



Been There, Done That?

by "McBruce"

It's IMPS, it's OKBridge, and you get to 2♦ on this hand where nobody has a fit. You try to be as courteous as you can in

thanking partner for the grungy collection he chose to make a negative double on. Oh well, at least you're in a seven card fit, and only at the two-level. Getting out for down one might not be too bad, especially here on OKBridge where there's always somebody going for numbers.

West leads the 4♣. You play the nine from dummy and East wins the jack. East returns the K♥, and West overtakes and leads the 8♣.

If you were playing bridge in 1935 you may remember a famous deal very similar to this one, and if you do you'll figure out which card to play to trick four.

(Answer, page 14)

NORTH	
♠	KT95
♥	6532
♦	A43
♣	T4

SOUTH	
♠	62
♥	T97
♦	QT86
♣	AKQ9

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
(Both vulnerable)			1♦
1♥	Double	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♦	All pass	

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Despite the mail strike, pretty much everything that normally gets into the December issue got in this time, although some of it arrived at the last minute. One thing that was impossible to compile in time was the Unit's Top 50 masterpoint holders. This arrived, but not in time to go through and find the fifty highest numbers. You'll see it in the March issue.

Due to the sheer size of this issue and several unavoidable delays, this issue won't reach most readers until after the Big Day. Sorry about that, folks—we do what we can and more, and we try to thank those who diligently get their contributions to the *Matchpointer* in on time, but somehow that doesn't seem like enough when delays occur.

So with Christmas likely out of the way by the time you read this, it seems apropos to indulge in that

other end-of-year-tradition, so:

Bridge Resolutions for 1998:

—Find a happy medium in the Zero Tolerance debate that curtails bad table behavior without taking the spice out of the interaction between players, that recognizes exemplary table courtesy, and that makes our events better for everyone. (I have a little over 3 weeks as I write to get this one done!)

—Stop rebidding INT with a singleton in partner's suit. (This was a '97 resolution: '98 may be the year that I stop this for good!)

—Do what's possible to make Harry Friedman's job easier. Goodness knows he's worked overtime on this issue and the last two, getting as much club data as can possibly be expected of anyone. In 1998 I want to be sure not to dump two weeks of work on him when I need it tomorrow...

—Keep looking for the elusive answer to the mystery of why players don't want to play in and why Club Managers don't want to schedule Special Events. It can't just be the extra dollar....

—Find a way to get more stories of interesting hands at local Sectionals and Unit Games into the *Matchpointer*.

That should—as usual—keep me busy. Good luck to all in 1998! —McBruce

MATCHPOINTER

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Editor: Bruce McIntyre

6636 Dow Ave., #203

Burnaby B.C. V5H 3C9

ph. 438-9735

e-mail: mcbruce@direct.ca

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Mail Dan Webster

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MATERIAL (SEND SOME!)

All suggestions and contributions are welcomed. Articles, letters, information, club news, and tournament results may be mailed, or given to any Unit Board Member or dropped off at a Unit 430 club. Several Board Members have fax numbers or e-mail addresses. We encourage *all* members, from beginner to expert, to send bridge-related material for publication.

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Contributors (Thanks!)

Patti Adams
Anne-Marie Bullis

Eugene Chan
Larry Chow

Doug Cowan
Cam Doner

Harry Friedman
Harold Hansen

Jude Goodwin-Hanson
Felipe Hernandez

Waldemar Jez
Louis Landau

Sandy McCreery
June Pocock

David Schmidt
Joerg Schneider

Pat Stapff
Thony Stiennon

Dan Webster

ACBL MAD Line & Web Page
Unit 430's many Club Managers

and anyone missed

President's Message

by Felipe Hernandez

I'm back. Many thanks to Bruce who filled in for me last time. He's a regular spark plug, that Bruce, eh? Never wears out. Remind me to thank him later. Moving on....

As we have been saying, bridge is cool. And let me tell you—it's plenty cool these days. I arrived early for a game the other day and had to wait outside. Really cool. Anyway, I've noticed a lot of clubs have been having their Christmas Parties lately. The nice thing about bridge is that you don't have to wait until Christmas to experience the joy of giving. (Personally, I am constantly giving my opponents tops; they in return love to dole out zeroes. I can feel the love in this Unit, can't you?) It is reflected all year long in the actions of countless people. For example, there's Jeannie at the Vancouver Bridge Centre who's always preparing those fantastic spreads we see. I know Jeannie does a lot of other work around the club and I never hear her complain. If you see her, say thanks. She might get a little embarrassed, but I know she'll appreciate it. Someone else who gives a lot of herself is Audrey Loy. You know her from the many tournaments she has helped us out with in the last few years serving as hostess. Although retired from this job, she was nevertheless right there when we needed her for this year's Christmas party. She's also our current caddy mother. Thanks Audrey. I could go on and on and so could many of you with your own examples, but you get the idea. I do want to mention one more individual. He has been in the forefront of Vancouver Bridge in one capacity or another for the better part of eleven years. He has served on the Unit Board and on the DINO Board and was recently elected to the position of President of the latter. I am referring to Dave Schmidt. DINO's gain will be our loss. Still we

are very pleased to know Vancouver will have such a strong advocate amidst the members of our District Board.

On a slightly more official note, the Unit Board has been discussing the issue of Zero Tolerance. Most of you will be familiar with the philosophy of ZT which preaches a friendly and social approach to partners, opponents, and the game in general. Poor behaviour is not only looked down upon, it is immediately acted on. Players may find themselves out in the cold if they don't adhere to the guiding principles. A note about jurisdiction is on order. The Unit Board can enforce ZT policy at Unit events only. These include Sectional tournaments, Monthly Unit Games, and Unit-level finals of various special events. We do not and cannot dictate to club owners on how they should run their games. Nevertheless, the Unit strongly encourages all club owners to consider enforcing ZT and will endorse all such initiatives. Consider making it easier on the directors of club games, some of whom earn their living by way of these club games, by getting into the spirit of ZT. Use the Christmas season as a starting point. Carry that good cheer with you on into the new year. It will pay in spades <groan>.

A couple of quick items: The Unit Game has been moved to Saturday. And we don't have a Suburbia game currently—although we're working on it. The move to Saturday will be in effect at least until the end of 1998 and hopefully beyond that. We are looking to establish a Hospitality Committee to ensure our hospitality remains second to none. If you're interested in hosting a session or preparing some goodies, give Gladys Mackie a call (526-0687) for details.

Wesolych Swiat Bozego Narodzenia, Sarbatori vesele, Joyeux Noël, and of course Feliz Navidad. And no I didn't forget: Thanks Bruce! Play bridge and stay cool.

—Felipe Hernandez

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Trophy Races

by Cam Doner

Assuming my Phil Wood Trophy figures are correct, once again Dan Jacob prevailed in fine fashion, winning the Friday Afternoon Pairs, the Saturday Open Pairs and tying for first in the Sunday Swiss. I tried to give him a run, in the round against him Friday afternoon I bid a grand slam off an ace! If I pass the small slam I think Marylou Bert and I would have won. [McB: Cam neglects to mention that he won the Friday evening Board-A-Match to more than make up the difference.] On Saturday Dan and Gord McOrmond won again: Marylou and I were in the hunt following the afternoon session but faded badly at night. Still, going into Sunday Dan was ahead of me by about 2 points. Also in the hunt were The Foot (Mike Wilson), and Gord McOrmond. Just for added excitement, all four were on separate teams.

My team lost to The Foot in Round 1. His team then forgot the event was eight rounds and never got into real contention. After losing the second and third rounds, Gord's team was undefeated until they played the Lee team. Dan played us in Round 6 and crushed us, then in the final round played Lee, won by 3 and created a tie with Lee. Congratulations to Dan on another Phil Wood Trophy!

In the Edie Bonnell race Marylou had a slim lead going in over Kathy Adachi, with June Pocock third. On Friday afternoon Marylou and I were third while Kathy finished 2nd with June Pocock and closed the gap a little. Marylou got that back on Friday evening as our team won the Board-A-Match. Sat and sun were uneventful for all the ladies in contention and Marylou hung on to win the Edie Bonnell for the second year in a row.

In the inaugural Leo Steil Trophy race for seniors Gary Phelan was leading Marylou by a little over three points going in—the last *Matchpointer* reported Peter Herold leading, but this was a bad guess by the tabulator as he is ineligible. Gary scored overalls in the Friday Afternoon Pairs, and in the Saturday Open Pairs to almost match Marylou's Friday successes. His lead was a thin 0.17 going into the Sunday Swiss. As it happened, we played Gary in the final round, both 4-3. When we won the close match by 6 imps, Marylou clinched the "Leo" by .09! Congratulations to Marylou on her double win!

In the Under 200 race, Barry

Sectional	Total Table Count	Total master-points won by all players	Number of players who attended	Number of players who won masterpoints
Winter (January)	300	871.04	381	325
Spring (May)	328½	1150.18	410	359
Evergreen (September)	263	1054.71	370	319
Future Stars (October)	33	51.38	70	40
Round-Up (Oct./Nov.)	219	899.74	344	287
All '97 Open Sectionals	1143½	3975.67	659	598

Round-Up Sectional Top 10 (plus ties)

1. Dan Jacob	34.20
2. Gordon McOrmond	20.90
3. Peter Herold.....	20.64
4. Marvin Lee.....	18.91
5. Don Sharp.....	17.87
5. Peter Jacquest.....	17.87
7. Martin Henneberger	17.28
8. Dianne Isfeld.....	13.95
9. Ron Borg	12.91
9. Dwayne Dicks	12.91
9. Larry Hicks	12.91

Kirkham led by over nine points over Lenora Awram, who has moved to Calgary. The eligibility of Ruth Ableman was missed by the race tabulator, so Kirkham's lead was only a little over six points. Kirkham didn't play in the final sectional, so it was a contest of who can catch up the most. The players who took this mission to heart were Marvin Lee, who began the weekend needing a telescope to see the leader board, and Martin Henneberger, who started the weekend in 14th place. Lee won the Friday evening Side Game

with Brian (The Kid) Fedler, and Henneberger picked up almost five points for fourth in B on Saturday. The two teamed up with Dwayne Dicks and Dianne Isfeld for the Sunday Swiss. A victory against an undefeated powerhouse team (Mike Hargreaves, Gord McOrmond, Allan Graves and Bryan Maksymetz) put them into the hunt, and they topped the leader board with one round to go. Only a 6 IMP loss to overwhelming favorites Ron Borg, Dan Jacob, Peter Herold and Larry Hicks kept them from winning the event outright. The tie for first place with the Borg team vaulted Henneberger to the 1997 Under 200 title, with Marvin Lee a close third! Congratulations to Martin Henneberger!

Player	pre-tournament	Friday Aft.	Friday Eve.	Saturday	Sunday
Dan Jacob	40.23	47.40	47.77	61.52	74.43
Cam Doner	49.60	53.63	57.66	59.12	60.42
Peter Herold	37.35	(37.35)	(37.35)	45.08	57.99
Bill Goldstone	47.35	48.69	52.72	55.23	56.53
Gord McOrmond	34.25	(34.25)	35.95	49.70	55.15
Mike Wilson	43.94	(43.94)	(43.94)	51.67	52.97
Marylou Bert	31.56	35.59	39.62	41.08	42.38
Kathy Adachi	28.34	33.72	35.99	37.03	38.07
June Pocock	24.57	29.95	32.22	(32.22)	33.26
Martin Henneberger	8.44	(8.44)	9.21	12.81	25.72
Barry Kirkham	23.56	(23.56)	(23.56)	(23.56)	(23.56)
Marvin Lee	3.31	(3.31)	9.31	(9.31)	22.22
Ruth Ableman	17.25	(17.25)	(17.25)	18.08	(18.08)
Marylou Bert	31.56	35.59	39.62	41.08	42.38
Gary Phelan	34.83	36.53	36.90	41.25	42.29
Kathy Adachi	28.34	33.72	35.99	37.03	38.07
Ram Hira	26.66	28.49	29.09	30.34	35.79

Tunis Travelogue

by Anne-Marie Bullis

(PART ONE)

Little did I know, when I started to play bridge on the Internet, how a whole new world was waiting for me. A magic world, full of people who made me laugh, chuckle and smile. The Internet Gaming Zone is a giant bridge club spread all over the world. People come and go, drop in for a few hands, visit and chat with old friends and when you meet them live, lo and behold: they are just like you imagined them to be! Only better. Would you have met them without the Internet? I think not. The world is too large and when you visit a country and drop in on a bridge club, the time is too short to get to know anyone, except superficially. On the net, you play for hours and chat with them before you actually meet them live. You already know them as friends. When someone on the net asks me "Is this your real-life partner?" I want to tell them -- "This *is* real-life, folks, as good as it comes."

One year ago, I first discovered live bridge on the Internet. I had a choice, OK bridge for \$120 a year (now \$240/yr with tournaments) or Microsoft Gaming Zone bridge for free. Since I was not sure I would like OKBridge, I chose the Zone. In no time at all I was hooked. Here was bridge 24 hours a day, playing with people from all over the world. The Zone is a very social place and I soon developed some excellent partnerships and made friends. Because of the time zone differences, the people I played with most lived in Europe -- Netherlands, Norway and Sweden. I had regular times that I played with each of my partners and met new people all the time from the US, China and eastern Europe.

My great adventure started when I met Gören Grimberg (called Olleb on the net) from Falkenberg, Sweden, in the Zone. We played often, usually from 9am til noon or so. He told me that is when the rates are cheapest on the phone lines in Sweden. It is their evening rates and they pay by the minute for Internet access, so they do not want to waste their Internet time. Through him, I met his friend Britt

(Continued on page 6)

Trophy Race Final Standings Phil Wood Trophy

1. Dan Jacob..... 74.43	9. Michael Hargreaves..... 38.86	23. Ron Borg..... 30.27
2. Cam Doner..... 60.42	10. Kathy Adachi..... 38.07	24. Michael Neagu..... 29.65
3. Peter Herold..... 57.99	11. Gerald McCully..... 37.58	25. Donald Sache..... 27.81
4. Bill Goldstone..... 56.53	12. Ken Scholes..... 36.17	26. Gay Parrish..... 25.81
5. Gordon McOrmond..... 55.15	13. Ram Hira..... 35.79	26. Jay Brandt..... 25.81
6. Mike Wilson..... 52.97	14. Larry Hicks..... 33.97	28. Martin Henneberger..... 25.72
7. Marylou Bert..... 42.38	15. June Pocock..... 33.26	29. Peter Morse..... 24.30
8. Gary Phelan..... 42.29	16. Les Fouks..... 33.22	29. Claire Burns..... 24.30
	17. Ted Lai..... 32.97	31. Anthony Remedios..... 23.99
	18. Felipe Hernandez..... 31.55	32. Grace Jeklin..... 23.95
	19. Don Sharp..... 30.46	33. Barry Kirkham..... 23.56
	20. Ernie Dietrich..... 30.43	34. Rhonda Foster..... 22.87
	21. Michael Yuen..... 30.33	35. Allan Graves..... 22.42
	21. Aidan Ballantyne..... 30.33	36. Marvin Lee..... 22.22

Edith Bonnell Trophy

1. Marylou Bert..... 42.38
2. Kathy Adachi..... 38.07
3. June Pocock..... 33.26
4. Gay Parrish..... 25.81
5. Claire Burns..... 24.30
6. Grace Jeklin..... 23.95
7. Rhonda Foster..... 22.87
8. Dianne Isfeld..... 21.43
9. Margaret Kidder..... 21.37
10. Dianne Kerr..... 20.76
11. Ruth Ableman..... 18.08
12. Evelyn Hodge..... 17.08
13. Bernice French..... 16.58
14. Mary Fines..... 15.64
15. Laureen Holley..... 15.60
15. Stella Alliston..... 15.60

Phil Wood Under 200 Trophy

1. Martin Henneberger..... 25.72
2. Barry Kirkham..... 23.56
3. Marvin Lee..... 22.22
4. Ruth Ableman..... 18.08
5. Amirali Alibhai..... 16.45
6. Sharon Hughes..... 15.12
7. Greg Lam..... 14.51
7. Jules Wilkins..... 14.51
9. Marylou Varga..... 13.59
10. Ghodsi Ahmadi..... 13.29
11. Dan Webster..... 13.25
12. Greg Morse..... 12.16
13. Doreen McOrmond..... 11.98
14. Christopher Maylin..... 11.75
15. Andrew Lee..... 11.71
16. Jane Fyfe..... 10.72

Leo Steil Trophy

1. Marylou Bert..... 42.38
2. Gary Phelan..... 42.29
3. Kathy Adachi..... 38.07
4. Ram Hira..... 35.79
5. Ted Lai..... 32.97
6. Ernie Dietrich..... 30.43
7. Michael Yuen..... 30.33
8. Ron Borg..... 30.27
9. Barry Kirkham..... 23.56
10. Dee Kerr..... 20.76
11. Al French..... 20.30
12. Derek Ward..... 20.20
13. Wilf May..... 19.49
14. Sefton Levine..... 18.11
15. Ruth Ableman..... 18.08
(apologies to those listed and ineligible)

(Continued from page 5)

Marie Wiklund (Bibbi), also from Falkenberg. They urged me to learn their system, the Modern Swedish Forcing Club. They e-mailed me a copy of it, so I learned it and began playing it with them and others, Donald Lupton (Donbrit) from Spain and Lasse Persson (Lasse), also from Falkenberg. The bridge was fun and interesting and the people I met were super.

Around the same time, I met Ko Heilig (Kohhw) from Heerhugowaard, Holland. He and his wife Elly shared a computer. Most people on the net play SAYC (Standard American Yellow Card), so this is what we played. Ko is an excellent player who soon chafed at playing such a bland, imprecise system. He urged me to try his system, Dutch Acol. When I found out that his system notes ran over 60 pages, I was not keen. So he rewrote a simpler version which he christened St. Bullis and e-mailed to me. It arrived, all 21 pages of it and I confess that I am still learning it.

