



District 4 Spot

A publication of District 4 of the American Contract Bridge League

DECEMBER 2014

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

ED BISSELL
ecb1@psu.edu



Celebrations first - Three players from District 4 earned Medals at the recently contested WBF Championships in Sanya, China. Arnie Fisher - Silver Medal, Senior Teams; Joann Glasson - Bronze Medal, Womens Teams, and Eric Greco - Bronze Medal, Open Teams. We are pleased that they performed well in such high level competition. Congratulations.

Kudos and a hearty high-five to Jay Apfelbaum of Philadelphia who recently became a Grand Live Master. His NABC+ win occurred 38 years ago, then life got in the way. Along the road another National, 2nd place.

As I begin my term as President we are faced with challenges involving the Regional tournament schedule. A committee was formed earlier this year to look into having a Regional tournament in Atlantic City. That committee is trying to sort out the details of contracting with a casino hotel for a six day tournament. Complications arise because of recent, and possibly ongoing, financial issues facing these sites. The consensus is to press on with caution in this effort. The tournament would be a few years from now, perhaps in 2017.

Many districts are having trouble keeping up Regional table counts. Organizers struggle to find a combination of events to attract players at all levels, and a schedule that accommodates most. Several of you have suggested changes that might result in improved participation. Please feel free to email those ideas to me.

My challenge to our membership: Following Zero Tolerance principles, try to behave in a manor that will enhance the experience of playing duplicate bridge - even for your partner. It isn't easy, but it's worth the effort.

Inside this issue:

District Director's Report	3
From the Four Corners	5
Master Solvers Club	9
Wilkes-Barre Regional	18-19
For Novices Only	20
ABC of Bridge	23
A Spot 4 the Advancing Player	25
District 4 Stars	26
Partnership Desk	27
Tournament Index	28





PRESIDENT

ED BISSELL

ECB1@PSU.EDU

1ST VICE PRESIDENT

DAN BOYE

SECRETARY

BILL BAUER

TREASURER

RICK ROWLAND

EDITOR

Elaine Landow

2556 Morris Road

Lansdale, PA 19446

215-699-6134

e-mail:

4spot@comcast.net

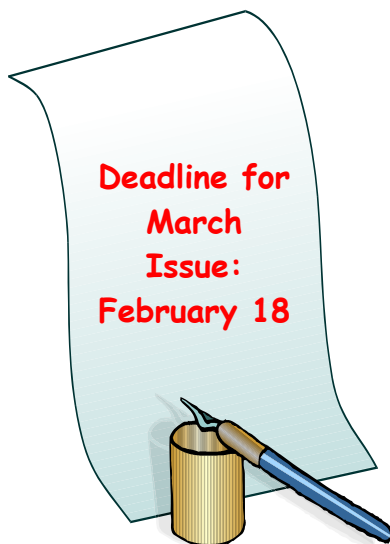
DISTRICT DIRECTOR

CRAIG ROBINSON

215-699-6134

BOD4@COMCAST.NET

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced without permission of the editor.



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

bod4@comcast.net



Sectionals

During the roaring 60's, bridge players thought nothing of traveling 1-2 hours to play in a Sectional. Today Sectionals are far more localized. D4 has 36 Sectionals, five I/N Sectionals and five STaCs scheduled in 2014. Entry fees range normally from \$8-\$10 per session. 23 of the 36 sectionals draw fewer than 100 tables. My comments by unit:

112 New York – 112 holds the most (9) Sectionals. Their tournaments are only two days in duration while in the other seven units they are three days. They average 67 tables. They run two day tournaments and, therefore, don't compete with Friday club games, don't lose players who have a job and save one night lodging for the TD. Outside of Syracuse and Rochester the Sectionals are often played in facilities that are also used for club games. Players bring food, and the ACBL awards recently mined silver points help make the games attractive.

141 Philadelphia - \$12 card fees, all tournaments (5) held at a country club. These sectionals might be the only tournaments with multiple directors because they average 245 tables. Valet parking, free lunch between sessions, pleasant playing facility help these tournaments draw relatively large turnouts.

190 Delaware – Four sectionals average 130 tables and then in the last week of the year the unit holds a five day tournament which drew over 180 tables last year. So 10 of the 13 tournaments that are larger than 100 tables are in units 141 and 190.

168 Central Penn – This unit holds (6) sectionals at four sites. This number is a reduction from the eight or nine they held 10 years ago. It is very difficult to break even if you pay rent, an ACBL sectional surcharge (\$160), TD costs of session fees, lodging and per diem which may approach \$1500 for three days, and the ACBL sanction fee (~\$3/table).

120 Northeast Pennsylvania – has four sectionals with lots of hospitality held in a reasonably priced firehouse which average 75 tables. I have probably attended ~15 of these sectionals over the years.

133 Lehigh Valley – they hold two sectionals and have an average of 100 tables. They use the Senior Center in Allentown where they have an excellent relationship with the landlord.

217 Susquehanna – State College and Williamsport hold these sectionals. I haven't been to State College in a few years but their players used to run a real nice party/tournament. Williamsport holds their games at their club (one of two D4 clubs that are owned (Camp Hill is the other)). They are party people too, but their tournaments have recently shrunk in size.

121 Berks-Montgomery – I went to many tournaments in Reading over the years. The new facility they use is very nice and the hospitality is fine but the rent I would guess is much higher than the previous location (Reading Eagle) so they may be feeling financial pressure.

I/N tournaments are designed to get the newer players comfortable with tournament conditions. They have various degrees of success. If you think they are a viable option in your area you should try them. They can be as short as one day and you can use a local TD.

I have always had mixed emotions about STaCs. They are something the units do for clubs (that is good). Unfortunately they award



silver points so the players who need silver points to advance in rank don't attend sectionals because they don't need silver points.

Sectionals have shown a decline in attendance over the years. It is possible that STaCs have had a negative impact on sectionals but the reluctance to travel is probably the major factor. Some have shortened number of sessions, moved to a nice facility, upgraded hospitality to try for a party atmosphere. Now the ACBL has increased masterpoints 10% for sectionals and 25% more for pair games. Will anything work? Let me know if you have any ideas for increasing attendance.

Education in District 4

This is the key to every corner of our district keeping pace with bridge. If our existing players feel good about their game, they keep playing and absorbing new bits and pieces.

Try a mentoring program in your local clubs at all levels of the game. Newer players will be able to mentor the absolute beginner and learn themselves from the experience. The usual players can be mentored by the higher level players, and so on.



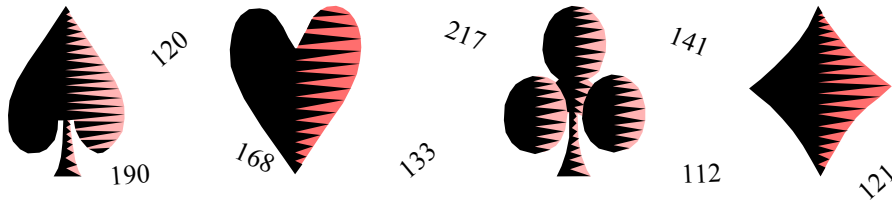
Unit 112 has Mary Miller as Education chairperson. She is working within the Unit to have the LEARN BRIDGE IN A DAY program used all over the Unit. She has meetings of teachers to gather and talk about their experiences. The hard nut to crack is the need for finding the students. If other areas want to hear from her, email me and I'll help you get in touch. I did not ask her permission to include her contact info here.

If teachers in the District would like a meeting, let me know and I'll arrange something for our District regionals.

There is no TAP class scheduled for a District 4 regional for 2015. If some of you want this to happen, let me know and I'll try to have something put in place.

Mary Poplawski
Education Chair for 2015
mpoplawski@stny.rr.com

From The Four Corners



CENTRAL NEW YORK 112

Mike Mihevc

mmihevc@gmail.com



Florence Hagan 1910-2014

The Mohawk Valley Bridge Association mourns the passing of Florence Hagan, 104, on Sept. 24, 2014. A Silver Life Master and dearly loved player, Florence first received her Life Master at the age of 89 and 11 months. She was able to play bridge with the club until shortly before her 104th birthday, after which her loving friends continued to visit her at the nursing home to play bridge with her until shortly before she died.

Congratulations to our new officers: President - Phil Clark; Vice-Pres.- Jim Carrol; Treasurer - Ron Mittleman; Secretary - Sandy Stockton; and Member at Large - DeWitt Hendrick.

Our unit concluded the sectional schedule with a strong turnout at Waterloo.

Phil Clark and Doug Ross won the open pairs as well as the over-all point totals. Phillip and Sandra Yorke finished first in the 299er pairs. The team featuring Dan Boye, Barry Passer, and Roselyn and Saul Teukolsky won the open Swiss with Arlene Johnson, Angeline Connelly, Lee, and Kim Laurion winning the 299er team game.

Due to a cancellation of the Cicero Sectional, our season will not start until the Rochester Sectional, April 11-12th. That Saturday will also be our awards ceremony as well as the Unit 112 Annual Meeting.

For more information, check our website.



