

♠ ♥ Delaware Regional ♦ ♣

Tuesday – Wednesday March 30-31, 2004

Editor : Robert Maier

Welcome to the March/April 2004 Delaware Regional. A full slate of bridge events is scheduled for players of all abilities. Our pair events feature preduplicated boards, which allows for a prompt start to each session and greater flexibility for setting up movements. In addition, we have planned a great Newcomer & Intermediate schedule of events. This program will be directed by Pam Schaffer and includes special lectures and prizes.

The Wyndham Hotel is within easy driving distance of numerous tourist attractions, such as the Winterthur Museum and Longwood Gardens, just to name a few. The Shipyard Outlet Shops are also a popular venue for tax-free shopping. A restaurant guide will be available to assist with your selection of various dining options. We will once again have our usual excellent hospitality after the evening session, both in the playing area and our hospitality suite. We hope you enjoy your experience at our great Spring Regional.

Susan Corbett and Harold Jordan - Tournament Co-chairs

PARKING – During the day on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, it is anticipated that there will be insufficient parking space at the Wyndham Hotel. Overflow will be directed to the Courthouse garage on the same side of King Street, one-half block past the Wyndham. **The Courthouse garage closes at midnight on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.** A maximum daily charge of \$5 will be applied at both sites. **The driver must come to the Parking Table in the lobby near the playing area to obtain a validation coupon. You must bring your parking ticket in order to obtain the coupon! This coupon will reduce the regular parking rate to the \$5 rate. Coupons will only be available before each session, so please do not wait until after the evening session to try and get a coupon! Please note that you will have to pay the full regular rate if you do not obtain a validation coupon. These coupons are used in the machines at the exit gates.** On evenings (after 5pm) and on Saturday, there is a \$3 parking charge at the hotel. No validation coupons will be provided either at the hotel or the courthouse. Parking at the hotel is free on Sunday. There should be ample parking at the hotel for those coming during the evening or parking on the weekend.

For anyone who parks in the overflow lot and stays until after the evening session, The Downtown Wilmington Bike Patrol will be available to escort you from the Wyndham hotel back to the Courthouse garage lot. Information on this service and on receiving the validation coupon on your parking tickets is available right outside the main ballroom.

HOSPITALITY – Mike and Fran Fahsel and their committee have put together another wonderful Delaware Regional Hospitality spread. The hospitality suite will be open beginning Thursday night in room 814, starting around 11:45 each night. After the evening session beginning on Wednesday, hospitality will be available right outside the main playing area as well.

PRIZES – Prizes can be found in the Coat Room on the hotel's ground level, around the corner from the main ballroom. Jess and Lois Stuart and their committee members will have the room open daily beginning on Thursday, one hour before each afternoon and evening session. It will also be open for an hour after the Sunday Swiss Team. Prizes are awarded for the highest score each direction in all sections of match point play. There are not separate prizes for A, B and C strata in stratified sections, just a prize for the top section score. There are no prizes for overall event winners, except that the Knockout and Swiss Team winners for each flight or stratum will be given section top prizes since there are no separate sections. The prizes include bridge books, golf balls, Lenox lead crystal, photo albums, men's wallets, ladies' purses, scarves and other items.

NEWCOMER & INTERMEDIATE – Tom and Alexis Ciconte have organized a superb program for our newer players. Pam Schaffer of Annapolis will be directing these events. All of these events will be held in Salon C and are limited to players with fewer than 300 masterpoints. There are single session events at all times, as well as two session trophy events each day. Special prizes are available for the players in these events, and there will be several lectures provided by expert players. Please be sure to check Thursday's bulletin for an updated schedule. Also, be sure to note that **pairs with 0-5MP play for free on Wednesday, March 31.**

PARTNERSHIPS – Mary Beyer has already been hard at work, speaking to players coming from out of town without partners. Mary encourages anyone who doesn't have a partner to sign up early for session(s) during the week that they may need a partner, and she and her staff will work on pairing you up. The partnership desk is right outside the main ballroom, and either Mary or someone from her staff will be happy to help you partner.