Then all my old friends from Jamaica started to appear online. Victor Ziadie (Autry) was first—the best partner I ever had. He told me that my old teammates from Jamaica were looking for a team for the Transnational Ladies Team Event in the World Bridge Championships in Tunisia in October. I thought, "Yeah—a dream that!" Muriel Fowles (Murjel) then appeared online. She lives in Scotland now and was on my team when I lived in Jamaica. She asked me if I would find a partner and join her and Felicity Reid (Felix) in Tunisia. I said that I'd think about it. Would it be possible? Who could I get to play in North Africa? When I told Olleb about it, he suggested Bibbi, and I asked her. She also was floored by the request, but intrigued by the idea. And so the great adventure began.

When Ko heard our plans, he invited me to come to Holland first and play in a tournament with him. He and Elly invited me to stay with them at their home and suggested that Bibbi and I meet in Heerhugowaard and go to Tunis from there. When I asked Bibbi, she said "Yes, but why don't we *drive* to Tunis and stop in to see Donald in Spain?" Out came the atlas, and I looked carefully. My husband Bill thought it was a silly idea at first, and then said "Well, we think nothing of driving to California, so a trip by car to Tunis cannot be much different for the Europeans than for us to go to California." Bibbi said that we had to go to Marseilles in France and take the ferry from there to Tunis (we could not go through Algeria because of the civil war there). She suggested we play the team event and then return via Spain. 4000 km in all, but since her nickname

6

on the net is "Excellent

Driver", I figured that I would be in good hands.

My next problem was the dates I wanted to go. Bill and I were hosting a BCAA cruise October 7 til October 18, beginning and ending in New York City. Ko wanted me to arrive on October 18, as I was to play with him on October 20 and I needed to be over jet lag. After touring all over New York on Saturday, I caught the evening flight to Amsterdam which arrived at 7:30am Sunday. I

was much too excited to sleep on the flight, but did manage to doze off for a bit. Ko, like most of us bridge players, is a morning person, but he and Elly were there to meet me bright and early, when my flight arrived. Ko had scanned and e-mailed me photos of himself and Elly, so I knew what to look for. How happy I was to see them waving at me as I exited the Immigration and Customs area! I had neglected to ask them where we would meet, and the Amsterdam airport is a huge one, so I was worried that I would never find them!

It was a chilly foggy morning as we drove the 30 km to Heerhugowaard, so I saw only fog and other cars. I knew that their community was built on reclaimed land from the sea, so was not expecting much, but I was most pleasantly surprised! The community is well-laid out and planned as a mixed residential area with two and three-storey townhomes and private homes. The elementary schools are small and central, and no child has to walk more than 5 blocks to attend one. The shopping areas are medium-sized malls, and there are walking and cycling paths throughout the community. It is very picturesque with lots of trees and small bridges crossing small canals. Everyone seems to have a dog, and the dogs are even allowed into the malls! The front gardens are all lovely and each is unique. It is a very pretty town.

On arriving at Ko's home, I met their two children, Esther and Peter. Peter is a student and Esther is studying design and hopes to be a silversmith. It was so kind of Ko and Elly



White Rock Bridge Club

Sunnyside Community Centre
1854 154th St., White Rock, BC

Anne-Marie Bullis 525-5669

Wednesdays at 7:15 pm

Stratified games every night

Swiss Team Winners (Oct 22): Sheila & Don Sache, Derek Ward, John Horne

Beginning Bridge Classes with Anne-Marie start March 4 at the Ocean Park Community Centre

take a week out of their very busy lives to have me there, show me the Netherlands and the local bridge scene. Shortly after I arrived, Machiel de Heer (Machiel) and Gertjan Blom (Blommetje) arrived in Heerhugoward. Both Elly and I play with them on the net and they drove down from Rotterdam to meet me. We spent the next 10 hours talking a mile a minute and playing bridge. Elly had made supper for us, and we all had a super time. In fact, it got too late for them to drive home, so they spent the night and left early the next morning to get back to work Monday morning. I fear they had a very hard day on Monday...we all drank a bit too much and stayed up til 2am.

Monday Elly took me to the shops and to do some banking. In the afternoon, Ko took me to the Museum "Broeker Veiling", which typifies an early flower, bulb and produce market auction. In Holland, 90 percent of all bulbs and flowers are sold through the unique Dutch "clock" auction system. Under this system, the pointer turns round a large dial indicating the prices of a lot. Prices start high and decrease as the pointer turns. Bidders can stop the clock at the price they are willing to pay. At the museum, we got to bid on produce and plants and brought home a plant, flowers and a bunch of lovely radishes.

That evening Ko and I played in a local club. Clubs in Holland are different than here in North America. You commit to playing every week for an eight month period as a pair. Each club is flighted, and there are 4 flights, A through D, and you are placed in your flight according to your ability and rating. If you are in Flight A, you would only play the other pairs in the Flight A section for the weekly game for eight months. A record is kept of your scores over the time period. Each club varies in strength, so Flight A in one club may be stronger than Flight A in another. Usually people belong to several clubs and play in their flight in each one on a weekly basis. If you are unable to play, then the director finds another pair to replace you for the evening. So for us to play, Ko had to call the director and see if there was a replacement pair needed. There was one needed, so we went along to play.

Ko introduced me to everyone, and I drew my first hand out of the box. The first card I saw had a B on it and a very ornate picture. "Oh great! I can see it is a boy, but which boy?" I found another face card, and that had a V on it, but that was a girl, that must be the queen, then I found an H... another boy. I looked carefully and discovered the H had a crown, it must be the king, leaving the B to be a jack. By now, everyone is looking at me and wondering why the silly woman will not bid, and what is she doing in

Flight A? Meanwhile I am still trying to sort my hand and count up the points, when Ko suddenly realizes what my problem is! He explains to the opponents who think it is very funny and kindly note the names down on a crib sheet for me. That helps greatly and we proceed. I only made one gross error with those Dutch cards that evening, and all went well until we reached the last table. We were seated right next to another couple that usually play in Flight A. They were playing in B that night though, and the couple we were playing wondered why. They asked the director, who told them that he was in charge and they were to play us. They did, but they were not happy about it. We had 3 very good boards and they went to speak with the director again. There was a lot of conversation, all in Dutch and Ko explained to me that the director must have been missing a pair in Flight B, not Flight A. Since we cannot play in Flight B, he moved a pair from A to B to accommodate us. I felt badly when I realized the problem we had inadvertently caused. The director had gone to so much trouble to fit us in so I could see a Dutch club and experience playing in a game there. In the summer months they do have open games, but not during the regular year. The club is large, with about 36 tables in play, 9 in each flight. You can get a drink at the bar or coffee, people are very social and friendly, as they see each other every week. The competition is intense but friendly too and I enjoyed my night at the club.

Tuesday Ko took me in to Amsterdam on the train to see the Rijksmuseum. There were several paintings that I wanted to see, including Rembrandt's famous *Night Watch*, and was pleased to see them all. Tuesday evening Ko played at his club with his regular partner and I kibitzed. It was the same format as the previous day at the other club. Again I felt most welcome, and everyone wanted to meet the Canadian that Ko found on the internet. Wednesday Bibbi was due to arrive from Falkenberg, and I was dying to meet her. She drove up around suppertime in her new Saab, and she was just as I had imagined, only better. She has a wicked sense of humour and is ever so much fun. We had supper, and since there were four of us, we played bridge of course. We even tuned in to the Internet to chat with our friends in the zone as well. As Bibbi had driven 9 hours that day, we made it an early night.

Thursday Bibbi and I explored the area and I got to see how lovely and peaceful the countryside is in Holland. There is much green space and many farms with livestock. Everything seems very well organized in the Netherlands—even their cows have numbers. The trains run efficiently and you can reach anywhere on public transit. People even belong to certain pubs—they have Christmas Club savings programs where the members all put in a weekly fee and part of the money pays for

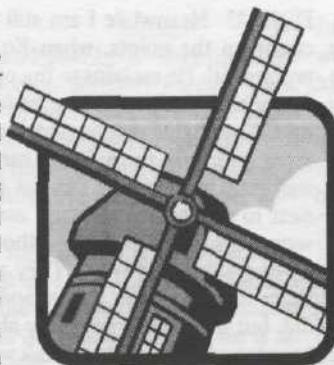
♠AV75 ♥HB53 ♦VB ♣V92



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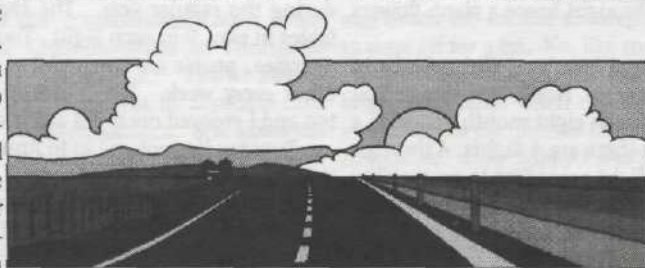
(Continued from page 7)

outings as a group, picnics, paddleboating, and other fun events. I happened to be there in Carnival Time and the pub that Ko goes to had locals in costumes, singing and dancing. Bibbi and I did some shopping and we had fun with her trying to teach me some Swedish. *I nästa liv vill jag vara svensk.* (In the next life, I will be a Swede.)



Friday we left for Marseilles, as we had to catch the ferry at 11am Saturday. We left around 4pm, as we intended to drive all night to avoid the traffic. I was the official map-reader and I promptly got us lost in Utrecht. We were reduced to asking pedestrians for directions back to the freeway, when someone took pity on us and led us to the interchange. I discovered that I needed new glasses, because I was unable to read the fine print on the maps.

Ko had given us a computer-generated map and route-listing that really helped, once I could locate the places on the map. We hit rush-hour traffic in Amsterdam because of our delay in



Utrecht, but Bibbi soon made up the time. We drove through Belgium, Luxemburg and soon were on the tollways of France. There are no speed limits on the tollroutes, and at night there was little traffic so we made very good time. Going through the mountains, I found it interesting that they had wind-socks to warn you of strong crosswinds, and I practiced my rusty French on the road signs. I regretted not bringing my French dictionary when I read a sign that said something was forbidden: I was not sure what!

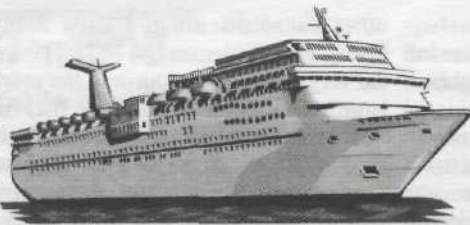
We arrived at Marseilles around 5am, and there were signs to the dock and ferries, which made it easy to find where we were supposed to go. We assumed that we would be first in line, but arrived to find 20 cars, all huddled around the gate which did not open until 10am. We wedged ourselves in and were amazed to see cars with huge carriers, loaded up with everything imaginable. Several cars had refrigerators on top, and motorcycles, even an entire leather living room suite on top of one small car! We watched avidly as people climbed up on their roofs, rearranging the load and adding more things. Finally we fell asleep, only to be awakened by a policeman banging on our window and yelling at us in French. We gathered that we were to move the car, so drove to the other side of the

traffic circle. Someone immediately moved into our spot, so we regretted moving. Then we noticed all the men getting out of their cars and carrying rugs to the center of the traffic circle. They took off their shoes and began their prayers to Mecca. After that, the gates opened and there was a mad rush to get in line. Cars drove over the traffic circle, and although we had reservations, we realized that it was first-come, first-serve. So Bibbi drove around the traffic circle in the reverse direction to get in quickly. Once inside, we discovered that there was no place to park the car for the week that we would be gone. The dock area of Marseilles is not an area that you want to park your car on the street for a week unguarded. So we decided to take the car. It was very expensive to bring it, but less expensive than coming back and finding it gone. My French got a real work-out, buying that round-trip ticket to Tunis. We followed the line of cars into the customs and immigration area, and the police were out in force to check our papers. There were 4 booths, each with a policeman, and 18 soldiers with huge rifles to watch us drive through. We waited until 11am when they began boarding. All four lines lunged for

the gangplank and squeezed into one line. Bibbi was glad that she had put a trailer hitch on her car, as we were hit once from behind.

We parked on the ferry, and were placed near a huge carrier full of cows and horses. We noted our deck number and went in to find our cabin. We soon located it, and immediately went to bed, as we had been up all night. We had no sooner fallen asleep when our roommates arrived, two Arab women and a small boy. The boy was quite a handful, running about, climbing up and down the ladder, poking Bibbi, and crying loudly. We gave up sleeping and decided to go down to the car deck and get our bottle of whiskey. Once there, we found it so peaceful and quiet that we fell asleep. When we woke up, we discovered that all the doors to the car park were now locked and we were locked in! We banged on a door and created enough noise that someone noticed us and said they would fetch a key. A half hour later we were still waiting when a man arrived to feed and water those horses and cows! He soon got a key and let us out! Next we discovered that economy class did not allow us access to the bar, the card room or a large portion of the ship. As it was only a 24 hour trip and we intended to spend most of that time asleep, we really did not mind. That is, until we noticed that all the lifeboats were in the first class section, and there were huge gates barring our access to them! We ate supper in the cafeteria, and then went back to our cabin, only to find the child still up, still crying and the beds wet. We went up on deck, and just then the purser walked by. I appealed to him

in French and he offered to give us another cabin. We moved down to the bowels of the ship near the engines, but at least we had a cabin to ourselves. He even kindly offered to give us a tour of the ship, so we saw the entire ship from the engines to the bridge. He left us in the first class bar and lounge, so we had a nice evening. Later he took us back and we fell into bed. We woke up to find the ship nearing the shore in Tunisia. The weather was warm and sunny and we anticipated an easy drive to Hammamet, where the tournament was being held. The purser told us it was about 60 km away, and although we did not have any maps of Tunisia, as Bibbi's maps all stopped where Europe ended, we figured that there would be signs. We did not know that they would be in Arabic.



booth. They also wanted dinars, and only dinars. As we still did not have any, we asked what to do. A nice man told us to cross over the freeway and fill out a form so we could pay for the trip on the way back. We thanked him and Bibbi gave him a package of Swedish licorice called Läkerol. He was so delighted that he GAVE us a dinar and we could proceed! How very nice of him!

As we exited the ship, we soon realized that this would be a long process to get off the dock. All those cars with huge carriers had to be unloaded and inspected, and we needed a driving permit for the car. After going through customs and immigration, we had to park the car and wait in the line-up for a permit. There were at least 40 people in the line, with others crowding in ahead. Only one clerk was working, and she was in no hurry. We were an hour in that line, standing in the now blazing sun when we finally pushed our way to the front. The woman spoke only Arabic and French and had much difficulty with Bibbi's name. I think she ended up as "Manuel Petrol" on the drivers licence. At the end of the process, the clerk wanted a dinar. As it was Sunday and the banks were closed, we did not have any dinars. We offered her US dollars, Canadian dollars, French francs, but no, she wanted dinars. Finally a fellow behind us in line passed us a dinar just to get us out of the way. We tried to give him a US dollar but he would not take it. With permit in hand and all our papers finally in order, we lined up to leave the dock. It took us 3 hours in all to complete the process.

We drove off and soon realized that it would be hard to find Hammamet without a map. No one had one in the gas stations, so we asked directions. They told us to go to Tunis and ask again. We did and promptly got lost in Tunis. We found a traffic policeman who directed us to the autoroute. With much relief we found the autoroute and the signs on it were bilingual, in Arabic and French, so we were able to manage. We shared the freeway with all sorts of transport, even camels! All went well until we reached our first toll-

We arrived in Hammamet, armed with the name of our hotel complex, but Hammamet is spread out all along the sea, and we drove and drove and could not find it. We finally found another hotel owned by the same person, and went in and inquired. He phoned the Bel Azur and told us that they did not have our reservations over there! We were quite nonplussed, but decided to proceed anyways. He gave us long complicated directions in French, and I soon was lost again. By now it was 5pm and I knew that night comes quickly in the tropics. We asked several people, but none of them could help us. By sheer chance, we stumbled on the hotel and arrived at the front gate to find it locked! No one was around, so we drove on to the next hotel to ask. When we drove in, we realized that this was a three hotel complex, and they all used one entrance now. We parked and went up to the front desk. They could not find our reservations, so we waited in the lobby. The hotel brought us tall fruit drink concoctions which we happily drank until Felix walked by! We were VERY happy to see her, as she was the one that made the reservations and paid the deposit. She soon had our key and escorted us to



our cabin. She also was very glad to see us, as we were to play our first match at 10 in the morning and she was getting concerned that we might not arrive. By now the sun had set, but we were assured our room was 50 meters from the sea and had a lovely beach. We unpacked and then set out to explore.

The first sign we saw led us to the vu-graph, so we watched from the doorway as the place was packed. Zia was his usual charming self, and commenting on a hand being played in the Bermuda Bowl. We realized we were starving, so went to find somewhere to eat. The hotel had a huge buffet dinner which we ate and vowed never to return. The food was good and reasonably priced, but the place was packed and noisy and we ate too much.

We went to find Felix and Muriel. I had brought them gifts from Canada, some of our BC smoked salmon and maple syrup, as well as books on Canada. Each of us had

(Continued from page 9)

brought 18 flag pins from Sweden, Canada, Jamaica and Scotland to give to the captains of each team that we played. I prepared gift cards with our names to attach the pins to. Felix now told us that this event that we had come to play in was not a Ladies Event, but an Open Event. Zia had a team, as did Omar Sharif, Dorothy Truscott, Boris Shapiro and Tony Forrester! The world had come to play in this event, and 75 teams were registered. There were several pros, or "sponsored" teams as well. We decided that, win or lose, we would have fun and enjoy ourselves and the experience. On that happy note, we got out the cards and played some bridge for practice. We did not play late, as we knew we had

to get up early and be fresh the next day.

In the morning we awoke to find a beautiful day. Bibbi went for a swim while I soaked in the tub. We arrived for breakfast at 9am to find all the Daily

Bulletins gone. Luckily Felix had been up early and had gotten us each a copy. It was a most amazing breakfast. An Arab lady was cooking a type of bread over a charcoal fire. A cook was making crepes to order, and another preparing eggs as you wished them. There were all types of cold cuts and cheeses, and several fried dough shapes, rolls and cakes piled high. The juices were a big disappointment, but the coffee was another story entirely. On a tile wall were 3 taps, labelled coffee, tea and milk. When you turned the tap, out came the coffee, and it was excellent.