NORTHEASTERN PA 120

Walter Mitchell

570-709-0850

waltermitc@aol.com



Congratulations to Arthur Kibbe (Clarks Summit) and William Burns III (Stroudsburg), who ran away with the NAP District Flight "C" finals. They posted an 80% game in the first session (ever happened before?) and ended with a 69.53% overall, more than four percentage points ahead of the second place pair. Best of luck to our winners in New Orleans in March!

Peggy Watters was honored by more than 60 of her close friends on the occasion of her 95th birthday. The party, complete with lunch and 16 tables of bridge, was arranged

and hosted this past summer by Beth Rosenthal.

Long-time teacher, mentor, and tournament chair Ray Depew was feted once again with a luncheon and bridge this fall on the occasion of his permanent relocation to Florida.

It is with great sadness that we report the passing in September of past Unit 120 director Jay Fryhover. The 16-year member and director of the Honesdale Bridge Club sang professionally in operas and oratorios. He also bred and showed Norwegian Elkhounds, and volunteered every year at the Westminster Dog Show in NYC.

The Honesdale Holiday party is set for Monday, December 8 at 10:30 a.m. at the Senior Center in Honesdale. Reservations are requested to 610-442-0722 or by email to sking31@aol.com.

Don't miss the Wilkes-Barre Regional the first week in March, 2015 at the Woodlands Inn & Resort. Schedule on the district website.



BERKS MONTGOMERY 121

Sue Wessner

bridgebysue@gmail.com

Our Unit held the Annual Fall Sectional on September 26-28, 2014 at The Highlands at Wyomissing. Al Bingaman was the Masterpoint winner.

The Annual Hawley Quier Memorial Mixed Pair Game was played at the Bridge Room At The Villa on Friday, October 24th. It was the Unit's annual costume party, for which prizes were awarded. Winners of the event were Sue Wessner and John Schwartz.

In November and December Intermediate Bridge instruction will be offered at the Wyomissing Public Library. All seats have been filled. Congratulations to Eugene O'Brien, who will now serve as a teacher within our Unit.

Please mark your calendars for our Annual Myrtle B. Quier Memorial Holiday Party, Sunday, December 7th at the YR Club with dinner at 12:30 pm and game to follow. Pre-Pay and Pre-Sign is required. Please see Rebecca Chick or Hal Cohn for more details.

We recognize the following people who have achieved new masterpoint milestones: Jr. Master; Maureen Brumbach, Suzanne Storck and Geri Buczewski. Club Master; Deborah Flint. Sectional Master; Martin Wessner, Sara Gainey, Joe Kovatch and Dale Graff. Bronze Life Master; Larry Lempiner



LEHIGH VALLEY 133

Dave Kresge

kresgede@aol.com

The unit held its annual meeting and Holiday Party on Sunday 16 November at the Brookside Country Club. The meeting was preceded by a great luncheon buffet. Officers elected were Chuck Campbell, President; Stan Yellin, Vice President; Mimi Lengel, Secretary; and Dave Kresge, Treasurer. The unit thanks retiring board member Ed Spitzer for his service.

Winners of the unit annual trophies were Nancy Eiler, (0-50); Mike Kohler, (50-100); Phyllis McDowell, (100-300); Chuck Campbell, (300-1000); and Chuck Campbell, (Unlimited). The unit also thanked Bob Cole for investing in a card shuffler and now all unit games as well as the Senior Center games, the Bethlehem Club games and Easton Club games have hand records. The hand records are also online as well. This is a great learning tool, particularly for newer players.

The unit will hold its annual memorial charity game on Sunday 7 December at the Senior Center at

2:00 PM honoring all members who passed away in the past year.

On Sunday 21 December at 2:00 PM at the Senior Center the unit will hold its 8 is enough team game.

The unit will hold its annual new pairs game on Sunday 4 January 2015 at 1:00PM at the Brith Sholom in Bethlehem. In this game you play with a partner that you never played with before. It is a very popular event.

The annual souper bowl charity pairs game will be held on 1 February 2015 at the Senior Center at 1:00 PM.

The unit was saddened by the passing of members Jacqueline Davis and Rosalyn Meltzer.



CENTRAL PENN 168

Kelly Zeller

kmzeller1@comcast.net

Hello again Unit 168 Members.

Please Mark your Calendars for these upcoming events:

- Dec 5-7 Harrisburg Sectional
- Jan 23-25 Harrisburg Sectional
- Feb 1 - NLM Bridge Boardroom - Signups required
- Mar 13-15 Lancaster Sectional

Wishing Everyone a Joyful Holiday Season.

See you at the Tables.



DELAWARE 190

Ala Hamilton-Day

Alabridge@aol.com

First, give a round of applause to Marie Filandro, our contributor to this newsletter for the last eight years. Hers will be hard shoes to fill, especially since we never did learn her actual shoe size.

It worked! When asked to join me for dinner, at the start of the Lancaster Regional, Kay and Ted Brown demurred, saying that they had to study. A fraction of a gold point was all that the couple needed to become LM's. Playing in the Golden Opportunity Swiss, with teammates Caroline Hughes and Karen Pollak, their team tied for first, earning them a whopping 11.04 gold points! Although the Browns celebrated, I know that their festivities were tempered by the fact that they had missed out on having dinner with me.

If we, (and yes I'm using the royal we), are still talking about the Lancaster Regional, Rick Rowland garnered 82.75 masterpoints, tying with his partner Ken Cohen for the most points earned at that tourney. The next top five finishers from Unit 190 were Randall Berseth, Rob Maier, Andrew Stayton, and your royal author. Congrats to me! And also to those others, as well.

It is wonderful that lots of players have recently advanced in rank. Marilyn E. Haskins is a Junior Master; Sandra Stanberry and Kathy Wiblin are Club Masters; Ann M. Evans and Burt Modispaugh are Sectional Masters, while Gayle H. Truitt is a Regional Master. Attaining the rank of Life Master is Barbara H. K. Saulsbury, and Mary Lou Farnum is a Bronze Life Master, and Leonard T. Thomas and David R. Venetianer are now Silver Life Masters. Kudos to all!

The DE State Pairs event, open to all players and not just Delawarians, was held on 11/15 at Rehoboth Beach and in Wilmington. Winners were:

FLIGHT A

Jacquelyn Williams and Lewis Klein
Eli Solomon and Andy Stayton
Sam and Paul Amer

FLIGHT B

Jacquelyn Williams and Lewis Klein
Sam and Paul Amer
Zachary Madden and Zachary Scherr

FLIGHT C

Judy Harrington and Margo DePuy
Nancy Haile and Teresa Young
Chuck Coltman and Scott Freber

As to future fun, the Studio in Wilmington is hosting a NLM tourney from December 15th through 19th. Please come and try to stuff your pockets with silver points. To properly bring in the New Year, however, there is the Dave Treadwell Sectional from December 27th through 31st at the Studio. From personal experience, there is *nowhere* else better to be at, on New Year's Eve, than at the Bridge Studio.

FREE FOOD! On Feb. 20th – 22nd, Unit 190 is running a sectional and is providing complimentary lunches at the Wilmington site. At least a quarter of a recent Board meeting was spent on discussing the cost and selection of delicacies to serve. Check out the new website at unit190.org for those exact lunch times. We hope to see you there.



SUSQUEHANNA 217

Jacqueline Humilovich

psu4814@comcast.net

We are pleased and proud that ***Ed Bissell has become the new District 4 President.*** It is a great honor to have our Unit 217 represented at such a high level. Ed follows Bob Priest of Harrisburg in the position of president.

Congratulations to Nancy Pfeiffer who became a Bronze Life Master and to Marty Strebel who became a Life Master. Well Done!

Thanks so much to the members of the Williamsport Bridge Club for their cordiality and generosity during the Susquehanna Sectional Tournament.

The dates have been finalized for the 2015 Unit 217 sectional tournaments. They are as follows:

- | | |
|---|---|
| • <i>Spring out of Winter Sectional</i> | <i>February 27-March 1, 2015</i> |
| <i>Williamsport Bridge Club</i> | <i>Friday-Sunday</i> |
| • <i>State College Sectional</i> | <i>June 4-6, 2015</i> |
| <i>Unitarian-Universalist Fellowship</i> | <i>Thursday-Saturday</i> |
| • <i>Susquehanna Sectional</i> | <i>October 16-18, 2015</i> |
| <i>Williamsport Bridge Club</i> | <i>Friday-Sunday</i> |

Please mark these dates on your calendar and plan to attend these tournaments. Your presence is greatly appreciated.





DISTRICT 4 MASTER SOLVERS CLUB

Nick Straguzzi, Director

D4MSC@STRAGUZZI.ORG

Henry Bethe is taking some time off from directing the hallowed D4 MSC, which he resurrected and guided superbly the past ten-plus years. He says he's retiring, but little does he know that this job is like the Hotel California: even if you want to leave, it's not so easy. At any rate, I'll be serving as acting director until Henry decides he wants his old job back. My goal is to encourage participation from bridge experts across the District -- that's everyone, right? -- so, please see the final scores section for the announcement of our upcoming 2015 4Spot MSC Challenge. All problems this month arose on Bridge Base Online.

