



# THE DISTRICT 20 TRUMPET

www.ACBLD20.org



Vol. 17, No. 2

Bridge Across the District

Summer 2021

## District 20 clubs hesitant to reopen

By Amy Casanova

The Trumpet

On a moody spring afternoon, my son and I were waiting for our sandwiches at an outdoor food-cart pod. The sun emerged from bruise-colored clouds, warming us, only to disappear moments later. There were smiling faces at every

table. I could tell because no one was wearing a mask.

“Aren’t we in lockdown?” my son asked.

The answer was as fleeting as the weather. The previous Friday, indoor dining was shut down, only to be reopened again the next Friday.

I asked him if he felt nervous being around so many people. He nodded.

The whiplash we are experiencing is exhausting. In addition, even the most mundane tasks and errands take extra time. We wait in long lines due to capacity limitations, or businesses do not open at all – sometimes with no notice.

Now we know it’s safe to be unmasked outdoors, as long as we stay socially distanced. It’s OK to be unmasked indoors

with other vaccinated people.

What does this mean for bridge?

When the ACBL announced its timeline for the return to F2F play earlier this year, the vaccination roll-out was ramping up considerably, but appointments for eligible people were difficult to schedule, and many

*Continued on Page 7*

## ACBL readies for return with Austin

Your national board continues to meet on a regular basis. A detailed summation of our long meeting in March can be found on the District 20 website.

The ACBL is doing OK financially. The big concern is the continued downtrend in membership, which is down 8.5% since last year. I and others also are worried about the brick-and-mortar clubs and districts that may be struggling.

To that end, we are looking at recruiting social bridge players and establishing best practices for teaching bridge. Marketing has been integral to this process.

We all look forward to face-to-face bridge and nationally we have been having discussion around this issue. Austin is a go for fall nationals (Nov. 25–Dec. 5) and I am excited to visit and play again.

I believe all the directors will be vaccinated and I personally felt like I won the lottery in getting my vaccine in January.

District director Laurie Rowe can be reached at [district20director@acbl.org](mailto:district20director@acbl.org).



Laurie Rowe  
D20 District Director



Top row: Bill Stevenson with his wife Majella, Larry Chase, Jeff Roman, Deanna Heyser; bottom row: Krista Garver, Lynne Schaeffer and Alan Johnson, Lorna Logan.

## Back to the bridge tables?

*District players express readiness, reservations in anticipation of return to clubs, tournaments*

By Jen Smith

The Trumpet

It’s been more than a year since bridge clubs officially shut their doors due to the pandemic. Many moved to online play, but as things begin to slowly reopen and vac-

cines become more available, we wanted to find out how players were feeling about the return to the table. Find out how your fellow bridge players are embarking on a careful return to normalcy.

*Continued on Page 6*

## Seaside a go, pending state clearance

We’re well into year two of the pandemic. How have you been doing?

The ACBL says only about half of the members are playing online. I hope you feel comfortable enough to return to the clubs – and, shhh,

maybe the tournaments.



Mike Eyer  
D20 President

Thanks in large part to the continuing great work by Hal Montgomery and Rich Carle, our district GNTs have had another successful year. And because of the

revenue generated by their endeavors, along with staff cost savings (thanks especially to Marie Ashton and Amy Casanova),

*Continued on Page 11*

## Keep your fingers crossed

As of today, the Oregon Coast Regional in Seaside next fall is scheduled to be the first D20 regional tournament and perhaps the first ACBL regional tournament in the

country since the pandemic closed bridge club doors.

It all depends on what happens between now and then with covid-19 and what restrictions the ACBL and/or Oregon’s Gov. Brown may impose.

Please see the tournament flyer or the ad on page 8 and refer to the D20 website for

*Continued on Page 2*



## Bomber wins GNT

The Bomber team (from right, Ben Bomber, Amy Casanova, Bruce Cuthbertson, Hal Montgomery) won the championship flight of the Grand National Teams. Bomber played in the finals of flights A and B as well. Six teams in four flights will represent the district in the Summer NAOBC. The event drew 53 teams and was played over the course of six months. See page 3 for the full report.



Jim Wheeler  
Tournament Manager



# Put in effort to bring back your bridge habit

Recently, I played tennis for the first time in over a year. My racket had not been restrung in longer than that and was pretty flat, but I can't blame that for my game. I was out of shape. Muscles that don't seem to get used for anything but tennis protested — loudly.

But it felt so good to be outside, with a friend, playing a game that I love. I didn't mind losing because I felt like I still won. Exercise, friendship, accomplishment, improvement — all the things I love about tennis could be said about bridge, except the exercise in bridge is more mental than physical.

My friend and I set a weekly date to continue playing. Even though we are both busy moms with full-time jobs, we know if we don't have a commitment, we are less likely to play.

I worry that bridge players will be out of the habit of going to their local clubs. I've read it takes 30 days to make or break a habit. So much of life is routine.

I don't think it takes that long to get

back into the habit of doing something you enjoy.

Truth be told, I am a little nervous about playing live again. Holding cards, using the bidding box, scoring — those "muscles" are a little flabby right now. It's also going to be strange to be in a room full of people.

However long it takes to shake off the rust when we play live again, at least some of us plan to continue playing online, too. One new habit is that a lot of us have become accustomed to doing things via the computer.

In a way, the forced transition to all-online has paved the way to a more global approach. Players enjoy partnering with friends from all over the country and playing in far-away clubs.

Districts are sharing information with each other more than ever. Our neighbor to the south, District 21, which serves the Bay Area as well as Sacramento and Reno, had a new president, Tracey Bauer, until just recently. She worked tirelessly to set up meetings with other district presidents



**Amy Casanova**  
Managing Editor



The Oregon Coast Regional returns this fall.

## Regionals

*Continued from Page 1*

updated information as we get closer to tournament time. Hoping to see you all in September.

*Jim Wheeler is unable to continue as tournament manager for the 2021 Seaside Regional. Amy Casanova will serve in his place. For more information, contact Amy at casanova.amy@gmail.com or 503-753-9395.*

### Goodwill nominations

Nominations are now being accepted for the 2022 Goodwill Member of the Year. This honorary title shall be given to the ACBL member who has exhibited unselfish dedication to the causes of good conduct, worthy participation and ethical behavior. Any unit/district official in good standing may nominate a candidate.

Please include the name of the candidate and why you believe he or she deserves recognition as the Goodwill Member of the Year. Also, include your own name, contact information and unit/district affiliation.

An online form is available at [acbl.org/goodwillnominations](http://acbl.org/goodwillnominations). Nominations are open until Oct. 15.

## Deaths

**Ricardo Berdichevsky** – 67, of Portland OR died May 19, 2021.

**George Boger** – 87, of Corvallis OR died April 24, 2021.

**Norma Smith** – 96, of Eugene OR died Feb. 2, 2021.

**Jean Thompson** – 92, of Grass Valley CA died Feb. 13, 2021.

**Steve Tubbs** – 74, of Vancouver WA died March 18, 2021.



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District 20

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**Deadlines: The deadline for the Fall 2021 issue is July 21** for free sectional ads and advance articles. The deadline for unit reports is Monday, Aug. 3. The deadline for front-page articles is Aug. 17. Please send to managing editor Amy Casanova. Email [trumpeteditor@gmail.com](mailto:trumpeteditor@gmail.com); phone 503-753-9395.

**New Life Masters:** Please send a photo for publication by email.

# Return to normal isn't something to fear

In the last week of May, I went to the grocery store and saw a new sign posted: "Masks not required for fully vaccinated individuals." It had been four weeks since my last shot, so I qualified.

I was wearing a mask and despite the sign it seemed uncouth to just take it off after entering the store, so I didn't. But when I returned a few days later, I left my mask in the car.

Since then I've seen similar signs at other stores and one of the gyms where I swim.

People asked me if it felt weird not wearing it. And I have to say, no, it really didn't.

I feel like I'm the type of person who adapts quickly. I didn't grumble when all of this change happened 15 months ago, and I'm not the least bit hesitant to get back to life as we knew it. I shopped in stores for a few decades without a mask, and it's not some big scary change to do so again. And if there are some places where I still have to wear it, that's OK too.

I've heard some people express apprehension about how others will perceive them if they take advantage of the new rules and shed their masks. "I don't want to get lumped in with those crazy anti-maskers." I'm sure some people harbor suspicion about whether everyone maskless is really fully vaccinated, and no doubt there are some people who are taking advantage of the honor system. But I'm not wasting my time judging other people or worrying about what they think of me.

Besides, with my fairly hip hair and wardrobe full of pinks and loud oranges, I feel like I'm less likely to be mistaken for a redneck. If people are making assumptions about me, they're probably right.

One of the great things about the past year is that I've been able to play so much more frequently with my old friends in District 20. Rebuilding my partnership with **Amy Casanova** through a weekly Portland Bridge Club virtual game has been a blessing. We went to North American Pairs together in 2016 and then didn't play together for four years. I would be playing in the D20 North American events every year if they'd let me.

Even though I only played in Portland about once a month when I lived four hours away, I still feel more at home there

than I have in either of the Memphis clubs. I don't want to lose the opportunity to play at PBC regularly.

But I'm also eager to get back to playing in person. I'm planning to go to Seaside, and I imagine I'll see the inside of a bridge club before then if the Tuesday night game here comes back from hiatus. The club reopened in April for morning games Mondays and Friday and so far hasn't expanded its schedule.

Knowing how vulnerable night games are while the online option remains available, it may be longer than I think. They were already on the brink of dying out before people had a way to get their bridge in without leaving the house. The same dynamic that allows me to continue playing "in" Portland could make it harder for me to play in Memphis.

### Strong two-suiters

I celebrated a birthday with a winning PBC game a couple weeks ago. Here's a fun hand.

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

I might have opened 2♣ – the other pairs that reached slam did – but I think it's easier to describe two-suited hands with a natural opening. I'm more worried about a preempt preventing me from describing my hand than a one-bid being passed out. I'm not sure I've seen Amy pass an opening bid yet.

Having opened 1♠, even if the opponents are in four of a red suit by the time the auction gets back to me, I'll always be able to bid some number of clubs and partner will have an idea of what I have. If I've opened 2♣ and there's a preempt, I probably only get to show one of my suits. After the preemptive raise to 4♠, I know

to discuss best practices and implement new ideas going forward. It seemed like she was just getting started when she resigned. People can be resistant to change, and that makes bridge politics frustrating.

There is still much confusion regarding vaccination requirements for live play, especially since it can vary from region to region and club to club. One thing about bridge players that amazes me is the dramatic variance in views on politics, religion, socioeconomics and education; yet, for a few hours, we put away our differences and just play cards with respect for one another.

This is a time of great uncertainty which understandably makes everyone anxious. As much as I believe that one should live in the moment, it is nice to have something to look forward to.

I am looking forward to playing at the clubs, in Seaside and traveling to Austin to work on the Daily Bulletin at the NABC. I'm looking forward to wearing my nice clothes and hope that after a few more tennis games they'll fit again.

Amy Casanova can be reached at [trumpeteditor@gmail.com](mailto:trumpeteditor@gmail.com).

I want to be in slam. I considered whether a more careful auction would help, knowing my partner has zero keycards, and decided I was unlikely to find a grand. As it turns out, after a response showing zero or three, my queen ask will find not just the ♠Q but the ♠K — exactly the two cards I need to bid seven. Kudos to the pair that got there, **Jon Gassaway** and **Bruce Backup**.

