Come on out to the
WASHINGTON BRIDGE LEAGUE'S

67th Annual City of Washington Tournament

APRIL 4-7, 2013

at the

KENSINGTON TOWN HALL/ARMORY
3710 Mitchell St., Kensington, MD 20895
—including Thursday night—

The 2013 Potomac Valley Tournament features:

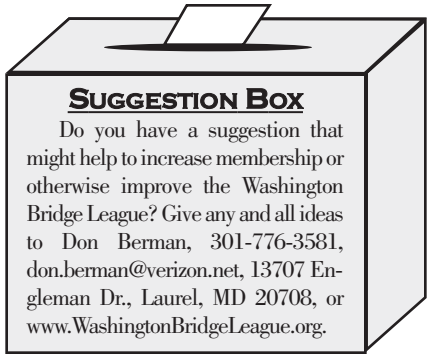
See page 3 for the full tournament schedule...

- ♣ *a full schedule of* ***Intermediate & Novice events***
- ♦ *Friday night* ***IMP Pairs*** *starting earlier at 7:15 where you only need one partner, but it scores like a team game*
- ♥ *the* ***Compact KOs*** *on Saturday with four rounds of knockouts that finish in one day plus a* ***Panel Show*** *between sessions*
- ♠ ***More team games*** *on Sunday—* ***Bracketed Teams*** *— Eight teams in each bracket (except the top bracket) means you play every other team in your bracket*
- ♣ *Plus, throughout the tournament,* ***Famous Washington Hospitality,*** *including snacks, drinks, and Friday and Sunday lunch free of charge.*

See page 19 for all the details...

Check out the Annual Meeting, Elections and Membership Game on Thursday, May 16

Complimentary Desserts . . . . . .6:30 p.m.
Meeting and Elections . . . . . .7:00 p.m.
StrataFlighted Membership Game . . . . . .7:30 p.m.
During the evening, we will recognize our 2012 Mini-McKenney and Ace of Clubs winners for their achievements.



Suggestion Box

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

WBL Ombudsman

Any player with helpful director issues including criticism or praise of the directing staff may contact the Ombudsman, Adrienne Kuehneman and be assured that the source of the information will remain confidential. Information should be provided in writing and may be handed to her at any game, or mailed to her at 6333 Tone Dr., Bethesda, MD 20817-5811.

♣♦♥♠ ~~~~~~ ♣♦♥♠

DEADLINE: MAY 8, 2013

TO SUBMIT NEW ARTICLES TO THE EDITOR FOR THE MAY/JUNE 2013 ISSUE

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

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The opinions expressed by our columnists do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the ACBL, the WBL, or even the editors of this publication. The WBL is not responsible for the claims of its advertisers.

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WBL WEBSITE: www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org
DISTRICT 6 SITE: www.districtsix.org

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

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President's Letter

by WBL President, Richard Ferrin

For many years, our sectional tournaments were run smoothly with the incredible hard work and sacrifices of our long-time tournament chairman Nadine Wood, and our long-time director-in-charge Millard Nachtwey. Both of them have passed away recently, and the torch has been passed. Our new tournament chairman is Ron Zucker, and the new director-in-charge for our sectional tournaments is Terry Lavender. The WBL is very lucky to have the services of both of them.

As we make this transition, we hope that you will understand that there may be a few bumps and missteps along the way. In our January sectional, on Sunday there was an error in the timing of the lunch break, such that it occurred while the non-life-master players were playing the fourth round of the early Swiss session. I also presented the trophy race awards during this time, which created additional commotion. All of this activity unfortunately disrupted the non-life-master players still playing their matches. On behalf of the entire WBL Board, I apologize for this disruption. We will do better in the future in scheduling the lunch break (and any additional presentations during this time period), so as to minimize disruptions for all players still playing.

With regard to the Unit Game, we understand that there has sometimes been a problem with uneven heating and air conditioning of the playing space, such that the area opposite the entrance to the room may be getting too cold (or occasionally too hot). Rest assured that the Board is working with Ohr Kodesh on this problem as well. In the meantime, we have asked the directors to rotate the various flights (A/X, B/C, non-life-master, and novice) so that no one flight has to bear the entire burden of dealing with the part of the room with the climate problem.

I'd like to offer a gentle reminder about parking at the Unit Game. Parking in any of the spaces reserved for the clergy or staff is strictly forbidden. Also, parking in the small lot (nearest East-West highway) is forbidden, except for a couple of spots for those who regularly set up the game and refreshments. If you arrive too late to find an open, non-reserved spot in the main parking lot, the next-best option is to park on the street. However, as a result of complaints by the neighbors, the police are vigorously enforcing rules regarding no-parking zones, minimum distance from driveways, etc., so please be make sure that your parked car fully complies with all regulations.

Finally, remember that Ohr Kodesh does not allow *any* food *or* beverage to be brought into the temple, except under strict conditions. So please do not bring open cans, bottles, or cups of sodas into the building.

Although the parking can sometimes be tight, overall we are lucky to have such a nice space for our Unit Game. We want to keep a good relationship with Ohr Kodesh and the neighborhood, so that we can continue to enjoy this space, but we need your help.

Stepping Up to New Heights:

As of March 1, 2013

Junior Masters: 5 Masterpoints
Ms Ruth H Conant
Karon L Green
Ms Barbara Teng
Mr Donald H Baker
Bethany Kadish
Gail L Klein
Mark H Zweig

Club Masters: 20 MPs
Ms Louela E Bonner
Dr Donald S Cohen
Long H Mao
Dr Judith A Prask
Ms Denie S Weil
Barbara Yuravlivker
Julie Marquette

Sectional Masters: 50 MPs
Mrs Jane E Marsh
Mr Johnny M Marsh
Ms Joy I Oliver
Ms Anne L Weismann
Ms Louela E Bonner
Suzanne P Dawson
Dr Charles R Dearolf
Peggy A Marshall
Ms Andrea Volin

Regional Masters: 100 MPs
Ms Mary L Iglehart
Mr James R Key
Mrs Bette O Kramer
Mr Walter B Laessig
Mr Daniel Syed
Jill I Benson
James B Mentzer
Ms Mary E Ourand
Mr Jim J Walsh

NABC Masters: 200 MPs
Stanley J Fineman
Isabelle M Thabault

67th Annual City of ~ Washington Tournament ~

at the **Kensington Town Hall/Armory**

3710 Mitchell St, Kensington, MD ~ (except where noted)

Washington Bridge League

WashingtonBridgeLeague.org

Mid-chart allowed in all events except I/N

Thursday, April 4

♣ Stratified Open Pairs (unlim/1500/500) 11:15am
Rockville Duplicate Bridge Club, 301-503-3348 (Mark Lavine) NO ENTRY TILL 11AM
St. James Episcopal Church, 11815 Seven Locks Rd., Rockville

♦ StrataFlighted Open Pairs (A/X unlim/3000, B/C/D Separate 2000/1000/500) (both sites); Stratified NLM Pairs (NLM/100/50) & 0-20 Pairs (Kensington Armory only); Stratified 199er Pairs (Beth El only)
Beth El Congregation, *3830 Seminary Rd, Alexandria* 7:00pm
Kensington Town Hall/Armory 7:30pm

Friday, April 5

♣ *StrataFlighted A/X (unlim/3000) & B/C/D Pairs (2000/1000/500) 10:00am, 2:00pm

♦ ***IMP Pairs*** A/X (unlim/3000) . . . . . **7:15pm** ← EARLIER START!
It's the Friday night IMPs! With only one partner, it scores like a team game. To get your IMP score on a board, we take your result and IMP it against each result at the other tables, then get the average.

♥ B/C/D Pairs (2000/1000/500) **7:15pm**

♠ Intermediate/Novice Pairs (300/200/100/50/20) *(single sessions)* 10:00am, 2:00pm, **7:15pm**
(will run if we have 3 or more tables)

Saturday, April 6

♣ ***Compact KOs*** *Four rounds of knockouts finish in one day!* . . . . . .11:00am, 4:00 pm
Tired of pair games? You're guaranteed to play a full session of two rounds of the knockouts.

♦ *StrataFlighted A/X (unlim/3000) or B/C/D Pairs (2000/1000/500) 11:00am, 4:00pm

♥ Intermediate/Novice Pairs (300/200/100) or Newcomer Pairs (50/20/5) (single sessions) 11:00am, 4:00pm

~ Don't miss the between sessions ***Panel Show*** *~*

Sunday, April 7

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

♦ 300/100/50 Swiss Teams, VPs (single sessions) 11:00am, 3:00pm

♣ ***Lots of Intermediate & Novice Events with Silver Points!*** ♥
I/N events: 0-5, 20, 50, 100, 200, 300; Stratification at Director's Discretion.

Famous Washington Hospitality includes snacks, drinks, & **Friday** & **Sunday lunch** free of charge. **Chair:** ***Ron Zucker,*** 202-390-3443, ron@motherzucker.com. **Volunteer Coordinator:** ***Barbara Summers,*** 301-598-5838, jimbarb1184@aol.com **Hospitality:** ***Kitty Gottfried,*** 301-587-3981, kgottfried@hotmail.com **Partnerships:** ***Barbara Doran,*** 301-608-0347, SectionalPartner@DistrictSix.org
**StrataFlighted if attendance warrants—otherwise combined into Stratified Pairs (unlim/2000/500)*

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

WashingtonBridgeLeague.org

July 18-21, 2013

Washington Bridge League

68th Annual

Potomac Valley Tournament

at the **Kensington Town Hall/Armory**
3710 Mitchell St, Kensington, MD ~ (except where noted)

Thursday, July 18

- ♣ Stratified Open Pairs (unlim/1500/500) 11:15am
  Rockville Duplicate Bridge Club, 301-503-3348 (Mark Lavine) NO ENTRY TILL 11AM
  St. James Episcopal Church, 11815 Seven Locks Rd., Rockville
- ♦ StrataFlighted Open Pairs (A/X unlim/3000, B/C/D Separate 2000/1000/500) (both sites); Stratified NLM Pairs (NLM/100/50) & 0-20 Pairs (Kensington Armory only); Stratified 199er Pairs (Beth El only)
  Beth El Congregation, *3830 Seminary Rd, Alexandria* 7:00pm
  Kensington Town Hall/Armory 7:30pm

Friday, July 19

- ♣ *StrataFlighted A/X (unlim/3000) & B/C/D Pairs (2000/1000/500) 10:00am, 2:00pm
- ♦ ***IMP Pairs*** A/X (unlim/3000) . . . . . .**7:15pm** ← EARLIER START!
  It's the Friday night IMPs! With only one partner, it scores like a team game. To get your IMP score on a board, we take your result and IMP it against each result at the other tables, then get the average.
- ♥ B/C/D Pairs (2000/1000/500) **7:15pm**
- ♠ Intermediate/Novice Pairs (300/200/100/50/20) *(single sessions)* 10:00am, 2:00pm, **7:15pm**
  (will run if we have 3 or more tables)

Saturday, July 20

- ♣ ***10th Annual: Washington Bridge League Trophy Pairs*** . . . . .11:00am & 4:00pm
  Two session Open Pairs, qualifying and final. Single session entries available.
- ♦ *StrataFlighted B/C/D Pairs (2000/1000/500) (single sessions) 11:00am, 4:00pm
- ♥ StrataFlighted A/X Pairs (unlim/3000) 4:00pm
- ♠ Intermediate/Novice Pairs (300/200/100) or Newcomer Pairs (50/20/5) (single sessions) 11:00am, 4:00pm

~ Don't miss the between sessions ***Panel Show*** *~*

Sunday, July 21

- ♦ A/X Board-A-Match Teams, (unlim /5000, 2 session playthru w/short break) . . . . . .11:00am & TBA
- ♥ B/C/D Swiss Teams, VPs (2500/1000/500, 7 round playthru w/short break) . . . . . .11:00am & TBA
- ♠ 300/100/50 Swiss Teams, VPs (single sessions) 11:00am, 3:00pm

♣ ***Lots of Intermediate & Novice Events with Silver Points!*** ♥
I/N events: 0-5, 20, 50, 100, 200, 300; Stratification at Director's Discretion.

