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## ACBL COVID PROTOCOLS FOR

### NATIONAL, REGIONAL AND SECTIONAL TOURNAMENTS

Effective May 15, 2023:

Vaccinations will no longer be required at Unit 142 Sectionals and District 5 Regionals.

If a masked partnership requests that each of their opponents wear masks, those opponents are expected to comply. (Be prepared, bring a mask with you.)

\*Vaccinations will be required at the National Tournament in Chicago\*



American Contract  
Bridge League

# Pittsburgh Summer Sectional

## Hospitality All Sessions!

**July 7-9, 2023**  
**Masonic Center North**  
**3579 Masonic Way**  
**Pittsburgh, PA 15237**



### IMPORTANT DATES

- June 12-18 STaC District 5  
Local Clubs
- June 15 STaC and Snack**
- June 23-25 Sectional,  
Canton, OH
- Jun 26-2 Regional, [Info](#)  
King of Prussia, PA
- July 7-9 Sectional,  
Pittsburgh, PA**
- July 12-23 NABC, [Info](#)  
Chicago, IL**
- Aug. 4-6 Sectional,  
Rocky River, OH
- Aug. 30-4 Regional, [Info](#)  
Pittsburgh, PA**
- Sept 8-10 Sectional  
Cheektowaga, NY
- Sept 16-17 Sectional  
Erie, PA

#### NEWS TEAM

Denise Dufour	Layout
	News, New to Duplicate
Lorraine Hanna	Education, Up the Ladder, Unit 142
Marilyn Painter	Personal News
Marilyn Sittig	Contributor
	New to Duplicate
June Threlkeld	Unit 142

[Please click here to email Denise](#)  
anything you feel is of interest to our  
readers for possible publication.

**Details on Page 7**



# City of Bridge(s)

## UNIT 142, PITTSBURGH BRIDGE ASSOCIATION

### CONDOLENCES

#### Bill Balph died May 13.

Husband of member, Hermoine Balph, died May 13 at the age of 88. A long time resident of Penn Hills, Bill owned the Balph Plumbing Supply Company. Hermoine and he were living in Fort Lauderdale at the time of his death.

#### Sylvia Shaw

Celebration of Life Information on Page 6

*Our condolences to all the families and friends. Marilyn Painter*

### Member News

#### Patti Rambasek and Rick Laird

were featured in the current newsletter of Global Links. They were lauded for their 17 year support of the organization. Patti also served on the board for several years. Global Links is a non-profit dedicated to improving health to vulnerable communities with need .... both globally and in the US. They do this by sharing, where needed, medical-related surplus rescued from the USHealthcare system. Located near the Greentree exit of the parkway, the organization also accepts certain donated medical equipment from individuals. Years ago, I toured the facility and was mighty impressed, so it's clear to me why Patti and Rik are committed to and supportive of this worthy organization.

[Marilynlpainter@yahoo.com](mailto:Marilynlpainter@yahoo.com)

Text/phone: 412-708-7433

facebook

The Newsletter Team is now publishing to our Facebook Page.

Have an item you would like uploaded [email it here.](#)

Follow us on Facebook  
[ACBL Unit 142](#)

FROM THE PRESIDENT, JUNE THRELKELD

## June's Highlights

June 12-17

StaC Week

Enjoy Face-to-Face Bridge Everyday!  
Check with local clubs for game schedules.

June 15 StaC'N'Snack

Details Page 6, Vaccinations NOT required.

6:00 Pot Luck

Featuring Chicken entrée teaming up with your favorite dish for all to share.

7:00 Game

Food, Friends, & your favorite game played for Silver Points

Almost Bridge Heaven!!!

Saving "U" a Seat!!

### WHAT'S THE ROLE OF THE PBA?

#### PART 3, SECTIONALS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

Our Unit runs the Sectional Tournaments in the Spring, Summer and Fall. Special Events are also run by our Unit. The Pittsburgh Regional is under the control of District 5.