It was an advantage to be in first seat and be able to get a bid in before the preempt. On another hand the following week, where I was in fourth seat with a strong two-suiter, it was a lot harder — for most people.

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

West	Chip	East	Amy
		Pass	Pass
1♠	2♠	3♠	Pass
Pass	4♣	4♠	Pass
Pass	5♣	All Pass	

At some tables where East opened 2♠, the auction was at 4♠ before my hand got a chance to bid. Almost everyone bid 5♣ at some point, and the opponents ended up in 5♠ doubled. I got lucky here having not just the chance to show both suits early but to bid at the four level my second turn.

Perhaps 4♣ is an underbid, but if our best contract is 4♥, I want to leave room for partner to bid it. I always wanted to get to game, but the auction may have left the impression that I was hoping to stop in 4♣ and was pushed to bid five. Fortunately they let me play there and it makes, losing just a natural trump trick and a diamond.

Maybe I benefitted from reputation. I bid to the five level vulnerable all by myself, and people know I'm fully capable of doing that without really having my bid.

See you in Seaside!

Chip Dombrowski can be reached at [chip.dombrowski@acbl.org](mailto:chip.dombrowski@acbl.org).



# NAP AND GNT

## GNT teams qualify for Summer NAOBC; 53 participate

### Three D20 pairs make NAP overalls in NAOBC

The 10 pairs that represented District 20 at the spring nationals in the North American Pairs didn't have to travel far because this year the NAP finals were contested online.

Our flight A pairs were Charlene and Ian Martindale from Boise, Amy Casanova – Paul Wrigley, David Brower – Jeff McKee, all from Portland.

Our flight B pairs were Greg Fowler – Ron Root, Edwin Parker – Laura McKinney, Lawrence Levy – Jean Johansson, and Kevin Marnell – Ben Bomber; all from the Portland area.



**Hal Montgomery**  
NA Events Coordinator

Our flight C pairs were Jon Gassaway – Bruce Backup, Roger Thomas – Mike Goffe, Paul Walker – Ryerson Schwark, all from the Portland area; and Keith Kalway – Sharon Sondell from Hawaii.

Three of our pairs finished in the overalls. **Ben Bomber** and **Kevin Marnell** were seventh in flight B. **Paul Walker** and **Ryerson Schwark** were 14th and **Jon Gassaway** and **Bruce Backup** were 17th in flight C. Another pair, **Lawrence Levy – Jean Johansson**, were well-positioned to finish high in flight B but ran out of gas in the fourth session. Congratulations to these pairs.

The 2022 NAP qualifying period started in June and runs through the end of August. You must qualify at the local club level, either in person or virtually. Check with your local club managers to find out when NAP qualifying games are scheduled in your area. Clubs can hold qualifying games F2F or online.

Clubs are limited to two qualifying games per sanctioned session per month. See the ad on page 4 for more information.

### GNT

The Grand National Teams have just finished, with 53 teams in four flights. Finalists were from Boise, Hawaii and Portland.

Participating players were from Vancouver, Corvallis, Eugene, Medford, Ashland, Redding and Nevada City.

After round robin matches within each flight, the top teams played extended KO matches to determine the overall finishers. The D20 website has detailed information regarding the round robin and KO



**Championship** winners: Hal Montgomery, Bruce Cuthbertson, Amy Casanova, captain Ben Bomber



**Flight A** winners: captain Amy Casanova, Ben Bomber, Rick Prouser, Ray Robert



**Flight B** winners: captain Rick Prouser, Ray Robert, Leslie Kelinson, Jamie Sparks



**Flight C** winners: Andrey Dashkov, Ryerson Schwark, Bruce Backup, captain Jon Gassaway

matches in all flights. The winners in the open and A flights and the top two teams in B and C flights get to represent D20 at the nationals this summer.

Finishing on top were:

**Open teams:** Amy Casanova – Ben Bomber, Hal Montgomery – Bruce Cuthbertson; Suzanne St. Thomas – John Gram, Duane Christensen – Steve Nafus.  
**Flight A:** Amy Casanova – Ben Bomber,

Ray Robert – Rick Prouser; Alan Kosansky – Leo Williams, Robert Liu – Larry Denneau.

**Flight B:** Rick Prouser – Ray Robert, Leslie Kelinson – Jamie Sparks; Ben Bomber – Kevin Marnell, Don Herring – Tim Rilling.

**Flight C:** Jon Gassaway – Bruce Backup, Ryerson Schwark – Andrey Dashkov; Paula Koeller – Linda Rountree, Ed Tra-

### D20 GNT winners

#### Championship

- 1 **Ben Bomber** – Bruce Cuthbertson, Vancouver WA; Amy Casanova – Hal Montgomery, Portland OR
- 2 **Duane Christensen** – Steve Nafus – John Gram – Suzanne St. Thomas, Boise ID

#### Flight A

- 1 **Amy Casanova** – Rick Prouser – Ray Robert, Portland OR; Ben Bomber, Vancouver WA
- 2 **Alan Kosansky**, Kailua HI; **Leo Williams** – Robert Liu – Larry Denneau, Honolulu HI

#### Flight B

- 1 **Rick Prouser** – Ray Robert – Jamie Sparks – Leslie Kelinson, Portland OR
- 2 **Ben Bomber** – Tim Rilling, Vancouver WA; **Kevin Marnell**, Portland OR; **Don Herring**, Lake Oswego OR

#### Flight C

- 1 **Jon Gassaway** – Andrey Dashkov, Beaverton OR; **Bruce Backup**, Portland OR; **Ryerson Schwark**, West Linn OR
- 2 **Paula Koeller** – Ed Trachtenberg – Kathleen Hart, Portland OR; **Linda Rountree**, Lake Oswego OR

chtenberg – Kathleen Hart.

There were several notable accomplishments this year. These players accomplished more than just winning their flights. **Ray Robert** and **Rick Prouser** earned a distinction that I suspect is unique in ACBL history. They were simultaneously, for about a month, the champions of the Open teams, as well as the flight A and B teams. They were the winners of the 2020 open teams and the 2021 Flight A and B teams. **Ben Bomber** was in the finals of three flights. He was second in B but won A and Open. **Amy Casanova** also won A and Open teams.

The online round robin format promotes players entering in multiple flights. These players showed that everybody has a chance if they play well.

At the national level, GNTs for all flights are held simultaneously and players are permitted to play in only one flight. Those who win more than one flight must choose which flight to play in.

Rules regarding the number of players on a team who can be replaced leave in question who will represent the district in the three flights won by teams with overlapping players.

The GNTs will be held online during the Summer NAOBC beginning Wednesday, July 14. See [acbl.org/naobc](http://acbl.org/naobc) for more information.

Check with your clubs about qualifying times for the NAP.

In 2022, the grass roots events will return to the NABCs, with the NAP being held in Reno in the spring and the GNT in Providence in the summer.

D20 North American events coordinator Hal Montgomery can be reached at [dewitt@imaginata.com](mailto:dewitt@imaginata.com).

## In Memoriam

### Steven Tubbs

Nov. 22, 1946 – March 18, 2021

Steve Tubbs of Vancouver, Wash., died March 18 at the age of 74.

He was born in Chicago to Donald and Maxine Tubbs in 1946. He met his wife of over 50 years, Linda Noble Tubbs, at the University of Washington. After graduating, they moved to Portland where Steve attended Lewis and Clark Law School. After obtaining his law degree Steve took a job with the Clark County prosecutor's office. After a few years at the prosecutor's office, Steve moved into private practice in Vancouver where he continued to practice well into his 60s.

Steve strongly believed in giving back to his community. He volunteered for many



Steve Tubbs

local clubs and committees, including serving as tournament manager for Vancouver's Unit 452.

Steve enjoyed many hobbies and activities, including duplicate bridge, where he achieved the rank of Life

Master. He loved hiking and camping. He became a master gardener and docent for the Japanese Gardens in Portland. His home was twice featured on Vancouver garden tours.

He learned to fly and invited friends and family for many flights. He loved cars,

and bought one of the earliest Teslas.

Most of all, Steve loved his wife, Linda; daughter, Corianne; and his grandchildren, Marli and Isaiah, whom he took on endless adventures and showered with laughter, guidance and love.

Steve was preceded in death by his parents, brother Tallan and sister Pamela Tubbs. He is survived by his wife, brother Tim, daughter Corianne (Pratoussy) and his grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held Aug. 7 at noon at Lacamas Lake Lodge.

In lieu of flowers, donations are welcome for the Vancouver Bridge Club, c/o Kathy Mather, 10504 NW 34th Ct., Vancouver WA 98685-2220. Or go to your local park and clean up garbage and post a picture on social media at #SteveTubbsLovesNature.

### Summer NAOBC

The fourth North American Online Bridge Championships will begin Wednesday, July 14, with the Grand National Teams. Contestants who won their district finals will be invited to compete online.

In addition, there will be knockout team events and multi-session pair events, including IMP pairs and mixed pairs. All will be separate events: Open, 0–5000 and 0–1500. The knockouts, lasting six or seven days, begin Monday, July 19. The IMP pairs events will be held the first weekend, open pairs the following weekend, and the mixed pairs start Wednesday, July 21.

As before, online open events do not confer Grand Life Master status and award no platinum points.

During team matches, players will be required to have an ongoing video or audio chat with their screenmate.

Event times and entry fees will be posted on the website. See the complete schedule at [acbl.org/naobc](http://acbl.org/naobc).



## DISTRICT 20 RANK CHANGES

### JUNIOR MASTERS

Jan Collins, Portland OR  
 Russ Dodd, Meridian ID  
 Bill Edmonds, Corvallis OR  
 Georgia French, Veneta OR  
 Lois Jones, Ashland OR  
 John Magin, Waikoloa HI  
 Douglas McKenzie, Medford OR  
 Nancy Sammann, Williams CA  
 Martha Sheppard, Bend OR  
 Alison Smith, Corvallis OR  
 Marilyn Ward, Bend OR

### CLUB MASTERS

William Dreyer, Redding CA  
 John Ellis, Portland OR  
 David Goddard, Langlois OR  
 Shannon Goddard, Langlois OR  
 Peggy Lance, Beaverton OR  
 Linda McCollum, Reedsport OR  
 Cindy Milligan, Corvallis OR  
 Jonathan Pulvers, Portland OR  
 Terry Ravlin, Corvallis OR  
 Bob Speaker, Corvallis OR  
 Carol Stams, Honolulu HI  
 Elisabeth Stanton, Tigard OR  
 Dolores Storch, Sisters OR  
 Sunia Yang, Corvallis OR

### SECTIONAL MASTERS

Steven Acker, Portland OR  
 Joanne Benkstein, McMinnville OR  
 Karen Blake, Ashland OR  
 Susan Suz Copenhafer, Eugene OR  
 Nancy Garboden, Eugene OR  
 Douglas Goelz, Long Beach WA  
 Diane Howard, Eugene OR  
 David Johnson, Springfield OR  
 Elizabeth Lane, Ashland OR  
 Kathy Neuman, Brookings OR  
 Russell Richter, Penn Valley CA  
 Peter Soni, Newberg OR  
 Jo Ann Walter, Portland OR  
 Betty Walters, Lake Oswego OR

