

♣ ♦ THE DUMMY ♥ ♠

Quarterly Publication of the
Delaware State Bridge
Association
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Paula Varrassi, Editor

Coming Event
BRIDGE AT THE
BEACH
REGIONAL
MAY 1-5
REHOBOTH
BEACH
Delicious Box Lunch
Included with Entry
DON'T MISS THIS
ONE IT IS
WONDERFUL

DSBA PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear Bridge Friends:

What a great beginning to 2023! The weather has been unbelievable; we have our clubs up and operating, we have had our first tournament, and lessons are being planned. It looks to be a good year in the making!

Rehoboth Beach Regional (Bridge at the Beach) is scheduled for May 1-5. We expect a record number of tables so register online now to guarantee a seat!! Kim Holm and Caroline Hughes are co-chairs and promise good food, great bridge, and lots of activity at the beach.

Congratulations to the winners of the Mini-McKinney and Ace of Clubs awards (winners listed in this Dummy); you will receive a certificate in the mail shortly after we receive them from ACBL.

A special shout out to Harold Jordan and Alexis and Tom Ciconte!!! The Bridge Studio provides a venue for our sectionals, regular games, and hosts so many activities. Through the time of COVID, it was not easy, but they have kept it open and running with much sacrifice and hard work from them. On behalf of Unit 190, THANKS! Hope to see you at the tables!!!

Trina



Trina Williams

BREAKING NEWS: ACBL CONSIDERING FLUCTUATING RANKING SYSTEM

What happens after players achieve the designation of Life Master? Hopefully, they continue to refine and improve their skills and move further up the ranks. According to the ACBL, for many players the opposite occurs. They become lazy and complacent, lose their competitive appetite and their skill levels decline. This phenomenon has become an area of concern to the powers at the ACBL. A source, who requested anonymity, indicated that these deteriorating Life Masters were a source of embarrassment within the organization and bridge community.

Efforts to encourage continued study, diligence and growth have thus far failed. Motivation, or lack thereof, appears to be a critical factor. Life Masters smugly boast of their achievements while their level of play wanes. The ACBL is, therefore, considering a fluctuating ranking system. This would entail an annual review of each Life Master's club and tournament results. If a player has maintained results commensurate with his previous achievements no change in rank would occur. However, when a Life Master's results no longer demonstrate the skills expected at that level a demotion or qualification (indicated by an * and modifier) would be imposed.

Demotion would be a return to the NABC Master level and loss of some # of Gold Points. Qualifications would be the addition of a modifier/clarifying term to the Life Master's certification. Suggested terminology includes Past Life Master, Downgraded Life Master, Indolent Life Master and Slothful Life Master.

There is another group of Life Masters who are, apparently, a source of concern, as well. This group is composed of players who have unwittingly accrued the points required for the rank of Life Master. It has been suggested that these players' rankings be modified as one of the following: Serendipitous Life Master, Perplexing Life Master, Dubious Life Master, Unimaginable Life Master.

Players of all levels, from novice to expert, have decried these proposals. Even professional players fear the possibility of an ignominious rank demotion. One Pro was heard to complain: "This is only the beginning. They'll be looking at us next!" Personally, I can see my future and I shudder.

You may send your questions, suggestions and comments to the following:

AprilFools@notACBL.org

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Clare O'Brien

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MOVIN' ON UP

Club Master

Merrie Johnson

Sectional Life Master

Wendy Tilles

Silver Life Master

Karen Schwenk

Ruby Life Master

Thomas Hughes

Christopher Marlowe

THE WELCOME MAT

(New to our Unit: T=transfer, N=new member)

Lynn Coan-N

Cathy Fuller-N

Trina Kelly-N

Drayton Gerety-N

George Lozos-N

WIT AND WISDOM

“Don’t argue, my dear child, *please* don’t argue! It’s such a waste of precious time!” Willy Wonka

Which Disney Princess’ team won the last Swiss Team event?
Rapunzel’s team.....by a hair!

THE WINNERS' CIRCLE

BLUE HEN SECTIONAL

The Sectional, held at the Bridge Studio February 23-26 was a resounding success. There were over 20 tables at each event. A great time was had by all. The Overall Winners are listed below:

Friday A.M.

