

Capital District Bridge Association

NEWSLETTER

Vol. XXXVII #1

January 2015

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

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



Sectional Albany (at the Albany JCC) February 6-8, 2015

Friday February 6		NOTE NEW TIMES
Stratified Open Pairs (0-750, 750-2000, 2000+)		12:15 pm
Stratified Newcomer Pairs (0-100, 100-200, 200-299)		12:15 pm
Pro/Am Dual Scored - Pair game movement with Pro-Am Team		5:15 pm
Saturday February 7		
Stratified Open Pairs (0-750, 750-2000, 2000+)		10 am and 3 pm
(2 One Session Games)		
Stratified Newcomer Pairs (0-100, 100-199, 200-299)		10 am and 3 pm
(2 One Session Games)		
Sunday February 8		
Swiss Teams (2- Session stratiflighted play through; 42 boards)		11 am
(1/2 hour break between sessions)		

Need Help: Call Bob Valenti (518) 326-3829 or Lasrav@yahoo.com
For Partnerships: Call Bernie Neuhart 518.372.3936 or bhnewhart@nycap.rr.com

Albany Jewish Community Center
340 Whitehall Road
Albany, NY 12208

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

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Tournament Director's Message

For one of the few times since the '70's, perhaps only the second, a sectional tournament sponsored by Unit 115 was not held at the Studio of Bridge and Games in Schenectady. Instead, the November sectional took place at the Albany Jewish Community Center.

We'd like to report the change in venue went off without a hitch, but those who played in the first session Friday afternoon experienced a delay in start time. The delay was unavoidable, as the Director-in-Charge, who was at the facility at 9:00 for a 12:00 game time, was not allowed into the playing area until 11:30. It became impossible to carry in and set up the computer, bring in nearly a dozen briefcases filled with pre-dealt hands and director materials, place guide cards on the tables, sell entries, and start the game on time. With the closing of the Studio of Bridge and Games, we will be hosting sectionals in rented space at "third-party" locations for the foreseeable future, and will be confirming with the owners what times we have full access to the playing area before leasing the space.

Thereafter, everything went smoothly and we're pleased to report the tournament, itself, was a success. We had over 100 tables in play, a big improvement over the attendance at our sectional held November of 2013. However, attendance

for the 0-300 games continues to be disappointing. Despite offering two entries for ten dollars, nearly half price, to play in the 0-300 pairs game or in a higher rated pairs game when playing with a partner also having fewer than 300 master points, we sold only ten dual entries over the entire weekend. This led to an insufficient number of tables for the 0-300 game Friday afternoon, which required combining it with the open game.

We're trying to encourage more 0-300 players to attend our sectionals. When a dual entry is purchased and fully used, the per session price is surely right, cheaper than any club game and less expensive than a 120-minute movie at the theater. You get to play against your peers, get hand records for the session, and have access to more experienced players who would be glad to answer questions and provide guidance when asked. So, if you're under 300 master points, consider playing in upcoming sectionals. Our ability to schedule separate 0-300 sections in the future depends on attendance, so let's get the attendance up to assure their continuation.

To help everyone plan ahead, here are the remaining 2015 schedules for both the sectionals hosted by the Unit and Regionals hosted by District 3:

Upcoming Unit 115 Sectionals & District 3 Regionals

Regional - January 13-19, Rye Brook, NY
Sectional - April 24-26, capital district site TBD
Regional - June 1-7, Saratoga Springs, NY
Regional - July 13-19, Fairfield, NJ
Sectional - July 24-26, capital district site TBD
Sectional - Sept. 18-20, Saratoga County site TBD
Regional - October 5-11, Danbury, CT
Sectional - Nov. 20-22, capital district site TBD

The Unit also schedules three charity games each year. In 2015, two will be held at the new Shelley Studio, the President's Cup team game on August 22 and Christmas Party open pairs game on December 13. The third charity event, Awards Dinner followed by an open pairs game, will be held May 16 at a site not yet determined.

Each year, District 3 schedules several sectional tournaments at clubs, better known as “STACs.” These sectionally rated silver point games are played at regularly scheduled club games. Participating players not only receive silver points based on their percentage game at their own club, but can receive a higher number of silver points for coming in overall because scores are compared with pairs in other clubs playing the same pre-dealt hands at the same time. STACs scheduled by District 3 in 2015 are March 24-30, June 15-21, and October 19-25.

