



Daily Bulletin



97th Fall North American Bridge Championships | NABCDailyBulletin@acbl.org
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National event updates

- Engel–Tadmor have slim lead in 0–10K IMP Pairs
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Winners of the Super Senior Pairs: Om Chokriwala and Joe Viola

Viola–Chokriwala win Super Seniors

Joe Viola of Chattanooga TN and Om Chokriwala of Sherman Oaks CA won the Super Senior Pairs on Monday by more than two thirds of a board.

The pair started strong with a 62.80% in the first qualifying session, which put them in second place, and were consistent in the mid-50s from there. They took the lead in the second session with a 54.34%

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ATTENDANCE

through Monday
2957 tables



Goodwill Message

You can be competitive and still be friendly, caring and ethical.

Lamya Agelidis, Chair

Aileen Osofsky Goodwill Committee

Zimmermann prevails in Mitchell



Winners of the Mitchell Open Board-a-Match Teams (from left): Franck Multon, Michal Klukowski, team captain Pierre Zimmermann, Bas Drijver, Jacek Kalita and Sjoert Brink (inset)

After qualifying for the final in first place, the team captained by Pierre Zimmermann, playing with Franck Multon, Michal Klukowski, Jacek Kalita, Bas Drijver and Sjoert Brink, dropped to third after the first final session. A strong second final session helped them to regain the lead and win by a board and a half, finishing with a score of 37.68.

Zimmermann thanked

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James Holzhauer is Honorary Member of the Year

“Jeopardy!” champ James Holzhauer has been named Honorary Member of the Year.

The award is given annually to someone widely known throughout the membership who has given freely of



their time and ability, without thought of reward and in the interest and welfare of the League as a whole.

“James has become an extraordinary ambassador for bridge,” said Bronia Jenkins, executive director of the ACBL. “He donates his time to support Jump Start Bridge conferences, creates and hosts the wildly popular Bridge Jeopardy at Bridge Mania, and treats every player – of every level – with genuine warmth,

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Jim Ricker | 1955–2025

By Kevin Wilson

My friend and partner in bridge, Jim Ricker, passed away peacefully Oct. 2 at home, surrounded by his loving family: his wife, Patti; daughter, Lindsey and son-in-law, Matt. He was 70.

The news is heartbreaking. Jim and I shared a deep friendship and partnership, spending countless late nights bouncing ideas off each other about online bridge and life in general. He was a constant source of inspiration with his

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Today's Bridge Events

Tuesday, Dec. 2 Teri Smoot Memorial Day 9:30 am & 3:30 pm

Event	Session	Sold	Entry/player/session*	
			Members with host discount	Members without discount
SOLOWAY KNOCKOUT TEAMS	1-2 QF	Pacific I, 4th Floor	\$40	\$50
10 am				
Tuesday Morning Side Pairs <i>Sun-Tue Daylight Series</i>	single	Golden Gate B, Level B2	\$22	\$32
299er Pairs	single	Golden Gate C, Level B2	\$18	\$28
10 am & 3 pm				
KAPLAN BLUE RIBBON PAIRS <i>2 qualifying, 2 semifinal & 2 final sessions</i>	1-2 Q	Yerba Buena 8, Bottom Level	\$40	\$50
WHITEHEAD WOMEN'S PAIRS <i>2 qualifying & 2 final sessions</i>	1-2 Q	Yerba Buena 9, Bottom Level	\$35	\$45
0-6000 BLUE RIBBON PAIRS <i>2 qualifying, 2 semifinal & 2 final sessions</i>	1-2 Q	Yerba Buena 7, Bottom Level	\$25	\$35
NABC 0-10,000 IMP PAIRS	1-2 F	Foothill C, 2nd Floor	\$25	\$35
NABC 0-3000 SWISS TEAMS	1-2 F	Sierra B, 5th Floor	\$25	\$35
Keith Evans-Orville Memorial Open Pairs <i>(unlim./4000/1500)</i>	1-2	Golden Gate B, Level B2	\$22	\$32
Gold Rush Pairs	1-2	Golden Gate C, Level B2	\$22	\$32
Top-Flight Swiss Teams <i>(unlim./6000/4500)</i>	1-2	Golden Gate A, Level B2	\$22	\$32
Teri Smoot Memorial Bracketed Round Robin Teams <i>(0-4000)</i>	1-2	Golden Gate A, Level B2	\$22	\$32
3 pm				
Tuesday Afternoon Side Pairs <i>Sun-Tue Daylight Series</i>	single	Golden Gate B, Level B2	\$22	\$32
299er Pairs	single	Golden Gate C, Level B2	\$18	\$28
7:30 pm				
Tuesday Evening Side Pairs <i>Tue-Fri Evening Series</i>	single	Golden Gate C, Level B2	\$22	\$22

Unless otherwise noted, strata breaks for all stratified events are: A (2500+), B (750-2500), C (0-750). Three-flight events are divided A/X (6000+/0-6000); B/C (1500-3000, 0-1500); Gold Rush (400-750/200-400/0-200). Two-flight events are divided A/X/Y (6000+/4000-6000/0-4000); B/C/D (1500-3000/750-1500/ 0-750) if no Gold Rush OR A/B/C (3000+/1500-3000/0-1500) and Gold Rush (400-750/200-400/0-200). In B flights, no single player may be over 3000. In Gold Rush events, no single player may be over 750. **BOLD, UPPER CASE = NABC+ events.** UPPER CASE = NABC events. **Green = Regional events (gold and red points).** **Blue = Gold Rush events (gold and red points).** **Red = Intermediate/Newcomer 299er events (red points).**

International Fund

In NABC+ events, \$1.50 (per person, per session) of each entry fee will be allocated to the ACBL International Fund. These funds are used to underwrite part of the expenses of ACBL players who participate in international competition.

Today's Sponsors

Teri Smoot Memorial Day

by Jim Coke



Teri Smoot, born and raised in Montana, enjoyed a successful career as an aeronautical engineer, during which she met and married the

love of her life, Jerry. Together they learned to play bridge, then moved to Placerville CA, and enjoyed many years of playing in local clubs and tournaments. After Jerry passed, Teri formed a long-term partnership with Bill Taggart, developing their own bidding system, but was willing to play with and mentor anyone and everyone. Well-loved in the greater Sacramento area for her passion and inclusiveness, Teri later formed a longstanding partnership with Mary Ose. Together they established Team OSMO, a group of women with a goal of encouraging

women to compete at the top levels of duplicate bridge. To achieve this, Teri and Mary and their teammates played in many regionals and NABCs, a few U.S. Opens, and numerous international tournaments. Teri's top finish in an NABC event was third in the Wagar Women's Pairs with Mary Ose.

Teri loved to travel and explore new countries, cities and rural areas. Teri also was an accomplished amateur astronomer and astro-photographer whose work was shown in galleries. She had endless energy and thirst for anything new and interesting, but her true passion was bridge.

For those who knew her, it was impossible to not love Teri. For those who didn't know her, I'm sorry that you missed this wonderful opportunity. We all miss Teri and thank her for her significant contributions to the world of bridge, including enabling online bridge for the greater Sacramento and

other outlying areas during COVID, but mostly for being Teri, a lovable woman.

Keith Evans-Orville

by Elizabeth D'Orazio



Keith Evans-Orville was a brilliant bridge player, California Supreme Court head of chambers attorney and an accomplished

long-distance runner. At the age of 16, he started the Yale Bridge Club, and one of his collegiate bridge hands was later featured in the New York Times. He was a gifted and immensely patient mentor to new and intermediate bridge players. He loved attending the North American Bridge Championships, and this fall is the first time it will be held in San Francisco since Keith sadly and suddenly passed away in his sleep in February 2023, leaving behind his wife, two teenaged children, and all of us who loved and miss him.

Monitoring

ACBL monitors events at North American Bridge Championships with both visible and concealed real-time cameras in public spaces. The images are recorded and available for later inspection and review by ACBL management and tournament officials. These recordings are also uploaded to the internet following the NABC.

By general monitoring of the session and participants' behavior, ACBL has another source of information that may be useful in determining facts and settling issues or disputes arising from some types of ethical and behavioral complaints or actions. Please summon a director if a problem occurs at the table. This procedure is intended to assure everyone that the playing field is level and that misbehavior will not be tolerated.



Join us for bridge-themed
Jeopardy, Family Feud and other games

Wednesday, December 3, 8:30 p.m.
Pacific A-D, fourth floor at Marriott

SPECIAL EVENTS

MEETINGS / SEMINARS / RECEPTIONS

Meetings are at the Marriott.

1–3 pm	Wednesday, December 3 I/N Reception. For players under 300 masterpoints; sponsored by the host committee. <i>Sierra J, fifth floor</i>	8:30–11 pm	Bridge Mania. Bridge-themed parlor games, including Jeopardy, Family Feud and Kahoot. Light food and cash bar. <i>Pacific A–D, fourth floor</i>
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CELEBRITY SPEAKER PROGRAM

Don't miss these free lectures by some of the best-known players in the game! Talks will be held in Golden Gate C, level B2. Speakers and topics are subject to change.

9:15 am	Tuesday, Dec. 2 Jeff Hand <i>Play These Trump Contracts</i>	9:15 am	Wednesday, Dec. 3 Donna Compton <i>Logic on Defense</i>
2:15 pm	Donna Compton <i>Hand Shape Bidding</i>	2:15 pm	Jerry Helms <i>Always Plan a Second Bid</i>

HOSPITALITY

Food will be served starting at 9 a.m. outside the Golden Gate and Yerba Buena ballrooms.

Tuesday, Dec. 2
Fresh fruit mini-tarts

Wednesday, Dec. 3
Apple crumb bars

PATRON LOUNGE

Patron Members are invited to visit the Patron Lounge at the south end of the Yerba Buena foyer (near Yerba Buena 10) from 1 to 3 p.m. today through Friday, Dec. 5, for light lunch and coffee. The Patron Lounge is also open for coffee from 9 to 10 a.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 2
North Beach sandwiches, cookies

Wednesday, Dec. 3
Southwest chicken wraps, cookies

Evening entertainment

Three nights of fun evening entertainment are planned. Light food and cash bar at Bridge Mania.

Wednesday, Dec. 3

Bridge Mania: Jeopardy, Family Feud and other bridge-themed games. 8:30 p.m. *Pacific A–D, fourth floor.*

Friday, Dec. 5

Crazy Bridge: This variation brings chaos to the game by changing a different rule for each board. 8:30 p.m. *Golden Gate A, level B2.*

**We travel with
intention...to learn,
to laugh, to connect.**



PLAY BRIDGE
AT SEA
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Notice of binding arbitration

By becoming an ACBL member or renewing your membership in the ACBL, you expressly agree to waive your right to have disputes between you and the ACBL resolved in a court of law and agree to accept the use of binding arbitration before the American Arbitration Association. The binding arbitration provisions are available for review at acbl.org/bindingarbitration.

Email us

Got a hand you'd like to share or a nice story? We'd love to see it: NABCDailyBulletin@acbl.org. You'll also find our email address on the front page of the paper under the "Daily Bulletin" between the date and the editors' names.

This email address won't be checked with any regularity when the NABC is not in session, so please continue to use our office email addresses for non-tournament-related correspondence.



JUST FOR NEW PLAYERS



Scott Gorsuch, his sister, Sheryl Gorsuch, their father, Clint Gorsuch and their aunt (Clint's sister), Virginia Grogan are here at the San Francisco NABC where they played in Sunday's Mid-Flight Swiss. Clint modestly denied he taught his sister to play. "He kind of did," she said. "He grew me up a lot, with duplicate."

"We played a lot," said Clint. "My son and I learned together."

Sheryl is the newbie. "I'm the last one," she said. This is her first-ever tournament.

Bidding Basics by Larry Cohen

larrycohen.com

This series looks at responder's initial responses to each of opener's bids.

Responding to 1♥ (part 1)

Partner	Opponent	You
1♥	Pass	?

1♠ response

A 1♠ response shows four or more cards in that suit and at least 6 points. Responder is unlimited in high-card points, so opener must bid again – even if he has a minimum! The only times responder wouldn't show at least four spades is if he has three-card or longer heart support and 6–10 points counting useful distribution or a game-forcing hand with a longer minor. With the first hand, he should prefer to raise to 2♥ and ignore the spades.

With:

♠A 10 7 6 ♥6 5 ♦K 8 7 6 ♣8 3 2

respond 1♠. With:

♠A 8 7 6 ♥K 9 8 ♦3 2 ♣9 7 6 5

respond 2♥. With:

♠Q 8 7 6 5 3 ♥A 2 ♦A 2 ♣K Q 2

respond 1♠. (Yes, I advocate playing 2/1 game forcing, but here, 2♠ would be a jump, so the first bid has to be only 1♠.) With:

♠A Q 8 7 6 ♥A Q 2 ♦3 ♣A 8 3 2

respond 1♠.

1NT response

This shows 6 to ?? HCP, and it usually denies three-card heart support or a four-card spade suit. Why the question

marks? The upper limit of the range depends on system. I recommend 6–12 HCP, part of the two-over-one (2/1) game-forcing system. If you want to play the old way ("standard"), then 1NT is limited to 6–10.

Does 1NT promise a balanced hand? Stoppers? No and no. Think of 1NT as a catchall response. You have enough to respond, but you don't have four spades, you usually don't have three hearts (more on this below), and you don't have enough strength to go to the two level in a new suit. With each hand below, you would respond 1NT:

♠Q 4 ♥K 2 ♦K 8 7 6 5 3 ♣6 5 4
 ♠J 3 2 ♥— ♦Q 7 6 5 4 ♣A 8 6 4 2
 ♠K J 3 ♥Q 5 ♦5 4 3 ♣J 5 4 3 2

2♣/2♦ response

This shows at least four cards in the suit bid and ?? HCP. Again, the ?? depends on whether you wish to play old-fashioned standard, where only 10 or 11 HCP are required. I strongly recommend the modern way where opening-bid strength is promised and the partnership is forced to game. If playing the latter way, you certainly can have a side four-card spade suit. This modern way is called 2/1 game forcing. If you choose this option, then the 1NT response can contain up to 12 HCP. If you choose standard, then the 1NT response is a maximum of 10 HCP. Assuming you opt to play 2/1, respond with two of your longer minor with these hands. (With 4–4 in the minors, tend to respond 2♣):

♠K Q 6 2 ♥A 2 ♦6 5 ♣A K 6 4 3
 ♠6 5 2 ♥4 ♦A Q 4 3 2 ♣A K Q J
 ♠K 4 ♥K J 3 ♦K 3 2 ♣K 10 6 5 4

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JUST FOR NEW PLAYERS

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However, don't distort your hand just to use a 2/1 game-forcing response. Respond 1♠ with either of these hands:

♠K 10 8 7 6 ♥A 2 ♦K Q 2 ♣J 3 2
♠A K Q 10 ♥A ♦8 7 6 5 ♣9 4 3 2

2♥ raise

This shows three or more hearts and 6–10 points in support (counting useful distribution). Raise to 2♥ with:

♠K 4 3 2 ♥K Q 2 ♦5 4 ♣8 7 6 5
♠3 ♥A J 4 ♦7 6 5 4 ♣10 6 5 4 3
♠5 4 ♥Q 7 6 5 ♦K 10 7 6 5 ♣3 2

2♠ response

Most players today use this jumpshift as weak (old-fashioned would be very strong). Don't make such a bid if you aren't 100% sure your partner knows what it means. Assuming it is weak, it is very weak (approximately 2–6 HCP).

2NT response

This used to be a natural bid, and if you are allergic to conventions, you can use it as such. However, almost all duplicate players use this as a conventional response called Jacoby 2NT. It promises four or more trumps and enough values for at least game. Continuations will not be discussed in this series. Here are some examples of a Jacoby 2NT

response to 1♥ (which must be Alerted by the opening bidder):

♠A ♥A 7 6 5 ♦A 7 6 5 ♣A 7 6 5
♠5 4 ♥K Q J 7 2 ♦K Q 4 ♣Q 3 2
♠K 7 6 ♥K J 7 6 ♦A K Q ♣4 3 2

Bidding Basics Quiz

What is your response to partner's 1♥ opening with each hand below?

1. ♠J 7 6 5 ♥K 7 6 ♦3 2 ♣K J 10 8
2. ♠A J 8 7 6 4 ♥A Q 2 ♦A 3 2 ♣2
3. ♠8 ♥5 ♦K J 7 6 5 4 ♣A 10 8 6 5
4. ♠A K ♥A K Q J ♦Q 5 4 3 ♣5 4 3
5. ♠A 2 ♥K Q 10 7 6 ♦J 7 6 5 ♣A Q

Answers

1. 2♥. With your "one-bid" hand, supporting is more important than showing the spades.
2. 1♠. This time, you can go exploring.
3. 1NT. Not enough for a two-level response. 1NT says nothing about shape or stoppers.
4. 2NT. Jacoby, a game-forcing four-card raise.
5. 2NT. Yes, the same answer twice in a row just to keep you honest.

Engel-Tadmor have slim lead in 0–10K IMP Pairs

Barak Engel of Oakland CA and Ilan Tadmor of Sunnyside, NY are in a virtual tie with Varghese George of Milton GA and James Gentry Jr. of North Augusta SC in the NABC 0–10K IMP Pairs with a carryover of 30.30 and 30.11, respectively. Right behind them are Erik Hansson of Helsinki, Finland, and Anne Hollingsworth of Walnut Creek CA with a carryover of 29.84.

