

THE NORTH PENN FINESSE

NORTH PENN DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

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President's Message: As you all know by now, I am no longer president of the board. That honor now belongs to our esteemed vice president, Sandy Sill, who, I'm sure, will do a fine job for the remainder of the year. Please give her your support. I want to thank everybody, board members and non-board members alike, who helped me achieve many of my goals for the club over the past 21 months. I now take over as club manager. I have big shoes to fill. Thanks to Real for many years of service as club manager.

Mitch Snyder, President, e-mail bridge4all@comcast.net

Club Manager's Message: For more than five years now, I have served as the Club Manager for North Penn DBC. Due to other commitments, I have elected to resign my position effective October 1, 2009. Mitch Snyder has agreed to assume the Club Manager duties as of that date.

The main function of the Club Manager is to be the coordinator with the ACBL on all club activities. This includes submitting monthly master point reports as well as other topics such as selecting and scheduling various special games throughout the year. Also, the Club manager is the primary contact for any new inquiries from new players requesting information. The Club Manager also works with our Directors to make sure all games are properly covered.

At North Penn, the club manager is also responsible for club supplies. This not only includes bridge supplies such as convention cards, travelers and new cards, but also the food, soda, water and snacks that are always there for all our games. Other supplies, such as napkins, paper plates, cups, coffee, sugar, etc. are also the responsibility of the CM to keep things well stocked.

There are always other factors that come up that involve the Club Manager and hopefully we have been successful in solving most of these matters to the satisfaction of our members. I think we have done some fairly good things over the last five years.

I would like to thank everyone who helped me during my tenure and would request that we all continue to support Mitch on his future efforts.

Real Fradette, Club Manager



Sunshine: Best wishes to Dana and Dan Osburn who will be returning to Atlanta early in November. We will miss seeing their smiling faces at our club. Hope to see them at the many national, regional, and sectional tournaments in the future.

Holiday Parties: This year's holiday parties will be held on Tuesday, December 15 and Thursday, December 17. Please plan on bringing your favorite **homemade** dessert.

Member Achievements:

| | | | |
|------------------|--------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| Fred Snyder | Junior Master | Gerald Feldman | Junior Master |
| Nancy Fair | Club Master | Anita Smith | Club Master |
| Sue Bailey | Sectional Master | Art Coddington | Sectional Master |
| Lucille Schlack | Life Master | Pat Drake | Life Master |
| Sam Litzenberger | Life Master | Sara Stoll | Life Master |
| Donna Saffren | Life Master | Peter Stoll | Life Master |
| Nancy Larkin | Silver Life Master | Pat Bassman | Silver Life Master |
| Real Fradette | Gold Life Master | | |

Tournament Highlights: Mark Freeman is a fairly new member at our club. At the King of Prussia Regional in July, Mark made a successful defensive play against me. Mark led the 9 from KQ9. I held the Ace & 10 and played the Ace because I was afraid that if I lost a spade, I would lose two more tricks. “Well done” Mark!

Arnold Selig,

Bridge Classes: There is a monthly class for advancing players on the third Wednesday before the regularly scheduled game. The class starts at 9:45 and ends around 11:15 a.m. The game is at noon. The cost is \$10 for the lesson or \$15* for the lesson and game. Reservations are not required. Contact Mitch for more information (**does not include extra charges for special games*). There are plans for play and defensive classes this fall. Contact Mitch or Dave LeGrow for more information.



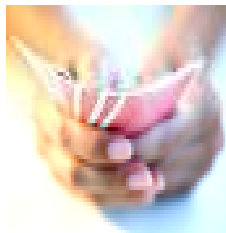
Novice/Intermediate Games: There is a Novice/Intermediate game (0-750 mps) every Friday at 10 a.m. The game is followed by a free lesson in the form a post-mortem. Reservations are not required. Contact Mitch for more information.

Swiss Teams: There is a Charity Swiss Teams on the 2nd Friday of every month. The game is at 7:30PM. Come as a team or pair (teammates guaranteed). Singles will be accommodated if possible.

