

Capital District Bridge Association

NEWSLETTER

Vol. XXXVI #3

July 2014

District 3 website: <http://www.bridge-district3.org>

CDBA website: <http://cdbanet.org>



Sectional Schenectady (at the Studio) July 18-20, 2014

Friday July 18

Stratified Open Pairs (0-750, 750-2000, 2000+)	1:00 pm
Stratified Newcomer Pairs (0-100, 100-200, 200-299)	1:00 pm
Pro/Am Dual Scored -Pair game movement with Pro-Am Team	6:30 pm

Saturday July 19

Stratified Open Pairs (0-750, 750-2000, 2000+)	10 am and 3 pm
(2 One Session Games)	
Stratified Newcomer Pairs (0-100, 100-199, 200-299)	10 am and 3 pm
(2 One Session Games)	

Sunday July 20

Swiss Teams (2- Session stratiflighted play through; 42 boards)	11 am
(1/2 hour break between sessions)	
(Flights: 0-3000, 3000-8000, and over 8000)	

Need Help: Call Bob Valenti (518) 326-3829 or Lasrav@yahoo.com

For Partnerships: Call Bernie Neuhart 518.372.3936 or bhnewhart@nycap.rr.com

NOTE: For stratified pair events, the strat will be based upon the average MPs for the pair. For events less than 300MPs, each player must have fewer than 300 MPs.

The Studio
1639 Eastern Parkway
Schenectady, NY

**CAPITAL DISTRICT BRIDGE ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER
(USPS 001-100)**

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Reviewing the President's Cup

On May 17, thirteen teams participated in the Unit's fun event of the year, the annual but newly formatted President's Cup. Congratulations to the winners, Ann and Len Lapinski and Bill and Dan Kelsey.

Unlike past years, when teams were made up of four players of different masterpoint levels, this year players arrived with a partner and the field was quartiled. Teams were determined by randomly matching a pair from quartile one with a pair from quartile four, and randomly matching a pair from quartile two with a pair from quartile three. The Board made this change because, in the old format, it became difficult to find enough players in at least one of the lower three masterpoint ranges. The change also eliminated the opportunity for "early bird" team captains to cherry pick their teammates.

The originally published rules for the event required each player to play at least one match with each of their other teammates, but no more than once with the partner they arrived with. The event was set up this way

because the Board felt the event is advertised as an opportunity to play with other players, and established partnerships playing together only once in four matches maximized that opportunity. This rule was selected by the Board in good faith but without the input of or feedback from the membership.

However, just before game time, many players questioned the wisdom of the rule and suggested we reconsider and change it. They agreed with requiring each player partner with each of their teammates at least once, but wanted to have each team select for itself which partnerships would play together twice. After a discussion among the players, Board members, and Unit officers in attendance, a vote was taken which overwhelmingly favored not restricting who partnered whom for the fourth match. The change was accepted by attending Board members and officers. Some players voiced a strong opinion the rule should not be changed. However, to stick with a published rule, one which we made for ourselves, did not appear to be the best course of action in the face of overwhelming sentiment to do otherwise.

The next scheduled Unit charity event is the Awards dinner and pairs game Saturday, August 23 at the Studio. Attend if you can and offer congratulations to the Awards Class of 2013.

Bob Valenti

THIS 'N THAT FROM YOUR DISTRICT DIRECTOR

As I begin a new three year term as District 3 Director, I want to take this opportunity to say how much I value the confidence you have placed in me. Please know that I am always happy to hear from any of you, whether with joys or concerns.

Our spring tournament in Saratoga Springs was delightful in so many ways; the weather was mostly great, the setting beautiful, and the Unit 115 people who staff the tournament are always so friendly; all of this was combined with great bridge. However, the turnout was disappointing, particularly since this was the first year in which the tournament did not compete with Fathers Day.

Our next regional will be in Fairfield from August 18 to 24; I hope all of our members will help to encourage broad participation in this and other future regionals; they do benefit all of us. We were pleased that Sylvia Hardin, ACBL's Director of Human Resources and Organizational Excellence, was with us over the weekend in Saratoga. As OE Director, her key priorities include recruitment of tournament directors, and enhancement of the working relationships between the TDs and key volunteers such as tournament chairs, and Unit and District Board members. She also welcomes opportunities to talk with club owners about programs that "work." While in Saratoga, she held a Saturday morning "listening session" to get feedback from District 3 members on their issues, and to bring us up to date on the tournament director project. The shortage of tournament directors is increasingly a critical issue for all of ACBL, as well as for us here in District 3 and I expect to have much to report on that front in the future.

The finals for the GNTs will be in Las Vegas in July; I look forward to greeting the District 3 teams there to wish them luck.

We are pleased that eight of our youth will be traveling to Las Vegas with a portion of their financial support coming through stipends from District 3. Youth from the Park Avenue School in

Orange held fund raisers during the school year to help with expenses. In addition to participating in the youth bridge events, the youth will spend a day on a bus trip to visit the Hoover Dam, the Grand Canyon and other interesting sites. Congratulations to Barbara Clark, and to everyone who has worked with her to help make our youth program so dynamic.