George and Gentry were leading the event after the first qualifying session and Engel and Tadmor were in 20th place. A second qualifying session score of 63.91 moved them up considerably.

Of the 48 pairs that entered the event, 28 qualified to play in today's two-session final.

Shi dominates 0–3K Swiss

The inaugural NABC 0–3000 Swiss Teams saw 28 squads enter the event, a great showing that exceeded expectations. In first place with a score of 101.73 IMPs are Shirley Shi of Sacramento CA playing with Allen Prohofsky, Jichong Chai and Sheng Dou. They will have a carryover of 30 VPs going into today's two-session final.

In second place are Liam King, John Santibanes, Tom McKelvey and Marc Rosaaen with a carryover of 12.66 VPs.

Kevin Babcock, Brigitte Sandquist, Kirsten Beda and Douglas Babcock are in third with a carryover of 12.41 VPs.

Fourteen teams qualified to play in today's two-session final.

Soloway enters quarterfinal stage

In the Soloway Knockout Teams Round of 16, there was a little bit of everything: close matches, blowouts and a tiebreaker. The battle between No. 6 Bailey and No. 11 Lall was tight wire-to-wire, with Bailey eventually winning by 6 IMPs. No. 13 Cayne led No. 4 Fleisher by 1 IMP at the half and built on that for the next two quarters to win 109–96. In the No. 3 Street vs. No. 14 Joel match, Street was held to 4 IMPs in the third quarter, allowing Joel to come back to within 7 IMPs. Street held on to win, 122–104. No. 5 Helle and No. 12 Rosenberg were tied at 99; after an eight-board playoff, Rosenberg prevailed, 131–105.

The full bracket is on pages 12–13 and the pairings can be found on page 14.

Super Seniors

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and stayed there with 56.69% and 54.38% on Monday.

It's the first NABC+ win for both, though the event does not qualify for Grand Life Master. Chokriwala has three previous limited NABC wins: the GNT Flight C in 2013, Micro-Spangold in 2014 and GNT Flight B in 2016. Viola won the GNT Flight B in 2008.

As a pair, they were second in the Super Senior Pairs in 2019, the last time it was in San Francisco and the last time they played in it. Chokriwala was 70 at the time, before the age limit was raised to 75. He's 76 now, and Viola 78.

Mitchell

continued from page 1

his squad and especially Drijver and Brink, who will be leaving the team at the end of this year. "We began and ended with a win, and had many in between," said Zimmermann. "What a pleasure it has been to play with these friends who are top players, and an honor. We've had success not possible without the Dutch pair, and I have a ton of gratitude."

In second place with a score of 36.05 were Bart Bramley, Kit Woolsey, Peter Weichsel and James Krekorian.

Third place went to Iftikhar Baqai, Mitch Dunitz, Mark Itabashi and Neil Silverman with a score of 34.75.

Honorary Member

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patience and enthusiasm. Whether he's playing, entertaining, or smiling for countless selfies, James brings energy and generosity that lift our entire community."

"It's very well deserved," said Patty Tucker, who received the same award in 2016.

Holzhauer is certainly widely known. He rose to fame in spring 2019 as a "Jeopardy!" contestant who broke records with the large sums he won



Runners-up in the Super Senior Pairs: Mark Moss and Bruce Tuttle

"This event has been good for us," Chokriwala said.

"I'm glad I came," Viola said.

In second were Mark Moss of Piedmont CA and Bruce Tuttle of Berkely CA, who qualified in 14th place and came up on a strong last session of 59.31%.



Runners-up in the Mitchell Open Board-a-Match Teams (from left): Peter Weichsel, James Krekorian, Kit Woolsey and Bart Bramley

throughout his 33-day streak, followed by several tournament and special event appearances on the long-running trivia show. He appeared on the cover of the July 2019 Bridge Bulletin and declared in the accompanying article that he was planning to turn his attention to bridge with the goal of becoming a world-class player.

That summer, at the height of his fame, the NABC was held in Las Vegas, where he lived at the time. It was the perfect opportunity for him to immerse in the bridge community. "I might

Ricker obit

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his incredible energy and passion. He loved running games, mentoring new players and even coming up with creative recipes to feed his club members. I will deeply miss his companionship and our collaboration.

Jim deservedly won the American Bridge Teachers' Association's 2019 Teacher of the Year award. In the letter of recommendation I wrote, I described his work ethic, creative ideas, passion and results. Our bridge community grew by over 50% due to the hard work, dedication and passion shown by Jim, who said, "Teaching them is easy, keeping them is hard."

Jim spent time and energy preparing food for his games. He pre-duplicated the boards so players had hand records and could ask questions. Jim stayed after his games and had discussions about the boards.

With his warm, magnetic and welcoming personality, Jim was a fine example of everything the Teacher of The Year Award strives to represent.

Jim's impact will be measured not just in the numbers of players he recruited, but in the spirit of community he built – one board, one meal and one kind conversation at a time. The world of bridge has lost a truly dedicated member and a remarkable man.

Rest in peace, my friend.

not have gone to it if it was not in my backyard," Holzhauer said.

Before that, Holzhauer was self-taught, learning from books starting when he was 14. During the time his "Jeopardy!" episodes were airing, he became friends with Aaron Jones, a young pro who had recently moved to Las Vegas, and they started playing together. At the tournament, Holzhauer was approached by several top players offering to mentor him, including Jeff Meckstroth and Ralph Katz. Over the past six years, David Berkowitz, Josh

Donn, Kerri Sanborn, Stefan Skorchev, Fred Stewart and Kit Woolsey also helped him grow as a player. “You get better pretty fast when this kind of thing is going on,” Holzhauer said.

Holzhauer was not yet a Life Master in summer 2019; he was expecting to reach Emerald Life Master this week in San Francisco, a difference of about 7000 masterpoints. But he gained a lot more than that in skill and confidence sitting down against world champions.

“He’s a very sharp and, more importantly, considerate guy,” Jones said. “He has gotten considerably better in the last five years. He needed exposure and people better than he was to help guide him to thinking and playing like an expert.”

Holzhauer plays online with Berkowitz weekly and always sends a bunch of questions after the game. Berkowitz describes him as a bridge fanatic. “He is very passionate about learning and tries to improve every day.”

It was also at the 2019 Summer NABC when Holzhauer began contributing to the bridge community. Before the tournament, Stephanie Threlkeld, manager of marketing and education for the ACBL, reached out to Holzhauer. She had become a fan during his run, as part of a group of ACBL employees who called themselves the Jeopardy Committee, taking late lunches and afternoon breaks to watch “Jeopardy!” every day in the break room at Headquarters. She asked if he would be willing to use his notoriety to help promote the game. She invited him to meet with college players; he sponsored a brunch for them and began a tradition of playing in the Collegiate Individual, a casual evening game during the Collegiate Bridge Bowl. He also came to the Youth NABC and posed for pictures and has allowed the ACBL to use his image for marketing on social media.

“He’s always been so gracious,” Threlkeld said. “It’s so refreshing to have a bridge celebrity who is on the younger side.”

Before Holzhauer came along, the only famous people in bridge she

could point to were Bill Gates and Warren Buffet, who were Honorary Members in 2010. Buffet never traveled to tournaments, Gates made rare appearances; both were more appealing to older players than young ones.

Holzhauer says it’s easier for him to be a public person at the NABCs precisely because he’s not as famous as Bill Gates. “You never think about your anonymity until it’s taken away from you,” he said. “It’s a low level of fame. If I were starring in movies and trying to play bridge, it would be much worse. One of my ‘Jeopardy!’ colleagues says she’s a very big name in some very small rooms. Some people are like, ‘Oh my god!’ and others are like, ‘Who is this guy?’”

Last summer in Philadelphia, Holzhauer was recognized while waiting in line at Dinic’s at Reading Terminal Market. Employees perked up when they heard someone ask, “Is it really you?” A fellow customer announced, “This guy is one of the best ‘Jeopardy!’ players ever!” and Holzhauer could see how disappointed the employees were to find out he wasn’t a “real” celebrity.

Holzhauer’s “Jeopardy!” background made him the perfect choice for Bridge Mania when Jenkins conceived the social event with bridge-themed games held during the NABCs since fall 2023 in Atlanta. In preparation for the first Bridge Mania, Christina Goldsby, now event manager for the ACBL, was assigned to come up with the questions for not just Jeopardy but Family Feud and Kahoot as well. As a fairly new employee with no bridge experience, she didn’t have any bridge knowledge to mine for material.

“I read the entire Bridge Encyclopedia from cover to cover,” Goldsby said. “It was a full work week,” reading and coming up with questions. “It was a lot of work. It took so much of my time.”

After reviewing the questions for that first game, Holzhauer volunteered to take over writing the material. As a history major, Goldsby didn’t regret the time she spent learning the history of bridge, but



James Holzhauer hosts Jeopardy for Bridge Mania at each NABC.

she was happy to have found the right person for the job.

“It was a life saver,” Goldsby said. “And his questions are so much better than mine!”

“He is incredibly lovely to work with. He’s so reliable and on top of everything. I never have to stress about it.”

Holzhauer changed from all bridge trivia to a mix of general trivia with some bridge-themed categories.

“It flexes a creative muscle I never knew I had,” Holzhauer said. “Hosting these is a lot of fun. It’s the most fun I have at every national.”

And it takes him far less time to prepare the material – only a few hours for each tournament.

His favorite moment from Bridge Mania came from the spring 2024 game in Louisville where he included the category Bridge Hall of Fame Before and After. Hall of Famer Patty Tucker sat on the panel when this clue came up: “This Peanuts character who has a crush on Charlie Brown moonlights as America’s foremost bridge teacher.” Tucker couldn’t come up with, “Who is Peppermint Patty Tucker?”

Later that year, he got involved in Tucker’s Jump Start Bridge program, which encourages school teachers to start bridge programs at their schools. The national conference for gifted teachers was being held in Seattle, where Holzhauer was spending part of the year before moving there full time. He reached out to Tucker and volunteered to go to the conference and serve as bait to get teachers coming to the booth. He’s since attended three conferences.

“I can’t express how much this meant to me and our other volunteers,” Tucker



Crazy Bridge takes your favorite game and adds a new rule to every board. Show up solo or with a partner and get ready to play, laugh, and think on your feet.

Friday, December 5 • 8:30-10:30 p.m.
Golden Gate A, level B2 at Marriott
Open to all ages

said. "It's really empowering and nice that he would volunteer."

Holzhauser has also contributed to the Seattle bridge community in recent years. When Nathan Gong, who is currently King of Bridge, met Holzhauser at the 2022 Oregon Trail Regional, Gong asked Holzhauser to speak to his school bridge club at Seattle's Eastside Prep. They arranged a virtual appearance. "Our club really got revitalized from that," Gong said.

Holzhauser let the local Bridge For Youth organization know he was willing to mentor youth players, and Jessica Yao was the first to take him up on a game. He's also played with Gong – in a regional pairs last spring in Memphis and in an online practice against Nick Nickell and Ralph Katz – as well as his younger brother Arthur.

"He's really down to earth, friendly," Gong said. "He's always using the opportunities he has and sharing it with the bridge community."

Last December, Holzhauser was playing with Tom Carmichael, who mentors the Gong brothers, at the Palm Springs Regional. Carmichael was

amused by what happened the last day when they played in the side game.

"Number of people who said to James, 'You look familiar, do you play at Duncan?': 2. Number of people who asked me, 'Is that your son?': 3. Number of people who referenced 'Jeopardy!': 0."

So not everyone recognizes him. But Stefan Skorchev, a frequent partner at NABCs who is behind the IntoBridge online platform, usually has a different experience. "I usually play wearing a huge IntoBridge hat, which always draws considerable attention, but it doesn't draw any attention when I play with James. The opponents are always starstruck and nobody sees me."

Holzhauser doesn't mind posing for pictures with fans. Frequently they'll try to stump him with an obscure trivia question – and usually do. "People don't realize how obscure their own knowledge is," he said. "There's little chance I'm going to know the most obscure thing this person knows."

More recently Holzhauser has found a new outlet for contributing to bridge as a member of the Bridge Bulletin's It's



James Holzhauser with teachers who met him when he was representing Jump Start Bridge at a teachers conference.

Your Call panel, which he joined when Jones took over the feature.

"Aaron was one of the first players I played with," Holzhauser said. "He's seen my judgment grow in real time."

Jones considers him a great addition. "As a panelist he's ideal; quick to get his answers in, transparent with his thoughts and for IYC I hope a boost in notoriety," Jones said. "After the article is done, there have been times where I will discuss a particular problem with him, and the growth in the quality of his thoughts and judgment about bridge hands has been enjoyable to see up close."

When Holzhauser has had opportunities to play as a pro himself, he has asked that his fees be donated to the ACBL Educational Foundation.

"He's got a very 'let's help the game' mentality," Jones said. "He's just a normal good guy who tries to do the right thing and has a good head on his shoulders."

Holzhauser found the opportunity to formulate why he does all the things he does for bridge while attending a conference for Jump Start Bridge. He had a script from Tucker but found he could make his pitch to teachers more personal.

"I remember being a neurodivergent child who struggled to stay focused. I found a home at the bridge table like no other opportunity has given me. It's a safe space for people who think a little differently to make friends – a social space that's disappearing from our lives."

Finn Kolesnik, at age 21, is the youngest Grand Life Master, breaking the record previously set by Zach Grossack in 2019.

That was the same year that Finn played with John Ramos here in San Francisco at the Fall NABC. They achieved some impressive results, including finishing third in the Kaplan Blue Ribbon Pairs, the prestigious three-day event that begins today.

Now, just six years later, Finn has won the Soloway Knockout Teams, an Open U.S. Bridge Championship and the Bermuda Bowl. He still needed a few masterpoints, though, and Ramos wrote about the entire journey – and his part in it – on Bridge Winners. The full article can be found [here](#).

Me and Finn Kolesnik, The Youngest GLM

By John Ramos

When I moved from New York to Los Angeles in 2008, I met Alex Kolesnik, Finn's dad. He invited me to play in the October regional in Ventura and stay with his family for the week.

It was then that I met his wife, Sharon, his daughter, Emma, and his then-5-year-old son, Finn. My introduction to Finn consisted of him, through a mop of towheaded hair, graciously inviting me to stay in his room for the week while he slept with his parents. Staying at Casa Kolesnik for the regional became a tradition for many years. Seeing Finn at different ages was a highlight. With Finn and Emma the children of extremely accomplished academics, it was obvious they were pretty brilliant at a young age, and I was sure they'd be successful and supported in whatever they chose to do.

With Finn, I did not think that choice would be bridge.

It's not that I thought he couldn't be good at it, but he never was particularly interested when he was younger. He knew a little bit, of course – osmosis in a bridge family works that way – but he had other interests. At some point, though, particularly after Emma started playing, a switch flipped, and Finn dove headfirst into the game. Finn's development came at truly dizzying speeds, and once he started playing tournaments, I offered to be one of a few players who would happily mentor him. In late 2017, he got his first Blue Ribbon qualification when we got to the final of an evening KO, but he still had a ways to go, not just in technical knowledge but in focus and shaking off bad results.

Less than a year and a half later, we played a regional in Riverside. I hadn't kept up as much with Finn's game in the intervening period; I was busy with work, and he had a lot of academic commitments. I was sure he'd improved, but it was clear he was pretty tired that day and wasn't completely focused. That was totally understandable for a 14-year-old, but as the day went on, I definitely was not expecting much – until a hand came up where Finn made a very good surrounding play. Now, of course a surrounding play is straight out of a textbook; it's a solvable problem. But the fact that Finn did it almost in tempo – not to mention the fact that the pro in his seat at the other table missed it and allowed the game to make after the same defense up to that

point – made me wake up to the fact that I was playing with someone special here. I decided then and there to ask Finn if he wanted to play in the SF Nationals with me that fall (2019), and he said yes.

On the first day of the Nail Life Master Pairs, we qualified comfortably enough and then put up a near 56% to go into the final session in a perfectly respectable 29th place. Then, the results started coming. Round after round, it seemed like nothing could go wrong. A little after the halfway point, I started to ask Finn if there was a chance we were leading, and he, brimming with nervous energy, basically told me to shut up before putting his earbuds in – a warranted reaction, frankly. Our near-66% only was good enough for fourth overall, but it was the best open national finish for us both at the time, and we figured the rest of the tournament was icing on the cake.

Going into the Blues, we were both pretty relaxed, and on the first day, with a 57% and a 63%, we qualified in fourth place. On the second day, we weren't nearly as sharp and the field was better, and with a 46% in the first session, we needed to not fall apart. Lo and behold, on the very first board of the second session, I forgot a relatively obscure agreement that ended up getting us close to a zero. But Finn didn't bat an eye and scored up a doubled partial on the companion board to balance out the round. I don't want to gloss over that, because the way he reacted there ended up making me play better instead of worse – the true sign of a good partner. We managed to qualify but were only a little above average in the second session, so just about all our carryover was gone. But I think we were both happy that we didn't go to pieces when things were rough – which goes a long way to explaining Day 3.



