Bulletin

95th Fall North American Bridge Championships | NABCDailyBulletin@acbl.org Editors: Paul Linxwiler, Chip Dombrowski and Amy Casanova

Hall of Fame adds 3, nominates 6

The ACBL Hall of Fame Committee has announced the candidates for the Hall of Fame Open Award in 2024. The Open Award is given annually to living individuals who have achieved prominence in the game of bridge and have an outstanding tournament record. The committee also has made selections for the Blackwood and von Zedtwitz awards.

The recipients of the von Zedtwitz Award, which honors individuals who were top players in their time and are now either deceased or inactive, are Bjorn Fallenius and Barbara Brier. The recipient of the Blackwood Award, which recognizes long and outstanding contributions to bridge outside of playing ability, is Mike Levine.



Barbara Brier

Nominees

The candidates, all Grand Life Masters, are listed in alphabetical order. Steve Garner, Chicago IL – 12 NABC titles, including two Vanderbilts, two Reisingers and three Life Master Pairs and 10 second-place finishes.

continued on page 6



Bjorn Fallenius

ATTENDANCE through SATURDAY 6396 tables



Goodwill Message

As we pack up our bid boxes and prepare to leave, let's be sure to thank our hosts. The Atlanta committee, led by chairs Becky Butler and Jack Feagin, has exhibited outstanding hospitality.

Nancy Strohmer, Chair Aileen Osofsky Goodwill Committee

Fleisher leads Reisinger BAM

New Yorker Martin Fleisher's squad is at the top of the list of qualifiers in the Reisinger Board-a-Match Teams. Fleisher, playing with Chip Martel, Alfredo Versace, Antonio Sementa, Thomas Bessis and Cedric Lorenzini, have a carryover of 3.00 points going into today's two-session final.

In second place is Brian Platnick's team. He is playing with Kevin Rosenberg, Roger Lee and Finn Kolesnik. Their carryover is 1.61.

In third place is the Rippey team with a carryover of 1.48.

Lall leads Keohane Swiss

Hemant Lall's squad narrowly topped the semifinal round of the Keohane North American Swiss Teams. Lall, playing with Reese Milner, Michal Kwiecien, Wlodzimierz Starkowski, Peter Fredin and Alon Apteker, finished with 179.36 victory points after the second day of play in the contest.

In second with 176.51 is Fredrik Nystrom and company. Phyllis Fireman's team is currently in third place with 175.80 VPs.

Assini sets pace in Mixed Swiss

With 116.09 victory points, the squad of Jan Assini, Cheryl Schneider, Terry James, Bernard Fudor and Frank Cymerman are the leaders in the NABC Mixed Swiss Teams.

In second with 113.76 VPs is Xiaojing Deng's team (Difan Wang, Walter Schafer Jr., Nina Huang), and in third with 110.93 VPs are Shirley Berent, Carol Clifford, Asaf Yekutieli and Christian Lahrmann.

Rockoff-Weiss lead 6K quals

Kyle Rockoff and Daniel Weiss are the frontrunners in the inaugural NABC 0-6000 Pairs. In Saturday's qualifying round, Rockoff of Gilbert AZ and Weiss of New York City scored 57.93% and 59.98% respectively in the first and second sessions.

In second place are David Schulman and Steve Callaham of the Atlanta area, while third place belongs to Gregory Barnes of Jefferson City MO and Sasanka Ramanadham of Birmingham AL.

Today's Bridge Events

| | Sun | day, Dec. 3 | | | |
|---|---------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------|--|
| Event | Session | Sold | Entry/player/sess Members | sion Other | |
| | 9:30 a | m & 3:30 pm | | | |
| KEOHANE NORTH AMERICAN SWISS TEAMS | 1-2 F | Salon 4, International Level | \$30* | _ | |
| REISINGER BOARD-A-MATCH TEAMS | 1-2 F | Salon 1, International Level | \$30* | _ | |
| | | 10 am | | | |
| Sunday Morning Side Pairs Fri-Sun Daylight Series | single | A703, Atrium Level | \$20 | \$24 | |
| 299er Pairs | single | A703, Atrium Level | \$15 | \$19 | |
| | 10 a | nm & 1 pm | | | |
| Fast Pairs | 1-2 | A602, Ātrium Level | \$20 | \$24 | |
| | 10 | am & tba | | | |
| Top-Flight Swiss Teams (unlim./6000/4500) Playthrough with a short break | 1-2 | Atrium Ballroom B, Atrium Level | \$20 | \$24 | |
| Bracketed Round Robin Teams (0–4000) Playthrough with a short break | 1-2 | Atrium Ballroom B, Atrium Level | \$20 | \$24 | |
| | 10 a | ım & 3 pm | | | |
| NABC 0–6000 PAIRS | 1-2 F | A707, Atrium Level | \$22 | _ | |
| 10 am & 3:30 pm | | | | | |
| MIXED SWISS TEAMS | 1-2 F | Atrium Ballroom A, Atrium Level | \$30 | _ | |
| | | 2 pm | | | |
| Sunday Afternoon Side Pairs Fri-Sun Daylight Series | single | A703, Atrium Level | \$20 | \$24 | |
| 299er Pairs | single | A703, Atrium Level | \$15 | \$19 | |

^{*} In addition, there is a screen fee of \$10/pair/session or \$20/team/session.

Unless otherwise noted, strata breaks for all stratified events are: A (2500+), B (750-2500), C (0-750). Three-flight events are divided A/X (6000+/0-6000); B/C (1500-3000, 0-1500); Gold Rush (400-750/200-400/0-200). Two-flight events are divided A/X/Y (6000+/4000-6000/0-4000); B/C/D (1500-3000/750-1500/0-750) if no Gold Rush OR A/B/C (3000+/1500-3000/0-1500) and Gold Rush (400-750/200-400/0-200). In B flights, no single player may be over 3000. In Gold Rush events, no single player may be over 750. **BOLD, UPPER CASE** = **NABC+ events.** UPPER CASE = NABC events. Green = Regional events (gold and red points). Blue = Gold Rush events (gold and red points). Red = Intermediate/Newcomer 299er events (red points).

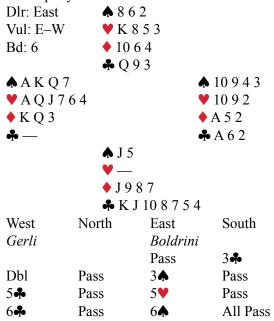
International Fund

In NABC+ events, \$1.50 (per person, per session) of each entry fee will be allocated to the ACBL International Fund. These funds are used to underwrite part of the expenses of ACBL players who participate in international competition.

Blue Ribbon performance

Italy's Aldo Gerli and Andrea Boldrini won the prestigious Kaplan Blue Ribbon Pairs in Atlanta. Gerli said, "Winning the Blue Ribbons has been my dream ever since I started playing. To see it come true is truly a remarkable feeling.

"As I was trying to find a spectacular hand to share with everyone, I couldn't seem to find one. However, this only reinforces the idea that consistency, tenacity and the desire to achieve a good result are what's truly rewarded in this game. Nevertheless, I found this deal from the second final session to be quite simple yet beautiful."



Gerli's 5♣ is exclusion key card Blackwood, asking for key cards outside of clubs. Boldrini answered 5♥, showing one key card without the ♠Q. Gerli's 6♣ was a grand-slam try: This is clearly searching for a heart control, but Boldrini didn't have one, so he bid 6♠, ending the auction.

The duo was in sync on the meanings of each call, and they landed in the top spot.



Tournament chairs: "Thanks, all!" By Jack Feagin and Becky Butler

Thanks to all the players and staff that made the Fall NABC in Atlanta so much fun.

We appreciate all the hard work of our committee chairs and volunteers. They were amazingly wonderful at their jobs. Partnership: Carey Snider and Jan Noll. I/N: Merrie Edelston and Jane Melby. Registration: Blondelle Grant. Information: Elizabeth Ambler. Prizes: Claudia Feagin. Restaurant Guide: Rob Epstein. Website: Garry Williams. Sponsorship: Judy Fendrick.

We also appreciate ACBL staffers Christina Goldsby and Montie Hamblen who helped us when problems developed.

New Silver Life Master

Rosalyn Millar of Summerside PEI is the ACBL's newest Silver Life Master. Millar came to Atlanta needing 50 masterpoints to advance to the Silver LM rank, and she topped 51 masterpoints following her performance in Saturday's Bracketed Round-Robin Teams.



Millar played with Malcolm Millar, also of Summerside, and teammates Katherine Sears of Worcester MA and Sam Gallo of Arlington MA.



SPECIAL EVENTS

HOSPITALITY

Grab-and-go items are available starting at 9 a.m. and again at 2:30 p.m. on the Marquis and Atrium levels.

Sunday, Dec. 3

Morning: Warm sticky buns Afternoon: Assorted cookies

Purchase options

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

Advance entries are now available through the ACBL's online Entry Express system.

To use

Entry Express from your own device, go to members.acbl.org/ tournaments/2312001/detail or scan the QR code above. This may be done until midnight the day before the event begins.

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

When screen fees apply, they will be charged outside of Entry Express. Entries for NABC events are no longer available on Bridge Winners.

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



Host hotels

InterContinental Toronto Centre

225 Front Street West Toronto, ON M5V 2X3, Canada \$209 CAD + tax per night

Sheraton Centre Toronto

123 Queen Street West Toronto, ON M5H 2M9, Canada \$203 CAD + tax per night

The Westin Harbour Castle

1 Harbour Square Toronto, ON M5J 1A6, Canada \$203 CAD + tax per night

Reservations will open on January 16, 2024. We will be sending out emails and post a direct link, phone number, and email address of our housing provider for you to use to book your room. Please do not contact the hotel directly.

Don't Forget Your Passport!

Players form the U.S. are reminded that travel to the Toronto NABC requires up-to-date travel documents. Need to update your passport? Do so early to avoid last-minute travel headaches.

acbl.org/toronto

Notice of binding arbitration

By becoming an ACBL member, or renewing your membership in the ACBL, you expressly agree to waive your right to have disputes (including high-level disciplinary matters) between you and the ACBL resolved in a court of law and agree to accept the use of binding arbitration before the

American Arbitration Association or the Institute for Bridge Arbitration, as applicable. The binding arbitration provisions are available for review at acbl.org/arbitration/.