After breakfast, Felix took us to the playing area and we familiarized ourselves with the layout so we could find our tables when they were posted on the TV monitors in the lobby. Our first match was a team from Denmark. We all played well, they were happy to receive our pins and we won. The format was like a giant swiss teams with 12 board matches instead of 7. Our next match was against Tony Forester's team who had also won 21VP. Again we played well and managed to beat them. They were surprised and pleased to receive our pins and we told them how we all met on the Internet. Our third match that day was against a Finish team which promptly demolished us. But we were pleased with our showing that day. We had time for a swim in the pool and then met for supper in a much quieter and smaller restaurant in the hotel complex. Since we only had 3 matches that day, we decided to check out the casino and see what it was like. As we waited to get our guest passes, we met several

other Canadians whom I knew from Toronto. Michael Roach, Fred Gittleman and Nadar Hanna were on a team that did very well, placing fourth in the overalls. The casino was large, with very ornate ceilings. They had roulette, blackjack and poker and I found it interesting to watch. Bibbi was ahead when we left, so we felt it had been a perfect day.

Our next day was not so wonderful. We had a late starting time of 1pm and I decided to check out the Press Room and see if I could send emails from there. Bibbi went for a swim in the sea and almost drowned. A huge wave banged her right down into the sand and she was lucky to be able to get up intact. Meanwhile, in the Press Room, I met Jan Svann from Holland who was in charge. He showed me how to use the computers they had and I sent emails to everyone that I had an address for. Bibbi arrived and told me of her experience in the sea. I was horrified! What if we had lost her? We sent off a few more emails to others that Bibbi knew, and then went to the playing area. We played four matches and managed to win only one, but we did draw Boris Shapiro's team. Bibbi and I realized that we could have practiced more together on the Internet, as things came up that we had not discussed. We finished early enough to go out for supper in town.

Felix knew all the best restaurants as she had arrived the week before. She is president of the Central American and Caribbean (CAC) zone in the World Bridge Federation, so had to be there for meetings during the Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup. The place she took us was near the medina, or market, which she promised to take us to on Wednesday. We all had filet mignon, several bottles of wine and desserts. Bibbi ordered an Irish Coffee, and it was different from any I had seen before. (I do not think they get many orders for Irish Coffee in Tunis.) We were all surprised at the bill, around \$10 a person, so decided to eat in more restaurants.

The next morning we set off for the medina. It was just as you would picture an Arab market to be: lots of noise and confusion, store-owners calling you to come into their stores, and goods everywhere. There were leather bags of all sorts, mostly made of camel leather we discovered, long flowing robes and dresses, ornate jewelry, hand-blown perfume bottles and painted pottery and tiles. We looked a lot, but only bought stuffed camels for Olleb and Stisse (Thomas Iversson) in Sweden and Ko in Holland. Attached to the medina was the fort. After paying a small entrance fee, we toured it and climbed to the top. It was most peaceful and quiet in there, after the hustle and bustle of the market. We took photographs of Hammamet and each other and had a cold drink in the café. We left by noon as we had to play at 1pm and this was to be the hardest day. We had 5 matches to play and would not finish until after midnight.

(Conclusion next issue)



Gord McOrmond Double National Champion!

It is rare enough when the Vancouver area is able to boast having a national champion. In 1997, for the first time ever, the Unit is able to boast about having a *double* champion.

1997 was *the* year for Gord McOrmond of Delta, who managed to win both the Canadian National Teams Championship (with Mike Hargreaves, Allan Graves and Joey Silver) and the North American Pairs Championship (with Aidan Ballantyne). Playing with Dan Jacob (and Graves and Bryan Maksymetz) he managed to cap the year by finishing sixth in the Open Board-A-Match and eighth in the Reisinger teams at the fall NABC's in St Louis, thus proving his prowess with three different partners and three different kinds of bridge: matchpoints, IMP's and board-a-match.

McOrmond has been playing bridge for "about 35 years," ever since his grandparents first taught him the game at the age of 10. Soon after he bought his first bridge book on the Schenken Club system, which he learned and proceeded to teach to his bridge friends at university, including Hargreaves and such other well-known players as Al Chapelle and Richard Gursky. "At the time, I thought the Schenken club was standard," he recalls. Now, the system he plays "depends on who I play with."

With Hargreaves, he plays "my own relay system" which he eventually plans to publish. The system starts off natural but turns into a "powerful, artificial system" when the bidding reaches a certain stage.

"I'm quite into bidding theory," McOrmond says.

With Hargreaves and Jacob, McOrmond generally uses a 10-12 HCP NT, but switches to a 11-13 HCP NT when playing "the 2/1 Ballantyne system."

"I like weak no trumps. They have their merits. You get into a lot of auctions and you don't get a lot of bad results."

Although McOrmond had not played with Ballantyne for about 10 years, their decision to play in and eventually win the NAOP's was almost like a destiny: "We never lost a session from qualifying to the National Finals."

The two have not played since, although they received an automatic bye into next year's finals and plan to defend their championship in Reno.

His CNTC victory was not nearly as straightforward.

"Mike and I originally planned to play with Greg Arbour and Cam Doner but that partnership split up before the qualifying began. Finally Allan said he'd get a partner. We

started with Mike Roberts at the first level but we finished last in the field. At the next level, Allan played with Mike Wiss and we did a little better. At the finals, Allan picked up Joey Silver (from Montreal) and we went all the way."

Although McOrmond and Jacob had not played together recently (they were a formidable partnership in the early 90's), they reunited for the NABC's in St Louis with excellent results.

"Dan and I didn't play for a few years because we didn't enjoy it anymore. It got too intense," McOrmond says. "We've all mellowed over the years."

McOrmond calls himself "a partner specialist," believing the key to success is "making sure my partners are having fun at the table. If they play better with me than with somebody else, then we will have better results."

He patterned his philosophy on the late, great Jim Donaldson who "got great results out of just average players by being very supportive." McOrmond insists that is a goal everyone, regardless of their level, should set for themselves. "If the real goal is to win, you should be supportive of your partner

big time. You have to let partners play their style. If you try to cripple an intuitive player by criticizing bad results, he won't be worth anything."

In 1997, McOrmond played in the CNTC championships and all three NABC's, saying "that's where the challenge is now." Despite his success, he calls the experience "humbling. You're playing pretty tough bridge by the time you reach the finals and everyone's putting you under a lot of pressure."

As a result, his trips to tournaments become "strange holidays. They're more like work." He generally rises early, exercises and jogs a few miles, eats a light lunch, then plays bridge, stopping only for dinner and maybe one or two drinks after. "You can't afford to binge at night if you want to play well."

While success has come with high-profile local players, McOrmond credits his wife, Doreen, as remaining his "favorite partner."



St. Louis Team Tactics

by Cam Doner

Playing Swiss Teams you hate to go for numbers but sometimes accidents happen through the course of normal odds on bridge decisions.

♠AK8632 ♥64 ♦AQ7 ♣K9

Nobody vulnerable, partner deals and passes, and RHO opens 4♥. Well, *no guts, no glory*—almost all players will bid 4♠ as I did. It seems normal, although something inside said "Do Not Bid!!!" I personally believe you should follow your instincts but this time I just couldn't. The double seemed to echo even with the silence of day two in a National Event and the use of bid boxes.

Well, my dummy got me this:

♠T ♥Q8xx ♦KTxx ♣JTxx

On the third heart you ruff and RHO overruffs. Back comes the Q♠ and LHO discards. OUCH!! This will probably get bloody.

You go minus 800, but the good news is, at dinner later you figure out a line where you could have saved a trick. At

the other table your teammates open 1♥ and end up defending 2♠ undoubled for +100, a 12 IMP loss. Nobody did anything out of line. The player on the other team won the board from you with the 4♥ opening—a well timed preempt, aggressive and successful. The opponents are allowed to do good things now and then.

We did advance to the third and final day in the event and as fate would have it we played this team again in the third round of the final. The event, the six-session North American Swiss Teams, began with 84 teams, trimmed to 40 teams for Day Two, followed by a cut to sixteen teams to play the final on Day Three. During this match against our opponents from Day One, I picked up this hand at favorable vulnerability:

♠AQxxxx ♥xx ♦xxx ♣xx

A bad weak two, but my partner and I were playing very light preempts, especially at this vulnerability. However, I hate to open bad weak twos so I opened 3♠!!! As I did, I said "You think I should be a little careful bidding spades against you guys at a high level?"

"Touché" replied my LHO as he bid 4♥. His partner

(Continued on page 13)

1997 West Coast IMP Pairs Auction Bridge

(non-smoking event)

Event "A"
OPEN

Event "B": 0-3000 combined MP
(subject to discretion)

Jan. 30-Feb. 1, 1998, in Vancouver (exact location T.B.A.)

1:00pm, Saturday, Jan. 30, and 10:00am, Sunday, Feb. 1.

Bridge auction for both events begins 8:00pm, Friday, Jan. 30.

THE EVENT: A four-session IMP Pairs. Each pair will play against every other pair at least once during the event. Scoring will be based on IMPs.

THIRD FLIGHT (prize money only, no auction) if there is substantial interest.

THE ENTRY FEE: Event "A": \$300.00 per pair (\$200.00 to player's prize pool)
Event "B": \$150.00 per pair (\$100.00 to player's prize pool) Entry on first serve basis.

INQUIRIES DIRECTED TO: Larry Chow, 604/852-5187 e-mail: ichow@uniserve.com

NOTE: Cheques will be accepted for ENTRY FEES, if received no later than Jan. 15, 1997.

(Continued from page 12)

cuebid 4♣ and then 5♣ before a persistent LHO finally got to play 6♥. Dummy hit the table with the predicted void:

♠—♥KT ♦AQxxxx ♣Axxx.

They couldn't make it after my partner's club lead helped to cut the communication. But thank goodness the auction didn't go 3♣-pass-pass-double-all pass because this was LHO's hand:

♠KJT9x ♥AQJ542 ♦J ♣J

It would have been another bloodbath! Revenge was sweet, but short-lived as our team-mates bid to 7♥.

Lose three. Operation successful; patient dies.

Another hand from the final day, against the Coleman team. RHO is dealer and opens the bidding 1♦, you overcall 1♠, 2♣ by LHO, a weak raise to 3♣ by partner, and RHO rebids 6♦, which ends the auction! Your lead; you hold this:

♠AQJxx ♥Kxxx ♦4 ♣Jxx.

I didn't think it would win the trick but tried my A♠.

Dummy tabled ♠KTx ♥QTx ♦8 ♠AKTxxx.

The spade ace won! What now?

Try to use the information you have. Declarer actually had a spade; that was a bit of luck for your side, but can you make it pay off and beat 6♦?

Declarer must certainly hold the A♥ on this auction, and it sounds like about eight or more solid diamonds. If they can get to dummy they have three tricks in the black suits so with 8 diamonds and the heart ace that's twelve. Seems hopeless—but what if declarer originally started with:

♠x ♥Axxx ♦AKQJT764 ♣—

No entry to dummy! Therefore play for this holding and hope for your partner to hold the 9♦ and shift to a trump.

Did you? If so, well done! If not, it didn't matter—declarer had the 9♦, only Axx in hearts and an entry in clubs as well, so the slam was cold on any lead. But at least you didn't give up. You always should play to beat a hand at IMP scoring, even if it looks hopeless. If your partner needs to hold a specific card play for it. If declarer needs a specific distribution, play for it. Even if you might give up an extra trick, it is better to lose an IMP now and then, in order to gain the bunches you win by beating contracts.

Vancouver Bridge Centre

2776 E. Broadway, Vancouver BC, V5M 1Y8
Ph. 255-2564 Lessons, books, seminars

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS

- ♣ Fri Dec 26 (7:30): VBC Tournament of Champions (free play for all 1997 VBC club champions; non-champions are also welcome)
- ♣ Sun Jan 4 (6:30): Champion of IMPs—CH.IMP—Club Championship
- ♣ Fri Jan 9 (9:45): 2 Hour Lessons by Anne-Marie resumes; note new time for afternoon Classic Card game, (noon).
- ♣ Mon Jan 19 (7:30): Unit 430's only Grand National Teams Qualifying Game
- ♣ Tue Jan 27 (7:30): Winter Sectional Winner's Free Play Night
- ♣ Wed Feb 4 (7:30): Junior Development Fund Game
- ♣ Mon-Sat, Feb 9-14 (all sessions): Club Championship Week!
- ♣ Sat Mar 7 (noon/TBA): Canadian National Teams Championships Unit Final
- ♣ Mon Mar 16 (7:30): Non-Life Master Swiss Teams!!
- ♣ Wed Mar 25 (7:30): ACBL-wide Charity Game (hand records)
- ♣ Wed Apr 1 (7:30): CBF Helen Shields Rookie-Master Game

UPCOMING SEMI-REGULAR EVENTS

- ♣ Monthly Madness: (\$3/player!) Monthly 0-100 games Saturday Afternoons: Dec 27, Jan 10, Feb 14 (Club Championship), Mar 7. Also: Monthly Golden Oldies: Hand Record Games! A fun way to spend an evening once a month, open to all players: Jan 10, Feb 21, Mar 14.
- ♣ TGIF Bidding Contest nights: Last Friday each month, challenge the Bulletin's bidding gurus: Dec 26, Jan 30, Feb 27, Mar 27.
- ♣ Monthly \$1.49 Day!: All day Tuesday, play for \$1.49 each if you or your partner has not played at the VBC for the past 30 days. Jan 13, Feb 10, Mar 10.
- ♣ Backgammon Tournaments: Jan 18, Feb 22, Mar 15

RECENT WINNERS

- ♣ CNTC Club-Q: Felipe Hernandez, Mike Neagu, Peter Herold, Ken Scholes (Oct 6);
- ♣ Marvin Lee, Cam Doner, Julien Lévesque, Andrew Ross (Rookie Master Q-Game, Nov 8); Dan Jacob, Larry Hicks, Aidan Ballantyne, Ron Borg (Dec 13). COPC Club-Q: Greg Arbour/Brian Maksymetz (69.68%, Oct 30, Unit-wide high score); Cam Doner/Martin Henneberger (Nov 18). CBF Olympiad Fund Game, Oct 21:
- ♣ (tie) Dee Kerr/Ruth Ableman; June Pocock/Kathy Adachi. CBF Fall Rookie-Master Game, Oct 27: Brian Chan/Bill Sit. ACBL-wide Charity Game, Nov 24: Martin Henneberger/Marvin Lee. 2nd TGIF Bidding Contest Perfect Score: Ram Hira.

REGULAR WEEKLY VBC GAMES

- (special events never pre-empt regular games)
- | | | |
|-----------|-------|--|
| Monday | 7:30 | Intermediate Stratified (0-200 MP) |
| Tuesday | 10:45 | Stratified Open Game
Lunch Available! |
| Tuesday | 7:30 | Stratified Open Game
New Winner-Take-All Jackpot |
| Wednesday | 10:45 | New-plicate Game (now 0-50 MP)
Includes Mini-Lesson and Lunch |
| Wednesday | 7:30 | Advanced Intermediate Game
Stratified by Expertise (# of LMs)
Half Price for Rookie-Master Pairs |
| Thursday | 7:30 | Rookie Game (0-20 MP)
Includes Mini-Lesson |
| Thursday | 7:30 | Stratified Open Game
Winners Defend Free Next Week |
| Friday | 12:00 | Classic Card Game
(new starting time) |
| Friday | 7:30 | Open Lucky # Game (last Friday
each month: TGIF+ bidding contest) |
| Saturday | | Watch for Monthly Madness
weekly Aft and Eve Rubber Bridge |
| Sunday | 6:30 | "Early Bird" Stratified IMP Pairs
early start, early finish for 9-to-5ers |



All your favorite bridge books are available at The Bridge Centre

RECENT VBC BIG GAMES

Tue Nov 25 (am): Ken Robertson/Jack Queen, 71.00%. Wed Oct 22 (pm): H.K. Ho/Kenny Chan, 72.32%. Thu Oct 30 (COPC-Q): Greg Arbour/Brian Maksymetz, 69.68% winning Unit COPC subsidy. Fri Oct 3 (pm): Mike Neagu/Felipe Hernandez, 69.29%. This pair also scored +86 IMPs on Oct 26,

Been There, Done That?

Answer to Cover Hand

If you played the K♠ at trick three you'll be all right:

IMP Bd 47-567 S Dir, Both Vul	NORTH ♠ KT95 ♥ 6532 ♦ A43 ♣ T4	2♦ by South Lead: 4♠
McBruce ♠ A84 ♥ AQJ4 ♦ J72 ♣ 832	SOUTH ♠ 62 ♥ T97 ♦ QT86 ♣ AKQ9	EAST ♠ QJ73 ♥ K8 ♦ K95 ♣ J765

Your editor figured from the auction that North and not South would have spades, so I underled the ace, nothing else looking too good. When partner won and returned a heart I remembered a 62-year old hand I'd read about long ago and overtook in order to underlead my ace *again!* Declarer finessed again and lost, and we got two spades, three hearts and *two* diamonds—after partner ruffed the fourth heart with the nine forcing an overruff, she got in with the K♦ and led a spade. Declarer *still* thought my partner had the ace and ruffed high, setting up my jack! Four IMPs for +200 on a hand that half the field had passed out!

Hal Sims was one of the experts of the early days of Contract Bridge. Sims's table presence was so good that he seldom misguessed a crucial queen—one story had Sims facing two opponents needing to guess a queen which had been placed in *both* opponent's hands by some of his friends as a sort of practical joke/experiment. Sims reached the crucial point and threw down his cards and said "I think *both* your birds have it!"

After Eli Culbertson dispatched his closest rival, Sidney Lenz, in the widely-followed "Bridge Match Of The Century," Sims became Culbertson's biggest rival. He and his wife Dorothy faced Eli and Josephine Culbertson a short time later, and this was the deal that made the newspapers:

(See next column.)

