



Upcoming Sectionals

Santa Fe 499er Sectional Santa Fe, New Mexico March 4-5

The Leonard Helman Bridge Center at 3827 Thomas Road will again be hosting this tournament. Game times are 9:00 and 2:00, with two single session pairs events Saturday and a Swiss Teams on Sunday. The website santafebridgeclub.com will have more information or see the ad in the previous issue of *ScoreCard*.

Intermediate/Newcomer Pairs Sectional Las Cruces, New Mexico March 11

At the Belton Bridge Center, this tournament includes pairs games at 9:30 and 2:00 with stratification by average points (but no player may have more than 300). See the ad in this issue of *ScoreCard* for more information.

Sedona Sectional Sedona, Arizona March 23-25

Stunning red rock views will greet you in Sedona. This tournament runs Thursday through Saturday at the Elks Lodge in central Sedona, with two sessions a day, at 10:00 at 2:30. There is a Knockout Teams starting Thursday, a Compact KO on Friday, and a Swiss Teams on Saturday. See the ad in this issue of *ScoreCard* for more details.

Denver Spring Sectional Golden, Colorado March 31-April 2

The venue is the Jefferson County Fairgrounds (note the date change) with 10:00 and 2:30 game times. There is a Compact KO on Friday with a one session Swiss Teams in the evening. Lunch is included in the Sunday entry fee for the play through Swiss Teams and 0-2000 Bracketed Teams. Details can be found at denverbridge.com and in the ad in this issue of *ScoreCard*.

Denver 299er Sectional Sheridan, Colorado April 8-9

The Denver House of Cards in Sheridan will host this tournament for the under 300 group. Social time is at 9:30, games at 10:00, and lunch is provided. The organizers promise that they will be able to pair you up for the two session Swiss Teams on Saturday. Two one session pairs events Sunday. The Susan Dittmer Memorial Award will be given to the person who wins the most masterpoints. Players with less than five masterpoints play for free. See denverbridge.com or the ad in this issue of *ScoreCard* for more information.

Tucson Spring Sectional Tucson, Arizona April 20-23

This four day sectional with two KO Teams games is being held at a new location, the Palo Verde Radisson Hotel, 4550 S. Palo Verde Bou-

levard Sessions are at 9:00 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Free coffee, tea, smoked salmon, bagels, muffins, and a buffet lunch on Sunday during the Swiss Teams. See the website southernarizonabridge.com or the ad in this issue of *ScoreCard*.

Las Cruces Down Country Sectional Las Cruces, New Mexico March 4-5

This sectional, held at the Belton Bridge Center, will include a pairs/teams on Saturday and Stratified 199er Pairs daily at 9:30 and another at 2:00 plus a Compact KO beginning on Friday. Sunday will be a Swiss Teams. There is free coffee and goodies throughout. More information is at lascrucesbridge.com and in the ad.

Doc Holliday Sectional Glenwood Springs, Colo. April 28-30

Played at the Plaza Inn (formerly Ramada), the sectional has the normal games of pairs and teams. See the ad in this issue of *ScoreCard*.

Improve Your Play



By Larry Matheny
Fort Collins, Colorado

A Better Trump Suit

During the auction, we look for an eight card or longer trump fit. However, it seems some trump fits are better than others.

- ♠AK85
- ♥KJ2
- ♦Q62
- ♣A54

- ♠63
- ♥854
- ♦K43
- ♣KQ1032

- ♠Q109
- ♥Q7
- ♦J1096
- ♣J976

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

Opening Lead: ♠K

Bidding: *South* transferred to hearts and then bid 2♠. This sequence is one way to show four spades, five hearts, and game invitational values. With a maximum 1NT [and good trumps], *North* jumped to the spade game.

Play: *West's* lead of the ♠K was won by the ace. Declarer cashed the ♠AK and was happy the suit divided 3-2, but disappointed the queen did not drop. Next he led the ♥K and ♥J and was delighted to see the queen pop up this time.

He now cashed the rest of his hearts discarding diamonds from dummy. *East* could take the high trump whenever, but declarer would crossruff the remaining tricks for a total of 12.

The reason this hand is of interest is to show that playing in a 4-4 trump suit is often better than choosing a 5-3 fit. In this hand only 11 tricks are available in a heart contract. With the 4-4 suit as trumps, the five card side suit provided discards.

DENVER UNIT 361

299er

SPRING SECTIONAL BRIDGE TOURNAMENT

April 8-9, 2017

Door Prizes - Newcomers Welcome (0-5 Play Free*)

Denver House of Cards
1800 W. Oxford, Sheridan, CO
www.denverbridge.com

SATURDAY
APRIL 8, 2017

Come as a pair or team - We'll match pairs to make a team

9:30 am Coffee, tea, muffins, bagels
10:00 am Stratified Double-session Swiss Teams (play-through, catered lunch and dessert provided)

SUNDAY
APRIL 9, 2017

9:30 am Coffee, tea, bagels, muffins
10:00 am Stratified Pairs (single session)
Complimentary lunch and dessert served between sessions.
2:15 pm Lecture and bridge tips
3:00 pm Stratified Pairs (single session)

ACBL MEMBERS WITH 0-5 POINTS PLAY FREE!
(*Pay for catered lunch only on Saturday)

Pairs: ACBL members \$10; Non-members and un-paid members \$13
Sunday Swiss teams: \$104 per team; includes catered lunch

Tournament Director
Tournament Co-Chairs

Chuck Goudey
Wayne Eckerling
Dianne Vanoss
Vard Nelson

Partnerships
Stratifications

713-853-7604
A=200-299; B=100-199; C=0-99

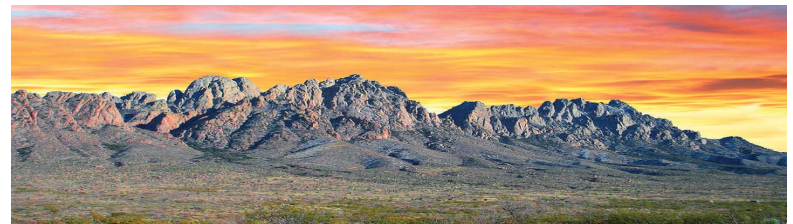
Questions

INTournament.Unit361@gmail.com

Susan Dittmer Award
to the player
winning the most masterpoints

Sanction No. SN 1704014

Scent-free event — Please be considerate of your fellow players



Las Cruces Unit 380 Intermediate/Novice PAIRS Sectional Sanction #1703110

SATURDAY, MARCH 11, 2017

9:30 AM & 2:00 PM

Belton Bridge Center • 1214 E. Madrid • Las Cruces, NM 88001
575-524-3031 • lascrucesbridge.com

STRATIFICATION

(A) 200-300 MPs (B) 50-200 MPs (C) 0-50 MPs

All stratification based on average Master Points
No player may have more than 300 MPs

ENTRY FEES

MEMBERS	\$20 BOTH SESSIONS (includes lunch)
	\$10 INDIVIDUAL SESSION (no lunch)
NON-MEMBERS & UNPAID	\$26 BOTH SESSIONS (includes lunch)
	\$13 INDIVIDUAL SESSION (no lunch)

Director:	Linda Spengler	575-621-0997
Tournament Chair:	Norman Duttweiler	575-639-1412
Partnerships:	Julie Reiser 575-496-7301	jureiser@icloud.com
Hospitality:	Alison Mann	Betty Ball