



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

- Team Gabay leads Mixed BAM
- Cohler-Bhaduri lead Wernher quals
- Spingold R32 features several close matches
- Updates on Mini-, Micro-Spingolds

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Bridge Mania



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**ATTENDANCE
through WEDNESDAY
5359 tables**



Goodwill Message

Respect the tournament directors;
they are here for you.

Lamya Agelidis, Chair

Aileen Osofsky Goodwill Committee

Lorraine Eaglesham is ABTA Teacher of the Year

Lorraine Eaglesham began her teaching career when she was 6 years old. When she arrived home from school as a first-grader in Montreal, she would sit her 4-year-old sister and their dolls down in front of her blackboard and teach them what she had learned in school that day.

“She really did not enjoy that,” Eaglesham said. “I thought, ‘How can

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Jump Start essay winner gets trip to Youth NABC



Patty Tucker’s successful Jump Start Bridge initiative – a program that teaches educators how to play bridge and incorporate it into their classrooms – has announced the first recipient of the 2026 Bridge Legacy Award, named in honor of Mike Levine, a philanthropist and bridge champion who has long supported the program. The student

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Kalispell Middle School teacher Melissa Steele and Kate Rogers, the winner of the 2026 Mike Levine Bridge Legacy Award from Jump Start Bridge

Youth NABC starts today

Young players from across the United States and Canada will gather for the 17th Youth North American Bridge Championships, which begins today. The event is being held on the second floor of the Minneapolis Convention

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Stephanie Threlkeld and Shaneka Cunningham welcome players to the Youth NABC.



Today's Bridge Events

Thursday, July 16 Cornhusker Unit 241 Day / Stephen & Sue Jackson Day 9:30 am & 3:30 pm

Event	Session	Sold	Entry/player/session*	
			Members with discount	Members without discount
SPINGOLD KNOCKOUT TEAMS	Rd of 16	M100F, mezzanine	\$43	\$53
0-6000 MINI-SPINGOLD KNOCKOUT TEAMS	1-2 SF	M100F, mezzanine	\$25	\$35
0-3000 MINI-SPINGOLD KNOCKOUT TEAMS	1-2 QF	M100F, mezzanine	\$25	\$35
10 am				
Todd Flowerday Thursday Morning Side Pairs <i>Wed-Thu Daylight Series</i>	single	Exhibit Hall A, lower level	\$22	\$32
299er Pairs	single	Exhibit Hall A, lower level	\$18	\$28
10 am & 1 pm				
Fast Pairs (<i>unlim./4000/1500</i>)	1-2	L100H, lower level	\$22	\$32
10 am & 3 pm				
WERNHER OPEN PAIRS	1-2 F	Ballroom A, ground level	\$38	\$48
FREEMAN MIXED BOARD-A-MATCH TEAMS	1-2 F	Ballroom B, ground level	\$38	\$48
NABC 0-10,000 PAIRS <i>2 qualifying & 2 final sessions</i>	1-2 Q	L100G, lower level	\$25	\$35
Mitch Dunitz ACBL Collegiate Bridge Bowl Championship <i>Round-Robin or Swiss qualifier</i>	1-2 Q	200B, level 2	Free	Free
Stephen & Sue Jackson Top-Flight Pairs <i>(unlim./5000)</i>	1-2	Exhibit Hall A, lower level	\$22	\$32
Mid-Flight Pairs (<i>4000/1250</i>)	1-2	Exhibit Hall A, lower level	\$22	\$32
Gold Rush Pairs	1-2	Exhibit Hall A, lower level	\$22	\$32
Wed-Thu Mini-Soloway Style Bracketed Knockout Teams	1-2 F	Exhibit Hall A, lower level	\$22	\$32
Scott Hiller Top-Flight Swiss Teams <i>(unlim./6000/4500)</i>	1-2	Exhibit Hall A, lower level	\$22	\$32
Marjean Larson Memorial 0-4000 Bracketed Round Robin Teams	1-2	Exhibit Hall A, lower level	\$22	\$32
3 pm				
Thursday Afternoon Side Pairs <i>Wed-Thu Daylight Series</i>	single	Exhibit Hall A, lower level	\$22	\$32
299er Pairs	single	Exhibit Hall A, lower level	\$18	\$28
7:30 pm				
Thursday Evening Side Pairs <i>Tue-Fri Evening Series</i>	single	200D, level 2	\$22	\$22
Collegiate Individual	single	200B, level 2	Free	Free

* 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. 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

Cornhusker Unit 241 Day

Cornhusker Unit 241 would like to remind you of the 2026 Omaha Regional, which runs this year Aug. 3–9. Once again, the tournament will be at the Omaha Marriott at Regency Circle, and this year's hotel amenities include free wifi and free parking. In addition, coffee and light snacks are provided for every session and the unit is hosting lunch on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. We are really looking forward to another fun, successful tournament, and we hope you can join us. For more information see omahabridge.org.

Stephen & Sue Jackson Day

Stephen learned to play bridge at home in Moorhead MN and started



duplicate bridge at the Fargo ND club. Susan first learned bridge at the Twin Cities Bridge Center in 1976. In 1978, after the evening game in Minneapolis (yes, evening games!), she saw Stephen studying the bus schedule. It was a bitterly cold January night, so she offered him a ride home. That ride led to marriage and a honeymoon at the Chicago nationals in 1980, where they played in one morning game and won!

They weren't bridge partners for many years, but 48 years later, they are both marriage and bridge partners. Bridge has meant a lot to them, and they are happy to support the bridge community.

Marjean Larson

By Lynne Castoldi

Marjean was a well-known bridge teacher and player in greater Palm Springs CA. She was my first bridge teacher. and I am pleased to name a game in her honor.

In Palm Springs, where the sun shines brightly and the locals call it "the desert," people come to relax, golf, play tennis, and yes, play bridge. Through her lessons, Marjean touched hundreds of lives and significantly expanded the bridge-playing community throughout the Coachella Valley.

While the rest of us thought bridge might be a pleasant pastime to enjoy between lunches and happy hours, Marjean knew the truth: some of us were destined to become addicted. Bridge is serious business. Bridge is discipline. Bridge is a game where bidding errors and declarer errors are remembered far longer than bad haircuts.

Her no-nonsense teaching style was legendary. It's easy to picture her still, standing by her flip chart, Audrey Grant books stacked on the table, walking us through hand evaluation, the golden fit, bids and rebids. She genuinely wanted us to get it, which

is why her praise came less often than rain in the desert.

Though she is no longer with us, her influence remains. When I'm trying to decide whether or not to bid game, I still hear her voice in my mind saying, "She who knows, goes."

Scott Hiller

Scott learned bridge by subbing for his mom in their local neighborhood game. Later, he played to avoid classes at the University of Minnesota in the late '60s. After that, he didn't play again till the 1990s on OK Bridge. He went to his first matchpoint game at the Gopher Regional in Minneapolis in May 2003, scratched, got hooked on bridge and really played a lot from then through 2016 (while managing to get more than 100 Blue Ribbon qualifications). Recently Scott has settled in to being a club player at the Naples (FL) Bridge Club, but he still loves the game intensely.

Todd Flowerday

Todd is a director and assistant manager at one of the finest clubs in ACBL, the Bridge Center of St. Paul. As such, he is committed to helping players have an enjoyable and competitive experience. Todd has given us many hours of bridge coaching and is especially committed to helping non-Life Masters achieve their goals as they improve their game.

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.

Friday, July 17
8:30–10 pm **Crazy Bridge.** Chaos-inducing twists on bridge with a different rule change on every board. *Room 200B, level 2, MCC*

Saturday, July 18
5:30–7 pm **Youth NABC Closing Reception.** *Room 200D, level 2, Sheraton*

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.

Thursday, July 16
9:15 a.m. Keith Thompson *Learn From Your Results*
2:15 p.m. Robert Todd *Problem Opening Bids*

Friday, July 17
9:15 a.m. Marjorie Michelin *Returning Your Partner's Suit*
2:15 p.m. Steve Gaynor *Secrets of Negative Doubles*

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.

Thursday, July 16
Fruit yogurt

Friday, July 17
Morning: muffins. Afternoon: cookies.

Vugraph operators needed

Vugraph operators are needed Thursday and Friday for coverage of the Spingold KO matches. Operators are paid \$100 per session.

For information or to sign up, contact Jan Martel by email: janATusbf.org (use @ symbol to replace AT) or come to the mezzanine, Room M100.

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.

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.

Evening entertainment

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*



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JUST FOR NEW PLAYERS

James Kuznecoff, 26, attended Learn Bridge in a Day on Sunday and Patty Tucker could see his potential right away. “You can see the wheels turning in his mind,” she said. At the end of the class, she encouraged participants to go to Beyond Bridge later that night at the Sheraton.

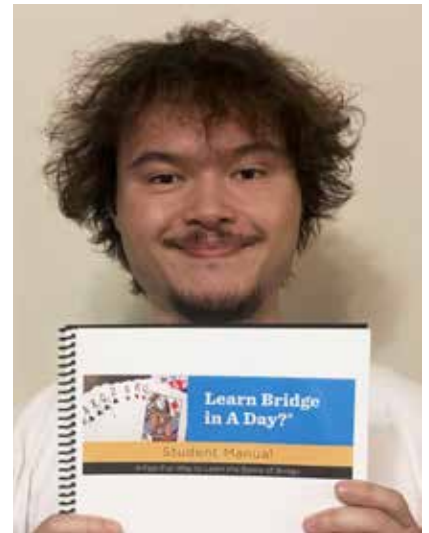
Kuznecoff was among those who did; he found Tucker there and asked her several bridge questions. While she was fielding them, Eric Rodwell came by and said hi. Tucker suggested that Rodwell was better equipped to answer some of Kuznecoff’s questions. “He asked a lot of strategic, theory questions,” Tucker explained. “Eric spent 30 minutes talking to this young guy who knew nothing. He took the time in what was supposed to be a relaxed, fun environment.”

Kuznecoff was fascinated by the conversation. “He and I talked about the nature of ambiguity in the game, and how skilled players learn to make inferences based on game actions that have been taken – why a given sequence of bids with a defined endpoint would differ from a shorter sequence

with the same endpoint,” Kuznecoff said.

Kuznecoff didn’t realize at the time who he was talking to, beyond that it was an expert player who knew Tucker. “I was quite shocked to learn that I had been talking to one of the foremost theorists of the game! What shocked me even more about the encounter was that he was incredibly humble.”

Kuznecoff said he was thinking about looking for Rodwell when he came back to the tournament on Wednesday.



Thinking Bridge

By *Eddie Kantar*

Dlr: North	♠ A J 10 6		
Vul: E–W	♥ K 2		
	♦ 9 5 4		
	♣ A K Q J		
♠ K 8 7 5 4		♠ 3	
♥ 8 7 6		♥ A 10 9	
♦ 8 7 3		♦ A Q J 10 6	
♣ 7 5		♣ 10 9 3 2	
	♠ Q 9 2		
	♥ Q J 5 4 3		
	♦ K 2		
	♣ 8 6 4		
West	North	East	South
	1♣	1♦	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	1NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Opening lead: ♦3.

Bidding Commentary: As North, you are a point shy to jump shift to 2♠ with a balanced hand, and 2NT is out with no diamond stopper. South’s 1NT shows 7+ to 10 HCP and at least one diamond stopper – enough for North to bid 3NT.