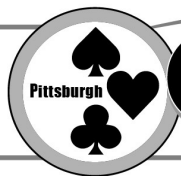
Thanks to Carol Shanahan we will have our **Summer Sectional from July 7-9**. We are in desperate need of leaders to coordinate the Sectionals. Grab a friend and offer to take charge! We have Committees who take care of the bulk of the work. If we don't have a leader, we cannot hold the Sectionals. Let someone on the Board or one of the Sectional volunteers know you're willing to volunteer. Past leaders are more than willing to offer their expertise.

We need you to pitch in and help!

**StaC'n Snack Night** is our Special Event hosted by Ruthie Neafach. The date, Thursday evening, **June 15, PotLuck @ 6:00**. See home page of our website for more info.

**Pro-Am** The Pro-Am is back! Mark your calendar for this popular event on **October 12**. Patty Wynn and Kathryn Rector are the Chairs. More info to follow. In the meantime, enjoy the summer.

*Editors note: What's the Role of the PBA? Is a new monthly column by past PBA president, Lorraine Hanna, if you would like Lorraine to address a specific question [please email her.](#)*



# City of Bridge(s)

## CLUB NEWS

### GLENSHAW

SATURDAYS ARE UNIT GAMES!

Game Starts 11:00

Glenshaw Valley Presbyterian Church  
1520 Butler Plank Road, Glenshaw

Director - Gus Costanzo

### StaC Week

June 12 - 17

Silver and Gold Points

*Contact clubs for details.*

### EDGEWORTH BRIDGE CLUB

WEDNESDAYS AT 12:15

StaC Game, June 14th

Silver and Gold Points

StaC Game will be Directed by Gus

Summer Location:

Allegheny Country Club

250 Country Club Road

Sewickley

### NON LIFE-MASTERS GAME

SOUTH HILLS, BETH EL

Tuesdays at Noon

Director, Darlene Mannheimer, 412-913-5944

## CLUB NEWS

All Club Managers and Directors are encouraged to send news and pictures, this is Your Page! [Email Link](#)

### RODEF SHALOM

We had 6 full tables for our June 1st Charity game supporting the

[Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank](#) and  
[JFCS Squirrel Hill Food Pantry!](#)

Congrats to Asim Ulke and Richard Katz on their 70.37% game!

Every first Monday and Thursday of the month (when not blocked by the ACBL) will be Club Charity games. Charity games that support our local food banks or other local charities are \$9/player.

### StaC Week, June 15

Karl will not be able to play with you if you come without a partner. Please find a partner and come for the **Silver and Gold Points!**

The next Thursday game with 7 or more tables will be UPGRADED TO A CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP GAME.





## NEW TO DUPLICATE

### FROM THE DIRECTOR

On the topic of Claims...

#### LAW 68 - Claim or Concession of Tricks

For a statement or action to constitute a claim or concession of tricks under these Laws, it must refer to tricks other than one currently in progress. If the statement or action pertains only to the winning or losing of an uncompleted trick currently in progress, play proceeds regularly; cards exposed or revealed by a defender do not become penalty cards, but Laws 16 and 57A may apply.

##### A. Claim Defined

Any statement by declarer or a defender to the effect that a side will win a specific number of tricks is a claim of those tricks. A player also claims when he suggests that play be curtailed, or when he shows his cards (unless he demonstrably did not intend to claim - for example, if declarer faces his cards after an opening lead out of turn, Law 54, not this Law, will apply).

##### B. Concession Defined

*Intentionally omitted*

##### C. Clarification Required

A claim should be accompanied at once by a clear statement of the line of play or defense through which the claimer proposes to win the tricks claimed, including the order in which the cards will be played. The player making the claim or concession faces his hand.

##### D. Suspension of Play

After any claim or concession, play is suspended.