Finn Kolesnik, the ACBL's youngest Grand Life Master

I think a lot of people find this, but for me playing behind screens is always conducive to producing my best bridge. The built-in time you get from the screen mechanics tends to cut out most of my dumbest errors, and things occur to me that might not if I were playing in more normal tempo. For whatever reason, Finn and I were on our best game in the first session and came away with a 59% – enough to put us back into the top 10.

A lot of the second session, to be honest, was kind of a blur. I was in such a zone that apparently my hands were visibly shaking (I was about to get the terrible cold that was going around but wasn't yet symptomatic) but I have no memory of it. I know that I played some of the best bridge I've ever played, Finn was great too, and the opponents, as often happens in the last session of three-day pair events, consisted of a lot of players that felt they were out of contention and, as such, didn't play their best.

Later, I did the math, and figured that after the first seven rounds, we were running at 69% – leading, although not by that much. Sadly, a few boards dropped us back to Earth, but I was proud that, even when we took a couple zeroes, we kept playing tight and held on to third. In a session where very few things went wrong, we still would have needed three more swings our way to win – a tough ask. But it was still the tournament of my life, and seeing my name in that position next to Finn's – who has to have been the youngest player by far to come in that high in the Blues – was and remains an honor.

Once Finn was more in demand professionally, we didn't play as much. After he won the Soloway in 2022, I knew soon enough that he had a chance to become the youngest-ever Grand Life Master. I crossed my fingers for that, but I didn't play with him again until a day at the Houston regional this year, when we came in second in a Swiss with his dad and a friend of ours. He still needed quite a few points, but it seemed like it could happen in calendar year 2025. (Of course, then he went and won the Bermuda Bowl, but that's already been covered at length elsewhere.) I was going to be playing in Puerto Vallarta, and when my partner

ended up not being available, I asked Finn if he'd want to join and he said yes. I wasn't going to play in Ventura, but Finn asked me if I was free on Saturday to play with him. We played well and won a bracketed Swiss, and, as we did the math, it seemed more than possible that Finn might actually get his 10,000th point playing with me in Puerto Vallarta. Going into Puerto Vallarta, he only needed 36 points – not guaranteed to happen, but within reach.

One hand that helped was the following. I held:

♠A x x ♥K x ♦K 10 x x ♣J x x x.

Finn opened 1♣ and I bid 2♥, showing an invite in notrump or clubs. He bid 2♠ to inquire, I bid 2NT and he bid 3♠, showing shortness. Notrump now looked wrong, so I bid 4♣ and he came back with 4NT. 4♦ would have been kickback, so I took him for a slam try with a diamond control and no heart control. Seemed like I had the right hand to bid 6♣, which made when Finn had:

♠x ♥Q x x ♦A Q J ♣A K 10 x x x.

Obviously, +1370 was a satisfying result, but the best part of the hand to me was, after I'd fully put down dummy, I heard from Finn, "That's my boy!" As a 55-year-old, I don't normally hear that from 21-year-olds, but that's playing with Finn for you.

In the end, we got Finn over the line, and it will long be one of the honors of my bridge career that I was the one to be playing with him when that happened. There's much more I could say, but this is quite long already, so I'll just close with what I was thinking when he made that surrounding play and pretty much what I've always been thinking:

Great job, bud, I'm proud of you.

Youngest Grand Life Masters

Finn Kolesnik, age 21 years and five months (Nov. 2025)

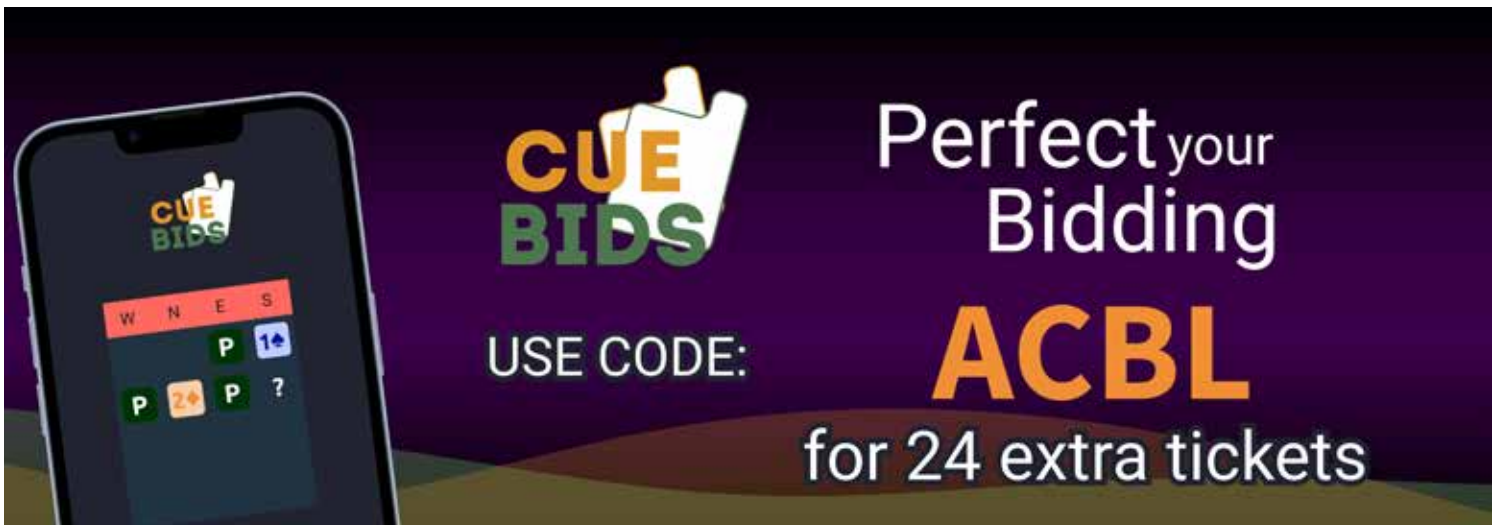
Zach Grossack, age 22 years and three months (Oct. 2019)

Justin Lall, age 25 years and five months (May 2012)

Joe Grue, age 26 years and two months (Sept. 2007)

Eric Greco, age 29 years and 11 months (July 2005)

Steve Weinstein, age 40 years and three months (May 2004)



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SOLOWAY KO TEAMS, ROUND OF 16 PAIRINGS

1. Nickell

32. Sielicki

128

93

1. Nickell

16. (17) Tjissen

45

23

97

56

132

109

161

125

17. Tjissen

16. Vedanta

113

84

1. Nickell

9. (24) Rosenthal

9. Wang

24. Rosenthal

92

144

9. (24) Rosenthal

8. (25) Rippey

70

14

101

44

136

91

176

114

25. Rippey

8. Goodman

143

139

5. Helle

28. Henner

164

93

5. Helle

12. Rosenberg

21

17

52

38

77

81

99

99

105

131

21. Lebowitz

12. Rosenberg

115

135

12. Rosenberg

4. (13) Cayne

13. Cayne

20. Rombaut

99

98

13. Cayne

4. Fleisher

20

41

60

59

98

67

109

96

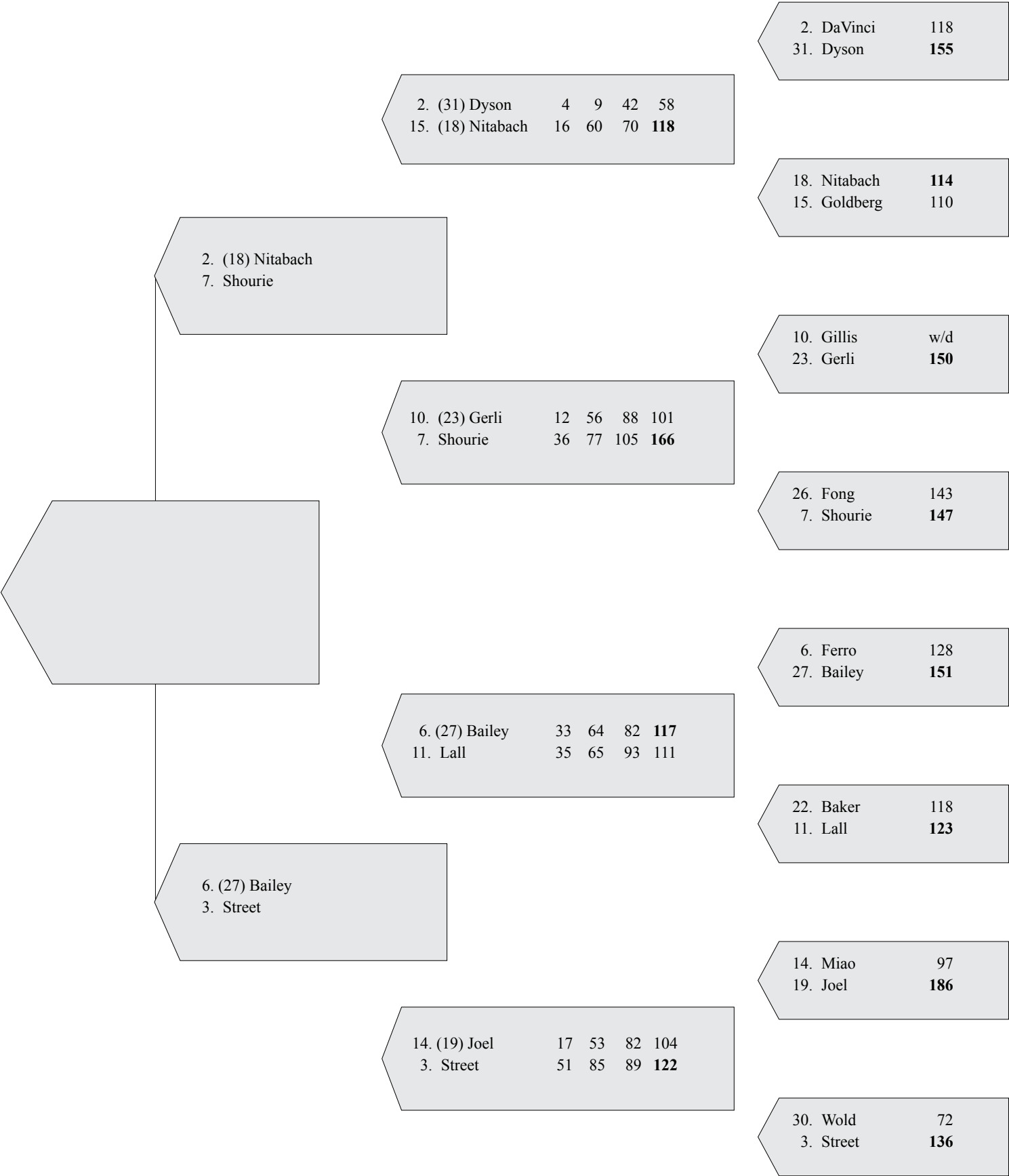
29. Wildavsky

4. Fleisher

66

108

SOLOWAY KO TEAMS, ROUND OF 16 PAIRINGS



SOLOWAY KO TEAMS – QUARTERFINAL PAIRINGS

32 Tables

Nick Nickell, Water Mill NY; Ralph Katz, Burr Ridge IL; Steve Weinstein, Up Saddle River NJ; Eric Greco, Frisco TX; Geoff Hampson, Las Vegas NV; Robert Levin, Henderson NV

vs

Andrew Rosenthal – Chris Willenken, New York NY; Aaron Silverstein, Ridgefield CT; Christian Bakke, Bergen Norway; Boye Brogeland, Norway; Martin Scholtz, Copenhagen Denmark

Paul Street, Delray Beach FL; Nicolas L'Ecuyer, Montreal QC; Piotr Pawel Zatorski, Gdansk Poland; Ron Pachtmann, Kfar Saba Israel; Massimiliano di Franco – Andrea Manno, Palermo Italy

vs

William Bailey, Mill Valley CA; Daniel Korbel – Joshua Donn – Roger Lee, Las Vegas NV; Dror Padon, Tel Aviv Israel; Alon Birman, Israel

Rajath Shourie, Pacific Palisades CA; Gavin Wolpert, Palm Beach Gardens FL; Sartaj Hans, Goulburn Australia; Andy Hung, Brisbane Australia; Michael Whibley, Auckland New Zealand; Nabil Edgtton, Sydney Australia

vs

Lynda Nitabach, West Palm Beach FL; Krzysztof Buras, Warszawa Poland; Peter Bertheau, Taby Sweden; Jacek Pszczola, Weston FL; Jeff Meckstroth, Clearwater Beach FL; David Berkowitz, Boca Raton FL

Kevin Rosenberg, Mountain View CA; Brian Platnick, Evanston IL; Linlin Hu, China; Ze Jun Zhuang, Shanghai China

vs

Patricia Cayne, Boca Raton FL; Tim Verbeek, Utrecht Netherlands; Danny Molenaar – Berend van den Bos, Den Haag Netherlands; Joris Van Lankveld, Castricum Netherlands; David Bakhshi, London England

50.00 9/16 Martin Fleisher, New York NY; Cedric Lorenzini, France; Alfredo Versace, Rome Italy; Antonio Sementa, Parma Italy; Thomas Bessis, Paris France; Chip Martel, Davis CA

50.00 9/16 Rob Helle, Mauritius; Cornelis van Prooijen, Nieuw Vennep Netherlands; Ed Hoogenkamp, Ourense Spain; Simon de Wijs – Bob Drijver, Netherlands; Bauke Muller, Zwaag Netherlands

50.00 9/16 Hemant Lall, Marina Del Rey CA; Reese Milner, Sarasota FL; Sabine Auken, Charlottenlund Denmark; Roy Welland, New York NY; Zia Mahmood – David Gold, London United Kingdom

50.00 9/16 Luc Tijssen, Tilburg Netherlands; Judith Nab, Amsterdam Netherlands; Guy Mendes De Leon, Netherlands; Thibo Sprinkhuizen, Rotterdam Netherlands; Sibrand van Oosten, Leiden Netherlands; Selena Pepic, Paris France

50.00 9/16 Geeske Joel, Palo Alto CA; Daniela von Arnim, Hockenheim Germany; Michal Nowosadzki, Geneva Switzerland; William Watson, Los Altos CA

50.00 9/16 Aldo Gerli, Padova Italy; John Overdeck, Short Hills NJ; Leonardo Fruscoloni, Brooklyn NY; Norberto Bocchi, Barcelona Spain; Alessandro Gandoglia, Rome Italy

50.00 9/16 Mike Rippey, San Francisco CA; Irene Baroni, Paris France; Kamil Nowak, Kielce Poland; Piotr Marcinowski, Wroclaw Poland; Wojciech Strzemecki – Przemyslaw Janiszewski, Poland

50.00 9/16 Andrew Dyson – Glyn Liggins, London United Kingdom; Tom Townsend, London England; Ben Handley-Pritchard, Stroud United Kingdom

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SUPER SENIOR PAIRS

26.0 Tables / Based on 39 Tables

48.00	1	Joseph Viola III, Chattanooga TN; Om Chokriwala, Sherman Oaks CA	816.75
36.00	2	Mark Moss, Piedmont CA; Bruce Tuttle, Berkeley CA	799.35
27.00	3	Barbara Heller – Bob Heller, Knoxville TN	793.38
21.33	4	Kenneth Titow, Scottsdale AZ; Steve Print, Reno NV	783.63
19.20	5	William Neumann, Columbia MD; Jeff Hand, New York NY	775.19
17.45	6	Kathrine Loh, Walnut Creek CA; Phillip Tseng, Arlington VA	764.38
16.00	7	Paul Janicki, Markham ON; Saleh Fetouh, Buffalo NY	757.22
14.77	8	Phillip Frankel – Alden Sprowles, McKinleyville CA	754.31
13.71	9	Robert Giragosian – James George, Bakersfield CA	753.50
12.80	10	Daniel Rubinfeld, Rockville MD; Tom Jacobson, Fairfield CA	752.97
12.00	11	Guss Ginsburg, New Orleans LA; Vic Quiros, Phoenix AZ	751.88
11.29	12	Cheri Bjerkan, Elmhurst IL; Rozanne Pollack, Boca Raton FL	751.56
10.67	13	Bill Irvine, Quincy MA; Natalie Bassil, Boston MA	748.70
10.11	14	George Jacobs, Geneva IL; Claude Vogel, San Diego CA	746.46
9.60	15	Andrew Loh, Solana Beach CA; Joe Houde, Vista CA	746.09
9.14	16	Joan Jackson, Dallas TX; Kitty Cooper, Avon CT	737.48
8.73	17	Harry Selldin – Sherry Withers, Houston TX	726.70
8.35	18	Thomas Riley, Pleasant Hill CA; Mike Bandler, Alamo CA	726.48
8.00	19	Linda Friedman – Daniel Friedman, Orinda CA	725.40

