

Pomona-Covina Unit News

August 2022

Individual: August 6, 10 a.m., Ontario

September 3, 10 a.m., Ontario

Club Championships: August 9 and 12, La Fetra

Unit Game: Saturday August 20, 11:00 a.m.,
Glendora

STaC: August 23 and 26, 8:45, La Fetra

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

Longest Day Update: we raised \$745 for the Alzheimer's Association, not bad considering that our game got disrupted (site-wise) and turnout was a bit disappointing. There is one or more mystery "thank you" to award: when I counted the game entry fees, I came up with \$11.00 extra. Now, I've come up short on the entries, on occasion, but extra? I conclude that some of the attendees tossed in some extra cash. I added that on to my own donation – so whoever you anonymous donors are, Thank You. And Thank You to all those who participated, by playing, donating, or both.

There was of course no Individual game in July. This month for sure!

In the July Unit game, Vic Sartor – Bill Papa just edged out, by a single matchpoint, Fredy and Lulu Minter. Roger Boyar – Karen McCarthy took third, and Stephen Andersen – Linda Tessier wound up atop Flight C.

There was one rank advancement this month. Stephen Andersen is now a Regional Master. Congratulations, Steve, keep up the good work.

Topping the charts again this month are Fredy and Lulu Minter, at 70.82%. This edged out three 68%+ performances by Bill Papa – Vic Sartor, Roger Boyar – Steve Mancini, and Caryn Mason – Patrick Finley. Also topping the field at least once were Gary Atwell, Eddie Rose, Ramona Hernandez, Nona Stokes, and Stephen Andersen.

Eleven players brought home a total of 61.12 masterpoints from the Bridge Week Regional last month. Topping the list with 11.59 was Hanan Mogharbel. This placed here 151st overall, out of 509 players who won anything at all. Rounding out the top five performers were (ahem) Yours Truly with 9.45, Richard Parker with 8.93, and Linda Tessier with 8.53. Don't be too impressed by my total – I played *every session*, that's 15 sessions and 360 boards. Not my best performance ever!

The only 1st Place performance was turned in by Caryn and Richard, winning a 299er session. But with the number of points they picked up, you *know* then places fairly high in some other events.

Here's a hand that came up during the Bridge Week Regional. The deal itself isn't anything special ... just the usual semi-balanced hands ... but the auction was interesting. West is the dealer, with no one vulnerable. You, South, are holding

♠ 8 7 ♥ 8 6 ♦ K Q 10 8 2 ♣ Q 10 5 3.

The auction starts tamely enough:

<u>West</u>	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>
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1♠	2♠*	3♠	?
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* Hearts and Diamonds (specifically)

Well? It would seem you have an obvious 3NT bid available, to ask for partner's minor. Right? *Bzzzzzzzt!* Thank you for playing our game, and we have some lovely parting gifts for you. Our intrepid South (no, it was not I – nor was I North) bid 4♣! An outrageous psyche. Obviously expecting to get doubled, then a retreat to diamonds, and get doubled again. The auction proceeded

<u>West</u>	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>
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1♠	2♠*	3♠	4♣ (!)
4♠	pass	pass	5♣ (!!)

Well, a big lie is easier to sell than a small one, I suppose. Let's finish off the auction:

<u>West</u>	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>
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1♠	2♠*	3♠	4♣ (!)
4♠	pass	pass	5♣ (!!)
pass	X	5♦	pass
pass	X	all pass	

Opening lead: ♣A

Declarer caught a fair dummy:

♠ A K ♥ A K Q 9 5 3 ♦ J 7 6 5 4 ♣ none

Making 6, for +650. A fine score, but not a top, because some pairs reached the diamond slam. An interesting use of the psychic bid ... but psyches can (and did this time) backfire!

Quote for the month: "There are two things to aim at in life: first, to get what you want; and after that to enjoy it. Only the wisest of mankind achieve the second. (Logan Pearsall Smith)