FILE ONLINE

ACBL.ORG/PLAYER-MEMO



If you have any questions, please email recorder@acbl.org.





2024 Calendar FOR SALE

Catch 12 of your favorite players away from the table!

Photos by Yoko Sobel for the love of art and bridge



Bridge Professionals '24 Scan to Buy Calendar



OR PURCHASE CALENDAR AT www.SchoolOfBridge.com



JUST FOR NEW PLAYERS



Bonnie Whitman of Atlanta GA and Nathan Lipsett of Brookhaven GA won Friday's 299er Pairs with a 64.58% game. They started playing together in March at the Bridge Club of Atlanta. "I've learned a lot at this tournament," said Bonnie. "There have been no easy hands. I'm proud of this!"

Nathan said that Bonnie is a great player. "She doesn't miss a trick," he said.

"We are a good partnership," added Bonnie. Richard Nathenson and Carol Nathenson of Monroeville, PA were second overall with a 64.38% game and first East-West. "This redeems us from yesterday," said Richard. "We were at the bottom."

"It's a miracle!" said Carol. "No, really, it's been a lot of fun and the people are nice. I'm glad we came."



Tips for New Players By Frank Stewart

Finding a queen

When I talk to new players, I often ask what drew them to the game. What do they like about it? I believe the attraction of bridge lies in problemsolving. During a session, you face a series of problems. Some you can resolve automatically, but others require logical thought. That is what



we find exhilarating: facing a problem and reasoning out the answer.

New players tend to view "card reading" – figuring out what the opponents have – as a mysterious process, but most "expert" thought processes are simple in principle.

A common problem is resolving a two-way guess for a queen. How often would you expect to guess right? I know, you always misguess; it's the story of your life. An expert will go right at least 75% of the time because the bidding or play will provide a clue.

Dlr: West **↑** 7 4 2 Vul: Both **♥** J 6 3 **IMPs** ♦ K Q 4 2 ♣ A Q 4 **♠** A Q 9 6 3 ♠ K 10 5 **♥** Q 5 **9** 8 2 **♦** A 5 10963 **4** 10 9 8 2 ♣ J 7 3 **♠** J 8 ♥ A K 10 7 4 **♦** J 8 7 ♣ K 6 5

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

North's raise to 4♥ is bold; South could have held a weaker hand for his "balancing" 2♥ bid. West leads the ♣10.

Declarer could win in dummy and try a heart to his 10. With an eight-card holding missing the queen, a finesse is the best percentage play if you consider the suit "in isolation," and East could have the queen; West could have an opening bid without it.

But declarer should note the opening lead. If West's spades were, say, A-K-10-6-3, he would surely lead a high spade; for all he knew, East could ruff the third round. So declarer can place East with a high spade, and West's lead of the \$10 marks East with the jack.

If East had the ♥Q, he would have responded to the opening bid. Declarer should take the ♥A K, hoping the queen will fall from West.

Dlr: South **♠** J 5 Vul: Both **9** 8 7 5 **IMPs** ♦ O J ♣ KJ10863 \triangle A K O **♥** A K Q 4 **♦**653 ♣ A 9 2 West North East South 2NT All Pass Pass 3NT

Hall of Fame

continued from page 1

Garner also has one world championship and a second-place in the Bermuda Bowl. Garner won the Fishbein Trophy in 1997, the Goren Trophy in 2010 and the Mott-Smith Trophy in 2019.

Hemant Lall, Marina Del Rey CA – Seven NABC titles, including a Spingold and a von Zedtwitz Life Master Pairs, five second-place finishes and five world championships. He won the 2015 Senior Bowl, the senior teams at the World Bridge Games in 2016 and the World Bridge Series in 2014 and 2018, and the transnational open teams in 2012.

Jill Levin, Henderson NV – 12 NABC titles, including the Rockwell Mixed Pairs and four Wagar Women's Knockouts, 14 second-place finishes, five world championships and two silver medals. She won the Venice Cup three times in 2003, 2007 and 2013, the McConnell Cup in 1994 and the Women's Teams Olympiad in 1996.

Rose Meltzer, Chapel Hill NC – 10 NABC titles including a Spingold Knockout Teams, a Mitchell Board-a-Match Teams and two Keohane North American Swiss Teams. Meltzer has five world championship titles including a Bermuda Bowl win and a Rosenblum Cup win. Meltzer won the Fishbein Trophy in 2000.

George Mittelman, Thornhill ON - Four NABC titles including a Jacoby Open Swiss Teams, Keohane North American Swiss Teams and Mitchell Open Board-a-Match Teams, and six second-place finishes. Mittelman has eight Canadian National Team Championships and won the Canadian IMP Pairs Championship. Mittleman has two world championship wins.

Janice Seamon-Molson, Hollywood FL – 20 NABC wins and seven world titles including two Venice Cups, one McConnell Cup, one World Bridge Games Women's teams and two in the SportAccord World Mind Games, one of them an individual and five silver medals. Her NABC wins include six





Steve Garner

Hemant Lall

Wagar Women's KOs, five Marsha May Sternberg Women's BAMs, the Rockwell Mixed Pairs and most recently the NABC+ Mixed Swiss Teams. She also has 19 second-place finishes.

Ballots

Voting by Hall of Fame electors ends in February. Induction for those elected will take place at the 2024 Summer NABC in Toronto.

Blackwood Award

Mike Levine is a philanthropist who has donated to numerous causes within the bridge world. Among them are three bridge-related films he produced and appeared in, the research of Samantha Punch, Mitch Dunitz's college bridge program, Eddie Wold's 2014 Junior camp and clubs that have struggled since the pandemic. He has contributed to projects for Jay Whipple and pioneered bridge theory with Alan Cokin. He also helped individual bridge players, assisting young players with college and older ones with medical care. He has eight NABC+ titles, five second-place finishes and one silver medal in world competition.

von Zedtwidtz Award

Barbara Brier, who died in 1996 at age 73, won two national titles, four second-place finishes and a world championship title between 1955 and 1971. She was a regular partner of Waldemar von Zedtwitz.

Bjorn Fallenius, who died last month at age 66, achieved 11 NABC titles, including two Reisingers, a Vanderbilt, a Spingold, the Kaplan Blue Ribbon Pairs and the von Zedtwitz Life Master Pairs, eight second-place finishes and one European championship. He had five bronze medals in world events.







Rose Meltzer







Janice Seamon-Molson

New Life Master

Perri Mann of Pass Christian MS became a Life Master here in Atlanta. I started taking my first lessons in 2016. It's been a lovely journey to



get to this point. I appreciate the help of my teachers and partners who made it possible.

Mann picked up Rick Jasper of San Jose CA, a Ruby Life Master, at the partnership desk. They made the overalls in Friday's Mid-Flight Pairs and won 4.45 gold points.

First NABC experience

This is Fran Gurtman. She took the ACBL Intro to Bridge class in 2021 from Patty Tucker. Then she took more lessons at her



club. Now she and the friends she has made at the club are playing bridge and loving it. This is her first NABC.

Goren Trophy Measures Most Fall NABC Masterpoints



Winners of the Goren Trophy for the most points earned during the 2022 Fall NABC were Simon Cope and Kevin Rosenberg.

The Goren Trophy is awarded to the player(s) who captures the most masterpoints at the Fall NABC. Last year in Austin it was won by Geoff Hampson, who won the Reisinger and finished third in the Kaplan Blue Ribbon Pairs.

Here are the previous winners of the Goren (originally the Lou Herman) Trophy. (An asterisk indicates the record was broken that year.)

| | Lou Herman Trop | hy |
|------|-----------------|-----|
| 1952 | Al Roth | |
| 1953 | John Crawford | |
| 1954 | Paul Hodge | |
| 1955 | Milt Ellenby | |
| 1956 | Paul Hodge | |
| 1957 | Lew Mathe | |
| 1958 | Sylvia Stein | |
| 1959 | Mort Rubinow | |
| 1960 | Oswald Jacoby | |
| 1961 | Phil Feldesman | |
| 1962 | Marshall Miles | |
| 1963 | Eric Murray | 211 |
| 1964 | Harold Rockaway | 180 |
| 1965 | Mike Lawrence | 211 |
| 1966 | Charles Coon | 144 |
| 1967 | Sami Kehela | 155 |
| 1968 | Henry Bethe | 144 |
| 1969 | Sylvia Stein | 150 |
| 1970 | Ira Rubin, | 154 |
| | Chuck Burger | |
| 1971 | John Grantham | 150 |
| 1972 | Steve Robinson | 181 |
| 1973 | Larry Cohen | 207 |

Fred Hamilton

1974

202

| 1975 | Walt Walvick | 171 |
|------|-------------------|---------|
| 1976 | Paul Soloway | 199 |
| 1977 | John Mohan | 160 |
| 1978 | Bob Hamman | 165 |
| 1979 | Robert Levin | 233* |
| 1980 | Jeff Meckstroth | 225 |
| 1981 | Chip Martel | 225 |
| 1982 | Jeff Meckstroth, | 191 |
| | Eric Rodwell | |
| 1983 | Marty Bergen | 233* |
| 1984 | Grant Baze | 200 |
| 1985 | Eric Rodwell | 364.75* |
| 1986 | Kit Woolsey, | 211.55 |
| | Ed Manfield | |
| 1987 | Jill Meyers | 176.00 |
| 1988 | Bob Hamman | 269.55 |
| 1989 | Mark Molson | 253.71 |
| 1990 | Eddie Wold | 276.26 |
| 1991 | David Berkowitz | 356.65 |
| 1992 | Haig Tchamitch | 201.66 |
| 1993 | Bob Hamman | 355.13 |
| 1994 | Mark Lair | 365.06* |
| 1995 | Jeff Meckstroth | 407.77* |
| 1996 | Michael Rosenberg | 445.77* |
| 1997 | Bart Bramley, | 320.31 |
| | Sidney Lazard | |
| 1998 | Eric Rodwell | 328.59 |
| 1999 | Geir Helgemo | 449.37* |
| 2000 | George Jacobs | 365.22 |
| 2001 | George Jacobs, | 333.75 |
| | Alfredo Versace | |
| 2002 | Dan Morse | 388.81 |
| 2003 | Geoff Hampson | 374.79 |
| 2004 | Jeff Meckstroth | 381.16 |
| 2005 | Zia Mahmood | 416.88 |
| 2006 | Drew Casen, | 334.13 |
| | Jim Krekorian | |
| 2007 | Lew Stansby | 375.28 |
| | | |

The Herman Trophy becomes the Goren Trophy

| N | ccomes the Goren | ii opiij |
|------|------------------|----------|
| 2008 | Eric Rodwell | 623.75* |
| 2009 | Jeff Meckstroth | 377.66 |
| 2010 | Steve Garner | 326.20 |
| 2011 | James Cayne, | 378.63 |
| | Michael Seamon | |
| 2012 | Zia Mahmood | 348.08 |
| 2013 | Agustin Madala | 402.22 |
| 2014 | Boye Brogeland, | 368.89 |
| | Espen Lindqvist | |
| | | |

Tips for New Players

continued from page 5

West leads the ♠2. Relieved to have escaped a diamond lead, you win and try the top hearts. If the suit breaks 3–3, you have at least nine tricks. But on the third heart, West discards a diamond, so you must pick up the clubs to make your game

West's ♠2 suggests a four-card holding, and he had two hearts. Suppose West had five diamonds; what would his opening lead have been after 2NT-3NT?

