



Editor's Desk

By Jared Johnson
ScoreCard Editor



Manchester Grand Hyatt, site of the 2009 Fall NABC in San Diego and again in 2017

The search for playing sites for bridge tournaments is a never-ending task. At the national level, the ACBL always schedules NABCs at major hotels. The accommodations are generally excellent, but often pricey. Players come from around the country and will be staying at the host hotel. It needs to be top-notch. The Manchester Grand Hyatt, site of the 2009 Fall NABC in San Diego, couldn't have received better reviews. People raved.

It's no coincidence that District 17 may host as many as four NABCs in the next six or seven years.

Occasionally a host hotel (regional or national) is undergoing renovation and the racket starts early in the morning, not a good mix for bridge players who are usually up late and sleeping late.

A national tournament in Chicago decades ago was at a site many players viewed as a horror show for a variety of reasons. Another site on the east coast once had the host hotel in a less than desirable neighborhood. Players were cautioned about leaving the hotel at night and urged to walk in groups even during the day. There were young thieves most adept at riding by on a bicycle and grabbing your purse or even deftly plucking your wallet from your back pocket.

Those sorts of problems are rare nowadays.

World championship sites have also had problems in recent years. Many players took a pass on

Istanbul in 2004 due to terrorism concerns. Not long ago, the championships were yanked altogether from Bali, Indonesia after a major bombing. Sad.

Compared to such blatant safety concerns, a room that's too hot or too cold or too noisy is minor in comparison.

More and more, the ACBL tries to schedule nationals in places people would want to go for vacations anyway, taking into account location and season. (Again, good for District 17.) A national tournament in Winnipeg in November many years ago posted dreadful numbers. Winnipeg is a beautiful city but most bridge players would rather head to Phoenix or Vegas or Miami or Texas or California as winter approaches, not Canada.

On the other hand, summer nationals in Toronto the past couple of decades have posted some of the highest tournament attendance numbers ever. And Las Vegas draws the throngs even in summer.

Similar considerations reign for regional tournaments that also draw players from out-of-state, thus the playing site which is usually the host hotel, is important. District 17 includes all of Colorado, New Mexico and Arizona, and parts of Wyoming, Nevada and Texas. Unlike many other districts where the weather is more consistent, we have huge differences here in District 17. People often wonder why we end up with regional tournaments in Las Vegas and Phoenix during the summer. The answer is simple - room rates. Much better rates can be negotiated for those types of locations in the summer than in the winter when people from all over flock to warmer climates for reasons having nothing to do with bridge. Of course, the host hotels are always well air-conditioned.

District president John Van Ness has written some excellent columns over the years on all the factors that go into choosing a playing site, and how it all ties into District 17 having among the healthiest regional attendance numbers in the League.

The criteria can be a bit different for sectional tournaments since often there isn't a host hotel. Most of the players are from the immediate area, although some do come from elsewhere and are still looking for lodging nearby.

For sectionals, the actual playing space and cost are the major factors.

Reno Roundup

In keeping with the *ScoreCard* tradition of recognizing those District 17 players who hit the top three spots in national championships, we turn our attention to the recent Spring NABC in Reno in March. First on the board was Rob Crawford of Henderson, Nevada, second in the Silver Ribbon Pairs with partner Hadi Allahverdian of Portland.

Everyone else waited til the last day. Fred Gitelman of Las Vegas was on the winning Jacoby Open Swiss Teams squad, while Carolyn Lynch of Scottsdale and Mike Passell of Las Vegas were on the third place team.

In the Vanderbilt Knockout Teams, Martin De Knijff played on the team tying for

third.

If we missed someone, drop us a line. And it's on to New Orleans.

Overtricks: And once again, some of the overall standings for national championships in Reno looked more like a world championship. Hitting just the top four spots in the Vanderbilt Knockout Teams, Jacoby Open Swiss Teams and Machlin Women's Swiss combined (all wrapping up on the last day of the tournament) were players from Russia, England, France, Poland, the Netherlands, Germany, Denmark, Italy, Sweden and Norway.

In fact, it was nearly a fifty-fifty split between American players and overseas competitors.

**Santa Fe Sectional
April 30, May 1,2 2010**

Same Schedule Both Days
Friday and Saturday,
April 30 & May 1
Note - New KO's
start each morning @ 9AM
9:00 a.m.

Bracketed KO session 1
Stratified Pairs
299'er Pairs

1:00 p.m.
Knock Out session 2
Swiss Teams, single session
Stratified Pairs, single sess
299'er Pairs, single session

7:00 p.m.
Knock Out, final session
Stratified Pairs, single sess

Sunday, May 2 10:00 a.m.
Strati-flighted Swiss Teams,
2 Sessions
Lunch Provided
(play-through short break)

LOCATION

Santa Fe
Community College
6401 Richards Ave.

I-25 Exit 278
North on Cerrillos
East onto Rodeo
South onto Richards to
Community College

Holiday Inn
4048 Cerrillos 800-465-4329
Courtyard by Marriott
3347 Cerrillos 505.473-2800
Fairfield Inn by Marriott
4150 Cerrillos 505.474-4442
Sleep Inn
8376 Cerrillos 505-474-7570

Apv Masterpoint limits are:
Teams Strat A/X A3000+ X 0-3000
Strat B/C/D 300/500/1500
Pairs Strat A/B/C
uni/1500/500
299'er 50/150/300|

Sanction #S 0905065

Chair Jerry Ruther: 505.988.3457

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Partnerships Ken Harris 505-603-8987

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299'er Chair: Sharon Nanez 505-992-8090

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**PHOENIX SILVER SUN
SECTIONAL**



May 14 - 16, 2010

ASU West Campus
4701 West Thunderbird Drive
Glendale, AZ 85306 (602) 543-7751

Friday, May 14

10 am & 3 pm	Stratified Open Pairs	Single Sessions
10 am & 3 pm	Stratified 199er Pairs	Single Sessions
7:30 pm	Stratified Open Pairs	Single Session
7:30 pm	Silver Bracketed KOs	1st Round

Saturday, May 15

10 am & 3 pm	Stratified Open Pairs	Single Sessions
10 am & 3 pm	Stratified 199er Pairs	Single Sessions
10 am & 3 pm	Silver Bracketed KOs (cont'd)	2nd and 3rd Rounds

Sunday, May 16

10 am & TBA	Strati-Flighted Swiss Teams	2 Session Event
10 am & TBA	Stratified 199er Swiss Teams	Single Sessions

Cafeteria open for lunch

Stratified Events:

A = 1500+ D = 100-200
B = 500-1500 E = 50-100
C = 0-500 F = 0-50

Strati-Flighted Events:

A = 5000+ B = 1000-1500
X = 0-5000 C = 500-1000
D = 0-500

Stratifications for all events will be based on average masterpoint holdings of the players. If an event has an upper limit, every player must fall within that limit.

KO teams: Brackets will be based on average MPs for all team members. Top bracket may be handicapped.

Entry Fees:

\$11 per session for paid up members
\$12 for non or unpaid ACBL members
Members with <10 MPs play FREE!

Tournament Chairs

JoAnne Lowe Charles Kelley
(480) 836-7296 (480) 513-7966
pnutlowe@cox.net cek99999@cox.net

Director In Charge
Gary Zeiger

Unit 354
Sanction # S1005077

Partnerships

Alice Pierce
(480) 247-8380
apierce7@cox.net

Daily Results
www.unit354.com

- Cafeteria open during tournament
- Easy access for the handicapped
- Hospitality breaks every session
- Non-smoking facility
- No alcohol allowed on campus

