



NATIONAL CAPITAL TOURNAMENT: OCTOBER 10 - 13, 2002

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10

♣ Stratified Open Pairs 10:30am
Washington Bridge Center, 1620 Elton Road, Silver Spring MD

♦ StrataFlighted Open Pairs (both sites) + Stratified 199er Pairs (*Christ the King Church only*) or Stratified 99er Pairs (*Beth El only*)
Beth El Congregation, 3830 Seminary Rd, Alexandria 7:00pm
Christ the King Church, 2301 Colston Drive, Silver Spring 7:30pm
Capital Beltway to Connecticut Ave. South. Left on East-West Hwy. Right on Grubb Rd. 1st left on Colston. The church is one block on the left.

*** * * * Remainder of Tournament held at White Oak Armory Only * * * ***
12200 Cherry Hill Road, Silver Spring MD

Capital Beltway East to US 29 North (Exit 30A- toward Columbia) or Capital Beltway West to MD 193 West (Exit 29 - toward Wheaton); go ½ mile and turn right on US 29 North. Go north 4 miles, then right on Cherry Hill Rd. Right on Robert L. Finn Dr. (immediately after Toyota dealer) and left into parking lot.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11

♥ Stratified Open Pairs (single sessions) 10:00am, 2:00pm & 8:00pm
♠ Stratified Senior Pairs (single sessions) 10:00am & 2:00pm
♣ Intermediate/Novice Pairs (single sessions) 10:00am, 2:00pm & 8:00pm
♦ Stratified Triple Nickel Swiss Teams, VPs 8:00pm

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12

♥ Stratified Senior Pairs (single sessions) 9:30am & 1:30pm
♠ Newcomer Pairs (0-5 masterpoints) 1:30pm
♣ 50/20/10/5 **Special 49er Stratified Trophy Pairs** 1:30pm
♦ StrataFlighted Open Pairs (single sessions) 1:30pm & **7:00pm**
♥ StrataFlighted Open Pairs (single sessions) 1:30pm & **7:00pm**
♠ Intermediate/Novice Pairs (single sessions) 1:30pm & **7:00pm**

Please Note the New Start Time for the Saturday Evening Session

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13

♣ A/X Swiss Teams, VPs 11:00am & TBA
♦ B/C Swiss Teams, VPs 11:00am & TBA
♥ 300/100/50 Swiss Teams, VPs (single sessions) 11:00am & TBA

*I/N events: 299er, 199er, 99er, 49er, & 0-20; Stratification at Director's discretion
Open and Senior Stratified events are: A = 1500+, B = 500-1500, C = 0-500
StrataFlighted events are: A/X = 3000+ / 0-3000, B/C = 500-1500 / 0-500*

Refreshments available throughout the tournament. **Scrip** awarded for 1st/2nd overall and section tops. **Information:** Lee Jensen, (301) 949-7467, lpj@lsr.nei.nih.gov.

ATTENTION!!! 0-49ers: Special Stratified Trophy Pairs (50/20/10/5). The WBL presents this game just for you!!! Trophies for winners of each stratum. Saturday, Oct. 12 at 1:30p.m. **Information/Partners:** Ben Laden at 202-244-1765.

WBL OMBUDSMAN

In an effort to provide confidential feedback to the Washington Bridge League Board of Directors, our Board has established a position called Ombudsman. Any player with helpful director issues including criticism or praise of the directing staff may contact the Ombudsman and be assured that the source of the information will remain confidential.

Ann Lindley serves as the first Washington Bridge League Ombudsman. Information should be provided in writing and may be handed to her at any game, or mailed to her at 18518 Grackle Way, Gaithersburg, MD 20879-1767. Ann has served on the Washington Bridge League Board and is an experienced and regular Washington Bridge League player.

In most cases, comments can be transmitted to Michael Carroad, Club Manager of the WBL Unit Game, or Millard Nachtwey, Tournament Chief Director and ACBL Field Representative, rather than to Ann. Under Michael's leadership, our game has grown to be the number one unit game in the United States. The Ombudsman will add a new conduit to Michael and our tournament directors for constructive progress.



DEADLINE: OCTOBER 17, 2002



TO SUBMIT NEW ARTICLES TO THE EDITOR FOR THE NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 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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Kitty Gottfried — *Unit Game Hospitality* (301-587-3981)
Rosemary Marks — *Prizes* (301-598-2405)

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PRESIDENT'S LETTER

by *WBL President, Barbara Doran*

Fall's here at last, and the sectional season is getting underway. The Washington Bridge League is holding an extra sectional this year, from September 26 through 29. While the sectional is being held in the clubs, it is not a STAC... come find out what all the excitement is about.

This is your Unit. We can't make things better for you unless you tell us what you care about. We will be surveying the membership about many things in the next issue. Take a look at the pre-survey panel discussion in this issue and send the editor, drogall@erols.com your comments and any new ideas so they can be printed alongside the survey.

The Board has been busy looking into new ideas that will make our Unit even better than it already is. We've been updating the policies... the finished product will be

distributed at the Unit Game and sectionals and will be available on the web. We're considering the feasibility of developing an on-line partnership desk. We've been discussing ways to improve our sectionals. We're considering making this publication available through email. If you have any ideas on how to improve Washington bridge, tell a board member.

Jim Coleman is taking a well deserved retirement. Thanks, Jim, for all your hard work!

We are looking for people who would be willing to teach beginning bridge classes. If you are interested, let us know.

I hope you all had a chance to attend the Washington NABC in July. We had a great Nationals! I'd like to thank all our members who worked so hard to make it a reality.

Until next time... *Barb*

OUR DISTRICT'S D.C. NABC CHAMPIONS

OPEN NATIONAL EVENT WINNERS

Imp Pairs



Ai Tai Lo & Alan Schwartz

Fast Pairs



Leo LaSota & Alan Kleist

RESTRICTED NATIONAL EVENT WINNERS

Wagar Women's KO



Beth Palmer, far right

199er Pairs



Calvin Cobb & Chip King

BITS AND PIECES

EDITORIAL

The survey is coming! The survey is coming! There is still time to add your questions, comments or suggestions. This issue contains a Pre-Survey Discussion Panel to help stir up your ideas. Your responses will help us design a study that will more accurately dig up answers as to how the WBL can best serve its membership. Personally, I like to vote with my feet only as a last resort. I hope you agree and will take part in this dialogue.

OUR CONDOLENCES

from the WBL Board

We would like to express our sympathies to WBL member and teacher, Barbara Summers for the loss of her daughter, Kathleen O'Neil and to Andy Gabrilovitch, former WBL President, for the loss of his wife, Wanda Gabrilovitch.

INVITATION TO CLUB OWNERS

We would like to print any news, upcoming special events, or interesting stories that your club may have in the *Bulletin's* new Club News column. Please send the information to drogall@erols.com. (Or, use the snail mail address or phone number listed on the inside front cover.)

ERRATA

Last month's GrandLMaster column by Ms. Mary Syker reported that the last hand occurred during the 1981 Bermuda Bowl. It actually occurred during the 1991 Bermuda Bowl.

DISTRICT 6 WEBSITE

All District 6 tournaments and other major events are listed at: <http://www.districtsix.org/Games/Tournaments/tourn2002.html> along with pointers to schedules when available and previous results.

PARTNERSHIPS

Need a Partner for Unit Games or Sectional Events?

Beginning this month, the WBL will expand its efforts to help players arrange partnerships for the Thursday evening unit game and for WBL sectionals. Players who would like assistance can obtain help either on-line or by contacting one of the WBL's partnership coordinators:

(1) **On-line partnership desk.** The WBL has established an on-line partnership desk on its web site. The WBL is the first unit in the country to do this. Players can sign up, indicate which events they are available for, and find out if other players are available for the games they wish to play in. The on-line desk can be easily accessed by logging on to the WBL web site (www.washingtonbridgeleague.org), and simply clicking on the partnership desk. Please give it a try.

(2) **Partnership coordinators.** For those who prefer assistance in person, three people have volunteered to help players find partners in advance of the unit game or sectional events. Fred King will assist players in Flights A/X (the5kings2@aol.com; 703-536-1914). Charity Sack and Barbara Rothkin will assist players in Flights B and C (charity@charitysack.com; 703-963-7027; brothkin@aol.com; 301-493-9359). Please let them know as early as you can what game or events you would like to play in.

Madge Gallant will continue to be available to help anyone who comes on Thursday evening needing a partner.

Good luck, and we look forward to seeing you on Thursday evenings and at the WBL sectionals.

NEW WBL WEB ADDRESS

The WBL web address has changed to: www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org.

CLUB NEWS

The Laurel Bridge Club

“Van the Man” Game

For the eleventh year, the Laurel Bridge Club will host its annual "Van, the Man" Charity Bridge Game to support the Midnight Basketball League (MBL). Starting this year, however, they are also supporting BridgeAtSchools. Both charities are dedicated to helping children.

The Midnight Basketball League provides a safe adult-supervised environment for kids to exercise, compete, and learn teamwork during a timeframe when organized youth activities are lacking. BridgeAtSchools is aimed at creating and implementing a school curriculum to help children develop math, critical thinking and social skills, while introducing them to bridge and creating future bridge players.

The Charity Bridge Game will be held on November 16th at the Deerfield Run Community Center in Laurel MD. In addition to the Championship bridge, there will be a silent auction, multiple raffles, dinner, and the auctioning of professional partners. Past years have seen the auctioning of partners for the night of such bridge greats as David Treadwell, Steve Robinson, Alan Sontag, Mike Cappelletti, and so many other generous World and National champions. The food and activities will start at 5:30PM with the partnership auction and game beginning at 7:30PM. Please come out, bring your friends, and join us in this outstanding event to support the Midnight Basketball League and BridgeAtSchools.

For more information on this event or these fine charities, call 301-776-5992 or 301-776-3581. The Deerfield Run Community Center is located near the intersection of Route 197 and Contee Road in Laurel, MD.

The Washington Bridge Center

Jim Coleman Retires..... by Jim Allen

“May I have your attention, please” a deep authoritative voice queries? As your attention diverts from throbbing eardrums, you hear “welcome to our...” and Jim Coleman is starting a new game: as many as 10 per week during his long tenure. Jim will be moving to Bethany Beach, Delaware at the end of September. He will be missed.

Jim began directing for Millard at the Karpin Bridge Studio in 1972 after it had located in Wheaton. He retired from the U. S. Senate after a career that included work with the Government Printing Office. Kentucky Senator Ford honored Jim by letting

him take early retirement for his dedicated service on the “hill.”

Jim has been a club director for the YMCA bridge games in Florida as well as for the Bridge Club of Baltimore. For the last six years he has done many jobs including computer work and directing for the Washington Bridge Center.

For the last two years Jim has managed the JCC Bridge games and has served as Manager for the WBL Thursday night game with responsibility for reports to the ACBL. Jim also began the start-up for the WBL dealing machine and has created numerous predealt hands for the league, club and tournament games as far away as Atlanta. Jim’s responsibilities are wide spread. Both Michael and Millard cite Jim for his dependability, reliability and very hard work.

Jim says, “I like to play bridge and work with computers.” As a fill-in and as a partner he has played with more people than anyone else at the Washington Bridge Center. He has straightened out problems and done many unheralded things to make sure the games proceeds smoothly. A poem:

“Arrivederci, never goodbye,

to the best Director and a really nice guy.

He’s been in bridge since who knows when; we will never see such competence again. God Bless you with happiness and good health, you have sweet Carmela so you don’t need wealth.”

A Friend

Jim will be moving to his home off the beach in a very quiet area. He will have tranquility and peace. However, he might pop up at the unit game in Wilmington or one of the many clubs at the beach or back here just for fun. Carmela will join him when she retires this January.

WBC Roman-Keycard/ Kickback Class

On Sunday, October 20 at 6:30 PM and Wednesday, October 23 about 2:00 PM after the 10:30 game has finished, **World Champion Steve Robinson** will be teaching Roman-Keycard/Kickback, part of his famed advanced bidding class. This one session class is especially helpful for those interested in bidding good slams and avoiding bad slams.

Please sign up at the Washington Bridge Center or call 301-445-0276 to be included on the sign-up list. The class is \$20. Pay when you show up. Anyone that comes on Sunday night may come back on Wednesday, free of charge for a refresher.

BRIDGEATSCHOOLS, INC.
INVITES YOUTH TO
SATURDAY COMPETITION

by Beth Maloney-Refaie, Director
Bridgeatschools@aol.com

Since early June, fifth graders at Arthur Slade Regional Catholic School in Glen Burnie have been learning the basics of bridge. They have been learning to sort hands, play in rotation, take tricks, name “magic” suits, count points, and score up results. And they’ve been learning how to be civil and respectful of the other players at the table and work in partnership, too. The summer program culminated last month in an inter-school youth competition held on Saturday at the Hunt Valley Regional. Participants from the Highland View Elementary after-school program led by volunteer teacher Frances Burke tested their skills, too.

How did this come about? Administration at Arthur Slade decided to make bridge **compulsory** for all fifth graders – even in summer school – once presented a complete description of the BridgeAtSchools, Inc. program for elementary and middle school children. Local volunteer mentors Linda Smith of Annapolis and Mary Dresser of Laurel have worked with staffed teachers at Arthur Slade to introduce the game to a regular crowd of 8 full tables!

For the fall program, a new set of lesson plans tied to 25 national education standards will be ready so that the regular staffed teachers, who had no prior bridge experience, can teach the basics on their own with occasional support from volunteer mentors in the bridge community. Besides bridge, each lesson has math, critical thinking, and social skills components tied to it, along with written exercises and question-and-answer drills which promote analysis and reinforce basic concepts. The lessons have been written by a professional team of curriculum developers who play bridge and are highly experienced with this age group.

Research has shown that when kids understand the long-term goal of playing in inter-school competitions, interest and focus are heightened, and kids virtually sell the program to other kids. Some of the kids even asked if their parents could come and play, even though the parents don’t know bridge!

What happened? We had a successful youth bridge game! Kids played a shortened two session team event with the day ending in prizes and certificates. Millard Nachtwey, Tournament Director, helped BridgeAtSchools coordinate the event. They loved it and are ready to come to another event. What else happened? The parents loved it and ended up kibitzing their children for the entire two session event. They were hooked and some were planning to have their kids teach them how to play the game. Visit our website to view pictures from the event.

If you are interested in mentoring a child or teacher, making a tax deductible donation or starting a program in your area. Please contact us at 302-765-9799 or go to our website at www.bridgeatschools.org.

**SHUTTERBUG
NEEDED**

The WBL is looking for a photographer or team of photographers. We need someone who is available to take winners’ pictures at sectionals and at other special events. The pics will be published in this bulletin.

***Earn free plays
and contribute your talents
to our league!***

Contact the Editor,
Donna Rogall at:

(301) 421-9615

or

drogall@erols.com

IN MEMORIAM

JEANNIE STENGER

June 18, 1924 - August 4, 2002

*Compiled by Donna Rogall, Editor
from notes from Charles A. Stenger*



Jeannie first started playing duplicate bridge in 1947. It was still such a rare occurrence in 1959 when she became a Life-Master that they stopped the Miami Southeastern Regional to present her gold card! Since

then, she earned more than 11,000 masterpoints, winning in sectionals and regionals plus a few 'near misses' in national events. She is ranked 48 among WBL masterpoint leaders and was a WBL member since 1964.

Nevertheless, she is far better known for her unflinching warm smile and friendly demeanor by all whose lives she touched whether at the bridge table or otherwise. She is also well known for her funny socks that opponents often wanted to see before a card was played! In every respect, she was known as a beautiful person who added to the enjoyment of the game for most participants. This quality was recently recognized by the ACBL when on July 22nd, during the recent Nationals, she was honored, along with her husband Charlie, by being named "goodwill players of the year." She was already hospitalized but learned of the honor later that day.

She contribute to bridge in many ways for many years. She co-hosted the very first US Congress vs. British Parliament bridge match held in Washington while Charlie was on the ACBL National Board of Directors. She served as Treasurer for several nationals held in

Washington and manned the information desk at many WBL sectionals and regionals. She still functioned as Information Liaison for the WBL's sectional and regionals.

Jeannie was happily married to Charlie for 56 years. He called her his best friend 'most of the time' (except when, as he admits, he did something unusually stupid at the bridge table). As her diabetes gradually worsened over the last few years—and she could play less frequently—she called him her 'guardian angel' who was always at her side. She died unexpectedly on Aug. 4th while still hospitalized and was buried in Arlington National Cemetery, as Charlie was a WWII combat medic and prisoner-of-war in Germany.

