

NVBA Newsletter

September - October - November 2001

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President's Column

by Bruce Culmer

I just returned from the Summer Nationals in Toronto. It was a huge success with over 16,000 tables. Now the challenge is on for us to have just as great a tournament here in Washington next summer. I will be spending much of my time over this year helping Summer NABC Tournament Chair Margot Hennings wherever I can. She will be making the arrangements for fund-raising, registration/information desks, partnerships, entertainment/refreshments, prizes, child care, parking, alternate hotel/housing for out-of-town players, transportation guides, restaurant/tourism guides, and so forth, so that next year's Summer Nationals are equally successful. Margot will announce the name of the volunteer coordinator shortly, so be thinking about how you can help.

Another major interest of mine during this next year is our Education program. Particularly exciting right now are the bridge classes in

progress at the Smithsonian as part of its summer program. Edith McMullin is teaching Easybridge! there to 25 tables of newcomers with a waiting list of another 20 people! This is indeed good news for our local clubs and units! The NVBA in turn is sponsoring two Easybridge! classes this fall, one in Reston on Wednesdays and one in Annandale on Sundays. (See page 7 for additional details). We are also talking with Fairfax County about holding bridge classes as part of its recreation program. Board member Ron Kral is our point person for these classes. If you know anyone who is interested in learning bridge, please tell them about these classes. The challenge for the Unit now is to find sites for these new players to play in games with others at their level. We hope to have something available in the next couple of months. My goal is to provide an atmosphere for all of us that is both fun and challenging.

Round Robin for 2001-2002

Come play in the upcoming NVBA Round Robin! Set up your 4-, 5-, or 6-person team, fill out the entry form (available from Bette Dudka at the Unit Game, or call her at 703-751-5244), and you'll be on your way. The event is scheduled to start on October 1st and go through May 1st.

The stratification is currently as follows: C is 0-300, B is 0-2000, X is 0-3000, and Flight A is unlimited. (Note: The strats may have to be adjusted, depending on the number of teams that sign up.) It's \$50 per team for Flights A, X, and B; for the C's, registration is \$40 per team. Bette is coordinating the A/X strats, and Ed Heberg (703-759-3282) is the B/C coordinator. Call them if you have additional questions.

All entries are due to Bette by October 1st. This can be a really fun time, so get your team together and sign up as soon as you can!

2002 Summer Nationals Website

Check it out—go to www.acbl.org, select “tournaments”, then select “NABCs”. Summer 2002 is right around the corner!!!

Holiday Elves Needed!!

The heat of summer is still upon us and it's early to be thinking about the holidays...but we want a great holiday party this year. And that takes a lot of planning and time.

The party is scheduled for Thursday, December 13, and we need someone to head up the Party Committee and some volunteer elves to assist the chair. Please call Kathryn Kiley at 703-758-0366 if you can help or want more information.

NVBA Milestones

New Junior Masters

Oya Aksoy	Philomena Healy	Jean Reed
Dan Bruh	Michele Liebel	Pam Svensson
Mildred Cordova	Gerald Pittler	Daniel Ward

New Club Masters

Robert Armstrong	Margaret Freitag	Marina Kotch
Judy Bloom	Don Henry	Diana Stein
Barbara DiCicco		

New Sectional Masters

Gregory Belmonte	Jayne Eckert	Carl Rodina
Terry Beresford	Lee Faber	Hongmo Wang
George Cooper		

New Regional Masters

Shirley Barlow	Anna Kearney	Jean Shoepe
Joan Fisher	Ann Lang	Susan Waters
John Garrison		

New NABC Masters

James Conrad	Stephen Montague	Paula Shorten
Issa Dorri	William Pepelko	Gail Zamboni

New Bronze Life Masters

Jeffa Dettinger	Dayle Masumura	
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New Silver Life Masters

Joan Shields	Phyllis Twedt	
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New Diamond Life Master

Sarah Cressy		
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List of Games in Northern Virginia

(All phone numbers have a 703 area code,
unless otherwise specified)

Monday

10 am	Ballston BC Arlington	Bill Gress 243-7714 Carole Grob 960-2471	Open
10 am	4-H's DBC Alexandria	Sigfried Hoermann 765-4573	Invitational
10 am	Virginia Suburban DBC Annandale	Frank Mackey 573-2990	Open & 299er
7 pm	Fairfax DBC Ft. Belvoir	Jeffa Dettinger 780-5162	Open
7 pm	Montebello DBC Alexandria	Norma Pierzchala 892-1292	Invitational
7:30 pm	Loudoun County BC Leesburg	Allan Sitterson 729-3756	Open
7:30 pm	Knights of Columbus BC Arlington	Bernie Oetjen 790-5170	Invitational

Tuesday

10 am	Glen Carlyn DBC KOCH (main floor)	Candy Boughner 758-0906	Open & 299er
11 am	Leisure World DBC Lansdowne	Lenore Ward 723-8614	Open
6:30 pm	Ballston BC Arlington	Bill Gress 243-7714 Carole Grob 960-2471	Open
7:30 pm	Westwood DBC Vienna	Alan Breed 538-5844	Invitational

Wednesday

9:45 am	Engineer's Officer's BC Fort Belvoir	Helen Sigleo 360-4051	Open
10 am	Arlington County DBC Ft. Myer	Kitty Heiberg 892-6721	Open
11 am	JCC of No. Va. BC Fairfax	Louise Sellers 281-5576	Open
12:30 pm	Easybridge! Reston Community Center	Ron Kral 437-0342	Novice & Beginner
7:30 pm	Reston DBC Reston Community Center	Candy Boughner 758-0906	Open & 199er

Thursday

10 am	Hawthorne DBC Annandale	Frank Mackey 573-2990	Open
10 am	Vienna DBC Vienna	Louise Sellers 281-5576	Open

1 pm	Cascades Seniors Sterling	Lenore Ward 723-8614	55 or older
6:30 pm	FIRST Woodlake DBC Falls Church	Will Hanak 866-3847	Open
7 pm	NVBA Unit Game Alexandria	David Gottfried 301-315-8228	Open
7:30 pm	Engineer's Officer's BC Ft. Belvoir	Helen Sigleo 360-4051	Open
Friday			
10 am	Friday Bridge at Ft. Myer Arlington	Arlene Gray 750-3214	Open
10 am	Fun Friday Bridge Frolic Annandale	N. Pierzchala 892-1292 S. McMillan 920-3535	Open & 199er
Saturday			
9 am	Norma's Game at KOCH Arlington (3rd floor)	Norma Pierzchala 892-1292	0-500
1 pm	Beltway BC KOCH (3rd floor)	Marshall Kuschner 758-9153	Open
Sunday			
2 pm	Easybridge! Annandale	Frank Mackey 573-2990	Novice & Beginner

New Telephone Directories

The new NVBA/WBL telephone directory is now available. You'll find copies at some of the club games, the Unit Game, and at the September NVBA Sectional.

District 6 NAP Final

If you've qualified at the club level, you'll want to know where and when the District 6 playoff will be for this year's North American Pairs. It's scheduled for September 22-23 at the Quality Hotel (1200 N. Court-house Road, Arlington: 703-524-4000). The Saturday games are at 1:30 pm and 7:30 pm, and the Sunday games are at 11 am and TBA. There is also a one-session consolation event on Sunday at 11 am. The District will send the top 3 pairs in each strat to the Houston Spring NABC to compete in the national event. If you need additional information, call the NAP Coordinator, Barb Doran (301-608-0347).

Congratulations to **Sarah Cressy**,
who went over 5,000 points
at our 4th of July Regional!!!

