



## *President's Message*

*by Brett Kunin*



**There is much** to be thankful for during the Holiday season. After a difficult travail through the pandemic, the Game we all love is making a comeback, with many of the remaining in-person clubs beginning to see increased participation. Attendance at the Summer NABC in Providence exceeded expectations and our Unit 140 held a Sectional in August. This was our first post-pandemic F2F tournament, and District 3 held their first Regional (in Fairfield) since the pandemic.

In addition, we will be holding our Holiday Sectional December 16-18, and if Covid conditions remain static, we fully anticipate that masking will NOT be required - mark your calendar to attend! Also, District 3, after a several year hiatus will be renewing the Joan Gerard Regional, January in Suffern, NY. Copies of both flyers are in this issue of The Declarer.

Next year, our Unit is also planning to resume our lavish brunch buffet and bridge at the annual meeting/awards brunch on Sunday, Feb. 26th (flyer on the NJBL website, [www.njbl.net](http://www.njbl.net)). We will also be holding a Sectional in March.

I hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving with family and friends, and I hope to renew acquaintances with many of you at our upcoming Sectional.

With best wishes for the Holidays,

Brett Kunin

## Education Award to Barbara Clark

**Editor's Note:** Our own Barbara Clark is the current Education Chair for the NJBL Board of Directors. She has been teaching bridge in our Unit to children for many years now. A slightly longer version of this letter was sent from the NAACP Oranges & Maplewood Branch Freedom Fund Committee to Barbara on September 26, 2022.

The Oranges and Maplewood Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People ([www.omnaacp.org](http://www.omnaacp.org)), will celebrate its 110th Annual Freedom Fund Gala on Saturday, April 1, 2023.

On behalf of the distinguished members of the Freedom Fund Committee, we are pleased to congratulate you on your selection as recipient of the **Education**

**Award.** The honor is bestowed in recognition of your extraordinary career contributions and achievements in your field of endeavor.



This year's theme is: "Accelerating Change: Despite the Odds." The NAACP has made significant strides to advance our quest for justice and equality, for all people. In this turbulent political climate, the NAACP – now, more than ever – remains as relevant today as when it was founded 114 years ago; with respect to its important and sacred mission – excelling at the forefront of transformative change.

You will join a distinguished roster of honorees representing seven (7) other categories in the 2023 Class. They are as follows: Terry Swanson Tucker (Civic Engagement, Community Service), Calvin Ledford, Jr. (Corporate), S. Airaj Hasan (Labor & Industry), Kieonna Holiday-Hill (Millennial Freedom Award), Rev. Maria Crompton (Religious Affairs), Cosimo L. Fabrizio (Trailblazer Freedom Award), and Rev. Dr. Forrest Pritchett (President's Award).

As you are well aware: freedom is not Free. Freedom Fund events are the major fundraising activity of all branches of the NAACP. The proceeds from the Gala finance the year-long programs sponsored by the Branch in the areas of education, housing, economic development, health and our youth. Our partnership with the corporate and civic community has provided the financial resources to make each event a resounding success. The continued favor of our community partners helps us to continue the important work needed to address the demands for programs and activities that enrich our community and our lives. [Enclosed is information on the various levels of participation.]

On behalf of the Oranges and Maplewood Branch – the oldest Branch in the State of New Jersey, and third oldest in the nation, founded on April 18, 1913 – our sincere gratitude for your time, interest, and consideration.

Sincerely,

NAACP Oranges & Maplewood Branch  
Freedom Fund Committee

Darryl L. Jeffries,  
Oranges & Maplewood Branch President

Robert Simmons,  
Freedom Fund Chairman

Lady Trisha A. Scipio,  
Freedom Fund Co-Chairwoman

Stephen Hobson,  
Freedom Fund Co-Chairman Emeritus

## *Now You See It, Then You Might Not*

*by Jay Korobow*

Dealer: South  
Vul: All

South (Alex Allen)  
♠ QJ3  
♥ 4  
♦ J4  
♣ AJ106432

<u>West</u> ♠ K5 ♥ J10865 ♦ Q1097 ♣ 98	<u>East</u> ♠ 842 ♥ AK72 ♦ 652 ♣ KQ5
--	--

North (Abe Pineles)  
♠ A10976  
♥ Q93  
♦ AK83  
♣ 7

<u>South</u>	<u>West</u>	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>
3♣	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

**Editor's Note:** This hand was played online during the Pandemic by Alex Allen and Abe Pineles before they became Grand Life Masters in the Summer of 2022.