She will be remembered for her warmth and friendliness as well as her competitive spirit. Here is Charlie's tribute to his wife:

A Loving Tribute to Jeannie Stenger

"Jeannie was truly a beautiful person to everyone whose life she touched. With a warm smile on her face and funny sox on her feet, she invariably brightened their day.

We were married for many, many happy and loving years. Whether together at home, on the road, out with friends, or even at the bridge table, we were each others' best friend. On our 56th wedding anniversary celebrated on June 29th of this year, she gave me a card that says it all:

'Certain things just go together very naturally and I'm so glad I go with you, and you go with me.'

I will miss her every single day of the rest of my life, and I know you share my loss. The letters, the cards, the charitable donations - and especially the hugs - have helped tremendously. Thank you to so many from the bridge community in the greater Washington-Baltimore area for 'being there' for me at this very sad time of my life."

Charles A. Stenger

WBL SOLVERS' CLUB

Moderated by Steve Robinson
robinswr@erols.com

Congratulations to Josh Sher who came in first with a score of 480. He wins a free entry to the Unit Game and will be invited to be on a future panel. Second was Hailong Ao with a score of 470. Third was David Rodney with a score of 460. Tied for fourth were Kevin Avery, Clyde Kruskal, Pete Whipple, Paul Benedict, Bryan Macpherson and Jim Allen with a score of 450. Tied for tenth were Bob Klein and Rick Eissenstat with a score of 440. Tied for twelfth were Barbara Israel, Mark Rosen, Larry Myers, Mike Richey, Kent Goulding and Sam Gumbert with a score of 430. Tied for eighteenth were Chris Marks, Lyle Poe, Dave Smith, Mike Henderson, Ransome Price, Bob Wissman, Ed Kinlaw, Mel Welles, Robert Boorman, and Mark Chen with a score of 420. The average score of the 193 solvers was 361. The average score of the experts was 412.

All readers are encouraged to send answers and/or new problems to Steve Robinson, 2891 S. Abingdon St. #A2 Arlington, Va, 22206. 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, Steve 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. WBL Solvers Club uses Washington Standard as published July 1996.

Washington Standard second edition the book, is out. If you are a serious bridge player, this book is a must. You can purchase

a copy from Steve for \$25.00 at the Unit Game and at tournaments or can send him a check for \$28.95 which includes \$3.95 for priority mail.

1) IMPs Both Vulnerable. You, South, hold:

AK/K/10987/AKJ765

<u>SOUTH</u>	<u>WEST</u>	<u>NORTH</u>	<u>EAST</u>
1♣	Pass	2♣*	2♠
???	*Inverted 10+		

<u>Action</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Panelists</u>	<u>Solvers</u>
Pass	100	3	10
3♦	80	1	47
3NT	70	2	42
2NT	60	1	6
4♥	50	1	3
3♠	50	1	56
4♦	40	0	3
3♣	20	0	5
6♣	20	0	2
5♣	20	0	4
Double	20	0	3
4NT	20	0	5
4♣	20	0	4
3♥	20	0	3

It would be nice to find out how strong partner is. Partner could have a limit raise or a game-forcing raise in clubs. Simple! Pass and let partner describe his strength. If he bids 3♣, you know that he has a limit raise. Any other call shows a forcing raise. If partner bids 3♦ showing a forcing club raise with diamond values, we can bid RKC. If partner bids 3♥ showing wasted heart values we can bid three notrump. Give partner xx/AQJ/QJx/Qxxxx and we want to be in three notrump. Give partner xx/QJx/AKx/Qxxxx and 6♣ is cold. Give partner xx/AQx/AKx/xxxxx and 7♣ is cold. Once partner shows his strength, it will be easier to find

the correct strain. If you take away the queen of hearts from the above examples, partner would have a limit raise and bid 3♣. Now would be the time to bid 3♦. 3♦ allows partner to bid 3♥ showing heart values. Only if partner has nothing in hearts would we try to play in clubs. If partner has xx/QJx/AQx/Qxxxx, you don't belong in slam.

Two experts agree with me and let partner describe his strength.

Schwartz: "Pass---Need to know what sort of hand partner has. I have nothing good to say, certainly not bidding my diamond suit. 3♠ just takes up room with no clear message."

King: "Pass---Let partner clarify if he has a limit raise or a forcing raise."

Two experts try to get partner to look at his diamond holding.

Woolsey: "3♦---This is going to be very difficult hand to bid accurately since partner's exact diamond holding is the key to success of a slam and that will be difficult to find out. My best bet is to first bid diamonds where I need his cards to be working, follow with some cuebid which makes it clear that I have slam in mind, and hope he judges correctly."

Partner will think his AQx of diamonds is perfect but you need him to have no diamond losers.

Parker: "4♥---Splinter. I want partner to look at his diamonds and hearts and decide if we have a slam. If he has wasted hearts we should play 5♣. If he has good diamonds then slam should be on. If three notrump is correct I don't know how to explore it and show this good a hand. 3♠ should ask for a stopper and 3♦ misdescribes my strength. Give him xx/Jxx/AKQ/xxxx, we are cold for slam and he has an absolute minimum."

Give him x/AQJ/Jxxx/Qxxxx and 5♣ is in jeopardy.

Shaw: "Two notrump---Forcing. Over 3♣

nonforcing I bid three notrump. Over three notrump I bid 4♣ slam try."

Two notrump is not going to help you with your slam intentions. A direct two-notrump call shows extra values. Only if partner has a poor distributional hand such as x/x/KQJxx/Qxxxx would he bid 3♣. With most other hands, he'll bid three notrump.

Three notrump is going to end the auction. Give partner x/xx/KQJx/Qxxxx and you might not even make three notrump.

Hopkins: "Three notrump---I believe this shows 18-19 HCPs, supposedly balanced. With my honors concentrated in my short suits, I could easily have a loser in each red suit if we were to get to a club slam. If partner moves on, I will reconsider."

Lerner: "Three notrump---King of hearts may be worthless in 6♣ and partner needs a perfect hand or extras to make it."

Adams: "3♠---Shows a spade stopper in Washington Standard. Will raise three notrump to four notrump expressing values."

Three spades shows a spade stopper if you're playing Eastern Cuebids. You might want to play game in three notrump but don't you want to play slam in clubs?

Let partner describe his hand.

2) MPs You Vulnerable. You, South, hold:

J1075/A6/65/AKJ104

<u>SOUTH</u>	<u>WEST</u>	<u>NORTH</u>	<u>EAST</u>
1♣	1♠	Double	2♠
Pass	Pass	Double*	Pass
???	*Takeout		

<u>Action</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Panelists</u>	<u>Solvers</u>
3♣	100	5	75
Pass	80	3	45
2NT	50	1	56
3NT	30	0	15
3♥	20	0	1
3♠	20	0	1

Partner's double shows extra values and he wants to compete. 1=4=5=3, 1=5=4=3 or 2=4=4=3 are partner's most likely distribution. If partner has the latter, the opponent's are in a seven-card fit and should be really hurting. Even if partner has only one spade, spades are not splitting and the opponents have marginal values. If you pass the double and partner leads your suit, the defense will be on the right track.

Two experts agree with me and defend. We have four likely defensive tricks. If partner has three tricks we should get 300.

Lerner: "Pass---Matchpoints and all we have are three seven- card fits if partner has likely 1=5=5=2. Hope the Law protects me."

Schwartz: "Pass---If double shows two spades, then I would pass. I would have bid 3♣ the first time. I want to bid three notrump but can't bid that now as that would be hanging partner."

Six experts remove the double with five choosing their strong five-card suit.

Woolsey: "3♣---If partner makes another move, I'll try three notrump. If he passes, three clubs may be the limit of the hand."

Shaw: "3♣---Is this a two-card double? The vulnerability is wrong for passing it anyway."

Hopkins: "3♣---Partner's pattern should be something like 1=5=5=2, 1=4=5=3, 1=5=4=3, or maybe 1=4=6=2 with around 10-11 HCPs. 3♣ should play well against any of these. At IMPs, I would consider two notrump and three notrump calls, but 3♣ should be safer."

Adams: "3♣---Pass is really silly when they have an eight- card fit, and I have good clubs and no certain trump trick. Partner rates to be 1=4=5=3 for this action. I play two notrump as take out, but partner should expect me to be 4=3=2=4 for failure to bid suits he has shown on the previous round."

I guess you have never overcalled in a four-card suit.

King: "3♣---I don't think I have the right hand for passing, although it might be worth a shot if they were vulnerable, and I think 3♣ is better than two notrump as I probably do not even have a spade stopper."

Since partner should be short in spades, 3♣ figures to play better than two notrump.

Parker: "Two notrump---We all have at most an eight-card fit. No sense in getting to the three-level. My hand should produce at least six tricks. I am not sure they will go down and since they are not vulnerable, I see no reason to play for plus 100 by leaving the double in."

A point to consider when passing a strength showing double is the opening lead. In this case, partner is very likely to lead a club which will not blow a trick.

3) MPs None Vulnerable. You, South, hold:

3/KQJ3/-/AKQ107654

<u>SOUTH</u>	<u>WEST</u>	<u>NORTH</u>	<u>EAST</u>
????			

<u>Action</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Panelists</u>	<u>Solvers</u>
4NT	100	2	9
1♣	80	3	96
2♣	80	3	72
5♣	40	1	7
4♣	20	0	1
6♣	20	0	7
3♣	20	0	1

Another simple problem. Ask partner how many aces he has. If he has no aces, you should make exactly 5♣. If he has one ace, you are at least 70% to make 6♣. Two-thirds of the time, his ace will be a major-suit ace. If he has the diamond ace, they might lead a diamond. If partner has two aces, you should make 6♣ and if he has three aces, seven notrump. Four notrump also turns out to be a good preempt. If its the opponent's hand, they are starting out at the five-level.

One expert agrees with me and makes the simple bid.

Woolsey: "Four notrump---Blackwood. Opposite zero aces I play five clubs, opposite one or two aces I play six clubs, and opposite three aces I play seven notrump. In addition to probably getting to our best contract, this may preempt the opponents out of their contract."

The following three experts are very unlikely to find out how many aces partner has but they might get doubled in 5♣.

Shaw: "1♠---If I open 2♣ partner could hang me. If 5♣, we miss six if partner has the right ace. How would he know I have eleven tricks in my hand?" **Schwartz:** "1♠---What else. Why preempt with this good a hand? Maybe by bidding slowly, will get doubled."

King: "1♠---I don't like to open 2♣ playing control responses when I have a void."

The following three experts open 2♣. They will never be able to sit for partner's penalty double and could get too high. Holding AKQ/Axx/QJ10xx/xx, partner might try six notrump when he finds out you are off an ace.

Hopkins: "2♣---I can't say anything printable about any other opening bid (except perhaps something like 1♠, embarking on an adventure!)"

Adams: "2♣---Either side might have slam, but this seems a good start toward getting my side there first. With control response, will find out if in range or not."

Lerner: "2♣---Maybe partner holds hearts and can bid them. 6♥ should be good at matchpoints even if we have 7♣ or 7♥. 2♣ seems more likely to get partner to cooperate with an ace or two."

Opening 5♣ might push the opponents to the five level but partner will not know that you have a good hand and could let them play undoubled. 5♠ undoubled down four for plus 200 would not be a good score.

Parker: "5♣---Who knows whose hand

this is? I want to put the most pressure on the opponents. I can with this type of hand. If partner has a good hand maybe he will raise. In second seat after a pass. I would open 6♣ since partner now may hold a better hand."

Opening four notrump is Blackwood.

4) MPs Both Vulnerable. You, South, hold:

/-18765/109765/Q543

<u>SOUTH</u>	<u>WEST</u>	<u>NORTH</u>	<u>EAST</u>
???		1♦	1♠
<u>Action</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Panelists</u>	<u>Solvers</u>
4♦	100	2	20
3♦	90	5	89
5♦	70	0	12
2♦	40	0	19
1NT	40	1	0
Pass	40	1	37
Double	40	0	14
2♠	40	0	1
5♣	20	0	1

The opponents have at least a nine-card spade fit and you have at least a nine-card diamond fit. Since there are at least 18 total tricks, (you get the total tricks by adding the number of their spades and the number of your diamonds making basic assumptions about length) you can't let the opponents play at the three level. If you bid only 3♦ and they bid 3♠ it will be a Law violation to allow them to play it there. You will have to bid 4♦ giving the opponents a fielders choice. However, if you bid 4♦ directly you put it to them. They cannot play a Lawful 3♠. If they bid 4♠ and partner has a spade stack, he can lay down the ax or if partner has a distributional diamond hand, he can bid 5♦. One expert agrees with me and follows the Law.

Adams: "4♦---Bid one more with a void. Partner should be well place to double them in 4♠ if he has a stack."

Another reason to bid 4♦. Voids are hard to evaluate so when in doubt bid more with a void.

Five experts are potential Law breakers.

Woolsey: "3♦---Looks just about right for a preemptive raise. Partner can carry on if there is more bidding to be done."

But if it goes 3♠ back to you, you know that there is more bidding to be done.

Shaw: "3♦---Preemptive."

Schwartz: "3♦---Tempting to bid four, but partner will be able to evaluate his spade holding."

Lerner: "3♦---Double may be more strategic, but I only can make one bid with this trash."

Its right to make one bid. You just have to make the right one bid.

King: "3♦---I don't want to bid more and force them to bid 4♠ which I don't really want to defend."

I would love to hear LHO bid 4♠ since partner is allowed to have a spade stack.

One expert gives the opponents a free run.

Hopkins: "Pass---I might get a chance to bid again with more information available. If I bid now we are likely to get overboard or recording a -790 or such. Perhaps partner will do something helpful."

Partner is going to have spades and therefore is going to be conservative.

Parker: "One notrump---Somehow I want to slow them down and not get partner too excited. Maybe they will double and I can start running in clubs and hearts for a while."

The problem with bidding one notrump is that you can't pass partner's penalty double.

If you blindly follow the Law your results will get better. When both sides have nine-card fits you want to force the auction to the four level.

5) MPs Both Vulnerable. You, South, hold:

K42/J4/Q432/K1032

<u>SOUTH</u>	<u>WEST</u>	<u>NORTH</u>	<u>EAST</u>
		1♥	1♠

???

<u>Action</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Panelists</u>	<u>Solvers</u>
Double	100	6	66
1NT	70	2	122
2♥	50	1	1
2♠	20	0	1
Pass	20	0	3

The experts think about one notrump but vote to double. The spade spots are not good enough for one notrump. I'm sure that the experts would bid one notrump holding K102 of spades and I would do so also. Doubling works when partner has a four-card minor but what does partner do when he is 2=5=3=3? He has to bid a three-card minor. If East had passed, how would the auction likely go? You would respond one notrump, partner would bid two-of-a-minor and you would have bid 2♥. So if partner has a weak notrump with five hearts and East had passed, you would play this hand in 2♥. Why not go directly to 2♥? There has been little said about the two-card major-suit raise. 2♥ has to be a reasonable contract and majors score more than minors. Holding the king of spades in dummy will slow down the forcing defense. If East has the ace of spades, he'll probably find some other lead. Also the raising on two could get the opponents to under-estimate the number of heart losers.

Two experts bid one notrump. Just what you want is a spade lead thru partner's Qx.

Parker: "One notrump--- OK what is the trick here? Am I supposed to make a negative double and then have it go 2♠ and have partner bid 3♥? I can always come back in with a double over 2♠ if it goes back to me."

If they bid 2♠ and you double you have QJ109 of spades not Kxx.

King: "One notrump---I prefer this to a negative double at matchpoints."

Five experts make a negative double. I wonder if they are going to bid 2♥ if partner bids two-of-either-minor.

Woolsey: "Double---If this isn't a model negative double, what is? My next action will depend on what partner does."

Shaw: "Double---Negative. Am I missing something? One notrump needs to bid from partner's side anyway."

Hopkins: "Double---Most flexible. I can play in many strains and might even be able to get the contract right-sided (partner's side) if we end up in notrump."

Schwartz: "Double---My hand is much more suited for a trump fit if we have one.

Also one notrump will leave myself poorly placed if they raise spades."

Adams: "Double---One notrump is possible, but wrong sides if partner has any number of minor spade honor holdings. Partner can bid one notrump without full stopper lacking a suit to bid."