Unit Game Updates

by David Gottfried, Chief Unit Director

Everybody comes up against the occasional difficult hand that takes a few minutes longer to play, but it seems that slow play is becoming more prevalent at many club games around the Unit.

It's difficult to imagine that taking an extra five minutes for a round could have far reaching implications on the entire game, but it does. I have been receiving an increasing number of complaints lately about slow play (either following a slow pair or constantly having to wait because of the bottlenecks created when a pair cannot complete a round within a minute or two of the allotted time). One slow pair affects their immediate opponents, their next opponents, and the pair waiting to come to their table. The unfortunate consequence of falling behind early in the game is that it often is very challenging to catch up.

Directors have a good deal of empathy for delays caused by emergencies and the occasional difficult hand, but little or no tolerance for players who exacerbate the problem by not making a good faith effort to get caught up. The following suggestions may help:

1. Don't engage in any post-mortem during the round—defer it until the end, and then only if you are caught up.

2. If you are on opening lead, it is a matter of courtesy to make the lead before recording the contract on your card or on the pick-up slip if you are sitting north.

3. If you are following a slow pair, be ready to move to the table as soon as the round is completed—it's not helpful to go for a cup of coffee or out to smoke just because it is expected to be a few minutes before your new opponents are ready for you.

4. Don't return late from breaks. The Unit Game utilizes a clock that displays both the round number and the remaining time in the round. Players who return late (often to find their opponents seated and waiting) and state "Don't worry, we play fast" are being discourteous to the opponents, who have a right to the entire time for each round.

The NVBA expects the Unit Directors to issue warnings for first offenses and procedural penalties for pairs who are unable to get caught up. While the importance of doing your part may seem trivial, duplicate bridge is truly a choreographed event, and all players can and should do their part to ensure that everybody enjoys the game.

Flight C Round Robin Winners

Congratulations go to the team of Ted Wilkinson, Chip King, James Phillips, and Lucie Phillips for winning the 2000-2001 NVBA Flight C Round Robin. And thanks to all those who participated in this event.

Mentoring—The Next Stage

by Sam McMillan, Education Chair

We have learned much from the experiment in mentoring this spring and summer. Now we are expanding the range. Mentoring is now available to all players with fewer than 300 masterpoints who would like to participate in the mentoring program and improve their skills in playing duplicate bridge in open as well as limited masterpoint games. If you want to participate, or to be a mentor, please contact me at 703-920-3535.

Easybridge!—Fun Learning

by Ron Kral, Easybridge! Coordinator

A new, exciting Easybridge! 1 will begin in September. There are two sections—just choose the one best for you.

- Wednesdays, beginning September 5, at the Reston Community Center in Reston. 12:30 pm to 3 pm.
- Sundays, beginning September 9, at the Masonic Lodge, 6911 Columbia Pike in Annandale. 2 pm to 4:30 pm.

Easybridge! is based on the principle that learning takes place by playing. The first 6 sessions are free, followed by 6–9 weeks of instructional/playing sessions at \$5 each. If you want to learn to play, join one of our Easybridge! sections. If your friends have mentioned that they want to learn how to play bridge, be sure to tell them about these two new Easybridge! sessions.

Call me for reservations or other information: 703-437-0342.

Unusual Over Unusual

by Tom Musso

“Unusual over Unusual” is a competitive bidding tool for use against two-suited overcalls. By defining the cue bids of both of the overcaller’s suits, it allows opener’s side to distinguish between limit raise values in opener’s suit and a competitive raise in opener’s suit, and also to distinguish between limit raise values and a competitive bid in the remaining unbid suit. It is a simple and efficient tool, and I recommend adding it to your competitive bidding toolbox.

Here is a simple example from the NVBA Unit Game on June 14th. In first seat with none vulnerable, I opened 1♠ holding ♠AKQT2 ♥94 ♦J932 ♣A6. LHO bid 2NT (minors). Partner bid 4♣ with ♠J853 ♥AQ87 ♦AT ♣T83. (We were not playing Unusual over Unusual.) I passed and made 5 after ♦K lead, a very normal result. Afterward partner asked if she should have bid differently. That question encouraged me to write an article on Unusual over Unusual because the hand provides a classic example. Playing Unusual over Unusual, she would bid 3♦ showing a limit-plus spade raise. (I’ll explain why 3♦, and not 3♣, later.) Knowing the limit-plus raise at the 3-level would have allowed me to investigate slam if I held a slightly better hand (for example, replace the ♥9 with the ♥K).

When It Applies

As with many competitive bidding conventions, the key point is knowing when it applies. Unusual over Unusual *only* applies when the oppo-

nents have shown two *specific* suits. It does not apply when they have shown one specific suit and another unspecified suit.

Unusual over Unusual applies after the following sequences:

- Partner opens 1 of a minor (1m) and RHO bids 2m (Michaels for the majors)
- Partner opens 1 of a suit (1y) and RHO bids 2NT (Unusual for lower suits)
- Partner opens 1NT and RHO makes a two-suited overcall showing two specific suits, such as 2♦ showing both majors (Cappelletti) or 2♥ showing both majors (DONT)
- By extension, any other situation where partner opens and RHO makes a low level overcall showing two specific suits.

When It Does Not Apply

Unusual over Unusual does *not* apply after the following sequences:

- Partner opens 1 of a major (1M) and RHO bids 2M (Michaels for the other major and an unspecified minor)
- Partner opens 1NT and RHO makes a two-suited overcall that does not specify both suits, such as 2M (Cappelletti—showing that major and an unspecified minor) or 2♦ (DONT—showing diamonds and a major)

I recommend you handle two-suited interference in which the opponent shows one specific suit (let’s call it an “anchor” suit) and another unspecified suit as if the overcaller had bid the anchor suit naturally. There-

fore, all your regular tools are available, such as cue bids showing limit plus raises after 1 of a suit openings and Lebensohl if partner has opened 1NT.

How It Works

The basic premise of Unusual over Unusual is that you define the cue bids of the overcaller's two suits as limit plus values either raising opener or with 5+ card length in the remaining suit. The common and simple way to play it is: the higher ranking cue bid is for the higher suit, and the lower ranking cue bid is for the lower ranking suit, regardless of whether opener bids the higher or lower suit. Since invitational hands use the cue bids, 3-level raises and bids of the remaining suit are merely competitive, not invitational. NT bids are natural. Doubles are penalty oriented with the willingness to penalize at least one of overcaller's suits.

A series of examples will quickly eliminate any confusion.

First.—Let's say partner opens 1♣ and RHO overcalls 2♣ (Michaels for majors).

- 1♣ - 2♣ - 2♦ = to play
- 1♣ - 2♣ - 2♥ = limit plus raise of clubs
- 1♣ - 2♣ - 2♠ = limit plus values with 5+ diamonds
- 1♣ - 2♣ - 2NT = natural and invitational with the majors stopped
- 1♣ - 2♣ - 3♣ = natural, competitive raise
- 1♣ - 2♣ - 3♦ (or 3♥ or 3♠) = splinter raise of clubs with a singleton in the bid suit
- 1♣ - 2♣ - 3NT = to play with the majors stopped
- 1♣ - 2♣ - double = intent to double either 2♥ or 2♠ or both

Second.—How about if partner opens 1♦ and RHO overcalls 2♦ (Michaels for Majors).

