

May 99

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the Matchpointer

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New Feature! Lawrence Betts calls it the way he sees it. Be warned. Page 10.

From the Editor

The success of the recent NABC, in particular the large participation in the intermediate/novice events, has helped emphasize the importance of attracting, and keeping, new players in duplicate bridge. No doubt all of us, over the course of the eleven days "under the sails", saw some good examples of how NOT to treat a partner. (That's something I never understood.... What is the line of thinking that causes a person to conclude, "Yes, if I treat my partner like crap, destroy his confidence, and make him mad at me, our results will definitely improve....") That is in part why this month's cover story is the recent Helen Shields Rookie-Master game, rather than the NABC. The Rookie-Master game is a great opportunity to show new players that, contrary to what they might have observed or even experienced first hand, we aren't all obnoxious jerks. Bridge can be fun, and there are lots of people out there willing to give a newer player a few pointers.

Eugene Chan, the head honcho of the Vancouver Bridge Centre, told me this week that he could double the table count (there were 27 tables) if the Unit could produce more "masters" (20 masterpoints or more) willing to play with rookies. Are we up to the challenge? Maybe... we'll find out

in the fall, at the Erin Berry Rookie-Master game.

The other change made by the Unit Board is regarding the Don Fraser "Active Ethics" Award, which may become simply the "Don Fraser Award". Let's face it. "Ethics" is hard to judge, because it's something you notice only when it's missing, and (on the advice of legal counsel) we do not plan to give an award for *that*. Instead, we want to focus on the qualities that Don Fraser had that made him truly unique, which included not just his gentlemanly behaviour at and away from the table, but the extent to which he encouraged, and served as a mentor to, new players. I think that changing the criteria for the award would not change the results of the first two years: Ev Hodge and Dianne Isfeld both fulfill that admirably, and deserve the award for that reason as much as for their high standards of conduct at the table.

We encourage members of the Unit to put forth nominations for this year's award, and ask that they include on the ballot the reasons why the person is being nominated. We'll keep your names a secret, but your reasons might appear in print....

Jeremy Crowhurst

MATCHPOINTER

is a publication of ACBL Unit 430, printed five times each year, and distributed free to its members at local clubs and at Unit events. Opinions are those of the authors; unattributed material is written by the editor, with help from various sources. Sometimes, attributed material is also written by the editor, and when something is written, say, by "(mostly) Mac's Whiskey" it means that the incoherent racing stuff was his, and the insults about the old people were mine. In fact, if anything in the magazine is insulting, blame me, 'cause I either wrote it or approved it, and I have no assets to get seized. Submissions from contributors are welcome, and even necessary, because when we have to write stuff ourselves, we get sued. We have a good lawyer, but he ain't cheap. So write stuff, please. Please note, however, that if you're submitting contributions to other publications, let me know. When articles first published here appear in other, better-financed publications, the editor gets bitter.

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Matchpointer subscriptions are available and help to offset costs. Subscription costs are tied to postal rates and the current cost of Dr. Pepper. For the current rates contact:

Mail Dan Webster
Distribution: 8415 Draper Str.
Mission, B.C.
V2V 6S3

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Business Card \$15/issue
Half Page \$40/issue
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Contributors (Thanks!)

Brad Bart

Jude Goodwin-Hanson

Eda Kadar

June Pocock

Anne Scott

Doug Cowan

Dave House

Louis Landau

Dave Schmidt

Dianne Wilson

The Matchpointer would like to give a special welcome to its newest regular columnist, Lawrence Betts (page 10).

A special thanks to the ACBL for the NABC masterpoint info, and also to the Vancouver Bridge Centre for being so understanding.

FROM THE UNIT BOARD

President's Message

By June Pocock

This will be my last message as president of Unit 430 and I would like to share a few thoughts with you. I will try not to ramble but to put it bluntly "I'm not a woman of a few words." As I look out the window and I can't help but appreciate that spring has arrived. Spring elicits so many different images and meanings: spring cleaning, new beginning, renewal, growth and the one that affect me most "spring fever". (Ed. note: *Watch out, Larry.*)

Spring fever has also affected the unit board. We are all restless and anxious to get cleaning. As I mentioned in one of my earlier messages, we had a problem with the election process last year, and are now eager to make amendments. Jeremy has diligently come up with some new and exciting ideas (Ed. note: *Oh yeah. And you thought Star Wars: The Phantom Menace was exciting? Just wait 'til you read my revised bylaws. I'm sure you'll be able to talk about nothing else for months...*), as I'm sure you will read about in one of his opinionated articles. I would like to personally extend an invitation to all of you to come out to the AGM on July 3 at the Vancouver Bridge Centre, so that you can take part in the voting process. At this point, I would also like to invite you to be a member of the unit board. There is a place waiting for you. Please — we need new bodies and ideas: you know, out with the old and in with the new.

Having the Spring Nationals in Vancouver raised the unit's awareness on the need for growth. Our membership and club attendance has been on the decline so we decided to follow in the ACBL's footsteps and put a lot of energy into recruiting new members. The IN (intermediate newcomers) program at the nationals was given a large part of the budget. It sure paid off, as attendance was much larger than expected. Hoping to ride on the wave of this success we planned a Future Stars Tournament. We anticipated that the "bridge fever" new players had caught at the nationals would overflow to our tournament and ultimately to our clubs.

The Future Stars Tournament was held on April 17 & 18 at the North Shore Winter Club. I am proud to say that the unit board and our local club owners worked together to ensure the success of the tournament. I want to thank all the clubs for their encouragement and support and I would be

remiss if I didn't single out certain people for special thanks. **Hazel Dressler** (Burnaby Club), **Ernie Dietrich** (East Richmond Club), **Gilbert Lambert** (Sur-Del and Fraser Valley Clubs), and **Eugene Chan** (Vancouver Bridge Centre) all donated free plays. **Louis Landau** (North Shore Winter and Vancouver Bridge Club) not only donated free plays; he helped secure the site rental and he gave an excellent bridge lesson. **Judy Strebinger** also gave an encouraging and informative bridge lesson, as did **Brad Bart**, who was also the Tournament Chairman and did a great job running the event, and showed an extraordinary ability to adjust to unforeseen complications.

Along with the free plays and bridge lessons, winners at the Future Stars also brought home section-top prizes and trophies. On the whole, the tournament was a great success but there were a few problems. The lounge at the North Shore Winter club was booked in February. A week before the tournament, Brad was notified that the lounge was no longer available due to a yearly booked event that they had neglected to pencil in their calendar. He had to settle on a much smaller playing site. We did get complaints from the players and this was reflected in attendance. There were 37 tables on Saturday and 19 tables on Sunday. Although these numbers are up substantially from the past four years we were disappointed in the decrease in attendance on Sunday. On a brighter note, the Downtown Mission was thankful for the donation of boxed lunches. Now that we have planted the seed of awareness in these new players, we hope to encourage them to continue playing. Mark Eddy, new members coordinator, will be contacting and encouraging them to come out to our clubs. Hopefully with this concentrated effort we can achieve our goals.

There are so many other subjects that I would like to share with you. We are continuing our search for new and better bridge sites; we are working on a new subsidy policy; we are trying to improve communication between clubs, Unit and ACBL, in other words, we are trying our best to make bridge worthwhile for all our members. I have enjoyed being part of this process. My term is finished in July and I want to thank all of you for your support. I just had an odd thought - I'm being "spring cleaned" and early this summer you will have a new president along with 6 new board members. Remember - *we need you to vote*. Thanks and keep enjoying bridge.

STaC WEEK - June 7th to June 13th, 1999

A STaC - Sectional Tournament at Clubs — gives players a chance to earn silver points at their regular club's weekly game. Top scores will be compared across the district for overall awards.

Stratified games use the normal ranges — A is 1000+, B is 300+, C is 0 - 300. The game will likely cost an extra \$1.50, but proceeds go to a worthy cause: us! So come out June 7th through 13th and support your district!

FROM THE UNIT BOARD

With apologies to the nearsighted, the existing by-laws...

Article I - Unit Jurisdiction

The geographical area within which this Unit shall have jurisdiction shall be such area as is presently or may be in the future assigned to it by the Board of Directors of the ACBL.

Article II - Membership

A. Any person of good moral character and residing within the jurisdiction of the Unit, subject to District regulations, is eligible for membership, and no person shall be denied membership because of race, creed, or color.

B. Such person, upon favourable action, shall become and remain a member unless:

1. He changes his residence to a place outside the jurisdiction of the unit, in which case he shall become a member of the new Unit immediately on processing by the League of his change of address.

2. He has failed to pay his dues in accordance with regulations of the American Contract Bridge League.

3. He has been suspended or expelled from membership in accordance with regulations established by the ACBL and the Board of Directors of the Unit, provided, however, that such regulations as are established by the Board of Directors of the Unit shall not be in conflict with the regulations of the ACBL.

C. Membership in the Unit carries with it membership in the ACBL.

Article III - Dues

Annual dues shall be in the amount fixed by the ACBL.

Article IV - Membership Meetings

A. There shall be an annual meeting of the members, which may be held in connection with a tournament or special event which Unit members attend.

B. The Unit Board of Directors shall fix the time and place of the annual meeting. Form of the notice of meeting shall be at the discretion of the Board of Directors of Unit 430 in accordance with the regulations of the ACBL.

C. Special meetings of the members may be called at any time to consider specific subject matters by the Unit Board of Directors or by the President or by a petition signed by fifty (50) of the members and submitted to the Unit President or Secretary. Notice of the time and place of any special meeting shall be given by mail at least ten (10) days before such meeting. The notice of any special meeting shall contain an Agenda of the matters to be taken up at such meeting. No other business shall be acted upon at such special meeting.

D. A quorum for the transaction of business at any annual meeting shall consist of twenty-five (25) members.

Article V - Unit Board of Directors

A. Number of Directors: The affairs of the Unit shall be managed and conducted by the Unit Board of Directors which shall consist of twelve elected persons and, on occasion (as per Section B below) the President from the previous term. All Directors must be members of the Unit.

B. Term of Office: Each year six Directors shall be elected for a two-year term beginning July 1st. The Director who served as President just prior to the expiry of his term of office shall, without election, serve the following year as past-President unless he/she chooses to run for a new two-year term on the Board. All elected Directors shall hold office until their successors have been duly elected.

C. Nomination of Directors: The Board of Directors, at least sixty (60) days prior to the Annual membership meeting, shall select a Nominating Committee, composed of at least three active persons, a majority of whom shall not be members of the current Board of Directors. Any member other than the nominating committee may send the name of a person or persons with written consent of the nominee(s) to the Chairman of the Nominating Committee by June 1st. The Nominating Committee shall prepare a slate of nominees to be made available to the members at least twenty-one (21) days before the Annual Meeting unless the number of nominees does not exceed the number of vacancies in which case those nominees shall be deemed to be elected. The board may include a maximum of three club owners and/or unit employees.

D. Election of Directors: To qualify as a voting member at the annual election, members must be included in the League's April computer listing of Vancouver Unit members. Every qualified member shall be entitled to one vote for each director to be elected. Voting shall be by secret ballot at the B.C. Championships sectional with provision for absentee ballots by request of the returning officer. The ballots must be received by June 30th. All candidates are entitled to have witnesses at the counting.

E. Vacancies: Any vacancy on the Unit Board of Directors shall be filled by the Board of Directors and any person so appointed shall hold office for the balance

of the fiscal year.

