

Daily Bulletin

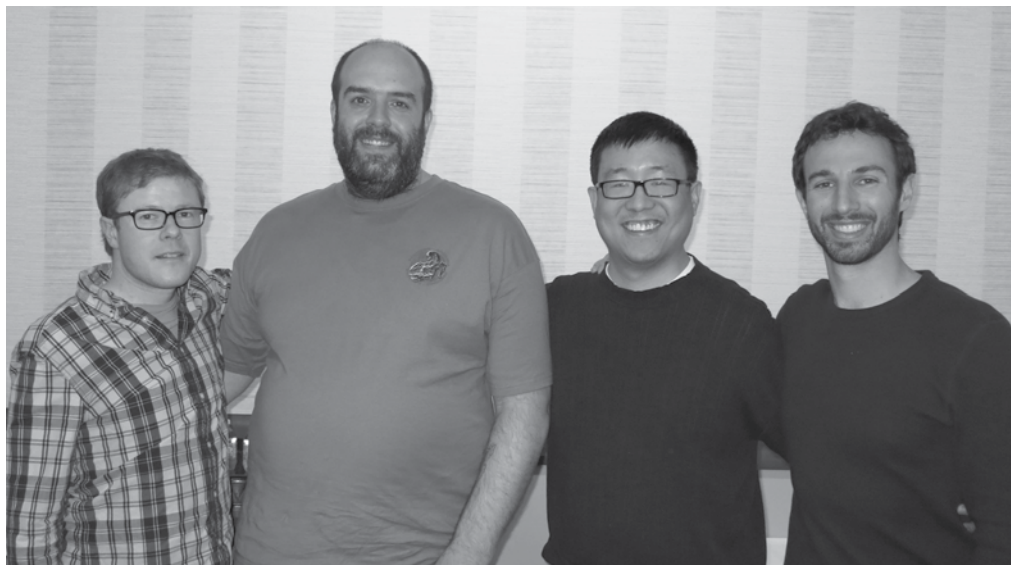
2013 Fall NABC
DESERT GOLD
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86th Fall North American Bridge Championships

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Bridge Winners makes lining up obsolete



The BW squad: Ari Greenberg, Greg Humphreys, Eugene Hung and Jason Feldman. Not pictured: Gavin Wolpert, Steve Weinstein and Polly Siegel.

Bridge Winners, the largest social networking community for bridge players, is branching out. In addition to their own software development and innovation, the talented team of bridge players and software engineers is tackling technological challenges outside the BW sphere that impact players. One such challenge? Streamlining the entry buying process at

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WBF president confident of bright future for bridge

The job of World Bridge Federation president necessarily involves a bit of globe-hopping. Just ask Gianarrigo Rona, current WBF chief.

Rona flew into Phoenix on Friday to make contact with ACBL representatives to the WBF and is heading out today to attend the SportAccord World Mind Games in Beijing, China. After that, it's on to Sanya, Hainan, China, to finalize plans for next year's World Bridge Series, the WBF's biggest and most open championship.

He used the brief visit to Phoenix as an opportunity to invite all ACBL players, especially those at the Fall NABC, to make plans for the tournament, set for Oct. 10-25 in a venue often referred to as the "Oriental Hawaii."

The World Bridge Series starts with Mixed Teams and Mixed Pairs, then Open, Women's and Senior Teams, followed by Open, Women's and Senior Pairs. All events are transnational with no pre-qualification. All players in good standing with their respective national bridge organizations are welcome.

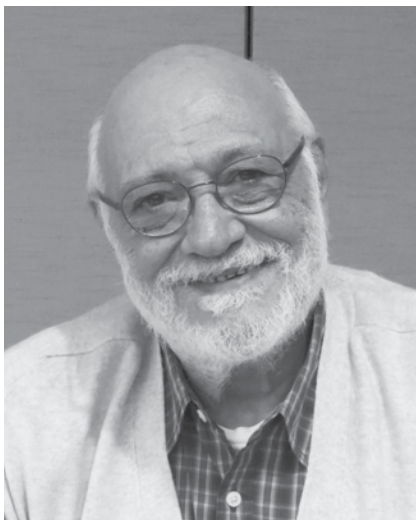
"It will be a great event," said Rona, still feeling good about the joint ACBL/WBF effort in Atlanta last August, where young players from around the

world played in the Youth NABC and the World Youth Open Bridge Championships.