Famous Washington Hospitality includes snacks, drinks, & **Friday** & **Sunday lunch** free of charge. **Chair:** ***Ron Zucker,*** 202-390-3443, ron@motherzucker.com. **Volunteer Coordinator:** ***Barbara Summers,*** 301-598-5838, jimbarb1184@aol.com **Hospitality:** ***Kitty Gottfried,*** 301-587-3981, kgottfried@hotmail.com **Partnerships:** ***Barbara Doran,*** 301-608-0347, SectionalPartner@DistrictSix.org
**StrataFlighted if attendance warrants—otherwise combined into Stratified Pairs (unlim/2000/500)*
Directions to the Kensington Town Hall/Armory: 495 Beltway Exit 33, Connecticut Avenue North (Rt. 185N—to Kensington). 1.5 miles, right at light—Knowles Ave. 1st right at stop—Armory Ave. 1st left at stop—to 3710 Mitchell St. & parking lot on right. Additional parking in nearby lots—see website maps.

Mid-chart allowed in all events except I/N

Bits and Pieces

Welcome to the Washington Bridge League

The WBL welcomes the following new ACBL members: **Mr John S Beale, Ms Katherine Eggleston, Lawrence Folk, Robin Hammer, Nancy F Kaden, Hal McCombs, Mr Melvin D Shoemaker, Mrs Sallie B Wallace, Andrea E Boyarsky-Maisel, Bessie Bradford, Mr Tom Collier, Lucinda Conger, Andre'e Duval, Tyrrell E Flawn, Carole L Marcus, Ms Mary K Mead, David M Narrow, Mr Ed Smith, Ms Victoria Williamson,** and **Michael E Zielinski.**

In addition, we welcome the following transfers from other units: **Pamela Kelly, Laura B Sherman, Reginald F Tinner, Mrs Lelia K Williams, Eiji Ishida, Mr Michael M Marcotte,** and **Mrs Rhona P Prensky.**

—Paid Advertisement—

Did You Know?

The **Rockville Duplicate Bridge Club** has a game almost every day!

Join us often and spread the word!

DAY	TIME	LOCATION
Monday	11:15 AM	St James
Tuesday	7:00 PM	Rockville Senior Center
Thursday	11:15 AM	St James
Friday	11:15 AM	St James
Saturday	1:00 PM	St James

www.rockvilledbc.com

Need a Partner? **Call Mark Lavine: 301-503-3348**

Locations:

St James Episcopal Church 11815 Seven Locks Road Potomac, MD	Rockville Senior Center 1150 Carnation Dr Rockville, MD

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

Bridge in Schools—We're All in it Together

WBL & NVBA members mentor Key Middle Schools students after Gene Schuyler's charity game to benefit Hurricane Sandy victims.

Thank you Steve, Linda, Iron Man & Xavier!

—Yuen De Anda

2012-2013 WBL/NVBA Player of the Year

To be eligible, a player: (1) Must be a member (or pending member) of either the NVBA or the WBL; (2) Must attend at least three WBL and three NVBA sectionals during the contest period (August, 2012 through May, 2013). Points won on Tournament Thursday evenings are included in the totals, but do not count towards eligibility; (3) Must be a member in good standing of the ACBL and a local affiliate throughout the contest period and remain so through the award presentation.

Awards: Two trophies will be awarded.

Standings: Here are the standings after six of eight sectionals. The asterisk* indicates that

...continued on p. 21, column 2

Great Game Products

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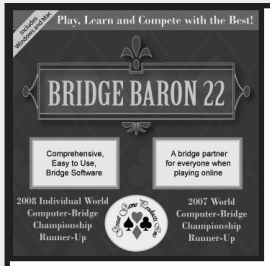

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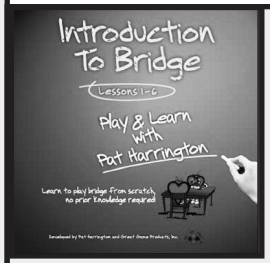

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WBL Solvers' Club

Moderated by Steve Robinson
robinswr@erols.com

Congratulations to **Leo Lasota** and **Ben Stauss** who tied for first with a score of 490. They win a free entry to the Unit Game, and will be invited to be on a future panel. Tied for third were **Kent Goulding, Mike Kovacich, Axel Vercauteren, Curtis Bare, Steve Osiecki** and **Rick McDaniel** with a score of 480. Tied for ninth were **Nikola Tcholakov, Bill Bingham, Hadi Abushakra, Ram Sarangen, Francis McMullan, William Hohe** and **Martin Personick** with a score of 470. Tied for sixteenth were **Penny Stoever, Rick Eisesnstat, Peter Van Zijl, Tracy Brines, Barbara Israel, Kathy Rabenstein, Debra Gardner, Peter Isard, Krus Kristiansen, Enid Hughes** and **Jay Weinstein** with a score of 460. Tied for twenty-seventh were **Eric Poskanzer, Andy Hawks, Larry Kahn, Lex Poot, Mark Shimshak, Joe Daniel, Dan Axelrod, Brad Theurer, Craig Olson, Sonney Taragin, Owen Byer, Johnny Petersson, Ernie Schuler, Carl Jeschke, Kevin Avery, Audrey Warren, Jeff Zaller, Jon Farber, Chris Miller, Barbara Summers, Pete Hughes, Jim Andre** and **Fred Gramlich** with a score of 450. Tied for fifteenth were **Terry Coates, Frank Guido, Thomas Fukawa, Molly Tinsley, Gene Kuehneman, Judy Haney** and **Virginia Brooks** with a score of 440. The average score of the 196 solvers was 414. The average score of the experts was 435.

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

I personally score all the problems. If a majority of the solvers vote for an answer, and the answer is reasonable I will give that answer 100 points. I will not give 100 points to an answer that I consider bad no matter how many experts vote for it. There are times when I want to make a point. I will give that answer 100 points and will therefore give the majority answer 90 points. For the other answers I consider how good the answer is and how many experts vote for it for its score. If you submitted an answer that got 20 points, that bid would get a bad score at the table. A good exercise would be to figure out why I gave your answer 20 points. You might have misread the problem.

The book *Washington Standard* second edition is out. If you are a serious bridge player, this book is a must. You can purchase a copy from Steve for $25.00 whenever you see him or can send him a check for $30.15 that includes $5.15 for priority mail.

1) IMPs, None Vulnerable

♠986 ♥965 ♦Q64 ♣10652

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
	Pass	1NT	2♥
Pass	Pass	Dbl*	Pass
????		*Takeout	

Action	*Score*	*Votes*	*Solvers*
2NT	100	6	23
2♠	90	6	112
3♣	60	1	49
Pass	30	0	11
4♣	20	0	1

The notrump-opener made a takeout double of 2♥ and we don't have a clear cut bid. We could bid 2♠ but that risks playing in a 3-3 fit. We could bid 3♣ but that risks playing in a 4-3 club fit when we have an eight-card diamond fit. Or we could bid 2NT which lets partner make the last mistake. Bidding 2NT lets partner play the hand and the lead will come up to partner's hand. 2NT, choice of suits is the best meaning for 2NT. Why guess when you can allow partner to help in the decision and play the hand.

Six experts make the cheapest bid. I would certainly double 2♥ if I held ♠Jxx ♥xx ♦AKxx ♣AKJx and 2♠ would not play well. And the lead will come through the strong hand.

Shore: "2♠—I actually think this will play worse than three-of-a-minor, but since neither are making, I want to bid the hardest-to-double contract. The usual concerns about partner raising a three-card major response to a takeout double do not apply here since partner's hand is limited. Hopefully I bid this quickly and confidently."

Shore does have a point. A weak 4-3 or 3-3 spade fit will play worse than a 4-4 or 5-3 minor suit-fit.

If partner has ♠Axx♥xx♦AJ109♣AQJ9, 3♣ would actually make on some layouts. You get a trump lead, take three rounds of clubs, play the ace of diamonds dropping the stiff king and pitch a spade on the fourth diamond. Making four (easy game). If the king of diamonds does not drop, you'd still make three.

Guthrie: "2♠—Partner is likely to have four spades for his double. It is harder for opponents to double 2♠ than 3♣. Partner is most unlikely to compete further."

Unless an opponent has a trump stack, I would not expect to be doubled in any contract.

Parker: "2♠—Double by partner is for takeout not penalty, so let's keep the level low as possible."

Cappelletti: "2♠—Cheapest and least likely to get doubled. Closest port in a storm."

Cheapest is best in some situations.

Schwartz: "2♠—I am not going plus on this hand so the objective is to get out without giving up a number. We are likely to have a seven-card spade fit and the opponents might not be able to double. If I bid 2NT, LHO has a chance to double to show values to get RHO involved. If I bid 3♣, it is easier for the opponents to double. I can always run later if it seems right if they do double."

Landen: "2♠—Nearly automatic. Cheapest and the suit partner implies. No law he had to reopen."

Five experts join me and ask partner to choose his poison.

Meyer: "2NT—Scrambling/takeout - rather than guess a minor, I'll bid 2NT and let partner, who may have a five-card minor, choose. This way I right-side the contract while keeping the stronger hand hidden. Bidding 2♠, while the cheapest bid, could result in a silly 3-3 contract or a Moysian that will be uphill work."

Woolsey: "2NT—I play that any non-jump 2NT response to a takeout double is not natural. Here it is obviously takeout for the minors. I am not bidding a three-card spade suit here."

Hopkins: "2NT—This should be for the minors."

Munday: "2NT—We are too weak to pass, though that could be the best score possible (-470 vs -500) at this point. Experience has taught me that 3-3 fits don't play that well so 2♠ is out. While I am reluctant to push us to the three-level, 2NT, scramble for the minors, gives us the most flexibility. We will find an eight-card club fit if we have one, and partner might even have a five-card diamond suit and we can play that strain. An additional benefit is that the strong notrump declares the hand protecting any tenaces from attack on opening lead."