Alfred Sheinwold described the hand in his classic *Five Weeks To Winning Bridge* this way:

"The odd bidding was based on the fact that P. Hal Sims was South. His wife was North, and the hand was played against Ely and Josephine Culbertson in their 150-rubber match of 1935.

"Sims did not encourage his partners to bid notrump, and Mrs. Sims did her best to get her husband to bid it. He not only declined to bid notrump but also refused to stay there when his partner bid it.

"Mrs. Culbertson analyzed the bidding and came to the conclusion that the dummy would have broken spade strength and that declarer (since he had failed to bid notrump) would have no spade strength. She therefore led the four of spades.

Culbertson/Sims match (1935)	D. Sims ♠ KJ3 ♥ 7 ♦ AQ74 ♣ KQ942	4♥ by South Lead: 4♠
Josephine C. ♠ A54 ♥ 8432 ♦ K96 ♣ AT7	P. Hal Sims ♠ 982 ♥ AKQJ96 ♦ 8 ♣ J85	Eli C. ♠ QT76 ♥ T5 ♦ JT532 ♣ 63

JOSEPHINE CULBERTSON	DOROTHY SIMS	ELI CULBERTSON	P. HAL SIMS
Pass	1♠	Pass	1♥
Pass	2♦	Pass	3♥
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♥

"Sims played low from dummy, assuming that Mrs. Culbertson had led low from the queen or queen-ten. Culbertson won the first trick with the ten of spades, carefully masking his surprise.

"Culbertson returned a club to the ace, and Mrs. Culbertson calmly led the five of spades through dummy!

"Sims, a giant of a man, glowered at the petite Mrs. Culbertson, snorted, and played the jack from dummy. He refused to believe that she could have had the effrontery to try to hornswoggle the great Hal Sims.

"Naturally, Culbertson took the queen of spades and returned a spade to the ace, defeating the contract."

Déjà vu?



PDI BRIDGE SUPPLIES



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Books and supplies for players, clubs, Units
Bridge accessory rentals: tables, bid-boxes, boards, etc.

The Centre Page

by Eugene Chan

1997 has been an incredible year at the Bridge Centre. So many positive things have happened that mere words cannot do justice. So, instead of looking back at past glories, we charge ahead into 1998! Some changes for next year have already been quietly introduced in recent weeks. The following will recap VBC changes for 1998:

Mon	7:30pm	Stratified 0-200 (no change)
Tue	10:45am	Stratified Open (no change)
Tue	7:30pm	Stratified Open New Winner-take-all Jackpot
Wed	10:45am	New-plicate (0-50 MP) Range increased to 0-50
Wed	7:30pm	Stratified by Expertise Flt A=2 LM, Flt B=1 LM, Flt C=no LMs (Half-price for Rookie-Master Pairs)
Thu	7:30pm	Rookies (0-20) Developing this game is our #1 priority
Thu	7:30pm	Stratified Open Winners defend next week free
Fri	Noon	Stratified Classic Card New start time
Fri	7:30pm	Lucky Number Open why change our flagship game?
Sat	1:00pm	Monthly Madness (0-100) Still only \$3.00
Sat	7:30pm	Monthly Golden Oldies Players like hand records, so we will recycle some from previous years!
Sun	6:30pm	Early Bird Imp Pairs The Quarterly CH.IMPS Award returns! (Every Sunday; MUG moved to Saturday for 1998.)

In order to provide more opportunities for our developing players, we have slightly modified our Wednesday evening game. We hope that Stratification-by-Expertise will encourage all would be mentors to play with their proteges more often. The half-priced entry for Rookie-Master pairs is extended to all pairs where one or more players in the partnership has less than 20 masterpoints.

We will continue to provide a monthly Saturday afternoon session for players with less than 100 points to sharpen their skills. We call it Monthly Madness because entry is only \$3.00!

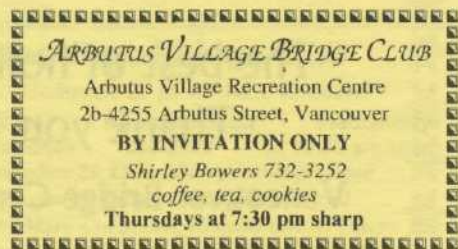
Looking over hand analyses of played hands is a great way to learn good bidding, declarer and defensive card play. Once a month we will dig up a "Golden Oldie". A fun way to spend a Saturday evening once a month. We cannot issue masterpoints because these hands have been played before. If you can remember these hands, the Bridge Centre will provide liquid remedies to help you forget!!

As the Unit has moved the Monthly Unit Game to Saturday evening, all Sunday evening games will be scored at imp pairs. The Quarterly CH.IMPS Award, ie. Champion of Imps, rewards the player(s) with the highest accumulated IMPs from their 5 best results; 4 free plays for their outstanding CH.IMPtionship play.

Lastly, although Woodward's is long gone, we bring back \$1.49 Day! Tuesdays!! Play with anybody who has not played at the Bridge Centre at any time during the past 30 days and both play for only \$1.49!!!

Seasons Greetings and Happy New Year to all. Or as my mom would say, *xing daan fy lok - gung hay fat choy!*


Jewish Community Centre Bridge Club
 Thursdays at 11 AM at 950 W. 41st Ave., Vancouver
 All players welcome! Connie Delisle (263-9196)
 Club Championship February 5


ARBUTUS VILLAGE BRIDGE CLUB
 Arbutus Village Recreation Centre
 2b-4255 Arbutus Street, Vancouver
BY INVITATION ONLY
 Shirley Bowers 732-3252
coffee, tea, cookies
Thursdays at 7:30 pm sharp



(Polish Bridge Club)

Polish Combatant Centre, 1134 Kingsway
Waldemar Jez 527-8854
alternate Fridays at 7:30pm
Jan 2, 16, 27, Feb 13, 27, Mar 13, 17
Games are free with a \$15.00
yearly membership
Jan. 2: New Year's
Tournament with prizes!

Delta Bridge Club

St. Cuthbert Anglican Church
11601 82nd Ave., Delta

Pat Stafff 588-6794

Coffee and snacks included

Thursdays at 10:30 AM

(don't be late!)

Membership Game Winners:

Wilf May/Kathy Adachi

March 5: Club Championship

Closed Dec. 25, Jan. 1

Happy Holidays

from your friends at the

Vancouver Bridge Centre

The best of holiday seasons to you and yours.

Thank you for your support in 1997.

Vancouver Bridge Centre, 2776 E. Broadway, ph: 255-2564

**East Richmond
Bridge Club**

7891 Cambie at River Road
(Richmond Rod & Gun Club)
Ernie Dietrich 936-2298
\$5.00 entry, includes lunch
Sundays at 1:00 PM

IMPORTANT DATES

January 25: Closed for
Winter Sectional
March 8: Club Championship
Dec 14 Club Championship
Winners: Ram Hira/Ted Lai
Membership Game Winners:
Shirley & Ozzie Isfeld

Squamish Bridge Club

NEW ADDRESS!

1471 Pemberton St., Squamish 892-1066
Mondays at 7:30 PM
monthly handicap and trophy race games
Lorraine Hurren 898-2702

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VANCOUVER, B.C.

**Sunshine Coast
Bridge Club**

5653 Wharf Road,
Suite 202, Sechelt
Rudy Notel 885-5552
Partners Guaranteed

Monday Wednesday Thursday
7:00 pm 1:00 pm 7:00 pm
teams open open

Social Bridge/Bridge Plus/Seminars

Hastings Bridge Club

1950 Windermere St. (at 4th Ave.), Vancouver
sandwiches **Marianne Scott** Wednesdays
cookies, tea/coffee **298-3932** at 10:30 am sharp
December 25: Club Championship Game
December 3 Club Champions: A tie!
Bev Cullen/Mary Corbould, Roland Chew/Harry Yee

Unit 430 Sanctioned Weekly Duplicate Game List

(Most recent update: December 16, 1997. Not including invitation-only clubs)

Day	Time	Club	Director	Game Details	Next CC	Last Reported Club Champions
Mon	10:00 am	VCR	L. Landau	HCP: 9 Feb	12 Jan	Olive Perdue/Bonnie Anderson
	10:45 am	BBY	H. Dressler	open	TBA	Stan Sangdahl/Gil Calhoun
	7:15 pm	SRY	A. Browning	open, STR:1st	12 Jan	Maggie Warren/Judy Acheson
	7:30 pm	CWK	B. Percher	STR: last	9 Feb	held after Matchpointer deadline
	7:30 pm	SQU	W. Jonat	1st: HCP, 3rd: Trophy Race Game		annual trophy points race
	7:30 pm	TSW	F. Schultz	open	information	seldom received—can anyone help?
Tue	7:30 pm	VBC	E. Chan	LP:0-200, stratified	9 Feb	Jon Shulman/Barry Wade
	10:45 am	VBC	B. Russell	stratified	10 Feb	David Zack/Sefton Levine
	11:00 am	S-W	T. Stiennon	open	10 Mar	Esther Friedman/Marsha Woroniuk
	7:30 pm	NSW	M. Strebinger	open	17 Feb	Sky Williamson/Amir Alibhai
	7:30 pm	BBY	H. Dressler	open	TBA	Anne-Marie Bullis/Hobert Liang
	7:30 pm	VBC	A. Ballantyne	stratified	10 Feb	Ram Hira/Amirali Jetha
Wed	10:00 am	VCR	L. Landau	HCP: 21 Jan, STR: 25 Mar	18 Feb	Stella Alliston/Joyce Peters
	10:30 am	HAS	M. Scott	open	25 Mar	(tie) Bev Cullen/Mary Corbould, Roland Chow/Harry Yee
	10:45 am	VBC	E. Chan	New-plicate: 0-20 MP	11 Feb	Dominique Baker/Theresa Kong
	7:15 pm	WRK	A.M. Bullis	stratified	11 Feb	(teams) Sheila & Don Sache, Derek Ward, John Home
	7:15 pm	VCR	L. Landau	stratified	11 Mar	Terry Scott/Marina Page
	7:30 pm	C.R	A. Yallouz	open	11 Feb	Pat Stapff/Joerg Schneider
	7:30 pm	M-R	B. Percher	open	11 Mar	held after Matchpointer deadline
	7:30 pm	VBC	B. Russell	stratified by # of LMs	11 Feb	Brian Fedler/Marvin Lee
Thu	10:30 am	DTA	P. Stapff	open	5 Mar	Kathy Adachi/Leslie Gold
	11:00 am	JCC	C. Delisle	open to all players	5 Feb	Norma Saltzberg/Manuel Lazar
	7:15 pm	F.V	T. Stiennon	Teams: Jan 8, Feb 26	12 Mar	Don Sache/Derek Ward
	7:30 pm	MIS	B. Percher	open	19 Feb	held after Matchpointer deadline
	7:30 pm	VBC	E. Chan	0-20	12 Feb	Flora So/Nancy Belyea
	7:30 pm	VBC	G. Davis	stratified	12 Feb	John Reay/Dennis McMahon
	Fri	1:00 pm	VBC	A.M. Bullis	Classic Card, STR	13 Feb
7:30 pm		ABB	B. Percher	open	6 Mar	(teams) Tai Eng, Insa Fricker, Ron McConnell, Ray Morrison
7:30 pm		PKB	W. Jez	Alternate Fridays starting Jan. 2, 1998—not ACBL sanctioned.		
7:30 pm		NSW	L. Landau	Monthly Swiss Teams—first Friday of each month only (January 9th, not 2nd)		
7:30 pm		S-D	T. Stiennon	Teams: 30 Jan, 27 Mar	13 Mar	Lotte Elias/Hazel Dressler (72.5%!)
7:30 pm		VBC	E. Chan	TGI Friday Party: last	13 Feb	Sharon & Buddy Crapko
Sat	1:00 pm	VBC	E. Chan	Rubber bridge (usually); periodic special events, check club box for details		
	7:30 pm	VBC	L. Landau	Monthly Unit Game Jan 3, Feb 14, Mar 7. A suburban site will be added when found.		
Sun	1:00 pm	RMD	E. Dietrich	open, X: 25 Jan	8 Mar	Ram Hira/Ted Lai
	6:30 pm	VBC	A.M. Bullis	IMP Pairs, stratified	4 Jan	Pearl Minkoff/Delphine Tablotney

GAME DETAILS abbreviations:

HCP=handicap game
 LP=limited masterpoint game
 X:n=closed on nth week of each month
 1st, 2nd, last, etc=only on the first, second last (or whatever) week of each month (unless noted, all clubs that hold special games once a month hold open games on all other weeks)

STR=stratified game

IP=IMP Pairs scoring

Games limited to club members and guests and unsanctioned games are not listed here. Most (not all) clubs hold four quarterly club championships for each of their weekly sessions. Most clubs will be happy to provide space and/or supplies for IMP League matches for a small table fee: but please contact the director in advance for fees and availability.

Special Events at Clubs

December 22, 1997 – March 22, 1998

(Quarterly Club Championship dates for Unit 430 clubs are also listed in the Weekly Duplicate Game

List about four inches to the left of here.)

Date Time Club What's Happening

22 Dec 10:45 BBY Christmas Party

23 Dec 7:30 BBY Christmas Party

Holiday closures: Almost certainly there will be no games Christmas Day. DTA is confirmed closed on January 1, while VCR will run a special game at noon on New Years Day. VCR will also run morning games on December 24 and 31, but the evening games will be cancelled. The VBC is closed Dec 24 but will be open all day on Dec 31. Club contacts are listed below—call if uncertain!

Club Abbreviations and Contacts

Abbr.	Club Name (*=non-ACBL)	Club Contact	Phone No.	Ad. page
ABB	Abbotsford DBC	Bob Percher	792-4389	22
ARB	Arbutus Village BC (by invitation only)	Shirley Bowers	732-3252	15
BBY	Burnaby DBC	Hazel Dressler	524-4445	21
C.R	Central Richmond BC	Albert Yallouz	321-1891	23
CWK	Chilliwack DBC	Bob Percher	792-4389	22
DTA	Delta BC	Pat Stapff	588-6794	16
F.V	Fraser Valley BC	Thony Stiennon	951-7560	21
HAS	Hastings BC	Marianne Scott	298-3932	17
JCC	Jewish Com. Ctr. DBC	Connie Delisle	263-9196	15
MIS	Mission DBC	Bob Percher	792-4389	22
M-R	Maple Ridge DBC	Bob Percher	792-4389	22
NSW	North Shore Winter Club	Bernice Mulock	987-8289	22
PKB	Polish Bridge Club *	Waldemar Jez	527-8854	16
RMD	East Richmond BC	Ernie Dietrich	936-2298	17
S-D	Sur-Del BC	Thony Stiennon	951-7560	21
S-W	South-West DBC	Thony Stiennon	951-7560	21
SRY	South Surrey BC	Arlene Browning	574-0299	21
SQU	Squamish DBC	Lorraine Hurren	898-2702	17
SUN	Sunshine Coast BC *	Rudy Notzl	885-5552	17
TSW	Tsawassen BC	Finn Schultz	534-5025	20
VBC	Vancouver Bridge Centre	Club telephone: 255-2564		13
VCR	Vancouver BC	Louis Landau	984-8309	22
WRK	White Rock BC	Anne-Marie Bullis	525-5669	6

Date Time Club What's Happening

26 Dec	7:30	VBC	Tournament of Champions and TGIF Party Night
27 Dec	1:00	VBC	Monthly Madness 99er Game
27 Dec	7:30	VBC	Monthly Madness Strat. IMPs
29 Dec	7:30	CWK	Stratified Game
1 Jan	---	DTA	No game (this date only)
1 Jan	noon	VCR	Special New Years Day Game
2 Jan	7:30	PKB	Bi-weekly game
2 Jan	---	NSW	Monthly team game moved to January 9th
3 Jan	7:30	Monthly Unit Game (at VBC only) (new day and time for '98)	
4 Jan	6:30	VBC	CH.IMP's Club Championship
5 Jan	7:15	SRY	Stratified Game
5 Jan	7:30	SQU	Handicap Game
8 Jan	7:15	F.V	Swiss Teams
9 Jan	9:45	VBC	Two-Hour Lesson Series by Anne-Marie Bullis begins
9 Jan	noon	VBC	New Time for Classic Card game begins
9 Jan	7:30	NSW	Monthly Team Game
12 Jan	10:00	VCR	Club Championship Game
12 Jan	7:15	SRY	Club Championship Game
13 Jan	all day	VBC	\$1.49 day! (if you bring a friend who has not played at the VBC in 30 days)
16 Jan	7:30	PKB	Bi-weekly game
18 Jan	12:30	VBC	Backgammon Tournament
19 Jan	7:30	SQU	Trophy Race Game
19 Jan	7:30	VBC	Unit 430's only Grand National Teams Qualifying Game (all players eligible)
21 Jan	10:00	VCR	Handicap Game
23-25 Jan	Winter Sectional at Engineer's Hall in Burnaby; most clubs closed		
26 Jan	7:30	CWK	Stratified Game
27 Jan	7:30	VBC	Winter Sectional Winners Free Play Night
30 Jan	7:30	S-D	Swiss Teams
30 Jan	7:30	PKB	Bi-weekly Game
30 Jan	7:30	VBC	TGIF Night and Bidding Contest
2 Feb	7:15	SRY	Stratified Game
2 Feb	7:30	SQU	Handicap Game
4 Feb	7:30	VBC	Junior Development Fund Game
5 Feb	11:00	JCC	Club Championship
6 Feb	7:30	NSW	Monthly Team Game
9-14 Feb		VBC	Club Championship Week

(Continued on page 20)