Another major WBF tournament for young players is set for Istanbul, Turkey, Aug. 13-23. For the first time, the World Youth Teams Championships will feature games for players up to 15 years old – and there will be six teams invited by the WBF to play there.

Within a couple of years, Rona said, the tournament will have four categories for youth players – up to 24, Open and Girls; up to 19, and 15 and younger. Rona said the new categories are being offered in part because it was apparent during the

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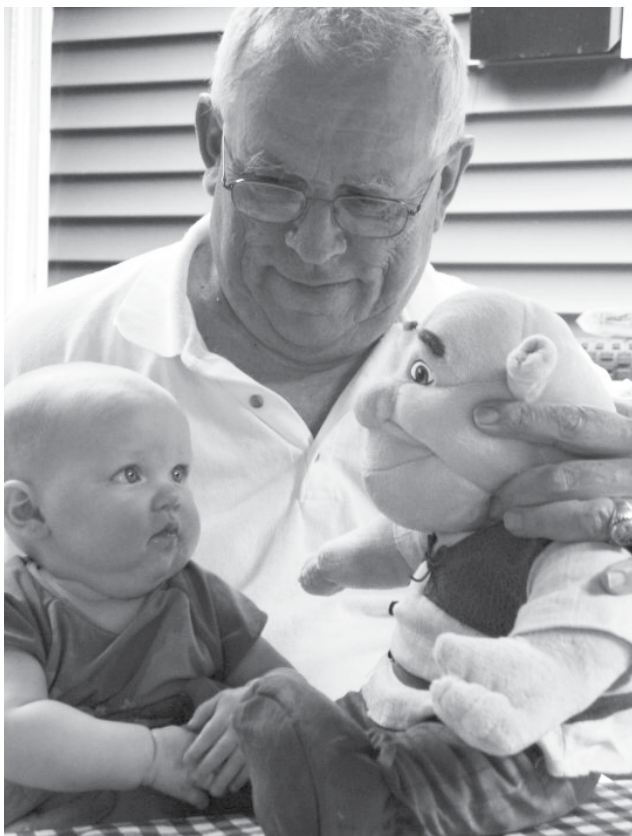
Veteran TD dies in New York

Frank Allison, a tournament director since the late 1950s, died of cancer Friday night in Melville NY (Long Island).

Allison was a regular at tournaments in the New York area for decades, working under legendary tournament directors Harry Goldwater and Maury Braunstein, among others. He also worked for Sol Weinstein, national TD and TD field supervisor.

"Frank was well liked by everyone who knew him," said Weinstein. "He was an all-around good guy."

Tournament directing was a sideline for Allison, whose primary job was as a high school teacher. In the late 1990s, he bought a bridge club, running it while also working at tournaments. He also taught bridge.



Cheek, Del'Monte are Nail LM Pairs champs

Curtis Cheek and Ishmael Del'Monte, playing together in a pairs game for the first time, put together two solid sessions in the final of the Nail Life Master Pairs to win the event by more than a board on a top of 77.

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Patti Hartley and Barbara Nist, winners of the Smith Life Master Women's Pairs.

Magical final session wins LM Women's Pairs for Nist and Hartley

Patti Hartley, Kirkland WA, and Barbara Nist, Seatac WA, unleashed a 71.15% finale to take the Smith Life Master Women's Pairs. Finishing second in the 90-pair field were Cheri Bjerkan of Elmhurst IL and Rozanne Pollack of New York NY.

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Senior KO in quarterfinals

Eight teams remain in the Baze Senior Knockout Teams, with most of the top seeds still in the hunt for the championship. The exception was the No. 2 seed, led by Lou Ann O'Rourke, who fell to No. 15, captained by Peter Lesnik.

