

# Pomona-Covina Unit News

October 2025

**La Fetra Games: Tuesdays and Fridays, 8:45**

**Individual: November 15, 10:00 a.m., Upland**

**Club Championships: November 11, 14, La Fetra**

**Unit Pairs Game: November 22, 11:00 a.m., Ontario  
October 18, 11:00 a.m., Ontario**

**Unit Team Game: October 25, 10:00 a.m, Ontario (Two Sessions, lunch provided)**

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

In the September Unit Game, lightning struck, the Earth trembled, strong men wept, stout-hearted women fainted. That's right: Yours Truly and Judy Mogharbel took the top spot with 59.32%. Well, as I say, even a blind squirrel finds an acorn in the woods, now and then. In second place were Peter Kavounas – Richard Parker, followed by Kitty Moon – Vic Sartor, and finally Serena Mougharbel – Tommy Howard.

In the October Individual, Judy Mogharbel won *again* with a 60.42% game. Finishing second was Dan Robinson, Ramona Hernandez, and then a FOUR-way tie: Serena Mougharbel, Steve Andersen, Dave Ochroch, and Kitty Moon.

Speaking of the Individual, with the October game we wrapped up our annual championship series. There were only 10 games held this year, so it only took 5 games to qualify, rather than the usual six. Here are the results:

|   |                |       |
|---|----------------|-------|
| 1 | Judy Mogharbel | 61.9% |
| 2 | Peter Kavounas | 56.2% |
| 3 | Kitty Moon     | 54.6% |
| 4 | Clint Lew      | 54.4% |
| 5 | Rose Roberts   | 54.0% |

The percentages are calculated by taking each player's best 5 games, adding up the total matchpoints earned, and dividing by the total possible number of matchpoints. Yes, strange!

Thanks again to Patrick Finley, for collating the masterpoint statistics for September. At La Fetra:

|   |       |                  |
|---|-------|------------------|
| 1 | 11.58 | Patrick Finley   |
| 2 | 10.88 | Caryn Mason      |
| 3 | 9.48  | Tom Lill         |
| 4 | 8.85  | Judy Mogharbel   |
| 5 | 8.64  | Vic Sartor       |
| 6 | 8.23  | Lulu Minter      |
| 7 | 6.64  | Fredy Minter     |
| 8 | 5.80  | Steve Mancini    |
| 9 | 7.36  | Nona Stokes      |
| 9 | 7.36  | Ramona Hernandez |

And at the Claremont Bridge Club:

|   |      |                |
|---|------|----------------|
| 1 | 2.00 | Patrick Finley |
| 2 | 1.65 | Steve Andersen |
| 3 | 1.47 | David Ochroch  |
| 4 | 1.15 | Tom Lill       |
| 5 | 1.05 | Patrick Rogers |

Patrick Finley wishes that it be noted: Steve Andersen graciously gave up his seat one day when Patrick's partner failed at the last minute, enabling him to play. So the 1-2 finishers could have been rather reversed!

At La Fetra, there were six games over the 65% benchmark. Two were by Caryn Mason – Patrick Finley, a monstrous 72.92%, and a still-impressive 68.29%. Sandwiched in between those two were a 71.33% monster by Fredy and Lulu Minter, and a 65.60% game turned in by Judy Mogharbel – Yours Truly, and only good for second place! Finally, Yours Truly and Karn McCarthy posted a 65.89%-er, this time good enough for a win., and a 65.74% game by Caryn Mason – Vic Sartor. Other winners not topping that magic 65%: Steve Mancini, Ramona Hernandez, Nona Stokes, and Helen Wang.

Over in Claremont, there was only one big game: 65.63% by Duane Woodman and Gary Atwell. Other winners were Patrick Finley – Patrick Rogers, Kitty Moon – Dave Ochroch, and Steve Andersen – Yours Truly. Four games in September, four different winning pairs.

In tournament action, there were two sectionals in September. At Beverly Hills, Serena Mougharbel's team finished 2nd in the Sunday 499-er Swiss. Clint Lew and Caryn Mason brought home a fractional point, no doubt winning a few matches in the Swiss but not placing overall. Over in Riverside, Tim and Eileen Finlay finished 5th in the Friday open pairs, while on Saturday Judy Mogharbel and Yours Truly took 4th in B of the open pairs.

We had one promotion last month. Eileen Finlay has reached Bronze Life Master status. And I owe Dan Robinson an apology: I misspelled his name as "Rovinson," surely an unlikely name!

For our hand-of-the-month, I have a hand that showed up in one of our Individual games. You might have seen it before, since I did send it to John Jones for his PSP. But it was such a fun hand, I'm going to give it you again.

North deals, no one is vulnerable. After two passes, you gaze at this collection:

♠ Q ♥ J ♦ 7 6 2 ♣ A K J 9 8 7 6 5

Zowie! Do you open 1♣ or 3♣? If clubs behave reasonably (but why should they?), you have 8 running tricks. If partner can come up with something, 3NT (or perhaps 5♣, even) could be there. OK, I decided to open 1♣. LHO tossed in a 1♥ overcall (don't those opponents ever shut up?), and partner came in with 1NT. Nasty old RHO chimed in with 2♠. Now what? Damn the torpedoes, full speed ahead! I pulled out the 3NT card and hoped partner could control hearts. She could, and 3NT rolled home. But the contract is not cold! It takes a double-dummy CLUB lead to beat it, because here's the whole hand:

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

So! Partner has spades, hearts, and diamonds under control, all right, so on a lead of one of those suits, declarer is in with a chance. But a double-dummy club lead will cut declarer off from dummy. When she runs 8 clubs tricks, it will squeeze her hand unmercifully. Who is going to find that lead? Without peeking?

Quote for the month: "A government big enough to give you everything you want, is strong enough to take everything you have." (Thomas Jefferson)