METHODS ARE 2/1 WITH "WALSH"

1. IMPs, E-W VUL., DEALER WEST

♠-7 ♥-A5 ♦-Q98742 ♣-KJ82

South	West	North	East
--	2♥	Dbl	3♥
??			

CALL	PANEL	BW.com	AWARD
5 ♦	7	35%	25
Double	4	16%	22
4 ♦	2	32%	20
4 ♥	2	2%	15
4NT	0	3%	15
3NT	0	8%	10
Pass	0	2%	8
6D	0	1%	5

As if this hand wasn't going to be difficult enough to describe, the vulnerable opponents have ratcheted the bidding to the three level right out of the chute. Our partner is sitting there with a good hand, blissfully hoping we'll bid spades. Well, that ain't happening, but must we immediately take our best guess as to level and/or strain? Or, can we pawn off some of this headache to North?

ROBINSON: 4 ♥. This seems to be the best way to say that I have a good hand and multiple places to play. If partner bids 4 ♠, I will try 5 ♦ and hope that he gets the picture.

WACHSMAN: 4 ♥. A cue-bid is the best way to convey a focus on the minors with likely slam interest.

DYE: Double. Responsive. The cheapest descriptive call to start, then continue with 4 ♥.

GOLDBERG: Double. If partner bids 3NT, I pass. If he bids 3 ♠, I bid 5 ♦.

GRECO: Double. I will try to get some useful information from partner before I guess what to do next.

Be careful what you wish for, because you might get it. Our Director Emeritus chooses the responsive double too, but with full awareness of what he might be stepping into:

BETHE: Double. My initial inclination was to bid 4 ♥ followed by 5 ♦, showing in my world a diamond slam try. But, the more I thought about it, the more I became afraid that my not-on-the-same-wavelength partner has chosen this moment to double with a one-suited spade hand "too strong to overcall" ... Even with my responsive double (showing minors in my world), I won't

really know what to do when partner bids 4 ♠. Is this simply showing extras with five spades, or is it a lot of extras and only spades?

FILANDRO: 5 ♦. I must be unequivocal about trump. 4NT for the minors is misguided with a 2-card differential (partner may be three-three and choose clubs.) A responsive double would suggest 3=2=4=4 or similar. If my double elicits partner's jump to 4S with, say, 5=2=3=3 or 6=1=3=3 and extras, all further bids by me (4NT, 5 ♦, etc.) are forward-going IN SPADES. Yuk!

WHITE: 5 ♦. Too much of a preference for diamonds over clubs to make a responsive double. A cue bid would create too much danger of partner expecting, or at least hoping for, some spade tolerance.

If I were in a world-class practiced partnership like Eric is, a double might be more attractive, because my partner and I would have our follow-up sequences nailed down. For example:

BETHE (CONT.): I suppose that, inferentially, 3 ♠ by partner [over our responsive double] should be forcing, since one shouldn't make a takeout double with five spades and minimum values. But, I don't think this would be a common concept.

Almost everyone else committed to diamonds. The most popular choice:

MARKS: 5 ♦. Indicating that I have enough to go to game over an average double. If partner has more than that, he can continue. I have too many questions to have answered with no bidding room to finesse this.

PASSER: 5 ♦. Should make it opposite most takeout doubles.

FOOTMAN: 5 ♦. Of course, my partner will have: ♠-KQJx ♥-xx ♦-KJx ♣-AQxx ...and we will have no play for it, but I'll still bid it.

BROWNE: 5 ♦. 4 ♦ wouldn't be forcing. 4 ♥ and double send an unclear message and might get us too high.

Five diamonds was my pick too, for the same reasons as Bob stated. But on second thought....

HARRIS: 4 ♦. Difficult problem. 5 ♦ may be overboard. 3NT could be the right call, but if partner doesn't have the right cards, we are in deep trouble. If partner bids 4 ♠, I'll bid 5 ♣.

RASKIN: 4 ♦. Partner needs to have at least three control cards for any game to be likely. I will just bid my hand out naturally and hope that partner can go on with good cards.

Perhaps that's better. Four diamonds shows moderate values and diamonds. We're a little heavy for it, but this isn't exactly the World's Fair we're holding, either. Our trumps are long but not strong, and partner may well have been forced into an off-shape takeout double with some awkward 4=2=2=5 hand. We can still get to five clubs over four diamonds, but getting there over five diamonds is going to take some rule-bending. East might have done us a favor by bidding three hearts, allowing us to make a simple, constructive free bid at the four-level.

Scoring is based primarily on District 4 respondents. Henry posted the problems on BridgeWinners.com, where over 300 people from around the world chimed in, and you can see the percentage breakdown in the third column of the scoring table. I use the BW.com distribution mostly for tiebreaking and minor adjustments.



2. MPs, E-W Vul., DEALER NORTH

♠- 1032 ♥-Q865 ♦-A10 ♣-AKJ4

South	West	North	East
--	--	Pass	1 ♥
Pass			

2a: Do you approve of South's pass? If 'no', what do you prefer?

CALL PANEL BW.com AWARD

Yes	14	85%	5
1NT	1	10%	3
2 ♣	0	3%	1
Double	0	2%	1

There's one in every crowd:

ROBINSON: No. I would bid 1NT so I don't get into the situation shown in part B. Partner can now compete if possible, and I have only two HCP wasted in hearts.

Hardly an unreasonable call at matchpoints, where early aggression can pay handsomely.

Browne passes but "wouldn't quibble" about 1NT. Everyone else passes quickly and contently.

MARKS: Yes. No alternative.

BETHE: Yes. I can't conceive of another sensible action. Perhaps 1 ♠ as anti-lead-directional?

GRECO: Yes. Anything else would be strange opposite a passed partner.

Even on BridgeWinners.com, where poll respondents occasionally display some serious bravado, pass was the overwhelming favorite. At the 'virtual' table, I passed without a second thought. To be honest, Part A of this problem was included only to allow anyone who wanted to vent about the bidding in Part B an opportunity to do so. The real nightmare comes on the second round of the auction:

South	West	North	East
--	--	Pass	1 ♥
Pass	2 ♥*	Pass	Pass
??			

- - CONSTRUCTIVE 3-CARD RAISE

2b: What call do you make?

CALL PANEL BW.com AWARD

Pass	10	74%	20
Double	3	19%	14
3 ♣	2	6%	12
2NT	0	1%	5

We're taught from the bridge cradle never, ever, to allow the opponents to play in two hearts at matchpoints with a sure eight-card fit. If you do, locusts will descend, rivers will run with blood, and a wormhole will open up in space and swallow the galaxy. Plus, Larry Cohen will be really ticked off at you, which might be the worst consequence of all. Thus, we must balance here, with... um, with.....?

WACHSMAN: 3 ♣. This is matchpoints after all. LOL!

HARRIS: 3 ♣. Partner should have about 5 to 8 high card points. Since I did not overcall directly, I

have to hold a good hand with hearts.

Browne also placed North with 5-8 points, and others implied as much. No one commented on the "constructive" aspect of West's raise, presumably showing a good 7 to 10 HCP. This doesn't really affect the range of combined points the opponents might hold (and, by inference, the range of points left over for partner.) It does, however, suggest that East-West are more likely to be on the higher end of their range, thus partner on the lower end of his. You won't often catch more than six points in North's hand.

GOLDBERG: Double. I think this is okay, since partner has a stiff heart. He will likely have four spades if he bids them.

MARKS: Double. With the anticipation that East-West will go to 3 ♥, which will probably go down. If not, we will probably make whatever contract partner bids. He has one heart at best, so we're bound to have at least a seven-card fit, and we won't be doubled.

WHITE: Double. What's the problem?

I dunno. None of that is making me eager to reach for anything except a green card. But, we have to balance! Larry Cohen says so! Right?

RASKIN: Pass. Too many ways to go minus by bidding, and it looks like we might be headed for a plus just by sitting here.

PASSER: Pass. Why convert their minus into our minus?

ROBINSON: Pass. If I didn't bid 1NT earlier, I guess I have to pass now.

FILANDRO: Pass. Partner, known to have zero or one heart, was unable to double or bid at his second turn. He does not hold the points and shape I need to make eight or nine tricks.

DYE: Pass. Partner failed to pre-balance despite being short in hearts. Bidding at the three-level on my own risks exchanging a plus for a minus when we have the balance of strength, and invites minus 300 when we don't.

Hoo-boy. Larry Cohen is calling his travel agent now and canceling his vacation plans to Philadelphia and upstate New York. It's matchpoints, people. We do not allow the opponents to play two hearts in an eight-card fit. Capeesh?

BROWNE: Pass. Assuming that 2NT would be for the minors, there's not much one can do but pass.

GRECO: Pass. Very close to double, but maybe we'll beat them 200 on some days.

BETHE: Pass. I can easily see how not passing might be the winning action. On the other hand, there is no guarantee that we have an eight-card fit, or that partner has more than a three-count with a stiff heart. I am generally a pessimist.

Really? Two-thirds of our district, and three-quarters of the BridgeWinners crew, would just go quietly here? At matchpoints?? Even experts like Eric, Henry, Craig, and Pete? Well, yes they would. At the table, I passed too (but to be fair, it was IMPs.) And look who else is going quietly....