Is he supposed to bid one notrump in response to the double holding 32/AQ1032/432/AQ2?

Lerner: "Double---Hope partner bids one notrump and I can complain about my spots."

There are some hands where the two-card major suit raise makes sense.

Make every card count!

SOLVERS' SCORES

John Adams	3♠	3♣	2♣	4♦	Dbl	430
Robbie Hopkins	3NT	3♣	2♣	Pass	Dbl	390
Fred King	Pass	3♣	1♣	3♦	1NT	440
Gerald Lerner	3NT	Pass	2♣	3♦	Dbl	420
Steve Parker	4♥	2NT	5♣	1NT	1NT	250
Steve Robinson	Pass	Pass	4NT	4♦	2♥	430
Alan Schwartz	Pass	Pass	1♣	3♦	Dbl	450
Mark Shaw	2NT	3♣	1♣	3♦	Dbl	430
Kit Woolsey	3♦	3♣	4NT	3♦	Dbl	470

WBL SOLVERS' PROBLEMS

November/December 2002

1) IMPs, You Vul, You, South hold:

AK10/AQ3/J106/10952

<u>SOUTH</u>	<u>WEST</u>	<u>NORTH</u>	<u>EAST</u>
PASS	PASS	DBL	3♦
?????			PASS

2) IMPs, You Vul, You, South hold:

982/543/AKJ54/92

<u>SOUTH</u>	<u>WEST</u>	<u>NORTH</u>	<u>EAST</u>
	1♥	2♣	2♥
?????			

3) IMPs, None Vul, You, South hold:

543/43/543/K9876

<u>SOUTH</u>	<u>WEST</u>	<u>NORTH</u>	<u>EAST</u>
	1♣	DBL	1♥
PASS	1NT	DBL	PASS
?????			

4) MPs, Both Vul, You, South hold:

K/3/K106543/AK543

<u>SOUTH</u>	<u>WEST</u>	<u>NORTH</u>	<u>EAST</u>
		1♠	PASS
2♦	2♥	2♠	4♥
?????			

5) IMPs, You Vul, You, South hold:

32/KQ1093/1043/AJ3

<u>SOUTH</u>	<u>WEST</u>	<u>NORTH</u>	<u>EAST</u>
PASS	4♠	4NT	5♠
?????			

Return answers by Oct. 14 to:

Steve Robinson

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Arlington Va, 22206

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2002 REDSKINS FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

-Regular Season-

Game Date	Versus	Time/Result
9/8/2002	vs. Arizona	1:00 PM EST
9/16/2002	vs. Philadelphia	9:00 PM EST
9/22/2002	at San Francisco	4:15 PM EST
Week 4	OPEN DATE	
10/6/2002	at Tennessee	1:00 PM EST
10/13/2002	vs. New Orleans	1:00 PM EST
10/20/2002	at Green Bay	4:15 PM EST
10/27/2002	vs. Indianapolis	8:30 PM EST
11/3/2002	at Seattle	4:15 PM EST
11/10/2002	at Jacksonville	4:05 PM EST
11/17/2002	at NY Giants	1:00 PM EST
11/24/2002	vs. St. Louis	4:15 PM EST
11/28/2002	at Dallas (Thu)	4:05 PM EST
12/8/2002	vs. NY Giants	1:00 PM EST
12/15/2002	at Philadelphia	1:00 PM EST
12/22/2002	vs. Houston	1:00 PM EST
12/29/2002	vs. Dallas	1:00 PM EST

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PRE-SURVEY PANEL DISCUSSION, PART I

Moderated by Donna Rogall, Editor
drogall@erols.com

The survey is coming!
The survey is coming!

PURPOSE

We'd like to find out what the WBL can do to encourage you to play more often in our unit games and sectionals and to increase your satisfaction with these games. Our Vice President, Dick Wegman, points out that 2/3 of our membership are non-life masters. We think, but we don't know if some or all of the following would be geared toward making a difference to you:

- a. Providing more assistance in finding partners or teammates;
- b. Having a separate section with more relaxed rules (e.g., no alerts);
- c. Providing an option to play a shorter game with fewer boards;
- d. Having a more social atmosphere;
- e. Providing food, either before the game or during a short food break.
- f. Changes in locations or times of events.

A DISCUSSION PROCESS

This is the first of a two part series that will help us learn about these and other topics. Part 1, in this issue, includes an 'expert' panel discussion on these topics, as well as one question which we need you to answer. The panel discussion is intended to facilitate dialogue, while the member question is intended to take this dialogue to the true experts on what you want.

Part 2, in the next issue, will include the remainder of the panel discussion, and the member survey to which we will need you to respond. The content of both will reflect your input.

The survey's format will be structured differently than the questions you see here (because it needs to have answers that are numbers in order to compile them), although there will still be a few 'fill in the blank' questions.

WHAT WE NEED FROM YOU NOW

Please enjoy reading the discussion and then answer Question #14.

Respond by Oct. 10 to:

Donna Rogall at drogall@erols.com, or 901 Cliftonbrook Ln., Silver Spring, MD 20905 or give your response to any board member at the unit game.

BEGIN DISCUSSION...



I. Sectionals



1. Events

- a. How much of a mix of events would you like to see?
- b. Which of the following events would you like to see included? Which excluded? Why?
 - B-A-M teams; Swiss teams; Knockouts; Compact KO's; Individuals;
 - Flighted; Stratified; Bracketed without play-up; Bracketed with play-up;
 - Non-LM Tournament; *LM/nonLM game
 - Senior; Mixed; Women's; Men's;
 - 1-session; 2-session; 3-session; 4+session; Continuous Pairs;
 - Money Bridge...rubber bridge format, pair game format, and/or Cavendish type - bid on pairs format;
 - Fast Pairs/5.5 min/board; Regular Pairs/7min/board; Slow Pairs/8.5min/board;
 - 20-22 boards/session; 23-25 boards/session; 26-27 boards/session;
 - Relaxed Rules Bridge; Championship/Trophy Events; Team of 2 Pairs (Best Ball) or (Worst Ball); Par Contest; *Barometer Pairs
 - Any Different or Unusual Game

**These two games were added when some respondents thought of them and so were not fully considered by the whole panel. —Ed.*

Jim Allen, former WBL President, Club

Owner: a. A mix for different markets is good. Suggest Strat. Pairs for 0-300, and for seniors. Also Swiss for Seniors. For open events variety is good based upon previous turn out. Suggest trying something like two new or unusual events during the season. If successful, repeat. None of the below is either good or bad but rather a good list for the Board or the Tourn. Committee to discuss for experimentation.

b. B-A-M teams; Include (good response at the Unit Game) Swiss teams; Include (good practice for other team events) Knockouts; Maybe (the handicap knockout and the 5/5/5 triple nickel have gone due to lack of interest. If you don't get a quorum for KO's they are not fun. I think it is the Gold points that sell the Regional KO's.) Compact KO's; A possible for Seniors and even Sunday for those that can't stay through SWISS.

Individuals; Exclude. Not real bridge. Not very good for anything but people who can't get partners.

Flighted; Yes. Draws at the UNIT Stratified; Yes. Especially for the 0-300 so that they have many pieces of the pie. Bracketed without play-up; Stratified is fine.

Bracketed with play-up; ?

Non-LM Tournament; Yes, but needs a forum besides the WBC [Washington Bridge Center]. At the WBC, the conflict is bad for the weekend of the NLM and for the following couple of weeks until people return. Suggest a hotel with a big recruiting plan so that the main sectionals are fed later and hence justify the inevitable loss leader. I will work with a chair for background but I can't do it anymore.

Senior; Yes. Morning and afternoon, a big success. Mixed; Worth trying as it might develop new partnerships Women's; No, hard to schedule something opposite. Men's; No, hard to schedule something opposite.

1-session; Great 2-session; Why? You limit the market, you probably do not get more points and you certainly do not get gold at a sectional 3-session; UGH 4+session; Ugh, Ugh Continuous Pairs; Ugh

Money Bridge...rubber bridge format, pair game format, and/or Cavendish type - bid on pairs format; Should not be part of a sectional. Event needs a sponsor, one that is willing to work hard and some real draws. Suggest Michael Chelst, American Express and a fire department in PG County. Cavendish is the most likely to succeed.

Fast Pairs/5.5 min/board; Excellent It needs more promotion than was given at the unit. Suggest making one Saturday night, only fast pairs. Then get a vote for continuation. Regular Pairs/7min/board; Of course Slow Pairs/8.5min/board; Why, so XXXX can take 11 minutes.

20-22 boards/session; Last choice 23-25 boards/session; Only for seniors and novices 26-27 boards/session; Best choice. When we run the STAC with the mandatory 24 boards we get complaints, especially if there is a sit out.

Relaxed Rules Bridge; Prefer no conventions. However, both will not draw more people in my opinion.

Championship/Trophy Events; Excellent idea. We have some and they go to the same people. However, trophy events with publicity such as to newspapers and to the internet are very good. I think each Saturday afternoon in a sectional should be a trophy event. The winners are on a permanent trophy like the Stanley Cup.

Team of 2 Pairs (Best Ball); ? Team of 2 Pairs (Worst Ball); ? Par Contest; Probably not. Last time it was tried it was not well understood. Any Different or Unusual Game Imp Pairs Barometer (maybe for Saturday night.)

Charity Sack, BridgeAtSchools:

a. Similar to that of the 3 NABC's where "headline events" are seasonal. So, for example October could become famous for B-A-M team trophy while March becomes known for the Mixed Pairs trophy. Maybe we could have one annual headline event per sectional.

b. B-A-M teams; YES (preferably 2-way pairs and BAM). Swiss teams; YES. Knockouts; YES. BUT NEED TO PROMOTE!

Compact KO's; Nah. Individuals; Nah.

Flighted; YES. Stratified; YES.

Non-LM Tournament; ABSOLUTELY. MUST.

Senior; YES. Mixed; YES. Women's; Nah. Men's; Nah.

1-session; YES. 2-session; YES. 3-session; Once per year. 4+session; NO. Continuous Pairs; Once per year.

Money Bridge...rubber bridge format, pair game format, and/or Cavendish type - bid on pairs format; Why not to try it?

Fast Pairs/5.5 min/board; YES. Regular Pairs/7min/board; YES. Slow Pairs/8.5min/board; NO.

20-22 boards/session; NO. 23-25 boards/session; Only for 0-300. 26-27

boards/session; YES.

Relaxed Rules Bridge; Maybe once.

Championship/Trophy Events; YES.

Any Different or Unusual Game: A Mix-N-Match team game for 0-300 is fun. This is where you play 7 boards with another pair and then randomly switch for next round. The pair with most IMPs at end of session wins. In meantime, it's a fun way to meet and play teams with a bunch of pairs.

Steve Robinson, WBL Treasurer: a. I like the schedule the way it is. The events which are held are popular. If these events were unpopular, there would be complaints. K/O's have been scheduled but not many teams play.

b. Number of boards depends upon how much time the session is. You have to run 24 boards on Thursday night since you want to get out at 11:00

Eric Landau, Director: a. Much. Varying the program from tournament to tournament is good.

b. More BAM than currently, but team games all included. Downgrade full-session KO's in favor of compact KO's.

Individuals are worth trying. Stratified is good; flighted is bad -- developing players should be playing against the experts to improve their game, but shouldn't be required to forego the opportunity to compete for masterpoints within their peer groups in order to do so. Bracketed KO's should have play-up.

Non-LM tournaments are good, although this recognizes that "non-LM" has become virtually synonymous with "novice" (we do have "299er" games).

Personally I see no need for events segregated by age, sex, or anything else other than bridge achievement level, but I'm not sure the general feeling is with me on that; whatever brings 'em to the game...

Mix of 1- and 2-session events, longer not so good, continuous even worse.

WBL should not run money events. If it feels the need to have them, create an autonomous group to handle them at arm's length from the running of the regular events.

Fast and faster. Should be 5.0 min/board, not 5.5.

Usually 24-25 boards, with 26-28 for "top" events.

Relaxed Rules Bridge is worth a try, but I predict it will not catch on.

Team of 2 Pairs - No. Tried and found wanting.

Par Contest - I happen to like them, but I think they'd be a disaster at a sectional.

Any Different or Unusual Game - Try anything; you never know. I'd very much like to see us try "natural bridge", an event in which artificial methods are severely restricted but any non-conventional method is allowed. This would be along the lines of the original idea for "Classic Bridge", but would look nothing at all like what "Classic Bridge" turned into when the ACBL tried it with rules that turned it into a minor variation on "Yellow Card", which wasn't the original concept at all. If this might be of interest, get in touch with me about the details of how it might work. If you like the idea, I'd be willing to volunteer to help (or, if you like, lead) the effort to give it a try.

Barbara Ames, former WBL Vice President: I would like to see more BAM teams because it's my favorite event & we rarely have them.

Am strongly opposed to gender based segregation such as womens/mixed. These events are condescending, embarrassing & offensive to women.

25-27 boards would be great. Also am in favor of more trophy events

Rae Dethlefsen, former WBL Secretary: a. I think it's important to have a range of events. The Thursday night/Friday day games are fine the way they are, but there should be variety on Friday night and Saturday. Unfortunately, the attendance on Friday night has been such that having a pair game compete with, for example, the triple-nickle hasn't worked well for the team game.

I think there should be at least one two-session pair game in Flight A on Saturday, whether it be play-thru or a qualifier & final. The rest of the time single sessions work OK, but one-session IMP pair or barometer (now that we have the duplicating machine), or whatever is good. I think the mix of Swiss & BAM on Sunday is good.

b. B-A-M teams; Swiss teams; Knockouts; Compact KO's: KO's & Compact KO's would be good if there is significant turnout, at least 16 teams, and certainly a guarantee of more than one bracket so the lower-ranked players will not be too intimidated to sign up.

Individuals; I think one stratified individual would be fun (even if only every two years).

Flighted pairs on Thursday/Saturday and stratified pairs on Friday are fine. Bracketed

pairs/teams are used in almost nearly all the southern sectionals. Must work well if they keep having them. It's certainly something that's workable on Friday night and Saturday sessions.

Non-LM Tournament: definitely should be one a year

Senior; Mixed; Women's; Men's If this refers to segregated tournaments: definitely not. If this refers to events, Senior events/times are popular. Mixed: should not be up against another type of pair game. Used to be the traditional Friday night event. Women's/Mens: the traditional Friday afternoon mix. There just isn't enough attendance to warrant.

1-session; 2-session; 3-session; 4-session; Continuous Pairs: No reason not to have if doesn't detract from the main event. Certainly might attract some more players on Sunday.

Money Bridge...rubber bridge format, pair game format, and/or Cavendish type - bid on pairs format: A Cavendish-type special event might be fun.

Fast Pairs/5.5 min/board: might get some players back Regular Pairs/7min/board: needs to be enforced Slow Pairs/8.5min/boardL definitely not: we have too much of that as it is.

26-27 boards per session for pairs & BAMS should always be the goal. 28 boards per session for Swiss.

Relaxed Rules Bridge: No, too hard to get people to play by the rules. If you mean just system, I think Mid-chart is just fine for a sectional.

Championship/Trophy Events: Maybe one 2-session pair event Team of 2 Pairs (Best Ball): Didn't work at the national level Team of 2 Pairs (Worst Ball): ?? Par Contest: might be fun if it can be done competently

Any Different or Unusual Game: what's left??

Millard Nachtwey, Chief WBL Tournament

Director: Based on attendance and comments at the tournaments, players in general just want to come with their partner and play in their pair game. When numbers permit, both A/X players and B/C players prefer to have separate games. It is more important to have daytime Senior options than daytime A/X options, the Senior A's in general aren't comfortable in an A/X game.

b. It's ok to occasionally have BAM for the Flight A folks. The B & C folks aren't interested.

An individual would draw maybe 5 tables

if we're lucky, all who couldn't get partners for the other event.

Womens and Mens are not attractive; masterpoints are reduced and players know it. Any time there is an open option and a gender-restricted one, half or more of the pairs eligible for the restricted section play in the open one anyway. And especially for the lower masterpoint range players, they are right to do so, since more of the field will be their peers in the open section. It might be worth giving players a choice between mixed pairs and open teams (either Swiss or BAM) some Friday evening.

I'd like to see us try some 3-session bracketed KOs (all three sessions on one day).

