

THE DUMMY

Quarterly Publication of the Delaware State Bridge Association ----- November 2014

UPCOMING EVENTS

LANCASTER REGIONAL

Oct. 27 - Nov. 2

SECTIONAL TOURNEY @ CLUBS

Nov. 10 – Nov. 16

DE STATE OPEN PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIP

November 15

BALA 0-500 TEAM GAME

November 17

NABC PROVIDENCE RI

Nov. 27 – Dec. 7

TREADWELL SECTIONAL

Dec. 27 – Dec. 31

UNIT 190 SECTIONAL

Feb. 20 – Feb. 22

DSBA PRESIDENT'S LETTER

I'm baaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaack!! I tried to escape, but it looks like you will have me for another year!

Honestly, I am flattered to have been elected, once again, to serve as President of the DSBA. It is an honor to be able to work with all of the hardworking and dedicated volunteer Board members. Returning are Rick Rowland, Alan Horowitz, Richard Popper, Caroline Hughes, Steve Herrmann, Eli Solomon, Jess Stuart and Peter Harris. Please join me in welcoming our new Board members: Ala Hamilton-Day, Barb Saulsbury, Andy and Debby Purbrick, and Soley Kristjansdottir.

A giant thank you goes out to retiring Board members Bruce Gwaltney, Marie Filandro, Kay Brown, Scott Freber, Julie Hockersmith and Trina Williams. For their hard work and service, please thank all of the Board members (returning, new and retiring), when you see them.

The DSBA Board has decided that the *State Team Championship* and the *State Open Pairs Championship* have run their course and 2014 will be the last year for these events. We will be replacing these games with something new and exciting, so stay tuned! In the meantime, don't forget to register for our final *State Open Pairs Championship* being held on November 15th at the Bridge Studio in Wilmington and at the Glade Clubhouse in Rehoboth Beach. Get ready for some fine food and fabulous fun! We are pulling out all of the stops for this grand finale. Visit www.unit190.org for details of this event and much more. And remember - when visiting our website, please register to join our mailing list.

As always, I welcome any comments, concerns or suggestions from our members and thank you all for supporting the DSBA.

Best regards, Barb



Delaware State Open Pairs Championship

Saturday Nov. 15th at 10:30 & 2:00

Southern Location

The Glade Clubhouse
16 Glade Farm Dr.
Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971

Northern Location

The Bridge Studio
Foulkstone Plaza
Wilmington, DE

You do not need to be a DSBA member to participate

The event will be a two session stratified or strati-flighted event with scoring across the field. Cutoffs for stratification will be determined by master points at game time.

*** Pre-registration is requested by November 10th ***

Cost for both sessions @ either location is \$25 per person

Catered lunch will be provided between sessions

For questions or to register contact

Northern Location: Rick Rowland at (302) 571-1827 or rickrowland@verizon.net

Southern Location: Dorothy Hand at 302-226-7776 or dorothyjhand@gmail.com



Don't miss this great event
and you just may be able to brag that **YOU** are the
2014 STATE CHAMP!!!

This event is the last event of the year that will go toward the Achievement Award Competition

Reversing Your Fortunes by Randall Berseth

Recently, I've noticed a lot of players having difficulty with auctions where a bid, called a **reverse**, is part of the equation. The partner who made a reverse would lack the proper shape, or strength, to make that bid. Nor did the partnership have any agreements about what, if anything, their responses would show. This has often led to the partnership reaching poor contracts and earning bad results.

The Encyclopedia of Bridge defines a reverse as, "an unforced rebid at the level of two or more in a higher ranking suit than that originally bid - - usually a strength-showing bid." The first suit is at least five cards and the second suit shorter. I like to have at least 16+ HCPs, but with more radical distribution, fewer points are required. For instance, a hand such as this: ♠x ♥AKxxx ♦AKxxx ♣x has great shape (think Gina Lollo-bridge-ida) and is good enough to open 1♦ and to reverse into 2♥. (Psst. If you normally open 1♥ with this hand shape, don't tell anybody.) The modern method is to play reverses as a one round force. If you hold ♠Kxxxx ♥xxx ♦- - - ♣xxxx and see the auction 1♦ - 1♠ - 2♥, partner may understand you passing. The player who reversed, however, has unlimited strength and may have an unexpectedly strong hand.

