



Daily Bulletin



66th Spring North American Bridge Championships | NABCDailyBulletin@acbl.org
Editors: Paul Linxwiler, Chip Dombrowski and Amy Casanova | Graphic Designer: Kathy Stemley

National event updates

- Greco–Hampson lead Platinum Pairs
 - Johnsen, Boyd-Bowman set pace in IMP Pairs
 - Itabashi–Brill in front in Senior Mixed
- See page 7*

Pre-registration required for Vanderbilt, 10K KO

Registration for the Vanderbilt KO Teams and 0–10,000 Knockout is

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Fun	Foosball	Photo Booth	Pinchle	Cribbage	Just Games
Back-Gammon	BEYOND BRIDGE GAME ON Games, Karaoke & More				
Chess	Sunday, March 1 8:30 p.m. Marriott Gateway Ballroom, Lower level				
Snacks					
Catan					
Friends					

Haiku contest

The Spring NABC will have come and gone well before St. Patrick’s Day this year, so in lieu of the traditional limerick contest, the Daily Bulletin is offering a haiku contest. We’re looking for original works pertaining to either bridge, the city of St. Louis or some

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Goodwill Message

Be a champion of goodwill: Engage, connect, and uplift others at the bridge table.

*Lamya Agelidis, Chair
Aileen Osofsky Goodwill Committee*

Gitelman elected to Hall of Fame

Fred Gitelman, a Grand Life Master and one of the chief architects of Bridge Base Online, has been elected to the ACBL Bridge Hall of Fame. Gitelman, 61, will be this year’s lone recipient of the Open Award, bestowed by the Hall of Fame electors to any candidate who clears the 67% threshold of the body’s balloting process, which was conducted online in February. The Las Vegas resident will be formally inducted at the Hall of



Fame ceremony in July at the Summer NABC in Minneapolis.

Born in Toronto ON into a family of social bridge players, Gitelman became interested in the game as a teenager. He was a member of the Canadian youth squad who won a silver medal at the World Junior Teams Championships in 1991. After winning the Canadian National Teams Championships in 1994 and 1995, Gitelman then played for Canada’s Open Team. The squad earned the silver medal at the 1995 Bermuda Bowl and a gold medal at the International Olympic Committee Grand Prix in 2002. Gitelman earned an additional silver medal in the World Transnational Teams in 2000.

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Joel Wooldridge is 2025 Player of the Year

In 2025, Joel Wooldridge earned more than 700 platinum points at the three North American Bridge Championships – more than anyone else – thereby becoming the Player of the Year. Wooldridge’s efforts were boosted by three wins and one second-place finish in national-level contests to collect the hard-to-earn platinum points, awarded only at the top-level events at the NABCs.

This is not the first time for Wooldridge to be Player of the Year. The 46-year-old also earned the award in 2011, and he is now one of a handful of players to have won it more than once. Eric Greco and Michael Rosenberg have also scored two POY titles, while Bob Hamman and Jeff Meckstroth have done so three times each. Zia Mahmood holds the record with five wins.



While it is common for the Player of the Year to have a primary partner over the course of a year, the New York City–based Wooldridge demonstrated his flexibility by earning his platinum points with multiple partners in 2025. David Grainger of

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Today's Bridge Events

Saturday, Feb. 28

Location key: ACC = America's Center MtPz = Marriott Plaza

Event	Session	Sold	Entry/player/session*	
			Members with discount	Members without discount
10 am				
Saturday Morning Side Pairs <i>Thu-Sat Daylight Series</i>	single	Room 222, ACC	\$22	\$32
299er Pairs	single	Room 225, ACC	\$18	\$28
Saturday Bridge Plus <i>Free: 12 deals (0-20), follows 8 am lesson</i>	single	Room 230, ACC	Free	Free
10 am & 3 pm				
NABC+ OPEN PAIRS <i>2 qualifying & 2 final sessions</i>	1-2 Q	Majestic E, MtPz, 2nd floor	\$35	\$45
LEBHAR IMP PAIRS	1-2 F	Majestic D, MtPz, 2nd floor	\$35	\$45
SENIOR MIXED PAIRS	1-2 F	Room 224, ACC	\$35	\$45
Open Pairs (<i>unlim./4000/1500</i>)	1-2	Room 222, ACC	\$22	\$32
Gold Rush Pairs	1-2	Room 225, ACC	\$22	\$32
Top-Flight Swiss Teams (<i>unlim./6000/4500</i>)	1-2	Room 221, ACC	\$22	\$32
0-4000 Bracketed Round Robin Teams	1-2	Room 221, ACC	\$22	\$32
10 am & 3:30 pm				
KAY PLATINUM PAIRS	1-2 SF	Landmark 4, MtPz, 1st floor	\$40	\$50
0-10,000 SWISS TEAMS <i>2 qualifying & 2 final sessions</i>	1-2 Q	Majestic C, MtPz, 2nd floor	\$25	\$35
3 pm				
Saturday Afternoon Side Pairs <i>Thu-Sat Daylight Series</i>	single	Room 222, ACC	\$22	\$32
299er Pairs	single	Room 225, ACC	\$18	\$28
7:30 pm				
Saturday Evening Side Pairs <i>Fri-Mon Evening Series</i>	single	Majestic F, MtPz, 2nd floor	\$22	\$22

* For premier, NABC+ and NABC events, participants must be full ACBL members and up-to-date with their membership dues or service fees. For all other events, participants must be ACBL members (or guest members). Inactive members may renew or pay a \$5 upcharge per 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.



Come play BridgeBattle!

A fast and fun game blends Bridge and War — no lessons needed.

Just show up, play and win prizes.

Saturday, February 28 | 1- 3 p.m. | Free
Location: America's Center, Rm. 230



Play in our special ZIP KO social bridge event featuring short rounds and big fun!
 Just six boards each, up to four rounds and a special prize on the line. No masterpoints but plenty of excitement!

Monday, March 2 • 8:30 p.m.
Majestic D. Marriott Plaza

Today's Volunteer

Sandy Bigg

Registration Chair

If you like your welcome bag, please thank Sandy! The bag and its contents come from long planning and research, with you, the player, always in mind.

That's because Sandy is a consummate bridge player. She comes from a bridge family and has honed her skills carefully over the years. She now plays different systems with partners here and elsewhere, and her mind catalogs even the minutest detail – and implication – of a convention. Her commitment to the game is second to none, and she seems fascinated by its evolving complexity. A natural teacher, she is always happy to share helpful hints with others, and she welcomes players of all levels of expertise to the table, treating everyone with the same respect.

One of our local bridge greats once identified Sandy as a rising star in St. Louis bridge, and we couldn't agree more.



Evening entertainment

Several nights of fun evening entertainment are planned. These events begin at 8:30 p.m.

Sunday, March 1

Beyond Bridge: Karaoke, board games, photo booth, activities. Light food and cash bar.

Gateway, lower level, Marriott Main

Monday, March 2

It's Midnight Somewhere Zip KO: Social bridge, no masterpoints.

Majestic D, second floor, Marriott Plaza

Wednesday, March 4

Bridge Mania: Jeopardy, Family Feud and other bridge-themed games. Everyone is invited. Light food and cash bar. *Lucas, Hawthorne, 21st floor, Marriott Main*

Friday, March 6

Crazy Bridge: Chaos-inducing twists on bridge. *Majestic D, second floor, Marriott Plaza*

FOOD TRUCKS

Food trucks will be on Washington Avenue outside the America's Center daily from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Each day will have a different set of trucks.

Saturday, Feb. 28

Taste D Burger, Wok-O Taco, Zacchi

Sunday, March 1

Mr. Papas, Wok and Roll, Go Gyro Go

SPECIAL EVENTS

MEETINGS / SEMINARS / RECEPTIONS

All meetings are in the America’s Center, Marriott Plaza or the main Marriott Grand.

Saturday, Feb. 28		Sunday, March 1	
8–9:45 am	Free Bridge Lesson with Donna Compton, “Notrump Lead Strategies,” followed by a special game for newer players. <i>Room 230, second floor, ACC</i>	1–6 pm	Assessments will be Sunday afternoon and Monday. <i>Room 232, second floor, ACC</i> Learn Bridge in a Day?™ This popular session is designed especially for true beginners, those returning to bridge after long absences and those merely wanting to test the waters before committing to formal classes. The concentrated course includes both class instruction and coached play. No preregistration required. Fee: \$30 covers textbook and door prizes. <i>Room 230, second floor, ACC</i>
8 am–noon	Best Practices Teacher Workshop. Session two of three. Learn modern teaching techniques in this interactive course which includes hands-on experience. Pre-registration required. Assessments will be Sunday afternoon and Monday. <i>Room 232, second floor, ACC</i>	2–6 pm	Best Practices Teacher Assessments. People who complete the Best Practices Teacher Workshop can sign up for an assessment during this time. <i>Room 232, second floor, ACC</i>
8:30–9:30 am	Hall of Fame Committee meeting. <i>Shaw Boardroom, mezzanine, Marriott main</i>	6:30–8:30 pm	Learn Bridge in a Day?™ Teacher Accreditation. Teacher training includes information on organizing and marketing LBIAD as well as maximizing retention rates, writing effective grant requests and the presentation of the seminar. Fee: \$75. <i>Room 230, second floor, ACC</i>
1–3 pm	Bridge Battle. An easy-to-learn game that gets newcomers hooked on trick-taking. Free. <i>Room 230, second floor, ACC</i>	8:30–11 pm	Beyond Bridge. Karaoke, board games, activities, photo booth, etc. <i>Gateway Ballroom, lower level, Marriott main</i>
8–9:45 am	Free Bridge Lesson with Patty Tucker, “Help Suit Game Tries,” followed by a special game for newer players. <i>Room 230, second floor, ACC</i>		
8 am–noon	Best Practices Teacher Workshop. Session three of three. Learn modern teaching techniques in this interactive course which includes hands-on experience. Pre-registration required.		

CELEBRITY SPEAKER PROGRAM

Don’t miss these free lectures by some of the best-known players in the game! Room 225, second floor, ACC.
Speakers and topics are subject to change.

Saturday, Feb. 28		Sunday, March 1	
9:15 am	Marjorie Michelin <i>Loser-on-Loser Plays</i>	9:15 am 2:15 pm	Adam Parrish <i>Leveling Up Your Game</i> Jerry Helms <i>An Important Suggestion</i>

HOSPITALITY

Grab-and-go items are available starting at 9 a.m. on the second floors of America’s Center and Marriott Plaza and sometimes also on the first floor of Marriott Plaza. The host committee is providing afternoon hospitality at 2 p.m. on selected days.