I think if we gave players a choice between Fast and Slow, they'd vote for Fast, but I think in general they are happier with regular pace of play.

I don't think enough of our players would be interested in money bridge to create a viable event.

The last time we tried to run a separate NonLM tournament, it was not very successful. I think if the Wash Br Ctr wants to try to run the event, it'd be ok, but that in general, our tournaments should always have nonLM events but be open to all players.

24-27 boards seems about right for most events. I've noticed that on the Swiss day, the B/C players would in general be much happier with 6 8s or 7 7s, and the AX players with 7 8s or 8 7s.

I would argue strongly against more than 2-session events. A 2-session Flight A event Saturday would be ok a couple of times a year, but the BC game alongside should be two single sessions.

Continuous Pairs is not attractive, it would just give much fewer masterpoints (since the individual sessions are side game rating) than running a series of single session open pair events.

Best ball is not permitted by ACBL regs. Worst ball is not attractive as an event to any but the very best players, and I'm not sure if I'd even recommend it for them.

A par contest would require a lot of pretournament work from someone; with someone willing to do the work and a lot of explanation to the customers, it might be worth a try. But it would take a lot of explanation, both in advance and at the time.

IMP pairs is something that we have suc-

cessfully proved our players don't like. Both the AX section and the BC section are about 20% smaller than they would be if a regular pair contest were run on the same day.

Any time you run unusual events, the players who didn't read the ad and expected a regular game are really annoyed.

Bill Cole, Volunteer, former WBL Board Member: A two session event called the Steve Robinson pairs with a trophy is imperative (qualifying event).

We all want more variety in our events but what events the ones you listed are very unattractive. What is clearly wrong is to split events. Having a swiss and a pair game at the same time makes both events small and weak.

Peter Boyd, former WBL President: a. I think it's good to have a variety of events, both for the interest of those who play in all of them, and for the possibility of attracting those who only want specific ones. Repeating "annual traditions", when feasible, I think is good (Like BAM on Sunday in October, or whatever. (That's an example, not a recommendation.))

b. Like to see included:

B-A-M teams, occasionally. Once a year on a sectional Sunday, and once or twice at Unit game. Swisses are more popular, and should keep the majority of the team sessions; Swiss teams; Knockouts. "good bridge", but not as sociable as a pairs game.

Sectional popularity might increase if MP awards were raised.

Compact KO's (maybe that could revive the sectional KO's??);

Flighted, or strata-flighted (I like playing in the stronger fields provided by flighted, as opposed to stratified);

Bracketed without/with play-up. I'm pro-choice. Allow play-up. Helps much more than it hurts;

Non-LM Tournament. Yes, if they are reasonably well attended, and if volunteers don't mind the extra labor. Otherwise, be sure they feel very welcome at regular sections -- perhaps various awards or recognition for best performance in the tournament, maybe best performance by a non-LM pair in an open event;

Senior. Yes, they are very popular. (I'm not old enough yet, but some of my partners are.);

1-session, yes, and 2-session, too. Longer events probably lose too much to players' other interests, families, etc.; Continuous Pairs. Have we tried this at a sectional? Perhaps it could

provide interest for players who like to play lots of sessions. Could it just be piggybacked onto all our regular pair games, without changing anything?;

Fast Pairs/5.5 min/board. Why not try it instead of a triple nickle swiss some Friday night? Maybe it would be popular, I don't know; Regular Pairs/7min/board; actually 7.5 minutes is normal;

20-22 boards/session; 23-25 boards/session; 26-27 boards/session. I'm for 24 boards on week nights, 26 or 27 on weekend nights.

Championship/Trophy Events. Worth a try, I guess. Do you mean like NVBA's Poissant?;

Par Contest. Very difficult to run, as far as I know. It would be great fun, if it could be organized properly.

I would exclude:

Individuals. Never seem to catch on. Players are just more comfortable and happy playing with familiar partners.

Stratified. Well, I guess there will always be some of these, but I'd rather see fewer. (see comments on flighted)

Mixed. Out of date; Women's. Out of date; Men's. Out of date;

3-session; 4+session; Too long for a sectional. Players lose interest, have other plans, etc.

Money Bridge...rubber bridge format, pair game format, and/or Cavendish type - bid on pairs format. Too complex or weird to bother trying at a sectional, in my opinion.

Slow Pairs/8.5min/board. Doesn't interest me.

Relaxed Rules Bridge. This is a very creative idea, that I do not think we should experiment with at this time. Team of 2 Pairs (Best Ball); Team of 2 Pairs (Worst Ball); These were tried a while back, and never caught on. It does change the strategy of playing matchpoints in interesting ways, but I'd rather just enjoy regular bridge;

Clyde Kruskal, Director, Appeals Volunteer, Columnist: a. Personally I would like to see a large mix of events. I like the variety.

b. This means B-A-M teams, Swiss teams, Knockouts, etc. Bracket KOs run across too many sessions. But if we have them they should definitely allow play up, or at least some mechanism to allow players to earn a play up other than master points. Also, master points should always be IMPed to create the brackets.

I don't like Individuals: too much strain dis-

cussing system with each new partner.

I'm not ready for Senior's ... yet, but they are good to have.

I would like to see some form of money bridge: Cavendish sounds like a lot of fun.

Trophies is a good idea. We have none now. It would be relatively cheap to have a rotating trophy, and small permanent ones for a once a year event seems reasonable.

I like some of the way out ideas too. They are more appropriate for the Unit Game though.

Leslie Shafer, Club Owner, I/N Editor, I/N Teacher: I'd like to see the Jim Wood Individual brought back, espec. in light of the fact that he is dying from cancer. I looved this event and I would personally encourage all my students to participate in one - maybe you could have a 0-300 individual. I would help recruit for it if you did.

I vote for 23-25 boards, Trophy events for all levels, and also like fast pairs.

I would like to see some pair games for Sunday for those not wanting to commit to an all day swiss event.

Dave Ruderman, WBL Board Member, Unit Game Chairman: Men, women events would be good, swiss, BAM and two session open pairs with qualifying session -- others I could take or leave.

Rose Berman, Club Owner: A mix of events is great--at least once a year I like to see a BAM, could we offer at KO at the Sectionals like we used to? I liked them. Both Flighted and Stratified events are good, and I think we offer a nice mix now. People in my bridge class love Non-LM events, and I really like Fast Pairs, although they didn't survive when offered on Thursday nights.

Michael Carroad, WBL Unit Game Chief Director: I like StrataFlighted Pairs (Flt A separate) I don't think knockouts are viable at a sectional although Atlanta seems to have large KOs. I like 1 session pair games, do not like 2+ session games.

Barbara Shaw, WBL Secretary: 1 and 2 session events at the most since you will lose participants if they are longer. Non-LM tournament I think most would like. We might try a single day (Saturday) Compact KO's for those of us who like team games best. However, I really don't think that will go over well. The new event that sounds the most interesting and fun to me is a Team of 2 Pairs Best Ball.

Barb Doran, WBL President: a. Personally,

I would be happy if I never had to play match points other than fast pairs, for the rest of my life. However, in general, at sectionals, players really do vote with their feet. We have a pretty good idea of what most players like.

b. Good question, if only academically. B-A-M teams; Swiss teams; Knockouts; Compact KO's; -- Included. I like them all.

Bracketed - Once in a while, never without play-up.

Non-LM Tournament; - We should have them - every few years. NLM special events at Sectionals are a better way to go, I think.

A mix of 1-4-session events

Continuous Pairs; - Only as a main event... side games dilute the field too much.

Fast Pairs/5.5 min/board; - YES!

Regular Pairs/7min/board; - I'd rather not play match points, but you have to have them.

Slow Pairs/8.5min/board; - NOOOOOO!

I think 24-26 boards/session, actually.

Relaxed Rules Bridge; - Only at a party.

Team of 2 Pairs (Best Ball); - Could be interesting...

Senior is popular.

I could pass on all of the others.

Any Different or Unusual Game - Sure, we're famous for breaking new ground.

2. Times

a. What time would you like to see each of the following sectional events begin? Thurs eve? Fri 1st, 2nd, and 3rd sessions? Sat 1st, 2nd and 3rd sessions? Sun 1st and 2nd sessions?

b. If it turns out that 2 different particular start times for a particular session turn out to get the bulk of all the votes fairly evenly, what do you think of the idea of running half of our tournaments with one start time and the other half with the other start time for that session?

Jim Allen: a. Thurs eve 7:30 Fri 1st, 10:00 2nd, 2:00 3rd sessions 7:30 Sat 1st, 10:00 2nd 2:00 3rd sessions 7:00 Sun 1st and 2nd sessions - Sunday needs rebuilding. The lateness for the conclusion has turned off many players. Suggest play through.

The National play through on the last day was appreciated, but poorly advertised. Many did not know. Suggest Pizza or "make your own sandwich" from cold cuts etc. on a table hot dogs and baked beans or something easy, like soup, on site.

In Houston we had a two session fast pairs.

Very well liked. I suggest both events with provision for just one session in the fast pairs. Swiss can always accommodate a drop out if another must leave. But, letting people only play one session Swiss gets complicated for small turnouts. It is more fun to have one giant SWISS that finishes about 6:00 PM. Then you get the one spouse bridge players.

b. Any experiment with a following is worth one try. Publicity is the key. Have the earlier times go first.

Charity Sack: a. As is. Maybe tweak times by 30 min. plus or minus to achieve favorable end times.

b. Nah. Better to compromise.

Steve Robinson: a. Try 10:00 starting times on Saturday which is what the did at the World Championships. If you play two sessions starting at 10:00 am, you can eat dinner after playing bridge.

b. No, too confusing to have different start times, they must be consistent throughout the year. Its important for all swiss's to start at 11:00am. This way you won't have players getting to the game at the wrong time.

Eric Landau: a. Thurs eve - 7:00. Fri & Sat. - 9:30, 1:30, 7:00. Or did you mean 1:30, 7:00, 11:30? Sun - 1:00, 6:30.

b. Yes. And see whether/how players vote with their feet.

Barbara Ames: Sunday we should start at 12 or 1 and have a decent (at least 1 1/2 hour break). What is the big hurry to get home & watch TV on Sunday nite? We attract almost no out of town players to our sectionals, unless Baltimore is out of town

Rae Dethlefsen: a. I think the current schedule is fine, with the possible exception of Sunday.

b. That would be a horrible idea. People like to know when sessions start without having to resort to looking it up or calling. They like predictable, and I must admit, so do I.

Bill Cole: a. Thur 7:00; Fri 2:00 and 7:30; Sat 11:30 and 4:30 or 1:00 and 6:30; Sun start 13 hrs after Sat nite ends.

Peter Boyd: a. Mainly, I like the times we use, but wouldn't mind particularly if the times changed. Starting time is not a big factor for me. If forced to choose, here's what I would go with: Thurs eve? 7:30pm Fri 1st, 2nd, and 3rd sessions? 10:00, 1:30, 7:30 Sat 1st, 2nd and

3rd sessions? 10:00, 1:30, 7:00 Sun 1st and 2nd sessions? 11:00, 3:30 (i.e. playthrough with 1/2 hour sandwich break (sandwiches provided onsite).

b. While that might sound like a fair solution, I don't think it's worth the confusion that could arise. Pick a time, and stick to it year around.

Clyde Kruskal: b. I think it is reasonable to try different start times, but after a while we should settle on particular times.

Dave Ruderman: a. I think the starting times be 1:30, 7:30 and 10:00 but 10:30 on Sun so players can be home earlier for dinner.

Rose Berman: a. I like the times we use now.
b. Ok

Michael Carroad: a. I like 10:30 and 2:30 and 7:30.

b. I think mixed times would be very confusing.

Barbara Shaw: a. Thursday 7:30 Friday 10:00, 1:30 & 7:30 Saturday 10:00, 1:30 & 7:00 Sunday 11:00 and 3:30 play through. Have a 1/2 hour break. (Bring our own snack)

b. Two different start times would be too confusing for most of the bridge players.

Barb Doran: a. Thur: 7:30, Fri: 10:00 2:00 8:00, Sat: 10:00 2:00 8:00, Sun: 12:00 and 5:30 (not that I'd play at 10 am)

b. Changes are bad for attendance. It sounds good in theory, but in practice, the less you change (as far as times and location) from tournament to tournament, the better.

3. Breaks/Food

a. How long of a dinner break should there be on each day?

b. What do you think of a playthrough on Sundays of the sectionals?

c. What food do you like to see offered?

Jim Allen: a. I think the location should allow for a good dinner in 1 1/2 hours hence, a two hour break. I know that many prefer longer. I think this is the one issue where the "insiders" are being selfish. The break is not the issue as much as the finish time. We need to accommodate people who wish to be at home on Sunday night, and those that wish to get eight hours sleep on Saturday night and Friday night.

b. Great idea.

c. Safe food. Suggest pizza and subs, bought by the players but handled in bulk for a good price by the UNIT. Suggest using professionals not volunteers for food preparation. I think that the work our volunteers do is more than amazing but almost a burn out for volunteers that we need for other important tasks like recruiting and publicity.

Charity Sack: a. 2 Hours.

b. Good. 30 minutes to grab a sandwich is enough.

c. Sandwiches. Salads.

Steve Robinson: a. Sat 1 hour 45 minutes enough time for a reasonable meal. Sun 1/2 hour enough time for a snack.

b. Ok if food is offered. Playthrough with 30 minute break for food

c. Subs or pizza

Eric Landau: a. 2 hours.

b. In isolation, there's nothing wrong with playing through. To take advantage, though, requires an earlier than desirable start time (noon) and a short game (24-25 boards). Try both and see what the players prefer.

c. Snacks, sandwiches, nonalcoholic beverages. I think what we have now is just about right.

Barbara Ames: Breaks at least 1 1/2 hours for dinner. I do not like a playthrough on Sunday & have stopped playing in NVBA sectionals that use that format. Prefer a dinner break to rest/recharge/go over boards with the team. Will stop playing in our Sunday swiss if there is no break

Rae Dethlefsen: a. Friday is fine with me because I only play one session and I like to have time to eat dinner after work and before I play. Saturday needs 2 hours. Sunday needs 1+ hours.

b. Don't like it. There needs to be a dinner break. It can be staggered, but there has to be one.

c. I like what we do on Sunday. I don't really think we need to feed the masses. But vegetables/some fruit is good; dessert is good; pizza is good.

Bill Cole: a. Staggering starting times by 30 minutes but not different events is a good idea as long as Sections are equal.

Peter Boyd: a. Friday it's longer, since you are trying to allow 9-to-5 working people a chance to play in the evening session after dinner. Saturday, I like 90 minutes, and 30 min-

utes on Sunday, if sandwiches can be made available.

b. I like it. Leaves time for dinner after the game, or early return home to family.

c. Sandwiches at all hours. Dessert after the evening session. Beer/wine after the evening session. I'd like to see the site kept open and hospitable to players who want to hang around and talk for an hour or so after the evening session, if at all possible. We used to do that at the Silver Spring Armory, and it was fun.

Clyde Kruskal: In general I like shorter dinner breaks than we normally have. Playthrough on Sunday is good. Given a choice a real meal would be nice, but sandwiches or pizza is fine.

Dave Ruderman: a. One hour and 15 minutes.

b. Okay but we need to provide some snacks.

Rose Berman: a. Either at least 1 1/2 to 2 hours or very brief--15 to 30 min.

b. Great.

c. Box lunches like they do in Baltimore.

Michael Carrood: Dinner breaks 1.5 hours tops. Most people want to play bridge not have elaborate meals. I think playthroughs are terrific. I would like to see sandwiches - maybe order in pizza.

Barbara Shaw: Dinner breaks need to be at least 2 hours for driving times and restaurant service. Longer than that is too long except on Fridays when the evening time needs to be later (7:30) because of working people.

Barb Doran: a. 1.5 to 2 hours

b. I don't like them, but many players do.

c. Fruit, veggies, sandwiches and snacks

4. Location

Qualities:

a. Which of the following qualities are most important for the site of our sectionals to have? Feel free to add your own. Lighting; Noise; Temperature Control; Parking; Ease of getting to; Overall Atmosphere; Food Restrictions; Kitchen Space; Time Restrictions

b. Would you be willing to pay \$2 more per session for a high quality playing site?

