



♥♠♦♣ 2010 MABC Labor Day Regional ♥♠♦♣

Atlanta Daily Bulletin

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Welcome to Atlanta

GREETINGS FROM JACK FEAGIN

Welcome to the Atlanta Labor Day Tournament, 2010 Mid-Atlantic Regional. Your Tournament Committee has planned a unique bridge schedule featuring many team events and many different types of pairs games. The Side Series event enables you to play a single session whenever you want. You may play with as many different partners as you like and your two best scores count.

Our premier event is the *Lou Bluhm Memorial Trophy Flighted KO Teams*. Lou Bluhm was one of the top expert players, but it was his personal attributes of ethics and courtesy that won him the 1989 Distinguished Member Award. It is for excellence in bridge, ethics and etiquette that we remember him with this annual event bearing his name.

We have many social events planned for you including Hospitality Suites, Rm. 201 & 801. Your hosts are Jan Word and Dick and Betty Myers. The Hospitality Suites will be open starting Tuesday night. Josie Mitchell has planned a special Novice Party to be held between sessions on Saturday. We are not doing a registration gift this year to spend money extra on other hospitality. For stratum winners, a bridge pin and in the limited master point games a unique glass. For Section tops and team winners we have a special T shirt or a choice of items from previous tournaments. MABC prize certificates are given for 1st place in two-session Regional events.

Beginning Wednesday we have some food each day including several days of ice cream Sundaes plus the Hospitality Suites open each day. The suites will be open after the Tuesday and Wednesday night session at 11 p.m. See later bulletins for other times.

The prize room will be open at 12:30 and 6:45 pm starting Thursday.

Each year we try to make this Atlanta Tournament the best one ever and this year we have, so tell us what you like and don't like about the tournament by putting your suggestions in the suggestion box. We can change it next year. Your Tournament Committee wishes you success. Have a wonderful time and enjoy your visit to Atlanta.

NOTICE

The Policies and Procedures committee of the Mid-Atlantic will be meeting at 5pm in The President's suite. If anyone wishes to attend they must notify Barbara Heller, chair by no later than Wednesday evening.



AILEEN OSOFSKY
1926 - 2010

The ACBL Goodwill Committee this summer became the Aileen Osofsky ACBL Goodwill Committee, a fitting tribute to the longtime chair who died in June at age 83. Aileen, chairwoman for 25 years and overseer of 75 consecutive receptions at North American Championships, was a member of the ACBL Hall of Fame and the embodiment of all things goodwill. She also played a pivotal role in the establishment of the District 7 Goodwill Committee, which has become the leader among all district organizations. She was at the inaugural gathering in July 2005, at the last Atlanta NABC. She subsequently attended and spoke at two other district celebrations — including Greenville last summer — and she presented the Goodwill award and trophies at the inaugural Youth North American Championships in Norcross in 2008 (above photo).



LOUIS BLUHM
1940 - 1990

Lou Bluhm of Atlanta was a bridge professional and an expert at poker and gin rummy. One of the leading American players, he was well-known for his high standard of ethics and deportment. He placed 3rd in the World Mixed Pairs in 1978 and won the Cavendish Invitational Pairs in 1981. He was a Grand Life Master with 13,000 masterpoints. He was the first recipient of the ACBL's Distinguished Player Award (an award that was originated for him). He won the Reisinger in 1972, the Spingold in 1974 and 1977; the Vanderbilt in 1979 and 1989; the Blue Ribbon Pairs and Men's Teams in 1977; the Open Pairs in 1984, and the Life Master Men's Pairs in 1987. He placed 2nd in the Vanderbilt in 1978 and 1986; the Spingold in 1988, the Men's Teams in 1973 and the Grand National Open Teams and the Men's B-A-M Teams in 1983; the Men's B-A-M Teams in 1987.

