

# Upcoming Tournaments

## Tucson Spring Sectional April 15-18, 2010

Head to the Holiday Inn Palo Verde at 4550 S. Palo Verde Road April 15-18 for Tucson's spring bridge tournament. Head to the ad elsewhere this issue of *ScoreCard* for complete information on special bridge rates, the schedule of events, and other information. The weather is perfect in southern Arizona in April, the Holiday Inn is a wonderful place to play.

## Colorado Springs Spring Sectional April 22-25, 2010

The Colorado Springs Spring Sectional is April 22-25, 2010 at the Norris-Penrose Event Center at 1045 Lower Gold Camp Road. That's Thursday night through Sunday with the expected schedule of events, as set forth in the ad you will find elsewhere in this issue of *ScoreCard*. Also check the ad for good rates at the host hotel, the Clarion Hotel.

## Las Cruces Down Country Sectional April 23-25, 2010

Tournament bridge in Las Cruces will be April 23-25 at the Knights of Columbus Hall at 2755 East Idaho. Take note of the new location. The easy to remember schedule with identical events both Friday and Saturday can be found in the ad elsewhere this issue of *ScoreCard*. Check it out and plan to play.

## Denver 299er Sectional April 10-11, 2010

A weekend of bridge for newcomers and intermediates competing only against your peers is on tap April 10 and 11 at the Aurora Board of Realtors Building at 14201 E. Evans Drive. See the ad this issue for details and game times.

## Santa Fe Sectional April 30-May 2, 2010

Plan on spring bridge in Santa Fe, April 30 to May 2 at the Santa Fe Community College at 6401 Richards Ave. Check out the ad this issue of *ScoreCard* for schedule of events.

It's easy to remember. Friday and Saturday are identical. Stratiflighted Swiss Teams on Sunday.

## Glenwood Springs Doc Holliday Sectional April 16-18, 2010

Colorado's Grand Junction Unit hosts its spring sectional at the Ramada Inn at 124 W. 6th St. in Glenwood Springs, April 16-18. Check out the ad this issue for the various events, open and 199er. A beautiful setting in the Colorado Rockies.

## Cactus Flower NLM Regional Correction

The past couple of issues of *ScoreCard* have erroneously listed the Tucson NLM Regional as a 299er Regional. This is incorrect - the tournament is open to all Non-Life Masters with less than 500 masterpoints. Our apologies. The Cactus Flower NLM Regional is scheduled the last week in February at the Desert Diamond Casino & Hotel in Tucson, and we hope you can make it. See the ad inside.

## Boot Camp Bridge –Book Review

By Jared Johnson  
ScoreCard Editor

Bidding a slam is usually the biggest thrill in bridge. Well, that and getting the opponents for 1,400. At most forms of home bridge, the slam hands count more than the part score and game hands. At duplicate pairs events, each hand counts equally in your final score. Ending up on the wrong side of a part score battle can be as big a matchpoint disaster as misbidding or misplaying a slam hand.

But even at duplicate bridge, the slam hands are the ones that occasionally elevate your pulse rate. At the end of the game, no one will be talking about the part score on

deal 16, but they will be talking about the grand slam on hand 24.

That brings us to *Boot Camp Bridge, Bid More Winning Slams* by Wayne Sands of Phoenix. Sands employs a fictional setting to provide numerous tips on how to get the most out of the slam hands (and of course, how to stay out of slams on hands that are close but not quite there).

Most players think slam bidding begins with an ace asking bid, either old fashioned Blackwood or some more modern variation of Roman Key Card Blackwood

(Sands dubs RKC 1430 the king of slam tools) or cue-bidding at high levels.

But of course, potential slam bidding starts much earlier than that. A variety of bidding

tools that you can use just on the way to game, can help diagnose the strength of the trump suit and how the two hands fit together, for possible slam exploration.

For instance, with a double fit, and a singleton in one hand and a singleton or void in the other, you might have a solid slam on far fewer than the statistically average number of high card points usually required. Among the helpful conventions to use, even if you still stop in game, are Jacoby two notrump and splinter bids (showing shortness).

You will also encounter the Grand Slam Force, Exclusion Blackwood, DOPI and DEPO (no, not the eighth and ninth dwarves, but a way to deal with the opponents' interference in your otherwise peaceful slam bidding sequence).

There is also Puppet Stayman ("the road to matchpoint treasures" as one fictional character proclaims), an important convention since distribution is indeed key to many successful slams and slam bidding sequences.