**Some of the** current and former local yokels have seen fit to pass some spare time on BBO, regularly playing orchestrated team matches. Some of the partnerships often participating are longstanding, and the quality of the bridge rises and shines accordingly. Here, Abe Pineles, with long time partner Alex Allen, got to an interesting 4♠ contract on the bidding shown, while the 3♣ opening bid simply ended the proceeding in the replay room.

The opening lead of the ♥J was won by the King, and West made a very good switch to a trump, threatening two rounds of that suit. Abe accurately rose with the ♠A to prevent that, and after playing the ♣A, he ruffed a Club. He then made the thoughtful play of a low Diamond toward the Jack. East, of course, rose with the ♦Q and cashed the ♠K, but it was now over. Abe was able to ruff the next Heart, and in the resulting position:

<u>South</u> ♠ -- ♥ -- ♦ J ♣ J10643	<u>West</u> ♠ 8 ♥ A7 ♦ 65 ♣ K
---	---

  

<u>East</u> ♠ -- ♥ 1086 ♦ 1097 ♣ --	<u>North</u> ♠ 109 ♥ Q ♦ AK8 ♣ --
---	---

....ruff another Club, setting up the suit. After pulling the final trump, a low Diamond to Dummy's ♦J reached the good Clubs. The 4th game-stopping, second Heart loser now got pitched on the Clubs (as well as, ironically, both the ♦AK) and 10 tricks were there for a nice 11 IMP gain. Only one Spade, one Heart and one Diamond were lost.

It turns out, however, that the defense could still have succeeded if East's ♠K were **not** cashed after they won the ♦Q, and instead played a Heart. Eventually, Declarer would have to ruff a Club to get off Dummy, and if East now overruffs with the saved trump ♠K, they can play a final Heart to pump Declarer's trump holding, so that West will score their ♠8. With the ♠K, the ♦Q, and the first Heart, that would be down one for a 5 IMP loss instead.

Interestingly, it turns out there is a way to bring in ten tricks against any defense after the accurate rise with the ♠A at trick 2. Declarer can now ruff a Diamond after cashing the ♦AK, cross to hand with a Club ruff, and ruff the 4th Diamond with Dummy's final trump which West cannot beat. In the final position shown below, Declarer returns to hand with a Club ruff, which East doesn't need to overruff to any useful effect, although it doesn't matter. East will then be thrown in with a Spade, leaving them with only Hearts. Since they then must play a Heart, Declarer will at last get one Heart winner, the ♥Q, to go along with one high Club, two high Diamonds, two Diamond ruffs in Dummy, and four Spades in hand.

	<u>South</u>	
	♠ --	
	♥ --	
	♦ --	
	♣ J1064	
<u>East</u>		<u>West</u>
♠ K		♠ 84
♥ 1086		♥ A7
♦ --		♦ --
♣ --		♣ --
	<u>North</u>	
	♠ 109	
	♥ Q9	
	♦ --	
	♣ --	

The bridge quality is not at all “yokel,” but sometimes at the table the perfect (or double dummy) card play is next to impossible to envision, as may be the necessary defense to thwart the “illusion” that Abe magically presented to them to decipher.



We've Moved!!  
Edison Elks Club

## New Jersey Bridge League Holiday Sectional December 16-18, 2022

Edison Elks Club  
375 Old Post Road, Edison, NJ 08817  
Playing site phone: 732-985-2487  
Tournament Chair: Kelly Kiefer (732) 425-2116



New Events  
499er Pairs

### Friday, Dec 16

10:00 AM: • Open Stratified Pairs • Stratified 0-499 Pairs\*  
2:30/3:00 PM\*\* • Open GRASSROOT Stratified Pairs • GRASSROOT 499er Stratified Pairs\*

### Saturday, Dec 17

10:00 AM: • Open Stratified Pairs • Stratified 499er Pairs\*  
2:30/3:00 PM\*\* • Open GRASSROOT Stratified Pairs • GRASSROOT 499er Stratified Pairs\*

\*499er events will be held provided there are sufficient pairs

\*\*If masking is required, start time is 3:00pm; if masking not required, start time is 2:30 pm

### Sunday, Dec 18

10:00 AM: • Bracketed Swiss Teams: If masking is not required, there will be a short break for lunch and food will be served. If masking is required, there will be a one-hour break between sessions to allow those who wish to go out for lunch.

#### COVID POLICIES:

1. MASKING WILL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH ACBL PROTOCOLS (see our Unit website [www.njbl.net](http://www.njbl.net)). However, should any bridge player request that players mask at the table, compliance is MANDATORY.
2. No person will be permitted entry without Proof of Covid vaccination(s) and photo ID.
3. Tables placed pursuant to ACBL-mandated requirement

**PARKING POLICY:** No parking in designated spots marked "Reserved" in the Elks parking lot. PARKING IS LIMITED, and carpooling is recommended. There is overflow parking available across the street in an Edison H.S. parking lot.

