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June WBL NLM Sectional **CANCELLED**

Due to the unavailability of a playing site and the hopefully temporary illness of our tournament chair, the June 4-5 WBL Non-Life Master Sectional has been cancelled. T.C., Julie Marquette is truly disappointed and looks forward to hosting next year's spring NLM sectional.

*Check
out the*



ANNUAL MEETING, ELECTIONS & D6 STAC STRATIFIED PAIRS *at the Thursday, May 5 Unit Game*

- ♣ Complimentary Desserts.....6:30 p.m.
- ♦ Meeting and Elections.....7:00 p.m.
- ♥ District 6 Sectional Tournament at
Clubs Stratified Pair Game.....7:30 p.m.

*During the evening, we will recognize our
2015 Mini-McKenney and Ace of Clubs win-
ners for their achievements.*

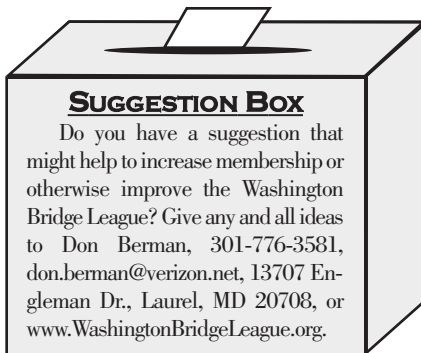
SEE PAGE 23 FOR ALL THE DETAILS...

Is it Time to Renew?

If you started your paper *WBL Bulletin* subscription with the May/June 2015 issue, it's time to renew! *See page 3*

Would you rather be reading this in print?

See how on page 3



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 16, 2016

TO SUBMIT NEW ARTICLES TO THE EDITOR FOR THE MAY/JUNE 2016 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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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, *Ellen Cherniavsky*
eachernia@yahoo.com

I regret to announce that **Bryan** and **Lois Geer** have retired from teaching and running the 0-20 Newcomer game. They conducted their last session (March 24) and were celebrated with a rousing standing ovation. The Geers have been running the Newcomer game and lesson for 7 ½ years, since October 2008.

On behalf of the Board and the membership I would like to express my appreciation for all that Bryan and Lois have done. The 0-20 game is extremely important to the WBL. It has provided a means for new players to learn the game in a friendly, non-threatening setting



where the instructors know how a novice player thinks. Bryan and Lois estimate that over 400 people have come through the game, and many have continued, joining the NLM game which now regularly has 6-8 tables each week. The Newcomer game is an essential foundation of a strong novice/intermediate program, which is vital to membership growth.

Lois and Bryan have decided to step down because of family concerns. We wish them and their families all the best, and again thank them for the wonderful job they have done with the 0-20 game.

It is always difficult to replace the irreplaceable. However Aaron Navarro and Isabel Thibault have agreed to take on this task and will be providing a lesson and running the Newcomer game. We wish them every success.

HELP WANTED!

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY ASSISTANT

The WBL is looking for an assistant to Frances Burke, our WBL Membership Secretary since 1987! The main thing she does is send letters to new members, plus send the occasional get well or sympathy card. She also prepares the ballots for the elections, prepares a list of eligible voters, and sends the unit a list of new life masters for the annual recognition party.

Please contact Rose Berman if you're interested in helping at 301-776-3581 or Rose.Berman@verizon.net.

WBL BULLETIN & WBL E-NEWS

*Would you rather be reading this in print?
Printed mail subscriptions are reasonably priced:*

Starting this year, the WBL Bulletin has ceased free mail distribution. The bulletin will continue to be available free online through our website: washingtonbridgeleague.org. You can be notified when the new issue is available online if we have your email address—see below.

◆ Yearly (6 issues), **Printed Mail Subscriptions** are available:

WBL members \$12.00/year **Non-member** \$18.00/year

The bulletin comes out six times a year. ☛ To subscribe, give or mail a check to “Washington Bridge League” via **WBL Treasurer, Rose Berman**, at: 13707 Engleman Dr., Laurel, MD 20708-1325. Please include your full name and address (and player number if you are a WBL member).

◆ We are establishing a **WBL Unit Membership Email Database**.

The emailings will be used for occasional bridge news only.

One use will be to inform you when the bulletin is available online.

There will be no advertising, sharing or publishing of the addresses.

☛ Send your email, name and player number to **WBL e-List Administrator, Alex Gretsinger**, at: agretsinger@gmail.com

Please also indicate if you would like to be included on Steve Robinson's email list in order to receive additional bridge news, bridge problems, and other tidbits. You will be able to unsubscribe from either list.

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BITS AND PIECES

TIME TO RENEW?

If you started your paper *WBL Bulletin* subscription with the May/June 2015 issue, it's time to renew! It's not too early to renew for anyone else ;) ...See where to send your check on the top of page 3.

WELCOME TO THE WASHINGTON BRIDGE LEAGUE

The WBL welcomes the following new ACBL members: **Robert S Erdman, Dr Jacques Nacson, Susan Shinderman, Sarita Zimmermann, Jane D Adams, Mr Brian C Alsbaugh, Richard Carelli, Ms Linda Devlin, Mrs Linda H Elliott, Mr Robert J Elliott, Rev James R Judy, Mrs Nancy N McGuire, and Linda F Segal.**

In addition, we welcome the following transfers from other units: **Mrs Rhona P Prenskey, Mr Paul L Chassy, Ms Reina L Chassy, Irene Ganginis, Mr Daniel M Korbel, Mrs Carole A Rhodes, Stanley B Rosen, Mrs Vivian M Rosenhauer, E-Mail: vgr7800@aol., Mrs Marilyn S Rubinstein, Mr Mel Schloss, Betty Thompson, Henry L Thompson, and Mrs Charlotte Zaret.**

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.

2015-2016 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 all but one NVBA sectional and all but one WBL sectional during the contest period (August, 2014 through June,

2015). 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: Open and Non-Life Master.

Standings: Here are the standings after seven of eight sectionals. The asterisk* indicates that the player has met eligibility requirements.

Open Leaders

| Player | Points |
|----------------------|----------|
| 1 Steve Robinson | 189.14 * |
| 2 Peter Boyd | 162.44 * |
| 3 Steven Schatzow | 154.58 * |
| 4 Linda Marshall | 141.55 * |
| 5 Mark Shaw | 140.85 * |
| 6 Mark Chen | 132.91 * |
| 7 Martin Graf | 131.60 * |
| 8 Brad Theurer | 128.26 * |
| 9 Barry Falgout | 127.98 * |
| 10 Robert Hopkins Jr | 113.36 * |
| 11 Rusty Krauss | 110.06 |
| 12 Alexander Prairie | 106.42 * |
| 13 Jay Kelkar | 96.73 |
| 14 Leo LaSota | 95.37 * |
| 15 Adam Gann | 93.43 * |
| 16 Sylvia Shi | 89.33 |
| 17 William Cole | 89.16 * |
| 18 William Pettis | 85.89 * |
| 19 Robert Gookin | 83.96 |
| 20 Jim Wakefield | 82.57 * |

...continued on p. 26

JULY 7-10, 2016

Take a Summer Holiday in the Potomac Valley!



at the **MARGARET SCHWEINHOUT SENIOR CENTER**
Friday-Sunday only 1000 Forest Glen Rd, Silver Spring, MD

THURSDAY, JULY 7

- ♣ StrataFlighted A/X (unlim/2000) & B/C/D (1000/500/300) Pairs ... 11:15am
Rockville Duplicate Bridge Club, 301-503-3348 (Mark Lavine) NO ENTRY
St. James Episcopal Church, 11815 Seven Locks Rd., Rockville TILL 11AM
- ♦ StrataFlighted A/X (unlim/3000) & B/C/D (2000/1000/500) Pairs (both sites),
Stratified NLM Pairs (NLM/100/50) & 0-20 Pairs (Ohr Kodesh only) &
Stratified 199er Swiss Teams (Beth El only)
Beth El Congregation, 3830 Seminary Rd, Alexandria 7:00pm
Ohr Kodesh Congregation, 8300 Meadowbrook Ln., Chevy Chase 7:30pm
I-495 to Connecticut Ave. S. 4th light left E-W Hwy 410. Left Meadowbrook Ln.
1st left Freyman Dr. Parking lot on left. No outside food allowed.

Washington
Bridge
League

71st Annual
POTOMAC
VALLEY
TOURNAMENT

FRIDAY, JULY 8

- ♣ *StrataFlighted A/X (unlim/3000) & B/C/D Pairs (2000/1000/500) (single sessions) 10:00am, 2:00pm
- ♦ **Stratified Triple Nickel Swiss Teams** (unlim/2000/750) ... **Post-Game Party!** 7:30pm
—5 rounds, 5 boards a round, 5 minutes a board. **with beer, wine & desserts**
- ♠ Intermediate/Novice Pairs (300/200/100/50/20) (single sessions) 10:00am, 2:00pm, 7:30pm

Win upgraded (more) masterpoints today!
\$1 additional fee supports Grass Roots events.

