



# Daily Bulletin



96th Summer North American Bridge Championships | NABCDailyBulletin@acbl.org  
Editors: Paul Linxwiler, Chip Dombrowski and Amy Casanova | Graphic Designer: Kathy Stemley

## National event updates

- Grossack–Rosenthal grab LM Pairs lead
- Bruce LM Pairs frontrunners:  
Phillips–Menon
- Rountree–Webb lead Young Pairs
- Smith–Kriegel set pace in Open Pairs
- Championship matches set in GNT

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|             |                                                                                                                                                              |             |          |          |            |
|-------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|----------|----------|------------|
| Fun         | FOOSBALL                                                                                                                                                     | PHOTO BOOTH | PINOCHLE | CRIBBAGE | JUST GAMES |
| BACK-GAMMON | <b>BEYOND BRIDGE</b><br>GAME ON<br><b>Games, Karaoke &amp; More</b><br><br><b>Sunday, July 12</b><br><b>8:30 p.m.</b><br><b>Mill City Ballroom, Sheraton</b> |             |          |          |            |
| CHESS       |                                                                                                                                                              |             |          |          |            |
| SNACKS      |                                                                                                                                                              |             |          |          |            |
| CATAN       |                                                                                                                                                              |             |          |          |            |
| FRIEND      |                                                                                                                                                              |             |          |          |            |

## Pre-registration required for Spingold, Mini-Spingold KOs

Registration for the Spingold Knockout Teams is required by 3:30 p.m. today. This can be done on Entry Express or on site. See Kevin Perkins outside Ballroom A.

For the Mini-Spingolds, the deadline is 3:30 p.m. Monday, July 13, for the 0–6000, and 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 14, for the 0–3000. Contingent entries are allowed: May withdraw pending qualification in another event. This can be done on Entry Express.



## Goodwill Message

Goodwill is the secret ingredient to a successful bridge partnership.

*Lamya Agelidis, Chair*

*Aileen Osofsky Goodwill Committee*

## Joyce Hill named ACBL Charity Foundation Volunteer of the Year

For her extraordinary commitment to volunteerism and philanthropy, Joyce Hill of St. Augustine FL has been named the 2026 ACBL Charity Foundation Volunteer of the Year. Paul Cuneo, president of the Charity Foundation, said, “Joyce is an example of the best in bridge who donate to both bridge-related charities and to charities in their communities.”

A prime example of Hill’s commitment to serving others came from a personal experience. Years ago, she

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## ABTA Book of the Year awards announced

The American Bridge Teachers’ Association (ABTA) has announced winners in its 45th annual Book of the Year contest, which recognizes excellence in instructional resources for bridge players of all levels. Awards were presented at the ABTA convention here in Minneapolis on Wednesday.

Winner in the Advanced Beginner category was “**Kantar Bridge Lessons I**” (*Baron Barclay*) by Eddie Kantar, revised by Barbara Seagram. Seagram’s new publication is a major update and

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**ABTA President Jill Wallace with winning author Barbara Seagram**

## Jacek “Pepsi” Pszczola 1967–2026



Multiple world and NABC champion Jacek Pszczola, known universally by his nickname “Pepsi,” died April 24 from complications of myelofibrosis. He was 59.

Originally from Poland, Pszczola burst on to the world bridge scene in 1998 when he and fellow countryman Michal Kwiecien won the World Open Pairs. The intimidating spelling of Jacek’s last name caused several English-speaking commentators to jokingly notice that it resembled the easier-to-pronounce soft

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## Today's Bridge Events

| <b>Sunday, July 12</b><br><b>Peg Kaplan Day</b><br><b>9:30 am &amp; 3:30 pm</b> |         |                             | <b>Entry/player/session*</b><br><b>Members</b><br><b>with</b><br><b>discount</b> |  | <b>Members</b><br><b>without</b><br><b>discount</b> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------------------------|
| Event                                                                           | Session | Sold                        |                                                                                  |  |                                                     |
| <b>MOREHEAD GRAND NATIONAL TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIP FLIGHT</b>                        | 1-2 F   | M101C, mezzanine            | \$43                                                                             |  | \$53                                                |
| GOLDMAN GRAND NATIONAL TEAMS FLIGHT A                                           | 1-2 F   | M101C, mezzanine            | \$25                                                                             |  | \$35                                                |
| SHEINWOLD GRAND NATIONAL TEAMS FLIGHT B                                         | 1-2 F   | M101C, mezzanine            | \$25                                                                             |  | \$35                                                |
| MACNAB GRAND NATIONAL TEAMS FLIGHT C                                            | 1-2 F   | M101C, mezzanine            | \$25                                                                             |  | \$35                                                |
| <b>10 am</b>                                                                    |         |                             |                                                                                  |  |                                                     |
| Dennis Carman Sunday Morning Side Pairs<br><i>Sun-Tue Daylight Series</i>       | single  | Exhibit Hall A, lower level | \$22                                                                             |  | \$32                                                |
| St. Cloud DBC 299er Pairs                                                       | single  | Exhibit Hall A, lower level | \$18                                                                             |  | \$28                                                |
| Sunday Bridge Plus<br><i>Free: 12 deals (0-20), follows the 8 am lesson</i>     | single  | 205B, level 2               | Free                                                                             |  | Free                                                |
| <b>10 am &amp; 1 pm</b>                                                         |         |                             |                                                                                  |  |                                                     |
| Yvonne Carroll Fast Pairs (unlim./4000/1500)                                    | 1-2     | L100H, lower level          | \$22                                                                             |  | \$32                                                |
| <b>10 am &amp; 3 pm</b>                                                         |         |                             |                                                                                  |  |                                                     |
| NABC+ OPEN PAIRS                                                                | 1-2 F   | Ballroom A, ground level    | \$38                                                                             |  | \$48                                                |
| BRUCE LM-6000 LIFE MASTER PAIRS                                                 | 1-2 F   | 200D, level 2               | \$25                                                                             |  | \$35                                                |
| YOUNG 0-3000 PAIRS                                                              | 1-2 F   | 200D, level 2               | \$25                                                                             |  | \$35                                                |
| Lorna Nordlinder Memorial Open Pairs<br>(unlim./4000/1500)                      | 1-2     | Exhibit Hall A, lower level | \$22                                                                             |  | \$32                                                |
| Gold Rush Pairs                                                                 | 1-2     | Exhibit Hall A, lower level | \$22                                                                             |  | \$32                                                |
| Peg Kaplan Top-Flight Swiss Teams<br>(unlim./6000/4500)                         | 1-2     | Exhibit Hall A, lower level | \$22                                                                             |  | \$32                                                |
| Tom Botten Memorial 0-4000 Bracketed Round Robin Teams                          | 1-2     | Exhibit Hall A, lower level | \$22                                                                             |  | \$32                                                |
| <b>10 am &amp; 3:30 pm</b>                                                      |         |                             |                                                                                  |  |                                                     |
| VON ZEDTWITZ LIFE MASTER PAIRS                                                  | 1-2 F   | M100F, mezzanine            | \$43                                                                             |  | \$53                                                |
| <b>3 pm</b>                                                                     |         |                             |                                                                                  |  |                                                     |
| Sunday Afternoon Side Pairs<br><i>Sun-Tue Daylight Series</i>                   | single  | Exhibit Hall A, lower level | \$22                                                                             |  | \$32                                                |
| St. Cloud DBC 299er Pairs                                                       | single  | Exhibit Hall A, lower level | \$18                                                                             |  | \$28                                                |
| <b>7:30 pm</b>                                                                  |         |                             |                                                                                  |  |                                                     |
| Sunday Evening Side Pairs<br><i>Fri-Mon Evening Series</i>                      | single  | 200D, level 2               | \$22                                                                             |  | \$22                                                |

\* For premier, NABC+ and NABC events, participants must be full ACBL members and up-to-date with their membership dues or service fees. For all other events, participants must be ACBL members (or guest members). Inactive members may renew or pay a \$5 upcharge per session.

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, \$3 (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

### Peg Kaplan Day

Minnesota's top masterpoint holder, Peggy Kaplan, has been a force in bridge for many years. Bundy\*, as she known to her bridge friends, began playing bridge in college; her duplicate career began in 1977 when her aunt, Rosalie Hanson, invited her to a sectional in Tulsa. She won the Sunday Swiss and was hooked for life.



Her favorite event in every tournament was the knockout, which is why today's team event is named for her.

Peggy Kaplan grew up in the Chicago area. After she moved to Minneapolis, she began frequenting the Minneapolis Bridge Club at 34th and Nicollet, playing with a variety of partners. Peg worked with Cindy Balderson for the board of directors at Dayton's and became a regular at local bridge tournaments. She played with Cindy, Mike Hoffman, Larry Oakey, and many more.

Peggy learned how to play well and how to win. She formed a decades-long partnership with Bill Kent of Sioux City IA. Playing with Bill at pairs or teams, Peggy represented District 14 at dozens of NAP and GNT contests at the NABCs. Bill once described her bridge, "She's the only bridge player I know who makes lead-directing bids in

uncontested auctions. It has been pure pleasure playing with this little evil genius."

Peggy won the 2004 Rockwell Mixed Pairs, the 2005 Freeman Mixed BAM, the 2009 NABC+ Fast Open Pairs and the 2011 Freeman Mixed BAM. Her team placed second in the 2007 Machlin Women's Swiss Teams with teammates Cindy Balderson, Carole Miner and Melody Bi. Obviously, she has won countless regional and sectional events.

The highlight of Peggy's bridge career is certainly the achievement of becoming a Grand Life Master, accomplished by amassing 10,000 masterpoints plus a national championship. She has 16,000+ masterpoints and four NABC titles.

Minnesota's first Grand Life Master, she hasn't been able to compete over the last years due to advancing dementia. She still leads Minnesota in masterpoints.

*\*Nicknamed by George Jacobs after "Married with Children" character Peg Bundy. Her BBO moniker is Bundy, and her convention card is known as Standard Bundy.*

### Lorna Nordlinder

North Dakota Unit 104 would like to honor the memory of Lorna Nordlinder, who passed away Jan. 3, 2024, a few weeks shy of her



79th birthday. Lorna was such a great force in the unit. She was a club director in Minot and an integral part of the club, and she served on the Unit 104 board for more years than anyone could remember.

Lorna lived and breathed duplicate bridge. She attained Emerald Life Master and was very close to Platinum Life Master before her book of life was over. She had a raft of Mini-McKenney and Ace of Clubs awards throughout the years, lots of favorite partners from different parts of the country and a ton of stories about the "old days" of bridge.

During Minot tournaments, she hosted many players and fixed meals for them. Lorna always found some merit in every hand she held and could remember hands for years back. She was a formidable opponent, but always gracious to partners and opponents alike. Lorna was a New York Yankees fan and an avid hunter – at the tender age of 74, she fulfilled her bucket list dream of bagging a moose. She is survived by a son, a daughter and six grandchildren.

### Tom Botten By Arne Langsetmo

Tom was a gentleman, both at and away from the bridge table. A capable, talented and reliable partner, he was

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## Thanks to our Major Sponsors for the Summer NABC in Minneapolis: Joel & Laurie Kramer • Bill Voedisch and Laurie Carlson • District 14

*A big thank you to our Silver Level Sponsors who supported the NABC by naming a game for their friends, teachers, partners, and in honor of those we have lost. We also thank those who donated anonymously.*

Bev Meyer  
Charles Carroll  
David and Karen Divine  
Charles Nauen  
Stephen and Sue Jackson

Lynne Castoldi  
(Twin Cities Group)  
Scott Hiller  
Barry and Linda Purrington

Minneapolis Grand Slam Club  
Rochester Bridge Club  
St. Paul Bridge Club  
Gopher Unit 103

Viking Unit 178  
Hawkeye Unit 216  
Cornhusker Unit 241

# SPECIAL EVENTS

## MEETINGS / SEMINARS / RECEPTIONS

Meetings are at either the Sheraton or Minneapolis Convention Center.

### Sunday, July 12

#### Peg Kaplan Day

8–9:45 am **Free Bridge Lesson with Jerry Helms**, “The Importance of a Plan: Suit Contracts,” followed by a special game for newer players. *Room 205A, level 2, MCC*

8 am–5 pm **Best Practices Teacher Assessments.** *Room 205D, level 2, MCC*

10 am–noon **Bridge-Plus Game.** A special game for newer (0-20 MP) players. 12 boards, no card fee. *Room 205A, level 2, MCC*

1–6 pm **Learn Bridge in a Day?™** This popular session is designed especially for true beginners, those returning to bridge after long absences and those merely wanting to test the waters before committing to formal classes. The concentrated course includes both class instruction

and coached play. No pre-registration required. Fee: \$30 covers textbook and door prizes. *Room 205A, level 2, MCC*

6–8:30 pm **Learn Bridge in a Day?™ Teacher Accreditation.** Teacher training includes information on organizing and marketing LBIAD as well as maximizing retention rates, writing effective grant requests and the presentation of the seminar. Fee: \$75. *Room 205A, level 2, MCC*

8:30–11 pm **Beyond Bridge.** Karaoke, games, photo booth, etc. *Mill City Ballroom, lobby level, Sheraton*

### Monday, July 13

#### Goodwill Day / Twin City Group Day

8:30–10 pm **It's Midnight Somewhere Zip KO.** Social bridge; no masterpoints, big fun. *Room 200B, level 2, MCC*

## CELEBRITY SPEAKER PROGRAM

Don't miss these free lectures by some of the best-known players in the game!  
Exhibit Hall A, back right corner, on the lower level of the Convention Center.