F. Meetings: The Unit Board of Directors shall hold a minimum of ten (10) meetings a year.

G. Quorum: Seven directors shall constitute a quorum at Board meetings.

H. Powers and Duties: In addition to the power herein granted by other provisions herein, and by the laws of the Province of British Columbia, the Unit Board of Directors shall have powers and duties including but not limited to:

1. The conduct, management, supervision and control of the business and assets of the Unit;

2. Conduct of Unit tournaments;

3. The employment and discharging of employees, and the supervision of their conduct and fixing of their compensation.

I. Board Membership: The Unit Board of Directors shall be the sole judge of its membership.

J. Honoraria: Each director shall be entitled to six free plays at any unit sectionals upon the completion of each year of service on the unit board. Free plays are non-transferable and must be used within one year of the date of issue. A director shall be entitled to miss one unit board meeting/year, but will be deducted one free play for each additional meeting missed during the year. A director who resigns or is impeached shall receive no free plays for the year of resignation or impeachment.

Article VI - Unit Officers

A. Number: The officers of the Unit shall consist of a President (whose term of office shall not exceed two consecutive years), a Vice-President, a Secretary and a Treasurer.

B. Election of Unit Officers: The Unit Board of Directors shall elect all officers at its first meeting following the annual membership meeting, and the persons elected shall hold office for one year or until their successors have been duly elected.

C. Vacancies: Vacancies due to death, resignation or other cause shall be filled by the Unit Board of Directors.

D. Duties: The duties of the officers shall be those that ordinarily pertain to their respective offices and such others as may be assigned by the Unit Board of Directors.

Article VII - Impeachment

Any director may be removed for cause from any meeting of the Unit Board of Directors provided two-thirds of those present (and consisting of at least seven (7) members) shall so vote. Any directors against whom impeachment charges shall be brought shall be notified in writing, by registered mail, of charges against him, at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting and shall be given the opportunity to be heard before the Unit Board of Directors and to be represented by counsel of his own choosing. Absence from three consecutive meetings may be cause for removal of a director.

Article VIII - Committees

The president shall appoint such committees as may be necessary to perform the functions of the organization. Standing committees shall be appointed with the approval of the Unit Board of Directors.

Article IX - Disciplinary Actions

A unanimous vote of the Directors present is required for expulsion of a member and a two-thirds majority of the Directors present for any other disciplinary action.

Article X - Unit Regulations

The Unit Board shall establish regulations for the proper management of Unit affairs. These regulations will be in accordance with the Bylaws of the ACBL and of this Unit. They will be made known to the membership. Regulations may be altered from time to time by the Unit Board by a vote of seven or more of the directors.

Article XI - Amendments to the Bylaws

Amendments to the Bylaws may be made by the members of the Unit upon petition signed by at least fifty (50) members and submitted to the Secretary at least sixty (60) days in advance of the annual meeting or any special meeting called for the purpose or upon petition signed by at least seven (7) members of the Unit Board of Directors. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to incorporate the text of the proposed amendment in the notice of the meeting. The concurrence of two-thirds of all members present and voting shall be required to pass any amendment.

FROM THE UNIT BOARD

The Proposed Amendments (To be voted on at AGM July 3rd)

Article V - Unit Board of Directors

C. Nomination of Directors: The Board of Directors, at least sixty days prior to the Annual membership meeting, shall select a nominating committee, composed of at most three active members, a majority of whom shall not be members of the current Board of Directors. Any member including members of the nominating committee may send the name of a person or persons with written consent of the nominee(s) to the Chairman of the nominating committee before the date of the election. The nominating committee shall prepare a slate of nominees to be published in the Matchpointer issue immediately preceding the election. Nominations from the floor may be accepted at the election.

D. Election of Directors: To qualify as a voting member at the annual election, members must be included in the league's April computer listing of Vancouver Unit members. Every qualified member shall be entitled to one vote for each director to be elected. Voting shall be by secret ballot. All candidates are entitled to have a witness present at the counting. The board may include a maximum of three club owners and/or employees. Subject to section D.1, the

election shall take place at the sectional or regional closest to June 1st.

D.1. Alternate Election Procedures: The Board may, by two-thirds majority vote, decide to adopt one of the following alternate election procedures to allow the Unit's membership greater access to, and participation in, the election of the Board of Directors:

1. Mail-in ballots.
2. Election at clubs.
3. Election at the Annual Membership Meeting.

Any alternate election method chosen by the Unit Board, and the procedure devised by the Board for the distribution, collection, and counting of ballots, shall be announced in the Matchpointer or by circular at least sixty days prior to the election. The procedures devised by the Board must ensure that only eligible voters are given ballots, and shall provide for nominations "from the floor" at the time of the election, or for write-in votes in the case of mail-in ballots.

E. Vacancies: Any vacancy on the Unit Board of Directors shall be filled by the Board of Directors and any person so appointed shall hold office for the balance of the vacancy's two year term.

1999-2000 Unit Board Elections

The six Board members whose seats have come up for renewal are Sandra Hawk, Patti Adams, Mark Eddy, June Pocock, Harry Friedman, and Dianne Wilson (who was appointed to replace Anne-Marie Bullis). Patti, Sandra, and Harry have decided not to seek re-election, and President June is content to settle into the 13th seat as Past President. The following people have, as of the date of publication, been nominated to fill the six vacancies:

Mark Eddy, currently responsible for New Members Education, seeks re-election. Mr. Eddy is a recent acquisition to the Unit Board, and nobody is quite sure how, exactly, he got on... He has been a regular player, and occasional director (certified, and certifiable), for more than twenty years.

Dianne Wilson, currently STAC co-ordinator, seeks re-election. She took over the position when Anne-Marie left for Sweden, and virtually single-handedly got the June STaC game off the ground and into 60 clubs in North America.

Julian Levesque seeks election to the Unit Board for the first time. Julian is one of the Unit's more active players. He is a regular at the Vancouver Bridge Centre, makes his way to several other clubs in the unit, and provides invaluable

assistance to directors at clubs and sectionals both setting up before and closing up after events. Julian has served on the Board of Directors of the Vancouver Mental Patients Association for three years, and wrote the profile of the Vancouver MPA for the February issue of the Matchpointer.

Diane Ayukawa seeks election to the Unit Board for the first time. Diane is a regular face at many of the Unit's clubs and at sectionals, and has a great deal of experience organizing competitive tennis and badminton, serving as a co-ordinator of the Vancouver City Tennis League. Diane is currently slated to serve as the Partnerships Co-ordinator of the January, 2000, Vancouver Regional.

Jennifer Ballantyne is currently occupying the Unit Board's 13th seat as Past President, which is a testament to her determination given the fact that she isn't really the past president. She now seeks an opportunity to come by a seat "honestly". Jennifer has, in the past, served as president of the Unit several times, and has been actively involved as a bridge organizer for a very long time. Don't quote me on this, but I think her husband plays bridge, too.

Written nominations remain open until June 1st. The chair of the nominating committee is Dianne Isfeld, who can be found nearly anywhere that bridge is played. Nominations from the floor will be accepted at the Annual Membership meeting on July 3.

1999 Helen Shields Rookie-Master Game

This year's Helen Shields Rookie-Master game, conducted April 19 at the Vancouver Bridge Centre, was a rousing success with 24 tables participating. Emerging on top with an incredible 67.66% game was **Dianne Isfeld** and **David Hooey**, a partnership (like most) thrown together at the last minute by Director Eugene Chan. In fact, Mr. Hooey was all set to play with Phoebe Huang, a regular OKBridge partner, when Mr. Chan realized he was short a rookie or two. The solution? Easy. "Mr. Hooey, you have a telephone call." When he returned to the table, Gordie Davis had taken his place, and he was directed to Ms. Isfeld's table. (Note that the Davis/Huang pair finished at 61.91%. Just think... if Eugene had left them alone, they probably would have come in over 80%!)

Ms. Isfeld was modest, as usual, about her result. "I lucked out. He's a very good player. He ended up playing most of the hands, and played them really well. The only really bad boards we had were the ones where I was declarer." Your humble narrator was one of many victims to fall to this terrible twosome. Two boards played, and they left our table with 21.5 out of a possible 22. (See hand to the right.)

The top sixteen finishers of the 47 eligible pairs are listed below, with the masters listed first. A quick glance at the left-hand column will reveal names that are mostly among the who's who of Vancouver club bridge. However, several stand out as being worthy of special congratulations - **Ewa Wroblewicz**, **Lily Jay**, and **Noorali Dhanani** deserve a mention in bold print for guiding their partners **Kristina Piotrowska**, **Lynn Erickson**, and **Nizar Esmail**, respectively, into the winner's circle. However, this year's MV(R)P — Most Valuable Reluctant Player — is **Marie Cahill**, one the up-and-comers from the Vancouver Bridge Centre whose arm had to be twisted by Eugene Chan to play as a master. She and her partner **Miriam Grill** cruised to a 54.32% game, placing 14th overall. (Future opponents take note: don't let their modesty fool you. They're both sharks.)

♠ T865 ♥ 4 ♦ KQT5 ♣ AQ94	♠ A943 ♥ Q765 ♦ J8 ♣ 852	♠ KJ ♥ AKJT82 ♦ 9 ♣ JT76	
	♠ Q72 ♥ 93 ♦ A76432 ♣ K3	Board 18 Dir: E Vul: NS	
E	S	W	N
1H	2D	dbl	P
2H	P	2NT	P
3NT	all pass		

The lineup: your humble narrator and partner versus Hooey-Isfeld. Hooey guides the auction to 3NT, and I dutifully lead my honour in partner's suit. Partner overtakes the jack with his ace, and with an optimism typical of rookies playing with alleged masters, returns a small diamond. Hooey plops down his ten, and pitches a small heart. This, says me, is a sign that things ain't gonna be pretty. He then leads a small heart, and spurns the winning finesse taking the Ace, and plays the jack of clubs, which holds the trick. The ten of clubs drops partner's king, which is taken by the Ace. This, says me, is another sign things ain't gonna be pretty. I start to see a squeeze/throw-in on the horizon when he plays off a third club and leads a spade to his KJ. I duck, he finesses, and partner wins the Queen. He then returns a diamond, taken by Hooey as I start cursing his name and insulting his parentage under my breath. A spade lead to my Ace, and I say "Hah! Had you kept a high club in dummy, instead of your hand, you'd have an entry to your good K of hearts. As it is, it's going to die, wasted, in dummy." Then it hits me. I'm screwed. He needs the club as an entry back if I choose to return a heart instead of hooking myself into his T8 of spades. I choose the spade, giving him 4 clubs, 3 diamonds, 1 heart, and 2 spades, for +430 and an absolute top. I still can't figure out how he did it.

1999 Helen Shields Rookie-Master Game

1.	Dianne Isfeld - David Hooey	67.66
2.	Don Sache - Carrie Beavington	64.31
3.	Pauline Lee - Mae Chu	63.22
4.	Gordon Davis - Phoebe Huang	61.91
5.	Larry Pocock - Kas Dykstra	61.52
6.	Mary Fines - Gordon Lee	61.23
7.	Dionne Kerr - Ture Erickson	60.58
8.	Brad Bart - Samantha Nystrom	58.63
9.	Dave House - Joan Steuart	57.99
10.	Ewa Wroblewicz - Kristina Piotrowska	57.45
11.	Sandra Robson - Ross Irving	56.73
12.	Lila Jay - Lynn Erickson	54.76
13.	Noorali Dhanani - Nizar Esmail	54.36
14.	Marie Cahill - Miriam Grill	54.32
15.	Tai Eng - Bob Neville	54.32
16.	Mark Eddy - Val Davies	53.95

Vancouver 99 - A Retrospective by Doug Cowan

Well, it's over, and judging by all the favourable comments we've received, it seems as though everyone had a good time. The final count was 13,180 tables and over 5500 people played at least once. I understand people came from 38 states, 7 provinces, and 9 foreign countries. I can't say enough nice things about everyone on our committee and all the volunteers who gave their time so willingly, it was really a co-operative effort.