It's always good when an opponent has to lead in to a strong notrump hand. Unless he has a natural lead, he could give up a trick or a tempo.

Adams: "2NT—Partner has a doubleton Heart for this double. The opponents therefore have an eight-card heart fit. Partner does not promise four spades. 2NT gives us a sure seven-card fit, and a probable eight-card fit. If partner has a five card suit, it's a minor. 2♠ gives us a probable seven-card fit, possible six-card fit, and no chance at an eight-card fit. I expect partner with 4-4 to always choose clubs."

One expert plays in clubs even if partner has ♠Axx♥xx♦AKJxx♣AJx with the lead coming through the strong hand.

King: "3♣—I take out to my longest suit when partner makes a takeout double."

When partner makes a takeout double and you're forced to bid and you don't have anything clear to bid, use 2NT as choice of suits.

2) Matchpoints, None Vulnerable

♠3♥102♦AK9873♣KJ54

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1♦	1♠	Pass	Pass
????			

Action	*Score*	*Votes*	*Solvers*
2♣	100	4	48
2♦	90	4	103
Dbl	70	3	23
Pass	60	2	16
3♦	30	0	4
4♦	20	0	1
2NT	20	0	1

Do you allow the opponents to play at the one-level at matchpoints at any form or scoring? Unless you have three or four of their suit, it is usually wrong. The doubleton heart and the minimum opening bid says pass, the singleton spade says bid. When you are short in the opponent's suit you get aggressive. If West overcalled 2♣ however, it would be clear to pass since you have four clubs. If you're going to reopen, there are three possibilities - double, 2♣ and 2♦. The problem with doubling is that partner could jump in hearts. 2♦ shows six but gives up possibly playing in clubs.

Three experts join me and reopen with 2♣. Partner will know that I have at least nine cards in the minors. He'll also know that I probably have a weak hand since I didn't reopen with a double.

Shore: "2♣—Since partner didn't make a negative double, they're probably safe in 2♥ even if they're not safe in 1♠. Therefore I'll start describing my shape now so I don't have to do it later at the three-level. There would have been a more compelling case for doubling if the opponents were vulnerable."

Munday: "2♣—I chose 2♣ as it describes my hand type, minors, since it could well be our hand.

Even if the opponents do have hearts, they have to find them and most likely they will need nine trumps to do so effectively with spades badly placed. I came very close to passing. Partner surely has spades whether trapping or not; if hearts as well then likely we don't have a fit and if not then the opponents might outbid us. I don't believe partner has a game-forcing hand as he is risking only 50 a trick our way with partnership reopening styles a factor. Defending 1♠ could be our best score. Bidding 2♦ is possible but I was raised to show nine cards in my suits at my second turn rather than six whenever possible. I don't have the right hand for double; if partner bids hearts I'm horribly placed, the opponents might find a landing spot there in hearts if partner converts, and the opponents are non-vulnerable at the one-level."

Schwartz: "2♣—Pass is reasonable as partner should not have a game-force with a spade stack and the opponents likely have a heart fit. I have good defense with a club lead and partner might have a reasonable hand with club length."

Two experts pass. You don't get rich defending at the one-level.

Meyer: "Pass—Partner could not make a negative double, did not respond in some number of notrump, so he has either a penalty pass or a weak hand, but all of this suggests the opponents have a better landing spot in hearts, and I don't want to wake them up. With no game in sight, a plus score should be welcome."

Why can't partner have a 4=5=2=2 hand such as ♠Q10xx♥Axxxx♦73♣54? Willing to defend 1♠ if it goes all pass and willing to play in hearts if opener reopens with a double.

Adams: "Pass—Very tough. With 2-1 in majors, pass would have been easy. Here it's likely partner has a spade stack, but more likely we have a different scenario. 1. Partner has Spades and opponents have a heart runout. 2. Partner is weak and opponents can make a lot of hearts 3. Partner has moderate spades and moderate hearts and was passing willing to play 1♠ unless I could double, and a double by me will get too many hearts from partner. I will gamble that 1♠ is not their best spot and pass, but know partner might be unhappy."

Three experts reopen with a double. I wonder what they are going to do if partner jumps in hearts. If I held ♠Jxxx♥AQxxx♦xx ♣xx, I would pass 1♠ and then jump in hearts if partner reopens with a double.

Guthrie: "Double—Partner should realize that a protective double can be off-shape. Partner is more likely to have raft of spades than a weak hand with hearts. The main danger is that OPPONENTS can make a lot of tricks in hearts. But at pairs, in the long run, you're unlikely to get rich from defending undoubled one-level contracts."

If you allow for short-in-other-major takeout doubles your constructive auctions will go downhill.

Hopkins: "Double—This is an adjunct to playing negative doubles. Sometimes you have to scramble after partner can't find a penalty pass."

King: "Double—East's pass leads me to believe partner has a trap pass. I would like to have a third heart, but then it wouldn't be a problem."

Four experts rebid their six-card suit. Rebidding 2♦ gives up on a possible club fit but it is better than defending against 1♠.

Parker: "2♦—Don't like my defense prospects and have a good six-card suit so I will rebid it If partner wants to bid notrump then I would be happy and have good source of tricks."

Woolsey: "2♦—With this discrepancy between the suits, I think it is better to rebid the diamonds than show clubs. Making a takeout double on the off-chance that partner has a penalty pass is not winning bridge. Selling out is even worse."

Cappelletti: "2♦—Best description and I might bid clubs later."

Landen: "2♦—Partner might be waiting for me to double. If so, he's still waiting. I won't double with only two hearts, but I will keep the bidding alive. I choose 2♦ because it implies I'm not strong. 2♣ has a larger range thus partner is more likely to dredge up a bid."

Don't allow the opponents to play the contract at a low level when you are short in their suit.

3) IMPs, None Vulnerable

♠A953♥K876532♦3♣4

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
????			

Action	*Score*	*Votes*	*Solvers*
Pass	100	6	122
4♥	90	2	1
1♥	80	1	15
3♥	70	3	42
2♥	60	1	16

You have a seven-card suit and a weak hand which says open 3♥. You have four spades to the ace which says maybe we might belong in spades so don't open 3♥. The problem with passing is that if you later bid hearts, he'll never play you for a seven-card suit. Suppose partner opens 1♣, the next player bids 4♦, and you bid 4♥. Partner should assume that you have a club fit with only five hearts.

Usually you open at the two-level when holding a six-card suit, the three-level when holding a seven-card suit and the four-level when holding an eight-card suit assuming that you have a weak hand. However, 6-4 hands have more playing strength than a 6-3-2-2 hand, 7-4 hands have more playing strength than a 7-3-2-1 hand. Therefore I open a lot of 6-4 hands at the three-level and I would open 4♥ holding this hand. If you open 3♥, an opponent with a strong notrump could bid 3NT. If you open 4♥, they could have a problem.

Six experts join me and bid some number of hearts.

Three experts open 3♥. The problem with 3♥ is that partner will not know what he needs to bid four. If partner holds ♠KQx♥QJ10♦QJx ♣QJxx, he'll pass 3♥ expecting to lose at least four tricks. Opposite ♠x♥AQxxxxx♦xxx♣xx which is a normal 3♥ opener, you'd be lucky to make 1♥. If he holds ♠xxx♥AQx♦KQJx ♣KQJ, he'll happily bid 4♥ which goes down on a spade lead.

Shore: "3♥—Seven-four hands are one-suited hands, not two-suited. The only time you decline to preempt solely because you're seven-four is when your four is spades and you need the suit to outbid the opponents' hearts. Again there would have been a more compelling case for pass if we were vulnerable, but we're not, and it's a bidders' game."

Landen: "3♥—Extra defense and misdescriptive, but first thrust is worth a lot. My partners raise when they have support."

Parker: "3♥—I would never pass a seven-card suit and this hand is not good enough to open a one-bid. Let them all guess."

One expert opens 2♥.

Guthrie: "2♥—A 3♥-opener is triply flawed. The suit is bad, you have four cards in the other major, and you have good defense. 2♥ is also a distortion but gets hearts safely into the picture."

At least if you open 3♥, partner will play you for a seven-card suit

One expert opens 1♥. 1♥ would be my second choice.

King: "1♥—I am very short on high cards, but I have only six losers and I think passing and backing in later could be difficult."

One expert agrees with me and opens 4♥. Since partner will never be able to evaluate use the bid four with 7-4 rule.

Adams: "4♥—3♥ seems like too little, 1♥ seems like too much. 4♥ carries some risk, but it will be hard for opponents to double without spades. My reward is that I create an impossible problem for my opponents, and if partner has a moderate fit, we could be cold. ♠Kxx♥Ax♦xxxx ♣xxxx has a small chance, and anything better has a decent chance. Some of the time partner will have a big fit for spades such that 4♠ makes but not 4♥. That is a bigger risk than going for a number, but is worth it to give maximum pressure."

Six experts pass. I could see partner opening 1♦ in third seat holding ♠KQxx♥AQx♦xxxx ♣xx. Since 1♥ is non-forcing by a passed hand and bidding again would show a full opener, partner will pass 1♥ and you'll be +200.

Woolsey: "Pass—I believe the cost of missing a spade fit, along with the other dangers involved, outweighs the gains from a preempt on this hand."

Even if you have an eight-card spade fit, spades might not play well.

Cappelletti: "Pass—You are more likely to preempt yourself out of spades than opponents."

Meyer: "Pass—No opening bid really seems to fit. 3♥ could bury spades, 2♥ is misleading, while 4♥ has few tricks and a suit quality partner won't expect, so I'll let it go and hopefully be better placed once the auction has begun. With a strong four-card other major, I would be reluctant to preempt. This hand feels like I would get in partner's way if I opened it."

Partner doesn't usually care what you have when you open 4♥. He puts down the dummy, goes to the bathroom and then asks how you did.

Hopkins: "Pass—I am very likely to have a chance to bid later."

Munday: "Pass—My preempting style is not constrained by side suits per se but the suit quality is wrong for a three-bid and I have potentially a great dummy in a spade contract that opening 2♥ or 3♥ may well preclude. The majors give me a fair likelihood of getting a second chance and partner may contribute something helpful at their first turn. Improve the heart texture and I'll open 3♥ willingly."

Schwartz: "Pass—Many reasons to pass, good defense, good second major, poor spots. I will likely to be able to show hearts later."

Four-level openers put a lot of pressure on the opponents (as well as partner).

4) IMPs, None Vulnerable

♠AQ8753♥-♦2♣J87543

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
			1♦
?????			

Action	*Score*	*Votes*	*Solvers*
1♠	100	6	122
4♠	90	2	9
2♠	70	2	51
3♠	60	3	6
Pass	30	0	3
2♦	20	0	2
2♣	20	0	1
2NT	20	0	2

How many spades do you bid? There are votes for one through four spades which means that there is no clear spade bid. Similar to problem three, 6-6 hands should be treated differently from 6-3-2-2 hands. Therefore I would bid 1♠ if I didn't think the hand was worth preempting or 4♠ if I felt like preempting. 4♠ figures to be a reasonable contract and it will make life difficult for the opponents. Looking at only one red card is a good reason to get the level as high as quickly as possible.

