



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

- Hong–Chen lead 10K Pairs
- Z'mann, Nickell KO'ed
- Mini-Spin final: des Jardins vs. Robertson
- 0–3000 Spingold semifinals set

See page 6



Youth poll

What do you like about bridge?

"I like meeting new people, being able to learn and solve problems. I think bridge teaches us there are so many ways to deal with a problem. We can solve a problem without knowing the whole context. And there's opportunities."

Anna Grigoruk, 16
Palm Coast FL

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ATTENDANCE
through THURSDAY
6194 tables



Goodwill Message

Good sportsmanship is the hallmark of our bridge community.

Lamya Agelidis, Chair
Aileen Osofsky Goodwill Committee

Team Rosenberg wins Mixed BAM

Debbie Rosenberg led her squad to victory in the Freeman Mixed Board-a-Match Teams with the winners securing the victory before the last round was even played.

Rosenberg of Foster City CA played with Ben Kristensen of Indianapolis IN and teammates Christal Henner–Uday Ivatury of New York City and newly inducted Hall of Famer Fred Gitelman and wife Sheri



Winners of the Freeman Mixed BAM Teams: Uday Ivatury, Christal Henner, Ben Kristensen, captain Debbie Rosenberg, Sheri Winestock and Fred Gitelman.

continued on page 6

Berkowitz–Meckstroth win Wernher



Floridians David Berkowitz and Jeff Meckstroth ran away with the Wernher Open Pairs, finishing 161.27 matchpoints (64 top) ahead of the runners-up – about two and a half boards. Their combined score was 2367.72.

Hailong Ao of Ashburn VA and Jiang Gu of Mountain Lakes NJ finished

continued on page 6

Winners of the Wernher Open Pairs: David Berkowitz and Jeff Meckstroth

Rob Maier is HQ Employee of the Year

Although Rob Maier has been part of the ACBL Headquarters staff for less than three years, he has quickly become a valuable resource to the Horn Lake–based team and ACBL members alike. In recognition of his skills as a tournament director and

continued on page 7

Rob Maier receives the ACBL Headquarters Employee of the Year Award from Executive Director Bronia Jenkins.



Today'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 (4000/1250)	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.

Today's Sponsors

Today's regional events are sponsored by David Divine in honor of 10 teachers.

By David Divine

With the risk of leaving out those who have helped me on my bridge journey, my almost daily appreciation includes:

- Daniel Korbel, who cares about my bridge growth, and I'm lucky to call him a friend.
- Pat Linville, who agreed to take me on as a partner when I was just starting and has been open to learning with me.
- Rob Barrington and Gavin Wolpert, who made the pandemic time productive.



I looked forward to their daily lessons, and they introduced me to a great community which continues to grow.

- Suzette Wynn, who, as an expert, is so patient with me.
- Peter Hollands, who is a true gentleman, great teacher, great player, and loves getting the beer card more than anyone I know.
- Haig Tchamitch, who will always make the time to give me the most complete answers to my



bridge questions. Plus, he feeds me, which is nice.

- Josh Donn, who is the kindest partner and makes me smile with his daily jokes.
- Stephanie Haddy, who I found by searching for "bridge teacher near me" and inspired me to learn.
- Eli Jolley, who teaches beginners to world champions.

Finally, to my wife Karen, who encourages me to learn, travel, make new friends, and accepts it all as long as I cook for her. Thanks to you all. Your help and friendships have made my life in retirement so enjoyable.

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



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SPECIAL EVENTS

MEETINGS / SEMINARS / RECEPTIONS

Meetings are at either the Sheraton or Minneapolis Convention Center.

Friday, July 17		Saturday, July 18	
8:30–10 pm	Crazy Bridge. Chaos-inducing twists on bridge with a different rule change on every board. <i>Room 200B, level 2, MCC</i>	5:30–7 pm	Youth NABC Closing Reception. <i>Room 200D, level 2, Sheraton</i>

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.

Friday, July 17		Saturday, July 18	
9:15 a.m.	Marjorie Michelin <i>Returning Your Partner's Suit</i>	9:15 a.m.	Jade Barrett <i>Declarer Play Starts with the Auction</i>
2:15 p.m.	Steve Gaynor <i>Secrets of Negative Doubles</i>		

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.

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

Saturday, July 18
Bagels

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.

Evening entertainment

Tonight

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*

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.

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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JUST FOR NEW PLAYERS

Olivia Jackson and Alexander Osborn are students at Arizona State University, where Osborn co-founded the school's bridge club with his friend Silvan. They're here to compete in the Collegiate Pairs. Alex has some experience; he competed last year at the Summer NABC.

"I had played a little bit with my dad. He taught me a lot," Osborn said. "Then I went to college, taught one of my friends, and we decided to start a bridge club."

Olivia was drawn to bridge because of her love of other trick-taking games. She began playing in December 2025, so this is her first NABC. "I like card games," she said. "I like playing spades, and I heard bridge was kind of similar."

Both students agree that learning the bidding is the biggest challenge.

"Especially figuring out what my partner is trying to tell me," Osborn said. "Like, what would they be thinking about in this situation?"

For Olivia, the card play has come more naturally than the bidding.



Thinking Bridge

By Eddie Kantar

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

West	North	East	South
1♥	Dbl	2♥	Pass
3♥	4♠	All Pass	

Opening lead: ♣2.

Bidding commentary: South is strong enough to compete to 2♠ and West is strong enough to compete to 3♥. West's failure to make a game try over 2♠ (bidding anything other than 3♥), tells East to shut up! North has enough to bid game once South makes a peep at the two level.

Lead commentary: As West, a singleton lead stands out

like a beacon when holding the trump ace. The idea is to find an entry to partner's hand after you get in with the ♠A.

Defensive commentary: As East, if you recognize the lead as a singleton, give partner suit preference at trick one! A low club suggests diamond strength (typically the ace or king). A high club suggests heart strength (ace or king).

Play commentary: As South, draw trumps as soon as possible. There is no need to ruff hearts. The idea is to set up the dummy, the hand with the solid side suit. If you do, you don't have to worry about your heart losers. Just pretend North is the declarer.

Defensive commentary: As West, when in with the ♠A, try the ♦A. If partner signals encouragement, continue with a diamond to the king and ruff the club return. If partner discourages in diamonds, shift to a heart, hoping partner has the ace. You have to find partner with one of those two cards, so rather than guess, give yourself two chances by starting with the ♦A.

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.



Mixed BAM

continued from page 1

Winestock, both of Las Vegas.

The squad, who qualified second with a carryover of 4.72, scored 17 wins in the first final session and 18.5 in the second to finish with a two-day total of 40.22.

This is the first NABC win for Ivatury and Kristensen. No member of the team has previously won the Mixed BAM with the exception of captain Rosenberg who won in 2002.

In second with 35.25 wins was the team led by Jared Lilienstein of New York City playing with

Wernher

continued from page 1



Second place in the Wernher Open Pairs: Jiang Gu and Hailong Ao

Hong–Chen lead 10K Pairs

Canadians Xia Hong and Fengming Chen are the frontrunners in the NABC 0–10,000 Pairs. Hong of Richmond Hill ON and Chen of Dorval QC scored just 49.44% in the first qualifying session, but followed up with an impressive 67.02% score in the second session to lead the field of 54 pairs.

The leaders finished more than a half board ahead of Patricia Herrera of Mexico City and Marc Sylvester of Edinboro PA. Third place belongs to Nebraskans Jonathan Cohn and Andrew Clements.

Thirty-six pairs qualified for today's two-session final.

Janice Seamon-Molson of Hollywood FL and teammates William Pollack and Rozanne Pollack of Boca Raton FL. Earlier this week, Seamon-Molson and the Pollacks were members of the winning squad in the Grand National Teams Championship Flight.



Second in the Freeman Mixed BAM Teams: Rozanne Pollack, Bill Pollack, Janice Seamon-Molson and captain Jared Lilienstein.

second with 2206.45. Brent Xiao of Fremont CA and Cornelius Duffie of Brooklyn NY placed third with 2207.78.

"It's a pleasure playing with Jeff," said Berkowitz.

Meckstroth credited their steady performance throughout the event. "We were very consistent," he said. "We had two 61% games in the qualifying sessions and two 65% games in the finals."

With the victory, Berkowitz and Meckstroth now own a combined 99 NABC+ championships.

Mini-Spin final: des Jardins vs. Robertson

The 0–6000 Mini-Spingold Knockout Teams is down to two teams after a full day of semifinal action.

The des Jardins squad cruised into the final, building a 102-IMP lead after three of the four quarters. The Caranicas team conceded before the final set.

The other semifinal was much closer. Robertson opened a 17-IMP lead after the first quarter, but Scott stayed within striking distance and trailed by just 8 IMPs with one quarter remaining. Robertson pulled away in the final set to secure a 142–123 victory and a place in the championship match.

Z'mann, Nickell KO'ed

The Spingold Knockout Teams Round of 16 produced two major upsets as No. 14 Cayne and No. 13 Goodman knocked off higher-seeded opponents to advance to the quarterfinals.

Cayne delivered the comeback of the day, rallying from a 38-IMP deficit after three quarters to defeat the No. 3 seed Zimmermann team, 129–100. Cayne dominated the final 15 boards, outscoring Zimmermann 70–3 to complete the stunning turnaround.

Goodman eliminated the powerhouse No. 4 Nickell team, 151–104, to earn a place in the quarterfinals.

Most of the other Round of 16 matches were decided comfortably. The lone exception was the battle between Wolfson and Vedanta Capital. Wolfson trailed by 10 IMPs after three quarters before winning the final quarter by 22 IMPs to claim an 11-IMP victory.

0–3000 Spingold semifinals set

Four teams remain in the 0–3000 Mini-Spingold Knockout Teams and will square off in the semifinals: Grove vs. Casinovi and Neiman vs. Xu.

Grove advanced in their quarterfinal match against Allen, opening a 30-IMP lead after three quarters and maintaining the margin to the finish.

Casinovi built a 70-IMP lead by halftime, they left Ziegler with too much ground to make up. Ziegler conceded with the score at 152–67.

The most dramatic comeback came in the Neiman–Igra match. Trailing by 36 IMPs at halftime, Neiman surged in the third quarter to trim the deficit to just 6 IMPs. Neiman completed the rally in the final quarter, ending with a 124–118 victory.

Xu never trailed in its quarterfinal, leading comfortably throughout to a 155–93 win.

Employee of the Year

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operations manager, Maier has been selected as the 2026 HQ Employee of the Year.

According to ACBL Human Resources Manager Nancy Rosenbury, the award recognizes the HQ employee who consistently exemplifies a commitment to customer service, work quality, professionalism and teamwork. The recipient is selected by previous winners of this prestigious award.

Maier, who now lives in Horn Lake MS, is originally from West Virginia, but spent the past several years in the Delaware area as a director before making the move to ACBL Headquarters. After starting as a Local TD in late 2015, he was promoted to the rank of Tournament Director at the end of 2017, and then to Associate National TD in late 2022.

In 2023, the League decided to hire an experienced TD to be onsite at its Horn Lake-based office, and Maier was tapped for the position of Tournament Support Coordinator. As the duties of the position continued to expand, Maier was promoted to Manager of Bridge/Tournament Operations.

"A large part of my job is coordinating the operation of STaCs (Sectional Tournaments at Clubs) across ACBL," says Maier. "If a club needs help with this, they call me."

Maier also assists TDs who may need help in the field at tournaments across North America. "If a director runs into an unexpected problem, they call me, too."

Maier was nominated for the award by several coworkers. Among the comments they made was this one: "Rob has a lot on his plate, yet he is always prompt in responding to emails, Teams chats or texts. He is great at troubleshooting and finding solutions to problems. I have been known to tease him about how quickly he helps out with things that come up, even on the weekends."

"Rob is easy to work with and tries his best to resolve things or find solutions to things, no matter how difficult the problem may be. I know that I will always get help, either from him or from the source he provides."

Another coworker wrote, "Rob is a go-to resource for virtually anything. If you need help, Rob knows how to fix it, and if it falls outside his area of expertise, he knows exactly who can. His depth of knowledge and problem-solving ability are invaluable. He is patient and creates an environment where you never feel uncomfortable asking questions, even when you feel you should already know the answer. Whether you need clarification or simple confirmation, Rob takes the time to help with patience and understanding. If you are unsure whether a game has been processed correctly, Rob will take the time to review the game file and offer suggestions. His guidance not only resolves immediate issues but also helps others learn and improve."



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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.

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NOV. 26 - DEC. 6
2026

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

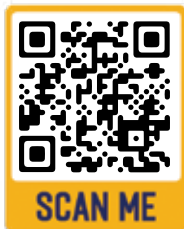
Entry Express and purchase options

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.



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.

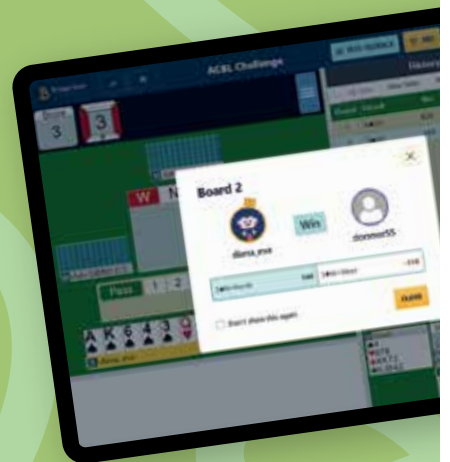
Crazy Bridge runs from 8:30–10:30 p.m., with everyone starting together at 8:30.