...Continued on page28

2002 TROPHY RACE STANDINGS

www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org

Updated by our Webmaster, Don Berman

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 fewer than 1500 masterpoints; the Tubbs Race is open to all WBL members who started the calendar year as a Non-Life Master; the Woolridge Race is open to all WBL members who started the calendar year with fewer than 20 masterpoints; the Machlin Race includes only those points won in senior events at the five WBL Sectional Tournaments.

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

This list is up to date through September 5, 2002, including the Unit KOs, but not including the Round Robin. All points are subject to audit by the WBL Director.

Lovenberg

1	148.30	Leo LaSota
2	134.80	Alfred Steinberg
3	98.43	Steve Robinson
4	93.34	Earl Glickstein
5	84.36	Ellen Klosson
6	82.74	Alan Kleist
7	77.79	Robert Klein
8	75.64	Fred King
9	72.17	David Ruderman
10	70.69	Weizhong Bao
11	69.96	Ellen Cherniavsky
12	67.23	Peter Boyd
13	66.76	Barbara Shaw
14	66.34	John Adams
15	64.96	Yi Zhong
16	61.57	Donna Rogall
17	61.13	Eugene Kales
18	60.69	Mark Shaw
19	60.22	Warren Kaufman
20	55.23	Andrew Kaufman
21	54.86	Hailong Ao
22	54.26	Robert Bell
23	48.00	Clyde Kruskal
24	45.37	Kefu Xu
25	42.56	David Fleischer

Izzy Cohen

1	69.96	Ellen Cherniavsky
2	64.96	Yi Zhong
3	55.23	Andrew Kaufman
4	54.86	Hailong Ao
5	38.75	John Gassenheimer
6	38.10	William Colligan
7	31.38	Jackie Thompson
8	31.38	Jill Fisch
9	30.99	Kitty Gottfried
10	29.99	Richard Ferrin
11	29.87	Janet Dence
12	29.76	Tim Crank
13	28.64	Joel Miller
14	28.31	Charity Sack
15	28.29	Ronald Susi

Tubbs

1	29.99	Richard Ferrin
2	28.31	Charity Sack
3	23.23	Robert Wissman
4	22.66	Michelle Cantave
5	22.22	Carole Banks
6	21.42	Barry Anderson
7	21.35	Norris Hekimian
8	21.35	Edgar Mac Arthur
9	21.08	David Hamilton
10	20.82	Dennis Serpico

Woolridge

1	21.08	David Hamilton
2	14.38	Timothy Stewart
3	12.60	Steven Sacks
4	9.89	Ellen Rosenthal
5	8.56	David Epstein
6	7.09	Diana Campillo
7	5.24	Julie Oethinger
8	5.24	Joan Donoghue
9	5.09	Gwendolyn Harllee
10	4.99	Azmat Ali

Machlin

1	8.46	Marie Creisher
2	8.30	Jeanne Stenger
3	7.93	Charles Stenger
4	7.67	Charles Pan
5	7.67	James Rodgers
6	6.92	Rosemary Marks
7	6.76	Stephen Czecha
8	5.86	Alice Miller

WBL UNIT GAME SCHEDULE

All Games held at *Christ the King Church*

October 3	Club Appreciation BAM Teams
October 10	WBL Sectional
October 17	Strata-Flighted Club Appreciation Pairs
October 24	NVBA Sectional
October 31	Stratified GNT Qualifying
November 7	Stratified Club Championship
November 14	Strata-Flighted Unit Championship
November 21	WBL Sectional
November 28	Closed - Happy Thanksgiving
December 5	Strata-Flighted Unit Championship
December 12	Holiday Party (MABC StAc)
December 19	Stratified GNT Qualifying
December 26	Strata-Flighted Unit Championship

Newcomer, Novice, and Intermediate

7:15pm	Free Duplicate Mini-Lesson
7:30pm	Bridge

“Partner, Partner?”

To find a partner before the game, contact: Fred King for Flights A/X (the5kings2@aol.com; 703-536-1914), Charity Sack (charity@charitysack.com; 703-963-7027) and Barbara Rothkin (brothkin@aol.com; 301-493-9359) for Flights B/C.

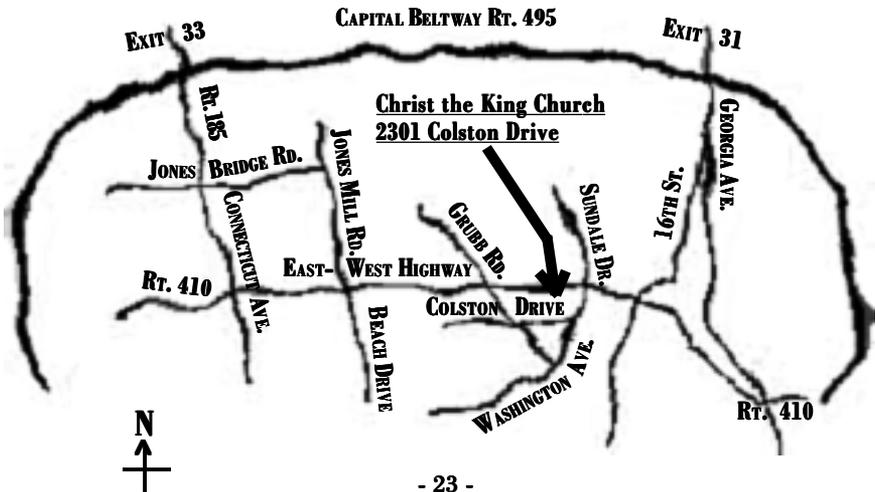
...Or log on to the WBL's new **Partnership Desk Online** at: www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org.

Call Frances Burke at 301-384-6103 for info on **Newcomer Classes and Games**

GAME IS TO START PROMPTLY AT 7:30PM

FOR INFORMATION CALL 301-649-1812

Map to *Christ the King Church* and Parking



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COMMITTEE ACTION XL

What's the Harm, Part V

by Rich Colker, rcolker@worldnet.att.net

This article concludes the discussion of points raised by Mr. Latto's letter which was published in the Jan./Feb. issue. --Ed.

BACK TO ALERTING AND UI:

Let's return now to Mr. Latto's letter and Scenario 2. Certainly opener will never pass 2♣ with four-card spade support, but playing Support Doubles he's unlikely to have even three. The only type of hand where opener will hold three spades and not double is when he holds extra values and a more important feature to show than his spade support. But in that case he will not pass; he will bid his other feature. In other words, with weak minimum hands and three-card spade support opener will always double and leave it up to responder to make an informed decision of whether to compete. With any stronger hand and a more important feature than the spade support to show opener will make the more descriptive bid over 2♣ (e.g., jump to 3♦, reverse to 2♥, cue-bid 3♣, etc.). This is evidence that a player who passes with a weak hand with three-card spade support is either a weak bidder or has forgotten his agreement. (If there are other restrictions the pair places on their Support Doubles, they are required to disclose that information as part of the Alert.) But weak bidders also forget their agreements, perhaps even more often than stronger players. Thus, passing 2♣ with the original hand from my article is pretty compelling evidence that the opener forgot Support Doubles.

Could opener hold a hand with strong two-card support and bid 2♠? I personally would not bid this way but if you would that's fine, go ahead and bid 2♠ over partner's 2♦. If your hand is not suitable for a Support Double (only two spades) then you're free to bid; there's no reason to be-

lieve partner's Alert awakened you since there's no evidence that you forgot anything. But if your hand *was* suitable for a Support Double and you failed to make it over 2♣, then there's reason to believe that partner's Alert woke you up and made the 2♠ bid more attractive. Thus, you cannot be allowed to bid it.

In my article I presumed that you forgot you were playing Support Doubles. But if it was partner who forgot and wrongly Alerted the pass of 2♣ as denying three spades (you aren't playing Support Doubles), things really don't change very much. If a 2♠ bid by you over 2♣ would have shown either three- or four-card support (since there was no double to distinguish the two), then the question still is: Why didn't you bid 2♠ directly over 2♣? Why did you wait and bid it over 2♦? Partner's Alert still means that he isn't playing you to hold three spades (you might have raised), so bidding them now (when passing 2♦ is a logical alternative) still looks suspiciously like taking advantage of the UI to tell partner that you have three-card support.

Finally, note that the issue here isn't one of misleading the opponents; it's using the UI to improve your chances of attaining a good score. Is there any reason to think that the UI from these Alerts is "trivial"? If the opponents end up with -110 defending 2♠ when they would have beaten 2♦ for +50, is that trivial? If they end up with +50 defending 3♠ (after your 2♠ bid allows partner to compete) rather than scoring +110 in 3♣, is that trivial? Sorry, but in my book none of this is trivial—it's all damage.

Thanks again for your letter, Larry. I hope this wasn't more than you bargained for and has helped to clear up some of your concerns with my original article. Hopefully some of our other readers found something useful in my reply as well.

ALERTZZzzz!!!!

Part III: Asking for Trouble?

by Clyde Kruskal

Having just written two articles for the Washington Bridge League Bulletin on alerts, it is ironic that I had an alert problem at the Summer Nationals that almost went to committee. Coincidentally, Colker's article in this month's ACBL Bridge Bulletin (*At the Table*, A survival manual – part 7, pp102-103), deals with the issue. [NOTE: For some reason it is not listed in the table of contents.]

TO ASK OR NOT TO ASK

Colker points out that if you sometimes ask and sometimes do not ask the meaning of an alert, you can pass unauthorized information to partner. Here is an example I had playing in the Life Master Pairs against a world champion, whom I believe to be basically extremely ethical. I opened 1♥ and partner responded 3♣, which we play as a limit raise in hearts. I alerted and no one asked what 3♣ meant. At the end of the hand the world champion reminded his partner that if 3♣ was a constructive raise then double would be takeout and if it was a limit raise then double would be a lead direct. I am quite sure that neither opponent had any idea which one it was at the time. You can see the problem. By not asking and not doubling, his partner knows that he did not have a takeout double or a lead direct. Worse, if he had asked and then did not double, his partner would know exactly what he had. (This is not even considering that 3♣ could have been a weak jump shift.)

How can you avoid this? Colker says be consistent. He gives two possible solutions. Either always ask or never ask. If you always ask you will produce some extraneous explanations when everyone at the table knows what the alerted bid means or when no one cares. If you never ask there are going to be times you need to know the meaning of a bid and will not be able to find out. If you only ask when you care you will create unauthorized information (as above).

There are a couple of other possible solutions. One is to assume you know the meaning of some bids but not others. For example, if the opponents alert 1M-4m you could always assume it is a splinter and bid accordingly. Once in a while you will be wrong but maybe the cost is worth it to avoid asking all of the time. Similarly, if the opponents alert pass-1M-2♣ you could assume it is Drury. This is best if the rules for which bids you ask about are public. Perhaps they could be listed on your convention card.

Another problem with always asking is, if the opponents get into a long, complicated sequence, you will slow down the auction tremendously. Furthermore, in the event that the opponents have a potential misunderstanding, it is unfair to both sides. They can use the explanations to be sure the auction is on track and to clarify the meaning of a bid, even if they don't do it consciously. And if they do get off track they may never be able to recover if an explanation has given them unauthorized information, even if they would have recovered without the unauthorized information.

USE THE RIGHT-HAND RULE?

The solution I use is to always ask about calls on my right that have been alerted until it is clear from the auction that it is the opponents' hand *and* we are past about the first couple of rounds of the auction. I think this avoids most of the above problems. For example, with opponents playing Jacoby 2NT over a major suit opening, if the auction goes 1♠-2NT-3♦ and 2NT and 3♦ are both alerted, I would ask about whichever of those bids was on my right, but no bid after that. In this case it gets me past the first round-and-a-half of the auction.

I have to use judgment when it is "the opponents' hand" and when the first "couple of rounds" ends. In practice I don't believe this is a serious problem. For bids on my left that partner does not ask about I risk passing un-

authorized information when I ask about them. But this is a much less common problem.

Here is my sad story. Playing in the Life Master Pairs I was East for the following deal.

Matchpoints: Board 19

Vul: EW

Dealer: South

North

♣ K 8 5 4 3
♦ J 9
♥ K 10 4 2
♠ A J

West

♣ J 7 3
♦ K Q 7 3
♥ 6 3
♠ Q 8 5 2

East

♣ 10
♦ A 10 5 2
♥ Q 8 7 5
♠ K 7 6 3

South

♣ A Q 9 6
♦ 8 6 4
♥ A J 9
♠ 10 9 4

<u>SOUTH</u>	<u>WEST</u>	<u>NORTH</u>	<u>EAST</u>
Pass	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♦ ¹	Pass	2♠ ²	Pass
Pass	Dbl	Pass	2NT ³
Pass	3♠	All Pass	

¹ Four card Drury (alerted)

² Minimum (alerted)

³ Scrambling

In third seat RHO opens 1♠. LHO responds 2♦, which is Drury showing four spades and a limit raise. RHO rebids 2♠ showing a minimum. After two passes, partner balances with a double. We end up in 3♣.

So what's the problem? Both 2♦ and 2♠ are alerted. Partner does not ask, but I do. Furthermore, with beautiful 1-4-4-4 shape, I do not act, but partner (after hearing me ask) with ugly 3-4-2-4 shape balances.

After grumbling throughout the play about the off shape takeout double, RHO calls the director to complain. The director rules against us basically saying that partner had unauthorized information, reverting the result back to the 2♠ contract with an adjusted score.

I appealed figuring that I would lose, because I was going to say that I always ask (in this situation), and they were going to say it

was a self-serving statement. But at the very least I would come away with a definitive statement of what I was supposed to do in the future. By the time the appeals were being heard neither pair was in contention. The Screener and I compromised: I would give up my appeal if he would discuss the situation. Richard Colker joined us.

It turned out that Colker agreed with me, and the Screener agreed with the (table) ruling. If this ruling is acceptable I think it creates untenable situations. If you don't ask after an alert and a bid turns out to have some very unusual meaning that would have caused you to act differently, they will say that is what the alert procedure is for and not protect you. The ACBL Alert Procedure clearly states: "When an alert is given, ASK, do not ASSUME." If you do ask and it has the expected meaning, they will say you passed unauthorized information to partner. It is a no win situation.

CARD CARRYING?

What is the Screener's case? I think it comes down to the fact that if I could not act with my beautiful hand, why should partner act with his bad hand. A priori it seems that his bid is influenced by the unauthorized information. The fact that I always ask is not good enough because how do they know. I suggested that in the future I could carry around a card saying that I always ask, but that was not good enough. Would the opponents call the director if I did not ask?

During the discussion, Colker pointed out something that escaped me. The 2♠ bid is not even alertable. This should swing the case in my favor. Although there is no penalty for over-alerting, you should not be allowed to alert a non-alertable call and then complain when the opponents ask its meaning. As a strong supporter of the new alert procedure it is disturbing that these difficult situations arise. But this should not have been one of them. The alert procedure itself worked fine. The opponents just did not follow it.

The good news was that we had a good result on the board anyway as many NS pairs were in 4♠ making. But, the ACBL needs to do a better job here by giving clear workable rules to avoid this kind of situation.

Distance:

c. How important is the distance that you travel to the game to you? (Most of our membership lives in Rockville/Bethesda area.)

d. Would you be willing to pay \$2 more per session for a closer playing site?

Other:

e. What do you think of the White Oak Armory at Randolph Rd. & Rt. 29?

f. What do you think of the Best Western at Rt. 270 and Rt. 28?

g. What do you think of having split sites? (*Because it wasn't clear, some responded to the idea of a split site as changing the location of the tournament from Thursday to Friday and then again for Saturday-Sunday, while others thought of it as holding one event at two sites at the same time.—Ed.*)

Jim Allen: a. Good list. All are important. It is clear that bridge players will play almost anywhere, that too hot is worse than too cold, water is required but booze is optional, parking is a hassle but necessary, and time is very important. I think that bridge players can get there, no matter where there is, if the directions are reasonable.

b. Yes

c. 1 hour driving time

d. NO

e. White Oak Armory - Very good. The summer heat is a problem on some May days. October through April is fine. The price, distance and restrictions are fine. The short notice closure is a problem. Suggest arrangements with Laurel, WBC and possibly KOCH as alternate sites in an emergency. We are closed anyway so if the tournament cannot proceed due to some "training" requirement, then email and move the tournament. Do not cancel.

f. Best Western - Too small. Fine location. Perhaps, if we could take over the dining room.

g. OK, like the GNT's. But, one site is better.