Two experts bid 2♠. Since you'd bid 2♠ if you were 6-3-2-2, bidding 2♠ when 6-6 is a gross underbid.

Shore: "2♠—There's no question that I'm bidding, so the only question is what level. If I bid four, I won't be happy no matter what happens. If they double me I will have to guess whether to run to clubs. If they compete, partner won't be able to tell that his club AKQ are not defensive tricks. If they pass it out, we might be down in 4♠ when we were making 5♣. I need to get both my suits into play. If I bid 1♠, then act again partner won't know whether I have a strong hand or not. vel if it's necessary. In fact I can even rebid 4♠ over 4♥ with partner silent, and partner will know that I must have an extreme two-suiter to have bid only 2♠ the first time. The same approach could work if I start with a 3♠ bid, but I think 2♠ will give me more chance to get both my suits in."

Guthrie: "2♠—Timid but you may get a chance to rebid clubs at a low level."

Three experts bid 3♠. Would you be happy if LHO bid four-of-a-red suit and then got to their best game?

Parker: "3♠—No bid describes this hand, 2♦ shows both majors and 2NT shows hearts and clubs."

No bid describes a 6-6 black hand but the odds are that 4♠ is a good bid. Certainly a better bid than 3♠.

Woolsey: "3♠—Forget clubs — they are outranked by the red suits. The three-level looks about right."

Landen: "3♠—No way to show both suits directly, so I'll bid one extra because of the extreme distribution the extreme distribution. The money's in spades."

One expert joins me and bids 4♠. By bidding 4♠, you won't allow the opponents to play at the four-level. If LHO has diamond support and a reasonable hand, he'll have no choice but to show it at the five-level. Find LHO with ♠xx ♥AKJxxxx♦Kxx♣x and he'll very likely bid 5♥. Your next problem could be what to lead.

Meyer: "4♠—With this much shape, our side might have a game opposite little ♠Jxxx ♥xxx♦xxx♣ATx while the opponents may have an easy slam inlose the textbook and give them something to think about. A 6-6 pattern has lots of potential, but starting with 1♠ or 2♠ won't give the opponents much of a problem, but could stymie partner. I could go for a number once in a while, but giving the opponents the last guess pays dividends in the long run."

Six experts overcall 1♠. 1♠ is my second choice and will allow you to get to clubs if partner is short in spades and has long clubs. However, the opponents are there and bidding 1♠ will allow them to find their possible fit. If you eventually get to 4♠, the opponents will have more information so they will know whether to double you, bid on or pass.

Cappelletti: "1♠—Again, don't preempt yourself out of clubs."

Hopkins: "1♠—I do have the boss suit."

Munday: "1♠—Holding spades, I feel less need to preempt here. I want to keep clubs in the picture and get some input from partner; neither of which might happen if I bid two or more spades. The opponents might regret finding their 4-4 heart fit. "

King: "1♠—Don't see any rush to bid more."

Schwartz: "1♠—Want to have a controlled auction as the opponents are unlikely to be as distributional. With the boss suit, I don't have to worry about being outbid. If partner doesn't fit spades, I am willing to defend."

Partner only needs a doubleton spade to fit spades and partner won't get aggressive with only two spades. You'll have to bid spades again in order to get partner to support you. If you later

bid clubs, partner with three clubs and two spades might not even give you a preference.

Adams: "1♠—I do not like preempting then bidding again, so if I want to involve partner in the decision making, I need to either pass or bid 1♠. 1♠ gives partner a chance to raise and pass lets the opponents preempt me."

If there is a practical bid which figures to be right more often than not, do the practical thing. 4♠ is a practical bid.

5) IMPs, You're Vulnerable

♠AQ86♥3♦AK82♣AQ94

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
	Pass	Pass	1♦
?????			

Action	*Score*	*Votes*	*Solvers*
1♠	100	5	21
Pass	90	4	15
Dbl	70	4	141
1NT	50	0	8
3NT	40	0	2
2♣	30	0	2
2♦	20	0	3
4♦	20	0	1
2NT	20	0	3

You have a perfect takeout double of 1♥, however, they opened 1♦. It is against my religion to make a takeout double when I have shortness in an unbid major assuming that there are other alternatives. Since pass, 1♠ and even 1NT are alternatives to a takeout double, there is no good reason to double. I've had good success overcalling on a four-card suit. What I need is a good suit and a good hand. Usually I'm short in the other major. I'm protected because if partner raises, I usually will be able to know how much support he has. If partner raises to 2♠, I'll assume he has only three spades and try for game in notrump. With four spades, he'll bid 3♠ to show a preemptive raise, or 3♦ to show a mixed raise. A mixed raise shows 7-9 support points with four spades. I'll bid game if partner shows four-card support.

Four experts join me and overcall 1♠.

Shore: "1♠—I don't double with a singleton in an unbid major if there's any alternative. Pass could work well if the opponents were vulnerable, but if responder passes then partner will surely pass also, thinking my RHO has the moose. 1♠ has the best chance to keep the auction alive and put me in a good position to describe my hand on the next round."

Meyer: "1♠—Similar to last month's three suited hand that had a flaw for making a takeout double along with a broken minor suit, here, with 19 prime points, and spades, I need to enter the auction rather than await developments, so I'll start with 1♠, hoping to perk up partner. Overcalling in a major has more to gain than doing the same in a poor minor suit, since opponents will be happy to sit on two-of-a-minor doubled, but they rarely tackle a one-level contract doubled. It is unwise to make a take-out double lacking both one's own good suit and hand, as well as support for the other major."

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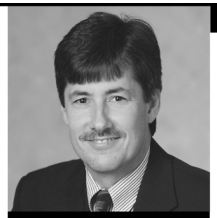
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Guthrie: "1♠—Your main options are double, 1NT, Pass, and 1♠. If you double or bid 1NT, it will be hard to inhibit partner from bidding hearts forever more. Pass is attractive, but if partner has read Lawrence, then he will realize that 1♠ can be something like this."

King: "1♠—Too much to pass and I hate to double with only a singleton heart."

Four experts pass. Pass might work if they respond 1♥, opener raises to 2♥ and then you can make a takeout double. The problem is that partner could have ♠xxx♥xxxx♦xxx♣xxx and you can make nothing or ♠Kxxx♥xxxx♦xx ♣J10x when you can make 4♠. By overcalling 1♠, you can usually find out if partner has four or more spades.

Parker: "Pass—We just had this hand last month and Robinson said to pass and then double if it goes 1♥ - pass - 2♥. So I do what he says."

Woolsey: "Pass—I will not make a takeout double with a singleton in an unbid major. No call is particularly happy, so let's see what happens. If it gets passed out here, that isn't necessarily bad."

Hopkins: "Pass—Non-vulnerable opponents and many experts with more than 30,000 masterpoints love to respond even when they don't have anything so I am very likely to have a chance to get into the auction later, hopefully to make a takeout double of Hearts."

Adams: "Pass—I can't double without hearts. With a weaker hand (no club Ace) I would bid 1♠. Here, partner is likely to have too little to bid and I will play 1♠ when it is wrong too often. Likely third seat has opened light and passing in tempo will get a heart or notrump bid out of west that I can double."

Four experts double. I guess their religion is different from mine.

Cappelletti: "Double—And hope to contain partner. Notrump is higher than hearts."

If partner has six hearts he'll insist on playing in hearts.

Munday: "Double—Strong enough to rebid notrump over the expected heart response though not ideal.

Over spade and notrump responses we will play at least game. Over clubs, I may let us out short of game. I have too much to pass at these colors. I don't mind the occasional four-card overcall but an unnecessary distortion with so much honor strength so 1♠ is out. If partner is broke with both majors I expect them to start with 1♠ allowing 2♥ at their next turn over a cue bid or notrump so the spade suit will not get lost."

Schwartz: "Double—Followed by minimum notrump if partner bids hearts. As much as I don't like doubling with a stiff major, I can't see anything else. If partner doesn't bid hearts, I am much better placed. Overcalling 1NT misses 4♠ when partner has four and some values outside hearts which he would never move over 1NT."

Landen: "Double—With a little less I would pass hoping to later be able to double showing both black suits. It seems like I have too much to take a chance on the hand being passed out. If partner bids hearts, I'll bid notrump. Partner, having already passed, is unlikely to jump to 4♥. If he does, good luck to him."

Avoid making a takeout double if you're short in an unbid major if there is any alternative.

Solvers' Scores

John Adams	2NT	Pass	4♥	1♠	Pass	440
Mike Cappelletti	2♠	2♦	Pass	1♠	Dbl	450
Nigel Guthrie	2♠	Dbl	2♥	2♠	1♠	390
Robbie Hopkins	2NT	Dbl	Pass	1♠	Pass	460
Fred King	3♣	Dbl	1♥	1♠	1♠	410
Steve Landen	2♠	2♦	3♥	3♠	Dbl	380
Hank Meyer	2NT	Pass	Pass	4♠	1♠	490
Jim Munday	2NT	2♣	Pass	1♠	Dbl	470
Steve Parker	2♠	2♦	3♥	3♠	Pass	400
Steve Robinson	2NT	2♣	4♥	4♠	1♠	480
Alan Schwartz	2♠	2♣	Pass	1♠	Dbl	460
Noble Shore	2♠	2♣	3♥	2♠	1♠	430
Kit Woolsey	2NT	2♦	Pass	3♠	Pass	440

2013 Trophy Race Standings

www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org

Updated by John Adams

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

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

This list is up to date through March 7, 2013. All points are subject to audit by the WBL Director.

Lovenberg

1	50.72	John Adams
2	46.28	Barry Falgout
3	45.23	Robert Bell
4	44.95	Steve Robinson
5	39.04	Brad Theurer
6	36.19	Fred King
7	31.12	Lloyd Rawley
8	27.36	Alfred Steinberg
9	25.48	Hadi Abushakra
10	25.03	Steven Schatzow
11	23.81	Michael Gill
12	23.75	Larry Kahn
	23.75	H John Edmonds
14	23.61	Alan Tenenbaum
15	23.05	David Ruderman
16	22.35	Peter Boyd
17	21.28	Noble Shore
18	21.16	Andrew Gofreed
19	21.14	Alexander Prairie
20	19.37	Clyde Kruskal
21	19.18	William Pettis
22	18.53	Earl Glickstein
23	18.21	Michael Richey
24	18.14	Richard Wegman
25	17.85	Donna Rogall

Izzy Cohen

1	25.48	Hadi Abushakra
2	21.14	Alexander Prairie
3	16.30	Ajit Thyagarajan
4	14.59	Walter Smith Jr
5	13.29	Bruce Roberts
6	13.02	Kitty Gottfried
7	11.80	Dale Sanders
8	11.36	Daniel Koch
9	11.33	Guillaume de Decker
10	11.25	Thomas Reckford
11	10.77	Jimmy Ritzenberg
12	10.07	Steven Fox
13	9.79	James Berry
14	9.66	Emerita Hayward
15	9.64	James Beller

Tubbs

1	9.60	Franny Van Dyke
	9.60	Ted Van Dyke
3	9.50	Peter Isard
	9.50	Margaret Cooke
5	8.30	Michael Kuehl
6	8.26	Mary Ourand
7	7.49	Judith Dausch
8	7.17	Jim Walsh
9	7.08	Charles Dearolf
10	6.99	Michael Watts

Woolridge

1	5.61	Jill Benson
2	5.09	Myron Goldstein
3	4.96	David Benson
	4.06	Johnny Marsh
	4.06	Jane Marsh
6	3.59	Mark Zweig
	3.59	Sara Mazie
8	3.52	Robert Linn
9	2.88	Tina Brinsfield
10	2.77	Shala Panbechi
	2.77	Mahmoud Katirai

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7:00pm Lesson

7:30 -10ish Game

Join Anytime

The cost is $5. This includes a 30 minute lesson followed by fun, enjoyable bridge for players with 0-20 masterpoints.