It's an excellent romp through a variety of valuable slam bidding techniques.

*Boot Camp Bridge* is available for \$19.95 (postage and shipping included) from the author at 4512 E. Danbury Road, Phoenix AZ 85032.



### Editor's Desk

By Jared Johnson  
ScoreCard Editor

It's still a ways off, but once again District 17 is going to become NABC central. In the space of two years, there are likely to be three NABCs in District 17. Phoenix is already set for fall of 2013.

Las Vegas is the site for summer of 2014. And Denver is the heavy favorite for fall of 2015. [and San Diego —ed.]

And of course, still in our neck of the woods there is Reno this month, and San Francisco in fall of 2012. How good can it get?



## Tucson Spring Sectional



April 15, 16, 17 & 18, 2010

Holiday Inn Palo Verde

**Holiday Inn Palo Verde**  
4550 S. Palo Verde Blvd.,  
Tucson, AZ 85714  
(520)746-1161

The Special Bridge Rate is \$89.00+tax per night, single or double. In order to get this rate you MUST use our **Group Booking Code "AMC"**. Blocked rooms will be released on **March 18, 2010**

**Fees:** \$10.00 for dues paying ACBL Members and \$11.00 for all others.

#### Tournament Chair:

Barry Abrahams (520) 615-1712 or [BLincolnA@hotmail.com](mailto:BLincolnA@hotmail.com)

**Director-in-Charge:** Gary Zeiger  
**Partnerships:** Brenda Sonderegger (520) 399-2112

[sonder@cox.net](mailto:sonder@cox.net)

Please visit our website at

[www.SouthernArizonaBridge.com](http://www.SouthernArizonaBridge.com)

**Stratified Events:** A=1500+;

B=500-1500; C=0-500

**199'er Pairs:** D=100-200; E=20-100; F=0-20

**Knockouts:** Bracketed by average master point holdings of all team members

Top bracket may be handicapped

**Strati-flighted Swiss Teams:**

(All scored at Victory points)

A=3000+; Ax=0-3000;

B= 0-1500; C=0-500

**199'er Swiss Teams:**

(All scored at Victory points)

E=100-200; F=0-100.

**Single session entries will be**

**accommodated**

Sanction #0904037

### Thursday, April 15

7:00PM

**Bracketed Knockout I**  
(Round I)

### Friday, April 16

10:00AM & 3:00PM

Single Sessions Stratified Pairs  
Single Sessions 199'er Pairs  
**Bracketed Knockout I**  
(Rounds II & III)

7:30PM

Single Session Stratified Pairs  
**Bracketed Knockout II**  
(Round I)

### Saturday, April 17

10:00AM & 3:00PM

Single Sessions Stratified Pairs  
Single Sessions 199'er Pairs  
**Bracketed Knockout II**  
(Rounds II & III)

### Sunday, April 18

10:00AM & TBA

Strati-flighted Swiss Teams  
(Two Sessions)  
Stratified 199'er Swiss Teams  
(Two Sessions)  
**Complimentary Buffet Lunch**  
for all 2 session players

We offer Free Coffee and Tea, Candy, Lectures, Pre Dealt Hands with Hand Records and a Complimentary lunch for all two sessions Swiss Teams on Sunday

## DENVER UNIT 361 I/N SPRING SECTIONAL BRIDGE TOURNAMENT

April 10-11, 2010

Aurora Board of Realtors 14201 E. Evans Drive

Saturday, April 10, 2010

10:00 am

**Stratified Pairs (Single session)**  
A: 200-299; B: 100-199; C: 0-99  
0-5 may be a separate event)

2:15 pm

**Lecture**

3:00 pm

**Stratified Pairs (Single session)**  
A: 200-299; B: 100-199; C: 0-99  
0-5 may be a separate event)

Sunday, April 11, 2010

10:30 am  
&TBA

**Swiss Team Playthrough**  
(Victory Points)  
A: 200-299; B: 100-199; C: 0-99  
Lunch will be catered

ACBL members with 0-5 points play free.

**Pairs: \$7.50 Sunday Swiss Teams: \$72 per team, includes lunch**

All points are silver.

The traveling Susan Dittmer Memorial Trophy is awarded to the person who wins the most masterpoints.

**Director:** Alice Kinningham

**Tournament Chairman:** Jim Calhoun 303.431.4160

**Partnerships:** Chuck Anderson 303-733-2040

SN 1004107

[www.denverbridge.com](http://www.denverbridge.com)