### REGIONAL MASTERS

Helena Cence, Honolulu HI  
 Robert Derbyshire, Keaau HI  
 Lois Garner, Portland OR  
 Mary Gilbert, Beaverton OR  
 Elsie Hathaway, Vancouver WA  
 Susan Hughes, Hilo HI

## New Life Masters



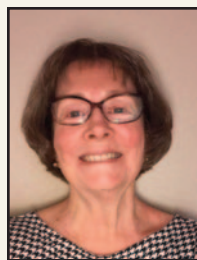
**Kay Alspaugh**  
Boise ID



**Deb Dotters**  
Eugene OR



**Dawn Guenther**  
Eugene OR



**Lindy Hamilton**  
Boise ID



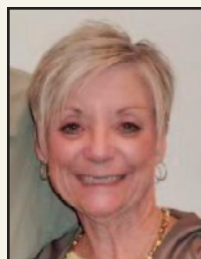
**Jeanette Hanna**  
Clackamas OR



**Kristin Melcher**  
Honolulu HI



**Linda Rountree**  
Lake Oswego OR



**Beverly Roy**  
Eugene OR

*Congratulations!*



**Paul Walker**  
Oregon City OR

Jody Larson, Medford OR  
 Lee Machado, Portland OR  
 Carol Schaafsma, Eugene OR  
 Catherine Van Fleet, Corvallis OR

### NABC MASTERS

Thomas Ahern, Wilsonville OR  
 Stephen Bartholomew, Keaau HI  
 Kristen Boesiger, Boise ID  
 Alexander Davie, Medford OR  
 Sarah Rogers, Kapaa HI  
 George Schlunkert, Eureka CA  
 Elizabeth Scully, Portland OR  
 Jane Waldron, Volcano HI

### ADVANCED NABC MASTERS

Gary Haynie, Kailua HI

### BRONZE LIFE MASTERS

Cynthia Brogan, Vancouver WA  
 Elizabeth Brooke, Portland OR  
 Leon Joseph Grafe, Kihei HI  
 Claudia Maddalena, Honolulu HI

Kirsten Melcher, Honolulu HI  
 Tom Neilsen, Portland OR

### SILVER LIFE MASTERS

Daniel Berman, Honolulu HI  
 Theresa Bruneau, Rockaway Beach OR  
 Richard Hayes, Lone CA  
 Janet Landesberg, Vancouver WA  
 Mari Livingston, Portland OR  
 David McKee, Ashland OR  
 Andrew Nuxoll, Portland OR

### RUBY LIFE MASTERS

Pauline Bullert, Vancouver WA  
 Jean Johansson, Portland OR  
 Cynthia Larsen, Bend OR  
 Mariam Saner, Vancouver WA  
 Kathleen Vasks, Camas WA  
 Cherilyn Young, Honolulu HI

### GOLD LIFE MASTERS

Douglas Jansen, Happy Valley OR  
 Pam Moreland, Penn Valley CA

William Wood, Meridian ID

### SAPPHIRE LIFE MASTERS

Amy Casanova, Portland OR  
 Robert Law, Tigard OR  
 Stephen Nafus, Boise ID  
 Jon Neimand, Eugene OR

### EMERALD LIFE MASTERS

R. Ian Martindale, Boise ID



**Ian Martindale**

**ENDLESS Summer**  
**ACBL TOURNAMENT**  
 June 24-27  
 Win gold and red points online  
 acbl.org/virtual  
 ACBL American Contract Bridge League

**NAP**  
 North American PAIRS  
 American Contract Bridge League  
**District 20 NAP 2021 - 2022**

**Schedule for the 2021-2022 competition:**

- **Club level:** Qualifying sessions in June, July, and August
- **Unit level:** Not held, but must have a club-qualifier if none of their clubs have done so
- **District level:** TBD

<https://nabc.acbl.org/upcoming-nabc/>

**Information:**

- NAP club-qualifying games for 2021 will be held in June, July, and August. They may be conducted either online in a virtual club or in person at a physical venue.
- Clubs may hold two NAP club qualifiers per sanctioned session each month.
- Masterpoint awards for an Open Club are as a Club Special Game Class II (200% of Standard Masterpoint rating), 1/2 red & 1/2 black. Online game awards are reduced by 20%.
- Conditions of Contest:

**ACBL:**  
<http://web2.acbl.org/documentlibrary/play/NAP/CoC.pdf>

**D20 (2019 Conditions for reference):**  
[http://web2.acbl.org/NA\\_Events/NAP/2021/D20\\_NAP\\_CoC.pdf](http://web2.acbl.org/NA_Events/NAP/2021/D20_NAP_CoC.pdf)

**2022 RENO SPRING NABC**





# THE IN! CROWD

For Intermediate/Newcomer Players

## Sherry tries the GNT: How to find your 3-3 minor fit at teams

What a year 2020 was! We all, if alive, have a lot of recovering to do. Here is my 'splainng why I had a tough time coming down from my trees.

February 2020 was the last month that I traveled anywhere out of my trees. The good news is that I know the circumference of my favorite oaks. My last regional was the Oregon Trail in 2020. The next regional is hopefully Seaside in October 2021. Quite the long pandemic season.

Sherry is so happy playing on-line that she may not go back to the clubs. When we head back to the club what will it look like?

She is able to compartmentalize bridge in a tiny corner of her tiny brain. Bridge is a distraction, it reminds us that we are animals and we are not perfect. We need to live in the moment and focus on what is happening. Sherry knows that she is easily distractible. She listens to music. She is enamored with the birds building nests in the spring.

During the pandemic she is outside more and measuring the circumference of her favorite oak trees. (One is over 14 feet and the other is over 10 feet). Her nemesis, katsura tree, is huge and has a new baby planted underneath it. There are so many wonderful distractions around her house that she may never leave it again.

She is playing bridge with groups in Seattle and in California. She is traveling to Arizona to visit her kids. She has four upcoming trips planned, including one to Seaside for the D20 regional in October.

So squirrel she plans, and G-d she laughs. Who knows what the future holds?

This amazing pandemic has exposed me to tons of Netflix, Prime Video, Disney Plus, Hulu and yoga on YouTube. Sherry has discovered iHeart radio on her TV and podcasts, classic workouts. OMG, so many wonderful distractions. Pluto keeps reaching out to me ... When Minnie reaches out, I might be tempted.



**Margi Redden**  
D20 I/N Coordinator

Sherry played in her first on-line GNT (Grand National Teams). What an experience! It started out incredibly painfully.

Fortunately she set up a practice match before the first one and highly recommends that. Eventually that one worked out well — she still doesn't know how. Because of difficulties setting up the match, it took a half an hour before they actually could play. Then they decided to reschedule but Sherry did not know how to cancel a match, so both teams passed out 18 boards. Eventually Sherry found there is a director tab where she could have canceled her match. She actually got to the point where she liked being the animal that set up the match. Now Sherry really likes the immediate gratification of online play and the results immediately.

But Sherry still finds the GNT so confusing. Will she play next year, that is the big question.

Steve Owl's advice rings in my head anytime someone opens a weak two in third

seat. He says that they do not promise much when partner is a passed hand. The auction started pass, pass by Sherry, 2♥. Her partner, Franny Fox, made a takeout double, which normally shows all three other suits. But when they preempt, the doubler usually has the other major or a long suit and too many points to just bid their suit. So another pass and Sherry bids 2NT, and Franny bids 3♣. The Idaho animal doubles. Should Sherry redouble with her queen-third? Should she bid 3♦? Sherry passes and they end up playing in their 3-3 fit.

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

And that animal doubled with A-J-10-x-x-x. After the round, she asks Franny why she bid her three-card suit. And she asked me why I transferred to my three-card suit. She thought we were playing Lebensohl. And I thought that it was

### Steve Owl's advice

Review your convention card regularly. Know that every time you adopt a convention it takes a natural bid away. Here with Lebensohl, 2NT is a relay to 3♣, which takes away using 2NT as a natural bid. Playing Lebensohl, when partner initiates the relay, to show a huge hand, do not accept the relay. Discuss your conventions (different ways to play the same bids). Convention mistakes are quite painful, especially at teams, because you hate to let down three partners.

not over preempts. She suggested that I look at the card that we have been playing for months. Sure enough it was there!

Steve Owl says that both of us made mistakes here. It was fine for Sherry to start with 2NT, intending to correct 3♣ to 3♦. But Franny, with her half of the deck, should break the relay and bid 3♦, showing a bigger hand — still interested in game even opposite 0-7. Sherry, with a near maximum for her previous bid, could bid 3♥. And Franny could bid 3NT.

At the other table they also used Lebensohl to reach 3♦ by Sherry's hand and they made a plus 110. If we were in 3NT making that would have been plus 400. Glad we have Steve Owl to help us improve our game. Franny played like a god to hold it to down one. Without this convention we would have made it to the right spot.

Sherry wonders if you have had any questions or interesting hands.

Margi Redden welcomes feedback at [d20incoord@yahoo.com](mailto:d20incoord@yahoo.com).

## Vancouver USA Summer Sectional

Join us at the  
Washington School for the Deaf,  
611 Grand Blvd. (entrance on Evergreen Blvd.)  
Vancouver, Wash.

Aug. 13-15, 2021

*Note: Tournament flyer not available at press time; all information subject to change.*

### Friday, Aug. 13

- Open Pairs (stratified)..... 10 a.m.
- Garland Wilson NLM Pairs (0-500, stratified)..... 10 a.m.
- Novice Pairs (0-100 stratified, # of tables permitting)..... 10 a.m.
- Paul Gabalis Stratified Open Pairs..... 3 p.m.
- NLM Pairs (0-500 stratified)..... 3 p.m.

### Saturday, Aug. 14

- Bob Turkisher Strati-flighted Open Pairs (AXY & BCD) ..... 10 a.m.
- Novice Pairs (0-100 stratified, # of tables permitting)..... 10 a.m.
- Strati-flighted Open Pairs (AXY & BCD) ..... 3 p.m.

### Sunday, Aug. 15

- Memorial Strati-flighted Swiss Teams (AXY & BCD) ..... 10 a.m. & TBA
- \*Stratified Fast Pairs (single session)..... 10 a.m.

*\*Field stratified by director based on entries*

<b>Open strats</b>	<b>NLM strats</b>	<b>Stratified events</b>
A=2000+	A=300-500	A=5000+
B=1000-2000	B=100-300	X=3000-5000
C=0-1000	C=0-100	Y=0-3000
		B=750-1500
		C=300-750
		D=0-300

All pair strats determined by average MP of pair, but **AXY, BCD, & NLM** limits apply  
A team or pair with any player over 1500 MPs plays in Flight **AXY**

**Fees:**  
\$10 for members, \$14 for lapsed ACBL members. Temporary memberships available. New ACBL members (0-5 MP) play free!

**Director in Charge:** Jeff Jacob  
**Tournament & Partnership Chair:** Kathleen Mather, [mather.kath@gmail.com](mailto:mather.kath@gmail.com)

Sanction No. 2108344

**Virtual Vacation**  
ACBL Tournament

**August 26-29**  
Break Away to Bridge

[acbl.org/virtual](http://acbl.org/virtual)



# Reopening: Players mostly eager to return, willing to accept safety measures

Continued from Page 1



## Bill Stevenson

Bill Stevenson of Honolulu is vaxed and ready to get back to his local club. While the state of Hawaii still limits in-person gatherings to 10 people, he says he'll be back for in-person play as soon as the state permits.