**RESERVATION POLICY:** Reservations are NOT required for this tournament.

**Stratifications:** Open Pairs A (3000+) B (1000-3000) C (0-1000)  
499ers Pairs A (300-499) B (100-300) C (0-100) (May be varied based on participation.)

*In pair events, strats are based as an average of the total master points of the pair. In any event or flight with a master point upper limit, no individual's MP total may exceed that limit.*

**GRASSROOT Games:** Almost 30% More Masterpoints

**Food and Beverages:** Free coffee and snacks will be served provided that ACBL protocols do NOT require masking. If masking is not required, pizza will be served on Friday and Saturday at \$1.50 per slice.

**Partnerships:** We cannot guarantee partners for you due to the pandemic, although we will attempt to do so. Email your request to Amie Dorin at [arnied26@gmail.com](mailto:arnied26@gmail.com) or call him at 732-841-2351 by December ninth..

**NJBL Website:** Visit our website [www.njbl.net](http://www.njbl.net) to read about upcoming tournaments and events, past results, bridge clubs, THE DECLARER (NJBL's online newsletter), and many other useful bridge links.

**Entries:** \$28 per pair per session. We must charge an extra \$4 per person for those who are not current ACBL members. \$112 per team for Sunday's Swiss Teams game.

#### DIRECTIONS

**From GSP Southbound:** Take Exit 130 to US-1 South. Proceed approximately 3.8 miles and turn right onto Old Post Rd. Elks club is past one traffic light, about 4 blocks on your left.

**From NJ Turnpike Southbound:** Take Exit 11 and proceed South on the Garden State Parkway. Follow the directions above.

**From NJ Turnpike Northbound:** Take exit 9 (NJ-18 N); take NJ-18 North to US-1 North; go about 1.7 miles. From right lane, take the jug handle turn onto Old Post Rd, crossing over US-1. Elks Club is the next building past the Shoprite.

**From 287 Southbound:** Take Exit 1B (County Road 531/Trenton) to US-1 South; proceed about 1.1 miles and turn right onto Old Post Rd. Elks club is past one traffic light, about 4 blocks on your left.

**From GSP Northbound:** Use the right 3 lanes to take exit 127 to merge onto NJ-440 South toward I-287 North. Keep left to stay on NJ-440 South and then continue onto I-287 North. Take exit 1 B (Trenton) to US-1 South. Turn right on Old Post Road. Elks club is past one traffic light, about 4 blocks on your left.

## *The Good, the Bad, the Average Plus*

### *by Ken Trock*

In October my Partner Israel Raphaelli and I were fortunate enough to win a BBO Open game by .01, ahead of 165 other pairs. To do this you need to play well, have some luck, and get some help for sure. Here's 3 hands from that game.

#### The Good

You hold ♠ 83 ♥ J84 ♦ J843 ♣ KJ82 in 3<sup>rd</sup> seat and hear this auction:

<u>Partner</u>	<u>RHO</u>	<u>You</u>	<u>LHO</u>
Pass	1♣	Pass	1♠
Pass	1NT	Pass	2NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Opening lead? I guessed to lead a Diamond and based on the 4 hands shown, was right.

Dealer: Partner	<u>Partner</u> ♠ QJ76
Vul: None	♥ 6532
	♦ AK6
	♣ 103

<u>Dummy</u> ♠ K952
♥ Q7
♦ Q75
♣ A974

<u>Declarer</u> ♠ A104
♥ AK109
♦ 1092
♣ Q65

<u>You</u> ♠ 83
♥ J84
♦ J843
♣ KJ82

Any other suit lead would have probably kicked a trick. Dummy played low and Partner cashed 2 high diamonds and led a 3<sup>rd</sup> to the ♦Q. I'm unlikely to have the ♦10 from my opening lead. If I have the ♦9 we may be giving away a trick in the suit but it's not clear anything else is better. Declarer played the ♥Q and a Heart to the Ten, losing to my Jack.

They mis-guessed the Spades, playing me for an honor and then a 3-3 split and didn't get that.

After trick 3 Declarer had 7 easy tricks available but of course was playing to make 2NT. They wound up only taking 6. Down 2 was worth 97.5% on the board. We got off to a good start on the hand, got out passively when in, and took advantage of Declarer going wrong.

#### The Bad

Or rather, the disaster. Yes, we had a disaster on a day we won. Both Vulnerable.