SATURDAY, JULY 9

- ♣ **13th Annual: Washington Bridge League Trophy Pairs**
awarding the Steve Robinson Trophy 10:00am & 3:00pm
Two session Open Pairs (unlim/3000), qualifying and final. Single session entries available.
- ♦ *StrataFlighted B/C/D Pairs (2000/1000/500) 10:00am
- ♥ *StrataFlighted A/X (unlim/3000) & B/C/D Pairs (2000/1000/500) 3:00pm
- ♠ Intermediate/Novice Pairs (300/200/100) & Newcomer Pairs (50/20/5) (single sessions) 10:00am, 3:00pm

(Lunch available for purchase. A/X BAM and Flight B
Bracketed Teams: 2-session playthru with break)

SUNDAY, JULY 10

- ♣ Flights A/X (unlim /5000) Board-A-Match Teams 11:00am & TBA
- ♦ Bracketed Flight B Teams (no single player >3000) 11:00am & TBA
B Teams Bracketed by total team masterpoints; three overall places in each.
- ♥ 300/100/50 Swiss Teams, VPs (single sessions) 11:00am, 3:00pm

♣ **Lots of Intermediate & Novice Events with Silver Points!** ♥

Separate I/N events & strata as advertised as attendance allows. (Director's discretion.)

Hospitality includes snacks, drinks, & Friday lunch & evening party. Sunday lunch available for purchase.
Chair: Steve Schatzow, 202-332-3729, sschatzow@his.com. Volunteer Coordinator: Barbara Summers,
301-598-5838, jimbarb1184@aol.com; Hospitality Chair: Mike Zane, 301-653-1215, Mikezane@msn.com;
Partnerships: Barbara Doran, 301-608-0347, barb.doran@verizon.net. Online Partnership Desk available.
**StrataFlighted if attendance warrants—otherwise combined into Stratified Pairs (unlim/2000/500)*
Stratification by avg. masterpoints of the team or pair. No individual may exceed the event's upper limit.

Directions to the Margaret Schweinhaut Senior Center, 1000 Forest Glen Rd, Silver Spring, MD: I-495
to Georgia Avenue North (toward Wheaton). 1st light right on Forest Glen Rd. The Center is .7 mile on right.

WASHINGTONBRIDGELEAGUE.ORG

Mid-chart allowed in all events except I/N & Triple Nickel



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cordially invites you to a

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snowpusher@cox.net or (703) 591-0014



WBL SOLVERS' CLUB

Moderated by Steve Robinson

robinswr@erols.com

Congratulations to **Harry Gellis, Janet Becker, Adam Gann** and **W. Paul McGowen** who tied for first with a score of 470. They win a free entry to the Unit Game and will be on a future panel. Tied for fifth were **Jon Matthew Farber, Bob Kibler, Elliot Grant, Peter Gray** and **Robert Ehlman** with a score of 460. Tied for tenth were **Ann Lindley, Wes Goldberg, Martha Zier, Audrey Warren** and **Ron Conlon** with a score of 450. Tied for fifteenth were **Terry Jones, Karen Heath, Lloyd Rawley, Oleg Dolgikh, Mike Richey, Tom Musso, Lex Poot, Jimmy Morris, Ben Stauss** and **Leo LaSota** with a score of 440. The average score of the 137 solvers was 393. The average score of the experts was 440.

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 \$30.60 which includes \$5.60 for priority mail.

JAN/FEB 2016 SOLUTIONS

1) IMPs Both Vul

♠A9♥KJ87532♦K1075♣-

| <u>SOUTH</u> | <u>WEST</u> | <u>NORTH</u> | <u>EAST</u> |
|--------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|
| 1♥ | Pass | 1♠ | Pass |
| ???? | | | |

| <u>Action</u> | <u>Score</u> | <u>Votes</u> | <u>Solvers</u> |
|---------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|
| 4♥ | 100 | 2 | 9 |
| 2♥ | 90 | 5 | 66 |
| 3♥ | 70 | 0 | 45 |
| 2♦ | 70 | 2 | 16 |
| 2♣ | 20 | 0 | 1 |

You don't have many HCP but you are 7-4 in the reds. The choices are between some number of hearts and 2♦. The problem with rebidding 2♦ is that 2♦ could be a silly contract. Give partner ♠Kxxx♥10♦Qx♣Jxxxxx and you might end up in 2♦ when 4♥ has play.

Five experts rebid only 2♥. The problem is that partner needs just the right six-count to make 4♥. There are some six-counts that give you a good play for game. If partner has ♠Kxxx♥Q♦J9♣xxxxxx, all you'd lose would be three red tricks.

Parker: "2♥—If it goes all pass that would be fine. My hope is partner will bid something other than notrump and we can find our best fit and level."

Woolsey: "2♥—If the hand is a misfit, this could easily be all we make. If we have a game, there is a decent chance that North will find another bid. Bidding 3♥ will often cause North to bid a no-play game."

Schwartz: "2♥—With only 11 HCP and quiet opponents, don't want to overstate my hand to partner until the degree of fit is found. Most likely partner's next bid is 3♣ and now 3♦ shows my hand fairly well."

Haglich: "2♥—If partner can't find one more bid then we're probably high enough."

Adams: "2♥—Possible we have magic fit where overbidding will work, but more than likely if we can make game, partner will bid again."

One expert joins me and jumps to 4♥. They pay bonuses for bidding and making game and if partner only needs the right six-count for game to be very good, one should bid it.

Hopkins: "4♥—This traditionally shows something akin to the wild distribution I have. Normally the suit is a little better but even the singleton 10 would help."

Two experts rebid 2♦. I don't see what that is going to accomplish. It has two strikes against it. One is that you might play in 2♦. The other strike is that if you get to 4♥, you probably won't get a helpful diamond lead.

Theurer: "2♦—Whatever partner bids over this I will keep bidding hearts and partner will know to upgrade red suit honors and generally downgrade black ones (except for club ace). 2♥ is possible (especially at matchpoints) but does not tell partner I have a side diamond suit and it limits my hand more than 2♦ does."

Shi: "2♦—Disadvantage: we might play a stupid part score. Advantage: we will never miss our vulnerable heart game."

Seven-four hands should be in game.

2) IMPs Both Vul

♠4♥Q103♦AJ1096543♣2

| <u>SOUTH</u> | <u>WEST</u> | <u>NORTH</u> | <u>EAST</u> |
|--------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|
| | 1♣ | 1♥ | 1♠ |
| ???? | | | |

| <u>Action</u> | <u>Score</u> | <u>Votes</u> | <u>Solvers</u> |
|---------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|
| 5♦ | 100 | 3 | 11 |
| 4♦ | 90 | 1 | 6 |
| 3♦ | 90 | 1 | 10 |
| 2♦ | 90 | 1 | 40 |

| | | | |
|-----|----|---|----|
| 2♥ | 80 | 2 | 14 |
| 2♣ | 80 | 1 | 10 |
| Dbl | 80 | 0 | 3 |
| 4♥ | 50 | 0 | 25 |
| 2♠ | 50 | 0 | 6 |
| 3♥ | 30 | 0 | 9 |
| 3♣ | 30 | 0 | 1 |
| 4♣ | 30 | 0 | 1 |
| 5♥ | 20 | 0 | 1 |

You have three-card heart support but will this hand play well in hearts? Eight-card suits should not be put down in dummy. In hearts you have to set up the diamonds and then run them. In diamonds you just have to draw trumps and then play hearts. You might even be able to discard any heart losers on black winners. There is no way that you should play in hearts unless partner has at least six of them. Even if partner has six hearts, diamonds might play better.

Five experts agree with me and ignore their heart support.

Three experts expect partner to be able to help decide how high to bid. One expert jumps to 3♦. Since I play 2♦ non-forcing, I like 3♦ to show a hand that is very good in diamonds but not quite forcing. This hand qualifies.

Theurer: "3♦—I'd like to show a diamond suit with heart support, so I'll do this via what should be a fit showing bid. Even if it isn't, 3♦ is still reasonable, hard to ignore an eight-card suit. This may or may not be a hand where both sides have a big double fit and before the bidding gets to 4♠ or 5♣ I need to communicate that to partner so he has a better idea of whether to compete further. Since partner did not bid Michaels the opponents should have at least an eight-card spade fit. Despite my

heart support, the hand probably will belong in diamonds."

Shi: "4♦—If we play fit jumps, this seems clear. Even if we don't it as a natural preemptive 4♦ seems like a decent description of my hand. It's unlikely this hand will play much better in hearts than diamonds."

One expert bids 2♦. Do you really expect partner to raise you with a doubleton diamond?