Number one has to be Joan Richards, our Registration and Hospitality Chair, ably assisted by Karen Denton and what seemed like a cast of hundreds of volunteers. Every time I went by the hospitality desk it seemed that Joan and Karen were always there. We almost had to drag Joan away a couple of times to insist that she have the opportunity to play. She has been unanimously selected as the Tournament MVP (Most Valuable Person), and Nancy Foy, the ACBL's NABC Tournament Co-ordinator told me she'd love to hire her to be in charge of hospitality at all the NABC's.

Phil Wood had the title of "Honorary" Chairman, but there was nothing honorary about his contribution. Right from the day the Tournament was awarded to Vancouver, Phil was its biggest booster, travelling to Reno, Chicago and, just a month before the start of the Tournament, to Portland, to help promote it. He was also responsible for Hotel accommodation, especially after the Host Hotels had filled, arranged for the weekly parking passes, and of course it was his connections that made possible the Opening Night visit from the Lieutenant Governor. It was a nice gesture for the ACBL to honour him at the Goodwill Committee Reception on Monday evening, as well as giving him a nice tribute in the Daily Bulletin. If this really is the end of his long and distinguished career, he certainly went out in style.

One of the highlights of the Tournament was the great success of the Intermediate/Newcomer program, so ably run by Fran & Terry Gould, assisted by Marguerite & Murray Wiggins and Judy Cotterman of the ACBL. There were 1154

tables in the I/N events, about 9% of the tournament which is one of the highest percentages in recent NABC's, but even more encouraging is that over 1300 different people played in these events, better than 20% of the total attendance. This bodes well for the future of Bridge and the success of all the Newcomer programs and Bridge classes that are ongoing. I encourage everyone who took part to continue to participate regularly at whatever level you feel comfortable. I understand the Speaker Program was a big hit, and that Eddie Kantar for one could make it as a comedian if he ever needed a career change.

Among the others who deserve our thanks and congratulations are Associate Chairman Aidan Ballantyne who was mainly in charge of publicity and the Charity program. His wife Jennifer, who had the thankless job of rounding up all the volunteers; Kathy Appleby, who did such a great job with the Restaurant Guide, while still holding down a responsible position at BCIT; Rose Miller, our Treasurer who also was largely responsible for making the Caddy outfits; Jude Goodwin-Hanson, who designed and coordinated the website; Steve Beaton, our Secretary who also organized the Buskers, which proved to be a big hit; Patti Adams, who spent a pretty stressful week making sure the Partnership desks were adequately staffed at all times; June Pocock, who along with Jackie Mathews recruited and scheduled the caddies; Kathy Adachi, who liaised with all the clubs in the Lower Mainland, ensuring that everyone was aware of the importance of having a NABC "at home"; Sid Robinson, who looked after the Section Top Prizes; and finally, my wife Julie, who was not officially part of the committee but had to put up with my spending a lot of time on Tournament business while still allegedly keeping a regular job, and who frequently had to field bridge related phone calls in my absence.

From all I hear, it won't be that long until we get another one - bet on 2008! However after serving several years on the Unit Board, the District Board, and as Chairman of two Regionals and now an NABC, I think it's time I retired from any further involvement in bridge, except as a player, but I have enjoyed it immensely, and I extend my very best wishes to my successors.

Nominations for the Don Fraser Award

Don Fraser was a well-known and respected member of Unit 430. Dubbed the "gentleman" of bridge, his conduct was exemplary. He was always respectful, courteous and congenial to partners and opposition alike. Don also made every effort to involve new players in the game. In addition to providing assistance and encouragement, he conducted lessons and seminars to further bridge education. He was a mentor to many of us.

The Unit Board is now accepting nominations for the Don Fraser Award. Remember to take into account all of the above noted qualities into consideration when selecting a nominee. Nomination forms should include, in detail, your reasons for nominating the person based on this criteria.

Members should bear in mind that because the recipient of this award must exhibit such high standards of conduct, participation and contribution, it may not be possible to allocate this award every year.

Dianne Wilson

Neophyte at the Nationals by Eda Kadar

It was with some trepidation that I first approached the NABC. My forays to sanctioned events had previously been limited to the Kitsilano Community Centre, where the cost of a game was \$1.75 (which you got back if you placed), and where miserable opponents, critical partners, and punitive director calls were (mostly) unknown. Parting with my first \$15.50 was difficult, but the prospect of game after unlimited game for ten full days beckoned.

As I began to play, the panic that I expected to feel vanished, and the 0-20 "magic" began. My first three days were very successful, with a 1st N/S (2nd overall) on Friday, a trophy for 1st overall on Saturday, and a sweep of the field in the 199'er Swiss. Celebrating in the lounge afterwards, I was exhilarated by the team victory and camaraderie something I'd never before experienced.

The cracks began to show on Tuesday in the 50-100 game, and again in the National 49'er Pairs on

Wednesday, though in the latter event my partner and I finished 6th out of 34 and got our first speck (0.08) of gold.

During my 10 days of heaven I accumulated 12.53 masterpoints to add to my 11.74, and ended up with four trophies in all. Those in the know tell us that future wins will never be the same. Neophyte wins are special. But for me, Vancouver's NABC would have been special even without the wins. The atmosphere was electric. The people were exceptionally friendly and enthusiastic, and I was impressed to no end with the never ending ambassadors in the form of participants, opponents, volunteers, directors, ACBL staff, and the multitudes of people that brought this event together. I have never met a friendlier, more approachable group of people, so worthy of the highest praise.

For my fellow beginners who shared my reservations about tournament duplicate, I'd suggest that you check it out. This NABC was the most incredible experience of my life, lighting the fire of my passion for serious duplicate bridge.

A Claim in Record Time by Anne Scott

It was the first evening of the 42nd Spring NABC, and I was on my way to play in the first event, the Charity Stratified Open Pairs. Driving in from Deep Cove, a surge of excitement hit me at Gastown, as I realized that the 10 days of bridge I had been looking forward to for so long were finally here.

The moment I stepped out of the elevator from the parking lot, there were bridge players galore, talking spades, jump overcalls, waving their convention cards in the air. It was wonderful, fabulous, and amazing to see.

My next job was to find Joerg Schneider, my partner for the night. I need not have worried; he quickly found me, and, having bought our entry, guided me to our table.

As we sat down, our opponents arrived and we introduced ourselves. To my left was a gentleman from Boston, and the opponent on my right introduced himself as Jaggy, from India. "India!" I gasped. "You mean you have travelled all the way from India to be here?"

At the same time, Joerg was looking at him very carefully, when a look of recognition crossed his face. "Aren't you Jaggy Shivdasani, who *played* for India?"

"Yes", he replied, "but unfortunately I came to the difficult decision not to play for India again."

Now my heart was pounding. My first board of the tournament was going to be against one of India's top players. What chance did I stand? I'm going to be mentally mutilated and eaten alive! Then, suddenly, I had a change of attitude. What were my odds of meeting Martina Navratilova in the first set of a tennis tournament? I should relish this occasion, not be paralyzed by it.

On the first hand, our opponents bid to 6NT, and I was on lead. HELP!!! "Well," I thought, picking out my sole honour, the Ace of diamonds, "maybe Joerg has the king." As I plopped down my Ace, Jaggy paused for a microsecond, then claimed. Aside from my lonely Ace, they had fifteen tricks. It was the fastest claim I've ever seen.

It's interesting to note that all four of us at the table were originally from opposite ends of the planet. Myself, from Northern England, Joerg from Sudetengau (then under Czech rule), Jaggy from India, and his partner from Boston. Bridge is truly a global game, enjoyed by many from all types of religious and ethnic backgrounds.

Thank you Doug Cowan and committee for a terrific tournament, one I will always remember.

Quest for Glory at the Nat's by Dave House

The Spring NABC's blew into Vancouver in mid-March and for 10 days many of us could be found under the sails having the time of our lives. The tournament site was great and the local organizers did a terrific job. Tournament attendance was huge, with many players from all parts of BC boosting numbers well past projections. Everything about the tournament was outstanding except for my bridge results.

My team won its first match in the Charity Knockouts, but failed by one IMP in the second round the next morning. Now it was matchpoint time. I wrote last issue of the star-studded field we would encounter in the National Open Pairs I Final. I never found out. I had an expert partner, but a 46% game in the afternoon and a 44% game in the evening, which left us far from qualifying. It also left me wondering how I could make so many stupid decisions and boneheaded plays in 52 boards!!

The next day I played in an event I hadn't heard of before; a Compacted Bracketed Knockout. This consisted of four twelve-board matches over two sessions. What a great idea! However, our squad lost its first match by one IMP and were eliminated. We went on to win the consolation and salvage a scrap of confidence.

The tournament schedule had lots of opportunity to play IMPs. I entered the next morning knockout with an all-local squad of June Pocock and Ben and Mike Takemori, and we survived to the final with one IMP victories in the second and third rounds. Maybe things were getting better? It was time to try matchpoints again.

I entered the National Mixed Pairs with my partner of choice, Margaret Pearce of the Okanagan. Our first session didn't seem to go too badly, but the scoresheet said we'd had a 46% game. This was not good. There was still a second session to play and although qualifying for the final seemed very unlikely, I sat down that evening determined to accomplish one thing: I wanted to score above average. That's all. Over 50%. Surely this was not impossible.

The hands in the mixed second qualifying were the same hands played in the March 23 ACBL-Wide Charity Game. We sat N-S and first up was board 27. We duplicated the recommended auction in the analysis sheet to a 3NT contract. The analysis says, "Easts who happen to find a heart lead will earn a top." Bingo! Minus 150 was worth one half matchpoint on a 51 top. On board 28 East elected to rebid 2H over his partner's 1NT rebid. In the spirit of charity, we gave the opponents an extra overtrick and scored 9.5 matchpoints for a total of 10 out of 102 on the first round. We had a 10% game going. This was not good.

On board 29, the new opponents overbid and gave us a good score, but on board 30, after hearing 1D - pass - 1NT, I was looking at Tx/KJTxxx/AJ/xxx. The analysis says, "If North passes timidly..." Not me! I ventured a 2H bid, but pard failed to raise me to game and +200 was worth only 12.5. Nonetheless, we had improved to 31% after four boards.

Board one came next, and partner failed in a cold game for a cold zero. The opponents were back to the rescue on board 2. It was a typical mixed-pairs auction: the wife opened the bidding, and hubby drove to a slam that had absolutely no play. Even game was tricky. The result was down three and +150 was a cold top. Sometimes, on some hands, all you have to do is just sit there. Another average round, and after 6 boards we were up to 37%.

Board 3 was normal and on board 4 my partner (the tiger) bid and made a spade slam. After four rounds we were a shade below 48%.

Board 5 saw me go brain dead as I overbid to 6NT. Pard lost the club finesse at trick one, and the opponents could now cash the A-K of diamonds, but didn't. Twelve tricks were now available (5 H's, 2 C's, and 5 S's) but pard had to hook the TS with AKQTx opposite her singleton. Top or bottom. Bottom!! 46% after 10 boards. This was not good.

