2013

The Ace of Clubs and Mini-Mckenny Awards will be awarded during lunch.

Swiss Teams, 1st session 11:00 am

Swiss Teams, 2nd Session TBA

Stratification to be determined at game time

Entry Fees: \$8.00 per session for ACBL Members

\$9.00 per session for non-ACBL Members and unpaid ACBL members

Sunday, April 7, \$90.00 for 2 sessions per team (Includes lunch)

Free Coffee, Soft Drinks, and Snacks at all sessions

APRIL 6 - 7



Rochester Spring Sectional April 6-7, 2013

Webster Recreation Center
1350 Chiyoda Drive
Webster, NY

Entry Fees: ACBL Members:
\$9.00 per session
Non/unpd ACBL members: \$10 per session
\$4.00 discount for students
under age 25

Tournament Chairs
PHIL CLARK
585-281-6239
akqjclark@gmail.com

SUE POWELL
585-288-7876

SATURDAY, APRIL 6

11:00 AM STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS
(Two Sessions)

STRATIFIED 299er PAIRS
(Choose One or Two Sessions)

3:30 PM STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS
STRATIFIED 299er PAIRS

SUNDAY, APRIL 7

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

STRATIFIED 299er Swiss Teams
(One Session)

**SHORT BREAK BETWEEN SESSIONS

DIRECTIONS: From Rochester: Take 480E to 390N to Rt-104E towards Webster. Exit at Phillips Rd, going north. (left) Proceed .2 miles to Chiyoda Dr. on left.
From NYS Thruway (East of Rochester): NYS Thruway Exit 43 to 490E to 390N to Rt-104E towards Webster. Continue as above.
From the South and NYS Thruway (West of Rochester): NYS Thruway Exit 46 to 390N to Rt-104E towards Webster. Continue as above.
From the East (North of Thruway): Take 104W to Webster, exit at Salt Road, turn right. Go .2 miles and turn left on Mitcheldean Drive. Continue on this road, which becomes Chiyoda Drive.

Open	299er
A: 1600+	100-300
B: 500-1600	50-100
C: 0-500	0-50

APRIL 12 - 14



PCBA SECTIONAL TOURNAMENT

APRIL 12—14 2013

**Bala Golf Club
2200 Belmont Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19131**

FRIDAY, APRIL 12

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

FREE SANDWICHES

2:30 STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS (A = 2000+; B = 750—2000; C = 0—750)
STRATIFIED NON-LIFE MASTER PAIRS (<500)

SATURDAY, APRIL 13

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

10:00 BRACKETED COMPACT KO
& **2:30** (Handicapped if only one bracket)

FREE PIZZA

2:30 STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS (A = 2000+; B = 750—2000; C = 0—750)
STRATIFIED NON-LIFE MASTER PAIRS (<500)

SUNDAY, APRIL 14

10:00 STRATIFIED DUPLI-SWISS TEAMS (2 Sessions)
& **TBA** STRATIFIED NON-LIFE MASTER TEAMS (<500)

FREE LUNCH SERVED BETWEEN SESSIONS

*Saturday
Bracketed Compact KO
Free Valet Parking
Great Hospitality
Breakfast and lunch
served every day*

*Sunday
2 Session Stratified
Dupli-Swiss
With Duplicated Boards
and Hand Records*

\$24.00 per pair per session ♣ Full time students play free ♣ Strats may be combined based upon attendance

All stratification by average masterpoints

Stratified Pairs: A=2000+ B=750-2000 C=0-750 ♣ Non-Life Master: A=200-500 B=50-200 C=0-50

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

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

Directions

Bala Golf Club is located at 2200 Belmont Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19131, just off City Ave. (Rt. 1) about a mile west of I-76. Off Rt. 1, turn south on to Belmont Ave. and go 0.6 miles to the Bala entrance on the right.

Check Google Maps for more detailed directions or check the unit website at www.philadelphiabridge.info.