Some new developments from ACBL headquarters:

- As you have seen, our Bridge Bulletin has a new look this year. I like it very much myself; I welcome comments.
- If you have not yet done so, look at the new ACBL web page. There have already been some significant improvements, and soon, there will be a fully functional "Learn to Play Bridge" program available there.
- Players who have tested the program are excited about it; hopefully it will stimulate interest in bridge and bring in more members.
- The new edition of ACBL SCORE has been delayed due to some persistent technical problems. The new and improved version is expected to be ready for use later this year.

Hope to see many of you in Las Vegas, if not before.

Glenda Calkins, Director
District 3

A Hand from the Regional											
Playing in the finals of a Knockout, after standard bidding, you arrive in 3NT, and receive the opening lead of the 2♦ (fourth best) to the ♦Q.	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">♠ AQ85</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">♥ JT4</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">♦ 63</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">♣ AJ52</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;"><i>North</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;"><i>South</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">♠ K42</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">♥ K95</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">♦ AJ9</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">♣ KQT4</td> </tr> </table>	♠ AQ85	♥ JT4	♦ 63	♣ AJ52	<i>North</i>	<i>South</i>	♠ K42	♥ K95	♦ AJ9	♣ KQT4
♠ AQ85											
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♠ K42											
♥ K95											
♦ AJ9											
♣ KQT4											
How do you play the hand?											
(see answer on page 6)											

**Saratoga Regional (June 2 – 8)
Unit Winners**

Mon – Tue KO Bkt 1

Gregg Deitch - Glen Perry,
Kerry Cotterell - Rich Underwood

Tue 9am 299er Pairs

Flight A - A. Hallenstein - C Thomas Corwin

Tue 1pm 299er Pairs

Flight B - A. Hallenstein - C Thomas Corwin

Tue 1pm Side Game

Flight B - Bibs Pankin - Judy August

Tue 7pm Side Game

Flight B - Bibs Pankin - Judy August

Wed Compact KO Bkt1

Betty & Steve Bloom,
Pat McDevitt, Richard DeMartino

Wed 1pm Side Game

Flight A - Ann & Len Lapinski

Thu Open Pairs

Flight B - Mary Anne Pickett - Janice Woodbury

Thu 1pm Side Game

Flight A - Bernie Neuhart - Rob Neuhart

Thu 7m Side Game

Flight B- John Vary - Jonathan Insel

Wed- Thu Side Game Series

Robert Newhart - Bernie Neuhart

Wed - Thu KO Bkt 1

Donna & Neil Chambers,
Betty Bloom - Richard DeMartino

Wed - Thu KO Bkt 2

James Beard - James Bornheim,
Terry Bentley - Rosemary Isele

Fri Compact KO Bkt 3

Arlene & Ronald Sahr,
Terry Bentley - Rosemary Isele

Fri 1 PM Side Game

Flight B - Dave Buchyn - Peggy Greenwalt

Fri 1 PM Swiss Side Game

Flight A - Lynn Deas - Rich Kasproicz,
Lloyd Arvedon - Courtney Nelson

Fri – Sat KO Bkt 1

Betty Bloom - Steve Bloom,
Victor King - Alan Applebaum

Fri – Sat KO Bkt 1

Betty & Steve Bloom,
William Elders - Richard DeMartino

Sat Golden Opp Pairs

Flight A - Timothy Briney - David Howorth

Sat 1 PM Open Swiss

Flight A - Roger Woodin - Rhoda Kratenstein,
Tania Reyes Hiller - Linda Otness

Sun RR Teams Bkt 1

Donna & Neil Chambers,
Steve Shaye - Larry Rosen

**Mini-McKenney & Ace of Club Standings
Unit 115 (as of July 6, 2014)**

	<u>Mini-McKenney</u>	<u>Ace of Clubs</u>
0-5	Kenneth Cohen Marjaa Zachary John Settanny	Kenneth Cohen Marjaa Zachary John Settanny
5-20	Susan Penny Patricia Berrian Neil Morrone	Susan Penny Patricia Berrian Margaret Quinn
20-50	Timothy Briney Catherine Brazelton Jill Paltrowitz	Jill Paltrowitz Catherine Brazelton Norah Fredrickson
50-100	Barbara Fallone Kathleen Carr Phil Ulrich	Phil Ulrich Kathleen Carr Maria Heverly
100-200	A. Hallenstein John Dillon Margaret Dillon	A. Hallenstein John Dillon Margaret Dillon
200-300	Ellen Cotterell Christine Converse Jane Carusone	Christine Converse Ellen Cotterell Jane Carusone
300-500	Terry Bentley James Beard William Kelsey	William Kelsey James Beard Terry Bentley
500-1000	Glen Perry Arlene Sahr Firm Weaver	Arlene Sahr Gerald Kaufman Charles Mantia
1000-2500	Kerry Cotterell Sue Eastman Ronald Sahr	Ronald Sahr Diane Alexander Louis Urbano
2500-5000	Satya Pabuwal Bob Donald Diane Burger	Don Cohen Satya Pabuwal Larry Berman
5000-7500	Arthur Bernhardt Walter Smith Stephen Paskin	Arthur Bernhardt Walter Smith Stephen Paskin
7500-10000	Bill Dubay Judy Dubay	Bill Dubay Judy Dubay
Over 10000	Bill Nelson Sandy Nelson Steve & Betty Bloom	Bill Nelson Sandy Nelson Betty & Steve Bloom

Club Corner

Shelley Studio

Open pairs games every Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday at noon and Tuesday 7PM.