Finally, the Unit, upon request of club managers, will also schedule “Unit-Rated” Games and Club Championships. These games, held at regularly scheduled club venues, offer sectional-level master point rewards. The first two such games for 2015 are scheduled to be held at the Avila Duplicate Bridge Club on Thursday evening February 19 and Saturday afternoon February 28. Please consider playing in these games as well as all other weekly games in the Unit’s local clubs.

THIS ‘N THAT FROM YOUR DISTRICT DIRECTOR

As we begin a new year I want to wish all of you happiness and good health as well as success at the bridge table. We are about to begin the first of our Regionals for the year in Rye Brook, NY in mid January. You will see from the Rye Brook schedule that we will have a two session gold point event on the first day. That is a result of a decision made by the ACBL board in Providence in November. You will see that explanation below as well, along with information on a number of other important decisions that will affect all of us at the Unit and District levels beginning in early 2015.

All Regionals are now allowed to be 7 full days instead of 6 ½. This means we can have a two session gold point event beginning at 1 pm on the first day of the tournament. These events will be charity events. We will start this in Rye Brook in January. Since the first day of our recent

Regionals have been poorly attended, we hope the opportunity to hold an exciting two session game that day will provide a real boost to our attendance.

A number of other problems were also addressed. Craig Robinson, Director of our neighbor, District 4, did an excellent job of summarizing the problems and solutions in his recent District Director’s Report, so I am going to unashamedly plagiarize from his write up:

- **Problem #1** – A 20 table pair game awards the same masterpoints for winning as a 20 table team game. To win the pairs game, you must beat 39 other pairs, but in the team game, you must only beat 19 teams.
The solution . Increase overall awards in pair games at the Sectional and Regional levels by 25%. To partially curb this highly inflationary change, there will be a) a reduction in overall awards from 35% to 25% of the field, and b) a decrease in the awards by 20% in all games with an upper limit on masterpoints. The impact of these changes will keep the awards in limited pair games, (e.g. Gold Rush) where they are, and will somewhat lower team game awards.
- **Problem #2** – There is a need to recognize that Sectional games run by an ACBL director are generally more professional than are club games run by club directors.
The solution. Increase overall awards in Sectional games by 10% and decrease STAC awards by 10%. Since almost all STACs are pairs games, when you also account for the 25% increase for pair games, STAC awards will actually increase somewhat.
(continued on page 6)

Sectional Results

Nov. 21 - 23, 2014

Friday afternoon Strat Pairs

A	B	C	
1			Betty & Steve Bloom
2			Joan Meyer – Arthur Bernhardt
3			Richard Bobilin – Rich Kasprowic
4			Satya Pabuwal – Kamal Gupta
5			Judy & Bill Dubay
6	1		Mary Williams – Amelia Urbano
	2		Lois & Joe Phillips
	3	1	James Beard – James Bornheim
	4		Eugene Pellegrino – Bonnie Taylor
	5	2	Patricia Favreau – Philip Pearson
	6	3	Ray Ratte – Patrick Rogers
		4	Sandra Walters – Barbara Frank
		5	Peggy Casey Fitzpatrick – Ann Weigel

Friday afternoon Embedded Pairs

A		
1		Patricia Favreau – Philip Pearson
2		Maria & David Westbrook

Friday evening BAM (Teams)

A	B	
1/2	1/2	Lynda Flanger – Sue Eastman James Bornheim – James Beard
1/2	1/2	John Conova – Liz VonReisenfelder Eugene Pellegrino – Bonnie Taylor
3		Barbard Frank – Sandra Walters John Conova – Liz VonReisenfelder
4	3	Sheela & Sudhir Kulkarni Rich Underwood – Gregg Deitch

Friday evening BAM (Pairs)

A	B	C	
1			Rich Underwood – Gregg Deitch
2	1	1	James Bornheim – James Beard
3			Lynda Flanger – Sue Eastman
4	2		Eugene Pellegrino – Bonnie Taylor
5			Judy & Bill Dubay
6	3		John Conova – Liz VonReisenfelder
	4		Ellen & Kerry Cotterell
	5		Diana Lack – Daniel Wulff
	6	2	Peggy Casey Fitzpatrick – Ann Weigel
		3	Barbara Frank – Sandra Walters