Charity Sack: a. Most important are: Lighting; Noise; Temperature Control; Parking; Not so important are: Ease of getting to; Overall Atmosphere; Food Restrictions; Kitchen Space; Time Restrictions

b. Yes, if it is significant improvement in comfort and convenience. But if only marginal, then as long as most important qualities are covered, it is not so important.

c. 0-45 minutes drive time is easily acceptable.

d. Not so critical as long as site is within 45 minutes (preferably within 30 min.)

e. White Oak Armory - Reasonable.

f. Best Western - N/A

g. No, don't like.

Steve Robinson: a. I'm sure that Lee/Michael/Millard/Nadine have looked at every place in Maryland looking for better sites.

b. I can't believe that would be feasible. A high quality playing site would cost a lot more than \$2.00 per session. 400 tables X\$8.00 is 3200 extra dollars. Maybe we could find a better place for \$5,000.

f. I can't believe that Lee and/or Millard hasn't looked at the Best Western

g. We do that Thursday nite and with stacs. Split sites are inhospitable. You don't see who's at the other site.

Eric Landau: a. It is critical that these meet some minimal standard, but not particularly important beyond that. Parking - Critical. Ease of getting to - not very important; if folks want to play, they'll drive to the game. Overall atmosphere - very important, but only in the sense in which location has very little bearing on it. Food Restrictions - Bad. Kitchen Space; Time Restrictions - This doesn't impact the players directly; these are questions for the people who run the hospitality and direct the game, respectively.

b. I'd be willing -- I can afford it easily enough - but wouldn't consider the \$2 well spent.

c. It's actually pretty important *to me*, but I play rather rarely. I don't think it's at all important to the bulk of attendees -- if they can get there, they will come.

d. Certainly less enthusiastically than I would pay it for a "better" one.

e. White Oak Armory - Very good.

f. Best Western - Don't know; haven't been there. What matters it what it's like, not where it is.

g. Split sites? - Very bad.

Barbara Ames: a. Adequate size & location are important

d. Distance. Not really important, but would pay more for a closer site

e. White Oak-only bad when air conditioning is needed. Otherwise excellent.

Rae Dethlefsen: a. Temperature control, and parking most important to me and a wine/beer license. This is not to say that the rest should not be taken into consideration.

b. Not really, but I'm sure it will come to that for even mediocre quality soon.

c. The Armory is about as far as I'm willing to travel since I can do it on high-speed roads, but I live in VA, and I know that some VA attendance has been lost because of this location.

d. See above.

e. White Oak Armory - In general it's fine.

f. Best Western - Don't know it, but the location would be fine.

g. Not enough attendance no matter what to justify the expense.

Millard Nachtwey: g. From a purely personal point of view, I'd require a very much better site to make it worth the trouble to move everything. And there will be extra costs involved in moving, unless one of the sites is the Wash Br Ctr which already has tables, chairs, and supplies.

Bill Cole: a. Cold cool rooms

b. The WBL does most things right I would like to pay more for better sectional sites.

c. More than 25 or 30 minutes is too far for a local sectional

e. White oak armory is passable except when temperature over 80 then its horrible

g. Obviously it is better to get one site for FRI SAT and SUN but if we cannot get Fri Aft it's better to use a bridge club and rent space for Fri nite Sat and Sun

Peter Boyd: b. Yes, if others wanted. I'm indifferent.

c. Obviously, I prefer closer games, but it really has little or no impact on my decision to play or not.

d. Yes, but that's because the entry fee is also not a factor in my choice. Within reason, I don't really care what the entry fee is.

e. The White Oak Armory is fine with me. It's one of the closest sites, in driving time, to where I live.

f. Best Western - Never seen it, but the location sounds convenient.

g. As long as you mean different sites on different days, I think that would be fine. I can see that that might make renting appropriate space easier. I don't like split-site games when the players in a session are split among sites, like a split-site regional.

Clyde Kruskal: a. Lighting and noise are the two most important qualities.

b. Yes.

c. Within reason the distance to playing site

is not that important. Often I am playing two sessions so the travel time is amortized. Virginia would be a bit far.

d. No. Especially if closer means Rockville/Bethesda since I don't live there.

e. White Oak Armory - Fine.

g. I wouldn't mind. I worry a little bit about people getting confused about where to play, or this being an added disincentive.

Leslie Shafer: a. 1st priority: Ease of parking (not too far from playing site and also lots of it, no meters to feed). Next: Lighting. 3rd: Temperature.

c. I would not be adverse to traveling to RV or Beth. areas. Maybe rotate for a few tournaments to see if it increases attendance.

d. Absolutely, ambience is important. Chandeliers and carpeting a big factor and add to the good behavior of the players as well.

e. White Oak Armory - It is big, good parking, etc. Bathrooms messy. It seems a little run down, but that is livable if you are getting a good deal on the rent.

Dave Ruderman: b., d. No.

e. White Oak Armory - Good location.

f. Best Western - Awful location.

g. Bad idea.

Rose Berman: a. Temperature, lighting, parking, noise, good seats.

b. Yes.

c. I'm willing to drive a bit.

d. Yes.

e. White Oak Armory - Ok--overall acceptable.

f. Best Western - Never been there, but I'd try it

g. This could really skew the competition (a stronger or weaker field at one site), but we'll see how this works out this month.

Michael Carrood: Requirements: Parking! Parking! Parking!, temperature control, ease of getting to.

Barbara Shaw: b. No I would not want to pay more for a quality playing site. I think we would lose a lot of players if we charged more.

e. The White Oak Armory is fine.

g. The only night that I think trying split sites for the sectional would be Friday nights. And I propose splitting between Virginia and Maryland not within Maryland. The games are small on Friday nights at both sectionals mostly because people do not like fighting the traffic to go either direction. They simply play other sessions. Since we already split Thursday nights, why not try Friday nights also. The WBL could prob-

ably use the WBC when it is Virginia's sectional. It holds 38 tables. Virginia would have to find an place to have a Friday night game when it is a Maryland Sectional. Worth consideration or a try or two. We could always drop it if here was not a significant increase in attendance.

Barb Doran: a. Noise (less), Temperature Control, Parking, and ***a comfortable and easily accessible smoking area.***

b. Depends what we get for the \$2.

d. Closer than what? As long as it's within a half hours drive, I'm happy. (The current site is about 10 minutes.)

e. White Oak Armory - It's ok.

f. Best Western - The location is fine... I've never been there.

g. I don't like them... The games are degraded.



II. Unit Game



5. Events

a. How much of a mix of events would you like to see?

b. Which of the events mentioned in question #1 would you like to see included? Which excluded? Why?

Jim Allen: This is being run very well. The problem is not with the UNIT game management. Dave and Michael and the Directors do a fantastic job.

Where is the beginners class we used to have? Who is feeding new players? We have had a 2 1/2 year draught. We need a class somewhere with new players being taught, with corks rising in four or five weeks to compete in the real game and others taking a year or two. We need to have continuing education that dovetails into the classes at the WBC and other places. Education is the basic form of recruiting new players.

a. A mix is good but not a draw. Most players do not read the schedule but rather come as a habit or when they can get away. Ask some of the drop outs. Have Michael run a list of those that played at the UNIT during the last year, less than 5 times. Call some and ask them why they don't play more often. Call some of the known drop outs like our stock broker.

Charity Sack: a. Good mix now. Perhaps

there could be a couple more special events.

Steve Robinson: I like the events. The schedule gets updated from what happens during the previous year

Rae Dethlefsen: It would be nice to play 26 boards.

Bill Cole: It is a shame the WBL board turned the Lovenberg competition into a meaningless attendance contest instead of a bridge skill contest like it used to be.

Clyde Kruskal: In general I personally like to see a large mix of events. I like the variety. This means B-A-M teams, Swiss teams, IMP pairs. Money bridge events are better for Sectionals.

Way out ideas are good for the Unit game. Maybe once or twice a year I would like to see some sort of unusual event. It could vary including fast pairs, team-of-two pairs, par contest, etc. I could even tolerate an individual once a decade.

Dave Ruderman: Current mix is good. BAM does not draw well. I support having a non life master - life mater event -- or some sort of event where players are matched by masterpoint strata once a year. Also, non lifemaster - life master teams event is well received.

Rose Berman: a. More

b. Try to include a large mix of events at least once a year, except not money bridge.

The option of Fast or Slow pairs run at the same time would be interesting.

I don't think I'd like Relaxed Rules bridge.

Michael Carrood: Stratapulted pairs - virtually nothing else.

Barbara Shaw: a. I think the mix of events is fine.

b. The team of 2 best ball sounds fun and might be tried on a Thursday night. I think people are pretty much set with the Thursday night format and seem to be pleased as best as I can tell.

6. Times

a. What time would you like to see the unit game begin?

b. Would you be interested in an earlier game that served dinner? If so, how much would you be willing to pay for this?

Jim Allen: a. 7:30 is fine. With the pre-made boards, getting started is easier and the ending time is reasonable for even those that work in the morning.

b. No.

Charity Sack: a. 7:30 is perfect, especially with pre-made boards.

b. No, just for special events such as the annual meeting and holiday party.

Steve Robinson: 7:30 is a good compromise for workers

Rae Dethlefsen: a. If you roll it back to 7:00, I probably won't be able to make the game and people driving from VA will have no chance.

b. Absolutely not.

Millard Nachtwey: a.7:30

b. No, none.

Peter Boyd: a. 7:30 seems about right. A compromise between getting home early enough, and allowing working people enough time to get to the game.

b. No. Not worth the trouble, except for special occasions like annual meeting and Christmas party.

Clyde Kruskal: b. I like the dinner idea. Around \$5.

Dave Ruderman: a. Current time best.

b. Against food.

Rose Berman: a. A 7:30 start time would be great--I'd like to see the boards on the table at 7:30.

b. No.

Michael Carroad: I think 7:30 is the earliest we can do and the latest we would want to start.

Barb Doran: a. 7:30

b. No, but I'd be interested in dinner before the game (though, in truth, I'd take advantage of it rarely)... \$10-15.00

7. Food

What food do you like to see offered?

Jim Allen: Cookies, and non-greasy finger food. The drink selection is fine. The servers (Kitty et al.) can not be faulted. If it isn't broke, don't fix it.

Charity Sack: Veggies and pretzels. Nothing that leaves gunk on cards please. Thank

you to Kitty and team. Nice job!

Steve Robinson: It would be nice to have food but having food twice a year is very difficult. We don't have enough volunteers to have food more often.

Rae Dethlefsen: It's fine the way it is, but should always have diet-caffeinated Coke

Peter Boyd: Healthy snacks: wheat thins, triscuits, veggies. Also cookies.

Dave Ruderman: What is currently provided -- we are playing bridge not eating.

Rose Berman: I think that as a group we are not underfed. I'd be happy with just drinks. Maybe we could contribute the refreshment money to a food bank.

Barbara Shaw: We talked about having a pot luck dessert twice a year in the Spring and Fall. We already do Holiday dinner in December and Annual Meeting dinner in May. Perhaps early September like a welcome back from the summer, and early March.

Barb Doran: Fruit, veggies, sandwiches would be nice

8. Locations

Qualities:

a. Which of the following qualities are most important for the unit game to have? Feel free to add your own. Lighting; Noise; Temperature Control; Parking; Ease of getting to; Overall Atmosphere; Food Restrictions; Kitchen Space; Time Restrictions

b. Would you be willing to pay \$2 more per session for a high quality playing site?

Distance:

c. How important is the distance that you travel to the game to you? (Most of our membership lives in Rockville/Bethesda area.)

d. Would you be willing to pay \$2 more per session for a closer playing site?

Other:

e. What do you think of the Christ the King Church site?

f. What do you think of the Ohr Kodesh site?

g. Are there any other sites that you can suggest?

Jim Allen: Everything is fine except the lighting on the sides.

b. Yes

c. For the unit game, we need to accommodate people that work in the city. I don't but then, I would go about anywhere.

d. Not necessary.

e. Christ the King Church - Very good. Better than Ohr Kodesh.

f. Ohr Kodesh - Haven't seen the new social room or other rooms. I suspect they will be great.

g. When Silver Spring Civic Center is finished, or soon before, I suggest a survey. Any church in the Old Georgetown to Conn. Ave. area near the beltway.

Charity Sack: a. Most important are: Lighting; Noise; Temperature Control; Parking; Ease of getting to;

b. Not needed. Good as is.

c. 0-25 minutes from Rockville/Bethesda area (including traffic considerations) is maximum on a work night.

d. Maybe.

e. Christ the King Church - Good.

f. Ohr Kodesh - Good.

g. I may have an idea or two about Sectional locations.

Steve Robinson: e. Christ the King Church: I like the one-room playing site. Again its the best we can get

f. Ohr Kodesh: The parking is good but the two-level playing site is inhospitable. We haven't seen the new Ohr Kodesh

Eric Landau: e. Christ the King Church - Truly excellent.

f. Ohr Kodesh - Acceptable, but far inferior to CtK.

g. No, but as long as we have CtK it's not an issue.

Barbara Ames: e. Christ the King-fine site

f. Ohr Kohdesh- playing site too small & lighting upstairs is poor--the addition should be much better.

Rae Dethlefsen: e. Christ the King Church - Barely adequate.

f. Ohr Kodesh - The new room is supposed to be good, and I've always liked it there even with the food restrictions (better for me)

Millard Nachtwey: a. Temperature, Noise, Time are my strong factors Any time you lose two of adequate space, temperature, noise, light, and parking the players get really cranky and some of them don't come back.

b. I don't personally care, but I think the players would vote no.

c. I think anything up to about 1/2 hour is perceived as reasonable, over an hour the players won't bother to come.

d. Again, I don't care but I think the players will vote no. They'll just play in their club game.

e., f. There are disadvantages to each. On balance, I think we are better at Christ the King

Peter Boyd: a. (I'm leaving these to others who probably care more than I do. I just sit at the table and ignore the environment, usually.)

b. Yes, but I don't care much.

c. Not too important, but week nights is more important than weekends, for me.

d. Yes.

e. Christ the King - Fine.

f. Ohr Kodesh - Fine.

Clyde Kruskal: a. Lighting and noise are the two most important qualities. I would like to see some extra space for mini-lessons and easy bridge classes.

b. I am certainly willing to, but it would have to be much better.

c. Distance is more important for the unit game than for a Sectional. I could survive Rockville, but that is farther than I would like.

d. As above Rockville is not closer for me, so I am not excited to pay more for it.

e., f. Both sites are fine, and each has its advantages. I am not sure what Ohr Kodesh is like after they fixed it up.

Dave Ruderman: b., d. NO

e. Christ the King - ADEQUATE

f. Ohr Kodesh - ADEQUATE

Rose Berman: a. Temp, lighting, parking, noise, comfortable chairs.

b. Yes.

c. Somewhat.

d. Yes.

e. Christ the King Church - Overall ok.

f. Ohr Kodesh - Lighting was awful, temp not so good, otherwise ok.

Barb Doran: b. Again, it depends what we get.

c. Distance is fairly important -- we're talking work nights.

d. Christ the King and Ohr Kodesh are about 5 minutes from my house. So, no.

e. Christ the King - I wish we had an extra room and better heat and AC, but I'm happy

f. Ohr Kodesh - I didn't like the separated games, but the new plan should be lovely... Won't know for sure until we see it

9. Free Pre-Game Mini-Lessons

Are you interested in attending or teaching pre-game lessons at the Unit game?

Jim Allen: No

Charity Sack: I would be willing to assist in promotion of such programs. Not much of a teacher (I can hardly learn).

Eric Landau: I'd be willing to teach. Especially if our players might be interested in learning EHAA.

Rae Dethlefsen: No.

Millard Nachtwey: No.

Peter Boyd: No.

Clyde Kruskal: Teaching. Absolutely!!!!

Leslie Shafer: Probably not. I feel I am doing enough with the Bulletin. But it does need to be done. Maybe if you asked for volunteers to rotate the duty, it would be easier to swallow having to do it "once in a while" instead of for the whole tournament or every tournament. Been there - done that.

Dave Ruderman: Will teach if needed -- not very good at it.

Rose Berman: No.

Barb Doran: I'd teach on occasion.



III. *General Questions*



10. Appeals

The ACBL Board of Directors voted to have management submit a plan to have Directors handle appeals at Nationals starting Jan. 2004. The manner of hearing appeals will be left to the sponsoring organization at lower levels tournaments, unit and club games. At the unit and club levels, it isn't possible to have a committee of directors.