HONOR YOUR PARTNER

By Mark Horton

Consider your partner to be a friend. Treat your partner well, even (especially) if you are playing together for the first time. Always offer your partner a drink -- tea or coffee is a good starting point. This will lead to a relaxed atmosphere, enabling you both to play your best. By the way, always be a pleasant and courteous opponent.

Tolerate errors. Never go on about partner's mistakes -- just forget about them and move on to the next deal. You may be able to make a constructive comment at the end of the session. Your partner will surely show you the same consideration.

Be encouraging. Always be prepared to support your partner -- "well played" always goes down well and a "thank you" for the dummy does not go amiss. In one of my partnerships, if dummy was exactly what was needed, "mille grazie" would let partner in on the good news!

Keep a straight face. Never make the mistake of pulling a face or raising an eyebrow. Apart from hurting your partner's feelings, being deadpan does not let your opponents know that something may have gone wrong.

Win or lose, always stay calm at the end of the session and thank partner for the game. This is especially important if things have not gone so well. In my most successful international partnership, the first time we played together was absolutely hopeless but we stuck with it.

Coping with disaster: The best way to cope with the inevitable disasters is to laugh them off. This tends to disconcert even the best opponents who are used to seeing their opponents argue.

Conventions: Stick to the ones you both feel comfortable with. A player trying to remember some convention he is not familiar with will make errors in other departments.

I recently played in a tournament in the Netherlands with a strange partner. We would have won but for a couple of expensive mistakes when I forgot a couple of things because we were playing some conventions I was not familiar with.

Who's the boss? In most partnerships, one player tends to be regarded as the boss. If you are the stronger player, go out of your way to make life easy for your partner: make easy-to-understand bids, leads and signals. Don't land your partner in a tough contract -- well, not on purpose.

Have fun! You are both out to enjoy yourselves. If your partner leaves the table feeling happy, you have done your job. Of course you want to win but that objective should not mean spoiling the game for your partner or the opponents.

Mark Horton is an English bridge journalist who discussed "How to be a good partner" at a World Junior Bridge Camp in the Czech Republic

CONDITIONS OF CONTEST AND POLICIES OF THE MABC

Entry Fees

The entry fee is \$10 per player per session for all events.

Youth Discounts and 0–20 Discounts

The MABC offers a \$5 discount on each full session at each Regional for contestants ages 21 and under or a full time student under 25. A \$10 discount is offered for an Intermediate or Novice pair game entry when each player has 20 or fewer masterpoints. Inform the director when purchasing the entry.

Youth Bridge

A special game for Junior Bridge players will be Saturday at 10 am and the entry will be free.

Knockouts

Knockouts are bracketed based on the average masterpoint holdings of all team members. To receive an overall award, a player must play at least half of the boards his team plays, including half of the boards played in the (combined) semifinal and final matches. He receives only the award earned in the last match of which he has played at least half that his team won.

Example: a player plays in the first match, sits out the second which the team wins (earning 3rd/4th overall) and then plays again in the third match, which the team loses. This player has earned only a match award from the first match. The rest of the team receives the points for 3rd/4th overall.

Compact KO teams must be composed of exactly four players. Any Knockout event which is advertised as *Bracketed* but only draws enough teams for a single bracket shall be run as a *Handicapped Event*.

Bracketed Knockouts

Brackets are drawn based on the total masterpoints of all members of the team divided by the number of members. The team captain will enter by submitting a registration form on which he has completed the number of players and the total masterpoints. A player with non-ACBL masterpoints is obligated to declare them at the time of entry, and the director will look up the conversion rate before assigning a bracket for the team. Once the brackets have been drawn, it is too late to enter or withdraw a team.

Compact Bracketed Knockouts are limited to exactly four members.

The Side Series Games

The Side Series will be held as three separate events. The Morning Pairs (Wed through Sun) and the Olympic Pairs (Wed through Fri) and the Peachtree Pairs (Sat through Mon) being afternoon and evening events. You may play in as many sessions as you like and with different partners. Your best two individual sessions (not necessarily consecutive sessions) will be the ones counted for placing in the overalls.