Hopkins: "2♦—Fit-showing jumps would work well here. If I had four hearts, I would probably be willing to compete to the five-level, but here I am not sure unless partner has Diamonds with me so I am giving him a chance to raise."

Two experts join me and follow a basic bridge concept. When there is no bid which will get partner's help, take the bull by the horn.

Schwartz: "5♦—If partner has a normal shape diamonds rates to play better than hearts so bidding hearts now will never get us to diamonds. Opponents are likely bidding 4♠ over 4♥ anyway so might as well give them a problem now."

Parker: "5♦—I don't want to play in hearts and they have found their spade fit, so I bid what I think is our limit."

Three experts support partner. Is partner really going to pass your later diamond bids with a singleton or even a void in diamonds? If I wasn't going to bid some number of diamonds, I'd double 1♠ which is a Snap Dragon double. The prototype Snap Dragon double shows diamonds with heart tolerance. Tolerance means that you might have only two hearts. The diamond suit is either too weak to bid freely or you have a hand that's too strong to bid a non-forcing 2♦.

Woolsey: "2♥—Start slowly, and see

what the opponents think they can make. Then outbid them in diamonds.”

Haglich: "2♥—I don't expect the auction to end soon, so I can get a Diamond call in later. I'll show support now."

Adams: "2♣—We have two eight-card fits. Will bid diamonds next, even if at five-level."

Eight-card suits should not be put down in dummy.

3) IMPs Both Vul

♠2♥K3♦KJ10987♣KQ54

| SOUTH | WEST | NORTH | EAST |
|-------|------|-------|------|
| | | 1♠ | Pass |
| 2♦ | Pass | 3♠* | Pass |
| 4♠ | Pass | 5♣ | Pass |
| ??? | | | |

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 S. C. |
| Wednesday | 10:30 AM | Temple Beth Ami |
| Thursday* | 11:15 AM | St James |
| Friday* | 11:15 AM | St James |
| Saturday* | 1:00 PM | St James |

*0-1000 game in addition to the open game
—as attendance allows—

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 Camation Dr Rockville, MD |
| Temple Beth Ami, 14330 Travilah Rd, N. Potomac, MD | |

| Action | Score | Votes | Solvers |
|--------|-------|-------|---------|
| 5NT | 100 | 2 | 5 |
| 5♠ | 80 | 3 | 63 |
| 5♦ | 80 | 0 | 19 |
| 5♥ | 70 | 2 | 12 |
| 6NT | 70 | 2 | 1 |
| 6♣ | 70 | 0 | 19 |
| 6♠ | 70 | 0 | 12 |
| Pass | 20 | 0 | 6 |

Partner's 3♠-bid showed a solid suit, set trumps and demanded that you cue bid an ace. Since you signed off in 4♠, you have denied an outside ace. Partner, knowing that you don't have any aces, has taken another bid. He can't be off two aces but he could have a void. Suppose he has ♠AKQJxxx♥QJx♦AQx♣-, ♠AKQJxxx♥AJx♦Qxx♣- or ♠AKQJxxx♥QJx♦-♣Axx. He knows that you don't have any aces but he should be looking for kings. Since you have all of the outside kings, slam should be good. The question is which slam. The obvious bid is 5NT which is choice of slams. If partner has a void, he'll bid 6♠. If partner has two outside aces, he'll bid 6NT.

Two experts jump to 6NT. Can't partner have a void and you're off two aces?

Theurer: "6NT—I showed a minimum with presumably no ace to cue bid with my 4♠, but partner is trying for slam anyway. Partner must have another red ace so we have at least 11 tricks and many chances for a 12th so I will protect my red suit tenaces. Perhaps partner has ♠AKQJxx♥xx♦Ax♣AJx."

Woolsey: "6NT—When I fail to cue bid over 3♠, I don't see how partner can make another move holding only one side ace since I have all the kings. It looks like part-

ner has xx in a red suit."

Three experts sign off. Since you have denied an outside ace, why not show partner that you have all three kings?

Shi: "5♠—But its close. ♠AKQJxxx♥Qxx♦-♣Axx is ok slam but not cold. I have the worst hand and I will continue to bid like I do."

Hopkins: "5♠—Normally partner is worried about the unbid suit in a situation like this. Lacking any Aces, I will pull in at 5♠ and hope we make it. I am wrong in the case where partner has a Diamond void with say something like ♠AKQJxxx♥QJx♦-♣Axx."

Schwartz: "5♠—If 4♠ had denied an ace, then I could cue bid. It's probably better to play 4♠ just show no slam interest. Thus I now have to deny an ace. This is not the time for mixed cue bids."

Two experts cue bid. When cue bidding, one is supposed to cue bid his lowest control. 5♥ denies the second round diamond control and if partner's diamond hold is Qxx, you'll miss a slam.

Parker: "5♥—If this is what is needed for slam, I will convert 6♠ to 6NT to protect the heart king."

Haglich: "5♥—I think partner probably has a diamond void, which is why he's cue bidding instead of asking. I'm not thrilled about that, but I do have useful round suit kings and the ♣Q is a bonus."

One expert joins me and forces to slam. We know that we belong in slam since we have three missing kings. If partner has a void, we belong in 6♠. If partner doesn't have a void we belong in 6NT.

Adams: "5NT—I have already denied any aces with my 4♠-call. Whichever King partner wants, I have. Possible that I need to play it though."

In a two-over-one system, one-of-a-major — two-any — three-of-the-same major shows a solid suit, at least AKQxxx, set trumps and asks partner to cue bid his lowest ace.

4) IMPs They're Vul

♠K652♥A63♦-♣AQJ1054

| SOUTH | WEST | NORTH | EAST |
|-------|------|-------|------|
| 1♣ | Dbl | 1♥ | Pass |
| 1♠ | Pass | 2♣ | Pass |
| ??? | | | |

| Action | Score | Votes | Solvers |
|--------|-------|-------|---------|
| 3♣ | 100 | 3 | 28 |
| 2♥ | 90 | 4 | 32 |
| 2♠ | 90 | 0 | 0 |
| 3♥ | 70 | 1 | 15 |
| 3♦ | 70 | 1 | 4 |
| Pass | 50 | 0 | 17 |
| 5♣ | 40 | 0 | 17 |
| 4♣ | 40 | 0 | 11 |
| 4♥ | 40 | 0 | 3 |
| 2♦ | 30 | 0 | 8 |
| 4NT | 20 | 0 | 2 |
| 6♣ | 20 | 0 | 1 |
| 5♦ | 20 | 0 | 1 |
| 4♦ | 20 | 0 | 3 |

You have a reasonable hand but will this hand play well in hearts even if partner has five? While West does not guarantee four hearts, he did make a takeout double which means that hearts might not split well. If you're going to play in a partscore, you want to play in your known strong club fit, not your possible weak

heart fit. Partner could have as little as ♠Jxx ♥Kxxx ♦xxxx ♣Kx. If partner has enough extra strength to bid over a raise to 3♣, you can still find your possible eight-card heart fit or 3NT if partner has strong diamonds.

Four experts show their three hearts. I think that 3♣ would make more often than 2♥ and if partner has only two clubs he might not take you back to clubs.

Parker: "2♥—I have a good hand and want to make a forward sounding bid. Partner can always go back to clubs with only four hearts."

Theurer: "2♥—Patterning out and showing at least mild game interest. Partner should discount secondary diamond honors in evaluating his hand."

Haglich: "2♥—Hopefully partner will realize I'm patterning out but don't have a great hand. I'll pass a 3♣-bid. At match-points I'd probably pass over 2♣."

Adams: "2♥—Playing with Robinson I could bid 2♠ which would show a good three-card heart raise, but can't bid that in standard. 2♥ shows a good hand in standard, though I prefer it show a minimum."

Since a 1♣-opener denies a five-card major, rebidding spades in this sequence shows a good three-card heart raise. If you bid 2♠, you won't play in a bad 4-3 heart fit.

Two experts join me and invite in clubs the suit that is almost solid. If partner bids 3NT, I'd expect it to have good play. If partner passes 3♣, I'd expect it to have good play.

Woolsey: "3♣—I have to show some interest. 2♥ might land us in an awful 4-3 heart fit. If partner has five hearts and is able to move over 3♣, we will be able to get to 4♥."

Hopkins: "3♣—Extras, leaving open a safe part score when partner has a minimum and three possible game contracts when he has a maximum."

One expert shows an extra king. A 1♠-rebid by opener can be very strong which is what a 3♦ splinter shows. Just short of a jump-shift. This hand does not qualify.

Schwartz: "3♦—Won't work out if partner has a poor 3-4-4-2 but shows the hand well otherwise."

Playing IMPs, if you're playing a partscore, a strong minor is better than a weak major.