Lead commentary: With three low cards in partner’s unsupported suit, lead low to show length. The lead of a high spot card in partner’s unsupported suit shows shortness.

Defensive commentary: As East, with ♦A Q J 10 6,

normal third-hand play at notrump is the 10 to drive out the king, leaving partner with at least one diamond.

As West, do not cover the ♠Q if it is led. Your length plus the lack of intermediate spot cards dictate playing low.

Play commentary: As South, you have no “time” to drive out the ♥A. The opponents will take four diamonds and a heart. Take the spade finesse instead – and beware: This spade layout is tricky. Start with the 9, playing the 6 from dummy. After the 9 holds, continue with the queen, and finally low to the jack. If you start with the queen and West plays low, you will wind up in dummy the next time you lead the suit with no entry back to your hand to repeat the finesse. Play the same with J–9–x facing A–Q–10–x. Start with the 9, not the jack.

Note that on this deal it does not work to play the ♠Q and, when West plays low, unblock the jack or 10. When you lead the 9 next, West will cover with the king and eventually score the ♠8 or ♠7. You will be limited to three spade tricks and will be down one.

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.



Need to join or renew?

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



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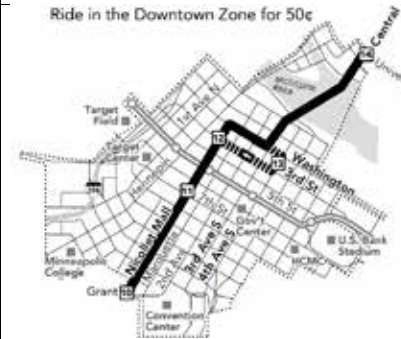

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Round Round Get Around: Via Bus

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 3rd 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 Bu

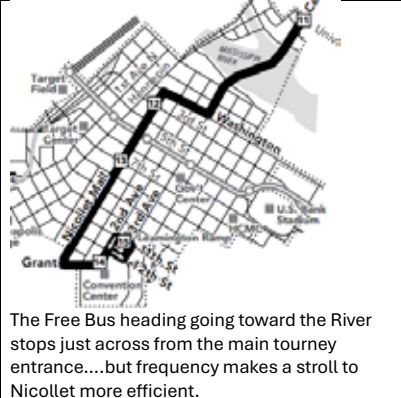
#17 \$0.50 will get you to the St. Anthony restaurants as well as near some in downtown East. The #17 continues South to Eat Street on Nicollet outside the .50 zone.



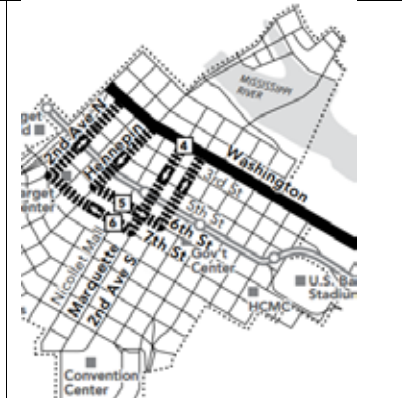
#18 Travels up and down Nicollet with a jog into Downtown East. Eat Street restaurants are beyond the downtown .50 zone heading South.



#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 3rd Av.



#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.



For more Minneapolis-based information on Restaurant Week, Eat Street, Hall of Fame Restaurants, Outdoor Patio Dining or Lunch Bites, visit minnesotabridge.com and select the "NABC Restaurant Resources" link.

Round Round Get Around Dining Going International with James Beard Recommendations

Worth the Venture into NE Minneapolis

Hai Hai (2121 University Ave. NE): Best Chef Midwest 2024 winner. Great patio, Southeast Asian street food.

Diane's Place (117 14th Ave. NE): Best Chef Midwest 2025 nominee. New outdoor dining area under a sail, great pastries.

Oro by Nixta (1222 NE Second St.): Best New Restaurant 2024 nominee. Upscale Mexican.

Vinai (1300 NE Second St.): Best Chef Midwest 2022 nominee. Pronounced "VEE-nigh." Finest Hmong cuisine, with a great family story.

Kado no Mise (33 N. First Ave.): Best Chef Midwest 2025, 2026 nominee. Edomae Omakase experience. Sanjusan (downstairs) is more affordable.

Team Gabay leads Mixed BAM

The squad captained by Sheila Gabay of Newton MA (Gabay, Daniel Boye, Alan Watson and Patricia Dovell) posted the top score in the opening round of the Freeman Mixed Board-a-Match Teams, posting a two-session score of 34.50 wins.

Just behind the leaders are Debbie Rosenberg and company with 34.00. Rosenberg is playing with teammates Christal Henner, Ben Kristensen, Uday Ivatury, Fred Gitelman and Sheri Winestock. In third with 32.50 are Thomas Peters, Mary Peters, Tracy Brines and Maureen Brines.

The top 29 teams of the 50 who entered the contest advanced to today's two-session final.

Cohler-Bhaduri lead Wernher quals

Gary Cohler of Wellington FL and Ranjan Bhaduri of Toronto ON topped the qualifying round of the Wernher Open Pairs. Cohler and Bhaduri scored a strong 66.06% in the first session and 62.79% in the second to take the pole position for today's two-session final.

Finishing a board behind the leaders were Drew Cavalier of Pensacola FL and Eric Xiao of Shrewsbury MA, while third place belongs to Floridians David Berkowitz and Jeff Meckstroth.

Of the 246 pairs that entered the contest, 130 qualified for today's final.

Updates on Mini-, Micro-Spingolds

Four teams remain in the 0-6000 Mini-Spingold KO Teams. The pairings for the semifinal round are Andy Caranicas vs. David desJardins and William Scott vs. Daniel Robertson.

The "Micro" Spingold 0-3000 KO Teams enters the quarterfinal stage today. Today's pairings by captain: David Neiman vs. Aaron Igra; Carlene Ziegler vs. Giorgio Casinovi; Joshua Allen vs. Jason Grove; and Donald Xu vs. Kevin Babcock.

Spingold R32 features several close matches

The Round of 32 in the Spingold KO Teams was marked by several close matches and a few mild upsets.

No. 17 seed Vedanta Capital ousted No. 16 Feinstein NPC 135-129, while No. 18 Rombaut held on against No. 15 J.J. Wang (original No. 50 seed) by the razor-thin final of 146-145. And No. 6 Street outlasted No. 27 Dyson 143-137.

In the upset category, the four-handed squad led by No. 24 Harrison Luba took out the Dutch-centric No. 9 seed led by Rob Helle, 145-84. No. 23 Les Amoils defeated No. 10 Agustin Madala 202-118, and the No. 22 seed led by Steve Levinson beat the No. 11 seed Team Davinci 169-14. Finally, No. 19 seed Patricia Cayne eliminated Bill Bailey's No. 14 seed 137-118.



Host Hotel

Manchester Grand Hyatt

\$189+tax per night

Reservations at host hotel are now open. Please visit acbl.org/sandiego to access the necessary link for accessing the special rate.

When you need a break from the tables, San Diego offers the perfect escape. With its year-round sunshine, walkable neighborhoods and sophisticated-yet-relaxed vibe, America's Finest City provides an ideal backdrop for your tournament experience. Balboa Park is a cultural oasis, houses 17 museums, stunning gardens and the world-famous San Diego Zoo. USS Midway Museum is another fascinating floating museum, lets you explore a real aircraft carrier while enjoying spectacular harbor views. Old Town San Diego State Historic Park recreates life in the Mexican and early American periods (1821-1872)

acbl.org/sandiego

Monitoring

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

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

Stay in touch

Is your email address on file? Is it up to date? Let ACBL know. Update your info at acbl.com by logging into MyACBL. Or call toll-free in the U.S., 800-264-2743; outside the U.S. 1-662-253-3191 Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Central Time. You may also email service@acbl.org.

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FROM THE STORES

Teacher of the Year

continued from page 1

she not enjoy learning?”

Eaglesham's first-grade teacher was also named Lorraine, and she felt a special connection to her that led her to believe she was destined to be a teacher. She would go on to have a 35-year career as a high school math teacher, guidance counselor and principal at schools in Montreal and Toronto. Soon after retirement, she waded into what would become her second career as a bridge teacher. Almost 20 years later, after teaching over a thousand beginners, Eaglesham has been named the American Bridge Teachers' Association Teacher of the Year.

Eaglesham was nominated for the award by David Kerner of Richmond Hill ON, who has taken nine courses from her over the past three years. "From my very first class, she has taught and guided me effectively, recognized my strengths and encouraged me to seek out more and better bridge games," Kerner said in his nomination. "I anxiously look forward to her next set of classes. Her willingness to help us and answer questions on any hand has been invaluable. I know she has taught hundreds of students before me, but I feel lucky that she has given my partner and me the attention and drive to help us improve."

Kerner's nomination was joined

by 42 fellow students who submitted testimonials, along with Unit 246 President Linda Lord. Eaglesham serves as the education coordinator for Unit 246, which includes suburbs to the north and east of Toronto. Among the highlights:

- "Lorraine is a brilliant bridge teacher. Her passion for the wonderful game is infectious and her ability to explain and explore conventions and strategies is most impressive." – Karen Coll, Unionville ON
- "I have had other bridge teachers but Lorraine is by far the best. She is open to our questions and at no time do you feel intimidated and feel that you have asked a stupid question." – Maryann Jefferies, Palgrave ON
- "Lorraine's extensive teaching background is clearly evident. Goals are outlined, lessons are clear, focused and questions are answered at appropriate times. Her relaxed, supportive environment, her humor and numerous repetitions consolidate learning." – Joy Cooper Stringer, Markham ON
- "She is very approachable and a born teacher." – Eleanor Maclellan, Collingwood ON

Lorraine learned bridge from her husband, Harry, whom she married in 1971. Harry learned the game while attending McGill University in

Montreal, reading Sheinwold's "Five Weeks to Winning Bridge," which he insisted Lorraine read. Soon after, they started going to club games, and in their first year won a club championship. They played for about 10 years, then took a 20-year break. Upon returning, Lorraine discovered Barbara Seagram, and quickly came to see why she would eventually become a Hall of Famer (inducted the day after Lorraine's award was presented).

The Eagleshams moved to the Toronto area in 1980, first in Burlington, eventually settling in Unionville, about 40 minutes northeast of downtown Toronto. Lorraine taught at a French school, which offered the opportunity to fill multiple rules by dint of being smaller than the English schools. She continued teaching after becoming a guidance counselor in 1985 and served as principal from 2000 until retiring in 2007.

"Then I said, 'Who am I going to teach now?'" Lorraine said.

"It wasn't going to be me," Harry said. "I'm nobody's sister."

That fall, a local bridge teacher asked her to help out as a table monitor. That led to her teaching small groups at home. In 2018, after the death of her mother, Lorraine reached out to Seagram for advice on becoming a better teacher. Seagram suggested she attend beginner classes taught by Josée Hammill at Seagram's school as an

PHOENIX DESERT EMPIRE REGIONAL

MONDAY — SATURDAY
AUGUST 10-15, 2026

Talking Stick Resort

Tournament Chair: Pat Linville
Email: fpllinville@cox.net



observer. After eight weeks of that, Hammill – who this year took over as chair of the ABTA's Teacher of the Year selection committee – asked Eaglesham if she wanted to teach. She taught there from January 2019 until the school closed for the pandemic in March 2020.