QUALIFIERS IN THE NABC 0–10,000 IMP PAIRS

14.0 Tables

Carryover

1	Barak Engel, Oakland CA; Ilan Tadmor, Sunnyside NY	30.30
2	Varghese George, Milton GA; James Gentry Jr., North Augusta SC	30.11
3	Erik Hansson, Helsinki Finland; Anne Hollingsworth, Walnut Creek CA	29.84
4	Frederic Belanger, Verdun QC; Simon-Pierre Goulet, Montreal QC	25.53
5	Edward Foran, Acworth GA; Nicolas Hammond, Alpharetta GA	24.96
6	Bo Liu, Irvine CA; Shihong You, Boyds MD	23.67
7	Henri Farhi, Chula Vista CA; Alan Wood, San Diego CA	22.42
8	Arthur Mirin, Livermore CA; Rick Wilson, Pleasanton CA	19.82
9	Robert Glickman, Seattle WA; James Glickman, Las Vegas NV	19.48
10	David Desjardins, Burlingame CA; Andrew Gumperz, Berkeley CA	19.40
11	Marcia Dean – Robert Dean, San Jose CA	19.25
12	Floyd McWilliams, Sunnyvale CA; Scott Benson, Mountain View CA	17.71
13	Jay Wang, San Leandro CA; Li Zhang, San Jose CA	16.63
14	Rajan Jeyakumar – Terry Kellerman, Fremont CA	14.61
15	Edward Piken, Palos Verdes Peninsula CA; Michael Piken, Torrance CA	13.05
16	Kapil Bhalla, Sunnyvale CA; Don Laycock, Knoxville TN	11.93
17	Alene Friedman – Jane Dillenberg, New York NY	8.89
18	Florin Constantin, Alameda CA; Yan Song, Sunnyvale CA	8.61
19	John Feo, Carlsbad CA; Seth Cohen, Los Angeles CA	8.56
20	Jessica Lin, Aurora ON; Peter Wong, North York ON	8.31
21	Andrea Nilsson, Varberg Sweden; Jane McLaughlin, San Francisco CA	7.04
22	Gonzalo Herrera, Naucalpan Mexico; Patricia Herrera, Mexico City Mexico	6.04
23	S. Robinson, Singapore; Bob Stoldt, Lake Forest CA	5.15
24	Donna Johnson, Lawrence KS; Judy Fendrick, Marietta GA	4.06
25	Jin Chu, Plano TX; Randy Okubo, St. Paul MN	3.58
26	Guillermo Minutti, Rolling Hills CA; C. Valerie Gamio, Rolling Hills Estates CA	2.31
27	Ned Kohler – Bill Parks, Scottsdale AZ	1.12
28	Philippe Galaski, Florence MA; Roger Webb, Amherst MA	0.00

QUALIFIERS IN THE NABC 0—3000 SWISS TEAMS

14 Tables / Based on 28 Tables		Carryover
1	Shirley Shi, Sacramento CA; Allen Prohovsky, Carmichael CA; Jichong Chai, Falls Church VA; Sheng Dou, Brentwood CA	30.00
2	Liam King – John Santibanes – Tom Mc Kelvey, San Francisco CA; Marc Rosaaen, Daly City CA	12.66
3	Kevin Babcock – Brigitte Sandquist – Kirsten Beda, San Francisco CA; Douglas Babcock, Fitchburg WI	12.41
4	Larry Gordon, West Orange NJ; Jason Tokuda, Livingston NJ; Sean Casey, Atlantic Highlands NJ; Kevin Casey, Park City UT	10.19
5	Morgan Sabourin, Ottawa ON; Stefanie Scott, Carrollton TX; Noah Bell – Jeff Tonole, Ithaca NY	9.25
6	Ritambhar Burman, Memphis TN; Deepak Abbhi, Miami FL; Kevin Marnell, Milwaukie OR; Justin Beck, Sherwood OR	8.47
7	Sheryl Williams, West Linn OR; Paul Walker, Oregon City OR; Jennifer Samuels – Mark Mackenzie, Portland OR	6.48
8	William Taylor, Rancho Palo Verdes CA; Jeff Grotenhuis – Terry Hane, Redondo Beach CA; Diane Elliott, Torrance CA	6.08
9	Dennis Viner, Kapaa HI; Tad Kelly, Denver CO; David Leaver, Los Altos Hills CA; Kip Kado, Los Altos CA	5.41
10	Scott Chupack – Rosemay Vazeux – Arthur Resnick – JC Chupack, Seattle WA	4.98
11	Tomasz Pawlowski, Dublin CA; Sudhir Kulkarni, Pleasanton CA; Rajani Chandrasekar – Don Garka, Livermore CA	3.78
12	Vard Nelson – Frances Nelson, Evergreen CO; Richard Jacoby, Stamford CT; Jackie Scott, Norwalk CT	3.15
13	Giorgio Casinovi, Tucker GA; Weilong Shen, Milpitas CA; Alex Han, Katy TX; Chase Lefevre, Blackshear GA	1.60
14	Virginia Dare, Woodside CA; Diane Weissman, Mountain View CA; Janelle van Rensselaer, Burlingame CA; Susan Papilion, San Mateo CA	0.00

MITCHELL OPEN BOARD-A-MATCH TEAMS

52 Tables / Based on 81 Tables		
140.00	1 Sebastiaan Drijver – Sjoert Brink – Michal Klukowski – Jacek Kalita – Pierre Zimmermann, Geneva Switzerland; Franck Multon, Monaco	37.68
105.00	2 Bart Bramley, Avon CT; Kit Woolsey, Kensington CA; Peter Weichsel, Carlsbad CA; James Krekorian, Pensacola FL	36.05
78.75	3 Iftikhar Baqai, Irvine CA; Mitch Dunitz, Sherman Oaks CA; Mark Itabashi, Newport Beach CA; Neil Silverman, Fort Lauderdale FL	34.75
62.22	4 Ettore Bianchi, Stamford CT; Federico Iavicoli – Leonardo Cima – Federico Porta Tadolini – Francesco Mazzadi, Federico Primavera, Rome Italy	34.06
56.00	5 Tom Hanlon, Dublin Ireland; Leslie Amoils, North York ON; Frederic Volcker, Issy Les Moulin France; Wojciech Gawel, Wroclaw Poland; Rafal Jagniewski, Legionowo Poland; Finn Kolesnik, Austin TX	33.93
50.91	6 Kathrine Bertheau, Taby Sweden; Giorgia Botta, Brooklyn NY; Renee Cooper, Perth Australia; Jessica Larsson, Heimdal Sweden	33.48
46.67	7 Andy Bowles, London England; Richard Popper, Wilmington DE; Chris Moll, Raleigh NC; Olin Hubert, Atlanta GA	32.70
43.08	8 Bryan Delfs, Vancouver WA; Stan Christie, Kirkland WA; Tom Carmichael, Marysville WA; Ari Greenberg, San Francisco CA	32.13
40.00	9 Christina Madsen, Denmark; John McAllister, Charlottesville VA; Simon Cope, United Kingdom; Thomas Paske, Manhattan NY	31.63
37.33	10 Ilai Baniri, Barcelona Spain; Daniel Zagorin, Chicago IL; Ofek Sabbah – Yonatan Sliwowicz, Petah Tikva Israel	30.98
35.00	11 Edward Nagy, Danville CA; Gary Soules, Elk Grove CA; William Harker, Santa Fe NM; Mark Ralph, San Francisco CA	30.70
32.94	12 Ben Bomber, Grandview WA; Ray Miller, Seattle WA; David Brower, Portland OR; Jeff McKee, Livingston TX	30.46
31.11	13 Alexander Allfrey, Dorset England; Andrew Robson, Wiltshire United Kingdom; Patrick Lawrence, London United Kingdom; Peter Crouch, Surrey England	29.93
29.47	14 Robert Cappelli, Sanibel FL; Robert Bitterman, Harbor Springs MI; Mark Aquino, Jamaica Plain MA; Andrew Chesterton, Winchester MA	29.50
28.00	15 Melih Ozdil, New York NY; Sharon Goldman, Miami FL; Kauko Koistinen, Espoo Finland; Vesa Fagerlund, Helsinki Finland	29.43

26.67	16	Sarik Goyal, Jersey City NJ; Eric Xiao, Shrewsbury MA; Siqing Yu, San Diego CA; Arthur Gong, Sammamish WA	29.16
25.45	17	Stewart Rubenstein, Chestnut Hill MA; Zachary Grossack, Newton MA; Michael Rosenberg, Foster City CA; Joe Grue, New York NY; Brad Moss, Denver CO; Geir Helgemo, Heimdal Norway	28.96
24.35	18	Carlos Pellegrini – Pablo Ravenna, Buenos Aires Argentina; Rita Shugart, Carmel CA; Miguel Villas-Boas, Salvador Brazil	28.76
23.33	19	Mark Bartusek, Santa Barbara CA; Eric Rodwell, Clearwater FL; Peter Fredin, Malmo Sweden; Chun Ling, Las Vegas NV; Brian Glubok, Brooklyn NY	28.73
22.40	20	Jonathan Steinberg, Toronto ON; Alex Hudson, Cary NC; Aaron Jones, Las Vegas NV; Todd Werby, Tiburon CA	28.05
21.14	21/22	Linus Lee, Waterloo ON; Bryan Yang, Atlanta GA; Sriram Ganesan, Sunnyvale CA; Cheng Luo, Singapore Singapore; Kelvin Ng, Singapore; Sheldon Tan, New York NY	27.89
21.14	21/22	Brad Bart, Coquitlam BC; Matthew Weingarten, Seattle WA; Avery Silverstein, Ridgefield CT; Ethan Derman, Baltimore MD	27.89
20.00	23	Brian Gilbert, Irvine CA; Jim Darvey, Rancho Mirage CA; Hal Montgomery, Portland OR; Kamla Chawla, Longmeadow MA	27.37
19.31	24	Jovanka Smederevac – Alexander Wernle, Vienna Austria; Frank Bakkeren, Oisterwijk Netherlands; Ton Bakkeren, Oisterwijk Netherlands; Jeff Roman, Bend OR; Ralph Buchalter, South Orange NJ	27.32
18.67	25	Ming Sheng, Los Altos CA; Edward Xu, North York ON; Hailong Zhao, Shanghai China; Shen Qi, Shanghai China; Yan Wang, Richmond Hill ON; Alex Hong, West Vancouver BC	27.20
18.06	26	Robert Katz, Ann Arbor MI; Jonathan Fleischmann, Canton MI; Craig Hemphill, Jacksonville FL; Robert Fendrick, Marietta GA	26.93
17.50	27	Jiang Gu, Mountain Lakes NJ; Walter Lee, Framingham MA; David Yang, Darien IL; Bo Fu – Yichao Chen, Shanghai People's Republic of China	26.73
16.97	28	Haig Tchamitch, Paradise Valley AZ; Dan Jacob, Vancouver BC; Ai-Tai Lo, Reston VA; David Chechelashvili, Santa Monica CA	26.66

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Teacher Breakfast

At the Fall and Spring NABCs, the American Bridge Teacher's Association and the ACBL Educational Foundation sponsor a breakfast for hardworking bridge teachers. This is a time that they can meet one another, network and share ideas.

The ACBL's Manager of Education and Marketing Stephanie Threlkeld welcomed everyone and reminded them of the ACBL Teacher Roundtable the third Tuesday of the month, another great way to stay in touch with fellow teachers.

New ABTA President Jill Wallace thanked Threlkeld and Education Program Manager Blakely Meyers, saying that working with them has been "a wonderful experience."

Wallace is excited about new offerings from the ABTA, including monthly webinars that model how to teach a specific topic. These are recorded and available to view for ABTA members. Barbara Seagram and Michael Berkowitz were the stars in October and November, in December, ABTA Teacher of the Year Tony Jackson will be talking about balancing. "I am always learning new things from other teachers," said Wallace, who is also hoping to develop mentoring programs for newer teachers to learn from more experienced ones.



Bridge teachers networking at the ABTA/ACBL Educational Foundation-sponsored breakfast



Jill Wallace, ABTA president



Stephanie Threlkeld, ACBL's manager of education and marketing



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Service dog organization receives Charity grant

The ACBL Charity Foundation made a \$5000 donation to the National Institute of Canine Service and Training, a local organization that trains medical and wellness service dogs.

Mark Ruefenacht founded Dogs4Diabetics, a precursor to NICST, in 2004. "We were the first organization in the world to produce a dog that could smell the biochemical changes of low or high blood sugar in advance of any medical device," Ruefenacht said. "In 21 years we have provided 250 dogs to type 1 diabetics."

They also provide dogs trained to support first responders dealing with post-traumatic stress disorder.

The Concord CA-based organization builds a community of support for the people who receive their dogs. "Our slogan is 'Never walk alone' in your disability," Ruefenacht said. "You've got not just a service dog but the community with you."

Tournament Chair Anne Hollingsworth said the San Francisco host committee chose NICST because they were looking for something that might impact bridge players, and many older people are diabetic. Julie Burnett, a bridge player who volunteers for NICST, brought the organization to the committee's attention.

"They're a small organization with a big impact," Hollingsworth said. "The money would have more of an impact" than at a larger charity.



The ACBL Charity Foundation and local NABC Committee present a \$5000 check to the National Institute of Canine Service and Training. From left: Anne Hollingsworth, tournament chair; Mark Ruefenacht, president of NICST; Kathy Kimmerling, secretary of the Charity Foundation; and Jane McLaughlin, charity chair of the host committee.

Squeezing the weak hand

Santiago Semberoiz of Oakland Park FL reported this deal from Sunday's Top-Flight Swiss Teams.

Dlr: South	♠ A K J 3		
Vul: None	♥ Q 5 4		
	♦ K 4 3		
	♣ K 6 5		
♠ Q 2		♠ 10 9 8 7 6	
♥ J 7 6		♥ K 10 9	
♦ Q 10 9 8		♦ 2	
♣ Q 9 4 2		♣ J 8 7 3	
	♠ 5 4		
	♥ A 8 3 2		
	♦ A J 7 6 5		
	♣ A 10		
West	North	East	South
Pass	1♠	Pass	1♦
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

West led a fourth-best ♣2, revealing that suit to be 4-4, and it went low, jack, ace. Semberoiz could see it was always making if diamonds were 3-2 or if East held four, so he started with a low diamond to the king and a diamond back. But when East showed out with a discouraging ♠10, he

needed a new plan, even with the good news that it looked like the spade finesse was working. 3NT isn't usually this hard when you have a combined 29 HCP.

He ducked the diamond to West's 8, who might have exited with the ♣Q, smothering declarer's 10. Semberoiz would have ducked, winning the next club with the king perforce. Then a diamond to the ace and another diamond would put West back in to cash the fourth club, but East would be squeezed.

However, when in with the ♦8, West found the best switch of a heart. Declarer needs to save the ♥A as an entry to the diamonds, so he ducked East's 9. East led a club to the 10 and queen, ducked in dummy. West forced out the club stopper, and now declarer played another diamond to his ♦A. It's too late to establish the fifth diamond, because that would let West in again to cash the setting trick. But the diamonds were no longer necessary, because East was squeezed and could be endplayed.

If East pitches another spade, dummy's ♠3 will be good on the fourth round; if he pitches a heart, the ♥A will drop the king and make the queen good. So East throws his last club.

Now Semberoiz took the spade finesse, cashed the ♠A K and threw East in with the last spade. East was endplayed to giving declarer both hearts.