North American Pairs, Flight C: Anyone who has less than 500 points, was not a Life Master on 6/1/2009, and qualified at one of the NAP qualifying games over the summer is eligible to play in the Flight ‘C’ NAP District Finals. This year it will be held at North Penn on Saturday, October 17. It will be a two-session event beginning at 10 a.m. First overall wins 10 points and all overall awards are 25% GOLD. The top three finishers in the district qualify for a free play in the National Finals in Reno next March. The winners each receive a \$700 stipend if they attend, 2nd place \$300 and 3rd place \$100. There is a sign-up sheet at the club; a minimum of five tables is required.

At The Table: Here’s another hand discussion from Albert Horng: *Match points – both sides vulnerable.* Partner opened 1D at 4th position. RHO bid 2D (Michael’s showing two majors). You doubled to show strength. LHO bid 2H, and you bid 2NT. After partner’s pass, RHO bid 3H. What would you do? Most would double. Because partner opened at the 4th position, he should have a sound opener. The hand belonged to us. Vulnerable or not, doubling is mandatory in match points.

West, my partner, led the Ace of clubs (your agreement is leading A from AK), which was ruffed at the table. You see the dummy and your hand:



S AQT74
 HQT642
 D 752
 C

S 962
 H AK7
 D KT
 CJT962

A heart was led from the table. After taking K or A, what would be your next move? What would be your plan to set the contract? A lot was at stake. Because of partner's 1D opening, it is reasonable to be "lured" into leading the K of diamonds, hoping to cash 3 diamonds. Unfortunately, it did not work. Declarer had the Ace and made a good play of ducking your King. He took the diamond continuation and finessed the spades. Then he cashed the Ace and ruffed a spade to make the suit good. It was over.

Was I unlucky? Not really. Returning the J of clubs is the right defense. Declarer could not have more than 7 points. He could only get to his hand once (If he had the Ace of diamonds and King of spades, the doubled 3H contract would be unbeatable. This is impossible because partner should have led the Q of clubs from AKQ to ask for count, not the Ace. Therefore, declarer could only have either K of spades or Ace of diamonds, along with the Q of clubs.) The defense should be emphasized on killing the dummy, forcing it to ruff clubs. After taking the first trump, return the J of clubs. Declarer, who cannot cover with the Q, ruffs it at the table. Now the dummy has two trumps like you and declarer. If he plays a diamond*, better than a trump which is suicidal, you play the K. He cannot duck, or you play 10 or 9 of clubs to force the dummy again. So, he takes your K of diamonds with the A and takes a spade finesse, but loses control of trumps or minors.

*If declarer played another trump instead of a diamond, you could be sure that he had the K of spades. It would not be too late to play the K of diamonds to try to get a ruff.

S AQT74
 H QT642
 D 752
 C

S KJ8
 H 83
 D QJ76
 C AK85

S 962
 H AK7
 D KT
 C JT962



S 53
 H J95
 D A984
 C Q743

More thoughts - Do not blame partner for not discouraging diamonds continuation. He did not know the QJ situation in clubs (although we should have signaled with the J on the opening lead). With QJ of diamonds, it is natural to encourage after the K attack even though leading K looks like from a doubleton. *We are in charge. We should make it easy for partner.*

Albert Horng, Club Member

Q. What is Puppet Stayman?

It is common practice to open no-trump when holding a five-card major suit. This is especially true of 2NT openings, or hands that open an artificial 2 clubs and rebid 2NT.

Puppet Stayman is a mechanism that permits you to investigate major-suit contracts when your partner indicates a strong no-trump hand. It is a club bid, used as **a substitute for regular Stayman**, and asks if

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Club Appreciation Week | Pairs (see schedule) – sectionally-rated black points |
| | October 23 Swiss Teams – sectionally-rated, 5% Gold |
| Unit Wide (Pro-Am) | Tuesday, November 17 |
| Club Championships | December 14 to 19 (all games) |
| STAC (Silver Week) | December 7 to 12 (all games) |
| Charity Swiss Teams | 2 nd Friday (7:30 p.m.) and 1 st Saturday (7:00 p.m.) |

NORTH AMERICAN PAIRS

NAP District finals

Flights A – Allentown – October 17-18
 Flight B – Wilmington, DE & Lakeville, NY – October 24
 Flight C – North Penn Bridge Club – Saturday, October 17

NAP National Finals

Reno, NV – March 2010

Additionally, 1st place finishers in each District flight receive \$700, 2nd place finishers receive \$300, and 3rd place finishers receive \$100 each to help defray costs.