Friday, July 17

Room 200B, Minneapolis Convention Center



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Local group comes to Youth NABC

Three local groups signed up 19 kids to play in the Youth NABC. The largest – technically – is Nick Erpelding's group from Minnetonka Middle School West. They registered nine youth players, but four of them were unable to make it due to other commitments, leaving them with five, about the same as the other two groups.

The five boys – all 12 – played in Thursday's youth events. It was their first time playing outside of their school club for four of them. Erpelding's son Everett played in the 2023 Youth NABC in Chicago. Everett is enjoying this one more.

"It's a lot more fun because my friends are in it too," Everett said.

"I like it," said Harris Vandrovec, Everett's partner. "It's been a lot of fun."

Erpelding has been teaching bridge since 2019. His program has shifted between the elementary school and the middle school depending on where his sons were, starting when his older son, Nolan, now 16, was in elementary school. After Nolan went on to high school, Erpelding restarted the program with Everett's class.

Erpelding learned in bridge in 2004, in his first job out of college when his boss got him into it. A traffic engineer who works for a consulting firm optimizing traffic signal timing across the county, he made Life Master in 2017.

"I had to been to a lot of nationals; I saw the programs, the ACBL Educational Foundation," Erpelding said. "They were trying to grow the game. I really like the game and



From Minnetonka Middle School West, coach Nick Erpelding, seventh-graders Jaian Keefe, Dominic Widhalm, Everett Erpelding, Henry Carney and Harris Vandrovec

wanted to do what I could to grow it."

There are 12 kids total in the program, but most weeks eight show up. They are in an accelerated program called the Navigators.

"There's a thousand kids in that school, and we have 12," Erpelding said. "If you could harvest even a small portion of that school population, that would be good. You gotta start somewhere."

The Minnetonka program meets Monday mornings before school, from 8 to 9. Erpelding teaches a lesson for the first

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YOUTH EVENTS

All Youth NABC events are in 200D, level 2

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

YOUTH NABC

YOUTH NABC

YOUTH NABC

YOUTH NABC

YOUTH NABC

YOUTH NABC

Youth Teams

First overall: Arjun Chaunal, Kevin Wei, Joseph Hoagland and Michael Hoagland



First in B: Lanhao Zhao, Alex Zhu and (inset) Alexandra Deschenes and Avery Liang



First in C: Elan Ravishankar, Emma Wnag, Ethan Wu and Beatrice Hung



Minnetonka

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20 minutes, and they play the last 40 minutes – usually getting through two or three boards in that time.

“It’s painfully slow,” he said. “You kinda wonder what they’re thinking about.”

They meet in the morning to avoid conflicts with sports and other activities in the afternoon, and Monday is the day with the fewest conflicts with other morning activities. Erpelding uses the ACBL Intro to Bridge books, getting halfway through the first book when the boys were in fifth grade and finishing that and the second book the past year when they were in sixth grade.

Parents are most surprised that the bridge program is free, when most other school activities cost money for kids to participate.

“We definitely appreciate the ACBL Educational Foundation,” Erpelding said. “They provide cards, books, trophies. That’s a win for sure.”

The kids had no idea what bridge was before they started. “I thought it involved building a bridge with cards,” Harris said.

“It’s a nice way to hang out with friends,” Everett said. “Bridge is fun.”

Youth Pairs



First overall: Katherine Lee and Jayson Lee



Second overall, first in C: Kevin Wei and Flora Ding



Third overall, second in C: James Fu and Sean Song

YOUTH NABC

YOUTH NABC

YOUTH NABC

YOUTH NABC

YOUTH NABC

YOUTH NABC

YOUTH NABC

YOUTH NABC

YOUTH NABC

YOUTH NABC

YOUTH NABC

YOUTH NABC

THURSDAY MORNING YOUTH PAIRS

15.0 Tables

	A	B	C		
5.67	1	1		Jayson Lee – Katherine Lee, Hillsborough CA	67.29%
4.25	2	2	1	Kevin Wei, Fremont CA; Flora Ding, San Jose CA	67.04%
3.19	3	3	2	James Fu, Westfield NJ; Sean Song, Princeton NJ	66.94%
2.39	4	4		Colton Weber, Concord NC; William Liu, Oakville ON	65.36%
1.79	5	5		Larry Wei, Fremont CA; Arjun Chaunal, Issaquah WA	64.46%
1.35	6	6		Michael Hoagland – Joseph Hoagland, Redwood City CA	56.85%
1.10	7		3	Steven Xing – Michael Yang, Princeton NJ	55.73%
1.18			4	Daniel Gnatyuk – Cesar Bocanegra, Palm Coast FL	54.81%
0.62			5	Annie Zhang, Burlington ON; Zachariah Willie, Innisfil ON	54.41%
0.85			6	Demian Li, San Jose CA; Derek Deschenes, Bellevue WA	52.75%

THURSDAY AFTERNOON YOUTH SWISS TEAMS

16 Tables

	A	B	C		
4.71	1			Arjun Chaunal, Issaquah WA; Kevin Wei, Fremont CA; Michael Hoagland – Joseph Hoagland, Redwood City CA	50.00
3.53	2			Colton Weber, Concord NC; William Liu, Oakville ON; Eddy Qi, San Francisco CA; Daniel Yfrah, Palm Coast FL	47.00
2.65	3			Zachariah Willie, Innisfil ON; Wilson Hall, Newmarket ON; Annie Zhang, Burlington ON; Casper Gu, Barrie ON	46.00
1.99	4			Jayson Lee – Katherine Lee, Hillsborough CA; Rudy Cheng, Toronto ON; Nina Ke, North York ON	40.00
1.49	5	1		Avery Liang – Alexandra Deschenes – Alex Zhu, Bellevue WA; Lanhao Zhao, Sammamish WA	39.00
1.07		2	1	Beatrice Hung, Los Altos CA; Emma Wang, Palatine IL; Elan Ravishankar, Schaumburg IL; Ethan Wu, Cupertino CA	35.00
0.80		3	2	Jacob Rodney – Julianna Rodney, Arlington VA; Liya Li, San Jose CA; Nadaniel Cort, Orange NJ	30.00
0.53		4/5		Sean Song – Michael Yang – Steven Xing, Princeton NJ; James Fu, Westfield NJ	27.00
0.53		4/5		Flora Ding, San Jose CA; Larry Wei, Fremont CA; Muiyi Chen, Bellevue WA; Kaitlyn Kuang, San Francisco CA	27.00

THURSDAY MORNING CARDROOK PAIRS

5.0 Tables

	A	B	C		
1.22	1			Felicity Just, Athens GA; Westley Wei, Woodridge IL	73.75%
1.13	2	1		Kate Rogers – Kessner Munday, Kalispell MT	65.00%
0.85	3	2		Anna Xie, Princeton NJ; Ivan Stukalov, Palo Alto CA	58.75%
0.64	4	3		Everett Erpelding, Minnetonka MN; Henry Carney, Chanhassen MN	48.75%

THURSDAY AFTERNOON CARDROOK PAIRS

3.0 Tables

	A	B	C		
1.06	1	1		Avalon Bribitzer-Stull – Emmett Jaecks, Bloomington MN	64.58%
0.80	2	2		Arthur Hung, Los Altos CA; Kurt Hoisie, Tiburon CA	62.50%

YOUTH NABC

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What do you like?

During lunch at the Youth NABC on Thursday, we asked players: What is it that you like about bridge? Here are their answers.



"I like the challenge. I like the uniqueness of the game. A lot of people don't play it. I like that it's a partnership game."

*Kessner Munday, 12
Kalispell MT*



"I think it brings academics into a game. There's a lot of thinking and math. I think it's fun to solve an equation."

*Troy Christlieb, 16
Palm Coast FL*



"Every board is like solving a puzzle. It's really fun. You never know who has which cards. There's different possibilities."

*Flora Ding, 11
San Jose CA*



"I like how it can be entertaining and at the same time puzzling. And it's difficult to learn so it feels good to accomplish learning it."

*Athur Hung, 9
Los Altos CA*



"I like the bidding. When you count your points and look at your distribution and figure out what to bid."

*Thyme Johnson, 12
Orange NJ*



"I like the traveling experience. I also like how I get to learn new things every week."

*Zeinabe Konate, 11
Orange NJ*



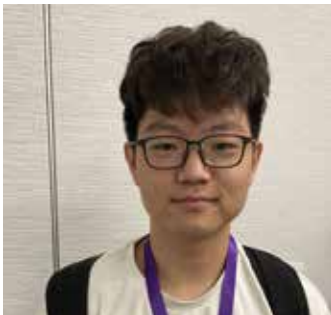
"I like seeing what cards I have and trying to figure out how I can play them – the strategy."

*Kate Rogers, 12
Kalispell MT*



"There are people you meet, make friends. You can entertain yourself with the game. And it's based on skill."

*Nadaniel Cort, 11
Orange NJ*



"Spending time with people, chatting about the way we play, cooperation with partner."

*Wilson Hall, 17
Toronto ON*



"I like just playing bridge because it's fun. I really like puzzles. It's sort of a puzzle."

*Kurt Hoisie, 9
Tiburon CA*



"It makes me think about what comes next, how to play the cards properly. I love thinking."

*Elisa Chheang, 18
Palm Coast FL*



"Playing the cards is really fun; counting, trying to figure out who has what."

*Elan Ravishankar, 14
Schaumburg IL*

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YOUTH NABC

YOUTH NABC



"It's kind of relaxing. It takes my mind off things."

*Emmett Jaecks, 12
Bloomington MN*



"I love sitting down, looking at a hand and puzzling out how to do it."

*Julianna Rodney, 11
Arlington VA*



"It's fun, maybe. You can talk with people in between hands."

*Emily Yu, 11
Cupertino CA*



"It calms me. When I get mad at something, I just play."

*Ivan Stukalov, 12
Palo Alto CA*



"You get to meet a lot of new people. When you get good enough you can represent your country. And there's free food!"

*Nina Ke, 13
Toronto ON*



"I like the connection between the cards, distribution, the luck factor and strategy. It challenges you to overcome challenges. You can't change the cards, but you can change how you approach them and that decides your success in the game."

*Mitchell Edelstein, 15
Flagler Beach FL*



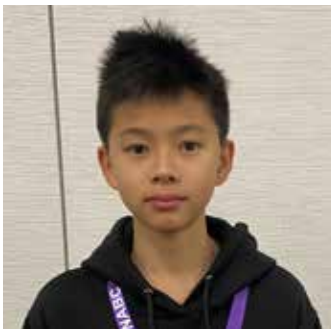
"I think the best part of bridge is that it helps me build transferable skills: problem solving, verbal thinking, communication, collaboration – all things I will need in future jobs, in computer science or teaching. Bridge helps me train those skills."

*Casper Gu, 16
Barrie ON*



"Pretty much everything. I'm a math brain. I like doing calculation. I like that I have to think. Chess is too easy. Bridge is more fun."

*Colton Weber, 16
Concord NC*



"It's fun. A lot of strategic thinking."

*Rudy Cheng, 14
Toronto ON*



"I like the strategy involved."

*Avery Liang, 17
Bellevue WA*



"Laughing over contracts that are gambles."

*Daniel Gnatyuk, 16
Palm Coast FL*



"That I get to win masterpoints."

*Jacob Rodney, 9
Arlington VA*

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Cardrook Pairs



First in the morning: Felicity Just and Westley Wei

Second in the morning (not pictured): Kate Rogers and Kessner Munday



First in the afternoon: Avalon Britzber-Stull and Emmett Jaecks



Second in the afternoon: Arthur Hung and Kurt Hoisie

Youth Pairs – section tops



Fourth overall: Colton Weber and William Liu



Third in morning Cardrook: Anna Xie and Ivan Stukalov



Third in C: Michael Yang and Steven Xing



Beatrice Hung and Ethan Wu

What do you like?

continued from page 13



“It’s a good way to socialize with people. It uses strategy.”

*Joseph Hoagland, 13
Redwood City CA*



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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.



