

THE DUMMY

QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE DELAWARE STATE BRIDGE ASSOCIATION

AUGUST 2013
MARIE FILANDRO, EDITOR

UPCOMING EVENTS

NORTH AMERICAN BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS - ATLANTA AUGUST 1 - AUGUST 11

STaC - August 19 - August 25

Unit 141 Sectional
September 6 - September 8
Bala Golf Club, Philadelphia

Diamond State Sectional
September 20 - September 22
The Bridge Studio

Annual Membership Meeting &
DSBA Election
September 20 - 6:30 p.m.
The Bridge Studio

Unit 121 Sectional
September 27 - September 29
Highlands at Wyomissing

DSBA Open Pairs Championship
October 5 - 10:30 am & 2:00 pm
Upstate - The Bridge Studio
Downstate - Ocean View Presbyterian
Church

Unit 141 Sectional
October 11 - October 13
Bala Golf Club, Philadelphia

Unit 133 Sectional
October 18 - October 20
Allentown PA

NAP Flight C - Clubs - October 19

NAP Flight A - October 19 - 20
Harrisburg Bridge Club - Camp Hill PA

NAP Flight B - October 26
The Bridge Studio

LANCASTER REGIONAL OCTOBER 28 - NOVEMBER 3 LANCASTER HOST RESORT

President's Report

As the fiscal year draws to a close, so does my term as DSBA president. A Sectional tournament in Lewes, State Games in multiple sites, new By-laws, and bridge lessons for new players have been our greatest successes. Thanks for a job well done to: Julie Hockersmith and Barb Rhoades, teachers of bridge at the Bridge Studio, Marie Grabowski, assistant webmaster and editor of our new Membership Directory, Richard Popper and Peter Harris, Sectional Tournament chairs, Marie Filandro, editor of the Dummy and Dini Romito, teacher of bridge in Ocean View.

Members of the Board each contribute something special - a big thanks for all you do. Farewell to Bill Everitt and Harold Jordan who are leaving the board this year. Your time and contributions are noted!

Please plan to join us for our annual meeting Friday, September 20. The meeting will be held at the Bridge Studio between sessions of our Sectional. Elections of board members will take place then. Dessert will be served at 6:15 p.m followed by the annual meeting at 6:30 p.m.

On a personal note: Playing bridge has brought great pleasure to me and my husband Carl for over 30 years. Meeting bridge players wherever we travel has been a great experience. Introducing new players to our favorite pastime is the future of the club, the unit, and the ACBL. True success for Unit 190 will be measured by its ability to increase the membership.

Farewell! Trina

Annual Membership Meeting and DSBA Election

Friday, September 20 - 6:30 pm. - The Bridge Studio

The Annual Membership meeting will be held at the Bridge Studio during the September DSBA sectional. Dessert will be provided at 6:15 p.m. and the meeting will begin at 6:30pm on Friday, September 20th.

Members will be asked to vote their approval or disapproval of the following slate of candidates: Mary Boyd, Peter Harris, Barbara Rhoades, Rick Rowland, Eli Solomon and Jess Stuart. If this slate is approved, additional nominations will be taken from the floor and one additional Board Member will be chosen.

Kay Brown, Marie Filandro, Scott Freber, Bruce Gwaltney, Steve Herrmann, Julie Hockersmith and Richard Popper are returning for the second of their two-year terms. Harold Jordan and Bill Everitt will be retiring from the Board - with the thanks and appreciation of all DSBA members. Trina Williams will continue on the Board as Past-President for an additional year.

Advancement in Rank

Life Master

Phyllis Cohen
Charles Coltman III
Barbara Thayer

Bronze Life Master

Steve Herrmann
Michael Klein
Sharon Weintrob

Silver Life Master

Barbara Stockburger

Gold Life Master

Elizabeth Mallon

Pro-Am Pairs - Upstate and Downstate - June 26

Upstate - 1st - Jan Garber & Jill Itzkovitz
2nd - Samuel Yake & R Shenkin

Downstate - 1st - Nancy Steele and Peggy Comerford
2nd - Jean Moxley and Anne Ratledge

Top Masterpoint winners at Regionals and Sectionals

Valley Forge Regional - June 17 - June 23

Rick Rowland (68.81) Jeff Koltenuk (34.84) Bridgett Pitt (32.06)
Mooch Taylor (16.04) Phyllis Cohen (14.85) Judy Harrington (14.85)
Joe & Jean Brown (14.85) Christine Sullivan (14.85) Barbara Saulsbury (14.85)

Harrisburg Split Regional - July 22 - July 28

Rick Rowland (32.79) Debby & Andy Purbrick (18.20) Bridgett Pitt (15.15)
James Marshall (9.86) Anne Ratledge (9.86)