Saturday, Feb. 28	Sunday, March 1
breakfast burritos (sausage, potatoes, egg)	Assorted pastries

PATRON LOUNGE

Patron Members are invited to visit the Patron Lounge in the Washington Room on the ground level of the Marriott Plaza from 1 to 3 p.m. today through Friday, March 6, for light lunch and coffee. The lounge is also open mornings 9 to 10 a.m. for coffee.

Saturday, Feb. 28	Sunday, March 1
All-beef hot dogs, vegetarian chili, chips, cookies	Salad bar, vegetable crudité, hummus, soup, naan, fresh fruit, Greek yogurt



JUST FOR NEW PLAYERS

Two-Over-One Game Forcing – Part 2

By Larry Cohen | larryco.com



Let's forge right ahead to the worst part of the 2/1 system – the 1NT response.

First of all, let's make sure we know the auction we are discussing. The opening bid must be one of a MAJOR. A 1NT response to a minor is not affected by this system (use what you use now). Furthermore, the 1♥ or 1♠ opening must be by the dealer or by the player in second seat. We don't use "1NT forcing" after a third- or fourth-seat opener. So the auction is this:

West	North	East	South
<i>Opener</i>	<i>Opp. 1</i>	<i>Responder</i>	<i>Opp. 2</i>
1♥/1♠	Pass	1NT	

Note that the opponent (North) passed. If there is interference, we don't use 1NT forcing.

I am often asked, "Larry, do you like 1NT forcing?" The answer: NO. Nobody likes it. But it is part of the 2/1 GF system and needs to be learned. We'll keep it as simple as possible for now. In a nutshell, here is what/why this 1NT forcing animal exists:

In Standard, a 1NT response shows 6–10 HCP (because you can go to the two level with 11-13 or more).

In 2/1 GF, a 1NT response shows 6–12 HCP (because you need 13 HCP to go to the two level).

Do you see the difference? The 1NT response in the 2/1 GF becomes a bit of a catch-all – it is for any hand up to 12 HCP. This 6-point-wide range involves some problems.

First, can the 1NT response be passed by the opener? The majority of players treat the 1NT response as completely "forcing." That means opener cannot pass. (Incidentally, in ACBL-land, this 1NT response is not Alertable, but is Announced, like a Jacoby transfer. When partner responds 1NT, you just say "forcing.")

Let's discuss 1NT as totally "forcing" and then mention a popular alternative. If 1NT is totally forcing, opener CANNOT pass! If he has nothing special to say, he must invent a bid, typically in a three-card minor. For example, after 1♠–1NT, if opener holds:

♠A J 10 8 2 ♥9 7 3 ♦A 2 ♣K J 2, the appropriate rebid is 2♣. Opener cannot rebid his major because this would show a six-card suit. He cannot make a 2♥ call because a rebid of the other major shows at least a four-card suit. Lastly, he can't pass if 1NT is forcing, and he cannot

bid 2♦, a two-card suit. (Personally, I prefer to use 1NT as "semi-forcing" so that opener can pass with a hand like the one above. More on that later.) In any event, this rebid in a three-card minor is really the only "new" rebid to learn when using 1NT forcing.

Opener's rebids after 1NT forcing

2 of a minor: At least a three-card suit. (It might even be a two-card suit if opener is exactly 4=5=2=2 if not strong enough to reverse.) For example:

♠A Q 7 6 4 ♥K 3 2 ♦A 8 7 ♣8 7

Bid 1♠–1NT; 2♦ (because you cannot pass 1NT forcing).

2 of a new major: At least a four-card suit (if a reverse, shows extras). For example:

♠K 10 8 7 5 ♥A Q 6 5 ♦3 ♣K 7 6

Bid 1♠–1NT; 2♥ to show 4+ hearts (just as in "Standard").

2 of the same major: At least a six-card suit, nonforcing. For example:

♠K Q 8 7 6 4 ♥4 ♦A 3 2 ♣K J 4

Bid 1♠–1NT; 2♠ to show 6+ spades (just as in "Standard").

2NT: more than a strong notrump (18–19), balanced. For example:

♠Q 8 7 6 4 ♥A Q ♦A K 5 ♣K 10 8

Bid 1♠–1NT; 2NT to show 18–19 HCP (just as in "Standard").

Three-level bids: The same as over a normal 1NT response. For example:

♠A K Q J 7 6 ♥A Q 2 ♦2 ♣10 9 6

Bid 1♠–1NT; 3♠, invitational to game (just as in "Standard").

Now, try these examples for opener after 1♠–1NT:

- | | | | | |
|----|-----------------|-------------|---------|--------|
| A. | ♠A Q 9 8 2 | ♥A 5 2 | ♦Q J 2 | ♣7 3 |
| B. | ♠Q J 10 6 5 2 | ♥A 5 2 | ♦Q J 2 | ♣A |
| C. | ♠A K Q 5 2 | ♥A K Q 10 2 | ♦10 5 2 | ♣— |
| D. | ♠A J 5 4 2 | ♥A K 2 | ♦K 2 | ♣K 8 3 |
| E. | ♠A Q J 10 5 4 2 | ♥A J 2 | ♦K 2 | ♣3 |

Answers

- 2♦ (but pass if playing 1NT as semi-forcing)
- 2♠ (shows 6+ spades and a minimum)
- 3♥ (natural jumpshift, forcing to game)
- 2NT (shows 18–19 balanced, as does any 2NT rebid after a one-level response)
- 4♠ (extra spades, extra points)



JUST FOR NEW PLAYERS

Brothers Tom Morrissey (left) and Pat Morrissey played together in Friday morning's 299er Pairs. Although the duo learned to play "kitchen" bridge years ago, they have only recently begun to explore the world of duplicate bridge. Tom, of nearby Alton IL, plays at the Edwardsville Bridge Club in Illinois and has amassed about 10 masterpoints in the past year. But brother Pat, of Overland Park KS, typically only plays in informal country club games in the Kansas City area; this was his first ACBL-sanctioned event.

The Morrissey brothers finished fourth overall in yesterday's contest, earning 1.01 red points.

As Tom congratulated Pat for winning masterpoints in his first duplicate outing, he offered a fraternal jab: "It's all because of your brother!"



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OFFICIAL PARTNER



Greco–Hampson lead Platinum Pairs

Eric Greco and Geoff Hampson topped the qualifying round in the Kay Platinum Pairs, the prestigious three-day pairs contest at the Spring NABC. Greco of Frisco TX and Hampson of Las Vegas posted 64.56% and 59.94% games in Friday’s opening sessions to put them just ahead of Luc Tijssen and Guy Mendes de Leon of the Netherlands.

Third place is occupied by Jeff Meckstroth of Clearwater Beach FL and Mikael Rimstedt of Sweden.

Of the 114 pairs who entered the contest, 52 survived to today’s two-session semifinal.

Haiku contest

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other aspect of the NABC.

Submit your haikus to the pink box at the Welcome Desk (ACC, second floor) or NABCDailyBulletin@acbl.org. Deadline is noon Wednesday, March 4.

Johnsen, Boyd-Bowman set pace in IMP Pairs

Jim Johnsen of Frisco TX and Peter Boyd-Bowman of Greensboro NC are leading the qualifiers in the Lebar IMP Pairs. The duo scored +54.61 IMPs in yesterday’s first session and +38.04 IMPs in the second set to top the field with a total of +92.65.

In second with +87.49 are Richard Brown of Easley SC and Richard Potter of Black Mountain NC, while third place belongs to John Hurd and Gillian Minter of New York City who scored +75.32.

The contest drew 198 pairs of which 104 qualified for today’s two-session final.

Results will appear in Friday’s edition.

A haiku is a poem consisting of three lines of five, seven and five syllables. It’s traditionally a strict format, so be cautious about deviations.

Itabashi–Brill in front in Senior Mixed

The leaders in the Senior Mixed Pairs are defending champions Mark Itabashi and Laura Brill. Itabashi of Newport Beach CA and Brill of White Plains NY scored 63.44% and 58.035 in yesterday’s qualifying sessions.

In second are Buddy Hanby and Sally Wheeler of The Woodlands TX, while close behind in third place are David Treitel of Ocala FL and Pamela Granovetter of Cincinnati OH.

Seventy-eight of the 126 pairs who entered the event advanced to today’s two-session final.

Vanderbilt preregistration

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required by 3:30 p.m. tomorrow. Entries may be purchased on Entry Express anytime before then or onsite Sunday.

For the 0–10,000 Knockout, contingent entries are allowed; you may withdraw pending qualification in another event.

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Hall of Fame

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Gitelman and fellow expert Sheri Winestock founded Bridge Base Inc. in 1990. The company was well known for its educational software including Bridge Master (1992), Pendergraph (1994) and Learn To Play Bridge (1998). In 2001, Gitelman, Winestock and expert player and programmer Uday Ivatury launched Bridge Base Online (BBO), one of the most popular bridge-playing sites. In recognition of this work, Gitelman was named ACBL Honorary Member of the Year in 2005. The same year, the International Bridge Press Association named him Personality of the Year.

In 2018, BBO was the recipient of the Hall of Fame's Blackwood Award – the first time a non-person has received

the honor – in recognition of the playing site's popularization of online bridge. Gitelman retired from BBO in 2019 after selling the business to 52 Entertainment.

In 2002, Gitelman and Winestock married and moved to Las Vegas. Gitelman credits Winestock with helping him realize his potential, encouraging him to develop his bridge software and the Bridge Base website.

Following the move to Vegas, Gitelman played on several U.S.-based and international squads, earning a gold medal in the 2010 Rosenblum Cup and bronze medals at the 2005 Bermuda Bowl and the 2011 SportAccord World Mind Games.

ACBL Executive Director Bronia Jenkins says, "It is no surprise to me that such a giant and gentleman made it to the Hall of Fame at trick one!" referring to Gitelman's election the first time his name appeared on the ballot.

Outgoing Hall of Fame Chair John Carruthers says, "My Mount Rushmore of Bridge is a slam dunk: Harold Vanderbilt, Ely Culbertson, Charles Goren and Fred Gitelman. With the development of BBO, ushering in the era of online bridge, no one has been more significant, influential and important to bridge worldwide in this century than Fred."

Gitelman has an impressive nine NABC titles: Reisinger Board-a-Match Teams 2001; Spingold KO Teams 2005, 2010; Mitchell Open BAM Teams 1998; Grand National Teams Championship Flight 2019; Jacoby Open Swiss Teams 2003 (forfeited), 2010; Lebhar IMP Pairs 2006; Roth Open Swiss Teams 2012.