- 1♦ - 2♦ - 2♥ = limit plus values with 5+ clubs
- 1♦ - 2♦ - 2♠ = limit plus raise of diamonds
- 1♦ - 2♦ - 2NT = natural and invitational with Majors stopped
- 1♦ - 2♦ - 3♣ = to play
- 1♦ - 2♦ - 3♦ = natural, competitive raise
- 1♦ - 2♦ - 3♥ (or 3♠) = splinter raise of diamonds with singleton in bid suit
- 1♦ - 2♦ - 3NT = to play with Majors stopped
- 1♦ - 2♦ - double = intent to double either 2♥ or 2♠ or both

Third.—Now let's say partner opens 1♠ and RHO overcalls 2NT (minors).

- 1♠ - 2NT - 3♣ = limit plus strength with 5+ hearts
- 1♠ - 2NT - 3♦ = limit plus raise of spades
- 1♠ - 2NT - 3♥ = to play
- 1♠ - 2NT - 3♠ = natural, competitive raise
- 1♠ - 2NT - 3NT = to play with minors stopped
- 1♠ - 2NT - 4♣ (or 4♦ or 4♥) = splinter raise of spades with singleton in bid suit
- 1♠ - 2NT - 4♠ = to play (pre-emptive)
- 1♠ - 2NT - double = intent to double either 3♣ or 3♦ or both

And finally.—This time partner opens 1♥ and RHO overcalls 2NT (minors).

- 1♥ - 2NT - 3♣ = limit plus raise of hearts
- 1♥ - 2NT - 3♦ = limit plus strength with 5+ spades

• 1♥ - 2NT - 3♥ = natural, competitive raise

• 1♥ - 2NT - 3♠ = to play

• 1♥ - 2NT - 3NT = to play with minors stopped

• 1♥ - 2NT - 4♣ (or 4♦) = splinter raise of hearts with singleton in bid suit

• 1♥ - 2NT - 4♥ = to play (pre-emptive)

• 1♥ - 2NT - double = intent to double either 3♣ or 3♦ or both

Notice the difference between the cue bids. The higher-ranking cue bid always shows the higher ranking of “our” two suits and the lower cue bid always shows the lower ranking suit. Hence the name “Unusual over Unusual.”

Examples Of Unusual Over Unusual In Action

In each example north deals and opens the bidding as indicated. RHO makes a two-suited overcall, such as Unusual NT or Michaels. We’ll assume neither side is vulnerable and that we’re playing matchpoints (although bidding would be the same at IMPs).

(1) N: ♠Jx/♥Kxx/♦KQxxx/♣KJx
S: ♠xxxx/♥Axx/♦x/♣AQTxx
1♦ (North) - 2♦ (East: Michaels, both Majors) - 2♥ (South: limit plus values with 5+ clubs) - pass (West) - 3♣ (North) - all pass

(2) N: ♠x/KJxx/♦AQxxx/♣KJx
S: ♠KJxxx/Qxx/♦x/♣Axxx
1♦-2♦ (Michaels, Majors) - double - 2♠ (West) - pass - pass - double - all pass. (Partner leads a trump and declarer, with ♠AQTxx/ATxxx/♦xx/♣x, plays well to go down 500.)

(3) N: ♠xx/Kxx/♦Qxx/♣AKJxx
S: ♠AQT/QTx/♦KJxx/♣xxx

1♣ - 2♣ (Michaels, Majors) - 2NT (natural and invitational) - pass - 3NT - all pass

(4) N: ♠xx/♥Axx/♦Qxx/♣AKJxx
S: ♠AKTx/♥Kx/♦x/♣QTxxx

1♣-2♣ (Michaels, Majors)-3♦ (splinter raise of clubs) - pass - 3♥ (control) - pass - 3♠ (control) - pass - 3NT - pass - 4♥ (still interested in slam, second round control) - pass - 4NT - 5♦ (1 key card) - pass - 6♣ - all pass

(5) N: ♠QJxx/♥xx/♦AQxx/♣Kxx
S: ♠AKx/♥xx/♦Kxxxx/♣Axx

1♦ - 2NT (Unusual for lower, hearts and clubs) - 3♥ (limit plus raise of diamonds) - 4♥ - pass - pass - 5♦ - all pass

(6) N: ♠QJxxx/♥xx/♦Axxx/♣KQ
S: ♠x/♥AQJxxx/♦xx/♣xxxx

1♠ - 2NT (Unusual for minors) - 3♥ (to play) - all pass

(7) N: ♠AQxxx/♥Kxx/♦Axxx/♣x
S: ♠x/♥AQJxxx/♦xx/♣Kxxx

1♠ - 2NT (Unusual for minors) - 3♣ (invitational with 5+ hearts) - pass - 3♦ (nice hand for hearts with diamond control) - pass - 3H - pass - 4H - all pass

(8) N: ♠AQx/♥Kx/♦Kxx/♣AJTxx
S: ♠x♥Jxx♦AQJxxx♣xxx

1NT - 2♦ (Majors) - 3♥ (invitational with 5+ diamonds) - pass - 3NT - all pass

(9) N: ♠AKx/♥AKxxx/♦Tx/♣xxx
S: ♠xx/♥xx/♦AQJxxx/♣AQx

1♥ - 2♥ (Michaels, spades and unspecified minor) - 3♦ (Unusual over Unusual does not apply because the opponent’s overcall does not show two specific suits; 3♦ is natural and forcing) - 3♠ (spade values) - pass - 3NT - all pass

Summary

Unusual over Unusual is an effective, simple convention to add to your arsenal. It only applies when an opponent has bid two specific suits. Cue bidding the lower ranking of his suit shows limit plus values in the lower of opener's suit and the remaining suit. Similarly, the higher ranking cue bid shows the higher of "our" suits. If an opponent has overcalled a two-suiter by using a bid that identifies only one of the two suits, handle that interference as if that suit had been bid naturally. For additional insight into Unusual over Unusual, see Chapter 12.3 of *Washington Standard* by Steve Robinson.

New Contest

Jennie Rose had a limerick contest on a ship where she was having fun as the cruise's bridge director. Here's the winning entry:

*If you like to play bridge,
here's a cue...*

*Pick a partner who knows
what to do.*

*If he plays as he should,
He'll make you look good,
And the credit will all go to you!!*

Surely we can do better!! Send your great limerick to NVBA, 6819 Lemon Road, McLean, VA 22101, or email it to newsletter@nvba.org.

Hail, and Farewell

We'd like to welcome the following new ACBL members into our Unit:

Patricia Boudinot	David Keltner	Jeanne Sprott
Jose Cortina	William Pierce	Janet Walsh
Catharine Fisher	Ruth Rosenbaum	Adam Winsler
John Fisher	Lani Seikaly	Jeff Youngen

And we'd like to welcome the following folks who have transferred into the Unit:

Jane Arberg	William Hughes	Ronald Promboin
Quinn Bishop	Elliot Itkin	Christiane Thomas
John Dyer	Gaye Itkin	Victor Van Reese
Davil Genne	John Kuchenbrod	Frank Wirsch
Sandy Goldberg		

The following persons have transferred out of our Unit:

Aysheh Bazzari	Judy Crowley	Donna Josaitis
Jamal Bazzari	Julia Horton	Marvin Josaitis
Daniel Buersmeyer	Steve Horton	David Roberts
Betina Castillo-Larsen	Paul Isaacson	Janis Roberts
Harold Crowley	Barry Jenkins	Amy Waters

And we'd like to note the passing of four of our members:

Bea Bloch	Miriam Lewis
Mary Geyer	Mary Steinhagen

The Jack of Hearts

by Marshall Kuschner

So you want to know about Toronto, eh? Well, it's still the same beautiful, Old World, clean, safe city it was when we last visited in 1992. The natives still speak with the same stilted accent and they still say "eh" a lot. Oh sure, there are some new things. There's the Air Canada Center, the Hockey Hall of Fame, and the Toronto Convention Center, where most of the regional events were played. It's located next to Skydome and the CN Tower and, except for the entrance, is entirely underground. At least in this case, I can assure you that bridge was played on the lowest level. We keep hearing how much farther one's money goes in Canada because \$1 US equals about \$1.50 Canadian. However, things seem to cost half again as much, so aren't we really breaking even? At any rate (no pun intended), Toronto remains a very popular venue, drawing 16,079.5 tables. That made it the 9th largest national ever, and the first to exceed 15,000 since the Summer NABC in 1994. Hmm!