CLUB NEWS YELLOW PAGES

Date	Time	Club	What's Happening	Date	Time	Club	What's Happening
9 Feb	10:00	VCR	Handicap Game	7 Mar	1:00	VBC	Monthly Madness (0-100)
9 Feb	7:30	VBC	0-200 Club Championship	7 Mar 7:30			Monthly Unit Game (at VBC only) (new day and time for '98)
9 Feb	7:30	CWK	Club Championship Game	8 Mar	1:00	RMD	Club Championship Game
10 Feb	10:45	VBC	Club Championship Game	10 Mar	all day	VBC	\$1.49 day! (if you bring a friend who has not played at the VBC in 30 days)
10 Feb	7:30	VBC	Club Championship Game	10 Mar	11:00	S-W	Club Championship Game
10 Feb	all day	VBC	\$1.49 day! (if you bring a friend who has not played at the VBC in 30 days)	11 Mar	7:15	VCR	Club Championship Game
11 Feb	10:45	VBC	0-20 Club Championship	11 Mar	7:30	MIS	Club Championship Game
11 Feb	7:15	WRK	Club Championship Game	12 Mar	7:15	F.V	Club Championship Game
11 Feb	7:30	VBC	Club Championship Game	13 Mar	7:30	S-D	Club Championship Game
11 Feb	7:30	C.R	Club Championship Game	13 Mar	7:30	PKB	Bi-weekly Game
12 Feb	7:30	VBC	0-20 Club Championship	14 Mar	7:30	VBC	Golden Oldies! (recycled hand records)
12 Feb	7:30	VBC	Club Championship Game	15 Mar	12:30	VBC	Backgammon Tournament
13 Feb	7:30	PKB	Bi-weekly Game	16 Mar	7:30	SQU	Trophy Race Game
13 Feb	7:30	VBC	Club Championship Game	16 Mar	7:30	VBC	non-Life Master Swiss Teams!!
14 Feb	1:00	VBC	Monthly Madness 0-100 Club Championship Game				
14 Feb 7:30			Monthly Unit Game (at VBC only) (new day and time for '98)				
15 Feb	10:00	VBC	BCCF Jr. Chess Tournament				
16 Feb	7:30	SQU	Trophy Race Game				
17 Feb	7:30	NSW	Club Championship game				
18 Feb	10:00	VCR	Club Championship Game				
19 Feb	7:30	MIS	Club Championship Game				
21 Feb	7:30	VBC	Golden Oldies! (recycled hand records)				
23 Feb	10:00	VCR	ACBL-wide Seniors Game				
23 Feb	7:30	CWK	Stratified Game				
26 Feb	7:15	F.V	Swiss Teams				
27 Feb	7:30	PKB	Bi-weekly Game				
27 Feb	7:30	VBC	TGIF and bidding contest				
2 Mar	7:15	SRY	Stratified Game				
2 Mar	7:30	SQU	Handicap Game				
5 Mar	10:30	DTA	Club Championship Game				
6 Mar	7:30	ABB	Club Championship Game				
6 Mar	7:30	NSW	Monthly Team Game				
7 Mar noon		VBC	CNTC Unit Final (second session TBA)				

ADVANCE NOTICE

Date	Time	Club	What's Happening
25 Mar	10:00	VCR	Stratified Game
25 Mar	10:30	HAS	Club Championship Game
25 Mar	7:30	C.R	ACBL-wide Charity Game
25 Mar	7:30	VBC	ACBL-wide Charity Game
27 Mar	7:30	S-D	Swiss Teams
27 Mar	7:30	VBC	TGIF and bidding contest
1 Apr	10:00	VCR	Handicap Game
1 Apr 7:30		VBC	CBF annual Helen Shields Rookie-Master Game
4 Apr	1:00	VBC	Monthly Madness (0-100)
4 Apr 7:30			Monthly Unit Game (at VBC only) (new day and time for '98)
6 Apr	10:00	VCR	Club Championship Game
6-12 Apr			Seattle-sponsored District-wide Sectional Tournament at Clubs

Isawassen Bridge Club

South Delta Rec Centre, 1720-56th Street, Delta
Finn Schultz 534-5025 Mondays 7:30 pm

CLUB NEWS YELLOW PAGES

SUBURBIA clubs	South-West Duplicate Bridge Club	Fraser Valley Bridge Club	Sur-Del Bridge Club
Thony Stiennon (non-playing director) 951-7560	White Rock Elks Club 1469 George St. White Rock BC	Century House 620 Eighth St. New Westminster BC	St. Cuthbert Anglican Church, 11601 82nd Ave., Delta BC
Regular Game:	Tuesdays at 11 am	Thursdays at 7:15 pm	Fridays at 7:30 pm
Club Championships:	March 10	March 12	March 13
Swiss Teams:		January 8, February 26	January 30, March 27
Membership Game:	October 21	October 23	October 24
Congratulations to:	Lotte Elias & Hazel Dressler, for their 72.5% game at Sur-Del on December 12, in the first Club Championship for the Ken Holland Trophy!		

Burnaby Duplicate Bridge Club

1491 Carleton Ave., Burnaby *Hazel Dressler 524-4445*

Mondays at 10:45am

Stan Sangdahl & Gil Calhoun

Tuesdays at 7:30pm

Club Championship Anne-Marie Bullis & Hobert Liang

Next Club Championship Dates TBA

RECENT OVER 70% GAME: Paul Fong/William Sit

Annual Hallowe'en Costume Parade Game, Oct 28:

Weird and eerie prizes for the best three costumes were given to
Mollie Mason, Dianne Isfeld, and Gladys Mackie

South Surrey Bridge Club

1284 184th Street (Semiahmoo Fish & Game Club), South Surrey

Director/Manager:

Arlene Browning 1-604-870-9300

Mondays at 7:15pm

Stratified first Monday each month

Computer scoring

Novice Sections every game

Partners Guaranteed

Club Championship January 12

WINNERS:

Membership Game Trophy (Nov 17):

Carol Thompson/Mariann Hutton

ACBL Charity Game (Nov 24):

Randy Jordan/Isabel Chernoff

Swiss Teams (Dec 8):

Randy Jordan, Dot Carnegie,

Terry & Frances Gould

Please note the new telephone number for Arlene Browning

The Valley Clubs

Bob Percher 792-4389
partners always guaranteed!

Chilliwack

Senior Recreation Centre
9400 College Street
Mondays at 7:30 pm
Stratified Games last
Monday each month
Feb 9: Club Championship
MAX Milk Bottle Fund
Charity Game Winners (Dec 8): Louis Vervoort and Louise Percher

Maple Ridge

Centennial Ctr. Seniors
Complex: 11940 224th St.
Wednesdays at 7:30 pm
Closed Dec 24 & Dec 31
March 11:
Club Championship

Mission

Leisure Centre
7621 Taulbut Ave.
Thursdays at 7:30 pm
Closed Dec 25 & Jan 1
February 19:
Club Championship

Abbotsford

McCallum Activity Centre
2478 McCallum Road
Fridays at 7:30 pm
March 6:
Club Championship
Charity Swiss Winners:
Tai Eng, Insa Fricker, Ron
McConnell, Ray Morrison

Vancouver Bridge Club

St. David's Church, NW corner of
Taylor Way and Hwy 1, W. Vancouver

Louis Landau - 984-8309

All games non-smoking

Monday 10:00 AM open
Wednesday 10:00 AM open
Wednesday 7:15 PM stratified

Computer Scoring Bid-boxes

Both Wednesday games
are jackpot games.

All holiday Mondays are PARTY
DAYS, with door prizes, goodies etc.

Holiday Special Note: The Wednesday
morning games will be run on Christmas
Eve and New Year's Eve; the evening
games on these dates are cancelled.

UPCOMING SPECIAL GAMES

Thursday (yes, Thursday!) January 1,
1998 (noon) Special New Years Game!

Handicap Daytime Games: Wed Jan 9,
Mon Feb 9, Wed Apr 1.

Mon Feb 23: ACBL-wide Seniors Game
Wed Mar 25: Stratified Game

Players of the Month:

Daytime: Amir Alibhai (October), Adam
Dabrowski (November) **Evening:** Oct.:
Pat Landau (A), Kathy Bye (B), Ann &
Wink Andres (C); Nov.: Laureen Holley &
Mona Taylor (A), Carolyn Keane (B & C)

RECENT WINNERS

Olympiad Fund Game: Geraldine
LaCroix/Kathy Bye **Lions Gate**

Handicap Pairs: Betty Harold, Jean
Katz, Brian Badger, Peggy Winter

ACBL Membership Game, Nov 26:
Amir Alibhai/Mohammed Dadbeh

North Shore Winter Club Bridge

1325 E. Keith Rd., N. Vancouver

Tuesdays
at 7:30

Monthly Team Games:
7:30 Jan 9, Feb 13, Mar 6

Bernice Mulock 987-8289

Gordon McOrmond
President
543-4224

STRIDER COMPUTER GROUP

7915 - 120th Street
North Delta, V4C 6P6

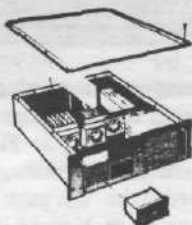
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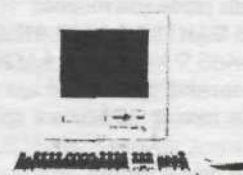
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COMING EVENTS

February 11: Club Championship Game
March 25: ACBL-wide Charity Game
Upgraded Club Championship Winners:
Maureen Crompton/Andrew Ross
Membership Game Winners:
Toyo Nunoda/Bev Kanee

Announcements Unit Business Highlights

Several announcements of a general nature from the December Unit Board Meeting.

Over the course of the next few nearby Regionals, caddies will be outfitted with red T-Shirts that announce to the world the North American Bridge Championships which will be held in our fair city in March 1999. You can, I believe, purchase one of these by contacting Doug Cowan at 921-7787. Wear them to tournaments and help get the word out!

Meanwhile, the Vancouver Regional is on a hiatus (replaced by a Regional in Victoria this year) until the year 2000, when it shall be back in mid-Spring. It seems difficult to look so far ahead with the NABC on its way, but that tournament needs a chairperson to liaise with DINO at a

local level while the groundwork for that tournament is laid. Aidan Ballantyne (438-3095) has done this job several times in the past and can tell you what's involved if you would like to volunteer.

As mentioned by Felipe in his President's Message on page 2, the Unit will be considering adopting some form of Zero Tolerance at the January meeting. My first duty once the *Matchpointer* is finally distributed will be to prepare a ZT information sheet on the policy to send to Board Members. Anyone interested in reading this and giving their opinions before the meeting on January 12 is welcome to this information sheet, which should be finished by New Year's Eve. Call me at 438-9735 if you want to be involved.

Also mentioned by Felipe was the new Unit Hospitality Committee, to provide periodic snacks and volunteer time at Sectionals, without loading too much on a few hard-working people. Call Gladys Mackie (526-0687) if you can help.

Give Me A Hand

by Joerg Schneider

SNAPSHOTS FROM THE SECTIONAL:

1) "Good" team tactics dictate that you lose your first match (the opponents are easier pickings after that you know!) What happens when two teams, both subscribing to this dubious theory, meet in the first round? Easy: teammates sit in the same direction at both tables and both teams are credited with a loss!

2) Bids made and missed:

East: ♠3 ♥AKT87 ♦AT93 ♣K96 1♥ 3♣ 4♦ 5♥
West: ♠K85 ♥J6 ♦KQ82 ♠AQ87 2♦ 3NT 4NT 6♦

The opening bid showed less than 16 HCP, the response was game forcing. 3♣ was a splinter, and 5♥ showed two keycards.

South held 4 trumps, which was not a problem when the second diamond was won in dummy, but now we needed the Q♥ inside. It was and 6♦ was made. In a pairs game, once the bidding gets past 3NT, which should make with overtricks, there is little difference between 5♦ making and 6♦ down one. Both will be poor scores with the field playing 3NT, so you may as well bid the slam!

Board 13 Saturday evening: Both vul, LHO opens 1♥ as dealer. Partner and RHO pass.

♠ T7 ♥ 76 ♦ QJ976 ♣ AKJ7

I balanced with 2♦ and LHO bid 4♥. Two more passes; now what?

Try to picture a hand consistent with LHO's bidding. He must have lots and lots and lots of hearts, and most likely four spades (else why not just open 4♥?). Therefore partner is marked with some high cards and quite a few minor suit cards. Assuming that 4♥ makes 5♣ cannot be far wrong. It is, in fact, stone cold. The four hands:

Bd 13, Sat. eve. N Dir, both vul	NORTH	5♣ by E/W or 4♥ by N/S?
	WEST	
	♠ AQ95	♠ K842
	♥ AKQJT93	♥ 2
	♦ 82	♦ AK
	♣ -	♣ T96432
	SOUTH	
	♠ J63	
	♥ 854	
	♦ T543	
	♣ Q85	

I passed and we got a below average board. Incidentally, not for the first time, I disagreed with partner's pass. I think this hand is worth a 2♣ overall, because of the sixth club,

the singleton heart, and likely three tricks outside the trump suit.

Do as I say? Some time ago I wrote about the danger of doubling opponents in a team game. Did I heed my own advice? Are you kidding?

Holding ♠x ♥KJ983 ♦Ax ♣KJTxx I heard this auction:

LHO	PARTNER	RHO	J.S.
	2♣	Pass	Pass
Double	Pass	3♥	P (hoping!)
4♥	Pass	Pass	?

As you can guess, I doubled, turning -620 into -790 and a winning tie into a losing tie. Obviously I should read more books and articles—particularly my own!

3) Finally, a comment to Louis Landau's article on signalling in the last *Matchpointer*, and Bruce's comment (on page 2) in connection with the "lie" told by the low club signal. I think that any ambiguity could be solved by throwing the club *king* on the third heart—if that doesn't convey the right message, nothing will! And it is an honest to goodness discard as well!

(Editor's note: many might have a problem finding the October *Matchpointer*, so let's reprint this problem, with a slightly different viewpoint:

J♥ led vs 4♣

Dummy: ♠952 ♥652 ♦AQT3 ♣764

You: ♠6 ♥AKQT8 ♦974 ♣????

You opened 1♥, heard a takeout double on your left and they got to 4♣. You won the first three tricks and partner discarded on the third trick. What do the following discards (assume that you have appropriate club spots that make these discards reasonable) instruct you to lead at trick four?

a) A♣ b) K♣ c) Q♣ d) J♣ e) T♣ f) low club

The rule here, which many developing players do not know, is that **when you signal with an honour, you deny the next higher honour**. So I would treat the A♣ as an *ultimatum* for a club; the K♣, as Joerg says, denies the ace and therefore must ask for something else—diamonds cannot be right, nor can spades, so continue another heart. If you decide to read the king as suit preference between diamonds and hearts you can't go wrong.

The other honours are difficult to figure out. It may seem that they ask for a club switch, but if partner has the A♣ he can ruff the heart and cash it, so how encouraging can it really be?)

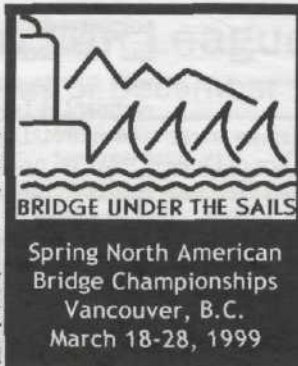
NABC Report

by Doug Cowan

This month, rather than give a progress report (everything's going well), I thought I'd explain, to those who may never have attended a North American Championship, just what it embodies.

The idea for this article came to me during the Kelowna Sectional, when I happened to mention to a lady that I hoped to see her at the Tournament in '99, and she replied "Now what would I be doing in an event like that?" She obviously equated it to a major golf or tennis tournament, where 150 or so of the best in the world meet to decide a champion.

I feel a more appropriate title for an NABC would be Bridge Festival. Yes, there are major championships involved at our Spring Tournament, the most prestigious of which is the Vanderbilt Teams, but only a small percentage of those attending will enter that event (although it is open to all.) Most players will settle for something a little easier. Virtually every day of an NABC offers the following:



♠ A North American Championship event of at least four sessions

♥ A two session Regionally-rated Open Pairs or team event, usually flighted or stratified

♦ A two session Regionally-rated Senior Pairs or team event, often starting in the morning

♣ Intermediate/Novice games for players with less than 200 points, liberally stratified

♠ Many knockout team events, some in the morning, others in prime time, almost always bracketed

♥ Continuous pairs side games, with Gold Points for the best total percentages over your best two sessions

♦ If you're really keen, some midnight games

The beauty of an NABC is that it attracts enough players of different interests and skill levels to provide something for everyone.

Therefore, as you see an NABC is NOT an elitist event; there's something for everybody. It's been twenty-five years since we've had one in Vancouver, and it will probably be quite a while until we get another, so everyone should take advantage of this unique opportunity, and plan now to attend as many sessions as possible.

Editor's note: In the October *Matchpointer*, Joerg Schnieder and Pat Stapff bid these cards to the superior 6♦ slam:

Responder:

♠72 ♥K8 ♦J9872 ♣AJ92

Opener:

♠AKT543 ♥A43 ♦KQ64 ♣—

Subsequent investigation revealed that 33 pairs played this board (Board 22, Friday afternoon at the Evergreen Sectional) and Joerg and Pat were the only ones to score +920 for a room-wide top. Most of the field apparently played in spades making eleven tricks. There was a -50, which in IMPs would be a swing of fourteen, but we didn't know what contract had led to that result—until...

Lose Fourteen?

by Cam Doner

Joerg and Pat were not the only ones to get to slam, but may have been the only ones to get to the making diamond slam. As for the -50, I can give you a very accurate roadmap as to how it oc-

curred. Let's call this "The Adventure of the Dreaded Advance Cuebid!" Our auction started with a 1♠ opener, a forcing 1NT response, and a 3♦ rebid. This promises a real second suit of at least four cards, although we play that a 3♣ rebid might be artificial with a single-suited game forcing spade hand. Responder now bid 3♥.

The Advance Cuebid strikes!

Two things you should consider when you initiate cuebidding:

1) Does partner know that you're making a cuebid?

2) If partner misinterprets, can you handle the ensuing auction?

In an auction like this, 3♥ should show a heart suit, perhaps a hand like this:

♠x ♥KQxxxx ♦Axx ♣xxx

Opener, expecting something like this, now cuebids 4♣. Unlike the 3♥ bid, this 4♣ call *must* be a cuebid, because with a true three-suiter opposite a hand that could not make a 2/1 response, opener would bid 3NT. By going past 3NT to cuebid, opener promises support for hearts, as the ac-

tual hand has.

All could have been saved now, had responder jumped to 6♦. Unfortunately, my partner now bid 4♦. This apparent cuebid confirmed to me that partner had something like the 1-6-3-3 hand above, and so I bid 6♥. Partner, knowing that on the auction I could have at most four hearts, valiantly tried 6NT, which went one down for a loss of fourteen IMPs to Joerg and Pat—luckily it was matchpoints and it was only a zero!