Gitelman has 10 second-place finishes in NABC contests: von Zedtwitz Life Master Pairs 1999; Spingold KO Teams 2000; Reisinger Board-a-Match Teams 2006; Vanderbilt KO Teams 2009, 2012; Mitchell Open Board-a-Match Teams 2002; Jacoby Open Swiss Teams 2002, 2015; Nail Life Master Pairs 2003, 2010.

In other top-level contests,

Gitelman posted wins in the Cavendish Invitational Teams 2001; the Cavendish Invitational Pairs 2003; U.S. Bridge Championships 2005; Buffett Cup 2006, 2010; and the Yeh Brothers Cup 2018.

Gitelman is the author of two bridge books: "Masterclass" and "Playing Suit Combinations."

Although largely uninvolved in high-level bridge since 2013, Gitelman still enjoys playing occasional tournaments with Winestock and their friends. Gitelman played on Canada's Open Team in the 2023 and 2024 world championships.



FREE


LESSONS


Renowned teacher Donna Compton and ACBL Hall of Famer Patty Tucker are each offering a free lesson. Better yet, both lessons will be followed by a free 12-board game for newer players (0-20 masterpoints). Pre-registration not required.

Date: Saturday, February 28
Time: 8am -9:45am
Speaker: Donna Compton
Topic: Notrump Lead Strategies

Date: Sunday, March 1
Time: 8am -9:45am
Speaker: Patty Tucker
Topic: Help Suit Game Tries

Location: Room 230, America's Center





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Date: Sunday, March 1
Time: 1-6 p.m.
Location: Room 230, America's Center
Cost: \$25 pre-registered at acbl.org/reglbiad or \$30 at the door - includes textbook

More info:

Email marketing@acbl.org

Player of the Year

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the Toronto area was Wooldridge's partner for most of the high-level team events as part of the squad captained by Doug Simson. For Mixed contests, Wooldridge played with fellow New Yorker Jodi Edmonds. Kent Mignocchi, also of NYC, partnered Wooldridge in national pairs games with one exception: At the Fall NABC in San Francisco, Wooldridge played with Andrew Hoskins of Burlingame CA, and the duo won the Nail Life Master Pairs.

Wooldridge's two other victories in 2025 came from the Keohane North American Swiss Teams, also in San Francisco, playing with Grainger, and the Championship Flight of the Grand National Teams at the Summer NABC in Philadelphia, where he partnered John Hurd, another New Yorker.

Wooldridge attributes a large part of his recent success to an increased focus on his health.

"I'm taking better care of myself. Watching my weight, diet and exercise are part of a routine that help me play better. I've noticed that my concentration and stamina are improved. And my amazing girlfriend, Zena Nelson, keeps me on track."

The health kick helped fuel Wooldridge's extraordinary talent in 2025, as the following deals demonstrate.

On this deal from the first semifinal session of the North American Pairs – in which Wooldridge and Mignocchi came in second – Wooldridge picked up this collection on Board 14:

♠10 7 ♥9 6 3 ♦J 10 7 6 4 2 ♣8 5.

As is often the case at matchpoint scoring, the weaker your hand, the more attention you need to pay to the bidding. Wooldridge's LHO opened a weak 2♥ and Mignocchi doubled. RHO raised to 3♥ and Wooldridge, of course, passed. Mignocchi reopened with a double and Wooldridge now proudly bid 4♦. But when Mignocchi continued to 4♠, Wooldridge was



Wooldridge's NYC-based squad from District 24 won the GNT Championship Flight in 2025: Joe Grue, John Hurd, Gillian Minitzer, Wooldridge and Iulian Rotaru.

faced with a choice.

"The auction sounded like Kent had a flexible 4♠ bid," he said, suggesting that they were in a 5–2 fit. Wooldridge decided to pull to 5♦, risking the higher level to enjoy the safety of the six-card suit. That decision turned out to be very right:

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

4♠ has no play, and down two is a likely outcome, but 5♦ making was worth 81% of the matchpoints.

On this deal from their semifinal match in the GNT against Alain Schreiber's squad (District 17), Wooldridge made another good inference:

Dlr: South	♠ K Q 10 4	
Vul: N–S	♥ Q 9 7 5	
Bd: 15	♦ Q 3	
	♣ Q 8 3	
♠ J 8 5		♠ 7 3 2
♥ A 10 8 6 2		♥ 4
♦ A 7		♦ K J 10 9 8 6 5
♣ A J 6		♣ 9 4
	♠ A 9 6	
	♥ K J 3	
	♦ 4 2	
	♣ K 10 7 5 2	

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West <i>Wooldridge</i>	North	East <i>Hurd</i>	South
			1♣
1♥	Dbl	2♣ ⁽¹⁾	Pass
2♦	3♣	3♦	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

(1) Transfer to diamonds

“When 3♦ was bid freely, it sounded like a seven-card suit, so I gambled on 3NT. When diamonds behaved, this was plus 400 and a win of 7 IMPs against 3♦ in the other room.”

The New York squad won the match by just 4 IMPs, so Wooldridge’s aggressive take was critical to their success.

This deal comes from the final of the Nail LM Pairs:

Dlr: East	♠ K 6 4	
Vul: Both	♥ 3	
Bd: 10	♦ J 9 8 7 3	
	♣ K 8 7 4	
	♠ A 10 9 5	♠ J
	♥ J 9 6 5 4	♥ A K 7
	♦ K 6	♦ A Q 10 5 4
	♣ A 9	♣ J 6 5 3
	♠ Q 8 7 3 2	
	♥ Q 10 8 2	
	♦ 2	
	♣ Q 10 2	

West <i>Wooldridge</i>	North	East <i>Hoskins</i>	South
		1♦	Pass
1♥	Pass	2♣	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Wooldridge and Hoskins did well to avoid the matchpoint-inferior 4♥ on this layout.

The opening lead of the ♦9 ran to declarer’s king. When two top hearts saw North pitch a club, Wooldridge continued with a heart toward his hand, South winning the queen as North released a low spade.

South exited with a low club: 9, king, 3. North then returned a diamond. Wooldridge stuck in the 10, South discarding a low spade, allowing Wooldridge to score 10 tricks (one spade, four hearts, four diamonds and a club) for plus 630 and 73% for the board.

Where Wooldridge earned Platinum Points in 2025

Event	Place	Points
North Amer. Pairs, Flight A	2	75.00
Kay Platinum Pairs	12	57.14
Vanderbilt KO Teams	16–32	50.00
Silodor Open Pairs	42	10.64
Jacoby Open Swiss Teams	Match	3.98
GNT Champ. Flight	1	120.00
Roth Open Swiss Teams	14	41.74
Freeman Mixed BAM	16	25.88
Spingold KO Teams	Match	3.80
Keohane NA Swiss Teams	1	160.00
Nail Life Master Pairs	1	125.00
Kaplan Blue Ribbon Pairs	27	31.67
Mitchell Open BAM Teams	Match	1.02
Total		705.87

2025 Player of the Year Leaders

1.	Joel Wooldridge, Jackson Heights NY	705.87
2.	Kevin Rosenberg, Mountain View CA	629.56
3.	Mikael Rimstedt, Sweden	612.54
4.	Zia Mahmood, United Kingdom	595.52
5.	Mark Itabashi, Newport Beach CA	594.21
6.	Sjoert Brink, Switzerland	576.59
7.	Harrison Luba, Lynnfield MA	565.34
8–9.	Jerome Rombaut, France	562.04
8–9.	Leo Rombaut, France	562.04
10.	Michal Klukowski, Switzerland	556.08

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QUALIFIERS IN THE KAY PLATINUM PAIRS

26.0 Tables / Based on 57 Tables

		Carryover
1	Eric Greco, Frisco TX; Geoff Hampson, Las Vegas NV	321.37
2	Guy Mendes de Leon, Netherlands; Luc Tijssen, Tilburg Netherlands	317.47
3	Jeff Meckstroth, Clearwater Beach FL; Mikael Rimstedt, Halmstad Sweden	311.95
4	Sibrand van Oosten, Leiden Netherlands; Thibo Sprinkhuizen, Rotterdam Netherlands	308.30
5	Adam Kaplan, New York NY; Owen Lien, Oak Park MI	301.56
6	Christian Lahrmann, Virum Denmark; Nicolai Heiberg-Evenstad, Finnsnes Norway	301.20
7	Dan Jacob, Vancouver BC; Tom Carmichael, Marysville WA	299.57
8	Massimiliano di Franco, Palermo Italy; Alessandro Gandoglia, Rome Italy	298.16
9	Jeffrey Smith, Ottawa ON; Frederic Pollack, Laval QC	297.31
10	Dror Padon, Tel Aviv Israel; Yinghao Liu, Dublin CA	296.83
11	Federico Porta Tadolini, Roma Italy; Sergio Bianchi, Cesena Italy	295.88
12	Zia Mahmood, London United Kingdom; Giovanni Donati, Rimini Italy	295.45
13	James Krekorian, Pensacola FL; Michael Polowan, New York NY	295.39
14	Finn Kolesnik, Austin TX; Kamil Nowak, Kielce Poland	293.24
15	Thomas Rush, Houston TX; Danning Lu, Sacramento CA	289.79
16	Eldad Ginossar, Sanibel FL; Ash Gupta, New York NY	289.42
17	Avery Silverstein – Aaron Silverstein, Ridgefield CT	287.51
18	Brian Glubok, Brooklyn NY; Iftikhar Baqai, Irvine CA	287.43
19	Olivia Schireson, Colorado Spring CO; Chris Willenken, New York NY	285.66
20	Jodi Edmonds, New York NY; Michal Klukowski, Geneva Switzerland	285.35
21	Andrew Stark – Franco Baseggio, New York NY	281.62
22	Edward Xu, North York ON; Ming Sheng, Los Altos CA	281.60
23	William Neumann, Columbia MD; Mark Dahl, Richmond VA	281.35
24	Brad Moss, Denver CO; Ola Rimstedt, Sweden	281.31
25	Ron Gerard, White Plains NY; Mark Lair, Canyon TX	278.10
26	Kevin Rosenberg – Amber Lin, Mountain View CA	275.45
27	Jeff McKee, Livingston TX; David Brower, Portland OR	272.80
28	Ray Miller – Michael Christensen, Seattle WA	272.74
29	Joel Wooldridge, Jackson Heights NY; Kent Mignocchi, Bronx NY	271.99
30	Sheldon Tan, New York NY; Sriram Ganesan, Sunnyvale CA	270.67
31	Kim Eng – Eric Sieg, Issaquah WA	270.46
32	Richard Zeckhauser, Cambridge MA; Boye Brogeland, Norway	268.50
33	John Ramos, Los Angeles CA; Mitch Towner, Phoenix AZ	267.95
34	Agustin Madala, Buenos Aires Argentina; Giorgia Botta, Brooklyn NY	267.86
35	Christian Bakke, Bergen Norway; Harrison Luba, Lynnfield MA	267.83
36	Cenk Tuncok, Dallas TX; Lynn Baker, Austin TX	265.12
37	Ralph Katz, Burr Ridge IL; Mitch Dunitz, Sherman Oaks CA	264.56
38	Tim van de Paverd, Leiden Netherlands; Martin Schaltz, Copenhagen Denmark	263.99
39	Marion Michielsen, Sweden; Andrew Rosenthal, New York NY	263.32
40	Shan Huang, Jupiter FL; Joan Millens, Kingston NY	262.69
41	Simon Hult, Wastervik Sweden; Steven Ashe, Tampa FL	262.50
42	Rory Xiao, Fremont CA; Anant Rathi, Denver CO	261.98



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Fee: \$75 USD (If purchasing a LBIAD license within 30 days of accreditation, \$50 of the \$75 fee will be applied to the first-year license fee.)