"Lorraine and I taught together a few times, and I was always astounded at her ability to remember the names of her students from the first class on," Hamill said. "Sometimes we'd have 32 or 36 in the class but she had her little system. She's funny in a subtle way, which keeps her students always engaged. She's resourceful, has so much energy and her dedication to her students and growing bridge are true gifts."

On May 1, 2020, Eaglesham returned to independent teaching, this time online. At first she was concerned about recruiting a critical mass of students, but soon found out that wasn't a problem. Her fall class had 58 students, and she's had up to 115 in an online class – and she answered every question posted in chat, sometimes in a follow-up email if not during the class. Though she prefers to teach in person and resumed doing so in 2022, she still offers an online course at least once a year in order to serve her more distant students.

During the time all teaching was online, Eaglesham recorded her lessons, and those recordings serve as part of the volume of materials she provides students, along with her presentation slides, handouts, articles, links to playable hands and more. She is also available for unlimited questions after class and in between classes.

Eaglesham took the Best Practices workshop in Chicago in 2023 and Learn Bridge in a Day instructor workshop in Toronto in 2024. Eaglesham offers her own introductory program she calls A Taste of Bridge. It's free, 90 minutes and limited to 32 students due to venue capacity – she keeps a waiting list. "People don't want to pay for an eight-week class without knowing what bridge is," Eaglesham said. "Ninety minutes is enough to whet their appetite."

Before the beginner eight-week

class is even over, Eaglesham starts pushing students into supervised play at any of the four local clubs that offer it. Then it's limited games at clubs and tournaments – as they progress, she continues pushing them to the next level.

"Once they have had a taste of competitive play, off they go!" she said.

The Eagleshams believe Lorraine's background in education and the skills she developed during her career have been key to her success as a bridge teacher.

"She has excellent control of the classroom," Harry said. "She has empathy for her students. She can identify and help students of all levels. Bridge is famous for people finding it extremely difficult. I can tell her students are enjoying themselves. There's a lot of laughing."

Bridge isn't the only hobby Harry and Lorraine share. For 45 years they have been involved in managing Canada's largest community tennis

organization, with over 1200 members. As with bridge, he introduced her to it, going to a local park to practice. "Like bridge, she devoured it," Harry said. Knowing all those tennis players has provided a fertile connection for recruiting bridge players.

The Teacher of the Year award is sponsored by Baron Barclay and chosen by members of the selection committee: chair Hammill, Mary Jane Orock, Sharon Carter, David Glandorf, and Tony Jackson.

Perhaps the greatest testament to Eaglesham's teaching ability is her amazing retention rate. Only one person has ever abandoned one her classes without completing eight weeks: her sister. Forty-some years after Lorraine's foray into teaching as a child, she persuaded her reluctant sister to try learning bridge. It went about as well as the first-grade fiasco.

"I tried everything," Lorraine said. "Nothing worked."



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

Crazy Bridge runs from 8:30–10:30 p.m., with everyone starting together at 8:30.

Friday, July 17
Room 200B, Minneapolis Convention Center

Youth NABC starts

continued from page 1

Center, where the hallway is decorated with balloons in the colors of the Minneapolis NABC logo – teal, light green, yellow and white.

The three-day event is run by

Stephanie Threlkeld, the ACBL manager of marketing and education, and Shaneka Cunningham, executive assistant.

“I’m so excited,”

Threlkeld said. “There’s something special about the Youth NABC. It’s competitive, it’s fun, and it’s where lifelong friendships begin. We can’t wait to welcome both familiar faces and those attending their first Youth NABC.”

“The Youth NABC is one of my favorite events,” Cunningham said. “It’s all about investing in the future of bridge. I love seeing them build friendships.”

If the tournament isn’t as big as last year, it will likely be due to a decrease in international presence. Last year’s attendance got a big boost from China, which sent 30 kids to Philadelphia, after last coming to Las Vegas in 2019. There are none from China preregistered this year.

But attendance will still be up compared to 2024. There are 104 preregistered, compared to 94 two years ago. With walkups, there could be as many as 120, Threlkeld said.

The preregistered players range in age from 9 to 19, with an average of 13.6.

They represent 12 states and one Canadian province. California leads with 22, followed by Minnesota and Florida with 19 each, and New Jersey (15). There are nine from Canada, mostly in the Toronto area, six from the Seattle area in Washington, five from the Chicago area and one or

two in Virginia, Texas, Montana, New York, North Carolina and Georgia.

That looks pretty similar to a typical Youth NABC with a couple notable exceptions: the

large local contingent and the pair from Montana. Last year there were none preregistered from Minnesota or Montana.

“I’m really heartened that we have a local program that is robust enough to send a group to the NABC,” Threlkeld said.

Jump Start Bridge offered an essay contest with a trip to the Youth NABC as a prize (see story, page 1). It was won by Kate Rogers, 12, of Kalispell MT; she’s bringing her partner, Kesnner Munday. “Kalispell did an amazing job with Jump Start Bridge,” Threlkeld said.

There are three types of games offered at the Youth NABC: the main pairs or teams events, Cardrook Pairs, for less experienced players, and BridgeBattle, which requires no experience to participate.

The major awards at the YNABC are sponsored scholarships, including the Baron Barclay National Youth Open Pairs, the ACBL Educational Foundation and BridgeWhiz National Youth Swiss Teams and the Bridge Base Online Sportsmanship Award.

All attendees receive T-shirts, water bottles and bags.



Collegiate Bowl starts today

The Collegiate Bridge Bowl gets underway today, bringing together students from across North America for several days of competition.

"I'm really excited by the turnout," said Stephanie Threlkeld, ACBL manager of marketing and education, who oversees the event. "Last year in Philadelphia was the largest event so far, maybe because it was easy to get to, but we have about the same number of students this year."

This year, there are 137 players representing 26 colleges and universities compared to 140 players from 30 colleges and universities.

The ACBL provided travel funding for six teams and six pairs, while the ACBL Educational Foundation sponsored four additional teams, six pairs and the event's scholarship



awards. Students who did not receive travel packages – valued at \$1500 – were eligible to apply for travel stipends of up to \$600. This year, 59 students received stipends.

The competition features the four-session team championship, named for Mitch Dunitz, who is a major sponsor of college bridge. There is also a two-session pairs championship and three evening single-session individual games sponsored by the Foundation.

Scholarships will be awarded to the top four teams, the top two pairs and the top two pairs in the under-100 masterpoint stratification.

YOUTH EVENTS

All Youth NABC events are in 200D, level 2

Thursday, July 16

10 am

Youth Pairs single session

2 pm

Youth Teams single session

10 am, 2 pm

Cardrook Pairs single sessions

Bridge Battle single sessions

Cardrook Pairs are games designed for newer players

Friday, July 17

BARON BARCLAY NATIONAL

YOUTH OPEN PAIRS

10 am

Qualifier

2 pm

Finals

2 pm

Youth Pairs single session

10 am, 2 pm

Cardrook Pairs single sessions

Bridge Battle single sessions

Saturday, July 18

ACBL ED FOUNDATION &

BRIDGEWHIZ NATIONAL

YOUTH SWISS TEAMS

10 am

Qualifier

2 pm

Finals

2 pm

Youth Teams single session

10 am & 2 pm

Cardrook Pairs single sessions

Bridge Battle single sessions

Youth Award Ceremony

Saturday, July 18

at 5:30 pm

Including Bridge Base Online Sportsmanship Award, Baron Barclay Youth Pairs Scholarship and ACBL Ed Foundation & BridgeWhiz National Youth Swiss Teams Scholarship

Jump Start

continued from page 1

essay contest winner is Kate Rogers of Kalispell (MT) Middle School, who recently completed sixth grade. She earned a trip to the Youth NABC and a \$500 prize.

Kate began her essay with the simple declaration, “I love bridge,” before adding, “Actually, it’s a love-hate relationship.” (We know, Kate, we know.) Despite the occasional frustration, she captured exactly what draws so many young players to the game: “Even though it’s hard sometimes, to me, bridge means the chance to have fun, play a game, be with my friends and do some thinking.”

Challenge, friendship and personal growth ran through nearly every essay submitted.

“When I play with someone new or people who I don’t usually play with, I get the chance to make new friends,” she wrote.

Every essay contained memorable moments.

Alddon, a precocious fourth grader, described the mental puzzle of the game: “I’m arranging my cards, counting my high-card points and visualizing everyone else’s hands. As the dealer bids, my brain gets an image of everyone’s cards. My mind sorts through the information. There is much more to bridge than just playing a normal card game. To me, bridge means learning and connecting.”

He then connected bridge to everyday life: “I learned going big is not always better. In life, you must carefully analyze situations before making decisions.”

Sixth-grader Kessner wrote that “bridge opened up opportunities I didn’t know were there.” Beyond making new friends, he discovered that bridge had long been part of his own family’s history.

“One of my great grandmas died a

short time after I was born,” he wrote. “My dad says that when he was little, he would sit around the table at their house and watch her play bridge all day. He says that if she was alive, it would have made her happy to know that one of her great-grandkids loves to do one of the many things that made her happy.”

Another Kalispell sixth grader, Ray, admitted that bridge did not come easily at first. “I did not know how to open or respond to a bid nor how to play a trick,” he wrote. “I kept messing up my bids and playing the wrong cards. But I stuck with it and soon caught on and got better. I had brilliant bridge teachers and a love for the game.”

Serena, an eighth grader, described bridge as “an unexpected journey.” As she learned the game’s vocabulary and conventions, she also learned the importance of communication.

“During a hand when my partner and I definitely misread one another’s clues, I saw how communication like this carries over into my life,” she wrote. “It is important to speak, but also to listen and observe.”

She also recognized that mistakes are part of learning. “I know my partner forgives me when I miss a trick and I forgive her when she forgets to count cards. Making mistakes is a chance to learn to make better decisions in the future.”

The essays echo what teachers have been seeing in classrooms across the country. According to Jump Start Bridge’s 2025 update, the program had provided supplies to 628 educators serving 26,188 students in 40 states by the end of last year. Teachers reported improvements in students’ math skills, teamwork, focus and logical reasoning, while also praising the quality of the materials and support they received.

“Incorporating bridge in math was a risk because I didn’t know the game,” said Melissa Steele, who teaches at Kalispell Middle School. “I wasn’t sure

how receptive students would be, and I was the first teacher to try it. However, once I met Susan (our master teacher), I knew the risk would be worth it. Bridge day ended up being the students’ favorite day of the week.”

“With the support of our wonderful sponsors and teachers, bridge is on the move!” Tucker said.

Reading these essays, it’s easy to see why. The students weren’t simply writing about a card game – they were writing about friendship, perseverance, communication and confidence. Patty Tucker and the Jump Start Bridge team have opened the door to experiences and relationships that will stay with these young players long after the last hand is played, and the bridge community will be ready to welcome them whenever they take their next seat at the table.

Where will Jump Start be next?

The following is a list of scheduled conferences through the end of the year where Jump Start Bridge will be connecting with educators and students across the country. Help spread the word in your area!

Southeast Homeschool Expo

Atlanta GA
July 24–25

SAIS Conference

Chattanooga TN
October 4–6

Association of Teachers of Mathematics in New England

Warwick RI
October 5–7

Colorado Association for Gifted and Talented

Loveland CO
October 18–20

NCTM 2026 Fall Conference

Denver CO
October 28–31



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Events

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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 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 to be added. Missing discounts are not refunded. See the FAQ at acbl.org/ee for more information. Only hotel guests who made their reservations through ConferenceDirect are automatically assigned discount coupons.