Saturday Blue Ribbon Pairs

A	X	
1	1	Kamal Gupta – Malik Magdon Ismail
2		Betty & Steve Bloom
3	2	Ellen & Kerry Cotterell
4		Rich Kasprowic – Lynn Deas
5	3	Diane Burger – Bob Donald
6	4	Michael Rogers – Peter Allen
	5	Larry Rosen – Steve Shaye

Saturday morning B/C/D Pairs

B	C	D	
1			Barbard & John McDonald
2	1		Anne & Janes Beard
3	2	1	A. Hallenstein – Richard Hall
4	3		Margaret Lavelle – Nancy Streeter
	4		Judith & Tom Ludwig
		2	Patricia Favreau – Glenys Mountford

Sunday Swiss

A	B	C	
1	1		Michael Rogers – Peter Allen
2			Robert Dickson – Peter Mitchell
3	2	1	Bernie Neuhart – Arthur Bernhardt
4			Kamal Gupta – Satya Pabuwal
5			Lou Brickman – Alex Hallenstein
			Richard Milford – Michael Miheve
			Rich Underwood – Stephen Paskin
			Bob Valenti – Walter Smith
			Judy & Bill Dubay
			Larry Bertram – Patrick Rogers
	3	2	Anne & James Beard1
	4	3	Dave Buchyn – Evelyn Markowicz
	5		Peter Samsel – Robert Brodeur
			Robert Anastasi – Frank Morgan
			Mary Williams – Joel Prescott
			Bonnie Taylor – Daniel Wulff

**Mini-McKenney & Ace of Club Standings
Unit 115 (final standings for 2014)**

	<u>Mini-McKenney</u>	<u>Ace of Clubs</u>
0-5	John Settanny Joyce Zweibel Kenneth Cohen	John Settanny Jay Portnoy Kenneth Cohen
5-20	Patricia Berrian Susan Penny Julia Kilby	Patricia Berrian Susan Penny Julia Kirby
20-50	Betty Seeley Norah Fredrickson Jill Paltrowitz	Jill Paltrowitz Norah Fredrickson Betty Seeley
50-100	Kathleen Carr Barbara Fallone Maria Heverly	Kathleen Carr Maria Heverly Jphn Pastore
100-200	A. Hallenstein Barbara Wolner John Dillon	A. Hallenstein John Dillon Liz Foster
200-300	Christine Converse Ellen Cotterell W Daniel Kelsey	Christine Converse Ellen Cotterell Susan Klein
300-500	William Kelsey Terry Bentley James Beard	William Kelsey Terry Bentley James Beard
500-1000	Glen Perry Arlene Sahr Linda Millenbach	Arlene Sahr Gerald Kaufman Charles Mantia
1000-2500	Kerry Cotterell Diane Alexander Ulla Sattinger	Diane Alexander Louis Urbano Bob Valenti
2500-5000	Bob Donald Satya Pabuwal Diane Burger	Don Cohen Satya Pabuwal Bob Donald
5000-7500	Arthur Bernhardt Walter Smith Stephen Paskin	Arthur Bernhardt Walter Smith Stephen Paskin
7500-10000	Bill Dubay Judy Dubay	Bill Dubay Judy Dubay
Over 10000	Lynn Deas Bill Nelson Sandy Nelson	Bill Nelson Sandy Nelson Betty & Steve Bloom

Club Corner

AVILA

Sat 12:30pm game at Avila, Thurs 7:00pm game held at Studio. All Jan games for Junior Fund, lots of special games in Feb. See acbl.org/club results for game schedules.

Shelley Studio

By popular demand we are moving our Monday only game to a NEW TIME of **11:30 AM** starting February 2, 2015. Judi's lesson will precede the game at 10:45 AM. We will hold club championships, Feb 16-18 and Senior Pairs, March 2. For the month of April we will hold lots of Charity Games with no extra money only extra points. There are also games held at the Shelly Studio: Tuesday evening at 7 PM, Wednesday at noon, Thursday at 7 PM (Rhoda's Game) and Friday at noon (Judi's Game). See clubresults.acbl.org/ for game results, hand records and our club messages.

