

Mark Chen

From: NVBA Board of Directors <announcements@nvba.org>
Sent: Monday, January 15, 2024 7:51 AM
To: mark_chen@cox.net
Subject: NVBA E-News - WBL & NVBA Winter Sectional Tournaments

Dear Mark:

Our neighbors across the river are holding their [WBL Winter Sectional](#) this Thursday 1/18 to Sunday 1/21! Take a look at the [WBL Winter Sectional Flyer](#) for information on the tournament schedule and playing sites. There are lots of intermediate & newcomer events with silver points! The [flyer](#) also contains information on the partnership desk, restaurants, meals, snacks, and drinks.



Want more tournament bridge after this week's WBL Winter Sectional? The [NVBA Winter Sectional](#) is Thursday 2/15 to Sunday 2/18! Take a look at the [NVBA Winter Sectional Flyer](#) for information on the tournament schedule, playing sites, partnership desk, food, and intermediate/novice lectures.

There were 13 tables at last Thursday's [GNT Qualifier Unit Game](#). Congratulations to the winning team of Jonathan, David, and Avril Rodney and Rusty Krauss! There is an opportunity to win silver points at this Thursday night's NVBA Unit Game, as it is our section of the [WBL Winter Sectional](#) pair game. The game as normal is at [Beth El](#) (3830 Seminary Rd, about a mile east of I-395) at 7PM. Please arrive at least ten minutes before game time. If you need a partner or teammates for the unit game at Beth El, please email Jason Carter at the [NVBA Partnership Desk](#) or use the [RSVP Bridge](#) Reservation System to assist you in finding a partner. Plan ahead for future unit games by viewing the [2024 Unit Game Schedule](#), which was officially approved in the 1/7/24 NVBA Board meeting.

District Six Monthly Game 1/17/24 7:15PM

This game is held every third Wednesday night of the month at 7:15PM. Playing in this game also helps our Unit 218. On Wednesday 1/17/24, the game will be a [GNT Qualifier](#). Everyone who is a District 6 member is eligible to play in this event, and District 6 members can invite a player from outside the district to play as their guest. You can sign up as early as two hours before gametime (7:15PM). To find the game: Sign into BBO and click on virtual clubs->North America->Search for District 6. Sign up with your partner as normal. Once both your partnership and your teammates are signed up go back to the game like you were signing up and click on Select Teammates. The invitor of the second pair will be invited to your team. Once that is accepted you are ready to play. Pairs that do not select teammates or whose teammates are not online at the start of the game will be randomly teamed up. See also [Virtual Swiss Team Game on BBO](#) for details. If you have any problems registering, please send a BBO chat message to the VACB139840 account — that will reach the director of the game who will be able to address the situation for you.

NVBA, ACBL, and District Six News

- Congratulations to Huailin Chen, Rene Costales, Carl Devore, Janet Hansen, Thomas Richardson and Jim Zhong who achieved [ACBL Rank Changes in December](#).

- Interested in hearing podcasts with bridge stars and bridge personalities? Check out the [68 Episodes of The Setting Trick](#), great stuff!
- The [BridgeBase Online Bidding Challenge](#) is now the [RealBridge Bidding Contest](#). This is a fun way to improve your game while also getting great insight from a [world-class expert panel!](#) Entries for the [January 2024 contest](#) are due by 1/31/24.
- [Joe Hertz](#) and [Ron Kral](#) have been carpooling from Reston for the Thursday night Unit Game (often with a pre-game meal at [Valentino's Pizza](#)). We're looking for one or two people who would be interested in joining us so as to qualify for HOV toll avoidance when driving in the 495 HOT lanes. Anyone who is interested should contact [Joe Hertz](#) via email.
- There are 16 in-person club games listed with times in green on the updated [Clubs](#) page of the NVBA website that are scheduled to be held. Anyone who is interested in playing an in-person game should contact the listed director in advance to confirm the game is on and to make a reservation.
- Here is the current schedule for [NVBA Online Games](#) on BBO.

Just for 0-20, 0-49, 0-99 Players

Many of you are ready to play at our Thursday evening game at Beth El, except for one or more of the following: 1) want a regular partner, 2) want teaching before and after the game, and 3) want to play against peers instead of Grand Life Masters. This is not unique to NVBA and is an ACBL-Wide challenge. ACBL is helping all of its players at your level to find what you feel you need to have the fun and success you want in playing bridge.

- ACBL has added a second 10-lesson class to its popular "**The ACBL Intro to Bridge Series**" -- see the first entry at <https://www.acbl.org/teachers-lounge/#programs> for more information.
- ACBL has expanded its **Community Games** program on BBO; now Mon-Fri with earlier hours on Mon, Wed, and Fri, more Bridge those days (18 boards vs 12), and post-game teaching when YOU want it by e-mail. See details at <https://acbl.org/portfolio/community-games/>. Follow the instructions, register for the game, and if you are partnerless ACBL will find a partner for you.
- Here in NVBA-land, as soon as eight of you pre-register for a **Thursday Evening Newcomer Section** (0-20 or 0-50), we will hold it. We have a team of volunteers calling you now (if we have your phone number). It's a small team; if you're tired of waiting for a call, send an e-mail to Kevin O'Brien (OBrien.Bridge+Newcomers@gmail.com) asking for information, and you will be contacted ASAP.
- And for the partnerless among you, NVBA has a new event, the **Partner-Seeking Individual Section**. As soon as eight of you pre-register, we will hold this event the next Thursday evening. You will play two hands partnering each of the other seven in the event. After one evening of bridge, you may find one or more of the other seven might be an appropriate partner for a full evening of bridge. Ask them or say "yes" when they ask you! E-mail Kevin O'Brien (OBrien.Bridge+Individual@gmail.com) for more information.

Just for 0-199 or 0-499 Players

- NVBA will start its 199er or Non-Life-Master (NLM, usually 0-499) Section as soon as at least eight of you pre-register for a particular Thursday. E-mail Kevin O'Brien (OBrien.Bridge+NLM@gmail.com) for more information.
- For those of you who need a partner, NVBA will run the Partner-Finding Individual event (yes, we can run 0-50 and 0-499 on the same evening). E-mail Kevin O'Brien (OBrien.Bridge+Individual@gmail.com) for more information.

Upcoming Sectional, Regional, and National Tournaments

- [WBL Winter Sectional](#) - Thursday 1/18 to Sunday 1/21
- [Virginia Beach Sectional](#) - Friday 1/26 to Sunday 1/28
- [Charlottesville Sectional](#) - Friday 1/26 to Sunday 1/28
- [Baltimore Sectional](#) - Friday 2/9 to Sunday 2/11
- [NVBA Winter Sectional](#) - Thursday 2/15 to Sunday 2/18
- [Williamsburg Regional](#) - Monday 2/26 to Friday 3/1
- The NVBA website includes all [2024 tournaments of interest](#).

Today, we join millions of Americans in celebrating MLK Day, a day that honors the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.. See these [31 Powerful Quotes by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.](#) as we reflect on the words and deeds of a man who changed the course of history with his dream of a more just and peaceful world.

Play well, have fun, and see you at the tables!

Your NVBA Board

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