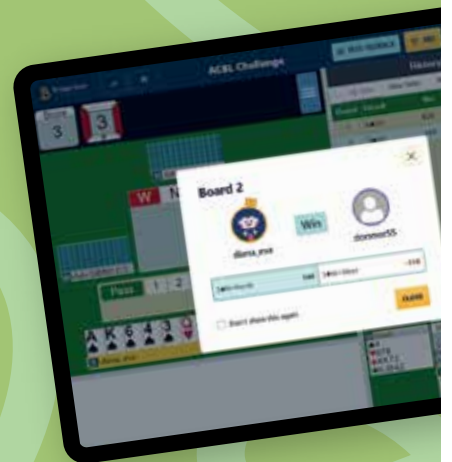
For help with Entry Express, visit the ACBL Help Desk located on either the ground level lobby or lower level in Room L100F.

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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SPINGOLD TEAMS, ROUND OF 16 PAIRINGS

1. Wolfson **203**
64. (65) Z. Wang 109

32. Ashe **169**
33. (44) Goyal 113

16. Feinstein NPC **190**
49. Mawyer 42

17. Vedanta Capital **208**
48. (55) Chubukov 100

9. Helle **180**
56. Zhang 45

24. Luba **201**
41. Fredin 167

25. Rippey **185**
40. Castoldi 115

8. Rubenstein **230**
57. (72) Rockoff 79

5. Rosenthal **195**
60. Aldrich 68

28. Goldberg **175**
37. Sabbah 128

21. Wildavsky **160**
44. (59) Alaybeyi 15

12. Overdeck **150**
53. (76) Silvius 10

13. Goodman **152**
52. Lev 111

20. Simson **195**
45. E. Xiao 88

29. Glubok **143**
36. Bramley 121

4. Nickell **146**
61. Ives 44 w/d

1. Wolfson 46 84 131 **153**
32. Ashe 29 61 77 126

16. Feinstein NPC 16 44 88 129
17. Vedanta Capital 46 101 115 **135**

9. Helle 8 43 77 86
24. Luba 32 87 115 **145**

25. Rippey 38 67 67 w/d
8. Rubenstein 30 64 **158**

5. Rosenthal 25 51 98 **155**
28. Goldberg 37 67 94 112

21. Wildavsky 31 68 90 122
12. Overdeck 46 85 155 **191**

13. Goodman 52 106 127 **183**
20. Simson 16 50 102 120

29. Glubok 6 17 74 113
4. Nickell 48 132 145 **180**

1. Wolfson
16. (17) Vedanta Capital

1.
8.

9. (24) Luba
8. Rubenstein

1.
4.

5. Rosenthal
12. Overdeck

5.
4.

13. Goodman
4. Nickell

[illegible]

SPINGOLD KNOCKOUT TEAMS – ROUND OF 16 PAIRINGS

77 Tables

Jeffrey Wolfson, Boca Raton FL; Steve Garner, Chicago IL; Yinghao Liu, Dublin CA; Yichao Chen, Mountain Lakes NJ; Kevin Rosenberg, Mountain View CA; Brian Platnick, Evanston IL

vs

Parag Saxena, Rye NY; Migry Zur Campanile, New York NY; Bart Nab, Tilburg Netherlands; Veri Kiljan, Tilburg Netherlands; Per-Ola Cullin, Enskedalen Sweden; Marion Michielsen, Sweden

Martin Fleisher, New York NY; Cedric Lorenzini, Miserey Salines France; Thomas Bessis, Paris France; Chip Martel, Davis CA; Sjoert Brink – Sebastiaan Drijver, Netherlands

vs

Jerome Rombaut – Leo Rombaut, Lys Lez Lannoy France; Sabine Auken, Charlottenlund Denmark; Roy Welland, New York NY; Stefano Tommasini, Santa Catarina Brazil; Joao Paulo Campos, Brazil

Pierre Zimmermann – Michal Nowosadzki – Jacek Kalita – Michal Klukowski, Geneva Switzerland; Franck Multon, Monaco; Kamil Nowak, Kielce Poland

vs

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

Nick Nickell, Water Mill NY; Ralph Katz, Burr Ridge IL; Geoff Hampson, Las Vegas NV; Eric Greco, Frisco TX; Steve Weinstein, Upper Saddle River NJ; Alan Sontag, Gaithersburg MD

vs

Andy Goodman, Carmel CA; Giacomo Percario, Livorno Italy; Mike Passell, Plano TX; Shan Huang – Kevin Dwyer Rimstedt, Jupiter FL; Robert Levin, Henderson NV

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

vs

John Overdeck, Palm Beach FL; Alfredo Versace, Rome Italy; Antonio Sementa, Parma Italy; Aldo Gerli, Padova Italy; Andrea Manno, Palermo Italy; Antonio Palma, Evora Portugal



Paul Street, Delray Beach FL; Piotr Pawel Zatorski, Gdansk Poland; Ron Pachtmann, Kfar Saba Israel; Nicolas L'Ecuyer, Montreal QC; Ami Zamir, Hod Hasharon Israel; Oren Toledano, Jerusalem Israel

vs

Steve Levinson, Highland Beach FL; Nils Kvangraven, Norway; Mike Cappelletti, Delray Beach FL; Oyvind Saur, Gja Vik Norway; Massimiliano Di Franco, Palermo Italy; Alessandro Gandoglia, Rome Italy

Stewart Rubenstein, Chestnut Hill MA; Zachary Grossack, Newton MA; Michael Rosenberg, Foster City CA; Joe Grue, New York NY; Brad Moss, Denver CO; Geir Helgemo, Heimdal Norway

vs

Harrison Luba, Lynnfield MA; Adam Kaplan, New York NY; Owen Lien, Oak Park MI; Finn Kolesnik, Austin TX

Leslie Amoils, North York ON; Tom Hanlon, Dublin Ireland; Frederic Pollack, Laval QC; Jeffrey Smith, Ottawa ON; Sibrand van Oosten, Leiden Netherlands; Thibo Sprinkhuizen, Rotterdam Netherlands

vs

Vinita Gupta, Woodside CA; Morten Bilde – Soren Bilde, Hovedgaard Denmark; Simon Ekenberg, Kalmar Sweden; Emil

Jepsen, Aarhus Denmark; Andreas Meister, Copenhagen Denmark

25.00 17/32 Rajath Shourie, Pacific Palisades CA; Gavin Wolpert, Palm Beach Gardens FL; Andy Hung, Brisbane Australia; Michael Whibley, Auckland New Zealand; Nabil Edgtton, Sydney Australia; Sartaj Hans, Goulburn Australia

25.00 17/32 Rob Helle, Mauritius; Bob Drijver, Aalsmeer Netherlands; Ed Hoogenkamp, Ourense Spain; Cornelis van Prooijen, Nieuw Vennep Netherlands; Simon de Wijs, Doorn Netherlands; Bauke Muller, Zwaag Netherlands

25.00 17/32 Agustin Madala, Buenos Aires Argentina; Dennis Bilde, Horsens Denmark; Ola Rimstedt, Sweden; Mikael Rimstedt, Halmstad Sweden; Laurence Lebowitz, Boston MA; Adam Grossack, Brooklyn NY

25.00 17/32 Richard Leonardon, Santa Fe NM; Kevin Bathurst, Palm Beach Gardens FL; John Hurd, New York NY; Chris Compton, Omaha NE; Vincent Demuy, West Palm Beach FL; John Kranyak, Tucson AZ

25.00 17/32 William Bailey, Mill Valley CA; Joshua Donn – Daniel Korbel, Las Vegas NV; Dror Padon, Tel Aviv Israel; Alon Birman, Israel; Eddie Wold, Houston TX

25.00 17/32 Lynda Nitabach, West Palm Beach FL; Fredrik Nystrom – Johan Upmark, Sweden; Peter Bertheau, Taby Sweden; Krzysztof Buras, Warszawa Poland; Bartosz Chmurski, Lomianky Poland

25.00 17/32 Douglas Simson, Columbus OH; Eric Rodwell, Clearwater FL; Venkatrao Koneru – Greg Hinze, San Antonio TX; David Grainger, Etobicoke ON; Joel Wooldridge, Jackson Heights NY

25.00 17/32 Adam Wildavsky, New York NY; Douglas Doub, Oak Ridge TN; Mark Lair, Amarillo TX; Ron Gerard, White Plains NY; Jason Feldman, Palm Beach Gardens FL; Louk Verhees Jr., Leiden Netherlands

25.00 17/32 Mike Rippey, San Francisco CA; Piotr Marcinowski, Wroclaw Poland; Irene Baroni, Paris France; Leonardo Cima – Federico Porta Tadolini, Roma Italy; Wojciech Bak, Warsaw Poland

25.00 17/32 Andrew Dyson – Tom Townsend, London United Kingdom; Glyn Liggins, London United Kingdom; Ben Handley-Prichard, Stroud United Kingdom

25.00 17/32 Connie Goldberg, Gladwyne PA; Leonard Holtz, West Hollywood CA; Nikolaj Hammelev, Aarhus Denmark; Daniel Tylvad, Bronshoj Denmark; Jeffrey Ferro, Saint Helena CA; Hua Poon, Singapore

25.00 17/32 Brian Glubok, Brooklyn

NY; Bob Hamman, Dallas TX; John Schermer, Seattle WA; Neil Chambers, Schenectady NY; Carlos Pellegrini – Pablo Ravenna, Buenos Aires Argentina
 25.00 17/32 Xin Ge, Cupertino CA; Zhaobin Xie, Chengdu China; Ming Sheng, Los Altos CA; Jing Liu, Forest Hills NY; Edward Xu, North York ON; Fu Zhong, Beijing China

25.00 17/32 Steven Ashe, Tampa FL; Luc Tijssen, Tilburg Netherlands; Simon Hult, Wastervik Sweden; Oscar Nijssen, Rotterdam Netherlands; Guy Mendes de Leon – Tim van de Paverd, Leiden Netherlands
 25.00 17/32 Ash Gupta, New York NY; Omer Ekinci, Astoria NY; Eldad Ginossar, Sanibel FL; Ugurcan Suzer, Istanbul Turkey

25.00 17/32 Jian-Jian Wang, Clarksville MD; Jun Shi, Halfmoon Bay CA; Brian Zhang, Dublin CA; Kayden Ge, Cupertino CA

0-6000 MINI-SPINGOLD – SEMIFINAL PAIRINGS

9 Tables
 William Scott, Madison WI; Tamas Szabo, Oconomowoc WI; Mark Kinzer, Middleton WI; Bob Marheine, Waukesha WI

vs

Kevin Robertson, Beachwood OH; Scott Brozell, Half Moon Bay CA; Greg Warden, Ridgewood NJ; Andrew Skolnick, Bedford Hills NY

David desJardins, Burlingame CA; Andrew Gumperz, Berkeley CA; Lysandra Zheng, Auckland New Zealand; Leon Meier, Christ Church New Zealand

vs

Andrew Caranicas, St. Paul MN; Richard Lawson, Plymouth MN; Eric Hendrickson, Charlottesville VA; Michael Kelley, Nellysford VA