So when would an Advance Cuebid be OK to use? Let's say on this deal responder holds this:

♠Qxx ♥KQxxx ♦Ax ♣xxxx

The 1NT response is a preparation to show a 3-card limit raise by jumping in spades next. When opener jump shifts to 3♦ your hand becomes huge, so you can make the Advance Cuebid of 3♥, knowing you can control the auction and correct back to spades. The simple rule is: avoid Advance Cuebids when the cuebid is in a higher ranking suit than the intended trump suit.

Movers and Shakers

"Final Lap" Standings

Most of you will know by now that the Mini-McKenney tracks masterpoints won in all ACBL events, while the Ace of Clubs tracks only points won at clubs. Both of these lists are dated December 1, which means only that included here is all

points received in Memphis by that date. As to what exact had been received to that point, we know nothing! Players with queries can call the ACBL Membership Assistance Department at 1-800/467-2623, or send them your question via e-mail to MAD@acbl.org.

We're nearly certain all the players are listed in the correct category, as described in the centre panel. Good luck to all contenders in the last few weeks of 1997!

1997 MINI-McKENNEY STANDINGS		AS OF DECEMBER 1, 1997		(points from all sources)
Rookie		Regional Master		Silver Life Master
1. Martin Henneberger, Coquitlam. 59.34	1. Dan Webster, Mission.....87.22	1. Bryan Maksymetz, Coquitlam.. 202.6		
2. Andrew Lee, Burnaby42.91	2. Ken Cowherd, Aldergrove.....64.46	2. Ernie Dietrich, Coquitlam..... 179.7		
3. Waldemar Jez, New West..... 36.26	3. Lenora Awram, Mission.....62.11	3. Les Fouks, Vancouver 157.7		
Junior Master		NABC Master		Gold Life Master
1. Anita Morse, North Vancouver ... 45.05	1. Amiral Alibhai, N. Vancouver .. 116.74	1. Gord McOrmond, Delta..... 249.6		
2. Ruth Ableman, Vancouver..... 36.86	2. Shirley Fitterman, Vancouver ...107.06	2. Kathy Adachi, Delta 225.6		
3. Ewa Wroblewicz, New West..... 36.21	3. Jeannette Greenhut, Vancouver. 95.84	3. Marylou Bert, Ferndale 196.3		
Club Master		Life Master		Diamond Life Master
1. Marylou Varga, Coquitlam..... 65.75	1. Michael Neagu, Coquitlam 124.65	1. Cam Doner, Richmond390.4		
2. Adele Mackay, Coquitlam..... 46.62	2. Claire Burns, W. Vancouver120.46	2. Allan Graves, Vancouver 270.9		
3. Ann Knowlan, Sardis 35.43	3. John Lien, Surrey99.43	3. Aidan Ballantyne, Vancouver ... 194.6		
Sectional Master		Bronze Life Master		
1. Barry Kirkham, W. Vancouver 76.67	1. Felipe Hernandez, Coquitlam ...125.79	(Unit 430 has no Grand Life Master		
2. Amad Rafii, Vancouver 69.91	2. Don Sharp, Salt Spring Island.. 102.55	We're working on it. The 1999 NAB		
3. Sharon Hughes, North Van. 62.71	3. Daisy Neilson, Langley97.12	may help. Check back in a few years...		

Masterpoint Categories for Ace of Clubs and Mini-McKenney Races	points including at least 5 silver points.	and a total of at least 50 pigmented (gold, red or silver) points.	Silver Life Master: 1000 total masterpoints.
Rookie: 0-5 masterpoints of any colour.	Regional Master: 100 masterpoints, including at least 15 silver points and 5 red or gold points.	Life Master: 300 masterpoints, including at least 50 silver points, at least 50 red or gold points (a minimum of 25 must be gold points.)	Gold Life Master: 2,500 total masterpoints.
Junior Master: 5 masterpoints of any colour.	NABC Master: 200 masterpoints, including at least 25 silver points, at least 15 red points, at least 5 gold points,	Bronze Life Master: 500 total masterpoints.	Diamond Life Master: 5,000 total masterpoints.
Club Master: 20 masterpoints of any colour.			Grand Life Master: 10,000 total masterpoints and at least one unlimited North American Championship win
Sectional Master: 50 master-			

1997 ACE OF CLUBS STANDINGS		AS OF DECEMBER 1, 1997		(points from clubs only)
Rookie		Regional Master		Silver Life Master
1. Martin Henneberger, Coquitlam. 44.01	1. Ken Cowherd, Aldergrove.....61.20	1. Ernie Dietrich, Coquitlam..... 134.6		
2. Waldemar Jez, New West..... 24.02	2. Dan Webster, Mission.....58.77	2. Pat Landau, N. Vancouver 93.0		
3. Julien Lévesque, Vancouver 23.76	3. Bernard Grant, Chilliwack..... 30.41	3. Joerg Schneider, Vancouver.....75.7		
Junior Master		NABC Master		Gold Life Master
1. Ewa Wroblewicz, Vancouver 23.93	1. Amiral Alibhai, N. Vancouver 63.12	1. Stella Alliston, N. Vancouver.....94.5		
2. Mark Rojewski, Burnaby 18.13	2. Harry Friedman, Richmond 63.11	2. Kathy Adachi, Delta.....88.0		
3. Anita Morse, N. Vancouver 16.21	3. Geraldine Lacroix, North Van.....55.36	3. Wilf May, New Westminster..... 84.3		
Club Master		Life Master		Diamond Life Master
1. Marylou Varga, Coquitlam..... 35.16	1. John Lien, Surrey 48.13	1. Laurence Betts, Burnaby 39.9		
2. Ann Andres, Vancouver 29.35	2. Bev Kanee, Richmond..... 43.48	2. Aidan Ballantyne, Vancouver20.9		
3. Wink Andres, Vancouver 25.61	3. Adam Dabrowski, North Van.42.52	3. Cam Doner, Richmond 17.8		
Sectional Master		Bronze Life Master		(Don't forget: the ACBL computer placed you into the category that you were in the start of 1997.)
1. Amad Rafii, Vancouver 58.81	1. Daisy Neilson, Langley 75.54			
2. Barbara Green, N. Vancouver 43.78	2. Yuko Fujieda, Vancouver.....55.73			
3. Barry Kirkham, West Vancouver 41.01	3. Joni Johnston, White Rock.....55.15			

1997-98 Unit 430 IMP League, Flight A (open)

Standings as of December 14, 1997

Team Captain	GP	W	L	T	VP	VP	IMP	MP	Avg. swing per board	Probability of:		
						Avg.	Avg.	Seed		1st	Top 2	Playoffs
Lindsay	4	3	1	0	89	22.25	+38.25	3	4.46	0.492	0.732	0.994
Jacob	3	2	1	0	61	20.33	+27.67	2	3.82	0.248	0.522	0.967
Pocock	4	3	1	0	75	18.75	+16.75	5	4.49	0.169	0.417	0.962
Johnson	4	3	1	0	74	18.50	+13.00	8	4.66	0.055	0.187	0.868
Hernandez	3	2	1	0	51	17.00	+8.00	4	5.10	0.009	0.033	0.476
Laudan	4	2	2	0	62	15.50	+3.75	12	4.28	0.011	0.044	0.635
Doner	2	1	1	0	31	15.50	+4.50	1	3.95	0.015	0.056	0.576
Thomas	4	2	2	0	48	12.00	-20.00	7	4.91	0.001	0.006	0.228
Lam	3	1	2	0	35	11.67	-17.67	10	4.39	<.001	0.003	0.158
Fetterley	4	1	3	0	40	10.00	-24.50	11	4.91	<.001	<.001	0.036
Remedios	2	0	2	0	17	8.50	-21.50	6	4.73	<.001	0.001	0.065
Lochang	3	0	3	0	17	5.67	-43.00	9	4.37	<.001	<.001	0.034

In Flight A, there are 12 teams playing an 11-match round robin schedule. Six teams will make the playoffs where the top two teams have a first-round bye. The predictions in the last three columns are based on 25,000 computer season simulations, based on the prognostications and the results so far. The computer predicts a total of 170 VPs necessary to qualify for playoff action. In the grid below, a date indicates the deadline for an unemployed match, and a pair of numbers is a played match's IMP difference and the VPs earned by the team at the left.

Flight A Results	vs CD	vs DI	vs CL	vs FH	vs LP	vs TR	vs DT	vs MI	vs KL	vs GL	vs GF	vs LL
Doner	—	19 Apr	8 Feb	25 Feb	-48:5	5 Nov	+57:26	21 Jan	4 Jan	10 Dec	1 Apr	15 Mar
Jacob	19 Apr	—	15 Mar	1 Apr	+30:23	10 Dec	4 Jan	25 Feb	8 Feb	21 Jan	+58:26	-5:12
Lindsay	8 Feb	15 Mar	—	21 Jan	1 Apr	19 Apr	-2:13	+57:26	+33:23	+65:27	25 Feb	4 Jan
Hernandez	25 Feb	1 Apr	21 Jan	—	19 Apr	+20:21	+47:25	4 Jan	10 Dec	-43:5	15 Mar	8 Feb
Pocock	+48:25	-30:7	1 Apr	19 Apr	—	4 Jan	21 Jan	15 Mar	25 Feb	8 Feb	+41:24	+8:19
Remedios	5 Nov	10 Dec	19 Apr	-20:9	4 Jan	—	8 Feb	1 Apr	15 Mar	25 Feb	-23:8	21 Jan
Thomas	-57:4	4 Jan	+2:17	-47:5	21 Jan	8 Feb	—	19 Apr	1 Apr	15 Mar	+22:22	25 Feb
Johnson	21 Jan	25 Feb	-57:4	4 Jan	15 Mar	1 Apr	19 Apr	—	+59:26	+31:23	8 Feb	+19:21
Lochang	4 Jan	8 Feb	-33:7	10 Dec	25 Feb	15 Mar	1 Apr	-59:4	—	19 Apr	21 Jan	-37:6
Lam	10 Dec	21 Jan	-65:3	+45:25	8 Feb	25 Feb	15 Mar	-31:7	19 Apr	—	4 Jan	1 Apr
Fetterley	1 Apr	-58:4	25 Feb	15 Mar	-41:6	+23:22	-22:8	8 Feb	21 Jan	4 Jan	—	19 Apr
Laudan	15 Mar	+5:18	4 Jan	8 Feb	-8:11	21 Jan	25 Feb	-19:9	+37:24	1 Apr	19 Apr	—

From the Commissioner

Rules Clarifications

Recently several matches have been played with "emergency players" and the grumbling I have heard has led me to believe that the rules outlined in the conditions are widely misunderstood. Time for a refresher course:

EMERGENCY PLAYERS There is no such thing as a "substitute." There is no provision for "spares" in the conditions. Players are either on your roster—or not. Players who play in a match while not on the roster of the teams they have played for are "emergency players." Such players may be added to the team roster if there is a vacancy, but if not added to the team roster, the emergency player may **not** be used again during the season, by any other team. Therefore I strongly suggest that you add the emergency players you use to your roster if you can do so. Please note below the rules for roster changes.

There are penalties for using emergency players: 3 IMPs per board to a maximum of 18 IMPs per match. **However**, these penalties are waived the first two times a team uses one emergency player in a match. The third time, and all future instances, that an emergency player is used, the penalties

will apply. If both teams use an emergency player the penalties do **not** cancel out—they will be applied to both sides and in doing so both teams may be credited with a loss. Yes, these are harsh penalties but you can avoid them by simply making certain that you need to use an emergency player no more than twice during the season.

A match report indicating a team has used **two** or more emergency players in a match, or any ineligible emergency player, will be scored as a forfeit for the non-offending team.

ROSTER CHANGES The obvious rule here is simply: **TELL ME ABOUT IT!** When I receive match report slips showing a player not on your roster, I will mark that player down as an emergency player if I haven't been informed. You **must** make some effort to let me know you are making changes to your roster—just showing up with unfamiliar people is completely outside the rules. If I am unavailable, leave a message and tell the captain of your next opponent. Several teams have been credited with using an emergency player when they could easily have avoided this.

Deletions: any player who has played for your team may **not** be deleted. There are very few exceptions to this, and none that apply in any of the questions about

(Continued on page 28)

1997-98 Unit 430 IMP League, Flight B/C

City Division standings as of December 14, 1997

Team Captain	GP	W	L	T	Total VPs	VPs per match	IMPs per match	MP Seed	Avg. swing per board	Probability of		
										1st	Top 2	Playoffs
Croome (B)	4	3	0	1	81	20.25	+21.25	7	5.88	0.116	0.296	0.896
Jackson (B)	5	3	1	1	101	20.20	+29.00	3	4.71	0.574	0.794	0.995
Eng (B)	3	2	0	1	58	19.33	+13.33	4	5.02	0.171	0.375	0.918
Meyer (B)	6	3	2	1	93	15.50	+ 0.33	2	4.94	0.119	0.424	0.975
Brown (C)	4	2	1	1	62	15.50	+ 0.75	9	3.99	0.004	0.020	0.371
Lee (B)	5	2	2	1	72	14.40	- 2.60	6	4.48	0.006	0.026	0.471
Raywood (B)	4	1	2	1	54	13.50	- 5.25	5	4.62	0.007	0.040	0.522
Isfeld (B)	6	1	4	1	70	11.67	-14.33	1	4.42	0.002	0.022	0.680
Jez (C)	3	0	2	1	33	11.00	-14.00	8	5.45	0.001	0.003	0.138
Lévesque (C)	2	0	1	1	22	11.00	-16.00	10	5.11	<.001	<.001	0.014
Matthews (C)	3	0	2	1	29	9.67	-27.00	11	5.92	<.001	<.001	0.020

In Flight B/C (City Division), there are 11 teams playing an 10-match round robin schedule with a bye. Six teams will make the City "B" playoffs where the top two teams have a first-round bye. The top two Flight C teams (assuming they get through the season without using any Life Masters) qualify for the City Flight C final. The predictions in the last three columns are based on 25,000 computer season simulations, based on the prognostications and the results so far. For standings and predictions each team's bye is scored as a 66-66 tie. The computer predicts a total of 168 VPs necessary (including the 15 VP for the bye round) to

City B/C Results	vs DI	vs LM	vs RI	vs TE	vs KR	vs PL	vs VC	vs WI	vs PB	vs JL	vs SM
Isfeld (B)	—	-33:7	-57:4	-11:10	19 Apr	+17:21	24 Jan	8 Feb	-2:13	15 Mar	25 Feb
Meyer (B)	+33:23	—	+9:19	-29:7	1 Apr	25 Feb	-50:5	+39:24	15 Mar	8 Feb	24 Jan
Jackson (B)	+57:26	-9:11	—	15 Mar	+19:21	1 Apr	19 Apr	24 Jan	7 Jan	25 Feb	+78:28
Eng (B)	+11:20	+29:23	15 Mar	—	8 Feb	19 Apr	1 Apr	30 Nov	24 Jan	17 Dec	7 Jan
Raywood (B)	19 Apr	1 Apr	-19:9	8 Feb	—	+3:18	25 Feb	17 Dec	-5:12	7 Jan	15 Mar
Lee (B)	-17:9	25 Feb	1 Apr	19 Apr	-3:12	—	15 Mar	+3:18	+4:18	24 Jan	8 Feb
Croome (B)	24 Jan	+50:25	19 Apr	1 Apr	25 Feb	15 Mar	—	7 Jan	8 Feb	+32:23	+3:18
Jez (C)	8 Feb	-39:6	24 Jan	30 Nov	17 Dec	-3:12	7 Jan	—	25 Feb	19 Apr	1 Apr
Brown (C)	+2:17	15 Mar	7 Jan	24 Jan	+5:18	-4:12	8 Feb	25 Feb	—	1 Apr	19 Apr
Lévesque (C)	15 Mar	8 Feb	25 Feb	17 Dec	7 Jan	24 Jan	-32:7	19 Apr	1 Apr	—	24 Oct
Matthews (C)	25 Feb	24 Jan	-78:2	7 Jan	15 Mar	8 Feb	-3:12	1 Apr	19 Apr	24 Oct	—

qualify for playoff action. In the grid, a date is the deadline for an unplayed match, and a pair of numbers is a played match's IMP difference and the VPs earned by the team at the left.

(Continued from page 27)

deletions I've been asked. A player listed on your roster who has not yet played may be deleted and may be added to the roster of another team.

Additions: you can add anyone who hasn't played in a match for someone else. This means emergency players are ineligible to play for any other team.

Playoff Rosters: For the playoffs, no emergency players are allowed at all. Rosters will be stripped at the end of the regular season to exclude any players on playoff teams that have not played at least one half in 40% of their team's matches. (That would be five matches minimum in Flight A, four matches minimum in Flight B/C, City Division, three matches minimum in the Valley Flight B/C Division.) In January I will list all of the roster players who are within two missed matches of being ineligible for the playoffs and post the list on the VBC wall.

SEATING RIGHTS This is

another topic which recently came up. Seating rights are given to each team for one half of the match. Who gets seating rights for which half is up to the team captains to decide *before* the match begins. If there is no such decision, the trailing team gets seating rights for the second half, and a coin-toss is held if the match is tied at half-time.

However: seating rights do *not* include the right to seat players for the second half so that the same four players occupy one or both tables again. Each player in a match must face at least one different opponent in the second half, unless all players on both teams agree to play the same people again. This means that any *one* player on *either* team, whether playing in the second half or not, whether a roster player or an emergency player, may force a switch for the second half by objecting to playing the same people again.

MATCH LENGTHS IN FLIGHT C

All regular-season matches in Flight B/C Stratified will be 28 boards. The original Conditions said that Flight C matches would be 26 boards, but this does not mean that matches involving two Flight C teams may agree to play two less boards. (The Flight C teams appear to be holding their own thus far, so two extra boards will not be more than they can handle.)