### Sunday, July 12

9:15 a.m. Norman Beck *Unusual Things and Bridge*  
2:15 p.m. Jeff Hand *Play These Trump Contracts*

### Monday, July 13

9:15 a.m. Barbara Seagram *Opening Leads*  
2:15 p.m. Steve Gaynor *The Notrump Ladder*

## HOSPITALITY

Food will be served mornings beginning at 9 a.m. and, courtesy of the host committee, selected afternoons at 2 p.m. on each floor of the Minneapolis Convention Center that games are being held that day. Coffee is not available on the lower level. Stop at Dunn Brothers Coffee on the ground level before going down to the lower level.

### Sunday, July 12

Muffins

### Monday, July 13

Morning: housemade granola bars. Afternoon: cookies.

## PATRON LOUNGE

Patron Members are invited to visit the Patron Lounge in the Craft Bar above the Convention Center lobby from 1 to 3 p.m. today through Wednesday, July 15, for light lunch and coffee. Coffee, tea, water and freshly baked bread are available each day. The lounge is NOT open in the mornings. Additional seating is available on the second floor.

### Sunday, July 12

Turkey wedge (smoked and deli roasted turkey, lettuce, aioli on focaccia), grapes, chips, cookie (boxed)

### Monday, July 13

Choice of entrée salads (chicken salad or portabella salad), chocolate turtle cake

## No smoking

Smoking and vaping are not permitted inside the Minneapolis Convention Center. This prohibition includes cigarettes, cigars, pipes, vapes and marijuana. It is a violation of both the ACBL codification and Minnesota law to smoke in an area where not permitted. Violators will be subject to discipline.





# JUST FOR NEW PLAYERS

Toby Craig, Seth McClure and Zac McClure are experiencing their first NABC. They represented District 20 (Pacific Northwest/Hawaii) in Flight C of the Grand National Teams, alongside teammate Stefan Mrozewski (not pictured).

After qualifying through Wednesday's Swiss teams, they advanced to the Round of 16 knockout, where they were eliminated by a District 21 (Bay Area) team.

With their GNT run complete, they shifted gears the next day. Toby and Stefan played in the Gold Rush Pairs, while Seth and Zac entered an open side game before taking the afternoon off to watch the World Cup.

Seth and Zac, who are cousins, come from a family who plays bridge.

"My parents met in college playing bridge, my grandfather was a Life Master, and my dad is a Life Master," Seth said. "We grew up playing almost every weekend."

"His parents wrote a bidding guide that, interestingly enough, we still use," Zac added. "It's very old-school –



Goren, no two-over-one, no modern bidding conventions. It's kind of quirky. Players in their 80s know it."

Despite growing up around the game, they didn't join the ACBL until a few years ago, and this is Seth's first face-to-face tournament. "It's the first time I've used bidding boxes," he said.

Toby's introduction to bridge came through his wife, Meg, a lifelong player who now teaches and directs in the Portland area.

"I guess that was about 12 years ago," Toby said. "We took some time off, then I started taking some of her lessons at the club and playing there. I've really been enjoying it, so I've been playing quite a bit more over the past couple of years. It's been really cool to be at the NABC."

One of the highlights came during Friday's side game, when Seth and Zac found themselves competing alongside one of the game's legends, Eric Rodwell. After the session, they had the chance to meet him, hear a few stories and compare notes on the bidding from one of the boards they had played.

## Thinking Bridge

By Eddie Kantar

|           |                |             |  |
|-----------|----------------|-------------|--|
| Dlr: East | ♠ A J 10       |             |  |
| Vul: None | ♥ A 9 6 5      |             |  |
|           | ♦ J 10         |             |  |
|           | ♣ K Q J 10     |             |  |
| ♠ Q 6 3   |                | ♠ K 9 8 2   |  |
| ♥ 4 3     |                | ♥ 2         |  |
| ♦ 8 6 4 3 |                | ♦ A K Q 9 2 |  |
| ♣ 8 7 6 4 |                | ♣ A 5 2     |  |
|           | ♠ 7 5 4        |             |  |
|           | ♥ K Q J 10 8 7 |             |  |
|           | ♦ 7 5          |             |  |
|           | ♣ 9 3          |             |  |

| West | North | East | South    |
|------|-------|------|----------|
|      |       | 1♦   | 2♥       |
| Pass | 4♥    | Dbl  | All Pass |

**Opening lead:** ♦3.

**Bidding commentary:** As South, your 2♥ weak jump overcall is akin to an opening weak two-bid. It shows 6–9 HCP and a six-card suit, typically headed by two or three honors. North's raise to 4♥ is a bit aggressive. A "scientific" option is to make a forcing 2NT response, asking partner to further describe his hand. This response would elicit 3♥ from South, showing a minimum. With a better hand, North would

show a side-suit feature, an ace or a king. As North, you should pass 3♥, but that is water over the dam. West's double of 4♥ is for takeout, showing short hearts and a strong hand. As West, do not remove a takeout double of a game contract with a weak balanced hand.

**Lead commentary:** As West, holding three or four low cards in partner's suit, lead low if you have not supported, high if you have. As an aside, with the ace in partner's suit, lead the ace, period. The lead of an ace in partner's suit denies the king.

**Defensive commentary:** As East, after taking two diamonds, count their tricks. The bidding tells you of six heart tricks and, once your ♣A is driven out, three club tricks to go along with the ♠A for 10 tricks. What can you do? Your only hope is to build up a quick spade trick before your ♣A is removed. Play partner for the ♠Q and shift to a low spade at trick three. If you do, partner comes through and plays the ♠Q, driving out the ace. The ♠K will be the setting trick.

*Eddie Kantar (1932–2022) was an accomplished player with two world championships and 17 NABC titles. Kantar is probably best known as a teacher and author of over 35 bridge books. He was a longtime contributor to the ACBL's Bridge Bulletin.*



## Grossack–Rosenthal grab LM Pairs lead

Building on their third-place performance in the opening round of the von Zedtwitz Life Master Pairs, Zach Grossack and Andrew Rosenthal posted scores of 63.84% and 56.79% in Saturday's semifinal sessions to take the lead in the three-day contest. They have a carryover of 99.01 (top = 38).

Currently in second place with a carryover of 95.16 are Ola Rimstedt of Sweden and Signe Buus Thomsen, who now resides in Denmark. Third place is occupied by Pablo Ravenna and Carlos Pellegrini of Argentina with 84.34.

Seventy-eight pairs advanced to today's two-session final.

## Bruce LM Pairs frontrunners: Phillips–Menon

Floridians Samuel Phillips and Rajasekhar Menon lead the Bruce LM Pairs, limited to players under 6000 masterpoints, after yesterday's semifinal round. The duo paired two almost-62% games in Saturday's round to move from 11th place in the opening round into the lead after the second day.

Trailing by just a few matchpoints in second place are Lisa Mita and Bharat Rao of the Philadelphia area. About three boards behind them are Peng Cheng and Xiaoyu Cheng of Saratoga CA.

Twenty pairs survived the semifinal round.

## Rountree–Webb lead Young Pairs

After the semifinal round of the Young 0–3000 Pairs, Manning Rountree of New Hampshire and Mark Webb of Georgia lead the contest. After qualifying in 17th place, they posted 61.22% and 58.28% scores on the second day to narrowly take the lead.

In second place are Ewan McNay of New York and Chris Chung of California – a big jump from 26th place. The third-place pair are Pradip

Gandhi and Sandy Johnson of New Jersey.

The final will be contested by the 20 remaining pairs in the contest.

## Smith–Kriegel set pace in Open Pairs

Chicagoans Ron Smith and Oren Kriegel topped the qualifying round in the NABC+ Open Pairs. Smith and Kriegel scored 65.80% in the morning session and 60.33% in the afternoon to lead the contest by a fraction of a board over runners-up Jiang Gu of New Jersey and Glenn Robbins of New York City.

Local players Terry Beckman and David Collins are currently in third.

The final will feature the 130 qualifying pairs.

## Championship matches set in GNT

All four flights of the Grand National Teams will play their final matches today.

In the Championship Flight, District 21's Han defeated District 23's Schafer, who withdrew after three quarters, 147–82. Han will face District 9's Pollack team, which defeated Moses (D8) 113–98. Their match was close through the first half, with Moses trailing by just 10 IMPs. Pollack broke it open in the third quarter, outscoring Moses 45–8. Although Moses won the fourth quarter 39–9, it wasn't enough to overcome the deficit.

In Flight A, D13's Smid team jumped out to a stunning 94–0 lead over D9's Stephani team. The match ended after three quarters with Smid ahead 149–61.

In the other semifinal, Caranicas (D14) trailed Lee (D16) by 16 or 17 IMPs at the end of each of the first three quarters. Caranicas rallied in the fourth, scoring 39 IMPs while holding Lee to 26 to win 129–113.

In Flight B, the semifinal between Jonas-Silver (D24) and Kosansky (D20) was competitive through the first half, with Jonas-Silver leading by

## Sponsors

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also a willing and talented organizer, serving in local ACBL unit offices as well as a tournament chairperson. He is missed.

*Arne Langsetmo passed away on Jan. 27, 2026, at the age of 71. Arne was a skilled systems programmer and world traveler, with a passion for bridge, sailing, folk music and underwater photography.*

**Yvonne Carroll**

**By Charlie Carroll**

Yvonne raised seven wonderful children (and me). On top of all the work that comes with eight children, she found the time to be a fierce competitor at both bridge and tennis. Bridge was a lifelong fascination, but she did have to give up tennis in her mid-80s(!). She passed along both her intensity and her values – play hard, play fair – to her children. I miss my mom, but I think of her often when I'm at the bridge table or on the tennis court.

just 8 IMPs. A dominant third quarter stretched the margin to 66 IMPs, and Jonas-Silver advanced with a 181–113 victory.

In the other match, Daniels (D13) led Goulet (D1) after every quarter. Goulet rallied in the fourth quarter, scoring 44 IMPs while holding Daniels to 15, but the comeback fell short as Daniels advanced, 125–109.

In Flight C, the local D14 Andersen team will battle D24's Long squad for the title. Andersen was tied with D21's Girkar at 106 IMPs after three quarters before pulling out a 130–124 victory.

Long pulled away from D4's McInnishin in the second quarter and cruised to a 142–89 victory.

The full pairings can be found on page 17.

## Charity VOY

*continued from page 1*

began feeling ill and ended up in the emergency room.

“My husband took me, and every room had people in them, with many more waiting in the lobby,” Joyce recalled. “But I was in agony, so they gave me a room.”

Even then, help didn’t come quickly.

“I was hurting so much. I crawled out of my bed and saw policemen guarding the door across the hall. I crawled to the nurses’ station. They finally recognized that I really needed help. Within 45 minutes, I was in surgery, and they removed my appendix. Luckily, they got to me before it burst, and I lived to tell the tale.”

Many people would have simply moved on after such an ordeal. Joyce turned the experience into a mission.

“I learned that a lot of the people who come to the emergency room are mentally ill patients or people who rely on the ER for primary care,” she said. “Because they take up so much time, people with medical problems don’t get seen, and often crucial time is lost.”

Determined to improve the system, Joyce traveled throughout the U.S. studying emergency departments. Her research eventually led to a lasting legacy. In 2013, Prisma Health opened a new emergency mental health center bearing her name, inspired by her vision of improving care for patients experiencing mental health crises. Joyce donated \$800,000 toward the project and helped the Palmetto Health Foundation raise another \$800,000.

That accomplishment is only one chapter in a lifetime devoted to serving others. Her commitment to service began early.

“I started out doing volunteer work in grammar school, collecting newspapers,” Hill recalled. “Every Thursday they’d have a paper drive. My friend and I found a house where the people had been saving newspapers



**Winners of the 2022 Freeman Mixed BAM: Team captain Joyce Hill, third from left, with teammates Signe Buus Thomsen, Mikael Rimstedt, Kevin Dwyer Rimstedt, Amber Lin and Shan Huang. This was Hill's first national win in an open event.**

for 20 or 30 years, so we ended up having the most successful collection of any class. That was fun.”

In graduate school, Hill worked at a crisis center called Hassel House in Durham. “We had mostly phone calls and some walk-ins,” she said. “I was so glad to be able to help people. It was good training about listening – not just wanting to solve people’s problems, but really listening to them.”

Over the years, Hill has served on numerous nonprofit boards, including the South Carolina Ballet, the Columbia Museum of Art, Historic Columbia, the U.S. Equestrian Team and the U.S. Eventing Association.

Her faith has also shaped her outlook.

“I am a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints,” Hill said. “In our religion, we tithe, so giving back is a cornerstone of my faith. Our members are very good at helping people around the world and supporting the arts. It’s a wonderful religion. I would hope that everybody would learn about it. I think we’re put here on earth to learn and grow.”

Hill has also been one of Patty Tucker’s earliest supporters in bringing bridge into schools. She believes bridge gives academically minded children an opportunity to excel, especially those who may not find their niche in athletics.

“Joyce’s faith and community have benefited enormously from her

generosity over the years,” Tucker said. “She was one of the first to recognize what bridge could offer youth and has supported Atlanta Junior Bridge and now Jump Start Bridge for more than a decade. However, it is her unfailing kindness, interest and generosity of spirit that will be remembered forever.”

Bridge has been part of Hill’s life almost from the beginning. She learned the game from her parents as a child and continued playing while attending college, where she studied English, creative writing and philosophy.

“I also had minors in acting and home economics,” she laughed. “So, I wasn’t sure what I wanted to do.”

After earning degrees from Northwestern University and Duke University, she taught English at Durham High School for three years while directing the senior class production of “The Unsinkable Molly Brown.”

Marriage, raising a family and community service followed. Along the way, she remained active as both a competitive tennis player and equestrian.

Then, in 1998, after taking two world cruises where she learned duplicate bridge, she decided to pursue the game seriously.

Her first national championship came in the 2008 0–5000 Mini Spingold, partnering Lucas Lebioda and playing with Jon Rice, Mike Rice and David Grainger.





**Joyce Hill and Jenny Wolpert**

After that success, Hall of Famer Steve Weinstein helped her build competitive teams.