RANK CHANGES

New Junior Masters

Tage Anderson	Mary-Arthur Beebe
Robert Carter	Patricia Finkle
Lois Etkin	Mary Foster
Mary Ann Finnecy	Lynne Grace
Donna Lucey	Carrie Murphy
Ann Parker	Jay Portnoy
Susan Wold	

New Club Masters

Alice Colley	Florence McConville
William Hughes	Edward Huntington

New NABC Master

Sandra Ostrelch

New Life Master

Judy Dolbert

New Bronze Life Masters

James Beard	Wilma Delucco
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This 'N That (contd.)

- **Problem #3.** A ten table A/X game on top of a 40 table Gold Rush game receives 50% more masterpoints than the same ten table A/X game running on top of a 20 table B/C/D event. This is a major inequity since the Gold Rush fields are typically much larger than B/C/D fields.
The Solution. The first part of the solution here was to no longer count subordinate tables when computing the awards for the A/X field. The second part of the solution was to create a formula to base the A/X awards solely on the size of the A/X field. The formula will be close to masterpoint neutral – i.e. no inflation – unless the popularity of the A/X events increases, in which case the awards will increase.
- Another change in Regionals will be the addition of games which will appeal to members who have too many masterpoints to play in Gold Rush Pairs but who are not comfortable in the current open pairs above that event. Beginning in January 2015 there will be games available with three stratifications – open/3000/1500. We hope that more people will now be able to find exactly what they are looking for.

As you can see from the above, there is much going on at the National level. If you are interested in further background on the changes, I encourage you to go to the ACBL web page and then to the minutes of the Providence Board meetings. There were many changes and I would be happy to discuss any of them with you. Please feel free to contact me with any questions, suggestions, etc.

Glenda Calkins, Director
ACBL District 3

PIE FUND RAISER

For Saratoga Regional Hospitality

From now until January 16 we will be taking orders for 10" and 5" (sets of 3 of same flavor) frozen pies which come with easy baking instructions, at a price of \$12 each or 5" for \$5 each. Unit 115 will make \$4 on each 10" pie or \$2 on each 5" pie sold; the money will be used for hospitality at the Saratoga Regional. The pies will keep in your freezer until you are ready to bake and serve them, so you can order several.

To order, please use the attached order form or pick up an order form at any club game. You can turn in your order at any local bridge game up until January 16. You must make full payment when you turn in your order. **Checks may be made payable to CDBA or ACBL Unit 115.** You must choose to pick up your order on any of the times and locations listed below. Please be sure to provide your phone number in case delivery date changes due to weather. We encourage you to solicit additional pie orders from your friends and relatives and include them in your order. The more pies we sell, the more money we make!

NOTE: It is critical that the pies remain frozen until you are ready to bake them. We cannot be responsible for deterioration of quality of pies that are allowed to thaw prior to baking.

	10" Regular Crust	10" Crumb Top	Sugarless (Regular top only)	5" Regular Top (in set of 3)	5" Crumb Top (in set of 3)	5" Sugarless (in set of 3)
Apple						
Apple Blackberry						
Apple Blueberry						
Apple Cherry						
Apple Cranberry						
Apple Peach						
Apple Raisin Walnut						
Apple Raspberry						
Blackberry						
Blueberry						
Blueberry Peach						
Cherry						
Peach						
Pecan		Not available	Not available		Not available	Not available
Pineapple						
Pumpkin		Not available	Not available		Not available	Not available
Raspberry						
Raspberry Peach						
Rhubarb						
Strawberry Rhubarb						
Tollhouse		Not available	Not available		Not available	Not available
Very Berry						

NAME _____

Phone _____

CIRCLE PICK UP POINT

Tues Jan 20 Clifton Park 3:00-4:00

Tues Jan 27 JCC 3:30-4:00

Wed Jan 21 251 New Karner 3:00-4:00

Wed Jan 28 B'nai Shalom 10:00-11:00

Fri Jan 23 Saratoga 3:00-4:00

Wed Jan 28 Clifton Park 3:30-4:00

Mon Jan 26 251 New Karner 3:30-4:00

Fri Jan 30 251 New Karner 3:30-4:00

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

**PERIODICAL POSTAGE PAID
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& ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES**

Schedule of Upcoming Events

Tue – Mon	Jan 13 – 19	District 3 Winter Regional Rye, NY
Fri – Sun	Feb 6 – 8	Sectional, Albany JCC
Thu – Sun	Mar 12 – 22	Spring NABC New Orleans, LA
Tue – Mon	Mar 24 – 30	Unit STaC