World Bridge Series

KATOWICE, POLAND

20 AUGUST - 3 SEPTEMBER, 2026





8 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

TEAMS	PAIRS
■ Open Teams	■ Open Pairs
■ Women's Teams	■ Women's Pairs
■ Senior Teams	■ Senior Pairs
■ Mixed Teams	■ Mixed Pairs

OPEN TO PLAYERS FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD

ALL INFORMATION AT:
championships.worldbridge.org/2026WBS

SPINGOLD TEAMS, QUARTERFINAL PAIRINGS

1. Wolfson103

64. (65) Z. Wang109

32. Ashe169

33. (44) Goyal113

16. Feinstein NPC190

49. Mawyer42

17. Vedanta Capital208

48. (55) Chubukov100

9. Helle180

56. Zhang45

24. Luba201

41. Fredin167

25. Rippey185

40. Castoldi115

8. Rubenstein230

57. (72) Rockoff79

5. Rosenthal195

60. Aldrich68

28. Goldberg175

37. Sabbah128

21. Wildavsky160

44. (59) Alaybeyi15

12. Overdeck150

53. (76) Silvius10

13. Goodman152

52. Lev111

20. Simson195

45. E. Xiao88

29. Glubok143

36. Bramley121

4. Nickell146

61. Ives44 w/d

1. Wolfson153

32. Ashe126

16. Feinstein NPC129

17. Vedanta Capital135

9. Helle86

24. Luba145

25. Rippey67

8. Rubenstein158

5. Rosenthal155

28. Goldberg112

21. Wildavsky122

12. Overdeck191

13. Goodman183

20. Simson120

29. Glubok113

4. Nickell180

1. Wolfson94169110

16. (17) Vedanta Capital25387999

1. Wolfson

8. (24) Luba

9. (24) Luba5382141172

8. Rubenstein255381112

1.

4.

5. Rosenthal4491114157

12. Overdeck23276295

5. Rosenthal

4. (13) Goodman

13. Goodman3354137151

4. Nickell164459104

[illegible]

SPINGOLD KNOCKOUT TEAMS – QUARTERFINAL 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

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

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

vs

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

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

vs

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

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

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

50.00 9/16 Pierre Zimmermann – Michal Nowosadzki – Jacek Kalita – Michal Klukowski, Geneva Switzerland; Franck Multon, Monaco; Kamil Nowak, Kielce Poland

50.00 9/16 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

50.00 9/16 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



50.00 9/16 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

50.00 9/16 Parag Saxena, Rye NY; Migry Zur Campanile, New York NY; Bart Nab, Tilburg Netherlands; Veri Kiljan, Tilburg Netherlands; Per-Ola Cullin, Enskededalen Sweden; Marion Michielsen, Sweden

50.00 9/16 Jerome Rombaut – Leo Rombaut, Lys Lez Lannoy France; Sabine Auker, Charlottenlund Denmark; Roy Welland, New York NY; Stefano Tommasini, Santa Catarina Brazil; Joao Paulo Campos, Brazil

50.00 9/16 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

50.00 9/16 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-Pritchard, 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, St. 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 Pavard, Leiden
Netherlands

25.00 17/32 Ash Gupta, New York NY;
Omer Ekinici, 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 – FINAL PAIRING

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

vs

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

32.00 3/4 William Scott, Madison WI; Tamas Szabo,
Oconomowoc WI; Mark Kinzer, Middleton WI; Bob Marheine,
Waukesha WI

32.00 3/4 Andrew Caranicas, St. Paul MN; Richard Lawson,
Plymouth MN; Eric Hendrickson, Charlottesville VA; Michael Kelley,
Nellysford VA

0-3000 MINI-SPINGOLD – SEMIFINAL PAIRINGS

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

vs

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

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

vs

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

MITCH DUNITZ COLLEGIATE BRIDGE BOWL

4 Tables
NYU: Ava Donnellan, Brooklyn NY; Marin Hirono – Jan Borowski – Xingrui
Wang, New York NY; Quentin Liang, Long Island City NY

vs

Georgia Tech: Chase Lefevre, Blackshear GA; Lior Weber, Chamblee GA;
Alex Han, Katy TX; Justin Shiao, Atlanta GA

Chicago: Richmond Yeung – Sascha Gordon-Zolov – Zheshen Li, Chicago IL;
Ian Dunbar, Evanston IL

vs

UC Berkeley: Zhenling Wang – Weichen Tang – Mihir Singhal, Berkeley CA;
Ethan Xie, Williamsville NY

COLLEGIATE BRIDGE BOWL BKT 2

4 Tables
NYU: Alyssa Chen, Stamford CT; Maxwell Gong, Fair Lawn NJ; Surbhi
Surbhi, New York NY; Ada Lin, Jericho NY

vs

Duke: Surya Naresh – Plato Deliyannis, Durham NC; Erel Amit, Northbrook
IL; Anthony Zhao, Watertown MA

Purdue: Connor Schmutz, West Lafayette IN; Nathaniel Miller, Glen Ellyn IL;
William Warms, Louisville KY; Alice Zhang, Ames IA

vs

North Texas: Gioia Folefack, Forney TX; Rilee Burden, Arlington TX; Rohan
Srivastava – Thomas Matheos, Denton TX

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FREEMAN MIXED BAM

28 Tables / Based on 36 Tables

110.00	1	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	40.22
82.50	2	Jared Lilienstein, New York NY; Janice Seamon-Molson, Hollywood FL; Rozanne Pollack – William Pollack, Boca Raton FL	35.25
61.88	3	Sheila Gabay, Newton MA; Daniel Boye, Baldwinsville NY; Alan Watson, Lexington MA; Patricia Dovell, Gainesville FL	34.50
48.89	4	Lynne Castoldi, Minnetonka MN; Christian Lahrmann, Virum Denmark; Ann Karin Fuglestad, Farsund Norway; Nicolai Heiberg-Evenstad, Finnsnes Norway	33.78
44.00	5	Mitch Dunitz, Sherman Oaks CA; Jenni Carmichael, Marysville WA; Cecilia Ehrlichman, Ann Arbor MI; Greg Humphreys, Charlottesville VA	31.39
40.00	6	Radu Nistor – Susan Schnelwar – Lynne Koepfel, New York NY; Lapt Chan, Forest Hills NY	30.72
36.67	7	Craig Allen, Glen Ellyn IL; Nicole Qian, Evanston IL; Gediminas Poska – Daiva Vitukynaite, Palos Hills IL	30.56
32.64	8/9	Gillian Minter, 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	30.22
32.64	8/9	Lynne Feldman, San Diego CA; Kitty Cooper – Bart Bramley, Avon CT; John Jones, Santa Fe Springs CA	30.22
29.33	10	Linda Marshall, Bethesda MD; Muh-Sha Crawford, Hampton VA; Hank Meyer, Greenbelt MD; Andrew Gofreed, La Plata MD	29.39
27.50	11	Steven Devico – Gayle Covey, Pittsboro NC; Barbara Heller, Knoxville TN; Emory Whitaker, Macon GA	29.11
25.88	12	Alex Perlin, Metuchen NJ; Ljudmila Kamenova, South Setauket NY; David Yang, Darien IL; Jui Wang, Cary NC	28.83
24.44	13	Marusa Gold, Palm Beach Gardens FL; Mathias Bruun, Hellerup Denmark; Tim Archdeacon, Key Biscayne FL; Signe Buus Thomsen, Valby Denmark	28.50

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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Virginia Beach Veterans Day Regional

November 9 – 14, 2026



Celebrate our Veterans on Veterans Day

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WERNHER OPEN PAIRS

65.0 Tables / Based on 124 Tables

125.00	1	David Berkowitz, Boca Raton FL; Jeff Meckstroth, Clearwater Beach FL	2367.72
93.75	2	Hailong Ao, Ashburn VA; Jiang Gu, Mountain Lakes NJ	2206.45
70.31	3	Brent Xiao, Fremont CA; Cornelius Duffie, Brooklyn NY	2007.78
55.56	4	Drew Cavalier, Pensacola FL; Eric Xiao, Shrewsbury MA	1985.27
50.00	5	Rachael Moller – David Gurvich, New York NY	1973.63
45.45	6	Jay Barron, Norman OK; Rita Ellington, Charlotte NC	1971.83
41.67	7	Richard Zucker, Dobbs Ferry NY; Richard Oshlag, White Plains NY	1969.83
38.46	8	Daniel Lev, New York NY; Sam Lev, Aventura FL	1946.53
35.71	9	Ethan Liu, Fremont CA; Alexander Sandin, Horn Lake MS	1933.22
33.33	10	Gary Macgregor, Portola Valley CA; Mukund Thapa, Palo Alto CA	1931.75
31.25	11	Larry Sealy, Owens Cross Roads AL; Wafik Abdou, Bakersfield CA	1929.87
29.41	12	Ioannis Oikonomopoulos, Hatboro PA; Will Ehlers, Lancaster PA	1912.48
27.78	13	Elliot Sternlicht, New York NY; Dilek Yavas, Bursa Turkey	1907.69
26.32	14	Matthew Weingarten, Tampa FL; Alec Sun, Cambridge MA	1907.37
25.00	15	Jackson Wahl – Sarah Wahl, Minneapolis MN	1900.26
23.81	16	Stephen Stewart, Overland Park KS; Brad Carmichael, Shawnee KS	1883.56
22.73	17	Stephannie Culbertson – John Fout, New York NY	1878.11
21.74	18	John Bishel – Tom Bishel, Columbus OH	1872.80
20.83	19	Robert Bitterman, Harbor Springs MI; Mark Bendure, Grosse Pointe MI	1868.27
20.00	20	Eric Mayefsky, Arlington VA; Victor Chubukov, Seattle WA	1864.52
19.23	21	Tom Carmichael, Marysville WA; James Holzhauer, Seattle WA	1862.78
28.41	22	Gary Cohler, Wellington FL; Ranjan Bhaduri, Toronto ON	1861.37
17.86	23	Shen Duan – Meiyan Duan, Andover MA	1859.65
17.24	24	Walter Schafer Jr., Inglewood CA; Richard Reitman, Los Gatos CA	1859.22
16.67	25	JoAnna Stansby, Dublin CA; Kit Woolsey, Kensington CA	1852.53
16.13	26	Chris Chung, Palo Alto CA; Arjune Bose, Houston TX	1845.79
15.63	27	Bryan Howard, Nashville TN; Olin Hubert, Atlanta GA	1845.78
15.24	28	Suresh Mahajan, Del Mar CA; Stefan Skorchev, Suvorovo Bulgaria	1843.30
14.71	29	Aly El-Selehdar, Pembroke NH; Junko Hemus, Los Angeles CA	1835.76
14.29	30	Richard Popper, Wilmington DE; Rick Roeder, La Mesa CA	1831.98
13.89	31	Peter Peng, North York ON; Leigh Ives, Alliston ON	1826.92
13.51	32	Ray Miller – Michael Christensen, Seattle WA	1826.14
13.16	33	Mark Perlmutter, San Diego CA; Charles Finch, Las Vegas NV	1824.57
13.67	34	Fred Stewart, Bradenton FL; Steve Beatty, Mill Creek WA	1819.82
12.50	35	Charles Wilkins, Greensboro NC; Valentin Kovachev, Las Vegas NV	1816.90
12.20	36	Suman Agarwal, Columbus OH; George Krizel, Hollywood FL	1812.68
11.90	37	Douglas Kuschner, Auburn WA; Mike Cailean, Santa Clara CA	1812.28
11.63	38	Andrew Chen – Charlie Chen, Austin TX	1807.32
11.36	39	Jacqueline Chang – Jordan Lampe, New York NY	1805.41
11.11	40	Gokhan Yilmaz, Istanbul Turkey; Murat Alaybeyi, Saratoga CA	1804.45
10.87	41	Ron Smith, Glenview IL; Mark Bartusek, Santa Barbara CA	1802.28
10.64	42	Ahmed Harb, Cairo Egypt; Yu Nadler, Boca Raton FL	1799.15
10.42	43	Jonathan Fleischmann, Canton MI; Michael Curley, Rockford MI	1798.76
10.20	44	Samuel Marks, Atlanta GA; Jerry Helms, Charlotte NC	1798.49
17.02	45	Roberto Verthelyi, Hoboken NJ; Nathan Glasser, Somerville MA	1797.23
9.80	46	John Ramos, Los Angeles CA; Mitch Towner, Phoenix AZ	1796.71
9.62	47	Michael Ranis, Aventura FL; Michael Wolf, Fort Lauderdale FL	1794.52
9.43	48	Alexander Kolesnik, Los Angeles CA; Amber Lin, Mountain View CA	1794.06
9.26	49	Edward Nagy, Danville CA; Gary Soules, Elk Grove CA	1787.96
9.09	50	Mark Ralph, San Francisco CA; William Harker, Santa Fe NM	1787.18
8.93	51	Vern Swing, Minneapolis MN; Keith Connolly, St. Paul MN	1784.53
8.77	52	Ettore Bianchi, Stamford CT; Francesco Mazzadi, Parma Italy	1776.44
8.62	53	Mark Aquino, Jamaica Plain MA; Robert Cappelli, Naples FL	1767.65
8.47	54	Toby White, Des Moines IA; Richard Newell, West Des Moines IA	1763.55
8.33	55	Avery Silverstein, Austin TX; Ethan Derman, Baltimore MD	1758.66
8.20	56	Claude Vogel, San Diego CA; Carol Frank, San Diego CA	1752.93
8.06	57	Jeff Xiao, Shrewsbury MA; David Caprera, Denver CO	1751.95

7.94	58	Kim Eng – Eric Sieg, Issaquah WA	1751.83
7.81	59	Abe Pineles, Jackson NJ; Alexander Allen, Annandale NJ	1751.51
12.59	60	Bob Lyon, Fishers IN; Darrow Neves, Indianapolis IN	1750.77
7.58	61	Lee Ohliger, Bradenton FL; Pamela Granovetter, Cincinnati OH	1745.21
16.79	62	Melih Ozdil, New York NY; Sharon Goldman, Miami FL	1741.39