5) IMPs They're Vul

♠4♥76532♦64♣AQ1094

| <u>SOUTH</u> | <u>WEST</u> | <u>NORTH</u> | <u>EAST</u> |
|---------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|
| PASS | 1♦ | 1♠ | PASS |
| ???? | | | |
| <u>Action</u> | <u>Score</u> | <u>Votes</u> | <u>Solvers</u> |
| Pass | 100 | 5 | 92 |
| 2♣ | 90 | 3 | 27 |
| 2♥ | 70 | 0 | 5 |
| 1NT | 70 | 1 | 12 |
| 4♠ | 20 | 0 | 1 |

Partner has overcalled in your short suit. Is this hand worth looking for greener pastures? Picture partner with ♠Axxxx ♥AQxx ♦xx ♣Kx. I've been in worse slams and if you pass, you could easily be playing in 1♠. How bad can it be if you bid 2♣? If partner has a weak hand he can pass 2♣. If it's the opponent's hand, you want a club lead. The 10-9 makes the club suit playable opposite shortness. Partner knows that you're a

non-vulnerable passed hand.

Five experts pass. Do you want to play in the opponents 4-3 spade fit with Jxxxx opposite x when you have a possible 5-3 heart fit or a possible 5-2 club fit? If you're in trouble, it will be much harder for the opponents to get you if you bid 2♣ directly.

Parker: "Pass—Are you kidding? Why would I bid now? I will redouble of it goes double - Pass - Pass to me."

If it does go double - pass - pass to you, and you redouble, partner might bid diamonds. Then what?

Woolsey: "Pass—It looks like bidding anything can lead to more trouble than it gains."

You're a passed hand. How much trouble can you get into if you bid 2♣? Your club suit can definitely play opposite shortness. Can partner's spade suit play opposite shortness?

Hopkins: "Pass—This is one time where you almost hope there is a reopening double and penalty pass since you have such a perfect rescue hand. Any immediate action at this point is fraught

with the danger of digging ourselves in deeper."

I'm not sure how perfect your rescue hand is.

Schwartz: "Pass—Bidding 2♣ rates to get us overboard with the silent opponents."

Haglich: "Pass—Pass and hope to come in later. If East is trapping I can redouble after the reopening double is converted. My second choice would be an immediate 2♣-call. As a passed hand partner won't get too excited."

Three experts agree with me and look for greener pastures. Wouldn't it be nice if partner's next bid is 2♥? There is no chance of that if 1♠ is passed out.

Theurer: "2♣—Would rather bid this now than have the auction go Double-Pass-Pass, also if LHO is about to rebid diamonds I wouldn't mind a club lead."

Adams: "2♣—Not forcing, but I have a little something. 2♥ seems silly, but I will be happy if partner can bid them."

Shi: "1NT—Hope partner can bid a second suit."

An overcall doesn't have to be weak.

SOLVERS' SCORES

| | | | | | | |
|----------------|----|----|-----|----|------|-----|
| John Adams | 2♥ | 2♣ | 5NT | 2♥ | 2♣ | 450 |
| Peter Haglich | 2♥ | 2♥ | 5♥ | 2♥ | Pass | 430 |
| Robbie Hopkins | 4♥ | 2♦ | 5♠ | 3♣ | Pass | 470 |
| Steve Parker | 2♥ | 5♦ | 5♥ | 2♥ | Pass | 450 |
| Steve Robinson | 4♥ | 5♦ | 5NT | 3♣ | 2♣ | 490 |
| Alan Schwartz | 2♥ | 5♦ | 6♣ | 3♦ | Pass | 430 |
| Sylvia Shi | 2♦ | 4♦ | 5♠ | 3♥ | 1NT | 380 |
| Brad Theurer | 2♦ | 3♦ | 6NT | 2♥ | 2♣ | 410 |
| Kit Woolsey | 2♥ | 2♥ | 6NT | 3♣ | Pass | 440 |

2016 TROPHY RACE STANDINGSwww.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org

Updated by Alex Gretsinger

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 as of 3/17, not including the unit knockout or round robin. All points are subject to audit by the WBL Director.

Lovenberg

| | |
|----------------------------|-------|
| 1 Steve Robinson | 51.22 |
| 2 Martin Graf | 51.00 |
| 3 Mark Shaw | 51.00 |
| 4 Peter Boyd | 48.30 |
| 5 David Ruderman | 45.34 |
| 6 Brad Theurer | 44.08 |
| 7 James Geist | 40.15 |
| 8 Barry Falgout | 36.14 |
| 9 Sylvia Shi | 34.82 |
| 10 Donna Rogall | 34.47 |
| 11 Clyde Kruskal | 34.36 |
| 12 Lloyd Rawley | 32.56 |
| 13 Vincent Wilmot Jr | 32.10 |
| 14 Steven Schatzow | 31.16 |
| 15 Linda Marshall | 26.98 |
| 16 Carole Banks | 25.29 |
| 17 Donald Berman | 23.19 |
| 18 Ellen Cherniavsky | 22.05 |
| 19 Arnie Frankel | 21.46 |
| 20 William Cole | 21.26 |
| 21 Robert Bell | 20.68 |
| 22 Joan Lewis | 19.82 |
| 23 Eugene Kales | 18.16 |
| 24 Ted Ying | 17.33 |
| 25 Robert Levey | 17.33 |

Izzy Cohen

| | |
|----------------------------|-------|
| 1 Carole Banks | 25.29 |
| 2 Robert Rovner | 15.38 |
| 3 Ernie Schuler | 14.03 |
| 4 Paul Block | 12.38 |
| 5 Larry Wallace | 11.95 |
| 6 Jane Dolkart | 10.95 |
| 7 Michael Lawrence | 10.31 |
| 8 Judy Retchin | 9.64 |
| 9 Joy Oliver | 9.06 |
| 10 Myron Goldstein | 8.55 |
| 11 Cate Frezza | 8.34 |
| 12 Kim Gandy | 8.34 |
| 13 James Wisman | 8.06 |
| 14 Leon Masiewicki | 7.88 |
| 15 Juan Pablo Quizon | 7.77 |

Tubbs

| | |
|---------------------------|-------|
| 1 Jane Dolkart | 10.95 |
| 2 Judy Retchin | 9.64 |
| 3 Myron Goldstein | 8.55 |
| 4 Kim Gandy | 8.34 |
| 5 Cate Frezza | 8.34 |
| 6 Juan Pablo Quizon | 7.77 |
| 7 Julie Marquette | 7.72 |
| 8 Richard Barth | 7.55 |
| 9 Ferit Yegenoglu | 7.49 |
| 10 Jim Rubin | 7.09 |

Woolridge

| | |
|--------------------------|------|
| 1 Jeff Frank | 4.22 |
| 2 Alexander Stille | 2.93 |
| 3 Ellen Rosenthal | 2.72 |
| 4 Tyler Creighton | 2.45 |
| 5 David Espo | 2.44 |
| 6 Sherry Floyd | 2.28 |
| 7 Sunil Sikka | 2.11 |
| 8 Julie Anderson | 2.04 |
| 9 Carole Stringer | 2.00 |
| 10 Kate Beardsley | 1.68 |

**0-20
LESSON
& GAME****GUARANTEED
PARTNERS!****7:00PM
LESSON****7:30 - 10ISH
GAME****JOIN ANYTIME**

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

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

This is a great program for beginners as well as experienced social bridge players! Partners will be provided if needed. For more information, contact Aaron Navarro at abn123@netzero.net or Isabelle Thabault at imthabault@aol.com

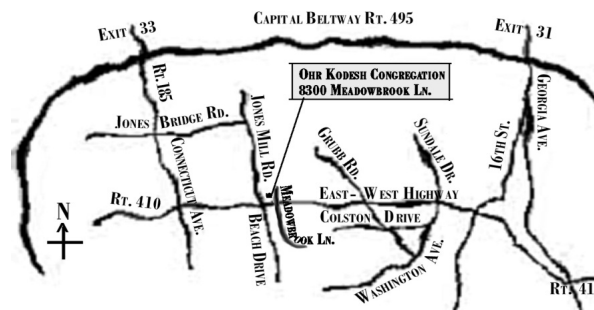
~ ♦ SCHEDULE ♥ ~

Most games held at Ohr Kodesh

05/05/2016Annual Meeting/D6 STaC—Stratified Pairs
 05/12/2016NVBA Sectional
 05/19/2016Grass Roots Fund Game
 05/26/2016Membership Game
 06/02/2016D6 STaC—Stratified Pairs
 06/09/2016NVBA Sectional
 06/16/2016StrataFlighted Unit Championship
 06/23/2016StrataFlighted Unit Champ—Swiss Teams
 06/30/2016StrataFlighted Unit Championship
 07/07/2016WBL Sectional
 07/14/2016StrataFlighted North American Pairs
 07/21/2016CLOSED—Washington NABC
 07/28/2016CLOSED—Washington NABC
 08/04/2016StrataFlighted North American Pairs
 08/11/2016StrataFlighted Unit Championship
 08/18/2016Stratified Unit Championship
 08/25/2016StrataFlighted North American Pairs

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 at least a day in advance, contact **Barbara Doran** at UnitGamePartner@DistrictSix.org or barb.doran@verizon.net or call 301-608-0347 between 9am and 10pm.