As usual, the local organizers worked hard, and provided some nice touches, like hiring a pianist to serenade the players after the evening session. Your view of the hospitality, however, depended largely on where you played. An attempt was made at the convention center to prevent the early herds from hogging the post-game snacks by requiring tickets which were passed out during the game. The problem was that, as often happens, they didn't come close to having enough food. On many nights, players at the Convention

Center were left holding their tickets and heard the infamous words "Sorry, all gone." However, at the Royal York, where the national events were played, there was a huge surplus almost every night, so if you played at the TMCC, and knew the drill, and were willing to make the long hike to the Royal York, you could feast on the leftovers. The quality is another story. Some nights were very good, featuring pizza or ham and cheese croissants. Soft pretzel night, however, was a flop. Most folks took one bite and went off in search of a trash bin only to find it full of soft pretzels missing one bite.

For once, there is glorious news from the battle front. Bobby Gookin, perhaps spurred on by the abuse he received at his 10,000 point roast, finished third in the three-day LM Pairs. Jeff Roman lost a heartbreaker in the round of 16 in the Spingold. Rusty Krauss finished 2nd in the Flight A GNT, and Randy Thompson and Barry Spector (when was the last time you saw either of them?) were 9th in the IMP Pairs. Others with national overalls were Ai-Tai Lo and Alan Schwartz (Spingold), Ron Sukoneck (GNT), David Fleischer (Fast Pairs), and Diane Alexander (Red Ribbon). Regional winners included Jean Levin, Linda and Robert Padgett, John Ashe, and Ken Davis.

In one of my forgettable pair games, I played against a lady named Lynn Yokel. After finishing two boards, I left the table before I yielded to the temptation to ask if she was from Toronto. You see, that would have made her a local Yokel.

Cookbooks—Still Available

To help raise funds for the Summer 2002 NABC, we have published a cookbook containing recipes from the 1993 Summer Nationals that were held in D.C. Maybe you remember the great hospitality at that tournament??.if so, you'll want to get a copy for sure. All of those recipes can be yours for a mere \$9.99! Cookbooks are available at all NVBA and WBL Sectionals and both Unit Games!

Board Meeting Summaries

June 11

- *Mentoring Plan* (Intermediate/Novice Program). The test program was a success, and the testing period is over: we're going "primetime" in September! This is a wonderful opportunity for beginning and intermediate players. See the announcement on page 7 for all the details.

- *NVBA/WBL Breakfast Meeting of Club Managers*. Ed Heberg is organizing it this year. The event is scheduled to be held Saturday morning, October 27.

- *St. Elizabeth's Game*. The Board voted to make a \$150 donation to this game to help keep it running. The WBL Board matched this donation.

July 11

- *New Mailboxes*. The NVBA website has two new mailboxes for communicating with Ron Kral on Easybridge! and on the electronic newsletter: easybridge@nvba.org and newsletter@nvba.org.

- *Educational Program*. Leo Cardillo has volunteered to take

over the program at Thomas Jefferson High School this fall. The Board expresses its tremendous appreciation to Dot Lewis for her devotion to running this program for many years.

- *Grand National Teams*. The District has authorized holding GNT qualifying events from October 2001 to April 2002, past the time some of the qualifying events will be held at the District level. Currently the Unit schedules two GNT team events, but we will hold three GNT-qualifier events next year.

- *BIL*. The Board voted to stop maintaining the Bridge Information Line (BIL). However, Sam Coleman has offered to continue running BIL at his own expense as a gift to the NVBA. Thanks, Sam.

- *Novice Games*. The Board is looking for a site(s) to hold 0-20 masterpoint games for Easybridge! graduates and other players new to duplicate so that they will have a place to hone their skills. If you are aware of an available location, please let any member of the NVBA Board know.

Committee Action XXXVIII— A Question of Alerting (Part One)

by Rich Colker

Among the most common questions I am asked are those relating to the Alert procedure. These often involve the ethics and the mechanics of Alerting, the information conveyed by an Alert (or a failure to Alert) and the proper way to deal with the events that follow.

It will be helpful in what follows to keep in mind several things. First, the purpose of the Alert procedure is to inform the opponents that a call has been made that has a hidden meaning or implication of which they may not be aware. Second, neither of the players on the Alerting side is entitled to “hear” the Alert nor is a player on a side which has failed to Alert entitled to “not hear” the Alert. Third, the laws prohibit a player from basing any call or play upon information gained from partner’s answer to an opponent’s question. (You are allowed to “hear” the question itself, however.) Fourth, you are required by law to correct (at the appropriate time and in the proper manner) any misinformation which might have been caused by an inappropriate Alert or failure to Alert. And fifth, proper ethical conduct begins with you recognizing your responsibility to act accordingly. Let’s examine each of these points more closely.

The opponents are entitled to all of the information that you and your partner have regarding what your bids mean (or imply). Law 40B states: “A player may not make a call or play based on a special partnership understanding unless an opposing pair may reasonably be expected to understand

its meaning....” Often, the only way you can convey such information is through an Alert.

Suppose, for example, your 1♦ response to your partner’s 1♣ opening denies a 5-card major and otherwise says nothing about diamonds. It is Alertable. How else can the opponents reasonably be expected to know that you could hold a singleton or a doubleton diamond for your call? Similarly, if the auction proceeds:

You	LHO	Pard	RHO
1♦	Pass	1♠	2♣
Pass			

and you play Support Doubles (a double of 2♣ by you at your second turn would have shown 3-card spade support), your pass of 2♣ must be Alerted. In this case the pass itself is not a special convention or treatment but your failure to double has hidden implications. (You could not have made a penalty double and you probably do not have 3-card spade support—at least not that you wished to show.)

Now suppose you hold ♠Qxx ♥Axx ♦KQxx ♣Jxx and the auction goes as above. Partner Alerts your pass of 2♣ which reminds you that you are playing Support Doubles. LHO passes and partner now bids 2♦ which is passed back to you. Should you bid 2♠? Absolutely not! Alerts are for the opponents’ ears and their ears only. You are not permitted to “hear” your partner’s Alert in the sense that you may not take advantage of the information which it contains. Since you obviously forgot that

you could make a Support Double and since equally clearly partner's Alert awakened you to that fact, you may not now take advantage of your newly found knowledge. You must act as though partner had not Alerted your pass and go quietly.

What would happen if you did bid 2♠ and that ended the auction. If partner showed up with ♠Axxxx ♥x ♦Axxx ♣xxx and both 2♠ and 2♦ make three (with the ♠Kx onside) you would not be allowed to keep your good result. The opponents would call the Director who would rule the contract back to 2♦ making three (+110 for the opponents). In addition, if you are an experienced player who the Director judges should have known better than to take advantage of the unauthorized information he could also assess a procedural penalty against you (1/4 board at matchpoints or 3 imps at teams) for taking improper advantage. In addition, if you are so foolish as to appeal the ruling, the Appeals Committee should find your appeal to be without merit and penalize you again for your failure to learn your lesson. And, if there is evidence of a history of such actions on your part, a Conduct and Ethics Committee might even be convened which could impose an even more severe punishment. The possibilities include a probationary period or even a suspension.

