



Daily ATLANTA Bulletin

I Do Declare!

North American Bridge Championships

SUMMER 2018

90th North American Bridge Championships

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Top seeds plow forward in Spingold

The top 10 seeds in the round of 64 in the Spingold Knockout Teams had little difficulty advancing, many by lopsided margins, although many of the mid-range seeds were not so lucky.

No. 11 George Mittelman survived a challenge from the team captained by local Kevin Collins, the No. 54 seed, but Mittelman held on to win 115-111. The Francophone team led by Paul Street (No. 15), however, could not handle the challenge presented by the No. 50 seed, the Indonesian Super Mixed squad (so named because the team is composed of men's pairs and women's pairs), falling 144-115.

The Indonesian Men's team (No. 39), also took out a higher-seeded team, the No. 26 squad led by Kevin Rosenberg. Indonesia advanced 124-108.

In a battle of multinational squads, the No. 18 seed led by Nick Demirev is on the sidelines after losing to the No. 47 squad (Hyatt, npc).

Paul Lewis captained a strong team this year (Linda Lewis, Mike Passell, Eddie Wold, Marc Jacobus and Mark Itabashi), but the No. 24 seed met their match at the hands of the No. 41 seed led by Mike Rippey of Orinda CA. Rippey was playing with the legendary Benito Garozzo, Poles Woaciecz Strzemecki and Kamil Nowak, and Italians Leonardo Cima and Gandogua Alessandro. Rippey won 137-77.

Mini Spins Enter Second Day

The Mini-Spingold 0-6000 KO teams attracted 36 teams; opening round action reduced the field to 16 tables for today's second round. Eight head-to-head matches will cut the field in half for Thursday.

In the Mini-Spingold 0-2500 Teams, 20 teams played four three-way and four head-to-head matches in yesterday's opener. Like the 6000 contest, eight teams will advance.



Goodwill Message

Remember: It's nice to be important, but it's more important to be nice.

Sandy DeMartino, Chair

Aileen Osofsky ACBL Goodwill Committee

ATTENDANCE
through Tuesday
6666.5 tables

HCL

OFFICIAL PARTNER OF



Barrere takes Senior Swiss crown



Winners of the Truscott/USPC Senior Swiss Teams:
Bruce Noda, Cris Barrere, Bill Harker and Mark Ralph.

A strong final match propelled the squad captain by Cris Barrere into the winner's circle in the Truscott/USPC Senior Swiss Teams. Barrere, of Berkeley CA, played with teammates Bruce Noda of Corte Madera CA, Mark Ralph of San Francisco and Bill Harker of Santa Fe NM. Their four-session total with carryover was 134.27 victory points.

In second with 121.36 was the team of Robert Katz, Robert Cappelli, Robert Bitterman, Jerry Helms, David Caprera and Anne Brenner.

For the winners, this was the first NABC+ title for captain Barrere and Harker. With the victory, Harker, who has more than 15,000 masterpoints, became a Grand Life Master.

For Noda, this is the second time he has won the Senior Swiss – he won in 2004 – and it is his third NABC title. He and Ralph won the Silver Ribbon Pairs in 2014, making this Ralph's second national win.

Schubiner, Wynston win Wagar Women's Pairs

Sondra Schubiner and Linda Wynston, sitting in 11th place after the first final session of the Wagar Women's Pairs, came through with a strong game in the final set to win the event by 3.07 matchpoints on a 25 top.

The winners' 59.69% game was good enough to hold off a hard charge by Sharon Goldman and Justyna Zmuda, who scored 59.31% in the final set to climb from 12th place to the runner-up spot.

Schubiner, of Franklin MI, and Wynston, of Toronto, play regularly. The victory was Schubiner's first North American championship. Wynston has a second in a nationally rated pairs event and two national championships in Canada.

Goldman, of New York City, and Zmuda, a Polish star, were playing together for the second time. They debuted as partners at the Spring NABC in Philadelphia.



Winners of the Wagar Women's Pairs: Sondra Schubiner and Linda Wynston.

Koppel's Kingdom

Over the course of eight short years, Reese Koppel has gone from knowing nothing about bridge to being one of its fiercest advocates.

"Bridge can be here to stay if we help my generation appreciate its essence, and it is my goal to do everything I can to ensure this happens," he says.

This enthusiasm prompted the ACBL Educational Foundation's selection of Koppel as 2018 King of Bridge.

According to Barbara Heller, Ed Foundation president, "Reece received the most votes by the trustees who recognized his dedication to spreading the bridge bug by teaching bridge at a local retirement home and several local schools. Reece is also a teacher/counselor at residential summer bridge camps in Illinois and Michigan, which the Educational Foundation proudly supports with grants."

The 18-year-old from Metairie LA was turned onto bridge by "The Cardturner," Louis Sachar's

fictional story about a teenager who, "forced" to drive his great-uncle to the local bridge club four times a week and serve as the blind man's cardturner, develops his own interest in the game.

