



Upcoming Tournaments

Northern Colorado Winter Sectional February 7-10, 2010

Check the ad this *ScoreCard* issue or last for the recently revised starting times for some of the events at the Northern Colorado's winter sectional at the Ranch and Budweiser Events Center, near Loveland, Colorado, just south of Fort Collins. The dates are February 7-10. Make plans now.

Pueblo Winter Sectional February 12-14, 2010

Pueblo's winter tournament is February 12-14 at one of the most long-standing and excellent of Colorado sectional playing facilities, the Sangre de Cristo Arts and Conference Center in downtown Pueblo. The *ScoreCard* ad this issue will fill you in on all the vital details.

Phoenix Presidents Day Sectional February 12-15

The Presidents Day Phoenix Sectional will be held Feb. 12-15 at the ASU West Campus, 4701 W. Thunderbird Drive in Glendale, Ariz. Four days of solid bridge played against players from all over the valley and winter snow birds that will fly in for the event. All single sessions are stratified and a fun Compact KO will be held on Monday. We welcome you to join us for four days of good bridge. Who knows? maybe George or Abe might show up. Please check our ad or www.unit354.com

ad this *ScoreCard* issue for the complete schedule of events, Knockouts, Swiss Teams, pairs games, and 299er events.

Denver Spring Sectional March 11-14, 2010

The Jefferson County Fairgrounds Exhibit Hall at 15200 W. Sixth Ave. in Golden is the usual playing site for Denver's spring tournament March 11-14 (yes, still officially winter). Spacious playing site, plenty of free parking and right off a major thoroughfare (Sixth Ave. Expressway) provides easy access. Check the ad this *ScoreCard* issue.

Roswell UFO Sectional March 26-28, 2010

Roswell's spring bridge tournament is March 26-28 at the Roswell Convention and Civic Center at 912 W. Main. Check the *ScoreCard* ad for details. Of course, you know what Roswell is famous for. So, if you see a few players at the tables with unusually large heads, it may not be Ego, it may be E.T.

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. Please join us. The weather is perfect in southern Arizona in April, the Holiday Inn is a wonderful place to play. What's keeping you?

Rocky --Continued from page 1

To better prepare us for the coming hotel wars, the district has rounded up all the lawyers on the district board (3) and put them to work on a hotel contract review committee. One benefit already has been that our host units can share their successful negotiating tactics. The district is firming up plans for regionals five years from now, so that units can better deal with hotel contracts.

The ACBL has to get its money from somewhere, and it's always a balance between membership dues, NABC profits, sanction fees and other fees imposed on clubs, sectionals, regional, Internet bridge, etc. All these types of bridge activity are interconnected, and if sectionals, for example, should fail you will inevitably see less bridge interest in that area, which means less customers for everybody else.

The ACBL has recently been allowing clubs more and more "special" games. In order to get the increased masterpoint awards the entry fee has to include a donation to recipients such as the Junior Fund or the International Teams fund. This is good for the clubs and good for the funds, but not so hot for sectionals. Why should a player spend the time competing against a larger field at a sectional when he can get almost the same points at a small game at his or her local club?

Sectionals are being squeezed from all sides. Last year the only ACBL fee that was increased was one paid by only sectionals. This year the ACBL has raised tournament director fees 8%. Some of our units are cutting back, sometimes converting regular sectionals to I/N (Intermediate/Newcomer) only, in order to cut costs. Most of our units don't have regional profits to cover the losses.

Jerry Fleming, our District Director, is well aware of this problem and he's doing his best to persuade the National Board to restore some balance. Speaking of which, Jerry just completed his term as President of the ACBL, and he did a great job.

And I just learned that our own district secretary, Bonnie Bagley, was named 2009 ACBL Co-Volunteer of the Year. I can't imagine how anybody could have been more deserving. She's been (unofficially) District 17's Volunteer of the Year for more than ten years in a row, and I can't imagine anyone more deserving. So far, so good.

Sedona Winter Sectional February 18-20, 2010

Whether it is sunshine or a little dusting of snow on the bright red and orange rocks of the Sedona, the scenery rates to be as exceptional, as does the bridge at Sedona's Winter Sectional February 18-20 at the Elks Lodge. Please note that's a Thursday through Saturday. Please look for the half page regional size ad elsewhere this *ScoreCard* issue and start making plans now to attend this excellent tournament.