And what if you bid 2♠ and caught your partner with ♠xxxx ♥Kx ♦AJxx ♣xxx and the opponents lead the ♠A and a spade through your queen-third drawing trumps in four rounds. They then cash five club tricks for down four—a cold bottom! In that case you would keep your poor result and you could still be subject to a more severe

punishment from a Conduct and Ethics Committee. Crime doesn't pay.

Suppose you hold ♠AJx ♥Kx ♦AQxxx ♣xxx and the auction proceeds:

You	LHO	Pard	RHO
1♦	Pass	1♠	2♣
Db!*	Pass	2♠	Pass
???			

*Not Alerted

The failure to Alert your double is a sure sign that this partner has forgotten that you are playing Support Doubles. Therefore, partner has pulled what he believed to be your "penalty" double of 2♣ back to spades. If partner holds something like ♠QTxxxx ♥Qxx ♦Kxx ♣x or ♠Qxxxxxx ♥Qxx ♦Kxx ♣—, 4♠ could be cold. Even if he produces some miserable holding such as ♠QTxxxx ♥Qxx ♦Jx ♣xx, he would have to be quite unlucky to go down at the three level. If a raise to 3♠ seems appropriate to you—wrong! If partner had Alerted your double you could raise (at your own risk). However, his failure to Alert makes the raise even more attractive and with that information present the law says you may not choose "...from among logical alternative actions one that could demonstrably have been suggested over another..." (Laws 16A and 73F) by the unauthorized information. As before, any attempt to do so should at least lead to a score adjustment and possibly to a disciplinary penalty as well.

We'll continue discussing Alerts in the next NVBA Newsletter.

Bridge Classes

by Ed Heberg, Education Chair

The following ACBL-certified teachers will be offering classes beginning in September in the Northern Virginia area. If you need more information, please contact them directly.

Nancy Abbott (702-276-0838) will teach Bridge I on Tuesdays and Wednesdays at Longfellow Middle School in McLean, and Bridge III on Thursdays at the same location. She will also teach Bridge II there in the winter. Contact her for registration information.

Ron Kral (703-478-1208) will teach EasyBridge!, the ACBL-sponsored class for beginning bridge players, on Wednesdays at 12:30 at the Reston Community Center, Hunter Woods Village Court in Reston.

Frank Mackey (703-573-2990) will teach Easybridge! on Sundays at 2 pm at the Masonic Lodge, 6911 Columbia Pike, Annandale.

Marshall Kuschner (703-758-9153) will teach three classes: Bridge 101—fundamentals of bidding and play for new players, Bridge 151—A bridge workshop designed for intermediate players to hone their skills, and Bridge 201—a class covering the 2 over 1 bidding system for more experienced players. Contact him for registration information.

Dave McIntyre (703-503-3139) will offer a Supervised Play session every Monday, starting on September 10, in the Party Room at Nick's Italian Restaurant at Fairfax Circle from 12:30 to 3 PM. Various formats (duplicate, knock-outs, Chicago, etc.) will be used with questions and answers anytime. A short lesson will precede the play. The cost is \$50 for ten sessions, with a \$2 door fee unless you purchase food at the restaurant. Partners are guaranteed. There is an 8 table limit so reservations are recommended. On Thursdays (and at the same location), beginning on September 13 (from 11 am to 1 pm), he will teach a 10-session course on the most commonly used conventions relating to No Trump bidding. The first hour will be lecture/demonstration, followed by an hour of play with pre-dealt hands. The cost is \$70 for the ten sessions with a \$2 door fee unless food is purchased at the restaurant.

Joanne Pretti (703-821-2254) will teach an 8-session, intermediate-level class based on Audrey Grant's latest book, "Commonly Used Conventions" at the McLean Community Center beginning Monday, October 1, at 7:30 pm. She will also teach a class on "Bid, Play and Defense" based on Audrey Grant and other bridge professionals' concepts at the McLean Community Center starting on Wednesday, October 3. This class will be offered at 1pm and again at 7:30 pm, and will last for 8 sessions.

Parade of Winners

Cherry Hill Regional (June 18-24)

Mon./Tues. KO II

2 Robert Lepelletier - Brendan Doyle-
W. Goldstein - C. Okcuoglu

Evelyn Levitt KO

--Bkt. 1

2 Jeff Roman - David Better - Daisy
Goecker - Lou Reich

--Bkt. 3

2 Julia Brown-Eva Shaffer-A. Bersani - J.
Manerchia - M. and T. Grabowski

Saturday Flight A/X Pairs

2 John Ashe - Kenneth Davis

Sunday Flight B/C/D Swiss

2 Dick Pellerin - Marty Zupan - Richard
Fumanti - William Toufectis

Alexandria Regional (July 2-8)

Mon. Eve. Charity Pairs (66 Pairs)

1 Linda Maloney - Robert Gookin
2 David Milton - Margot Hennings
2 James Geist - Sven Pride

Mon. Eve 0-300 Pairs (26 Pairs)

2 Philip Schneider - J. T. Bloch
2 Bob Armstrong - Barbara DiCiccio

Tues. Morn. 300/100/50 Early Bird Pairs (20 Pairs)

2 Annette Perrin - Eric Pamer

Tues. Aft. 0-50 Pairs (16 Pairs)

2 Alda Ball - Andree Mirza
2 Mildred Cordova - Joyce Robinson

Tues. Aft. 0-300 Pairs (30 Pairs)

2/3 David Mullins - Mary Mullins

Tues. Stratified Pairs (90 Pairs)

1 Jack Wallace - Robert Finkelstein
2 Hongmo Wang - Yi-Der Chen

Tues. Stratified Sr. Pairs (58 Pairs)

1 Enid Asherman - A. Gabrilovitch
2 M. Gazzola - Margaret Dubriske

Devil's Coup Fit. A KO (13 Teams)

2 Josh Sher - R Kerchner - Hailong Ao -
Herbert Hackney - Warren Kaufman

Serpents Coup KO

--Bkt. 1 (12 Teams)

2 Lucy McCoy - Kathryn Kiley - John
Ashe - Allen Shaw

--Bkt. 3 (12 Teams)

1 Alan Breed - Janet Breed - Harriet
Schrader - Gerald Schrader
2 John Corvari - Marilyn Thomas -
William Harman - Joanne Harman

--Bkt.4 (12 Teams)

1 Elliot Itkin - Gregory Belmonte - Leslie
Powell - Anne Woodward
2 Martha Lackey - Bonnie Polk - Nancy
Cartwright - Marie Wanner

Tues. Eve. BAM (20 Teams)

1 Sheila Pies - Roger Pies - Jeff Roman -
Chris Willenken
2 1 Danijel Zenko - James Mates -
Benjamin Shapo - Srcan Osmanagic
2 Sulaiman Ghaussy - Benazir Ghaussy -
Michael Polunin - Walid Etemadi

Tues. Eve. 50/20/10 Pairs (14 Pairs)

1 Roger Shields - Chris Deringer
2 Veronica Reinhardt - Marilyn Armon
2 Verne Hess - Joan Clark

Tues. Zip KO (12 Teams)

1 James Geist - Elliot Itkin - Gregory
Belmonte - Sven Pride
2 Jack Wallace - Laurence Angell - Joanne
Angell - Robert Finkelstein

Wed. Morn. 300/100/50 Pairs (24 Pairs)