If West has at most four diamonds, he has at least three clubs. Take the ♣A, and if no queen appears, let the ♣9 ride.

Players sometime complain to me that they can't trust their opponents to play logically. That argument fails to impress me. Suppose you play on the assumption that your opponent has defended correctly, and you go down because he erred. You won't lose sleep. You can tell yourself that you made a thoughtful play that failed because your opponent was out to lunch. But if you assume your opponent has erred when he hasn't, you will have only yourself to blame.

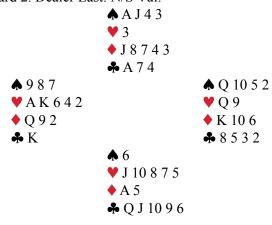
| 2015 | Bogulsaw Gierulski, Jerzy Skrzypczak, | 375.94 | |
|------|--|---------|--|
| | Ron Pachtmann, Pawel | | |
| | Zatorski | | |
| 2016 | Eric Greco | 382.88 | |
| 2017 | Joe Grue | 266.10 | |
| 2018 | Joe Grue | 422.31 | |
| 2019 | Sjoert Brink, | 400.00 | |
| | Bas Drijver, Michal | | |
| | Nowosadzki, Jacek I | Kalita, | |
| | Jacek Pszczola | | |
| 2020 | Not awarded | | |
| 2021 | Geoff Hampson | 356.88 | |
| 2022 | Simon Cope, | 404.00 | |
| | Kevin Rosenberg | | |

Blues Brothers

By Mark Horton

Here are a couple of deals from the runners-up in the Kaplan Blue Ribbon Pairs, Daily Telegraph columnist Tom Townsend and Ben Handley-Pritchard:

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

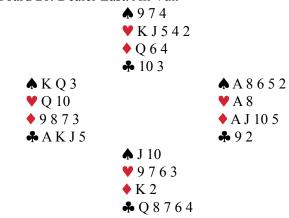


| West | North | East | South |
|-----------|----------------------|-------|-------------------|
| Moses | Townsend | Dwyer | Handley-Pritchard |
| | | Pass | Pass |
| 1NT | Pass | Pass | 2♥ |
| Pass | Pass | Dbl | Pass |
| Pass | Redbl ⁽¹⁾ | Pass | 3♣ |
| Pass | Pass | Dbl | All Pass |
| (1) S.O.S | | | |

As is often the case, a trump lead against a doubled partscore would be good, but West led a spade. Declarer took dummy's ace, played a heart to the 9, 10 and king, ruffed the spade return, ruffed a heart, cashed the ♣A collecting West's king, drew trumps and knocked out the ♥A for +670 and 97%.

If East goes up with the ♥Q at trick two, he can switch to a club and the defenders are one step ahead.

Board 26. Dealer East, All Vul.



| West | North | East | South |
|-------------------|------------|----------|-------|
| Handley-Pritchard | Carmichael | Townsend | Gong |
| | | 1 🖍 | Pass |
| 2♣ | Pass | 2♦ | Pass |
| 2♠ | Pass | 2NT | Pass |
| 3NT | All Pass | | |

South led the ♣6. Declarer won with dummy's ace and played a diamond to the jack and king. South switched to the ♥7 to the 10, jack and ace, and declarer went to dummy with a spade, took a second diamond finesse and then cashed his winners. He was assured of +660, but followed his instinct by taking the club finesse for +690 and 92%. +660 would have been 84% but +630 (should South find a heart lead) would be only 27%.

World Bridge Tour Update

The inaugural season of the WBF World Bridge Tour (used as a "dry run" for the formal start in 2024) is coming close to the end. Thirty-two international face-to-face events, both teams and pairs, from all corners of the world have been completed and the only remaining events are the Keohane North American Swiss Teams and the Reisinger BAM Teams. The ranking is of partnerships, rather than of individual players as in typical masterpoint systems. The intention when going live is to arrange a Tour

Final for the top partnerships in the ranking at the end of the year. Each year will start from zero, so the ranking will show current form rather than historical performance.



Close to 1000 partnerships have already accumulated Tour Ranking Points. Latest news, events, results, ranking scales and current ranking can be found on the dedicated Tour website at *championships.worldbridge.org/ world-bridge-tour*:

Right now the top 10 partnerships are, in order: Sementa–Versace, Brink–Drijver, Bessis–Lorenzini, Grue–Moss, Bakke–Brogeland, Donati–Percario, Kalita–Klukowski, Rombaut–Rombaut, Palma–Wrang and Auken–Welland.

Organizers of international highlevel events are welcome to apply for inclusion in the Tour 2024 to: worldbridgetour@worldbridgefed.com.

An invitation with detailed requirements will be published in the near future.

9.0

QUALIFIERS IN THE NABC 0-6000 PAIRS

| Tables / | Tables / Based on 18 Tables | | |
|----------|--|-------|--|
| 1 | Kyle Rockoff, Gilbert AZ; Daniel Weiss, New York NY | 19.65 | |
| 2 | David Schulman, Atlanta GA; Steve Callaham, Alpharetta GA | 18.86 | |
| 3 | Gregory Barnes, Jefferson City MO; Sasanka Ramanadham, Birmingham AL | 18.28 | |
| 4 | Louis-Amaury Beauchet, Larmor-Plage France; Robert Ives, Bethesda MD | 17.41 | |
| 5 | Brad Vander Zanden, Knoxville TN; Glenn Reider, Louisville TN | 14.70 | |
| 6 | Nicholas France, Spring Valley NY; Victoria Gregory, Pittsburg KS | 11.06 | |
| 7 | Jeffrey Schwartz, Fairfax VA; Cynthia Ogden, New York NY | 11.04 | |
| 8 | Patrick Horton – Fernando Teson, Tallahassee FL | 10.32 | |
| 9 | Matthew Gordon, Huntington NY; James Knopf, Roslyn NY | 6.21 | |
| 10 | Melanie Schaengold – Neil Selvin, Naples FL | 4.47 | |
| 11 | Weilong Shen, Atlanta GA; Alan Yu, Longmont CO | 3.10 | |
| 12 | Valerie Deneroff – Martin Deneroff, New York NY | 2.76 | |
| 13 | James Milam – Beth Milam, Idaho Falls ID | 1.98 | |
| 14 | Suyan Liu, Charlotte NC; Jie Crocker, Trussville AL | 1.77 | |
| 15 | Guy Martin, Montgomery AL; Roy Martin, Vestavia Hills AL | 0.89 | |
| 16 | Jichong Chai, Fairfax VA; R. Mani, Lanham MD | 0.36 | |
| 17 | Robert Bell, Gig Harbor WA; Ben Tucker, Vashon WA | 0.35 | |
| 18 | Varghese George, Milton GA; Linda Lundy, Peachtree City GA | 0.00 | |





Host hotel

The Galt House

140 N. Fourth St. East Tower \$184 + tax West Tower \$164 + tax

To book a room, contact ConferenceDirect, ACBL's housing partner for all NABCs, at 855-956-0776 or acbl@conferencedirect.com.

You may also make your room reservations online at acbl.org/louisville.



Reservations through ConferenceDirect close Feb. 9. After this date, please contact the hotel directly for your reservation. Please note that you may not get the bridge rate if you reserve after this date.

Hotel cancellation policy

See acbl.org/louisville for details.

Playing site

All bridge events will be played at The Galt House. See the onsite Daily Bulletin for details.

Air travel

Travelennium is the official travel agency for the ACBL. For air travel assistance, call 800-844-4924 or email info@travelennium.com.

Cashless tournament

All North American Bridge Championships are cashless. Most major credit cards are accepted for purchasing entries.

Entry Express

ACBL members can now enjoy the convenience of the new Entry Express online, allowing players to purchase entries in advance.

Visit acbl.org/louisville to buy entries in advance.

Louisville attractions

Louisville is a thriving city that combines heritage, originality and friendliness. It was listed as one of 52 Places to Go in 2023 by The New York Times. Several notable attractions are within walking distance of The Galt House, while others are within

See a detailed listing of attractions and events at gotolouisville.com.

Kentucky Derby Museum

Discover the rich history of the Kentucky Derby at this museum situated within the iconic Churchill Downs. Engage with interactive exhibits, enjoy a guided tour of the racetrack, and explore an exhibit dedicated to the fascinating world of derby fashions, particularly the famous derby hats.

704 Central Ave. • derbymuseum.org

Louisville Slugger Museum

This museum and factory celebrates the role that Louisville slugger bats played in baseball's past and present since 1884. The bat vault features more than 3000 bat models. Whether you're a lifelong baseball fan or you learned of the iconic bat from a Carrie Underwood anthem to girl-on-car violence, you'll find something of

800 W. Main St. • sluggermuseum.com

Muhammad Ali Center

Just two blocks from The Galt House, this museum features award-winning exhibits on Ali's life and legacy of creating change, pursuing justice and inspiring greatness. The center includes Civil Rights-era media footage, videos of Ali fights, hands-on boxing fun and art galleries.