"I formed a women's team with Jenny Wolpert because I wanted to become a Grand Life Master," Joyce said. "And I did."

The partnership flourished. Hill

and Wolpert won the Marsha May Sternberg Women's Board-a-Match Teams in 2009, successfully defended the title in 2010, and added two more women's team championships in 2011.

"Joyce was a big part of my early life's work," Wolpert said. "She is one of the most determined bridge players I have met. She sets goals, and she gets them done. She is an impressive lady who is loyal and hardworking. One of my favorite memories was when we were at a regional and she got Steve Weinstein and Jeff Meckstroth to play us in tennis doubles."

Today, Hill plays with Kevin Dwyer Rimstedt, who, she jokes, "was just a boy" when they first became partners. "And he's turning 38 soon," she said. "So, a long time. He's unbelievably polite and thoughtful and has never criticized me. He has a great sense of humor."

Together they finished second in

the Keohane North American Swiss Teams in 2018 and won the Freeman Mixed Board-a-Match Teams in 2022 before finishing second in the event the following year.

"Having had the pleasure of playing as Joyce's bridge partner for over 15 years, I've seen firsthand what makes her special," said Dwyer Rimstedt. "She is a fierce competitor who has worked relentlessly to stay at the top of her game, and she truly deserves every bit of her success. Joyce always brings warm, pleasant energy and genuinely cares for everyone she meets. She has a massive heart, and I cannot think of anyone more deserving of this recognition."

The pair recently earned more than 100 masterpoints at a regional. "It's exciting for me – at age 78 – to think that I am still improving," Joyce said. "I really feel blessed."



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IMP Pairs 2  
Charity Tournament  
Welcome Cocktail  
Warm-up Pairs  
Open Pairs  
Traditional Dinner  
Open Teams  
Friday Excursions  
Gala Dinner and Prize Giving  
Cool-down Pairs





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## ABTA Books of the Year

*continued from page 1*

reorganization of the late Kantar's volume of tips for advancing players.

Winner in the Intermediate category was **"100 Bridge Tips for Club Players"**

(*Master Point Press*) by Rakesh Kumar. The author focuses on practical advice on bidding, play and defense, presented as at-the-table problems to improve results in duplicate pair and team events.

Top-rated runners-up in the Intermediate category were:

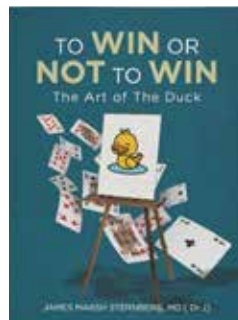
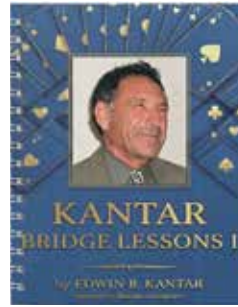
- "Be a Difficult Bridge Opponent" (*Master Point Press*) by David Bird and Marc Smith
- "Theme Recognition, Volume 1" (*AuthorHouse*) by James Marsh Sternberg MD

Winner in the Intermediate/Advanced category was **"To Win or Not to Win: The Art of the Duck"**

(*AuthorHouse*) by James Marsh Sternberg MD. "Dr. J" offers a comprehensive discussion of hold-up and ducking plays with 250 example deals presented as self-quizzes.

Top-rated runners-up in the Intermediate/Advanced category were:

- "Be a Difficult Matchpoint Opponent" (*Master Point Press*) by David Bird and Marc Smith
- "Theme Recognition, Volume 2"



(*AuthorHouse*) by James Marsh Sternberg MD

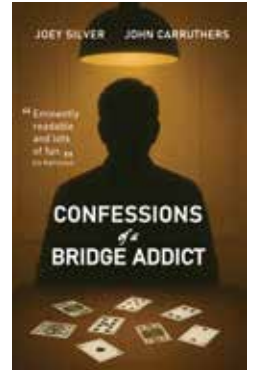
A Certificate of Merit was awarded to **"Confessions of a Bridge Addict"**

(*Master Point Press*) by Joey Silver and John Carruthers. A collaboration by two Canadian champions, this book offers an insightful look at Silver's 60+ years of bridge experiences, including stories, lessons and fascinating deals from international play.

ABTA Award Committee members are Jeff Bayone, Sam Marks, Henry Meguid, Brenda Montague, Neil Montague and chair Karen Walker.

ABTA is now accepting submissions for its 2027 awards, which will be announced in July 2027. Eligible works are printed books as well as other media, including instructional podcasts, video lessons, webinars and software.

Authors or publishers wishing to enter new titles can get more information by sending email to [bookoftheyear@abtahome.com](mailto:bookoftheyear@abtahome.com). The submission deadline is May 1, 2027.



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## Need to join or renew?

You can renew or reinstate your membership online at [acbl.org/join](https://acbl.org/join) or in the Tournament Operations office (Room 201, level 2, MCC).



## Evening entertainment

Four nights of fun evening entertainment are planned.

**Sunday, July 12**

**Beyond Bridge:** Karaoke, games, photo booth, etc. Light food and cash bar. 8:30 p.m. *Mill City Ballroom, lobby level, Sheraton*

**Monday, July 13**

**It's Midnight Somewhere Zip KO:** Social bridge, no masterpoints. 8:30 p.m. *Room 200B, level 2, MCC*

**Wednesday, July 15**

**Bridge Mania:** Jeopardy, Family Feud and other bridge-themed games. Light food and cash bar. 8:30 p.m. *Mill City Ballroom, lobby level, Sheraton*

**Friday, July 17**

**Crazy Bridge:** Chaos-inducing rule changes lighten the game. Get ready to laugh, play and think on your feet. 8:30 p.m. *Room 200B, level 2, MCC*

## Round Round Get Around: Via Bus

Travel inside the Metro Transit Downtown Zone for **\$0.50**. The #10, #25 and the **Free Bus** from the river stop at the Convention Center .. Northbound the #10 & #17 cross the Mississippi at 3<sup>rd</sup> Av. if you want to visit the St. Anthony restaurants (still in the downtown .50 zone). Either the #17 or #18 head South on Nicollet to Eat Street (<10' away). A short walk to Nicollet gets you to them or you can board the Free Bus.

**#17** \$0.50 will get you to the St. Anthony restaurants as well as near some in downtown East. The #17 continues South to Eat Street on Nicollet outside the .50 zone.

Ride in the Downtown Zone for 50c



**#18** Travels up and down Nicollet with a jog into Downtown East. Eat Street restaurants are beyond the downtown .50 zone heading South.



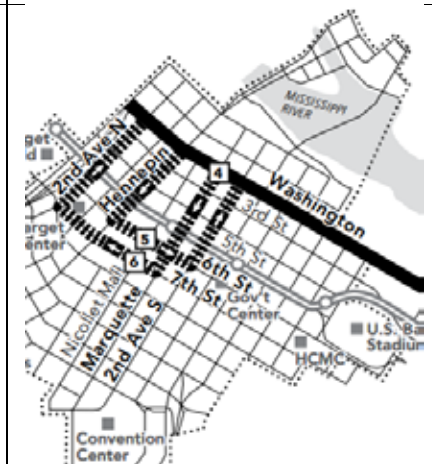
**#10&25&FREE** stop at the Convention Center. **UPDATE: 7/9 FOR EFFICIENCY'S SAKE WALK THE 2 BLOCKS TO NICOLLET WHERE BUS FREQUENCY IS LESS FRUSTRATING**

The 10&25 head East at Washington before crossing into the St. Anthony area on 3<sup>rd</sup> Av.



The Free Bus heading going toward the River stops just across from the main tourney entrance....but frequency makes a stroll to Nicollet more efficient.

**#4** After riding up Nicollet on any of the free, #17,18, or 25 buses you can transfer to the Westbound #4 to go into the heart of the North Loop or the Eastbound #4 toward the Downtown East restaurants.



## Round Round Get Around Dining \$10 Breakfasts

**Hell's Kitchen:** 80 S. Ninth St. Opens daily 7:30 a.m. A bare-bones breakfast – two eggs and hash browns – can be yours for \$10.

**Nicollet Diner:** 1333 Nicollet Mall. Open 24 hours. Short stack \$13

**Mother Dough Bakery:** 225 S. Sixth St. Opens 7 a.m. weekdays. A bit of a walk, but it's real patisserie fare.

**Muffin Top Café:** 1424 Nicollet Ave.

**Dave's Downtown:** 900 Second Ave. S. (Skyway). Opens 7:30 a.m. weekdays. The widest variety of offerings for under \$10.

**Egg Flip:** 601 S. Marquette (Skyway). Opens 7 a.m. weekdays. Korean-inspired sandwiches.

**Corner Coffee:** 905 Nicollet Mall. Opens 7 a.m. weekdays. Bagel or croissant sandwich in a space with ambience.



## Pepsi

*continued from page 1*

drink Pepsi Cola, and the “Pepsi” moniker stuck. The affable Polish expert happily embraced the nickname.

Pepsi moved to the U.S. in the early 2000s, but he traveled back and forth extensively between his native Poland and his new home; he earned world championship medals for both countries and was ranked as an Open Grand Master by the World Bridge Federation. Pepsi earned three gold medals in world transnational contests, and in 2017, he was part of the U.S. squad that won the Bermuda Bowl. He also earned four silver and three bronze medals as a player. But Pepsi was also a medalist as non-playing captain and/or coach of several U.S. Senior squads, for which he picked up an additional four gold medals and one silver.

In North American contests, Pepsi had nine victories to his credit: Nail Life Master Pairs (2001); Vanderbilt KO Teams (2002); Jacoby Open Swiss Teams (2004, 2018); Reisinger Board-a-Match Teams (2006, 2018); Spingold KO Teams (2019); Soloway KO Teams (2019); Rockwell Mixed Pairs (2022). He finished second in seven NABC contests.

In 2019, Pepsi was the ACBL Player of the Year for winning the most platinum points in that year’s NABCs.

Players from around the world expressed condolences on Pepsi’s untimely passing. Zia Mahmood wrote, “Pepsi was a smile personified, Charm was his shadow, and talent his armor. He won routinely and made close friends wherever he went. He will be missed by the world of bridge, and our prayers and strength to his family who are left behind.”

In 2011, Pepsi met May Sakr of Westin FL, and the duo became partners in life and at the table. The pair won the Rockwell Mixed Pairs in 2022, Pepsi’s last open NABC title, and Sakr’s first.

Sakr wrote, “I lost my bridge partner and my soulmate. I feel blessed

to have shared my life with Pepsi for more than 10 years. He was kind, generous, funny and thoughtful. We traveled the world together to play bridge, and through it, we became the perfect partnership. I will miss him dearly.”

## Water Filling Stations

Several water filling stations are located throughout the Convention Center, often near the restrooms. Please use these stations to refill your water bottles and cups whenever possible. The ACBL is charged a premium for water provided inside the playing area. Your cooperation is appreciated.

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## You oughta be in pictures

If you achieve a new masterpoint milestone here in Minneapolis – Life Masters and upwards – please come by the Bulletin office (*Room 204, level 2, MCC*), and let us take your picture. We’re eager to congratulate you and share your achievement in the Daily Bulletin.



**Play in our special ZIP KO social bridge event  
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**Monday, July 13 • 8:30 p.m.  
Room 200B, Minneapolis Convention Center**