A/X pairs: Glenn Robbins & Jiang Gu

B pairs: Gerald Abelow & Glenn Fuhrman

C pairs: Judith Cronin & Lynne Brooks

D pairs: Jackie Topaz & Marc Topaz (tied with) Marilyn Haskins & Mark Nehra

Friday Open Pairs: Meyer Kotkin & William Ravreby

499 Pairs: Marilyn Haskins & Mark Nehra

Saturday:

A/X Pairs: Jay Apfelbaum & Louis Glasthal

B & C pairs: Pamela Scalamandre & John Nothdurft

D pairs: Pamela Folz & Ann Biehn

Saturday Open Pairs:

Flt. A- Donna Morgen & Richard Popper

Flt. B: Jeremy Xu & Fred Gillespie

Flt. C: Jackie Topaz & Marc Topaz

Sunday:

A/X Swiss: Harold Jordan, Rick Rowland, Joann Glasson & Bob Glasson

B Round Robin Teams 1: Jon Manerchia, Judy Robbins, Myra Rosenberg,
Andrew Rosenberg

B Round Robin Teams 2: Jack Willgruber, Dave Willgruber, Jeffrey Rohrbeck,
Lou Primavera

MINI-MCKENNEY HONOREES

0-5 Masterpoints: Jeanmarie Leonard, Robert Bryan, Douglas Uthgenannt
5-20 Masterpoints: Merrie Johnson, Henry Weissenberger, Gary Fisher
20-50 Masterpoints: Stefan Haroldsson, Lois Grieshofer, Brian Ault
50-100 Masterpoints: Donna Heckscher, Nancy Woolpert, Jean Gandek
100-200 Masterpoints: Don Adams, Darlene Bolig, Rohan Mandayam
200-300 Masterpoints: Kathy Baxter, Phyllis Lochiatto, Peg Wilson
300-500 Masterpoints: William Herdle, Pamela Folz, Ann Biehn
500-1000 Masterpoints: Karin Schwenk, Nancy Ferguson, Thomas Tully
1000-1500 Masterpoints: Tamara Holm, Kim Holm, Robert Gray
1500-2500 Masterpoints: Melody Henderson, Kurt Engleman, David Venetainer
2500-3500 Masterpoints: Sigridur Kristjansdottir, Paul Amer, Cindy Rowland
3500-5000 Masterpoints: Mark Henderson, Bernard Rehberg, Anne Taylor
5000-7500 Masterpoints: Ala Hamilton-Day, Robert Keeney, Barry Spector
7500-10,000 Masterpoints: Randall Berseth, Eliezer Solomon, Peter Filandro Marie Filandro
Over 10,000 Masterpoints: Richard Popper, Rick Rowland, Jess Stuart

ACE OF CLUBS HONOREES

0-5 Masterpoints: Douglas Uthgenannt, Jeanmarie Leonard, Mary Hanley
5-20 Masterpoints: Gary Fisher, Henry Weissenberger, Merrie Johnson
20-50 Masterpoints: Stefan Haroldsson, Lois Grieshofer, James Angus, Brian Ault
50-100 Masterpoints: Nancy Woolpert, Larry Stetson, Ruth Wright
100-200 Masterpoints: Darlene Bolig, Don Adams, Rohan Mandayam
200-300 Masterpoints: Kathy Baxter, Grace Messner, Steven Katz
300-500 Masterpoints: Pamela Folz, William Herdle, Ann Biehn
500-1000 Masterpoints: Debbie Schenkel, Judith Cronin, Karin Schwenk
1000-1500 Masterpoints: Tina Brinsfield, Robert Gray, J. Bruce Gwaltney
1500-2500 Masterpoints: Melody Henderson, Nancy Steele, Marcelle Davidson
2500-3500 Masterpoints: Cindy Rowland, Sigridur Kristjansdottir, Paul Amer
3500-5000 Masterpoints: Mark Henderson, Bernard Rehberg, Harold Jordan
5000-7500 Masterpoints: Ala Hamilton-Day, Robert Keeney, Lois Stuart
7500-10,000 Masterpoints: Randall Berseth, Francis Taylor, Jr., Eliezer Solomon
Over 10,000 Masterpoints: Rick Rowland, Jess Stuart, Richard Popper