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

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

UNIT GAME CARPOOL AVAILABLE

To arrange a carpool, contact **Melissa Price**, Carpool Coordinator, at 301-464-1261 or melissadprice46@gmail.com.

THE UNIT GAME

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

TECH TALK

Regular attenders at the Unit Game will have noticed that we are trying some experiments with using technology to enhance the experience for players. For a while now, we have been using preduplicated boards in all sections for all rounds of our Swiss Teams events. This enable us to provide hand records after the game, and also ensures that nobody can complain that they happened to get a set of deals that was more (or less) "swingy" than any other team. The first couple of times we ran like this, the games ran a little late; now that players and directors are used to the process, we are running at about the same pace as shuffle-and-deal games – the time lost in distributing boards, and in waiting for all events to finish a round, is made up for by not needing to deal the cards each round.

More recently, we have replaced our single, small clock by a wall-projected pair of clocks. After a brief experiment with a very cheap projector, we now have a more powerful one that gives clear, easily visible times on the wall. Every section can now have its own clock, and nobody has an excuse for slow play!

The latest experiment is Bridgemates for Swiss Teams. At the time of writing, we have tried this once, with mixed results. As we get used to the best way to use the technology, I expect this to be the preferred way to run team games, though we are not ready to throw away the racks and marker pens just yet.

Please let us know what you think of the changes, and if you have further suggestions for how we can make the games run more smoothly, or the information for players better. It's your club; we want to run the games that you will want to come to.

UPCOMING SECTIONALS

- ♣ May 12-15, 2016, NVBA, Fairfax, VA
- ♦ June 4-5, 2016, WBL NLM, Kensington, MD
- ♥ July 7-10, 2016, WBL, Silver Spring, MD
- ♠ September 8-11, 2016, NVBA, Fairfax, VA
- ♣ October 6-9, 2016, WBL, Silver Spring, MD
- ♦ January, 2017, WBL, Silver Spring, MD
- ♥ February, 2017, NVBA, Fairfax, VA

~ ♣ ♦ ♥ ♠ ~

DO YOU HAVE ANY MUSCLES 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,

COME JOIN THE 2015 WBL ROUND ROBIN!

SIGN UP BY MAY 12 (...or by May 5 if possible)

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 NLM Flight Coordinator, Matt Lahut will do likewise. League play runs from May 15 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 at robinswr@erols.com or 703-379-4371, with Matt Lahut at mlahut@yahoo.com or 518-596-2979 or use the entry form to sign up by mail or in person. The final deadline is May 12 but it would be appreciated if teams register by May 5 as it will facilitate administration of the event.

First place in each flight will win their entry fee back!

We invite NVBA, MBA and other unit's players to participate! Leagues normally consist of 5-7 teams with a playoff after completion of round robin play. Matches should be scheduled to complete round robin play by the second week in September. To the extent feasible, leagues will be designed to minimize travel for all participants.

2016 WBL ROUND ROBIN ENTRY FORM

Enclose check (*made out to the WBL*) for \$50 for Flight A/X, \$40 for Flights B/C/D or the NLM Flight which will all be stratified or bracketed depending on the number of entries and number of teams that fall into different brackets. Players looking for teammates 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 NLM Flight should contact the NLM Coordinator, Matt Lahut at mlahut@yahoo.com or 518-596-2979.

All Flights: Return entry and entry fee by May 14 to
Steve Robinson, 2891 Abingdon St. #A2, Arlington, Virginia 22206-1329

☐ Open (A/X) Flight ☐ Flight B/C/D ☐ NLM Flight

| <u>Name</u> | <u>ACBL #</u> | <u>E-Mail Address</u> |
|----------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| _____, captain | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |

♠ **Fairfax, VA** ♣ **MAY 12-15, 2016** ♦



NORTHERN VIRGINIA BRIDGE ASSOCIATION SPRING SECTIONAL TOURNAMENT

The Arlington/Fairfax Elks Lodge #2188
8421 Arlington Boulevard, Fairfax, VA; 703-560-2188

THURSDAY, MAY 12

STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS (2000+/2000/750) or 500/300/100 PAIRS10:30 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 and

WBL: Ohr Kodesh Congregation, 8300 Meadowbrook Ln, Chevy Chase, MD NVBA (Beth El) WBL

Intermediate/Newcomer Lecture6:30 p.m.

STRATAFLIGHTED OPEN PAIRS (A/X=3000+/3000; B/C=2000/750) 7:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m.

NVBA 199ER SWISS TEAMS (200/100/50/20); WBL NLM PAIRS (NLM/100/50) 7:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, MAY 13

Gene's Friday Morning Game at KOCH:9:30 a.m.

STRATIFIED OPEN (2000+/2000/750) or 500/300/100 PAIRS (NLMs only)

...REST OF TOURNAMENT AT ELKS LODGE...

Intermediate/Newcomer Lecture1:15 p.m.

STRATAFLIGHTED A/X (3000+/3000) or B/C (2000/750) PAIRS 2 p.m.

I/N (500/300/100) or 49ER (50/20/5) PAIRS2 p.m.

TRIPLE NICKEL SWISS—5 rounds, 5 boards, 5 minutes a board7:30 p.m.

I/N (500/300/100) PAIRS7:30 p.m.

**Join the FUN!* \$1 extra/game Sat. & Sun., plus player
auction on Sat. means extra fun at this Summer's DC NABC!*

SATURDAY, MAY 14

STRATAFLIGHTED A/X (3000+/3000) or B/C (2000/750) PAIRS 9:30 a.m.

I/N (500/300/100), 49ER (50/20) or NEWCOMER (0-5) PAIRS .9:30 a.m.

Intermediate/Newcomer Lecture1:15 p.m.

BRACKETED COMPACT KO—All brackets are handicapped 2 & 7:30 p.m.

4 12-board matches start Sat aft—end Sat eve. All teams play 1st 2 matches.

STRATAFLIGHTED A/X (3000+/3000) or B/C (2000/750) PAIRS .2 p.m.

I/N (500/300/100) or 49ER (50/20/5) PAIRS2 p.m.

STRATIFIED OPEN (2000+/2000/750) or I/N (500/300/100) PAIRS 7:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, MAY 15

FLIGHTS A/X (5000+/5000) SWISS TEAMS11 a.m. & TBA

BRACKETED FLIGHT B TEAMS (no single player >2500) ...11 a.m. & TBA

B Teams Bracketed by Total Team Masterpoints: three overall places in each.

A/X Swiss & B Teams: 2-session events, a brief break & food available on-site.

I/N (500/300/100) SWISS TEAMS (Single sessions) ..11 a.m. / 3:15 p.m.

49ER (50/20/5) SWISS TEAMS (Single session)11 a.m.

STRATIFICATION of events is based on average masterpoints of the team or pair. In any event or flight with an upper limit, no individual's total Masterpoint holding may exceed that upper limit.

DIRECTIONS: From Route 50/Arlington Boulevard heading west from DC and Arlington AND from Route 495/Beltway: Continue on/Take Route 50 West about one mile outside the Beltway, and turn left at Javier Road (the second stoplight after the intersection of 50 and 495). Take an immediate right onto the access road that runs parallel to Route 50. The Elks Lodge will be two buildings down on your left—parking on the side and in the rear. From Fairfax, heading East on Route 50: Pass the intersection of Route 50 and Prosperity Avenue—the Prosperity Medical Center will be on your right. Between the first and second lights after Prosperity, turn right into the access road that runs parallel to Route 50 and look for the Elks Lodge immediately to your right—parking on the far side of the building and in the rear.

*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

*Marty Bley
nvbapartnerships@gmail.com
571.789.8338 (C)*

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AT THE TABLE: A SURVIVAL MANUAL

by Rich Colker, rcolker@gmail.com

—PART 3—

We continue our discussions of common problems at the bridge table. While some discussion may presume a certain amount of experience and sensitivity to the situations being described, even a novice may improve in these areas through exposure to the underlying issues. Discussions include both practical advice on how to cope with problems once they occur as well as procedures to follow to minimize or avoid disruptions in the first place. Every suggestion may not be appropriate for all games or players: some are not intended for novices or events with low MP limits; others may be modified for more socially-oriented or club games. But above all else, please remember that the emphasis of bridge should always be on fun, enjoyment and relaxation. Even in serious competition it is to everyone's advantage to avoid practices which can cause problems or ill-feelings among the contestants.

What To Do If Partner's Alert, Non-Alert or Answer Awakens You to Your Own Error

Principle: If partner's Alert, non-Alert, or answer to a question awakens you to your own bidding error, you must continue to bid your hand as though you were still unaware of your error. In addition, you must properly Alert any of partner's Alertable calls as per your actual agreements.