1 Lawrence Latto - Roslyn Latto
2 1 Seraj Youssof - Terry Jones
2 Roger Shields - Chris Deringer

Wed. Stratified Sr. Pairs (72 Pairs)

1 Samuel Mills, Jr. - Charles King
2/4 Garth Dettinger - Jeffa Dettinger

Wed. Aft. 300/200/100 Pairs (31 Pairs)

1 1 Lorraine De Blasio - Cindy Cicaless
2 2 1 Charles Allport - Sandra Allport

Wed. Aft. 50/20/10 Pairs (16 Pairs)

1 Elizabeth Bowlin - Samuel Bowlin
2 Theodor Dockter - Mary Dockter

Wed. Fast Open Pairs (38 Pairs)

1 Joan Lewis - Robert Hopkins, Jr.

Deschappelles Coup KO

--Bkt. 1 (10 Teams)

1 K. Schoen - S. Schenker - E. Nelson -
Rammohan Sarangan - David Milton

--Bkt. 3 (10 Teams)

1 Sue Swift - June Hoyer - Steven Ivins -
Kevin Avery
2 Glynn Stafford Jr - Dayle Masumura -
Jean Marx - Nancy Hoyer

--Bkt. 4 (10 Teams)

2 Dennis Wick - Barbara Griffith -
Jennifer Ward - Eva Zurav

Wed. Stratified Pairs (76 Pairs)

- 1 Ed Lewis - Charles Yaple
- 1 Dan Kasture - Divakar Bhargava

Wed. Zip KO (8 Teams)

- 1 David Gottfried - Janet Case - Candace Boughner - Marshall Kuschner

Thurs. Morn. Early Bird 0-300 Pairs (12 Pairs)

- 1 1 Neal McKinney - Marvin Burstein
- 2 2 Elizabeth Pollock - Paul Neiswander

Thurs. Aft. 0-300 Pairs (22 Pairs)

- 2 2 Kay Holdren - Joyce Wilkinson
- 2 Sue Carson - Jason Duberman

Thurs. Aft. 0-50 Pairs (12 Pairs)

- 1 Rickey Carroll - M Schuler
- 2 1 Lois Simms - Stella Perry
- 1 Mildred Cordova - Joyce Robinson
- 2 Todd Etter - Charlie Scarborough

Criss-Cross Squeeze Cont. Pairs Series (261 Players)

- 1 Sarah Callicoot-Yates

Thurs. Eve. 0-300 Swiss (11 Teams)

- 2 2 Mitchell Karlick - Richard Cassell - Stephen Goldstein - John McCann

Thurs. Eve. 0-300 Pairs (25 Pairs)

- 1 1 Davyd Breeskin - Andrea Breeskin
- 1 Martha Lackey - Bonnie Polk
- 2 Roberta McCabe - Andrew Thomas

Thurs. Eve. 50/20/10 Pairs (10 Pairs)

- 1 1 1 Peggy Davis - Terry Jones

Thurs. Eve. BAM Teams (22 Teams)

- 1 Lynn Rattinger - Emerita Hayward - June Hoyer - Marge Handley
- 2 1 Christopher Miller - James Mates - Debnarayan Dhar - Benjamin Shapo

Thurs. Stratified Pairs (86 Pairs)

- 2 1 Neal Walters - Robert Tarczy

Thurs. Stratified Sr. Pairs (82 Pairs)

- 2 Hal Holtzclaw - Marcia Stein

Fri. Morn. Early Bird 0-300 Pairs (15 Pairs)

- 2 1 Robin Teale - Charles King
- 1 M. McClung - Marilyn Smebakken

Fri. Aft. 0-50 Pairs (18 Pairs)

- 1 Margaret McClung - M. Smebakken
- 2 2 Alda Ball - Doris Goodwin

Fri Aft 0-300 Pairs (29 Pairs)

- 2 2 1 Roberta McCabe - Andrew Thomas
- 2 Christianne Allmang - Patricia Scott

Fri. Stratified Sr. Pairs (70 Pairs)

- 2 Gary Arkoian - Edward Gofreed
- 1 Samuel Mills, Jr. - Michael Polunin

Scissors Coup KO**--Bkt. 1 Cuticle (12 Teams)**

- 2 D. Afdahl - M. Kovacich - H. Triplett - D. Klein - Janet Lee - F. Allenspach

--Bkt. 4 Embroidery (14 Teams)

- 1 Laurence Angell - Joanne Angell - Jack Wallace - Robert Finkelstein
- 2 Julia Brown - Marilyn Thomas - Patricia Winterbauer - Jay Simon - Eva Shaffer

--Bkt. 5 Pruning (14 Teams)

- 2 Edward Heberg - Frances McNaught - Issa Dorri - Lynette Vanderschaaf

Fri. Eve. BAM (22 Teams)

- 1 Josh Sher - Ai-Tai Lo - Marc Umeno - Benjamin Brill
- 1 Thomas Musso - Ellen Cherniavsky - Ellen Klosson - Katherine Paramore
- 2/4 Betty Bursey - Lucy McCoy - Marlyns Moholt - Frank Shull, III
- 2/4 Joe Walden - James Blackwell - William Zane - Harold Crowley

Fri. Eve. 50/20/10 Prs. (14 Pairs)

- 1 M. Smebakken - Margaret McClung
- 2 1 1 David Gardner - Todd Etter
- 2 Joan Clark - Verne Hess

Fri. Eve. 300/200/100 Pairs (34 Pairs)

- 2 Roberta McCabe - Andrew Thomas

Fri. Eve. Zip KOs (14 Teams)

- 2 Kenneth Hopke - Julian Boyce - Kathryn Kiley - Lucy McCoy

Coup en Blanc KO**--Navy (13 Teams)**

- 1 Thomas Musso - Katherine Paramore - Barbara Ames - Ellen Cherniavsky
- 2 Joan Shields - Mickey Hughes - Andre L'Heureux - Betty Bursey

--Air Force (12 Teams)

- 2 H. Yin - Yi-Der Chen - Martha Chen - Charles Pan - Hongmo Wang

--Marines (13 Teams)

- 2 Glenn Young - Omar Okaily - John Blanchard - Danijel Zenko

Coup en Passant Morn. KO**--Bkt. 1 Stars (11 Teams)**

- 2 D. Afdahl - F. Allenspach - Janet Lee - M. Kovacich - D. Klein - H. Triplett

Throw-In KO**--Bkt. 1 (12 Teams)**

- 1 Peggy Allen - A. Silverstein - Chris Willenken - H. Grosvenor - Jeff Roman

--Bkt. 4 (14 Teams)

- 2 Linda Powell - Jay Powell - June Hoyer - Sue Swift

--Bkt. 5 (14 Teams)

- 1 Charles Pollack - Susan Martin - Anne Throckmorton - Christopher Miller

Sat. Morn. Early Bird 300/100/50 Pairs (25 Pairs)

- 1 Dan Ogale - JoAnn Pendley
- 1 1 Charles Sampson - Bonnie Jourdan
- 2 Alfred O'Malley - Nancy O'Malley
- 2 Richard Starosta - Eva Vorndran

Jerry Machlin Fit. A Barometer (42 Pairs)

- 2 Ann Schwartz - Alan Schwartz

Jerry Machlin Fit. B Barometer (18 Pairs)

- 2 Barry Sparks - Mary Mudd

Jerry Machlin Fit. B Pairs (68 Pairs)

- 1 Roxann Seeley - Jean Simons
- 2 Michael Polunin - Sulaiman Ghaussy

Sat. Stratified Sr. Pairs (78 Pairs)