0-3000 MINI-SPINGOLD – QUARTERFINAL PAIRINGS

12 Tables
 David Neiman, Minneapolis MN; Mark Webb, Rome GA; David Trevor, Bloomington MN; David Goodrie, Plymouth MN

vs

Aaron Igra – Cooper Pierce – Rebecca Mathew, New York NY; Charles Holmes, Chicago IL

Carlene Ziegler, Brookfield WI; Ann Howard, Old Hickory TN; Jonathan Hoak, North Palm Beach FL; Mari Stuart, West Palm Beach FL

vs
 Giorgio Casinovi, Tucker GA; Weilong Shen, Milpitas CA; Vasisht Ganesh, Menlo Park CA; Haoxiang Zhang, Decatur GA

Joshua Allen, Whitestone NY; Victor Poon, Stony Brook NY; Debbie Russell, Scarsdale NY; Matt Just, Athens GA

vs

Jason Grove, Glastonbury CT; Ross Anderson, Woodbury MN; Justin Young, East Hartford CT; Chris Westermeyer, Falcon Heights MN

Donald Xu, San Diego CA; Jon Lelevier, Cardiff CA; Steve Reid, Carlsbad CA; Timothy Vickers, Poway CA

vs

Kevin Babcock – Brigitte Sandquist – Kirsten Beda, San Francisco CA; Douglas Babcock, Fitchburg WI

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QUALIFIERS IN THE WERNHER OPEN PAIRS

65.0 Tables / Based on 124 Tables

Carryover

1	Gary Cohler, Wellington FL; Ranjan Bhaduri, Toronto ON	232.96
2	Drew Cavalier, Pensacola FL; Eric Xiao, Shrewsbury MA	203.44
3	David Berkowitz, Boca Raton FL; Jeff Meckstroth, Clearwater Beach FL	185.55
4	Daniel Lev, New York NY; Sam Lev, Aventura FL	180.20
5	Hailong Ao, Ashburn VA; Jiang Gu, Mountain Lakes NJ	169.56
6	Chun Ling, Las Vegas NV; Peter Fredin, Malmo Sweden	153.88
7	Samuel Marks, Atlanta GA; Jerry Helms, Charlotte NC	134.91
8	Xiaojing Deng – Xiaoming Shen, Richmond BC	130.86
9	Sam Dinkin, Austin TX; Jacob Freeman, Jersey City NJ	130.02
10	Jonathan Fleischmann, Canton MI; Michael Curley, Rockford MI	127.97
11	Li Zhang, San Jose CA; Jay Wang, San Leandro CA	125.98
12	Jay Barron, Norman OK; Rita Ellington, Charlotte NC	121.24
13	Suresh Mahajan, Del Mar CA; Stefan Skorchev, Suvorovo Bulgaria	120.67
14	Douglas Kuschner, Auburn WA; Mike Cailean, Santa Clara CA	120.31
15	Henry Shi – Ping Hu, Naperville IL	119.30
16	Aly El-Selehdar, Pembroke NH; Junko Hemus, Los Angeles CA	117.03
17	Zygmunt Marcinski, Barbados; Michel Lorber, Baie-D'urfe QC	114.56
18	David Soukup, Philadelphia PA; Julian Kurtzman, Brooklyn NY	113.00
19	Avery Silverstein, Austin TX; Ethan Derman, Baltimore MD	110.78
20	Larry Sealy, Owens Cross Roads AL; Wafik Abdou, Bakersfield CA	109.93
21	Lee Ohliger, Bradenton FL; Pamela Granovetter, Cincinnati OH	109.25
22	Ioannis Oikonomopoulos, Hatboro PA; Will Ehlers, Lancaster PA	109.09
23	Stephen Stewart, Overland Park KS; Brad Carmichael, Shawnee KS	106.22
24	Jackson Wahl – Sarah Wahl, Minneapolis MN	100.66
25	Fred Schenker, Pittsburgh PA; Bernie Greenspan, Beachwood OH	99.91
26	Ghassan Menachi, Fabreville QC; Clement Maamarbachi, Montreal QC	99.66
27	Jonathan Steinberg, Toronto ON; Alex Hudson, Cary NC	98.09
28	Chris Chung, Palo Alto CA; Arjune Bose, Houston TX	97.83
29	Suman Agarwal, Columbus OH; George Krizel, Hollywood FL	97.05
30	Brent Xiao, Fremont CA; Cornelius Duffie, Brooklyn NY	95.20
31	Gary Macgregor, Portola Valley CA; Mukund Thapa, Palo Alto CA	93.49
32	Bob Lyon, Fishers IN; Darrow Neves, Indianapolis IN	93.45
33	Jeff Xiao, Shrewsbury MA; David Caprera, Denver CO	93.27
34	Danning Lu, Sacramento CA; Andrew Rowberg, Dublin CA	91.39
35	Elliot Sternlicht, New York NY; Dilek Yavas, Bursa Turkey	90.55
36	Ethan Liu, Fremont CA; Alexander Sandin, Horn Lake MS	87.49
37	Jacob Baron, New York NY; Daniel Aldrich, Washington DC	86.35
38	Dean Panagopoulos, Lynn MA; Louis Glasthal, Berwyn PA	81.74
39	Matthew Weingarten, Tampa FL; Alec Sun, Cambridge MA	81.43
40	JoAnna Stansby, Dublin CA; Kit Woolsey, Kensington CA	81.14
41	Bryan Delfs, Renton WA; Stan Christie, Kirkland WA	80.86
42	Kari Tetzlaff, Brooklyn NY; Matthew Quinn, New York NY	76.51
43	Claude Vogel – Carol Frank, San Diego CA	75.89
44	John Ramos, Los Angeles CA; Mitch Towner, Phoenix AZ	74.43
45	John McAllister, Charlottesville VA; Lilly Justman, Boulder CO	71.34
46	Mark Pinkowski – Matthew Dyer, Chicago IL	70.83
47	Guillermo Minutti – C. Valerie Gamio, Rolling Hills Estates CA	70.58
48	Terry Beckman, Brooklyn Park MN; David Collins, Fridley MN	68.68
49	Jim Zhong – Huailin Chen, Herndon VA	64.43
50	Fred Stewart, Bradenton FL; Steve Beatty, Mill Creek WA	63.47
51	Andrew Chen – Charlie Chen, Austin TX	61.03
52	Toby White, Des Moines IA; Richard Newell, West Des Moines IA	60.42
53	Richard Zucker, Dobbs Ferry NY; Richard Oshlag, White Plains NY	59.17
54	Sylwia McNamara – Michael McNamara, Horace ND	59.14
55	Jay Kelkar, Oak Hill VA; James Geist, Olney MD	59.01
56	Fred King, Ashburn VA; Walter Schenker, West Palm Beach FL	56.92
57	Stephannie Culbertson – John Fout, New York NY	55.86

58	Ray Miller – Michael Christensen, Seattle WA	55.65
59	Sangit Chatterjee, Sun City Center FL; Matt Granovetter, Cincinnati OH	54.86
60	Jim Johnsen, Frisco TX; Alan Hierseman, Olathe KS	53.58
61	Ron Smith, Glenview IL; Mark Bartusek, Santa Barbara CA	51.00
62	Vern Swing, Minneapolis MN; Keith Connolly, St. Paul MN	50.64
63	Normand Houle, St.-Hubert QC; Silvana Rojko, West Palm Beach FL	49.57
64	Vladislav Isporski, Sofia Bulgaria; Todd Werby, Tiburon CA	48.57
65	Michael Rosen, New York NY; Sandra Friedman, Flushing NY	48.43
66	Rachael Moller – David Gurvich, New York NY	48.24
67	Jacqueline Chang – Jordan Lampe, New York NY	48.05
68	Steven Wallis, Tampa FL; Jacob Morgan, Madison WI	47.76
69	Stephen McConnell, Evanston IL; Eugene Saxe, Briarcliff NY	47.32
70	Bryan Howard, Nashville TN; Olin Hubert, Atlanta GA	46.62
71	Richard Popper, Wilmington DE; Rick Roeder, La Mesa CA	45.40
72	Walter Schafer Jr., Inglewood CA; Richard Reitman, Los Gatos CA	45.25
73	Kim Eng – Eric Sieg, Issaquah WA	44.59
74	Lee Blocher, Champaign IL; Brandon Wolpert, Palm Bch Gardens FL	40.25
75	Samuel Kuang, Woodside NY; Helen Chow, San Francisco CA	40.15
76	Siqing Yu, San Diego CA; Sarik Goyal, Jersey City NJ	40.00
77	Michael Ranis, Aventura FL; Michael Wolf, Fort Lauderdale FL	39.38
78	Sumner Steinfeldt, Washington DC; Kent Hartman, San Diego CA	37.01
79	Aleksandar Lishkov – Rahul Garga, Chicago IL	34.34
80	Castor Mann, Lund Sweden; Marc Topaz, Flourtown PA	34.27
81	Marjorie Michelin – Ellis Feigenbaum, Laguna Woods CA	34.02
82	Terri Verret – Pierre Daigneault, Montreal QC	33.50
83	Robert Bitterman, Harbor Springs MI; Mark Bendure, Grosse Pointe MI	31.23
84	Pete Matthews Jr., Canton MA; Gary Schwartz, Huntsville AL	30.17
85	Dorothy Mersereau – David Johnson, Calgary AB	29.96
86	Mark Ralph, San Francisco CA; William Harker, Santa Fe NM	29.95
87	Arvind Ranasaria, Redmond WA; Rajendra Gokhale, Seattle WA	29.09
88	Gokhan Yilmaz, Istanbul Turkey; Murat Alaybeyi, Saratoga CA	27.73
89	Leonardo Fruscoloni, Brooklyn NY; Mindy Fine-Fleder, New York NY	27.15
90	Linda Drake, Georgetown TX; James Breihan, Houston TX	26.82
91	Linda Einhorn-Ihde – Erez Hendelman, New York NY	25.75
92	Edward Nagy, Danville CA; Gary Soules, Elk Grove CA	25.66
93	John Bishel – Tom Bishel, Columbus OH	25.28
94	William Neumann, Columbia MD; Mark Dahl, Richmond VA	25.08
95	Joseph Byrnes, Long Beach NY; Charles Sharf, North Baldwin NY	24.60
96	Michael Lipkin, Brooklyn NY; Daniel Nussbaum, Cambridge MA	23.82
97	Amy Casanova, Inglewood CA; R. Muggia, Andover MA	22.57
98	Bonnie Gellas, New York NY; Carlos Hoyos, Bogota Colombia	20.65
99	Ahmed Harb, Cairo Egypt; Yu Nadler, Boca Raton FL	20.46
100	Mark Perlmutter, San Diego CA; Charles Finch, Las Vegas NV	20.23
101	Richard Loew – Robert Dewey, Naples FL	19.69
102	Charles Wilkins, Greensboro NC; Valentin Kovachev, Las Vegas NV	19.19
103	Elizabeth Brimberg, New York NY; Eva Graczyk, Forest Hills NY	18.66
104	Vikram Srimurthy, Brookline MA; Linda Robinson, Arlington MA	18.62
105	Rick Clelland, Boulder CO; Ying Zhang, Longmont CO	18.49
106	Paul Lewis, White Plains NY; Faye Marino, Greenwich CT	17.37
107	Alexander Kolesnik, Los Angeles CA; Amber Lin, Mountain View CA	16.96
108	Tom Carmichael, Marysville WA; James Holzhauer, Seattle WA	16.08
109	Ari Sippola, Richardson TX; Pawel Hanus, Carrollton TX	14.76
110	Melih Ozdil, New York NY; Sharon Goldman, Miami FL	14.73
111	Ettore Bianchi, Stamford CT; Francesco Mazzadi, Parma Italy	12.80
112	Mark Aquino, Jamaica Plain MA; Robert Cappelli, Naples FL	11.94
113	Abe Pineles, Jackson NJ; Alexander Allen, Annandale NJ	11.79
114	Thomas Dressing – Mark Ginsburg, Buffalo Grove IL	11.59
115	H. Jay Sloofman, Tarrytown NY; Vic Quiros, Phoenix AZ	10.69
116	Stella Wan, San Francisco CA; Johan Saefsten, Uppsala Sweden	10.40