Conventions

Mid-chart conventions are approved for use at this tournament in Flight A/X pairs or teams, or in bracketed KO events where the lowest team in the bracket has an average of at least 1000 MP per player. There are no more "Yellow Books". If you play mid-chart conventions requiring suggested defenses, please see the instructions for downloading, printing and carrying them with you. For other events or brackets, the ACBL General Convention Chart applies, except that all constructive defenses to the opponents' NT openings are always permitted. Players who by agreement lead low from a small doubleton(xx) must pre-alert the opponents at the start of the round.

Bidding Boxes

MABC policy is that bidding boxes are used in all events. All players must use them unless they have a sight problem or other physical handicap. Explanatory cards are available in the tournament's office for players who are unable to use bidding boxes.

Tournament Recorder

The recorder for this tournament is Chris Moll. Recorder forms may be picked up from, and returned to, any director, or in the tournament's office, the Dogwood Room.

Non-ACBL Masterpoints

Players with non-ACBL masterpoints or non-members who have earned ACBL masterpoints must declare them at the time of entry, so they are placed in the correct flight, strata, or bracket based on the appropriate conversion factor. Failure to do so may result in disqualification and forfeiture of any masterpoints earned.

Pets

Pets are not permitted in the playing area.

Checks and Check-cashing

Checks may be cashed at any entry sale. Third party checks will not be cashed. There is a limit of \$500 per player per day.

OR OPERABLE IN THE PLAYING AREA DURING A SESSION OF PLAY. IF YOU ARE EXPECTING ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY—PLEASE BE NICE!

For tournaments to be fun, cooperation from all (players, organizers, officials, staff, volunteers) is necessary. To establish an atmosphere, which promotes the enjoyment of bridge as both a competitive and a social game, the MABC has adopted the ACBL's policy of courteous behavior.

Please report conduct that is unacceptable by calling the director immediately, keeping in mind that we must be tolerant of other people in general and bridge players in particular. Also, please report especially outstanding or refreshing conduct on a player memo form (available from any director or on the information table).

Commendable

- Being a good "host" or "guest" at the table.
- Greeting others in a friendly manner.
- Praising the bidding and/or play of the opponents.

Unacceptable

- Badgering, rudeness, insinuations, intimidation, profanity, threats, or violence.
- Negative comments concerning opponents' or partner's play or bidding
- Gloating over good results
- Constant and gratuitous lessons and analyses at the table.
- Loud and disruptive arguing with a tournament director
- Ringing cell phones
- Slow play

Courteous behavior brings out the best in everyone. Please consider the manner in which you have been behaving. Try to eliminate those mannerisms and behaviors which may cause others to be uncomfortable, and increase those which make you a person others wish to be around. We all have in common a love of bridge. We should focus on our similarities, increase our tolerance of one another, and always behave civilly toward other players.

With such policy, our intent is to create an environment in which it is never necessary to issue a penalty. However, the publicity surrounding this new program constitutes your only warning. Serious breaches of good behavior will be penalized at their first occurrence.

Disciplinary penalties are not subject to appeal.



WHERE TO BUY AN ENTRY:

All Pairs entry sales will be in the foyer outside the Ravinia and Dunwoody Ballrooms.

Please write legibly on your entry and include partnership player numbers and first and last names.