MONDAY OPEN PAIRS

68.0 Tables / Based on 109 Tables

	A	B	C		
42.94	1	1		Richard Jeng, Los Angeles CA; Brent Xiao, Fremont CA	66.40%
32.21	2			Aly El-Sehedar, Pembroke NH; R. Muggia, Andover MA	61.30%
24.15	3	2	1	Yongdong Yang, Thousand Oaks CA; Enhao Du, Newbury Park CA	60.56%
18.12	4			Ann Karin Fuglestad – Vicky Chediak, Farsund Norway	60.45%
14.31	5	3		Louis-Amaury Beauchet, Larmor-Plage France; Marta Sikora, Poland	60.40%
12.27	6			James La Fountain – Pat McMullin, Georgetown TX	60.36%
10.74	7	4		Stelian Hritcu, North Olmsted OH; John Bacon, Mayfield Heights OH	59.85%
9.54	8	5	2	Michael Pham – Zack Woodbury, Portland OR	59.62%
8.59	9			Michael Heins, Fond du Lac WI; Gary Kessler, Springfield IL	58.45%
7.81	10	6		Bharat Rao, Berwyn PA; Aravind Alwan, Milpitas CA	57.93%
7.16	11	7		Peter Sugerman, South Windsor CT; James Scott, Wellington FL	57.86%
6.61	12	8		Rajeeva Sharma, San Jose CA; Eusebio Menezes, Cupertino CA	57.81%
6.13	13			Vicki Lerner – David Strauss, San Francisco CA	57.61%
5.73	14	9		Matthew Haag, Henderson NV; Mike Cailean, Santa Clara CA	57.58%
5.37	15	10		Charles Riffle, Emerald Hills CA; Douglas Grant, San Francisco CA	57.51%
5.05	16	11	3	Peng Cheng – Xiaoyu Cheng, Saratoga CA	57.38%
4.77	17	12	4	Randy Pearson, Pittsburgh PA; Evan Marti, Houston TX	57.35%
4.80	18			Adam Grossack, Brooklyn NY; Laurence Lebowitz, Boston MA	56.90%
4.29	19			Carole Liss, Laguna Woods CA; Valentin Kovachev, Las Vegas NV	56.77%
5.95	20			Dawn Campbell, Portland OR; Margaret Peterson, Larkspur CA	56.75%
3.90	21			Kelley Hwang, New York NY; Michael Bodell, Santa Clara CA	56.49%
3.73	22			Ellen Hessel, San Antonio TX; Nancy Passell, Plano TX	56.44%
4.10	23			Lorenzo Camerini, Reggio Emilia Italy; Lynne Castoldi, La Quinta CA	56.06%
3.44	24	13		Mark Buchignani, San Anselmo CA; Angelo Servino, Bel Tiburon CA	55.75%
3.35	25			Richard Zucker, Dobbs Ferry NY; Richard Oshlag, White Plains NY	55.74%
3.18	26			Corey Krantz, Boynton Beach FL; Bruce Lang, Palm Beach Gardens FL	55.45%
3.37	27	14	5	Amit Garg, Saratoga CA; Shishpal Rawat, Folsom CA	55.28%
2.96	28			Michael Christensen – Becky Stevens, Seattle WA	54.95%
2.86	29			Samuel Marks, Atlanta GA; Jerry Helms, Charlotte NC	54.75%
2.77	30			Leigh Ives, Alliston ON; Edward Betteto, Holland Landing ON	54.74%
2.68	31	15		Rory Xiao – Bo Xiao, Fremont CA	54.58%
2.60	32			Daniel Takahashi – Kyungwon Yoo, Las Vegas NV	54.09%
3.49	33	16		Drucilla Field, Encinitas CA; Linda Atkinson, Poway CA	54.08%
2.45	34			Amber Lin, Mountain View CA; Alex Shih, Hillsborough NJ	53.93%
2.39	35			Harvinder Sidhu, Scottsdale AZ; Jaggy Shivdasani, West Hollywood CA	53.39%
3.50		17		Patrick Staley, San Diego CA; Brian Castle, Poway CA	52.38%
2.49		18/19	6	Diana Blithe – Gary Gilbert, Silver Spring MD	52.21%
2.16		18/19		Valarie Remmers – Dale Remmers, Plano TX	52.21%
2.82		20	7	Stephen Dreskin – Joel Russman, Denver CO	52.01%
3.36			8	Robert Ives, Bethesda MD; Ella Rosthoej, Frederiksberg Denmark	51.84%
1.97			9	Varick Peak, Atlanta GA; George Sorkin, Buford GA	51.64%
2.78			10	Manoj Thawani, San Jose CA; Rajeev Gupta, Sunnyvale CA	51.28%

MONDAY GOLD RUSH PAIRS

23.0 Tables

	A	B	C		
8.66	1	1		Russel Boknecht, Lacey WA; Dennis Stambaugh, Rio Rancho NM	61.12%
6.50	2			David Gin – Brad Carson, Oakland CA	57.99%
4.87	3			Rebecca Barton, Abilene TX; Janece Tucker, Baird TX	56.88%
4.46	4	2		Wayne Wheeler, San Diego CA; Jessica Rohm, La Jolla CA	56.44%
3.61	5	3	1	Robert Deutsch, Mill Valley CA; Diane Sklar, Tiburon CA	56.38%
2.47	6			Eunice Menezes, Cupertino CA; Sudhir Virmani, Sunnyvale CA	55.99%
2.52	7			Rosy Agrawal – Pawan Agrawal, Las Vegas NV	55.82%
2.71	8	4	2	Pearl Renaker, Palo Alto CA; Solveig Kjartansdottir, Los Altos CA	55.67%
2.48	9	5		Maxime Rioux – Alain Rioux, Sutton QC	55.34%
1.88	10	6		Susan Goldenberg – Carol Kushnick, Scarsdale NY	55.19%
2.13	11			Jeannie Falls – Bruce Baker-Harvey, Seattle WA	55.05%
1.68	12			Jessica Yu – Rose Gong, Irvine CA	55.02%
1.49		7		Ken Rice – Tim Underwood, Oakland CA	54.43%
2.03			3	Paul Blain – Andrew Bye, San Francisco CA	52.97%
1.52			4	Greg Westerwick – Susanna Westerwick, Durango CO	52.74%

SUNDAY EVENING SIDE PAIRS

9.0 Tables

	A	B	C		
4.12	1	1		Cynthia Mazzaferro, Naples FL; Hongbo Li, Baltimore MD	67.01%
3.09	2			James Tanner, Highland CA; James Griffin Jr., Rancho Mirage CA	61.10%
2.93	3	2		Mingmin Zhu, Mississauga ON; Ranjan Bhaduri, Toronto ON	60.67%
2.45	4	3	1	Liam King, San Francisco CA; Ashish Gupta, Sacramento CA	60.03%
1.77	5	4		Andrew Straus, San Francisco CA; Brian Wallace, United Kingdom	56.42%
1.84		5	2	Varick Peak, Atlanta GA; George Sorkin, Buford GA	55.70%
1.38			3	Anthony Chiocchi – Damon Suden, New York NY	55.68%

MONDAY MORNING SIDE GAME

11.0 Tables

	A	B	C		
4.55	1	1		Mingmin Zhu, Mississauga ON; Ranjan Bhaduri, Toronto ON	62.80%
3.41	2			Greg Humphreys, Charlottesville VA; Max Aeschbacher, Cottonwood Heights UT	59.23%
2.60	3	2		Ankur Rathi, San Francisco CA; Arjune Bose, Houston TX	58.63%
1.92	4			Paul Darin, San Diego CA; Debbie Hedenberg, La Jolla CA	56.25%
1.44	5			Lee Hausner – Viktor Anikovich, Los Angeles CA	55.95%
1.23	6			Mark Peterson, Larkspur CA; Michael Hartnett, Bloomington IN	54.76%
2.28		3	1	Kathleene Paul, San Diego CA; Rayme Waters, San Francisco CA	54.46%
1.71		4	2	Norman Price, Orinda CA; Maxine Winer, Moraga CA	52.38%



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MONDAY MORNING 299er PAIRS

14.5 Tables

	A	B	C		
3.75	1			Dirk Epperson, Berkeley CA; Patricia Anderson, Kensington CA	70.23%
2.81	2	1		Jon Mo, unknown; Pat Jeffries, San Jose CA	66.70%
2.11	3	2	1	Joanna Berg, Oakland CA; Pia Lodberg, Berkeley CA	60.20%
1.58	4	3	2	Izzy Bokser, San Francisco CA; Kathy Wolff, Basking Ridge NJ	58.75%
1.19	5	4	3	Cindy Icke – Jeff Cohen, San Francisco CA	57.68%
0.89	6	5		Steve Chiles, Walnut Creek CA; David Chervin, Berkeley CA	57.53%
0.66		6		Catherine Foy, Soquel CA; Pamela Kissiah, Los Gatos CA	56.80%
0.72			4	Miriam Baskin – Laurence Baskin, San Francisco CA	55.57%

MONDAY AFTERNOON SIDE PAIRS

17.0 Tables

	A	B	C		
5.85	1			Alfred Lee, Foster City CA; Sun Xudong, Shanghai China	67.23%
4.39	2	1	1	Yanhua Wang – Justin Shiao, Atlanta GA	65.53%
3.29	3	2		Raymond Borrego – Brian Mc Namara, Austin TX	64.58%
2.47	4			Lily Johannessen – Merle Stetser, Honolulu HI	61.17%
1.85	5			Lawrence Sherman – David Oakley, San Diego CA	59.09%
2.21	6			Christian Lahrman, Virum Denmark; Sally Meckstroth, Clearwater Beach FL	57.58%
1.58	7			Suzette Wynn, Paradise Valley AZ; Cindy Oishi, West Vancouver BC	56.25%
2.32		3		Karen Douek – Paula Koeller, Portland OR	54.73%
1.74		4		Diane Vollbracht – Robert Vollbracht, Belleair FL	51.70%
1.63		5		Ken Pelowski – Lori Mirek, Atherton CA	50.19%
1.84			2	Maxine Reagh, Sebastopol CA; Cathy Wagener, Petaluma CA	49.05%
1.38			3	Joni Conner – Wendy Merget, Santa Rosa CA	47.92%

MONDAY AFTERNOON 299er PAIRS

12.5 Tables

	A	B	C		
3.45	1	1	1	Pamela Kissiah, Los Gatos CA; Catherine Foy, Soquel CA	65.39%
2.59	2	2	2	Jeff Cohen – Jeanette Pettibone, San Francisco CA	63.05%
1.94	3			Sarah Malarkey – Jan Porto, San Francisco CA	61.43%
1.46	4			Dirk Epperson, Berkeley CA; Patricia Anderson, Kensington CA	60.18%
1.42	5	3		Paul Martin – Rand Montoya, San Francisco CA	59.66%
1.07	6	4		Derrick Pallas – Cynthia Walker, San Francisco CA	56.18%
1.11		5	3	Arthur van Hoff, Menlo Park CA; Douglas Boyle, Palo Alto CA	54.60%
0.84			4	Katherine Young – Kelly Lowry, San Francisco CA	54.34%
0.63			5	Miriam Baskin – Laurence Baskin, San Francisco CA	53.65%

MONDAY TOP-FLIGHT SWISS TEAMS

58 Tables / Based on 160 Tables

	A	B	C		
38.45	1			Adam Wildavsky, New York NY; Douglas Doub, Oak Ridge TN; Ron Gerard, White Plains NY; Mark Lair, Canyon TX	145.00
28.84	2			Lynn Baker, Austin TX; Olivia Schireson, Stanford CA; Katarzyna Dufrat, Wroclaw Poland; Justyna Zmuda, Skawina Poland;	
				Cecilia Dwyer Rimstedt – Sandra Rimstedt, Jupiter FL	106.00
21.63	3			Sveinn Eiriksson, Delray Beach FL; Alan Sontag, Gaithersburg MD;	
				Gary Cohler, Wellington FL; Michael Gamble, Shawnigan Lake BC	105.00
16.22	4			Richard Pavlicek, Fort Lauderdale FL; Wenjia Yan, Cerritos CA;	
				Lin-Huan Chen – Ding-Hwa Hsieh, Kirksville MO	102.00
10.49	5/8			Andy Goodman, Carmel CA; Mike Passell, Plano TX; Giacomo Percario, Livorno Italy;	
				Giovanni Donati, Rimini Italy; Shan Huang – Kevin Dwyer Rimstedt, Jupiter FL	99.00
10.49	5/8			Susan Zhang, Los Altos Hills CA; Eddie Wold, Houston TX;	
				Janice Seamon-Molson, Hollywood FL; Sylvia Shi, San Francisco CA	99.00
10.49	5/8			Jeffrey Rothstein – Allen Kahn, New York NY; Russell Samuel, Coram NY; Kyoko Shimamura, Tokyo Japan	99.00

16.11	5/8	1	1	Anant Rathi, Denver CO; Eric Mayefsky, Arlington VA; Victor Chubukov, Seattle WA; Andrew Hoskins, Burlingame CA	99.00
12.08	9	2		Xin Ge, Cupertino CA; Zhaobin Xie, Chengdu China; Yizhuo Zhang, Beijing China; Ethan Liu, Fremont CA	98.00
6.70	10/11			Steven Caplan, Boca Raton FL; David Grainger, Etobicoke ON; Joel Wooldridge, Jackson Heights NY; Mike Cappelletti, Delray Beach FL	97.00
6.70	10/11			Anthony Barre, Sunnyvale CA; Gary Macgregor, Portola Valley CA; Roger Passal, Woodside CA; Mansoor Gowani, San Jose CA	97.00
5.71	12/13			Piotr Bizon, Poland; David Pelka, Los Angeles CA; Michal Kwiecien, Lublin Poland; Wlodzimierz Starkowski, Poznan Poland	94.00
9.06	12/13	3	2	Kathy Gilman, Shoreline WA; Kimberly Gilman, Carlisle MA; Shawn Abernethy – Sue Anderson, Seattle WA	94.00
4.97	14/15			Ronald Kral, Reston VA; Vladislav Isporski – Viktor Aronov, Sofia Bulgaria; Ahu Zobu, Tarabya Istanbul Turkey	93.00
4.97	14/15			Kim Daehong – Ik Lee – Kang Seongseok – Seungjin Roh, Seoul South Korea	93.00
6.80		4	3	Jim Liu, Sunnyvale CA; Hua Yang – Yan Song, Plano TX; Jianming Zhang, Union City CA	91.00
5.37		5		Carolyn Bitetti, Belmont MA; Juan Felipe Cuervo, Bogota Colombia; Ronald Goor, Houten Netherlands; Xavier Friesen, Venray Netherlands	86.00
4.60		6	4	Margie Cole – Jacqueline Cole, New York NY; Markus Bertheau, Taby Sweden; Francisco Guerra, Fort Lauderdale FL; Santiago Semberoiz, Oakland Park FL	84.00
3.81	7/8			Kevin Robertson – Sharon Robertson, Beachwood OH; Miguel Zubizarreta, Bay Village OH; Scott Brozell, Half Moon Bay CA; Matt Granovetter, Cincinnati OH	82.00
3.81	7/8			Eric Gettleman, Ellicott City MD; Bob Drake, Wassenaar Netherlands; Jan van Cleeff, Maastricht Netherlands; Don Liu, North Andover MA	82.00
2.92			5	Brandon Wolpert – Jenny Wolpert – Ryan Wolpert, Palm Beach Gardens FL; Jeff Xiao, Shrewsbury MA; Nathan Gong, Sammamish WA; Carlene Ziegler, North Palm Beach FL	75.00

HARRIET KWONG MEMORIAL MONDAY 0-4000 BRACKETED TEAMS BKT 1

9 Tables

15.45	1	Howard Booth, Cornelius NC; Jacques Leblanc, Maria QC; Rich Ardini, Vienna VA; Terry Jones, Falls Church VA	96.00
11.59	2	Bonnie Macbride, Kensington CA; Bradley Komsthoef, Clayton CA; Matthew Quint, San Rafael CA; Neal Mazaroff, Oakland CA	89.00
7.61	3/4	Ken Rosenfeld, Mountain View CA; Alex Martelli, Sunnyvale CA; Jeffrey Pugh – Jennifer Stern, Saratoga CA	88.00
7.61	3/4	Ashish Gupta – Marvin Arnold, Sacramento CA; Jim Bowman, Carmichael CA; Marion Robertson, San Francisco CA	88.00

HARRIET KWONG MEMORIAL MONDAY 0-4000 BRACKETED TEAMS BKT 2

9 Tables

13.15	1	Gail Gabiati – Martin Kaye – Yardena Arar – Christian Goetze, San Francisco CA	105.00
9.86	2	Sam Earnhardt, Walnut Creek CA; Linda Duchscherer, Castro Valley CA; Furqan Naeem, Concord CA; Diana Lowell, Pleasant Hill CA	93.00
6.48	3/4	Mike Crimmins – Denise Klein – Dan Stern, Denver CO; Donna Barrow, Cherry Hills Village CO	92.00
6.48	3/4	David Gendreau – Jeanette Shinsako – Lynn Magnet – Martha Keller, San Francisco CA	92.00

HARRIET KWONG MEMORIAL MONDAY 0-4000 BRACKETED TEAMS BKT 3

9 Tables

12.23	1	Kiendl Gordon – Kristen Swenson – Hee-Jung Moon, New York NY; Tori Dauphinot, West Palm Beach FL	97.00
9.17	2	Tony Jackson, Rohnert Park CA; Patricia Hertz, Sebastopol CA; Tom Conaghan, Palatine IL; David Mendel, Sonoma CA	91.00
6.88	3	Charles Patrick – Annetta Patrick, Santa Barbara CA; James Bechtel, Newbury Park CA; Michael Durham, Dallas TX	90.00
5.16	4	Gregory Gauthier, Mountain View CA; John Stremel, San Jose CA; Gary Sheerer, Los Altos CA; Douglas Clink, Orange Beach AL	84.00

HARRIET KWONG MEMORIAL MONDAY 0-4000 BRACKETED TEAMS BKT 4

9 Tables

11.29	1	William Stevenson, Nashville TN; Michelle Nordyke – Melanie Ligh, Honolulu HI; Michael Berkowitz, Salt Lake City UT	102.00
8.47	2	Michael Kerner, Sacramento CA; Betsy Allen – Janet Tainty, Santa Cruz CA; Linda Hanson, Tucson AZ	97.00
6.35	3	Marcia Hixson, Little Rock AR; George Marx, Richmond CA; Robert Shenkin – Susan Shenkin, West Chester PA	89.00
4.76	4	David Wolfe, Halifax NS; Brenda Fortunate, Grand Blanc MI; Catherine Peters, Atlanta GA; Allyson Welsh, Monroe WA	88.00

HARRIET KWONG MEMORIAL MONDAY 0-4000 BRACKETED TEAMS BKT 5

9 Tables

10.65	1	Greg Thesenvitz – Sarah Thesenvitz, Black Diamond WA; Shi-Lin Yeh, Sugar Land WA; Marianne Kersten, Bellevue WA	102.00
7.99	2	Bruce Dautrich, Eagle Point OR; Denise McElney, Grants Pass OR; Dennis Kendig – Kay Bain, Ashland OR	93.00
5.99	3	Debbie Machlin, Los Altos CA; Debbie Lundahl, San Carlos CA; Jana Cushman, Mountain View CA; Kerry Fanwick, Palo Alto CA	86.00
4.49	4	Art Quey, San Mateo CA; Nancy Thomas, Pleasant Hill CA; Vera Dodson, Freeland WA; Jerry Wade, Marathon FL	82.00