♠ Q965432 ♥ Q8 ♦ – ♣ 10953

<u>RHO</u>	<u>You</u>	<u>LHO</u>	<u>Partner</u>
Pass	Pass	5♦	Dbl
Pass	?		

Normally, decisions like this at high bidding levels are made on shape, not points. I drilled down on one of my opponent's handles and saw we're playing against 15 time National champion Eddie Wold. I admit I clammed up and passed. I have a partner who says they *don't want to know* who they're playing against, perhaps for this reason. Anyhow, Pass could still be right. We have no idea of Partner's shape.

The opening lead is A♥. Here is what we see:

Dummy

♠ K87  
♥ 964  
♦ 765  
♣ 762

You

♠ Q965432  
♥ Q8  
♦ --  
♣ 10953

Trick	Lead From	Cards
1.	Partner	♥A, 4, 8, 5
2.	Partner	♥K, 6, Q, ruffed with the ♦3
3.	Declarer	♦A, 2, 5, ♠2 (odd-even discard)
4.	Declarer	♣K, A, 2, 5
5.	Partner	♦4, 6, ♠3, ♦8
6.	Declarer	♦K, 10, 7, ♠4
7.	Declarer	♦Q, ♥3, ♠7, ♠5
8.	Declarer	♦J, ♥7, ♠7, ♣3

Oops. Here is what's remaining:

Partner

♠ AJ10  
♥ J10  
♦ --  
♣ --

Declarer

♠ --  
♥ --  
♦ 9  
♣ QJ84

Dummy

♠ K8  
♥ 96  
♦ --  
♣ 7

You

♠ Q96  
♥ --  
♦ --  
♣ 109

We could have let go of 1 more Spade before deciding whether Declarer started with 2 small Spades, in which case we need to hold the ♠Q9, or 5 Clubs, as she did. If Partner had tried to cash the ♠A at trick 6 then the position becomes clear.

Anyhow, 5♦ doubled and making was definitely a low score for us.

**The Average+**

In second seat with no one Vulnerable you pickup ♠ K10983 ♥ 54 ♦ AJ ♣ QJ32. RHO opens a 15-17 1NT. Do we have enough strength and shape to come in? If so, do we treat this as a one or two suited hand? We're playing Meckwell, where a bid of 2♠ would mean Spades and would do a better job of blocking the opponents than 2♣, Clubs and a major. It's also easier to double if we're wrong. We have a nice interior sequence such that either of the opponents may be less likely to double with say, ♠ A65(2).

Anyhow, I decided on 2♣, LHO passed, Partner relayed to 2♥, asking for my major. I bid 2♠, ending the auction.

	<u>Partner</u>
Dealer: RHO	♠ A764
Vul: None	♥ J10862
	♦ K9
	♣ K4

LHO

♠ 2  
♥ Q93  
♦ 1087532  
♣ 876

RHO

♠ QJ5  
♥ AK7  
♦ Q64  
♣ A1095

You

♠ K10983  
♥ 54  
♦ AJ  
♣ QJ32

<u>RHO</u>	<u>You</u>	<u>LHO</u>	<u>Partner</u>
1NT	2♣ <sup>1</sup>	Pass	2♥ <sup>2</sup>
Pass	2♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

<sup>1</sup> Clubs and a major  
<sup>2</sup> Which major?

We caught a lucky Dummy and there wasn't much to the play, making 3 for roughly two thirds of the Matchpoints. Notice that the 2♣ did a fine job of blocking, 2♦ by LHO would have been a transfer to Hearts!



## *Bridge by the Numbers, or What Are the Odds?*

*by Arman Tookmanian*

I learned and enjoyed playing bridge in my college days, but retirement has afforded me the time to improve my skills, albeit ever-so-slowly. I've taken lessons, watched endless instructional videos on YouTube, and purchased dozens of bridge books. My wife says I've made far too many such purchases, but in my defense, I have read at least portions of almost every one of them.

It should come as no surprise that, being a math major who took several probability and statistics courses, I will occasionally grab a pencil and scrap of paper and check the odds given by a bridge author for alternative lines of play. I should stop wasting my time – I've yet to catch any of them being wrong.

Probabilities are dependent on the number of trial samples taken, or The Law of Large Numbers (not to be confused with the Law of Total Tricks). It is more commonly thought of as "things tend to average out over time." If you are keen to learn how to calculate probabilities, specifically as they relate to bridge, I recommend getting a copy of *Bridge Odds for Practical Players* by Hugh Kelsey and Michael Glauert.