Instructor Accreditation

Sunday, March 1 ♠ 12:30-8:30 p.m. ♠ Room 230, America's Center

43	Wojciech Bak, Warsaw Poland; Piotr Marcinowski, Wroclaw Poland	261.86
44	Ami Zamir, Hod Hasharon Israel; Oren Toledano, Jerusalem Israel	261.81
45	Adam Grossack, Brooklyn NY; John McAllister, Charlottesville VA	261.53
46	David Berkowitz, Boca Raton FL; Steve Garner, Chicago IL	261.48
47	Hua Yang – Yan Song, Plano TX	261.33
48	Andy Cope, Coventry United Kingdom; Aleksandar Lishkov, Chicago IL	260.48
49	Vladislav Isporski, Sofia Bulgaria; Henry Nelson, Zelenople PA	260.09
50	Li-Hsiang Kuo – Ho-Yee So, Taipei City Taiwan	259.48
51	Uday Ivatury, New York City NY; Christal Henner, New York NY	259.39
52	Anam Tebha, New York NY; Oscar Nijssen, Rotterdam Netherlands	258.87

QUALIFIERS IN THE LEBHAR IMP PAIRS

52.0 Tables / Based on 99 Tables		Carryover
1	Jim Johnsen, Frisco TX; Peter J. Boyd-Bowman, Greensboro NC	27.40
2	Richard Brown, Easley SC; Richard Potter, Black Mountain NC	25.93
3	John Hurd – Gillian Minitier, New York NY	21.72
4	Murat Alaybeyi, Saratoga CA; Gokhan Yilmaz, Istanbul Turkey	21.40
5	Ryan Connors, Alexandria VA; Rick Bingham, Fairfax VA	19.57
6	Kurt Dasher, Petersburg MI; Michael D. Alioto, Birmingham MI	18.50
7	Jeffrey Goldman, Norwalk CT; Robert Rebelein, Poughkeepsie NY	17.78
8	Robert Whiting III, Hoover AL; James Partridge, Vestavia Hills AL	17.58
9	Shangyou Nie, Houston TX; Mark Pan, Celina TX	16.36
10	Michael Richey, Springfield VA; Lloyd Rawley, Greenbelt MD	16.10
11	Glenn Robbins, New York NY; Jiang Gu, Mountain Lakes NJ	15.84
12	Christopher Staszak, Orland Park IL; Kyle Rockoff, Gilbert AZ	14.94
13	Hakan Berk, Ellicott City MD; Murat Berk, Potomac MD	14.74
14	Peter Sugerman, South Windsor CT; James Scott, Wellington FL	14.70
15	Mark Peterson, Larkspur CA; Jacob Morgan, Madison WI	14.62
16	Michael Moses, Biloxi MS; Jay Segarra, Ocean Springs MS	14.51
17	Stephen Stewart, Overland Park KS; Brad Carmichael, Shawnee KS	12.69
18	Fran Tewkesbury, Greensboro NC; Martin Causley, Chapel Hill NC	12.45
19	Shailesh Gupta, Las Vegas NV; Jason Ji, Jersey City NJ	12.21
20	Randi Adelman, Teaneck NJ; Jess Jurkovic, New York NY	12.09
21/22	Kun He, North Potomac MD; Xun Zhang, Longueuil QC	11.96
21/22	Irina Kislitsyna, Miami FL; Chris Moll, Raleigh NC	11.96
23	Weizhong Bao, Herndon VA; Frank Feng, Basking Ridge NJ	11.77
24	Kelley Hwang, New York NY; Rob Gordon, Woodbury NY	11.71
25	Andrew Hoskins, Burlingame CA; Ankur Rathi, San Francisco CA	11.60
26	David Katzen, Sparta NJ; Stephen Garreffa, Randolph NJ	11.25
27	B. Wayne Stuart III, Raleigh NC; Wayne Ohlrich, Carrboro NC	11.21
28	Dan Roseberry, Dover OH; Richard Katz, North Versailles PA	11.20
29	Robert Lavin, East Longmeadow MA; Joe Degaetano, Delray Beach FL	11.10
30	Arvin Uppal, Madison MS; Jack Boge, New York NY	10.88
31	David Wilmington, Eureka CA; Suzanne Cook, Salem OR	10.56
32	Perry van Hook, Surprise AZ; Charles Finch, Las Vegas NV	10.45
33	James Diebel, Wood Dale IL; Bill Goldberg, Skokie IL	10.29
34	Xin Ge, Cupertino CA; Zhaobin Xie, Chengdu China	10.08
35	Michael Ranis, Aventura FL; Robert Cappelli, Naples FL	9.70
36	Carlos Pellegrini – Pablo Ravenna, Buenos Aires Argentina	9.69
37	Richard Reitman, Los Gatos CA; Mark Moss, Piedmont CA	9.62
38	Robert Fendrick, Marietta GA; Hugh Brown, McCormick SC	9.50
39	Atul Rai, Wichita KS; Uday Maitra, Mississauga ON	9.41
40	David Yoon, Bayside NY; Lorraine Cable, Greenfield IN	9.36
41	Garth Yettick, Westminster CO; Kathrine Bertheau, Taby Sweden	8.63
42	Mark Bendure, Grosse Pointe MI; Robert Bitterman, Harbor Springs MI	8.55
43	Sam Dinkin, Austin TX; Jacob Freeman, New York NY	8.48
44	Edward Piken, Palos Verdes Peninsula CA; Viktor Anikovich, Los Angeles CA	8.45
45	Robert Levin, Henderson NV; Michael Golden, Wyckoff NJ	8.36
46	Julian Kurtzman, Brooklyn NY; David Soukup, Philadelphia PA	8.35

47	Michael Berard, Glenn Dale MD; Peter van Zijl, Hanover MD	8.27
48	Richard Zucker, Dobbs Ferry NY; Richard Oshlag, White Plains NY	8.25
49	Mark Raphaelson – Lance Marrou, Orlando FL	8.23
50	Louis-Amaury Beauchet, Larmor-Plage France; Daniel Hoekstra, Portland OR	8.00
51	Diego Brenner, Barcelona Spain; Caru Vidigal, Rio De Janeiro Brazil	7.70
52	Mark Henderson, Wilmington DE; Lisa Mita, Downingtown PA	7.69
53	Phillip Becker, Beachwood OH; Stan Dub, Shaker Heights OH	7.60
54	Paul Seguineau, France; Robert Barrington, West Palm Beach FL	7.54
55	Maya Jonas-Silver – Jack Latta, Brooklyn NY	7.36
56	Roger McNay, Beaverton OR; David Green, Sherwood OR	7.25
57	Tom Oppenheimer, Clayton MO; Milton Zlatic, St. Louis MO	7.06
58	Aaron Krieser, Foristell MO; James Voelz, Fort Wayne IN	6.96
59	Samuel Kuang, Woodside NY; Brenda Bryant, Ferndale MI	6.85
60	Gavin Wolpert, Palm Beach Gardens FL; Rajath Shourie, Pacific Palisades CA	6.36
61	David desJardins, Burlingame CA; Andrew Gumperz, Berkeley CA	6.06
62	Roberto Verthelyi, Hoboken NJ; Paul Freaan, New York NY	5.93
63	Roger Bates, Las Vegas NV; Dennis Kasle, Scottsdale AZ	5.77
64	Sheldon Natenberg, Glenview IL; Hong Liu, Frontenac MO	5.75
65	Rajasekhar Menon, Lutz FL; John Bridgewater II, Columbus IN	5.61
66	Maya Alela, Flagstaff AZ; Mariusz Krasnicki, Lodz Poland	5.47
67	Mark Laken, Baltimore MD; Barry Bragin, Silver Spring MD	5.26
68	Arif Janjua, Saratoga CA; Mukund Thapa, Palo Alto CA	5.13
69	Michael Lipkin, Brooklyn NY; Ed Freeman, Tacoma WA	5.09
70	Edward Nagy, Danville CA; Mark Ralph, San Francisco CA	4.98
71	Serge Aronovich – Marianne Aronovich, Tuxedo Park NY	4.88
72	George Woltman, Blowing Rock NC; Dwight Meredith, Greensboro NC	4.80
73	Debbie Schenkel, Wilmington DE; Suseen Banks, Newport NC	4.75
74	Drew Becker, Chicago IL; Stephen McConnell, Evanston IL	4.18
75	Jack Brawner Jr., Palm Harbor FL; David Rogers, Clearwater FL	4.10
76	Bogdan Vulcan, Sammamish WA; Corneliu Galer, Mercer Island WA	4.07
77	Russ Jones, Russellville AR; Michael McGuire, Hot Springs Village AR	3.93
78	Tatyana Stemkovski – Vladimir Stemkovski, Raleigh NC	3.88
79/80	Randy Pearson, Pittsburgh PA; Evan Marti, Houston TX	3.73
79/80	Daniel Loveland, Powell OH; Toni Bales, Pickerington OH	3.73
81	Michael Broadhurst – Dmitry Komin, Calgary AB	3.67
82	Michael Kopera, Fort Mill SC; Samuel Ehrlichman, Brooklyn NY	3.62
83	Jack Waller, Dana Point CA; Michael Bodell, Santa Clara CA	3.35
84	Debbie Rosenberg, Foster City CA; Cadir Lee, Los Gatos CA	2.98
85	Mechel Frost – Matthew Morgan, Nashville TN	2.68
86	Karl Zaman, Strongsville OH; Chris Kleis, Lyndhurst OH	2.52
87	Stephen Moese, West Chester OH; Michael Purcell, Loveland OH	2.43
88	Peter Wong, North York ON; Jessica Lin, Aurora ON	2.17
89	Rich Pestien – Charles Young, Peoria IL	1.95
90	Andy Goodman, Carmel CA; Mike Passell, Plano TX	1.75
91	Peter Aldenderfer, Indianapolis IN; Larry Allison, Brownsburg IN	1.59
92/93	Ann Zorn – Joseph Barrett, Billings MT	1.45
92/93	Margie Cole, New York NY; Alejandro Bianchedi, Buenos Aires Argentina	1.45
94	Philip Lawes, Greenwood MS; Bill Cook Jr., Madison MS	1.33
95	Daniel Jablonski, Stoneham MA; Natalie Bassil, Boston MA	1.20
96	Billy Miller, Las Vegas NV; Daniel McGuire, Epsom NH	1.15
97	Mark Bolotin, Philadelphia PA; Radu Vasilescu, West Chester PA	1.14