EMERGENCY PLAYERS USED

SO FAR Emergency players, once used, cannot be used by any other team as an emergency player. Seven emergency players have been used so far; five of the seven were added to the roster of the team they played for. The other two emergency players cannot be used as an emergency player by any other team (a team doing so will forfeit its match); these are George Bell (for LAM) and Elliott Netto (for REMEDIOS).

—McBruce

1997-98 Unit 430 IMP League, Flight B/C

Valley Division standings as of December 14, 1997

Team Captain	GP	W	L	T	Total VPs	VPs per match	IMPs per match	MP Seed	Avg. swing per board	Probability of		
										1st	Top 2	Playoffs
Webster (B)	4	3	0	1	80	20.00	+19.00	3	5.34	0.667	0.905	0.997
Skoropada (B)	2	1	0	1	37	18.50	+12.50	2	4.59	0.175	0.434	0.915
Faulkner (C)	2	1	0	1	36	18.00	+ 9.00	5	4.68	0.012	0.055	0.364
Carruthers (B)	3	1	1	1	51	17.00	+16.00	4	5.12	0.129	0.471	0.921
Orr (C)	2	0	1	1	24	12.00	- 9.00	7	4.68	<.001	<.001	0.013
Schmidt (B)	3	0	2	1	34	11.33	-11.33	1	5.43	0.017	0.133	0.741
Dare (B)	3	0	2	1	23	7.67	-38.33	6	4.37	<.001	0.001	0.049

In Flight B/C (Valley Division), there are 7 teams playing an 6-match round robin schedule with a bye. Four teams will make the Valley "B" semi-finals. The top Flight C team (assuming it completes the season without using any Life Masters) will meet the City Flight C Winner in the Flight C Unit Final. The predictions in the last three columns are based on 25,000 computer season simulations, based on the prognostications and the results so far. For standings and predictions each team's bye is scored as a 66-66 tie. The computer predicts a total of 109 VPs necessary (including the 15 VP for the bye round) to qualify for playoff action. In the grid, a date is the deadline for an unplayed match, and a pair of numbers is a played match's IMP difference and the VPs earned by the team at the left.

Valley B/C Results	Schmidt	Skoropada	Webster	Carruthers	Faulkner	Dare	Orr
Schmidt (B)	---	- 25:8	- 9:11	17 Jan	28 Feb	21 Mar	7 Feb
Skoropada (B)	+ 25:22	---	17 Jan	7 Feb	21 Mar	14 Dec	28 Feb
Webster (B)	+ 9:19	17 Jan	---	+ 17:21	14 Dec	+ 50:25	21 Mar
Carruthers (B)	17 Jan	7 Feb	- 17:9	---	23 Nov	+ 65:27	14 Dec
Faulkner (C)	28 Feb	21 Mar	14 Dec	23 Nov	---	17 Jan	+ 18:21
Dare (B)	21 Mar	14 Dec	- 50:5	- 65:3	17 Jan	---	23 Nov
Orr (C)	7 Feb	28 Feb	21 Mar	14 Dec	- 18:9	23 Nov	---

IMP League Rosters

Flight A Rosters

DONER: Cam Doner, Nicci Charleson, Marylou Bert, Bill Goldstone, Tom Devine
JACOB: Dan Jacob, Larry Hicks, Aidan Ballantyne, Nathan Divinsky, Don Brazeau, Gord Davis
LINDSAY: Cam Lindsay, Steve Vincent, Ron Borg, Martin O'Reilly, Paul Hagen, Dave Waterman
HERNANDEZ: Felipe Hernandez, Peter Maclean, Mike Wilson, Mike Neagu, Dorin Costin, Greg Arbour (addition)
POCOCK: Larry & June Pocock, Doug Hansford, Les Fouks, Wilf May, Don Sache
REMEDIOS: Tony Remedios, Brian Maksymetz, Rhonda Foster, Mike Yuen, Jim Dickie, Gerry McCully
THOMAS: Doug Thomas, Pete Walton, Gary Phelan, Grace Jeklin, Dan Watson, Jim Marshall

JOHNSON: Martin Johnson, Ken Danielsen, Eugene Chan, Sarlo Camas, Brian Russell
LOCHANG: Ken Lochang, Ed Ashenhurst, Nurdin Kassam, Gilbert Lambert, Diane Plante, Andrew Ross (addition)
LAM: Greg Lam, John Reay, Jules Wilkins, Dennis McMahon, Gray McCullin
FETTERLEY: Geoff Fetterley, Fred Brown, Sandra Robson, Patti Adams, Pauline McClafferty, Marvin Lee (addition)
LAUDAN: Lesley Laudan, Bill Osten, Ella Hus, Roger Allen, John Anthony (addition), Jim le Noble (addition)

Flight A Roster Changes

LAUDAN deletes Nicole Bourassa (moving out of town), adds John Anthony and Jim le Nobel
 HERNANDEZ adds Greg Arbour

Flight A Roster Changes (continued)

FETTERLEY adds Marvin Lee
 LOCHANG deletes John Bryden (unplayed), adds Andrew Ross.

City Flight B/C Rosters

ISFELD: Dianne Isfeld, Joan Richards, Martin & Heinz Henneberger, Marion & Jeremy Crowhurst
MEYER: Larry Meyer, Jim McKenzie, Rod Coote, Bob Takashita, Dick Simpson
JACKSON: Ruby Jackson, Sandra Hawk, H.K.Ho, Kenny Chan, Semiral Tuncer, Joyce Tokarek (addition)
ENG: Tai Eng, Insa Fricker, Tom Cotton, John Sokolowski
RAYWOOD: Kelvin Raywood, Kristin Orians, Bruce McIntyre, Jim Burt, Peter Taylor (addition)
LEE: Pauline Lee, Shirley Bowers, Claire Burns, Peter Morse
CROOME: Vicki Croome, Brian Badger, Kathy Bye, Rami Hira

City B/C Rosters cont.

JEZ: Waldemar Jez, Andrew Zorawski, Ewa Wroblewicz, Mark Rojewski, Arek Sitek (addition)
BROWN: Priscilla Brown, Christa Mead, Marylou Varga, Adele MacKay
LÉVESQUE: Julien Lévesque, Norma Saltzberg, Harry Greenhut, Jane Fyfe
MATTHEWS: Simon Matthews, Jamie Marrin, Stephen Beard, Ed Starkins

City Flit B/C Roster Changes

JEZ adds Arek Sitek
 RAYWOOD adds Peter Taylor
 JACKSON adds Joyce Tokarek

Valley Flight B/C Rosters

SCHMIDT: David Schmidt, Dan Goertzen, Jim Groves, Brian Lee, Jim Sache
SKOROPADA: Garry Skoropada, Brad Fletcher, Mike Moffatt, John Richoux, Flora Tereposky

Valley B/C Rosters cont.

WEBSTER: Dan Webster, Larry Chow, Ken Cowherd, Murray Clements, Rich Williams, Roselle MacRae (addition)
CARRUTHERS: Pat Carruthers, Arlene Browning, Lois Mazuren, Joan Olsen, Louise Percher, Louis Vervoort
FAULKNER: Andrew Faulkner, Anne Knowlan, Walter & Connie Schmid
DARE: Tony Dare, Carol Hames, Dennis Lefebvre, Gilles St. Pierre, Dennis Huber (addition)
ORR: Kathy Orr, Moira McLellan, Bonnie & Gerry Purcell

Valley Flit B/C Roster Changes

WEBSTER adds Roselle MacRae
 DARE adds Dennis Huber

All IMP League captains are asked to make note of the rules clarifications article on page 19.)

IMP League Gossip by the IMP League Tattler

Upset of the season so far, #12 seed **Laudan** over #2 seed **Jacob**. The most mystifying part of this was the match report slip, signed for the losers by a player who didn't play. **Jacob's** fifth and sixth were waiting in the duplicate game for the result, and when their teammates went outside to compare and **did not return**, the massive upset was confirmed...Another mysterious match report slip was the

Meyer-Eng encounter in Flight B, where the team with 19 more IMPs was claiming only 7 VPs...IMP League Commish **McBruce** is rumoured to be studying relational databases: watch for NHL-style **plus-minus leaders** in this space next issue...Surely a new all-time Unit record was set when Flight B's **Croome-Matthews** matchup produced a total of 229 IMPs, **Croome** winning by 116 to 113! The mystery here was one board in the second half where both tables bid and made the same slam for a **push**...Several VPs may change hands when the appeal from the **Pocock-Laudan** match is heard in the next few weeks. —*The Tattler*

Special Events

Multi-Level Event Information

North American Open Pairs The District Final in this event, scheduled for December 5-6 during the Tacoma Sectional, was held on December 5th in two sessions. (Players who booked hotel rooms in Tacoma before discovering this have complained and your concerns are being sent to the DINO board.) Sadly, only two local pairs became eligible for the National Finals in Reno next March, Dorin & Simona Costin (second in Flight C), and H.K. Ho and Don Keith (third in Flight B). We are not yet certain whether third in Flight B earns an entry to the National Final, but we do know that the top two only receive subsidies to attend the Reno NABC. We wish the Costins (and H.K. and Don, if they attend) the best of luck!

The 1999 NAOP National Finals will take place at the Spring NABC—in Vancouver! We hope that all clubs will schedule NAOP Club Qualifying games during the June-August qualifying period.

North American 49er Pairs Thanks to Eugene Chan's efforts to make sure that there were a multitude of games during September, Unit 430 boasted the two highest scores in District 19! Winning \$400 of ACBL scrip for the high score in the District were Marvin Lee and Brian Fedler with a 70.00% score. Second for \$200 in scrip were Mark Rojewski and Martin Henneberger. Congratulations!

Canadian Open Pairs Championship Club qualifying is complete, and the high score in Unit 430 was a 69% game by

Bryan Maksymetz and Greg Arbour, which qualified them for a Unit subsidy to attend the National Finals in Laval in July. All players who qualified at the club level are eligible to play in the National Final.

Canadian National Teams Championship Club qualifying is complete, and the next stage is the Unit Final at the Vancouver Bridge Centre on March 7, two sessions beginning at noon. The B.C. Zone Final is scheduled for the weekend before the Victoria Regional, April 11-12, probably at the Victoria Bridge Centre.

Canadian Women's Teams Championship Still no information here on the B.C. Zone Final, which is open to any women's teams wishing to attend. June Pocock is organizing the event for the CBF.

CBF Bridge Week The National Finals of the CNTC, COPC, and CWTC will take place at the first annual CBF Bridge Week, in Laval, Québec (near Montréal) July 12-18, 1998. A complete schedule and details can be found at this Internet address:

<http://www.cbf.ca/BWeek/>

CBF Helen Shields Rookie-Master Game Wednesday evening clubs please note the date, April 1st (which will lead to some April Fools jokes when masters make mistakes, I suspect!). Rookies are players with less than 20 masterpoints, and Masters are anyone nice enough to play with a rookie. The CBF provides hand records and analyses. Experience shows that this event works best with lots of pre-

(Continued on page 31)

Bracketed Round-Robin Teams

by Doug Cowan

This new event was played for the first time at the Seattle Regional.

It works like this. When you buy your entry, you fill in a slip stating the total number of masterpoints for your whole team. When all entries are sold, the Directors group them into brackets of eight teams. In Seattle, the top bracket included Grant Baze and Paul Soloway, and averaged about 5000 MP per player. My team, with Tom Cross, Joerg Schneider and Pat Stapff, had about 7000 total points and were in the third bracket. There were 107 teams in 13 brackets. With the exception of the lowest bracket, where a normal Swiss was played among the remaining eleven teams, everyone played a round-robin with the other seven

teams in their bracket, scored in Victory Points. There were overall awards for the first three places in each bracket. Winning the top bracket was worth about 36 points and the awards reduced with each bracket. Our third bracket was worth about 15 points to the winning team. Of course the lowest brackets didn't get much, but probably the winners got as much as they would have in a Flight C event.

Compared to a normal Flighted Swiss Teams I see the following advantages and disadvantages:

Advantages:

- ♣ Everyone plays at their own level
- ♥ Teams in lower brackets have a much better chance of an overall placing

(Continued on page 31)

Special Events Unit 430 Co-Ordinator	Club Qualifying	Unit Final	District/ Zone Final	National Final
1997-98 COPC June Pocock 939-0711	completed	No Unit or Zone Final: club qualifiers may play in National Final		1st annual CBF Bridge Week
1997-98 CNTC Anne-Marie Bullis 525-5669	completed	March 7 (VBC) (noon/TBA)	11 April, VBC (tentative)	July 12-18, 1998 Laval, PQ
'98 CWTC June Pocock	none	none	TBA (Spring 98)	all CBF events
1997-98 GNT Felipe Hernandez 944-8409	Mon Jan 19 7:30 at VBC	qualify for district final at club level	Feb 27-Mar 1 Renton-Bellevue	Chicago NABC Jul 23-Aug 2, 1998
1998-99 NAOP Felipe Hernandez 944-8409	begins in June 1998	sometime in October 1998	1998 Round-Up Sectional (?)	Vancouver NABC Mar 18-28, 1999

(Continued from page 30)

publicity and sign-up sheets. If you have under 20 masterpoints, call one of the Wednesday evening clubs and ask them to run this event—they'll find you a partner!

Grand National Teams Due to continuing confusion emanating from the organization responsible for this event, there is only *one* chance to qualify at the club level in Unit 430, a one session team game at the Vancouver Bridge Centre. (Again, complaints have been sent to DINO through the Unit's representatives.) It should be noted that the Flight A GNT in the past was part of the selection process for the American national team, which meant that Canadian players could not play in the event without becoming ineligible for the CNTC for two years. However, this is no longer the case:

all players are eligible to play without penalty. If you qualify at the club level you are eligible to play in the District Final. If you play but do not qualify, or cannot play in the only Unit 430 qualifying game, contact a member of the Unit Board and we will argue on your behalf that you deserve an exemption based on the lack of organization. The District Final will be held beginning 8:00 on Friday February 27 at the Masonic Temple in Renton WA. The format is usually a two-session qualifier on Friday evening and Saturday morning, with four or eight teams qualifying for the knockout stage beginning Saturday night and continuing at the Eastside Bridge Centre on Sunday morning. There are usually some regionally ated side games for players whose teams have been eliminated.

(Continued from page 30)

- ◇ Once the flights are established, postings for the next match can be assigned during play. You can start your match as soon as both teams and the tables are ready.
- ♣ More overall placings are available. Finishing third in the third bracket was worth about 8 MP. Some may object to this as further diluting the value of the masterpoint, but at least all levels of players share in this generosity, not just those who can play in limited point games

Disadvantages:

- ♣ It takes a lot of organizing at the outset. Directors have to be sure every team is in its right bracket. They seemed somewhat frazzled at the beginning, but no doubt this will diminish as they become more familiar with the event.

- ♥ Teams are locked into their brackets. Unless you're among the top eight teams, you cannot win the event outright, and teams in lower brackets may object that they can win no more masterpoints than the maximum available in their bracket.
- ◇ The round-robin draw is random. A contender might draw the last-place team on the last round, after they've given up hope.

Personally, I liked the format, but I'm sure many will not. Like any new idea, I feel it deserves a fair trial, and in the end it will be us, the players, who will ultimately decide its viability.

(Editor's note: Bracketed Swiss Teams was the event at the Kent Sectional last February, and I enjoyed the competition in the sixth of eight brackets there. Our second place finish earned us more masterpoints than we would likely have earned in a regular Swiss.)



Local Winners

Round-Up Sectional
Surrey, October 31-November 2
Friday Afternoon

Stratified Open Pairs 25 tables

- A1. Nathan Divinsky/Dan Jacob
A2. June Pocock/Kathy Adachi
A3. Cam Doner/Marylou Bert
A4. Bob Kiggins/Al French
A5B1. John Currie/Angela Taylor
A6. Dan Watson/Gary Phelan
B2. Peter Morse/Claire Burns
B3. Ted Lai/Ram Hira
B4. Ken Lochang/Peggy Winter
B5C1. John Nader/Sohrab Radmard
B6. Dee Kerr/Martin Henneberger
C2. Harold Hansen/Rudy Notzl
C3. Jo-Ann Smith/Anne Smith
C4. Ted Worsfold/Ben Brynjolfson
C5. Shirley Laidlaw/Gypsy Sturrock

Stratified Women's Pairs 8 tables

- A1. Mary Fines/Ev Hodge
A2. Marge Neate/Stella Alliston
A3. Margaret Kidder/Dot Carnegie
A4/5. Joan Richards/Pat Landau
A4/5B1. Avril Hodson/Lotte Elias
B2. Beverley Cullen/Tomie Yamanouchi
B3. Beverly Kanee/Toyo Nunoda
Friday Evening

Henry Smilie B-A-M Teams 12 Teams

1. Cam Doner, Mary Lou Bert, Michael Yuen, Bill Goldstone
2. Don Sharp, Peter Jacquest, Van Buchanan, Bob Bosley
3. Doug Hansford, Kathy Adachi, Don Sache, June Pocock
4. Debbie & Mike Hargreaves, Gord & Doreen McOrmond

Stratified Open Pairs 26 Tables

- ABC1. Marvin Lee/Brian Fedler

Stratified Open Pairs Cont.