A hand such as ♠Ax ♥Axxx ♦AKxxx ♣Kx is the typical holding for an auction that begins 1♦ - 1♠ - 2♥. The shape and strength are described perfectly. Meanwhile, the hand of ♠Ax ♥Axxx ♦AKxx ♣Kxx is the wrong shape and begs for a 2NT rebid. This hand of ♠Ax ♥Axxx ♦Axxxx ♣Qx is the wrong strength and requires a 1NT rebid.

Another problem area is that the partnership does not know what responder's second bid shows. I often ask a long time partnership what their responses mean after a player makes a reverse. All too often I get a shrug and hear, "we have no agreements." You and your partner need to have some type of agreement as to what is a weak bid and what is a forcing bid.

There are several methods available to show a weak hand after partner makes a reverse bid. One of the simplest, both to remember and to use, is an agreement to play that a responsive bid of 2NT is weak and can be passed. This would show a hand with less than 8 HCPs. Any other bid by responder is game forcing and is a further attempt to describe their shape. This keeps the auction at a low level and makes communication easier for the partners to investigate for a game or slam. Responder, remember, often has a better idea of the total assets of the partnership and needs to be able to guide the auction to the correct level.

One other problem, which I see on a regular basis, is where a player has a hand with 11-15 HCPs and a shape of ♠xxxx ♥xxxxx ♦xx ♣xx. Since you have 11-15 HCP, you open with a bid of 1♥, and your partner bids 1NT. That is when you **should** bid your two-card ♣ suit. This doesn't feel very comfortable, but you know that partner, by bidding 1NT, denies four ♠. Bidding above 2♥ is only going to give your partner the wrong description of your strength. If your partner likes ♥ better than ♠, your partner will have to bid 3♥.

"One advantage of bad bidding is that you get practice at playing atrocious contracts."

- Alfred Sheinwold

BEGINNER LESSONS AT THE STUDIO

*Beginner Part II**

Fall/ Winter 2014/2015

Thursdays 9:30 with Julie Hockersmith

Agenda		
Lesson #	Date	Topic
11	November 20	Opening NT & Stayman
No Class	November 27	Thanksgiving
12	December 4	Opening NT & Transfers
13	December 11	Major Suit Responses
14	December 18	Minor Suits
No Class	December 25	Christmas
No Class	January 1	New Years'
15	January 8	Strong 2♣
16	January 15	Slam Bidding
17	January 22	Preemptive Bidding
18	January 29	Takeout Doubles
19	February 5	Overcalls
20	February 12	Review – Overcalling or Doubling
	February 19	Make-up Date

* See the website at www.bridge-studio.org/ for further details.

DSBA 1st State Southern Sectional

July 24 – July 26

Top Award Winners

- 1 28.41 Eliezer Solomon, Ocean City MD
- 2 28.41 Andrew Stayton, Rehoboth Beach DE
- 3 15.91 Jerry Scott, Selbyville DE
- 4 11.56 Donald Wand, Ocean City MD
- 5 10.26 Adelaide Schultze, Rehoboth Bch DE
- 6 10.12 Terry Dutton, Bivalve MD
- 7 9.23 Peter Harris, Milton DE
- 8 9.23 Paula Varrassi, Milton DE
- 9 9.14 Janelle Gmitter, Lewes DE
- 10 8.61 Charlotte Hahn, Ocean City MD

