

# District 22 GN Teams Finals

## 55 Teams Compete in Dana Harbor



**Open Flight Winners**  
V. Jay and Linda Tipton,  
Debbie and Alan Gailfus



**Flight A Winners**  
Steve Clark - Susan Kissinger  
Trish Menefee - Andy DeLeon



**Flight B Winners**  
Michael Weber - Patrick Mahoney  
John Adams - Andrew Loh



**Flight C Winners**  
John and Linda Jonas  
Yann Shen - Steven Jackson



By John Kissinger  
GNT Coordinator

The Dana Harbor Bridge Center was the scene of fierce competition on two weekends in April to determine the finalists from District 22 who would compete for a national title at the Summer Nationals in New Orleans.

Tops in their flights in the huge 55-team tournament were:

**Open Flight (13 teams)**

**Debbie and Alan Gailfus, Linda and Jay Tipton.** This double-couple squad bested the fifth-seeded team of Alex Kolesnik, Jim Munday, Dayou Zhou and David Chechelashvili in the finals, after knocking off the second-seeded team of Jon Wright, Joel Hoersch, John Strauch and Ivar Stakgold in the semis. Earlier, in an exciting first-day upset, the top-seeded team (which included several members of the defending D22 2009 champions) lost a round-robin match to the twelfth-seeded team.

Both teams were narrowly eliminated on quotient, allowing the team of Bill Hall,

Ron Westwood, Marty Hinds and Bob Giragosian to advance to the semis to face the Kolesnik squad.

**Flight A (8 teams)**

**Andy DeLeon, Trish Menefee, Steve Clark, Susan Kissinger.** They beat Wirt Gilliam, Steve Johnson, Bette Strauch and Paul Darin, Jr.

**Flight B (19 teams)**

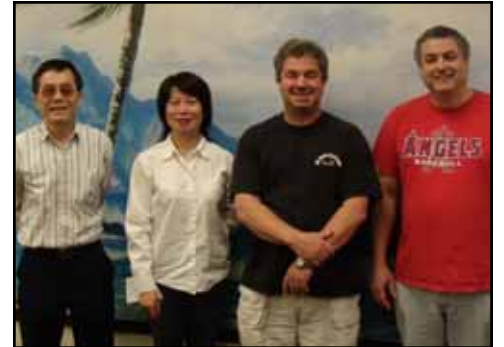
**John Adams, Andrew Loh, Patrick Mahoney and Michael Weber.** Down 17 in the first half, this team came roaring back to win over the Kerr team (Michael Kerr, Paul Chung, Harvey Jaffe and Xiaoxue Walker). Making it to the semifinals were the teams of Hoffman, Price, Lodge and McCarthy, who tied for third-fourth with Morgan, Rupp, Ragnow and Krogfoss.

**Flight C (15 teams)**

**John and Linda Jonas, Yann Shen, Steven Jackson.** In the battle of the Non-Life Masters, the Jonas squad beat out the Phillips team (Marc Phillips, Kevin Chaisson, Philippe Lamoise and Ruth Aronsohn) in the final. Finishing tied for third-fourth were Kaminskis - Krause - Schennum -



**Open Flight Runners up**  
Dayou Zhou - Jim Munday  
Alex Kolesnik - David Chechelashvili



**Flight B Runners up**  
Paul Chung - Xiaoxue Walker  
Michael Kerr - Harvey Jaffe

McCourt and Doria - Onufer - Paul - Wheatcroft.

The Flight A and C competition was held April 10 and 11, with the Flight B and Open matches contested the following weekend of April 17 and 18. When the event was first announced, the district agreed the four flight winners would each receive a \$800 stipend to help offset the cost of representing the district at the nationals. However, GNT popularity made a

huge boost this year, from a low of around 12 teams in 2008 and 19 teams in 2009. Because of this increase in participation, we had better attendance than expected in both qualifying and final rounds.

Accordingly, the district will have considerably more money available per team than originally allocated.

We thank everyone who participated, and congratulate all four winning teams. Best of luck in the New Orleans finals!