**QUALIFIERS IN THE VON ZEDTWITZ LIFE MASTER PAIRS**

39.0 Tables / Based on 132 Tables

Carryover

|    |                                                                          |       |
|----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| 1  | Zachary Grossack, Newton MA; Andrew Rosenthal, New York NY               | 99.01 |
| 2  | Ola Rimstedt, Sweden; Signe Buus Thomsen, Valby Denmark                  | 95.16 |
| 3  | Pablo Ravenna – Carlos Pellegrini, Buenos Aires Argentina                | 84.34 |
| 4  | Christian Bakke, Bergen Norway; Andreas Abragi, Huddinge Sweden          | 78.62 |
| 5  | Bart Bramley, Avon CT; Zia Mahmood, London United Kingdom                | 73.21 |
| 6  | Mike Passell, Plano TX; Andy Goodman, Carmel CA                          | 68.65 |
| 7  | Michael Christensen, Seattle WA; T. Brian Zaugg, Burien WA               | 63.29 |
| 8  | Viktor Aronov, Sofia Bulgaria; Ahu Zobu, Istanbul Turkey                 | 62.32 |
| 9  | Jeff Xiao – Guanghao Xiao, Shrewsbury MA                                 | 62.01 |
| 10 | Per-Ola Cullin, Enskededalen Sweden; Marion Michielsen, Sweden           | 56.98 |
| 11 | Benjie Miao, La Jolla CA; Tianyang Chen, Plainsboro NJ                   | 55.07 |
| 12 | Eric Greco, Frisco TX; Geoff Hampson, Las Vegas NV                       | 54.89 |
| 13 | Alan Sontag, Gaithersburg MD; Ralph Katz, Burr Ridge IL                  | 52.68 |
| 14 | Larry Robbins, Glenview IL; Howard Weinstein, Midway UT                  | 52.35 |
| 15 | John McLaughlin, Melrose MA; Adam Grossack, Brooklyn NY                  | 48.66 |
| 16 | Rajagopal Sriraman, Louisville KY; Bob Fisk, Cincinnati OH               | 48.32 |
| 17 | Ioannis Oikonomopoulos, Hatboro PA; Will Ehlers, Lancaster PA            | 47.72 |
| 18 | Joshua Donn, Las Vegas NV; Brian Platnick, Evanston IL                   | 47.53 |
| 19 | Leo Lasota, Ewa Beach HI; Bruce Cuthbertson, Vancouver WA                | 45.60 |
| 20 | Joel Wooldridge, Jackson Heights NY; Kent Mignocchi, Bronx NY            | 44.99 |
| 21 | Kim Eng – Eric Sieg, Issaquah WA                                         | 44.58 |
| 22 | Ron Gerard, White Plains NY; Mark Lair, Amarillo TX                      | 44.56 |
| 23 | Phillip Becker, Beachwood OH; John Bacon, Mayfield Heights OH            | 42.52 |
| 24 | Mark Bendure, Grosse Pointe MI; Brenda Bryant, Ferndale MI               | 40.34 |
| 25 | Peter Weichsel, Carlsbad CA; James Krekorian, Pensacola FL               | 39.87 |
| 26 | Eldad Ginossar, Sanibel FL; Joseph Stokes, Chicago IL                    | 38.80 |
| 27 | Ofek Sabbah – Yonatan Sliwowiez, Petah Tikva Israel                      | 38.74 |
| 28 | Steven Wallis, Tampa FL; Jacob Morgan, Madison WI                        | 37.65 |
| 29 | Guy Mendes de Leon, Leiden Netherlands; Luc Tijssen, Tilburg Netherlands | 36.17 |
| 30 | Richard Zucker, Dobbs Ferry NY; Eric Richelson, Fort Pierce FL           | 34.17 |
| 31 | Jerome Rombaut – Leo Rombaut, Lys Lez Lannoy France                      | 34.13 |
| 32 | Steven Ashe, Tampa FL; Simon Hult, Wastervik Sweden                      | 33.46 |
| 33 | Kevin Rosenberg – Amber Lin, Mountain View CA                            | 32.94 |
| 34 | Jeff Meckstroth, Clearwater Beach FL; Norman Beck, Dallas TX             | 32.37 |
| 35 | Peter Bertheau, Taby Sweden; John McAllister, Charlottesville VA         | 31.94 |
| 36 | Alan Watson, Lexington MA; Geoffrey Brod, Newington CT                   | 31.90 |
| 37 | Jason Feldman, Palm Beach Gardens FL; Jeffrey Smith, Ottawa ON           | 29.84 |
| 38 | Douglas Simson, Columbus OH; Shan Au, Westerville OH                     | 27.06 |
| 39 | Eric Mayefsky, Arlington VA; Victor Chubukov, Seattle WA                 | 25.62 |
| 40 | Finn Kolesnik, Austin TX; Harrison Luba, Lynnfield MA                    | 22.72 |
| 41 | Alejandro Bianchedi, Buenos Aires Argentina; Margie Cole, New York NY    | 22.48 |
| 42 | Owen Lien, Oak Park MI; R. Muggia, Andover MA                            | 22.10 |
| 43 | Mark Caplan, Mulmur ON; Fred Gitelman, Las Vegas NV                      | 22.06 |
| 44 | Daniel Gerstman, Buffalo NY; John Carruthers, Kingsville ON              | 21.21 |
| 45 | Jonathan Steinberg, Toronto ON; Santiago Semberoiz, Fort Lauderdale FL   | 20.92 |
| 46 | Peter Knee, Canyon Country CA; Stelios Touchtidis, Parrish FL            | 20.67 |
| 47 | Dan Jacob, Vancouver BC; Tom Carmichael, Marysville WA                   | 20.06 |
| 48 | John Ramos, Los Angeles CA; Sibrand van Oosten, Leiden Netherlands       | 19.54 |
| 49 | Bob Hamman, Dallas TX; Jack Oest, Chicago IL                             | 18.75 |
| 50 | Jacqueline Chang, New York NY; Iulian Rotaru, Sunnyside NY               | 17.95 |
| 51 | Louis-Amaury Beauchet, Larmor-Plage France; Daniel Hoekstra, Portland OR | 17.07 |
| 52 | Jie Li, Beijing China; Eric Xiao, Shrewsbury MA                          | 16.18 |
| 53 | Michael Rosenberg, Foster City CA; Stewart Rubenstein, Chestnut Hill MA  | 13.66 |
| 54 | Frederic Pollack, Laval QC; Peter Jargowsky, Boca Raton FL               | 12.12 |
| 55 | Hemant Lall, Marina Del Rey CA; Michael Penick, Dallas TX                | 11.98 |
| 56 | Tracy Brines, Richland WA; Joyce Goldstein, Brooklyn NY                  | 11.93 |
| 57 | Edward Zuckerberg, Los Altos Hills CA; Brian Glubok, Brooklyn NY         | 9.31  |
| 58 | John Overdeck, Palm Beach FL; Aldo Gerli, Padova Italy                   | 8.95  |

|       |                                                                    |      |
|-------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| 59    | Brian Zhang – Qiang Zhang, Dublin CA                               | 8.94 |
| 60    | Pedro Miguel Durao, Lisbon Portugal; Thomas Peters, Dayton MD      | 8.29 |
| 61    | Drew Cavalier, Pensacola FL; Christian Jolly, New Hudson MI        | 8.21 |
| 62    | Michael Lipkin, Brooklyn NY; David Gurvich, New York NY            | 8.20 |
| 63    | Rory Xiao, Fremont CA; Jonathan Yue, Chicago IL                    | 7.90 |
| 64    | Avery Silverstein, Austin TX; Aaron Silverstein, Ridgefield CT     | 7.86 |
| 65    | Mark Aquino, Jamaica Plain MA; Robert Cappelli, Naples FL          | 7.54 |
| 66    | Adam Kaplan, New York NY; Debbie Rosenberg, Foster City CA         | 7.10 |
| 67    | Wojciech Gawel, Wroclaw Poland; Rafal Jagniewski, Legionowo Poland | 6.78 |
| 68    | Barry Margolin, Arlington MA; John Hogan Jr., Rehoboth Beach DE    | 5.55 |
| 69    | Lucy Zhang, Brooklyn NY; David Soukup, Philadelphia PA             | 5.48 |
| 70    | Larry Sealy, Owens Cross Roads AL; Wafik Abdou, Bakersfield CA     | 5.20 |
| 71    | Uday Ivatury – Christal Henner, New York NY                        | 4.07 |
| 72    | Sally Wheeler – Buddy Hanby, The Woodlands TX                      | 4.06 |
| 73/74 | JoAnna Stansby, Dublin CA; Kit Woolsey, Kensington CA              | 4.04 |
| 73/74 | Juan Felipe Cuervo, Bogota Colombia; Robert Ives, Bethesda MD      | 4.04 |
| 75    | Michael Gamble, Shawnigan Lake BC; Radu Nistor, New York NY        | 2.86 |
| 76    | Wayne Ohlrich, Carrboro NC; Jordan Lampe, New York NY              | 2.79 |
| 77    | Aaron Jones, Las Vegas NV; Todd Werby, Tiburon CA                  | 1.12 |
| 78    | Robert Robinson, Severna Park MD; Alexander Sandin, Horn Lake MS   | 0.00 |

### QUALIFIERS IN THE BRUCE 0–6000 LM PAIRS

| 10.0 Tables |                                                                      | Carryover |
|-------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| 1           | Samuel Phillips, Largo FL; Rajasekhar Menon, Lutz FL                 | 22.08     |
| 2           | Lisa Mita, Downingtown PA; Bharat Rao, Berwyn PA                     | 21.54     |
| 3           | Peng Cheng – Xiaoyu Cheng, Saratoga CA                               | 12.65     |
| 4           | Paul Chan – Lily Chan, Columbia MO                                   | 12.07     |
| 5           | Mark Blanchard, Bay Shore NY; Amy Rhodes, New York NY                | 10.18     |
| 6           | Henry Shi – Ping Hu, Naperville IL                                   | 8.62      |
| 7           | Li Zhang, San Jose CA; Jay Wang, San Leandro CA                      | 8.16      |
| 8           | Murat Berk, Potomac MD; Peter van Zijl, Hanover MD                   | 7.39      |
| 9           | Anne Hollingsworth, Walnut Creek CA; Ethan Wood, Dover MA            | 5.87      |
| 10          | Gary Croland, Delray Beach FL; Peter Levathes, Palm Beach Gardens FL | 5.06      |
| 11          | Jim Gaarder, Columbia MD; Jimmy Ritzenberg, Bethesda MD              | 4.39      |
| 12          | Alexander Stille, Bethesda MD; Barbara Devaney, Washington DC        | 4.32      |
| 13          | Jeffrey Schwartz, Fairfax VA; Cynthia Ogden, New York NY             | 4.18      |
| 14          | Barry Dehlin, Dresher PA; Matt Sherman, Rochester NY                 | 3.67      |
| 15          | Jennifer O'Neill, Greenwood Village CO; Denise Klein, Denver CO      | 3.24      |
| 16          | John Boackle Jr., Poway CA; Lamy Agelidis, San Diego CA              | 3.15      |
| 17          | Chantal Dube, Montreal QC; Charles Faille, St.-Constant QC           | 3.12      |
| 18          | Dave Hoffman, Melbourne FL; Michael Heins, Fond du lac WI            | 3.03      |
| 19          | Brian Koblenz, Leavenworth WA; Pete Cowles, Tucson AZ                | 2.49      |
| 20          | Jeff Dater, Dallas TX; Kathryn Aliotta, St. Paul MN                  | 0.00      |

### QUALIFIERS IN THE YOUNG 0–3000 PAIRS

| 10.0 Tables |                                                                                | Carryover |
|-------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| 1           | Manning Rountree, Lyme NH; Mark Webb, Rome GA                                  | 15.72     |
| 2           | Ewan McNay, Glenmont NY; Chris Chung, Palo Alto CA                             | 14.21     |
| 3           | Pradip Gandhi, Hillsborough NJ; Sandy Johnson, Ho-Ho-Kus NJ                    | 12.70     |
| 4           | Peter Sugerman, South Windsor CT; Douglas Deacon, East Hartford CT             | 11.28     |
| 5           | Dan Small – Lloyd Mandell, New York NY                                         | 10.82     |
| 6           | Qing Xia, Short Hills NJ; Xuhua Lin, Edison NJ                                 | 10.70     |
| 7           | Rita Vachani, Lexington MA; Stan Piltch, Plymouth MA                           | 9.98      |
| 8           | Donna Marino, Denver CO; Daniel Lev, New York NY                               | 7.07      |
| 9           | Matthew Bribitzer-Stull – Jason Bribitzer-Stull, Bloomington MN                | 5.27      |
| 10          | Shen Duan, Andover MA; Marin Hirono, New York NY                               | 5.21      |
| 11          | Stephen Silvius, Wilmington DE; Elizabeth Silvius, San Bernardino CA           | 3.98      |
| 12          | Joel Steinberg, Princeton Junction NJ; Robert Goldbloom, Hastings-on-Hudson NY | 3.65      |
| 13          | Clarende Duby – John Prance, Calgary AB                                        | 3.57      |

|    |                                                            |      |
|----|------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| 14 | Mark Throop – Eleanor Throop, Framingham MA                | 2.59 |
| 15 | Jayson Lee – Katherine Lee, Hillsborough CA                | 2.29 |
| 16 | Nancy Marshall, Edgewater NJ; William Sigward, Pelham NY   | 1.82 |
| 17 | Dorie Isaacson, Northbrook IL; Lee Nykaza, Scottsdale AZ   | 0.67 |
| 18 | Stephen Mast – Holli Mast, Stanley NC                      | 0.31 |
| 19 | Melanie Appelbaum, Armonk NY; Gina Davanzo, Eastchester NY | 0.20 |
| 20 | Janet McGlynn – Thomas McGlynn, Catonsville MD             | 0.00 |