HARRIET KWONG MEMORIAL MONDAY 0-4000 BRACKETED TEAMS BKT 6

9 Tables

9.67	1	Norrie Thomas, Plymouth MN; Sarah Wahl – Jackson Wahl, Minneapolis MN; Linus Bendel-Stenzel, Richfield MN	106.00
7.25	2	Jo Streich, Pleasanton CA; Chris Chou, San Jose CA; Janice O'Brien – Ronnie Fuchs, San Francisco CA	98.00
5.44	3	Bob Gleason, San Carlos CA; Carl Ebeling, Redwood City CA; Kit Morse, San Mateo CA; Pete Goldsmith, Hillsborough CA	93.00
4.08	4	Alexandra Grover – Daphne Bransten – Anne Cohler, San Francisco CA; Linda Bucklin, Mill Valley CA	85.00

HARRIET KWONG MEMORIAL MONDAY 0-4000 BRACKETED TEAMS BKT 7

9 Tables

8.26	1	Paul Marjoram, Fairfax VA; John Huffman, Arlington VA; Jean Futami, Rolling Hills Estates CA; Wanda Yao, Redondo Beach CA	115.00
6.20	2	Lisa Eklund – Hamilton Sawczuk – Jim Dickson, Baltimore MD; Luke Brezak, Arlington VA	101.00
4.65	3	Max Hinkle – Edward Marlovits, Walnut Creek CA; Trudy Moore – Gary Moore, Orinda CA	95.00
3.48	4	Kris Wong – William Char, San Francisco CA; Henry Fong, Daly City CA; William Chung, Brisbane CA	94.00

HARRIET KWONG MEMORIAL MONDAY 0-4000 BRACKETED TEAMS BKT 8

12 Tables

7.44	1	Andrea Johnson, Tiburon CA; Patricia Dunbar, Little River CA; Penny Bourne – Jonathan Bourne, Mammoth Lakes CA	106.00
5.58	2	Ray Fong – Vincent Wu, Burlingame CA; Alice Chu – Lily Lee, San Francisco CA	92.00
4.19	3	Pamela Resser, San Mateo CA; Kathryn Walker, San Jose CA; Lauren Rosen, Burlingame CA; Barbara Lewis, Foster City CA	89.00
3.14	4	Elizabeth Heron, Seattle WA; Lynda Weinman, Montecito CA; Randy Franciose – Christy Kelso, Santa Barbara CA	88.00

Soloway KO Round of 32 action

By Mark Horton

Eighty-three squads lined up for the Soloway Knockout Teams on Friday, playing a two-day Swiss that would reduce the field to the 32 teams who would contest the knockout phase. The Daily Bulletin has already noted the failure of several prominent teams to qualify. Would the round of 32 produce another?

We start with the match between GOLDBERG (No. 15 seed) and NITABACH (No. 18), both teams including champions and medalists from the recently completed world championships in Herning, Denmark.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

♠ K J 8 2		♠ A 5	
♥ Q 6		♥ A K J 10 9 4	
♦ Q 8 6 5		♦ K 7	
♣ 8 3 2		♣ Q J 9	
♠ Q 6 4			
♥ 8 7 5 2			
♦ 10 9 3			
♣ 6 5 4			
♠ 10 9 7 3			
♥ 3			
♦ A J 4 2			
♣ A K 10 7			

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Bertheau	Palma	Nitabach	Poon
	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♥	Pass	4♥	All Pass

Whatever the precise meaning of East’s 2♣, it kept N–S out of the auction.

North led the ♣2 to the queen and king, and the return of the ♠10 was covered by the queen, king and ace. Declarer cashed the ♥A K and exited with a spade, North winning and returning the ♦5 to the king and ace. Declarer had only seven tricks, three down, -150.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Cullin	Meckstroth	Michielsen	Berkowitz
	Pass	1♣ ⁽¹⁾	Pass
1♦ ⁽²⁾	Pass	1♥	Dbl
Pass	2♠	3♥	Pass
Pass	3♠	All Pass	

- (1) 17+ balanced or 16+ unbalanced, any distribution
- (2) 0–4 ZZ points (A=3, K=2, Q=1)

East started with two rounds of spades. Declarer won, drew the outstanding trump and played a club, finishing with 11 tricks, +200 and 2 IMPs to GOLDBERG.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

♠ A 9 4		♠ J 6	
♥ 7 5 4 3		♥ K 9 8 2	
♦ —		♦ K J 9 7 4	
♣ J 10 8 4 3 2		♣ K 5	
♠ K 10 8 7 2			
♥ 10			
♦ Q 8 3 2			
♣ Q 7 6			
♠ Q 5 3			
♥ A Q J 6			
♦ A 10 6 5			
♣ A 9			

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Bertheau	Palma	Nitabach	Poon
		1♦	1NT
3♦	Dbl	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

West led the ♦3, and declarer ruffed in dummy and played a club to the 5, 9 and queen. When West switched to the ♠2, declarer won with the ♠Q, cashed the ♣A, ruffed a diamond and played the ♣J, ruffed and overruffed by declarer, who pitched a spade on the ♦A, crossed to the ♠A and played a heart to the jack. If declarer now ruffs a diamond he will score an overtrick, but he is credited with +620.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Cullin	Meckstroth	Michielsen	Berkowitz
		1NT ⁽¹⁾	Dbl
2♠	2NT ⁽²⁾	Pass	3♣
All Pass			

- (1) 10–13 HCP
- (2) Lebensohl

West led the ♥10, and declarer came to 11 tricks, +150, but 10 IMPs to GOLDBERG.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

♠ A K 10 5 3	♠ J 6 2	♠ Q 8
♥ J 3	♥ 6 5	♥ A K Q 10 8 7
♦ K J 6	♦ Q 4 3	♦ A 9 2
♣ A 7 4	♣ J 8 6 5 2	♣ Q 3
	♠ 9 7 4	
	♥ 9 4 2	
	♦ 10 8 7 5	
	♣ K 10 9	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bertheau</i>	<i>Palma</i>	<i>Nitabach</i>	<i>Poon</i>
	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♣ ⁽¹⁾	Pass	4♦ ⁽¹⁾	Pass
4NT ⁽²⁾	Pass	5♦ ⁽³⁾	Pass
5♠ ⁽⁴⁾	Pass	6♥ ⁽⁵⁾	All Pass

(1) Controls

(2) RKCB

(3) 3 key cards

(4) ♥Q?

(5) Yes, no kings

South led the ♣10, and that was a painless +1460.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Cullin</i>	<i>Meckstroth</i>	<i>Michielsen</i>	<i>Berkowitz</i>
	Pass	1♣ ⁽¹⁾	Pass
1♥ ⁽²⁾	Pass	1♠ ⁽³⁾	Pass
1NT*	Pass	2♣*	Pass
2NT*	Pass	3♣*	Pass
3♦*	Pass	3♥*	Pass
4♣*	Pass	4♦	Pass
4♥	Pass	4♠*	Pass
4NT*	Pass	5♣*	Pass
5♥*	Pass	5♠*	Pass
6♣	Pass	7♥	All Pass

(1) 17+ balanced or 16+ unbalanced, any distribution

(2) 5+ ZZ points, most hands without a splinter

(3) Relay

East's 1♠ initiated a sequence of relays (hence all the asterisks), the answers giving East enough information to bid the virtually laydown grand slam, +2210, and 13 IMPs for GOLDBERG.

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

♠ 10 8	♠ 9 7 2	♠ A K 6
♥ K 10 9 8 5 3	♥ Q 7 6 2	♥ J 4
♦ J 10 7	♦ A K 8	♦ 9 6 4 3 2
♣ J 6	♣ Q 9 8	♣ A 7 2
	♠ Q J 5 4 3	
	♥ A	
	♦ Q 5	
	♣ K 10 5 4 3	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bertheau</i>	<i>Palma</i>	<i>Nitabach</i>	<i>Poon</i>
	Pass	1♦	1♠
Dbl	2♠	All Pass	

West led the ♦J, and declarer won with dummy's ♦A and played a spade to the queen. When it held, he played a club to the 8, and when that collected the ♣A, the hand was essentially over, declarer finishing with 10 tricks, +170.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Cullin</i>	<i>Meckstroth</i>	<i>Michielsen</i>	<i>Berkowitz</i>
	Pass	1♦ ⁽¹⁾	1♠
Pass	2♦	Pass	3♣
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

(1) 0+ diamonds

East led a threatening ♦3, and declarer won with the ♦K and played a spade to the queen. When that held, he played a club to the 8. East won with the ♣A and returned the ♦2 to dummy's ♦Q. Declarer could cash his winners for +600 and 10 IMPs to NITABACH.

If East ducks the ♣8, declarer cannot untangle his winners and must go one down. If he tries playing a spade, East wins and returns a diamond, keeping the defenders one step ahead.

At the end of the session, NITABACH led 30–25.

Soloway Round of 32 action (continued)

By Mark Horton

Session 2
We rejoin the match between GOLDBERG and NITABACH, the former leading 30–25.
The early exchanges saw GOLDBERG move further ahead, 44–35.

Board 22. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

		♠ J	
		♥ 7 4	
		♦ Q 8 6 4	
		♣ A Q J 10 4 3	
♠ K Q 6 4 2		♠ 10 9 5 3	
♥ A Q 8 3		♥ K	
♦ —		♦ A K 10 5 3 2	
♣ K 6 5 2		♣ 9 8	
		♠ A 8 7	
		♥ J 10 9 6 5 2	
		♦ J 9 7	
		♣ 7	

Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Bertheau	Michielsen	Nitabach	Cullin
		Pass	2♥
2♠	3♣	4♠	All Pass

North led the ♥7, and having won with dummy’s ♥K, declarer ruffed a diamond and played the ♥A K discarding dummy’s clubs as North ruffed with the ♠J. The club exit was ruffed with dummy’s ♠9, and declarer played a spade to the queen, ruffed a heart, cashed the ♦A K discarding clubs and claimed 11 tricks. He could ruff a diamond and ruff a club, losing only one more trump trick, +650.

Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
Palma	Pszscola	Goldberg	Buras
		2♦	All Pass

East was unlucky to find partner with such a suitable hand for spades, but if you want to open this hand, then 1♦ is a viable alternative.
South led the ♣7. North won with the ♣10 and switched to the ♠J, South taking the ♠A and switching to the ♥J (not so easy to envisage that E–W have a nine-card spade fit). Declarer won with dummy’s ♥A and pitched a club on the ♥Q. If she continues with a heart, eight tricks will be in sight, but when she tried to get to hand with a spade, North ruffed and played the ♣A. Declarer ruffed with the ♦10 and

South overruffed and returned the ♠8, North ruffing and continuing with the ♣3, ruffed and overruffed. One down, -100, and 13 IMPs to NITABACH.

Board 23. Dealer South. All Vul.

		♠ 7 6 2	
		♥ A J 10 8 7 6 3	
		♦ 8 7	
		♣ J	
♠ Q J 8		♠ K 9	
♥ K Q 4		♥ 5 2	
♦ Q J 4		♦ A K 9 5 3 2	
♣ A 8 4 2		♣ Q 6 5	
		♠ A 10 5 4 3	
		♥ 9	
		♦ 10 6	
		♣ K 10 9 7 3	

Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Bertheau	Michielsen	Nitabach	Cullin
			Pass
1♣	3♥	Dbl	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

North led the ♦8, and declarer won with the ♦Q and played a spade to the 6, king and ace. South switched to the ♥9 to the king and ace, and declarer claimed 10 tricks, +630.

Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
Palma	Pszscola	Goldberg	Buras
			2♠ ⁽¹⁾
Pass	3♠	All Pass	
(1) Spades and a minor			

West’s hand is hardly ideal for a 2NT overcall (it rates only 12.40 on the Kaplan-Rubens Hand Evaluator).
Declarer had to lose two spades, two diamond and a club for one down, but -100 meant 11 IMPs to NITABACH.

Board 26. Dealer East. All Vul.

	♠ K 9 3 2	
	♥ 6 3	
	♦ Q J 9 7 5	
	♣ J 10	
♠ Q 6 5 4		♠ A 10 8
♥ K J		♥ A Q 9 8 7 5 4
♦ A 10 2		♦ 6 4
♣ Q 9 7 2		♣ 3
	♠ J 7	
	♥ 10 2	
	♦ K 8 3	
	♣ A K 8 6 5 4	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bertheau</i>	<i>Michielsen</i>	<i>Nitabach</i>	<i>Cullin</i>
		1♥	2♣
Dbl	Pass	2♥	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

North led the ♣J. South won with the ♣K and switched to the ♦8, North winning with the ♦J and returning the ♦7. Declarer took South's ♦K with the ♦A and cashed out for +600.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Palma</i>	<i>Pszscola</i>	<i>Goldberg</i>	<i>Buras</i>
		1♥	2♣
Dbl	Pass	2♥	Pass
2NT	Pass	4♥	All Pass

South led the ♣A, and when North followed with the ♣J, he switched to the ♥2, declarer winning with dummy's ♥J. Goldberg played a heart to the ace and the ♠8 to the 7, queen and king. Declarer won the return of the ♦Q with dummy's ♦A and played a spade to the 10, which meant she was one down, -100, and 12 IMPs to NITABACH.

Declarer knew that South had started with the ♣A K and the ♦K. His distribution was probably 2=2=3=6. To what extent that should affect how the spade suit is tackled is hard to judge.

Board 27. Dealer South. None Vul.

	♠ 7 5 2	
	♥ 10 2	
	♦ A 10 5	
	♣ A K 8 7 2	
♠ Q 6 4 3		♠ A 8
♥ K J 9 3		♥ A 8 7
♦ Q 9		♦ K J 8 6 4 3 2
♣ 9 5 3		♣ 4
	♠ K J 10 9	
	♥ Q 6 5 4	
	♦ 7	
	♣ Q J 10 6	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bertheau</i>	<i>Michielsen</i>	<i>Nitabach</i>	<i>Cullin</i>
			Pass
Pass	1♦ ⁽¹⁾	3♦	Dbl
All Pass			

(1) 0+♦, limited

South led the ♣Q and North overtook it with the ♣K and switched to the ♥2. Declarer took South's ♥Q with dummy's ♥K and played the ♦Q. North won and played the ♣A, but declarer ruffed, drew trumps and was soon claiming 11 tricks, +670.

Didn't Edgar Kaplan say something about taking out takeout doubles?

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Palma</i>	<i>Pszscola</i>	<i>Goldberg</i>	<i>Buras</i>
			Pass
Pass	1♣ ⁽¹⁾	1♦	Dbl ⁽²⁾
Pass	1NT	2♦	2NT ⁽³⁾
Pass	3♣	All Pass	

(1) 2+♣

(2) 4+♥

(3) Transfer to 3♣

Declarer had no trouble taking nine tricks in clubs, +110 and another 13 IMPs to NITABACH.

They had run off 55 IMPs in the space of seven deals to lead 90-44.

Board 29. Dealer North. All Vul.

♠ K Q J 5	
♥ 6 2	
♦ Q 9 4 3 2	
♣ 4 3	
♠ A 10 7 4	♠ 9 3
♥ K J 5	♥ Q 7 4
♦ K 8 5	♦ A J 7 6
♣ A 7 2	♣ K J 6 5
♠ 8 6 2	
♥ A 10 9 8 3	
♦ 10	
♣ Q 10 9 8	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bertheau</i>	<i>Michielsen</i>	<i>Nitabach</i>	<i>Cullin</i>
	Pass	1♦	Pass
1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

South led the ♥10. Declarer won with the ♥Q, played a diamond to the king and a club to the jack, South winning with the ♣Q and continuing with the ♥9. Declarer won with dummy's ♥J, cashed the ♣A and continued with a club to the king, North pitching the ♠5. A spade to dummy's ace saw North follow with the ♠J, and declarer played dummy's ♦5 to the jack. When South discarded the ♠2, there were only eight tricks, -100.

If declarer relies on the principle of restricted choice and plays for South's ♦10 to be a singleton, she can play the ♦8 from dummy, planning to run it. If North covers with the ♦9, declarer wins with the ♦J and exits with a spade to eventually force a return into the ♦A 7.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Palma</i>	<i>Pszscola</i>	<i>Goldberg</i>	<i>Buras</i>
	Pass	Pass	Pass
1NT	Pass	3♣ ⁽¹⁾	Pass
3♦ ⁽²⁾	Pass	3NT	All Pass

(1) Puppet Stayman

(2) No five-card major

North led the ♠Q. Declarer won with the ♠A, South following with the ♠8, and played a heart to the queen, South winning and returning the ♠6. North won and switched to the ♣3, declarer taking South's ♣9 with the ♣A and playing the ♠10. North won and returned a club, declarer winning with dummy's king, playing a diamond to the king, cashing the ♠7 and the ♥K J before playing a diamond to the jack, +600, and 12 IMPs for GOLDBERG.

Board 30. Dealer East. None Vul.