PLAYING AREAS AND LOCATIONS

Where to play and section locations:

A—M	Ravinia Ballroom	9:30, 1:30, 5:15, 7:30 & 11:15 KOs, All 9:30 Pair games, 1:30 Open Pairs & Side Games, 7:30 Side games, BAM Teams
N—R	Dunwoody Room	1:30 & 7:30 I/N Events including 750/300 games, 10:30 & 3:00 Friday 750/300 game, Sat AM Juniors
S—Z	Back Hall Meeting Rooms (Oakwood, Maplewood, Gardenia, Camellia & Azalea)	Most 10:30 & 3:00 Play



CELL PHONES, AUDIBLE PAGERS OR ANY SIMILAR COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT MAY NOT BE OPERATED

EVENT NOTICES

1. All MABC tournaments support and enforce "Zero Tolerance".
2. Single-session pairs or players are always accommodated.
3. Open stratified events are 0–750, 750–2000 and 2000+.
4. StrataFlighted events are A = 5,000+, A/X = 0–5,000 and B/C/D are 1,000–2,000/500–1,000/0–500, respectively.
5. I/N games are stratified at director's discretion.
6. Trophy Pairs are best cumulative percentage of two sessions, except 0–5 which are single session.
7. Two chances to win I/N games are with computer assigned teammates for board-a-match scoring.
8. All bracketed knockout events are random draw EACH round.
9. All bracketed and compact knockouts includes brackets for 0–300 players when possible.
10. Monday's Strataflighted Open Swiss Team Events are play-through events of 7 matches with one 30 minute break for lunch.

PARTNERSHIPS

The partnership desk is open one hour before the start of the regionally rated events. Carey Snider and Sara Meldin are again the Chairpersons this year. E-mail: carey-bridge@bellsouth

REGISTRATION

There is NO REGISTRATION OR REGISTRATION GIFT this year. We are using that money to provide you more food, beverages and hospitality.

PRIZES & TROPHIES

The Prize Room will be open at 12:30 and 6:30 pm, beginning Thursday or by appointment with Claudia Feagin. The Prize Room is located in the Ashford Room.

Section Tops Winners: Your choice of our special tee-shirt or other select items.

Strata Winners: If you win your Stratum (B, C) but not the section (A) you win a specially designed bridge pin.

Limited masterpoints games winners: a specially designed glass.

HOSPITALITY SUITES

Rooms 201 & 801. Your hosts are Jan Word(801) and Dick and Betty Myers(201). The Hospitality Suites will be open beginning Tuesday night, after the evening session.

INTERMEDIATE/NEWCOMER

For information and help please see Josie Mitchell. Josie will also host a special Novice party Sunday between sessions. There will be guest speakers 45 minutes prior to every afternoon and evening session.

TELL US ALL ABOUT IT!

New LMs, interesting hands or stories, or information to share? Tell Mike Jinks, Scott Stearns, or one of our fine directors and we'll see that it gets put in the appropriate place.

PARKING GUIDELINES

The hotel has over 400 complimentary self-parking spaces and offers valet parking for a fee. If the self-parking is full, you may park along Ravinia Drive; however, you must park in the opposite direction of traffic flow. Prior to 2pm, you must park on the outgoing lanes. At 2 pm, you must move your car to the incoming lanes. Cars which park in the traffic lanes WILL BE TOWED by the property management company. Also, if you choose to park at Perimeter Mall, park close to customer parking, i.e. near the mall, and not in the restricted area closest to the hotel. **YOU WILL BE TOWED**, if you do. Ask the valet personnel or bellmen at the hotel to guide you.

SHUTTLE/TRANSPORTATION

A shuttle will be available during the tournament for transport in and around the area. It is available around the clock except on Sunday until midnight. The hotel maintains limousine service for trips within 3 miles of the hotel on a first come, first serve basis. See the concierge for details.

Using Bidding Boxes

The use of bid boxes at clubs and tournaments has become pretty standard, but if you're new to duplicate, bid boxes may also be new to you.

Here are some tips to make your first encounters pleasant:

Decide on your call before you touch a bid card. Don't think with your fingers—decide whether you're going to bid 2♠ or 3♠ before you reach for that bid card.

Look at the bid card before pulling it completely out of the box. You'd find it hard to convince a director that you inadvertently pulled the "pass" card when you meant to bid 6♥.

Display your bid cards neatly left to right in front of you. If all four players do this, a complete record of the auction is displayed.