APRIL 19 - 21

CHAMBERSBURG SECTIONAL TOURNAMENT* April 19-21, 2013

Friday, April 19 (*Subject to change at director's discretion)

12:00 pm Stratified Open Pairs (0-750, 750-1500, 1500 up)
Intermediate/Newcomer pairs (0-100, 100-300, 300-500)
*
6:00 pm Stratified Open Pairs (0-750, 750-2000, 2000 up)
I/N pairs (0-100, 100-300, 300-500)*

Saturday, April 20

10:30 am Stratified Open Pairs (0-750, 750-2000, 2000 up)
I/N pairs (0-100, 100-300, 300-500)*

3:00 pm Stratified IMP's Open Pairs (0-750, 750-2000, 2000 up)
I/N pairs match play (0-100, 100-300, 300-500)*

Sunday, April 21

12:00 pm Two Session Swiss Teams with food. \$100.00 per team.
Stratified by team average at discretion of director

ACBL members with 0-5 points play free

Chambersburg Recreation Center, 235 South Third Street,
Chambersburg, Pa, 17201
Session fees: \$9.00; Unpaid and Non ACBL members
\$10.00
Contact Tom Silverwood (717) 261-0336; Bob Knuff (717) 263-0911
Don Hill (717) 328-4258; Myrna Kinman (717) 762-9948; Diane
Shriver (717) 263-0311.
Partners: Alan Walter (717) 709-0949
Assisting Manager: Phil Davis (717)352-8434

Hotels: Quality Inn, 1095 Wayne Ave. (717) 263-3400: \$60 standard
room; \$80 Suite
LaQuinta Inn, 199 Walker Road, (717) 446-0770: \$107.20

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 22



Two Session Team Event
(4 players on each team)

Come as a team (\$80)

or

Come as a pair (\$40)

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

(entries are limited)

Game Times:

10:00 am and 2:30 pm

(you must play both sessions)

Reserve early.

Space is limited and registration will be limited to the first 24 teams who enter.

**Spectacular 0-199er
Sectional Team Tournament**

Monday, April 22, 2013

James-Lorah Auditorium

132 North Main Street

Doylestown, PA 18901

Silver Points for all Winners!!!!

Lunch Break will be 45 minutes.

We will have lunch available for a small charge or you can bring your own or go to one of the local restaurants.

Tournament and Partnership Chair

Jane Ball beginbridge@gmail.com

Tournament Director

Bill Bauer

Send the following information with a check for \$80.00 (or \$40.00)

Jane Ball

6 Magnolia Cluster

Doylestown, PA 18901

	Names of Players	Email	ACBL Number
1			
2			
3			
4			

APRIL 26 - 28

♠♥♦♣ **Lehigh Valley Spring Sectional April 26-28, 2013** ♠♥♦♣

SILVER POINTS

Friday April 26

1:00 pm and 6:30pm

Stratified Open Pairs

0-500 (NLM) Pairs*

Single sessions

Saturday April 27

10:30am and 3:30pm

Stratified Open Pairs

0-500 (NLM) Pairs*

Single sessions

Sunday April 28

10:30am – with short break

Stratified Open Swiss Teams

two-session playthrough

OR

0-500 (NLM) Swiss Teams*

single session at 10:30

There will be a short break for lunch on
your own on Sunday
(no arranged lunch on-site).



Free coffee/snacks throughout.



Stratification Info:

Open: C=0-750, B=750-2000, A=2000+.

0-500 (NLM): 0-100,300,500 non-life master.

* NLM games will be merged into the open events if fewer than 4 tables. If no separate NLM game, then the open strats will be:

C=0-500 NLM, B=500-2000, A=2000+.

Stratification by 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 of 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.

Card fee: \$8 per player per session (\$9 for non-ACBL members)–Cheapest around!

Director: Marc Labovitz

Chairperson: John Schwartz 610-391-0261

Partnership Contact: Joe Miller 610-351-4166 or jmillerq827@gmail.com

PARTNERS GUARANTEED for pairs events. Check with Joe for teams.