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98	Richard Logan, Diamondhead MS; James Bush, New Orleans LA	1.06
99	Michael Creager, Bedford OH; Kenneth Kranyak, Parma OH	1.02
100	Melissa Fawer – Raluca Nistor, New York NY	0.85
101	Mike Rice – Rosalind Lin, Chapel Hill NC	0.56
102	Cheryl Schneider, Columbus OH; Terry James, Upper Arlington OH	0.02
103	Jui Wang, Cary NC; Clerk Shaw, Knoxville TN	0.01
104	Michael Gladfelter – Mary Jane Gladfelter, Columbus OH	0.00

QUALIFIERS IN THE SENIOR MIXED PAIRS

39.0 Tables / Based on 63 Tables		Carryover
1	Mark Itabashi, Newport Beach CA; Laura Brill, White Plains NY	138.97
2	Sally Wheeler – Buddy Hanby, The Woodlands TX	124.57
3	David Treitel, Ocala FL; Pamela Granovetter, Cincinnati OH	119.79
4	Kurt Schaeffer, Lakeville MN; Patti Stuhlman, Minneapolis MN	113.57
5	Stephen Sanborn – Kerri Sanborn, Delray Beach FL	110.49
6	Lee Ohliger, Bradenton FL; Gloria Bart, Sarasota FL	105.16
7	Janice Seamon-Molson, Hollywood FL; Charles Miner, Orlando FL	104.64
8	Susan Kissinger – John Kissinger, San Clemente CA	93.12
9	Betty Starzec, Sugar Land TX; Robert Morris, Houston TX	91.39
10	Daniel Boye, Baldwinsville NY; Patricia Dovell, Gainesville FL	82.85
11	Mark Meyer – Martha Meyer, Winston-Salem NC	79.12
12	David Birnbaum, Pegram TN; Linda Murdock, Nashville TN	76.41
13	Scott Nason, Dallas TX; Tomi Storey, Frisco TX	74.82
14	Migry Zur Campanile, New York NY; Parag Saxena, Rye NY	73.73
15	Peter Stein, Hillsborough NJ; Carole Weinstein, Waltham MA	73.64
16	Dennis Carman – Susan BaileyCarman, Plainwell MI	72.49
17	Chris Benson, Leroy IL; John Seng, Champaign IL	71.85
18	Mark Zellmer, Creve Coeur MO; Debra Romero, Clarkson Valley MO	71.38
19	Diana Schuld, Glen Head NY; Russell Samuel, Coram NY	71.25
20	Laurie Rowe, Palm Desert CA; Ronald Woodard, Palm Springs CA	63.58
21	Cheri Bjerkan, Elmhurst IL; Larry Robbins, Glenview IL	63.17
22	Susan Stockham, Birmingham AL; Magnus Olafsson, Huntsville AL	62.62
23	Gary Soules – Jan Soules, Elk Grove CA	62.59
24	Susan Bullard – H. Gordon, Lexington KY	60.21
25	Ellis Feigenbaum – Marjorie Michelin, Laguna Woods CA	59.04
26	Thomas Turgeon, Memphis TN; Sally Meckstroth, Clearwater Beach FL	58.72
27	Nancy Spear – Jack Spear, Shawnee Mission KS	58.71
28	Tanaaz Timblo – Jayendu Patel, Carlsbad CA	57.22
29	Jack Lipson, East Meadow NY; Jill Marshall, Port Chester NY	56.39
30	Ann Buchholz, St. Augustine FL; Mark Crumrine, Ocala FL	56.13
31	Alan Copeland, Burlison TX; Jo Smith, Abilene TX	55.88
32	Michael Heymann, Fort Worth TX; Nancy Molesworth, White Plains NY	54.22
33	Les Bart, Sarasota FL; Joyce Menezes, Bradenton FL	53.91
34	Jerry Clerkin, Bloomington IN; Julia Bomalaski, Melbourne FL	52.27
35	Sheila Gabay, Newton MA; Alan Watson, Lexington MA	51.23
36	Elizabeth Jankord – Amit Chakrabarti, Manhattan KS	51.13
37	William Sigward, Pelham NY; Nancy Marshall, Edgewater NJ	51.02
38	Melanie Schaengold – Neil Selvin, Naples FL	48.71
39	Alan Schwartz – Annie Schwartz, Fairfax VA	47.77
40	Harvinder Sidhu, Scottsdale AZ; Suzette Wynn, Paradise Valley AZ	47.43
41	Jerry Helms, Charlotte NC; Deborah Monroe, Greensboro NC	46.03
42	Christopher Cowan – Debbie Feldman, Oakville ON	45.72
43	Melih Ozdil, New York NY; Sharon Goldman, Miami FL	45.47
44	Mark Perlmutter – Lynne Feldman, San Diego CA	42.95
45	Patrick Williams, Greenbrier TN; Karen Kendrick, Nashville TN	39.38
46	Fran White, Vista CA; Leon Fisher, Clearwater FL	38.81
47	Rosemary Kelley – Bill McCarty, San Antonio TX	37.20
48	Patrick Dunn – Polly Dunn, Edmonds WA	34.90
49	Sue Knirsch – James Knirsch, Chagrin Falls OH	34.85

50	Paul Chan – Lily Chan, Columbia MO	33.62
51	Claudia Feagin – Jack Feagin Jr., Atlanta GA	33.52
52	Craig Kavin, Camarillo CA; Rebecca Rogers, Henderson NV	33.47
53	Subba Ravipudi, Dana Point CA; Gale Senter, San Clemente CA	31.53
54	Silvana Rojko, West Palm Beach FL; Peter Cheung, Fremont CA	30.54
55	Linda Lewis – Paul Lewis, Sioux Falls SD	28.81
56	Carol Hamilton, Sarasota FL; Charles Nemes, Longboat Key FL	28.63
57	Mary Orock, Fort Worth TX; Greg Resz, Lincoln NE	28.45
58	Linda Bryant – Jack Bryant, St. Louis MO	27.74
59	Davis Heussler, East Aurora NY; Linda Burroughsford, Fort Erie ON	27.52
60	Eddie Wold, Houston TX; Susan Zhang, Los Altos Hills CA	26.96
61	Diana Blithe – Gary Gilbert, Silver Spring MD	24.51
62	Christopher Pizarra, Walnut Creek CA; Barbara McKay, Orinda CA	21.86
63	Margot Hennings, Annandale VA; Bob Heller, Knoxville TN	19.10
64	Mark Blanchard, Bay Shore NY; Amy Rhodes, New York NY	18.70
65	Karen Walker – Michael Halvorsen, Champaign IL	18.38
66	Joan Jackson – Norman Beck, Dallas TX	17.35
67	Gary Cohler, Wellington FL; Beatrice Kemp, Hoschton GA	14.44
68	Barbara Devaney, Washington DC; Rolf Swenson, Silver Spring MD	13.59
69	Gail Greenberg – Arthur Loeb, New York NY	13.16
70	Lauri Laufman – James Woodward, Houston TX	12.73
71	Linda Friedman – Daniel Friedman, Orinda CA	11.80
72	Joan Lewis – Robert Hopkins Jr., Arlington VA	10.00
73	Nathan Hetz – Clara Hetz, Ramath-Gah Israel	8.60
74	Lawrence Sherman – Julie Halliday, San Diego CA	7.00
75	Shelley Burns, North Vancouver BC; H. Jay Sloofman, Tarrytown NY	6.54
76	Marjorie O'Malley – Charles O'Malley III, San Diego CA	5.64
77	Wayne Burt, Pembroke NH; Kamla Chawla, Longmeadow MA	3.38
78	Joyce McMonagle, Ocala FL; John Manopoli, Jamaica Plain MA	0.00



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St. Louis Vugraph and BridgeCast

RealBridge

Vugraph will be on RealBridge, which provides reliable delayed broadcasts, as well as a wealth of information for those of you who want to see what happened at other tables, and a bunch of statistics. For St. Louis, RealBridge has provided us with a new functionality we asked for, that I think both operators and spectators will really appreciate: Operators can now chat to spectators to give you some inside information on what is happening at the table. Operator chat will appear as each board is played. You can't respond or ask the operators questions, as by the time you see something on the kibitz site, the operator will be following a future board.

To kibitz on RealBridge, go to <https://kibitz.realbridge.online/> and click on the event you want to watch. RealBridge has helpful information for

spectators at <https://realbridge.online/for-spectators.html>.

Schedule

We'll be showing Vugraph from Saturday, Feb. 28, through Saturday, March 7 (or March 8 if there is a surprisingly large Vanderbilt entry).

Saturday & Sunday, Feb. 28 & March 1: Platinum Pairs semifinal and final. Vugraph will start at 10:15 a.m. & 3:45 p.m. Central Time, 15 minutes after play starts.

Monday through Saturday, March 2-7: Vanderbilt KO. We will cover the Vanderbilt from start to finish. On Monday, when there will be too many teams for screens, Vugraph will start at 10:30 a.m. & 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, Vugraph will start at 10 a.m. & 4 p.m. All Central Time. Results from matches not on Vugraph will be shown on BridgeWinners at the end of each quarter.

Bridgecasts

Rob Barrington will again be hosting live commentary at bridgecast.org. The current plan is for a summary of each of the first two days of the Platinum Pairs, and full day coverage of the Platinum Pairs Final, at 10:15 a.m. and 3:45 p.m. CT.

On Monday, March 2, (depending of course on the number of teams entered), there will be a Bridgecast summary of the Vanderbilt Round of 64 and perhaps some live coverage, starting at 4 p.m.

On Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday (Vanderbilt rounds of 32, 16, and 8), there will be a summary of the first half of play and full coverage of the second half, starting at 4 p.m. CST each day.