Wilmington Sectional - May 31 - June 2

Richard Popper (14.69) Rick Rowland (10.78) Jeff Ruben (7.47)
Christopher Marlow (5.74) Sam Amer (5.47) Monty & Anne Taylor (5.47)
Paul Amer (5.47) Spencer Kiernan (5.32) Barbara Rhoades (5.32)

1st State Southern Sectional - July 18 - July 20

Eli Solomon (19.47) Andy Stayton (19.09) Peter Harris (7.82) Peggy Comerford (7.63)
Jeff Ruben (6.75) Scott Freber (6.33) Charles Coltman III (6.33) Anna Delapo (6.03)
Barbara Saulsbury (5.81) Jean Moxley (5.52) Audrey Hildebrand (5.52)

DSBA OPEN PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIP
Saturday, October 5 - 10:30 a.m. & 2 p.m.
Northern Location - The Bridge Studio
Southern Location - Ocean View Presbyterian Church

Lunch will be provided between sessions - cost is \$20 per person

Pre-registration is requested by September 30th - you do not need to be a DSBA member to participate

For questions or to register contact:

Barbara Rhoades at (302) 375-6414 or bmossr@gmail.com - Northern Location

Dini Romito at (302) 537-5262 or Romitodini@aol.com - Southern Location

Additional information is available on the unit website.....www.unit190.org

2013 Diamond State Sectional

September 20 - September 22

The Bridge Studio

Friday, September 20

1 p.m. - Stratified Open Pairs (2000+/750-2000/0-750)
Stratified 199er Pairs (100-200/50-100/0-50)

DSBA members annual meeting and election will take place between sessions at 6:30 p.m.

Dessert served at 6:15 p.m.

7 p.m. - Stratified Open Pairs (2000+/750-2000/0-750)
Stratified 199er Pairs (100-200/50-100/0-50)

Saturday, September 21 - New Starting Times!!!

10 a.m. - A/X Pairs (4000+/0-4000)
Stratified B/C/D Pairs (1250-2000/750-1250/0-750)
Stratified 199er Pairs (100-200/50-100/0-50)

3 p.m. - A/X Pairs (4000+/0-4000)
Stratified BCD Pairs (1250-2000/750-1250/0-750)
Stratified 199er Pairs (100-200/50-100/0-50)

Sunday, September 22

11 a.m. & TBA - A/X Swiss Teams (4000+/0-4000)
B/C/D Swiss Teams (1250-2000/750-1250/0-750)

Pizza available for purchase between sessions.....

Visit the unit website www.unit190.org for additional information

Playing the Percentages, part 2 - by Pete Filandro

Let's discuss, in very general terms, the percentage actions to take during the bidding.

1. At Matchpoints, "Protect the Plus." This is the general advice (for matchpoint scoring, not IMPs) to get the best results for close bidding decisions in the long run. An example would be - don't stretch to bid thin games. If you stop at a marginal major suit partial and it happens to make 4, your score of PLUS 170 will almost surely get you some match points. If it happens to make only 3, your score of PLUS 140 will get you an above average. In general, contracts with a possibility of making game should be bid only when that possibility is nearly 50%, or higher.
2. At IMPs, "Bid vulnerable games aggressively." In this case the 50% rule does not apply. Let's use as an example (math has been simplified) a vulnerable major suit game. If you bid it and make it, you score +620. If your opponents do not bid it, they score +170. You gain +450. On the other hand, if you bid game and it makes only 3, you score -100, and if the opponents stop in 3, they score +140. You lose -240. The ratio of 450/240 is almost 2/1. So you should bid vulnerable games at IMPs whenever your chances are above about 36%.
3. Sacrificing - or bidding against opponent's sacrifices. If everybody is non-vulnerable, sacrificing at 5 of a minor against a major suit game and going down 3 will cost you -500, instead of the -420 you were going to have. At match points, this is a disaster that will give you a near-zero. Don't make "pushy" sacrifices. At IMPs, lean toward doubling the opponents, because +300 versus +420 is only a loss of 120. Or, when vulnerable, +500 versus +620 is also only a loss of 120. But you have 2 very big upsides. If the opponents misjudged and go down -800, you are much better off. Or, if your game was unluckily going to go down, you'll be happy to have a +300 or +500 instead of a -50 or -100.
4. Grand slam bidding. Be conservative. Most pairs will not get to a thin grand slam. Stay with the field and bid only a small slam unless you have overwhelming power. When you stop in what you think is a routine small slam, with chances for a grand slam, you might be surprised to look at the match point sheet and find that you got a slightly above-average result because 1, 2, or 3 of the pairs holding your cards stopped in 4 or 5!



Congratulations to Rick Rowland...he is a member of the team that won the Open Division of the District 4 GNT Finals in Kingston PA May 4 - May 5.