O'Rourke (Marc Jacobus, Roger Bates, Drew Casen, Eddie Wold, Jim Krekorian) fell behind 35-19 after one quarter, but regained the lead after the third

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Goodwill Message

Smile often.

Sandy DeMartino, Goodwill Chair



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Technical decisions in the knockout

By Barry Rigal

Having just qualified for the Senior Knockout Teams (I know, I look a lot older), I didn’t want my first appearance to qualify as my last.

The ACBL Board of Directors saved me from that. The minimum age goes to 60 on Jan. 1, but we are mercifully “grandfathered” in, and I managed to survive my first Grey Day.

Here are two problems from the event.

Dlr: West	♠ K Q 10 7 6		
Vul: Both	♥ A J 5		
	♦ 10 2		
	♣ K J 4		
		♠ A J 9 8 5 4	
		♥ Q 3	
		♦ 8 7 6 3	
		♣ 2	
West	North	East	South
3♣	3♠	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

Partner gladdens your heart by leading the ♠A and playing a second club, the 3. Declarer puts in the jack, you ruff and South follows. Partner clearly doesn’t have a spade void and does have one of the top three diamonds. This was the full deal:

	♠ K Q 10 7 6		
	♥ A J 5		
	♦ 10 2		
	♣ K J 4		
♠ 2		♠ A J 9 8 5 4	
♥ 6 4 2		♥ Q 3	
♦ K 5		♦ 8 7 6 3	
♣ A Q 10 8 7 6 3		♣ 2	
	♠ 3		
	♥ K 10 9 8 7		
	♦ A Q J 9 4		
	♣ 9 5		

Yes, as you can see, an initial spade lead and club shift defeats the contract easily, but even as the play went, the game still goes down if you cash the ♠A before playing a diamond.

At the table, South could win the diamond shift, draw trumps and discard the spade loser on the ♣K. Perhaps West should have given you a ruff with the ♣6, not the 3. At the same time, it’s hard to see how cashing the ♠A could ever give declarer a critical discard.

Dlr: North	♠ K J 9 6 3		
Vul: None	♥ 8 5 4		
	♦ A K 7 2		
	♣ 5		
	♠ 2		
	♥ A K J 9 3		
	♦ J		
	♣ A K 10 9 6 3		

West	North	East	South
	1♠	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

You pass 4♥ reluctantly, but when the opening lead is the ♠A, you feel a little happier about your decision. West, curiously, continues with the ♠Q. You win the king, pitching a club and play the ♠A

and ruff a club low (would you?). East follows to the second club with the jack.

What should you do now?

At the table, declarer took the losing heart finesse and won the diamond return in dummy to ruff a diamond to hand. He then ruffed a club in dummy with the 8. East overruffed with the ♥10 and returned a spade. This was the ending:

	♠ J 9 6		
	♥ –		
	♦ K 7		
	♣ –		
♠ –		♠ 10 8 5	
♥ 7 6		♥ –	
♦ Q 8		♦ 10 9	
♣ Q		♣ –	
	♠ –		
	♥ K 9 3		
	♦ –		
	♣ K 10		

The ♥7 was promoted to the setting trick. It was extremely unlucky to run into such an unfavorable lie of the trumps and black suits. This was the full deal:

	♠ K J 9 6 3		
	♥ 8 5 4		
	♦ A K 7 2		
	♣ 5		
♠ A Q		♠ 10 8 7 5 4	
♥ Q 7 6		♥ 10 2	
♦ Q 8 5 3		♦ 10 9 6 2	
♣ Q 8 7 2		♣ J 4	
	♠ 2		
	♥ A K J 9 3		
	♦ J		
	♣ A K 10 9 6 3		

Perhaps a better approach after trick four is to lead a heart to the ace. When both opponents follow, ruff a club with the ♥8. East overruffs and plays a spade. Ruff with the ♥K and lead the ♥J from hand. Even if both trumps are together, you can still draw the last trump painlessly and claim the rest.