Lessons will cover slam bidding, weak twos, 3 level+ preempts, overcalls, takeout doubles, negative doubles, opening leads, and signaling. Each lesson will be tailored to the needs and interests of the players.

This is a great program for beginners as well as experienced social bridge players! Partners will be provided if needed. For more information, contact Bryan or Lois Geer at 301-236-0014 or by email at geerbridge@verizon.net.

~ ♣ ♦ ♥ ♠ ~

~ ♣ ♦ Schedule ♥ ♠ ~

Most games held at Ohr Kodesh

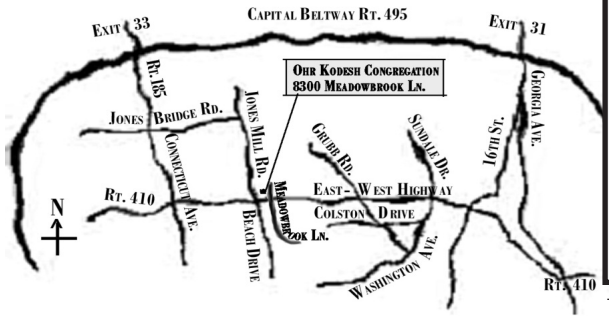
03/28/2013 .....StrataFlighted Grand National Teams
04/04/13** .....WBL Sectional
04/11/2013 .....StrataFlighted D6 Charity Pairs
04/18/2013 .....StrataFlighted Unit Championship
04/25/2013 .....StrataFlighted Unit Championship
05/02/2013 .....NVBA Sectional
05/09/2013 .....StrataFlighted Unit Championship
05/16/2013 .....Annual Meeting/StrataFlighted Membership
05/23/2013 .....StrataFlighted Unit Championship
05/30/2013 .....StrataFlighted BAM Teams; NLM Pairs
06/06/2013 .....StrataFlighted NAP; NLM Charity Pairs
06/13/2013 .....D6 STaC Stratified Pairs
06/20/2013 .....StrataFlighted Unit Championship
06/27/2013 .....StrataFlighted NAP
07/04/2013 .....**CLOSED** Reston Regional
07/11/2013 .....StrataFlighted Unit Championship
07/18/13** .....WBL Sectional

Check website for any schedule changes. **Bold dates** held at other locations: *****TBD; ******Kensington Town Hall/Armory.

For a Last-Minute Partner, to say you'll be late, to hear announcements (closings posted by 4pm), or to contact the Unit Game for any reason, call the WBL Cell Phone:

(301) 395-2760

Map to Ohr Kodesh Congregation



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

WBL Guaranteed Partner Program

You never need to miss the unit game because you don't have a partner at the last minute! The WBL has a guaranteed partner (GP) program for players who ***occasionally*** need a partner for the unit game. Here's how it works: we provide a standby partner; if an odd number of people in need of a partner arrive, we match the players as best we can, and the GP plays with the one who is left. (If there is an even number of players looking, the GP goes home). You can always get a game.

Players in search of partners should try to arrive between 7:00 and 7:15 (or call ahead). The partnership desk closes at 7:25. You can call the WBL cell phone **(301) 395-2760** at the last minute if are on your way and know you'll be at bit late.

To find a partner in the Open or B/C/D game at least a day in advance, contact **Barbara Doran** at UnitGamePartner@DistrictSix.org or barbd@star power.net, or call 301-608-0347 between 9am and 10pm. To find a partner for the NLM game, contact **Shawn Stringer** at 301-275-6363 or ShStringer@aol.com .

You might want to volunteer for the GP program yourself. It's a great way to meet people. If you play on the night you're the GP, you play free. If you volunteer, you receive a free play for any future unit game whether or not you play that night.

Partnerships Close at **7:25pm** to start the game promptly at 7:30pm. Call if you're late, or you may not be accommodated.

The Unit Game

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

Playing Temperature

A recent hot(!) topic has been the micro-climate in the playing area at Ohr Kodesh. There is a significant temperature gradient from one end of the room to the other, and the East end of the room is often a little cold. Until this is resolved, we may be moving sections around the room from week to week to share the burden, so do not be surprised if you find yourself playing in an unfamiliar spot.

Parking

Please continue to be considerate of congregants and residents when you park. The small lot behind the temple is strictly out of bounds to bridge players, as are the reserved spaces in the main lot. The police have received a number of complaints from residents about Thursday night cars blocking their driveways or parking too close to junctions, and are likely to issue tickets for violations.

Upcoming Sectionals

♠April 4-7, 2013, WBL, Kensington, MD

♣ May 2-5, 2013, NVBA, Fairfax, VA

♦ July 18-21, 2013, WBL, Kensington, MD

♥Sept 7-8, 2013, WBL, NLM, Kensington, MD

♠ September 19-22, 2013, NVBA, Fairfax, VA

♣ October 3-6, 2013, WBL, Kensington, MD

♦ October 24-27, 2013, NVBA, Fairfax, VA

♣January 2-5, 2014, WBL, Kensington, MD

♦ February 20-23, 2014, NVBA, Fairfax, VA

~ ♣ ♦ ♥ ♠ ~

Do you have any muscle or brains to spare?

The Washington Bridge League could use a little of either! In order to keep events exciting and entry fees low, the WBL relies on the goodness of our members to volunteer for small jobs at the Unit Game and Sectional Tournaments. Some jobs require brains while others require muscle. We'll be happy to employ either.

From setting up and breaking down tables, to publicity and events development, a little effort from you will make our bridge community even better. Busy schedule? No worries. Most volunteer assignments take only 15 minutes to 1 hour a month.

Here's how to help:

1. Reply by email, phone or in person if you are willing to help in any way.

2. Please indicate if you can offer any special skills (such as marketing or a strong back).

3. Someone will contact you shortly with a choice of assignments you can pick from.

Thank you in advance for any assistance you can provide.

Barbara Summers, Volunteer Coordinator, 301-598-5838, jimbarb1184@aol.com,

Committee Action #78

by Rich Colker, rcolker@gmail.com

The following case, involving potential misinformation, deals a pair's responsibility to disclose to the opponents "extended" information about their system which might have affected their choice of calls (and the opponents' subsequent actions) and the timing of such disclosure. It arose in the first final session of the Wernher Open Pairs at the 2012 Summer NABCs in Philadelphia.

Bd: 1; Vul: None; Dlr: North

	♠ 104 ♥ J107 ♦ J10 ♣ 976432	
♠ AK7 ♥ K53 ♦ AQ873 ♣ J5		♠ Q83 ♥ A864 ♦ K962 ♣ A10
	♠ J9652 ♥ Q92 ♦ 54 ♣ KQ8	

West	North	East	South
	Pass	1♦	Pass
2♣[1]	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♦	Pass	3♥	Pass
3♠	Pass	3NT	Pass
4♦	Pass	4♥	Pass
6♦	Pass	Pass	Pass

[1] Natural, game forcing

South led the ♠2, after which East made 6♦ (with the help of the three-three heart split); +920 for E/W. The Director was called and told that South had asked about the auction prior to making his opening lead and was told only that 2♣ was natural and game forcing. After dummy appeared it was disclosed that E/W's system had no forcing diamond raise. The Directors ruled that E/W were not required to inform their opponents about the lack of a forcing diamond raise pursuant to Law 20F.1: "[opponents are] entitled to know about calls actually made, about relevant alternative calls available that were not made, and about relevant inferences from the choice of action where these are matters of partnership understanding." Consequently, the Directors allowed the table result of 6♦ making six to stand.

N/S appealed the Directors' ruling (East did not attend the hearing). They told the Committee that if they had known that E/W had no forcing diamond raise in their system, and that that might require the manufacture of a 2♣ response (the only two-over-one GF available) to show a forcing diamond raise, South would have been able to consider more seriously the possibility of leading the ♣K. However, the non-Alert of the bid and its subsequent description as natural made serious consideration of the club lead less likely. West told the Committee that he did not think he owed his opponents a correction of his partner's explanation because basically it was a correct explanation, except for the fact that 2♣ can occasionally be a manufactured response.

This would be a good time to consider how you would decide this case before reading on.

The directing staff allowed the Appeals Committee to consider the possibility that the 2♣ might have been Alertable since they had been split on the issue in making their ruling. The Committee considered the definitions listed on the ACBL General Convention Chart, specifically the section that dealt with "natural" responses: "a response is natural, if, by agreement, in a minor, it shows three or more cards in that suit…" It was their opinion that since the definition uses the word "shows" rather than "promises" or "guaran-

...continued on p. 18

Committee Action, *cont. from p. 17...*

tees" it provides for rare or occasional decisions to deviate from partner's expectation. Accordingly, this 2♣ bid was natural insofar as it "showed" at least three clubs (even though it was a witting manufacture without three clubs), and was therefore not Alertable.

However, the Committee also believed that the explanation of the 2♣ bid by East was inadequate since it merely described the bid as natural and did not provide the information that E/W's system might compel the bid to be manufactured on occasion with fewer than three clubs. At the time of the bid 2♣ was properly presumed to be natural. But by the end of the auction it was clear that this was an auction where a he 2♣ response might be suspect, and it was East's responsibility to reveal that fact. When South requested information about the 2♣ bid, describing it as natural did not fulfill East's obligation to provide a complete description. A corresponding obligation accrued to West when he knew that East's description was incomplete and did not comport with his hand. Hence, there was misinformation.

Given the above, the Committee discussed at length the likelihood that South would have led a club had he been given a more complete explanation of E/W's methods. They decided that it was both "at all probable" and "likely" that South would have led a club, and therefore adjusted the score for both sides to 6♦ by East down one, +50 for N/S.

Players are responsible for disclosing their agreements to the opponents either through Alerts (when required), or through their answers to the opponents' questions, or by volunteering relevant system information not readily apparent during the auction at their first legal opportunity to do so (at the end of the auction for the declaring side; at the end of play for the defenders). Here E/W did not fulfil their obligations of complete/adequate disclosure and thus were not allowed to keep their favorable result once it was decided that their opponents might have done better had a more proper disclosure been made. So, how do your partnerships measure up to your obligations?