Conclude the auction properly by placing your "pass" card on the table.

Even when the auction has concluded, don't rush to gather up your bid cards and place them back in the box. Many players find it helpful to let all bid cards remain on the table until North has recorded the final contract and the opening lead has been made.

This is a non-smoking tournament

Smoke only outside the hotel. Do not smoke in the back hall adjacent to the playing areas. Smoking in a non-smoking area, i.e., public areas of the hotel, may subject the offender to disciplinary action. Thank you for your cooperation. Two smoking/hospitality breaks will be offered during each session. This is the LAW in De Kalb County, GA. We have no choice but to comply.



FROM THE MID-ATLANTIC BRIDGE CONFERENCE

If it's Labor Day week, it must be **Atlanta**. Welcome once again to a regional that perennially is one of the top half-dozen draws in all of North America.

Almost all of you have been here, so you know why: A smorgasbord of events rarely seen outside of Gatlinburg, plus gold-point games every day at 10 and 3:30 to supplement the "prime time" schedule.

Under the guidance of 30-year tournament chair Jack Feagin, this truly is a tournament put on by the players and for the players. Mark your calendar for next year, but before then, plan your fall and winter around these other outstanding Mid-Atlantic regionals:

Columbia, SC — Oct. 18-24, Radisson Hotel & Conference Center (8J0 j8J1-Kalb

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Tournament Schedule

TUESDAY, AUGUST 31 ST	
Time	Event
1:30 pm	Educational Foundation Open Pairs Educational Foundation Swiss Teams Educational Foundation 5/20/50 & 100/200/300 Pairs
7:30 pm	Lou Bluhm Memorial Trophy KOs <i>Flt A: Unlimited and Seeded</i> <i>Flt B: Bracketed, 0-5000 MPs</i> <i>Continues 9:30am, 1:30 & 7:30 pm Wednesday</i> Charity Stratified Pairs 5/20/50 & 100/200/300 Charity Pairs
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1 ST	
9:30 am	Falcon Compact Kos (1 of 2) <i>12-bd match; continues 9:30 am Thur</i> Morning Pairs Side Series (1st of 5) Early Bird 50/100/300 Pairs
10:30 am & 3 pm	★ DAYTIME Bracketed Compact KOs <i>Two 12-bd matches each session</i>
1:30 & 7:30 pm	Thrashers Bracketed KOs <i>Continues 1:30 & 7:30 pm Thursday</i> Open Pairs (0-2000, 2000+) Charles Goren Gold Point Pairs (0-300, 300-750)
1:30/7:30 pm	0-5 Trophy Pairs <i>Two single sessions</i> Olympic Pairs Side Series (1st & 2nd of 6) 20/50 & 100/200/300 Pairs
3:00 pm	Stratified Swiss Teams
7:30 pm	Stratified Board-a-Match Teams 50/100/300 Swiss Teams
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2 ND	
9:30 am	Hawks Bracketed KOs (1 of 3) <i>Continues at 9:30 am Fri & Sat</i> <i>Maximum 8 teams per bracket</i> Morning Pairs Side Series (2nd of 5) Early Bird 50/100/300 Pairs
10:30 am & 3 pm	★ DAYTIME Stratified Swiss Teams
1:30 & 7:30 pm	Braves Bracketed KOs <i>Continues 1:30 & 7:30 pm Friday</i> Open Pairs (0-2000, 2000+) Oswald Jacoby GOLD POINT Pairs (0-300, 300-750)
1:30/7:30 pm	Olympic Pairs Side Series (3rd & 4th of 6) 5/20/50 and 100/200/300 Pairs
7:30 pm	Stratified Board-a-Match Teams 50/100/300 Swiss Teams
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 3 RD	
9:30 am	Bulldog Compact Kos (1 of 2) <i>12-board match; continues 9:30 am Sat</i> Morning Pairs Side Series (3rd of 5) Early Bird 50/100/300 Pairs
10:30 am & 3 pm	★ DAYTIME Pairs (0-2000, 2000+) ★ DAYTIME Sally Young GOLD POINT Pairs (0-300, 300-750)
1:30 & 7:30 pm	Morrill Hall KOs <i>Continues 1:30 & 7:30 pm Saturday</i> Stratified Open Pairs
1:30/7:30 pm	Olympic Pairs Side Series (5th & 6th of 6) 5/20/50 & 100/200/300 Pairs
7:30 pm	Stratified Board-a-Match Teams 0-300 Bracketed Pairs <i>With computer-assigned BAM teammates.</i> <i>One entry, two chances to win!</i>