- 1 Charles Boteler Jr - Alfred Duncker
- 1 William DeGraf - Sidney Steele

Sat. Aft. 50/20/10 Pairs (12 Pairs)

- 2 John M. Adams - James E. Taylor

Sat. Aft. 300/200/100 Pairs (40 Pairs)

- 1/21/2 Victor Vanrees - Eleanor Gibson
- 1/21/2 Anna Kearney - Holly Willis
- 1 Margaret Freitag - Pam Svensson

Sat. Eve. BAM (18 Teams)

- 1 1 John Corvari - Joanne Harman - William Harman - Silvia Keenan
- 2 Thomas Musso - Ellen Cherniavsky - Katherine Paramore - Barbara Ames

Sat. Eve. 100/50/20 Pairs (22 Pairs)

- 2 David Stearman - Richard Aigen

Sat. Eve. 300/200 Pairs (24 Pairs)

- 1 1 William Colket - Doreen Colket

Sun. Morn. 0-300 Swiss (16 Teams)

- 1 April Hall - June Hoyer - Bryant Cochran - Mark Newman
- 2 1 Marc Cassell - Richard Cassell - Stephen Goldstein - Gary Weinstein
- 2/3 Reese House - Ted Guthrie - Philip Schneider - J. T. Bloch

Sun. Morn. 0-300 Pairs (14 Pairs)

- 1 Alfred O'Malley - Nancy O'Malley
- 2 Betty Watson - Lauralee Peters

Sun. Aft. 0-300 Swiss (14 Teams)

- 2 April Hall - June Hoyer - Mark Newman - Bryant Cochran
- 2 Neal McKinney - Lois Simms - Don Henry - Stella Perry

Sun. Flight B/C Swiss (54 Teams)

- 1 Madan Nanda - Gabriele Nanda - Bernard Oetjen - Lester McCracken
- 2 Robert Walsh - Marjorie Gazzola - Lucy McCoy - Richard Zerilli
- 2 Robert Padgett - Linda Padgett - Sukhdev Sharma - Janet Breed

Sun. Flight A/X Swiss (49 Teams)

- 2/4 Robert Bell - Lyle Poe Jr - Robert Gookin - Janet Gookin

Crocodile Compact KOs --Bkt. 1 (11 Teams)

- 2 Mitchell Weisberg - Richard Baldwin - Dale McDaniel - Arthur Hayes

--Bkt. 2 (11 Teams)

- 1 Richard Hagenlocker - J Blackwelder - Neal Walters - Robert Tarczy
- 2 Marty McGowan - Lola Beck - Donna Fletcher - Ryland Breen

Crocodile 1 Consolation (5 Teams)

- 2 Patricia Newbold - Hongmo Wang - Kim Smith - Martha Chen

Crocodile 2 Consolation (5 Teams)

- 2 Shirley Lafferty - Barbara Macknick - Hannah Moore - Mildred Hartshorn

**Toronto NABC
July 19-29**

GNT Fit. A

- 2 Rusty Krauss - David Butler - Mark Dahl - Barry Falgout - Raphael Kahn

Life Master Pairs

- 3 Robert Gookin-Earl Glickstein

1st Sunday Fit. A Swiss

- 2 Cecily Kohler - Paul Stern - J. Carney - E. Melson - T. Gardner - B. Gardner

Red Ribbon Pairs

- 29 Diane Alexander - Seng Tjoa

Argonauts KO

--Bkt. 1

- 1 Eugene Kales - Richard Ferrin - Gary Kessler - Diane Walker - Michael White

--Bkt. 4

- 2 David Fleischer - Edward Schwartz - Richard Zerilli - Karen Manfield

Wed. Stratified Daylight Pairs

- 2 John Ashe - Kenneth Davis

Skydome KO Bkt. 5

- 1 Linda Padgett - Robert Padgett - Anne Cormier - Doris Houdesheldt

Mon-Thurs AM KO Bkt. 1

- 2 Hugh Grosvenor - G.S. Jade Barrett - Mike Bandler - M. Katz - Ann Lahe

NABC IMP Pairs

- 9 B. Specter - Randy Thompson

Spingold KO Teams

9/16 Jeff Roman - L. Reich - P. Kieffer
 - D. Better - L. Finkel - B. Miller
 17/32 Ai Tai Lo - Alan Schwartz -
 Michael Levinson - Lyle Poe, Jr.

2nd Sunday Fast Open Pairs

1 Jim Dick - Linda Dick

2nd Sunday Stratiflighted Swiss

2 Donald Hennings - Margot Hennings
 Robert Graves - Ronald Spath

BIL

Bridge Information Line for NVBA
703-698-9110

Upcoming NVBA Games and Special Events

(September - November 2001)

Sept. 6	KOCH	7:00	NVBA Sectional (see pages 21-22)
Sept. 13	Beth El	7:00	Sectional Tournament at Clubs (STaC)
Sept. 20	Beth El	7:00	Stratified Unit Championship
Sept. 27	KOCH	7:00	Stratified Rating Point Game
Oct. 4	Beth El	7:00	Stratified Unit Championship
Oct. 11	Beth El	7:00	WBL Sectional
Oct 18	Beth El	7:00	Strata-Flighted Club Appreciation Game
Oct. 25	KOCH	7:00	NVBA Sectional (see page 23)
Nov. 1	Beth El	7:00	Stratified Unit Championship
Nov. 8	Beth El	7:00	Stratified Rating Point Game
Nov. 15	Beth El	7:00	Strata-Flighted Charity Game
Nov. 22	Closed	—	Have a Great Thanksgiving!
Nov. 29	Beth El	7:00	Stratified Club Championship

Stratification Limits:

For regular NVBA Unit Games, the strats are as follows: C is 0-500, B is 0-2000, and A is 2000+. The strats for the 199er game are done at the director's discretion.

EXTRA ON SATURDAY!! Special NABC Fund Raiser!!

**PLAY WITH A PRO!
WIN BIG PRIZES AND POINTS!
EXCITING RAFFLE PRIZES!**

September 8th at NVBA "September Sensations" Sectional



Bid on a Bridge Pro!

11:30 a.m. Have lunch and join in the auction fun! Bid to play in the 1 p.m. Stratified Pairs with *Peter Boyd, Mike Cappelletti, Sr., Bill Cole, Beth Palmer, Jeff Roman, Steve Robinson,*

Mark Shaw, Alan Sontag, Ron Sukoneck, and many more. Auctioneer: Jerry Keller of MD Midnight Basketball fame!

Or.... You can just buy some raffle tickets for some wonderful prizes — Houston Spring 2002 opening-night Charity Game with Jeff Meckstroth, Hawaii time-share week, Lake Tahoe time-share week, Redskins tickets, OKbridge membership, unit game with Steve Robinson, unit game with Jeff Roman, gourmet dinner for eight, wine tasting and lesson, personalized fitness instruction, and other outstanding goodies! Raffle tickets will continue to be sold until 3 p.m. to enable those playing in morning events to join in the fun before their afternoon session begins.

Or....Just come and play in the Stratified Pairs at the Sectional with your own partner at 1 p.m.!

\$100 cash prize for 1st overall! \$50 cash prize for 2nd overall!

And....Stay for the Jackpot event at 7:00 p.m.! Come with your partner and play in the Stratified Pairs. Jackpot is optional — you may join in by buying tickets for yourself and your partner and/or for any other partnership of your choice to win! Partnerships will be posted as entries are bought. All tickets must be bought before the session begins. **50% of the proceeds will be distributed**, 50% retained for the Summer 2002 NABC hospitality fund.