Have you ever trotted out a convention, only to be met with a silence from partner which soon leads you to realize that you don't play that convention with this partner? If not (I believe you; really, I do), perhaps you've made a bid which you intended as natural, only to be reminded by partner's Alert or an-

swer to an opponent's question that you play that bid as conventional with *this* partner. What should you do in such cases? What exactly are your obligations?

First, continue to bid your hand as though your bid meant whatever you originally intended it to mean. Second, Alert all of partner's bids which require Alerts according to your *actual agreements* while continuing to bid your own hand as though you aren't aware of your error. Confused? Perhaps a couple of examples will help.

You pick up ♠AJxx ♥KQxxx ♦Kxx ♣xx and open 2♦ (Flannery: showing four spades, five hearts, and 11-15 HCP). The next hand passes as partner remains strangely silent. This sets you to thinking, "Why doesn't he Alert my 2♦ bid?" Suddenly it strikes you: partner doesn't play Flannery and you just opened a weak 2♦ bid! After a bit more thought, partner bids 2♠, natural and forcing (a new major) over a weak 2♦ but to play over Flannery. Surely if partner has a spade suit and the values to bid over (what he believes to be) your weak 2♦ opening your side must have a game if not a slam. While that may be true, you must pass. Why? Because even though you "know" partner intended 2♠ as forcing, that's only because he failed to Alert 2♦. But that information is unauthorized to you: you're not allowed to "hear" his non-Alert. You must ask yourself, "What would I have done had he Alerted my 2♦, explained it as Flannery, and then bid 2♠ to play?" You'd have passed, of course, and that is precisely what you must do now. You must treat partner's subsequent bids as though he Alerted 2♦, explained it precisely as you intended it (Flannery), and bid your hand accordingly.

Now let's change things a bit. You pick up ♠xx ♥Kxx ♦KQ109xx ♣xx and open 2♦, weak. Partner Alerts and when LHO asks, explains: "That's Flannery, showing four spades, five hearts, and 11-15 HCP." This of course reminds you that you agreed to play partner's favorite convention, Flannery. He now bids 3♣, which you agreed asks for minor-suit stoppers. Over a weak 2♦, however, 3♣ would have been natural and non-forcing (only a new *major* is forcing). Once again you should ask yourself, "What would I have done if partner had not Alerted my 2♦ bid, explained it as weak, and then bid a natural, non-invitational 3♣?" You'd have Alerted 3♣ (because it's non-forcing) and passed, of course. Therefore, you should pass 3♣ now. Should you Alert it and explain that it's non-forcing? No, because you must still inform the opponents of his bid's meaning *according to your agreements over Flannery*. Since your agreement is that 3♣ asks for minor-suit stoppers, you must Alert and explain it (if asked) as asking for minor-suit stoppers—and then pass!

Remember, if you are certain it was you who erred in the bidding, Alert and explain all of partner's bids' according to your actual agreements but continue to bid your own hand as if partner had Alerted and/or explained your bid as you originally intended it. If you are not sure who is in error, assume the error is partner's (see *Alerting After Partner's Mis-Alert or Failure to Alert*).

Finally, the foregoing applies only when *partner's* action—i.e., his Alert, non-Alert, answer to an opponent's question, etc.—awakens you to your error. If you discover the error entirely on your own from an authorized source (such as your own hand, the opponents' bids, etc.), you may adjust your bids and/or plays accordingly. However, if you missed an Alert, wrongly Alerted, or otherwise improperly informed the opponents before noticing your error you should call the Director at once and correct any misinformation under his guidance.

Correcting Partner's Mis-Alert, Failure to Alert, or Mis-explanation

Principle: The opponents must be given accurate information about your partnership agreements, regardless of your actual hand. Correct all mis-explanations, mis-Alerts or failures to Alert by partner, even if the information he has given (or not given) happens to accurately describe your hand. However, in doing so be sure to make it clear that you are correcting misinformation about your agreement—and not necessarily about your hand.

This is the flip side of the issue discussed in the previous section (*Alerting After Partner's Mis-Alert or Failure to Alert*). What are your obligations if partner's mis-Alert, failure to Alert, or mis-explanation provides the opponents with incorrect information (and you with unauthorized information)? Law 75 requires you to correct the misinformation at your first legal opportunity: if yours is the declaring side, then you must do so at the end of the auction, before the opening lead has been faced; if yours is the defending side, then you must wait to correct the mis-information until play has ended. At the appropriate point you should call the Director and volunteer the correct explanation. The simple principle at work here is that the opponents are entitled to a correct explanation of your agreements, but not until partner, who misinformed them, can no longer benefit from the correction. If you are to be the declaring side, then once the auction ends partner will either be the dummy or will see your hand as declarer; in either case, he can no longer benefit illegally from the correction. However, if you are defending his subsequent defense could still be affected by a correction so you must wait until play is completed.

An interesting related question is, what should you do if partner's mis-explanation

just happens to accurately describe your hand? For example, you open 1NT, partner transfers to spades and then rebids 3♣, natural. So far so good. Next you bid 3♥, which you've agreed shows heart values and suggests diamond weakness for notrump purposes. Partner incorrectly explains 3♥ as "a suit" which, as it turns out, you happen to hold (♥Kxxxx). Should you "correct" the mis-explanation even though it accurately describes your hand? The answer is an unqualified "Yes." There are two reasons for this:

- (1) The opponents, as always, are entitled to an accurate description of your agreements—not your actual hand. The fact that partner's explanation happens to describe your hand is coincidental. You must still correct the mis-explanation of your *agreement*, but should be careful to do so in a way which does not deny holding the type of hand partner described. One way of doing this is to say something like, "While I may coincidentally hold the type of hand partner described, our agreement is that my bid shows heart *values*; it neither confirms nor denies heart length."
- (2) To not disclose your agreement because partner's mis-explanation happens to describe your hand could create two additional problems for your opponents. First, the same or a similar bid might come up on a later board and cause an opponent to draw an incorrect inference due to the earlier mis-explanation. Second, there may be an important implication of the correct explanation that the opponents are entitled to but that is not available from the mis-explanation. For example, partner's explanation that 3♥ showed length suggests that you were checking for a possible heart fit, which would not necessarily

imply that you had weak diamonds. But your agreement is that your bid showed *values* in that suit and implied weakness in the unbid suit (diamonds)—otherwise you would have just bid 3NT. If this is not corrected, it could damage the opponents on *this* deal.

I wish this situation was as clear to others as it is to me, but some officials and top experts prefer that you not correct your partner's mis-explanation if it accurately describes your hand. Unfortunately, whatever you do in these situations can lead to a problem. It is noteworthy that the Laws do not require you to disclose your hand to the opponents under any circumstances, but neither do they prohibit you from doing so. So while I personally do not advocate disclosing your actual hand under any circumstances, it would not be illegal to correct partner's mis-explanation when it happens to describe your hand by saying something like: "Our agreement is not what partner described. I believe our agreement is that my bid only shows heart values and not length. However, on this deal I actually happen to hold a heart suit."

The overriding principle here is that you are obligated to correct any misinformation at your first legal opportunity. Make sure the opponents understand what your actual agreement is (that is, what you intended your bid to mean) and that this may or may not coincide with your actual hand (you may choose to reveal your actual holding if partner's mis-explanation describes it accurately). Otherwise, the Director can sort it all out later. Also remember, it was partner (not you, of course) who erred, making yours the offending side. Any damage to the opponents will therefore be resolved against you and in their favor, so don't make things any worse than they already are by not correcting the misinformation as soon as it is legally permissible.



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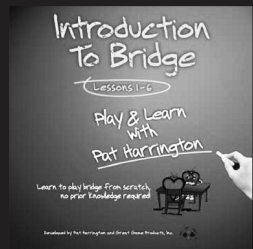
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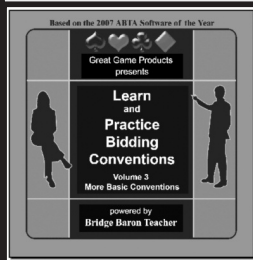


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.....MAY 5, 2016.....ANNUAL MEETING.....ELECTIONS.....AND DISTRICT 6 STAC PAIRS GAME.....

This year's Annual Meeting and Elections will be held on Thursday, May 5, 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 District 6 Sectional Tournament at Clubs (STaC) Stratified Pairs Game will begin when the meeting concludes.

2015 MASTERPOINT RACES

During the evening, we will recognize our 2015 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

Ellen Cherniavsky, has served as a volunteer for the WBL continuously since 2004, when she became a member of the Conduct & Ethics Committee. A

Board member since 2006, she held the office of Secretary for three years, and the office of Vice-President for three years. Since 2009 she has acted as the Board's GNT and NAP coordinator, and has taken responsibility for maintaining the database and producing the documentation on seeding that help make the GNT Open and 0-6000 premier events. As chair of the Club Relations Committee, she has facilitated the clubs' participation in split championships, affording their members the opportunity to compete in wider fields and win more masterpoints. For the past year, Ellen has been honored to serve as WBL President.