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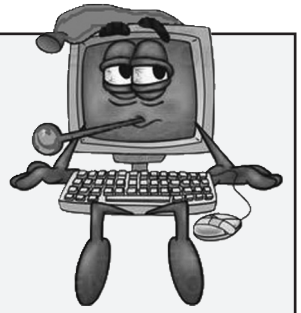

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.....May 16, 2013.....Annual Meeting.....Elections.....and Membership Game.....

This year's Annual Meeting and Elections will be held on Thursday, May 16, at Ohr Kodesh, the site of our Unit Game, prior to play. There will be complimentary desserts at 6:30 p.m. The meeting and elections will take place at approximately 7:00 p.m. All WBL members whose dues are paid as of April 1 are eligible to vote. The congregation will be open early for ballot casting to those players who will be unable to attend the elections. Copies of the WBL Policies and Treasurer's Report will also be available. A Membership Game will begin when the meeting concludes.

2012 Masterpoint Races

During the evening, we will recognize our 2012 Mini-McKenney and Ace of Clubs winners for their achievements.

Elections

The election portion of the meeting will begin with our Elections Chairperson, Jim Allen, introducing the candidates before they each speak briefly to the membership. Nominations will be accepted from the floor. The four officer positions are one-year terms. The three Unit Director positions are two-year terms.

Candidate
for President

Richard Ferrin has been a WBL member since 1993. He has participated regularly in the Unit Game and other WBL events for the past 13 years. Prior to his election as President last year, he served for three years as Vice President, and five years as WBL Secretary. If elected, he would focus on supporting efforts to continue growth in the WBL Unit Game, sectionals, and the unit round robin and unit knockouts, by striving to provide a playing environment that is competitive but friendly, and appeals to players of all calibers. Richard is counsel with the law firm Drinker Biddle & Reath. His practice focuses on import remedies and trade regulation.

Candidate
for Vice-President

Ellen Cherniavsky, who holds a Ph.D. in Operations Research, quit playing duplicate bridge after college to pursue graduate studies and have a family. Seventeen years ago, she returned to the tournament scene. Starting with her ongoing participation as a member of the Conduct & Ethics Committee in 2004, which she now chairs, she has continuously contributed to the WBL as a volunteer.

A Board member since 2006, she

served as Secretary for three years, chairs the Club Relations Committee, and has acted as the Board's GNT and NAP coordinator since 2009. If re-elected Vice-President, she would be honored to hold that position as well as to continue serving in the other capacities. Her focus as Vice-President would be to insure enjoyment of the game for all players: by obtaining and keeping good playing sites (she initiated the contact that led to us getting back to Ohr Kodesh); making sure the infrastructure (dealing machine, cards, tables, bidding boxes) is well maintained; and heeding players' inputs on the forms of game they prefer.

Candidate for Secretary

Linda Marshall has been a WBL member since 2003, when she started playing bridge again after learning from friends in college and then taking a long break from bridge to practice law and raise two boys. She has participated regularly in WBL activities since 2005.

Linda joined the WBL board in 2007. In addition to serving as secretary, she would like to continue her service on the board to support WBL activities in a variety of ways, to help to attract, retain, and support newer players, and to help the WBL to make bridge more enjoyable for all of its members. In particular, she would like to continue her work as co-chair of the mentor committee, which provides volunteer mentors for non-life masters who want advice. Linda has been an attorney with the Internal Revenue Service for 24 years.

Candidate for Treasurer

Rose Berman began to play bridge about 27 years ago, when she met her husband Don. Her family had always played cards, but not bridge. She's been a member of the WBL for over 25 years, and has played in the Unit game most Thursdays. Rose appreciates being a member of a well-run unit with a competitive game, and hopes to contribute whatever she can to the smooth running of the Unit.

She grew up in Pittsburgh, and attended Pitt. After moving to this area in the late 70s, Rose attended graduate school at George Mason. She worked for many years in various Social Service jobs, but burned out and turned to accounting. For over 20 years, she has as an accountant for a small printing business. She is delighted to report that she has recently retired.

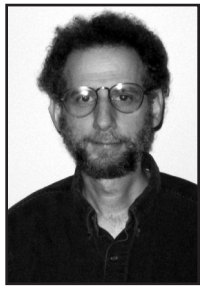
Rose is a club director, and regularly directs at the Laurel Bridge Club.

If elected, Rose hopes to provide accurate and timely financial information to the Board and to the Unit as a whole.

Candidate for the Board

Carole Banks, CPA, is Director of Finance and Internal Control for the Department of Treasury. She has been a member of the WBL since 2000. Carole's enthusiasm for bridge stems from her mother who was a long-time duplicate bridge player and member of the American Bridge Association (ABA). Carole began playing bridge at an "Easy Bridge" class taught by Charlie Williams and Leslie Shafer, and has been "hooked" ever since. She says, "Since playing bridge, I have gained a new family of close friends and strong supporters." Carole strongly supports efforts that promote new members of all ages, while strengthening the enthusiasm and commitment of the WBL's existing membership base.

Candidate for the Board



Clyde Kruskal is an Associate Professor of Computer Science at the University of Maryland. He doesn't remember ever learning how to play bridge, but it was sometime as a young child. He has one step child, Eric Foskett, who used to play and direct. His three younger children (triplets), Justin, Rebecca and Alexander, used to caddy. Once in a while, he could even drag them out to a game. Clyde is happy to be an insane voice on a sane board.

Candidate for the Board

Bob Stearns is a retired Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army and college professor. He learned bridge with his brother when he was eight years old; with over 60 years of bridge experience, why are there still so many mistakes? He began playing with the WBL in 1991 when old friend Ben Laden told him it was time to "get serious." Since then he has learned that "getting serious" really means to make sure that everyone is having as much fun as possible and that is how he will approach his duties as a board member.

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

the player has met eligibility requirements.

Open Leaders

	Player	Points	
1	Steve Robinson	131.06	*
2	Peter Boyd	126.14	*
3	Mark Shaw	110.39	*
4	Robert Bell	103.38	*
5	William Cole	89.19	*
6	Fred King	87.50	
7	Ai-Tai Lo	86.39	*
8	Sylvia Shi	84.73	
9	Steven Schatzow	80.99	*
10	Alexander Prairie	75.42	
11	Barry Falgout	72.36	*
12	William Pettis	72.12	
13	Kenneth Davis	68.20	*
14	John Adams	62.21	
15	Bob Boyd	57.12	
16	David Ruderman	55.64	
17	Alan Schwartz	55.38	
18	Clyde Kruskal	55.34	
19	Noble Shore	54.06	
20	Richard Wegman	52.54	

...continued on p. 26

ADVERTISE?

Advertisements are welcome in the *WBL Bulletin.* We distribute approximately 2,000 copies of each issue, every other month. Advertising rates (as of 01/01/09) are:

$125 for a full page ad

$75 for a half page ad

$50 for a quarter page ad

$25 for an eighth page ad

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

WBL
NLMaster Sectional

March 9-10, 2013

Top Ten Cumulative Point Winners

All Players

1/2	6.56	*Gail Harrison*
1/2	6.56	*Kathleen Zellmer*
3/4	5.24	Ron Sutter
3/4	5.24	Yuen De Anda
5	5.19	David Marshall
6/7	4.88	Robert Linn
6/7	4.88	Susan Ward
8/11	4.55	Myron Goldstein
8/11	4.55	Julie Thomas
8/11	4.55	Ollie Thomas
8/11	4.55	Terry Klein

Players with fewer than 200 masterpoints

1/2	6.56	*Gail Harrison*
1/2	6.56	*Kathleen Zellmer*
3/4	4.88	Robert Linn
3/4	4.88	Susan Ward
5/6	4.55	Myron Goldstein
5/6	4.55	Terry Klein
7	4.06	Charles Dearolf
8/9	3.41	Radu Tunsanu
8/9	3.41	Samuel Kaplan
10/11	3.41	Jim Walsh
10/11	3.41	Daniela Tunsanu

Players with fewer than 100 masterpoints

1	4.88	*Robert Linn*
2/3	4.55	Myron Goldstein
2/3	4.55	Terry Klein
4	4.06	Charles Dearolf
5/6	3.41	Radu Tunsanu
5/6	3.41	Daniela Tunsanu
7	3.01	Richard Galleher
8/9	2.36	Ellen Herring
8/9	2.36	Bruce Harris
10/11	1.92	Johnny Marsh
10/11	1.92	Jane Marsh

Players with fewer than 50 masterpoints

1	4.88	*Robert Linn*
2	4.55	Myron Goldstein
3/4	3.41	Daniela Tunsanu
3/4	3.41	Radu Tunsanu
5	3.01	Richard Galleher
6/7	2.36	Ellen Herring
6/7	2.36	Bruce Harris
8	1.87	David Benson
9	1.79	David Solomon
10	1.62	Barbara Gifford

—Results—

SATURDAY MORNING PAIRS

Stratum A, 27.0 Tables / Based on 32 Tables

1	Terry Klein - Myron Goldstein	66.54%
2	Daniela Tunsanu - Radu Tunsanu	62.12%
3	Terry Coates - John Horner	61.17%
4	Jane Marsh - Johnny Marsh	60.42%
5	Jean Sobieski - Dennis Serpico	60.23%
6	Kellen Leister - Wayne Bardsley	59.12%

SATURDAY MORNING PAIRS

Stratum B, 19.0 Tables

1	Terry Klein - Myron Goldstein	66.54%
2	Daniela Tunsanu - Radu Tunsanu	62.12%
3	Terry Coates - John Horner	61.17%
4	Jane Marsh - Johnny Marsh	60.42%
5	Hugh McNaughton - Kathleen Crandall	57.30%
6	David Marshall - Charles Dearolf	57.16%

SATURDAY MORNING PAIRS

Stratum C, 8.5 Tables

1	Terry Klein - Myron Goldstein	66.54%
2	Daniela Tunsanu - Radu Tunsanu	62.12%
3	Jane Marsh - Johnny Marsh	60.42%
4	Jeffrey Kayden - Mark Eisenstadt	54.92%
5	Mary Ourand - Mickey Kelley	54.92%

SATURDAY MORNING 49ERS

Stratum A, 5.0 Tables

1	Nancy Ferris - Judith Riggs	62.00%
2	Stephen Baldwin - Kate Baldwin	57.00%
3	Judy Retchin - Gail Klein	53.00%
4	Deloris Colick - Joe Colick	51.00%

SATURDAY MORNING 49ERS

Stratum B, 4.0 Tables

1	Stephen Baldwin - Kate Baldwin	57.00%
2	Judy Retchin - Gail Klein	53.00%
3	Deloris Colick - Joe Colick	51.00%

SATURDAY AFTERNOON PAIRS

Stratum A, 22.5 Tables

1	Robert Linn - Susan Ward	71.53%
2	Yuen De Anda - Ron Sutter	66.67%
3	Gail Harrison - Kathleen Zellmer	65.48%
4	Stephen Osiecki - Patrick Frye	60.71%
5	David Marshall - Michael Kuehl	58.63%
6	Barbara Gifford - David Solomon	56.37%

