



# THE NORTH PENN FINESSE

## NORTH PENN DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

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**President's Message:** We are now in our new location for over seven months. We've received a great deal of positive feedback and have attempted to fix the problems that have arisen. Feel free to contact any board member if you have any concerns.

We'd like to thank Réal Fradette, our club manager, who needed to resign due to personal reasons. Larry Umphlet has accepted to replace him. Welcome, Larry.

A special thanks goes to the directors who have managed to collect membership dues all while collecting for their assigned game. As of May 31<sup>st</sup> the North Penn Duplicate Bridge Club has 223 members, an increase of more than 5% over last year. Remember, paying \$10 a year saves you \$2 every time you play.

Thanks to the hospitality committee, co-chaired by Craig Robinson and Elaine Clair, for the variety and quality of the snacks that we have at every game. Larry Umphlet supplies some of his own delicious creations at the Wednesday game, and Sue Bailey does a lot of the shopping, making sure that you don't get stuck in the restroom without the appropriate paper and soap.

Mitch Snyder has been directing our Tuesday morning 0-750 game which started on April 8 at 10 AM. As of the end of May, there have been eight games which have averaged over seven tables a game.

Sadly, the Wednesday evening 0-750 game has taken a break due to lack of attendance. We'd like to thank Belinda Rose Anderson for the work she put into that game. Others have been asking about a Thursday evening open game. The board will be taking a poll on that. Watch for it on the bulletin board between the restrooms if it isn't there already.

"Eight Is Enough" is coming back to Wednesday daytime starting June 11<sup>th</sup>. It will be scheduled every second Wednesday unless there is a conflict with a holiday or a local tournament. Check the website for playing conditions.

The board reminds players who don't have a partner that they need to arrive or call (215-699-4932) no later than 15 minutes before game time. Otherwise, there is no guarantee of a partner, especially if it makes a half-table. It's very difficult for the directors to run a game, especially a large one, when they are playing with someone who isn't a regular partner. Please have a convention card filled out with fairly standard conventions when you don't have a partner so that your new partner can read it quickly and be ready to play. And if you're playing with the



director, please speed up your play. The game moves more smoothly if the director doesn't have to worry about his table being behind.

**Bob Umfer, President, e-mail rumfer@gmail.com**

**Club Manager's Message:** For those of you who have not heard, I have accepted the position of club manager. All our thanks to Real Fradette for the time and effort he contributed during his tenure. As with those who held the position before me, I look forward to working with the board and the players in keeping our club a great place to play and to enjoy the game of bridge.

**Larry Umphlet, Club Manager, e-mail ichor0@verizon.net**



**Masterpoint Milestones:**

Bill Goens	Junior Life Master	Elissa Samarro	Junior Life Master
George Samarro	Junior Life Master	Barb DaRe	Club Master
Jim Miller	Sectional Master	John Hitchens	Sectional Life Master
Ceil Morton	Sectional Life Master	Alan Resnick	Sectional Life Master
Nick Wanck	Regional Life Master	Jo Ferguson	Regional Life Master
Joyce Levin	NABC Master	Jeanne Moon	Bronze Life Master
Alvaro Ronderos	Gold Life Master		

**Sunshine: Please welcome our new members:** Maribeth Fryman, Marian Brescia, Luigi Lenaz, Jeff Goldstein, Fred VanFleteren, Judy Busch, Kathy Burns, Lorna Bearn, Kay Garrity, Barbara Daly, Gladys Firing, Fern Kleban, Janis Arrowsmith, Barbara Konover, Claire Rolin, Andy and Debby Purbrick, Diane Carroll, Joe Vargo, Tom Suman, Jim and Belle Miller, Barbara Patterson, Everett Young, Suzanne Moses, Casey VonSeldeneck, Susan Anthony, Donna Saffren, Howard Salasin, Carol and Mike Goddard, Michael Carver, Stan Allen, Fred Snyder, Marshal Friedenber, Bruce Werner, Sally Sara Rose, George and Lisa Sammaro, Paul Cohen, Stephanie Fine, Diane Raab, Carole Pursell, Toni Moss, Gail Howard, Cathy Shotz, Don Steinberg, Hollis Rosenthal, Carolyn Murphy, and Phil Cohen.