Las Vegas Glitter Gulch Sectional March 1-5, 2010

Please take careful note of the unusual dates for the Las Vegas Glitter Gulch Sectional. It will be five days, March 1-5, a Monday to a Friday. But you can still stay the weekend and gamble. Incredible Sunday to Friday night room rates at the Riviera on The Strip of \$65 a night, reserve by February 5. And check out the

Tucson Spring Sectional



April 15, 16, 17 & 18, 2010
Holiday Inn Palo Verde

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

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

Director-in-Charge: Gary Zeiger.

Partnerships: Brenda Sonderegger (520) 399-2112

sonder@cox.net

Please visit our website at

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

Northern Colorado Winter Sectional

February 5-7, 2010

NOTE: Friday Afternoon 1:30 PM Start Time!

"Best Chairs in the West"
Just Off I-25 Exit 259
Entrance From County Road 5

Friday, February 5, 2010

- 9:00am Knock Out or Round Robin - 1st Round
Stratified Pairs Championship Single Session
Stratified Pairs 299er Single Session*
- 1:30pm Knock Out or Round Robin - 2nd Round
Stratified Pairs Championship Single Session
Stratified Pairs 299er Single Session*
- 7:00pm Knock Out or Round Robin - 3rd Round
Strati-Flighted Pairs

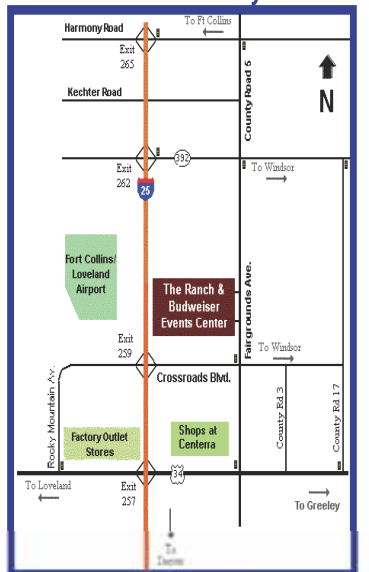
Saturday, February 6, 2010

- 10:00am Championship Stratified Pairs (First of Two Sessions)
Stratified Pairs Single Session
Stratified Pairs 299er Single Session
- 3:00pm Championship Stratified Pairs (Second of Two Sessions)
Stratified Pairs Single Session
Stratified Pairs 299er Single Session

Sunday, February 7, 2010

- 10:00am Strati-Flighted Swiss Teams including 299er Flight (Hot Lunch Included)

Strati-Flighted Pairs	Strati-Flighted Swiss Teams
A/x: 3000+ 0-3000	A/x: 3000+ 0-3000
B/C: 750-1500 0-750	B/C: 750-1500 0-750
D/E/F/G: 200-300,100-200, 50-100, 0-50	D/E/F/G: 200-300,100-200, 50-100, 0-50
Championship Stratified Pairs	299er Stratified Pairs
A/B/C: 2000+ 750-2000, 0-750	D/E/F/G: 200-300,100-200, 50-100, 0-50



Tournament Location
Lanier County Fairgrounds and Events Complex
5280 Arena Circle
Loveland, CO 80538
First National Bank Exhibition Building
West Hall

Entry Fees: Pairs: \$9.00 per person, Sunday Teams: \$100 per team (lunch included)
\$1.00 additional per session for unpaid ACBL members and non-ACBL members
*ACBL members 0-5 masterpoints play free in single session 299er games on Friday only

Director In-Charge: Bill Michael
Tournament Co-Chairs: Bill Greeley (970) 443-9417 WBGREELEY@gmail.com
Gail Greeley (970) 443-9418 GSGREELEY1940@aol.com
Gail Hanson (970) 217-2986 GAILHANSON@trn.net

Partnerships: Stella O'Neill 970(482-1253 or 222-4431) OSmonell@aol.com
Sue Simmons (970) 353-1035 suevclm@aol.com

Miscellaneous: Homemade snacks, coffee, tea provided, no concession stand
No cell phone usage allowed in the playing area

Nearby Restaurants: Local Restaurants
RV hookups: Available at the site, electric service only, contact The Ranch (970) 619-4000