QUALIFIERS IN THE NABC 0–10,000 PAIRS

18.0 Tables / Based on 27 Tables		Carryover
1	Xia Hong, Richmond Hill ON; Fengming Chen, Dorval QC	50.61
2	Patricia Herrera, Mexico City Mexico; Marc Sylvester, Edinboro PA	39.91
3	Jonathan Cohn, Elkhorn NE; Andrew Clements, La Vista NE	35.50
4	Muffie Gur – Reha Gur, Bonita Springs FL	31.87
5	Paula Koeller – Karen Douek, Portland OR	31.43
6	Chantal Dube, Montreal QC; Charles Faille, St.-Constant QC	30.47
7	Randy Okubo, St. Paul MN; Nick Straguzzi, Mullica Hill NJ	29.64
8	Susan Morse, Flourtown PA; Thomas Salter, Hatfield PA	29.24
9	Lucy McCoy, Annandale VA; Ronald Spieker, Arlington VA	28.52
10	Dmitri Stukalov – Marina Seppius, Palo Alto CA	28.51
11	Mary Ann Boardman – James Boardman, Cedar Rapids IA	27.70
12	Scott Nason, Dallas TX; Tomi Storey, Frisco TX	26.01
13	Michael Hellman, Denver CO; Cara-Lyn Lappen, Durango CO	24.38
14	Gregory Chaffee, La Jolla CA; Lamya Agelidis, San Diego CA	23.26
15	Thomas Rush, Houston TX; Shelley Burns, North Vancouver BC	22.19
16	Anne Hollingsworth, Walnut Creek CA; Erik Hansson, Helsinki Finland	21.30
17	Florin Constantin, Alameda CA; Han-Yu Chang, Los Altos CA	21.16
18	Pedro Miguel Durao, Lisbon Portugal; Brenda Glaze, Anchorage AK	19.81
19	Brenda Pugsley – Paul Pugsley, Carson City NV	18.61
20	Amy Rhodes, New York NY; Mark Blanchard, Bay Shore NY	18.13
21	Natalie Bassil, Boston MA; Chuck Greenslit, Framingham MA	17.81
22	Jeffrey Schwartz, Fairfax VA; Benjamin Kompa, Jamaica Plain MA	17.63
23	Mike Redden, West Linn OR; Joel Datloff, Vancouver WA	15.94
24	Jennifer Kuhn – Philip Kuhn, San Mateo CA	15.56
25	Claire Valente – Barry Balof, Walla Walla WA	15.33
26	Joel Kramer, Minneapolis MN; Michael Flader, Eagan MN	13.89
27	Davis Heussler, East Aurora NY; David Colligan, Buffalo NY	13.62
28	Barak Engel, Oakland CA; Ilan Tadmor, Sunnyside NY	13.34
29	Larry Spanier, Santa Rosa CA; Tom Jacobson, Fairfield CA	12.41
30	Kerry Holloway, Bloomington MN; Kurt Schaeffer, Lakeville MN	11.70
31	Phillip Grothus, Bucerias Mexico; Chris Kollenberg, Houston TX	11.16
32	Yongkang Huang, Walnut Creek CA; Wen Zhou, Thousand Oaks CA	9.36
33	Andrew Lazarus, Berkeley CA; James Coke, Shingle Springs CA	8.96
34	Tom Breur, Belmont MA; Samuel Phillips, Largo FL	8.47
35	Sonja Smith, Chapel Hill NC; Paul Burnham, Wilton CT	5.40
36	Katherine Pollock, Williamsville NY; Nicholas France, Spring Valley NY	0.00

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.

New Life Master

Jonathan Klinker of Tiverton RI needed 31.49 masterpoints to become a Life Master. He's exceeded that total by a tenth of a masterpoint with five different partners this week. "I'd like to thank the people I've played with here, said Jonathan. "Paul Norton, my GNT partner, tournament directors Jesse Laird and Lynn Chapin and Stephanie Threlkeld of education and marketing."

Jonathan joined the ACBL in 2009, just before the masterpoint requirements changed. He took some time off to go to school and is now a lawyer. Jonathan has kept a list of all the people he's played with, and it's quite extensive. His mom, Sue Miguel, owns and operates the Viking Bridge Club. "I kind of made him play with anybody because it's the family



business," she said.

Still, Jonathan appreciated the experience and thinks it made him a better partner.

Louann Cutler of St. Augustine FL is the ACBL's newest Life Master. Arriving in Minneapolis needing just over 7 gold points, she picked up 5.66 gold points in the Monday-Tuesday Bracketed KO playing with Kevin Kennett, also of St. Augustine, and teammates Marion Gagnon and Scott Gagnon of Racine WI. Next, she and Kennett scored an additional 2.77 gold points in Wednesday's Gold Rush Pairs.



"I really want to thank Kevin," Cutler said. "I've earned almost all my masterpoints playing with him."

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Test your play

Sandy Friedman of Plainview NY reported the following declarer-play problem from the Tuesday Open Swiss (spots approximate).

Dir: South ♠ 3
 Vul: E-W ♥ Q 7 6 5 4
 ♦ K 10 6 4 3
 ♣ A K

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

West	North	East	South
			1♥
Pass	3♠ ⁽¹⁾	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

1) Splinter

West leads a club. Plan the play.

The key play is to lead dummy's singleton spade at trick two, a safety play of sorts to disrupt defensive communications in case East has ♥A K x and a singleton diamond. If instead you start trumps and East has that dreaded holding, they can win, lead their singleton diamond, win the second trump and lead a spade to West for a diamond ruff.



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Roth Open Swiss starts today



Winners of last year's Roth Open Swiss Teams: team captain Sartaj Hans, Nabil Edgtton, Michael Whibley and Andy Hung

The six-session Open Swiss Teams, named in honor of ACBL Hall of Famer Al Roth, begins with today's two-session qualifier. The nationally rated event was first held in 2005.

Al Roth (1914–2007) is generally considered the premier bidding theorist of his bridge generation, perhaps of all time. He and longtime partner Tobias Stone are credited with developing the negative double, the unusual notrump, 1NT forcing and weak two-bid.

An ACBL Grand Life Master with more than 12,000 masterpoints, Roth won 26 national titles, including the Spingold five times, the Vanderbilt three times and the Reisinger twice.

He represented North America in the Bermuda Bowl in 1955, 1958 and 1967. A WBF Life Master, he placed second in the World Team Olympiad in 1968.

During his first world championship appearance, Roth was declaring a 2♠ contract and felt he played the hand before – but as a defender. The director, Al Sobel, did not believe him because the hands had been dealt at the table. Sobel made Roth call out all the cards in each hand – including the spots – before he threw out the board. No one ever discovered how this happened.

Roth retired from active bridge competition in the '70s but remained active as a staff member of Bridge Today and on panels of The Bridge

World, Bridge Today and Australian Bridge.

He was the author of “The Roth-Stone System,” “Al Roth on Bridge” and “Picture Bidding” and co-author of “Bridge Is a Partnership Game,” “Modern Bridge Complete” and “Bridge for Beginners.”

A longtime resident of New York, where he owned and managed the Mayfair Club, Roth retired to Boca Raton FL.

Previous winners:

- | | | | |
|-------------|---|-------------|---|
| 2005 | Christal Henner-Welland, Michael Kamil, Claudio Nunes, Fulvio Fantoni, Frederik Nystrom, Peter Bertheau | 2015 | Brian Platnick, John Diamond, Kevin Bathurst, Justin Lall, Geoff Hampson, Eric Greco |
| 2006 | Christal Henner-Welland, Roy Welland, Cezary Balicki, Adam Zmudzinski, Antonio Sementa, Bjorn Fallenius | 2016 | John Onstott, Drew Casen, Mike Passell, Chris Compton, Joshua Donn |
| 2007 | Lou Ann O'Rourke, Marc Jacobus, Norberto Bocchi, Giorgio Duboin, Geoff Hampson, Eric Greco | 2017 | Ai-Tai Lo, William Cole, Beth Palmer, William Pettis |
| 2008 | Philip Gordon, Josh Donn, Jason Feldman, Terje Aa, Joergen Molberg | 2018 | John Onstott, Magdalena Ticha, Richard Ritmeijer, James Krekorian, Bruce Ferguson, Drew Casen |
| 2009 | Robert Hampton, Gavin Wolpert, Joel Wooldridge, John Hurd, Krzysztof Buras, Grzegorz Narkiewicz | 2019 | Gaylor Kasle, Bartosz Chmurski, Wlodzimierz Starkowski, Piotr Tuczynski, Michal Kwiecien, Joshua Donn |
| 2010 | Steve Weinstein, Lew Stansby, Chip Martel, Bobby Levin, Martin Fleisher and Mike Kamil | 2020 | Not held |
| 2011 | Mark Gordon, Pratap Rajadhyaksha, Alan Sontag, Terje Aa, David Berkowitz, Jorgen Molberg, Allan Cokin (coach) | 2021 | Not held |
| 2012 | Geoff Hampson, John Diamond, Fred Gitelman, Eric Greco, Brad Moss | 2022 | Laurence Lebowitz, Adam Grossack, Dennis Bilde, Agustin Madala, Zachary Grossack, Michael Rosenberg |
| 2013 | Carolyn Lynch, Mike Passell, Adam Zmudzinski, Cezary Balicki, Bart Bramley, Lew Stansby | 2023 | Jun Shang, Yanhui Sun, Yinghao Liu, Linlin Hu, Alon Birman, Dror Padon |
| 2014 | Paul Fireman, John Kranyak, Vince Demuy, Gavin Wolpert, John Hurd, Joel Wooldridge | 2024 | Douglas Simson, Oren Toledano, Ami Zamir, Venkatrao Koneru, Eric Rodwell, Eddie Wold |
| | | 2025 | Sartaj Hans, Andy Hung, Michael Whibley, Nabil Edgtton |

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The Golden Thread – Spingold Round of 64

By Mark Horton

If you want to win the Spingold, you need to win a minimum of six matches. It's a tough assignment, as the odds are that you will encounter formidable opponents all the way.

Session 1

We start by following the fortunes of CASTOLDI and RIPPEY.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bak</i>	<i>Heiberg-Evenstad</i>	<i>Marcinowski</i>	<i>Brunn</i>
1♥	Pass	2NT ⁽¹⁾	Pass
3♣	Pass	4♥	All Pass

(1) Heart support

North led the ♣Q, and declarer won with the ♣A and played his diamond to dummy's king. A club saw South pitch the ♦3, and declarer won with the ♣K and ruffed a club with the ♥8. South overruffed with the ♥9 and accurately switched to the ♥3. Declarer put up the ♥A collecting North's ♥K and ruffed a club with dummy's ♥Q. The ♠Q took the next trick and declarer continued by ruffing a diamond and playing the ♥10. South won and could cash the ♥7 but then had to lead into the split spade tenace, +620.

South needed to cover the ♠Q.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Lahrman</i>	<i>Tadolini</i>	<i>Castoldi</i>	<i>Cima</i>
1♥	2♣	3♣ ⁽¹⁾	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

(1) Heart raise

Declarer won the club lead with the ace and played the ♦5, North taking the ♦A and switching to the ♠7 to the queen, king and ace. The ♥2 saw North's ♥K win, and declarer took the spade return with dummy's ♠J and ruffed a diamond. He then cashed the ♥A, but when North discarded the ♣2, the 4–1 break proved to be insurmountable. That was one down, -100, and 12 IMPs to RIPPEY.

I expect you can see how declarer could have arrived at 10 tricks, but experts are always on the lookout for overtricks.

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bak</i>	<i>Heiberg-Evenstad</i>	<i>Marcinowski</i>	<i>Brunn</i>
2♣ ⁽¹⁾	3NT	4♠	1NT
Pass	5♣	Dbl	Pass
			All Pass

(1) Majors

East led the ♠A, and declarer ruffed and played the ♣J, West winning and returning the ♥3. East won with the ♥A and returned the ♥Q but declarer claimed, +750.

Would you have found the lead of the ♥A? If partner discourages, you must continue with the ♥Q so that partner can give you a ruff after taking the ♣A.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Lahrman</i>	<i>Tadolini</i>	<i>Castoldi</i>	<i>Cima</i>
Pass	2♠ ⁽¹⁾	3♠	1♦
Pass	4♣	All Pass	Pass

(1) Shortness

East led the ♦3, and having won with dummy's ♦A, declarer played a club to the king and the ♣Q, West winning and switching to the ♠3. Declarer ruffed, ran the ♦10 to West's ♦Q and claimed 10 tricks, +130, but 12 IMPs to CASTOLDI.

The first session went to RIPPEY, 49–20.

Session 2

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Castoldi</i>	<i>Tadolini</i>	<i>Lahrman</i>	<i>Cima</i>
Pass	1♥	1♠	2♥
Dbl	Rdbl	2♠	4♥
Pass	Pass	Dbl	All Pass

East naturally led the ♠A and then switched to the ♦9, declarer taking West's ♦J with the ♦A, ruffing a spade and playing the ♥K. East won and exited with the ♠9, but declarer ruffed in dummy, ruffed a club and drew trumps, +790.