On the next round we ran into a pair who were not doing well and acted desperately. We collected a 51 and a 39 and finally, after 12 boards, we were above average at 53%. The next pair of opponents were solid and we slid back to 51%. Here we go again!

Fortunately for us, in the last six rounds of this event we ran into several pairs even more depressed and desperate than we were, and we played solidly and aggressively pulled our game up to 57% for three rounds, and up to 59% with four boards to go.

We defended on seven out of the last ten boards, and defeated five contracts. We got up to 62% on the penultimate round, and finished at 61%. We were above average!! In fact, we had the top N/S score across 6 sections and had won 10 of the new PLATINUM points! We had qualified to play in the National Mixed Final. Who'd have thunk it??

So remember, boys and girls, a matchpoint event consists of 26 hands, and each of them is only worth 1/26th. A zero or two is not the end of the world. You can't change it, so just clear your mind and move forward. Maybe things will get better. (Ed. note: for a related anecdote, see the brief blurb on the IMP league flight B, page 16.)

P.S. We didn't do particularly well in the final, and yes, I did go for 2800 on one board, but for one session we managed to break average.

PLACE YOUR BETTS

The Incomparable Phil Wood by Lawrence Betts

Whether it is a result of youthful naivete or a lack of printable material, Matchpointer editor Jeremy Crowhurst has asked me to contribute a column for each edition. For those who don't know me, I have been part of the local bridge scene for the past three decades as a director, administrator, writer, teacher, and pro, but mostly just as a player. Those who do know me realize that I'm opinionated, outspoken, and I don't pull my punches. Should be fun; get ready to duck!

Rather than starting out with what is wrong or could stand improvement, let's spend this first column on something that has been consistently positive. Let's talk about Phil. For the tournament player, "Phil" meant head director Phil Wood. From many other quarters Phil has been lauded for his ceaseless promotion of the game as well as his background in the local sports scene, but I'm going to dwell on the job he did running the tournaments. Not that we never butted heads; during a disagreement over some aspect of tournament procedure when I was on the Unit Board, Phil pontificated "Unit Boards will come and go, but I'll be here forever". Mercifully, that's been true.

Then there was the time at the '75 Saskatoon Regional when I was to play in my first knockout final the next morning. Add to that fact that I was playing professionally and you can see why I was too hyper to be getting a good night's sleep and was hanging around the midnight pairs instead. After a couple of "pops" I spied an opening in the game. A pair I knew were a board behind, thus were unable to complete the move when called. I dragooned an accomplice into "filling in" at the next table, but when the pair I knew finally finished and came to the next table to see what had happened, they weren't in on the joke. The director was summoned and Phil read me the Riot Act and for a while there I was worried about being able to play in the morning. I was let off with a reprimand and went on to triumph in the morning knockout final.

The areas where Phil was at his best were table rulings and seeding. I'm sure that fewer of Phil's rulings were appealed to a committee than those of his juniors. By his own admission, Phil is not a strong player, but he was a first-class judge of bridge ability, thus he would seek

opinions involving bridge judgment from the other directors and, more importantly, from other players. I, and other senior players, would be discreetly asked our opinion of a certain bridge situation, with no names involved of course, and Phil would build a consensus and rule accordingly.

It was seeding where Phil had no peers. Two examples came to mind: the '75 Helena Montana Knockout is one. Back then, all Tuesday was spent in a Swiss Team trying to qualify for the Open Knockout. The top 16 finishers qualified but then the field was seeded by the directors, headed by Phil, for the Knockout. Our team was seeded 5th, and we beat the 11th seed in the first round, before losing to the 4th seed in the quarter final. The top seeds met in the final with the favorite coming out on top. Upon close examination it was revealed that there had been no upsets at all in the 15 matches necessary to determine a champion. Phil had seeded the field perfectly!

Fast forward to the '86 Portland Spring NABC. I entered the Vanderbilt with a strong team, but it was a small field and we were an unseeded team playing against the #22 seeded team from Philadelphia, who also happened to be the winners the Springgold the previous summer. I ran into Phil the night before the match and told him our draw, and asked him what he thought. He took a full minute, what with twelve different players involved, and said he thought we would lose by 24 IMPs. I don't know why we even bothered to play the match. We lost it (64 boards) by exactly 24 IMPs.

For all his consensus building and detailed seeding, sometimes his method got derailed. At a Vancouver Sectional Mixed Pairs event, an Ontario emigre complained to Phil that he and his latest squeeze should have rated a #1 seed, ahead of an accomplished local married couple. Taking this complaint seriously, Phil sought the counsel of a certain local expert whose reputation at the bridge table was equalled by his reputation in the bedroom. Phil asked our man to compare the two females from the pairs involved. "Who's better?" asked Phil. "I don't know," was the response, "I haven't slept with either one". Phil chuckled, and persevered, "Who's better then, _____ or _____?", naming the two men. "I don't know, I haven't slept with them either." came the rejoinder.

Phil is retired now, and doesn't run the tournaments anymore. He does drop by sometimes, and when he does, he gives the event an added touch of class.

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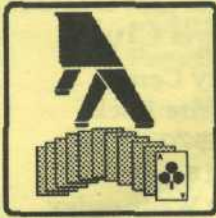
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MATCHPOINTER YELLOW PAGES

MONDAY		
10:00	VCR	stratified
10:45	BBY	open
7:15	SRY	open; str. 1st
	TSW	open
7:30	CWK	str. last
	SQU	1st hcp; 3d trph. race
	HBN	open to all
	VBC	0-200 MP

TUESDAY		
10:45	VBC	stratified
11:00	S-W	open
7:30	NSW	open
	BBY	open
	VBC	stratified

WEDNESDAY		
10:00	VCR	stratified
10:30	HAS	open
10:45	VBC	0-100 MP
11:00	ABB	open
7:15	WRK	stratified
	VCR	stratified
7:30	C.R	open
	M-R	open
	VBC	stratified by LMs

THURSDAY		
11:00	JCC	open
7:15	F.V	open
7:30	MIS	open
	VBC	0-20
	VBC	stratified

FRIDAY		
10:45	VBC	Strat. Open
7:30	ABB	open
	PKB	see ad for dates
	S-D	open
	VBC	open; TGIF party last
	NSW	1st Fri/month only (team game)

SATURDAY		
1:00	VBC	Rubber bridge
7:30	VBC	MUG 1st Sat/month

SUNDAY		
1:00	RMD	open
6:30	VBC	strat. IMP pairs

Sunshine Coast Bridge Club
 5653 Wharf Road, Suite 202, Sechelt
 Rudy Notzl 885-5552 Partners Guaranteed

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

Social Bridge/Bridge Plus/Seminars

Jewish Community Centre Bridge Club
 950 W. 41st Ave, Vancouver
 Thursdays at 11 am
All players welcome!
Connie Delisle 263-9196
 Partnerships: Marge Groberman 266-7722

South Surrey Bridge Club
 1284 184th Street, South Surrey
 (Semiahmoo Fish & Game Club)
 Director: Arlene Browning 1-604-870-9300
 Mondays at 7:15 pm

First Monday of month Stratified
 Computer Scoring Partners Guaranteed
 CC: Norm Treleaven & Jean Brooks
 Big Game: Judy Acheson & Maggie Warren 70.14%
 STaC Game June 7th

Polski Klub Brydzowy
 Polish Combatant Centre, 1134 Kingsway
 Waldemar Jez 527-8854
 Alternate Fridays, 7:30 pm invitation only
 June 4, 18, closed Jul/Aug
 Reopens Sept. 3, 17, Oct. 1, 15
 Games free with \$15 yearly membership
 (non ACBL affiliated)
<http://members.home.net/polishbridge>

Central Richmond Bridge Club

7891 Cambie Road, Rmd.
(Richmond Rod & Gun Club)

coffee & goodies computer scoring
Albert Yallouz 321-1891
Wednesdays at 7:30 sharp

Club Championship July 14
STaC Game June 9

STAC Winners: John Whittlesey & Danny Lee

Hastings Bridge Club

1950 Windermere St. (at 4th Ave), Vancouver
cookies, tea & coffee

Marianne Scott 298-3932
Wednesdays at 10:30 am sharp

Club Champ. May 26 STaC June 9

Club Abbreviations and Contacts

Abbr.	Club Name	Club Contact	Phone No.	Page
ABB	Abbotsford DBC	Bob Percher	792-4389	14
ARB	Arbutus Village BC (By invitation only)	Shirley Bowers	732-3252	14
BBY	Burnaby DBC	Hazel Dressler	524-4445	14
C.R.	Central Richmond BC	Albert Yallouz	321-1891	12
CWK	Chilliwack DBC	Bob Percher	792-4389	14
F.V.	Fraser Valley BC	Gilbert Lambert	526-1240	14
HAS	Hastings BC	Marianne Scott	298-3932	12
HBN	Hollyburn BC	Louis Landau	984-8309	13
JCC	Jewish Comm. Ctr. DBC	Connie Delisle	263-9196	11
MIS	Mission DBC	Bob Percher	792-4389	14
M-R	Maple Ridge DBC	Bob Percher	792-4389	14
NSW	North Shore Winter Club	Louis Landau	984-8309	14
PKB	Polish Bridge Club*	Waldemar Jez	527-8854	11
RMD	East Richmond BC	Ernie Dietrich	936-2298	13
S-D	Sur-Del BC	Gilbert Lambert	526-1240	14
S-W	South-West DBC	Finn Schultz	534-5025	14
SRY	South Surrey BC	Arlene Browning	870-9300	11
SQU	Squamish DBC	Lorraine Hurren	898-2702	13
SUN	Sunshine Coast BC*	Rudy Notzi	885-5552	11
TSW	Tsawassen BC	Finn Schultz	534-5025	14
VBC	Vancouver Bridge Centre	Club line:	255-2564	13
VCR	Vancouver BC	Louis Landau	984-8309	13
WRK	White Rock BC	Arlene Browning	870-9300	12

White Rock Bridge Club

Sunnyside Community Centre
1854 154th Street, White Rock
Arlene Browning 870-9300

Wednesdays at 7:15 pm

Stratified game every last Wednesday

Big Game: 71.3% Norm Treleaven & Gary Scollon
June 2 Club Champ June 9 STaC

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Squamish Bridge Club

1471 Pemberton Str., Squamish 892-1066

Mondays at 7:30 pm
monthly handicap and trophy race games

Lorraine Hurren 898-2702

Hollyburn Bridge Club

Hollyburn Country Club
950 Cross Creek, West Vancouver

Mon. 7:30 pm Open to all!
Thur. 9:30 am, invitation only

Louis Landau 984-8309

East Richmond Bridge Club

7891 Cambie at River Rd
(Richmond Rod and Gun Club)

Ernie Dietrich 936-2298
\$5.00 entry includes lunch
Sundays at 1:00 pm

First Sunday of the month is stratified
Next C.C. June 6 STaC Game June 13

Current Champs: Tai Eng, Insa Fricker

Vancouver Bridge Club

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

Louis Landau 984-8309

All games non-smoking. Computer scoring.

Monday	10:00 am	stratified
Wednesday	10:00 am	stratified
Wednesday	7:15 pm	stratified

Both Wednesday games are jackpot games.
All holiday Mondays are PARTY DAYS with door prizes, goodies, etc.