144 N. Sixth St. • alicenter.org

Frazier History Museum

An affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution, this museum of Kentucky history spotlights notable figures from the Bluegrass State, from Daniel Boone to current rapper Jack Harlow; depicts the lives of indigenous and later residents from the Ice Age to the present; and offers a visual guide to the history, craft and culture of bourbon. It is also home to a massive collection of toy soldiers.

829 W. Main St. • fraziermuseum.org



| | QUALIFIERS IN THE REISINGER BAM | |
|--------|--|-----------|
| 10 Tab | les / Based on 36 Tables | Carryover |
| 1 | Martin Fleisher, New York NY; Chip Martel, Davis CA; Alfredo Versace, Rome Italy; | |
| | Antonio Sementa, Parma Italy; Thomas Bessis, Paris France; Cedric Lorenzini, Cachan France | 3.00 |
| 2 | Brian Platnick, Evanston IL; Kevin Rosenberg, Millbrae CA; Roger Lee, Las Vegas NV; | |
| | Finn Kolesnik, Austin TX | 1.61 |
| 3 | Mike Rippey, Orinda CA; Piotr Marcinowski, Wroclaw Poland; Jakub Patreuha – Patryk Patreuha, | |
| | Boleslawiec Poland; Kamil Nowak, Kielce Poland; Grzegorz Narkiewicz, Chapel Hill NC | 1.48 |
| 4 | Adam Grossack - Zachary Grossack, Newton MA; Laurence Lebowitz, Boston MA; Agustin Madala, | |
| | Buenos Aires Argentina; Dennis Bilde, Horsens Denmark; Michael Rosenberg, Foster City CA | 1.16 |
| 5 | Andrew Dyson, New York NY; Glyn Liggins, London United Kingdom; Tom Townsend, | |
| | London England; Ben Handley-Pritchard, Stroud United Kingdom | 0.75 |
| 6 | Aldo Gerli, Padova Italy; Alessandro Gandoglia, Rome Italy; Norberto Bocchi, | |
| | Barcelona Spain; Leonardo Fruscoloni, Brooklyn NY | 0.67 |
| 7 | Martin Andresen, Nesaya Norway; Thor Erik Hoftaniska, London England; Stian Evenstad, | o = - |
| | Gibostad Norway; Nicolai Heiberg-Evenstad, Finnsnes Norway; Thomas Charlsen, Bergen Norway | 0.56 |
| 8 | Pierre Zimmermann – Michal Nowosadzki – Sebastiaan Drijver – Sjoert Brink – Michal Klukowski | 0.00 |
| 0 | Jacek Kalita, Geneva Switzerland | 0.22 |
| 9 | Nick (Frank) Nickell, Water Mill NY; Ralph Katz, Burr Ridge IL; Geoff Hampson, Las Vegas NV; | 0.14 |
| 10 | Eric Greco, Frisco TX; Robert Levin, Henderson NV; Steve Weinstein, Cedar Grove NJ | 0.14 |
| 10 | Connie Goldberg, Gladwyne PA; Hua Poon, Singapore; Simon Cope, Hertfordshire United Kingdom; | 0.00 |
| | Thomas Paske, Manhattan NY; Marion Michielsen, Stockholm Sweden; Per-Ola Cullin, Enskededalen Sweden | 0.00 |
| | QUALIFIERS IN THE KEOHANE SWISS TEAMS | |
| 20 Tab | eles / Based on 79 Tables | Corruguer |
| 1 | Hemant Lall, Marina Del Rey CA; Reese Milner, Sarasota FL; Michal Kwiecien, Lublin Poland; | Carryover |
| 1 | Wlodzimierz Starkowski, Poznan Poland; Peter Fredin, Malmo Sweden; | |
| | Alon Apteker, Johannesburg South Africa | 25.52 |
| 2 | Fredrik Nystrom – Johan Upmark – Leif Bremark – Frederic Wrang, Stockholm Sweden; | 23.32 |
| _ | Simon Hult, Wastervik Sweden; Antonio Palma, Evora Portugal | 23.39 |
| 3 | Phyllis Fireman, Chestnut Hill MA; Joris van Lankveld, Amsterdam Netherlands; | 23.37 |
| J | Berend Van Den Bos, Den Haag Netherlands; David Grainger, Etobicoke ON; Joel Wooldridge, | |
| | Jackson Heights NY; Jenny Wolpert, Palm Beach Gardens FL | 22.85 |
| 4 | Steven Ashe, Tampa FL; Luc Tijssen – Veri Kiljan, Tilburg Netherlands; Jovana Zoranovic, | |
| | Novi Sad Serbia; Selena Pepic, Paris France | 20.57 |
| 5 | Eric Robinson, Park City UT; Michael Kamil, Buckeye AZ; David Berkowitz, Boca Raton FL; | |
| | Jeff Meckstroth, Clearwater Beach FL | 18.84 |
| 6 | Paul Street, Delray Beach FL; Nicolas L'Ecuyer, Montreal QC; Ron Pachtmann, Kfar Saba Israel; | |
| | Piotr Pawel Zatorski, Gdansk Poland; Andrea Manno – Massimiliano Di Franco, Palermo Italy | 18.81 |
| 7 | Francisco Bernal, Miami FL; Miguel Villas-Boas, Salvador Brazil; Giorgio Duboin, Torino Italy; | |
| | Franck Multon, Monaco; Marc Bompis, Bourg La Reine France; Leonardo Cima, Roma Italy | 16.94 |
| 8 | Carlos Pellegrini, Buenos Aires Argentina; Hansa Narasimhan, Mountain View CA; | |
| | Sara Rothmuller, Occidental CA; William Watson, Sunnyvale CA; Santiago Semberoiz, | |
| | Oakland Park FL; Brian Gilbert, Irvine CA | 14.10 |
| 9 | Jeffrey Juster, Dallas TX; Ulf Nilsson, Dalby Sweden; Owen Lien, Oak Park MI; | |
| 4.0 | Terje Aa, Heimdal Norway; Allan Livgard, Norway | 12.42 |
| 10 | Richard Pavlicek, Fort Lauderdale FL; Wenjia Yan, Cerritos CA; Ding-Hwa Hsieh – | 11.50 |
| | Lin-Huan Chen, Kirksville MO | 11.73 |
| 11 | Gillian Miniter – John Hurd, New York NY; John Kranyak, San Francisco CA; Vincent Demuy – | 10.04 |
| 10 | Kevin Bathurst, Palm Beach Gardens FL | 10.94 |
| 12 | Patricia Cayne, Boca Raton FL; Bob Drijver, Rotterdam Netherlands; David Bakhshi, | |
| | London England; Cornelis Van Prooijen, Nieuw Vennep Netherlands; Tim Verbeek, | 0.95 |
| 12 | Utrecht Netherlands; Danny Molenaar, Den Haag Netherlands | 9.85 |
| 13 | Jill Meyers, Santa Monica CA; Mark Feldman, Austin TX; Ron Gerard, White Plains NY; Ross Grabel, Palm Desert CA; Kerri Sanborn, Delray Beach FL; Mitch Dunitz, Sherman Oaks CA | 6.41 |
| 14 | Andrew Hoskins, Burlingame CA; Robert Todd, Tallahassee FL; Foster Tom, Cambridge MA; | 0.41 |
| 17 | Anant Rathi, San Francisco CA | 5.15 |
| 15 | Mauricio Figueiredo – Joao Paulo Campos, Sao Paulo Brazil; Marcos Toma, Sao Paulo Brazil; | J.1J |
| 1.5 | Adriano Rodrigues, Rio de Janeiro Brazil | 4.33 |
| | | |