LARRY COHEN: Pass. As much as I love to keep the opponents from playing on the two-level with an eight-card fit, I reluctantly give in here. At these colors, I have a good chance to collect 200. Also, there is no good balancing action. Double likely begets 2 ♠, which will play poorly with ruffs in the long hand. Quite possible both 2 ♠ and 2 ♥ go down due to maybe only 15 total trumps and "minor honors" with my ♥ Q. I could guess to bid 3 ♣, but then I might hit 4=1=5=3 shape. This is tough. If I knew we would find an 8-card fit, I'd balance.

Yup. I emailed Mr. LAW himself. Larry is one of the nicest and most approachable experts around, and even the man who made competitive bidding into an art form is with the passers.

So there you have it. Once in a while, you can let the opponents play two hearts at matchpoints with an eight-card fit. Oops, I gotta run; a swarm of locusts is attacking my pepper plants....

3. Imps, Both Vul., Dealer West

♠-AJ1086 ♥ 5-♦-Q1095 ♣-AK3

South	West	North	East
--	Pass	Pass	Pass
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♦*	Pass
??			

- - NATURAL

CALL PANEL BW.com AWARD

3 ♣	2	7%	25
5 ♦	3	3%	23
4 ♦	2	9%	21
3 ♥	5	27%	21
3 ♦	2	47%	20
4 ♥	1	7%	20

MARKS: If we are playing two-over-one game forcing, I would splinter by bidding 3 ♥, but I will bid 3 ♣ if not. In a forcing 2/1, there is no point in jumping except to show a splinter. If North then bids 3NT, I will pass. If he bids 3 ♥ or 3 ♠, I will bid 5 ♦ (unless he is my regular partner, in which case I will bid 4 ♦).

Gene provides a nice introduction to this half-problem, half-polling question. In the typical tournament player's world, both 2/1 GF and some form of Drury are common, so this situation doesn't arise as often as it once did. Is the 2 ♦ response still a game force by a passed hand? If not, does responder at least promise a below-game rebid? Is 2 ♦ forcing at all? (I think not.) What options are available to opener with extra values and a nice fit?

ROBINSON: 3 ♥. Splinter in support of diamonds. I have a great hand.

WACHSMAN: 3 ♥. As 2 ♦ is natural and game-forcing, let's pinpoint the singleton heart with diamond slam interest.

RASKIN: 3 ♥. Splinter. With controls everywhere, all I want to do is let partner know that heart cards other than the ace aren't worth much and that I have controls everywhere else.

HARRIS (supported by **PASSER**): 3 ♥. The best description of my hand for partner. Has to be a splinter unless we are not playing 2/1.

Ay, there's the rub. 3 ♥ would logically be a splinter if 2 ♦ is a game force. One could make a case, I suppose, that it might be treated as a splinter if 2 ♦ merely promised a rebid. Otherwise, both 2 ♥ and 3 ♥ are needed as natural and strength-delineating.

Well, if we can't splinter with 3 ♥, then how about...

GOLDBERG: 4 ♥. This had better be a splinter. I discussed this with Billy Eisenberg, and he assured me that 4 ♥ was a splinter in Bridge World Standard. It's easy to visualize a slam.

Even 4 ♥ isn't partner-proof, unfortunately. Showing that there is another, perfectly reasonable way to interpret that bid is...

FILANDRO: 5 ♦. I need only ace-king-sixth of diamonds and three low hearts from partner to make game. If a perfecto slam is making, I don't have the mechanisms to find out. By the way, since 2 ♥ would be natural and non-forcing, 3 ♥ would be a jump shift, and 4 ♥ would show a two-suiter without a lot of high cards, there is no heart rebid that is a splinter - no matter how much a solver might wish it.

I think that's right. Partner's 2 ♦ is constructive but non-forcing, so even 4 ♥ can't be spared for use as a splinter without a firm partnership agreement. Meanwhile, another way to raise partner's diamonds is, go figure, to bid them.

BROWNE: 3 ♦. I see no reason to invent a call when I have a perfectly good descriptive bid available. Partner has 10 or 11 HCP. If he now bids 3 ♥, I'll bid 3NT.

DYE: 4 ♦. We strain to invite when vulnerable at IMPs, so I eliminate 3 ♦ as a "nothing" kind of bid. I have a big fit and controls, but not enough high-card points to expect 3NT to be a more likely make than 5 ♦.

WHITE: 5 ♦. Six diamonds is too remote opposite a passed hand for a 3 ♥ splinter.

GRECO: 5 ♦. I don't believe I have any splinters available here opposite a passed hand, so I will bid what is in front of my face. If partner has only one spade, we might have a slam; if we play weak 2 ♦ openers, however, then slam seems much less likely.

Over at BridgeWinners, 3 ♦ was the plurality choice. It's unclear, though, how many believed this to be forcing. I suspect that at least a few didn't notice that North had passed originally. As Pete notes, 5 ♦ needs only ace-king-fifth of diamonds and eight random scraps of laminated paper to have a play.

My choice was 4 ♦. But, Gene and Henry convinced me that there's another way to go:

BETHE: 3 ♣. I would like to bid 3 ♥ as a splinter, and if partner were an unpassed hand, it would be. Unfortunately since she is a passed hand, 2 ♥ here would be non-forcing, and 3 ♥ is needed to show a forcing major two-suiter. 4 ♦ is possible, but 3 ♣ followed by 4 ♦ will communicate both the strength of the hand and the heart shortness. 3 ♣, a so-called "high reverse", should be forcing.

Indeed it is, and that's a better plan. There are two ways to show a strong raise with shortness. One is to splinter; the other is to bid the other three suits strongly. Considering the sort of catastrophe that any heart rebid could trigger, 3 ♣ or 5 ♦ seem the most prudent choices.

Because there is no one right answer to this problem, I was fairly generous in assigning awards.

4. IMPs, N-S Vul., DEALER SOUTH

♠-J ♥-53 ♦-KQJ1074 ♣-AKQ6

South	West	North	East
1♦	2♠*	3♥	3♠
??			

- - PREEMPTIVE

CALL	PANEL	BW.com	AWARD
4 ♦	5	17%	25
4 ♣	6	56%	23
5 ♦	3	2%	20
Pass	1	6%	20

4 ♥	0	7%	15
Double	0	10%	12
4NT	0	1%	8

They're at it again. Our blithe little plan to bid diamonds, then clubs, then more diamonds has come asunder, thanks to all three opponents at the table. Should we rebid diamonds or introduce the clubs, and at what level? Not willing to commit to anything right away is:

GRECO: Pass. I want to see what partner has to say. If he bids 3NT, I will pull to 4 ♣.

Not a bad plan, though if partner punts it back to us with a double, here we are again.

Everyone else takes their best guess now. For the club bidders:

ROBINSON: 4 ♣. Let's get to our best spot.

HARRIS: 4 ♣. The most descriptive bid showing a minor-suit hand.

MARKS: 4 ♣. Partner can ascertain my spades to some degree from the bidding and his hand. He'll know he can safely bid 4 ♥ with six, trusting me to bid on if my hand is exclusively minor-suit oriented.

DYE: 4 ♣. My first rebid is easy, but what then? Although I have a promising hand, partner needs three quick tricks to produce a slam. I will pass partner's 4 ♥ follow-up, raise a 4 ♦ preference to five, and pass a raise to 5 ♣. If instead partner cue-bids spades, I'll head for slam, perhaps with a pick-a-slam 5NT.

Four clubs was the pick at BridgeWinners too, and by a healthy margin. Personally, I'm not a fan. Partner had better do some nifty guessing with a 3=5=2=3 or 4=5=1=3 hand, else we'll wind up in five clubs on a four-three fit with the tap coming in the long hand. Clubs may be the planet's choice, but here in the Mid-Atlantic region, diamonds won the day; I promoted 4 ♦ to the top spot accordingly.

WHITE: 4 ♦. Forcing, of course. Confirms the semi-solid suit. Pass would also be forcing, but I can't see how that helps us.

RASKIN: 4 ♦. Partner may think that I have one more diamond, but I don't know of any way to come closer to describing this hand. The strength of the diamonds makes up for the length.

PASSER (and **WACHSMAN** similarly): 4 ♦. Tell partner that I don't need trump support.

FILANDRO: 4 ♦. I must show my extra values and terrific suit. If we belong in a slam and can get to it after this spade barrage, it's OK if both 6 ♦ and 6 ♥ make, because this is IMPs.

No one in District 4 was willing to commit to hearts immediately, which I think is wise. Still, even a freely-bid 4 ♦ doesn't quite get across the nature of our hand. We're worth about 4.37 diamonds. Though it admittedly has the drawback of blowing past 4 ♥, we might try:

BETHE: 5 ♦. I want to make a strong suggestion that diamonds should be trump. Without the ♦ 10, I'd bid 4 ♣.

BROWNE: 5 ♦. I think I have to bid this, to show a truly good hand. I have only four losers. Yes, I've got that crappy doubleton, but it's in partner's suit, and he did make a free bid at the three-level. I'd like to show the clubs, but bidding them distorts my shape.