LEHIGH VALLEY BRIDGE ASSOCIATION–UNIT 133

MAY 3 - 5

Northeast Pennsylvania Bridge Association Sectional Tournament and

District 4 Grand National Teams—Qualifying Round

May 3—5, 2013

**Independent Fire Hall 166 S. Sprague Avenue, Kingston, PA 18704
(Route 81, Exit 170B)**



Northeast Pennsylvania Bridge Association Sectional Tournament

Friday, May 3, 2013

1:30 PM Stratified Open Pairs
(0-750) (750-1500) (1500+)
I/N 299er Pairs
(0-49) (50-99) (100-199) (200-299)

7:00 PM Stratified Pairs
(0-750) (750-1500) (1500+)

Saturday, May 4, 2013

1:30 PM Stratified Open Pairs
(0-300) (300-750) (750+)
I/N 299er Pairs
(0-49) (50-99) (100-199) (200-299)

NO PAIR GAME ON SATURDAY EVENING

Sunday, May 5, 2013

11:00 AM
& TBA Stratified Swiss Teams
(0-500) (500-1000) (1000+)

Stratifications subject to appropriate changes by the director.
Swiss team based on average masterpoints of each team.

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

District 4

Grand National Teams Qualifying Round

Saturday, May 4, 2013

First Session

12:15 PM Registration Closing for Open and A
1:15 PM Registration Closing for Strats B & C
12:30 PM First Session for Open Level and A
1:30 PM First Session for Strats B & C

Second Session

7:00 PM Second Session for all players

Sunday, May 5, 2013

9:00 AM Third Session for Open
10:00 AM Third Session for Strats A, B & C
TBA Fourth Session for all players

Please note time changes!!!



Visit our websites for updated schedules and events:

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

For customized directions go to:

www.randmcnally.com

MAY 11 - 12

Saturday/Sunday, May 11-12 2013

**Saturday - Non-Life Master (0-500)
Tournament & Party**

Games for all levels!

0-50 Newcomers! Beginners Only!

0-100,100-200,200-NLM(500)

Stratification may be adjusted based upon attendance

11:00-2:00 Silver Point Game

2:00-3:00 Social Buffet

3:00-6:00 Silver Point Game

(Dessert Buffet during second game)

Harrisburg Bridge Club

349 N. 21st Street

Camp Hill, PA 17011

**Cost \$30, includes all food, beverages and
both sessions.**

Sunday, May 12th at 7pm will be third Silver Point
game 500/300/100 stratification \$9/person entry

Tournament Director: Ed Scanlon contact at
edjsiii@yahoo.com or phone 717-434-3298

MAY 17 - 19

2013 SPRING SECTIONAL

BERKS MONTGOMERY BRIDGE UNIT 121
MAY 17 - 19, 2013
THE HIGHLANDS AT WYOMISSING



DIRECTIONS TO THE HIGHLANDS AT WYOMISSING

2000 CAMBRIDGE AVE
WYOMISSING, PA. 19610

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

FRIDAY, MAY 17, 2013

10:00 A.M. STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS
2:30 P.M. STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS
STRATIFIED 299er PAIRS

SATURDAY, MAY 18, 2013

10:00 A.M. STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS
2:30 P.M. STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS
STRATIFIED 299er PAIRS

SUNDAY, MAY 19, 2013

10:30 A.M. STRATIFIED BRACKETED SWISS TEAMS

BRACKETS TO BE DETERMINED BY DIRECTOR AT GAME TIME

FOOD AVAILABLE BETWEEN SESSIONS

STRATIFIED EVENTS

A = 2000+ B = 750 - 2000 C = 0 - 750

**STRATIFICATION OF 299er EVENTS AT THE DISCRETION OF
DIRECTOR IN CHARGE**

FROM ALLENTOWN: TAKE RT. 222 S. TOWARD READING. AT MAIDENCREEK FOLLOW RT. 222 S. (READING/LANCASTER). JUST PAST BERKSHIRE MALL (ON RIGHT), EXIT RIGHT ONTO EAST PENN AVE. TURN RIGHT AT SECOND TRAFFIC LIGHT (CLAYTON AVE.). CLAYTON BECOMES CAMBRIDGE AVE. CONTINUE ON CAMBRIDGE TO HIGHLANDS ON LEFT.

FROM LANCASTER: 222 N. TOWARD READING/ALLENTOWN. FOLLOW SIGNS AND EXIT RIGHT AT BUSINESS ROUTE 422 (PENN AVE.). EXIT AT END OF RAMP ONTO PENN AVE. TURN RIGHT AT NEXT LIGHT (CLAYTON AVE.). CLAYTON BECOMES CAMBRIDGE AVE. CONTINUE ON CAMBRIDGE TO HIGHLANDS ON LEFT.