Friday and Saturday (Vanderbilt semifinal and final) there will be full day coverage of the play, starting at 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. CT each day.



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

Advance entries for events are available through the ACBL's online Entry Express system. It is necessary for eligible players to use this



system in order to receive the host discount of \$10 per session for being a guest of one of the host hotels or resident of the host district.

To use Entry Express, go to acbl.org/ee or scan the QR code. This may be done until 8 a.m. the day the event begins and subsequent days. For continuing events, purchase each day through Entry Express to continue receiving the discount.

Hotel guests are assigned two discount coupons per night of stay plus one (e.g. six nights gets 14 coupons). If you are staying at the hotel but are not on the discount list, go to acbl.org/StLouisEEform to be added. Missing discounts are not refunded. See the FAQ at acbl.org/ee for more information.

For help with Entry Express, visit the ACBL Help Desk located in either building – in the atrium at America's Center and on the ground level of Marriott Plaza.

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

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



Use of Multi 2♦

The Multi 2♦ convention is allowed in the Kay Platinum Pairs.

Columbia, SC



- Riverbanks Zoo & Gardens
- Columbia Museum of Art
- Scenic Riverwalks

District 7 Regional

July 26-30, 2026





DoubleTree by Hilton
 (866) 247-3572
 Book by June 26 for D7 Rate
 \$119/night
 Scan QR Code for information



PAT PENELTON MEMORIAL FRIDAY OPEN PAIRS

28.0 Tables / Based on 68 Tables

	A	B	C		
36.91	1			Ronald Goor, Houten Netherlands; Erleta Plana, Sandnes Norway	63.09%
27.68	2			Ron Smith, Glenview IL; Stanley Landers, Old Westbury NY	62.74%
20.76	3			Fernando Teson – Bob Soni, Tallahassee FL	61.25%
15.57	4			Wayne Snider, Elk Grove Village IL; L. James Phillips, Park Ridge IL	61.23%
21.09	5	1		Ana Kovacevic – Miroslav Kovacevic, Woodbridge ON	60.24%
15.82	6	2		Douglas Grant, San Francisco CA; Charles Riffle, Emerald Hills CA	60.24%
9.23	7			Jeff Hand, New York NY; William May, Shepherdstown WV	59.93%
11.86	8	3		Mark Hanlon, Bismarck ND; Kerry Hanlon, Cass Lake MN	59.85%
7.38	9			John Boackle Jr., Poway CA; Lamya Agelidis, San Diego CA	58.92%
6.71	10			Robert Todd, Tallahassee FL; Bill Cook, Louisville KY	58.51%
6.15	11			Mark Bartusek, Santa Barbara CA; Chris Compton, Omaha NE	57.95%
5.68	12			Chris Grande, Mishawaka IN; Gustavo Saravia, Oak Park IL	57.69%
5.27	13			En Xie, St. Louis MO; Alice Brown, Midlothian VA	56.21%
4.92	14			Eliezer Solomon, Ocean City MD; R. Jay Becker, Delray Beach FL	55.15%
8.90		4		Linda Dunn, Atlanta GA; Eunice Patton, Bloomington IL	55.00%
7.91		5	1	Robert Glasspiegel – Susan Glasspiegel, Johns Island SC	53.83%
6.03		6		Philip Galanes, Guilford CT; Michael Boreson, Kalispell MT	53.22%
5.27		7		Kevin Cline, Seattle WA; Cindy Oishi, West Vancouver BC	52.77%
4.69		8		Donna Johnson, Lawrence KS; Virginia Wailes, Hillsborough CA	52.44%
4.22		9		Richard Pepper – Martin Friedman, Greensboro NC	51.78%
3.83		10		Barbara Boswell – Jo Ellen Spitz, Cincinnati OH	51.74%
5.93			2	Molly Walsh, York PA; Liza Broderick, Denver CO	50.19%
4.45			3	Charles Driscoll, Westerville OH; Jim Janik, Hilliard OH	49.41%
3.34			4	Darlene Scott, Oakville ON; Nikos Panayotatos, Orangeburg NY	49.34%
2.64			5	Mary Dolan, Chesterfield MO; Carol Layton, Kirkwood MO	48.06%
2.26			6	Deborah Cole, Chicago IL; Cheryl Ward, Florissant MO	47.69%

1ST FRIDAY GOLD RUSH PAIRS

22.0 Tables / Based on 20 Tables

	7	4	2		
7.88	1			Robert Kaplan – Linda Bodien, Columbus OH	64.79%
5.91	2			Alexandra Narasin – Gretchen Wyatt, Atherton CA	60.00%
5.94	3	1		Joy Pillard, La Vista NE; Mary Bonneau, Omaha NE	57.78%
3.32	4			Marla Luehder, Belleville IL; Roger Jespersen, Ballwin MO	57.64%
4.46	5	2		Tony Benner, Indianapolis IN; Mary King, Fishers IN	56.11%
3.34	6	3		Dave Love – Charlotte Urbanc, Georgetown ON	56.04%
2.51	7	4		Robert Niehaus, Chesterfield MO; Filippo Ferrigni, St. Louis MO	55.90%
2.41	8/9	5/6		Jean Richer, Ottawa ON; Emilie Richer, Montreal QC	55.63%
1.88	8/9	5/6		Stefan Lopatkiewicz, Washington DC; Susan Trebach, Chevy Chase MD	55.63%
2.98	10	7	1	Peter Lach, Noblesville IN; Jean Barnas, Fishers IN	54.72%
2.27		8		Fred Dixon, Bartlett TN; Clara Petty, Collierville TN	53.47%
2.24			2	Kenneth Kwantes – Marcus Cloud, Rolla MO	50.21%
1.68			3	Brian Curd – Diane Curd, Greenwood Village CO	49.72%

FRIDAY MORNING SIDE GAME

3.0 Tables

	A	B	C		
2.82	1			Stephen Coates, Mission KS; Robert Williamson, Kansas City MO	55.00%
2.12	2			Mollie Freier – Carol Moore, Marquette MI	51.00%

FRIDAY MORNING 299er PAIRS

6.0 Tables

	A	B	C		
2.40	1	1	1	Daniel Shavers – Judy Seltzer, Saint Louis MO	62.08%
1.80	2	2		Sue Coast, Larkspur CO; Lynne Telford, Colorado Springs CO	61.25%
1.35	3	3	2	Vijay Sadhu – Smita Sadhu, Columbia MO	58.75%
1.01	4	4	3	Thomas Morrissey, Alton IL; Patrick Morrissey, Overland Park KS	55.83%

Food bank receives charity grant

The ACBL Charity Foundation made a \$5000 donation to Operation Food Search, a local organization addressing food insecurity.

The 45-year-old organization started as a food bank and now offers multiple programs in 25 counties in two states, said Carlton Adams, the group’s chief operating officer.

“We’re very grateful for the donation,” Adams said. “It will help us serve more families experiencing food insecurity.”

The check was presented on Friday, the same day the committee selected to honor Pat Penelton, a local bridge player whose church food pantry was one of 170 affiliated with Operation Food Search. Penelton was working preparing meals at the church last year when the building was struck by a tornado, killing her.

“Pat ran a food pantry,” Adams said. “She was beloved.”

Tournament chair Michael Sherberg said the organization was a unanimous choice for the host committee’s charity grant. The foundation makes a contribution at each NABC. Two other members of the committee involved in the selection were present.

“Pat worked hard feeding hungry people,” Sherberg said. “We wanted to honor her memory by contributing to something she cared about.”

“We started out wanting to do a food bank,” said Ken



The ACBL Charity Foundation and local NABC Committee present a \$5000 check to Operation Food Search. From left: Michael Sherberg, tournament chair; Carlton Adams, chief operating officer of Operation Food Search; Rebecca Brown, Charity Foundation president.

Eiger, volunteers chair.

“I said, ‘This is a good one,’” said Jennifer Luner, prizes chair.

For more information on the organization, see operationfoodsearch.org.

INTERNATIONAL FUND/EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION THURSDAY TOP-FLIGHT PAIRS – REVISED

32.0 Tables / Based on 66 Tables

	A	X	Y		
36.52	1			Amber Lin – Kevin Rosenberg, Mountain View CA	61.54%
27.39	2	1		Lamya Agelidis, San Diego CA; John Boackle Jr., Poway CA	60.13%
20.54	3			James Partridge, Vestavia Hills AL; Robert Whiting III, Hoover AL	58.95%
15.41	4			Stephen Stewart, Overland Park KS; Brad Carmichael, Shawnee KS	58.59%
12.17	5			Radu Nistor, New York NY; Siqing Yu, San Diego CA	58.39%
14.94	6	2		Scott Nason – Gary Bush, Dallas TX	58.29%
9.13	7			Terry Beckman, Brooklyn Park MN; David Collins, Fridley MN	57.04%
11.21	8	3	1	Arun Goyal, Mason OH; Mike Ma, Cincinnati OH	55.45%
7.30	9			Drew Cavalier, Pensacola FL; Bryan Howard, Nashville TN	55.38%
6.64	10			Louis-Amaury Beauchet, Larmor-Plage France; Jim Johnsen, Frisco TX	55.14%
8.40	11	4	2	Jonathan Williams – Jim O’Brien, The Villages FL	55.13%
5.62	12			Federico Porta Tadolini, Roma Italy; Sergio Bianchi, Cesena Italy	54.84%
5.22	13			Rodrigo Garcia Da Rosa, Fort Lauderdale FL; Leila DeNotaristefani, Mendham NJ	54.75%
4.87	14			Mike Passell, Plano TX; Mark Lair, Canyon TX	54.44%
4.57	15			George Woltman, Blowing Rock NC; Dwight Meredith, Greensboro NC	54.27%
4.30	16			Jonathan Fleischmann, Canton MI; Michael Curley, Rockford MI	54.05%
6.64	17	5	3	Peter Sugerman, South Windsor CT; James Scott, Wellington FL	53.82%
5.69		6		Michael Gladfelter – Mary Jane Gladfelter, Columbus OH	53.34%
4.98		7		Perry van Hook, Surprise AZ; Charles Finch, Las Vegas NV	51.77%
4.43		8		Bob Fisk, Cincinnati OH; Roy Martin, Vestavia Hills AL	51.42%
3.98		9		Mary Ose, Incline Village NV; Carrie Touslee, Roseville CA	51.06%
4.62		10	4	Leon Fisher, Clearwater FL; Michael Sherberg, St. Louis MO	51.01%
3.65			5	Roger Miller, Highlands Ranch CO; Edward Yosses, Aurora CO	50.99%
3.13			6	Richard Hinkle – William Hill, Oklahoma City OK	50.51%