♠ 7	
♥ K J	
♦ J 10 8 6	
♣ K J 9 8 4 2	
♠ 10 9 5 4 3 2	♠ Q
♥ A Q 9 5	♥ 10 7 6 4 3 2
♦ Q 3	♦ K 7 4
♣ 6	♣ Q 7 5
♠ A K J 8 6	
♥ 8	
♦ A 9 5 2	
♣ A 10 3	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bertheau</i>	<i>Michielsen</i>	<i>Nitabach</i>	<i>Cullin</i>
		2♦ ⁽¹⁾	2♠
4♥	Pass	Pass	Dbl
Pass	5♣	Pass	Pass
5♥	Dbl	All Pass	

(1) Multi: Weak two-bid in either major

North led the ♠7. South won with the ♠K and switched to the ♥8, declarer winning with the ♥A and playing a club to the queen and ace. Declarer had to lose a heart and a diamond for two down, -300.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Palma</i>	<i>Pszscola</i>	<i>Goldberg</i>	<i>Buras</i>
		Pass	1♠
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♦
Pass	3♦	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♦	Pass	5♦
Dbl	All Pass		

West led the ♣6 and when dummy's ♣8 held, declarer ran the ♦J, West winning and switching to the ♠2 to the queen and ace. When declarer continued with the ♠K discarding dummy's ♥J, East ruffed and switched to the ♥10, West winning and returning the ♠4, ruffed and overruffed by East who continued with a club, West's ruff delivering four down, -500, and 13 IMPs to GOLDBERG, trailing 69-90.

Session 3

We move to another match featuring several medal winners in Herning, between BAKER (No. 22 seed) and LALL (No. 11) the latter leading 79-70.

Board 32. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

♠ 7 3		
♥ J 3 2		
♦ K 10 6		
♣ 9 8 7 6 2		
♠ A K 8 6 4	♠ Q J 10 9	
♥ Q 4	♥ A 10 9 6 5	
♦ A Q 9 4	♦ 2	
♣ Q 10	♣ A J 4	
	♠ 5 2	
	♥ K 8 7	
	♦ J 8 7 5 3	
	♣ K 5 3	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Welland</i>	<i>Dwyer-R.</i>	<i>Auken</i>	<i>Rimstedt</i>
		2♦ ⁽¹⁾	Pass
2NT ⁽²⁾	Pass	3♦ ⁽³⁾	Pass
4♦	Pass	5♦	Pass
5♠	Pass	6♠	All Pass

(1) 5♥+4♠, 10–15 HCP

(2) Relay

(3) Shortage

It's possible that 4♦ was optional RKCB for spades.

The play record is missing, but with trumps 2–2 and hearts 3–3, declarer will always come to 12 tricks, and +980 was posted.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Zmuda</i>	<i>Gold</i>	<i>Dufrat</i>	<i>Zia</i>
		1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♠	Pass
2NT	Pass	4♦ ⁽¹⁾	Pass
5♦ ⁽²⁾	Pass	5♠	All Pass

(1) Splinter

(2) Control

East was looking at a club control, but she knew partner did not have one, so a club lead might be a problem.

Sure enough, North led the ♣9 and declarer took dummy's ♣A and played back the ♣4, South winning with the ♣K and exiting with the ♠2. Declarer won with dummy's ♠9, pitched a heart on the ♣J and crossruffed her way to 12 tricks, +680, but 11 IMPs to LALL.

Board 39. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

♠ Q 10		
♥ Q 9 5 2		
♦ A J 6 4 2		
♣ 4 2		
♠ K J 9 5 4 2	♠ A	
♥ 3	♥ A 8 7 6	
♦ K Q 9 7 5	♦ 8	
♣ 6	♣ A Q J 9 8 5 3	
	♠ 8 7 6 3	
	♥ K J 10 4	
	♦ 10 3	
	♣ K 10 7	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Welland</i>	<i>Dwyer-R.</i>	<i>Auken</i>	<i>Rimstedt</i>
		Pass	1♣ ⁽¹⁾
1♥ ⁽²⁾	Pass	2♥	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♣	All Pass

(1) 2+♣, 10+ HCP, may be any balanced hand including any other five-card suit

(2) 4+♠

South led the ♠6. Declarer won with the ♠A, cashed the ♥A, ruffed a heart and pitched a heart on the ♠K, easily securing 10 tricks, +130.

If South leads a diamond North wins and returns a club, leaving declarer with only eight tricks.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Zmuda</i>	<i>Gold</i>	<i>Dufrat</i>	<i>Zia</i>
		Pass	1♣ ⁽¹⁾
2♦ ⁽²⁾	2NT	5♣ ⁽³⁾	All Pass

(1) 0+♣, 11–14 balanced or 4=4=1=4, 15+ 5♣, or 18+ any

(2) Spades

(3) Heart support

South led the ♥J. Declarer won with the ♥A and played a diamond to the king and ace, North switching to the ♣2 which meant three down, -300, and 10 IMPs to LALL.

Board 42. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

♠ A Q 10 7 6 5 2		
♥ 8		
♦ Q J 7		
♣ 10 8		
♠ J 9	♠ 4 3	
♥ Q 10 9 7 2	♥ J 6 4 3	
♦ 10 5 4	♦ K 8	
♣ J 9 2	♣ A K 6 4 3	
	♠ K 8	
	♥ A K 5	
	♦ A 9 6 3 2	
	♣ Q 7 5	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Welland</i>	<i>Dwyer-R.</i>	<i>Auken</i>	<i>Rimstedt</i>
2♥	2♠	4♣ ⁽²⁾	Dbl
5♣	Pass	5♥	Dbl
All Pass			

(1) Fit jump

The system card I am looking at suggests that 2♥ also contained a minor suit.

North led the ♦Q to the king and ace, and South continued with two rounds of spades, North winning, cashing the ♦J and switching to the ♣8. Declarer had to lose two hearts and club for five down, -1100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Zmuda</i>	<i>Gold</i>	<i>Dufrat</i>	<i>Zia</i>
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

East led the ♣A, and when West followed with the ♣9, she switched to the ♦K, +680, but 9 IMPs to BAKER.

Board 44. Dealer East. None Vul.

♠ 10 9 8 7		
♥ 5 3		
♦ A Q J 9 7 6		
♣ 7		
♠ J 3	♠ A 6 4 2	
♥ Q 9 8 7	♥ K 10 2	
♦ K 8 3	♦ 4	
♣ A 9 6 4	♣ J 10 8 3 2	
	♠ K Q 5	
	♥ A J 6 4	
	♦ 10 5 2	
	♣ K Q 5	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Welland</i>	<i>Dwyer-R.</i>	<i>Auken</i>	<i>Rimstedt</i>
Pass	2NT ⁽¹⁾	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♥	Pass	3NT
All Pass			
(1) Diamonds			

West led the ♣6. Declarer took East's ♣10 with the ♣K, ran the ♦10 and continued with a diamond to the queen, East pitching the ♣3. Now declarer could cash the diamonds and play a spade, establishing a ninth trick, +400.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Zmuda</i>	<i>Gold</i>	<i>Dufrat</i>	<i>Zia</i>
Pass	2♣	Pass	1NT
Pass	3♦	Pass	2♥
All Pass			3NT

West led the ♥7 to the king and ace, and declarer played a diamond to the queen, a spade to the king and a diamond to the jack. He could cash four more diamonds, but when East eventually got in with the ♠A, the ♥10 cooked declarer's goose, one down, -50, and 10 IMPs to BAKER.

At the three-quarter mark, LALL led 109-99.

Session 4

Board 48. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

♠ 3 2		
♥ A Q J 8 7 3		
♦ J 4		
♣ A 10 9		
♠ A 10 5 4	♠ K 7	
♥ 10 9	♥ K 6 4	
♦ K 8	♦ A Q 10 5 3 2	
♣ K J 8 4 2	♣ 7 5	
	♠ Q J 9 8 6	
	♥ 5 2	
	♦ 9 7 6	
	♣ Q 6 3	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Zia</i>	<i>Dufrat</i>	<i>Gold</i>	<i>Zmuda</i>
1♠	2♥	1♦	Pass
Dbl	Pass	3♦	Pass
			All Pass

South led the ♥2 (low from a doubleton), and East won with the ♥K and returned the ♥4, easily taking 11 tricks, +150.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Dwyer-R.</i>	<i>Auken</i>	<i>Rimstedt</i>	<i>Welland</i>
1♠	2♥	1♦	Pass
3♥ ⁽¹⁾	Pass	3♦	Pass
		3NT	All Pass

(1) Asking for a stopper

South led the ♥5, and when North put in the ♥J, declarer ducked. North cashed the ♥A and continued with the ♥7, declarer cashing her tricks for +400 and 6 IMPs to BAKER.

Board 52. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

♠ A K Q 9	♠ 8 7
♥ Q 10 8 5 4	♥ A 7 3
♦ 10 8 2	♦ K 9 3
♣ 5	♣ A K J 8 3
♠ 3	♠ J 10 6 5 4 2
♥ K 6	♥ J 9 2
♦ A Q J 7 6 5	♦ 4
♣ Q 9 4 2	♣ 10 7 6

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Zia</i>	<i>Dufurat</i>	<i>Gold</i>	<i>Zmuda</i>
2♣	2♦	1NT	Pass
3♠ ⁽¹⁾	Pass	Pass	Pass
		4♥	All Pass

(1) 4♠+5♥

South led the ♦4. North took the ♦A and continued with the ♦Q, covered and ruffed by South who switched to the ♠2. Declarer took dummy's ♠A, cashed the top clubs, pitching a diamond and played a spade to the king, North ruffing and returning the ♦J. Declarer ruffed in dummy and played the ♥5, claiming when North's ♥K appeared, +620.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Dwyer-R.</i>	<i>Auken</i>	<i>Rimstedt</i>	<i>Welland</i>
2♣	3♦	1NT	Pass
Dbl	Pass	Pass	Pass
		3NT	All Pass

The more aggressive overcall resulted in E-W failing to locate their eight-card fit.

South led the ♦4, and when North put in the ♦J, declarer took the ♦K, played a spade to the ace and the ♥4 to the 6, 7 and 9. South returned the ♠2, and declarer won with dummy's ♠K, North pitching the ♦5. Declarer's next move was to play a club to the jack, and when that held, she cashed the ♣A K, pitching a diamond and a heart from dummy. North had followed with the ♣2, ♣4 and ♣Q, but when declarer exited with a club, it was North who won and she cashed four diamonds for two down, -200, and 13 IMPs to LALL.

That proved to be a decisive moment. Although LALL scored only 14 IMPs in the session, they restricted their opponents to 19 IMPs to squeak into the next round, 123-118.



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Women's Pairs compete for Whitehead Trophy



Last year's Whitehead Women's Pairs champs were Elisabeth Sjodal and Sofie Sjodal.

Play begins today in the Whitehead Women's Pairs with two qualifying sessions, followed by two final sessions tomorrow.

At stake is the Whitehead Trophy, donated in 1930 by Wilbur C. Whitehead of New York, a great bridge authority and a member of the



team that won the Vanderbilt Cup in 1928, the first year it was in play.

Whitehead (1866–1931) was president of the Simplex Automobile Company, but bridge held such a fascination for him that he retired from business in 1910 to devote his life to bridge.

He was the inventor of many bidding and play conventions, the quick-trick table of card values, the Whitehead system of requirements for original bids and responses and the Whitehead table of preferential leads.

Whitehead was instrumental in standardizing procedures in auction bridge and later in contract bridge.

This event was for many years played at the Spring NABC until moving to the fall in 2015.

Previous winners:

1930	Olive Peterson, Maud Zontlein	1960	Gretchen Feldstein, Jane Mueller
1931	Vivi Hanson, Elinor Murdoch	1961	May Belle Long, Effie Woods
1932	Mrs. Jay S. Jones, Olive Peterson	1962	Clarice Holt, Mrs. Greeley Warner
1933	Doris Fuller, Mrs. Courtand Smith	1963	Mrs. K.L. Sargent, Mrs. Ray Tobin
1934	Helen Bonwit, Helen White	1964	Margaret Alcorn, Lucille Patterson
1935	Bertine Teichman, Mable Ulbrich	1965	Nancy Gruver, Sue Sachs
1936	Mrs. Jay S. Jones, Sally Young	1966	Virginia Heckel, Edith Kemp
1937	Mable Ervin, Doris Fuller	1967	Garner McDaniel, Terry Michaels
1938	Helen Sobel, Sally Young	1968	Hermine Baron, Rhoda Walsh
1939	Helen Sobel, Sally Young	1969	Gale Clarke, Gloria Noszka
1940	Edith Atkinson, Mrs. John Waidlich	1970	Robin Klar, Tina Rockaway
1941	Mae P. Rosen, Edith Seligman	1971	Amalya Kears, Jacqui Mitchell
1942	Mae P. Rosen, Edith Seligman	1972	Kerri Davis, Rhoda Walsh
1943	Mae P. Rosen, Edith Seligman	1973	Ann Economidy, Vivian Williamson
1944	Ruth Sherman, Margaret Wagar	1974	Pat Leary, Jan Stansby
1945	Peggy Golder, Olive Peterson	1975	Jacqui Mitchell, Gail Moss
1946	Edith Seligman, Sally Young	1976	Gail Schaab, Barbara Staton
1947	Gratian Goldstein, Josephine Gutman	1977	Jacqui Mitchell, Gail Moss
1948	Gratian Goldstein, Josephine Gutman	1978	Babs Charney, Flo Rotman
1949	Kay Rhodes, Ruth Sherman	1979	Anne Burnstein, Edith Kemp
1950	Mrs. John Kelly, Dorothy Thompson	1980	Mildred Boyce, Barbara Norwood
1951	Alwina M. Dunphy, Mrs. Edward Minear	1981	Emma Jean Hawes, Dorothy Hayden Truscott
1952	Shirley Fairchild, Elaine Lee	1982	Hermine Baron, Beverly Rosenberg
1953	Mrs. Harold P. Swearingen, Barbara Weiner	1983	Evelyn Levitt, Jo Morse
1954	Margaret Alcorn, Sally Neely	1984	Judy Tucker, Jacqui Mitchell
1955	Kay Rhodes, Margaret Wagar	1985	Dale Dermer, JoAnne Caplan
1956	Kay Rhodes, Margaret Wagar	1986	Edith Freilich, Nancy Gruver
1957	Kay Rhodes, Margaret Wagar	1987	Tobi Deutsch, Kay Schulle
1958	Betty Nail, Phyllis Novak	1988	Sally Wheeler, Georgiana Gates
1959	Betty Adler, Dorothy Hayden	1989	Nadine Wood, Jeanne Elkner
1960	Mary Jane Farell, Peggy Solomon	1990	Tobi Deutsch, June Deutsch
1961	Agnes Gordon, Betty Haddad	1991	Leslie Paryzer, Nancy Widman
1962	Carol Sanders, Sylvia Stein	1992	Cheri Bjerkan, Janice Seamon
		1993	Carol Sanders, Betty Ann Kennedy
		1994	Corinne Kirkham, Ann Kluewer
		1995	Lila Perlstein, Juanita Chambers

A similar event was held at the Spring NABC 1958-1962 with these winners:

1958	Kay Rhodes, Margaret Wagar
1959	Bert Epstein, Blossom Grossblatt

1996 Nancy Widman, Leslie Paryzer
1997 Susan Wexler, Margie Gwozdzinsky
1998 Judi Radin, Valerie Westheimer
1999 Harriet Eaton, Ellen Crawford
2000 Joan Stein, Eunice Rosen
2001 Judi Radin, Sylvia Moss
2002 Cheri Bjerkan, Sue Weinstein
2003 Joan Eaton, Candace Griffey
2004 Jacqui Mitchell, Amalya Kears
2005 Gail Greenberg, Laurie Vogel
2006 Sylvia Moss, Judy Radin
2007 Kamla Chawla, Irina Ladyzhevsky
2008 Chris Benson, Lynne Feldman
2009 Lisa Berkowitz, Joann Glasson
2010 Suzy Burger, Linda Lewis
2011 Diana Schuld, Marjorie Michelin
2012 Patricia Norman, Georgiana Gates
2013 Jan Assini, Joanne Weingold
2014 Ran Jingrong, Wen Wang
2015 Benedict Cronier, Emily Harrell

2016 Shawn Quinn, Nancy Passell
2017 Katarzyna Dufrat, Justyna Zmuda
2018 Tatiana Dikhnova, Tatiana Ponomareva
2019 Bo Fu, Hanxiao Li
2020 Not held
2021 Heather Dhondy, Maggie Knottenbelt
2022 Brenda Bryant, Pamela Nisbet
2023 Nancy Passell, Shawn Quinn
2024 Sofie Sjodal, Elisabeth Sjodal

Masterpoint disclaimer

Results reported in the Daily Bulletin are subject to change because of score changes or corrections. The masterpoint awards as shown are, therefore, also subject to change.

Senior events

You must be age 65 or older to play in ACBL Senior events.

Eligibility points

If you are now or have been a member of a bridge organization outside of the U.S., Canada, Mexico or Bermuda, please be aware that you must have eligibility points assigned to you (or those previously issued to you reviewed). This is especially important if you intend to enter an event with a masterpoint limit or a bracketed event. Please visit the Tournament Operations office (Foothill G, second floor) for this purpose.

You oughta be in pictures

If you achieve a new masterpoint milestone here in San Francisco – Life Masters and upwards – please come by the Daily Bulletin office, Foothill F, second floor, and let us take your picture. We're eager to congratulate you and share your achievement in the Daily Bulletin.