If you have a Windows PC I also recommend SuitPlay, a very easy to use program that is available as a free download. It allows the input of any Declarer-Dummy single suit holding, and then shows the probability of making X number of tricks using different lines of play. All possible distributions of the Defenders holdings, as well as the frequencies and resulting outcomes are also displayed. The program can also be told to limit the number of outside entries to Dummy, and to display different strategies to use at Matchpoint vs. IMP scoring.

Of course, the best books on bridge use no math at all. In *Take All Your Chances at Bridge*, one of my favorite authors, Eddie Kantar, challenges you with 100 sample hands, then gives concise but clear explanations of best lines of Declarer play. Using variations and repetition, he shows how playing tricks in the right order can maximize your chances of success. There are several key overarching themes, but no equations or

formulas – all the bridge-related percentages you might want or need are provided in a very brief and well organized Appendix of Useful Numbers. There is also a *Take All Your Chances at Bridge*, Volume 2, with another 100 problem hands.

Another of my current favorites is *Card Play Technique*, or the *Art of Being Lucky* by Victor Mollo and Nico Gardener, who also avoid getting bogged down in any unnecessary math. Each of the entertainingly written chapters focuses on one specific aspect of either Declarer or Defender play, and ends with several exercises that review the logic and concepts detailed in that chapter.

In 2010 Larry Cohen wrote a series of articles in which he summarized a computer analysis performed on 1,000,000 random hands (\*) that were played online. He reported various statistics, such as the number of times different partial, game, and slam contracts were reached, and how successful they were. Here are just a few I found interesting:

- Nearly half (48.2%) of all auctions ended in a game bid (not all made!)
- 3NT was the most popular final contract, reached on 18.1% of the million deals
- Contracts that settled at 1NT were only set 29% of the time

You can find more of these sometimes surprising results on Larry's website at <https://www.larryco.com/bridge-learning-center/one-million-deals>, where he discusses many conventions, posts lots of lessons, and more, all for free.

But these results were brought to light using computers available more than a decade ago. There have been incredible computing advances in the intervening years. We have entered the age of Super Computers and Artificial Intelligence. So an obvious question is: Will we one day see computers that can compete with or even defeat the best human bridge players? My answer: I certainly hope not – at least not until I do it first!

(\*) If you play two rounds of 18 hands every day, 365 days per year, for 76 years, you'll have played almost one million hands. So if you happen to make a mistake as Declarer on one of them, try to remember what you've learned - there are only 635,013,559,600 different hands you can be dealt, so you are very likely to see that same hand again sometime in the next 635,000 years. Of course, the Dummy your Partner lays down will very likely be completely different, so ...

## *2 Concepts for Intermediate and Advancing Players*

### *By Brett Kunin*

#### 1. When to avoid counting High Card Points.

I was playing at our local club on Thursday, September 1<sup>st</sup>, when board 5 of The Common Game was our first Board. North passed in first chair, and I opened 1♠ as East with:

♠ KQT87 ♥ AK4 ♦ AT3 ♣ 75.

Note that this hand should not be opened 1NT with a 5 card major, as it is far too “suit-oriented” with Aces and Kings. The auction was uncontested, and Partner bid 2♦, forcing to game. As Partner will generally hold 5+ Diamonds in such an auction, I bid 3♦, and Partner bid 3♠, promising a Spade fit. I made a slam try by bidding 4♥, promising the Ace (and denying a Club control), and Partner leaped to 6♠. My LHO led the ♣A, and Partner tabled:

♠ AJ9 ♥ T63 ♦ KQ9852 ♣ 4.

There was nothing to the play, barring both a 5-0 Spade break AND a 4-0 Diamond break. In fact, neither of these happened. North held:

♠ 632 ♥ 9 ♦ J64 ♣ KQJT96

South held:

♠ 54 ♥ QJ8752 ♦ 7 ♣ A832

Partner’s 2♦ call is the same call I would have made with his hand, even though he held only 10 HCPs. This is based on the concept of the “Losing Trick Count” (often referred to as “LTC”). Once the partnership finds an 8+ card fit, the number of points in the combined hands is not as relevant as the number of losers. This is determined by the number of cards held in a suit Queen or higher, with a maximum of 3 losers in any suit. Under LTC, the usual number of losers in a basic opening hand is 7, and the trick taking ability of the combined hands, with a fit, is determined by adding the number of losers and subtracting it from 24.

My Partner held a 7 loser hand. That’s 2 Spades, 3 Hearts, 1 Diamond, and 1 Club. So, Partner knew we

belonged in at least game in Spades (24 – 14 “losers” = 10 tricks available). Note that Partner’s hand became huge when I raised Diamonds, and that slam is virtually “cold”, even though we held only 26 HCP, far less than the Goren point count requirement of 33. The second round control of Clubs is the critical factor. LTC is based on shape and controls, Aces and Kings in a suit contract, which are undervalued, as opposed to Queens and Jacks, which are overvalued.

