

Pomona-Covina Unit News

April 2022

Individual: April 9, 10:00 a.m., Upland

May 7, 10:00, Ontario

Club Championships: April 12 and 15, La Fetra

Unit Game: Saturday April 23 19, 11:00 a.m., Glendora

Unit Board Meeting: 10:15 a.m. before the game

As you sharp-eyed readers have noted, both the monthly Individual and the Unit game are delayed by one week this month. The Individual is late because your esteemed (sometimes “steamed”) Director isn’t available on the normal date. The Unit game has been moved since it would otherwise fall on Passover and Easter Saturday. Normality (insofar as we are able!) will return in May.

We will be presenting the Ace of Clubs and Mini-McKenney awards for 2019, 2020, and 2021 at the Unit game this month. You should have received an email or perhaps a letter notifying you if you are one of the winners.

Winner of the March Individual – boasting the largest turnout we’ve had in a while! – was David Ochroch, with 62.7%. Arthur Wallace was a twitch behind in second, then we find Roger Boyar, Peter Kavounas, Clint Lew, and Susie Emminger.

In the March Unit game, Bill Papa – Vic Sartor left the rest of the field behind with their 75% game. Hanan Mogharble and Yours Truly were a distant second. Fredy and Lulu Minter were third, Eddie Rose - Ann Gillespie fourth. Steve Andersen – Paul Chrisney took top honors in flight C.

We have once again signed up for The Longest Day. We will hold a single-session fundraising game on Friday, June 24, 8:45 a.m. (our normal start time). ALL funds received are donated to the Alzheimer’s Association. The entry fee for this special game – awarding extra masterpoints – will be \$7. If you can’t make the game, but wish to donate, I’ll have instructions on how to do so in next month’s newsletter.

Two rank advancements this month. Richard Parker is now a Sectional Master. And ... make sure you are sitting down for this one ... Yours Truly is now a Silver Life Master. In my case, this seems more a persistence award than anything else, since it only took me 22 years to get to this point. Do the math ...

The top game at La Fetra in March was 76.79%, posted by Fredy and Lulu Minter. Others to finding themselves atop the leader board were Stephen Andersen, Vic Sartor, Bill Papa, Fredy Minter, Roger Boyar, Steve Mancini, .

For our hand-of-the-month, we visit the “Win Some, Lose Some” school. I’ll give you your hand only, before showing the full deal. Prepare for some fun ... depending on what you do!

♠ AKQ865 ♥ Q83 ♦ 8 ♣ K83.

At favorability, partner deals and opens 3♦. Next hand doubles, and you have your first decision in front of you. Do you bid 3♠? That pretty much has to be forcing. Do you want to

play 4♠ with a probably bad break and partner's shortness? Do you want to play 4♦? I elected to pass, for better or for worse.

And to my surprise, LHO called 3♠! Hmm, it looks like RHO doubled with a good hand and a round suit. OK, I can always bid 4♠ at favorable over 4♥, right? Wrong! Partner passes (of course) and RHO goes into the tank, and emerges with ... 4♠!

OK, your second decision must be made. You can surely defeat 4♠, looking at 4 (maybe 5) trump tricks alone. But do you want to defend 4♥ or maybe 4♣? Yes you will probably beat those, but by enough to beat 4♠ undoubled? Again accepting the white feather, I passed. Now let's see the full deal:

North	
♠ 4 2	
♥ A K J 10 9	
♦ A	
♣ A 10 9 3 2	
West	East
♠ 10	♠ A K Q 8 6 5
♥ 7 5 2	♥ Q 8 3
♦ K Q J 7 5 3 2	♦ 8
♣ Q J	♣ K 8 3
South	
♠ J 9 7 3	
♥ 6 4	
♦ 10 9 6 4	
♣ 7 5 4	

Needless to say, 4♠ was not a great success, going down 4, 400 to E-W. In retrospect, a double would have worked well, because with that dog hand South held, nothing else works either. So, a top? Not quite! At other tables, 3♠ went two down (how did they stop in 3♠?), 3♥ went down only 1, and 4♥X went 3 down for 800. So, almost a top!

Evidently, North was considering either 4♥ or 3NT.

Quote for the month: "A diploma is a remembrance of things passed.." (Honey Greer)