UPCOMING SPECIAL GAMES Club Championships

Mon. a.m.	Wed. a.m.	Wed. p.m.
Jul. 19	May 26	Jun. 23

STaC Games Mon. June 7 & Wed. June 9 (am & pm)
Mon. Aug. 2 10:00 am B.C. Day Ambleside Open Pairs

Thursday July 1 10:00am St. David's Swiss Teams
Two sessions. Free muffins, coffee, cookies, lunch.
\$72 per team. \$100 first prize. Proceeds will be donated to the St. David's United Church Ladies.

Vancouver Bridge Centre 2776 E. Broadway, Vancouver, B.C. 255-2564 Lessons, Books, Seminars

Upcoming Special Events

NAOP Qualifiers! June 1, June 21 (NLM 500 mp max), June 30, July 8, July 20

Monthly Unit Games: 7:30 pm Sat. June 5, July 3, Aug. 7

STAC Week June 7 - 13 All sessions.

Seniors day! All day Tuesday, June 8, July 13 & Aug 10 Seniors get \$1.00 off!

T.G.I.F. Bidding Contest last Friday of each month (June 25, July 30)

Club Anniversary HATB Dinner & Swiss Teams Sunday, June 27, 6pm

ACBL Wide International Fund Game Friday, July 23, 7:30 pm.

Club Championships:

Tues, May 25, 10:45 am Winner Take All

Wed, June 16, 7:30 pm Strat by Experts

Tues, July 6, 7:30 pm Winner Take All

Wed, July 14, 10:45 am Adventures in Duplicate

Sun, May 30, 6:30 Early Bird Pairs

Fri, June 25, 10:45 am Friday AM

Mon, July 26, 7:30 0-200

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Mon	7:30	0-200
Tues	10:45	Strat. Open
	7:30	Strat. Open
Wed	10:45	Newplicate: 0-100
	7:30	Strat. by # of LM's
Thur	7:30	Strat. Open
	7:30	Rookie (0-20) Game
Fri	10:45	new time Strat Open
	7:30	Lucky Number Open
Sat	—	aft. & eve. rubber
Sun	6:30	open IMP pairs

SUMMER IMP LEAGUE

Starts Monday, July 19th, 7:30 pm.
Contact the club for more details.

Winners play free first Sunday of the month! Any player who finished first overall in any session in the preceding month gets a free play, the first Sunday of the next month, at 6:30 pm.

Burnaby Duplicate Bridge Club

1491 Carleton Ave, Burnaby
Hazel Dressler 524-4445

Mondays
10:45 am

Tuesdays
7:30 pm

Important Dates

Monday, June 7 & Tuesday, June 8: STaC Game

Current Club Champions
Aase Haines & Eleanor Webb

Now With Computer Scoring! Call ahead for partners

North Shore Winter Bridge Club

1325 E. Keith Road, North Vancouver

Tuesdays at 7:30 pm

Club Championship February 23

Louis Landau 984-8309

Arbutus Village Bridge Club

Arbutus Village Recreation Centre
2B - 4255 Arbutus Street, Vancouver

BY INVITATION ONLY

Shirley Bowers 732-3252 coffee, tea, cookies

Thursdays at 7:30 pm sharp

The Valley Clubs

Partners guaranteed

http://www.wutzon.com/chilliwack/clubs/duplicate_bridge/duplicate_bridge.htm

Bob Percher 792-4389

Chilliwack

Senior Recreation Centre
9400 College Street

Mondays at 7:30 pm
Stratified last Monday/month

CC: Brian Lee, Phil Awram
Next CC: June 21

Maple Ridge

Centennial Ctr. Seniors
Complex: 11940 224 Str.

Wednesdays at 7:30 pm
Club Champs:

F. Tereposky & L. Cowan
L. Brown & R. Sontowski
Charity Game Winners:
G. Skoropada & J. Richoux

Mission

Leisure Centre
7621 Taulbut Avenue

Thursdays at 7:30 pm
Next CC: May 27

Current Champs:
Murray Clement &
Brian Lee

Abbotsford

McCallum Activity Centre
2478 McCallum Road

Wednesdays 11am
Fridays 7:30pm

June 25: ACBL Charity
AM CC: J. Kohlen/L. Percher
PM CC: T. Meek/J. Bolton

Tsawassen Bridge Club

South Delta Rec Centre
1720 56th Str. Delta

Finn Shultz 534-5025 **Mondays 7:15 pm**

STaC Game June 7

Weekly draw for music tape!

South-West Duplicate Bridge Club

White Rock Elks Club
1469 George Street, White Rock

Finn Schultz 534-5025

Tuesdays at 11 am

STaC Game June 8

Weekly draw for music tape!

SUBURBIA CLUBS

Gilbert Lambert 526-1240

Fraser Valley Bridge Club

Century House
620 8th Street
New Westminster
Thursdays 7:15 pm

June 10 STaC
June 17 NAOP qual.
July 22 Charity Game

Closed July 1

Sur-Del Bridge Club

St. Cuthbert
Anglican Church
11601 82nd Ave, Delta
Fridays 7:30 pm

June 11: STaC
June 18: NAOP qual.

July 22 Charity Game

MEET THE PLAYERS

Joan Richards by David Schmidt

In March, she was declared "MVP" of Vancouver's spring North American Championships. In July, she could become the "MVP" of the Canadian Women's Team Championships in Toronto. Of course, it would be for different reasons. In Vancouver, Richards was feted for her efforts as a tournament volunteer. In Toronto, any success the North Vancouver bridge player, director and teacher garners will be as a player.

Like many of her generation, Richards was brought up playing cards and learned bridge at university. Encouraged by a friend, she began playing duplicate at the Hollyburn club in 1982 but didn't take it seriously until moving to Regina two years later.

"I took both the director's course and Audrey Grant's teaching course while in Regina," she recalls, "I taught the Club and Diamond series and directed at our local club."

Richards is a big fan of Grant's program, calling it a "terrific way to teach the basics of bridge. I had a lot of people who had played some bridge but never had a system. Grant gives them a good basic system."

Directing was not a way to make money but a way to help out. In fact, because the Regina club was poor, she and others directed the games for nothing. Since coming back to Vancouver in 1991, Richards has done little directing or teaching.

"So many people are trying to make a living directing and teaching that I don't want to interfere," she says, adding "what I'd really like is to go to social two-table home games, and help them improve their bidding and play."

At present, she just helps out by subbing for Louis Landau or Rose Miller (who directs a small non-sanctioned game for North Vancouver seniors). Her willingness to pitch in without a lot of fanfare got her involved in the NAC's.

"Phil Wood gave my name to the committee," she said, adding she likely would not have volunteered on her own. "I had no idea what the job involved when I took it on. Like most everyone, I was afraid I couldn't do it."

But with a lot of help from other volunteers, especially Karen Denton, do it she could, admirably filling the triple role of chair of registration, hospitality and entertainment, roles filled by three different people at most NAC's. After preparing for two years, Richards kicked into

high gear at the tournament. She was at the registration/hospitality desk virtually non-stop from 8 am to 8 pm each day, returning to co-ordinate the snacks at 10:30 each evening. Because of her extensive behind-the-scenes involvement, she actually played only two days during the ten-day tournament.

The highlight of her participation was "all the people I met. I met so many people I hadn't met before, including some of the people on the committee, and I learned how organized the people from the ACBL are. Seeing how it's done was just an amazing thing."

She insists the involvement was worth the effort, saying "if you could just convince everyone to get involved, they would find it so rewarding."

Richards plays in clubs throughout the Vancouver area, with a constant variety of partners.

"I play three to four times a week but only play with the same partner once or twice a month," she says, adding "you learn more" when playing with different partners. In most cases she plays a basic 2/1, saying the advantage of 2/1 over standard is the extra bidding room it provides.

"You can bid slowly. Once you've gone to the two level, you have room to get information because you don't need to make any more forcing bids."

One player she plays with semi-regularly is Dianne Isfeld. Two years ago, the pair advanced to the CWTC finals in Winnipeg with Bonnie Anderson and Pat Lester. Although they finished in the middle of the pack, Richards thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

"It's so much fun playing at that level," she says.

Richards missed playing in last year's event because she was out of town so jumped at the opportunity when Margie Neate and Stella Alliston asked her to form a team. She again called on Isfeld to be her partner and the foursome tied for first at the BC Championships and another trip to the Canadian championships.

For Richards, this year's event offers a chance to tie in a visit with her daughter who lives in Toronto. Her daughter does not play bridge but may come out to watch her mother during the tournament.

"My kids, and today's kids in general, are too busy to play bridge," she says, "their priorities are different. Young people want to be doing things. Not many have the time it takes for a game and the time it takes to develop as a player. Golf clubs are probably also noticing a decline in young people because a round of golf takes a long time to play and it takes a long time to develop as a golfer."

WELCOME to new members Irene Behr, Elliott Burnell, Alice Guttormsson (we'll just call you "Alice" if you don't mind), Dianne & Donald McDonald, Fred & Natalie McKeon, and Kay Mehdi. You won't regret it, no matter how many finesses don't work. Welcome to Leone Carlile, Michael Cousins, Irene Rasmussens, who are new to Vancouver, and a special welcome to Doreen Rogers, who moved here all the way from Chicago just so she could join the ACBL, play bridge, and see really lousy sports teams.

CONGRATULATIONS

to Gold LM Phyllis Gerber, Silver LM's Roselle McRae, Tai Eng, Aban Gerrie, Daisy Neilson, Grace Jeklin, Bronze LM's Jeanette Greenhut, Peter Morse, Richard Dunn, H.K. Ho, Graham Thomas, and new Life Masters Harold Hansen, Tove Chen, Edward Marchuk, Judy Strebinger, Mary Sutherland, Rangie Sylvestre, Eleanor Webb, Edward Worsfold, and even William Osten even though he's a lawyer.

IMP LEAGUE

FLIGHT A RECAP

by Anonymous Donation

Playoff time has arrived in the IMP League. It has been an exciting year filled with high expectations. Flight A's predictions, done by MC Kool Glaze at the beginning of the season, were almost on the money. He predicted that the Foster, Charleson, Ballantyne, Lindsay, Dimich and Sache teams would make the playoffs. Good work MC but Charleson is out and Winter Ale (House) is in. 5 out of 6 predictions deserve an award: Come on down MC Kool and collect your prize (sorry it isn't the IMP League trophy this year).

At half time Juniper Babycheeks compared the IMP League to a horse race. At that time, one of MC's favorites, Lindsay, was still in the gate and glaringly in last place. There were little snickers heard all around. It's not clear if the snickers were aimed at the Lindsay team or at MC. Bridge players love it when the king of the castle topples, but the last laugh belonged to Lindsay.