When asked what he'd like to see in terms of safety protocols, Stevenson says he would prefer that everyone be fully immunized, and leave it at that.

Stevenson feels he'd be OK with wearing a mask in a short-term situation (say, if a club wanted to open before everyone was vaccinated), but is not up for long-term mask wearing at the bridge table.

He is, however, up for traveling to a tournament in 2021.

"I am planning to go to at least one regional later in the year," he said. "I usually tie my regional selection with something I or my partner can see in conjunction, or that my wife would like to travel to while I play bridge."

Knowing many players shifted to online play during the pandemic, we wondered if that was something people would continue once things reopen. For Stevenson, it's an interesting question without a straightforward answer.

"I am open to playing online bridge, but I chose bridge as my retirement hobby both for the intellectual stimulation and personal interaction," he said. "I think I learn more in online bridge because it is easier to review your mistakes, but enjoy F2F bridge more because of the people."



## Larry Chase

Larry Chase of Boise is also vaccinated and happy to go back to in-person play, so long as everyone at the club is also vaccinated. From a safety protocols perspective, that means all players having proof of vaccination to be admitted into the game and even wearing a mask at local games if the clubs mandate it.

"I believe opening light in bridge is not fair to my partner. The club should not open until protocols are in place for the benefit of all," he said.

"I am not planning on going to any tournaments for the same reason I am not going to any large gatherings. In bridge, a gambling 3NT bid is risky. So is a large gathering of people. The results of both can be bad. I like to trust the odds and science before I take a risk."

Chase knows people from his own club that haven't been able to play online, and therefore feels an obligation to open the club so those who have been missing out can enjoy the game.



## Krista Garver

Krista Garver of Portland hasn't been able to get vaccinated yet. But she's ready and willing to get vaxed as soon as it's available to her. She's also jumping at the chance to get back to in-person play.

"Online play is fine, but I stare at the computer all day for work and don't want to look at the screen any more than I have to," she said, noting she also enjoys the social aspect of in-person play.

Garver is looking for her local club to follow any applicable CDC guidelines. Staying more on the safe side, she's also fine with wearing a mask when going back to her local club.

"If masks are required, I will feel comfortable returning to the club once I'm vaccinated. If they're not, I will wait until the virus seems firmly under control."

Garver is hoping this happens in time for Seaside, as she's planning to travel there for the tournament if CDC safety recommendations are actively enforced.

Garver has enjoyed online bridge in the absence of in-person play over the last year, and sees more of it in her future.

"I have started playing regularly with someone who lives outside of Portland. We haven't talked about what will happen when in-person bridge starts again, but I'd like to continue the partnership and online might be the best option," she said.



## Lynne Schaeffer and Alan Johnson

Lynne Schaeffer of Portland says she's ready to go to clubs whenever they open and is also ready for Seaside, should the tournament happen.

"I trust their take on this," she said.

Getting the vaccine was no picnic. She and Alan Johnson rode together to get the shot. According to Johnson, they were having a lot of difficulty finding appointments – trying everything from Walgreens to Rite Aid, CVS and even the convention center. He finally found an opening in Lebanon, a 30-minute drive for them.

"So, we're nearing Albany and it's raining hard and my windshield wipers stop," Johnson said. He notes that the blades themselves were fine, so it must have been the motor or wiper transmission.

They decide to follow a truck or car at a safe distance in the rain and peer through the raindrops to see the road. According to Johnson, Schaeffer didn't like this approach and requested he stop to get the wipers fixed. Johnson, knowing this was no simple repair, knew they'd have to keep driving through the bad wiper situation if they were going to make their vaccine appointment. Since the appointments were so hard to get, Johnson was pretty insistent they keep going with "wailing in the passenger seat," as he describes it.

Despite all the drama, they made it to the appointment on time, got their vaccines, and got home safe. By the time they left, the rain had stopped and it didn't rain a drop on their ride back. "So, all is well except my wallet. And a slightly strained relationship," he said.



## Jeff Roman

Jeff Roman of Bend, who received his second vaccination on April 26, says he doesn't play much club bridge, but now that he's fully vaxed, he's willing to go into his club for a game.

"I'm sure guidance will evolve, but it certainly seems prudent to me that we continue masking for a while," Roman said.

And will you see Roman traveling to any tournaments in 2021?

"I'm very hopeful for Austin," Roman said. "I have my plane ticket and hotel reservation," noting that if Seaside happens, he'll definitely be there.

But one thing's for sure, Roman will continue with online play even after clubs go back to business as usual.

"I play the major online events, give lessons, and play exhibition matches online, and I expect those will continue," he said.

## Deanna Heyser

Deanna Heyser of Penn Valley, Calif., has been vaccinated, along with all of her family members, closest friends and neighbors. She says that while she and her husband are vaxed, they're not ready to go back to in-person play just yet.

"First of all, it is not even an option at the community center where we hosted our games," Heyser said. "Additionally, it feels rushed and we are thoroughly enjoying our online bridge experience." Heyser says they'll possibly be ready to go back by the summer, but most likely not until the fall season.

Heyser is looking for all players to present a vaccination certificate.

"Our club membership chair will keep this information in the DBC roster. We'll have hand sanitizers throughout the room, on tables, etc., no requirement for masks, and, because we have a large



## Lorna Logan

Another fully vaccinated player in Oregon, Lorna Logan of Bandon says her club, along with the Bay Area Bridge Club in nearby North Bend, has been playing face-to-face since last summer. Proper safety precautions are taken, such as the use of plexiglass screens, face masks and hand sanitizer.

"We carry our labeled bidding boxes, and shuffle the cards at the end of play, ready for the next week. We distance. Now many of our players have been vaccinated and hopefully more can resume playing in person." Logan said.

But just because people are vaccinated doesn't mean the protocols go away, she said. They'll continue taking safety precautions to ensure players feel comfortable.

Online bridge was a difficult transition for players at Logan's club in Bandon.

space, adequate distance between tables and good ventilation," she said. "We used to have two rooms for our games. Going forward, we will likely only schedule our games in the large meeting room; more than adequate for our needs."

And while she and her husband won't be traveling to any tournaments this year, she says they'll continue playing in the ACBL/BBO large tournaments throughout the country. "I will play frequently online. I really enjoy it!"



"Some of our players have not taken to online bridge too well, possibly because of problems with the technology, but several of us play socially on BBO several times a week," she said.

Online tournaments have also been difficult for players to adjust to. Logan herself has been playing online from Mexico, but plans to return to the U.S. in June.

"A group of us are going to Seaside and already have reservations," she said.



# Clubs: Some district clubs begin cautious planning for return to in-person play

Continued from Page 1

younger bridge players were not yet eligible. The timeline indicated club play could resume in the second quarter, April, May and June, and increase broadly thereafter.

At the time of this writing, late May, not much has changed in terms of live bridge play in District 20. Although the logjam of vaccination appointments has cleared and now any adult can get vaccinated, there is, generally, a one-month waiting period between shots, and then two weeks after the last shot until one is considered “fully vaccinated.”

And yet, there are few announcements on the definitive return to our beloved clubs. Clubs can open, but many aren't.

Is it due to the continued threat of covid variants, government guidelines (which change weekly) or perceived lack of interest?

The clubs that do appear to be ready are in smaller towns and communities. Perhaps it is easier for them to anticipate and gauge member readiness. Two clubs on the coast, in North Bend and Bandon, reopened last summer after being closed only a few months. Players wear masks, sit behind plexiglass screens, carry their own bidding boxes from table to table and take them home.

Clubs that utilize space in another facility — such as a church, golf club, school or senior center — may be limited by the venue's rules. That's the case for the two sectionals in Portland and Vancouver whose venues' guidelines are yet to be determined.

How do we incentivize live play and the return to clubs? A factor to consider is that all tournaments, including the fall Seaside regional, which is slated to be one of the first in the country, depend greatly on club play. If club activity is under 25%, and those that are open are experiencing low attendance, Seaside may not happen. Adding to the uncertainty are other factors, such as size-of-gathering limitations, travel bans, and positivity rates. They all will determine whether tournaments are given the green light.

What if F2F games were less expensive or the same as online games? It may seem counterintuitive. However, club owners might flip-flop the table fees for a daytime BBO game and a club game.



After sitting closed for 15 months, Portland Bridge Club is scheduled to reopen on June 7.



At the Bay Area Bridge Club in North Bend, face-to-face bridge has been back for several months — behind screens and with masks. Some players play online socially but the club never had a virtual club.

Or clubs might consider an averaged fee for all games; i.e., if a club game is normally \$10 and the BBO game is \$6, an across-the-board fee of \$8 could be charged for all games.

Another scheme could include daytime F2F games combined with online evening games, when people are less inclined to travel.

As we begin to resume F2F play, remember that the ACBL might have rules and restrictions different from your local bridge club. Clubs are independent businesses. However, there may be restrictions for particular states or counties. For example, currently in Oregon all businesses have masking and social distancing requirements, which means Oregon club

players must wear masks.

The ACBL, to protect its employees and players, might have more stringent requirements for tournament attendance, such as proof of vaccination in addition to masking.

Unfortunately, it's too soon to know with any specificity what will be permitted in the near future at local clubs. Some people are ready to go back to F2F play without any safety precautions. Others are not ready, even with proof of vaccination and masks. There are also questions about exceptions for those who cannot get vaccinated or wear face masks for medical or other reasons.

Two major D20 clubs are opening, in two different ways.

The Emerald Bridge Club in Eugene will start with F2F games two days per week, beginning June 1. They will not offer online games on those days. They expect players to be vaccinated. Masks will be optional.

David Castles and David Brower, co-owners of the Portland Bridge Club, the district's largest club, recently announced their decision to reopen June 7.

The Portland Bridge Club will require all players to provide proof of vaccination, either by emailing the club a photo of their vaccination card or showing it in person. Once they are cleared and in the database, there will be no need to show the card again. Those who do not show proof of vaccination will not be allowed inside the club to play. “We want to make sure we're getting it right,” said Brower.

They will not be requiring players to wear face masks once inside the bridge club, nor will tables be spaced any differently or any social distancing enforced.

While the exact schedule is yet to be determined, it will likely be like it was before, with daytime games six days per week eventually. Any evening games will continue to be online. “We aren't interested in competing with ourselves,” said Brower, referring to hosting daytime online games. There might be some limited games offered during the day online, but the F2F games will be unlimited.

Here is what we can count on for the rest of the year:

**Masks.** They are here to stay for a while, for tournament play. Find your favorite kind and stock up. When we do get back to the table, remember that the mask can muffle your voice. Partners and opponents who are hard of hearing might have an even harder time of understanding alerts and explanations. The good news is that the tables will be generously spaced, which will inhibit unauthorized information.

**Food and drink.** Eating and drinking while playing bridge is likely to be on hold. The buffet of snacks, open pitchers of cream for coffee, uncovered cups and glasses are a thing of the past, for now.