I was surprised when reviewing the recap that no other pair in the room bid the slam. The explanation here is a bit simplistic, but for those who want to reach beyond strict point counting, and improve their game and slam bidding, I urge you to read what I believe is the classic book on the subject. It is by the Australian professional, Ron Klinger, and is titled “The Modern Losing Trick Count”, first published in 1986, and still in print.

#### 2. When to avoid your 8+ card fit.

Several rounds later, on board 21, my RHO passed, I passed holding a square 11 HCP:

♠ QJ4 ♥ 865 ♦ QJx ♣ AJ84

LHO passed, and Partner opened 1♠ in 4th chair. The auction was thereafter uncontested. I bid 2♣, the Drury convention, an artificial bid showing Spade support and limit raise values. Partner now bid 2♥, which most play as a full opener showing at least 5 Spades and 4 Hearts. As my hand did not improve with Partner’s call, I bid 2♠, which Partner could pass. (Systemically, with this Partner, a 2NT bid by me would have shown a very good 11 or “flattish” 12 HCP, the latter being unworthy of an opening call). Instead, he bid 3♣, the only call to significantly improve my hand. However, with 3 dead Hearts, QJx in both pointed suits, and a 4333 hand, I noted that my hand was not suit oriented and offered 3NT, which ended the auction.

<u>RHO</u>	<u>Me</u>	<u>LHO</u>	<u>Partner</u>
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♣*	Pass	2♥
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♣**
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

\* Drury  
 \*\* Club suit or fragment

I received the expected Diamond lead, and Partner tabled:

♠ AKT72 ♥ QJ74 ♦ xx ♣ K5.

The defenders cashed their high Diamonds, then played a 3rd Diamond. With the Club finesse on, 3NT made on our combined 24 HCP. The recap showed that only one other pair played No Trump, giving us an 87% board.

Dealer: LHO  
 Vul: NA

Partner

♠ AKT72  
 ♥ QJ74  
 ♦ xx  
 ♣ K5

LHO

♠ 983  
 ♥ K932  
 ♦ A107  
 ♣ 632

RHO

♠ 65  
 ♥ A10  
 ♦ K9862  
 ♣ Q1097

Me

♠ QJ4  
 ♥ 865  
 ♦ QJx  
 ♣ AJ84

The pairs in 4♠ went down, and one pair found the excellent defense of low a Heart to the ♥A, a Heart back to the ♥K and a Heart ruff. Then they cash their Diamonds to beat 3♠. All other scores were partials in Spades.

The hand is a reminder of the converse of the theme on the first board: lesser honors of Queens and Jacks are more No Trump oriented, and with such hands, it is not uncommon for both 3 of the suit contract and 3NT to make the same number of tricks.

The NJBL made a larger than usual contribution of \$2000 this year to the Orange Education Foundation. The following is an email sent from Barbara Clark to the involved parties.

The donation of \$2,000 from the New Jersey Bridge League is breathtaking. We are very grateful for your continued designation of the Orange Education Foundation as your annual charity.

Our bridge programs in Orange are expanding. We are attempting to broaden our bridge program to include the middle school and secondary school populations. There continues to be great enthusiasm for the game of bridge from administrators, coordinators, parents, and students.

Your contribution is very beneficial in our fundraising efforts for the 2023 Youth North American Bridge Championships in Chicago. The commitment of NJBL is very much appreciated.

Thanks for your support.

Barbara

COMPLEMENTARY MORNING COFFEE! ♥ DAILY GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY GAMES!

# Joan Gerard District 3 Winter Regional January 15-19, 2023

**New Venue ♠ Recently Renovated**  
**Crowne Plaza Suffern-Mahwah**

3 Executive Boulevard ♦ Suffern, NY 10901 ♦ (845) 357-4800

Standard room rate: \$119 for Queen/King ♠ Free Parking

Deadline for reservations: December 24, 2022

*Reserve online:* Specify Special Group Rate Code BDH ♠ Or call 845-357-4800: Specify BDH or New Jersey New York Bridge Association



## Tournament Manager/Hotel Issues:

**Julie Cohan**

(973) 568-4864 ♦ jcohan11@aol.com

**Partnership Chair:**

**Lorraine Bellagamba**

570-618-3066 ♦ itsbella@hotmail.com

## Schedule

### SUNDAY, January 15

11:30\* & 3:00 Fast Pairs (open/3000/1500)

