



# Hartford Bridge Club

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### July 2022 Newsletter

There are several things most prominently on our minds. First, we hope, if you are reading this, you have made plans to attend the Nationals in Providence. Here is a link the website that shows all of the terrific activities available and planned as well as the schedule of bridge sessions. <https://provnabc.org/en/>

If you have never been to a Nationals, this is a wonderful opportunity since it will be just a short car ride away. We won't have that opportunity again soon. It is a good time to support the game of bridge and also to support the members of the club such as Sally Kirtley and Mike Wavada, and the friends of many of us, such as Lois Deblois and Joe Bouillard, who are all working hard to make the Nationals successful.

The Nationals will be held from Thursday, July 14 to Sunday, July 24, 2022. Friday July 22 will be dedicated to Victor King's memory, a day we particularly hope you can make. The bridge will be played at the Rhode Island Convention Center in Providence, Rhode Island. The Club is providing a Questions & Answers session via Zoom beginning at 5:30 p m. Tuesday, July 5. Look for links to that Zoom session in our newsletters of July 4 and July 5.

Secondly, it is hard to read the ACBL's "Bridge Bulletin" this month and not be concerned with the fate of clubs in the ACBL. Letter after letter to the editor trumpets facts and anecdotes that show why online games are killing clubs. These facts are well known—cheap, convenient round the clock games yielding plenty of masterpoints that don't require leaving your domicile. The anecdotes are of clubs being decimated by online bridge. What is equally disconcerting is the ACBL's response to this dire situation. As we read the message for the Executive Director in this month's Bridge Bulletin, there is much lip service to the notion of the need for the ACBL to support clubs but little meaningful action in the works.

Our club is not immune to the forces that are put many clubs out of business or making them shells of what they formerly were. Next month we will discuss what we are doing and have been doing to weather these existential threats and what you can do to help. These times make it more important than ever to realistically assess the club's circumstances and how to cope with them.

The third item that bears discussing is that Covid is not going away. It has recently afflicted a number of our members. This is the other plague affecting live bridge in addition to online bridge. We are trying to cope with Covid as best we can while trying to keep the club available for those dedicated players who want to continue to play live bridge at this time. We are hopeful that the Covid situation in our community will ameliorate in the next several weeks and that after the Nationals we will be able to return to the table count we have enjoyed for the past several months.

We almost invariably try to be upbeat in our messages with good reason—we have a loyal community of bridge players who are very supportive of the club and we want to reciprocate that support. So we want to end on an upbeat note—the club collected nearly \$1300 to be given to the Alzheimer's Association. The generosity of our members remains a true gift to the club. It is that generosity and loyalty that makes us ever optimistic about the club's future.

This month we again recognize those who have done well at the club's bridge tables. We list those who have achieved 70% games or where "C" strat players have placed first overall or first in their section in games with six or more tables. Kudos to all of them. The list of honorees appears at the end of the newsletter.

Stay safe and healthy,

Donna and Felix

### **Strat "C" Winners in Open Games- Section Top**

6/16-Lori Leopold-Yun Chung Hsu-57.66%

### **Strat "C" Winners in Limited Masterpoint Games-Section Tops**

6/22-Pawan Aggarwal-Manju Aggarwal-60.19%

6/23-Allison Peat-Mark Ludwig-61.11%

6/27-Judy Siegel-Ed Siegel-63.99%

### **70% Games**

6/14—Tom Archembault-Doug Eitelman—71.41%

6/16—Frank Blachowski-Yeong-Long Shuie-71.70%

6/29—Susan Wavada-John Willoughby-70.20%