117	Samuel Ehrlichman, Brooklyn NY; Ilan Wolff, New York City NY	10.03
118	Jason Doyle, Dublin Ireland; Laura Gastelum, Lomita CA	8.67
119	Michael Fleisher, Campbell CA; Arif Janjua, Saratoga CA	8.06
120	Louis-Amaury Beauchet, Larmor-Plage France; Daniel Hoekstra, Portland OR	8.04
121	Bridget Poizner – Marina Fomenkova, San Diego CA	7.52
122	Morgan Sabourin, Ottawa ON; Jessica Udomsriunguang, State College PA	7.02
123	Shen Duan – Meiyan Duan, Andover MA	5.32
124	Roberto Verthelyi, Hoboken NJ; Nathan Glasser, Somerville MA	3.42
125	Amit Garg, Saratoga CA; Atul Rai, Wichita KS	3.22
126	Dennis Carman, Plainwell MI; Bob Heller, Knoxville TN	2.60
127	Donald Duncan, Ottawa ON; Suzanne Maurice, Gloucester ON	2.19
128	Bella Ionis-Sorren – Sheila Cesarano, Fort Lauderdale FL	2.09
129	James Olson, Charleston WV; David Olson, Owings Mills MD	0.82
130	Peter Peng, North York ON; Leigh Ives, Alliston ON	0.00

QUALIFERS IN THE FREEMAN MIXED BAM

28 Tables / Based on 50 Tables		Carryover
1	Sheila Gabay, Newton MA; Daniel Boye, Baldwinsville NY; Alan Watson, Lexington MA; Patricia Dovell, Gainesville FL	5.00
2	Debbie Rosenberg, Foster City CA; Christal Henner, New York NY; Ben Kristensen, Indianapolis IN; Uday Ivatury, New York City NY; Fred Gitelman – Sheri Winestock, Las Vegas NV	4.72
3	Thomas Peters – Mary Peters, Dayton MD; Tracy Brines, Richland WA; Maureen Brines, Virginia Beach VA	3.89
4	Jared Lilienstein, New York NY; Janice Seamon-Molson, Hollywood FL; Rozanne Pollack – William Pollack, Boca Raton FL	3.75
5	Sara Rothmuller, Occidental CA; Roger McNay, Beaverton OR; Toni Bales, Pickerington OH; Stephen Castellino, Castro Valley CA	3.61
6	Alex Perlin, Metuchen NJ; Ljudmila Kamenova, South Setauket NY; David Yang, Darien IL; Jui Wang, Cary NC	3.33
7/8	Rodrigo Garcia Da Rosa, Fort Lauderdale FL; Diego Brenner, Barcelona Spain; Sally Meckstroth, Clearwater Beach FL; Caru Vidigal, Rio De Janeiro Brazil	2.78
7/8	Lynne Castoldi, Minnetonka MN; Christian Lahrmann, Virum Denmark; Ann Karin Fuglestad, Farsund Norway; Nicolai Heiberg-Evenstad, Finnsnes Norway	2.78
9	Linda Lewis – Paul Lewis, Sioux Falls SD; Kristen Onsgard, Dallas TX; Iftikhar Baqai, Irvine CA	2.67
10	Marusa Gold, Palm Beach Gardens FL; Mathias Bruun, Hellerup Denmark; Tim Archdeacon, Key Biscayne FL; Signe Buus Thomsen, Valby Denmark	2.50
11/14	Linda Epstein, Delray Beach FL; Danuta Kazmucha, Poznan Poland; Gabriele Zanasi, Italy; Wojciech Strzemecki, Poland	2.22
11/14	Radu Nistor – Susan Schnelwar – Lynne Koeppel, New York NY; Lapt Chan, Forest Hills NY	2.22
11/14	Gillian Minitier, New York NY; Roger Lee, Las Vegas NV; Ida Groenkvist, Sundbyberg Sweden; Frederic Wrang, Stockholm Sweden; Tor Eivind Grude, Trondheim Norway; Jenny Wolpert, Palm Beach Gardens FL	2.22
11/14	Lynne Feldman, San Diego CA; Kitty Cooper – Bart Bramley, Avon CT; John Jones, Santa Fe Springs CA	2.22
15	Randi Adelman, Teaneck NJ; Ryan Connors, Alexandria VA; Cynthia Balderson – Bob Balderson Jr., Eden Prairie MN	1.88
16/17	Linda Marshall, Bethesda MD; Muh-Sha Crawford, Hampton VA; Hank Meyer, Greenbelt MD; Andrew Gofreed, La Plata MD	1.39
16/17	Mitch Dunitz, Sherman Oaks CA; Jenni Carmichael, Marysville WA; Cecilia Ehrlichman, Ann Arbor MI; Greg Humphreys, Charlottesville VA	1.39
18/19	Steven Devico – Gayle Covey, Pittsboro NC; Barbara Heller, Knoxville TN; Emory Whitaker, Macon GA	1.11
18/19	Yan Wang, Richmond Hill ON; Jung Hu, San Jose CA; Xiaowen Li, Jersey City NJ; Weizhong Bao, Herndon VA	1.11

20/21	Joe Quinn – Shawn Quinn, Sugar Land TX; Lin-Huan Chen – Ding-Hwa Hsieh, Kirksville MO; Gigi Simpson, Sarasota FL; Michael Gamble, Shawnigan Lake BC	0.83
20/21	Arti Bhargava, Mill Valley CA; Aaron Jones, Las Vegas NV; Hjordis Eythorsdottir, Huntsville AL; Mark Itabashi, Newport Beach CA	0.83
22/23	GS Jade Barrett – Karen Lee Barrett, Elk Point SD; Thomas Mac Cormac, Dublin Ireland; Neal Satten, Philadelphia PA; Anne Dawson, Delhi LA; Donna Lombardini, Alcester SD	0.56
22/23	Craig Allen, Glen Ellyn IL; Nicole Qian, Evanston IL; Gediminas Poska – Daiva Vitukynaite, Palos Hills IL	0.56
24/25	Christine Denny, Oceanside CA; Fran White, Vista CA; Leon Fisher, Clearwater FL; Sam Madison-Jammal, San Diego CA	0.28
24/25	Qiang Zhang – Serena Guo, Dublin CA; Steve Chen – Sarah Chen, Austin TX	0.28
26/28	Keith Hafen, Gainesville VA; Amy Brisson – Hal Hindman, Oakton VA; Margot Hennings, Annandale VA	0.00
26/28	Mary Ose, Incline Village NV; Jason Ji, Jersey City NJ; Prudence Saunders, Palo Alto CA; Ken Rosenfeld, Mountain View CA	0.00
26/28	Joanne Weingold – Jack Weingold, Boca Raton FL; Dennis Clerkin – Jerry Clerkin, Bloomington IN; Allison L. Cappelletti, Delray Beach FL	0.00



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Bridge Mania

Players flocked to the Sheraton on Wednesday night to play Family Feud, Jeopardy and Bridge Trivia Kahoot. Howls of laughter and applause cascaded through the rooms.

Family Feud is notorious for its difficulty due to the surveys of 100 bridge players being conducted on another planet, and most games end with several answers on the board uncovered. One game featured a category of bridge terms that sound like they belong in a Western. It took 10 tries before a player on either team was able to uncover a single answer. When they were finally revealed, they turned out to be unusually easy.

“They were more reasonable than the normal survey

answers!” host Zach Grossack commented.

Grossack and Jeopardy host James Holzhauer have a tradition of playing each other’s games at the end of the night. Holzhauer played on a team called Bergen Hotel that won its Family Feud game against the Bridge Bums.

In Jeopardy, on a board featuring local-themed categories of local pop culture, Minnesota, twins and Vikings, Grossack got off to a strong start in a game that was essentially a three-way race between him, Patty Tucker and the team of Bronia Jenkins and Mike Cappelletti. But Jenkins and Cappelletti knew too many obscure Viking terms and finished with a dominating lead.





Play opens today in NABC 0–10,000 Pairs



**Winners of the NABC 0–10,000 Pairs
last year: Barbara Shukov and Sibrand
van Oosten**

The four-session event, consisting of two qualifying and two final rounds, is a gold-point event. But it also pays platinum points at 10% of the overall award, up to a maximum of 10 platinum points. Because there is a masterpoint ceiling, winning the event does not count toward Grand Life Master status.

2014	Mark Bartusek, John Jones
2015	Diane Travis, Frank Treiber III
2016	David Rodney, Rusty Krauss
2017	David Gurvich, Michael Lipkin
2018	Phil Clayton, Andrew Gumperz
2019	Robert Kuhnreich, Elliot Sternlicht
2020	Not held
2021	Not held
2022	Anant Rath, Andrew Gumperz
2023	Paul Holmes, Eric Gettleman
2024	Sofie Sjodal, Castor Mann
2025	Sibrand van Oosten, Barbara Shukov

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Eligibility points

Notice to members of other national bridge organizations:

If you are currently a member of a bridge organization outside of the U.S., Canada, Mexico or Bermuda, or have been in the past, please be aware that you must have eligibility points assigned to you prior to participation in any event at this NABC. This is especially important if you intend to enter an event, flight or stratum with a masterpoint limit or a bracketed event. Please visit the Tournament Operations office (*Room 201, level 2, MCC*) for this purpose. Previously assigned eligibility points do not need to be reviewed.

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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.

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/ 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

- 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:

- 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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Lisbon to New York 12 Nights with Corey Krantz
Sep. 9–21, 2026 | Rates from \$7,400

Athens to Lisbon with Sylwia and Mike McNamara
November 7–22, 2026 | Rates from \$10,400

2027 Adventures

Miami to Miami 10 Nights
with Sylwia and Mike McNamara
Jan. 27–Feb. 7, 2027 | Rates from \$8,400

Hong Kong to Singapore 13 nights
with Sylwia and Mike McNamara
Feb. 28–Mar. 14, 2027 | Rates from \$11,100

Cartagena to Barranquilla
with Corey Krantz 10 Nights Bridge Academy and
AMA River Cruise Colombia
April 21–May 1, 2027 | Rates from \$9,430

Lisbon to Belfast 12 nights
with Sylwia and Mike McNamara
May 12–24, 2027 | Rates from \$8,000

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10 Night Bridge Academy/AMA River Cruise
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Lightner lamentations

By Bob Sanner, Palo Alto CA

My team lost by 5 IMPs in the quarterfinals of the Grand National Teams Flight A. We had many chances, of course, but the most costly and interesting was a 26-IMP swing after a Lightner double of a grand slam:

Dlr: East	♠ A K 6 5		
Vul: N-S	♥ A K 9 6 4 2		
	♦ 2		
	♣ K 7		
♠ J 10 7		♠ Q 9 8 4 3 2	
♥ J 7 3		♥ 10 8	
♦ J 9 6 5 3		♦ A Q 7	
♣ 6 5		♣ 9 8	
	♠ —		
	♥ Q 5		
	♦ K 10 8 4		
	♣ A Q J 10 4 3 2		

West	North	East	South
<i>Me</i>		<i>Partner</i>	
		2♠	3♣
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♦
Pass	4♠	Pass	6♣
Pass	7♣	Dbl	All Pass

7♣ was bid after some hesitation. But when pard came to life with a double, I had to pick a lead from my worthless hand to win or lose a daylong match.