11:30\* & TBA A/X Swiss Teams (open/3000)

B/C/D Swiss Teams (No player over 3000)

*\*New later start time*

### MONDAY – THURSDAY, January 16-19

10:30 & 3:00 A/B/C Pairs (open/3000/3000)

Golden Opportunity Pairs (750/300/100) – no player over 750

10:30 & TBA Bracketed Round Robin Teams – Open to all teams

(When possible, top bracket will be played as an Open Swiss)

*All team & pair starts based on average for the team or pair. In any event or flight with an upper limit, no individual player's Masterpoint total may exceed that upper limit.*

*Single-session entries to Golden Opportunity & Open Pair Games permitted.*

Credit Cards  
accepted for  
all events

**4 Golden  
Opportunity  
Events!**

Gold Points for overalls and section tops in top street.  
Single-session entries available.



**ACBL Covid protocols will be enforced.**



Please refer to [www.bridges-district3.org](http://www.bridges-district3.org) for the latest update

## ***Big Games***

(Must be face-to-face to qualify)

**September 1, 2022 – November 30, 2022**

OPEN		
74.67%	Terrence Havican-Sheila Holderness	Montclair Golf Club
74.58%	Peter Stein – Clifford Wilson Jr.	Bill's Bridge
74.50%	Stephanie Austin - Dorothy Koernig	Canoe Brook
74.40%	Julie Anderson - Dorel Livescu	Queen Of Hearts DBC
73.91%	Brett Kunin - Ashok Agarwala	Summit Area Bridge
73.80%	Arnold Dorin – Ron Kraft	Bill's Bridge
73.34%	Peter Brudner - Henry Stadelmann	Queen Of Hearts DBC
73.30%	Peter Stein - Arnold Dorin	Bill's Bridge
72.97%	Dick Hudson - Frank Leonard	Montclair Golf Club
72.96%	George Kalb – Simon Thompson	Summit Area Bridge
72.32%	Alexander Allen - Donna Dulet	Queen Of Hearts DBC
72.20%	Betty Rothschild – Jim Rothschild Jr.	Short Hills
71.76%	Barbara Codispoti - Kathy Hunter	Shadowfax
71.67%	Daniel Walsh - Lisa Walsh	Two Rivers Duplicate
71.02%	Arnold Kohn - Jim McCarroll	Bill's Bridge
70.84%	Peter Stein - Clifford Wilson Jr.	Bill's Bridge
70.83%	Kathy Hunter - Barbara Codispoti	Shadowfax
70.63%	Bonnie Breinberg – Victor Breinberg	Regency at Monroe
70.62%	Arnold Kohn – Jim McCarroll	Bill's Bridge
70.61%	Stephanie Austin - Dorothy Koernig	Canoe Brook
70.59%	Donna Dulet - Lisa Walsh	Monroe DBC
70.45%	Vijay Ahuja - Barbara Clark	Montclair Golf Club
70.33%	Sonia Bibi – Robin Shamah	Spring Lake DBC
70.12%	Om Singh - Peter Wright	Bill's Bridge
70.00%	Peter Wright – Bill Miller	Bill's Bridge

LIMITED/INVITATIONAL		
80.56%	Agnes Barenti - Jeanne Forti	Westlake CC
74.82%	Holly Hubbell - Harry Lonsdale	Bay Head Yacht Club
71.25%	Laurie Kramer - Laura Breslin	Bill's Bridge

***Unit 140 Players in Phoenix  
November 24 – December 4***

<i>PLAYER(S)</i>	<i>RESULT</i>
Joan Brody	1 <sup>st</sup> in NABC Mixed Swiss 3 <sup>rd</sup> in Whitehead Women's Pairs
Ralph Buchwalter	12 <sup>th</sup> in Mitchell BAM Teams
Donna Dulet	Qualified in Senior Mixed Pairs Qualified 3 <sup>rd</sup> in Whitehead Women's Pairs
Bill Golush	3 <sup>rd</sup> place in two bracketed Swiss events
Larry Gordon – Steve Siegal	Placed in a two session Swiss
Jiang Gu	38 <sup>th</sup> in Blue Ribbon Pairs 12 <sup>th</sup> in a two session Swiss 19 <sup>th</sup> in Life Master Pairs
John Overdeck	10 <sup>th</sup> in Reisinger BAM Teams 24 <sup>th</sup> in 0-6000 Blue Ribbon Pairs 13 <sup>th</sup> in Swiss Qualifier for the Soloway Teams First in Mitchell BAM Teams
Alex Perlin	8 <sup>th</sup> in Reisinger BAM Teams 8th (tie) in Top-Flight Swiss Qualified for Blue Ribbon Pair final 72 <sup>nd</sup> in Mitchell BAM Teams 46 <sup>th</sup> in Nail Life Master Paris
Jian Wang	10 <sup>th</sup> in North American Swiss 13 <sup>th</sup> (tie) in Mitchell BAM Teams