### QUALIFIERS IN THE NABC+ OPEN PAIRS

| 65.0 Tables / Based on 116 Tables                                            | Carryover |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| 1 Ron Smith, Glenview IL; Oren Kriegel, Chicago IL                           | 238.67    |
| 2 Jiang Gu, Mountain Lakes NJ; Glenn Robbins, New York NY                    | 233.65    |
| 3 Terry Beckman, Brooklyn Park MN; David Collins, Fridley MN                 | 174.81    |
| 4 Leon Fisher, Clearwater FL; Richard Reitman, Los Gatos CA                  | 168.89    |
| 5 Michael Botwin, Rockville Center NY; Barry Plotkin, Baldwin NY             | 168.69    |
| 6 Alan Yu, Herndon VA; Lixin Zheng, Greenbelt MD                             | 160.18    |
| 7 Guillermo Minutti – C. Valerie Gamio, Rolling Hills Estates CA             | 157.92    |
| 8 Hua Yang – Yan Song, Plano TX                                              | 152.41    |
| 9 Andrew Chen – Charlie Chen, Austin TX                                      | 150.15    |
| 10 Jennifer Richter – Brady Richter, Summit NJ                               | 147.01    |
| 11 Gary Soules, Elk Grove CA; Edward Nagy, Danville CA                       | 144.32    |
| 12 Mark Shaw, Columbia MD; Steve Robinson, Ashburn VA                        | 143.73    |
| 13 Glenn Eisenstein – John Rengstorff, New York NY                           | 141.15    |
| 14 Eric Genheimer, Edmond OK; Zachary Wasserman, Farmington Hills MI         | 140.60    |
| 15 Douglas Doub, Oak Ridge TN; Adam Wildavsky, New York NY                   | 138.44    |
| 16 Mark Itabashi, Newport Beach CA; Laura Brill, White Plains NY             | 136.66    |
| 17 Spencer Jones – Anant Rathi, Denver CO                                    | 136.53    |
| 18 Andrew Gumperz, Berkeley CA; David desJardins, Burlingame CA              | 131.36    |
| 19 Aly El-Selehdar, Pembroke NH; Junko Hemus, Los Angeles CA                 | 125.65    |
| 20 Nikolaj Hammelev, Aarhus Denmark; Arif Janjua, Saratoga CA                | 124.40    |
| 21 Zygmunt Marcinski, Barbados; Michel Lorber, Baie-D'urfe QC                | 123.33    |
| 22 James Breihan, Houston TX; Linda Drake, Georgetown TX                     | 118.26    |
| 23 David Rosenberg, Jackson Heights NY; Andrea Teacher, Waltham MA           | 116.90    |
| 24 Alexander Allen, Annandale NJ; Abe Pineles, Jackson NJ                    | 116.60    |
| 25 Daniel Korbel, Las Vegas NV; William Bailey, Mill Valley CA               | 112.70    |
| 26 Jodi Edmonds, New York NY; Michal Klukowski, Geneva Switzerland           | 110.03    |
| 27 Bronia Jenkins, Memphis TN; Emma Kolesnik, Brooklyn NY                    | 109.00    |
| 28 Richard D'Litzenberger, Leavenworth WA; John Cox, Bayfield CO             | 105.21    |
| 29 Brian Dicker, Morris Plains NJ; Simon Thomson, Summit NJ                  | 104.53    |
| 30 Cecilia Ehrlichman, Ann Arbor MI; Julie Arbit, Milford MI                 | 104.39    |
| 31 Sheng Dou, Brentwood CA; Chin Huang, Foster City CA                       | 103.53    |
| 32 David Bogolub, Deerfield IL; Rick Schoenfield, Westchester IL             | 102.61    |
| 33 David Treitel, Ocala FL; Saul Gross, Miami Beach FL                       | 102.12    |
| 34 Franco Baseggio, New York NY; Ho-Yee So, Taipei City Taiwan               | 101.88    |
| 35 Gail Schargel, New York NY; Irem Ozbay, Cliffside Park NJ                 | 101.71    |
| 36 Ryan Wolpert, Palm Beach Gardens FL; Jenny Wolpert, Palm Beach Gardens FL | 101.15    |
| 37 John Manopoli, Jamaica Plain MA; Robert Coyne, Colonia NJ                 | 98.58     |
| 38 Ton Bakkeren, Oisterwijk Netherlands; Frank Bakkeren, Netherlands         | 98.32     |
| 39 Sylwia McNamara – Michael McNamara, Horace ND                             | 98.04     |
| 40 Frank Feng, Basking Ridge NJ; Jason Ji, Jersey City NJ                    | 96.48     |
| 41 John Mayne – Pamela Mayne, Modesto CA                                     | 96.23     |
| 42 Robert Fendrick, Marietta GA; Emory Whitaker, Macon GA                    | 94.58     |
| 43 Jing Liu, Forest Hills NY; Jian-Jian Wang, Clarksville MD                 | 94.33     |
| 44 James Geist, Olney MD; Clyde Kruskal, Rockville MD                        | 93.99     |
| 45 Daniel Nussbaum, Cambridge MA; Mark Ospeck, Remsen NY                     | 93.67     |
| 46 Vladislav Isporski, Sofia Bulgaria; Ronald Kral, Reston VA                | 90.78     |
| 47/48 Vern Swing, Minneapolis MN; Keith Connolly, St. Paul MN                | 87.55     |
| 47/48 Nancy Molesworth, White Plains NY; Rhoda Prager, Boca Raton FL         | 87.55     |
| 49 Ghassan Menachi, Fabreville QC; Clement Maamarbachi, Montreal QC          | 86.77     |



|     |                                                                        |       |
|-----|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| 50  | Xiaojing Deng – Xiaoming Shen, Richmond BC                             | 85.58 |
| 51  | Stephen Castellino, Castro Valley CA; Aravind Alwan, Hayward CA        | 82.40 |
| 52  | Lawrence Sherman, San Diego CA; Erik Hansson, Helsinki Finland         | 81.60 |
| 53  | Jian Wang, Myrtle Beach SC; Yimei Cao, Aurora ON                       | 79.74 |
| 54  | Neil Montague, Swampscott MA; David Dobrin, Cambridge MA               | 77.09 |
| 55  | Aaron Mohrman – John Krah, Seattle WA                                  | 76.96 |
| 56  | Robert Winters, McMurray PA; Craig Biddle, Pittsburgh PA               | 75.86 |
| 57  | Joe Grue – Gillian Minitier, New York NY                               | 73.66 |
| 58  | William Watson, Los Altos CA; Marius Moldovan, Pointe-Claire QC        | 69.23 |
| 59  | Gregory Gauthier, Mountain View CA; John Stremel, San Jose CA          | 67.32 |
| 60  | Julie Smith, Vancouver BC; Cindy Oishi, West Vancouver BC              | 66.03 |
| 61  | Jim Wakefield, Springfield VA; Annie Schwartz, Fairfax VA              | 64.61 |
| 62  | Stephen Donahue, Riverwoods IL; Craig Allen, Glen Ellyn IL             | 61.19 |
| 63  | Daiva Vitukynaite – Gediminas Poska, Palos Hills IL                    | 60.47 |
| 64  | Zaira Davide, Rho Italy; Renee Cooper, Perth Australia                 | 60.20 |
| 65  | Linda Fried – Todd Hertzberg, Pittsburgh PA                            | 58.11 |
| 66  | Pawel Hanus, Carrollton TX; Ari Sippola, Richardson TX                 | 57.24 |
| 67  | Daniel Boye, Baldwinsville NY; Alex Hudson, Cary NC                    | 56.76 |
| 68  | Lin-Huan Chen – Ding-Hwa Hsieh, Kirksville MO                          | 54.57 |
| 69  | Thomas Mac Cormac – Peter Pigot, Dublin Ireland                        | 52.06 |
| 70  | Vikram Srimurthy, Brookline MA; Daniel Jablonski, Stoneham MA          | 51.54 |
| 71  | Lynn Baker, Austin TX; Kerri Sanborn, Delray Beach FL                  | 51.29 |
| 72  | Mark Perlmutter, San Diego CA; Charles Finch, Las Vegas NV             | 50.90 |
| 73  | Aubrey Fein, Plantation FL; Charlene Predmest, Boynton Beach FL        | 50.81 |
| 74  | Edward Foran, Acworth GA; Nicolas Hammond, Alpharetta GA               | 50.31 |
| 75  | Randy Okubo, St. Paul MN; Nathan Glasser, Somerville MA                | 49.06 |
| 76  | May Sakr, Fort Lauderdale FL; Allison Freeland, Coral Gables FL        | 47.92 |
| 77  | Melissa Baker, West Harrison NY; H. Jay Sloofman, Tarrytown NY         | 46.95 |
| 78  | David Yoon, Bayside NY; Jon Greenspan, The Villages FL                 | 46.61 |
| 79  | Susan Stockham, Birmingham AL; Magnus Olafsson, Huntsville AL          | 45.26 |
| 80  | Jarek Langer, Austin TX; Stuart Litwin, Round Rock TX                  | 45.21 |
| 81  | Ugurcan Suzer, Istanbul Turkey; Suresh Mahajan, Del Mar CA             | 45.02 |
| 82  | Joe Quinn, Sugar Land TX; Ira Hessel, San Antonio TX                   | 42.21 |
| 83  | Yifu Ouyang, Dallas TX; Zhenling Wang, Berkeley CA                     | 40.23 |
| 84  | Eugene Saxe, Briarcliff NY; Timothy Nelsen, Park City UT               | 37.07 |
| 85  | George Bleskachek, Eau Claire WI; Tony Ames, Minnetonka MN             | 35.35 |
| 86  | Thomas Dressing, Buffalo Grove IL; Kendra Bridges, Chicago IL          | 33.99 |
| 87  | Christina Madsen, Denmark; Laura Lipman, Vassalboro ME                 | 31.31 |
| 88  | Michael Boreson, Kalispell MT; Ben Loehnen, New York NY                | 31.29 |
| 89  | Eddie Wold – Arjune Bose, Houston TX                                   | 31.05 |
| 90  | Joseph Byrnes, Long Beach NY; Monique France, New York NY              | 29.57 |
| 91  | Tianze Tan – Jianguo Tan, San Diego CA                                 | 29.03 |
| 92  | Jack Waller, Dana Point CA; Carol Frank, San Diego CA                  | 28.97 |
| 93  | Judy Hummel – Shirley Scott, Colorado Springs CO                       | 28.44 |
| 94  | Christoph Eick, Houston TX; Zheshen Li, Chicago IL                     | 26.40 |
| 95  | Kathryn Kimmerling, Blythewood SC; Saverio Margiotta, Italy            | 26.03 |
| 96  | Jacob Freeman, Jersey City NJ; Sam Dinkin, Austin TX                   | 25.68 |
| 97  | Margot Hennings, Annandale VA; Shelley Burns, North Vancouver BC       | 25.53 |
| 98  | Jim Johnsen, Frisco TX; Margaret Peterson, Larkspur CA                 | 25.37 |
| 99  | Linda Epstein, Delray Beach FL; Bella Ionis-Sorren, Fort Lauderdale FL | 22.61 |
| 100 | Yongkang Huang, Walnut Creek CA; Hong Liu, Frontenac MO                | 22.06 |
| 101 | Daniel Takahashi – Kyungwon Yoo, Las Vegas NV                          | 20.99 |
| 102 | Glenn Chee, Salinas CA; Gina Brown, Soquel CA                          | 20.55 |
| 103 | Christopher Rivera, Jackson Heights NY; Matthew Rudary, Redding CT     | 19.91 |
| 104 | Dennis Clerkin, Bloomington IN; Molly O'Neill, Fort Lauderdale FL      | 18.60 |
| 105 | Sumner Steinfeldt, Washington DC; Kent Hartman, San Diego CA           | 17.93 |
| 106 | David Hemmer, Houghton MI; Saleh Fetouh, Buffalo NY                    | 17.68 |
| 107 | Lapt Chan, Forest Hills NY; Elizabeth Brimberg, New York NY            | 17.31 |
| 108 | Virginia Chediak, Kragero ; Judi Whaling, Houston TX                   | 16.03 |

|     |                                                                  |       |
|-----|------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| 109 | Steve Chen, Austin TX; Danny Feng, Frisco TX                     | 14.45 |
| 110 | Elliot Sternlicht, New York NY; Dilek Yavas, Bursa Turkey        | 14.02 |
| 111 | Peter Peng, North York ON; Andrew Risman, Toronto ON             | 12.32 |
| 112 | Chris Benson, Leroy IL; Ginny Schuett, Lincolnshire IL           | 11.85 |
| 113 | Jean Boettcher – Steven Gaynor, Arden Hills MN                   | 11.79 |
| 114 | Brandon Ge – Kayden Ge, Cupertino CA                             | 11.71 |
| 115 | Donna Johnson, Olathe KS; James Flesher, Topeka KS               | 11.62 |
| 116 | Leonardo Fruscoloni, Brooklyn NY; Mindy Fine-Fleder, New York NY | 10.23 |
| 117 | Jacob Baron, New York NY; Daniel Aldrich, Washington DC          | 9.44  |
| 118 | Tom Trachuk, Walnut Creek CA; Kenneth Titow, Scottsdale AZ       | 8.68  |
| 119 | Katarzyna Dufurat, Wroclaw Poland; Linda Robinson, Arlington MA  | 8.23  |
| 120 | Dave Schouweiler, Bismarck ND; Valentin Kovachev, Las Vegas NV   | 7.77  |
| 121 | William Neumann, Columbia MD; Jeff Hand, New York NY             | 7.54  |
| 122 | Ava Donnellan, Brooklyn NY; Kyra Helmbold, Minneapolis MN        | 4.16  |
| 123 | Joel Datloff, Vancouver WA; Roger McNay, Beaverton OR            | 3.15  |
| 124 | Pete Matthews Jr., Canton MA; Gary Schwartz, Huntsville AL       | 2.84  |
| 125 | Jian-Ping Chen, Yorktown VA; Shihong You, Boyds MD               | 2.61  |
| 126 | Bob Lyon, Fishers IN; Darrow Neves, Indianapolis IN              | 1.93  |
| 127 | John Bishel – Tom Bishel, Columbus OH                            | 1.70  |
| 128 | Yossi Nygate, Rochester NY; Michael Fleisher, Campbell CA        | 0.75  |
| 129 | Anne Wilson, Campbell CA; Ying Liu, Palo Alto CA                 | 0.36  |
| 130 | Kyle Rockoff, Gilbert AZ; Matthew Haag, Henderson NV             | 0.00  |



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# GRAND NATIONAL TEAMS – FINAL PAIRINGS

## GNT CHAMPIONSHIP FLIGHT

16 Tables

District 21: Yanong Han, Milpitas CA; Tien-Chun Yang, San Jose CA; Ethan Liu, Fremont CA; Ming Sheng, Los Altos CA; Jun Shi, Halfmoon Bay CA

vs

District 9: William Pollack – Rozanne Pollack – David Berkowitz, Boca Raton FL; Sam Lev, Aventura FL; Janice Seamon-Molson, Hollywood FL; Gary Cohler, Wellington FL

60.00 3/4 District 8: Tod Moses, St. Louis MO; Will Engel, Freeport IL; Joshua Stark, Grayslake IL; George Jacobs, Geneva IL; Michael Halvorsen, Champaign IL; Tom Oppenheimer, Clayton MO

60.00 3/4 District 23: Walter Schafer Jr., Inglewood CA; Mitch Dunitz, Sherman Oaks CA; Iftikhar Baqai, Irvine CA; Alexander Kolesnik, Los Angeles CA

27.00 5/8 District 6: Steve Robinson, Ashburn VA; Mark Shaw – Michael Gill, Columbia MD; William Cole, Silver Spring MD; Alan Schwartz, Fairfax VA; Ai-Tai Lo, Reston VA

27.00 5/8 District 13: Craig Allen, Glen Ellyn IL; Stephen Donahue, Riverwoods IL; Ron Smith, Glenview IL; Craig Gardner, Streamwood IL; Jeff Schuett, Lincolnshire IL; Oren Kriegel, Chicago IL

27.00 5/8 District 16: Steve Chen – Charlie Chen – Andrew Chen, Austin TX; Danny Feng, Frisco TX