Should we:

- continue as is with appeals going to player committees
- just let the director's ruling stand or
- have some other form of appeals process — (please elaborate)

Rich Colker, National Appeals, Columnist: It is not now nor has it been management's intention to eliminate the role of expert players in the appeal

process. There has been no motion to have Directors hear appeals without the help of players. The input of players to appeals decisions is absolutely critical to the functioning of the process.

The only recommendation I would make, for us at the unit level, is if a Director is available who was not involved in making the table ruling that he/she sit as a member of the committee hearing the appeal. As this is impractical at most tournaments, I would recommend staying with the present procedure but the chairman always running the committee's decision and its rationale by the chief director BEFORE presenting it to the players to make sure the committee's decision is legal and that they haven't missed something.

Jim Allen: A process is good. However, the directors still are our best source. I think that we should have a nominated director and an alternate as the final judge. Which ever is least involved in the original ruling should hear and rule on the appeal. If necessary, pick a couple more people than the first two, including someone not from the unit but from the ACBL. The term for this "a higher authority." The appeal is made by a director with input from the appellant. The ruling is final, with explanation.

Steve Robinson: Continue as is. Directors are not bridge players. Sometimes you have to listen to the appellants and you know who's trying to take advantage

Eric Landau: We shouldn't eliminate appeals (choice b bad). Of course, everybody and his uncle would prefer a better appeals process, but nobody has come up with one yet. It would not be a short-term effort. We'd need a committee of both experienced directors and players familiar with the laws and the existing appeals process (I'd be prepared to volunteer), and a "try anything once" sort of attitude. If we actually came up with something that worked well in practice, we'd be heroes to the entire bridge community.

Barbara Ames: I think we should let the director's rulings stand unless we can get a committee of trained Flight A players to serve.

Millard Nachtwey: I think we should not do anything on this until we see the guidelines for what the ACBL will be doing at NABCs. My guess is that if it works there, and has significant player input before decisions are made, all players will accept (and many will welcome) doing away with player committees. But I don't think this is something we want to rush to do.

Peter Boyd: I'd be in favor of trying something

where the chief director makes the final decision, after hearing as much as he thinks is necessary from players that he polls. That could even include the director (at his discretion) convening a group that would look and act like a committee -- asking questions and discussing issues -- with the final "vote" belonging only to the director. I like the idea of the final results being decided by "the officials", like in other sports.

Clyde Kruskal: I think it is important to have some sort of appeals process. There is not enough time to think through the issues at the table.

Leslie Shafer: The director rulings should stand. Since some director rulings are inferior (depends on the skill of the director you get) you should allow appeals to the DIC (Millard or Michael). The other directors there I do not think are knowledgeable enough to have their rulings go unchallenged and rightfully so. I'm against committee appeals in general and think they are hurting bridge more than helping.

Dave Ruderman: Do away with appeal committees -- can request the directors to confer on a ruling after the initial ruling is made.

Rose Berman: Appeals - Yes, I like the democracy.

Michael Carrood: I think that the appeals system you developed works and should be left alone.

Barbara Shaw: I would just as soon have the appeals continue as they are at the local level.

Barb Doran: We should continue as is with appeals going to player committees, but at the unit game a director who did not make the ruling could be on the committee.

11. Membership Motions

a. Should we continue to allow motions to be brought at membership meetings?

b. What should the requirements (if any) be for advance notice of each type of motion brought? (The policies have recently been amended to read that all motions to be brought before the WBL membership must be published in the *WBL Bulletin* in advance of a duly convened meeting of the membership. This requirement used to just apply to motions that would change the *Constitution*.)

Jim Allen: Only with one bulletin (about 6 weeks) advance notice, so that the whole unit can have input if they wish. These motions

should be in writing and published. They should have something like 25 signatures on a petition and should be rare. Remember, most things can be done by going to the board and suggesting the change.

Charity Sack: Better to get in advance so meeting in interest of optimizing meeting length and pace. Email to President and Secretary with motion to go on agenda.

Steve Robinson: It is very important for there to be advance notice of motions brought at membership meetings. This will allow for all of the pros and cons to be aired. Also, it will give players a chance to think about the motion rather than make a quick decision.

Eric Landau: Of course. We want to maximize member participation, don't we? Why would we want to cut off an existing and obvious channel? No notice should be required to make a motion, but it would be acceptable to require some kind of advance notice if the person making it wants to speak for it for more than some minimal amount of time (e.g. 2 minutes).

Barbara Ames: Motions-should be submitted in writing in advance of the meeting & published in the Bulletin so people will be ready to comment & vote at the annual meeting. Could we vote on the motions by writing in, if not attending the meeting?

Bill Cole: If we want to not have the WBL be an elitist organization we need to keep the votes at the general membership meeting. The motions should be advertised in advance be matters of importance and have a good chance of passing. We do not want to use time up at a membership meeting unless all three criteria are met.

Peter Boyd: a. Yes. That is an essential part of our democracy. However, it is reasonable to place some limits on how binding such a motion would be -- if it were introduced without lots of advanced notice.

b. I think a motion should be published in at least one Bulletin (and perhaps two), if it is to be totally binding on the WBL board. (I.E., if it is a motion passed to "force the hand" of the unwilling Board, to adopt some policy or other.) The notice is important to allow all sides to recruit supporters to attend the meeting. A surprise motion could be passed by "stacking" the meeting with supporters, without the opportu-

nity for opponents of the motion to respond in kind. Normally, only a small percentage of the WBL votes at the annual meeting, but others need to be informed if something big is afoot.

Clyde Kruskal: Motions at meetings are a good idea. But they should be a last resort.

Dave Ruderman: b. Notice in the bulletin preceding the annual meeting

Rose Berman: a. Yes.

b. None--aren't we self-governing? I like that any member can address any issue

Michael Carroad: I don't think that we should limit the membership's options. Only advance notice requirement should be for amending constitution.

Barb Doran: Advance notice is good.

12. e-mail the WBL Bulletin

Would you be willing to receive your WBL bulletin by e-mail in lieu of a printed copy? (You can view a sample of what this would look like on our unit's website.)

Don Berman, WBL Board Member, Webmaster: Yes. The cost of printing and distributing the WBL Bulletin is becoming a larger percentage of our budget. Distributing the Bulletin via the Internet and informing members of it's availability will greatly reduce those costs. The freed up funds could then be used for other things. Other positives. On the Internet all back issues would be available, no need to save (and perhaps lose) your copies. Availability would be sooner as the US mail would not be a delaying point.

Jim Allen: Sure. I think that we can save a ton of postage by distributing bulletins through the clubs and the unit game. I also think that an emailed bulletin is less likely to be lost and is even better for sending to a friend who is not a member but might be someday.

Charity Sack: Yes. But, I do like the hard copy for my Metro ride!

Eric Landau: No.

Barbara Ames: I would be glad to get the bulletin online. Let's save some trees and some postage.

Rae Dethlefsen: YES

Millard Nachtwey: Yes.

Peter Boyd: No!!! I like having all the back

issues in my library -- to look at old pictures and lists, etc. Email doesn't serve that function very well, at least for me.

Clyde Kruskal: Not sure. I'm old-fashioned and like the hard copy.

Leslie Shafer: This is a bad idea to not mail them out anymore. ACBL tried it with their teacher's newsletter that was published every other month and not even 5% of the teachers accessed the newsletter online. It was a dismal failure. They are now printing out and mailing to all teachers again. Learn from the failure of others. Attendance at sectionals and other functions will drop as a result of not mailing out the bulletin to all members. It is a form of advertising that the unit needs.

Dave Ruderman: PREFER MAIL.

Rose Berman: Yes.

Michael Carroad: Email yes!!!

Barbara Shaw: I would like to still receive it as a printed copy. And I believe there are many older members of the WBL that do not use computers much and don't use the internet. I rarely look at the web-site.

Barb Doran: Yes.

13. Suggestions

What is the one thing you think could most improve the WBL?

Jim Allen: New Member Committee Chair. An active group of volunteers that are recruiting new members. I mean, leave no stone unturned. Go to bridge events in homes. Teach party bridge players to enjoy duplicate.

Advertise for party bridge games at the WBC on Thursday nights, free, with some sort of come on like "Singles night next Thursday" "Only couples on the following Thursday," "Only under 40 the next, only over 40 the next, etc. and put the add where it will attract people, perhaps near the singles ads. Have a couple of very personable people talk to them and encourage them to consider the UNIT game next Thursday. Have Michael introduce them when they come and give them a gold star so that the other hard bodies will be exceptionally nice. Follow up with a phone call and report the "new" players reactions. Adjust and continue.

Visit the student unions at the colleges with free cards, maybe boards and a one or two page document on "how to start a bridge game for idiots."

Go to every Senior center and find one bridge player that knows others and give that person an incentive to bring their friends such as, a free play for each one they bring, or an autographed copy of Stevie's book.

Go to HEW, NIH IRS (Union Stat.) and other local big Govt. Bldgs. at lunch and find the bridge game. Give them either a reason to go to the Thursday night free party bridge game or to the UNIT game. Offer them a free play for each time they and their partner beat Stevie's score.

Charity Sack: Agree with Jim Allen about New Member Team. It is a must. We need a team of both educators and promoters to combine their expertise and energies to make a fun time for newcomers. Let's start with best practices out there now and build on it. Jim's ideas are great. Let's try them. A good size team with strong leadership needed. BUT, work must be divided and rotated as much as possible to avoid that volunteer burnout. Team members must recruit others to help out even if it is just once a year on one project/event. All new member events and programs must be based on FUN, FUN, FUN AND BONDING. People come back for people (not for bridge). Bridge players come back for the bridge. Once the "people" become bridge players, they'll come back for the bridge. Hopefully that is understandable somehow.

Steve Robinson: We need a new treasurer.

Erie Landau: Shorter total session durations, which can be achieved through some or all of: (a) faster play, (b) on-time session starts, even at the cost of having to turn latecomers away or seed the game less thoroughly, (c) less tolerance for slow play. If we were to do this, I would change my vote on starting times for Unit Games and evening sessions from 7:00 to 7:30.

Barbara Ames: We could most improve the game by enforcing a zero tolerance policy. Players like [...] drive mainstream players away from the game. Our continued reluctance to do anything about it damages attendance & ultimately the game. Personally I have a limited amount of free time. When I find myself spending that time in an unpleasant atmosphere, my willingness to show up again declines. I would not be surprised if attendance at our Unit game & sectionals is down. I know I play less.

Rae Dethlefsen: Enforcement of slow play rules!!!!!!!

Peter Boyd: More surveys :-):-)...Sorry, ran out of time. That question is "a thinker", and

deserves more thought than I have time for now.

Clyde Kruskal: Get a new bulletin editor (just kidding).

Leslie Shafer: How about a free beginner's lesson followed by a free mini-game (10+ boards or so), total time: 2.5 hrs. or less. For 0-0 masterpt players. Could be run as a Bridge+ game. Once they get 2 or 3 points, they can graduate into the 0-200 game. It should have a facilitator (director) who makes "easy" rulings (non-rulings for leads out of turn, bids out of rotation, etc. We could make a list of recom'd rulings and how to handle for this group. It needs to be VERY RELAXED and informal. or you will lose them.

I would also like to see the return of the Non-LM annual tournament. This was a BIG thing years ago. Could be again. But the advertising needs to be done right. You need a group of people who will do the "leg" work and not just be a name on the committee. Form a telephone tree. Mail flyers to area teachers (I NEVER got any and I was one of the teachers with the most classes ever.)

Rose Berman: I think we have a great Unit. A permanent site would be wonderful.

Michael Carroad: More use of email to get the word around. You are on the right track!

Barb Doran: A new President? Seriously, good question... I'll be interested in seeing the answers. (What leaps to my mind is a permanent, owned or leased site for the Unit game, sectionals, special events, lessons... We can't afford it.)



IV. Pre-Survey Member Question



14. Questions, Comments

a. Do you have any additional points to raise on any of the topics covered?

b. Do you have any questions on any of the topics covered?

c. Do you have any additional topics that you would like to see covered in the survey?

d. Do you have any additional suggestions that you would like to see considered?

e. If you would like an e-mail version of the questions in this article, send a note requesting this to: drogall@erols.com.



Leslie Shafer's Fall 2002 Bridge Teaching Schedule

At the Washington Bridge Center (WBC)
(301-445-0276)

Every Tuesday, 10 AM—12 Noon, **Advanced Conventions**. Begins September 24th. For intermediate to advanced students. Conventions covered: Michaels; Unusual 2NT; DONT; Lebensohl; New Minor Forcing; Fourth Suit Forcing; Weak Jump Shifts and more. \$10 per class.

Every Saturday, 10 AM—12 Noon, **25 Steps to Learning 2/1 Game Forcing**. Begins September 28th. Intermediate to Advanced students. A superior bidding system easily adaptable from Standard American. This class will take you from being an intermediate player to one that will attract the attention of many better players. Most players aspire to play the 2/1 GF system. Major focus will be on the 1NT Forcing convention, Bergen raises and more. *This class is also offered on Thursday evenings 7:30—9:30 pm* beginning October 3rd. Sign up by calling 301-445-0276. \$10 per class. \$17 textbook available.

Don't forget our FREE BEGINNERS' LESSONS
Sundays 6:00—8:30 PM starting 9/22 at the WBC.

Tell your friends, family and neighbors!

First 2 lessons are FREE!



Would you like to participate in a "Bridge Clinic"? Get some "first-aid" for your bridge skills! These are semi-private classes (limited to 6 students only). 10 AM—12 Noon Thursday and Friday mornings at the WBC. Cost: \$20.



If you need further information or details,
call Leslie at 301-593-6828
or email her at slamhand@erols.com

Leslie Shafer's Fall 2002 Bridge Teaching Schedule

Through Montgomery Co. Recreation Dept:
(at the Community Centers listed)

Call MCRD (240-777-6940) to register.



Bridge 1 (Club Series). Covers basic bidding and play of the hand. For beginners only. 8 sessions. \$15 textbook. Mondays 10 AM—12 Noon. Starts 9/23/02 at the Potomac Community Center. Cost: \$68.

Bridge 2 (Diamond Series). Pre-requisite: Bridge 1 or a good basic bidding foundation. Focus is on play of the hand techniques. Establishing long suits; finessing; the drawing of trump and when not to do it. 8 sessions. \$15 textbook. Tuesdays 7:30—9:30 PM. Starts 9/17/02 at the Potomac Com. Center. Cost: \$68.



Polishing Your Basics. Bridge is 75% bidding. Even if you've been playing for a while, here are some lessons guaranteed to land you in more successful contracts! Focus is on bidding and play of the hand. This is a very popular class. You'll play up to 6-7 hands every week! 8 sessions. \$15 materials fee. Wed. 7:30—9:30 PM. Starts 9/25/02 at the Leland Com. Center in Bethesda. Cost: \$68.

Don't have time for an 8-week course?

How about a one-time 3-hour crash course?

Bridge Institutes—1-Day Workshops

All Institute Classes are on **Sundays from 2-5 PM**. Fee: \$20 each course.

A Crash Course in Bridge. For beginners or those who haven't played since college. A short, sweet introduction to see what all the excitement is about. An excellent way to meet other players and socialize. Two classes to choose from: Course #74442 is on Sept. 22nd at the Fairland Com. Center (Burtonsville area); Course #74443 is on Nov. 3rd at the Leland Community Center in Bethesda.

Introduction to Defense: Signaling. How to signal to your partner to tell them about your hand. Tips on information exchange through which cards you play. Every card you play sends a message! Which cards encourage or discourage? Course #74444 is on September 29th at the Leland Com. Center in Bethesda.

Beginner Conventions: Stayman, Jacoby Transfers and Weak 2's. We'll spend one hour learning and playing each of these must-have conventions. Course #74445 is on October 6th at Leland Com. Center in Bethesda.

Competitive Bidding: Introduction to competitive bidding. Scared to come into the bidding? Overcalls and takeout doubles are featured. Course #74446 is on Oct. 20th at the Potomac CC.





NLM MASTER POINTERS

written and compiled by I/N Editor, Leslie Shafer

AN IMPORTANT CONVENTION TO LEARN

Several years ago, I polled many of our local Life Masters to see what their #1 advice would be to struggling non-Life Masters. Steve Robinson's response was simply "Support Doubles." So here's a short lesson I've prepared for you on the subject.

SUPPORT DOUBLES

Auction #1

<u>You</u>	<u>LHO</u>	<u>Pard</u>	<u>RHO</u>
1♣	P	1♥	2♦
??			