Be sure to check the NVBA web site for up-to-the-minute information as this date draws nearer — www.nvba.org.

NVBA "September Sensations" SECTIONAL and Washington Summer 2002 NABC Fund Raiser



September 6-9, 2001

Knights of Columbus Hall (KOCH)

5115 Little Falls Rd. • Arlington VA • (703) 536-9656

— ALL VIRGINIA EVENTS AT KOCH —

Thursday, September 6

NVBA - Knights of Columbus Hall (KOCH), Arlington VA

WBL - Christ the King Church, One block South of East West Highway on Colston between Washington and Grubb, Chevy Chase MD

	NVBA	WBL
Stratlighted Pairs (500/2000/2000+ MPs)	7:00 pm	7:30 pm
299er Pairs (100/200/300 MPs)	7:00 pm	
199er Pairs (50/100/200 MPs)		7:30 pm
Easybridge Pairs	7:00 pm	7:30 pm

Friday, September 7

Stratified Open Pairs (750/2000/2000+ MPs)	2:00 pm
299er Pairs (100/200/300 MPs)	2:00 pm
Mini-Stratified Pairs (20/50/100 MPs)	2:00 pm
Stratified Open Pairs (750/2000/2000+ MPs)	8:00 pm
Triple Nickel Swiss Teams (5 bds, 5 min, 5 rds)	8:00 pm
199er Win-A-Star Pairs (50/100/200 MPs)	8:00 pm

Saturday, September 8 Special NABC Fund-raising Day

Newcomer/Intermediate Lecture — Jeff Roman 10:00 am

Mini-Stratified Pairs (5/20/50/100 MPs)

Stratified Senior Pairs

NABC Auction and Raffle begin 11:30 am - 12:45 pm

Special Bridge Pros! Time Share Weeks! Redskin Tickets!

Gourmet Dinners! Food & Friendship! Wine Tastings!

Come and Join in the Fun!

Stratified Open Pairs (750/2000/2000+ MPs)

199er Pairs (50/100/200 MPs)

Easybridge Pairs

Stratified Senior Pairs

NABC Jackpot Begins — Cash Prizes

Stratified Open Pairs (750/2000/2000+ MPs)

49er/99er/199er Stratified Pairs (50/100/200 MPs)

Sunday, September 9

Flight A/X and B/C Swiss Teams

(Flights A/X=3000+/0-3000 MPs; Flight B/C=750-2000/0-750 MPs)

(2 sessions with 30-minute break; box lunch available for purchase)

299er Swiss Teams (0-300 MPs)

Mini-Stratified Swiss Teams (20/50/100 MPs)

Stratified 299er Swiss Teams (100/200/300 MPs)

3:15 pm

Directions: From I-495 (the Beltway) or points West of the

Beltway - I-66 East to the Washington Blvd/Lee Hwy exit. Turn left

onto Lee Hwy at the light. Go 1.5 miles to Harrison St, then left. Go

.5 miles and turn right onto Little Falls Rd. KOCH is on left .2 miles.

From DC or Arlington - I-66 West to the Sycamore St exit. Turn

right onto Sycamore. At the second light, turn right onto Lee Hwy.

Follow above directions.

FREE Snacks
Every Session

Tournament Co-Chairs

Margot Hennings

(703) 560-0245

Kathryn Riley

(703) 758-0366

Partnership Chair

Andre L'Heureux

(703) 914-9389

Mid-Chart conventions
are permitted in all
Flight A, Flight B
& Open Stratified Events

★ \$10 entry fees for Sat.
events include a \$2
contribution to local player
hospitality at the Washington
Summer 2002 NABC ★

See our great web site
for details about the
Summer 2002
Washington NABC
(access ACBL.org, then
go to Tournaments.
Upcoming NABCs).

**Next NVBA
Sectional Tournament:
October 25-28, 2001**

NVBA FALL SECTIONAL TOURNAMENT October 25-28, 2001

Knights of Columbus Hall (KOCH), 5115 Little Falls Rd., Arlington, VA

Thursday, October 25

NVBA - Knights of Columbus Hall, Arlington, VA

WBL - Christ the King Church, one block south of East-West Hwy; turn right on Grubb and Colston Dr. is first left, Chevy Chase, MD — church on left

	NVBA	WBL
Stratified Pairs (A/X=3000+/0-3000; B/C=2000/750 MPs)	7:00 pm	7:30 pm
299er Pairs (300/200/100 MPs)	7:00 pm	
199er Pairs (200/100/50 MPs)		7:30 pm
Easybridge Pairs	7:00 pm	7:30 pm

All Virginia events at KOCH

Friday, October 26

Stratified Open Pairs (2000+/2000/750 MPs)	2:00 pm
299er Pairs (0-300 MPs)	2:00 pm
Mini-Stratified Pairs (100/50/20 MPs)	2:00 pm
Stratified Open Pairs (2000+/2000/750 MPs)	8:00 pm
199er Win-A-Star Pairs (200/100/50 MPs)	8:00 pm

Saturday, October 27

Newcomer/Intermediate Lecture featuring Jeff Roman ...	10:00 am
Mini-Stratified Pairs (100/50/20/5 MPs)	10:30 am
Stratified Senior Pairs (1500+/1500/500)	10:30 am
Stratified IMP Pairs	1:00 pm
(A/X=3000+/0-3000 MPs; B/C=2000/750 MPs)	
299er Pairs (300/200/100 MPs)	1:00 pm
Easybridge Pairs	1:00 pm
Stratified Senior Pairs (1500+/1500/500)	3:00 pm
Stratified Open Pairs:	
A/X=3000+/0-3000 MPs - separate event	7:00 pm
B and C stratified together (2000/750)	7:00 pm
199er Stratified Pairs (200/100/50 MPs)	7:00 pm

Sunday, October 28

Flight A/X and B/C Swiss Teams	11 am
(A/X=3000+/0-3000 MPs; B/C=2000/750 MPs)	
2 sessions with a 30-minute break — box lunch available for purchase	
299er Swiss Teams (0-300 MPs)	11 am
Mini-Stratified Swiss Teams (100/50/20)	11 am
Stratified 299er Swiss Teams (300/200/100)	3:15 pm

FREE Snacks Every Session

Snack Bar On-Site to Provide Reasonably-Priced Sandwiches, Hot Dogs, Fruit, Cookies, Coffee, Sodas, Wine and Beer

Tournament Co-Chairs

Margot Hennings
(703) 560-0245
Kathryn Kiley
(703) 758-0366

Partnership Chair

Andre L'Heureux
(703) 914-9389

Mid-Chart conventions shall be permitted in all Flight A, Flight B and Open Stratified events

**Next NVB Sectional
Tournament
February 21-24, 2002**

Directions: From I-495 (the Beltway) or points West of the Beltway — I-66 East to the Washington Blvd/Lee Hwy exit. Turn left onto Lee Hwy at the light. Go 1.5 miles to Harrison St. then left. Go .5 miles and turn right onto Little Falls Rd. KOCH is on left .2 miles. **From DC or Arlington — I-66 West** to the Sycamore St. exit. Turn right onto Sycamore. At the second light, turn right onto Lee Hwy. Follow above directions.

Northern Virginia Bridge Association
1545 18th Street NW, Apt. 914
Washington, DC 20036

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The *NVBA Newsletter* is published five times a year by the Northern Virginia Bridge Association to communicate with Unit 218 members of the American Contract Bridge League. If you need membership information or have a change of address to report, contact Norma Pierzchala at 703-892-1292; for information about the *Newsletter*, contact Marilyn Thomas at 703-442-7933.