1. If the claim or concession is agreed, Law 69 applies.

2. If it is doubted by any player (dummy included); either

(a) the Director may immediately be summoned and no action should be taken pending his arrival, Law 70 applies; or

(b) upon the request of the non-claiming or non-conceding side, play may continue subject to the following:

### DEAR DUMMY

Please feel free share your experiences, ask questions, no matter how silly you think they may be, let us know what is on your mind. You may remain anonymous. [Email Here](#)

Dear Dummy,

Why, When, How...do I claim? What do I do if opponent claims and I disagree??

Claim, Claim, everywhere a Claim!

Dear Claim, Claim, Everywhere a Claim,

Excellent question! I'll give you the brief answers while "Directing" you to more detailed information.

WHY - The primary purpose is to speed to game along.

WHEN - As soon as you are CERTAIN you have all the remaining tricks.

HOW:

#### Clarification Required

When claiming, show your cards and immediately explain **IN DETAIL** how you intend to play the remaining cards. Law 68, C.

#### Either Opponent Objects

Best course of action is to **CALL THE DIRECTOR IMMEDIATELY**, do not touch cards or discuss further until the director has arrived. Law 68, D., 2., (a)

If all 4 players agree to play the hand out they may. (Not advised) Law 68, D., 2., (b)

(i) all four players must concur; otherwise the Director is summoned, who then proceeds as in above.

(ii) the prior claim or concession is void and not subject to adjudication.

#### LAW 69 - Agreed Claim or Concession

##### A. Establishment of Agreement

Agreement is established when a side assents to an opponent's claim or concession, and raises no objection to it before making a call on a subsequent board or before the round ends, whichever occurs first. The board is scored as though the tricks claimed or conceded had been won or lost in play.

##### B. Withdrawal of Established Agreement

Agreement with a claim or concession (see A) may be withdrawn within the Correction Period established under Law 79C:

1. if a player agreed to the loss of a trick his side had, in fact, won; or

2. if a player has agreed to the loss of a trick that his side would likely have won had the

play continued. The board is rescored with such trick awarded to his side.

#### LAW 70 - Contested Claim or Concession

##### A. General Objective

In ruling on a contested claim or concession, the Director adjudicates the result of the board as equitably as possible to both sides, but **any doubtful point as to a claim shall be resolved against the claimer**. The Director proceeds as follows.

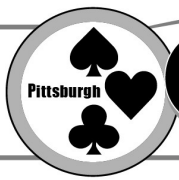
##### B. Clarification Statement Repeated

1. The Director requires claimer to repeat the clarification statement he made at the time of his claim.

2. Next, the Director hears the opponents' objections to the claim (but the Director's considerations are not limited only to the opponents' objections). 3. The Director may require players to put their remaining cards face up on the table.

3. The Director may require players to put their remaining cards face up on the table.





# City of Bridge(s)



*Please join us for a picnic*

## CELEBRATION OF LIFE

*in honor of*

*Sylvia Shaw*

Sunday, June 25, 2023

Noon to 4:00 PM

Canonsburg Park Yoney Pavilion

*Yoney Drive (on the map)  
Park Drive Ext (on the road sign)  
Canonsburg, PA 15317*

Lunch will be served.  
Music from 1:00 to 3:00

*RSVP to Sylvia's Family  
CelebrateSylviaShaw@gmail.com  
or 724-338-8245*



# City of Bridge(s)

## Lost and Hope to Be Found

If you have seen either of the two Unit Coolers

Please contact Ron Franck, 412.913.1505

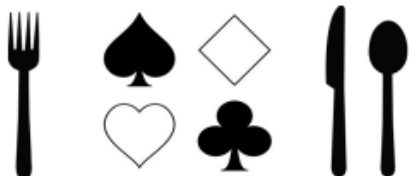


## AWARDS NIGHT! & STAC'N'SNACK!

*STaC Games All Week,  
Plus an Awards Night Party!*

**Thursday June 15**

*Get Your  
Munch ON!*



*Don't Pass ...  
Have 2nds!*

**@ Glenshaw Valley Presbyterian**

**Game time 7:00, Pot Luck @ 6:00**

*Those bringing big dishes, please arrive so all can sample!*

**Come Celebrate the Winners, Workers, and  
Ambassadors of the game!**

**We'll have a main course, but bring your favorite  
dish for all to enjoy! Can't bring a snack? It's OK ...  
Show up and help us to eat all the food!**