If re-elected President, she would focus on continuing to help our Tournament Chair restore our sectionals to profitability while insuring enjoyment of the game for all players. Obtaining and keeping good playing sites is a priority. She is also committed to maintaining the infrastructure: Bridgemates, playing cards, bidding boxes.

Candidate
for Vice-President



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. She served as Secretary since 2012 through 2015, when she became Vice President. She would like to continue to serve on the board as Vice

President supporting WBL activities in a variety of ways, helping to attract, retain, and support newer players, and helping the WBL to make bridge more enjoyable for all of its members. Linda has been an attorney with the Internal Revenue Service for 26 years.

Candidate
for Secretary



Melissa Price grew up in Illinois and learned to play bridge while in high school, earning her first master points playing with her mother in the local duplicate club. She joined the WBL when she moved to the DC area in 1974 and met her husband Richard playing in a club game. She was active in WBL events until two daughters and a career intervened. She and Richard returned to bridge 12 years ago. Melissa worked for many years at the Library of Congress. She began her career in its Copyright Office as a copyright cataloger, but eventually held a number of management positions, including Chief of Receiving and Processing, Chief of Performing Arts Examining, and Special Assistant to the Register in charge of operations. She retired 3 years ago.

Melissa has served 3 years on the board, the most recent one as secretary. Among her goals for the WBL are good governance, growing membership, and increasing participation by ensuring that WBL events are enjoyable and meet the evolving needs of our members.

Candidate
for Treasurer

Rose Berman began to play bridge over 30 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 30 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 worked as an accountant for a small printing business. She is delighted to report that she has been retired for three years.

Rose is a club director, and regularly directs at the Laurel Bridge Club. She has been WBL Treasurer since 2012.

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

Candidate
for the Board



Hadi Abushakra has recently retired from the World Bank. He was the Chief Counsel for the Africa region prior to retiring. Hadi holds a JD in French law (Lyon University, France) a JD in Lebanese Law (St. Joseph University, Beirut, Lebanon) and an LL.M from Harvard Law School. He and his wife, Kathy Stuart, have a 22 year old daughter. Hadi speaks three languages fluently and enjoys running, reading (politics and history) and the cinematic arts.



Candidate
for the Board



Alexander Gretsinger started playing bridge in 2009, and joined the WBL that same year. He graduated from the University of Maryland with a BS in Computer Science in 2006. One of Clyde Kruskal's former students, he joined a board gaming group with Clyde and other long-time bridge players. A few years of interesting-sounding bridge discussions at the gaming table led Alex to the ACBL's excellent online resources, with which he taught himself the game. As a result, he has the somewhat unique experience of having played dozens of hands on Bridge Base Online before ever playing in person.

Today, Alex serves as the WBL's e-List Administrator and helps run the WBL website. If elected, he will work to expand the game's popularity with younger generations through social media and online presence. Alex would be honored to give the Board his unique perspective on how to grow the WBL and the game generally for years to come.

By day, Alex works as a defense contractor, specializing in data mining, software development, and database administration. He lives in Northeast D.C.

Candidate
for the Board



Lloyd Rawley is running for his second term on the Board. If you don't already know him, you've probably seen him schlepping two-liter bottles of Pepsi through Ohr Kodesh on Thursday nights. Lloyd is also

Chair of the WBL's Conduct and Ethics Committee. He has not yet had to convene a hearing, and hopes to keep this streak intact.

**WBL EDUCATIONAL
FOUNDATION**

Thanks to Dick Wegman and Barbara Ames, for bringing this project about!

The Washington Bridge League has established a new WBL Educational Foundation. Dick Wegman is president of the Foundation. The Foundation will promote bridge in the Washington area by developing teaching programs in middle schools and high schools in D.C. and suburban Maryland, and expanding opportunities for adults to learn bridge or improve their bridge-playing skills. Thanks to the efforts by Barb Ames, the IRS has now approved the tax exempt status of the Foundation, so all contributions are tax-deductible.

Adam Gann is our WBL bridge-in-schools coordinator. Adam has invited approximately a dozen schools (both middle and high school) to participate in the schools program starting this fall. The WBL is now looking for bridge players who would be interested in teaching in these school programs. Teachers will teach a uniform curriculum, and receive training using ACBL materials designed for first-time learners. Time commitments for bridge teachers (following training) would likely be a couple of hours per week over the course of a school semester. A modest stipend for teachers may be available from the ACBL. If you are interested in teaching (or otherwise participating) in the bridge-in-schools program, please contact Adam at adamgann@gmail.com.

To support the Foundation, Dick Wegman has taught several six-session bridge workshops for WBL players who are interested in improving their game. Participants have generously contributed the tuition for the workshops to the Foundation. If you would like to participate in future workshops, please get in touch with Dick at aliweg@aol.com.

The WBL Board has resolved to support the Educational Foundation in any way it can, including financially. Contributions from members are also welcome. If you would like to contribute directly to the Foundation, please contact Rose Berman, WBL Treasurer, at rose.berman@verizon.net.

NonLM Leaders

| Player | Points |
|------------------------|---------|
| 1 Adam Gann | 93.43 * |
| 2 Donna Hickling | 57.88 * |
| 3 Terry Klein | 41.95 * |
| 4 Duncan Thompson | 30.10 * |
| 5 Francesca Mazarella | 25.52 * |
| 6 Michael Corrigan | 25.31 |
| 7 Thomas Grahame | 24.78 |
| 8 Brian Sutton | 24.33 |
| 9 Walter Beckerman | 24.33 |
| 10 Jeffrey Yutzler | 22.99 * |
| 11 Vinod Shah | 22.75 |
| 12 Ila Shah | 22.75 |
| 13 Julie Marquette | 21.10 * |
| 14 Linda Dennis | 20.16 |
| 15 Dorothy Osterberger | 19.52 |
| 16 Phyllis Morgan | 19.07 |
| 17 Robert Gray | 19.07 |
| 18 Mary Ourand | 18.56 * |
| 19 Joseph LeBaron | 18.48 |
| 20 Daniel Morgan | 18.23 |

ADVERTISE? LOWER LOW RATES!

Advertisements are welcome in the *WBL Bulletin* which is published every other month. Printed and mailed subscriptions are no longer included with membership. Paid mailed and printed subscriptions are available: \$12/year WBL members; \$18/year non-members. (See p. 3.) The *WBL Bulletin* continues to be posted online with an email message sent to notify members of its posting. In recognition of this change, the WBL has reduced the already low advertising rates which have remained the same since 2009. The new rates are:

| | |
|--|--|
| \$90 \$125 for a full page ad | \$35 \$50 for a quarter page ad |
| \$50 \$75 for a half page ad | \$20 \$25 for an eighth page ad |

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

EXCITEMENT IS BUILDING FOR THE SUMMER 2016 WASHINGTON D.C. NABC

Once again, it's time for the big Party on the Potomac! Below is a synopsis of the key info you will need to make your participation in this summer's DC NABC enjoyable. The complete schedule of events and details about all topics (including parking) can be found at www.acbl.org and on our D6 website at www.districtsix.org.

Hospitality—As is our tradition, again we will feature the nationally known musical comedy group The Capitol Steps as our special entertainment—this will be following the evening session on Saturday, July 23. Order your free tickets from Barb Doran at DCHospitality@districtsix.org. Also, start your NABC experience off by staying after the evening session Friday the 22nd for the ACBL-sponsored Welcome Reception. Great food and dance band—cash bar.

Volunteering—Adrienne Kuehneman is again acting as our Volunteer Coordinator and we need daily volunteers for Registration, Information, Hospitality, I/N Program, and Partnerships. Please contact Adrienne at DCVolunteers@districtsix.org if you would

like to help out. It is very rewarding to help make such a huge event the “monumental” success it has always been!

Parking at the NABC—Arrangements for both on-site and off-site parking are ongoing—final details will be posted on the D6 website. The daily rate at the Marriott is \$28 (down from \$35 a day in 2009!). There is virtually no street parking during the week around the hotel. However, your local committee has been working hard to implement some lower-cost options:

LOCAL PLAYERS are encouraged to car-pool or to ride the Red Line Metro to off-set on-site parking fees as well as to enable a larger number of cars to park on-site than would be possible if everyone came in her own car. If you drive, a discounted \$20 parking fee will be offered Friday, July 22 through Saturday, July 30, or as long as funding holds out! These funds have been made available courtesy of your contributions to the **DC NABC FUNd Weeks**, by D6, and by Rusty Krauss, whose wealth management firm, KIG of Janney-Montgomery-Scott, is a Chief Corporate Sponsor of our NABC. The D6 website will have final details beginning in June, including what kind of additional ticket you will need in order to obtain this special rate.