SATURDAY AFTERNOON PAIRS

Stratum B, 15.0 Tables

1	Robert Linn - Susan Ward	71.53%
2	Gail Harrison - Kathleen Zellmer	65.48%
3	Barbara Gifford - David Solomon	56.37%
4	Deborah Cobb - Ed Krest	55.95%
5	Lorne Ginn - Linda Wish	55.65%
6	Yasmin Jiwa - Nancy Hale	55.65%

SATURDAY AFTERNOON PAIRS

Stratum C, 8.5 Tables

1	Barbara Gifford - David Solomon	56.37%
2	Lorne Ginn - Linda Wish	55.65%
3	Yasmin Jiwa - Nancy Hale	55.65%
4	Alexander Gretsinger - Jane Dolkart	54.76%
5	Cheri Hayes - Tina Brinsfield	54.42%

SUNDAY SWISS

Stratum A, 18 Tables

1	Gail Harrison - Kathleen Zellmer - Ollie Thomas - Julie Thomas	93.00
2	David Marshall - Jim Walsh - Charles Dearolf - Samuel Kaplan	81.00
3	Ron Sutter - Yuen De Anda - Mike Ladd - Betty Ladd	75.00
4	Thomas Pratt - Nathalie Kaye - Mary Krenytzky - William Leishear	68.00
5	Richard Galleher - Odessa Morton - Ellen Herring - Bruce Harris	66.00

SUNDAY SWISS

Stratum B, 12 Tables

1	David Marshall - Jim Walsh - Charles Dearolf - Samuel Kaplan	81.00
2	Richard Galleher - Odessa Morton - Ellen Herring - Bruce Harris	66.00
3	John Cook - Patricia Cook - Diane Cohen - Henry Wilson	64.00
4	Andrew Jacknain - Prabhakar Tamboli - Joseph Abita - Rosemary Kuntz	63.00

SUNDAY SWISS

Stratum C, 5 Tables

1	Richard Galleher - Odessa Morton - Ellen Herring - Bruce Harris	66.00
2	David Benson - Jill Benson - Michael Barth - Richard McMillan Jr	62.00

Away from the Table, #1: Larry Kahn

by Fred King, fredmking@gmail.com

This is one in an occasional series of articles that will highlight WBL members who lead interesting lives away from the bridge table. Contributions about other members are welcome.

When asked to name the world champions in the WBL, most people can name Beth Palmer or Steve Robinson and Peter Boyd, but how many would name Larry Kahn? Many people know Larry only by the provocative tee shirts that he sometimes wears. (E.g. "It Only Takes One Child to Raze a Village") Yet Larry is a 100 times world and national champion in both singles and doubles—oh not in bridge maybe, but in tiddlywinks. What, there are championships in tiddlywinks!? Isn't that a child's game where you try to snap pieces of plastic into a cup? That may be the game most of us know, but it is to the adult game as backyard badminton is to the Olympic sport. A while ago I went by Larry's house where the North American Championships were being held. I knew it was his house because the mat on the front porch said "Go Away", but I knocked and went in anyway. Downstairs were three 3'x6' tables with seven people standing around them ready for the next games.

The play was very intense and involves not only manual ability to used specialized chips to shoot the winks either into the cup in the center of the table, but also into strategic locations on the table and often onto your opponents' winks. Strategy is a major part of the game and players looked like chess players studying their positions. The children's game was first patented in 1888, but tournament play only began in 1955. This first took off in England, but the North American Tiddlywinks Association was founded in 1966-67 and there has been spirited cross-Atlantic competition since then. Larry has traveled often to England where he has won 22 world singles titles and 17 world doubles titles. He became interested in winks in the fall of 1971 as a freshman at MIT.

Tiddlywinks is not Larry's only interest outside bridge. He is also a Fairfax County master gardener which is very evident from visiting his home and looking at his Facebook page. He is also an ultimate Frisbee player. So like many of us, he has an interesting life away from the bridge table.

♠ Fairfax, VA ♣ MAY 2-5, 2013 ♦

NORTHERN VIRGINIA BRIDGE ASSOCIATION

SPRING SECTIONAL TOURNAMENT

The Arlington/Fairfax Elks Lodge #2188

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

THURSDAY, MAY 2

STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS (2000+/2000/750) & 299ER PAIRS (300/200/100) . . . . . .10:30 a.m.
Norma's Game: K of C Hall, 5115 Little Falls Rd., Arlington, VA, 703-892-1292
Evening games at: NVBA: Beth El Hebrew Congregation, 3830 Seminary Road, Alexandria, VA or WBL: Ohr Kodesh Congregation, 8300 Meadowbrook Ln, Chevy Chase, MD — E-W Hwy 410 E., left Meadowbrook, left Freyman, lot on left.—No outside food.

	NVBA (Beth El)	WBL
Intermediate/Newcomer Lecture . . . . . .6:30 p.m.		
STRATAFLIGHTED OPEN PAIRS (A/X=3000+/3000; B/C=2000/750)	. . .7:00 p.m.	. . . .7:30 p.m.
NVBA 199ER PAIRS (200/100/50/20); WBL NLM PAIRS (NLM/100/50)	. .7:00 p.m.	. . . .7:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, MAY 3

NEW *Gene's Friday Morning Game at KOCH* . . . . . .9:30 a.m.
STRATIFIED OPEN (2000+/2000/750) & 299ER (300/200/100) PAIRS
...REST OF TOURNAMENT AT ELKS LODGE...
Intermediate/Newcomer Lecture . . . . . .1:15 p.m.
STRATAFLIGHTED A/X (3000+/3000) & B/C (2000/750) PAIRS 2 p.m.
299ER PAIRS (300/200/100) & 49ER PAIRS (50/20/5) . . . . . .2 p.m.
TRIPLE NICKEL SWISS—*5 rounds, 5 boards, 5 minutes a board* . .7:30 p.m.
299ER PAIRS (300/200/100) . . . . . .7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, MAY 4

STRATAFLIGHTED A/X (3000+/3000) OR B/C (2000/750) PAIRS 9:30 a.m.
299ER PAIRS (300/200/100) and 49ER PAIRS (50/20) . . . . . .9:30 a.m.
NEWCOMER PAIRS (0-5) . . . . . .9:30 a.m.
Intermediate/Newcomer Lecture . . . . . .1:15 p.m.
ALL events on Sat. afternoon & evening award REGIONALLY RATED SILVER POINTS at no additional cost to you!-Details at www.nvba.org.
BRACKETED COMPACT KO . . . . . .2 and 7:30 p.m.
4 12-board matches start Sat aft—end Sat eve. All teams play 1st 2 matches.
STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS (2000+/2000/750; Single session) . . . .2 p.m.
299ER PAIRS (300/200/100) and 49ER PAIRS (50/20/5) . . . . . .2 p.m.
STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS (2000+/2000/750) . . . . . .7:30 p.m.
299ER PAIRS (300/200/100) . . . . . .7:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, MAY 5

FLIGHTS A/X (5000+/5000) SWISS TEAMS . . . . . .11 a.m. & TBA
BRACKETED FLIGHT B TEAMS (no single player >2000) . . .11 a.m. & TBA
B Teams Bracketed by Total Team Masterpoints: three overall places in each.
A/X & B Swiss: 2-session events, a brief break & food available on-site.
299ER SWISS TEAMS (300/200/100) (Single session) . . . . . .11:00 a.m.
49ER SWISS TEAMS (50/20/5) (Single session) . . . . . .11:00 a.m.
299ER SWISS TEAMS (300/200/100) (Single session) . . . . . .3:15 p.m.

Plenty of free parking! On-site snack bar plus lots of free treats! Many great restaurants nearby!

Championship Events and a Full Schedule of 299er Events for Novice and Intermediate Players!
*Players with **0-5** Masterpoints play **FREE** in **ALL** games!*

Tournament Chair
Margot Hennings,
703-560-0245

Partnership Chair
Mary Ann Kral,
703-608-6846

Mid-Chart Conventions permitted in all A/X Events

Next NVBA Sectional Sept 19-22 at Arlington/ Fairfax Elks Lodge (Thurs at Beth El or Ohr Kodesh (not at Elks))

www.nvba.org

DIRECTIONS: From DC, Arlington, and the Beltway, head west on Rte 50/Arlington Boulevard about one mile outside Beltway. Turn left at Javier Road (2nd stoplight after intersection of 50 & 495). Take immediate right onto access road that runs parallel to Rte 50. Elks Lodge is two buildings down on left-park on side and in rear. From Fairfax, head East on Rte 50 past Prosperity Avenue-Prosperity Medical Center will be on right. Between 1st and 2nd lights after Prosperity, turn right into access road that runs parallel to Rte 50. Look for Elks Lodge immediately on right- park on side and in rear.

The WBL Online

The Washington Bridge League is providing two new online services:

1. The WBL Online Bulletin Board

On an OPT IN basis only, this service will include an online directory of members. Send any of the following information that you're willing to have posted to the WBL webmaster, Don Berman, at don.berman@verizon.net or call him at 301-776-3581.

Name, Email Address, up to two Phone Numbers, ACBL Number

2. The WBL Online Partnership Desk

Check it out at washingtonbridgeleague.org Contact Clyde Kruskal at cpkfam@gmail.com or 301-395-0480 with any questions.

Bring a Friend to the 0-20 or NLM Unit Game!

Bring a new player (who has not previously played at the WBL) to the Unit Game to play in the 0-20 or NLM game and you both will play free that evening.