**Please Coordinate Snacks with  
Ruthie Neafach @ 412-559-4351  
STaC'n'Snack Entry just \$ 9 pp.**

**A STaC Game is a Sectional Game held at many sites. So  
your performance at your local club is compared with other  
games – for a larger award! Check to make sure your club  
is participating in STaC Week at [www.d5bridge.com](http://www.d5bridge.com)**

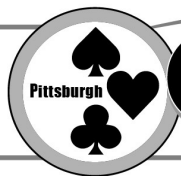
**Stratifications: "A" 2500+ "B" 750-2500 "C" 0-750**

**All Masterpoint Awards are Silver.**

**Stratifications by Average MPs in all STaC Events**

**[www.pittsburghbridge.org](http://www.pittsburghbridge.org)**





# City of Bridge(s)

## Pittsburgh Summer Sectional



American Contract Bridge League

July 7-9, 2023  
Masonic Center North  
3579 Masonic Way  
Pittsburgh, PA 15237

### Hospitality All Sessions!

Partnerships & Team Inquiries:

[Fill out our Partnership Form](#)

Also online at [www.pittsburghbridge.org](http://www.pittsburghbridge.org)

500+ mps Call Sandie Brand  
412-855-9232, or email >

Partners@pittsburghbridge.org

499ers call Darlene Mannheimer  
412-913-5944, or email >

499er@pittsburghbridge.org

Tournament Chair:

Carol Shanahan 412-952-3583

Summer23@pittsburghbridge.org

Director in Charge: Alex Bealles  
Sanction # S2307324

Pairs Entries \$ 15 pp.

Single Session Teams \$ 60/team

Sunday Swiss Teams \$ 120/team

499er Sunday Swiss \$ 110/team

All participants must be current  
or former ACBL members.

1-month membership: \$7.99.

Unpaid & former ACBL members \$4  
additional per session.

#### New Strats!

##### Open

A: 3000+

B: 750-3000

C: 0-750

Stratifications in All  
Events by Avg. MPs

##### 499er

5: 300-500

3: 100-300

1: 0-100

499er Strats at  
Director's Discretion

#### Full Newcomer / NLM Schedule:

Newcomer / 499er Pairs -  
Both Sessions Friday & Saturday  
PLUS Special Swiss on Sunday!

Play ONLY against other Newer Players\*

\* - Attendance Dependent

Contact Darlene for  
Partners & Team-building!



### Friday, July 7

**10:30 AM** Stratified Open Pairs (1 session)  
Stratified 499er Pairs\* (1 session)

**Lunch Included !**

**3:00 PM** Stratified Open Pairs (1 session)  
Stratified 499er Pairs\* (1 session)  
Single Session Swiss Teams

### Saturday, July 8

**10:00 AM** Stratified Open Pairs (1 session)  
Stratified 499er Pairs\* (1 session)  
Compact Handicapped KO Teams\* (1st of 2)

**Lunch Included !**

**2:30 PM** Stratified Open Pairs (1 session)  
Stratified 499er Pairs\* (1 session)  
Compact Handicapped KO Teams\* (2nd of 2)  
Single Session Swiss Teams\*

### Sunday, July 9

**Lunch Included !**

**10:00 AM** Stratified Open Swiss Teams (7 rounds of 7 boards)  
Stratified 499er Swiss Teams\* (6 rounds of 6 boards)  
Separate Play-through Events / 30 point VP scale

[www.pittsburghbridge.org](http://www.pittsburghbridge.org)