| _ | • | _ |
|-------|--|-----------|
| 16 | Riki Tulin, Boca Raton FL; Shannon Cappelletti, Delray Beach FL; Kevin Dwyer – Shan Huang, Jacksonville FL; Ola Rimstedt, Sweden; Mikael Rimstedt, Halmstad Sweden | 4.19 |
| 17 | Geoffrey Brod, Newington CT; John Stiefel, Wethersfield CT; Jonathan Steinberg, Toronto ON; Alex Hudson, Morrisville NC; Ming Sheng, Los Altos CA; Edward Xu, North York ON | 3.84 |
| 18 | Andy Goodman, Carmel CA; Mike Passell, Plano TX; Simon De Wijs, Doorn Netherlands; Bauke Muller, Zwaag Netherlands; Giovanni Donati, Rimini Italy; Giacomo Percario, Livorno Italy | 1.86 |
| 19 | Eric Genheimer, Edmond OK; Michael Shuster, Collegeville PA; Phil Clayton, Bentonville AR; Richard Reitman, Los Gatos CA | 0.52 |
| 20 | Tom Carmichael, Marysville WA; Arthur Gong, Sammamish WA; Sean Gannon, Atlanta GA; Jeff Roman, Bend OR; Rozanne Pollack – William Pollack, Boca Raton FL | 0.00 |
| | QUALIFIERS IN THE NABC+ MIXED SWISS TEAMS | |
| 44 Ta | bles / Based on 86 Tables | Carryover |
| 1 | Jan Assini – Bernard Fudor – Frank Cymerman, Pittsburgh PA; Cheryl Schneider, | |
| | Columbus OH; Terry James, Upper Arlington OH | 28.18 |
| 2 | Xiaojing Deng, Richmond BC; Difan Wang, Unionville ON; Walter Schafer Jr., Long Beach CA; Nina Huang, Pasadena CA | 26.42 |
| 3 | Shirley Berent, Aventura FL; Carol Clifford, Miami FL; Asaf Yekutieli, Tel Aviv Israel; | |
| | Christian Lahrmann, Virum Denmark | 24.28 |
| 4 | Rodrigo Garcia Da Rosa, Fort Lauderdale FL; Rita Shugart, Monterey CA; Giuseppe Delle Cave, | |
| - | Rome Italy; Irene Baroni, Paris France | 20.98 |
| 5 | Barbara Heller, Knoxville TN; Brian Mason – Gerrianne Mason, Crossville TN; Joe Rickman, Maryville TN | |
| 6 | John McAllister – Sophia Baldysz, Charlottesville VA; Matthew Brown, Pokeno New | 17.55 |
| O | Zealand; Lilly Justman, Austin TX | 19.08 |
| 7 | Nancy Kornegay – Stephen Kornegay, N Richland Hls TX; Ellen Hessel – Ira Hessel, San Antonio TX | 16.39 |
| 8 | Jeff Schuett – Ginny Schuett, Riverwoods IL; Kerry Smith, Milwaukee WI; Nancy Frank, Glencoe IL | 15.82 |
| 9 | Loretta Rivers, Monroe LA; Mike Cappelletti – Allison L. Cappelletti, Delray Beach FL; Sylvia Shi, | |
| 10 | San Francisco CA; Eddie Wold, Houston TX | 15.53 |
| 10 | Somers Collins, Little Rock AR; Bo Liu, Irvine CA; Tiger Lili Williams, Fair Lawn NJ; | 15.04 |
| | Jared Egerer, Mount Arlington NJ | 15.04 |
| 11 | Kitty Cooper, Dallas TX; Lynne Feldman, San Diego CA; Mark Dahl, Richmond VA; Richard Oshlag, White Plains NY; Kevin Collins, Dunwoody GA; Patricia Tucker, Atlanta GA | 13.90 |
| 12 | Tim Archdeacon, Key Biscayne FL; Radu Nistor – Raluca Dobrescu, Aventura FL; | |
| | Iulian Rotaru, New York NY; Marusa Gold, Leeds United Kingdom | 13.78 |
| 13 | Rita Ellington, Charlotte NC; Jay Barron, Norman OK; Mark Lair, Canyon TX; Nancy Passell, Plano TX | 13.63 |
| 14 | Bonnie Gellas – Erez Hendelman – David Gurvich – Rachael Moller, New York NY | 12.72 |
| 15 | Linda Lewis, Sioux Falls SD; Douglas Doub, Oak Ridge TN; Mark Itabashi, Newport Beach CA; | |
| | Hjordis Eythorsdottir, Huntsville AL | 12.17 |
| 16 | Linda Epstein, Delray Beach FL; Neil Silverman, Fort Lauderdale FL; Gabriele Zanasi, Palermo Italy; | |
| | Danuta Kazmucha, Poznan Poland; Silvana Rojko, Maribor Slovenia | 12.09 |
| 17 | Valentin Kovachev, Las Vegas NV; Carole Liss, San Rafael CA; Ahu Zobu, Tarabya Istanbul Turkey; | |
| | Viktor Aronov, Sofia Bulgaria | 12.07 |
| 18 | Li-Hsiang Kuo – Ho-Yee So, Taipei City Taiwan; Kelvin Ng, Singapore; Jui Wang, Morrisville NC | 12.02 |
| 19 | Adam Wildavsky – Hong Ding, New York NY; Donna Compton – Chris Compton, Omaha NE; | 12.02 |
| 17 | Yan Song, Fremont CA | 11.52 |
| 20 | Weizhong Bao, Herndon VA; Jung Hu, San Jose CA; Yimei Cao, North York ON; Jian Wang, | 11.52 |
| 20 | Myrtle Beach SC | 11.47 |
| 21 | Bruce Lang, Palm Beach Gardens FL; Corey Krantz, Boynton Beach FL; Kathrine Bertheau, | 11.4/ |
| 21 | | 11 22 |
| 22 | Taby Sweden; Christina Madsen, Denmark; Simon Ekenberg, Kalmar Sweden | 11.32 |
| 22 | Adam Parrish, New York NY; Judy Hyde, Pacific Palisades CA; Jenni Carmichael, | 11.21 |
| 22 | Marysville WA; Greg Humphreys, Charlottesville VA; Julie Arbit, Milford MI | 11.21 |
| 23 | Les Bart – Gloria Bart, Sarasota FL; David Caprera – Anne Brenner, Denver CO | 10.93 |
| 24 | Peter Jargowsky, Boca Raton FL; Gen Geiger – Terry McHenry, Sarasota FL; Marie Smerjac, | 0.40 |
| a - | Castle Rock CO | 9.49 |
| 25 | Maya Jonas-Silver, Brooklyn NY; Omer Ekinci, Stamford CT; Jack Boge – Elizabeth Reich, | |
| | New York NY; Avery Silverstein, Ridgefield CT; Lapt Chan, Forest Hills NY | 8.37 |
| 26 | Dawn Campbell - Daniel Hoekstra, Portland OR; Roger McNay, Beaverton OR; Karen Lee Barrett, | |
| | Elk Point SD | 7.12 |
| 27 | Stan Tulin, Boca Raton FL; Louk Verhees Jr., Leiden Netherlands; Guy Mendes De Leon, | |
| | Amsterdam Netherlands; Katarzyna Dufrat, Wroclaw Poland; Barbara Dessi, Rome Italy | 6.85 |
| | | |

When buying entries for multi-day events on Entry Express, you will need to purchase each day separately (except for the first two days of the Soloway, which are a single stage). This is unlike the system in place this past summer in Chicago, when the entire event could be purchased at once. Any member of a pair or team can purchase subsequent days; it need not be the same one who purchased the first day.

Note that it is possible to pre-

More on Entry Express

purchase entries for conflicting events with qualifying stages. If you fail to qualify for the first event, your entry to the second event is ready. But if you do qualify for the first event, it is necessary to go back into Entry Express and cancel your entry for the second event before midnight.

Stages of team events that are on screens will not be available for purchase through Entry Express for the Atlanta NABC. See the director on site to purchase.

Entry Express accepts only one payment per event for the entire pair or team. You will be asked to pay for you, your partner and/or your team at the time of registration, and you will all receive confirmation emails once your purchase is complete.

For more information, see *acbl.org/eefaq*.



| 2 0.0 F | 11 /1 | n 1 | SATURDAY OPEN PAIRS | |
|----------------|-----------|-----|--|--------|
| 28.0 Ta | | | on 68 Tables | |
| 36.91 | A 1 | В | C Dill Kulbarah Miaballa Altarman Atlanta GA | 61.87% |
| 27.68 | 2 | | Bill Kulbersh – Michelle Alterman, Atlanta GA Mike Sheldon, Marietta GA; Robert Epstein, Atlanta GA | 60.42% |
| 20.76 | 3 | | Jay Kelkar, Oak Hill VA; Vic Quiros, Phoenix AZ | 59.59% |
| 15.57 | 4 | | Aaron Jones, Los Angeles CA; Todd Werby, Tiburon CA | 59.19% |
| 12.30 | 5 | | Bob Zeller, Kanata ON; Bruce Norman, Flowery Branch GA | 56.93% |
| 10.55 | 6 | | Gary Schwartz, Huntsville AL; Faye Marino, Greenwich CT | 56.88% |
| 9.23 | 7 | | Kenneth Titow, Scottsdale AZ; Marc Franklin, Newport Beach CA | 55.93% |
| 8.20 | 8 | | Paul Janicki, Markham ON; Imtiaz Husain, Midland MI | 55.86% |
| 7.38 | 9 | | Gerardo Zumel, San Juan Argentina; Linda Lin, Santa Monica CA | 55.79% |
| 6.71 | 10 | | Pawel Niedzielski, Lodz Poland; Alfred Lee, Foster City CA | 55.41% |
| 13.71 | 11 | 1 | Venky Venkataramani – R. Muggia, Andover MA | 55.34% |
| 5.68 | 12 | 1 | Dennis Gamble, Ottawa ON; Michael Gamble, Shawnigan Lake BC | 54.41% |
| 5.27 | 13 | | Michael Heymann, Fort Worth TX; Gary Kessler, Springfield IL | 53.30% |
| 10.28 | 14 | 2 | David Johnson – Dorothy Mersereau, Calgary AB | 53.12% |
| 7.71 | | 3 | 1 Ken Pelowski – Lori Mirek, Atherton CA | 52.72% |
| 5.78 | | 4 | 2 Pierre Fougerouse, Villard France; Jane Marland, Gy Switzerland | 52.36% |
| 4.57 | | 5 | Estelle Lavender, Lithonia GA; Evelyn Gilliard, Atlanta GA | 51.13% |
| 3.92 | | 6 | Marie Abate, Newington CT; Lawrence Strominger, Tampa FL | 50.51% |
| 3.43 | | 7 | Ernie Eayrs, Dunwoody GA; Josie Mitchell, Decatur GA | 50.40% |
| 2.70 | | | 3 Rufus Cole – Silvia Szanto, Cos Cob CT | 48.90% |
| 2.80 | | | 4 Ritambhar Burman – Deepak Abbhi, Miami FL | 48.24% |
| | | | SATURDAY GOLD RUSH PAIRS | |
| 13.5 Ta | ables / l | | on 11 Tables | |
| | A | В | C | |
| 5.51 | 1 | | Janet Meyer, Dallas TX; Jacqueline Brown, Frisco TX | 64.14% |
| 4.28 | 2 | 1 | Richard Clark, Derwood MD; John Gretzinger, Grand Rapids MI | 60.79% |
| 3.10 | 3 | | Shawn Miller, Dacula GA; Frank Moore, Roswell GA | 59.07% |
| 3.21 | 4 | 2 | Jane Schwartz, Brookhaven GA; Judy Moran, Atlanta GA | 56.80% |
| 2.76 | 5 | 3 | 1 Shao-Heng Chu – Cole McCord, Atlanta GA | 56.29% |
| 1.81 | 6 | 4 | Caroline Vroon – Molly Osborne, Atlanta GA | 55.93% |
| 2.07 | | 5 | 2 Margaret King – Biswajit Chandra, Birmingham AL | 54.80% |
| 7.5 Tal | hlaa | | SATURDAY FAST PAIRS | |
| 1.3 Tal | A | В | | |
| 9.00 | 1 | Ъ | Natalie Bassil, Boston MA; Chuck Greenslit, Framingham MA | 60.05% |
| 6.75 | 2 | | Milt Van Reed, Terre Haute IN; Joanna Hebermehl, Paris IL | 56.00% |
| 5.06 | 3 | | Daiva Vitukynaite – Gediminas Poska, Palos Hills IL | 55.21% |
| 3.80 | 4 | | Brian Senior, Nottingham England; Nigel Bird, England | 54.86% |
| 5.53 | 5 | 1 | Paul Block, West Simsbury CT; James Geist, Olney MD | 54.02% |
| 4.15 | J | 2 | Larry Rich, Cumming GA; Eric Shelton, Atlanta GA | 51.19% |
| | | | BETTY MALIN MEMORIAL FRIDAY EVENING SIDE PAIRS | |
| 6.0 Tal | bles | | | |
| | A | В | C | |
| 3.47 | 1 | | Gregory Klinker – Susan Miguel, Tiverton RI | 62.92% |
| 2.82 | 2/3 | 1 | Rick Clelland, Boulder CO; Ying Zhang, Longmont CO | 55.83% |
| 2.28 | 2/3 | | Randall Dougherty – Lynne Newman, San Diego CA | 55.83% |
| 1.46 | 4 | _ | Tom Breur, Belmont MA; Carl Dahl Jr., Sun City Center FL | 54.58% |
| 2.12 | | 2 | Brenda Lashbrook, Plainfield IN; Peggy Kramer, Indianapolis IN | 50.42% |