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**JOIN US**

**FRIDAY MAY 28**  
10:00 AM AND 2:30 PM  
STRATIFIED 499ER PAIRS 0-100/300/500  
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**SATURDAY MAY 29**  
10:00 AM AND 2:30 PM  
STRATIFIED 499ER PAIRS 0-100/300/500  
STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS 0-500/2500/2500+

**SUNDAY MAY 30 10:00 AM**  
SWISS TEAMS STRATIFLIGHTED  
FLIGHT A/X 0-5000/5000+  
FLIGHT B/C/D 0-500/1500/2500

**CARD FEES: \$10 PER PLAYER**

**SUNDAY SWISS: \$100 PER TEAM**

**NON & UNPAID ACBL \$1 MORE MID-CHART IN OPEN EVENTS**

**PRE DEALT HANDS FRIDAY AND SATURDAY**

**FREE COFFEE AND SNACKS FRIDAY AND SATURDAY**

**LUNCH SERVED SUNDAY**

**TOURNAMENT CHAIRPERSON JANET ANSFIELD 858-551-9201**

**PARTNERSHIPS CASS DONOVAN 858-270-2386 RON IGNEZI 858-454-1222**

20 VICTORY POINTS SCALE SCORING  
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FOR MORE INFORMATION

RESULTS POSTED ONLINE DAILY

**King's Korner— Continued from page 1**

Awarding more points was seen as a way to encourage beginning and intermediate players.

It did not take long for the clubs to catch on, and soon things were out of control. Today every game is a "special game" at many clubs. Today every day is Masterpoint Day. The players like the increased awards. Are the clubs at fault? No! They simply took advantage of the poorly thought-out plan by the ACBL to give the players what they wanted ... more points!

As a result of these changes new players are rocketing up the rank ladder before they have time to really learn the game. This forces them into brackets and strats they are unprepared for, and some have lost interest and quit the game.

Inflation has devaluated the masterpoint. We now see the ripple affect of good intentions gone astray. Effective January 1, 2010, changes were made to Life Master Requirements. The masterpoint requirements have risen from 300 to 500 with corresponding increases in black, silver, red, and gold points. Is this progress? Is inflation a good thing? Are today's new players better off than yesterday's?

**Change is in the wind**

The ACBL Board has recognized that the system needs to be brought back into balance. So what Mother ACBL giveth, Mother ACBL taketh. At the Reno Nationals a decision to place a limit on triple masterpoint games was made. Effective July 1, 2010, masterpoint awards for special games will be 70% of sectional ranking (double) with a cap of six points. Clubs will be limited to one special game a month per sanctioned session.

Much has already been written on this subject (and I'm certain that much will follow), so here is my two cents. Some club owners have already voiced concerns about this change and I'm sure some players will grumble. But hey, nobody complained when the ACBL made the 2004 change, and the side affects were not apparent. So try to understand that these changes to correct an imbalance are necessary and are a good thing.

This is one down and one to go. Let's hope the ACBL next addresses the masterpoint award disparity between KOs and pairs events. It's time to level the playing field. After all, is it only about masterpoints ... or is it "For the love of the game?" Play Bridge! Got comments or questions? [Talk2theking@aol.com](mailto:Talk2theking@aol.com)

**Orange—Continued From page 1**

squeeze in a few practice sessions before the tournament.

**Schedule:** Last year we increased the number of Compact Knockouts, which seemed to go over very well, especially for 299ers vying for gold. We have retained that same format this year. Also, we've added several new I/N (299er) special events this year (more about that in next month's Forum).

**Daily Speakers:** We will have accomplished experts and teachers speaking twice daily at 9:15 a.m. and 2:15 p.m. from Tuesday through Saturday.

**Photos:** Also, we will be taking pictures of overall winners and new Life Masters. Sec-

tion and overall prizes, and convention card appliques will be available at the Hospitality Desk. Parking is at the excellent rate of \$5.00 a day with in-and-out privileges

We will have a restaurant guide of local eateries, and the hotel has a coffee shop and a very fine restaurant.

For complete schedule and more information go to [OrangeCountyRegional.com](http://OrangeCountyRegional.com)

We hope to see you at the tournament, and that your experience will be as good or even better than in previous years at this excellent bridge venue. Check out the ad elsewhere in this issue or go online for hotel reservations and more.