After Lindsay defeated the Winter Ale team, Dave House predicted that Lindsay would go undefeated in 1999.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	VP's	AVG.
1. Dimich	A	6	20	28	29	22	22	28	9	10	7	6	187	17.0
2. Charleson	24	A	13	24	19	7	24	10	3	5	7	23	159	14.5
3. Sache	10	17	A	20	21	5	30	20	22	5	10	26	186	16.9
4. Laudan	2	6	10	A	6	23	21	6	7	2	11	21	115	10.5
5. Robson	1	11	9	24	A	11	2	22	4	2	3	22	111	10.1
6. Lindsay	8	23	25	7	19	A	5	25	10	5	19	24	170	15.5
7. McMullin	8	6	0	9	28	25	A	7	22	5	4	22	136	12.4
8. Thomas	2	20	10	24	8	5	23	A	10	9	17	25	153	13.9
9. Foster	21	27	8	23	26	20	8	20	A	12	12	19	196	17.8
10. Ballantyne	20	25	25	28	28	25	25	21	18	A	9	24	248	22.5
11. Winter-Ale	23	23	20	19	27	11	26	13	18	21	A	11	212	19.3
12. Danielson	24	7	4	9	8	6	8	5	11	6	19	A	107	9.7

He was correct. With two matches to play, Lindsay was in a contention position if he could only beat the Charleson team (sitting in 6th at the time). Cam Doner, Charleson's main man, was not enough to stop Lindsay's momentum: they fell 23-7. Lindsay won their last match 25-5, but it wasn't enough to clinch a playoff spot. Charleson still had one match to play, against the corporation affiliated juggernaut, Winter Ale team. They beat

the Charleson team to bring Lindsay into 6th position. Note: Isn't it ironic that a team that was predicted not to make the playoffs would eliminate MC's favorite Charleson and bring Lindsay back to life.

Cam Lindsay was heard to remark, "This would have been the first IMP League in 20 years that I would have missed the playoffs." I guess tradition is worth something.

And in the Valley....

The Valley's Flight B IMP league was concluded on Saturday, May 15th, when Commissioner Bart decided that Team Webster had to be put out of their misery, and forfeited their last two matches. Team Webster was essentially eliminated from the playoffs when it became clear that two of its members were the mercurial Larry Chow, and the invisible Richmond Williams. Mr. Chow would be available for any matches, any time, as long as they were played in Idaho or Montana. Mr. Williams could play any match, any where, as long as it was scheduled for a 3 a.m. start time. Oh well. Like they say in Spain, "Mi tío es enfermo, pero la carretera es verde", which loosely translated means "my uncle is sick but the highway is green." Those Spaniards.

Given the circumstances, the Schmidt team was able to cruise to yet another win, losing once to the second place Moffat team, and once to the Huber team. (Schmidt said they were bribed, but he lies alot. Did you see that slander he wrote about Henneberger in last issue's "Meet the Players"?)

The final standings after the double round-robin are:

Team	W	L	VP's	Avg.
Schmidt	6	2	169	21.1
Moffat	6	2	154	19.3
Faulkner	5	3	125	15.6
Huber	3	7	97	12.1
Webster	0	8	41	5.1

Schmidt plays Moffat to determine who advances to the finals against the city champs.

Tragedy in Flight B by Junior Crow

Okay, I admit it. There is no Dr. Friedman-Hubble. I made him up, and pulled the predictions out of a hat. I might as well have pulled them out of my... nevermind.

Teams Crow and Eng drew byes in the first round of the playoffs, and watched while Morse overcame Lee (rumour has it that they had a 70 IMP lead at halftime), while Sumner got past Jackson. Sumner then played Eng, and overcame a 20 IMP halftime deficit to advance to the finals.

Team Crow approached its match against Team Morse with a bloodlust on its collective mind. Crow's only real

(Continued on page 17)

IMP LEAGUE

thrashing (we don't count results in week one) came at the hands of Morse, and we had something of a score to settle. Also, there was that small matter of that last doughnut that Amir Alibhai snatched away from me during the previous encounter.

Our strategy was well-planned, with tricks carefully planted up sleeve, when calamity struck: a family emergency removed Mamma Crow from the picture, leaving your humble narrator to play with (shudder) McBruce. I had heard stories of McBruce. I had, however, never experienced them firsthand. We had little more than ten minutes to straighten out our card before game time.

Board two saw the following auction: 1H - pass (by me) - 2H - double (by McBruce) - 4H - double (me) - pass - thinkthinkthink... then McBruce started bidding. We ended up in a four-three fit in 5S doubled. We took four tricks, down seven... did I mention vulnerable? -2000. McBruce was

City B	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	VPs	Avg
1. Brown	B	19	8	16	21	21	2	20	7	8	122	13.6
2. Sumner	11	B	10	19	24	14	26	17	24	16	161	17.9
3. Lee	22	20	B	4	24	25	4	2	5	24	130	14.4
4. Morse	14	11	26	B	28	10	12	9	25	28	163	18.1
5. Mead	9	6	6	2	B	26	22	2	8	22	103	11.4
6. Henning	9	16	5	20	4	B	18	2	F	9	83	9.2
7. Jackson	28	4	26	18	8	12	B	9	13	21	139	15.4
8. Eng	10	13	28	21	28	28	21	B	4	24	177	19.7
9. Crowhurst	23	6	25	5	22	20	17	26	B	25	169	18.7
10. Meyer	22	14	6	2	8	21	9	6	5	B	78	13.0

utterly dejected. East-West were very consoling. "Oh look, don't worry about it. I've seen lots of people overcome bigger setbacks", they said, though I could see the drool forming at the corners of their mouths. They smelled roadkill.

The moral of the story? Never give up, my friends. Like Mr. House says on page 9, one board is one board. Anything can happen. Our -2000

resulted in a net loss of 17 IMPs, which we recovered on the next four boards. We held a 45-42 lead at halftime, and proceeded confidently into the second half.

The final score? Nevermind. That's not important. Just remember, never give up, because anything can happen.

Sumner plays Morse in the City final next week.

caddy

DIRECTORS' HELPER

SMILE

NAME TAG

LUNCH MONEY

CLEAN SHIRT

RED DOTS

PENCILS

SCORE SLIPS

ENTRY

FORMS

DUPLICATE BOARDS

NO HOLES IN JEANS

COMFORTABLE SHOES

A bridge tournament Caddy is a person who performs various duties to help in the running of a bridge event. These duties may include picking up score slips, passing duplicate boards, setting up tables, distributing supplies such as pencils, convention cards private score slips, assembling the boards at the conclusion of play and otherwise making himself useful.

Assignment of caddies to work various sessions of a duplicate tournament is the responsibility of the local tournament committee. In the Vancouver Unit, this job is given to a Caddy Master. Currently, our **Caddy Master is Audrey Loy and her phone number is (604) 597-6168.**

Selection of caddies is traditionally made from interested, high-school aged girls and boys. In Vancouver we like to encourage our members to invite their sons, daughters, or grandchildren to work as a caddy. This gives the kids an opportunity to see first-hand what bridge is all about, a chance to earn a bit of pocket money, and maybe even the incentive to become bridge players themselves someday.

If your child or your grandchild is between 13 and 18 years old and is looking for some weekend work call Audrey and she will put his or her name on her list. We have a regional tournament coming up in January and are eager to start training.

THE PLAY'S THE THING

FLANNERY - SMANNERY! by Louis Landau

The setting was the Wednesday Seniors Board-a-match Teams at the last N.A.B.C. I was playing West with my wife against "unknown" visitors from somewhere. The bidding was as shown, and after the 3NT bid by South, I asked North what the bid meant. I was advised that this was to play! I had nothing more to say, so passed the onus to my partner. Being a somewhat aggressive player she did not hesitate to go to game in her suit South, for some reason that never became clear, but presumably because he wanted to make his singleton trump, led H2, and partner proceeded to make all thirteen tricks with no difficulty. When it became apparent that the explanation of the 3NT bid had been wrong, the tournament director was called. He was satisfied that something was indeed wrong, and we

had certainly been misled by the explanation. He promised to "look into the matter" and report back.

A few minutes later he came back and announced that there was nothing he could do to change the final result on the board, and left us guessing exactly what that was supposed to mean. I explained that it had to mean that irrespective of what he would like to do we had either won the board or lost the board, and we would have to wait to see what materialized.

On comparing at the end it became crystal clear. Our opponents played Flannery and so West opened the hand with a 2D bid. North passed and East bid 4NT! When he found that his side were missing one ace he signed off in 6D. As West had bid the diamonds first with his Flannery bid, North was on

♠ J			
♥ T9754			
♦ 86			
♣ KT652			
♠ KT97			♠ Q5
♥ AKJ63			♥ Q8
♦ KT			♦ AQJ95432
♣ 93			♣ A
	♠ A86432		
	♥ 2		
	♦ 7		
	♣ QJ874		
		Dir: W	
		Vul: None	
W	N	E	S
1H	P	2D	3NT
P	P	5D	All pass

lead. He had no problem leading his singleton spade which was won by South and returned for partner to trump and one down!

The director was right, of course, and there was nothing he could do to change the result. I, also of course, have yet another reason for not playing Flannery!

1999 BC WOMEN'S TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIP ENDS IN A TIE

Twenty women attended the recent BC Women's Team Championships held in Vancouver, April 23, 1999. The teams played a total of 66 boards in a two session round robin. In the end, two teams tied for first place with 63 VPs (50 was average). A tie-breaking formula (wherein the win/loss record of each team is compared) was used to determine who took home the trophies and the Gerber team came out ahead. It was thought, as well, that two teams were tied for 3/4 as well but the correction of a scoring error revealed a clear 3rd place winner.

On a personal note, as coordinator, I was at first discouraged by the poor turn-out for this fun event. However it quickly became obvious that everyone playing was having a fine time doing so. The competition was good and the environment friendly and social. What more could one want from a bridge event?

I know there were lots of women who wanted to play but for one reason or another were unable to put together a team. Next year I will be setting up a virtual "Partnership Desk". I will take your names and put together teams. All you'll have to do is show up, eat some snacks, play bridge, and maybe win a masterpoint or two.

1999 B.C. WOMEN'S TEAM CHAMPIONS

1st/2nd (tie) Place

BC Team One - Phyllis Gerber, Donna Morrison, Helen Montgomery and Delphine Tablotney

BC Team Two - Margie Neate, Stella Alliston, Dianne Isfeld and Joan Richards.

3rd Place

BC Team Three - Shirley Fiterman, Jeanette Greenhut, June Pocock, and Jude Goodwin-Hanson.

These top three teams qualify to play in the 1999 Canadian Championships at the CBF Bridge Week in Toronto, beginning July 10, 1999. Information about the Canadian Bridge Federation can be found on their web site at <http://www.cbf.ca>.

**Combined Vancouver Bridge Centre
7th Club Anniversary and 11th Hands
Across the Border Dinner & Swiss Teams**

Sunday June 27, 1999 6:00 PM

At the Vancouver Bridge Centre

Lots of door prizes and great food.

Upgraded Club Championship. Extra Masterpoints.

18

Join 60 American visitors from Finesse West Tours for first class dining and bridge. 2 local players will team up with 2 visitors for dinner and Swiss teams. Fully catered. \$16.00 inclusive. Tickets in advance.

Farewell Canadian-American Pairs

Monday June 28, 1999 1:00 PM

\$6.00 Lunch included. Please pre-register

THE PLAY'S THE THING

It's Time to Defend

by Brad Bart

After South opens 1NT, our opponents use Stayman and land in four hearts. Partner leads the two of spades, and a rich dummy hits the table. It's time to defend.

It is matchpoint scoring, so no matter how hopeless it looks for us to beat four hearts, overtricks will be of the utmost importance. At trick one, declarer wins the queen of spades. Next, declarer cashes the ace of hearts in hand and the king of hearts in dummy as partner discards the two of diamonds, discouraging a diamond shift.

After a moment for thought, declarer unblocks the ace of spades, plays a heart to the queen, and ruffs a spade. Now he cashes the ace-king of clubs and plays the ten of clubs which he covers with the queen. I have no more clubs, so I could ruff with my sure winner or hold off for later. What should I do?