Reese's grandmother mailed him his first Audrey Grant "Bridge at a Glance" pamphlet when he was 10. With



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Wernher Open Pairs begins today



2017 Wernher Open Pairs winners Joel Wooldridge and John Hurd.

The Wernher Open Pairs – formerly the National Men’s Pairs (1934–1991) and Open Pairs II (1992–2002) – is a four-session event consisting of two qualifying sessions and two final sessions.



The event was contested at the Summer NABC until 1962. It moved to the Spring NABC in 1963 where it remained for 40 years. In 2004, the Wernher Open Pairs returned to the Summer NABC lineup.

The trophy was donated in 1934 by Sir Derrick J. Wernher. Wernher (1889–1947) was a resident of London, England and Deal NJ. A leading personality in American bridge in the ’30s, Wernher was president of the American Bridge League in 1933, chairman of its Master Plan committee and a member of the board of directors of the American Whist League.

Wernher placed second in the Asbury Challenge Teams (now the Spingold Knockout Teams) in 1936 and won the Reisinger (played in conjunction with the New York regional) in 1930.

Winners:

National Men’s Pairs

- 1934 David Burnstine, Oswald Jacoby
- 1935 Edward Cook, Fred French
- 1936 Richard Ecker, Fred Kaplan
- 1937 Edward Cook, John Kunkle
- 1938 B. Jay Becker, Charles Goren
- 1939 John Crawford, Oswald Jacoby
- 1940 Merwyn Maier, Robert McPherran
- 1941 Joseph Low, Simon Rossant
- 1942 Robert von Engel, Aaron Goodman
- 1943 Charles Goren, Charles Solomon
- 1944 Sigmund Dornbusch, Herman Goldberg
- 1945 Sylvester Gintell, Lee Hazen
- 1946 Mitchell Barnes, Waldemar von Zedtwitz
- 1947 Sol Mogal, Tobias Stone
- 1948 Fred Hirsch, Samuel Katz
- 1949 Charles Goren, Oswald Jacoby
- 1950 Phillip Briggs, Richard Revell
- 1951 Milton Ellenby, Emanuel Hochfield
- 1952 Arthur Grau, William Rosen
- 1953 Harold Harkavy, Bill Root
- 1954 Douglas Drury, Eric Murray
- 1955 Douglas Drury, Eric Murray
- 1956 Paul Allinger, James Jacoby
- 1957 David Carter, John Hubbell
- 1958 William Grieve, Ira Rubin

This event was held at the Summer North American Championships until 1963. A similar event was held at the Spring NABCs 1958-1962 with these winners:

- 1958 Norman Kay, Sidney Silodor
- 1959 James Pestaner, John Swanson
- 1960 Frank Hoadley, Julius Rosenblum
- 1961 Morton Rubinow, Tobias Stone
- 1962 Ivan Erdos, Philip Feldesman
- 1959 Harry Fishbein, John Gerber
- 1960 Jack Blair, William Christian
- 1961 Philip Feldesman, Ira Rubin
- 1962 Philip Feldesman, Ira Rubin
- 1963 Sami Kehela, Wolf Lebovic
- 1964 Ed Don Weiner, G. Gard Hays
- 1965 Lawrence Rosler, Jeff Rubens
- 1966 Barry Crane, Peter Rank
- 1967 Richard Lawrence, Art Price
- 1968 Kyle Larsen, Edmond Lazarus
- 1969 Michael Martino, Frank Vine
- 1970 Richard Kaye, Richard Walsh
- 1971 Giorgio Belladonna, Benito Garozzo
- 1972 Steve Robinson, Kit Woolsey
- 1973 Jack Kennedy, David Hadden
- 1974 George Slemmons, George Steiner
- 1975 Harlow Lewis, Art Waldemann
- 1976 Gerald Caravelli, Larry Cohen
- 1977 Joseph Fox, Garey Hayden
- 1978 Larry Kozlove, John Sheridan
- 1979 Roy Fox, Paul Swanson
- 1980 Neil Silverman, Peter Weichsel
- 1981 Warren Rosner, Allan Stauber
- 1982 David Berkowitz, Harold Lilie
- 1983 Marty Bergen, Allan Stauber
- 1984 Mike Lawrence, Peter Weichsel
- 1985 Ed Manfield, Kit Woolsey
- 1986 Bob Hamman, Paul Swanson
- 1987 Darryl Pedersen, George Steiner
- 1988 Arthur Hoffman, Stephen Shane
- 1989 Mike Moss, Charles Coon
- 1990 Steve Sion, Steve Landen
- 1991 Ken Cohen, Bob Thomas
- Open Pairs II**
- 1992 Jeff Meckstroth, Perry Johnson
- 1993 Gaylor Kastle, Robert Levin
- 1994 Thomas Peters, John Zilic
- 1995 Steve Weinstein, Fred Stewart
- 1996 David Berkowitz, Larry Cohen
- 1997 Lloyd Arvedon, Allan Falk
- 1998 Mike Moss, Bjorn Fallenius
- 1999 Jeff Meckstroth, Eric Rodwell
- 2000 Stephen Landen, Pratap Rajadhyaksha
- 2001 Chris Willenken, Ron Smith
- 2002 Curtis Cheek, Eric Greco
- Wernher Open Pairs**
- 2003 Geoff Hampson, Eric Greco
- 2004 Fulvio Fantoni, Claudio Nunes
- 2005 Nagy Kamel, Nader Hanna
- 2006 Jianrong Lin, Julie Zhu
- 2007 Joan Jackson, Petra Hamman
- 2008 K.R. Venkataraman, Sunit Chokshi
- 2009 Nikolay Demirev, Nicolas L’Ecuyer
- 2010 Beatrice Kemp, Richard Burton
- 2011 Meyer Kotkin, Howard Cohen
- 2012 Robert Lebi, David Lindop
- 2013 Lynne Rosenbaum, Valentin Kovachev
- 2014 Marc Nathan, Jose Robles
- 2015 Ai-Tai Lo, William Pettis
- 2016 Frederic Pollack, Kamel Fergani
- 2017 Joel Wooldridge, John Hurd