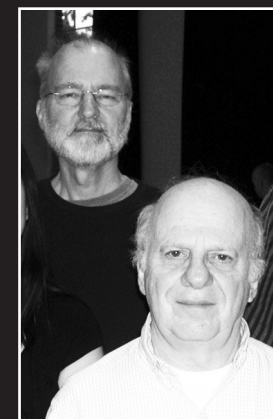
As a service to **OUT-OF-TOWNERS** who choose to stay at the Marriott Wardman Park or another local hotel where parking may be difficult and/or expensive, local players have offered their suburban residences as an “off-site” parking alternative. If you are interested in pursuing this option, please contact Fred King at DCParking@districtsix.org and beginning in June, he will pair you with a local who has offered this “service”. You will be required to sign a form, releasing the player who has offered street parking in front of her house or in her driveway, from any liability in the unlikely event any damage may occur to your car during such time as it is parked there—locals are offering space where they themselves and their house guests park their vehicles, but there are, of course, no guaran-

tees. You will be required to get yourself back to your hotel from the site where you leave your car—walking directions to the closest metro or phone numbers for cabs/Uber will be provided at such time as your request is confirmed. If you plan to come and stay the week or more, even a cab or Uber ride to and from the hotel will result in considerable savings.

NABC FUNd Week at the Clubs

From **June 13-19**, you can compete in sectionally rated games at your local club or Unit for just \$1 more. All of the extra money raised through these special games goes directly into the DC NABC FUNd to be used toward discounted parking, hospitality, and the like. Urge your club owners to sign up now! Sign-up forms can be found on the District 6 website at www.districtsix.org.

ROBINSON & BOYD BRING HOME THE WIN! from the Baldwin North American Pairs Reno NABC Final



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NL MASTER POINTERS

by I/N Columnist, Vince Wilmot, vwilmot@comcast.net

RULE OF 11

One of the most important skills to develop to improve your bridge game is counting. One of the tools you can use, particularly at no-trump is the rule of 11. Here's how it works:

When the opening lead is fourth best, take the spot lead, and subtract it from 11. This will tell you the number of cards higher than the card lead in the other two hands. For example, consider the following layout.

| North | | East | |
|-------|---------|------|-------|
| ♠ Q54 | | | |
| West | ♠ A7632 | East | ♠ KJ9 |
| South | | | |
| ♠ T8 | | | |

West led the ♠3 against 3NT. East subtracts 3 from 11, getting 8. There are three cards higher in the dummy, and three in East's hand. Therefore, East knows that there are two cards higher than the 4 in South's hand. As you can see, the count is accurate. When the jack holds at trick one, East can continue with the king and a low spade to defeat 3NT.

Let's try another hand. In this instance, West leads the ♠3. Dummy plays the ♠Q. You should win the king, and search elsewhere for tricks. Subtracting 3 from 11 leaves 8. There are two in the dummy and one in the East hand. We know that South has five cards higher than the three. It likely won't be profitable to continue playing spades.

| North | | East | |
|---------|--------|------|------|
| ♠ Q9 | | | |
| West | ♠ A653 | East | ♠ K2 |
| South | | | |
| ♠ JT874 | | | |

In the next example, West leads the ♠7

against 3NT. Subtracting 7 from 11 leaves 4. You can see one higher card in the dummy and three in the East hand. It is safe to follow with the ♠2, as south cannot have any cards higher than the ♠7. You will eventually cash five rounds of spades. If you overtake at trick one, West will have to get in again to lead spades through a second time.

| North | | East | |
|-------|---------|------|--------|
| ♠ K43 | | | |
| West | ♠ QT876 | East | ♠ AJ92 |
| South | | | |
| ♠ 5 | | | |

The defenders are not the only ones who can use the rule of 11. Observe the following hand. West leads the ♠8 against 1NT.

| North | | East | |
|-------|---------|------|-------|
| ♠ AQ5 | | | |
| West | ♠ KJ986 | East | ♠ 732 |
| South | | | |
| ♠ T4 | | | |

South subtracts 8 from 11, and gets 3. South knows that East has no cards higher than the 8 since there are two in the dummy and one in his hand. He can play low from the dummy, win the ♠T and later finesse the queen to get three spade tricks.

In the next example, the defender has to decide whether to go up or duck at trick one.

| North | | East | |
|--------|---------|------|-------|
| ♠ KT74 | | | |
| West | ♠ AJ865 | East | ♠ Q92 |
| South | | | |
| ♠ 53 | | | |

West leads the ♠6 against 3NT. Declarer puts in the ♠7. If East is counting, she will know that declarer cannot have any card

higher than the ♠6 and can put in the ♠9 with confidence. When it holds, they can continue with the queen, and set up multiple spade tricks for their side.

Things can go wrong. The most obvious one is when partner doesn't lead fourth best. In our last example, West leads the ♠6 against 3NT. In this case, East again figured that West must have ♠KJ96 and put in the ♠8 confidently. This did not work out well as declarer won an undeserved trick with the Jack. A bit more thought would have shown that it couldn't have been wrong to win the ace and play a spade back. Even if declarer did have a small singleton, the suit still runs.

| North | | East | |
|-------|-------|------|----------|
| ♠ Q7 | | | |
| West | ♠ K96 | East | ♠ AT8432 |
| South | | | |
| ♠ J5 | | | |

THE WASHINGTON BRIDGE LEAGUE IS ON FACEBOOK!

<https://www.facebook.com/washingtonbridgeleague>

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.

THE WBL ONLINE

The Washington Bridge League is providing two 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.

STEPPING UP TO NEW HEIGHTS: As of April 1, 2016

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Ms Lovelace Z Clark
Linda R Cohen
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Susan R Kiernan
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Mrs Bette S Levin
Ms Ann M Young
Mr Thomas L Bartlow
Ms Diane L Binnick
Mrs Irene Bloom
Christine Bond
Ms Candyece E Clark
Mr Tyler J Creighton

Dr Lynn R Gagnon

Cherry Goldblatt
Mr Theodore E Ravas
Jeffrey B Rosenbloom
Mr Charles L Scripps
Katherine L Tardio

Club Masters: 20 MPs

Ms Susan R Baker
Judy M Rovner
Mrs Michele C Conroy
Ms Darlyn J Counihan
Mr William W Davis
Jeff Frank
Judith D Fried
Mr Bernard Klein
Mr Joseph L Quinn
Gilda Rotman
Connie Smallwood

Sectional Masters: 50 MPs

Faye S Bildman
Ms Carol V Kuehl
Mrs Philippa J Radin
Mr Brian K Sutton
Linda R Weiner
Mrs Ellen N Forman
Lois L Gottlieb
Bruce L Harris
Mrs Charla H Lerman
Carole M Smith

Regional Masters: 100 MPs

Ms Wendy W Morrison
Mr Robert O Connor

Advanced NABC Masters: 300 MPs (incl. color)

Judy Retchin
Julie Marquette

1) Matchpoints You're Vul

♠ J74 ♥ 9862 ♦ A10 ♣ J854

| SOUTH | WEST | NORTH | EAST |
|-------|------|-------|------|
| Pass | 1 ♥ | 1 ♠ | 2 ♠ |
| Pass | 3 ♥ | 4 ♣ | 4 ♥ |
| 4 ♠ | Pass | Pass | 5 ♥ |
| ???? | | | |

2) IMPs You're Vul

♠ 10765 ♥ K93 ♦ 84 ♣ AK82

| SOUTH | WEST | NORTH | EAST |
|-------|------|-------|------|
| PASS | 1 ♠ | 2 ♦ | PASS |
| ???? | | | PASS |

3) Matchpoints None Vul

♠ AJ96 ♥ AK107 ♦ Q ♣ KQJ2

| SOUTH | WEST | NORTH | EAST |
|-------|------|-------|------|
| ???? | 1 ♣ | Pass | 1 ♥ |

4) Matchpoints None Vul

♠ 109754 ♥ J7 ♦ K5 ♣ J532

| SOUTH | WEST | NORTH | EAST |
|-------|------|-------|------|
| Pass | 1 ♦ | Pass | 1 ♠ |
| ???? | 1NT | Dbl | 2 ♠ |

5) Matchpoints Both Vul

♠ A3 ♥ J943 ♦ Q10984 ♣ 82

| SOUTH | WEST | NORTH | EAST |
|-------|------|-------|-------|
| Pass | 2NT | Pass | 2 ♠ |
| Pass | 3 ♠ | Dbl | 3 ♣ * |
| ???? | | | Pass |

* Bad hand bad suit

Return answers by May 12 to:

Steve Robinson

2891 S. Abingdon St #A2, Arlington VA,
22206 or 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)**.

To arrange a carpool, contact **Melissa Price**, *Carpool Coordinator*, at 301-464-1261 or melissadprice46@gmail.com.

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