I always hate it when I have the master trump in these situations. If I ruff to stop the run of winners, I end up promoting a trump trick for declarer. But if I don't ruff, then declarer may get lots of otherwise unavailable pitches.

I just can't stand to watch another club trick go through. I ruff and force declarer right away with a spade. Unfortunately, declarer produces a fourth club to get to dummy and plays a diamond to his king. All I got was my top heart and my ace of diamonds for -450.

Vul: Us. Dummy
 Dir: Me ♠ AQ
 Contract: 4♥ ♥ K964
 ♦ T74
 ♣ Q963

Pard
 ♠ KT52
 ♥ 3
 ♦ Q8532
 ♣ 542

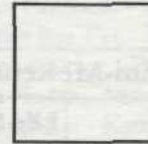


Me
 ♠ J976
 ♥ JT75
 ♦ AJ6
 ♣ J7

Declarer
 ♠ 843
 ♥ AQ82
 ♦ K9
 ♣ AKT8

Vul: Us. Dummy
 Dir: Me ♠ AQ
 Contract: 4♥ ♥ K964
 ♦ T74
 ♣ Q963

Pard
 ♠ 2



Me
 ♠ J976
 ♥ JT75
 ♦ AJ6
 ♣ J7

Declarer

In the postmortem, I discovered I was really relying on my emotions rather than sound bridge logic. **When you have a side entry and enough master trumps to pull all of declarer's outstanding trumps, then it is usually best not to ruff with your master trump.**

If I had instead pitched two diamonds on the high clubs, then when declarer led a diamond from dummy, I could have won the ace, pulled declarer's last trump and cashed my long spade for -420, a much better score.

Ruffing when I did was wrong because declarer held a fourth club, but I could have been right if declarer held exactly three. There was a clue which I ignored in the defence. Can you see what it was?

Partner's count signal in clubs would have led me to the right conclusion.

It turns out that declarer could always have made 11 tricks as the cards lie. Where did he give me the chance? How should he have played if he found the trumps 3-2? If you have answers to these questions, please visit my webpage and submit your solution in e-mail. You will find other problems and articles there that you might find interesting as well.

<http://www.cs.sfu.ca/~bbart/personal/articles>

MASTERPOINT RACES

Mini-McKenney & Ace of Clubs

The Matchpointer offers its congratulations to the winners of Unit 430's Mini-McKenney and Ace of Clubs point races. The Ace of Clubs goes to the people in each class who accumulate the most black points over the course of the year. The Mini-McKenney counts points of all colour throughout the year.

Missed out on the Ace of Clubs but want a certificate? Become a Diamond Life Master. 42 points would have won it this year. (Those fish. See? Lots of points don't mean they're any good.)

Have you ever lost a team match by 2 IMPs and then agonized about how you could have won the match if you had only... (or, if you're less charitable, if your partner "had only")? Ernie Dietrich lost the Ace of Clubs for Gold LM by .09 masterpoints. Now he can agonize over virtually every hand he played in 1998 "If I'd only played for the drop on that hand in January... or February... or March...." Don't sweat it, Ernie. Maybe next year you'll lose by way more.

Congratulations to three winners who placed nationwide in their category - William Ge (5th), Brad Bart (20th), and Martin Henneberger (3rd Mini McKenney, 2nd Ace of Clubs).

1999 Final Mini-McKenney Standings

Rookie of the Year		Life Master	
William Ge	140.9	Amir Alibhai	155.6
Suzette Behar	42.5	Peter Morse	129.9
Richard Smillie	36.5	Pat Lester	128.2
Junior Master		Bronze Life Master	
Marnie Hueston	35.8	Claire Burns	210.1
Marlene Barber	24.9	Pirtpal Gill	154.7
Anne Smith	21.1	Ram Hira	148.0
Club Master		Silver Life Master	
M. Oppenheimer	92.7	Bryan Maksymetz	388.6
Vicki Croome	77.4	Don Sache	271.0
Kenny Chan	67.9	Larry Chow	218.4
Sectional Master		Gold Life Master	
M. Henneberger	244.1	Gerald McCully	374.2
Waldemar Jez	88.1	Dan Jacob	370.4
Rich Williams	86.4	Gord McOrmond	368.3
Regional Master		Diamond Life Master	
Barry Kirkham	101.2	Cameron Doner	483.0
Marian Binley	99.2	Allan Graves	472.1
Tom Markham	95.7	Aidan Ballantyne	343.7
NABC Master			
Bradley Bart	213.1		
Sharon Hughes	121.2		
Geraldine Lacroix	115.9		

1999 Final Ace of Clubs Standings

Rookie of the Year		Life Master	
Suzette Behar	41.5	Amir Alibhai	97.1
Richard Smillie	31.7	Shirley Fitterman	71.1
Kay Y. Funahashi	26.9	H.K. Ho	71.0
Junior Master		Bronze Life Master	
Marnie Hueston	23.3	Pirtpal Gill	105.3
Roy Goodman	18.8	Yuko Fujieda	91.2
Jean Bridges	18.3	Daisy Neilson	80.8
Club Master		Silver Life Master	
M. Oppenheimer	43.5	Bonnie Anderson	124.0
Vicki Croome	41.5	Pat Landau	123.2
Andrew Zorawski	40.5	O. Perdue	99.1
Sectional Master		Gold Life Master	
M. Henneberger	117.6	Wilf May	146.3
Julien Levesque	63.8	Ernie Dietrich	146.2
Brian Lee	58.4	Mary Fines	132.3
Regional Master		Diamond Life Master	
Ken Cowherd	71.0	Laurence Betts	41.6
Barry Kirkham	58.3	Aidan Ballantyne	33.4
Marian Binley	55.7	Cameron Doner	17.7
NABC Master			
Geraldine Lacroix	95.3		
Harry Friedman	80.1		
Bradley Bart	59.0		

Monthly Unit Game Leaders Through Game to May 1, 1999

	A	B	C	Points		A	B	C	Points		A	B	C	Points
Les Baldys	1	1		5.16	Tony Remedios	10	5		4.81	Mona Taylor	11	1		2.63
Pirtpal Gill	1	1		5.16	Sherman Kwan	12	7		4.80	Martin Henneberger	12			2.43
Don Brazeau	3			5.13	Judy Strebinger	13			4.78	Waldemar Jez	13	2		2.43
Pat Landau	4			5.08	Donna Morrison	14			4.71	Marti Oppenheimer	14	3		1.83
Doug Cowan	4			5.08	Kathy Bye	15	8		4.59	Kristina Bohdanowicz	15	4		1.77
Sheila Sache	6			5.03	Ken Lochang	16	9		3.94	Ewa Wroblewicz	16	5		1.59
Don Sache	6			5.03	Joerg Schneider	17			3.71	Sandra Robson	16			1.59
Janis Parker	8	3		5.02	June Pocock	18			3.55	Patti Adams	16			1.59
Nick Parker	8	3		5.02	Brad Bart	18	10		3.55	William Ge	19	6		1.58
Tove Chen	10	5		4.81	Ev Hodge	20			3.53	Mark Eddy	20	7		1.52

RECENT EVENTS

Future Stars Sectional April 17 - 18, 1999

SATURDAY

Stratified Open Pairs
Aft Session

A B C

- | | |
|-------|----------------------------------|
| 1 | Hooshang Vessal - Shapour Darabi |
| 2 | Susan Karp - Mel Karp |
| 3 1 1 | Ed Kim - Reza Naserasr |
| 4 | Bobby Wood - Brenda Cameron |
| 5 2 2 | Eda Kadar - Andrew Nalos |
| 6 3 3 | Jan Konieczny - Jerzy Mazur |
| 4 | Anne Newman - Gisele Black |
| 5 4 | Myra Johnston - Norman Young |
| 6 | Ronald Merritt - Douglas Rose |
| 5 | Deirdre Potheary - Lydia Kost |

Stratified Open Pairs
Eve Session

A B C

- | | |
|-------|-----------------|
| 1 1 1 | Anna Eastwood - |
|-------|-----------------|

- | | |
|-------|-------------------------------------|
| 2 | Terry Eastwood |
| | Pete Malone - Peggy Schindeler |
| 3 | Bobby Wood - Brenda Cameron |
| 4 | Andrew Zorawski - Ewa Wroblewicz |
| 5 | Sidney Robinson - Norma Saltzberg |
| 6 2 2 | Myra Johnston - Adelina Wong-Chor |
| 3 3 | Lynn Erickson - Ture Erickson |
| 4 | Steve Kurrein - Dale Kirkland |
| 5 | Thomas Kavanagh - Charlotte Alekson |
| 6 | Marilyn Martin - Diana Marr |
| 4 | Ireta Fisher - Samantha Nystrom |

SUNDAY

Stratified Open Pairs
Aft Session

A B C

- | | |
|-----|-----------------------------------|
| 1 1 | Theresa Kong - Carol-Ann Halliday |
|-----|-----------------------------------|

- | | |
|-------|------------------------------------|
| 2 | Ewa Wroblewicz - Waldemar Jez |
| 3 | Judith Wilson - Patricia Stickland |
| 4 2 1 | Ed Kim - Rezza Naserasr |
| 5 | Walter Rae Fee - Bachan Buttar |
| 3 2 | Janice Barr - Chloe Clark |
| 4 | Gaby Uranyi - Marie Cahill |

Open Swiss Teams
Eve Session

- | | |
|-----|--|
| 1 | Lila Jay - Wuyen Ni, Lynn Erickson - Ture Erickson |
| 2 | Walter Rae Fee - Bachan Buttar, Pete Malone - Peggy Schindeler |
| 3 | Eda Kadar - Andrew Nalos, Samuel Lai - Kam Tang |
| 4/6 | Keith Siddall - Nora Siddall, Dawn Smith - Marguerite Miller |
| 4/6 | Ted Vesak - Jessie Vesak, Ed Kim - Naserasr |
| 4/6 | Waldemar Jez - Ewa Wroblewicz, Krystyna Piotrowska - Andrew Zorawski |

NABC Masterpoint Winners

I apologize to those who had hoped to see more coverage of individual results from the recent NABC, but, as a very wise man pointed out, all that stuff is in the daily bulletins, and lots of it is in The Bridge Bulletin. The staff of the ACBL was kind enough to provide me with a list of cumulative point winners for the members of the Unit, and on consultation with the Unit President, we decided that's what we should print. The fact that we both had a pretty good week had absolutely nothing to do with the decision. Honest. You can trust me. I'm a lawyer.

For the record, 582 Unit members got points.