Your hand is:

♠ AQ64 / ♥ Q82 / ♦ J3 / ♣ KJ62

Problem 1: If RHO had passed, you would've bid 1♠. Oh, well.

Problem 2: If Pard has five hearts you could raise him to 2♥. However, he only promised four hearts on that bid. Sigh.

Problem 3: If Pard has only four hearts, you don't want to raise him with only 3-card support. Right now, you're probably bidding 2♥ anyway and just hoping/guessing that pard has five of them. Let's take the guesswork out of it!

A double* by you, the opener, now promises three-card heart support. **A support double can only be done by the opener.** ("Alert - She has exactly three hearts.") Therefore, you will now raise to 2♥ only with four-card (or longer) support.

* = Alertable

Any other bid by the opener would show two or fewer hearts.

Auction #2

<u>You</u>	<u>LHO</u>	<u>Pard</u>	<u>RHO</u>
1♣	P	1♥	Dbl
??			

Your hand is:

♠ AJ7 / ♥ K54 / ♦ Q96 / ♣ QJ104

If you Redouble*, you promise three-card heart support.

If you bid 2♥, you are promising four-card heart support.

Any other bid by the opener would show two or fewer hearts.

Quiz:

<u>You</u>	<u>LHO</u>	<u>Pard</u>	<u>RHO</u>
1♦	P	1♠	2♣
??			

Your hand is:

Your Rebid is:

- 1) ♠ AQ7 ♥ Q854 ♦ KJ62 ♣ J7 _____
- 2) ♠ J984 ♥ A6 ♦ KQJ103 ♣ K7 _____
- 3) ♠ J53 ♥ 9 ♦ AKQJ64 ♣ K83 _____
- 4) ♠ K6 ♥ KJ54 ♦ AQJ8 ♣ 952 _____
- 5) ♠ 75 ♥ AKJ6 ♦ AK753 ♣ K6 _____

Answers are on the bottom of the next page

Leslie Shafer is the editor of "Bridge Students 'R Us." A national bridge newsletter specifically for Intermediate and Novice players, it is receiving rave reviews! Started in January 2001, hundreds of subscribers in its first year attests to its easy-to-read format and Leslie's famous humor! Call (301-593-6828) or write for a free copy of Issue #1. You may subscribe by sending your name, address, phone number and payment of \$25 for a one-year subscription (six issues a year) to Leslie Shafer, 690 Concerto Lane, Silver Spring, MD 20901. Her website is www.bridgeteacher.com and her email address is slamhand@erols.com

STEPPING UP TO NEW HEIGHTS

As of July 31, 2002

Junior Masters (5 Masterpoints)

Audrey Bourke Fred Clark
Simone Clark Patrick Dove
Herbert Kaufman Gail Morgenweck
William Peterson Doris Rabe
Jane Smith Steven Spaeth
Marie Wilhere

Club Masters (20 Masterpoints)

Michael Collier
Joan Donoghue
Lewis Ecker
Gwendolyn Marllee
Joel Knisely
Jack Lawrence
Tsong Lee
Julie Oettinger
Walter Spiegel

Sectional Masters (50 Masterpoints)

Thavendran Arulnandhy
Joy Bloomfield Lois Brock
Robert Bronston Florence Drake
Robert Drake Rose Hadidian
Joseph Farruggio Julie Katzman
S. Jeffery Koch Paul Siefring
Neil Strawser Bradley Tash
Adele Waggaman

Regional Masters (100 Masterpoints)

Margaret Buda Michelle Cantave
Madeline Delahan Marian Johnson
David Hamilton Janet Rosenthal

NABC Masters (200 Masterpoints)

Howard Bender Sandra Forsythe
Michael Goldman David Harris
Donald Jacobs Mary Ann Moskowitz
Terri Sanker

Support Double Quiz Answers:

- 1) Dbl*; 2) 2♠; 3) Dbl*;
4) Pass; 5) 2♥

* = Alertable

ABTA AT THE NABC

The American Bridge Teacher's Association has over 500 members from all over the world, including Japan, Australia, Greece, Chile and others. Leslie Shafer is Editor and Publisher of their 32 page Quarterly Magazine which is dedicated to new ideas and concepts, bridge teaching materials, etc. She says the ABTA's Motto is: "To help those who teach bridge to do it better - more effectively - more knowledgeably - more professionally."



Barb Doran was the first Unit 147 President to ever attend the ABTA's formal banquet this year at the DC Nationals. There, she presented a plaque to Leslie in appreciation for 10 years of writing wonderfully humorous bridge columns for the WBL Bulletin.

A great time was had by all. Mary Jane Von Moss, current President of this national organization is shown here on the left with her husband, Robert.



Leslie and her husband, Charlie Williams are pictured all studded up to their right.

The coveted ABTA Book of the Year Award was presented to David Bird and Marc Smith's *Bridge Technique Series*. This is a series of small books for intermediate players that presents tough topics like squeezes, deceptive card play, entry management and many others. However, these tough topics are presented in such a way that is easily understood by all players. Great reading.

The ABTA has an annual 3 day seminar and convention that historically precedes the Summer NABC every year. 2003 will be in Long Beach, CA and 2004 will be in NYC.

Interested in joining this organization? Contact Leslie Shafer (301-593-6828) or Mary Jane Von Moss (301-990-8897) for an application or a free back issue of their magazine. Check out www.abtahome.com

I/N WINNERS FROM THE 2002 WASHINGTON D.C. SUMMER NABC!!

by Leslie Shafer, I/N Editor

National 199er Pairs Winners:



Calvin Cobb and Chip King

We had a fine showing from the members of our unit. Congratulations go out to:

July 18

Educational Foundation 300/200/100

Pairs: Michael Goldman (2nd OA); Steven Fox (4th OA); Wanda Avila (5th OB); Alexander Vortmeyer (5th OC).

July 19

AM 50/200/300 Pairs: Carol Poland and Pat Mascari (2nd SC). **0-5 Pairs:** John and Sue Graham (1st OA); Harris Maclay and Carlos Jimenez (3rd OA); Nat and Jonathan Hellerman (5th OA); Connie Corvette and Patricia Gipple (1st SA); Stephen Smith and George Yanakiev (2nd SA); Thomas Din (6th SA). **49er Pairs:** A. Tubiz (4th OD); Minal and Jitu Shah (1st SD); Jackie Heckman and Gloria Bernstein (4th SE). **299er Pairs:** Richard Hopp and Rena Brewrink (2nd/3rd OA); Marilyn Udell and Janine Burns (2nd/3rd OA); Millie Reizenstein (4th OA); Pam Bacher and Chris Mark (5th OA); Bob Blodgett (3rd SA); Richard Bryan and Betty Sieftring (5th SB); Polly Fleming (5th SC). **299er Swiss:** Martin Reed, Jack Geltman, Howard Tash and Bill Isenstein (1st OA); Brad Tash, Barry Tash, Bob Bonham, Sandy Stringer (4th OA); Barbara Falls (2nd OC).



*Martin Reed and
Howard Tash*



*Donna Richards,
Forrest Lorz, Sam Katz
and Aftab Huskin*

July 20

AM 299er Teams:

Martin Reed and Howard Tash (4th SA, Pictured). **299er Teams:** Forrest Lorz, Donna Richards, Sam Katz and Aftab Huskin (1st OC, Pictured).



49er pairs: Evelyn Knapp and Kenn Pendleton (2nd SF); Bill and Suzanne Shanks (3rd SG); Jim and Lily Andre (4th SG); Herman Pflucker (5th SG). **299er Pairs:** Evelyn Knapp and Agnes Gavin (1st SA, Pictured); Paul & Betty Sieftring (4th SB). **Easybridge! Game:** Ana Jubiz and Herman Pflucker (2nd SA); Patrick and Marie Eibel (2nd SC); Cheryl Rudzinski and Sybil Meloy (4th SC). **5/20/50 Pairs:** Deena Levine and Miriam Freed (1st/2nd/3rd SA); Stephen Weiner and Daniel Kelleher (3rd/4th SB); Jackie Heckman and Gloria Bernstein (3rd/4th SB).

July 21

Morning 299er Teams:

Geoffrey Lewis, Jr. (1st OA); Suzanne Abrams and Robert Packwood (3rd/4th OA). **Aft. 5/20 Pairs:** Kenn Pendleton (1st SE); Utku Moral (2nd SE); Bruce Bershtein (2nd SF); Daniel Kelleher and Stephen Weiner (3rd SF); David Raley and James Staley (4th SF); Doris Brott and Rita Bloom (5th SF). **Aft. 99er Pairs:** Nicole D'Amecourt and Nancy Weil (5th SC); Robert and Jane Wilkinson (6th/7th SC); Rebecca Shafer (5th SD). **Aft. 100/200 Pair:** Robert

and Frances Lawrence (1st SA); Juan Pardo (4th SA); Marshall Kramer and Stephen MacArthur (6th/7th SA). **PM 99er Pairs:** Morris and Ruth Fidelman (1st SC); Judy Glick and Cliff Dyhouse (2nd SC); Thomas Din (6th SC). **PM 299er Pairs:** Robert and Jackqueline Leedom (1st SA); Helen Solomon and Nancy Jose (2nd SA); Charles Van Gorder and Steve Shurtz (5th SB).



William Shanks and James Key



Pat Donovan and William Peterson

July 22

AM 50/200/300 Pairs: Lee Tanen (2nd SC); Jack and Mary Beatty (3rd SC). **Aft. 5/20/50 Pairs:** William Shanks and James Key (1st SA, Pictured); Lois Kay and Cynthia Sulton (2nd SB); Thomas Din (2nd SC); Jim and Ruth Mahler (3rd SC); Terry Lubar and Rita Bloom (5th SC). **Aft. 100/200/300 Pairs:** William Peterson and Pat Donovan (1st SC, Pictured); Helen Solomon and Nancy Jose (4th SA). **PM 5/20/50 Pairs:** Sybil Meloy (3rd SF). **PM 299er Pairs:** Harold Minus III and Harold Minus, Sr. (1st SA, Pictured); Charles King (4th SA); James Key and William Shanks (1st SC).



Harold Minus, Sr.

July 23

AM 50/200/300 Pairs: Sally Hollman and Barbara Gordon (1st SC). **Aft. 5/20 Pairs:** Sybil Meloy (3rd SA). **Aft. 50/100 Pairs:** Deena Levine and Miriam Freed (2nd SA); Richard Bryan and Sherrie Schrama (4th SA); Lorraine Davis (3rd SB); Judy Glick and Cliff Dyhouse (5th/8th SA). **Aft. 200/300 Pairs:** Albert Leon and Millie Reizenstein (1st SA); Gordon Youngwood (3rd SA); Michael Goldman (4th/5th SA). **PM 100/200/300**

Teams: Sylvia Miller (4th SA); Jon Ranhand, Donald and Joel Goldberg (5th SA). **PM 5/20/50 Pairs:** Stephen MacArthur and Jack Shiff (1st SA); Gloria and Al Bernstein (5th SB). **PM 100/200/300 Pairs:** Cliff Dyhouse and Judy Glick (5th/6th SA); Harold Minus III and Harold Minus Sr. (5th/6th SA); Fred Mobly and Frieda Joyce (4th SC).



Richard Bryan and Betty Siefring



Morris and Ruth Fidelman

July 24

AM 100/200/300 Pairs: Richard Bryan and Betty Siefring (1st SA, Pictured); Douglas Porterfield (5th SC). **Aft. 0-20 Pairs:** Thomas Din (2nd). **Aft. 50/100 Pairs:** Morris and Ruth Fidelman (1st OA, Pictured); Anne Derbes and Robert Schwab (5th/6th SA). **Aft. 200/300 Pairs:** Richard Bryan and Betty Siefring (4th SA, Pictured); Patrick Stanton and Helen Stanton (6th SB). **PM 299er Pairs:** John Mattiolo and Steven Spaeth (1st SA); Norris Heckimian and Edgar MacArthur (3rd SA); Steve Rosenthal and Dale Collinson (3rd SC); Morris and Ruth Fidelman (6th SC).

July 25

Aft. 5/20/50 Pairs: A. Edwin and M. Josette Johnson (2nd SD); Irv and Claire Machlin (1st SE); Joyce Shanada and Madeleine Furth (2nd SF). **Aft. 199er Pairs:** Charles King and Calvin Cobb (1st OA); Robert Boorman (3rd OA). **PM 5/20/50 Pairs:** Rodney Peterson and Louis Miller (1st SD); Utku Moral and Emre Gunduzhan (1st SE). **PM 299er Pairs:** Marilyn Udell and Betsy Depristo (3rd SA); Fred Mobley and Frieda Joyce (6th SA); Alexander Vortmeyer (3rd SC).

July 26

AM 100/200/300 Pairs: Cecilia Valdivieso and Betty Siefring (1st/2nd SA, Pic-



*Cecelia Valdivieso and
Betty Siefring*



*David Hamilton and
Michelle Cantave*



*Barry and Bradley
Tash*

tured); Charles King and Calvin Cobb (4th SA); George Schropp (3rd SB); Robert Packwood and Kathy Attlan (1st SC); Sylvia Miller (3rd/4th SC); Victoria Miller and Raja Nassar (3rd/4th SC). **Aft 5/20/50 Pairs:** Daniel Syed (1st SD); Sybil Meloy (1st SF); Stephen MacArthur (5th SA). **Aft. 299er Pairs:** Michelle Cantave and David Hamilton (1st SA, Pictured); Rae Newman and Helen Solomon (5th SA); George Schropp (6th/7th SA); Aliette DeVille (6th/7th SA); Janet Duke and Cynthia Helms (3rd SC); Diana Campillo (6th SC). **PM 299er Pairs:** Bob Von Moss (3rd SA); Steven and Sandy Forsythe (4th SA); Jon Ranhand and Donald Goldman (5th SB); Peter and Jonathan Schiff (4th SC). **PM 5/20/50 Pairs:** Bruce Bershtein (2nd SD); Jim Lochner and Geri Cvetic (3rd SE).

July 27

PM 299er Pairs: John Lowe (1st SA); Michelle Cantave and David Hamilton (1st SB, Pictured); Mary and Walt Lafferty (4th SA); John Mattiolo (1st SB). **PM 199er Pairs:** Sandy Stringer and Bob Bonham (4th SA); Jim Murray and Anne Wilson (6th SA). **PM 99er Pairs:** Barry and Bradley Tash (1st SA, Pictured); Thomas Din (1st SC); Ralph Rollo and Richard Emery (1st SA); Marie Eibel (2nd SC); Richard Hopp and John Tasted (5th SA).

**CONGRATULATIONS
TO ALL OF OUR
WINNING
UNIT MEMBERS!**

Great Job!!

MORE WINNING NOTES

Two relatively new members of the WBL, Connie Corvette of Rockville and Pat Gipple of Chevy Chase, played in the **Newcomers (0-5) Pair** game on the first Friday of the summer NABC ... and won first overall, for 1.23 red points! This was their first tournament experience ever at any level so one can imagine their reaction. IT CAN BE DONE!!

On July 21, playing in the **ABA Day Open Pairs** with one of her favorite partners, Carole Banks won over 21 gold points for finishing 1st in Stratum B: 0-2000!!!

More winners from the NABC which deserve special mention:

- Bob Von Moss, Margaret Buda and Jeff and Vada Gourley won the Sat-Sun. Bracket #10 KO for 2.8 gold and 5.85 red.
- Sherrie Schrama won 1st place in a 299er swiss team event with a pick up team from out-of-town.
- Richard Bryan and Betty Siefring won 1st Place Pairs in a 299er game.

ADVERTISE?

Advertisements are welcome in the Bulletin. We distribute approximately nineteen hundred copies each issue. Advertising rates are:

\$60 for a full page ad

\$40 for a half page ad

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\$15 for an eighth page ad

The sixth consecutive appearance of an ad runs for free.

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I certify that the above statements are correct and complete — Donna Rogall, *Editor*

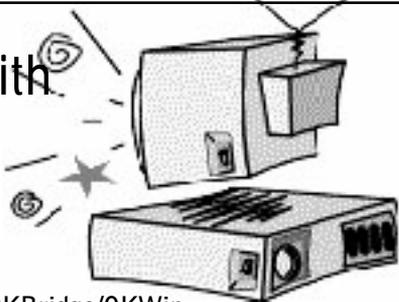
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