

San Antonio Bridge League ([www.d16acbl.org/U172](http://www.d16acbl.org/U172))

# The Winning Finesse

Vol. 34, No. 2

June 2024

**President's Column** by *Nancy Tom*. Thank you to Ellen Hessel and John Hilbig for making the June Unit game a huge success. Thank you to all who bring a food item to the unit games and for attending the games. It truly is great to visit with everyone.

We are excited to announce a new club in Unit 172, the Kerrville Duplicate Club. Steve Hultquist directs this club game. They play at 1:00 pm every Monday, at the Dietert Center located at 451 Guadalupe Suite 203. Contact Steven Hultquist at [sjhultq@gmail.com](mailto:sjhultq@gmail.com)

Attention all 499'er members: On August 10, 2024 there will be a 499'er Championship Tournament, held at the JCC at 12500 NW Military Hwy. This will be a two-session game with a meal in between sessions. The cost for the two-session game is \$32. See Laurie Levin for questions: [laurie-anne@satx.rr.com](mailto:laurie-anne@satx.rr.com)

The New Braunfels Sectional is September 5-8, 2024. Ann Kuehler and committee are working hard to make it a great sectional for all attendees. Please come out and support them. If you do not want to drive back and forth every day, think about staying at the Comfort Suites, located at 1489 IH35 (rate is \$99).

Thank you to Roxie Tom for working on the Unit Directory. It will be handed out at the Unit Game on August 17 which will be held at St. Thomas Episcopal Church. Please mark the date in your calendar to play and pick up the directory.

As the summer heat approaches, stay cool and play bridge!

**Membership Matters.** We welcome the following new members and transfers: **Joseph Baka, Jimmy Chen, Paulette Freeman, Amanda Fuller, Hank Eng, John Higbie, Laurinda Lankford Tracy Graham, Oran Houck, Sharon Wheeler, Donnelle Blahuta, Sharon Doerr, R. F. Doerr, Nick Lazazzera, Paul Shukis, Tracy Fletcher, Joy Hough, Mary Reeves, Frank Hedges, Gordon Hardin.** All those who received higher ACBL ratings: new Junior Masters: **Donnelle Blahurta Jean Lee, Oran Houck, Anita Ramirez, Aris Nikas, Laura Nikas, Sharon Doerr;** new Club Masters: **Gwynne Mayer, Bertina Schreiber, Jack Lenox;** new Regional Masters: **Gloria Harkey, Mary Massey, Don Marcott;** new NABC Masters: **Pattie Thompson;** new Life Masters: **Hazel Medellin, Paul Fafoutakis, David Minto, Robert Christophel;** new Bronze Life Masters: **David Minto Sunny Won, Johara Nour, Robert Christophel;** new Silver Life Masters: **Brian Bankler;** new Gold Life Masters: **Susan Hernandez;** new Sapphire Life Masters: **Martin Hester.** Congratulations to all!

**Kudoes** to **Daniel Jackson** for a perfect 500 score in the It's Your Call rankings for Nov. 2023 (published in the Feb. 2024 Bulletin) and to **David Morris** for making the It's Your Call Honor Roll in the March ACBL Bulletin.

**Tournament Results.** The Roxana Tom Tournament drew 121 tables April 10-11. Top winners included **Patty and Greg Hinze** (30.44), **Ellen and Ira Hessel** (23.32), **Rosemary Kelley** (20.84).

**Unit Game Results.** Two Unit Games just for 499ers were held Feb. 17 at the Jewish Community Center. The morning game had 12 tables. Winners included **Gloria Harkey-Belo Kellam (A1, B1)**, **David and Connie Conley (A2, B2, C1)**, **Rebecca Evans-Robert Watson (A3)**, **James Gardner-Jim Seiders (B3)**, **Sharon Doerr-Pamela Mock (C2)**, and **Deborah Kline-Cathy O'Connor (C3)**. The afternoon game also had 12 tables. Winners included **Sally Spears-Trudy Moore (A1, B1, C1)**, **Connie & David Conley (A2, B2, C2)**, **Linda Shilliday-Virginia Allison (A3, B3, C3)**, **James Gardner-Jim Seiders (A3, B3)**, **Claire Fichter-Christine Witebsky (A3, B3, C3)**.