Five diamonds has one other thing going for it, petulant as though it might be. We probably have the best hand at the table, yet West, North, and East are all running their mouths and getting in our way. "Bid aggressively," they're chanting to themselves. "Make the opponents guess!" A vulnerable jump to 5 ♦ retorts, "You want a guess? Fine. Here it is. Now, YOU

guess whether or not I can make it." If someone goes wrong, it's 2-to-1 in my favor that it will be the bad guys. I'll take those odds.

Plaintively summing it up is:

GOLDBERG: 4 ♣. I don't know where we are headed, and I can't describe everything at once. If I had only one last bid to make, it would be 6 ♦.

Regular panelist Pete Filandro led all respondents this month with a 98. Barry Passer led the Solvers with 96.

Panelists / Solvers	1	2	3	4	5	Score
Henry Bethe	Dbl	Yes	Pass	3 ♣	5 ♦	92
Bob Browne	5 ♦	Yes	Pass	3 ♦	5 ♦	90
Doug Dye	Dbl	Yes	Pass	4 ♦	4 ♣	91
Pete Filandro	5 ♦	Yes	Pass	5 ♦	4 ♦	98
Courtenay Footman	5 ♦	Yes	Pass	3 ♦	4 ♣	93
Connie Goldberg	Dbl	Yes	Dbl	4 ♥	4 ♣	84
Eric Greco	Dbl	Yes	Pass	5 ♦	Pass	90
Lynn Harris	4 ♦	Yes	3 ♣	3 ♥	4 ♣	81
Gene Marks	5 ♦	Yes	Dbl	3 ♣	4 ♣	92
Barry Passer	5 ♦	Yes	Pass	3 ♥	4 ♦	96
Ray Raskin	4 ♦	Yes	Pass	3 ♥	4 ♦	91
Craig Robinson	4 ♥	1NT	Pass	3 ♥	4 ♦	82
Nick Straguzzi	5 ♦	Yes	Pass	4 ♦	5 ♦	91
Dave Wachsmann	4 ♥	Yes	3 ♣	3 ♥	4 ♦	78
Steve White	5 ♦	Yes	Dbl	5 ♦	4 ♦	92



THE 2015 DISTRICT 4 MASTER SOLVERS' CLUB CHALLENGE

4Spot is bringing back its annual MSC competition, and this time with a prize for the winners.

*The Panelist with the best combined score for the four D4MSC contests in 2015 will win **two free session entries to events at a 2016 District 4 Regional**, plus the fame and glory of being crowned the best bidder in the District for the year.*

*The Solver (non-panelist) with the best combined score for the four contests will also win **two free District 4 Regional entries, plus a spot on the expert panel for 2016.***

FINE PRINT: "Panelists" comprise all D4 players in good standing with 7,500 or more masterpoints, plus anyone close who'd care to make a case to be on the regular panel. Email me your qualifications; bribery is technically forbidden, but if you want to try anyway, hey, I won't squeal. 4Spot editors and all regular partners of the director are ineligible for prizes – the former out of impartiality, the latter because their bridge judgment is automatically suspect. Free entry cannot be used for Grand National events. Void where prohibited by law. Read prospectus carefully before investing. Close cover before striking. No caddies were harmed in the making of this program. Um, yeah. Let's have some fun and get participation from across the region!

MARCH 2015 PROBLEMS

Deadline for responses: **January 31, 2015**

The D4MSC uses a Two-over-one Game Force framework, with 15-17/20-21 notrump openings, "Walsh" one-over-one responses, and popular tournament conventions such as Roman Key-Card Blackwood, Reverse Drury, and Fourth-Suit Forcing to Game.

1. MATCHPOINTS, E-W VUL.

♠-8652 ♥-AQ ♦-AKJ1063 ♣-J

South	West	North	East
--	--	--	Pass
1♦	Pass	2♦*	Pass
??			

* - LIMIT RAISE OR BETTER

1a: To what contract do you believe partner's "inverted" raise should be forcing: 2NT, 3♣, 3♦, or Other (specify)?

1b: What call do you make?

♣ ♦ ♥ ♠

2. IMPs, BOTH VUL.

♠-AK9 ♥-KQ7 ♦-10 ♣-AK10954

South	West	North	East
1♣	Pass	1♥	Pass
??			

What is your call?

♣ ♦ ♥ ♠

3. MATCHPOINTS, E-W VUL.

♠-AQJ862 ♥-98 ♦-AQ94 ♣-K

South	West	North	East
--	--	1♣	Pass
1♠	Pass	3♠	Pass
??			

What is your call?

♣ ♦ ♥ ♠

4. BOARD-A-MATCH, N-S VUL.

♠-5 ♥-AKJ9 ♦-K7653 ♣-Q104

South	West	North	East
--	Pass	Pass	Pass
??			

What is your call?

Send responses to d4msc@straguzzi.org

Include your full name somewhere in the email, please, and format each response with your last name, your choice, and any comments; e.g. "1) Smith: 3C. Forcing for one round." Comments are encouraged and may be published in the next 4Spot.

WILKES-BARRE REGIONAL TOURNAMENT

MARCH 2 – MARCH 8, 2015



Join us for a Wonderful Winter Getaway at the fabulous
Woodlands Inn & Resort!!

THE WOODLANDS
1073 HIGHWAY 315
WILKES-BARRE, PA. 18702

(800) 762-2222
www.thewoodlandsresort.com

SPECIAL RATE OF \$99.00 INCLUDES A FULL BREAKFAST -
IF YOU BOOK BEFORE JANUARY 28, 2015

COMPLIMENTARY ON-SITE PARKING

COMPLIMENTARY SHUTTLE SERVICE TO MOHEGAN SUN CASINO

GREAT HOSPITALITY AND SNACK BUFFETS

LOCATED JUST OFF I-81, NEAR I-80 & Northeast ext. of the PA TURNPIKE

OUTSTANDING ACCOMMODATIONS - A FUN AND RELAXING
ATMOSPHERE AND GREAT FOOD!!





Wilkes-Barre Regional Tournament Schedule

MONDAY, MARCH 2

7:30pm Anthracite Kick Off Bracketed KO Teams (1st round of 4)
Mon/Tues Side Game (1st session of 4)

TUESDAY, MARCH 3

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

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4

10:00am Stratified Open Pairs (2000+) (0-2000) (1st of 2)
Gold Rush Pairs (300-750)(0-300) (1st of 2) **GOLD POINTS**
Wed/Thurs Bracketed KO Teams (1st round of 4)
Wed/Thurs Side Game (1st session of 6)
2:30pm Stratified Open Pairs (2000+) (0-2000) (2nd of 2)
Gold Rush Pairs (300-750)(0-300) (2nd of 2) **GOLD POINTS**
Wed/Thurs Bracketed KO Teams (2nd round of 4)
Wed/Thurs Side Game (2nd session of 6)
7:30pm Tues/Wed Evening Compact KO (2nd round of 2)
Wed/Thurs Side Game (3rd session of 6)

THURSDAY, MARCH 5

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

FRIDAY, MARCH 6

10:00am Dave Treadwell Stratified Open Pairs (2000+) (0-2000) (1st of 2)
Gold Rush Pairs (300-750)(0-300) (1st of 2) **GOLD POINTS**
Fri/Sat Bracketed KO Teams (1st round of 4)
Fri/Sat Side Game (1st session of 6)
2:30pm Dave Treadwell Stratified Open Pairs (2000+) (0-2000) (2nd of 2)
Gold Rush Pairs (300-750)(0-300) (2nd of 2) **GOLD POINTS**
Fri/Sat Bracketed KO Teams (2nd round of 4)
Fri/Sat Side Game (2nd session of 6)
7:30pm Thurs/Fri Evening Compact KO (2nd session of 2)
Fri/Sat Side Game (3rd session of 6)

SATURDAY, MARCH 7

10:00am Dave Hall Stratified Open Pairs (2000+) (0-2000) (1st of 2)
Sat Compact KO (1st session of 2)
Fri/Sat Bracketed KO Teams (3rd round of 4)
Fri/Sat Side Game (4th session of 6)
2:30pm Dave Hall Stratified Open Pairs (2000+) (0-2000) (2nd of 2)
Sat Compact KO (2nd session of 2)
Fri/Sat Bracketed KO Teams (4th round of 4)
Fri/Sat Side Game (5th session of 6)
Intermediate/Newcomer Pairs
Single Session Swiss
7:30pm Fri/Sat Side Game (6th session of 6)

SUNDAY, MARCH 8

10:00am A/X Swiss Teams (7 rounds of 7 or 8 rounds of 6)
&
B/C/D Swiss Teams
TBA A/X Stratification A = 5000+ X = 0-5000
B = 1000-2000 C = 500-1000 (LM) D = 0-500 (NLM)

Tuesday - 0-5 Masterpoints play free!

Entry Fees: \$12.50 each session; \$10.00 for 0-20 pairs

\$4.00 additional each session for non or unpaid ACBL members

TOURNAMENT CHAIRMAN: Walter Mitchell

walter@mitchellfinancial.com (570) 709-0850

PARTNERSHIPS: Bill Orth (570) 401-4258

More information at:

www.district4.info or www.nepab.net

Gold Rush Events Award Gold For Section Tops and for Overalls in the Upper Stratum
Stratifications are subject to change by director in charge to accommodate fieldTop Knockout
team bracket will be handicapped.