Bits & Pieces, *cont. from p. 21...*

NonLM Leaders

	Player	Points	
1	Thomas Jennings	39.12	
2	James Gerding	27.65	*
3	Wayne Bardsley	25.87	
4	Sidney Graves	23.60	*
5	Ron Sutter	23.19	*
6	Yuen De Anda	23.19	*
7	Julie Thomas	22.19	*
8	Ollie Thomas	22.19	*
9	Kellen Leister	22.14	*
10	Carolyn Baird	21.76	*
11	Jeffrey Halle	20.86	*
12	Richard Bingham	19.88	
13	Donna Sinrud	19.20	
14	Barbara Sadick	19.09	
15	Eric Poskanzer	19.01	
16	John Gauss	18.86	*
17	Jim Walsh	18.23	
18	George Parkins	17.87	
19	Erik Kitagawa	17.82	
20	John Merold	17.82	

ALL WAYS TRAVEL INVITES YOU TO JOIN US ON A BRIDGE CRUISE ABOARD RIVIERA APRIL 7, 2014

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*All advertised fares, offers and any applicable shipboard credits, upgrades or special amenities shown are per person based on double occupancy unless otherwise indicated, are subject to availability at time of booking, may not be combinable with other offers or loyalty program benefits, are capacity controlled and may be withdrawn without prior notice or remain in effect after the expiration date. All fares listed are in U.S. dollars, per person, based on double occupancy and include Non-Commissionable Fares. Cruise-related government fees and taxes are included. For itineraries shown with multiple departures, sailing prices may vary and any "Fares From" pricing is based on Category F unless otherwise indicated. 2 for 1, Early Booking Savings and Special Offer fares are based on published Full Brochure Fares. Full Brochure Fares may not have resulted in actual sales in all cabin categories, may not have been in effect during the last 90 days and do not include Personal Charges and Optional Facilities and Services Fees as defined in the Terms and Conditions of the Guest Ticket Contract which may be viewed at OceaniaCruises.com. Full Brochure Fares are cruise only. "Free Airfare" promotion does not include ground transfers and applies to economy, round-trip flights only from the following Oceania Cruises Primary Air Gateways: ATL, BOS, CLT, DCA, DEN, DFW, EWR, HNL, IAH, IAD, JFK, LAX, MCO, MIA, ORD, PHL, PHX, SAN, SAV, SEA, SFO, TPA, YOW, YUL, YVR,YYZ. Airfare is available from all other U.S. & Canadian gateways at an additional charge. Any advertised fares that include the "Free Airfare" promotion include airline fees, surcharges and all government taxes. Some airline-imposed personal charges, including but not limited to baggage, priority boarding and special seating, may apply. For details visit exploreflightfees.com. Oceania Cruises reserves the right to correct errors or omissions and to change any and all fares, fees and surcharges at any time. Additional terms and conditions may apply. Complete Terms and Conditions may be found in the Guest Ticket Contract. Ships' Registry: Marshall Islands. PRO28430

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Paid Advertisement

Come Join the 2013 WBL Round Robin! Sign up by May 16

It's time to get a round robin team together. Round Robin Coordinator, Steve Robinson, will gladly help you to form or join a team of four to six players to play in the A/X or B/C/D Flights. The 0-300 Flight Coordinator, Bryan Geer will do likewise. League play runs from May 16th through the summer to determine qualifiers for the knockout portion of the event. This fun event can be played in a relaxed home setting or at a club. Sign up with Steve Robinson by phone: (703) 379-4371, by email: robinswr@erols.com, or use the entry form to sign up by mail or in person. *First place in each flight will wins their entry fee back!*

Saturday 0-NLM Game & Mini-Lesson

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

Mini-Lesson: Saturdays, 12:30 pm
0-NLM Game: 1:00 pm
Cost: $6.00
Location: St. James Episcopal Church
11815 Seven Locks Road
Directions: Take Rt 270 to Exit 4B (from either direction) Montrose Road. This will take you to Seven Locks Road. Left on Seven Locks Rd 3 blocks. St James Church is on the left (going south), between Post Oak and Gainsboro Rd. There are two buildings, the game and mini-lesson are in the building on the left facing the church. There is plenty of parking in the rear, and a rear entrance to the building (1 flight of stairs if you enter from the rear of the building).

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

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

2013 WBL Round Robin Entry Form

Enclose check *(made out to the WBL)* for $50 for $50 for Flight A/X, $40 for Flights B/C/D or the 0-300 Flight which will all be stratified or bracketed depending on the number of entries and number of teams that fall into different brackets. The Individuals or pairs playing in Flight A/X or Flight B/C/D should contact Steve Robinson who will help you form a team. Those looking for teammates in the 0-300 Flight should contact the 0-300 Coordinator, Bryan Geer at bgeer@verizon.net.

All Flights: Return entry and entry fee by May 16 to
Steve Robinson, 2891 Abingdon St. #A2, Arlington, Virginia 22206-1329

☐ Open (A/X) Flight ☐ Flight B/C/D

Name	*ACBL #*	*E-Mail Address*
_____, *captain*	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
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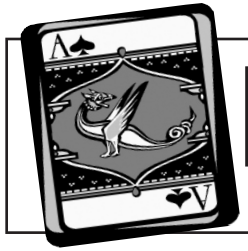

NL MasterPointers

by I/N Columnists: Ron Zucker, ron@motherzucker.com
Shawn Stringer, ShStringer@aol.com

Minor suit bidding 3: How high?

Two key elements of successful bidding include knowing what strain and how high to bid. Last month we discussed various strains that Opener can rebid after an auction that has begun 1m – P – 1M. These strains include 1) rebidding the minor; 2) rebidding some number of NoTrump; 3) supporting responder's major; and 4) bidding a new suit. Now, we will discuss various levels of strength the opener can show with his rebid – in other words, how HIGH to bid.

In all hands, assume the bidding has gone 1♣ – P – 1♥ – P:

1) Rebidding your minor

a. A rebid of 2♣ shows a six+ card suit and 11 to a bad 15 HCP.

   Ideally your points are in your long suit, because partner can pass with a minimum hand, and may be very short in your suit. A typical hand would be ♠Qxx ♥xx ♦Ax ♣AQTxxx. Even opposite a singleton club, you have a shot. That is why you should have a six card suit to rebid it. Make sure to discuss with partner if and when a new suit by responder is forcing.

b. A rebid of 3♣ shows a hand stronger than the two-level rebid, but not enough to force to game. It shows a six+ card suit and a good 15-18 HCP. Usually you will have a singleton somewhere – otherwise with 18 HCP you could jump to 2NT. Remember that with honors in the other suits, partner may try 3NT, so try to have a decent suit when you jump to the 3-level. Partner will not be happy when dummy comes down with ♣A98643, but sometimes you have no choice but to jump to 3♣ to show your overall strength.

2) Rebidding NT

a. 1NT – a rebid of 1NT shows a typical flat opening hand such as ♠Kx ♥AJxx ♦Qxx ♣QJxx, a balanced 13 count. This rebid always shows a hand with fewer HCP than a 1NT opening – namely 12-14 HCP.

b. 2NT – Because the ranges for 1NT (15-17 HCP) and 2NT (20-21) are so well defined, opening 1♣ and rebidding 2NT shows the range in between (18 or 19 HCP) and balanced distribution (including 3226 shape with points in your short suits.)

c. 3NT – make sure to discuss with your partner to avoid surprises at the table. Many people play that a rebid of 3NT shows seven or more solid cards in clubs with an outside ace or (sometimes) king. It is a hand too good to open 3♣, but with the long, solid minor, 3NT is often the best contract as long as partner has some outside stoppers.

3) Raising partner's major

a. 2♥ – a raise to 2♥ shows about 12-15 playing points (counting distribution), a hand such as ♠Kxx ♥AJxx ♦xx ♣KQxx.

b. 3♥ – a jump to the 3-level shows about 16-18 playing points. Change the above hand just slightly to ♠KJxx ♥AJxx ♦x ♣KQxx, and you are too good to bid 2♥, so you must jump to 3♥. Opposite as little as ♠Qx ♥Kxxxx ♦xxx ♣Jxx you have a great chance to make game.

c. 4♥ – With 19 or more playing points, either jump to game or, if you are playing splinters and have a singleton or void, show it a the 4-level. Partner will be able to judge if you are in slam territory. Holding ♠AQ ♥AQxx ♦xx ♣AQJxx, you do not want to miss game.

With these ranges in mind, let's look at a few hands. In all of these, you opened 1♣ and partner responded 1♠. You hold:

♠ T ♥ KJ52 ♦ Q9 ♣ AQJ532	*Rebid 2♣.* You have 13 HCP, and can't count the stiff spade as an asset when it's partner's suit. With the same hand, except the ♣2 is in with the diamonds, you have a tough rebid. Discuss with partner which lie to tell – 1N (which should show two spades) or 2♣ (which should promise six clubs.)
♠ T ♥ KQ52 ♦ Ax ♣ AQJ532	*Rebid 3♣.* You hope partner can bid something to suggest 3NT, and will probably bid 3NT if partner doesn't pass.
♠ 96 ♥ K87 ♦ A43 ♣ KQJ63	*Rebid 1NT.* 13 HCP and values in diamonds and hearts. Perfect.
♠ 86 ♥ AQJ ♦ AQ6 ♣ AJT76	*Rebid 2NT.* 18 HCP, a balanced hand, and values in the unbid suits.
♠ 84 ♥ AT ♦ J5 ♣ AKQJ832	*Rebid 3NT.* A long, solid club suit with a side ace. Partner can pass with ♠ATxxx ♥xxxx ♦Kxx ♣x, and you will have found your 22 HCP game.
♠ KJ52 ♥ QT ♦ Q53 ♣ AJ84	*Rebid 2♠.* You have a flat hand with four spades and 13 HCP. If you made the ♦5 the ♦A, then you would rebid 3♠.

A Difficult Bid/Rebid Situation:

One of the hand patterns that stumps many players is a hand with four diamonds, five clubs and 3-1 in the majors. If you hold ♠8 ♥QT3 ♦KQJ5 ♣AJ864, with 13 HCP, you certainly want to open the bidding. Say you open 1♣, and partner responds 1♠, showing six or more HCP and four or more spades. Based the guidelines in our last article, you have no good rebid. You don't want to rebid 1NT with a singleton spade, and you don't want to rebid 2♣ without a sixth club. You are not strong enough to bid 2♦.

There are three "standard" approaches to this problem. Some people will go ahead and rebid 1NT with a singleton in partner's suit. Others will rebid 2♣ with only five of them. Still others open this hand 1♦ and rebid 2♣ over 1♠. While we won't tell you that any of these is wrong, and each approach has adherents among some of the best players, we can say that option two, rebidding 2♣ with only five of them, is the rarest among expert players. We would both open 1♦, planning to rebid 2♣. We accept the fact that partner will not be sure of our minor suit shape as the lesser of all evils.

Next month, we'll cover Opener's rebid of a new suit – reverses and jump shifts.

Please feel free to email Ron or Shawn with any questions.

WBL Solvers' Club's New Problems

1) IMPs, You're Vulnerable

♠K9654♥KQJ1032♦54♣-

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
		1♥	1♠
????			

2) IMPs, None Vulnerable

♠AKQ10♥J974♦-♣Q7432

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
	1♥	Pass	Pass
????			

3) IMPs, None Vulnerable

♠AKQ54♥K76♦A873♣2

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♠	Pass
????			

4) IMPs, None Vulnerable

♠543♥AKJ♦543♣KJ42

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
		1♦	Pass
2♣	2♠	3♣	Pass
????			

5) IMPs, Both Vulnerable

♠K874♥A10♦AQ10♣Q954

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
		1♦	1♠
????			

Return answers by May 2 to:
Steve Robinson
2891 S. Abingdon St #A2,
Arlington VA, 22206
robinswr@erols.com

Need a Ride or a Partner for the Thursday Unit Game?

Contact **Barbara Doran** UnitGamePartner@DistrictSix.org, (301-608-0347 between 9am and 10pm) to find a partner in advance. For a last minute partner, call the **WBL cell phone (301-395-2760)**.

Ron Zucker, Carpool Coordinator can be contacted at 202-986-2166 or (ron@motherzucker.com) or log on to the **On-Line Carpool Notices** at www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org.

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