Do you have a copy of the new DSBA Directory?

Marie Grabowski has completed the DSBA Directory and members should be able to pick up a copy at their local Unit 190 club. If you are having difficulty obtaining a copy and would like one please email me filandro@aol.com or call me at 302-234-0623 and I will arrange for a copy to be sent to you.

Marie Filandro

STaC - AUGUST 19 - AUGUST 24 - BRIDGE STUDIO

Bridge Studio - 2013 Fall Lesson Schedule

Beginner

Monday mornings at 9:30 and Tuesday evenings at 7:00 for 10 weeks beginning the week of September 9.

The classes are interchangeable so feel free to go to either.

Teachers - Barbara Rhoades on Mondays

Julie Hockersmith on Tuesdays

Fee - Free! Free! Free!

Compliments of the Delaware State Bridge Association (Unit 190)

Pre-registration required by contacting Alexis at (302) 571-9092

or at alexiscic@aol.com

Class minimum is 12 students

Intermediate

Thursday mornings at 9:30 for 10 weeks beginning September 12.

Teacher - Julie Hockersmith

Fee - \$135 for the entire series or \$15 pay as you come basis.

Play for half price in the afternoon game.

Pre-registration required by contacting Alexis at (302) 571-9092

or at alexiscic@aol.com

Class minimum is 12 students

Advanced - Application and Analysis

Wednesday mornings at 9:30 for 4 weeks beginning September 4

Teacher - Tom

Play for half price in the afternoon game

Fee - \$15 per class pay as you come basis



Below the Canal - by Audrey Pugh

We welcomed back the following members who winter in Florida - Ralph and Liz Gordy, Rusty Vilk, and Freda Mesibov. We also are pleased to have new bridge players who have joined our Dover Clubs - Jim Peraro, Marcella and Bob Jackson, Debby Flayhart, Ruth Hoch, Cookie Bolig and Robert Hatton.

May 20th - Club Championship

1st - Susan Derrickson and Lila Childres

2nd - Ralph and Liz Gordy

3rd - Walt Bernadzikowski and Helen Flamm

2013 - First State Southern Sectional

The 2013 First State Sectional was held at the Lewes Presbyterian Church during the period July 18th to 20th. The venue was appreciated by most of the attendees and, in spite of outside temperatures above 90° a few players thought that it was a little too cold inside. However, I am sure that this did enable everyone to "keep their cool" this year, and every session appeared to be a great success.

During the three-day event, 125.5 tables were filled and this is an increase of 20 tables over last year. As a result, we made a useful profit, and the DSBA has approved a donation of \$300 to the church, which provides excellent accommodation for the event, at a very reasonable price. The remainder of the profit will go to the Unit 190 funds and help to pay for free bridge lessons in Southern Delaware, which Dini will organize during the Fall.

Our thanks are due to Dini, Anna and Dorothy (the three club owners in Southern Delaware) who gave tremendous support to the event. More thanks are due to Dini and her "beginners" as they took charge of the refreshments on the first day. In addition, thanks are due to many of the ladies who contributed their special treats and turned the snacks into a veritable feast! Nancy Steele did a wonderful job of coordinating the refreshments and I am certain that everyone was pleased with the fare.

The ACBL Director (Marc Labovitz) conducted the event very calmly and was always willing to explain his decisions. He was not called to the tables on many occasions and, in the view of most of the players, he was quietly efficient and very pleasant.

Anyone who attended the team games on Saturday must have noticed the incredible job done by Austin - our caddie for the day. Not only did he handle the boards, he helped in the kitchen, collected bidding boxes, assisted the director and anyone else who needed help. This young man deserves special recognition!

Peter Harris

DELAWARE STATE TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIP - UPSTATE - MAY 11

Flight A - 1st - Rick Rowland, Greg Burch, Corey Krantz and Martin Rabinowitz

2nd - Richard Popper, Jeff Ruben, Andy Kaufman, Andy Stayton

Flight B - 1st - Cindy Rowland, Barbara Rhoades, Gail Everett, Melissa Jessup

2nd - Alan Gross, Estelle Bogart, James & Marcelle Davidson

2013 DSBA Achievement Award Leaders

Bronze - 0 - 49

Jill Itzkovitz, Teresa Young, Bernhard Angermeier and Donald Pyne

Silver - 50 - 199

Angela Jones, Donna Vaughn, Barbara Saulsbury

Gold - 200 - 499

Spencer Kiernan, Pieter Vanbennekorn, Charles Coltman III and Scott Freber

Diamond - 500 - 999

Christine Matus, Colin MacKay, Jean Brown

Emerald - 1000 - 2499

Jeff Ruben, Peter Harris, Paula Varrassi

Platinum - 2500 - unlimited

Rick Rowland, Andy Stayton, Eliezer Solomon