FOR NOVICES ONLY

by

MARTI RONEMUS

mronemus@comcast.net

Dear New Player,

I want to share one of my bridge Pet Peeves. But first, a small digression.

I always thought that as I grew older, I would become one of those nice old ladies with rosy cheeks, a smile for everyone, who bakes cookies and calls everyone “dearie.” You know, one of those nice old darlings everyone loves. Much to my surprise and dismay, it isn’t turning out that way after all.



Instead I’m becoming—oh alright, I’ll admit it—a curmudgeon. Every day, my willingness to Suffer Fools Gladly shortens, along with the fuse on my temper. Clerks who can’t make change, doctors who keep me waiting, waiting, waiting, misplaced apostrophes on signs...the list goes on and on, getting longer every day. Eventually, I’m going to turn into one of those old ladies who sit in a rocker on the porch with a nasty cane and a supply of worthless old beanie babies to throw at neighborhood children, cackling madly.

Meantime, nothing makes me happier than a platform in which I can air my Pet Peeves. And here it is... See me smile.

So...my bridge Pet Peeve, even worse than partners who can’t remember to bid over my takeout doubles, is **card snapping**. Yup. The sound of a card snap drives me **NUTS**. Every time I hear that sound, I mentally reach for the throat of the snapper.

Why? First of all, card snapping is just plain tacky. Picture cigarette-ash-covered card players, with a ratty, filthy deck of cards. That’s what card snappers look like. Ugh.

Secondly, it ruins the cards. You’ll notice that a lot of cards these days have bar codes on them. That’s because they are dealt with a Duplimate dealing machine. Those bar-coded cards are HUGELY expensive, and when people snap the cards, it bends the corners and cracks the ink on the barcode. The card then won’t go through the machine.

Thirdly, snapped cards can carry a message: “There, take THAT!” “Ha! Gotcha!” “How do you like THAT!” It’s a nasty, passive-aggressive thing to do.

Classy players lower their cards to the table and then just let them go. Watch and see if I’m not right. The nicest people just play their cards with style and panache...no snapping from them!

"People with hearing aids (that's me) have a very difficult time with people snapping the cards. It sounds like a shotgun in my ears when they snap the cards. After a couple of hours I get a splitting headache. And I know that I'm not alone in this. I've had many people tell me it bothers them too. I've read in the ACBL Bulletin that it is RUDE! I guess some people don't read their Bulletin.



Here's a great bridge tip. When the opponents are in a part score contract and you don't have a great lead, lead trump. Why? When the opponents are in game, they usually have the point count and powerful hands. When they are in a part score, they will frequently need their trump to ruff losers. By leading it, you will often short the dummy, and it will hurt them. And that's a good thing! You're going to be amazed how often you will set the contract.

June 22 - 28, 2015
Valley Forge Regional

enough to support a bid of Four Hearts. If our partner bids Four Spades, we will give up. If partner does anything else, we may be bidding a very fine slam. Partner might have: S - Q 9 4 3; H - K 7 4 3; D - 9; C - A K 5 3. With an extra high card point plus excellent controls (1 Ace and 2 Kings), partner will cooperate and we will get to a small slam in spades. If partner has: S - Q 9 3; H - K Q 4 3; D - 9; C - K J 3 2, he will stop in game. This is a minimum hand with no aces. If slam is possible, the opening bidder will need more than just a sound opening bid with no waste in diamonds.

Most slams that are based on a trump fit can be found by showing slam interest (if any) below the level of game. This just indicates interest; it is not forcing to slam. This brings me to a second guide: "The hand that goes beyond game promises extra values." For me, extra values usually includes having at least two first round controls. If my hand shows slam interest and my partner has two first round controls, my partner will almost always have the right hand to continue beyond game.

How do we make a slam try on an auction that is not game forcing? For example, we open with one of a major suit and partner raises to the two level. The answer is to start with a game try, and then keep bidding after partner responds. Most people play what is described as a "help suit" game try. We are looking for help in the suit to make game. If our partner can help, he bids game. If not, he will show something in another suit or sign off.

The key to a successful slam try that is initially disguised as a game try is to do it in a suit where partner has to have an important value to accept. We will then bid beyond game. Our hand absolutely must have at least two first round controls along with a control in a third suit. Three first round controls is much more likely. Most times, the important value we will look for is a missing honor opposite our long side suit. Here is an example: S - A K 10 6 4 2; H - 8; D - A 9; C - A Q J 3. We open with a spade, and partner raises to two. If partner holds the King of Clubs, we might make a slam. We bid Three Clubs. If partner accepts our "game try", we can bid on. Suppose partner holds: S - J 7 5 3; H - 10 7 4 2; D - J 8 2; C - K 4. Slam will succeed unless the defense has a trump trick.

On this last hand, we were again dealing with a 30 point deck. We had only 24 high card points in that deck, but the extra trump in partner's hand made the difference.

Try counting your points. See if that makes a difference for you the next time. Good luck!!



The ABC of Bridge (Continued)

by

Dave Wachsman

DAVID.WACHSMAN@AOL.COM



In the previous discussions of Always Be Counting we focused our attention on taking our HCP and subtracting from 40 to give us the HCP held by the other three players. The goal was to use the information gleaned from the bidding to visualize the opponents' hands as if you were seeing the hand in the bridge column of the newspaper. A technique to enhance the ABC process involves a hand evaluation tool called Losing Trick Count (LTC).

In the 1930's bridge theorists developed a technique for hand evaluation that supplements the point count system. Called Losing Trick Count (LTC), it is used to focus on trick taking potential in suit contracts as opposed to NT contracts. We will examine the KISS version of LTC and see how it can help in the bidding process as well as in defense.

LTC begins by counting the number of AKQs that are missing from each suit in a given player's hand. Thus, a 4 triple 3 Yarborough would have an LTC of 12, because the AKQ is missing from all four suits and $4 \times 3 = 12$. The LTC theory suggests that if you add the LTC from each partner's hand and subtract from 24, you would arrive at the likely number of WINNERS. Why 24? Because each hand has a maximum LTC of 12 and $12 + 12 = 24$.

How should you add LTC to your ABC bag of "tricks" for hand evaluation? If you have a partnership understanding that an opening bid of one of a suit guarantees, among other things, a hand with an LTC of 7 or less you can get a lot of mileage from LTC. Suppose your partner opens 1H and you have a hand with 4 card heart support, 11 HCP, and an LTC of 7. You should "know" that you belong in game, even if partner opened a 12 HCP hand. Why? Because partner's LTC of 7 (or less) added to your LTC of 7 = 14 losers. Subtract 14 from 24 as required by LTC theory, and voila, you have 10 likely winners in a heart contract.

Incorporating LTC in your bidding system can dramatically improve the accuracy of your bidding. Have an agreement that an opening bid of 1 of a suit is no worse than 7 LTC. A simple raise of opener's suit to the 2-level is constructive and shows exactly a 9 LTC hand. A jump raise to 3 of opener's suit (limit raise) shows exactly an 8 LTC with at least 4 trumps. A delayed limit raise following a forcing NT response is an 8 LTC hand with 3 card trump support. A jump rebid by opener shows a 5 LTC or better with at least 6 cards in the suit. Apply this framework and you will get to games that others are missing and avoid games that are going down.

Try using LTC and convince yourself of its value in deciding the appropriate level of possible suit contracts. The use of LTC in the ABC process can be useful on defense. Suppose the opponents bid as follows, you and your partner passing:

Opener	Responder
1S	1NT (forcing)
2C	2S
3S	4S

Your partner leads a red suit (not surprising) and dummy comes down as follows:

S – J32 H - KJ53 D – A74 C - J65.

As a defender, ABC suggests that they are likely to go down with good defense. Why? Dummy has a 10 LTC hand even though it contains 10 HCPs and opener has at best a 6 LTC hand. They will have a difficult time in this contract and you should be cognizant of this upon seeing the dummy. As a matter of fact, had the responder been conversant in LTC the responder might have steered the contract into NT at the 2 or 3 level. So remember, whether you are declaring or defending, Always Be Counting!



District MP Race Leaders through November 6, 2014

	<u>Mini McKenney</u>	<u>Ace of Clubs</u>
0-5	Joe Distini	Joe Distini
5-50	Gretchen Jack	Gretchen Jack
20-50	Andrew Rosenberg	Andrew Rosenberg
50-100	Bill Kutrzyba	Bill Kutrzyba
100-200	Mordecai Schwartz	Bill Hettrick
200-300	Karen Pollak	Karen Pollak
300-500	Jeremy Lynch	Caroline Hughes
500-1000	Bruce Lang	Ralph Collins
1000-2500	Robert Maier	Robert Maier
2500-5000	Phil Clark	Elaine Clair
5000-7500	Corey Krantz	Philip Monyer
7500-10,000	Meyer Kotkin	Melvin Lubart
over 10,000	Rick Rowland	John & Selena Swanson



A Spot 4 the Advancing Player

by Jay Apfelbaum

japfel@verizon.net

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

How many times have you missed slam on the “perfect fit”? Too many times for me, I can tell you. This article will discuss some of the ways to find slam when you have that perfect fit. The starting point is in counting points.