The double of a slam here traditionally says to not lead partner's suit; this is a Lightner double, named after its inventor Ted Lightner. It asks the opening leader to pick another suit and/or find an "unusual" lead. In the overwhelming number of cases, partner has a void and wants you to find it. Further, that void is usually in dummy's side suit, hearts in this case.

But wait! I can tell from looking at my hand that the opponents would have to have a combined 10-card heart holding that includes the A-K-Q for partner to have a heart void. So that's very unlikely. OK then, could partner have the ♥A? If so, that would mean North bid 7♣ with a heart suit topped by the K-Q-10.

As you can see, the winning lead was a diamond to pard's ace. Instead, I led a heart, and declarer's diamonds were discarded on the long hearts. Without a diamond lead, declarer has 14 tricks. At the other table, the contract was the normal 6♣, making.

I am told that some established partnerships have a rule that a Lightner double requires the lead of dummy's first-bid suit. Thus, partner is supposed to pass here, not double. And then, the opening leader is supposed to conclude to lead a diamond (declarer's second suit). That theory is too deep for me.

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New Life Masters

Catherine Gussler of Savannah GA became a Life Master on Tuesday when her team won its bracket in the Round Robin Teams.



"I'd like to thank my teammates and my mentor, Marla Chaikin," said Gussler, who has been playing duplicate bridge for just two and a half years after previously playing only socially.

Bridge runs in the family. Gussler's father and her in-laws are all Life Masters. She earned her final points partnering her husband, Joe Gussler, with teammates Heather Shearouse and Alexandra Whiddon, all of Savannah.

Mike Wilson, who splits the year between Minneapolis/St. Paul and Savannah GA, became a Life Master at the Summer NABC.



Wilson, who needed just a few masterpoints to advance, scored 4.87 gold points in Saturday's Mid-Flight Pairs with partner James Petersen of Edina MN, and then another 0.72 red points in the Monday-Tuesday Mini-Soloway Bracketed KO with teammates John Baga, Margaret Getman and David Bressoud.

Carol Pastushok of Princeton NJ earned her gold card on Tuesday when her squad won Bracket 5 of Tuesday's 0-4000



Bracketed Teams. Pastushok needed five gold points to become a Life Master, and her team picked up 11.49 in the contest. She played with Harold George and Robert Fraser of Wichita KS and Dennis Sucec of Houston TX.

Karen Solheim of Surprise AZ became a Life Master on Tuesday after winning the Gold Rush pairs with Paula Cheslik of Glendale AZ. "Thank you to all who helped me get here," said Karen.



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Warm-up Pairs
Open Pairs
Traditional Dinner
Open Teams
Friday Excursions
Gala Dinner and Prize Giving
Cool-down Pairs



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 held 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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Ola Rimstedt
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— Barbara Seagram Internationally renowned bridge author & teacher

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LANCE CHAMBERLAIN MEMORIAL WEDNESDAY OPEN PAIRS

36.0 Tables

A	B	C		
38.36	1		Neil Silverman – Mina Akhnoukh, Fort Lauderdale FL	62.41%
28.77	2	1	JC Chupack – Scott Chupack, Seattle WA	61.35%
21.58	3	2	William Higbee, Madison WI; Rene McFall, West Allis WI	60.45%
16.18	4		Gregg van Dyke, St. Paul MN; Alberto Feilhaber, Irvine CA	59.33%
12.79	5		James Andre – Lily Andre, Allyn WA	58.41%
10.96	6		Jon Brissman, Indianapolis IN; Craig Kavin, Camarillo CA	58.22%
9.59	7		Kelley Hwang – Katherine Hwang, New York NY	57.80%
8.52	8		Dorothy Kelleher, Westbrook ME; Dan Morgenstern, Brunswick ME	57.11%
7.67	9		Paulo Brum, Columbus Brazil; James Schatzman, Aurora CO	56.92%
6.97	10		Sonja Smith, Chapel Hill NC; Paul Burnham, Wilton CT	56.46%
6.39	11		Tom Jacobson, Fairfield CA; Larry Spanier, Santa Rosa CA	56.43%
12.47	12	3	1 Quentin Liang, Long Island City NY; Zhouzhou Gu, Princeton NJ	56.27%
9.35	13	4	Thomas Knier, Burnsville MN; Frank Knier, Fargo ND	56.26%
5.11	14		Vandana Jhawar – Pradeep Jhawar, Las Vegas NV	55.74%
7.39	15	5	Sara Foster – Joelle Benioff, San Francisco CA	55.54%
4.51	16		Barbara Seagram – Alex Kornel, Toronto ON	55.52%
4.26	17		Diana Schuld, Glen Head NY; Alan Kudisch, Savannah GA	54.57%
4.81	18		Marie Abate – Geoffrey Brod, Newington CT	54.51%
6.33		6	Lorenzo Migliorini, Seattle WA; Mike D. Aguiar, Calgary AB	54.49%
5.54		7	Andrew Clements, La Vista NE; Jonathan Cohn, Elkhorn NE	53.93%
4.93		8	Yanping Zhang, Ann Arbor MI; Jacinda Liu, Sandy UT	53.51%
4.43		9	Sheila Katz, Bonita Springs FL; Ellen Tilzer, North Caldwell NJ	52.95%
6.23	10	2	Allan Chernov, Irving TX; Paulette Armstrong, Plano TX	52.42%
4.67	11	3	Rob Gleason, Madison WI; Leah Creswell, Fitchburg WI	52.27%
3.41	12		Dwight Bostow – Mark Sinner, Fargo ND	52.12%
3.17	13		Jay Olson, Eagan MN; Rosella Vanek, Gardner ND	52.08%
3.51		4	Sudhir Kulkarni, Pleasanton CA; William Omdahl, Madison WI	50.42%
2.77		5	Jeanne Kowalski, Berwyn IL; Jan Summers, Aurora IL	48.33%
2.37		6	Chris Fellerman, Madison SD; Harold Fellerman, Maple Grove MN	47.26%

SUE GREENBERG WEDNESDAY GOLD RUSH PAIRS

27.0 Tables

A	B	C		
9.71	1	1	John McKay, Kansas City MO; Kevin Foley, Mission KS	67.03%
7.28	2		Fred Yu – Chungli C. Wang, Bellevue WA	60.87%
5.46	3	2	1 Stephanie Janeway – David Janeway, Lake Stevens WA	60.10%
4.10	4		Carol Pastushok, Princeton NJ; Mary Ryder Wright, Loudonville NY	58.38%
3.24	5		Firoz Nilam, Lakeville MN; Deepak Vora, San Diego CA	57.80%
2.77	6		Louann Cutler, St. Augustine FL; Kevin Kennett, Gladwin MI	56.99%
2.43	7		Lisa Ihrke – Linda Grigoleit, Rochester MN	56.72%
3.61	8	3	Sandra Davis – Sally Haessig, Plover WI	56.27%
1.94	9		Julie Zimmerman – Steven Zimmerman, Palm Coast FL	56.13%
2.70	10	4	David Fritzsche, Kildeer IL; Richard Kern, Grayslake IL	56.10%
2.23	11	5	D. Suzette Durdahl, Maple Grove MN; Dennis Schulte, Woodbury MN	55.79%
2.55	12	6	2 James Bloom, Port Matilda PA; Marguerite Swope, State College PA	55.08%
1.60	13	7	Donald Bailey – Judith Bratton, Port Angeles WA	54.49%
1.42	14	8	Diane Conde – Brad Orr, Ann Arbor MI	53.94%
1.45		9	Marsha Irelan – Valerie Bauer, Kalamazoo MI	53.56%
1.91		3	Frank Lerman, Edina MN; Navin Jaipuriyar, Blaine MN	50.22%
1.48		4	Timo Pekkanen, Cambridge MA; Jim Finn, Milton MA	50.00%

TUESDAY EVENING SIDE PAIRS

12.5 Tables

A	B	C		
4.98	1	1	Cooper Smith, Grand Rapids MI; Marley Cedrone, Durham NH	66.77%
3.74	2		Joyce Dodson Clinite, Amana IA; Judy Hoenk, Las Vegas NV	60.21%
3.09	3	2	Ranjan Bhaduri, Toronto ON; Mingmin Zhu, Mississauga ON	59.56%
2.80	4	3	1 Jack Coleman, Forest VA; Anthony Wang, Vienna VA	58.92%

1.74	5	4	Steven Hamburg, Troutman NC; Hongbo Li, Baltimore MD	56.11%
1.30	6	5	Jonathan Klinker, Tiverton RI; Jesse Laird, Delray Beach FL	55.26%
2.10		2	Nathan Nantais, Edmonton AB; Alex Han, Katy TX	51.33%
1.58		3	Kevin Le, Austin TX; Megan Le, Cambridge MA	49.23%
1.18		4	Noah Bell, Ithaca NY; Kai Eckert, El Granada CA	47.61%

BRUCE WACHSMAN WEDNESDAY MORNING SIDE GAME

12.5 Tables

A	B	C		
4.98	1		Sharon Stanfill, Lincoln MA; Kevin Wilson, Knoxville TN	69.02%
3.74	2		Viktor Anikovich – Lee Hausner, Los Angeles CA	62.36%
2.80	3		Duane Christensen – Craig Jones, Boise ID	60.31%
2.10	4		Ed Schulte, Beverly Hills FL; Betty Sue el Gammal, Hoover AL	55.58%
1.58	5		Charles Sweet, Barrington IL; Edward Nield, Naples FL	55.41%
4.12	6	1	Evelyn Boucher, Calgary AB; Quan Chen, North York ON	54.29%
3.09		2	Patricia Nigbur – Theresa Seeger, Rochester MN	53.74%
2.32		3	Eric Swanlund, Minneapolis MN; Shelly Husebo, Eden Prairie MN	52.14%
1.74		4	Marguerite Levin – Mary Schaeffer, Plymouth MA	51.06%
1.30		5	Clyde Coon, Boise ID; Gay Yamagiwa, Eagle ID	50.19%
1.97		2	Jody Leavitt – Judy Goodman, New York NY	46.74%
1.48		3	Valerie Rennert, Miami FL; Irit Stoppelman, White Plains NY	45.45%
1.11		4	Stephen Adamson, The Villages FL; Evan Marti, Houston TX	43.44%