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 4 TH	
9:30 am	Yellow Jackets Compact KOs <i>Two 12-board matches; continues 9:30 am Sun</i> Morning Pairs Side Series (4th of 5) Early Bird 50/100/300 Pairs
10 am	Youth Bridge Pairs <i>Limited to ages 19 and under</i>
10:30 am & 3 pm	★ DAYTIME Bracketed Compact KOs <i>Two 12-board matches per session</i>
1:30 & 7:30 pm	Dickie Freeman KOs <i>Continues 1:30 & 7:30 pm Sunday</i> Open Pairs (0-2000, 2000+) Alfred Sheinwold Gold Point Pairs (0-300, 300-750)
1:30/7:30 pm	Peachtree Pairs Side Series (1st & 2nd of 6) 5/20/50 and 100/200/300 Pairs
3:00 pm	Stratified Swiss Teams
7:30 pm	Stratified Board-a-Match Teams 50/100/300 Swiss Teams
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 5 TH	
9:30 am	Stratified Swiss Teams (one session) Morning Pairs Side Series (5th of 5) Early Bird 50/100/300 Pairs
10:30 am & 3 pm	★ DAYTIME Open Swiss Teams (0-2000, 2000+) Richard Goldberg Gold Point Swiss Teams (0-300, 300-750)
1:30 & 7:30 pm	Barb Borah KOs <i>Continues 10:00 am & 2:00pm Monday</i> Open Pairs (0-2000, 2000+)
1:30/7:30 pm	Peachtree Pairs Side Series (3rd & 4th of 6) 5/20/50 & 100/200/300 Pairs
7:30 pm	Stratified Board-a-Match Teams 50/100/300 Swiss Teams
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 6 TH	
10 & TBA	StrataFlighted Open Swiss Teams <i>A/X = 5000+, 0-5000</i> <i>B/C/D = 1000-2000, 500-1000, 0-500</i> <i>Play-through w/ 30 minute break</i>
10 am/2 pm	Peachtree Pairs Side Series (5th & 6th of 6) 50/100/300 single-session Swiss Teams 50/100/300 single-session Pairs



RESTAURANT SPECIALS: SHOW YOUR SCORECARD

20% off—

Boneheads (4511 Olde Perimeter Way, 770-206-4800) grilled fish and piri piri chicken

Macaroni Grill (4788 Ashford Dunwoody, 770-394-6676)

Shane's Rib Shack (123 Perimeter Ctr W Ste 400, 770-399-9010)

Twisted Taco (Perimeter/Park Place 770-399-0991)

10% off

Nancy G's cafe and neighborhood bistro (4920 Roswell Rd. 404-705-8444)

Other

California Pizza is giving everyone on Wednesday a Thank-You cards that could be good for discounts of 10 to 50 % or prizes but they must be open at the restaurant

Macaroni Grill discount coupons can be found in the foyer area.

More to come! Check back later.

Several restaurants have agreed to give us door prizes and we expect several more will donate before the week is over. So far we have gift certificates from: Carrabba's, Nancy G's Cafe and Neighborhood Bistro, Macaroni Grill, Boneheads, Twisted Taco, and Shane's Rib Shack.

Boldface denotes regional events