Every hand starts with 40 high card points. The minimum number of high card points for bidding a small slam is 33; thirty-seven high card points are needed for a grand slam. Please discard this rule! The proper starting point is to figure out how many high card points are important. Consider a hand with eight spades and five clubs. If we have 14 high card points in these two suits, we need partner to have no more than the “right” four or five high card points to guarantee a grand slam. We might need only a good fit in the trump suit (presumably spades) with no high card points at all to make a small slam. This is a 20 point deck.

So, the first consideration is just how many high card points are in the deck on this particular deal? When we open a major suit and our partner jumps to show game values with a singleton, the answer is 30. Partner will need at least 11 high card points along with a singleton and four card trump support to make this bid. If we have 14 high card points in the other three suits, there is an excellent chance we can make a slam. Having 25 high card points in the other three suits is the magic number to look for slam.

Suppose we have a void in that suit. This is still a 30 point deck, but having no loser in that suit we need only 23 high card points in the other three suits to be interested in slam. Notice that I talk about interest in slam. There could easily be two losers on any given hand. The message here is to be interested in slam and communicate that to partner.

So, we are interested in slam. How do we communicate that to partner? The answer is to bid a new suit. It is best if that new suit includes the Ace, but the King is sufficient. The message here is that the partnership has enough joint assets to justify slam interest. Either 25 high card points if there is a loser in that fourth suit or 23 high card points (in the other three suits) if there is no loser in that fourth suit.

Here is an example hand: We hold: S - A K 8 5 2; H - A J 2; D - 10 8 5; C - Q 10. We open with One Spade and our partner bids Four Diamonds. This shows a singleton diamond, four-card support for spades and at least 11 high card points. We hold 14 high card points. This is

DISTRICT 4 STARS

LANCASTER RED ROSE REGIONAL



October 27 - November 2



1.	Rick Rowland, Wilmington DE	82.75
	Ken Cohen, Philadelphia	82.75
3.	Craig Robinson, Lansdale PA	64.73
4.	Neal Satten, Wynnewood PA	61.33
5.	Bill Parks, Macungie PA	55.33
6.	Elaine Landow, Lansdale PA	51.79
	Joann Glasson, Pennington NJ	51.79
	Bob Glasson, Pennington NJ	51.79
9.	Marty Rabinowitz, Garnet Valley PA	50.40
10.	Ken Chatzinoff, Cinnaminson NJ	49.49



DISTRICT 4 NAP

FLIGHT A

1. Phil Clark, Douglas Ross
2. Albert Bingaman, Barry Gorski
3. Kenneth Meyer, Bruce Silverstein

FLIGHT B

1. Thomas Kriz, John Dickenson
2. James Carroll, Jonathan Forde
3. Paul Amer, Gary Hillenbrand

FLIGHT C

1. Arthur Kibbe, W. Burns
2. Linda Szilagyi, Peter Wise
3. Peggy Comerford, James Marshall

**PARTNERSHIP DESK FOR ALL DISTRICT 4 SECTIONAL & REGIONAL TOURNAMENTS
IS NOW AVAILABLE ON THE DISTRICT WEBSITE: WWW.DISTRICT4.INFO or at
WWW.BRIDGEFINESSE.COM/D4PDESK/INDEX.**

HOW TO USE THE PARTNERSHIP DESK SYSTEM

If you need a partner for any of these games, go to the District 4 website and click on the partnership desk. You will see various regionals and sectionals listed and in addition you will see a section for activate a club, click on that and all the clubs in the district will appear. Click on the club that you want a partner and all of the games that that club will be listed. Log into the system by entering your player number (this is the same number you use for entering your number in the bridge scorers), you also have to list your masterpoint range. If you are not sure enter what you think it is, the data base will correct you if it is wrong. Also enter your email address, you can also enter your phone number(optional) and the system you prefer to play (also optional). Then click on the game or games that you would like a partner for. That is all there is to it. When you list the games you need a partner for you will see all of the people currently looking for a partner, if you see anyone that you think would be a good fit you can contact them via email. Otherwise players needing partners will be contacting you. A verbal tutorial on the partnership web site also provides a very fine overview.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN SOMEONE CONTACTS YOU

When someone contacts you about playing in a game that you indicated that you need a partner for, if you think it is a good fit all you have to do is to contact that person by email and confirm your date. Both you and your new partner should then remove themselves from that particular game. The way to do that it to go to that club game and change the number from one to zero. That will show you no longer need a partner for that particular game. You should also do that if your plans change and you no longer can play or need a partner for that particular game. All the other games that you signed up for needing a partner will remain on the system.

When someone contacts you and you don't think it is a good fit, all you after to do is email the person back indicating you don't think it would be a good fit. That is all you have to do, you do not have to go into reasons why you don't think it is a good fit, there could be many reasons why it is not a good fit. If you have already made other plans to play in that game requested or if you can no longer play in that game, just email the person back indicating that.



Tournament Schedule

December 5 - 7	Camp Hill PA	29
----------------	--------------	----

December 12	Reading PA I/N	30
-------------	----------------	----

December 15 - 19	Wilmington DE I/N	
------------------	-------------------	--

December 27 - 31	Wilmington DE	31
------------------	---------------	----

2015

January 9 - 11	Philadelphia	32
----------------	--------------	----

January 23 - 25	Camp Hill PA	33
-----------------	--------------	----

February 1	York PA I/N	34
------------	-------------	----

February 6 - 8	Philadelphia	35
----------------	--------------	----

February 20 - 22	Wilmington DE	36
------------------	---------------	----

Feb 27 - March 1	Williamsport PA	37
------------------	-----------------	----

MARCH 2 - 8	WILKES-BARRE PA REGIONAL	18-19
--------------------	---------------------------------	--------------

March 13 - 15	Leola PA	
---------------	----------	--

March 16 - 20	Wilmington DE	
---------------	---------------	--

March 23 - 29	Unit 141 STaC	
---------------	---------------	--

DECEMBER 5 - 7

Harrisburg PA Sectional

Harrisburg Bridge Club
349 N 21st St Camp Hill PA
(717) 737-4461

December 5-7, 2014

Friday, December 5

Stratified Pairs (0-1000, 1000+)	1:30
Stratified 299er Pairs (0-50, 50-100, 100-300)	1:30
Stratified Pairs (0-750, 750-1500, 1500+)	7:00
Stratified 499er Pairs (0-100, 100-200, 200-500)	7:00

Saturday, December 6

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
Trivial Pursuit Party with pizza and Italian food ordered in	6:00
Estimated completion time 8:00-8:30	

Sunday, December 7

A/X Swiss (0-3000, 3000+)	10:00
BCD Swiss (0-300, 300-500, 500-1000)	10:00
6 rounds of 8 boards with 30 min. break (est. completion 5:00)	
Food provided on break	

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

Chair: Robert Priest (717) 579-5665

DECEMBER 12

2014 Holiday Intermediate-Newcomer Sectional Tournament

The Bridge Room at Sacred Heart Villa

51 Seminary Avenue

Reading PA 19605

Friday December 12, 2014

Two individual sessions: 10 AM & 2 PM

Stratification:

Non Life- Masters

A = 300 – 500

B = 100 – 300

C = 0 – 100

Stratification subject to change based on attendance.

Game fee is \$9 per session.

\$3 additional per session for non or unpaid ACBL members

Play both sessions with lunch in between for \$25.

Lunch will consist of two barbeque's or hotdogs, chips, salad, dessert and beverage.

For partnerships, to order lunch, or other questions contact Brian Snyder

(484) 838 – 0977

4SpadesDoubled@gmail.com

DECEMBER 27 - 31

2014 Dave Treadwell Sectional

December 27-31, 2014

Bridge Studio of Delaware

Saturday 27 th	10:00 am	Stratified Open Pairs (2000+/500-2000/0-500) Stratified NLM Pairs
	3:00 pm	Flight A/X Pairs (3000+/0-3000) Stratified B/C/D Pairs (1000-2000/500-1000/0-500) Stratified NLM Pairs
Sunday 28 th 11:00 am 2 sessions play-thru	Flight A/X - Two Session Swiss (Open/3000) Strat B/C/D - Two Session Swiss (1500/750/300) Pizza will be sold between sessions	
Monday 29 th	9:00 am	Stratified Open Pairs (2000+/500-2000/0-500)
	1:30 pm	Flight A/X Pairs (3000+/0-3000) Stratified B/C/D Pairs (1000-2000/500-1000/0-500) Stratified NLM Pairs
	7:00 pm	Stratified Open Pairs (2000+/500-2000/0-500) Stratified NLM Pairs
Tuesday 30 th	10:00 am	Stratified Open Pairs (2000+/500-2000/0-500) Stratified NLM Pairs
	3:00 pm	Flight A/X Pairs (3000+/0-3000) Stratified B/C/D Pairs (1000-2000/500-1000/0-500) Stratified NLM Pairs
Wednesday 31 st	10:00 am & TBA	2 single-session Strat Pairs (2000+/500-2000/0-500) 2 single-session Stratified NLM Pairs Farewell '14 Party & Lunch Events will be scored single session (more MPs) 2-session commitment expected to party & play

NOTE: All NLM Pairs will be stratified at game time based on attendance.