If East somehow finds a trump lead, declarer is likely to take no more than eight tricks.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Riphey</i>	<i>Heiberg-Evenstad</i>	<i>Baroni</i>	<i>Bruun</i>
Pass	1♥	1♠	2♥
Pass	3♦	3♠	4♥
All Pass			

East led the ♦9. Declarer won with the ♦10 and played the ♠Q, East winning with the ♠K and switching to the ♥4. Declarer won with the ♥5 (perhaps achieving what Terence Reese once described as “a minor ambition”) ruffed a spade and played a heart, East winning with the ♥A and exiting with the ♥10. Declarer had to lose two spades at the end for one down, -100, and 13 IMPs to RIPPEY.

Board 21. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Castoldi</i>	<i>Tadolini</i>	<i>Lahrman</i>	<i>Cima</i>
	Pass	Pass	1NT
3♠	Dbl ⁽¹⁾	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

(1) Takeout

West led the ♠Q and declarer won with the ♠K, played a heart to the ace and ran the ♣10, West discarding the ♥3. A club to the jack was followed by a heart to the king and two more clubs, but the defenders took the rest, two down, -200.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Riphey</i>	<i>Heiberg-Evenstad</i>	<i>Baroni</i>	<i>Bruun</i>
	Pass	Pass	1NT
2♦ ⁽¹⁾	3♦ ⁽²⁾	Pass	3♥
Pass	3♠ ⁽³⁾	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

(1) One major

(2) Hearts

(3) Shortness

West led the ♦4 and East won with the ace, as declarer unblocked the ♦J. Declarer's prayers were answered when East could only produce the ♠5, and having won with the ♠10, West exited with a diamond. Declarer won with dummy's ♦10 and ran the ♣10. When West discarded declarer could see the route to nine tricks, +600, and 13 IMPs to CASTOLDI.

Board 28. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Castoldi</i>	<i>Tadolini</i>	<i>Lahrman</i>	<i>Cima</i>
1♦	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♥	Pass	3NT	Pass
Pass	Dbl	Rdbl	All Pass

In response to his partner's double, South led the ♦4, declarer winning with the ♦10 and playing three rounds of spades. That got him up to 10 tricks, +1000.

When their counterparts in the Closed Room got to 3NT undoubled and took exactly nine tricks, that was 12 IMPs to CASTOLDI.

RIPPEY took the session 47–27 and had a significant lead at the half, 96–47. RIPPEY went on to win the match 185–118.

Session 3

We now move to the match between GITELMAN and Vinita GUPTA, the latter leading 74–68.

Board 36. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Nilsmark</i>	<i>Gitelman</i>	<i>Jepsen</i>	<i>Winestock</i>
4♠	All Pass	2♠	Pass

South led the ♦2 and when dummy's ♦Q held, declarer drew trumps, South discarding the ♦5, the ♥2 and the ♣2. When declarer played the ♣4, South took the ♣A, +680.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>M. Schireson</i>	<i>S. Bilde</i>	<i>D. Rosenberg</i>	<i>Meister</i>
		1♠	2♠ ⁽¹⁾
4♦ ⁽²⁾	Pass	4NT ⁽³⁾	Pass
5♣ ⁽⁴⁾	Pass	6♠	All Pass

(1) Hearts and a minor
(2) Splinter raise for spades
(3) RKCB
(4) 1 key card

South led the ♦K. Declarer won, ruffed a diamond with the ♠Q, played a spade to the ace, ruffed a diamond with the ♠J and drew trumps discarding dummy's ♥5. When she played another spade, South, down to:

♠ — ♥ J 9 4 ♦ J ♣ A J 2

pitched the ♥4, the ♣3 going from dummy. At this point, the double-dummy make is to play a heart to the ace and continue with the ♥Q, pinning South's ♥J. When declarer cashed her last two spades South could afford to pitch the ♦J and the ♥J, and when a heart to the queen lost, the ♣A was the setting trick, -100, and 13 IMPs to V. GUPTA.

Board 37. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Nilsmark</i>	<i>Gitelman</i>	<i>Jepsen</i>	<i>Winestock</i>
Pass	Pass	1♥	Pass
2♥	2♠	3♦	2♣
3♥	Pass	4♥	Pass

South led the ♠K and switched to the ♦5, which saw declarer take North's ♦K, ruff a club and draw trumps for +680.

Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
<i>M. Schireson</i>	<i>S. Bilde</i>	<i>D. Rosenberg</i>	<i>Meister</i>
Pass	Pass	1♥	Pass
2♥	Pass	3♦	Pass
4♥	Pass	6♥	All Pass

South led the ♥4, and declarer won with the ♥K, ruffed a club and played a diamond to the queen. She ruffed another club, played a second diamond and was home when the trumps behaved, +1430, and 13 IMPs to GITELMAN.

That gave GITELMAN the lead, 93–92!

Board 43. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

Open Room			
West	North	East	South
<i>Nilsmark</i>	<i>Gitelman</i>	<i>Jepsen</i>	<i>Winestock</i>
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♦ ⁽¹⁾
Dbl	1♥ ⁽²⁾	Pass	2♦
Dbl	All Pass		

(1) Precision

(2) Spades

The alternative approach with the West hand is to overcall 1♠ planning to double a 2♦ rebid on the next round if necessary.

West led the ♥Q, and declarer won with the ♥A and played the ♠10, West taking the ♠A and returning the ♥2. When dummy's ♥10 held, declarer pitched a club on the ♠K and then played a diamond to the jack (ruffing a spade is best). The ♣10 saw West take the ♣A and exit with the ♥5, East ruffing and playing the ♦Q. That ensured that declarer would take only eight tricks, +180.

Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
<i>M. Schireson</i>	<i>S. Bilde</i>	<i>D. Rosenberg</i>	<i>Meister</i>
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♦
Dbl	Pass	1♠	2♦
4♦ ⁽¹⁾	Pass	4♠	Pass
Pass	Dbl	Pass	Pass
Rdbl	All Pass		

(1) Splinter

South led the ♦A, and declarer ruffed in dummy and played the ♥Q, North covering with the ♥K which held the trick. A diamond to the queen, king and a ruff saw declarer play the ♥2 (a low club works well), North winning with the ♥10 and switching to the ♠2 the 10 and jack. Declarer ruffed a heart and played a club to the queen and king, North returning the ♠4 to dummy's ♠Q. Declarer cashed dummy's ♠A and could cash three clubs, escaping for one down, -400, and 6 IMPs to V. GUPTA.

That was one of five small gains that gave V. GUPTA the session 45–26 and the match lead 119–94.

Session 4

Board 50. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Ivatury</i>	<i>Jepsen</i>	<i>Henner</i>	<i>Nilsmark</i>
1NT	Pass	2♥ ⁽¹⁾	Pass
2♠	Pass	3NT	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

(1) Transfer

North led the ♦6 to the jack, queen and ace, and declarer played the ♣6, North winning with the ♣J and switching to the ♠3. South won with the ♠J and returned the ♠5 to dummy's ♠9, and declarer played another club, North winning and exiting with the ♠Q. Having won, declarer played a diamond to the king followed by the ♦9, but when North discarded the ♥7 there were only nine tricks, -100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>M. Bilde</i>	<i>Gitelman</i>	<i>S. Bilde</i>	<i>Winestock</i>
1♦	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♠	Pass	2NT ⁽¹⁾	Pass
3NT ⁽²⁾	Pass	4♠	All Pass

(1) Asking

(2) Maximum with three spades

South led the ♣K and North overtook it and continued with the ♣J followed by the ♣2. Declarer ruffed in dummy with the ♠10, played the ♠9 to the ace and cashed the ♥K and ♥Q before playing a spade to the king. A diamond to the ace allowed declarer to pitch the losing club on the ♥A, +620, and 12 IMPs to V. GUPTA.

Only 17 IMPs change hands on the next nine deals.

Board 60. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Ivatury</i>	<i>Jepsen</i>	<i>Henner</i>	<i>Nilsmark</i>
		Pass	1♠
Pass	1NT ⁽¹⁾	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♥	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

(1) Semiforcing

Were West to accidentally lead a low club, declarer would be in trouble, but West started with the ♥Q and declarer won with the ♥A and played the ♠Q followed by the ♠K. West won and exited with the ♥3, and having won in dummy, declarer played a diamond to the king, cashed the ♠J and claimed, +420.

In the Closed Room, an uncontested Precision sequence by Gitelman–Winestock got the duo to 6♥ by North.

East led the ♥2 to the 4, queen and king, and declarer played a heart to dummy's ace and advanced the ♠K, ruffing when the ace appeared. After cashing the ♥J, he went to dummy with a diamond, cashed the ♠Q J and ruffed a spade, claiming, +980 and 11 IMPs to

GITELMAN.

The session score of 23–22 meant V. GUPTA had won 142–116.

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3) residents of the host district who purchase entries through Entry Express.

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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.

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The Golden Thread – Spingold Round of 32

By Mark Horton

In the Spingold Round of 32, the No. 4 seed NICKELL took on No. 29 GLUBOK.

Session 1

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Hamman</i>	<i>Sontag</i>	<i>Glubok</i>	<i>Weinstein</i>
1♦	1♠	2♣	2♠
2NT	Pass	3♣	All Pass

3♣ was easy enough, declarer losing two clubs and a heart, +130.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Hampson</i>	<i>Pellegrini</i>	<i>Greco</i>	<i>Ravenna</i>
1NT ⁽¹⁾	Pass	2♠ ⁽²⁾	Pass
2NT ⁽³⁾	Pass	4♥	All Pass

(1) 14–16 HCP

(2) Range ask or clubs

(3) Minimum

South led the ♦2, and having won, declarer played a spade to the ace and ran the ♣8, South winning with the ♣J and returning the ♠4. Declarer took dummy's ♠K, played a club to the ace and ruffed a club with the ♥7. North overruffed with the ♥J and tried the ♠Q, but declarer ruffed and played two rounds of hearts, +620, and 10 IMPs to NICKELL.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Hamman</i>	<i>Sontag</i>	<i>Glubok</i>	<i>Weinstein</i>
	1NT	Pass	3♦
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♦
Pass	4♠	Pass	6♣
All Pass			

Perhaps 3♦ showed 5–4 or better in the minors, with 4♦ and 4♠ being controls. Whatever, the final contract was a sound one, declarer arriving at all 13 tricks when East discarded a diamond on the third round of trumps, +1390.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Hampson</i>	<i>Pellegrini</i>	<i>Greco</i>	<i>Ravenna</i>
	1NT	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♦
Pass	3NT	Pass	4NT
All Pass			

East led the ♥3 to the jack, queen and king, and declarer cashed the ♣A and then played the ♦K and a diamond to the jack, +630, and 12 IMPs to NICKELL.

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Hamman</i>	<i>Sontag</i>	<i>Glubok</i>	<i>Weinstein</i>
1♠	Pass	2♠	1♣
All Pass			Dbl

Noth led the ♣Q. South won with the ♣A and returned the ♣10, declarer winning with the ♣K. A diamond to the jack saw South take the ♦A and return the ♣9, declarer ruffing and playing the ♠3. North went up with the ♠K and switched to the ♥J. The defenders played four rounds of the suit and declarer's ♠8 was overruffed with the ♠9. North still had a trump trick to come, so that was three down, -500.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Hampson</i>	<i>Pellegrini</i>	<i>Greco</i>	<i>Ravenna</i>
Pass	1♠	Pass	1NT
All Pass			

West led the ♥8 to the jack, king and ace, and declarer continued with the ♣2, West taking the ♣K and switching to the ♠5. When declarer played dummy's ♠2, East won with the ♠Q and switched to the ♦J followed by the ♦4, ducked to West's ♦Q. Winning the next diamond, declarer cashed his clubs for +120 which meant 9 IMPs to NICKELL.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Hamman</i>	<i>Sontag</i>	<i>Glubok</i>	<i>Weinstein</i>
2♦	Pass	1♣	1♥
4♥ ⁽¹⁾	Pass	3♦	3♥
5♥ ⁽²⁾	Pass	6♦	All Pass

(1) Controls

(2) Grand slam probe

North led the ♥J and declarer won and ruffed a heart before claiming all the tricks, +940.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Hampson</i>	<i>Pellegrini</i>	<i>Greco</i>	<i>Ravenna</i>
3♦	Pass	2♣ ⁽¹⁾	2♥
4♥	Pass	4♦	Pass
7♣	All Pass	5♣	Pass

(1) 11–15, 6+ clubs

That gave NICKELL another 11 IMPs and a significant lead, 49–6.

Session 2

In the second session, our main match is Vinita GUPTA (26) vs. SHOURIE (7).

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>S. Bilde</i>	<i>Wolpert</i>	<i>Meister</i>	<i>Shourie</i>
1♥	2♣	Pass	Pass
All Pass		2♥	3♣

East led the ♥4 and declarer lost a heart, a diamond and a spade, +130.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Edgton</i>	<i>M. Bilde</i>	<i>Whibley</i>	<i>Gupta</i>
1♥	2♣	Pass	Pass
Pass	3NT	All Pass	Dbl

When South suggested values in the unbid suits and tolerance for clubs, North had enough to attempt the nine trick game.

Easy led the ♥4, and West won with the ♥K. When he continued with the ♥2, declarer had 10 tricks, +630, and 11 IMPs to V. GUPTA.