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SIDE GAME

6.5 Tables

	A	B	C		
3.68	1	1		Simeon Prager – Michael Sherberg, St. Louis MO	67.30%
2.76	2	2		Steven Hakanson, St. Louis MO; Dan Storch, Knoxville TN	58.50%
2.28	3	3	1	Matthew Quinn, New York NY; Vicki Uppal, Madison MS	57.08%
1.55	4			Ed Schulte, Beverly Hills FL; Betty Sue El Gammal, Hoover AL	53.00%
1.16	5			Mark Ehret – Nancy Keefer, St. Louis MO	51.90%
1.71		4	2	Mareke Campbell – Kathleen Giordano, Overland Park KS	50.92%

FRIDAY OPEN BRACKETED ROUND ROBIN TEAMS BKT 1

7 Tables

26.32	1	Rob Helle, Mauritius; Ed Hoogenkamp, Ourense Spain; Bauke Muller, Zwaag Netherlands; Simon de Wijs, Netherlands	99.00
19.74	2	Patricia Cayne, Boca Raton FL; Danny Molenaar, Den Haag Netherlands; Tim Verbeek, Utrecht Netherlands; Joris van Lankveld, Castricum Netherlands; Ernst Wackwitz, Hoofddorp Netherlands; David Bakhshi, London England	91.00
14.81	3	Andrew Collins – Somers Collins, Little Rock AR; Sherman Gao, Alhambra CA; Bo Liu, Irvine CA	63.00

FRIDAY OPEN BRACKETED ROUND ROBIN TEAMS BKT 2

7 Tables

14.49	1	Kyle I. Larson, Rockford IL; Lisa Bievenue, Champaign IL; Marc Boisvert, Laval QC; Sanford Becker, Chesterfield MO	73.00
10.87	2	Mary Chaffin – Erica Walker, Dallas TX; Linda McReynolds, Houston TX; Sarah Springer, Katy TX	69.00
8.15	3	Charles Carroll, St. Paul MN; Robert Winters, McMurray PA; Kevin Robertson, Beachwood OH; Paul Gutterman, Palmetto FL	67.00

FRIDAY OPEN BRACKETED ROUND ROBIN TEAMS BKT 3

7 Tables

11.96	1	John Krah, Seattle WA; Hongbo Li, Baltimore MD; Leah Newell, Springfield IL; Clark Vernon, Hot Springs Village AR	78.00
8.97	2	Anthony Toto, Clovis CA; Robert Carroll, Lawrenceville NJ; Sarah Deschenes, Pasadena CA; Morris Jones, Monrovia CA	74.00
6.73	3	Kenneth Hopke, Annandale VA; Phil Feldman, Los Angeles CA; Charles Swart, Alameda CA; Dennis Balfe, University City MO	67.00

FRIDAY OPEN BRACKETED ROUND ROBIN TEAMS BKT 4

12 Tables

9.04	1	Mary Schneider, Olathe KS; Gautam Bhadbhade – Greg Foster, Kansas City MO; Mike Davis, Lees Summit MO	86.00
6.78	2	Edward Lechner, San Mateo CA; Erich Schifter – Susan Evett – Matthew Evett, Ann Arbor MI	72.00
5.09	3	Bruce Graham, Sneads Ferry NC; Lori Strager, West Bloomfield MI; Ann Jennings, Lafayette LA; Kathy Duggan, Knoxville TN	71.00
3.81	4	W. Gordon Graves – Cathy Graves, Yukon OK; Linda Huggard – Virginia Sue Hartman, Oklahoma City OK	68.00

Club owners, managers and teachers honored

At every NABC, the ACBL hosts the Club and Teacher Reception, an evening to honor the hardworking individuals who keep our game alive. The large crowd was welcomed by Manager of Education and Marketing Stephanie Threlkeld, who thanked the local host committee and members of the Board

and ACBL staff in attendance, including Manager of Club and Member Services Sherry Terraciano, who brought two members of her team, Dana Murray and Shandrea Allen.



Threlkeld updated everyone on Jump Start Bridge, BridgeBattle and the Sapphire program and urged club owners, managers and teachers to increase their presence on social media. “We recently hit 31,000 followers on YouTube,” said Threlkeld. “We have a video – it still shocks me – that’s kind of silly and it’s had almost 2 million views. It may not translate today to somebody taking lessons, but it may translate tomorrow. And they need to know about you.”

Four of those in attendance were recipients of gift baskets of local delicacies packaged in insulated cooler bags. Winners were David Smithfield of Clarksville TN, Charles Young of Rockford IL, Michael Hughes of Jefferson City MO and Bob Morris of Houston TX.



The Bridge World reimagines itself for the digital age

The following press release was published on Bridge Winners:

The Bridge World will relaunch as a fully digital publication under the leadership of new Editor-in-Chief Adam Parrish. After 96 years of chronicling the game and shaping expert discourse, the magazine's print edition has been discontinued. This move marks the end of an era and the beginning of an ambitious new chapter.

"I am honored to continue the incredible legacy of The Bridge World and lead it forward into its transformative next chapter," Parrish said. "Moving online allows us to present information in ways that reflect how serious players now discuss the game. We will be able to report more quickly, integrate interactive analysis, and draw more directly on nearly a century of archival material."

The relaunch will include:

- A continuously updated platform with new material published throughout the month
- Interactive versions of popular features such as Master Solvers' Club and Challenge the Champs
- Expanded and timely coverage of major U.S. and international championship matches
- Searchable archives of 96 years of expert analysis
- Additional content targeted at players seeking to improve
- A monthly online legacy edition for a magazine-like reading experience

"Though the format is evolving, the mission remains unchanged," continued Parrish. "The Bridge World has always valued clarity of thought and disciplined analysis. The magazine's high editorial standards will remain intact as we introduce additional expert perspectives."

Jeff Rubens, who edited the magazine for nearly 60 years and defined its analytical voice, has been named Editor emeritus. Many longtime contributors are continuing, including David Berkowitz, Augie Boehm, Bart Bramley, Fred Gitelman, Danny Kleinman, Chip Martel, David Weiss, and Kit Woolsey. They will be joined by a new generation of accomplished players and writers, including Raluca Dobrescu, Josh Donn, Adam Grossack, Sartaj Hans, Maya Jonas-Silver, John Kranyak, Oren Kriegel, Kent Mignocchi, Kevin Rosenberg, Chris Willenken and Joel Wooldridge.

Andrew Gumperz has been appointed as The Bridge World's chief executive officer. With experience leading technology-driven initiatives and as a longtime bridge teacher and author, Gumperz is overseeing the transformation from print magazine to modern digital platform.

"The Bridge World has endured because rigorous analysis has always been at the center of the game," said Gumperz. "This transition ensures that tradition remains central to expert discourse while positioning the magazine to engage a wider audience and younger generation of players. The work continues – in a form built for the future."

A new website is in development to create a durable digital foundation for TBW. During the transition, TBW will publish a free email newsletter featuring original articles, selected archival highlights, and updates on the relaunch. Visit bridgewinners.com to sign up.



District 6 4th of July Regional



**Join us for Bridge in Chantilly, Virginia
and celebrate America's 250th birthday in the nation's capital!
June 29–July 3rd, 2026**

[Click here for tournament details](#)

NEW!**The Real Deal Regional Swiss**

One Day Only ♠ Gold Points ♠ March 15

**Introducing The Real Deal Regional Swiss!**

For the first time ever, [The Real Deal on RealBridge](#) is hosting a one-day regional Swiss Teams event!

Here's the scoop:

- Sunday, March 15 – one day only!
- Swiss Teams format, two sessions
- Gold points up for grabs
- Stratified – compete at your level
- Play from anywhere with Wi-Fi
- Just \$15 per session, per player



It's the excitement of a regional tournament without the travel, hotel or multi-day commitment. And because it's played on The Real Deal, you'll enjoy the perks of RealBridge, like live video and audio!

- 2-session Swiss Teams
- 1:00 and 5:00 pm ET: Gold Rush - 750/400/200
- 1:15 and 5:15 pm ET: B/C - 3000/1250
- 1:30 and 5:30 pm ET: A/X - Open/5000
- Entry fee: \$120/team (2 sessions)
- 6 matches of 7 boards, 7 minutes / board
- Regional-rated (Gold Points and Red Points, Regional-rated)!

Can't make it in March? Join us in April!

The Real Deal Regional Swiss will be played each month.



Navigating to playing areas

To reach locations in the America's Center, exit the Marriott, cross Washington Avenue at Eighth Street, enter the main doors and take the escalator to the second floor.

Locations in the Marriott Plaza may be reached either by going outside, crossing Ninth Street and entering the doors on Washington Avenue, or by going down to the concourse level of the main building of the Marriott, using the underground walkway and then taking the escalators up to the first or second floors.

A detailed map of the playing areas in these buildings is available from either Welcome Desk or online at acbl.org/stlouis.



Winners of last year's NABC+ Open Pairs: Paul Seguineau and Marusa Gold

NABC+ Open Pairs starts today

The NABC+ Open Pairs, which debuted in 2024, begins today. The four-session event is designed to give pairs who fail to qualify for the second day of the Kay Platinum Pairs and Friday's other NABC+ events a place to play. A similar event is held in the summer.

- 2024** Brad Moss, Martin Fleisher
- 2025** Marusa Gold, Paul Seguineau

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AI takes a look at the North American Pairs

It's been said that AI will take over the jobs of everyone eventually, and your humble Bridge Bulletin editors are no exception! Take a look at the following AI-generated recaps from the North American Pairs:

Jan Martel North American Pairs – Flight A

The story of Session 1

Chris Chung (Belmont, CA) and Sriram Ganesan (Sunnyvale, CA) burst out of the gate and never looked back, topping the field with 515.00 matchpoints (70.74%). They combined punchy declarer play with cool, technically sound defense, and – crucially – picked the right moments to press for tops. Right behind them, David Venetianer (Chadds Ford, PA) and Kurt Engleman (Avondale, PA) piled up 476.50 (65.45%) with a session full of well-timed notrumps and disciplined penalty defense. John and Tom Bishel (both Columbus, OH) rounded out the podium on 471.00 (64.70%), their highlights including a thunderous 3NT and a slam-saving defensive stand.

Pair highlights

Chung–Ganesan (70.74%) — A fast start and a fearless finish. Four near-tops north of 95% (Boards 1, 8, 18, 22) plus a stylish small slam (Board 19) did the heavy lifting.

Venetianer–Engleman (65.45%) — Rock-solid card-reading in notrump (600 and 660 on Boards 6 and 23), and a cool double/defense against 5♣ for +500 (Board 14) swung big their way.

