



National Capital Regional

July 5th thru July 11th, 2010
Bethesda North Marriott, Bethesda, Maryland

Monday, July 5th, 2010



Welcome!

We want to welcome you to the National Capital Regional this year beginning after the Fourth of July. It is also our pleasure to welcome this year's ACBL President, Rich DeMartino and his wife Sandy from Riverside, Connecticut. They will be with us Wednesday through Saturday. It has been three years since we inaugurated our new site in Maryland and we are excited about returning to this great facility and location. We wish everyone success and remember, "you can't always win at the bridge table, but you can always have a good time."

Nadine Wood, Tournament Chair
Fred King, Tournament Co-Chair

Event Names

Several of our events are named for people who were all members of your host unit, the Washington Bridge League, who were volunteers and workers, and who are unfortunately no longer with us. We hope to tell you a little about each one daily when their event is played.

Hospitality

The hospitality suites are on the first floor of the hotel in rooms 139 and 143. To get there, go past the hotel registration desk, continue to the elevators, and then turn right. The menu for this evening is: hot cheese and bean dip w/variety chips, ham asparagus rolls, spinach dip & veggies, fruit platter, cheese and cracker platter, home-made brownies, and carrot cakes. Please do not take food or drink from the suite area!

Partnership Desk

The partnership desk will be in the foyer in front of the ballroom and will open thirty minutes prior to the 9:30am, 10:30am, and 7:30pm sessions, forty-five minutes before the 1:30pm session.

Prize Room

The prize room is located in Ballroom H and will be open for business beginning tomorrow through Saturday, between 10:00 and 10:30am, between 12:30pm and 1:15pm, and then finally between 6:30pm and 7:15pm. On Sunday the Prize Room will open at 9:45am to roughly 10:15am.

Parking

The parking at the hotel is free for hotel guests. There is an \$8 per day charge for commuters. If you go out and return the same day, *retain your receipt, show it to the attendant and make sure to identify yourself as a bridge player (i.e. show them your convention card in addition to showing your receipt) when you leave again so that you will not be charged twice.*

Flower Pairs aka Gold Rush!

Starting tomorrow and running each day through Friday at 1:30 and 7:30 pm, the separate 0-750 two-session gold point game is on the schedule. This game has proven to be very popular in the Mid-Atlantic and the few other places that have tried it.

A Note from the Tournament Staff

If you are staying in the hotel at any rate other than the bridge rate of \$114 (either more or less), please sign the list in the tournament office, Ballroom H, so we can get credit for your room nights toward our guarantee.

Today's Events

Event	Times
Educational Foundation Stratified Open Pairs	1:30pm
Educational Foundation Stratified Swiss Teams	1:30pm
Educational Foundation 50/20/5 & 300/200/100 Pairs	1:30pm
Carole Geagley Bracketed Knockouts (<i>continues Tuesday at 9:30am, 1:30pm, and 7:30pm</i>)	7:30pm
Charity Open Stratified Pairs Sylvia Levy Side Series (<i>First of Four</i>)	7:30pm



In Memory of Carole Geagley

The Knockout event that starts this evening honors Carole Geagley who passed away on June 19, 2006 after battling cancer. Carole was a member of the Washington Bridge League for more than thirty years and in that time served as unit president, vice-president, secretary, unit board member, cheer and sympathy coordinator, babysitter chairperson at our 1984 nationals, prize chairperson at our July 4th regionals, and in an unofficial capacity, a long time unit volunteer taking on a myriad of jobs. Carole worked for many years in the United States Senate in the Senate Appropriations Committee working under Senators Tom Harkin and Arlen Specter.

In Memory of Sylvia Levy

The Side Series Pairs that starts this evening honors Sylvia Levy who passed away on June 29, 2009. Sylvia was a long time member, director, and volunteer of the WBL and was a fixture in our local club scene for decades. Perhaps Sylvia's greatest strength in bridge was as a teacher. She taught for the county, bridge clubs, country clubs and in her home. During the 1973 Nationals, Sylvia was a member of the very successful show put on by the local committee. She was born with only one arm, but she was never handicapped. Sylvia had three children: sons Robert and David and daughter Janet.

General Info

The Daylight Open Pairs at 10:30 am and 3:00 pm will be held in Ballroom B/C. There is no smoking anywhere in the hotel. All sessions, all events will play 24 boards per session.

Sections	Events	Location
G & H	Afternoon and Evening I/N Games and Lectures	Ballroom G
I, J, & K	750/300 games	Ballrooms E & F
L, M, N, & O	9:30 pairs, Side Games, & Afternoon & Evening Open Pairs	Ballroom E
P, Q, & R	10:30 & 3:00 Daylight Pairs, Party for Nadine Friday Night	Ballrooms B & C
S & T	3rd Round of KOs each afternoon, evening use as needed	Ballroom A
U thru Z	Knockouts and Swiss Teams	Ballroom D

Don't Get Caught!!

Cell phones, which may not be visible or operable in the playing area, must be turned off and kept out of sight. Absolutely no texting is permitted. If you are expecting an emergency call, leave your phone with the director. Automatic penalties of one full board will be assessed in a MP contest, 5 VPs will be assessed in a Swiss team, or 12 IMPS will be assessed in a KO match.

Recorder

The recorder for this tournament is Mark Dahl. Recorder forms may be picked up from, and returned to, any director, or in the tournament office, Ballroom H.

Conventions

Midchart conventions are approved for use at this tournament in Flight A/X pairs or teams, or in bracketed KO events where the lowest team in the bracket has an average of at least 1500 masterpoints per player. If you play midchart conventions requiring suggested defenses, please see the instructions about downloading and carrying them. There are no more yellow books. For other events or brackets, the ACBL General Convention Chart (plus any constructive defense to opponents' NT) applies. Players who by agreement lead low from xx must pre-alert their opponents at the start of each round.