FROM PHILADELPHIA & KING OF PRUSSIA AREAS: IF USING TURNPIKE TRAVELING WEST, EXIT READING EXCHANGE (EXIT 286). TAKE 222 N TOWARD READING. STAY ON 222 N AND EXIT RIGHT AT BUSINESS ROUTE 422 (PENN AVE.) EXIT AT END OF RAMP ONTO PENN AVE. TURN RIGHT AT NEXT LIGHT (CLAYTON AVE.). CLAYTON BECOMES CAMBRIDGE AVE. CONTINUE ON CAMBRIDGE TO HIGHLANDS ON LEFT.

IF NOT USING TURNPIKE, TAKE RT. 422 WEST TO RT. 222 S. JUST PAST BERKSHIRE MALL (ON RIGHT) EXIT RIGHT ONTO EAST PENN AVE. TURN RIGHT AT SECOND TRAFFIC LIGHT (CLAYTON AVE.) CLAYTON BECOMES CAMBRIDGE AVE. CONTINUE ON CAMBRIDGE TO HIGHLANDS ON LEFT.

FROM POTTSVILLE : TAKE RT. 61 S. TOWARD READING. EXIT AT ROUTE 222 S TOWARD LANCASTER. FOLLOW 222 S. JUST PAST BERKSHIRE MALL (ON RIGHT) EXIT RIGHT ONTO EAST PENN AVE. TURN RIGHT AT SECOND TRAFFIC LIGHT (CLAYTON AVE.). CLAYTON BECOMES CAMBRIDGE AVE. CONTINUE ON CAMBRIDGE TO HIGHLANDS ON LEFT.

TOURNAMENT CHAIR
LOUISE REMLEY
610-478-9354

PARTNERSHIPS
ANNE ALDERMAN
610-796-0944

MAY 17 - 19

UNIT 141 SHORE SECTIONAL

MAY 17—19, 2013

OAKCREST HIGH SCHOOL

1824 DR. DENNIS FOREMAN DRIVE

MAYS LANDING, NJ 08330



Friday - 7:30 PM

Open Pairs (single session)

Non—Life Master Pairs (single session)

(<500 points; not a life master)

Saturday - 10:00 AM
& 2:30 PM

Open Pairs (single session)

Non— Life Master Pairs (single session)

(<500 points; not a life master)

Handicap Compact KO Teams (2 sessions)

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 Craigie (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 Expressway 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.

JUNE 1 - 2

54th THOUSAND ISLANDS SECTIONAL BRIDGE TOURNAMENT

June 1, 2, 2013

Ramada Inn, Watertown, NY

Rooms for Bridge Players \$75, Call by May 28, 2012
(315-788-0700; Exit 45 off I-81)

Events Schedule

Saturday, June 1, 2013

10:00 am Open Pairs (1st of 2 Sessions)

3:00 pm Open Pairs (2nd of 2 Sessions)

Sunday, June 2, 2013

11:00 am Swiss Teams (1st session of 2 session game)

Play through half hour break

Sandwiches available for purchase at the break both days.

Stratification: A—1000+, B—300-1000, C—0-300 Newcomer's 0-100

Swiss Teams (average masterpoints), A—1000+, B—300-1000, C—0-300

Entry Fees: \$9.00 per session for ACBL member

\$10.00 per session for non or unpaid ACBL-member

Partnerships: Eileen Bleibtrey 315-782-5165,
Maureen Gough (315-788-7621),

Tournament Chair person: Maureen Gough (315-788-7621),
Club Manager: Debbie Suller (315-654-4419)

JUNE 7 - 9

Northeast Pennsylvania Bridge Association Summer Sectional Tournament

June 7th to June 9th 2013
Independent Fire Company,
166 S Sprague Avenue - Kingston, Pa
(Wilkes-Barre)

Driving instructions From Route I-81: Take exit 170 (Rt 309); Take rt 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 (rt 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 Rt 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, June 7, 2013

1:30 PM - Stratified 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, June 8, 2013

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, June 9, 2013

Stratified Swiss Teams

11:00 AM & TBA

(0-500) (500-1000) (1000+)

Swiss Teams stratification based on average masterpoints of each team.



GREAT SNACKS AND HOSPITALITY

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



VISIT US ON OUR WEB SITES AT:

WWW.district4.info

www.nepab.com

AND AT

bridgelady.net