| | | | | SATURDAY MORNING SIDE GAME | |
|---------|------|-----|-----|--|--------|
| 9.0 Tal | oles | | | | |
| | A | В | C | | |
| 4.12 | 1 | 1 | | Richard Jacoby, Stamford CT; Jackie Scott, Norwalk CT | 58.33% |
| 3.09 | 2 | | | Ken Gee, Regina SK; Eva Cheung, Menlo Park CA | 57.44% |
| 2.32 | 3 | | | Jacob Morgan, Madison WI; Marie-France Benoit, Ottawa ON | 56.85% |
| 2.25 | 4 | 2 | | Grant MacKinnon, Burlington ON; Kay Rogers, Manakin Sabot VA | 55.65% |
| 1.30 | 5 | | | Johannes Braakman, Almere Netherlands; Liliane Kirchhoff, La Mesa CA | 54.46% |
| 1.69 | | 3 | | Harry Potter – James Mosley, Falls Church VA | 52.08% |
| 1.27 | | 4 | | Edna Fleming, Stone Mountain GA; Ulrich Bien-Amie, Chicago IL | 48.21% |
| | | | | SATURDAY MORNING 299ER PAIRS | |
| 4.5 Tal | oles | | | | |
| | A | В | C | | |
| 2.25 | 1 | 1 | | Leon Bradley, Mableton GA; Katrenna Casey, Atlanta GA | 63.65% |
| 1.69 | 2 | 2 | | Jeff Wilson, Atlanta GA; Seema Abbhi, Miami FL | 59.00% |
| 1.27 | 3 | 3 | | Paula Valentine, Atlanta GA; Lucy Kerman, Hiawassee GA | 55.29% |
| 0.95 | 4 | | | Harry Durgin, Huntsville AL; Cathy Berg, San Diego CA | 52.37% |
| | | | | SATURDAY AFTERNOON SIDE GAME | |
| 7.0 Tal | oles | | | | |
| | A | В | C | | |
| 3.68 | 1 | | | Silvana Rojko, Maribor Slovenia; Eric Laurant, Overasselt Netherlands | 63.33% |
| 2.76 | 2 | | | Fredrik Kronmarker, Stockholm Sweden; Goran Hammarstrom, Spanga Sweden | 61.67% |
| 2.07 | 3 | | | Bill Dinner, Sands Pointe NY; Diana Schuld, Glen Head NY | 58.33% |
| 1.55 | 4 | | | Bjorn Tiller – Niall Igoe, Richmond United Kingdom | 57.08% |
| 3.03 | 5 | 1 | | Elleri Melnick – Michael Melnick, Hilton Head SC | 56.67% |
| 2.27 | | 2 | | Frank Kelton, Calgary AB; Katherine Pollock, East Amherst NY | 48.75% |
| 2.47 | | 3/4 | 1/2 | Ulrich Bien-Amie, Chicago IL; Linda Dunn, Atlanta GA | 46.25% |
| 2.47 | | 3/4 | 1/2 | Vincent Zhu, Duluth GA; Ananya Rao, Cranberry Township PA | 46.25% |



| | | | BETTY MALIN MEMORIAL TUESDAY-FRIDAY EVENING SIDE SERIES | |
|----------|----------|---------------|---|--------------|
| 35.00 Ta | ables / | Based on 18 | Tables | |
| 10.46 | | 1/2 | Chris Panagopoulos, Santa Rosa Beach FL | 131.06% |
| 10.46 | | 1/2 | Armand Grassi, Lynn Haven FL | 131.06% |
| 7.35 | | 3/4 | Rumen Dimitrov, East Greenwich RI | 123.72% |
| 7.35 | | 3/4 | Dian Petrov, Buffalo NY | 123.72% |
| 7.19 | | 5/6 | Marianne Goff, Egg Harbor Township NJ | 118.80% |
| 7.19 | | 5/6 | Margaret Coe, Egg Harbor Township NJ | 118.80% |
| 5.85 | | 7/8 | Barry Plotkin, Baldwin NY | 115.72% |
| 5.85 | | 7/8 | Michael Botwin, Rockville Center NY | 115.72% |
| 6.32 | | 9/10 | Clyde Johnson, Duluth MN | 114.42% |
| 6.32 | | 9/10 | Stephen Pozez, Tucson AZ | 114.42% |
| | | | | |
| | | | SATURDAY TOP-FLIGHT SWISS TEAMS | |
| 25 Tab | oles / E | ased on 69 Ta | | |
| 20 100 | A | X Y | | |
| 29.68 | 1 | 11 1 | Diane Gordy, Palm Beach FL; Ahmed Yousry, West Palm Beach FL; Jack Zhao, | |
| 27.00 | 1 | | Boca Raton FL; Ivan Tsonchev, Sofia Bulgaria; Aly El-Selehdar, Minnetonka MN | 94.00 |
| 22.26 | 2 | 1 1 | Brian Zhang – Qiang Zhang – Serena Guo, Dublin CA; Rory Xiao, | 74.00 |
| 22.20 | 2 | 1 1 | Fremont CA; Michael Hu, San Jose CA | 86.00 |
| 16.70 | 3 | | Maggie Knottenbelt, London United Kingdom; Stefano Tommasini, | 80.00 |
| 10.70 | 3 | | Santa Catarina Brazil; David Gold, United Kingdom; Michael Byrne, | |
| | | | Manchester United Kingdom; Zia Mahmood, London United Kingdom; | |
| | | | | 94.00 |
| 12.52 | 4 | | Ben Norton, Loughborough United Kingdom Malih Ordil New York N.W. Sharan Caldwan Miami El v Van Facarland | 84.00 |
| 12.32 | 4 | | Melih Ozdil, New York NY; Sharon Goldman, Miami FL; Vesa Fagerlund, | 72.00 |
| 0.00 | _ | 2 2 | Helsinki Finland; Kauko Koistinen, Espoo Finland | 72.00 |
| 9.89 | 5 | 2 2 | Bill St. Clair, Houston TX; James Glickman, Las Vegas NV; Robert Glickman, | 71.00 |
| 0.40 | _ | | Seattle WA; Seth Cohen, Stamford CT | 71.00 |
| 8.48 | 6 | | Olle Wademark, Lidinga Sweden; Tommy Bergdahl, Trangsund Sweden; | (0.00 |
| 7.01 | | 2 2 | Daniel Zagorin, Chicago IL; Peter Bertheau, Taby Sweden | 68.00 |
| 7.21 | | 3 3 | Barry Margolin, Arlington MA; Yan Zhang, Jersey City NJ; Mark Pinkowski – | 64.00 |
| - 41 | | | Matthew Dyer, Chicago IL | 64.00 |
| 5.41 | | 4 | Ronald Powell, San Jose CA; Stephen Tu, Stockton CA; Michael Bodell – | 62 00 |
| 2.52 | | | Mike Cailean, Santa Clara CA | 62.00 |
| 3.72 | | 4 | Peter Stein, Hillsborough NJ; Himanshu Joshi, Chester NJ; | (1.00 |
| | | | Catherine Harris, New York NY; Jocelyn Startz, San Francisco CA | 61.00 |
| | | ~~~. | | |
| | | СНАБ | RLES PIERSON SATURDAY 0-4000 BRACKETED ROUND ROBIN TEAMS BK | T 1 |
| 7 Tabl | | | | |
| 14.17 | 1 | | Sunnyvale CA; Ying Liu, Palo Alto CA; Bing Tong, Suwanee GA; | |
| | | | owani, San Jose CA | 88.00 |
| 10.63 | 2 | • | senberger – Cara-Lyn Lappen, Durango CO; Rosalind Smith, Dallas TX; | |
| | | | Genovesi, Fairview TX | 87.00 |
| 7.97 | 3 | | gan, Boston MA; Derald Keetch, Livingston TX; Joy McKenzie-Smith, | |
| | | Knoxville 7 | ΓN; John Manopoli, Jamaica Plain MA | 69.00 |
| | | | | |
| | | СНАБ | RLES PIERSON SATURDAY 0-4000 BRACKETED ROUND ROBIN TEAMS BK | T 2 |
| 7 Tabl | les | | | |
| 11.88 | 1 | Barbara Mo | organ – Mary Rita de Hoyos, New Braunfels TX; Fred Wardwell Jr., Wellesley MA; | |
| | | • | , Muscatine IA | 84.00 |
| 8.91 | 2 | Dion Dubo | is, Maurice LA; L Snyder, St Francisville LA; Jane Ardoin, Eunice LA; | |
| | | | drichs, Lafayette LA | 82.00 |
| 6.68 | 3 | | lin, Haverford PA; Deborah Holt Weil – Lisa Mita, Berwyn PA; | |
| | | Alison Sho | emaker, Wyndmoor PA | 81.00 |
| | | | | |