27.00 5/8 District 17: Spencer Jones – Anant Rathi – Brad Moss – Garth Yettick, Denver CO

## GNT FLIGHT A

16 Tables

District 14: Andrew Caranicas – Charles Carroll, St. Paul MN; Paul Gutterman, Palmetto FL; Jackson Wahl, Minneapolis MN; Richard Lawson, Plymouth MN

vs

District 13: Ariel Smid, Huixquilucan Mexico; Rahul Garga – Ben Fisk – Charles Holmes, Chicago IL

42.50 3/4 District 16: Jessie Lee – James Zhan – Ying Peng, Sugar Land TX; Sarah Chen, Austin TX; Mark Pan, Celina TX

42.50 3/4 District 9: AJ Stephani, Daytona Beach FL; Greg Moniz, Debary FL; Per Berg – Lynn Ostergaard, Flagler Beach FL; Stephan Juliusburger, Big Pine Key FL; Jack Brawner Jr, Palm Harbor FL

19.13 5/8 District 21: Bob Sanner – Mukund Thapa, Palo Alto CA; Thomas Stern, San Francisco CA; Scott Benson, Mountain View CA; Floyd McWilliams – Frank Xie, Sunnyvale CA

19.13 5/8 District 11: Stuart Petersen – Robert Bradford, Dayton OH; Darrow Neves – Jeff David, Indianapolis IN; Thomas Koralewski, Avon IN; David Whitesell, Yellow Springs OH

19.13 5/8 District 19: John Krah – Aaron Mohrman – David Taylor – John Aslin, Seattle WA

19.13 5/8 District 17: Kyle Rockoff, Gilbert AZ; Matthew Haag, Henderson NV; Perry Van Hook, Surprise AZ; Ronald Vickery, Oro Valley AZ

## GNT FLIGHT B

16 Tables

District 13: Ryan Daniels, Vernon Hills IL; Mark Pinkowski – Nic Hristea – James Abbott, Chicago IL

vs

District 24: Maya Jonas-Silver – Jack Latta, Brooklyn NY; Andrew Jeanguenat – Kenneth Mandel, New York NY

37.50 3/4 District 1: Simon-Pierre Goulet – Ashot Harutyunyan – Shih-Chieh Fuh, Montreal QC; Frederic Belanger, Verdun QC

37.50 3/4 District 20: Alan Kosansky, Kailua HI; Kevin Marnell, Milwaukee OR; Alex Clapp, Kihei HI; Jack Patnode, Kula HI

16.88 5/8 District 6: Alan Munro, Vienna VA; Colin Schloss – Jichong Chai, Falls Church VA; Haoyi You, Berwyn Heights MD

16.88 5/8 District 7: Diane Henson – Larry Henson, Chapel Hill NC; Gil Vinzani – Robert Dunas – Vladimir Stemkovski – Tatyana Stemkovski, Raleigh NC

16.88 5/8 District 8: Peter Ashbrook, Urbana IL; Lisa Bievenue – Anthony Curtis – Kyle Blocher – Lee Blocher, Champaign IL

16.88 5/8 District 16: Lysa Nguyen – Jarek Langer, Austin TX; Stuart Litwin, Round Rock TX; Benjamin Klauder, Houston TX

## GNT FLIGHT C

16 Tables

District 14: Ross Anderson, Woodbury MN; Linus Bendel-Stenzel, Richfield MN; Mark Feld, Bondurant IA; Thomas Lee, St. Paul MN

vs

District 24: David Long – Vincent Zheng – Aaron Igra, New York NY; Sam Bellows, Brooklyn NY

25.00 3/4 District 4: Seulky McInneshin, Elkins Park PA; Devika Chakraborty, Bryn Mawr PA; Yaacov Garini, Narberth PA; Lou Primavera, Norristown PA

25.00 3/4 District 21: Milind Girkar, Sunnyvale CA; Shailesh Sampat, San Jose CA; Maggie Zhao, Palo Alto CA; Henry Zhang, Saratoga CA

11.25 5/8 District 24: Emily Francis – Henry Zhang – Raymond Ochoa – David Murray, San Francisco CA

11.25 5/8 District 6: Jack Coleman, Forest VA; Anthony Wang, Vienna VA; Luke Brezak, Arlington VA; Hamilton Sawczuk, Baltimore MD

11.25 5/8 District 2: Denys Skalskyi – Louis Daigneault, Mississauga ON; Dena Jones – Brian Jones, Beamsville ON

11.25 5/8 District 9: Sean Chen – Sue Su, Poinciana FL; Maolong Cai – Huimin Shen, Kissimmee FL

## Robot Redux – part 2

Turkey's Orhan Topal won the 0–3000 division of the Summer 2026 NABC Robot Individual. This deal helped him get to the winner's circle:

Dlr: East      ♠ K J 8  
 Vul: N–S      ♥ A Q J 9 4  
                  ♦ 8 7  
                  ♣ K 8 2

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

♠ A 7 3  
 ♥ K 10  
 ♦ K J 10 9 6  
 ♣ Q J 3

| West | North             | East     | South |
|------|-------------------|----------|-------|
|      |                   | Pass     | 1NT   |
| Pass | 2♦ <sup>(1)</sup> | Pass     | 2♥    |
| Pass | 3NT               | All Pass |       |

(1) Hearts

Topal (South) made the reasonable decision to upgrade his collection to the 1NT range, and the notrump game was swiftly reached.

West led the ♦2 to East's ace, and the diamond return went to the jack and queen. When West continued with a third round of the suit, however, Topal took full advantage. After winning the diamond, declarer ran hearts, discarding a low spade and the ♣Q 3 from hand. East released two low spades and two low clubs. Declarer then crossed to the ♠A and finished running the diamonds. This was the position as the last diamond was played:

♠ K J  
 ♥ —  
 ♦ —  
 ♣ K

♠ 9      ♠ Q 6  
 ♥ —      ♥ —  
 ♦ —      ♦ —  
 ♣ 9 6      ♣ A

♠ 7  
 ♥ —  
 ♦ 9  
 ♣ J

On the ♦9, clubs were pitched from West and dummy, but East had no safe discard. Topal made two overtricks to score 94.1% on the board.

C.J. Jameson of Menlo Park CA won the Gold Rush (0–750) Robot Individual last weekend, posting a three-day average of 68.98% in the field of 956 players. Jameson shared this board where he scored 96% of the matchpoints:

Dlr: South      ♠ 10 9 6 5 4  
 Vul: E–W      ♥ J 4 3  
                  ♦ A  
                  ♣ J 10 9 3

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

♠ A K Q 8  
 ♥ A 9 5  
 ♦ 9 8  
 ♣ Q 6 5 2

| West     | North | East | South |
|----------|-------|------|-------|
|          |       |      | 1NT   |
| Pass     | 2♥    | Pass | 2♠    |
| Pass     | Pass  | 3♦   | 3♠    |
| 4♦       | Pass  | Pass | 4♠    |
| All Pass |       |      |       |

Jameson (South) said, "I tend to super-accept aggressively against bots. This is a picture-perfect super-accept, but I figured at these colors, the bots wouldn't intervene. Alas! When they competed to the cold(!) 4♦, I was stuck and decided to go for game."

The opening lead was ♦2 (yes, an unlikely club lead beats the contract) and to take advantage of the heart position, declarer won the ♦A in dummy, drew two top trumps, ruffed the remaining diamond, drew the last trump and exited in clubs. The defense took the ♣K and the ♣A, but after a third round of the suit, won by South, a low heart endplayed West. Making four.

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**TOM & SUE GRUE SATURDAY TOP-FLIGHT PAIRS**

11.0 Tables / Based on 75 Tables

|       | A   | X |                                                          |        |
|-------|-----|---|----------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| 38.19 | 1   | 1 | Brenda Pugsley – Paul Pugsley, Carson City NV            | 56.39% |
| 28.64 | 2   | 2 | Thomas Koralewski, Avon IN; Stuart Petersen, Dayton OH   | 55.74% |
| 18.80 | 3/4 | 3 | Diana Blithe – Gary Gilbert, Silver Spring MD            | 54.26% |
| 18.80 | 3/4 |   | Merle Stetser, Honolulu HI; Craig Gardner, Streamwood IL | 54.26% |
| 12.73 | 5   |   | Anthony Wang, Vienna VA; Muh-Sha Crawford, Hampton VA    | 53.89% |
| 10.91 | 6   |   | Barbara Seagram – Alex Kornel, Toronto ON                | 53.52% |
| 9.67  |     | 4 | Warren Nelson, Cloquet MN; Clyde Johnson, Duluth MN      | 53.15% |
| 7.64  |     | 5 | Eli Jolley, Auburn AL; Judith McNutt, Pittsfield MA      | 52.87% |

**SATURDAY MID-FLIGHT PAIRS**

24.0 Tables / Based on 64 Tables

|       | B  | C |                                                                   |        |
|-------|----|---|-------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| 28.90 | 1  |   | Chih-Kuang Lee, Houston TX; Kas Rangan, Spring TX                 | 61.27% |
| 21.68 | 2  | 1 | Harry Eaglesham – Lorraine Eaglesham, Unionville ON               | 60.06% |
| 16.26 | 3  |   | David McDonald, Baton Rouge LA; Matti Hietalahti, Belle Chasse LA | 58.57% |
| 12.19 | 4  |   | Roland Miller, Bowdoin ME; Stephen Kolkhorst, Portland ME         | 57.73% |
| 9.63  | 5  |   | Brenda Hatton, San Jose CA; Jacqueline Zayac, Lafayette CA        | 56.96% |
| 8.26  | 6  |   | Michael Hartnett – Nancy Ferguson, Bloomington IN                 | 56.64% |
| 7.23  | 7  |   | Shazia Makhdumi, San Francisco CA; Bonnie Macbride, Kensington CA | 55.15% |
| 6.42  | 8  |   | Fiona Freeseaman, Fort Collins CO; Karie Willyerd, Windsor CO     | 55.03% |
| 5.78  | 9  |   | Mark Ambrose – Beth Dlutowski, Louisville KY                      | 54.79% |
| 5.25  | 10 |   | Kevin Kacmarynski, Monmouth OR; Henri J. Jansen, Corvallis OR     | 54.55% |
| 4.82  | 11 |   | Robert Roediger – Matthew Belau, Rochester MN                     | 53.78% |
| 4.45  | 12 |   | Thomas Knier, Burnsville MN; Daniel McIntyre, St. Paul MN         | 53.54% |
| 4.13  | 13 |   | Keith Hafen, Gainesville VA; William Brewer, West Chester OH      | 53.22% |
| 6.49  |    | 2 | David Murray – Raymond Ochoa, San Francisco CA                    | 52.58% |

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|      |     |                                                              |        |
|------|-----|--------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| 4.87 | 3   | Michael Wilson, Minneapolis MN; James Peterson, Edina MN     | 52.01% |
| 3.65 | 4   | Sarah Thesenvitz – Greg Thesenvitz, Black Diamond WA         | 51.61% |
| 2.88 | 5   | Kenneth Olson – Karen Olson, Detroit Lakes MN                | 51.53% |
| 2.32 | 6/7 | Venkatesh Seshappa, St. Cloud FL; Gretchen Dorr, Sarasota FL | 51.49% |
| 2.32 | 6/7 | Gregory Smith, Long Grove IL; Gary Kamin, Sun Prairie WI     | 51.49% |

**MIGNON NEARMYER MEMORIAL SATURDAY GOLD RUSH PAIRS**

26.0 Tables / Based on 27 Tables

|      | A   | B  | C |                                                                 |        |
|------|-----|----|---|-----------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| 9.71 | 1   | 1  |   | Cecelia Roudiez, Annapolis MD; Jim Hexter, Jamaica Plain MA     | 61.87% |
| 7.28 | 2   | 2  |   | Rick Snyder, Bixby OK; Joe Parsons, Tulsa OK                    | 59.33% |
| 5.46 | 3   | 3  | 1 | Henry Zhang, San Francisco CA; Jack Coleman, Forest VA          | 58.87% |
| 4.10 | 4   | 4  |   | Kathryn Lenz, Minneapolis MN; Mary Ryder Wright, Loudonville NY | 58.66% |
| 3.24 | 5   | 5  |   | Rebecca Berg, Fargo ND; Lois Leistiko, Highlands Ranch CO       | 58.47% |
| 3.51 | 6   | 6  | 2 | Lori McCormick – Donald McCormick, Rio Verde AZ                 | 56.34% |
| 2.43 | 7   |    |   | Linda Schubert – Lorelee Berg, Dallas TX                        | 56.17% |
| 2.05 | 8/9 | 7  |   | Andrew Roe, St. Paul MN; Lars Roe, Minneapolis MN               | 56.02% |
| 2.05 | 8/9 |    |   | Steven Acker – Lynda Bishop, Portland OR                        | 56.02% |
| 2.90 | 10  | 8  | 3 | Ethan Lynch – John Lynch, Blaine MN                             | 55.83% |
| 1.62 | 11  | 9  |   | Jill Wroblewski, Minneapolis MN; Norrie Thomas, Plymouth MN     | 55.27% |
| 1.49 | 12  |    |   | Daniel Stone, Sheridan IN; Merris Young, Anderson IN            | 55.22% |
| 1.39 | 13  |    |   | Bruce Tepper – Earl Rivers, Cincinnati OH                       | 54.61% |
| 1.45 | 14  |    |   | Patrick Spott, The Villages FL; Tim Blackburn, Duluth MN        | 54.22% |
| 1.97 |     | 10 | 4 | Michael Macko – Travis Emick, San Francisco CA                  | 53.76% |
| 1.32 |     | 11 |   | Gerald Flom – Rebecca Wooden, St. Paul MN                       | 53.57% |
| 1.56 |     |    | 5 | Paul Koontz, Portola Valley CA; Vivek Paul, Los Altos Hills CA  | 53.38% |
| 2.06 |     |    | 6 | Lars Christensen – Maclore Christensen, St. Paul MN             | 53.15% |