- A2B2. Jeremy & Marion Crowhurst
A3B3. Avril Hodson/Harvey Sawyer
A4B4. Sandra Robson/Patti Adams
A5B5. Ken Lochang/Peggy Winter
A6. Hazel Stowards/Brian McCool
B6C2. Prashant Pandit/Andrew Lee
C3. Isabel Chernoff/Joan Brooks
C4. John Nader/Sohrab Radmard
C5. Ted Worsfold/Ben Brynjolfson
Saturday

Stratified Pairs 50 Tables

- A1. Dan Jacob/Gord McOrmond
A2B1. Don Sharp/Peter Jacquest
A3. Peter Herold/Mike Wilson
A4B2. Clare Way/Leszek Baldys
A5. Gary Phelan/Doug Thomas
A6B3. Sky Williamson/Amirali Alibhai
A7. Bonnie Anderson/Mary Fines
B4C1. Martin Henneberger/Andrew Lee
B5C2. Rae Fee/Breda Prestage
B6. Gary Barnes/Bill Osten
C3. Rangie Sylvestre/Gloria Prescott
C4. Mark Rojewski/Waldemar Jez
C5. Betty Harold/Ghodi Ahmadi
C6. Sharon Hughes/Joan Sobieniak
Sunday

Stratified Swiss Teams 49 Teams

- A1/2. Ron Borg, Peter Herold, Larry Hicks, Dan Jacob; Marvin Lee, Martin Henneberger, Dwayne Dicks, Dianne Isfeld
A3. Karol Monroe, Jay Brandt, Gay Parrish, Jim Craig
A4/5. Ram Hira, Ted Lai, Sefton Levine, Margaret Kidder; Michael Hargreaves, Gord McOrmond, Allan Graves, Bryan Maksymetz
A6/7B1. Dennis McMahon, John Reay, Greg Lam, Jules Wilkins
A6/7. Sheila & Don Sache, Jean Groome, Jim Sache
B2/4C1. James Burt, Arek Sitek, Mark Rojewski, Andrew Zorawski
B2/4. Peter Jacquest, Susan Bradford, Gail & Don Sharp; Sandra Hawk, Ruby Jackson, Bob Kiggins, Semiral Tuncer
B5C2. Fred Brown, Geoffrey Fetterley, Bob Bosley, Van Buchanan
B6/9C3. Greg Morse, Andy Hellquist, Christopher Maylin, Terry Val Jean
B6/9. Don Keith, H.K. Ho, Ric Sumner, Pat Jones; Richard Dunn, Diane Ayukawa, Andrew Lee, Prashant Pandit; Lesley Laudan, Linda Morgan, Karen Denton, Frances Gould
C4. Lyse Dorrington, Carol Meija, Rani & Hoshang Shroff

26 Tables

Out-of-Town Winners

Emerald Empire Regional
Eugene OR, Aug 4-10
(forgotten last time)

Monday

Quick Bracketed KO's

2. Andrew Ross

Wednesday

Stratified Open Swiss Teams

- A6/8. Larry Chow

Thursday-Friday

Senior Bracketed KO Teams

Bracket 1

- 3/4. Joerg Schneider, Pat Stapf

Friday

Stratified Senior Pairs

- A6/7. Doug Cowan

Stratified B-A-M Teams

- A3. Joerg Schneider, Pat Stapf

Saturday

Stratified Senior Pairs

- A6. Pat Stapf

(Apologies for forgetting last issue, and thanks, to Pat Stapf for supplying the Eugene Daily Bulletins.)

Bakersfield Regional
Bakersfield CA, Oct 13-19
(ahem, also forgotten last time...)

Monday

Charity Stratified Pairs

- AB2/32C. Harold Hansen

Wednesday

Tehachapi Senior Stratified Pairs

- C1. Harold Hansen

Thursday

Taft Senior Pairs

- C2. Harold Hansen

(Apologies for forgetting these last time, and thanks for sending them, to Harold Hansen)

Seattle Regional

Seattle WA, November 10-16
Monday-Tuesday

Opening Bracketed Knockout Teams

Bracket 1

1. Kathy Adachi, Doug Hansford, Don Sache, June Pocock

Bracket 2

- 3/4. Joerg Schneider, Pat Stapf, Larry Chow

Bracket 3

2. Sharon Hughes, Claire Burns
5/8. Al Coulter, Rangie Sylvestre

(Continued on page 33)

(Continued from page 32)

Bracket 4

3/4. Nomi Kaplan, Shirley Fitterman, Jeanette Greenhut, Christa Mead

Bracket 5

2. Alex Jack

Monday

Stratified Charity Pairs

A4/B1. Nurdin Kassam/Hoshang Shroff

Tuesday

Stratified Open Pairs

A4. Michael Yuen

Stratified Women's Pairs

A3. Mary Fines/Ev Hodge

Wednesday

Stratified Open Swiss Teams

A10/11B1. John Whittlesey

C4/5. Alex Jack

Stratified Senior Swiss Teams

B4/6. Tom Markham, Kathy Orr, Moira McLellan

Wednesday-Thursday

Women's Bracketed Knockout Teams

Bracket 2

2. Shirley Fitterman, Jeanette Greenhut, Claire Burns, Sharon Hughes

Thursday

Stratified Open Pairs

A6. Jean Groome

A9. Bryan Maksymetz

Thursday-Friday

Senior Knockout Teams

Bracket 2

3/4. Rangie Sylvestre, Arthur Ma

Friday

Stratified Open Pairs

A2. Bryan Maksymetz

A9. Dan Jacob/Aidan Ballantyne

B3. John Lien/Liz Stoneman

Stratified Open Pairs Cont.

B5. John Whittlesey

Stratified Senior Pairs

B4. Bev Kanee/Toyo Nunoda

C3/4. Fortune Akin/Shirley Goldman

Evening 199er Pairs

A1. Isabel Chernoff/Joan Brooks

Friday-Saturday

Morning Knockout Teams

Bracket 1

3/4. Larry Chow

Bracket 2

1. Claire Burns, Sharon Hughes

Saturday

Stratified Pairs

Stand-alone Flight A1/A2

(yes, you read that right: they stratify Flight A now!)

A1-8, A2-5. Nathan Divinsky/Les Fouks

Flights B/C/D

B4. Tai Eng/Insa Fricker

Lucky Draw GNT Swiss

4/5. Rangie Sylvestre

Saturday-Sunday

Weekend Knockout Teams

Bracket 1

2. Peter Herold

Bracket 2

1. Fred Struve, Don & Gail Sharp, Peter Jacques

Bracket 3

2. Bev Kanee, Toyo Nunoda, Fortune Akin, Shirley Goldman

Bracket 4

1. Kelvin Raywood, Kristin Orians, Ruby Jackson, Sandra Hawk

3/4. Rangie Sylvestre, Judy Murphy

Sunday

Bracketed Round-Robin Teams

Bracket 1

3. Cam Doner

Bracket 3

1. Jean Groome

3. Doug Cowan, Tom Cross, Joerg Schneider, Pat Stapf

Bracket 7

1. Frances & Terry Gould, Lesley Laudan, Roger Allen



Bracket 8

3. Mariann Hutton, Carol Thompson, Isabel Chernoff, Joan Brooks

Bracket 10

1. Peter Morse, Claire Burns, Joan Sobeniak, Sharon Hughes

3. Rani & Hoshang Shroff

Bracket 12

1/2. Alex Jack

(Thanks to the small army of people who offered Seattle Regional Bulletins after David Schmidt had typed and e-mailed the results thru Saturday, and to Polly Dunn and the DINO Web Page for the Sunday results.)

North American Open Pairs

District 19 Final

December 5-6, Tacoma WA

Flight B

3. H.K. Ho/Don Keith

Flight C

2. Dorin & Simona Costin

(The top two in each flight received a subsidy to attend the National Final. The Costins will therefore represent District 19 at the Reno NABC in Match 1998, and we wish them the best of luck! Don Keith and H.K. Ho by finishing third in Flight B, may be eligible for the National Final. No overall results, beyond the top three in each flight, were available at press time.)

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Monthly Unit Games

1997 Wrapup; Changes for 1998

The 1997 Unit Game Trophy Race was won by **Mark Rojewski**. Mark will have his name engraved on the Monthly Unit Game Trophy as the 1997 winner, and will play free at all Monthly Unit Games in 1999.

First place in Flight B went to...Mark Rojewski. But—the rules are that you can only win one award, so the Flight B prize of six MUG free plays in 1998 goes to **Arek Sitek**, who finished second in both Flight A and B.

First place in Flight C goes to...Mark Ro—er, no, we can't do that, well, then it would be Arek Si—oops, can't do that either; let's see, who's next? It's **Frances Gould**! Congratulations, the Flight C prize is six free plays for 1998 Monthly Unit Games.

There are no awards for attendance except recognition in the *Matchpointer*. **Pat Landau** and **Mark Rojewski** attended all twelve Monthly Unit Games in 1997. Len Feeny, Aase Haines, Ev Hodge, John Lien, Donna Morrison, Liz Stoneman, and Carol Thompson missed but one. Tai Eng, Waldemar Jez, Joni Johnston, Linda Sims, and Andrew Zorawski attended ten of the twelve games. Is it any coincidence that these people are all on the final leader board?

For 1998 there are some important changes. We have long been aware that the Monthly Unit Game time slot on

Sunday evening was a problem to both the VBC (where we take over the premises once a month, forcing their regular Sunday game to shut down), and to the South Surrey Bridge Club (with whom we tend to compete for players because of the mere 24 hours between games). With the White Rock attendance beginning to dwindle, the Board decided to change the Unit Game to Saturday nights; a move considered in the past, but impossible, because neither of the sites we have rented in White Rock for Sunday nights were always going to be available on Saturday nights. Anne-Marie Bullis has been asked to find a site for the South Surrey/White Rock game, but this may take some time to set up. So the January game at least and possibly the February and March games will be at the VBC only. We will of course spread the word at all of the Suburbia clubs the minute we have a permanent Suburbia site ready to go. Anne-Marie will be the Director when the new site is a "go."

Dates for the first four Unit Games of 1998 will be January 3, February 14, March 7, and April 4. The February game has been moved a week forward to avoid conflict with the Bellingham Sectional. The Saturday game will begin at 7:30 pm at the VBC (the time at the Suburbia site will be announced when the site is found). We thank Thony Stienon for his work over the past three years in setting up and developing the South Surrey/White Rock Unit Game. We hope that the loyal Suburbia players will support the temporary single site game until the second site is back on line.

A	November 9, 1997 (White Rock)
1	Ina Andersen/Kathy Adachi
2	Roman Woroch/Isabel Chernoff
3	Frances & Terry Gould
4	Brian & Joni Johnston
(not enough Flight B or C pairs for overalls)	

A B C	November 9, 1997 (Vancouver)
1 1	Randy Jordan/Grace Jeklin
2	Pearl Minkoff/Anne Nagy
3	George Bell/Tom Cross
4	Derek Ward/Don Sache
5 2	Shirley Fitterman/Jeanette Greenhut
6	Catrina & Bill Henning
3	Chester Michno/Yuko Fujieda
4	John Lien/Liz Stoneman
5 1	Simona & Dorin Costin
6	Richard Dunn/Diane Ayukawa
2	Waldemar Jez/Mark Eddy
3	Arek Sitek/Mark Rojewski

A B C	Unit Christmas Party, Nov. 30
1	Evelyn Hodge/Kathy Adachi
2	Pauline Lee/Julie Cowan
3	Larry Pocock/June Pocock
4 1	Patti Adams/Bruce McIntyre
5 2	Richard Sumner/Pat Jones
6	Mary Fines/Jeanne Bentley

A B C	Unit Christmas Party, Cont.
3	Linda Sims/Trudy Hurdle
4 1	Marvin Lee/Brian Fedler
5	John Lien/Liz Stoneman
6 2	Richmond Williams/Dan Webster
3	Ewa Wroblewicz/Waldemar Jez
4	Andrew Zorawski/Mark Rojewski
5	Sharon Hughes/Edward Marchuk

A B C	MUG 1997 Final Standings
1 1 1	Mark Rojewski..... 12.02
2 2 2	Arkadiusz Sitek..... 10.45
3	Evelyn Hodge..... 10.07
4	Patricia Landau..... 9.40
5 3	Roman Woroch..... 9.12
6 4	Leonard Feeny..... 9.00
7 5	John Lien..... 8.76
7 5	Liz Stoneman..... 8.76
9 7	Linda Sims..... 8.44
10	Kathy Adachi..... 7.88
11 8 3	Frances Gould..... 7.84
11 8	Terry Gould..... 7.84
13	Larry Pocock..... 7.83
13	June Pocock..... 7.83
15	Doug Cowan..... 7.73
16 10	Ken Lochang..... 7.14
17	Ken Robertson..... 6.99

A B C	MUG 1997 Standings Cont.
18 11	Joni Johnston..... 6.97
19	Pearl Minkoff..... 6.93
20	Lauren Holley..... 6.36
21	Colin Collin..... 6.12
22 12 4	Martin Henneberger..... 6.04
23 13	Judy Strebinger..... 5.99
24	Doug Hansford..... 5.90
25 14	Kristin Orians..... 5.80
25 14	Kelvin Raywood..... 5.80
5	Shirley Fitterman..... 5.58
6	Aase Haines..... 5.45
7	Andrei Zorawski..... 5.15
8	A Patricia Jones..... 4.90
9	Bill Henning..... 4.80
10	Ewa Wroblewicz..... 4.24
11	Jeanette Greenhut..... 4.10
12	Ruby Jackson..... 3.25
13	Dan Webster..... 3.13
14	Waldemar Jez..... 3.09
15	Hoshang Shroff..... 3.00

A total of 566.34 masterpoints were won by 205 people (a further 102 played but did not win any) in Monthly Unit Games in 1997.

Coming Monthly Unit Game Dates

Sat., January 3 Sat., February 14

Sat., March 7 Sat., April 4

(*changed to the first Saturday* of each month; one week later in February to avoid conflict with Bellingham Sectional)

Director: **City**: Louis Landau (984-8309)

Strata: A: 1000+, B: 300-1000, C: 0-300

Site Addresses & Gametimes

“**City**”: 6:30 pm, at Vancouver Bridge Centre, 2776 East Broadway (at Kaslo), Vancouver (255-2564)

“**Suburbia**”: Clubs will be notified when a Suburbia site is found by new Director Anne-Marie Bullis (525-5669)

Further Info: Gladys Mackie 526-0687

♠ \$6 per player ♡ sectional rating ♦ goodies ♣ free coffee ♠
♠ trophy race ♡ bid-boxes ♦ non-smoking ♣ two sites ♠

Tournaments & Dates

December 20—March 22, 1998

DECEMBER 1997

26-31 *Reno Year-End Regional*

JANUARY 1998

3 **Monthly Unit Game (VBC only)**

16-18 Port Townsend Sectional

23-25 **Winter Sectional at Engineer's Hall in Burnaby**
(see ad on back cover)

28-1 Anchorage Sectional

30-1 Spokane Sectional

30-1 West Coast Auction Bridge (see ad, page 12)

FEBRUARY 1998

6-8 Bellingham Sectional

13 **Matchpointer** deadline (March issue covers events from March 6-June 26)

13-15 Seattle Sectional

14 **Monthly Unit Game (VBC only)**

16-22 *Portland Regional*

27-1 Duncan Sectional

27-1 *GNT District Final in Renton/Bellevue*

MARCH 1998

6 *March Matchpointer* hits the streets

7 **CNTC Unit Finals at VBC**

7 **Monthly Unit Game (VBC only)**

13-15 Everett Sectional

Please confirm dates of out-of-town tournaments before making travel arrangements. We try to include the latest available information in the *Matchpointer*, but things change and sometimes we don't hear about them. If you attend out-of-town tournaments, please bring back Daily Bulletins or a list of local winners so we can include them in the next *Matchpointer*.

Unit 430 Sectionals

1998 Winter Sectional

January 23-25, 1998, at the Engineer's Hall in Burnaby

1998 Spring Sectional

June 5-7, 1997, at Bonsor Community Centre in Burnaby

1998 Unit 430-sponsored District-wide

Sectional Tournament at Clubs
Silver Points at your local club!
June 8-14, 1998

A One-Year Planner

1998 Unit 430 Annual General Meeting

July 4, 1998 at all Unit Game Sites (tentative)

1998 Evergreen Sectional

September 11-13, 1998 at the Surrey Inn

1998 Future Stars (0-100 MP) Sectional

Dates and location unconfirmed

1998 Round-Up Sectional (unconfirmed)

Either: October 30-November 1 at Bonsor Community Centre in Burnaby; **Or:** November 6-8 at the Surrey Inn



WINTER SECTIONAL

JANUARY 23-25, 1998

FRIDAY, JANUARY 23

STRATIFIED PAIRS*	1:00
STRATIFIED WOMEN'S PAIRS*	1:00
*0-300, 300-1250, 1250+	

JEAN TURNBULL CHAMPIONSHIP

MIXED PAIRS TROPHY	7:30
OPEN PAIRS SIDE GAME	7:30

STRATIFIED FUTURE STARS	7:30
0-20, 20-50, 50-100	
WELCOME TO BRIDGE GAME	7:30
0-5 masterpoints, Entry Free!	

SATURDAY, JANUARY 24

ADRIAN AND JUNE BUDD HICKS

OPEN PAIRS TROPHY	1:00
Qualifying Session	1:00
Finals & Consolation	7:30
<i>New Entries accepted in Consolation</i>	

STRATIFIED FUTURE STARS	Single Sessions	1:00 & 7:30
0-20, 20-50, 50-100		

SUNDAY, JANUARY 25

10:30 AM and 4:00 PM
WILLY WEINSTEIN
FLIGHT A TEAMS TROPHY
 Flight A Unlimited Victory Points

ANDY NAGY MEMORIAL TROPHY

Flight B 0-1250 Win/Loss Swiss

FREE COFFEE ALL WEEKEND
FREE GOODIES SUNDAY MORNING

Entry Fees: \$8/session
 (includes 50¢ surcharge in support of the 1999 NABC in Vancouver)

PARTNERSHIPS

Patti Adams (604) 275-1531

CHAIRPERSON

Sandra Hawk (604) 464-2792

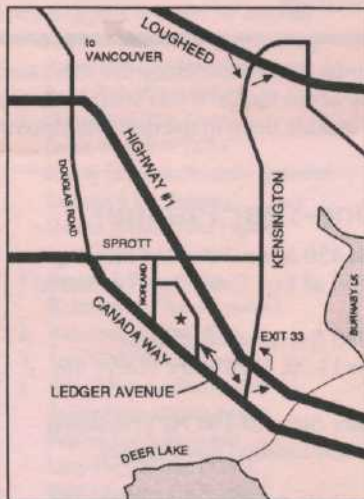
Dan Webster (604) 826-8927

DIRECTOR

Sandy McCreery

BURNABY ENGINEERS AUDITORIUM

4333 Ledger Ave. Burnaby, BC



A VANCOUVER UNIT 430 SECTIONAL BRIDGE TOURNAMENT

Advance notice: Winter Sectional, January 23-25, 1998, at the Engineers Hall in Burnaby