DAILY BULLETINS – Beginning Thursday, a daily bulletin will be published...well, daily. Inside will be an updated event schedule, a complete list of the previous day's winners, and any new Life Masters and other (hopefully) interesting morsels. There will be a box inside the director's office (Salon F will be home to DIC Doug Grove and his more than capable staff) where you can leave the names and hometowns (and funny stories) for new LM's, or you could just give them to the editor if you see him. Anyone who spies an especially nice play at the bridge tables is strongly encouraged to contribute the story to the bulletin.

BOARD DUPLICATION - The Delaware Regional offers pre-duplicated boards and double dummy solved hand analyses for every pair event. Explanations for all the extra little details on the hand analyses are available on the tables in the lobby, look for the slips entitled "What is all this Junk on My Hand Printout?" Results and recaps for all events, as well as hand records for all pair events, will be posted on our website at <http://www.unit190.org> shortly after the completion of the evening session each day. Just click on the link for the 2004 regional. Special thanks are in order for co-chair Harold Jordan and tournament director Alan Hodesblatt for their hard work which make all of this possible.

DINING OUT – Elaine Mahla and Iara Erb have put together a restaurant guide for a wide range of tastes and price ranges, along with a map to help you find your way. These are available just outside the ballroom.

MEETINGS – There will be a District 4 Executive Committee and Tournament Committee breakfast at 10am on Saturday and a Tournament Committee meeting Saturday at 4:45pm. Both meetings will be held in Salon D.

Schedule for Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday

Unless otherwise noted, flight and strat cutoffs are 0/500/1500 (Un = unlimited strat)

Regionally rated (GOLD POINTS) events in bold - ** Indicates event restricted to 0-300 MPs

Tuesday, March 30, 2004

7:30 pm -- **Bracketed KO Teams** (cont. Wed 9am, 1pm, 7:30pm)
-- **Stratified Side Game Series Pairs I** (Unlimited/750)
-- **Single Session Pairs (300/200/100/50/20/5)

Wednesday, March 31, 2004 – 0 to 5 MP Pairs Play Free Today!

9 am -- **Early Bird Side Game Series Pairs** (Un/750)
-- **Morning Limited Pairs (300/200/100/50/20/5)
1 pm -- **Stratified Side Game Series Pairs I** (Unlimited/750)
-- **Single Session Pairs (300/200/100/50/20/5)
-- **Two Session Stratified Open Pairs** (cont 7:30pm)
-- **Two Session Stratified Senior Pairs** (cont 7:30pm)
-- **Two Session Trophy Champ 0-20 Pairs (cont 7:30pm)
7:30pm -- **Stratified Side Game Series Pairs I** (Un/750)
-- Stratified Board-a-Match Teams (1 session only)
-- **Single Session Pairs (300/200/100/50/20/5)
11:30pm-- **Almost Midnight Compact KOs** (con Thur 11:30pm)

Thursday, April 1, 2004

9 am -- **Bracketed Morning KO's** (continues 9am Fri and Sat)
Includes novice and intermediate players!
-- **Morning Limited Pairs (300/100/50)
-- **Early Bird Side Game Series Pairs** (Unlimited/750)
1 pm -- **Stratified Side Game Series Pairs I** (Unlimited/750)
-- **Single Session Stratified Swiss (300/100/50)
-- **Single Session Pairs (300/200/100/50/20/5)
-- **Two Session Stratified Swiss Teams** (cont 7:30)
-- **Two Session Strat Senior Swiss Teams** (cont 7:30)
-- **Two Session Stratified Open Pairs** (cont 7:30)
-- **Two Session Trophy Champ 0-50 Pairs (cont 7:30)
7:30pm -- **Stratified Side Game Series Pairs I** (Unlim/750)
-- **Single Session Stratified Swiss (300/100/50)
-- **Single Session Pairs (300/200/100/50/20/5)
11:30pm-- Almost Midnight Zip Knockouts