| | | CHARLES PIERSON SATURDAY 0-4000 BRACKETED ROUND ROBIN TEAMS BK | Т 3 |
|--------|-----|---|---------|
| 7 Tabl | les | | |
| 9.40 | 1/2 | Art Quey, San Mateo CA; Neil Gordon, Atlanta GA; Cecil Crowson Jr., Morelos Mexico; | |
| | | Pierre Dufour, Boca Raton FL | 75.00 |
| 9.40 | 1/2 | Nelson Daigle, Metairie LA; Shakti Chandra, St John's NL; Paul Jacobson – Karen Roll, Marietta GA | 75.00 |
| 6.04 | 3 | Julie Anderson, Tinton Falls NJ; Dorel Livescu, Marlboro NJ; Beth Wisinski – Gary Wisinski, | |
| | | Scottsdale AZ | 62.00 |
| | | CHARLES PIERSON SATURDAY 0-4000 BRACKETED ROUND ROBIN TEAMS BK | Т 4 |
| 7 Tabl | les | | |
| 9.46 | 1 | Malcolm Todd, Sandy Springs GA; Sara Tuohy, Hoschton GA; Matt Just - Robert West, Athens GA | A 77.00 |
| 7.10 | 2 | Jan Banks, Norcross GA; Asako Ahmed, Alpharetta GA; Richard Starr – Diana Hughes, Atlanta GA | A 76.00 |
| 5.32 | 3 | Jaquett Heck, Hobe Sound FL; Kristen Swenson – Kiendl Gordon, New York NY; | |
| | | Tori Dauphinot, West Palm Beach FL | 67.00 |
| | | CHARLES PIERSON SATURDAY 0-4000 BRACKETED ROUND ROBIN TEAMS BK | Т 5 |
| 7 Tabl | les | | |
| 8.39 | 1 | Katherine Sears, Worcester MA; Sam Gallo, Arlington MA; Malcolm Millar - Rosalyn Millar, | |
| | | Summerside PE | 84.00 |
| 6.29 | 2 | Lisa Decarlo – Joan McGraw, Gainesville GA; Lisa Studebaker, Dawsonville GA; | |
| | | Sue Grove, Dahlonega GA | 80.00 |
| 4.72 | 3 | Ginger Hebert – Carleen Sandoz, Lafayette LA; Bennye Randall, Kenner LA; | |
| | | Mary Belcher, Metairie LA | 73.00 |
| | | CHARLES PIERSON SATURDAY 0-4000 BRACKETED ROUND ROBIN TEAMS BK | Т 6 |
| 8 Tabl | les | | |
| 5.87 | 1 | Robert Kaplan, Columbus OH; Lisa Eklund – Jim Dickson, Baltimore MD; Elisa Donohoe, | |
| | | Fulton MD | 92.00 |
| 4.40 | 2 | Adam Wilkinson - M Prebula - Amy Fieldman, Henderson NV; Kevin Freund, Princeton NJ | 81.00 |
| 3.30 | 3 | Brennan Easton, Madison GA; Maksim Tabatadze – Elliot Williamson, Athens GA; | |
| | | Dustin Kasser, Rochester NY | 78.00 |





We Share the Air

Please keep it healthy and fragrance-free

The chemicals used in scented products can make some people sick, especially those with fragrance sensitivities, asthma, allergies and other respiratory ailments.

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Please

DO NOT wear perfume, cologne, lotion, aftershave and other fragrances.

USE unscented personal care products.

Who will be Player of the Year?

The Player of the Year race was up in the air on Friday, with several players in contention. Leading after Thursday's events was Ola Rimstedt of Sweden, with 626.96 platinum points in 2023. He won the Mitchell Open BAM on Monday, the von Zedtwitz Life Master Pairs in the summer and placed second in the Kay Platinum Pairs in the spring. That gives him a little more than a 5-point lead on his von Zedtwitz partner, Zia Mahmood. Zia is out, playing in the regional Swiss. Rimstedt is playing in the Keohane North American Swiss Teams and currently 16th out of 20.

It will likely come down to the Reisinger. Many of the players near the top of the standings are on either the Zimmermann or Fleisher teams, so whichever team does better could put someone(s) over the top.

Sjoert Brink and Sebastiaan Drijver of Switzerland are in a good position, 38.50 points back after winning the Soloway on Thursday, the Silodor Open Pairs in the spring and reaching semifinals of the Spingold in the summer. They're playing in the Reisinger on the Zimmermann team.

Perhaps in the driver's seat is Thomas Bessis of France, in fifth place, 15 points behind Brink and Drijver after winning the Spingold, reaching semifinals of the Soloway, quarterfinals of the Vanderbilt and placing seventh in the Platinum Pairs. He's also in the Reisinger on the Fleisher team – which is currently leading the event.

If anyone else has an outside shot, it may be John Hurd, in 10th and playing in the Keohane.

The Reisinger pays 200 points to first place, so someone as far down as Kevin Rosenberg in 25th place could pass what Rimstedt has now, but to also win Player of the Year he'd need to virtually shut out all two dozen players above him – hard to do when 10 teams in the Reisinger and 20 in the Keohane will make the overalls.

The Player of the Year is awarded to the person who earns the most platinum points in a year.

| Player of the Year leaders | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|--------|--|--|--|--|
| 1. | Ola Rimstedt, Sweden | 626.96 | | | | |
| 2. | Zia Mahmood, | | | | | |
| | United Kingdom | 621.32 | | | | |
| 3. | Sebastiaan Drijver, | | | | | |
| | Switzerland | 588.46 | | | | |
| | Sjoert Brink, Switzerland | 588.46 | | | | |
| 5. | Thomas Bessis, France | 573.66 | | | | |
| 6. | Dror Padon, Israel | 569.00 | | | | |
| 7. | Alfredo Versace, Italy | 556.10 | | | | |
| 8. | Antonio Sementa, Italy | 555.00 | | | | |
| 9. | Alon Birman, Israel | 542.64 | | | | |
| 10. | John Hurd, New York NY | 539.15 | | | | |
| 11. | Vincent Demuy, | | | | | |

Palm Beach Gardens FL

12. Michal Nowosadzki,

Switzerland

| 13. | Chip Martel, Davis CA | 510.06 |
|-----|-------------------------|--------|
| 14. | * | 501.90 |
| 15. | Jeffrey Wolfson, | |
| | Boca Raton FL | 489.97 |
| 16. | Martin Fleisher, | |
| | New York NY | 484.54 |
| 17. | Mikael Rimstedt, Sweden | 474.34 |
| 18. | Andy Hung, Australia | 470.21 |
| 19. | Michal Klukowski, | |
| | Switzerland | 463.46 |
| 20. | Joe Grue, New York NY | 463.10 |
| 21. | Andy Goodman, | |
| | Carmel CA | 454.22 |
| | Mike Passell, Plano TX | 454.22 |
| 23. | Kevin Dwyer, | |
| | Jacksonville FL | 447.15 |
| 24. | Brad Moss, Denver CO | 445.00 |
| 25. | Kevin Rosenberg, | |
| | Milbrae CA | 433.03 |

They played Spades with us!

525.08

521.26

The ACBL hosted its first spades tournament during the NABC here in Atlanta. Over two dozen people came out to learn and play spades, a great gateway game to bridge.



The winners of the spades tournament: Dariaun Dallas and Mariaun Dallas. twin brothers from the Atlanta area.



The runners-up were Morton Bilde of Denmark and Lavar Cole of Stone Mountain GA.

Last Man Standing

By Mark Horton

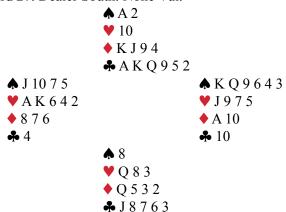
Most players never experience the fatigue, both mental and physical, that is the inevitable consequence of playing a long series of matches day after day. If you survive to the end, it is almost inevitable that some uncharacteristic errors will start to appear.

Going into the second session of the Soloway final, Zimmermann led 33–23.

Set 2

The deals were not exciting and as the end of the session approached the score had advanced to 45–28 in favor of Zimmermann.

Board 27. Dealer South. None Vul.



Open Room

| West | North | East | South |
|-----------|---------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Zatorski | Kalita | Pachtmann | Klukowski |
| | | | Pass |
| Pass | 1 ♣ ⁽¹⁾ | 1 🖍 | Pass |
| 4♠ | 5♣ | Pass | Pass |
| Dbl | All Pass | | |

(1) 11–14 balanced, or 15+ with long clubs or 18+ any shape

There is nothing wrong with bidding 4♠, but a lot of players would prefer to be able to make some sort of fit jump, as getting hearts into the picture might help partner to judge what is happening if the auction continues.

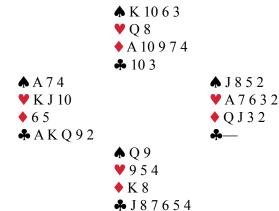
Chess grandmaster Savielly Tartakower used to say of a move, "obvious, therefore dubious" (corresponding with "dubious, therefore obvious") and I wonder which he would apply to West's double.

Declarer had to lose a diamond and a heart, but that was +550.

| Closed Room | | | |
|--------------------------|----------|------------|------------|
| West | North | East | South |
| Zimmermann | L'Ecuyer | Nowosadzki | Street |
| | | | Pass |
| Pass | 1♣ | 1 🖍 | 3 - |
| 3♥ ⁽¹⁾ | 5♣ | Pass | Pass |
| Dbl | All Pass | | |
| (1) Fit jump | | | |

Having shown his hearts, doubling had more going for it. East's decision to let matters rest is, well, choose your own adjective. No swing, one of the eight in the set.

Board 30. Dealer East. None Vul.



| West | North | East | South |
|---------------------------|----------|--------------------------|-----------|
| Zatorski | Kalita | Pachtmann | Klukowski |
| | | Pass | Pass |
| 1 4 (1) | 1♦ | 2♣ ⁽²⁾ | Pass |
| 2 ♦ ⁽³⁾ | Pass | 2♥ | Pass |
| 4♥ | All Pass | | |

- (1) 2+**♣**
- (2) 5-4 majors
- (3) Asking for the five-card major

South led the ♠K, and when North followed with the ♠10, he switched to the ♠Q, declarer winning with dummy's ace, pitching a spade on the ♣A, ruffing a club and playing a heart to the 10. North won, cashed the ♠A and the ♠K and played another spade for South to ruff, -100.