- | | | |
|-----|--------|-------------------------------|
| 1. | 102.55 | Dan Jacob, Burnaby |
| 2. | 76.56 | June Pocock, Coquitlam |
| 3. | 74.16 | Martin Henneberger, Coquitlam |
| 4. | 71.24 | Allan Graves, Vancouver |
| 5. | 66.63 | Lawrence Hicks, Coquitlam |
| 6. | 60.32 | Michael Takemori, Vancouver |
| 7. | 57.74 | Don Sharp, Salt Spring Isl |
| 8. | 57.37 | Wilf May, New Westminster |
| 9. | 55.75 | David House, Vancouver |
| 10. | 55.72 | Donald Sache, Delta |
| 11. | 51.20 | Ben Takemori, Vancouver |
| 12. | 47.69 | Aidan Ballantyne, Vancouver |
| 13. | 47.50 | J Brach, Powell River |
| 14. | 47.39 | Gordon McOrmond, Delta |
| 15. | 46.41 | Kathy Adachi, Delta |
| 16. | 43.59 | Bryan Maksymetz, Coquitlam |
| 17. | 42.78 | Jeremy Crowhurst, Vancouver |
| 18. | 42.38 | Doug Hansford, Delta |
| 19. | 38.40 | Ram Hira, North Vancouver |
| 20. | 35.46 | Amirali Jetha, Burnaby |
| 21. | 35.40 | Kenny T Chan, Vancouver |
| 22. | 33.63 | Peter Morse, North Vancouver |
| 23. | 32.86 | Maureen Newcombe, Abbots. |
| 24. | 32.86 | Doug Strachan, Abbotsford |
| 25. | 32.25 | William Ge, Vancouver |
| 26. | 32.25 | Les Fouks, Vancouver |
| 27. | 32.06 | Marion Crowhurst, West Vanc. |
| 28. | 31.89 | Larry Pocock, Coquitlam |
| 29. | 30.98 | Rangie Sylvestre, Vancouver |
| 30. | 30.61 | Hing Kong Ho, Coquitlam |
| 31. | 30.40 | Phyllis Gerber, Vancouver |
| 32. | 30.22 | Mike Wilson, Vancouver |
| 33. | 30.21 | Robert Gerrie, Richmond |
| 34. | 30.21 | Aban Gerrie, Richmond |
| 35. | 30.13 | Elaine Levins, White Rock |
| 36. | 29.58 | Claire Burns, West Vancouver |
| 37. | 29.56 | T Gould, Surrey |
| 38. | 29.50 | Pat Stickland, N Vancouver |
| 39. | 29.50 | Anita Morse, N Vancouver |
| 40. | 28.75 | Delphine Tablotney, Vancouver |
| 41. | 28.11 | Frances Gould, Surrey |
| 42. | 27.36 | Gary Gilraine, Vancouver |
| 43. | 27.36 | Faye Gilraine, Vancouver |
| 44. | 27.34 | Doug Thomas, Coquitlam |
| 45. | 26.76 | Ina Andersen, Surrey |
| 46. | 26.67 | Doug Cowan, W Vancouver |
| 47. | 26.03 | Gilbert Lambert, New West |
| 48. | 26.02 | Tom Cross, Garden Bay |
| 49. | 25.85 | Harold Hansen, Burnaby |
| 50. | 25.71 | Mary Lou Bert, Ferndale WA |
| 51. | 25.58 | Al French, North Vancouver |
| 52. | 25.55 | Dorothy Carnegie, White Rock |
| 53. | 25.38 | Pat Carruthers, Agassiz |
| 54. | 25.14 | Isabel Chernoff, Surrey |
| 55. | 25.14 | Anne Nagy, Richmond |
| 56. | 25.00 | Jude Goodwin-Hanson, Mpl Rdg |
| 57. | 24.94 | Jeanette Greenhut, Vancouver |
| 58. | 24.84 | Monica Angus, Port Coquitlam |
| 59. | 24.83 | Shirley Fitterman, Vancouver |
| 60. | 24.71 | Arlene Browning, Abbotsford |
| 61. | 23.95 | Dan Webster, Mission |
| 62. | 23.77 | Art Fraser, Sechelt |
| 63. | 23.72 | Marti Oppenheimer, Vancouver |
| 64. | 23.58 | Greg Morse, Richmond |
| 65. | 23.58 | Andy Hellquist, Surrey |
| 66. | 23.56 | Edward Marchuk, Vanc. |
| 67. | 23.46 | Pat Wotherspoon, W.Rock |
| 68. | 23.22 | Bernice French, North Van |
| 69. | 23.20 | Waldemar Jez, New West |
| 70. | 23.14 | Bachan Buttar, Surrey |
| 71. | 22.23 | Michael Dimich, Vancouver |
| 72. | 22.05 | Jane Craig, North Van |
| 73. | 21.91 | William Osten, Richmond |

My First National by Doug Cowan

I'm sure for many of you the recently completed Vancouver NABC was the first opportunity you had to experience a Tournament of that size, but I've been lucky enough to have attended about a dozen of them including 4 in Toronto, 3 in San Francisco, and others in Washington DC, Lexington, KY, and a few other places. But, even after 39 years, none stands out in my memory like the first one.

The year was 1960, or if you like, 3 BJ (before Julie), when another young single chap and I, who thought we knew something about the game, took off from our home in Toronto in my 1958 Pontiac Strato-Chief for about 1000 mi. to Jackson, Mississippi for the Spring Nationals. It was a late Spring and we were well into Tennessee before we saw the end of Winter weather, but we made it in about 3 days and arrived in time to play in the National Open Pairs on the first week-end.

In those days, Nationals were just that. There were no Regional events, I/N games, Senior games (not that they'd be much good to a couple of twenty-somethings), and the other various events that make up an NABC to-day. You either played the National event or a side game, and we certainly didn't travel 1000 miles to play in a side game, so there we were.

Then, as now, the National Championship events were 2 sessions qualifying and 2 sessions final. In both the Open Pairs and the Men's Pairs on the last week-end, we qualified for the final but with such a low score that we didn't win a single master point in either event. In fact, I won exactly 1 MP all week and that came in an individual. However, we did have the opportunity to meet and play against many of the greatest players of that era, including Oswald Jacoby, Sam Stayman, Howard Shenken, Harry Fishbein, and many more. We didn't actually play against Charles Goren and Helen Sobel, but we played in the same section as they did in one event, and they played in a cordoned off area that was being televised, possibly only on closed circuit, and the E/W pairs that had played against them met us a round or two later still buzzing about their experience.

However, it is not the bridge that stands out as the most memorable part of the trip, but rather our first (and thankfully only) exposure to the total segregation that was still in vogue in the South in 1960, along with some of the strangest liquor laws that were ever devised. Then, wine with meals was a rarity, and you usually had a highball or two before dinner. In Nashville, TN, on the way down, we asked for a drink before dinner and were told it was illegal to serve alcohol with a meal, but we could go to the package store

next door, buy a bottle and give it to the waiter who would charge us a corkage fee for opening our own bottle along with a charge for mix. This was the goofiest kind of "temperance" you could imagine, because instead of ordering one or two drinks, you consumed the whole bottle, and then probably drove home.

This was mild, however, compared to what we found in Mississippi. We knew in advance that it was at that time a dry state, so we each took a bottle of Whiskey down with us. What we didn't know was that it was only illegal to sell it, there was nothing to stop it from being given away, and there were free bars set up all over the tournament site. The local yellow pages had several pages of ads for bootleggers, who presumably made daily trips to the Arkansas State line, about an hour away, and would deliver right to your door, anything you wanted. Beer, incidentally, was not subject to these laws and was as freely available as Coke, everywhere.

It's hard to imagine today how complete the segregation was in Jackson. Except for an occasional worker in the hotels, you wouldn't have known a single Black person lived there. Apparently they had their own areas where they lived, worked, and shopped, and never went near the main Downtown streets. At the same time the people were incredibly hospitable, wherever we went, they couldn't do enough for us. But, we found it unsettling that we knew this only occurred because we were white. Needless to say, there were no blacks in the tournament.

In the middle of the week we took a couple of days off and drove down to New Orleans. Although it too was segregated, it seemed a lot more open than Mississippi. We had dinner at Antoin's, and spent the night touring the Bourbon Street clubs. (A few years ago, I returned to New Orleans with Julie, and found the French Quarter much as I remembered it all those years before. We went back to Antoin's, and still found it excellent, but somewhat pricier than in 1960.) On the drive down from Jackson, we had some minor car trouble, and while it was being repaired, the owner of the garage called a local restaurant and told them to take care of us as his guests, which was typical of the kind of hospitality they showed. While in the garage, I needed to use the facilities, so I headed for the door which said "White Men Only", and found the filthiest washroom I had ever seen, so I had to wonder what the Coloured facilities (if any) were like.

We stayed until the tournament ended on Sunday night, and as we both had jobs to get back to, we left Jackson at 6 am the following morning, about 700 miles in total at a time when there were very few freeways. I've pretty well driven all over North America since, but that's still the most I ever tried to do in a day. We were back at work by Wednesday, tired but very happy that we had done so much in so little time.

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BOARD ELECTIONS & ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Saturday, July 3 • 6:00 pm

1999 SCHEDULE

Saturday, June 5 • 7:30 pm

Saturday, July 3 • 7:30 pm
ELECTIONS & AGM @ 6:00 pm

Saturday, Aug 7 • 7:30 pm

Saturday, Sept 4 • 7:30 pm

Saturday, Oct 2 • 7:30 pm

Saturday, Nov 6 • no game

Saturday, Dec 5 • 7:30 pm

Sunday, Nov 28
ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY

VU-GRAPH PRESENTATION IN RICHMOND

The 2000 Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup will be held in the mid-Atlantic Island of Bermuda, at the Southampton Princess Hotel Resort, January 7-21, 2000.

Traditionally, Bermuda, Mexico and Canada have to playoff for a qualifying spot in each of these events. This time, however, the Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup will be held in Bermuda itself, which gives that country an automatic berth, leaving Mexico and Canada to play off against each other.

The Canadian Womens team (Beverly Kraft, Francine Cimon, Dianna Gordon, Sheri Winestock, Rhoda Habert, and Barbara Saltsman, George Mittelman NPC), has already triumphed in their playoff. The event was played at the Renaissance Hotel du Parc, downtown Montreal, with a reception Friday April 30th. The women played four sessions of 32 boards (total 128). The outcome was in doubt up til the last quarter when the Candians pulled ahead to win.

The Canadian Open team (Mike Hargreaves, Gordon McOrmond, Allan Graves, Bryan Maksymetz, Joey Silver, Irving Litvack NPC) is largely from BC so the playoff will be hosted by CBF, Zone VI and the Vancouver Unit. It will happen June 12-13, 1999, most likely at the Delta Airport Hotel in Richmond. Your unit board has agreed to help sponsor a VU-GRAPH presentation which will provide for spectators. The first session is tentatively set to begin at 11:00 am.

Plan to turn out and watch the Canadian vs Mexico event. A vu-graph, with the use of Fred Gitelman's software and an overhead projector, can be both instructional and entertaining and there is no charge to you, the viewer. Watch posters at your local clubs with more details or call Jennifer Ballantyne, 438-3095; Jude (number below); June Pocock 939-0711; or Aidan Ballantyne 431-0229.

We do need a few volunteers for this event. Persons interested in helping out can call Jude Goodwin-Hanson at 465-2933, or email her at jude@cbf.ca.

Thanks!!



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FRIDAY

STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS	<i>Single Session</i>	1:00
BRACKETED KNOCKOUT TEAMS	<i>Round One</i>	7:30
STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS		7:30
Future Master Pairs		7:30

SATURDAY

BRACKETED KNOCKOUT TEAMS	<i>Round Two</i>	1:00
STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS	<i>1st Session</i>	1:00
<i>Single Session Entries Accepted</i>		
Future Master Pairs	<i>Single Session</i>	1:00
BRACKETED KNOCKOUT TEAMS	<i>Final Round</i>	7:30
STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS	<i>2nd Session</i>	7:30
<i>Single Session Entries Accepted</i>		
Future Master Pairs	<i>Single Session</i>	7:30

SUNDAY

OPEN SWISS TEAMS	<i>Two sessions</i>	10:30 AM & TBA
NON LIFE MASTER TEAMS	<i>Two sessions</i>	10:30 AM & TBA
<i>Both team events Win/loss scoring</i>		

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