**Sanitation.** Bidding boxes, playing cards, boards, pencils, scoring devices are all touched by many hands during a session. While the science seems to indicate surfaces are no more infectious now than pre-pandemic, there is no doubt that these items are viewed as problematical. Clubs will be working harder than ever to keep things clean. Let's plan on helping out. Perhaps there could be disinfectant wipes at every table so that each person can clean up his/her area before and after playing.

**Patience.** We will all be a little rusty, having not played live in over a year. It might take longer than usual to bid and play a hand. The directors have not made certain rulings in over a year. They might be simultaneously directing a BBO game and a live game. Plan on things taking longer.

**Kindness.** Remember, this year has been tough on all of us. We have all experienced a loss. We have different levels of anxiety with regard to re-entering society. Be respectful of the needs of others. If you can't or won't comply with the rules, stay home until things are truly back to normal.

## Will club bridge ever really be back?

*One club owner fears that with their expenses, brick-and-mortar clubs won't be able to compete with the potential menace of long-term online bridge*

Conversations have begun about clubs opening for face-to-face bridge. As the co-owner of a smaller club, the Emerald Bridge Club in Eugene, I wonder what to expect.

What is true is that life for all of us has changed.

Online bridge has been around for years. I remember playing on OK Bridge in the mid-1990s. Covid has done for online play what the best marketing department was never able to do. Players who at one time would never have considered playing bridge online now sing the praises of the ease and convenience of online play.

ACBL deserves credit for creating virtual clubs online. It was a win-win for both clubs and ACBL as the revenue streams created make the difference between surviving and not.

Online play is a part of our lives going forward and it will be up to clubs to navigate the terrain that will require weaving together an online schedule of games with F2F.

The emergence of online mega-clubs (a product of pooling several clubs to create a larger player base) is an elephant in the bridge living room. These mega-clubs offer larger games that can be attractive since they provide more points. These clubs may have a potentially devastating impact on non-pooling clubs as larger games beget larger games and smaller games beget smaller games.

Another possible elephant in the playing area is the triangulated relationship that exists among ACBL, BBO and local clubs. ACBL and the clubs are customers of BBO. At the same time, all three are, in some manner, competing for the same customers. Every time I bring up our club games on BBO, an ad for playing on BBO appears right next to our games.

It will be interesting to see how this all plays out. My opinion is that BBO holds most of the cards in this three-way jousting match. ACBL has a signed contract with BBO that runs until mid-2025. Stay tuned.



Don Marsh  
Trumpet Contributor

When we will be able to open back up and what that will look like remains to be seen. Will there be some folks who will just not come back because they fear possible health consequences? Will folks come back but not play as often at the club because they are playing more online? Will folks be ready to play more than 18 or 21 boards? Will anyone remember how to use a bidding box or a Bridge-mate?

As I look into my very opaque crystal ball, I see virtual games becoming more the go-to option. I have been saying for years the future of bridge is online. The convenience of online play may well override the effort required to attend a F2F session.

With the disclaimer that my dear wife (Sherri Morgan) often refers to me as “Mr. Doom and Gloom,” I am not optimistic about the survival chances of a club like EBC. Of course, we all know that we adapt or die. We also know that nothing lasts forever.

Don Marsh can be reached at [demarsh@comcast.net](mailto:demarsh@comcast.net).



First regional of 2021!

# The Oregon Coast Regional at Seaside

**Sept. 27-Oct. 3, 2021**

Seaside Convention Center  
415 1st Ave., Seaside, OR

Conditions for the regional will depend on the status of Covid-19 and its variants at the time of the tournament. Masks and/or proof of vaccination may be required. Please check the D20 website for up-to-date information.

## SCHEDULE

### MONDAY September 27

- 7 p.m. ....Seaside Bracketed KOs (winners continue at 1 & 7 on Tues)
- 7 p.m. ....Stratified Charity Swiss Teams
- 7 p.m. ....Stratified Open Charity Pairs (part of Evening Side Game Series) (1 of 6)
- 7 p.m. .... ♦ 299er Stratified Charity Pairs

### TUESDAY September 28

- 9 a.m. ....Morning Side Game Series (1 of 5)
- 9 a.m. .... ♦ 299er Stratified Pairs
- 1 p.m. ....Betty Rossmann Memorial Bracketed KOs (winners continue at 7; & at 1 & 7 on Wed)
- 1 & 7 p.m. ....Three Strat Open Pairs
- 1 & 7 p.m. .... ♦ Razor Clam Gold Rush Pairs
- 1 p.m. ....Afternoon Side Game Series (1 of 5)
- 1 p.m. .... ♦ 299er Stratified Pairs
- 1 p.m. .... ♦ 99er Stratified Pairs
- 7 p.m. ....Stratified Swiss Teams
- 7 p.m. ....Evening Side Game Series (2 of 6)
- 7 p.m. .... ♦ 299er Stratified Pairs

### WEDNESDAY September 29

- 9 a.m. ....Morning Stratified Swiss Teams (continues at 9 on Thurs)
- 9 a.m. ....Morning Side Game Series (2 of 5)
- 9 p.m. .... ♦ 299er Stratified Pairs
- 1 p.m. ....Astoria Bracketed KOs (winners continue at 7; & at 1 & 7 on Thurs)
- 1 & 7 p.m. ....Two Strat Open Pairs
- 1 & 7 p.m. ....Mid-Flight Pairs (Under 3000)
- 1 & 7 p.m. .... ♦ Coho Gold Rush Pairs
- 1 p.m. ....Afternoon Side Game Series (2 of 5)
- 1 p.m. .... ♦ 299er Stratified Pairs
- 1 p.m. .... ♦ 99er Stratified Pairs
- 7 p.m. ....Stratified Swiss Teams
- 7 p.m. ....Evening Side Game Series (3 of 6)
- 7 p.m. .... ♦ 299er Stratified Pairs

### THURSDAY September 30

- 9 a.m. ....Morning Side Game Series (3 of 5)
- 9 a.m. .... ♦ 299er Stratified Pairs
- 1 p.m. ....Lewis & Clark Bracketed KOs (winners continue at 7; & at 1 & 7 on Fri)
- 1 & 7 p.m. ....Two Strat Open Pairs
- 1 & 7 p.m. ....Mid-Flight Pairs (Under 3000)
- 1 & 7 p.m. .... ♦ Chinook Gold Rush Pairs (Thursday continues - see next column)

### THURSDAY (continued)

- 1 p.m. ....Afternoon Side Game Series (3 of 5)
- 1 p.m. .... ♦ 299er Stratified Pairs
- 1 p.m. .... ♦ 99er Stratified Pairs
- 7 p.m. ....Stratified Swiss Teams
- 7 p.m. ....Evening Side Game Series (4 of 6)
- 7 p.m. .... ♦ 299er Stratified Pairs

### FRIDAY October 1

- 9 a.m. ....Morning Stratified Swiss Teams (continues at 9 on Sat)
- 9 a.m. ....Morning Side Game Series (4 of 5)
- 9 a.m. .... ♦ 299er Stratified Pairs
- 1 p.m. ....Sand Dollar Bracketed KOs (winners continue at 7; & at 1 & 7 on Sat)
- 1 & 7 p.m. ....Three Strat Open Pairs
- 1 & 7 p.m. .... ♦ Oyster Gold Rush Pairs
- 1 p.m. ....Afternoon Side Game Series (4 of 5)
- 1 p.m. .... ♦ 299er Stratified Pairs
- 1 p.m. .... ♦ 99er Stratified Pairs
- 7 p.m. ....Stratified Swiss Teams
- 7 p.m. ....Evening Side Game Series (5 of 6)
- 7 p.m. .... ♦ 299er Stratified Pairs

### SATURDAY October 2

- 9 a.m. ....Morning Side Game Series (5 of 5)
- 9 a.m. .... ♦ 299er Stratified Pairs
- 1 & 7 p.m. ....Jellyfish Stratified Swiss Teams
- 1 & 7 p.m. ....Diane Cullen Memorial Three Strat Open Pairs
- 1 & 7 p.m. .... ♦ Steelhead Gold Rush Pairs
- 1 p.m. ....Afternoon Side Game Series (5 of 5)
- 1 p.m. .... ♦ 299er Stratified Pairs
- 1 p.m. .... ♦ 99er Stratified Pairs
- 7 p.m. ....Stratified Swiss Teams
- 7 p.m. ....Evening Side Game Series (6 of 6)
- 7 p.m. .... ♦ 299er Stratified Pairs

### SUNDAY October 3

- 10 a.m. & TBA.....Strati-Flighted A/X/Y Swiss Teams
- 10 a.m. & TBA.....\*Bracketed Flight B Swiss Teams
- 10 a.m. & 1 p.m. ....Stratified Fast Pairs
- \* ♦ Lowest brackets will include 299er and 0-750 teams. ( ♦ Single session 299er teams accommodated.) Gold points in every bracket!

## STRATIFICATIONS

### Stratified Open Events:

Open/2000/750

### Three Strat Open Pairs:

Open/3000/1500

### Two Strat Open Pairs:

Open/3000

### Mid-Flight Pairs (Under 3000):

3000/1500

### ♦ Gold Rush Pairs (Under 750):

750/300/200

### ♦ 99er Events (Under 100):

100/50/20

### Strati-Flighted A/X/Y Swiss Teams:

Open/4000/2500. (Plays alone; 20 VP).

### Bracketed Flight B Swiss Teams:

0-2000 (no player over 2000); teams play in groups of 7-9 by MP average; gold points in each bracket; (20 VP).

DISTRICT 20 WEBSITE

[www.ACBLD20.org](http://www.ACBLD20.org)

## SCHEDULE NOTES

- Eligibility for flighted events based on top player's MP total. Thereafter, strats determined by average of pair or team.
- One bracket KO may be handicapped.
- Play 2 times in side game series to qualify for overall gold points.

- ♦ Indicates I/N events. (Intermediate/Newcomer).

### TABLE FEES

- ACBL members, \$13
- Lapsed ACBL members, \$17
- Under age 26, \$6

## INTERMEDIATE/NEWCOMER PROGRAMS

- ♦ Saturday prize games.
- ♦ Between sessions party.
- ♦ Tips for Tops: Daily speakers 6:15 pm.
- ♦ Mini-Classes: Wed - Sat, 12 - 12:30 pm.
- ♦ Morning 299er Pairs Tues - Sat.
- ♦ Afternoon 299er Pairs Tues - Sat.
- ♦ Evening 299er Pairs Mon - Sat.
- ♦ Afternoon 99er Pairs Tues - Sat.
- ♦ Gold Rush Pairs daily Tues - Sat.
- ♦ Gold point opportunity on Sunday in the lower brackets of the 2-session Bracketed Flight B Swiss Teams.
- ♦ Prize beads.