ADVANCEMENT IN RANK



ADVANCEMENT IN RANK

JUNIOR MASTER

Marilyn E. Haskins

CLUB MASTER

Sandra Stanberry

Kathy Wiblin

SECTIONAL MASTER

Ann M. Evans

Burt Modispaugh

REGIONAL MASTER

Gayle H. Truitt

LIFE MASTER

Barbara H. K. Saulsbury

BRONZE LIFE MASTER

Mary Lou Farnum

SILVER LIFE MASTER

Leonard T. Thomas

David R. Venetianer



2014 Dave Treadwell Sectional



December 27-31, 2014

Bridge Studio of Delaware

Saturday 27 th	10:00 am	Stratified Open Pairs (Open/2000/1000) Stratified NLM Pairs
	3:00 pm	Flight A/X Pairs (Open/5000) Stratified B/C/D Pairs (3000/2000/1000) Stratified NLM Pairs
Sunday 28 th 11:00 am 2 sessions play-thru	Flight A/X - Two Session Swiss (Open/5000) Flight B/C/D – Two Session Swiss (2500/1250/500) Pizza will be sold between sessions	
Monday 29 th	9:00 am	Stratified Open Pairs (Open/2000/500)
	1:30 pm	Flight A/X Pairs (Open/5000) Stratified B/C/D Pairs (3000/2000/1000) Stratified NLM Pairs
	7:00 pm	Flighted Swiss Teams Flight A/X (Open/5000) Flight B/C/D (2500/1250/500)
Tuesday 30 th	10:00 am	Stratified Open Pairs (Open/2000/1000) Stratified NLM Pairs
	3:00 pm	Flight A/X Pairs (Open/5000) Stratified B/C/D Pairs (3000/2000/1000) Stratified NLM Pairs
Wednesday 31 st	10:00 am & TBA	2 single-session Strat Pairs (Open/2000/1000) 2 single-session Stratified NLM Pairs Farewell '14 Party & Lunch Events will be scored single session (more MPs) 2-session commitment expected to party & play

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

Diamond State Sectional

September 19 – 21 TOP DSBA WINNERS

Richard Popper [16.08] Eliezer Solomon [15.15] Andrew Stayton [15.15] Paul Amer [7.49]

Rick Rowland [5.92] Peter Filandro [5.81] Marie Filandro [5.81] Robert Maier [5.45]

Samuel Amer [4.75] Spencer Kiernan [3.67] Colin Mackay [3.67] Jeff Koltenuk [3.64] William Everitt IV [3.53]

Nancy Bell [3.53] Edward Maser [3.53]

Board of Directors

The DSBA annual meeting was held on September 19th. The membership elected several new board members. Members of the new board are:

Ala Hamilton-Day, Peter Harris, Steve Herrmann, Alan Horowitz, Caroline Hughes, Soley Kristjansdottir, Richard Popper, Andy Purbrick, Debby Purbrick, Barbara Rhoades, Rick Rowland, Barb Saulsbury and Eli Solomon.

When you see a board member, please extend a big thank you to them for volunteering their time to serve our membership.

A note from the DUMMY Editor . . .

I've been a member of the DSBA Board of Directors for a little over one month. That gracious lady, Marie Filandro, was a member for eight years and was the editor of this newsletter for that amount of time. She did a fantastic job. Thank you.

Marie indicated that the last issue of the DUMMY might look a little different because of the word processing program on her new computer. Be aware that this issue will look radically different. Recently my laptop of seven years, bedecked with stickers from the various tournaments I've attended, gave up the ghost. Go figure. I've recently purchased a fancy touchscreen Surface Pro which converts into a tablet. Although I can write fairly well at times, and I can type like the wind on a Selectric typewriter, my word processing skills peaked in the late 70's. Beginnings are hard. Please contribute stories, articles, vignettes, manuscripts, treatises, old convention cards, or whatever items you might want to see on these pages. My email address is alabridge@aol.com. Thanks, Ala.

"Learn from the mistake of others. You won't live long enough to make them all yourself."

Alfred Sheinwold



2015 Blue Hen Sectional



Wilmington, DE February 20 - 22, 2015

Bridge Studio

Wilmington Delaware

Friday, February 20, 2015

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

Note new Friday starting times

Saturday, February 21, 2015

10:00 am Two Session Stratiflighted Pairs With Regional Rating
and Flight A/X (4000+/0-4000)
2:30 pm Flight B/C/D (1250-2500/750-1250/0-750)

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

2:30 pm Stratified Open Pairs (2500+/750-2000/0-750)
Side game Stratified 199er Pairs (100-200/50-100/0-50)

Sunday, February 22, 2015

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



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

**COMPLIMENTARY LUNCH EVERY DAY
BETWEEN SESSIONS!!**



2014 NLM Holiday Sectional



December 15-19, 2014

The Bridge Studio of Delaware

1409 Foulk Rd, Suite 101
Wilmington, DE 19803

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

MONDAY - DECEMBER 15

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

TUESDAY - DECEMBER 16

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

WEDNESDAY - DECEMBER 17

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

THURSDAY - DECEMBER 18

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

FRIDAY - DECEMBER 19

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

Silver Point Bonanza

Only NLMs with less than 500 MPs may participate

Stratification will be Director's discretion based on actual attendance

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