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Edgar Kaplan Blue Ribbon Pairs



Last year's winners of the Kaplan Blue Ribbon Pairs were Thomas Paske and Simon Cope.

The event

The Edgar Kaplan Blue Ribbon Pairs ranks with the von Zedtwitz Life Master Pairs in the summer and the Platinum Pairs in the spring as the most prestigious — and toughest — pair events on the ACBL calendar. Like the LM Pairs and Platinum Pairs, the Blue Ribbon Pairs is played over three days and includes two qualifying, two semifinal and two final sessions.

Entry is restricted to winners and runners-up in regional championships — plus high finishers in North American championships, members of current Grand National district championship teams, members of current official teams representing ACBL and the top 100 lifetime masterpoint holders.

The Blue Ribbon Pairs was renamed the Edgar Kaplan Blue Ribbon Pairs in 1999 to honor one of bridge's all-time great players, writers, administrators and the authority on the laws of the game.

Kaplan (1925–1997) won his first North American championship in 1953 — the Vanderbilt — and his last in 1997 — the Open Swiss Teams at the Spring NABC in Dallas.

Kaplan was recognized as the world's foremost authority on the laws of duplicate and rubber bridge. He became co-chairman of the ACBL Laws Commission in 1978 and was co-chairman of the WBF Laws Commission at the time of his death.

He was named ACBL Honorary Member in 1993. In 1995 he was inducted into the ACBL Bridge Hall of Fame and the WBF Hall of Fame.

The trophy

The event is contested for the Cavendish Trophy, awarded for the National Open Pair Championship and donated by the Cavendish Club of New York in 1928. Since 1963, the trophy has honored the winners of the Blue Ribbon Pairs.

Winners and runners-up:

- | | | | |
|-------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1963 | 1. B. Jay Becker, Dorothy Hayden; 2. Harold Harkavy, Cliff Russell | 1974 | 1. Edgar Kaplan, Norman Kay; 2. Roger Bates, George Rosenkranz |
| 1964 | 1. Robert D. Hamman, Lewis L. Mathe; 2. Gunther Polak, Robert G. Sharp | 1975 | 1. Steve Robinson, Kit Woolsey; 2. Ron E. Andersen, Hugh C. MacLean |
| 1965 | 1. Chuck Henke, John H. Moran; 2. Michael S. Lawrence, Ron Von der Porten | 1976 | 1. Jay Apfelbaum, Bill Edelstein; 2. James Jacoby, David Berkowitz |
| 1966 | 1. Charles Coon, Richard Zeckhauser; 2. Leland Ferer, Gratian Goldstein | 1977 | 1. Lou Bluhm, Thomas K. Sanders; 2. Kathie Cappelletti, Mike Cappelletti |
| 1967 | 1. Sami R. Kehela, Baron Wolf Lebovic; 2. Phil Feldesman, Lewis L. Mathe | 1978 | 1. Ron E. Andersen, David Berkowitz; 2. Ted Horning, Peter Nagy |
| 1968 | 1. Larry Cohen, Richard H. Katz; 2. Bobby Goldman, Michael S. Lawrence | 1979 | 1. Robert Levin, Ron Smith; 2. James Bennett, Chester Davis |
| 1969 | 1. Erik Paulsen, Alex Tschekaloff; 2-4. Sami R. Kehela, Eric R. Murray; 2-4. Tom Hodapp, Robert F. Morris; 2-4. Larry Cohen, Richard H. Katz | 1980 | 1. Warren Rosner, Allan Stauber; 2. Dan Morse, G. Robert Nail |
| 1970 | 1. Chuck F. Burger, Ira S. Rubin; 2. Richard Freeman, Cliff Russell | 1981 | 1. Larry N. Cohen, Ron Gerard; 2. Chip Martel, Lew Stansby |
| 1971 | 1. Roger Bates, John M. Grantham; 2. Hermine Baron, Michael S. Lawrence | 1982 | 1. Eric Rodwell, Jeff Meckstroth; 2-3. Robert Blanchard, Drew Casen; 2-3. Peter Boyd, Steve Robinson |
| 1972 | 1. Richard Khautin, Warren Kornfeld; 2. Garey Hayden, Mark Lair | 1983 | 1. Marty Bergen, Larry N. Cohen; 2. Peter Weichsel, Mike Lawrence |
| 1973 | 1. Steve Robinson, Kit Woolsey; 2. Kathie Cappelletti, Mike Cappelletti | 1984 | 1-2. Jack Kennedy, Bobby Wolff; 1-2. David Funk, Mark Lair |
| | | 1985 | 1. Eric Rodwell, Walter Johnson; 2. Kit Woolsey, Ed Manfield |
| | | 1986 | 1. Bob Hamman, Ron Von der Porten; 2. Kit Woolsey, Ed Manfield |
| | | 1987 | 1. Fred Stewart, Steve Weinstein; 2. Kerri Shuman, Robert Levin |
| | | 1988 | 1. Marty Bergen, Larry N. Cohen; 2. Robert Levin, Ron Smith |
| | | 1989 | 1. Mark Molson, Robert Lebi; 2. Gaylor Kasle, Roger Bates |
| | | 1990 | 1. Kit Woolsey, Ed Manfield; 2. Brian Glubok, Sam Lev |
| | | 1991 | 1. Bob Hamman, Nick Nickell; 2. Mark Tolliver, Marc Zwerling |

- 1992** 1. Haig Tchamitch, Adam Wildavsky; 2. Brad Moss, Ravindra Murthy
- 1993** 1. Bob Hamman, Michael Rosenberg; 2. Martin De Bruin, Steve Price
- 1994** 1. Mark Lair, Alexander Weiland; 2. Fred Stewart, Steve Weinstein
- 1995** 1. David Berkowitz, Larry Cohen; 2. Paul Kiefer, Jerry Helms
- 1996** 1. Jim Krekorian, Bob Blanchard; 2. Larry Cohen. David Berkowitz
- 1997** 1. Adam Wildavsky, Allan Falk; 2. Geir Helgemo, Tony Forrester
- 1998** 1. Zia Mahmood, Howard Weinstein; 2. Eric Rodwell, Marty Seligman
- 1999** 1. Jill Meyers, John Mohan; 2. John Sutherlin, Russ Ekeblad
- 2000** 1. Richard Coren, Marc Jacobus; 2. Robert Levin, Steve Weinstein
- 2001** 1. Salvador Assael, Nafiz Zorlu; 2. Pratap Rajadhyaksha, Steve Landen
- 2002** 1. Sidney Lazard, Bart Bramley; 2. Kit Woolsey, Fred Stewart
- 2003** 1. Michael Seamon, Geir Helgemo; 2. Eric Greco, Geoff Hampson
- 2004** 1. Tarek Sadek, Walid Elahmady; 2. Robert Levin, Steve Weinstein
- 2005** 1. Gavin Wolpert, Jenny Ryman; 2. Sabine Auken, Daniela von Arnim
- 2006** 1. Fulvio Fantoni, Claudio Nunes; 2. Drew Casen, Jim Krekorian
- 2007** 1. Steve Landen, Pratap Rajadhyaksha; 2. Ernesto Muzzio, Alejandro Bianchedi
- 2008** 1. Eric Rodwell, Jeff Meckstroth; 2. Frederic Wrang, Martin De Knijff
- 2009** 1. Bart Bramley, Bjorn Fallenius; 2. John Hurd, Joel Wooldridge

- 2010** 1. Jay Borker, Jan Jansma; 2. Bas Drijver, Sjoert Brink
- 2011** 1. Josh Donn, Roger Lee; 2. Billy Cohen, Brad Moss
- 2012** 1. Brian Platnick, John Diamond; 2. Geoff Hampson, Eric Greco
- 2013** 1. Steve Weinstein, Agustin Madala; 2. Bar Tarnovski, Dror Padon
- 2014** 1. John Hurd, Justin Lall; 2. Nick Demirev, Eldad Ginossar
- 2015** 1. John Hurd, Joe Grue; 2. Thomas Bessis, Frederic Volcker
- 2016** 1. Jeff Meckstroth, Eric Rodwell; 2. Billy Cohen, Ron Smith
- 2017** 1. Joe Grue, Eric Greco; 2. Matt Granovetter, Sylvia Shi
- 2018** 1. Joe Grue, Robert Levin; 2. Chris Compton, Eldad Ginossar
- 2019** 1. Roger Lee, Wei Wang; 2. Richard Pavliceck, Jim Munday
- 2020** Not held
- 2021** 1. Thomas Bessis, Cedric Lorenzini; 2. Amir Zamir, Oren Toledano
- 2022** 1. Jacek Kalita, Michal Klukowski; 2. Jim Munday, Richard Pavliceck
- 2023** 1. Andrea Boldrini, Aldo Gerli; 2. Ben Handley-Pritchard, Tom Townsend
- 2024** 1. Simon Cope, Thomas Paske; 2. Weizhong Bao, Hailong Ao

www.bid72.com



0-6000 Blue Ribbon Pairs



Mini-Blue champs from last year: Colin Lafferty and Doug Andrews.

The 0-6000 Blue Ribbon Pairs, a national-rated event limited to players with less than 6000 masterpoints, begins today. The contest features a two-session qualifier, a two-session semifinal and a two-session final.

Players must have earned a Blue Ribbon qualification to participate. Players from outside North America must be granted a waiver to enter.

Previous winners:

- 2005** Marty Harris, Jacob Morgan
- 2006** Joe Houde, Divakar Bhargava
- 2007** Patricia Menefee, Andre De Leon
- 2008** Chris Coffman, Roger Coffman
- 2009** Harold Huffaker, Ronald Huffaker
- 2010** Mark Jones and Doug Levene
- 2011** Susan Fulton, John Hogan
- 2012** Kevin Young, Peter Worby
- 2013** Suman Agarwal, Harjinder Ajmani
- 2014** Ina Demme, Bill Kertes
- 2015** Teresa Boyd, Grant Robinson
- 2016** Radu Nistor, Joan Brody
- 2017** Saul Gross, Juan Castillo
- 2018** Virgil Massey, Charlene Sands
- 2019** Phil Clayton, Jonathan Cohn
- 2020** Not held
- 2021** Jennie Legge, Winston Legge
- 2022** Andrew Clements, Jonathan Cohn
- 2023** Ronald Carriere, Michel Lorber
- 2024** Colin Lafferty, Doug Andrews

Entry fees

A valid ACBL player number is required to play in all events at the NABC.

For all daytime events, a discount of \$10 per player per session is available to registered guests of the host hotel and residents of the host district who purchase entries through Entry Express.

Players must be ACBL members whose service fees or dues are current in order to compete in any Premier NABC+, NABC+ or NABC events.

Premier NABC+ events are the Soloway Knockout Teams, the Kaplan Blue Ribbon Pairs, the Reisinger Board-a-Match Teams and the Keohane North American Swiss Teams. The undiscounted entry fees for these contests are \$50 per player per session. For team events, this means \$200 per team per session for four-person teams, \$250 per team per session for five-person teams, and \$300 per team per session for six-person teams. For the four-session Swiss stage of the Soloway KO, the total undiscounted entry fee is \$150 per player.

NABC+ events are the Nail Life Master Pairs, Mitchell Open Board-a-Match Teams, Super Senior Pairs, Whitehead Women's Pairs, NABC+ Mixed Pairs and NABC+ Mixed Swiss Teams. The undiscounted entry fees

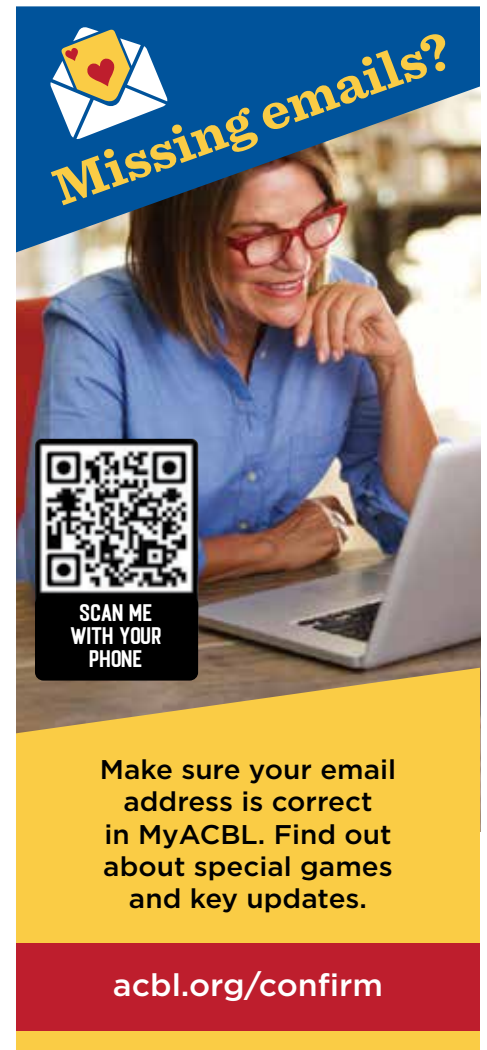
for these contests are \$45 per player per session. For team events, this means \$180 per team per session for four-person teams, \$225 per team per session for five-person teams, and \$270 per team per session for six-person teams.

Note: \$1.50 per person per session benefits the International Fund for all of the above events.

NABC events are the 0–6000 Blue Ribbon Pairs, the 0–10,000 Swiss Teams, the 0–10,000 IMP Pairs, the 0–10,000 Fast Pairs, the 0–3000 Pairs, the 0–3000 Swiss Teams and the 0–6000 Pairs. The undiscounted entry fee is \$35 per player per session. For the team events, this means \$140 per team per session for teams of four, \$175 per team per session for teams of five, and \$210 per team per session for teams of six.

Regional events are \$32 per player per session for current members without discount, \$37 for inactive members. For team events of one or two sessions, the entry fee is \$128 per session regardless of the number of team members. Evening events are \$22 per player per session.

Events with a limit of 300 masterpoints or lower are \$28 per player per session for current members without discount, \$33 for inactive members.



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Tomorrow's Bridge Events

Wednesday, Dec. 3
9:30 am & 3:30 pm

Event	Session	Sold	Entry/player/session*	
			Members with host discount	Members without discount
SOLOWAY KNOCKOUT TEAMS	1-2 SF	Pacific I, 4th Floor	\$40	\$50
10 am				
Petaluma/Santa Rosa Unit 509 Wednesday Morning Side Pairs <i>Wed-Thu Daylight Series</i>	single	Nob Hill 10, Bottom Level	\$22	\$32
299er Pairs	single	Golden Gate C, Level B2	\$18	\$28
0-20 Pairs	single	Foothill C, 2nd Floor	\$18	\$28
10 am & 1:30 pm				
NABC 0–10,000 FAST PAIRS <i>2 qualifying & 2 final sessions</i>	1-2 Q	Yerba Buena 6, Bottom Level	\$25	\$35
10 am & 3 pm				
KAPLAN BLUE RIBBON PAIRS	1-2 SF	Yerba Buena 8, Bottom Level	\$40	\$50
WHITEHEAD WOMEN'S PAIRS	1-2 F	Yerba Buena 8, Bottom Level	\$35	\$45
0–6000 BLUE RIBBON PAIRS	1-2 SF	Yerba Buena 10, Bottom Level	\$25	\$35
Top-Flight Pairs (<i>unlim./5000</i>)	1-2	Yerba Buena 9, Bottom Level	\$22	\$32
Doug Handler Memorial Mid-Flight Pairs (<i>4000/1250</i>)	1-2	Yerba Buena 9, Bottom Level	\$22	\$32
Gold Rush Pairs	1-2	Golden Gate C, Level B2	\$22	\$32
Top-Flight Swiss Teams (<i>unlim./6000/4500</i>)	1-2	Golden Gate A, Level B2	\$22	\$32
Aaron Papst Memorial Bracketed Round Robin Teams (0-4000)	1-2	Golden Gate A, Level B2	\$22	\$32
3 pm				
Wednesday Afternoon Side Pairs <i>Wed-Thu Daylight Series</i>	single	Nob Hill, Bottom Level	\$22	\$32
299er Pairs	single	Golden Gate C, Level B2	\$18	\$28
7:30 pm				
Wednesday Evening Side Pairs <i>Tue-Fri Evening Series</i>	single	Golden Gate C, Level B2	\$22	\$22

Unless otherwise noted, strata breaks for all stratified events are: A (2500+), B (750-2500), C (0-750). Three-flight events are divided A/X (6000+/0-6000); B/C (1500-3000, 0-1500); Gold Rush (300-750/200-300/0-200). Two-flight events are divided A/X/Y (6000+/4000-6000/0-4000); B/C/D (1500-3000/750-1500/ 0-750) if no Gold Rush OR A/B/C (3000+/1500-3000/0-1500) and Gold Rush (300-750/200-300/0-200). In B flights, no single player may be over 3000. In Gold Rush events, no single player may be over 750. **BOLD, UPPER CASE = NABC+ events.** UPPER CASE = NABC events. **Green = Regional events (gold and red points).** **Blue = Gold Rush events (gold and red points).** **Red = Intermediate/Newcomer 299er events (red points).**

International Fund

In NABC+ events, \$1.50 (per person, per session) of each entry fee will be allocated to the ACBL International Fund. These funds are used to underwrite part of the expenses of ACBL players who participate in international competition.