Twenty-three tables competed in the Annual Awards Day Mar. 9 at St. Thomas Episcopal Church. Winners included **Barbara Morgan-Robert Martin (A1, B1)**, **Brian Bankler-Roxie Tom (A2)**, **Terry and Carolyn Riely (A3)**, **Gary and Mary Lou Anziani (B2)**, **Bob Otis-Beth Gale (B3)**, **Bob Christophel-Betty Jean Dobbins (C1)**, **Sharon Evans-Nancy Tom (C2)**, **Ken King-Carol Zulich (C3)**.

Seventeen teams competed in a Stratified Swiss game on May 11. Winners included: **Daniel Jackson-Bill McCarty-Rosemary Kelley-Roxie Tom (A1)**, **Kay Laird-Pat Prichard-Rand Schmidt-Tessa Bodnar (A2, B1)**, **Nancy Tom-Sharon Evans-Brian Bankler-Hank Eng (A3, B2, C1)**, **Sheryleen Grothus-Tom Trudeau-Jerry Harrington-Everette Lewis (B3)**, **Sam Williams-Ann Kuehler-Charlotte Davis-Leila Jackson (C2/3)**, **Joe Ramirez-Mary Massey-Roxi Raaf-Annie Roy King (C2/3)**.

A Stratified Pair Unit Game attracted 20.5 tables on June 9. Winners included: **Dave & Donna Swarthout (A1)**, **Rosemary Kelley-Bill McCarty (A2)**, **Joe Ramirez-James Cuccia (A3, B1)**, **Al Fulton-Martin Hester (B2)**, **Barbara Morgan-Robert Martin (B3)**, **Georgia Baron-Dean Grossman (C1)**, **Joan Brestal-Doris Salley (C2)**, and **Leigh Primerano-Louisa Morton (C3)**.

**Masterpoint Winners!** ACBL sponsors three masterpoint competitions within each Unit. The Mini-McKenney competition reports all masterpoints won by each individual member in club, Unit, and tournament competition. The Ace of Clubs competition reports all masterpoints won in clubs during the year. The Virtual Ace of Clubs reports masterpoints won in club games on the internet. Top 2023 winners in each competition are shown below.