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. Bear right twice more following signs 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 to the rear of Foulkstone Plaza. The Bridge Studio is located in the last building # 1409 on the first floor.

Tournament Chair:	Partnerships:	Tournament Director
Harold Jordan	Carole Everitt	Head Director
302-584-0213	302-528-2680	Alan Hodesblatt
harold@bridge-studio.org	evertread@yahoo.com	ahodesblatt@excite.com

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



JANUARY 9 - 11



PCBA SECTIONAL TOURNAMENT

JANUARY 9—11, 2015

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

FRIDAY, JANUARY 9

- 10:00 STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS (A = 2000+; B = 750 - 2000; C = 0 - 750)
STRATIFIED NON-LIFE MASTER PAIRS (<500)
- 2:15 GRASSROOT STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS
(A = 2000+; B = 750 - 2000; C = 0 - 750)
GRASSROOT STRATIFIED NON-LIFE MASTER PAIRS (<500)

SATURDAY, JANUARY 10

- 10:00 STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS (A = 2000+; B = 750 - 2000; C = 0 - 750)
STRATIFIED NON-LIFE MASTER PAIRS (<500)
- 10:00 BRACKETED COMPACT KNOCKOUTS
& 2:15 (Handicapped if only one bracket)
- 2:15 GRASSROOT STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS
(A = 2000+; B = 750 - 2000; C = 0 - 750)
GRASSROOT STRATIFIED NON-LIFE MASTER PAIRS (<500)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 11

- 10:00 BRACKETED SWISS TEAMS - BRACKETS BASED ON AVERAGE
& TBA MASTERPOINTS - TOP A/X BRACKET OPEN TO ALL (2 sessions)

*New Grassroot Open
Pairs on Friday and
Saturday (40% more
masterpoints awarded)*

*Saturday
Bracketed Compact KO*

*Sunday
2-Session Bracketed
Dupli-Swiss Teams*

Free Valet Parking

*Great Hospitality
Free Breakfast
Free lunch
And Snacks All Day
(menu varies)*

*Avoid Lines
Advance Entry Sales
Available at Tournament*

\$24.00 per pair/per session - \$100.00 per team for Sunday swiss teams.

\$3.00 additional per person/per session for non or unpaid ACBL members.

Full-time students play free.

Strats may be combined based upon attendance. Stratification by average masterpoint holding.

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

Partnerships: Tom Purl tompurlatty@gmail.com (610) 518-6790

DIRECTIONS

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

For more detailed directions, check Google Maps or the unit website at www.philadelphiabridge.org.

JANUARY 23 - 25

Harrisburg PA Sectional

Harrisburg Bridge Club
349 N 21st St Camp Hill PA
(717) 737-4461

January 23-25, 2015

Friday, January 23

Stratified Pairs (0-1000, 1000+)	1:30
Stratified 299er Pairs (0-50, 50-100, 100-300)	1:30
Stratified Pairs (0-750, 750-1500, 1500+)	7:00
Stratified 499er Pairs (0-100, 100-200, 200-500)	7:00

Saturday, January 24

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
Trivial Pursuit Party with pizza and Italian food ordered in	6:00
Estimated completion time 8:00-8:30	

Sunday, January 25

A/X Swiss (0-3000, 3000+)	10:00
BCD Swiss (0-300, 300-500, 500-1000)	10:00
6 rounds of 8 boards with 30 min. break (est. completion 5:00)	
Food provided on break	

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

Chair: Linda Ivanoff (717) 379-9562

FEBRUARY 1

Sunday, Feb. 1st 2015

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

Games for all levels! Two sections:

0-100 (100/50/20)

100-500(500/200/100)

Stratification may be adjusted based upon attendance

10-11 Brunch

11-2 Silver Point Game

2-2:45 Social Buffet

2:45-5:45 Silver Point Game

(Dessert Buffet during second game)

Bridge Boardroom

2109 Industrial Highway, York, PA

17402

**Cost \$30, includes all food, beverages,
entries. You can't spend more!** (\$3 additional/session
for non and unpaid ACBL members, per ACBL requirements!)

Reservations Required!! We need to know how
many to cook for! No money needed till day of event.

Just email Ed Scanlon at edjsiii@yahoo.com or
phone 717-755-9505 or sign-up at the club. Sign-up
early this fills up quickly!!!

FEBRUARY 6 - 8



PCBA SECTIONAL TOURNAMENT

FEBRUARY 6—8, 2015

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

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6

- 10:00 STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS (A = 2000+; B = 750 - 2000; C = 0 - 750)
STRATIFIED NON-LIFE MASTER PAIRS (<500)
- 2:15 GRASSROOT STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS
(A = 2000+; B = 750 - 2000; C = 0 - 750)
GRASSROOT STRATIFIED NON-LIFE MASTER PAIRS (<500)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7

- 10:00 STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS (A = 2000+; B = 750 - 2000; C = 0 - 750)
STRATIFIED NON-LIFE MASTER PAIRS (<500)
- 10:00 BRACKETED COMPACT KNOCKOUTS
& 2:15 (Handicapped if only one bracket)
- 2:15 GRASSROOT STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS
(A = 2000+; B = 750 - 2000; C = 0 - 750)
GRASSROOT STRATIFIED NON-LIFE MASTER PAIRS (<500)

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8

- 10:00 BRACKETED SWISS TEAMS - BRACKETS BASED ON AVERAGE
& TBA MASTERPOINTS - TOP A/X BRACKET OPEN TO ALL (2 sessions)

*New Grassroot Open
Pairs on Friday and
Saturday (40% More
Masterpoints awarded)*

*Saturday
Bracketed Compact KO*

*Sunday
2 -Session Bracketed
Swiss Teams*

Free Valet Parking

*Great Hospitality
Free Breakfast
Free lunch
And Snacks All Day
(menu varies)*

*Avoid Lines
Advance Entry Sales
Available at Tournament*

\$24.00 per pair/per session - \$100.00 per team for Sunday swiss teams.

\$3.00 additional per person/per session for non or unpaid ACBL members.

Full-time students play free.

Strats may be combined based upon attendance. Stratification by average masterpoint holding.

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

Partnerships: Tom Purl tompurlatty@gmail.com (610) 518-6790

DIRECTIONS

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

For more detailed directions, check Google Maps or the unit website at www.philadelphiabridge.org.

FEBRUARY 20 - 22



2015 Blue Hen Sectional

Wilmington, DE
February 20 - 22, 2015



Bridge Studio

Wilmington
Delaware

Schedule of Events

Friday, February 20, 2015

- 10:00 am Stratified Open Pairs (2500+/750-2500/0-750)
Stratified 199er Pairs (100-200/50-100/0-50)
- 2:30 pm Stratified Open Pairs (2500+/750-2500/0-750)
Stratified 199er Pairs (100-200/50-100/0-50)

Note new Friday starting times

Saturday, February 21, 2015

- 10:00 am Two Session Stratified Pairs With Regional Rating
and Flight A/X (4000+/0-4000)
- 2:30 pm Flight B/C/D (1250-2500/750-1250/0-750)
- 10:00 am Stratified Open Pairs (2500+/750-2500/0-750)
- Side game Stratified 199er Pairs (100-200/50-100/0-50)
- 2:30 pm Stratified Open Pairs (2500+/750-2500/0-750)
- Side game Stratified 199er Pairs (100-200/50-100/0-50)

Sunday, February 22, 2015

- 10:00 am A/X Swiss Teams (4000+/0-4000)
B/C/D Swiss Teams (1250-2500/750-1250/0-750)

*Note: Stratifications (by average masterpoints) may be changed
at the discretion of the director
to accommodate the participants if necessary.*



**FREE LUNCHEON EVERY DAY BETWEEN
SESSIONS!! DIFFERENT MENU EACH DAY**

Directions to: Bridge Studio
Foulkstone Plaza
1409 Foulk Road
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:

Richard Popper
302-562-8758
rjpopper@verizon.net

Partnerships:

Alan Horowitz
302-654-1423
Horowitz@udel.edu

Tournament

Director
Head Director
Alan Hodesblatt

ACCOMMODATIONS:

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
Inn At Wilmington	300 Rocky Run Parkway	302 479-7900



www.bridge-studio.org

www.unit190.org

FEBRUARY 27 - MARCH 1

Unit 217 Spring Out of Winter Sectional



**Williamsport Bridge Club
1042 High St
Williamsport, Pa 17755**

Friday, Feb 27, 2015

Stratified Open Pairs..... 11:00 a.m. 1 session
99er game..... 11:00 a.m.

(3 TABLES MINIMUM)

Stratified Open Pairs..... 4:00 p.m. 1 session

Saturday, Feb 28, 2015

Stratified Open Pairs..... 11:00 a.m. 1 session
Stratified Open Pairs..... 4:00 p.m. 1 session

Sunday, March 1, 2015

Swiss teams 11:00 a.m.
Second session TBA

Chair

Mary Ann Churba
570 321 0633

Partnerships

Vera Peters
570 368 1872

