

Pomona-Covina Unit News

June 2025

Pomona – Covina

by Tom Lill

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La Fetra Games: Tuesdays and Fridays, 8:45
Individual: NO Individual in July
The Longest Day: June 20, La Fetra (\$7)
Unit Pairs Game: July 19, 11:00 a.m., Ontario
Unit Board Meeting: 10:15 a.m. before the game

In the June Individual, Judy Mogharbel led the field with 64.13%. Tom Cusack was 2nd, Clint Lew 3rd, Peter Kavounas 4th, Linda Tessier 5th. There was an interesting occurrence in this game. If you watch the scores of all our games, you know how rare a completely flat board is, even with established partnerships. In this month's Individual, we did have one flat board in our 3-table game. That's only the mildly surprising part. The scores on that board were what is astonishing. Believe it or not as you like: there were three scores of +230! Go figure.

Thanks again to Patrick Finley, for collating the masterpoint statistics for May:

1	15.94	Fredy Minter
2	13.68	Patrick Finley
3	13.31	Vic Sartor
4	11.45	Caryn Mason
5	12.04	Lulu Minter
6	8.84	Mary Ann Wotring
7	8.09	David Raymond
8	7.85	Ramona Hernandez
9	7.95	Nona Stokes
10	7.71	Steve Mancini

These totals include all La Fetra and Unit games, but don't include points won at outside tournaments or clubs, or in online games.

Lots of winners in May – perhaps helped out by the increased attendance lately. We've even been able to run few Mitchell movements! Anyhoo, here are the top scores from last month. The very top score was turned in by Caryn Mason – Vic Sartor, 75.56%. Wheee! Next up were Fredy and Lulu Minter, 73.33% and 71.35%, followed by Caryn Mason – Patrick Finley, 70.97%, the Minters again (hey, leave some matchpoints for the rest of us!), 69.70%, and last a pair of 67.19% games by Vic Sartor – Mary Ann Wotring, one of which was only good for a second-place finish!

Other winners not topping the magic 65%: Peter Kavounas, Richard Parker, Gary Atwell, Steve Andersen, Carl Silsbee, Dan Robinson, Roger Boyar, David Raymond, Karen McCarthy, and Yours Truly.

There were no promotions again last month. Better luck next month! Of course, we have the Bridge Week Regional in Long Beach coming up in July.

For our hand-of-the-month, it's back to my favorite theme – the old “semi-balanced” Wonder.

With no one vulnerable, you, East, see this rather interesting collection:

♠ J ♥ 5...♦ Q1092 ♣ AQ109432

Well, OK, it's not quite semi-balanced; in fact, it's a “Cologne,” i.e., 4-7-1-1 shape. (It's not funny if I have to explain it.)

Anyway, the dealer, on your right, opens 1♦. It's a bidder's game, to be sure, so 2♣ looks about right. Maybe 3♣, but I went the low road, allowing for partner to have some stuff. LHO passed, and partner came in with 2♠. Not what I wanted to hear of course. RHO ventured 3♦, and smelling a massive misfit, I placed that red X on the table. Gotta be business, right? Well, LHO passed and partner pulled to 3♥. Again, *just* what I was looking for! Fortunately (for my side!), RHO went 4♦, and this time partner got the message when my red X hit the table. My opening lead was the ♠A, followed by the ♣A and then the ♥5, and declarer did *not* have fun, for the full deal was:

	♠ KQ102	
	♥ 8	
	♦ AKJ763	
	♣ K7	
♠ J876534		♠ A
♥ AKQ962		♥ 5
♦ 5		♦ Q1092
♣ none		♣ AQ109432
	♠ 94	
	♥ J10743	
	♦ 84	
	♣ J865	

That's right: not only did I have a “Cologne,” partner had a “Hastings” (1-0-6-6). Declarer made 7 tricks for -500, a clear top for E-W. According to Bridge Composer, no one can really make much of anything on this deal: it says, for possible (and of course double-dummy) results: E-W 2♥ or 2♠; E-W 1NT (yes, both East and West have notrump-oriented hands, to be sure); E-W 2♣; and N-S 1♦.

Quote for the month: “The mass media is (*sic*) supported and sustained by commercial entities. And corn flakes and Shakespeare are simply not kissing cousins. Leonard Bernstein and living bras are incompatible. And you cannot sustain probing, meaningful drama when the proceedings are interrupted every twelve minutes by a dozen dancing rabbits with toilet paper.” (Rod Serling)

[We should *be* so lucky nowadays to get twelve uninterrupted minutes of programming!]