### D20 I/N Coordinator

Margi Redden, cell 503-805-2103.  
[D20INCoord@yahoo.com](mailto:D20INCoord@yahoo.com)

## YOUR HOSTS

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[mckenzie.myers@acbl.org](mailto:mckenzie.myers@acbl.org)

**D20 TOURNAMENT MANAGER:** Amy Casanova,  
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**PARTNERSHIPS:** Monica Taylor, 503-791-9745;  
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**CADDY CHAIR:** Sandra Baker

**HOSPITALITY CHAIR:** Nancy Hornshuh

## ACCOMMODATIONS/TRAVEL

- THE INN AT SEASIDE: Across the street; free breakfast; \$119-\$139, plus \$20 Fri/Sat; 1-800-699-5070, 503-738-9581. Cutoff date 8/20/2021.
- SALTINE HOTEL: 2 blocks away, 1 block from beach; free breakfast; \$149-\$169, plus \$20 Fri/Sat; 971-601-1082. Cutoff date 8/20/2021.
- RIVER INN AT SEASIDE: Riverfront; 2 blocks away; free breakfast; \$129-\$149, plus \$20 Fri/Sat; 503-717-5744. Cutoff date 8/21/2021.
- BEST WESTERN PLUS OCEAN VIEW RESORT: Oceanfront; 4 blocks away; cafe; indoor pool; fitness center; \$105-\$155; 1-800-234-8439. Cutoff date 8/28/2021.
- RIVERTIDES SUITES: Riverfront condo hotel; ½ block away; free breakfast; evening reception; indoor pool; fitness center; \$129-\$209; cutoff date 8/28/2021. 1-877-871-8433.
- HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS: Riverfront; ½ block away; free breakfast; 15% off nightly rate; no cutoff date; 503-717-8000.
- SHILO OCEANFRONT RESORT: Oceanfront; 3 blocks away; \$111-\$141; cutoff date 8/27/2021; 800-222-2244 or 503-738-9571.
- RED LION INN & SUITES: ½ mile away; \$90-\$110; no cutoff date; 503-738-0549.
- OTHER CHOICES: Seaside has many charming small hotels, bed & breakfasts, condos and houses to rent; visit [www.SeasideOR.com](http://www.SeasideOR.com).

- By rail & coach: MAX train from Portland Airport (PDX) to Portland Union Station connects to twice daily Amtrak coach service to Seaside; 1-800-USARAIL or [www.amtrak.com](http://www.amtrak.com).
- Cab service: Alpha Shuttle (Seaside); 503-440-7777.



# GNT Flight C Don't panic

*When it takes a few miracles to bring home an impossible contract, play for miracles*

**By Ryerson Schwark**  
For The Trumpet



Ryerson Schwark, second from left, played on the winning team in the D20 GNT Flight C.

One of the things I'm working on at the bridge table is not panicking when we reach a bad contract. It happens to everybody. It does seem to happen to those of us with rose-colored glasses a bit more often.

Follow my thinking as I stagger through this hand from the Flight C GNT final match.

Partner opens the bidding 1♣ and I am looking at a solid 9-count with two aces and two four-card suits, including the boss suit – spades:

♠A 10 5 4 ♥5 4 2 ♦8 6 3 2 ♣A J.

I am thinking we're well-placed. RHO overcalls 1♦. Well, that probably means my LHO and my partner are short in diamonds. My diamonds are all low ones, so I start to think that maybe if partner is short, this hand may play much better than the points indicate. I'm remembering the old adage that if you have a trump fit and a void, you're playing with a 30-point deck, so bid more.

But, for this round of the bidding, I have an obvious 1♠ bid. I'm mildly surprised when LHO jumps to 3♦, showing a constructive raise with 8-10 HCP. Partner bids 3♠, passed around to me, and I start thinking. That's often a sign I'm getting ready to reach the wrong conclusion. It probably doesn't help that I've let my initial perception of the hand rose-color my thinking.

I envision partner with four spades, probably real clubs and a diamond singleton or void. If the opponents' honors are stacked in diamonds, surely partner has a

heart honor or two? He's got at most 5 points in clubs since I have 5 myself, he must have some strength elsewhere, probably hearts and spades, but no way to ask now that we're already at 3♠. With my fitting values in clubs, we might have enough to make game if I can take diamond ruffs in dummy and have a source of tricks in clubs before the opponents take too many hearts. Somewhat confident in my analysis, I bid game.

North leads the ♦Q, and dummy comes down.

♠K 3 2 ♥A J 7 ♦5 ♣K 10 9 7 6 3

I realize I've overbid again. My partner had bid reasonably, stretching a bit under the pressure applied by the 3♦ bid. My rose-colored thinking just didn't allow for that. Part of the challenge of an aspiring Flight A player is to think more about how to handle the less-likely distributions and situations without giving away the store on hands that are just average.

OK, I'd stepped out with my bullish assessment of my 9 HCP and it all looked to come crashing down. I have two potential spade losers, two potential heart losers, one diamond loser on the lead, and one potential club loser. That's three losers too many.

But don't panic, right? Defenders often

don't know when you're deep in the weeds. And sometimes miracle layouts do happen.

North's lead holds the trick. Now what? If North switches to the ♥K, I can win and lead up to the jack later and get a second heart trick, or duck and take two hearts via a finesse. North could try a tricky low heart hoping to deceive me, but if I have the 10, they'd regret that. With the ♣Q in the lock, North is stuck with a diamond continuation, forcing dummy or a trump switch; nothing looks good.

Remember that when you have a problem, it can mean the opponents do, too.

North shifts to a trump, attempting to cut down on ruffs.

My plan is to take three spades, the ♥A, and six clubs. I need to pull trump and find the ♣Q. My only entry to the clubs, once established, is the ♥A.

South plays the ♠J and I duck. If spades are 3-3 as I hope, I can pull trump with the ♠AK when I get in, having conceded my loser in the suit. Usefully, ducking also leaves South on lead with the tenaces on the board. He must concede an immediate diamond ruff, lead into the strength in clubs or hearts or continue the attack on spades.

South quite reasonably continues the attack on trump. It can be hard to see how critical it is to sacrifice a heart trick by knocking the ♥A off the board, hoping to remove the dummy entry to the long clubs.

The hand doesn't make without spades breaking 3-3 and clubs coming in. So, I take the ♠K, then attack clubs to see if anything is going to go badly while I still have some spades if things aren't breaking.

I have to hope for a 3-2 break in clubs with the queen onside, so I play a club to my ace, then let the jack ride. If I finesse clubs into my hand and it loses, my clubs are blocked, and I will be very unhappy if they knock out my ♥A before I can untangle the suit.

The jack holds. Now the club suit is ready to run. Covering by North helps not at all given the 10 in dummy.

I hold my breath and play the ♠A. Both opponents follow. The contract is home.

See? No reason to panic.

I exhale, pocket 7 IMPs, and tell myself that I'm going to have my bid ... at least for the next few boards.

The full deal:

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

Schwark	North	Dashkov	South
		1♣	1♦
1♠	3♦	3♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

A note on the defense: It seems automatic to lead a trump to cut down on the ruffs, especially with only three trumps in dummy. But forcing dummy to ruff in this particular situation sets the contract.

- **Maritime climate**  
(Escape the heat!)
- **Free lodging**  
(Limited; reserve early)
- **Full meals!**
- **Grand finale dinner at oceanside home**

## Unit 458 Presents Eureka California Sectional Sept. 10-12, 2021

Humboldt Area Foundation  
363 Indianola Road, Eureka, CA

### Friday, Sept. 10

11 a.m. — Stratified Open Pairs, single session

4 p.m. — Stratified Open Pairs, single session

### Saturday, Sept. 11

10 a.m. & 3 p.m. — Stratified Open Pairs, double session

10 a.m. & 3 p.m. — Stratified Open Pairs, double session

### Sunday, Sept. 12

10 a.m. & TBA — Swiss Teams

Cost: \$10 per session;  
\$14 for lapsed ACBL members

Stratification — A: open,  
B: 500-1500; C: 0-500

<b>Tournament Chair &amp; Director:</b>	Mark Phelps, 707-443-9029 email: <a href="mailto:myp3@suddenlink.net">myp3@suddenlink.net</a>	<b>Host Motel:</b>	Holiday Inn Express Suites 3107 Concorde Dr. McKinleyville, CA 95519 707-840-9305
<b>Partnerships:</b>	Suzanne Cook, 707-499-7790 email: <a href="mailto:suzanne2@fastmail.fm">suzanne2@fastmail.fm</a>		<b>Ask for bridge rate</b>

## Portland Fall Sectional Sept. 17-19, 2021

*Note: Tournament flyer not available at press time; all information subject to change.*

### FRIDAY, Sept. 17, 10:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.

Stratified Open Pairs, two-session playthrough (single session entries welcome)

Flight AX (plays separately), A=3000+, X=0-3000

Flight BCD: B (1250-2000), C (750-1250), D (0-750)

Single session events (10:30 a.m. & 3:30 p.m.)

Non-LM pairs (0-500, Stratified), one session events

Novice pairs (0-100, stratified, # of tables permitting)

Get your **SILVER** sectional points!

### SATURDAY, Sept. 18, 10:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.

Stratified Open Pairs, two-session playthrough (single session entries welcome)

Flight AX (plays separately), A=3000+, X=0-3000

Flight BCD: B (1250-2000), C (750-1250), D (0-750)

Single session events (10:30 a.m. & 3:30 p.m.)

Non-LM pairs (0-500, Stratified), one session events

Novice pairs (0-100, stratified, # of tables permitting)

Eligibility for flighted events based on top player's total. Thereafter, strats and brackets determined by average of pair or team.

### SUNDAY, Sept. 19, 10:30 a.m., 2nd session TBA

Flight A/X Swiss Teams, VPs

Flight A=3000+, X=0-3000

Bracketed 0-2000 Swiss Teams, VPs

One Session Teams (Non-LM, 0-500) — win/loss

**Note: A team with any player over 2000 plays in Flight A/X.**

**All brackets determined by average masterpoints of team**

**Sunday lunch available for purchase between sessions.**

**Please, no scents or perfume**

**New ACBL players (0-5) play FREE!**

**Head Director: Jeff Jacob**

**Tournament Chair: Paul Walker, [pawalker00@gmail.com](mailto:pawalker00@gmail.com)**

**Partnership: Jon Gassaway, 503-530-8583, [jonpgassaway@yahoo.com](mailto:jonpgassaway@yahoo.com)**

\$12 per session. \$16 for lapsed ACBL members.

\$5 for students under age 26 with student I.D. and ACBL membership

Sanction #S 2109362



# AROUND THE UNITS



## Eugene/ Springfield



By Don Marsh

[www.emeraldbridgeclub.org](http://www.emeraldbridgeclub.org)

## Picnic site sold; plans on hold

Mary Egger has been hosting the annual unit picnic at her lovely setting since almost before there was bridge. She shares with us now that she, like lots of us, is downsizing. She is turning over her gorgeous home to one of her granddaughters.

The good news is that the family was kind enough to have purchased a nice RV and parked it in that same pasture, so we can report Mary is not homeless.

However, the bad news is Mary will no longer be able to host the picnic. This is the time to take a moment and thank Mary (and Ralph) for the many years of hosting this wonderful event. We will all retain lots of great memories. Many of us will continue to wonder how Mary managed to improve on perfection and make each succeeding year more gorgeous than the previous.

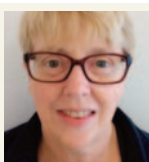
Bev Roy is now a Life Master. Of course, most of us have known this to be the case from the first time we met Bev. Congratulations.

Jeff Taylor has surpassed 14,000 masterpoints. It took Jeff just 80 years to accomplish this amazing feat, a milestone birthday Jeff recently celebrated. Bravo.

EBC had considered a May reopening but that is now on hold.

The unit board continues to meet monthly on Zoom.

Sherri Morgan and Don Marsh have been working on a proposed schedule combining in-person bridge with virtual, if and when the EBC reopens. There has been no shortage of feedback with lots of suggestions.