Getting around downtown

Approach local Phoenix “Ambassadors” (men/ women wearing orange shirts) for information on where to dine, shop or find the nearest “?” These ambassadors walk the streets and their assistance is free of charge. Call the Ambassadors at 602-495-1500 if you need information.

Pedal Cabs are a convenient method of transportation within downtown Phoenix. The Phoenix Convention Visitors Bureau recommends Arizona Pedal Cabs (602-252-1152) and Big Papa Human Power Transportation (602-618-6702). These pedal cab operators are paid on a “gratuity basis.” Please be aware there are independent cab operators who do not operate on the basis of gratuities. Travelers are advised to ask the cab operators for their fees before they choose to travel with them.

Slow Play

Slow play, as opposed to careful or thoughtful play, is discourteous to your opponents – and to all other competitors as well. Players and pairs who take more than their allotted time are subject to penalty.

In general, pairs who are rarely late will be warned while pairs who are habitually tardy and/or pay no attention to time limits will be penalized.

Rona

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Atlanta tournaments that younger players prefer to play against their peers.

The trend for participation by young players is encouraging, Rona said, noting that “this year I have seen many countries developing youth bridge. The movement is growing.”

Some of those players may one day advance to the higher-level games that will be played in Sanya.

Rona said he is pleased that the WBF and the Chinese Contract Bridge Association were able to jointly organize the World Bridge Series there. “It is a marvelous place,” he said. It is also easy to get to.

Most major cities, he noted, connect with Hong Kong, and a flight from there to Sanya takes less than an hour.

Sanya is the southernmost city on the Chinese island of Hainan. It has a tropical climate and has emerged as a popular tourist destination, with the most well-preserved and beautiful beaches in all of China.

As far as bridge play, Rona said, the World Bridge Series features a unique schedule that, at least in theory, offers the chance for a competitor to win four world championships – Mixed Teams, Mixed Pairs; Open, Women’s or Senior Teams, and Open, Women’s or Senior Pairs. This is possible because the teams winners in the second week of the tournament will be allowed to drop into the final of their respective pairs events.

All players at the tournament wear badges with bar codes. After any session, the badge can be passed under a scanner for an instant printout of the badge holder’s scores and standing in the event.

For more information about the tournaments in Sanya and Istanbul, visit www.worldbridge.org.

Rona said he is confident about the future of bridge, and he predicts that the game will one day be included as a medal sport in the Olympic Games. “We have to await our moment,” he said, “but it will arrive for sure. We have a chance.”

The WBF president noted that before bridge and chess were officially recognized as sports by the International Olympic Committee, “nobody believed it would happen, but we are full members of the IOC and bridge is in a good position.”

The photo booth is open!

National champions, Grand Life Masters, those of you who won a gold medal in Bali (and those of you who wish you’d won a gold medal in Bali!), everyone who has a stab at Player of the Year (see page 1), Barry Crane race leaders ... we need your picture. A professional photographer is standing by to make you look ever so much better when you next appear in the Bridge Bulletin.

Please stop by:
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Rona a Phoenix



Il Presidente della Word Bridge Federation, Gianarrigo Rona

Categorie giovani:

- fino a 24,
- fino a 19,
- minori di 15 anni.

Il presidente della WBF
fiducioso sul futuro
roseo del bridge...
Come in Italia?

Dal Bollettino gara dei Campionati USA (Fall North American Bridge Championships), riportiamo la dichiarazione del Presidente della WBF, Gianarrigo Rona:

Il lavoro del Presidente della Word Bridge Federation comporta necessariamente un po' di viaggi in giro per il mondo. Basta chiedere a Gianarrigo Rona, attuale presidente della WBF.

Rona è volato a Phoenix venerdì per incontrare i rappresentanti WBF della ACBL, ed è ripartito oggi per la Cina per presenziare agli SportAccord World Mind Games di Pechino. La tappa successiva sarà Sanya, Hainan, in Cina, per finalizzare i piani per il World Bridge Series dell'anno prossimo, il campionato più grande e più aperto del WBF.