**“Happy Birthday”** to Jo Ferguson (6/6), Tom Salter (6/8), Donna Snyder (6/9), Al Fitzgerald (6/15), Peter Stoll (6/15), Charlotte Perry (6/16), Belinda Rose Anderson (6/16), Clair Rolin (6/19), Connie O'Brien (6/21), Ken Salter (6/22), Bob Mulhauser (7/1), Binyamin Feibush (7/3), Dick Kamensky (7/3), Elaine Clair (7/4), Dave Hallman (7/4), Beth Milton (7/7), Elaine Rhoda (7/10), John Dickenson (7/10), Jeff Brooks (7/13), Anita Smith (7/16), Peggy Hunn (7/21), Andy McGlinchy (7/29), Herb Chalek (7/29), Evelyn Melchiorre (7/30), Sam Matlin (8/3), Lisa Collins (8/3), Dave LeGrow (8/4), Mary Tweedie (8/5), Rene Mitchell (8/5), Alan Resnick (8/6), Stan Pauloski (8/12), Lois Schwalb (8/13), Mark Freeman (8/17), Suzanne Liebman (8/24), Steve Becker (8/30), Larry Umphlet (9/1), Naini Kuber (9/7), Terry Fair (9/8), Rosie Loughnane (9/14), Joan Marino (9/21), Ed Ritvo (9/22), and Len Ross (9/29).



We are saddened to report the death of one of our members Mary Ellen Roth on April 14. Our condolences to her friends and family.

It has been reported that *Binyamin Feibush* is recuperating at home after a short illness. *Paulette Vasoli* has recently hurt her back. *Sam Matlin* is also having health issues. We hope that Binyamin, Paulette, and Sam will feel better soon and be back at the club in the very near future.

**Charity Games:** The club received a warm "thank you" note from the National Multiple Sclerosis Society of Greater Delaware Valley Chapter to thank us for our donation we sent to them in the amount of \$177.00.

**Special Awards for 2013:** Elaine Clair and John Dickenson made the Barry Crane 500 list for 2013. John Dickenson won the 2013 Jeanne Fisher Award. Two of our club members won the "Ace of Clubs" awards: unit and district Elaine Clair (2500-5000) and unit Arnold Selig (5000 to 7500). "Mini McKenney" awards went to John Dickenson (1000 to 2500) and Elaine Clair (2500 to 5000) for both unit and district. Congratulations to all of you!!



**Something to Smile About #1** - They were at a concert. Said she, a bridge addict, "What's that book the conductor keeps looking at?" "That's the score," answered her escort. "Oh, who's vulnerable?"

**Miscellaneous: Education Program to Start Soon** - Part of the mission of the ACBL is to promote and sustain the game of bridge. In keeping with this mission, the North Penn DBC will soon be initiating an educational program.

Made feasible by our recent move to the North Wales venue, the Club will be offering several introductory classes to attract new players to our game, as well as providing advanced classes for current members. The plan is to have a full program of classes in place for the Fall. We are working toward a partnership with local school districts to maximize the best assets of each in the construction of this program. It is our hope and expectation that this effort will eventually assist in keeping our Club vibrant and financially stable.

In the coming months, we will be looking to our Membership for experienced players that would be interested in teaching beginning players or would like to work in a Supervised Play environment for Advancing players. More information will be available on the Club website as soon as it is finalized.

**Dave LeGrow**, Education Coordinator, 484-433-0098

**At The Table:** Playing at NPBC on Tuesday, April 22, Pard, not a regular one, opened 1S with S AKJ96, H 7632, D 9, C AJ7. I responded 2H, playing 2/1 system. After his 3H, I went to 4H. Evidently if he had passed, there would be no story. Pard checked keycards with 4NT. I responded with 5H showing two keycards without Q of trumps. Now what?

Most players would have passed. Not Pard who is aggressive, at least trusting my declarer play, he bid 6H knowing we missed one keycard and the Q of trumps (we had a nine-card fit in trumps however). A question for my regular partners who play responding keycards with a void: Would you bid 5NT in response to 4NT keycards asking to show even number of keycards with a void? Anyway I saw this:

S AKJ96  
H 7632  
D 9  
C AJ7

S T4  
H AKT54  
D KJ8653  
C -



If I had had interest in slam, I might have cue-bid clubs after Pard's 3H bid. My concern was that Pard might have gotten excited if he had KQ something in clubs which would have been useless. This is a question for everybody. Would you cue-bid, sort of a freebie before the game, with a void, or just the A? By the way, as Tom Salter pointed out, 2D response after Pard's 1S was an option. I decided against it because that could have buried hearts easily. Pard would never believe that you had 5 good hearts when you later showed it. Plus, it is important to show majors in match points. It would have not mattered in this one because Pard had 4 hearts. Bidding 2D would have discouraged Pard from later slam interest. You jumped to 4C after his 2H to show void or singleton, and he would have closed out the auction with 4H. End of story.

The opening lead was a low club. I won the A discarding a diamond, not a spade, and played the diamond from the table. RHO grabbed the A and played a club which I ruffed. I cashed the A of hearts and LHO dropped the Q. There are 4 trumps outside, including Q and J, and the normal play is to play for 2-2, the so-called 8 ever, 9 never (to finesse). This, however, was a restricted choice situation after dropping an honor. When you drop an honor, the odds are in favor of the other opponent (2 to 1) having the other honor.