## Brookings Tri-City Bridge Club



By Debbie Grasham

## Elections held; donation made

We held our club elections and the new officers are Kirk Roberts, president; Carol Hanft, vice president; and Kathy Neuman, secretary-treasurer.

We made a donation to our Chetco Senior Center, where we will be playing bridge in person sometime this year. We've had several players playing in BBO online and ACBL online tournaments, some of whom are doing very well.

We had three different winners in the Mini-McKenney and Ace of Clubs races for the unit we share with Grants Pass and Roseburg: Steve Prokop won in the 50-100 bracket; Steve Carter won in the 100-200 bracket; and Kathy Neuman placed second in the 20-50 bracket. Al Wilson with more masterpoints than anyone else in the unit, won the 5000-7500 bracket unopposed.

Steve Carter is moving to Florida and will be sorely missed. Hope to see you at the tables online and in person sometime this year!

## Unit plans for return to F2F

As the pandemic winds down — and hoping there will be no resurgence — the Unit 484 board of directors considers the future of face-to-face bridge in Jackson County.

In response to a board survey, members said they look forward to resuming live play in addition to continuing online club games.

"We received 95 responses, representing a little over 45% of unit members," said Doug McKenzie, board president. "There is strong support for in-person play one or two times a week, as long as we can ensure an appropriate level of safety."

Many of the respondents indicated they like the hybrid model, saying they would play both online and at the club.

"There is also a high level of interest in bridge education classes," McKenzie said.

He said the board is developing a plan with a list of tasks relating to facility management, safety guidelines, protocols, game schedules and directors.

"Our goal is to have a solid plan in



## Jackson County



By Jim Flint

[bridgewebs.com/unit484medford](http://bridgewebs.com/unit484medford)

place when the conditions exist for a safe return," he said.

### Mini-McKenney leaders

Atop the list of leaders in the Unit 484 Mini-McKenney masterpoint race as of the end of March are Molly Tinsley (62.09), Jim Flint (57.29), Bob Scott (53.30) and Dennis Kendig (53.26). Tinsley and Flint lead the 3500-5000 and 2500-3500 groups, respectively. Kendig tops the 1000-1500 group.

Other leaders in their respective masterpoint groups are Lois Jones (8.51), Christine Donchin (8.07), Gary Hansen (9.11), Christine Vitalis (14.81), (tie) Jack Agresti and Cheryl Bain (9.92), Alexander Davie (31.93), Kathleen Moore (26.45), Edward Goldman (28.34), and Bob Valine (36.95).

## Venue issues delay reopening

Bridge in the pandemic continues online for Unit 490. Both the Salem Club and the McMinnville club are part of the Mid-Valley Online Bridge club ([mvobc.org](http://mvobc.org)). Come join us for bridge at Bridge Base Online during the time of covid.

### Updates on face-to-face play

No face-to-face games are being held at the moment. The Salem Bridge Club board of directors has started discussions around what reopening would entail. One challenge is that of venue — our Keizer-Salem Area Seniors location remains closed, and renovations at Capital Manor will delay the start of games there until later this fall, even without a global pandemic causing other challenges. We'll keep you posted as we know more!

### Comings and goings

The unit would like to welcome transfers Maria Rost and James Shaffer. We're glad to have you here! We also wish happy trails to John Chi who has left the Salem area for greener pastures.

### Help (still) wanted!

Our unit and our clubs are both run by a volunteer board of directors. It takes a village to run a bridge club, though perhaps less of a village in these virtual times. Still, various board members have reached the ends of their terms and these

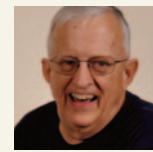
boards are looking for people to help fill in.

Unit 490 is looking for someone to take over as treasurer to fill in for Judy Lathrop whose term ended in December as well as someone to handle care and feeding of the unit website. Likewise, Salem Bridge Club is looking for both a new secretary (David Astle's term has expired) and a new club manager. Please reach out if you are willing to help, even if it's just for a single term!

Fresh faces are always in demand for the various boards of directors as well. Please consider volunteering, even if it is just for a while.

### Rank changes

A handful of players earned the masterpoints needed to reach the next lifetime achievement rank. Congratulations to: Sectional Masters: Leslie Caldwell, Joanne Benkstein, Peter Soni; Regional Masters: Stephen Jackson, Susan Jackson; NABC Master: Elisabeth Perchellet; Ruby Life Master: Jack Wetherson.



## Klamath Falls



By Bobby Thompson

[www.unit482.com](http://www.unit482.com)

## Unit awaits safe return to tables

Our coronavirus pandemic is still with us. However, we have made great gains on snuffing it out.

It is like a boxing match: round by round we gain and then a new strain comes about and we go another round attempting to knock the virus out. It has been 16 or 17 months for this fight and everyone hopes we have the upper hand and finally get back to duplicate bridge the way we played it for so many years.

It would be nice to hold the Oregon Coast Regional at the Seaside Convention Center this October. The jury is still out. The Reno Spring National March 10-20, 2022, could be your first shot.

Amy Casanova has joined Chip Domrowski as an associate editor of the Bridge Bulletin. She has written some outstanding features already. Check your April magazine for her article on the Kolesnik family. Plus, another article on the ACBL Charity Foundation and for the newer players the multiple ways to score at bridge including pairs games and team games. We are lucky to have someone like Amy as our Trumpet editor and a good bridge player to boot. Chip also had some nice articles in March.

Congratulations are in order to retired national director John Ashton on becoming a Platinum Life Master, going over the 10,000 masterpoint total. John picked up a second place finish in the 1977 Silodor Open Pairs and has numerous regional wins. John was an excellent director and moved up the ranks rapidly. Expect to see him at the bridge table at your tournaments in the future. As they say folks, "he can play the game." In fact, some years ago John got to play the two-session open pairs at a D20 sectional. He and his partner tossed a 74% game in the first session followed it up with a 68.88% game in session two. His remark at the conclusion of winning the event by almost five boards: "Partner was coasting."

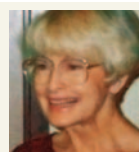
Our Klamath Falls players have been on hiatus since March 12, 2020. We thank all of the units that have allowed us to play online with them. Unfortunately, we have only two or three people who are interested in online bridge. All of us in K. Falls hope to see you at the tables before winter hits home.

## Club for sale; no plans yet for return to clubs

Our Redding clubs and Bridge Werks are still not ready to resume play. In the meantime, at least one small group is getting together to play — probably more will follow.

On Wednesdays there is a virtual game sponsored by the Redding and Chico units. Online play continues to work well for many of us. Hopefully, our clubs will reopen by fall or earlier. It will be so nice to socialize again!

Our private club, Bridge Werks, is for sale. Contact Jerry Anderson and/or visit Bridge Werks website for more detailed information. This club was particularly successful on Fridays. Nine and 10 tables were the norm. Health problems are forcing the sale.



## Redding



By Joan Sullens

[www.bridgescore.com/redding](http://www.bridgescore.com/redding)

Just after the spring newsletter went online, we learned of the passing of Mary Hawkins. Mary was a longtime member of the Redding club, holding many offices in the club and the unit. She helped with our tournaments and was an excellent bridge player. In lieu of flowers, she asked that donations be made to the Redding club.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Sharon Dent who is very seriously ill.



A few people in Redding have begun gathering for private games. Jan Williams, foreground, is seen with Gail Lenz, Shorty Armstrong, Cheryl Bell and Marlene Lamoreaux.



# AROUND THE UNITS

## Portland gets new tourney chair; Breckenridges depart

Alan Johnson has retired as unit tournament manager after 29 years. Paul Walker has taken on the job.

"A couple years ago, I asked Alan and the board if I could shadow Alan and learn from him how all the tournament planning and execution works," Walker said. "I had been doing that until the pandemic derailed in-person play. But he felt we were in a good place training-wise and that he could step away from it."

"So, it is now a role I will happily take on, knowing he is available to coach, and that my fellow board members are also ready and willing. Alan is an amazing man, and it has been a pleasure to watch, learn and assist him."

The board is looking at hosting a sectional in mid-September at the Kliever Armory.

The other significant board action that was taken was to stand for term extension



Alan Johnson  
Retiring



Paul Walker  
New TM

**Portland**  
♣♦♥♠  
By Amy Casanova  
[www.acbld20.org/unit487](http://www.acbld20.org/unit487)

as an entire board.

Heather Breckenridge (formerly Dolan, in case you hadn't heard about her marriage to Brian) is moving to Grants Pass. Heather and Brian bought a

five-acre organic farm and are excited to grow their own food and raise chickens, among other endeavors such as canning and preserving food, making soap and cleaning products and wood-working.

The Portland Bridge Club will miss her cheerful and energetic presence at the club – as a director, concierge, decorator, cook and much more! They hope to keep Heather and Brian on board, directing on-line games from their new home.



Brian & Heather Breckenridge

## Play of the Hand

### Pay attention at the first trick

In this online deal, after South bid hearts to the three level by himself, vulnerable, North pushed on to game with his side ace, three trumps and pushers in diamonds.

West led the ♣A and continued with the king and queen, ruffed in hand by South.

Declarer realized that if the ♠K was on-side, that would be nice, but he would still lose a spade, two clubs and a diamond. However, if he could set up a diamond in dummy for a spade sluff, he could bring home the contract.

After ruffing the third club, South drew trumps then laid down the ♦A. He

couldn't afford to go to the board with the ♠A to start diamonds, because he needs two entries to dummy to finesse diamonds twice. So, he played the ♦A hoping to get lucky. Sure enough, West's singleton queen dropped. Now the contract was assured if indeed the ♠K is on-side.

He led a second diamond, setting up dummy's diamonds, which will provide the spade sluff

East for some reason ducked the second diamond, a pointless play since he can see that South can get to dummy with the ♠A. When declarer led dummy's third diamond, East covered, ruffed by South, followed by the spade finesse, West covering the ♠Q with the king. The good diamond provides a place to sluff South's losing spade. He lost only the two clubs, making five for a top board.

If East had taken his diamond trick, South still makes his game.

There is a way to defeat the contract:

Dlr: South	♠A 7 6		
Vul: All	♥10 8 7		
Lead: ♠A	♦J 10 9 2		
	♣8 6 2		
	♠K 10 9 4	♠5 3 2	
	♥J 9 2	♥6	
	♦Q	♦K 8 6 5 4 3	
	♣A K Q 9 4	♣J 5 3	
	♠Q J 8		
	♥A K Q 5 4 3		
	♦A 7		
	♣10 7		

West	North	East	South
			1♥
2♣	Pass	Pass	2♥
3♣	Pass	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

When West led his ♠A, his partner played the 5, South contributing the 7. Where is the ♣3? East must have it. Is East trying to tell West something?

West should lead a small club on the second lead, taken by East's jack!

What if East is playing the 5 from the doubleton 5-3, you ask? No problem, because if that's his holding, the contract can't be set.

In addition, the odds are slightly in favor of West's continuing with a small club. East's clubs can be: 5, 5-3, 10-5-3, J-5-3, or J-10-5. In three of the five possibilities (60% favorability), continuing with a low club is the right play.

Yes, the 5 was a signal. Now, East can lead back a spade to kill dummy's entry. East/West take two clubs, a diamond, and a spade, down one.