On Thursday's there will be a post game discussions/lessons to highlight strategies and bidding conventions that get you the best score. Thursday's game is only \$5 if you have played at the Studio during the week.

Contact Lynda Flanger if you need a partner (518) 874-4368

AVILA

AVILA Duplicate Bridge Sat at 12:30pm

See www.acbl.org / Club Results for our schedule and game results.

All games in May thru October award extra master points.

Unit rated games on Nov 1, and Dec. 20

NAOP Qualifiers July 26 Aug 2 & 16

No games on July 19, Aug 9 & 23, Sep 20

Avila is starting a Thursday nite game starting July 17, at 7PM

Contact Rhoda for partners (email: rhodakratenstein@msn.com or phone: 561-495-6470).

Bridge Class

Beginning Bridge Class will be offered at Cohoes Senior Center. It will begin on Thursday, September 4 through October 2. It will run for 5 weeks from 9:30-11:30 am. The cost will be \$40 for the five weeks.

Call Marilyn at 326-1988 for more details

A Hand from the Regional contd. from P3

	♠ AQ85 ♥ JT4 ♦ 63 ♣ AJ52	
♠ T7 ♥ Q732 ♦ KT82 ♣ 973	<i>North</i> <i>West</i> <i>East</i> <i>South</i>	♠ J963 ♥ A86 ♦ Q754 ♣ 86
	♠ K42 ♥ K95 ♦ AJ9 ♣ KQT4	

You have 8 tricks off the top with lots of chances for a 9th. The problem is that you can loose 5 tricks before exploring your opportunities. For instance, if you try spades before trying hearts, you can loose a heart and a spade even though you guessed hearts correctly. There is also a small chance that the ♦ T is with East.

The best chance is to win the ♦ A; win 3 rounds of clubs, keeping the 4th high club in you hand, cash 2 rounds of spades (third high spade in dummy), and lead a diamond to your 9. West can win the ♦ T, and clear diamonds, but he will then be forced to lead hearts. If the spades are 3-3, West will have a spade to lead, but the suit is breaking for your 9th trick.

When West clears diamonds, you will have to pitch 2 hearts from the dummy and 1 heart from your hand. The 4th club is your entry.

Personal Notices

Condolences to the family of **Erwin Mosher**

Get Well wishes to **Charlene Sunderland** and **Daniel Kelsey**

BRIDGE BITES

from The American Contract Bridge League

NO SAFE EXIT

By: Brian Gunnell

This month's deals have been about finessing. In earlier weeks we were trying to avoid them in favor of better alternatives. But this week, we are actually going to take a finesse. Eventually.

	♠ AQ654 ♥ K843 ♦ K7 ♣ 76	
♠ JT9 ♥ 65 ♦ J965 ♣ QJT9	North West East South	♠ K8 ♥ T ♦ T8432 ♣ 85432
	♠ 732 ♥ AQJ972 ♦ AQ ♣ AK	

None Vulnerable

South West North East

1♥ Pass 4♥ Pass

6♥ All Pass

N-S take the express lane to 6♥ and West leads the ♣Q. You will win that and draw trumps in two rounds, but then what? You have 11 tricks, can you find the 12th?

This hand appears to depend on a successful Spade finesse and, if the ♠K is with West, then 6♥ makes. But that King is with East on the actual lie of the cards. Does that mean it's down one? Not at all! Having

drawn trumps, Declarer cashes those minor suit winners, and leads a Spade to the Ace. Then he crosses back to hand with a trump and leads a Spade towards the Queen. East wins the King but has no safe exit. With nothing left but minor suit cards, whatever he plays will give Declarer a ruff and sluff. Declarer will pitch the Spade loser from his hand and ruff on the board. Making 12 tricks.

Taking the delayed finesse gave Declarer a second way to win. He would still make his slam whenever West had the ♠K, and he would also succeed when the King was doubleton with East. But only if Declarer cashes his minor suit winners first, forcing East to concede that ruff and sluff after winning the doubleton King.

Visit www.acbl.org for more about the fascinating game of bridge or email marketing@acbl.org

**CAPITAL DISTRICT BRIDGE ASSOCIATION
1639 EASTERN PARKWAY
SCHENECTADY, NY 12309**

**PERIODICAL POSTAGE PAID
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& ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES**

Schedule of Upcoming Events

Thu – Sun	Jul 17 – 27	Summer NABC Las Vegas, NV
Sat	Aug 23	Awards Dinner Studio
Fri – Sun	Sep 19 – 21	Sectional Studio
Sat	Sep 27	NAP Finals Allendale, NJ