John & Tom Bishel (64.70%) — A crisp 3NT for +720 (Board 4) and setting a small slam (Board 13) anchored a session where they repeatedly squeezed extra value out of normal contracts.

For the full writeup, including specific deal analysis from the first qualifying session, click here:

<https://cloud.bridgefinesse.com/ACBLLive/AIStories/N2603001NAPA1PAIR.htm>

For the second qualifying session recap click here:

<https://cloud.bridgefinesse.com/ACBLLive/AIStories/N2603001NAPA2PAIR.htm>

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 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. The binding arbitration provisions are available for review at acbl.org/bindingarbitration.

Baldwin North American Pairs – Championship Flight

Session 1 Highlights: The 63% Sprint, Thin Stoppers, and a 6♣ Showpiece

Walter Schafer Jr. – Alexander Kolesnik (EW) edged the field with 525.50 matchpoints (63.16%), narrowly ahead of two red-hot cards from California and Oregon: Bo Han Zhu – Brent Xiao (NS) at 503.00 (60.46%) and McKenzie Myers – David Brower (EW) at 502.50 (60.40%).

For the leaders, the session turned on a handful of tempo and entry decisions in NT, one doubled partscore, and a well-nursed slam. Top board: +1100 on 4♦; Clean 3NT technique pays; Slam safety in 6♣.

For the full writeup, including specific deal analysis from the first qualifying session, click here:

<https://cloud.bridgefinesse.com/ACBLLive/AIStories/N2603001NAPO1PAIR.htm>

For the second qualifying session recap click here:

<https://cloud.bridgefinesse.com/ACBLLive/AIStories/N2603001NAPO2PAIR.htm>



Parking deal

ACBL members who have booked at the Marriott through Conference Direct are being offered a \$20 self-parking rate (half off the normal rate).

Entry fees

A valid ACBL player number is required to play in all events at the NABC.

For all daytime events, a discount of \$10 per player per session is available to registered guests of the host hotel and residents of the host district who purchase entries through Entry Express.

Players must be members whose dues are current in order to compete in any of the following NABC+ events: Lebhar IMP Pairs, Senior Mixed Pairs, NABC+ Open Pairs, Leventritt Silver Ribbon Pairs, Rockwell Mixed Pairs, Silodor Open Pairs, Smith Women's Pairs, Jacoby Open Swiss Teams and Women's Open Swiss Teams. The undiscounted entry fees for these contests are \$45 per player per session.* (For team events, this means \$180 per team per session for four-person teams, \$225 per team per session for five-person teams, and \$270

per team per session for six-person teams.)

For Premier NABC+ events – the Kay Platinum Pairs and the Vanderbilt Knockout Teams – the entry fee is \$50 per player per session.* (For team events, this means \$200 per team per session for four-person teams, \$250 per team per session for five-person teams, and \$300 per team per session for six-person teams.) There is no entry fee for any flight of North American Pairs.

Players must also be current ACBL members to play in the 0–10,000 Swiss Teams, 0–10,000 Knockout Teams, 0–2500 Swiss Teams and 0–2500 Pairs. The entry fee is \$35 per player per session. This means \$140 per team per session for teams of four, \$175 per team per session for teams of five, and \$210 per team per session for teams of six.

Regional events are \$32 per player per session. For team events of one or

two sessions, the entry fee is \$128 per session. Guest members must upgrade to full membership to play. Inactive members must renew.

Events with a limit of 500 masterpoints or lower are \$28 per player per session. Guest members must upgrade to full membership to play.

* \$1.50 per person per session benefits the International Fund.

Limited events eligibility


Players who have previously won an NABC+ event are not eligible to participate in any event with an upper masterpoint limit, including 0–10,000 events.




Crazy Bridge takes your favorite game and adds a new rule to every board. Show up solo or with a partner and get ready to play, laugh, and think on your feet.

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

Friday, March 6 • Majestic D Marriott Plaza



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Make sure your email address is correct in MyACBL. Find out about special games and key updates.

acbl.org/confirm

ACBL Electronic Device Policy

This policy applies to all events at NABCs and events where ACBL is the Sponsoring Organization. Regional and Sectional tournaments are encouraged to adopt and apply this policy or one more well-suited to their players. A violation of any of the restrictions below will result in an automatic penalty, pursuant to Law 91 of the Laws of Duplicate Bridge.

1. Any electronic equipment must be kept in silent mode (except for health-related equipment, where silent mode is unavailable or could constitute a health risk).

It is recommended, though not mandatory, that any such equipment remain switched off while in the playing area during a session.

Penalties: If it is determined that an electronic equipment is not compliant with (1) above, the penalty for the first offense is 1/8 of a board, 1.5 IMPs, or 1/2 VP. For each subsequent offense during an event, the penalty will be doubled. Beginning with the third offense, the player may be subject to disqualification, upon approval of the Sponsoring Organization.

2. Players are expected to be paying attention to the game. While at the table, players may not use or interact with their electronic devices during bridge play. When between rounds or sitting out, use or interaction with electronic devices is permitted, provided it is inaudible. For other

situations, permission to use or interact with an electronic device will be granted upon the director's judgment and on a case-by-case basis.

Penalties: If it is determined that an electronic equipment was operated in violation of (2) above, the penalty for the first offense is 1/2 of a board, 6 IMPs, or 2 VP. For each subsequent offense during an event, the penalty will be doubled. Beginning with the second offense, the player may be subject to disqualification, upon approval of the Sponsoring Organization.

The above restrictions apply to all players, captains, coaches and kibitzers, except those persons granted permission by the ACBL, and are in force throughout any playing session or segment of play.

A kibitzer in violation of these policies must leave the playing area and may be readmitted only by permission of the tournament director.

Penalties for captains and coaches: Same as for players.

For the purpose of this policy, each day of a multi-day event is treated independently.

Further restrictions and requirements may apply in events involving live internet and/or VuGraph coverage and/or instruction from the Sponsoring Organization.

For the purpose of this policy, Sponsoring Organization is the ACBL for NABCs, the organizing District for Regionals, and the organizing Unit for Sectionals.

Masterpoint disclaimer

Results reported in the Daily Bulletin are subject to change because of score changes or corrections. The masterpoint awards as shown are, therefore, also subject to change.

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.

Be Sensitive to Others

Please

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

USE unscented personal care products.

Convention card notice

Each player must have an ACBL convention card legibly filled out and on the table. The convention card must include the first and last name of each member of the partnership, and the cards must be identical. Please note that other types of convention cards, such as the WBF convention card or homemade cards that do not sufficiently resemble the ACBL convention card, are not acceptable substitutes.

If a director determines that neither player has a substantially completed card, the partnership may play only the Standard American Yellow Card and may use only standard carding. This restriction may be lifted only at the beginning of a subsequent round after convention cards have been properly prepared and approved by the director. Further, the partnership will receive a 1/6-board matchpoint penalty for each board played, commencing with the next round and continuing until the restriction is lifted. In IMP team games, penalties shall be at the discretion of the director.

If the director determines the partnership has at least one substantially completed convention card but has not fully complied with

ACBL regulations, the director may give warnings or assign such penalties as they deem to be appropriate under the circumstances.

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acbl.org/myacbl

Monitoring

ACBL monitors events at North American Bridge Championships with both visible and concealed real-time cameras in public spaces. The images are recorded and available for later inspection and review by ACBL management and tournament officials. These recordings are also uploaded to the internet following the NABC.

By general monitoring of the session and participants' behavior, ACBL has another source of information that may be useful in determining facts and settling issues or disputes arising from some types of ethical and behavioral complaints or actions. Please summon a director if a problem occurs at the table. This procedure is intended to assure everyone that the playing field is level and that misbehavior will not be tolerated.

You oughta be in pictures

If you achieve a new masterpoint milestone here in St. Louis – Life Masters and upwards – please come by the Bulletin office (Portland, mezzanine, Marriott main), and let us take your picture. We're eager to congratulate you and share your achievement in the Daily Bulletin.




**Tucson Regional
Marriott Tucson
University Park Hotel**

April 7-11 2026

**Tournament Chair: Jack Shoemaker
Email: shoejack20@gmail.com**

Tomorrow's Bridge Events

Sunday, March 1

Location key: ACC = America's Center MtPz = Marriott Plaza

Event	Session	Sold	Entry/player/session*	
			Members with discount	Members without discount
10 am				
Sunday Morning Side Pairs <i>Sun-Tue Daylight Series</i>	single	Room 222, ACC	\$22	\$32
299er Pairs	single	Room 225, ACC	\$18	\$28
Sunday Bridge Plus <i>Free: 12 deals (0-20), follows 8 am lesson</i>	single	Room 230, ACC	Free	Free
10 am & 1 pm				
Fast Pairs	1-2	Room 231, ACC	\$22	\$32
10 am & 3 pm				
LEVENTRITT SILVER RIBBON PAIRS <i>Must be 65 or older; 2 qualifying & 2 final sessions</i>	1-2 Q	Majestic D, MtPz, 2nd floor	\$35	\$45
NABC+ OPEN PAIRS	1-2 F	Majestic F, MtPz, 2nd floor	\$35	\$45
Open Pairs (unlim./4000/1500)	1-2	Room 222, ACC	\$22	\$32
Gold Rush Pairs	1-2	Room 225, ACC	\$22	\$32
Sun-Mon Mini-Soloway Style Bracketed Knockout Teams <i>Two-session Swiss qual; two-session KO final</i>	1-2 Q	Room 221, ACC	\$22	\$32
Top-Flight Swiss Teams (unlim./6000/4500)	1-2	Room 221, ACC	\$22	\$32
Mid-Flight Swiss Teams (4000/2000/750)	1-2	Room 221, ACC	\$22	\$32
10 am & 3:30 pm				
KAY PLATINUM PAIRS	1-2 F	Landmark 4, MtPz, 1st floor	\$40	\$50
0-10,000 SWISS TEAMS	1-2 F	Majestic C, MtPz, 2nd floor	\$25	\$35
3 pm				
Sunday Afternoon Side Pairs <i>Sun-Tue Daylight Series</i>	single	Room 222, ACC	\$22	\$32
299er Pairs	single	Room 225, ACC	\$18	\$28
7:30 pm				
Sunday Evening Side Pairs <i>Fri-Mon Evening Series</i>	single	Majestic F, MtPz, 2nd floor	\$22	\$22

* For premier, NABC+ and NABC events, participants must be full ACBL members and up-to-date with their membership dues or service fees. For all other events, participants must be ACBL members (or guest members). Inactive members may renew or pay a \$5 upcharge per 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.