

Pomona-Covina Unit News

July 2026

La Fetra Games: Tuesdays and Fridays, 8:45
Claremont Bridge Club: Thursdays 9:30
Unit Pairs Game: July 18, 11:00 a.m., Ontario
Unit Pairs Game: August 15, 11:00 a.m., Ontario
STaC (silver points): July 21, 24, 8:45 a.m., La Fetra
Individual: August 1, 10:00 a.m., Ontario
Unit Pairs Game: August 15, 11:00 a.m., Ontario
Unit Board Meeting: 10:15 a.m. before the game

Still time to donate to “Do What You Love to End Alzheimer’s” (formerly The Longest Day.)
Here’s the link for online donations:

<https://events.alz.org/fundraisers/thomaslill/unit-551-acbl-do-what-you-love-to-end-alz>

Sadly, at the last minute, we had to cancel our popular team game for July. Your Director came down with the awfuls (a really nasty reaction to an antibiotic) and was almost certainly going to be admitted to the hospital. While this didn’t happen, events pushed on until there was no time for setup of the game. Sigh!

In the June Unit pairs game, Patrick Finley – Caryn Mason took top honors with 60.42%. Yours Truly – Judy Mogharbel managed a close second, followed by Stephen Andersen – David Ochroch, Kiran Kumar – Avice Osmundson, and Ramona Hernandez – Nona Stokes. Vaughan Inman – Linda Ananea took first in Flight C.

We had two promotions this month: Baoding Chen is now a Club Master. Serena (a.k.a. CeCe) Mougharbel has advanced to Sectional Master.

Thanks again to Patrick Finley, for collating the masterpoint statistics for June.

1	18.49	Caryn Mason
2	14.72	Patrick Finley
3	13.71	Fredy Minter
4	12.66	Lulu Minter
5	10.05	Tom Lill
6	9.12	Vic Sartor
7	8.63	Judy Mogharbel
8	6.93	Nona Stokes
8	6.93	Ramona Hernandez
10	6.02	Roger Boyar

And at the Claremont Bridge Club:

1	2.76	Steve Mancini
2	2.42	Patrick Finley
3	2.27	Tom Lill
4	2.12	David Ochroch
5	1.77	Peter Kavounas

Year to date, we have the following leaders:

At La Fetra:

1	67.45	Caryn Mason
2	65.51	Patrick Finley
3	55.79	Fredy Minter
4	54.91	Vic Sartor
5	45.50	Lulu Minter
6	31.65	Mary Ann Wotring
7	30.83	Steve Mancini
8	29.55	Tom Lill
9	26.90	Ramona Hernandez
10	25.75	Nona Stokes
11	24.39	Kurt Triselmann
12	23.81	Steve Andersen
13	22.98	Judy Mogharbel
14	22.83	Richard Parker
15	22.21	Peter Kavounas

And at the Claremont Bridge Club:

1	11.78	Patrick Finley
2	7.25	Steve Mancini
3	6.52	David Ochroch
4	5.84	Tom Lill
5	5.29	Steve Andersen
6	4.15	Patrick Rogers
7	4.07	Peter Kavounas
8	4.02	Duane Woodman
9	3.95	Marjorie Preston
10	3.35	Tom Cusack
10	3.35	Sofi Kasubhai

At La Fetra, once again six pairs topped the magic 65% benchmark. Leading the rest Fredy and Lulu Miner, with a whopping 77.08%. They also posted a 70.25%-er. That day, Caryn Mason – Patrick Finley must have been slightly disappointed that their 70.25% game was only good for second place! The remaining big efforts were by Vic Sartor – Cryn Mason, 69.58%; the Minters again, 68.26%; and Judy Mogharbel – Yours Truly just sneaking over the bar at 65.04%. Other winning pairs were Roger Boyar – Kurt Triselmann and Duane Woodman – Dave Ochroch.

Over in Claremont, there was two of the four game winners topped the magic 65%. Olivia Esquibel – Tod Shimoda rang up 68.25%, and Steve Mancini – Dave Ochroch scored 65.28%. The other two winners were Yours Truly – Peter Kavounas, and Steve Mancini – Patrick Finley.

For our hand-of-the-month, I thank Jordon Chodorow (our D23 President), partnering Ewan McNay, for this defensive gem.

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

West	North	East	South
pass	1♠	1NT	pass
3NT	all pass		

Ewan dutifully led the ♠10 and most defenders followed with an encouraging ♠3. I saw there was no future in spades. There was room for Ewan to have one key card. If it was in hearts, we needed to cash out now. If it was in a minor, I had to hope he had ten-long in hearts.

So I won the ♠A, cashed the ♥A to get a signal, and Ewan followed with the Goldilocks ♥4, showing not the ♥K but length, in case the layout was as it was.

I followed with the ♥Q, pinning dummy's jack, and a third heart to declarer's bare king.

Now declarer could cash five diamonds and KQ of spades, but when he led a club up to dummy, Ewan had the ♣A and the ♥10 ready to cash.

Two other defenders won the ♠A and switched to hearts.

One switched to a low heart, which declarer simply rode around to the jack while still holding the protected Kx in hand.

The other switched to the ♥Q, but partner wasn't up to the task, ducking declarer's club toward dummy rather than winning to continue hearts. Ewan would never have failed there.

All other declarers took nine or ten tricks in notrump. We set it for 8.8 IMPs.

Quote for the month: "Thoughts, like fleas, jump from man to man. But they don't bite everybody." (Stanislaw Lec)