After the diamond lead, one way to make 4♥ is to play three rounds of clubs to dispose of the losing spades. North is welcome to score the ♥8, and as long as declarer ruffs the spade exit and plays a heart to the king, he should emerge with 10 tricks.

| West | North | East | South |
|------------|----------|----------------------|--------|
| Zimmermann | L'Ecuyer | Nowosadzki | Street |
| | | Pass | Pass |
| 1 👫 | 1♦ | $\mathrm{Dbl}^{(1)}$ | Pass |
| 1♥ | Pass | 2♥ | Pass |
| 4♥ | All Pass | | |
| (1) Hearts | | | |

North led the $\clubsuit 3$, and when South put in the $\clubsuit 9$, declarer won with the ace and played three rounds of clubs, North ruffing with the ♥8. Declarer pitched dummy's remaining spade, ruffed the spade return and played the ♦Q, South winning with the king and returning the ◆8. North won and played the \$10, South overruffing dummy and playing the ♣J, ruffed by the ♥Q and overruffed by dummy, declarer claiming the rest, -50 and 2 IMPs for Zimmermann.

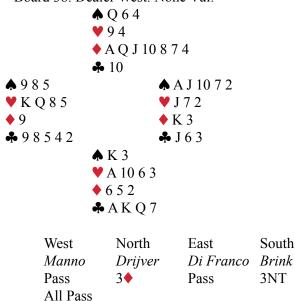
4♥ can be made, but is not easy. If declarer draws the inference that the spade lead suggests that North does not have the \(A \) K, then he might find a winning line.

Having cashed two clubs, declarer must tackle the trump suit. If he plays North for the ♥Q, he can draw trumps ending in hand and pitch dummy's last spade on the &Q. He then ruffs a spade and can play any diamond from dummy. He still has a heart to come and must score either a diamond or a club

Set 3

Zimmermann was ahead, 48–30, but the match was very much alive. The score had changed to 48-36 when along came this deal:

Board 38. Dealer West. None Vul.



West led the ♥Q. Declarer elected to win (as the cards lie ducking twice in hearts is essential) and played the ♦5 to the gueen and king. East continued with the \(\nslant J\), but when it held he switched to the -6. Declarer won with the ace and, convinced the hearts were 5–2, played the ♠K! East won and

South

3NT

exited with the \ J and declarer had 10 tricks, +430.

"It's a funny old game, Saint," as Jimmie Greaves would have said.

| West | North | East | South |
|-----------|----------|------------|------------|
| Klukowski | Zatorski | Kalita | Pachtmann |
| Pass | Pass | 1 ♠ | Dbl |
| 2♠ | 4♦ | Pass | 5 ♦ |
| All Pass | | | |

East led the ♠A and switched to the ♥2, but declarer could win in dummy, cash two clubs to dispose of a heart and then play two rounds of trumps, +400, an IMP changing hands.

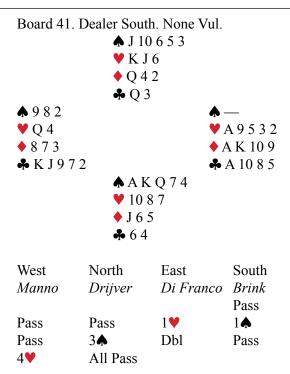
Board 40. Dealer East. All Vul. **♠** A K O 9 3 **♥** K Q 5 **4** 4 3 **4** 7 6 3 **♠** 10 6 4 ♠ J 8 7 5 2 **V** 8 3 **V** A 7 2 **♦**982 ♦ A Q J ♣ A 10 9 5 ♣ Q J 8 ♥J10964 ♦ K 10 7 6 5 ♣ K 4 2 West North East South Manno Drijver Di Franco Brink

Pass Pass Pass 1 Pass 1NT All Pass

West led the ♣10 and that was all the help declarer needed, as he won with the ♣K and played the ♥4 to dummy's king. He then cashed the A K, and then played the ♥Q. When it held, he cashed the ♠Q and played a diamond towards the king, eventually scoring it at trick 13, +90.

| West | North | East | South | | | |
|----------------|-----------|----------|--------------------------|--|--|--|
| Klukowski | Zatorski | Kalita | Pachtmann | | | |
| | | Pass | 2♥ ⁽¹⁾ | | | |
| Pass | 4♥ | All Pass | | | | |
| (1) 5+♥, 4+♣/♦ | | | | | | |

To defeat 4♥, West needs to avoid a major-suit lead (unless he finds a diamond switch after starting with the ♥A, which is hardly likely), but he went with the ♠6 and away went declarer's clubs, after which he could play a diamond to the king and a diamond, finishing with 11 tricks, +650 and 11 IMPs for Street, only 2 behind at 47–49.



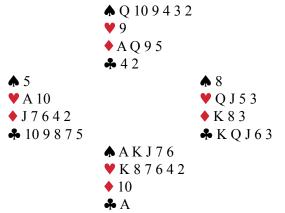
South led the **A**K. Declarer ruffed and played a heart to the 8, queen and king, ruffed the spade return and played three rounds of clubs, South ruffing and exiting with the \clubsuit 7. There was nothing declarer could do to avoid two down, -100.

| West | North | East | South |
|--------------------------|-----------|------------|-----------|
| Klukowski | Zatorski | Kalita | Pachtmann |
| | | | Pass |
| Pass | Pass | 1♥ | 1 🖍 |
| Pass | 2♠ | Dbl | Pass |
| 3♣ ⁽¹⁾ | Pass | 4 ^ | Pass |
| 4NT | Pass | 6 ♣ | All Pass |
| Some values | | | |

(1) Some values

North led the ♦4, and declarer won with dummy's ace and played a heart to the queen and king. Dummy took the diamond return and declarer drew trumps and claimed, +920 and 14 IMPs for Zimmermann.

Board 42. Dealer West, N/S Vul.



| West Manno Pass 4 Pass All Pass (1) Splinter (2) RKCB (3) One key car | North Drijver 2♠ 4♠ 5♣(3) | East Di Franco Dbl Pass Pass | South <i>Brink</i> 4♣¹¹ 4NT¹² 6♣ |
|--|-------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| | | | |

That looked easy enough, +1430.

| West | North | East | South |
|----------------------|---------------------------|--------|----------------|
| Klukowski | Zatorski | Kalita | Pachtmann |
| Pass | 2 ♦ ⁽¹⁾ | Dbl | 4 ♣ |
| 4NT ⁽²⁾ | Pass | 5♣ | 6 4 (3) |
| Pass | 6♦ | 7♣ | Dbl |
| Pass | 7♠ | Pass | Pass |
| Dbl | All Pass | | |
| 6♥/♠ , 3−11] | HCP | | |

- **(1)**
- (2) Minors
- (3) Cuebid

Without the double, 4♣ would be asking North to transfer to his suit.

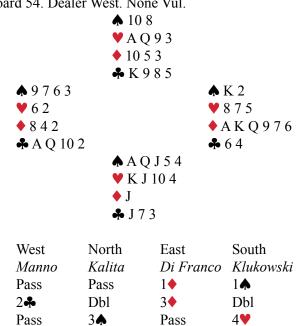
East led the ♥3 and that was -200 and a whopping 17 IMPs for Zimmermann who ended the set leading 80-53.

Set 4

No doubt the spectators were hoping for an exciting set of deals. The Great Shuffler had other ideas. After eight deals, the set score was 11-6 to Street.

Board 54. Dealer West. None Vul.

All Pass

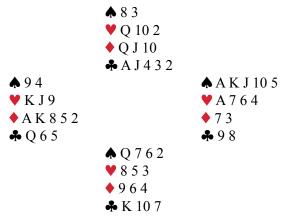


West led the ◆8. Declarer ruffed the second round of the suit, played a spade to the 3, 10 and king, ruffed the diamond return, drew trumps and claimed, +420.

| West | North | East | South |
|----------|----------|---------|------------|
| Brink | Zatorski | Drijver | Pachtmann |
| Pass | Pass | 1 🍑 | 1 ♠ |
| 2♦ | Dbl | 3♦ | 3♥ |
| All Pass | | | |

The play was identical, Zimmermann adding 6 IMPs.

Board 59. Dealer North. All Vul.



| West | North | East | South |
|--------------------------|----------|------------|-----------|
| Manno | Kalita | Di Franco | Klukowski |
| | Pass | 1 ♠ | Pass |
| 2♣ ⁽¹⁾ | Pass | 2♥ | Pass |
| 2NT | Pass | 3♦ | Pass |
| 3NT | All Pass | | |
| (1) Game-forcin | g relay | | |

North led the \mathbf{Q} , and declarer won with the ace and ran the $\mathbf{A}9$ which held, North following with the $\mathbf{A}3$. (N/S play Smith echo, "low encouraging" according to the convention card). South won the next spade with the queen and switched to the $\mathbf{A}10$ to the queen and ace, but North switched to the $\mathbf{V}2$ so declarer had 10 tricks, $\mathbf{+}630$.

Do you think South should have switched to the ♣K?

| West | North | East | South |
|--------------------------|----------|------------|-----------|
| Brink | Zatorski | Drijver | Pachtmann |
| | Pass | 1 | Pass |
| 2♣ ⁽¹⁾ | Pass | 2 🗸 | Pass |
| 2NT | Pass | 3NT | All Pass |
| C C | | | |

(1) Game-forcing relay

Here, too, North led the ◆Q to declarer's ace, but South won the first spade (North following with a reverse Smith ♠8) and switched to the ♣10 to the queen and ace. Back came the ♣3 for a rapid two down, -200 and a consolation 13 IMPs for Street, as Zimmermann won the match 108–83.

It was yet another major title for the dominant force in world bridge. In 2022, apart from winning the Bermuda Bowl, a title they retained in Marrakech earlier this year, they won the Spingold (defeating Street 112–111 in a thrilling final) and the Reisinger.

You oughta be in pictures

If you achieve a new masterpoint milestone here in Atlanta – Life Masters and upwards – please come by the Bulletin office, Marquis Level, Room M301, and let us take your picture. We're eager to congratulate you and share your achievement in the Daily Bulletin.