Bidding Boxes

MABC policy is that bidding boxes are used in all events. All players must use them unless they have a sight problem or other physical handicap. Explanatory cards are available in the tournament office for players who are unable to use bidding boxes.

Knockouts

Knockouts are bracketed based on the average masterpoint holdings of all team members. To receive an overall award, a player must play at least half of the boards his team plays, including half of the boards played in the (combined) semifinal and final matches. He receives only the award earned in the last match of which he has played at least half that his team won. (Example: a player plays in the first match, sits out the second which the team wins (earning 3/4 overall), and then plays again in the third match, which the team loses. This player has earned only the match award from the first match. The rest of the team receives the points for 3/4 overall.) Compact KO teams must be composed of exactly four players. Any KO event which is advertised as bracketed but only draws enough teams for one bracket shall be run as a Handicapped event.

Zero Tolerance policy: Be nice!

To establish an atmosphere which promotes the enjoyment of bridge as both a competitive and social game, the MABC has adopted the ACBL's policy of courteous behavior. For tournaments to be fun, cooperation from all (players, organizers, staff, and volunteers) is necessary. Please report conduct that is unacceptable by calling the director immediately, keeping in mind that we must be tolerant of other people in general and bridge players in particular. Also, please report especially outstanding or refreshing conduct on a player memo form (available from any director or on the information table).

☺ Commendable ☺	☹ Unacceptable ☹
Being a good 'host' or 'guest' at the table; Greeting others in a friendly manner; Praising the bidding and/or play of an opponent.	Badgering, rudeness, insinuations, intimidation; Using profanity, threats, or violence; Negative comments about opponents' or partner's play or bidding; Gloating over good results; Constant and gratuitous lessons and analyses at the table; Loud or disruptive calls for or arguing with directors; Ringing cell phones/pagers will receive penalties; Continuing slow play.

Courteous behavior brings out the best in everyone. Please consider the manner in which you have been behaving. Try to eliminate those mannerisms and behaviors which may cause others to be uncomfortable, and increase those which make you a person others wish to be around. We all have in common a love of bridge. We should focus on our similarities, increase our tolerance of one another, and always behave civilly toward other players.

The intent in creating this policy is to create an environment in which it is never necessary to issue a penalty. However, the publicity surrounding this new program constitutes your only warning. Serious breaches of good behavior will be penalized at their first occurrence. Disciplinary penalties are not subject to appeal.

Please call the director if you run into such a situation; the directors can't do anything about the problem if they are not aware.

Players who, for emergency situations, need to leave their phones turned on should leave the phone with a director.

From the Mid-Atlantic Bridge Conference

Welcome to our annual Nation's Capital regional, the kickoff to the second half of the 2010 Mid-Atlantic tournament calendar. You've picked a good one, as few regionals rival this one for fun, history and hospitality.

Enjoy our usual menu of knockouts, the popular Gold Rush Pairs for 0-750 MP players, and one of the last remaining Barometer Pairs events, named as a tribute to the Mid-Atlantic Bridge Conference's founding father, Jerry Machlin. As always, metro DC regionals offer players a choice of daytime and the more traditional afternoon/evening prime gold point events.

Meanwhile, stop by the information tables, pick up some fliers, and finalize your plans for upcoming Mid-Atlantic Regionals this summer and fall – the biggest and the best in the ACBL:

Hunt Valley, MD — Aug. 16-22, Marriott Hunt Valley Inn (410) 785- 7000. Enjoy the Maryland countryside just 45 minutes from everything Baltimore has to offer. The biggest tournament in District 6. Chair: Patricia Wilson (410) 825-7579, valleybridg@cs.com.

Atlanta, GA — Aug. 31-Sep. 6, Crowne Plaza Ravinia (770) 395-7700. One of the Mid-Atlantic's classiest properties always sells out early for the ACBL's flagship Labor Day regional. Scores of shops and restaurants nearby. Chair: Jack Feagin (404) 252-9246, jfeagin2@bellsouth.net.

Columbia, SC — Oct. 18-24, Radisson Hotel & Conference Center (803) 731- 0300. Everyone loved the makeover at this super-convenient property four years ago. Off I-20, near Interstates 26, 77 and the airport. Chair: Elizabeth Beckwith (803) 754-0400, elizbeck@usit.net.

Virginia Beach, VA — Nov. 8-14, Cavalier Hotel (757) 425-8555. One of the loveliest venues, with the Atlantic's waters lapping just outside the ballroom. Great hospitality, including free light suppers. Co-chair: Peggy Willett (757) 467-4186, bean2sadie1@verizon.net.

Non-ACBL Masterpoints

Players with non-ACBL masterpoints must declare them at the time of entry, so they are placed in the correct flight, strat, or bracket based on the appropriate conversion factor. Failure to do so may result in disqualification and forfeiture of any masterpoints earned. ABA members should report their ACBL points + half of their ABA points as a total.

Entry Fees

The entry fee is \$10 per player per session for all events.



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Intermediate and Novice Section

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Intermediate/Novice

Most games will be held in Ballroom F/G (turn right down the first corridor). Registration and partnerships for those players with no more than 300 masterpoints will be available there one hour prior to game times.

Want to improve your game for free and have an enjoyable time while doing so? We will have lectures from some of the best players and teachers in the world. Starting tonight at 6:45 with Leslie Schafer, teacher extraordinaire and continuing at 12:45 and 6:45 every day thereafter. Stars such as Steve Robinson, Mike Passell, Jeff Meckstroth and other all time great players will share tips and ideas with you in ballrooms F/G. Don't miss hearing them for they are both entertaining and informative. Look in the bulletin each day to see who the featured speakers for the day are.

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