## Milestones

Changes in Rank: August 2022 – October 2022

### Diamond Life Master

Piotr Olszewski	Hackettstown
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### Gold Life Master

Arnold Dorin	Manalapan
Anthony Iannino	Kinnelon
Farell Shaftel	Whippany
Akshay Shah	Somerset

### Ruby Life Master

Eileen Becker	West Orange
Sandra Chang	Roseland
Lawrence Gordon	West Orange
Francis Gupta	Princeton
Fred Partridge	Whippany
Philip Roura	Manchester
Om Singh	Whitehouse Station

### Silver Life Master

Marjorie Becker	Verona
Julie Grossman	Hopewell
Phyllis Kearse	Milburn
Lewis Lefkowitz	Somerset
Kathleen Riepenhoff	Skillman
Sam Singhvi	Princeton

### Bronze Life Master

John Overdeck	Short Hills
Ellen Weinstock	Livingston

### Advanced NABC Master

Robert Derosa	Manchester
Simon Thomson	Summit

### NABC Master

Veena Arora	Waretown
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### Regional Master

Marta Black	Denville
James Buzby	Hampton
Carol Churgin	Verona
Robert Coleman	Manchester
Kim Gimblette	Lakewood
N Ladov	Upper Montclair
Shangsan Qian	East Brunswick
Prakesh Ranadive	Somerset

### Sectional Master

Dorothy Bisberg	West Orange
Heather deLaszlo	Rumson
Laura Haaren	Rumson
Cheryl Kaplan	Verona
Ellen Lospinuso	Rumson
Zuguang Tian	Kendall Park

### Club Master

Harsh Bansal	New Vernon
Howard Charish	West Orange
Jayne Geller	Randolph
MartinGeller	Randolph
Gerry Isaacs	Boonton
Xiaowen Li	Jersey City
Frederick Shubert	Hackettstown
N Srinivasan	Eatontown

### Junior Master

Leslie Aufseeser	Ocean
Robert Berglund	Toms River
M Nancy Elia	Summit
Jerry Lefkowitz	Monroe
Phyllis Levine	Livingston
Donna O Meara	Berkeley Heights
Sabby Ray	West Windsor
Grace Repetti	Belmar
Jody Rosenberg	Matawan
Huiwen Yang	Jersey City



## REMEMBRANCES

The Board of Directors of the New Jersey Bridge League offer their condolences to the families and friends of the following members of the ACBL Unit 140. They will be missed at our bridge tables. We would like to remember all who support and participate in this great game. Please notify Susan Atteridge at [Susan.Atteridge@gmail.com](mailto:Susan.Atteridge@gmail.com) of any deaths within our membership; indicate, when known, dates of passing and club(s) attended.

<p><b>Beryl Blake</b> d. November 17, 2022 frequent player at Princeton</p>	<p><b>Ed Hill</b> d. October 28, 2022 frequent player at Essex and Shrine</p>
<p><b>Gerald Lahn</b> d. May 15, 2022 frequent player at Princeton</p>	<p><b>Roy Levi</b> d. November 23, 2022 frequent player at Monroe</p>
<p><b>Barbara Tepper</b> d. October, 2022 frequent player at Essex and Shrine</p>	<p><b>Bobby Willig</b> d. October 21, 2022 frequent player at Princeton</p>

### *Obituary for Barbara Tepper*

Barbara Tepper, longtime member of Unit 140, passed away in October at the age of 91. She was a Platinum Life Master, winning 3 events at the 1969 Spring Nationals. She also finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in the prestigious Wagar Women's Knockout at those Nationals. Al Roth, in one of his books, cited a hand Barbara defended where she threw away 2 Aces to unblock a suit and get her Partner on lead.

Writes longtime Unit member Arnie Kohn, "We of the Bridge world and Unit 140 have lost one of our finest players and competitors. I first remember Barbara from the late 1950's, but she had been playing for at least a few years before that. She was a fierce competitor and partnered many of our other great players. The last number of years, she played mostly with her significant other Lester Sokolower. She was a mentor and teacher to many of our present players. Barbara can also be remembered as a Director and Manager of the Northfield Bridge Club, where Ron Rubin and Neil Silverman started their careers. Barbara taught me one lesson which I never will forget: 'every card one plays on defense has to have a meaning'."