As you can see, switching to the ♦K would have been a good idea.

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>S. Bilde</i>	<i>Wolpert</i>	<i>Meister</i>	<i>Shourie</i>
			Pass
1♥	Pass	2NT ⁽¹⁾	Pass
4♦	Pass	5♦ ⁽²⁾	Pass
6♦	Pass	6♥	All Pass

(1) Heart support

(2) Control

North led the ♥2. Declarer won with the ♥10, played a diamond to the ace, ruffed a spade, pitched a club on the ♦K, ruffed a diamond high, played a club to the ace, ruffed a diamond, ruffed a spade, ruffed a club, ruffed a spade and cashed the ♥A. When South discarded, declarer was a trick short, -100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Edgtton</i>	<i>M. Bilde</i>	<i>Whibley</i>	<i>Gupta</i>
			Pass
1♥	1♠	4♥	4♠
5♣	Pass	5♦ ⁽¹⁾	Pass
6♥	All Pass		

(1) Control

North led the ♥2, and having won with the ♥10, declarer crossed to the ♦A and ran the ♣10, North winning and returning the ♥6. Declarer won with the ♥7, cashed the ♦K pithing a spade and ruffed a diamond. When the ♦Q did not appear, declarer played a club to the jack and was home, +1430, and 17 IMPs to SHOURIE.

Board 21. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>S. Bilde</i>	<i>Wolpert</i>	<i>Meister</i>	<i>Shourie</i>
			1♥
3♣	4♠	5♣	1♠
6♣	6♠	Pass ⁽¹⁾	5♠
Dbl	All Pass		Pass

(1) Forcing

West led the ♥4, and that was one down, -200. You don't see many six-level sacrifices at these colors!

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Edgtton</i>	<i>M Bilde</i>	<i>Whibley</i>	<i>Gupta</i>
			1♥
2♠	4♠	Pass	1♠
4NT ⁽¹⁾	Pass	5♣	Pass
5♥	All Pass		

(1) Takeout

An inspired club lead would probably defeat 5♥ but naturally South led the ♠K and declarer scored +480 giving SHOURIE 7 IMPs.

A deal from HELLE (9) VS. LUBA (24):

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Luba</i>	<i>Helle</i>	<i>Kolesnik</i>	<i>Hoogenkamp</i>
			Dbl ⁽²⁾
2♠	2♦ ⁽¹⁾	2♥	4♠
4NT	Dbl	3♣	Pass
6♣	Pass	5♣	
	All Pass		

(1) Weak two-bid in either major

(2) Pass if you have hearts

South led the ♦A, +920.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>de Wijs</i>	<i>Kaplan</i>	<i>Muller</i>	<i>Lien</i>
	2♠	3♥	3♠
4♣	Dbl	4♥	4♠
Pass	Pass	5♥	5♠
Dbl	All Pass		

East led the ♦K, but the defenders had only two tricks, +850, and 18 IMPs to LUBA.

If 4♣ promised clubs and heart support East might have bid 5♣ over 4♠, but would West then bid 6♣ over 5♠? He might, considering it to be an insurance policy.

Back to SHOURIE vs. V. GUPTA:

Board 23. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>S. Bilde</i>	<i>Wolpert</i>	<i>Meister</i>	<i>Shourie</i>
			Pass
1♠	Pass	2♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

North led the ♣K, South following with the ♣10. When declarer ducked, North continued with the ♣5 and declarer took 12 tricks, +680.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Edgton</i>	<i>M. Bilde</i>	<i>Whibley</i>	<i>Gupta</i>
			Pass
1♠	Pass	2♠	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♦	Pass
4♥	Pass	5♠	Pass
6♠	All Pass		

North led the ♠9 and declarer won with the ♠10, cashed the ♠K and the ♠A and played a diamond to the jack. When that lost, his fate was sealed, -100, and 13 IMPs to V. GUPTA.

SHOURIE won the session 42–35 (following an adjustment) and led 61–53.

Session 3

The Great Shuffler delivered a coruscating set of deals!

Board 33. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

ROMBAUT vs. WANG

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Shi</i>	<i>J. Rombaut</i>	<i>Wang</i>	<i>L. Rombaut</i>
			1♦
2NT(1)	Pass	3♥	Dbl
All Pass			
(1) Hearts and clubs			

South led the ♥3. North won with the ♥Q and continued with the ♥K, South discarding the ♠5. The ♥10 came next, and South surprisingly discarded the ♦8. Two more hearts saw South pitch a spade and a club, and North switched to the ♦9. That was seven down, -2000.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Welland</i>	<i>Zhang</i>	<i>Auken</i>	<i>Ge</i>
			1♣ ⁽¹⁾
2♥ ⁽²⁾	3♥	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♥	All Pass	
(1) Strong			
(2) Spades or clubs			

East led the ♣10, and when it held (West following with the ♣5), he switched to the ♦4, West ruffing and playing the top clubs. East ruffed the second of them and played another diamond, two down, -100, and 19 IMPs to ROMBAUT.

Board 34. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

Multiple pairs got to 6♣ as E/W on this layout, but the 4–0 trump split resulted in the contract failing by a trick. However, this was the auction in LEVINSON (22) vs. DAVINCI (11):

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Kvangraven</i>	<i>Kranyak</i>	<i>Saur</i>	<i>Demuy</i>
1♥	1♠	2♣	Dbl ⁽¹⁾
3NT	Pass	5NT ⁽²⁾	Pass
6NT	All Pass		

- (1) Diamonds and spade tolerance
(2) Pick a slam

Having been invited to choose a slam, West opted for notrump.

North led the ♦10, and when South followed with the ♦5, declarer won with the ♦K. He cashed the ♣K (no doubt leaning forward, ready to claim) when North discarded the ♠8. Declarer cashed four hearts and then took three spades. On the last of these, South, down to ♦A Q and ♣J 9 7 was forced to discard the ♦Q. Declarer cashed the ♣Q and exited with a diamond forcing South to lead into dummy's ♣A 10, for +1440 and 17 IMPs for LEVINSON.

Board 36. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

ROMBAUT vs. WANG

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Shi</i>	<i>J. Rombaut</i>	<i>Wang</i>	<i>L. Rombaut</i>
Pass	1NT	Pass	Pass
All Pass		Pass	3NT

East led the ♥6 to the jack, queen and ace, and declarer played the ♦9 to the six, jack and queen. At this point, West needs to find a club switch (not easy), and when he continued with the ♥10, declarer took the ♥A and played a diamond to the king and a diamond. The blockage in hearts meant he finished with 10 tricks, +430.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Welland</i>	<i>Zhang</i>	<i>Auken</i>	<i>Ge</i>
Pass	1NT	Pass	Pass
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♣
Pass	4♠	All Pass	2NT

Perhaps some wires were crossed here surrounding the precise meaning of 2♣.

East led the ♣K and declarer took the third round of the suit, played a spade to the ace and ran the ♦9. West won with the ♦Q and switched to the ♠6, declarer winning and playing the ♦3. East took the ♦A and continued with the ♥7 which resulted in three down, -150, and 11 IMPs to ROMBAUT.

Board 37. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Shi</i>	<i>J. Rombaut</i>	<i>Wang</i>	<i>L. Rombaut</i>
2♠	3♥	Pass	1♣
All Pass			3NT

In Bridgerama+, French star Alain Levy writes a masterly series of articles entitled, "Whose fault is it?" I wonder what he would make of this?

West led the ♦2, and declarer collected 11 tricks, +660.

In the Closed Room, however, Kayden Ge, 17, opened the South hand a strong 1♣, Roy Welland overcalled 1♠ as West, and Brian Zhang, 15, drove to slam as North. Ge and Zhang reached 7♣ by South.

West led the ♠A, which simplified matters for declarer, who ruffed in dummy, took two rounds of trumps, pitched two diamonds on the ♠K Q and played three rounds of diamonds, ruffing. The ♥A took care of the ♠10, +2140, and 16 IMPs to WANG.

Board 40. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Shi</i>	<i>J. Rombaut</i>	<i>Wang</i>	<i>L. Rombaut</i>
Pass	2♥	Pass	1♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	2♠
All Pass		Pass	3NT

East led the ♣7. Declarer won with the ♣10 and played spades, West taking the ♠A on the second round and returning the ♣4 to dummy's ♣K. Declarer cashed three spades pitching hearts, and West discarded the ♦6. Declarer cashed the top diamonds and scored +690.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Welland</i>	<i>Zhang</i>	<i>Auken</i>	<i>Ge</i>
Pass	2♥	Pass	1♠
Pass	3NT	All Pass	2NT

West found the tremendous lead of the ♣6 to the 10, jack and 3, and the return of the ♣7 ran to dummy's ♣Q. Declarer played a spade to the king, and West won and played the ♣4 for one down, -100, and 13 IMPs to ROMBAUT.

Board 45. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Shi</i>	<i>J. Rombaut</i>	<i>Wang</i>	<i>L. Rombaut</i>
1♠	2♥	3♠	4♥
4♠	Dbl	All Pass	

North led the ♣A, and when South followed with the ♣5, he switched to the ♥3 to the 4, queen and ace. When declarer played the ♠J, North withheld the ♠A which cost a trick. He took the next spade and switched to the ♦5, South winning and returning the ♣2 for North to ruff, two down, -300.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Welland</i>	<i>Zhang</i>	<i>Auken</i>	<i>Ge</i>
1♠	2♥	3♠	4♥
4♠	5♥	All Pass	

Declarer ruffed the spade lead in dummy, played a heart to the 8, ruffed a spade and played the ♥Q, +650 and 8 IMPs to WANG.

ROMBAUT had won the session 63–33 to lead 126–99.

LEVINSON vs. DAVINCI

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bathurst</i>	<i>Di Franco</i>	<i>Hurd</i>	<i>Gandoglia</i>
1♠	2♥	2♠	3♠
4♣	4♦	4♠	4NT
Dbl	5♥	Pass	Pass
5♠	6♥	Pass	Pass
6♠	Dbl	All Pass	

North led the ♣A, and when South followed with the ♣2, he switched to the ♦6, South winning and returning the ♣5. North ruffed and switched to the ♥3, declarer taking South's ♥Q and playing the ♠10. North pounced on that with the

♠A and when South discarded the ♥6, North put him in with the ♥10 to secure another club ruff, five down, -1100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Kvangraven</i>	<i>Kranyak</i>	<i>Saur</i>	<i>Demuy</i>
			Pass
1♠	2♥	3♠	4♥
4♠	5♦	Pass	6♥
Dbl	All Pass		

East led the ♦2 and declarer had to lose a trick in each red suit, one down, -200, and 16 IMPs to LEVINSON. "Are you not entertained?" – Maximus Decimus Meridius.

If you are thirsty for more, check out the match between RUBENSTEIN and RIPPEY, in which the former took the session 94-0!

Session 4

Board 47. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Tommasini</i>	<i>Shi</i>	<i>Campos</i>	<i>Wang</i>
	Pass	1♣	Dbl
1♥	1♠	2♥	2♠
3♣	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♥	4♠	Pass	Pass
Dbl	All Pass		

East led the ♣K and switched to the ♠7, West winning with the ♠K and returning the ♠2. Declarer won, cashed the ♥A, ruffed a heart and ran the ♦J, +590.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Ge</i>	<i>J. Rombaut</i>	<i>Zhang</i>	<i>L. Rombaut</i>
	Pass	1♦(1)	Dbl
1♥	Pass	2♥	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

(1) Precision

North led the ♦J to the queen, king and ace, and declarer played the ♥Q followed by a heart to the king. When that held, he played a spade to the king and the ♥J, South winning and cashing the ♦8. He exited with the ♥9, but declarer had five club tricks for +420 and 14 IMPs to WANG.

Board 52. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Tommasini</i>	<i>Shi</i>	<i>Campos</i>	<i>Wang</i>
		1♦	2♣
3♦	4♠	5♦	Dbl
Pass	5♠	All Pass	

East led the ♥A and switched to the ♣2. Declarer won with dummy's ♣A and cashed the ♥K, pitching a diamond. He ruffed a diamond and played the ♠3 to the queen and ace, but West returned the ♥5, promoting East's ♠J, one down, -50.

Having cashed the ♥K, playing the ♠9 from dummy would have been a winning move.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Ge</i>	<i>J. Rombaut</i>	<i>Zhang</i>	<i>L. Rombaut</i>
		1♣ ⁽¹⁾	1NT
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

(1) Precision

East led the ♦A, switched to the ♥A and then went back to diamonds, declarer ruffing and playing a spade to the queen and ace, +420, and 10 IMPs to ROMBAUT.

With two deals remaining Rombaut led 144-131.

Board 59. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Tommasini</i>	<i>Shi</i>	<i>Campos</i>	<i>Wang</i>
1♦	Pass	2♦	
Pass	3♦	Pass	4♦
Pass	4NT	Pass	6♦
All Pass			

(1) Inverted raise

East led the ♠J and declarer won with dummy's ♠A and claimed, +1370

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Ge</i>	<i>J. Rombaut</i>	<i>Zhang</i>	<i>L. Rombaut</i>
Pass	2♣ ⁽¹⁾	Pass	2NT ⁽²⁾
Pass	3NT ⁽³⁾	Pass	4NT
Pass	6NT	All Pass	

(1) Game forcing or 5+ diamonds, 5–10

(2) Strong relay

(3) Good diamonds

West led the ♣3, +1440 and 2 IMPs to ROMBAUT.