	Ace of Clubs		Mini-McKenney		Virtual Ace of Clubs
0-5 MPs	Bertina Schreiber	19.74	Bertina Schreiber	20.16	Meg Salvadore 2.44
	Gwynne Mayer	17.63	Gwynne Mayer	19.19	Anita Ramirez 2.27
	Jennifer Zimmerle	10.58	Jennifer Zimmerle	12.14	
5-20	Thomas Veitch	15.72	Thomas Veitch	15.72	Phylis Monical 1.54
	Marjorie Strayer	11.62	Marjorie Strayer	11.62	Shirley Huser .68
	Claire Fiechter	8.43	Claire Fiechter	8.43	
20-50	Gloria Harkey	22.29	Gloria Harkey	58.03	Gloria Harkey 13.35
	Jana Barnard	14.95	Jana Barnard	24.50	Cynthia Foster 7.18
	Sharon Gee	9.03	Sharon Gee	11.22	Evelyn Slapkunas 1.3
50-100	Mary Massey	25.78	Mary Massey	55.02	Mary Massey 4.35
	Cathy O'Connor	23.64	Don Marcott	28.60	James Isaacks 2.97
	Niki Cascio	18.47	Cathy O'Connor	26.91	Barbara Bolton .22
100-200	Jim Seiders	26.61	Kay Dabney	30.66	Kay Dabney 11.90
	Patricia Angelides	15.01	Jim Seiders	26.61	Uwe Pontius 2.66
	Carla Harman	11.37	Patricia Angelides	17.98	Jenny Campbell 1.20
200-300-	Michael Beldon	23.92	Louise Beldon	39.25	Teresa Labonte 19.87
	Louise Beldon	23.81	Rebecca Evans	38.47	Louise Beldon 3.37
	Belo Kellam	21.97	Michael Beldon	36.79	Rebecca Evans 3.12
300-500	Yao-Hui Hsiau	62.30	Yao-Hui Hsiau	151.12	Peter Doyle 40.60
	Scott Anderson	58.12	Scott Anderson	104.81	Yao-Hui Hsiau 27.57
	Louisa Morton	50.76	Peter Doyle	82.38	Jeanne Binovi 11.97
500-1000	Al Fulton	51.17	Richard Southworth	156.71*	Richard Southworth
	Leigh Primerano	47.62	Cindy Cummins	125.93	James Sutter 56.98
	Ann Perry	43.37	Yesh Singh	121.33	Al Fulton 31.24
1000-1500	Sisir Sharma	57.87	Elisabeth Kay	89.93	David Dickson 5.55
	Sally Sanders	45.23	Charlotte Davis	79.46	Debbie Schweiss 3.22
	Stephanie Stevens	41.43	Debbie Schweiss	67.01	Eleanor Siegal 2.29
1500-2500	Sandra Press	111.83	Barbara Morgan	290.57	Joe Ramirez 55.66
	Victor Press	104.85	Ann Kuehler	227.78	Beth Gail 30.17
	Barbara Morgan	95.41	Sandra Press	159.21	Ann Kuehler 29.63
2500-3500	George Fillis	89.22	Larry Levin	185.23	Larry Levin 62.80
	Larry Levin	82.43	George Fillis	168.01	Phyllis Giffin 57.46
	Karen Fillis	77.33	Karen Fillis	159.80	Bob Otis 16.43
3500-5000	Laurie-Ann Levin	99.06	Thomas Trudeau	226.02	Donald Varvel 98.51
	Thomas Trudeau	97.99	Laurie-Ann Levin	153.75	Lauri Levin 28.36
	Everette Lewis	82.67	Everette Lewis	139.60	Sheryleen Grothus**
5000-7500	Carolyn Riely	187.25	Carolyn Riely	303.10	Carolyn Riely 24.00
	Jerry Harrington	136.05	Jerry Harrington	273.30	Bill McCarty 13.63
	David Mitchell	104.37	Patty Hinze	167.22	Rich Lampman 3.25
Over 10000	Terry Riely	199.31	Greg Hinze	776.35	Terry Riely 24.00
	Dave Swarthout	48.75	Ira Hessel	571.17	Daniel Jackson 13.63
	Donna Swarthout	46.60	Ellen Hessel	456.13	Rosemary Kelley 8.7
				*146.16	**13.24

**It's Party Time.** The next Unit Game will be the Pro-Am Pairs. What's that? A Pro is a player with more than 1000 masterpoints, An Am is a player with fewer than 1000 mps. The team may not have more than 2 Pros. Most teams will have 2 Pros and 2Ams. The partnerships may consist of a Pro and an Am, or the Pros can play together and the Ams can play together. It's OK if 4 Ams want to gang up on the Pros. It will be a Stratified Swiss Team game on July 27 at St. Thomas Episcopal Church. Snacks will be available starting at 11:30. Gametime is at noon. If you need help forming a team, call Partnership Chair Jo Neesvig at 210-508-1448 or cohosts Rebecca Evans at 507-358-9044 or Ed Rawlinson at 210-372-9529. Cost will be \$5.

**Annual Membership Meeting.** The Annual Membership Meeting will be held August 17 in conjunction with a 2-Session Stratified Pairs Unit Game. A pot-luck lunch will be available after the first session. After lunch the Membership Meeting will be held. The agenda is:

- Call to Order
- A Report to the membership on the Unit's financial circumstances
- The Nominating Committee's announcement of nominees for the Unit's Board of Directors and any additional nominees from the floor
- A vote on a proposed amendment to the Unit 172 Bylaws
- Any other business

The Unit is governed by an eleven-member Board of Directors serving 3-year staggered terms. Four members have terms expiring this year (**Rebecca Evans, Karen Fillis, Everette Lewis, and Nancy Tom**). The Board appointed a Nomination Committee (**David Mitchell, Olivia Brown, Lee Primerano, Rich Curtin and Lew Spurlock**). Nominees include **Kay Dabney, Rebecca Evans, Karen Fillis, Jamie Gardner, David Meyer, Nancy Tom, Pete Voges, and Bob Watkins**. Additional nominees may be made from the floor.