La breve visita a Phoenix è stata un'occasione per invitare tutti i giocatori ACBL, soprattutto quelli presenti al NABC autunnale, ad organizzarsi per il torneo, fissato per il 10-25 Ottobre in una location spesso definita la "Hawaii d'oriente".

Il World Bridge Series inizia con le squadre miste e coppie miste, quindi gli Open, donne e Senior a squadre, seguito da Open, Donne e senior a coppie. Tutti gli eventi sono transnazionali e senza pre-qualifica. Tutti i giocatori in regola con i rispettivi organismi nazionali bridge sono i benvenuti.

"Sarà un grande evento," afferma Rona, ancora soddisfatto per il rimutato degli sforzi congiunti ACBL / WBF l'agosto scorso ad Atlanta, dove giovani giocatori da tutto il mondo hanno giocato al NABC Giovani e ai Mondiali giovanili a Squadre Open.

Un altro torneo importante per i giovani giocatori WBF è fissato per agosto (13-23) ad Istanbul, in Turchia. Per la prima volta, ai Mondiali giovanili a Squadre prenderanno parte giocatori fino a 15 anni - e ci saranno sei squadre invitate dalla WBF.

Entro un paio di anni, dice Rona, il torneo avrà 4 categorie per i giovani: fino a 24, Open e ragazze, fino a 19, e minori di 15 anni. Le nuove categorie sono state introdotte, dice Rona, perché era evidente durante i tornei di Atlanta che i giocatori più giovani preferivano giocare contro i loro coetanei.

Il trend di partecipazione dei giovani giocatori è incoraggiante: "quest'anno ho visto molti paesi investire sul bridge giovanile" osserva Rona. Il movimento sta crescendo. "Alcuni tra questi giovani potrebbero un giorno accedere ai tornei di livello superiore che si disputeranno a Sanya. Rona si dice contento che la WBF e la Chinese Contract Bridge Association sono stati in grado di organizzare congiuntamente il Bridge World Series a Sanya. "E' un posto meraviglioso e facile da raggiungere" ha detto. La maggior parte delle grandi città hanno collegamenti con Hong Kong, e da lì un volo per Sanya richiede meno di un'ora.

Sanya è la città più a sud dell'isola cinese di Hainan. Ha un clima tropicale ed è emersa come una destinazione turistica sempre più popolare, con le spiagge più ben conservate e belle in tutta la Cina.

Per quanto riguarda lo svolgimento dei tornei, Rona afferma che il Bridge World Series offre un programma unico che, almeno in teoria, offre la possibilità per un concorrente di vincere quattro campionati mondiali - Squadre miste, coppie miste, Open, Donne o Senior a squadre, e Open, Donne o Senior a coppie. Questo è possibile perché ai vincitori a squadre nella seconda settimana del torneo sarà consentito di accedere alla finale dei

Più o meno come il Ponte di Messina... avrà imparato da Berlusconi.

rispettivi eventi a coppie.

Tutti i giocatori del torneo indossano badge con codice a barre . Dopo ogni sessione, il badge può essere passato sotto uno scanner per avere una stampa istantanea di punteggi e posizione.

Per ulteriori informazioni sui tornei di Sanya e Istanbul, si può visitare il sito www.worldbridge.org.

Rona si è detto fiducioso sul futuro del bridge, e prevede che un giorno il gioco sarà incluso come sport a medaglie nei Giochi Olimpici . "Dobbiamo attendere il nostro momento," dice," ma accadrà di sicuro. Abbiamo una chance". Il presidente della WBF osserva che prima che bridge e scacchi fossero riconosciuti ufficialmente come sport dal Comitato Olimpico Internazionale, nessuno credeva che ciò potesse accadere. "Siamo membri a pieno titolo del CIO, e il bridge è in una buona posizione"

Sanya (Cina)