But nobody found the killing defense. If partner doesn't play up the line when he would normally, it is a message. UDCA partners can figure it out, too.

Reach Jim Flint at [pubathome@yahoo.com](mailto:pubathome@yahoo.com).



Jim Flint  
Play of the Hand

## VBC celebrates Duane's 95th



Vancouver Bridge Club players celebrate the 95th birthday of Duane Meador (front, seated) in April.

Back row, from left: Peter Hirst, Sam Jones, Bill Lawrence, Chuck Burns, Winston Falls, Jim Mather.

Front row: Mariam Saner, Sam Asai, Mike Eyer, Kathy Mather, Lynda Hirst, Janie Pearcy.

Not pictured: Shirley and Joe Tritone, Laura and Bill Strite. Meador was born April 9, 1926.

## Send the kid in your life to online bridge camp

By Ann Romeo

Special to the Trumpet

Online Camp is on for the summer of 2021.

This year, Bridge for Youth is offering three different programs for young bridge players. For each program, Online Camp will run from 10 a.m. to noon and 1 to 3 p.m. daily with a lunch break in between.

Typical age range for campers is 10 to 18, or fourth graders through high schoolers. Tools used for teaching include Zoom, Shark Bridge, BBO and Real Bridge.

Here is a summary of classes:

**Introduction to Bridge:** a weeklong class touching on bridge basics, suitable for a player who is totally new to the game or wants a quick refresher course. Cost is \$100, and the course runs July 19-23. Lead instructor is David Dailey.

**Bridge Boot Camp:** a two-week course (week one: Play of the Hand; week two: Bidding/Defense), taught by Al Bender. Boot Camp is a series of after-school

classes condensed into a two-week period. Cost for this program is \$200, suitable for youths who want to immerse themselves in the game, with the goal of being able to play basic bridge. Completion of week one is a prerequisite for week two (or permission from the instructor). The course runs July 26-Aug. 6.

**Intermediate/Advanced Workshop:** a one-week course, with the advanced campers taught by Tom Carmichael, and the intermediate players taught by Scott Chupack and Christina van Leeuwen. The class is suitable for those who have completed our after-school beginning bridge classes, for those who have been to camp before, and for those who have been playing bridge for a year and want to work on learning more about the game. Class runs Aug. 2-6, and the cost is \$100.

Class sizes are limited, and financial aid is available, thanks to the support of D19 and Seattle Bridge Unit 446. More information can be requested by email to [contact@B4youth.org](mailto:contact@B4youth.org).

## Eyer: District presidents in conference

Continued from Page 1

the district is still OK financially. But we do miss the f2f regionals.

And the Big Thing: Will there be a Seaside this year? It depends. Tournament Manager Amy Casanova (filling in for Jim Wheeler), the convention center, the city of Seaside and ACBL directing staff are all ready to go. ACBL HQ has given us a matrix of goals that must be achieved and we are well on our way to full compliance.

The last big step will be if Oregon Gov. Kate Brown approves large-scale gatherings. Check the D20 website for updates. Two of the major points for consideration are that ACBL requires all players be masked and vaccinated (with a few medical or religious exemptions), and that the tournament provide a safety coordinator to enforce those requirements. Anyone want a "fun" job?

The new president of District 21, the

San Francisco area, has started a district presidents' monthly conference call. It's quite informative to learn how other districts around the U.S. and Canada operate, whose clubs are open already for f2f, and how they're conducting their recruitment and education opportunities.

Everyone is envious of our financial system. Business Manager Marie Ashton continues to be a blessing, along with Treasurer July Ratley and finance committee chair Kent Livingston.

"Who lives, who dies, who tells your story?" Lin-Manuel Miranda asks in "Hamilton." It has been a very difficult year for everyone. It was nice to have a big memorial game for Betty Rossmann, and I was privileged to attend an in-person 95th birthday party for Duane Meador.

District president Mike Eyer can be reached at [leela.tardis@gmail.com](mailto:leela.tardis@gmail.com).

## Puzzled by the pandemic?



Several puzzles completed by Brian Breckenridge adorn the walls of Portland Bridge Club.





# Ask Jeff

ACBL tournament director Jeff Jacob answers your questions on rulings

## When asked, explain your bid

**Q:** In a recent online team game, we had the following uncontested auction:

1♣                    1♥  
1♠                    2♦.

Initially the 2♦ bid was not alerted; eventually, before I passed, it was alerted as simply “fourth suit.” When I inquired as to whether it was forcing for one round or game forcing, I was told, “You’ll know by my next bid,” meaning, I assume, that if they passed it was not game forcing.

I think I had a right to know their agreement as it might have affected my bidding that round, not subsequent rounds.

I also feel that the response was not in accordance with active ethics. This was a very experienced player.

What should I do?

**A:** Thank you for your question, inquiring minds want to know.

We have a glorious game with different levels competing together. It doesn’t happen often, but I do occasionally hear about the experienced player answering questions, by a general form of “It’s just bridge.” In my mind this does harm to our game. The player is not treating their opponent with respect. It is these types of encounters that leave bad impressions. Taking a moment to answer the question lawfully and truthfully adds to the game as a whole. Since this was an online team game, most of the time, there is not a director to handle the situation. If there is one, please call the director; if not, politely reserve your rights. Please do not escalate the problem by trying to educate your opponent on manners.

In online bridge as a player, you can be proactive and add descriptions to you bids even if they are not alerts. This can help speed up the game, especially against less experienced players. You don’t have to tell them what is in your hand, but the opponents are entitled to your agreements.

On a side note, even though the opponent here was out of line with their response, it is important to note in most online bridge, there are strict time standards. Questions about ordinary calls tend to take up too much time. Yes, you have the right to know the opponents’ methods, but is it fair to the table to take up time to make sure of a meaning, when you had no other bid other than pass? Quite often when dummy comes down the answer will be revealed, or even sooner with the auction. You can always ask your question if you are on opening lead, or if you are not on lead and dummy has been shown, and you do not have an answer, you can ask then before you play to the first trick.

Send questions to [jeff.jacob@acbl.org](mailto:jeff.jacob@acbl.org).



# TOURNAMENT CALENDAR

## ACBL-WIDE ONLINE EVENTS

Month	Dates	Event	Format
JUNE 2021	1 – 30	NAP Club Qualifying	Virtual clubs
	19 – 20	The Longest Day	Virtual clubs
	24 – 27	Endless Summer	Online regional
JULY 2021	1 – 31	NAP Club Qualifying	Virtual clubs
	10 – 12	NABC Robot Individual	Online NABC
	15 – 25	Summer NAOBC	Online NABC
	26 – Aug. 1	Stardust Week	Virtual clubs
AUGUST 2021	1 – 31	NAP Club Qualifying	Virtual clubs
	26 – 29	Virtual Vacation	Online regional
SEPTEMBER 2021	6	Labor Day event	Virtual clubs
	12 – 13	International Fund Games	Virtual clubs
	20 – 26	Silver Linings Week	Virtual clubs
OCTOBER 2021	11 – 17	Club Appreciation Week	Virtual clubs
	21 – 24	Fall Into Bridge	Online regional

## DISTRICT 20 REGIONALS & SECTIONALS

<b>AUGUST 2021</b>	13 – 15	Vancouver Summer Sectional	Washington School for the Deaf, Vancouver WA
<b>SEPTEMBER 2021</b>	<del>10 – 12</del>	<del>Eureka Sectional</del>	<del>Humboldt Area Foundation, Bayside CA</del>
	10 – 12	Honolulu Sectional	Ala Wai Clubhouse, Honolulu HI
	17 – 19	Portland Sectional	Kliever Armory, Portland OR
	Sept. 27–Oct. 3	<b>OREGON COAST REGIONAL</b>	<b>Seaside Convention Center, Seaside OR</b>
<b>OCTOBER 2021</b>	16 – 17	Vancouver Fall I/N Sectional	Vancouver Bridge Club, Vancouver WA
	22 – 24	Gold Country Sectional	St. Canice Center, Nevada City CA
	TBA	Central Oregon Coast Sectional	Shilo Inn, Newport OR
<b>NOVEMBER 2021</b>	5 – 7	Redding Sectional	Win-River Resort & Casino, Redding CA
	12 – 14	Honolulu Sectional	Ala Wai Clubhouse, Honolulu HI
	13 – 14	Vancouver Fall Sectional	Washington School for the Deaf, Vancouver WA
<b>DECEMBER 2021</b>		No events scheduled	
<b>JANUARY 2022</b>	14 – 16	Garden Island Sectional	Sun Village Recreation Center, Lihue HI
	Jan. 24–30	<b>HAWAII REGIONAL</b>	<b>Prince Waikiki, Honolulu HI</b>
<b>FEBRUARY 2022</b>	Feb. 22–28	<b>OREGON TRAIL REGIONAL</b>	<b>Vancouver Wash. Hilton, Vancouver WA</b>

## TOURNAMENTS IN NEIGHBORING DISTRICTS

<b>DISTRICT 19:</b> <a href="http://www.d19.org">www.d19.org</a>	Sept. 18–19	Sidney Sectional BC	<b>DISTRICT 18:</b> <a href="http://www.wasumi.org">www.wasumi.org</a>	Aug. 19–22	Missoula Sectional MT
	Oct. 5–10	<b>Anchorage Regional AK</b>		Sept. 24–26	Salt Lake City Sectional UT
<b>DISTRICT 21:</b> <a href="http://www.d21acbl.com">www.d21acbl.com</a>	Aug. 14–15	San Mateo Sectional, Redwood City CA	<b>DISTRICT 17:</b> <a href="http://www.d17acbl.org">www.d17acbl.org</a>	Aug. 26–29	Colorado Springs Sectional CO
	Sept. 10–12	Sacramento Sectional, Orangevale CA		Oct. 15–17	Scottsdale Sectional AZ
	Sept. 16–19	Carson City Sectional NV		Nov. 8–14	<b>Las Vegas Regional NV</b>
	Sept. 18–19	Santa Rosa Sectional CA	<b>DISTRICT 22:</b> <a href="http://acbldistrict22.com/d22">acbldistrict22.com/d22</a>	Oct. 8–10	Riverside Sectional CA
	Oct. 4–10	<b>Reno Regional, Sparks NV</b>		Dec. 13–19	<b>Palm Springs Regional, Rancho Mirage CA</b>

## NORTH AMERICAN BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Nov. 25 – Dec. 5	Fall 2021	JW Marriott, Austin TX
March 10–20	Spring 2022	Silver Legacy/Circus Circus, Reno NV
July 14–24	Summer 2022	Convention Center, Providence RI
Nov. 24 – Dec. 4	Fall 2022	Convention Center, Phoenix AZ

## NEW ACBL MEMBERS

Ellen Anders, Bend OR  
Deby Jo Blank, Portland OR  
J. Evons, Boise ID  
Geridee Farley, Boise ID  
Georgina French, Veneta OR

David Hare, Camas WA  
Max Johnson, Bend OR  
Jason Kaltenbacher, Portland OR  
Zachary Kaltenbacher, Portland OR

Lynn Killam, Portland OR

*Welcome!*

Diana Miles, Lakeview OR  
Debrah Rarick, Albany OR  
Terry Ravlin, Corvallis OR  
Louise Rode, Mount Shasta CA  
Sabra Thomas, Sisters OR