WEDNESDAY MORNING 299ER PAIRS

10.0 Tables

A	B	C		
3.00	1	1	David Niles – Huldah Niles, Minnetonka MN	64.29%
2.25	2		Patricia Grasso – Nancy Olt, Bedford MA	57.14%
1.48	3/4		Sue Coast, Larkspur CO; Tami Kephart, Colorado Springs CO	56.85%
1.48	3/4		Eric Edwalds, Minneapolis MN; Suzanne Jiwani, Edina MN	56.85%
1.35	5/6	3	Sivan Garteiz, Valencia CA; Alexander Osborn, Sammamish WA	54.17%
0.83	5/6		Laurie Carlson, Marine MN; Diane Alshouse, St. Paul MN	54.17%
1.01		4	Phil Vivirito – Elizabeth Vivirito, Chesterfield MO	53.87%
0.76		5	Mary Mead, Edina MN; Merrikay Bailey, Minneapolis MN	52.08%
0.92		3	Michael Sharpe, North Oaks MN; Jim Groskopf, St. Paul MN	49.11%

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON SIDE GAME

11.0 Tables

A	B	C		
4.55	1		Merle Stetser, Honolulu HI; Kyle Blocher, Champaign IL	68.45%
3.41	2		Davis Heussler, East Aurora NY; David Colligan, Buffalo NY	62.20%
3.68	3	1	Michael Wang, Grove City OH; Robert Kaplan, Columbus OH	55.95%
1.92	4		Kevin Wilson, Knoxville TN; Sharon Stanfill, Lincoln MA	53.57%
1.44	5		Ed Schulte, Beverly Hills FL; Betty Sue el Gammal, Hoover AL	52.98%
1.08	6		Jerry Johnson – Rick Mattson, Eagan MN	52.38%
2.76		2	Roseann Buckley, Ventura CA; Deborah Harrington, Memphis TN	50.60%
2.07		3	Clyde Coon, Boise ID; Gay Yamagiwa, Eagle ID	50.00%
1.71		4	Evan Marti, Houston TX; Stephen Adamson, The Villages FL	49.70%
1.14	5/6		Eric Swanlund, Minneapolis MN; Shelly Husebo, Eden Prairie MN	49.40%
1.02	5/6		Sivan Garteiz, Valencia CA; Richard Grier, Lakewood CO	49.40%

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON 299ER PAIRS

5.5 Tables

A	B	C		
2.40	1		Laurie Carlson, Marine MN; Diane Alshouse, St. Paul MN	64.28%
1.80	2		Tami Kephart, Colorado Springs CO; Sue Coast, Larkspur CO	60.94%
1.87	3	1	Carol Lahti – Dean Becker, Albany CA	57.74%
1.40	4	2	Elan Ravishankar, Schaumburg IL; Emma Wang, Palatine IL	56.55%
1.05	3	3	Jojo Kim, Evanston IL; Mervyn Gong, Palm Coast FL	52.98%

KERRY HOLLOWAY WEDNESDAY TOP-FLIGHT SWISS TEAMS

13 Tables / Based on 36 Tables

	A	X	Y		
18.40	1			Daniel Zagorin, Chicago IL; Ofek Sabbah - Yonatan Sliwowicz, Petah Tikva Israel; Ilai Baniri, Barcelona Spain	92.00
13.80	2	1	1	Zhenling Wang, Berkeley CA; Yifu Ouyang, Dallas TX; Tianyang Chen, Plainsboro NJ; Benjie Miao, La Jolla CA	77.00
10.35	3	2		Richard D'Litzenberger - Brian Koblenz, Leavenworth WA; John Cox, Bayfield CO; Pete Cowles, Tucson AZ	74.00
7.76	4	3		Chase Lefevre, Blackshear GA; Anyao He - Justin Shiao, Atlanta GA; Alex Han, Katy TX	71.00
6.13	5			Kerry Holloway, Bloomington MN; Leah Newell, Springfield IL; Joyce Dodson Clinite, Amana IA; Judy Hoenk, Las Vegas NV	62.00
4.66		4		Patricia Herrera, Mexico City Mexico; Marc Sylvester, Edinboro PA; Isaac Stone - Bernice Ng, Edmonton AB	60.00

DEAN & ELAINE GRAHAM MEMORIAL WEDNESDAY MID-FLIGHT SWISS TEAMS

54 Tables

	B	C	D		
20.48	1	1	1	Ava Donnellan, Brooklyn NY; Marin Hirono - Xingrui Wang – Jan Borowski, New York NY	95.00
15.36	2			Barb Zipoy, Bloomington MN; Ann House, Minneapolis MN; Jane Trahms, Eden Prairie MN; Mary Sass, Apple Valley MN	90.00
11.52	3	2		Barry Balof - Daniel Balof - Claire Valente - Mary Eliza Balof, Walla Walla WA	89.00
8.64	4	3		Jake Olson - Lisa Olson, Rice MN; Scott Richardson – Shirley Richardson, St. Joseph MN	85.00
6.83	5	4	2	Xintao He - Paraleen Pew - Gary Falkenstein – Connie Falkenstein, Rochester MN	80.00
5.85	6	5		Benjamin Levine, Hartford CT; Nicole Hudak, New York NY; Jonathan Klinker - Susan Miguel, Tiverton RI	78.00
5.12	7	6		James Schnepf - Connie Nelson, Avon MN; Jenna Rivet, Glen Ellyn IL; Michael Lee, Seattle WA	77.00
4.33	8/9			Josh Levy - Jan Miyake, Oberlin OH; Clair Kretschmann, Tucson AZ; Margaret Norris, Ridge MD	76.00
4.33	8/9	7	3	Catherine Gussler - Joseph Gussler - Alexandra Whiddon – Heather Shearouse, Savannah GA	76.00
3.57	10/11	8		Karen Reese - Faye Bowers - Martin Matthews - Randolph Osstyn, Marquette MI	74.00
3.57	10/11			Larry Junck - Chris Brewer - Stuart Dombey, Ann Arbor MI; Arun Desouza, Troy MI	74.00
3.04	12/13			Sheryl Sack - Lana Imerman - Barbara Goldman - Barbara Fleming, Atlanta GA	72.00
3.04	12/13	9		Lynn Duncan, Wenham MA; Elizabeth Wood, Arlington MA; David Gardner - Nicole Gardner, Watertown MA	72.00
2.73	14	10		Matthew Evett - Susan Evett, Ann Arbor MI; Debra Graham, Des Moines IA; Kathy Kat Breen, Oskaloosa IA	70.00
2.30		11		Jeffrey Walker, Eagan MN; Douglas Giloy, Rockford IL; Todd Flowerday, Coon Rapids MN; Michael Orsted, Stillwater MN	68.00
2.13			4	Keari Bjorgum, Elk Grove CA; Aniket Mondal - Haoqing Chen, Davis CA; Maxwell Burns, Washington DC	65.00
1.68			5	Kaining Sheng, Northbrook IL; Dennis Stambaugh, Rio Rancho NM; Russel Boknecht, Lacey WA; Kao Li, Cohasset MA	61.00

WED-THU BRACKETED KNOCKOUT BKT 1

4 Tables

Hemant Lall, Marina Del Rey CA; Reese Milner, Sarasota FL; David Gold, United Kingdom; Zia Mahmood, London United Kingdom;
Rafal Jagniewski, Legionowo Poland; Wojciech Gawel, Wroclaw Poland

vs

Barry Rigal, New York NY; Ron Rubin, Deerfield Beach FL; Jeff Aker, Sleepy Hollow NY; Mark Feldman, Austin TX; Howard Weinstein,
Midway UT; Larry Robbins, Glenview IL

Lynn Baker, Austin TX; Olivia Schireson, Colorado Springs CO; Justyna Zmuda, Skawina Poland; Cecilia Dwyer Rimstedt - Sandra Rimstedt, Jupiter FL; Katarzyna Dufurat, Wroclaw Poland

VS

Margaret Moore - Scott Hiller, Naples FL; Anthony Barre, Sunnyvale CA; Lynne Cook, Riverview MI

WED-THU BRACKETED KNOCKOUT BKT 2

4 Tables

Mary Doyle - Anne Beaurivage, Lincoln NE; Kenneth McNary, Omaha NE; Al Spaet, Tucson AZ

VS

David Rodney - Avril Rodney, Ashburn VA; Jonathan Rodney, Arlington VA; Daniel Rodney, Austin TX

Greg Leblanc, Charlotte NC; Andy Hsiao, Marvin NC; Robert Winters, McMurray PA; Charles Carroll, St. Paul MN

VS

Mollie Freier, Marquette MI; Ronald Grosh, Middleton WI; Michael Pratzel - Barb Pratzel, Madison WI

WED-THU BRACKETED KNOCKOUT BKT 3

4 Tables

Alan Munro, Vienna VA; Luke Brezak, Arlington VA; Colin Schloss - Jichong Chai, Falls Church VA

VS

Dennis Viner, Kapaa HI; William Taylor, Rancho Palos Ver CA; Gary Sheerer, Los Altos CA; Douglas Clink, Orange Beach AL

Jane Curtis, Clear Lake MN; Rhonda Rossman, Cold Spring MN; Gregory Nastrom - Joe Lisbon, St. Cloud MN

VS

Sandy Casey, St. Paul MN; Les Hassler, Shoreview MN; Eileen Fontaine, Bluffton SC; Amy Dutton, Mendota Heights MN

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Tomorrow's Bridge Events

Friday, July 17

Junior Day

9:30 am & 3:30 pm

Event	Session	Sold	Entry/player/session*	
			Members with discount	Members without discount
SPINGOLD KNOCKOUT TEAMS	1-2 QF	M100F, mezzanine	\$43	\$53
0–6000 MINI-SPINGOLD KNOCKOUT TEAMS	1-2 F	M100F, mezzanine	\$25	\$35
0–3000 MINI-SPINGOLD KNOCKOUT TEAMS	1-2 SF	M100F, mezzanine	\$25	\$35
10 am				
Daniel Korbel Friday Morning Side Pairs <i>Fri-Sun Daylight Series</i>	single	Exhibit Hall A, lower level	\$22	\$32
Pat Linville 299er Pairs	single	Exhibit Hall A, lower level	\$18	\$28
10 am & 1 pm				
Rob Barrington Fast Pairs <i>(unlim./4000/1500)</i>	1-2	L100H, lower level	\$22	\$32
10 am & 3 pm				
NABC 0–10,000 PAIRS	1-2 F	L100G, lower level	\$25	\$35
Mitch Dunitz ACBL Collegiate Bridge Bowl Championship	SF/F	M101C, mezzanine	Free	Free
Collegiate Pairs	1-2	200B, level 2	Free	Free
Gavin Wolpert Top-Flight Pairs <i>(unlim./5000)</i>	1-2	Exhibit Hall A, lower level	\$22	\$32
Suzette Wynn Mid-Flight Pairs <i>(4000/1250)</i>	1-2	Exhibit Hall A, lower level	\$22	\$32
Peter Hollands Gold Rush Pairs	1-2	Exhibit Hall A, lower level	\$22	\$32
Haig Tchamitch Open Bracketed Round Robin Teams	1-2	Exhibit Hall A, lower level	\$22	\$32
10 am & 3:30 pm				
ROTH OPEN SWISS TEAMS <i>2 qualifying, 2 semifinal & 2 final sessions</i>	1-2 Q	Ballroom A, ground level	\$43	\$53
3 pm				
Josh Donn Friday Afternoon Side Pairs <i>Fri-Sun Daylight Series</i>	single	Exhibit Hall A, lower level	\$22	\$32
Stephanie Haddy 299er Pairs	single	Exhibit Hall A, lower level	\$18	\$28
7:30 pm				
Eli Jolley Friday Evening Side Pairs <i>Tue-Fri Evening Series</i>	single	200D, level 2	\$22	\$22

* 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. 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.