I ruffed a diamond to the board, RHO playing the 10. I finessed the trumps successfully and wondered what to do next. If diamonds were 3-3 outside, you had no problem. The odds favored 4-2, though. Finesse in spades is 50-50, better odds than playing 3-3 for diamonds. Why not combine the two? Cash the K of trumps, dropping the J. Play the K of diamonds. If Q was not dropped, finesse the spades. Actually, everything was favorable. The whole deal:

	S AKJ96	
	H 7632	
	D 9	
	C AJ7	
S Q532		S 87
H Q		H J98
D 742		D AQT
C K9852		C QT643
	S T4	
	H AKT54	
	D KJ8653	
	C -	



You'd rather be lucky than good sometimes. However, good techniques always help. This is a hand of percentage play(s). Restricted choice: The original possible distributions after seeing Q on playing the trumps, as explained by Tom Salter: (1). QJ - 98 (2). Q - J98  
*Holding hand 1, the defender will play the Q 50% of the time, assuming he plays randomly from QJ. Holding hand 2, the defender will play the Q 100% of the time. So the odds are 2-1 in favor of the Q being a singleton.*

Then the odds of distribution of 6 diamonds cards. 4-2 is much more likely than 3-3. Combining this with the 50-50 finesse chance for the Q of spades is much better than playing only for 3-3 in diamonds. Of course, RHO might have four diamonds, and you could ruff a diamond. But, it is not close to the mentioned combined odds.

***Albert Horng, Club Member***

**[Membership Forms](#)** - Available mid June, the club will be providing membership forms for all members. Please ask a club director for a form and help us keep your information up-to-date.

[Something to Smile About #2](#) - Eddie Kantar story: A bridge teacher explaining duplicate bridge protocol tells this lady to make her opening lead face down. She promptly puts her head on the table and leads a card face up.

[North American Pairs](#): The North American Pairs is a long-recognized special bridge event. Club-level qualifications may be earned at any club from June 1 through August 31. After a member qualifies, he/she is eligible to play in the district finals usually held in October. Winners of that event receive cash bonuses to help defray travel expenses to the National Event which will be held in New Orleans, LA in the spring of 2015: 1st place finishers in each District flight receive \$700, 2nd place finishers receive \$300 each, and 3rd place finishers receive \$100 each. For dates when our club is holding qualification games, please see below.



### Upcoming Events

(subject to change)

Weekly Games:



Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays – 12:00 noon  
 Tuesdays and Fridays – 7:30 p.m.  
 Tuesday and Friday - 10 a.m. (0 to 750 mps)

Worldwide Pairs

Friday evening 6/6

Club Championships

All games Monday 6/2 through Thursday 6/5

Charity Games

All games the week of 6/9

Charity 8 is Enough Swiss

6/11

Charity Swiss Teams

Friday evening 6/13

Club Championship Swiss

Friday morning 6/27

Club Championship

Friday evening 6/27

King of Prussia Regional

June 16 - 22 North Penn games are cancelled except for Monday 6/16 and Thursday 6/19

Fourth of July

No games

Unit Wide

Monday, 7/7

Charity games

All games Tuesday, 7/8, through Friday eve, 7/11

Charity 8 is Enough Swiss

Wednesday, 7/9

Charity Swiss Teams

Friday evening, 7/11

Unit Championship

Tuesday evening, 7/29

Swiss Teams

Friday evening, 8/1

Unit Wide

Monday 8/4

Charity games

All games Tuesday 8/5 through Thursday 8/7

Charity 8 Is Enough Swiss

Wednesday 8/5

Charity Swiss Teams

Friday evening, 8/22

### NORTH AMERICAN PAIRS

#### North Penn NAP Qualifiers (subject to change)

Monday, noon	6/23	7/21	8/25	
Tuesday 7:30 p.m.	6/24	7/22	8/26	
Wednesday noon	6/25	7/23	8/27	(No I/N games will be
Thursday, noon	6/26	7/24	8/28	run as NAP games.)
Friday, 7:30 p.m.	6/27	7/25	8/29	



The bidding is just getting started at the new Tuesday morning game: Lucille Schlack, Winnie Young, Jim & Kathy Marino, Nick & Maryland Wanck, Joanne McLernon, and PJ Ingram.



Sue Bailey was recognized as a new Life Master at the PCBA annual Unit 141 meeting and brunch at Bala Golf Club on May 18.



Director Mitch Snyder and club member Ginny Woodbury showing the "Welcome NPDBC" cake celebrating the new Tuesday morning I/N game on April 8.



John Dickenson proudly displays his Mini McKenney Award presented to him at the PCBA annual Unit 141 meeting and brunch at Bala Golf Club.