**MINNEAPOLIS GRAND SLAM CLUB FRIDAY EVENING SIDE GAME**

10.0 Tables

|      | A | B | C |                                                                |        |
|------|---|---|---|----------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| 4.33 | 1 |   |   | Louis Trautwein III – Betsy Weiss, Naples FL                   | 74.11% |
| 3.25 | 2 |   |   | Michael Botwin, Rockville Center NY; Barry Plotkin, Baldwin NY | 60.12% |
| 3.25 | 3 | 1 |   | Thomas Zelnio, Hampton IL; Margaret Wolf, Clinton IA           | 54.17% |
| 2.44 | 4 | 2 | 1 | Glen Okui, Memphis TN; Cathy Duncan, Cordova TN                | 53.57% |
| 1.37 | 5 |   |   | Daniel Finn, Simsbury CT; Thomas Gerchman, Avon CT             | 53.27% |
| 1.34 | 6 |   |   | Thomas Cox, Mount Juliet TN; Carmon Lee Woodley, Titusville FL | 52.68% |
| 1.83 |   | 3 | 2 | Zeyu Wang, Evanston IL; Zheshen Li, Chicago IL                 | 50.00% |
| 1.37 |   | 4 |   | Hongbo Li, Baltimore MD; Richmond Yeung, Chicago IL            | 48.81% |

**DENNIS CARMAN SATURDAY MORNING SIDE GAME**

9.5 Tables

|      | A | B | C |                                                                 |        |
|------|---|---|---|-----------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| 4.33 | 1 | 1 |   | Deborah Crisfield, Philadelphia PA; Jeffrey Rohrbeck, Berwyn PA | 65.42% |
| 3.25 | 2 |   |   | Patty Tucker, Atlanta GA; Kristen Onsgard, Dallas TX            | 56.48% |
| 2.60 | 3 | 2 |   | Lisa Brock – Craig Mills, Kirkland WA                           | 56.17% |
| 1.83 | 4 |   |   | Linda Purrington – Barry Purrington, Eagan MN                   | 54.72% |
| 2.28 | 5 | 3 | 1 | Valerie Kazhdan, Fort Lee NJ; Michael Contente, New City NY     | 53.85% |
| 1.17 | 6 |   |   | Joseph Barrett, Billings MT; Tim Barrett, Blaine MN             | 52.39% |
| 1.46 |   | 4 |   | Karen Eveland, Lewiston ID; Christina Kelton, Middleton WI      | 51.25% |
| 1.71 |   |   | 2 | Richmond Yeung, Chicago IL; Zeyu Wang, Evanston IL              | 51.11% |

**ST. CLOUD DBC SATURDAY MORNING 299ER PAIRS**

10.0 Tables

|      | A | B | C |                                                                |        |
|------|---|---|---|----------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| 3.00 | 1 |   |   | Rhonda Stein, Minnetonka MN; Betsy Michel, Minneapolis MN      | 63.19% |
| 2.27 | 2 | 1 |   | Lori Schretzman, Highland Park IL; Deirdre Brekke, Chicago IL  | 61.34% |
| 1.69 | 3 |   |   | William Kessel – Sarah Kessel, Bedford MA                      | 56.02% |
| 1.70 | 4 | 2 |   | Mark Huseth, St. Cloud MN; Brian-Paul Crowder, Little Falls MN | 55.79% |

|      |   |   |   |                                                                        |        |
|------|---|---|---|------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| 1.52 | 5 | 3 | 1 | Michael Margulies, Minneapolis MN; David McCaffrey, White Bear Lake MN | 55.56% |
| 0.71 | 6 |   |   | Lynn Kelzenberg – Joan Sand, St. Cloud MN                              | 52.08% |
| 1.14 |   | 4 | 2 | Navin Jaipuriyar, Blaine MN; Karl Knight, South St. Paul MN            | 51.39% |
| 0.72 |   | 5 |   | Ron Attreau – Tad Andracki, Chicago IL                                 | 50.69% |

**SATURDAY BRIDGE PLUS**

6.0 Tables

|      | A   | B   | C |                                                                     |        |
|------|-----|-----|---|---------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| 1.71 | 1   | 1   | 1 | Katherine Vaaler – Benjamin Vaaler, Minneapolis MN                  | 75.83% |
| 1.12 | 2/3 | 2/3 |   | Ping Wen – James Eby, Cupertino CA                                  | 67.50% |
| 1.12 | 2/3 | 2/3 | 2 | Jerry Davis – Fran Davis, Minneapolis MN                            | 67.50% |
| 0.72 | 4   | 4   |   | Kelly Heuschkel, Cupertino CA; Sandy Nakata, CA                     | 52.50% |
| 0.80 |     |     | 3 | Sarah Armstrong, Mendota Heights MN; Will Durley, Canyon Country CA | 50.00% |

**1ST SATURDAY AFTERNOON SIDE GAME**

13.5 Tables

|      | A | B | C |                                                               |        |
|------|---|---|---|---------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| 5.20 | 1 |   |   | Martha Katz, Burr Ridge IL; Lynne Schaefer, Ellicott City MD  | 61.61% |
| 3.90 | 2 |   |   | Jerry Helms, Charlotte NC; Betty Sue el Gammal, Hoover AL     | 61.50% |
| 2.93 | 3 |   |   | Magnus Weiman, Lynchburg VA; Rammohan Sarangan, Arlington VA  | 61.37% |
| 2.80 | 4 |   |   | Richard Gabriel – Ellen Gabriel, Naples FL                    | 58.23% |
| 3.90 | 5 | 1 | 1 | Quentin Liang, Long Island City NY; Jan Borowski, New York NY | 57.91% |
| 2.93 | 6 | 2 | 2 | Richmond Yeung, Chicago IL; Alex Han, Katy TX                 | 56.89% |
| 2.19 |   | 3 | 3 | Julie Zimmerman – Steven Zimmerman, Palm Coast FL             | 54.84% |
| 1.65 |   | 4 |   | Jeffrey Boitnott, Columbia MD; Owen Barnett, McLean VA        | 54.64% |
| 1.23 |   | 5 |   | Richard Grier, Lakewood CO; Roger Pitman, West Newbury MA     | 53.60% |

**ST. CLOUD DBC SATURDAY AFTERNOON 299ER PAIRS**

11.5 Tables

|      | A | B | C |                                                                      |        |
|------|---|---|---|----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| 3.30 | 1 |   |   | Marion Gagnon – Scott Gagnon, Racine WI                              | 66.12% |
| 2.48 | 2 | 1 |   | Mark Huseth, St. Cloud MN; Brian-Paul Crowder, Little Falls MN       | 65.97% |
| 1.86 | 3 | 2 | 1 | Michael Strom, Minneapolis MN; Matthew Yelle, Edina MN               | 59.48% |
| 1.39 | 4 | 3 |   | Patricia Grasso – Nancy Olt, Bedford MA                              | 57.75% |
| 1.04 | 5 |   |   | Ann Ekstrum, Golden Valley MN; Sandra Donovan, St. Paul MN           | 57.25% |
| 0.78 | 6 |   |   | Lynn Kelzenberg – Joan Sand, St. Cloud MN                            | 56.31% |
| 1.31 |   | 4 | 2 | Navin Jaipuriyar, Blaine MN; Karl Knight, South St. Paul MN          | 52.15% |
| 0.76 |   | 5 |   | Chris Terajewicz, Ponte Vedra FL; Gretchen Bartzen, San Francisco CA | 52.06% |
| 0.98 |   |   | 3 | Ping Wen – James Eby, Cupertino CA                                   | 50.56% |
| 0.74 |   |   | 4 | Bradford Cottel, Aptos CA; Edward Doyle, Columbia MO                 | 50.25% |



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44.25 Tables / Based on 12 Tables

|      |     |                                   |         |
|------|-----|-----------------------------------|---------|
| 7.70 | 1/2 | Betty Sue el Gammal, Hoover AL    | 122.51% |
| 7.70 | 1/2 | Jerry Helms, Charlotte NC         | 122.51% |
| 5.77 | 3/4 | Larry Johnson, Brooklyn Center MN | 117.44% |
| 5.77 | 3/4 | Jim Skonnord, St. Paul MN         | 117.44% |
| 3.81 | 5   | Kristen Onsgard, Dallas TX        | 110.18% |
| 4.64 | 6   | Richmond Yeung, Chicago IL        | 108.00% |

**JONATHAN COHEN MEMORIAL SATURDAY TOP-FLIGHT SWISS TEAMS**

24 Tables / Based on 66 Tables

|       | A | X | Y   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |        |
|-------|---|---|-----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| 29.22 | 1 |   |     | Alan Schwartz, Fairfax VA; William Cole, Silver Spring MD;<br>Michael Gill, Columbia MD; Ai-Tai Lo, Reston VA                                                                                                   | 104.00 |
| 21.92 | 2 |   |     | Rob Helle, Mauritius; Bob Drijver, Aalsmeer Netherlands; Cornelis van Prooijen,<br>Nieuw Vennep Netherlands; Ed Hoogenkamp, Ourense Spain;<br>Bauke Muller, Zwaag Netherlands; Simon de Wijs, Doorn Netherlands | 80.00  |
| 16.44 | 3 |   |     | Parag Saxena, Rye NY; Migry Zur Campanile, New York NY; Veri Kiljan –<br>Bart Nab, Tilburg Netherlands                                                                                                          | 76.00  |
| 12.33 | 4 |   |     | Lynne Castoldi, Minnetonka MN; Christian Lahrmann, Virum Denmark;<br>Nicolai Heiberg-Evenstad, Finnsnes Norway; Mathias Bruun, Hellerup Denmark                                                                 | 75.00  |
| 16.44 | 5 | 1 | 1   | Murat Alaybeyi, Saratoga CA; Ugur Ergun, Ankara Turkey;<br>Cagliyan Kurdak, Ann Arbor MI; Gokhan Yilmaz, Istanbul Turkey                                                                                        | 72.00  |
| 12.33 | 6 | 2 | 2   | Tengyun Tony Cao, Troy MI; James Yi, West Bloomfield MI;<br>Xiaoping Wu, Bloomfield Hills MI; Ying Yuan, Kalamazoo MI                                                                                           | 71.00  |
| 9.25  |   | 3 |     | Fran Tewkesbury, Greensboro NC; Martin Causley, Chapel Hill NC;<br>Greg Leblanc, Charlotte NC; Andy Hsiao, Marvin NC                                                                                            | 66.00  |
| 6.94  |   | 4 |     | Joseph Pospis, Saddle Brook NJ; Lynn Mackall, Wanaque NJ;<br>Dianne Zimmerman – David Zapatka, Chandler AZ                                                                                                      | 64.00  |
| 5.48  |   | 5 |     | Anant Rege, Ottawa ON; Rajendra Gokhale, Seattle WA; Arvind Ranasaria,<br>Redmond WA; Satya Rami, Morganville NJ                                                                                                | 63.00  |
| 6.22  |   |   | 3   | Vladimir Stemkovski – Tatyana Stemkovski, Raleigh NC;<br>Larry Henson – Diane Henson, Chapel Hill NC                                                                                                            | 56.00  |
| 4.17  |   |   | 4/5 | Rebecca Brown, Lakeway TX; Joseph Shull, New Haven IN;<br>Lauri Laufman – James Woodward, Houston TX                                                                                                            | 52.00  |
| 4.17  |   |   | 4/5 | Sherrie Goodman – Elizabeth Sewell, New Orleans LA;<br>Vicki Willis, Houma LA; Kandi Osborne, Phoenix AZ                                                                                                        | 52.00  |





**MIKE LIDDY MEMORIAL SATURDAY 0-4000 BRACKETED ROUND ROBIN TEAMS BKT 1**

9 Tables

|       |     |                                                                                                                            |        |
|-------|-----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| 15.32 | 1   | Alan Munro, Vienna VA; Colin Schloss – Jichong Chai, Falls Church VA;<br>Haoyi You, Berwyn Heights MD                      | 125.00 |
| 10.06 | 2/3 | Harold Nordstrom, Reading MA; Susan Lincoln, Boxford MA; Dorel Livescu, Marlboro NJ;<br>Julie Anderson, Tinton Falls NJ    | 90.00  |
| 10.06 | 2/3 | Morris Jones, Monrovia CA; Dawn Lee, Los Angeles CA; Lisa Walker, La Canada Flintridge CA;<br>Sarah Deschenes, Altadena CA | 90.00  |
| 6.46  | 4   | Barbara Goldman – Julie McLaughlin – Barbara Fleming, Atlanta GA; Roger Roemmich, Roswell GA                               | 84.00  |

**MIKE LIDDY MEMORIAL SATURDAY 0-4000 BRACKETED ROUND ROBIN TEAMS BKT 2**

9 Tables

|       |     |                                                                                                                     |        |
|-------|-----|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| 13.02 | 1   | James Bloedorn, La Crosse WI; Jamie Carroll, Naples FL; Gustavo Saravia, Oak Park IL;<br>Mariee Walton, Raleigh NC  | 113.00 |
| 9.77  | 2   | Kevin Robertson – Sharon Robertson – Barbara Greenspan, Beachwood OH;<br>Jay Silberberg, Denver CO                  | 97.00  |
| 6.41  | 3/4 | Gunnar Niemi, Emeryville CA; Arjun Singh, Lakewood CO; Susan Domsalla –<br>Robert Domsalla, Tomball TX              | 93.00  |
| 6.41  | 3/4 | Jeffrey Walker, Eagan MN; Rolf Hubmayr, Minneapolis MN; Marc Ashton,<br>Excelsior MN; Louis Tesler, Eden Prairie MN | 93.00  |