The Bylaws require that any proposed changes to the Bylaw be provided to the membership prior to the Annual Meeting. Here they are.

**Article V**  
**Unit Board of Directors**  
**Section 8**  
**Powers and Duties**

In addition to the powers granted by other provisions of these Bylaws and by the Laws of the State of Texas, the Board of Directors shall have the following powers and duties:

(h) To censure, expel, suspend, or otherwise discipline any member. No member, however, shall be censured, suspended, expelled, or otherwise disciplined until he has been furnished written charges to which he has had time to reply, or until after a hearing of which he has received reasonable notice and at which he may be represented by counsel. Disciplinary action of the Unit against any member may be appealed to the National ACBL Board of Directors. The right of a member against whom charges are pending to play in tournaments during such pendency shall not be affected unless otherwise directed by the Unit Board of Directors

- Proposed Change to Article V: Delete Paragraph 7 (h). ACBL has recently removed authority over disciplinary issues from Units and Regions. All disciplinary decisions will be made at the national level.

## **Article VIII Standing Committees**

1. **NOMINATING COMMITTEE.** This committee shall be composed of 5 members in good standing, appointed by the Board of Directors, within a reasonable time prior to the annual meeting of the members. Its duty shall be to prepare a slate of Nominees for election to the Board of Directors.
2. **DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE.** This committee shall be appointed by the Board and shall be composed of a reasonable number of members in good standing, and shall be charged with the duty and responsibility of investigating and holding hearings on all matters pertaining to matters of conduct and ethics among Unit members.
3. **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE.** This committee shall be appointed by the President, chaired by a Director, and shall consist of a reasonable number of members in good standing. The duties of this committee are to promote new membership in the Unit, maintain the membership records of the Unit, and to complete the membership directory on a regular basis.
4. **TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE.** This committee shall be appointed by the President. It shall include the Tournament Coordinator, who shall develop recommendations for the Board of Directors for dates of tournaments and shall obtain sanctions for tournaments approved by the Board. It shall also include Tournament Chairs of the various tournaments sanctioned by the Unit and ACBL. Each tournament chair shall present a proposed budget to the Board for approval prior to each tournament and shall render a complete report to the Board following each tournament.

Proposed changes to Article VIII:

- Delete Paragraph 2. ACBL has recently removed authority over disciplinary issues from Units and Regions. All disciplinary decisions will be made at the national level.
- Modify Paragraph 3 to read as follows:
  2. **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE.** This committee shall be appointed by the President and shall include the Director, whose duties shall include maintaining the membership records of the Unit and welcoming new members into the Unit, one or more members to promote new membership in the Unit, and one or more members to update the membership directory on a regular basis.
- Delete Paragraph 4. Existing Policies and Procedures define the duties of the Tournament Coordinator and the Tournament Chairs. There is no need for these individuals to meet regularly as a group.

**Do you need Red Points?** Now is your chance to earn half red / half black points. During the months of June, July and August play in a NAP qualifying game in New Braunfels at the Hill Country Bridge club and at Fiesta Bridge club. Check the schedule. The NAP district finals are

held in Austin in January. Must be qualified at the club level to play in January's NAP finals.  
Go get qualified. It is a fun event in January.

**Calendar.**

July 27	Stratified Teams	12	St. Thomas Episcopal Church
August 10	499er Tournament	10 & TBA	Jewish Community Center
August 17	2 Session Stratified	10 & TBA	St. Thomas Episcopal Church
	Pairs & Annual Membership Meeting		
Sept. 5-8	New Braunfels Sectional		NB Civic Center

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