King of Bridge

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guide in hand, he jumped onto Bridge Base Online. “Many Turkish experts hurled Turkish profanity at me on BBO as I confidently bid with just the pamphlet at my side and without a clue as to what I was doing. I began to catch on by seeing what generated the least profanities.”

After nine months online, Reese discovered the Louisiana Bridge Association. He kibitzed John Onstott the first time he went to the bridge center. “One of the few things that I remember about that day was Onstott heatedly debating with his partner about whether a 4♦ bid was a splinter or not. I remember telling my father later that not only did I not have a clue what a splinter bid was, but I probably would never know. Little did I know I would be using splinter bids a few years later at a Youth NABC!”

Reese found that everyone at the club had advice for him.

“As my one hundred new grandmas welcomed me, I loved them back. I began to appreciate their enthusiasm, intelligence, competitiveness, humor and patience. I honestly think that I enjoy the lessons, stories and social skills they’ve taught me more than any masterpoints.”

Reese sees how bridge has contributed to every aspect of his life. He believes that he learned to carry himself with confidence in interviews and received an offer of admission from his top-choice college: He enrolls at Yale University in the fall, where he plans to study statistics and data science, “which bridge furthered and improved.”

He says, “I’ve learned to struggle through adversity and I have gained knowledge and perspective, but the true reason I love bridge is how I approach life like a bridge player. When life goes tough and the cards don’t split in your favor, you have to adapt and try another line of play.”

Koppel is taking and giving back to the game in equal measure. He tells of his work as a bridge counselor and chaperone of three energetic 11-year-olds at the Youth Bridge Camp in Carlinville IL.

Because of Reese’s enthusiasm and lightheartedness, he was hand-picked by a senior counselor to mentor one homesick boy named Caleb.

Caleb begged Reese to help him earn his first masterpoints. After their game, Caleb eagerly sprinted across the room to Reese to inform him that they had picked up a sliver of a masterpoint, and gave him a big bear hug.

Reese says, “Seven weeks later, at the Youth North American Bridge Championships in Toronto, Caleb and Justin (another one of our bunkmates) excitedly showed me the trophies they won by playing as partners. It was gratifying to see how ecstatic my kids were about their bridge success.”

Reese is an NABC Life Master. He finished second last year in the National Youth Teams at the Youth NABC. He also captained a team which competed in December in the Youth U.S. Bridge Championships, finishing third.

Reese says he practices bidding online with his grandmother, who lives in New York. He also plays with his 98-year-old great-grandfather, who lives in Palm Springs.

“I owe much of the credit for my successes thus far to my fellow members of the Louisiana Bridge Association as well as to the game of bridge as a whole,” Reese says. “And let’s not forget the entire network of friends that bridge has given me though the Youth and Junior events for the ACBL and USBF! I’ve met some of my closest friends through bridge-related activities. And for that, I will be forever thankful and appreciative.”

Heller says the Ed Foundation received a record number of applications this year. “In addition, it was a tight field with many strong contenders.” The annual recognition, which awards \$2000 in scholarship funds, recognizes a graduating high school senior for their playing record and overall participation in the bridge community.

Membership Required

A valid ACBL player number is required to play in all events at the NABC. Along with one-year and three-year memberships, 30-day trial memberships are available to new members for \$7.99. Temporary and regular memberships can be purchased from Tournament Operations on the Lobby Level or the Check-Cashing Desk.

Player Memos

Player memos allow participants to file incident reports alleging inappropriate behavior by other contestants. Two player memo stations have been set up outside the playing areas on the Marquis Level and the Atrium Level for your convenience. Players are encouraged to file Player Memos when appropriate.