Board 60. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

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Open Room

West <i>Tommasini</i>	North <i>Shi</i>	East <i>Campos</i>	South <i>Wang</i>
Pass	2♣	Pass	1♣
Pass	3NT	Pass	2♦
Pass	6NT	Pass	5NT ⁽²⁾
		All Pass	

(1) Inverted raise

(2) Pick a slam

You can expect to be dealt a Yarborough about once every 1828 deals. Probably best not to be playing a high-stake rubber when it happens.

East led the ♣5 and declarer won with dummy's ♣A, played a heart to the ace and a diamond to dummy's ♦9, claiming when it held, +990.

Closed Room

West <i>Ge</i>	North <i>J. Rombaut</i>	East <i>Zhang</i>	South <i>L. Rombaut</i>
Pass	6NT	Pass	2NT
		All Pass	

West led the ♥5. Declarer won with dummy's ♥A and cashed three more tricks in the suit, discarding the ♠6 while East parted with ♣5 and ♣6. When declarer decided to play for a 3-3 spade break he was one down, -50, and 14 IMPs to WANG.

The 2 IMPs gained on the previous deal came in handy, as ROMBAUT won 146-145!

Eligibility points

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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

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STEPHEN & SUE JACKSON THURSDAY TOP-FLIGHT PAIRS

28.0 Tables / Based on 95 Tables

	A	X		
41.27	1		Chris Moll, Raleigh NC; Kenneth Kranyak, Parma OH	60.69%
30.95	2		Joan Jackson – Norman Beck, Dallas TX	60.09%
23.21	3		Michael Botwin, Rockville Ctr NY; Barry Plotkin, Baldwin NY	58.89%
17.41	4		Jack Lipson, East Meadow NY; Tom Trachuk, Walnut Creek CA	57.38%
13.76	5	1	Carrie Liu – Maxim Siline, Hudson MA	57.11%
11.79	6		Ron Gerard, White Plains NY; Mark Lair, Amarillo TX	56.77%
10.32	7		Robert Morris, Houston TX; Betty Starzec, Sugar Land TX	55.90%
9.17	8		Robert Todd, Tallahassee FL; Alexander Stille, Bethesda MD	55.34%
8.25	9		Marc Jacobus, Las Vegas NV; Seth Cohen, Huntsville AL	55.33%
7.50	10		Neil Silverman – Mina Akhnoukh, Fort Lauderdale FL	54.92%
6.88	11		Claude King, Mississauga ON; Saleh Fetouh, Buffalo NY	54.19%
6.35	12		David Rosenberg, Jackson Heights NY; Andrea Teacher, Waltham MA	53.45%
7.26	13	2	Michael McDonald, Northville MI; John Koschik, Livonia MI	53.28%
5.50	14		Iulian Rotaru, Sunnyside NY; Melissa Fawer, New York NY	53.26%
5.16	15		Alan Schwartz – Annie Schwartz, Fairfax VA	53.14%
5.45		3	Ankur Rathi, San Francisco CA; Max Aeschbacher, Cottonwood Heights UT	52.93%
4.08		4	Arthur Gong, Sammamish WA; Jason Yao, Bellevue WA	52.64%
3.23		5	Neil Montague, Swampscott MA; David Dobrin, Cambridge MA	51.61%

THURSDAY MID-FLIGHT PAIRS

26.0 Tables / Based on 66 Tables

	B	C		
29.22	1		Dwight Bostow, Fargo ND; Rosella Vanek, Gardner ND	62.19%
21.92	2		Lindsay Pearlman, Las Vegas NV; Eleanor Seaman, New York NY	61.27%
16.44	3		Mark Stein, Skokie IL; Arnold Grant, Glenview IL	58.65%
12.33	4	1	Florian Lauer, Saint Paul MN; Marcia Figus, Shoreview MN	58.54%
9.74	5		Carmon Lee Woodley, Titusville FL; Thomas Cox, Mount Juliet TN	58.42%
8.35	6		Anne Wilson, Campbell CA; Mark Cook, West Monroe LA	56.31%
7.31	7		Harold Nordstrom, Reading MA; Stephen Kolkhorst, Portland ME	55.92%
6.17	8/9		Denise Klein – Mike Crimmins, Denver CO	54.77%
6.17	8/9		Peter Doubilet – Carol Benson, Boston MA	54.77%
5.31	10		Kyle Blocher, Champaign IL; Mike D. Aguiar, Calgary AB	54.23%
4.69	11/12		Dennis Glazer, Bronxville NY; Gail Cannold, Rye NY	53.77%
4.69	11/12		Beth Loehnen – Brad Halfpap, Missoula MT	53.77%
4.17	13		Tobey Roland, Baltimore MD; Jeffrey Lehman, Newton MA	52.77%
5.43		2	Leyi Chen – Jessica Yao, Bellevue WA	51.42%
4.07		3	Zinnia Meyer, Chicago IL; Nathan Kasperkiewicz, Redmond WA	50.19%
3.05		4	Stuart Dombey – Larry Junck, Ann Arbor MI	49.81%
2.41		5	Marc Ashton, Excelsior MN; Joseph Carter, Eagan MN	49.31%

THURSDAY GOLD RUSH PAIRS

23.0 Tables

	7	4	2	
8.93	1	1		Sylvester Sterioff, Rochester MN; Gabrielle Cohen, Mission Hills KS
6.70	2	2		Andrew Roe, St. Paul MN; Lars Roe, Minneapolis MN
5.02	3			Ethan Lynch, Blaine MN; Barb Williams, White Bear Lake MN
3.77	4			Cynthia Peters – Penny Williams, St. Louis MO
2.98	5			Errol Hartman, Madison WI; Helen Rugowski, Minneapolis MN
3.34	6	3		Michael Olson – Alice Olson, Sun City West AZ
2.23	7			Wendy Rieser – Judy Kvalheim, Madison WI
2.51	8	4		Doris Hertsgaard, North Mankato MN; Joyce Hoelmer, Mankato MN
3.60	9	5	1	Rebecca Berg – Laurie Chatham, Fargo ND
1.62	10			Mary Krienke – Scott Krienke, Hartland WI
1.49	11			Kevin Kennett, Gladwin MI; Louann Cutler, St. Augustine FL
2.70	12	6	2	James Bloom, Port Matilda PA; Marguerite Swope, State College PA
2.03		7	3	Ellen Kluz, Minneapolis MN; Joan Thomas, St. Paul MN
1.32		8		David Fritzsche, Kildeer IL; Richard Kern, Grayslake IL

THURSDAY FAST PAIRS

9.0 Tables

A	B	C		
9.50	1		Robert Rebelein, Poughkeepsie NY; Jill Marshall, Port Chester NY	60.67%
7.13	2		Ahu Zobu, Istanbul Turkey; Viktor Aronov, Sofia Bulgaria	60.40%
5.34	3		Adam Wildavsky, New York NY; Douglas Doub, Oak Ridge TN	58.91%
4.01	4		Jim McKeown, State College PA; Ala Hamilton-Day, Philadelphia PA	55.93%
5.60	5	1	Maureen Weiman – Magnus Weiman, Lynchburg VA	54.49%
4.20		2	Ari Greenberg – Thuy Tran, San Francisco CA	53.62%
3.15		3	Jack Bierig – Gail Shaps, Highland Park IL	53.40%

WEDNESDAY COLLEGIATE INDIVIDUAL

3.00 Tables

2.08	1	Daniel Balof, Walla Walla WA	75.00%
1.56	2	Aniket Mondal, Davis CA	62.50%
1.03	3/4	Aaron Balleisen, Pittsburgh PA	58.33%
1.03	3/4	Reece Jurgens, Edmonton AB	58.33%

WEDNESDAY EVENING SIDE PAIRS

13.0 Tables

A	B	C		
4.98	1	1	Weichen Tang – Zhenling Wang, Berkeley CA	69.32%
3.27	2/3	2/3	Ashley Szymiski, Aurora IL; Neal Goldman, Willow Springs IL	60.80%
3.27	2/3	2/3	Cappy McIver – Di Lapeyre, New Orleans LA	60.80%
2.36	4/5	4/5	2 Ryan Fu, Champaign IL; Han-Mo Ou, Urbana IL	60.42%
1.84	4/5	4/5	Robert Dunas, Raleigh NC; Gustavo Saravia, Oak Park IL	60.42%
2.15	6	6	Hongbo Li, Baltimore MD; R. Mani, Lanham MD	58.33%
1.77		3	Andrew Weber – Colton Weber, Concord NC	57.95%
1.33		4	Ashish Gupta, Sacramento CA; Andrew Eidelhoch, San Francisco CA	53.98%
1.00		5	Richmond Yeung – Sascha Gordon-Zolov, Chicago IL	51.70%

TODD FLOWERDAY THURSDAY MORNING SIDE PAIRS

9.0 Tables

A	B	C		
4.12	1		Ed Schulte, Beverly Hills FL; Betty Sue el Gammal, Hoover AL	61.01%
3.09	2		Sheryl Sack – Lana Imerman, Atlanta GA	59.23%
3.25	3	1	Henry Cousineau III – Paula DeSanto, Minneapolis MN	58.63%
2.44	4	2	Donald Bailey – Judith Bratton, Port Angeles WA	57.74%
1.30	5		Ken Gee, Regina SK; Hannah Moon, Sasakatoon SK	56.55%
1.83		3	Chris Fellerman, Madison SD; Harold Fellerman, Maple Grove MN	49.70%
1.37		4	Karen Haines, Summit NJ; Deborah Crisfield, Philadelphia PA	47.62%

2ND THURSDAY MORNING 299ER PAIRS

8.0 Tables

3	2	1		
2.70	1	1	Rhonda Stein, Minnetonka MN; Betsy Michel, Minneapolis MN	65.48%
2.03	2	2	Tim Finnegan – Gerald Flom, St. Paul MN	63.10%
2.00	3	3	1 Laura Behling – Jan Brosnahan, Winona MN	62.50%
1.50	4	4	2 Megan Le – Fathima Faizal, Cambridge MA	60.42%
1.13	5	5	3 Anna O'Connell – Kim LeRohl, Albuquerque NM	54.17%
0.84		4	Gayle Coleman, Fox Point WI; Paula Hogan, Milwaukee WI	52.38%

THURSDAY AFTERNOON SIDE PAIRS

5.0 Tables

A	B	C		
3.25	1		Ed Schulte, Beverly Hills FL; Betty Sue el Gammal, Hoover AL	59.90%
2.44	2		Ken Gee, Regina SK; Hannah Moon, Sasakatoon SK	58.00%
1.83	3		Viktor Anikovich – Joan Oliver, Los Angeles CA	55.25%
1.37	4		Kent Mignocchi, Bronx NY; Ritchey Goodwin, West Palm Beach FL	54.00%
2.82		1	Stephen Graham, Midland MI; Joseph Miranda, Clifton Park NY	50.50%
2.12		2	Glen Scroggins, Yankton SD; Jeruld Mohr, Grant AL	46.00%

2ND THURSDAY AFTERNOON 299ER PAIRS

6.0 Tables

	3	2	1		
2.40	1	1		Robert Kaplan – Dorothy Fennell, Denver CO	63.75%
1.87	2	2	1	Michael Strom, Minneapolis MN; Matthew Yelle, Edina MN	57.50%
1.40	3	3	2	Jan Brosnahan – Laura Behling, Winona MN	55.42%
1.05	4	4	3	Navin Jaipuriyar, Blaine MN; Frank Lerman, Edina MN	52.50%

WED–THU BRACKETED KO BKT 1

4 Tables

46.85	1	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	
32.80	2	Margaret Moore – Scott Hiller, Naples FL; Anthony Barre, Sunnyvale CA; Lynne Cook, Riverview MI	
21.08	3	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	
9.37	4	Lynn Baker, Austin TX; Olivia Schireson, Colorado Springs CO; Justyna Zmuda, Skawina, Poland; Cecilia Dwyer Rimstedt – Sandra Rimstedt, Jupiter FL; Katarzyna Dufurat, Wroclaw, Poland	

WED–THU BRACKETED KO BKT 2

4 Tables

24.28	1	Greg Leblanc, Charlotte NC; Andy Hsiao, Marvin NC; Robert Winters, McMurray PA; Charles Carroll, St. Paul MN	
17.00	2	David Rodney – Avril Rodney, Ashburn VA; Jonathan Rodney, Arlington VA; Daniel Rodney, Austin TX	
10.93	3	Mollie Freier, Marquette MI; Ronald Grosh, Middleton WI; Michael Pratzel – Barb Pratzel, Madison WI	
4.86	4	Mary Doyle – Anne Beaurivage, Lincoln NE; Kenneth McNary, Omaha NE; Al Spaet, Tucson AZ	