**MIKE LIDDY MEMORIAL SATURDAY 0-4000 BRACKETED ROUND ROBIN TEAMS BKT 3**

7 Tables

|       |   |                                                                                                                             |       |
|-------|---|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| 10.44 | 1 | William Taylor, Rancho Palos Ver CA; Diane Elliott, Torrance CA; Caryn Mason,<br>San Dimas CA; Robert Jennings, Pasadena CA | 83.00 |
| 7.83  | 2 | Heather Harmeyer – Aaron Krieser, Foristell MO; Linda Cronkleton,<br>Noblesville IN; John Jordan, Fishers IN                | 75.00 |
| 5.87  | 3 | Thad Smith – Mindy Smith, Boulder CO; Sam Shah – Jo Shah, Irving TX                                                         | 69.00 |

**MIKE LIDDY MEMORIAL SATURDAY 0-4000 BRACKETED ROUND ROBIN TEAMS BKT 4**

9 Tables

|      |   |                                                                                                         |        |
|------|---|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| 9.79 | 1 | Muriel Murphy – Laurel Ludden, Bluffton SC; Cathie Bonnell, Maricopa AZ;<br>Damian Birstihl, Gilbert AZ | 100.00 |
| 7.34 | 2 | Susan Miguel – Jonathan Klinker – David Barrows, Tiverton RI; Bob Bringhurst, Middletown RI             | 91.00  |
| 5.51 | 3 | Stephen Graham, Midland MI; Patricia McKinley, Telluride CO; Rose Gong –<br>Jessica Yu, Irvine CA       | 86.00  |
| 4.13 | 4 | Al LaTendresse – Robert Marx – Harold Fellerman, Maple Grove MN; David Ochs, Pharr TX                   | 82.00  |

**MIKE LIDDY MEMORIAL SATURDAY 0-4000 BRACKETED ROUND ROBIN TEAMS BKT 5**

9 Tables

|      |   |                                                                                                                    |        |
|------|---|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| 7.48 | 1 | Mary Bonneau – William Bonneau, Omaha NE; Amy Dutton, Mendota Heights MN;<br>Les Hassler, Shoreview MN             | 110.00 |
| 5.61 | 2 | Jeffrey Imber, Bolton ON; Catherine Peters – Kay Watson, Atlanta GA;<br>Sheila Coyle, Roswell GA                   | 100.00 |
| 4.21 | 3 | Monty Martin, Maplewood MN; Phillip Williams, Mahtomedi MN; Joseph Carter, Eagan MN;<br>John Pelegano, St. Paul MN | 99.00  |
| 3.16 | 4 | Brian Jones – Dena Jones, Beamsville ON; Denys Skalskyi – Louis Daigneault, Mississauga ON                         | 92.00  |

**MIKE LIDDY MEMORIAL SATURDAY 0-4000 BRACKETED ROUND ROBIN TEAMS BKT 6**

9 Tables

|      |   |                                                                                                                   |        |
|------|---|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| 6.76 | 1 | Leslie Heimbach, Johnston IA; Susan Hamel – Amar Nath – Bill Wallace, Des Moines IA                               | 108.00 |
| 5.07 | 2 | Jake Olson – Lisa Olson, Rice MN; Ken Weems, Crofton MD; Timothy Bezanson, Vienna VA                              | 102.00 |
| 3.80 | 3 | Diane Sklar, Tiburon CA; Tess Offord, San Anselmo CA; Georgianna Farren –<br>John Loftus, Larkspur CA             | 98.00  |
| 2.85 | 4 | Rhonda Rossman, Cold Spring MN; David Hanson, Mora MN; Connie Ginter,<br>Becker MN; Bruce Graham, Sneads Ferry NC | 96.00  |

## Minneapolis Kibitzing from Afar: Vugraph & Bridgecasts

By Jan Martel

### Vugraph

We have a very complete schedule of vugraph from the 2026 Summer NABC in Minneapolis. We'll be covering the Grand National Team Championship Flight semifinal round on Saturday, July 11, and the final on Sunday, July 12.

From Monday, July 13, until Sunday, July 19, we'll be covering the Spingold. And just in case this isn't enough, on Friday, July 17, we'll also cover the College Bridge Bowl final in the afternoon.

### Kibitz on RealBridge

Vugraph will be shown on RealBridge, which provides reliable delayed broadcasts, as well as a wealth of information for those of you who want to see what happened at other vugraph tables, and a bunch of statistics. Operators can now chat to spectators to give you inside information on what is happening at the table, e.g., if the director has been called, if a player is really thinking this long, etc. Operator chat will appear as each board is played. You can't respond or ask the operators questions, as by the time you see something on the kibitz site, the operator will be following a future board.

To kibitz on RealBridge, go to

[kibitz.realbridge.online/](http://kibitz.realbridge.online/) and click

on the event you want to watch.

RealBridge has helpful information for spectators to help you find what you're interested in.

### Schedule

- Saturday–Sunday, July 11–12: GNT Championship Flight. Second half of the semifinal on Saturday and all of the final on Sunday. Minneapolis is on Central Time, which is five hours behind UTC/GMT. Play is at 9:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. each day. Vugraph will have a 30-minute delay, so Saturday's show will start at 4 p.m. and Sunday's will start at 10 a.m. and at 4 p.m. CT.
- Monday–Sunday, July 13–19: We will cover the Spingold from start to finish. On Monday and Tuesday, when there will be too many teams for screens, the vugraph morning session will start at 10:30 a.m. and the afternoon session at 4 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday, the morning session will start at 10 a.m. and the afternoon session at 4 p.m.
- Friday, July 17: At 3:30 p.m., we will cover the final of the Collegiate Bridge Bowl Championship.

### Bridgecasts

Rob Barrington and friends will be hosting live commentary on the ACBL YouTube channel. The current plan is as follows:

- Sunday, July 12: GNT Championship Flight final featuring full coverage of the match at 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.
- Monday–Friday, July 13–17: Spingold rounds of 128, 64, 32, 16, and 8. A summary of the first half of play each day and full live coverage of the second half, starting at 4 p.m. CT each day.
- Saturday–Sunday, July 18–19: Spingold semifinal & final matches. Full-day coverage of the play, starting at 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. CT each day.



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## It's BridgeBattle!



*At the Convention Center on Saturday, several groups of new players tried out the League's intro-to-bridge game, BridgeBattle. Guiding them is ACBL's Marketing Manager Stephanie Threlkeld (black shirt).*

*The game is simple: There is no bidding, and the dealer is tasked with taking seven tricks at notrump. Dealer's left-hand opponent leads whatever they want, and the next player displays their hand as dummy. The first side to seven tricks wins*

## Milestone

**Jack Brawer** of Palm Harbor FL became a Diamond Life Master, crossing the 5000-point threshold, on Saturday. Brawer was 7 points short when he came to Minneapolis as a member of District 9's Flight A team in the Grand National Teams, which reached the semifinals. Brawer played with Stephan Juliusburger, AJ Stephani, Greg Moniz, Per Berg and Lynn Ostergaard.



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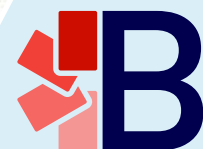
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## Entry fees

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

1) ConferenceDirect-reserved registered guests of the host hotel; 2) other registered guests/roommates added through the EE form; and 3) residents of the host district who purchase entries through Entry Express.

Players must be full ACBL members whose dues are current in order to compete in any Premier NABC+, NABC+ or NABC events. Except in the few events where guest members are expressly permitted, players must also be full ACBL members and up-to-date on dues to play in regional events. Guest members are allowed only in events with an upper masterpoint limit of 20 and in the 299er events today (Friday, July 10).

Premier NABC+ events are the Grand National Teams (Championship Flight), von Zedtwitz Life Master Pairs, Spingold Knockout Teams and the Roth Open Swiss Teams. The undiscounted entry fees for these contests are \$53 per player per session. For team events, this means \$212 per team per session for four-person teams, \$265 per team per session for five-person teams and \$318 per team per session for six-person teams.

NABC+ events are the NABC+ Open Pairs, Wagar Women's Pairs, Truscott/USPC Senior Swiss Teams, Wernher Open Pairs, Freeman Mixed Board-A-Match Teams and the Oshlag Fast Pairs. The undiscounted entry fees for these contests are \$48 per person per session. For team events, this means \$192 per team per session for four-person teams, \$240 per team per session for five-person teams and \$288 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 event are the Grand National Teams (Flights A, B & C), the Bruce LM-6000 Pairs, the Young 0-3000 Pairs, the 0-6000 and 0-3000 Mini-Spingold Knockouts, the NABC 0-10,000 Pairs, the 0-10,000 Mixed Swiss Teams and the Bean Red Ribbon Pairs. The undiscounted entry fee for these events 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. (All flights of the GNT have no fee the first two days of the contest.)

Regional events are \$32 per player per session. For team events of one or two sessions, the entry fee is \$128 per session. Evening events are \$22 per session.

Events with a masterpoint limit of 500 or lower are \$28 per player per session.

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## Entry Express and purchase options

All monetary transactions are cashless, including entries for NABC and regional games. All major debit/credit cards are accepted wherever entries are sold.

Advance entries for events are available through the ACBL's online Entry Express system. It is necessary for eligible players to use this system in order to receive the host discount of \$10 per session for being a guest of the host hotel or resident of the host district.

To use Entry Express, go to [acbl.org/ee](http://acbl.org/ee) or scan the QR code at right. This may be done until 8 a.m. the day the event begins and subsequent



days. For continuing events, purchase each day through Entry Express to continue receiving the discount.

Hotel guests are assigned two discount coupons per night of stay plus one (e.g., *six nights gets 14 coupons*). If you are staying at the hotel but are not on the discount list, go to [acbl.org/minneapolisEEform](http://acbl.org/minneapolisEEform) to be added. Missing discounts are not refunded. See the FAQ at [acbl.org/ee](http://acbl.org/ee) for more information. Only hotel

guests who made their reservations through ConferenceDirect are automatically assigned discount coupons.

For help with Entry Express, visit the ACBL Help Desk located on either the ground level lobby or lower level in Room L100F.

Entries may also be purchased at the event location in the hour before the start time.

Buying early is especially recommended for NABC+ pairs events. All entries must be purchased at least 15 minutes before game time. Pairs who expect to be seeded should buy at least 30 minutes in advance.



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## Tomorrow's Bridge Events

### Monday, July 13 Goodwill Day / Twin City Group Day 10 am

| Event                                                                                                             | Session | Sold                        | Entry/player/session* |                          |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
|                                                                                                                   |         |                             | Members with discount | Members without discount |
| <b>Bill Voedisch Monday Morning Side Pairs</b><br><i>Sun-Tue Daylight Series</i>                                  | single  | Exhibit Hall A, lower level | \$22                  | \$32                     |
| <b>299er Pairs</b>                                                                                                | single  | Exhibit Hall A, lower level | \$18                  | \$28                     |
| <b>Robert Crosby Memorial 0–20 Pairs</b>                                                                          | single  | Exhibit Hall A, lower level | \$18                  | \$28                     |
| <b>10 am &amp; 3 pm</b>                                                                                           |         |                             |                       |                          |
| <b>WAGAR WOMEN'S PAIRS</b><br><i>2 qualifying &amp; 2 final sessions</i>                                          | 1-2 Q   | 200D, level 2               | \$38                  | \$48                     |
| <b>Teri Blu Top-Flight Pairs</b> (unlim./5000)                                                                    | 1-2     | Exhibit Hall A, lower level | \$22                  | \$32                     |
| <b>Stan Birnbaum Memorial Mid-Flight Pairs</b> (4000/1250)                                                        | 1-2     | Exhibit Hall A, lower level | \$22                  | \$32                     |
| <b>Rosemary Thomspen Carpenter Memorial Gold Rush Pairs</b>                                                       | 1-2     | Exhibit Hall A, lower level | \$22                  | \$32                     |
| <b>Mon-Tue Mini-Soloway Style Bracketed Knockout Teams</b><br><i>Two-session Swiss qual; two-session KO final</i> | 1-2 Q   | Exhibit Hall A, lower level | \$22                  | \$32                     |
| <b>Becky Rogers Top-Flight Swiss Teams</b> (unlim./6000/4500)                                                     | 1-2     | Exhibit Hall A, lower level | \$22                  | \$32                     |
| <b>Peter Solberg Mid-Flight Swiss Teams</b> (4000/2000/750)                                                       | 1-2     | Exhibit Hall A, lower level | \$22                  | \$32                     |

### 10 am & 3:30 pm

|                                                                                                                                      |       |                          |      |      |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------------------------|------|------|
| <b>SPINGOLD KNOCKOUT TEAMS</b><br><i>Full-day knockout matches ending Sunday 7/19; Pre-registration required by 3:30 pm Sun 7/12</i> | Rd 1  | Ballroom B, ground level | \$43 | \$53 |
| <b>TRUSCOTT/USPC SENIOR SWISS TEAMS</b><br><i>Must be 65 or older; 2 qualifying &amp; 2 final sessions</i>                           | 1-2 Q | Ballroom A, ground level | \$38 | \$48 |

### 3 pm

|                                                                      |        |                             |      |      |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|-----------------------------|------|------|
| <b>Monday Afternoon Side Pairs</b><br><i>Sun-Tue Daylight Series</i> | single | Exhibit Hall A, lower level | \$22 | \$32 |
| <b>299er Pairs</b>                                                   | single | Exhibit Hall A, lower level | \$18 | \$28 |

### 7:30 pm

|                                                                   |        |               |      |      |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|---------------|------|------|
| <b>Monday Evening Side Pairs</b><br><i>Fri-Mon Evening Series</i> | single | 200D, level 2 | \$22 | \$22 |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|---------------|------|------|

\* For premier, NABC+ and NABC events, participants must be full ACBL members and up-to-date with their membership dues or service fees. For all other events, participants must be ACBL members (or guest members). Inactive members may renew or pay a \$5 upcharge per session. 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, \$3 (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.