WED–THU BRACKETED KO BKT 3

4 Tables

17.93	1	Alan Munro, Vienna VA; Luke Brezak, Arlington VA; Colin Schloss – Jichong Chai, Falls Church VA	
12.55	2	Sandy Casey, St. Paul MN; Les Hassler, Shoreview MN; Eileen Fontaine, Bluffton SC; Amy Dutton, Mendota Heights MN	
8.07	3	Jane Curtis, Clear Lake MN; Rhonda Rossman, Cold Spring MN; Gregory Nastrom – Joe Lisbon, St. Cloud MN	
3.59	4	Dennis Viner, Kapaa HI; William Taylor, Rancho Palos Verdes CA; Gary Sheerer, Los Altos CA; Douglas Clink, Orange Beach AL	

SCOTT HILLER THURSDAY TOP-FLIGHT SWISS TEAMS

46 Tables / Based on 127 Tables

	A	X	Y		
36.04	1			Daniel Zagorin, Chicago IL; Ofek Sabbah – Yonatan Sliwowicz, Petah Tikva, Israel; Ilai Baniri, Barcelona, Spain	97.00
27.03	2			Connie Goldberg, Gladwyne PA; Hua Poon, Singapore; Leonard Holtz, West Hollywood CA; Jeffrey Ferro, St. Helena CA	
				Nikolaj Hammelev, Aarhus, Denmark; Daniel Tylvad, Bronshoj, Denmark	88.00
17.74	3/4			Douglas Simson, Columbus OH; Eric Rodwell, Clearwater FL; David Grainger, Etobicoke ON; Joel Wooldridge, Jackson Heights NY	86.00
17.74	3/4			Lynda Nitabach, West Palm Beach FL; Bartosz Chmurski, Lomianky Poland; Peter Bertheau, Taby Sweden; Krzysztof Buras, Warszawa, Poland; Johan Upmark – Fredrik Nystrom, Sweden	86.00
11.16	5/6			Bruce Lang, Palm Beach Gardens FL; Corey Krantz, Boynton Beach FL; Kathrine Bertheau, Taby Sweden; Christina Madsen, Denmark	83.00
11.16	5/6			Xin Ge, Cupertino CA; Zhaobin Xie, Chengdu; Ming Sheng, Los Altos CA; Edward Xu, North York ON; Fu Zhong, Beijing; Jing Liu, Forest Hills NY	83.00
9.01	7			William Bailey, Mill Valley CA; Joshua Donn – Daniel Korbel, Las Vegas NV; Dror Padon, Tel Aviv Israel; Alon Birman, Israel; Eddie Wold, Houston TX	82.00
8.01	8			Alejandro Bianchedi, Buenos Aires, Argentina; Margie Cole, New York NY; Cenk Tuncok, Dallas TX; Andrea Nilsson, Varberg, Sweden; Giorgia Botta, Brooklyn NY	77.00
6.59	9/11			Alain Schreiber, Henderson NV; Billy Miller, Las Vegas NV; Jeff Roman, Bend OR; Ralph Buchalter, South Orange NJ; Ton Bakkeren, Oisterwijk, Netherlands; Frank Bakkeren, Netherlands	73.00

6.59	9/11			Steven Ashe, Tampa FL; Luc Tijssen, Tilburg, Netherlands; Oscar Nijssen, Rotterdam, Netherlands; Tim van de Pavard – Guy Mendes de Leon, Leiden, Netherlands; Simon Hult, Wastervik, Sweden	73.00
14.42	9/11	1	1	Robert Ives, Bethesda MD; Juan Felipe Cuervo, Bogota, Colombia; Santiago Semberoiz, Fort Lauderdale FL; Monique France, New York NY	73.00
5.35	12/13			Rajath Shourie, Pacific Palisades CA; Gavin Wolpert, Palm Beach Gardens FL; Michael Whibley, Auckland, New Zealand; Nabil Edgtton, Sydney, Australia; Sartaj Hans, Goulburn, Australia; Andy Hung, Brisbane, Australia	71.00
5.35	12/13			Daniel SW Chui, Markham ON; Ho-Yee So, Taipei City, Taiwan; Hong Ding, New York NY; Sun Xudong, Shang Hai	71.00
10.82		2	2	Jian-Jian Wang, Clarksville MD; Jun Shi, Halfmoon Bay CA; Kayden Ge, Cupertino CA; Brian Zhang, Dublin CA	68.00
8.11		3		Brooke Cohen, New York NY; Irem Ozbay, Cliffside Park NJ; Gonzalo Guridi, Ithaca NY; Ignacio Miquelez, Fort Lauderdale FL	65.00
6.08		4	3	Shailesh Gupta, Las Vegas NV; Kyra Helmbold, Minneapolis MN; Tracey Bauer, San Rafael CA; Melissa Baker, West Harrison NY	60.00
4.81		5	4	Sheng Li, New York NY; Michael Bodell, Santa Clara CA; Jian-Ping Chen, Yorktown VA; Jian Wang, Myrtle Beach SC	56.00
3.87	6/7	5		Thomas Racciatti, Minneapolis MN; Sam Dodson, Houston TX; Mary Duffy, St. Louis Park MN; Matthew Duffy, Minneapolis MN	55.00
3.87	6/7			Allison Freeland, Coral Gables FL; May Sakr, Fort Lauderdale FL; Shelley Boschan, Bloomfield Hills MI; Sveinn Eiriksson, Delray Beach FL	55.00

MARJEAN LARSON MEMORIAL THURSDAY 0-4000 BRACKETED ROUND ROBIN TEAMS BKT 1

7 Tables

12.51	1	John Mayne – Pamela Mayne, Modesto CA; Todd Thorsen – Bobette Thorsen, Lititz PA	88.00
9.38	2	Kyle Rockoff, Gilbert AZ; Christopher Staszak, Orland Park IL; Hamilton Sawczuk – Jim Dickson, Baltimore MD	82.00
7.04	3	Jamie Carroll, Naples FL; Eric Schneider, Boca Raton FL; Dianne Carr - Clyde Johnson, Duluth MN	59.00

MARJEAN LARSON MEMORIAL THURSDAY 0-4000 BRACKETED ROUND ROBIN TEAMS BKT 2

7 Tables

12.28	1	Ann Romeo, Seattle WA; Rebecca Anspach, St. Paul MN; Deepak Abbhi, Miami FL; Francisco Guerra, Fort Lauderdale FL	75.00
9.21	2	Louis Tesler, Eden Prairie MN; Jeffrey Walker, Eagan MN; Rolf Hubmayr, Minneapolis MN; Douglas Giloy, Rockford IL	64.00
6.91	3	Dennis Keefer – Janice Keefer, Sparta NJ; Andrew Barlow, Lebanon NJ; Leigh Walker, Piscataway NJ	63.00

MARJEAN LARSON MEMORIAL THURSDAY 0-4000 BRACKETED ROUND ROBIN TEAMS BKT 3

13 Tables

15.55	1	Ken Pelowski – Lori Mirek, Atherton CA; Garrard Marsh, Modesto CA; Lorraine Bocks, Legrand CA	84.00
11.66	2	Kenneth Eiger – Susan Eiger, Clayton MO; Ken Deutch – Diane Deutch, St. Louis MO	77.00
8.75	3	Renee Waas, Heber City UT; Kim Ebner, Pasadena CA; Josh Levy – Jan Miyake, Oberlin OH	72.00
6.56	4	Benjamin Levine, Hartford CT; Nicole Hudak, New York NY; Jonathan Klinker – Susan Miguel, Tiverton RI	67.00
5.18	5	Xintao He – Ed Prosser – Michael Salscheider – Joyce Lewis, Rochester MN	64.00

MARJEAN LARSON MEMORIAL THURSDAY 0-4000 BRACKETED ROUND ROBIN TEAMS BKT 4

7 Tables

10.54	1	R. Mani, Lanham MD; Lawrence Pinkus, Kensington MD; Robert Fraser – Harold George, Wichita KS	82.00
7.91	2	Richard Trachy, Golden Valley MN; Paul Becka, Minneapolis MN; Paul Wehrman – Catherine Wehrman, Shoreview MN	78.00
5.93	3	Ann Johnson, Framingham MA; Elizabeth Gompels, Cambridge MA; Ramona Bienstock – Cherry Blevins, Oklahoma City OK	70.00

MARJEAN LARSON MEMORIAL THURSDAY 0-4000 BRACKETED ROUND ROBIN TEAMS BKT 5

7 Tables

9.87	1	Gregory Sellgren, Sarasota FL; Maureen Pechacek – Linda Finch – Karen Kimes, Las Vegas NV	84.00
7.40	2	Patty Garvy, Palm Beach FL; Ashley Szymiski, Aurora IL; Jeff Duckworth, Sugar Grove IL; Neal Goldman, Willow Springs IL	77.00
5.55	3	James LaFave, Minneapolis MN; Edie Siemens, Prior Lake MN; Amy Howells, Lakeville MN; Gary Rowland, Golden Valley MN	74.00

MARJEAN LARSON MEMORIAL THURSDAY 0-4000 BRACKETED ROUND ROBIN TEAMS BKT 6

7 Tables

8.28	1	Steven Hamburg, Troutman NC; Dru Horne, Athens GA; Lee Dowell Jr., Denver NC; Tucker Dowell, Murfreesboro TN	96.00
6.21	2	Shu Mei Hwang, Woodbury MN; Barbara Pianin, Treasure Island FL; Mark Grossman, South Pasadena FL; Andrew Mitchell, Oak Harbor WA	69.00
4.66	3	Jan Morris – John Miller – Marie Nelson – Douglas Freeman, Rochester MN	63.00

MARJEAN LARSON MEMORIAL THURSDAY 0-4000 BRACKETED ROUND ROBIN TEAMS BKT 7

7 Tables

6.15	1	Celeste Williams – Jacqueline Richardson, Florissant MO; Felicia Childs, Vinita Park MO; Rod Goree, Ruston LA	85.00
4.61	2	David Klevan – James Lair, St. Paul MN; Joseph Kivel, Pine City MN; Gregory Stromath, Oakdale MN	76.00
3.46	3	Victoria Slomiany, Edina MN; Maureen Mackey, Briarcliff Manor NY; Betty Coleman – Michelle Harlow, Tucson AZ	62.00

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Single rate \$4100. Local Rate Available.**Bridge Academy At Delray, Florida**

Delray, Florida May 2-7, 2027 | Rates from \$4200

* per person based on 2 guests per room.
Single rate \$4500. Local Rate Available.**2026 Adventures****Amsterdam to Basel** with Corey Krantz
10 Night Bridge Academy/AMA River Cruise
Aug. 29–Sep. 8, 2026 | Rates from \$7,700**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**Budapest to Romania** with Corey Krantz
10 Night Bridge Academy/AMA River Cruise
August 13–23, 2027 | Rates from \$9,000**Vancouver to Hawaii** with Corey Krantz
September 9–20, 2027 | Rates from \$7,300All-inclusive door to door or port to port. Ask our agents to price for you. Based on double occupancy and per person. Rates subject to change.
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Tomorrow's Bridge Events

Saturday, July 18 Hawkeye Unit 216 Day 9:30 am & 3:30 pm

Event	Session	Sold	Entry/player/session*	
			Members with discount	Members without discount
SPINGOLD KNOCKOUT TEAMS	1-2 SF	M100F, mezzanine	\$43	\$53
0-6000 MINI-SPINGOLD KNOCKOUT TEAMS		M100F, mezzanine	\$25	\$35
0-3000 MINI-SPINGOLD KNOCKOUT TEAMS	1-2 F	M100F, mezzanine	\$25	\$35
10 am				
Saturday Morning Side Pairs <i>Fri-Sun Daylight Series</i>	single	Exhibit Hall A, lower level	\$22	\$32
299er Pairs	single	Exhibit Hall A, lower level	\$18	\$28
10 am & 1:30 pm				
OSHLAG FAST PAIRS <i>2 qualifying & 2 final sessions</i>	1-2 Q	Ballroom A, ground level	\$38	\$48
10 am & 3 pm				
BEAN RED RIBBON PAIRS <i>Under 3000 & Ribbon Q required; 2 qualifying & 2 final sessions</i>	1-2 Q	L100G, lower level	\$25	\$35
Collegiate Pairs Championship	1-2	200B, level 2	Free	Free
Bridge Center of St. Paul Open Pairs <i>(unlim./4000/1500)</i>	1-2	Exhibit Hall A, lower level	\$22	\$32
Gold Rush Pairs	1-2	Exhibit Hall A, lower level	\$22	\$32
Patti Stuhlman Top-Flight Swiss Teams <i>(unlim./6000/4500)</i>	1-2	Exhibit Hall A, lower level	\$22	\$32
Mike & Jill Flader 0-4000 Bracketed Round Robin Teams	1-2	Exhibit Hall A, lower level	\$22	\$32
10 am & 3:30 pm				
ROTH OPEN SWISS TEAMS	1-2 SF	Ballroom B, ground level	\$43	\$53
0-10,000 MIXED SWISS TEAMS <i>2 qualifying & 2 final sessions</i>	1-2 Q	L100H, lower level	\$25	\$35
3 pm				
Saturday Afternoon Side Pairs <i>Fri-Sun Daylight Series</i>	single	Exhibit Hall A, lower level	\$22	\$32
299er Pairs	single	Exhibit Hall A, lower level	\$18	\$28

* 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.