

Playing in Tournaments out-of-town

The ACBL and our District (D21) websites have info on the 84th All Western Championships **Regional in Santa Clara** from August 28th - September 3rd at the Hyatt Regency Santa Clara. The host hotel and the Biltmore Hotel & Suites (overflow hotel) are taking reservations.

Cautionary note and appeal: As mentioned here before Sacramento, D21 and the accommodating hotels are having a very tough time with folks making reservations for tournaments and then cancelling all or part of their booking shortly before the event. People causing the problems seem to fall into two groups:

- Those that reserve for the whole tournament, planning to figure it out later and cancel the nights they won't need.
- Those that make a reservation for multiple nights, just "in case" they decide to go, and then cancelling last minute.

Both of these behaviors really foul up the commitment the District makes to the facilities to fill a certain number of rooms. It also impacts other players who really want to go, but do not reserve until they know what they are doing, only to find they are not able to get rooms at the tournament rate, if at all.

The District Board is considering tracking cancellations while they mull over how best to handle this problem. They have asked us to get the word out and encourage you to **reserve early only if you really intend to attend the tournament**. If you make an early reservation and get one of the ACBL Special Rates then find that you must cancel, they ask that you contact Pam Hughes at jmom380@yahoo.com. **As long as you contact Pam prior to cancelling, she can work to get the room transferred to an ACBL member who was unable to get a reservation.**

Congrats are due: Here's a shout out to those in our Unit that recently achieved their next ACBL Ranking milestone – **please congratulate those you know:**

New Ruby Life Masters:	Linda Danzig Cindy Kirk Hannah Kishi
New Bronze Life Master:	Martha England
New Life Master:	Andrea Ventris
New Regional Master:	Barbara Smith
New Club Master:	Keith Merron

Bruce Blakely's next Course begins in about a month: "**Playing the No Trump Contract.**" It will be held on 5 Wednesdays beginning August 15th from Noon to 2:30 PM at the Tiburon Town Hall (Note: No class on August 29 because of the Santa Clara Regional). Here's what Bruce said it will include:

This course will teach you the techniques to play comfortably in No Trump. Topics include the Hold Up and the Rule of Seven; Unblocking; Entries and Transportation; Avoidance Plays; Choosing Among Suits; and Defending Against No Trump. We will also cover a number of conventions that work with No Trump bidding, such as Stayman, Transfer bids, Key Card Blackwood, and Quantitative Bids. (The full description, pricing, registration details, etc. can be found under our site's Classes page or here: <http://marinbridge.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Bridge-Lessons-Announcement-for-Blakely-Summer-Fall-Series.pdf>.)

Remember, all our regular games, etc. can be found through our site:
<http://marinbridge.com/>

Here are links to our Unit and District Facebook pages:

<https://facebook.com/ACBL-Unit-508-249516438506646/>

<https://facebook.com/d21acbl/>

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Bill Yeast
Membership
Marin Unit 508, ACBL

COMING UP (Remember: the regular games in our Unit are not shown - only special games, irregular games or outages are called out below). The **contacts** for additional info, partnership, or to register Teams are shown at the bottom by Club.

The following shows the things I know that are coming up in the near future; if you want to know everything I have been told, check out the "**News**" link at the top of our Website, as it has it all (http://marinbridge.com/pdf_Files/MBNE.pdf).

Sunday, July 15th:

The **1 PM** Game at **Terra Linda** will be an **Open, Stratified Unit** Pairs Game with extra MP and overall awards.

Saturday, July 21st:

The 21st is the 3rd Saturday in the month so the B & P duo will be in action at the **Tiburon/Belvedere Community Center @ 10:30 AM** (Contact at the bottom):

Barbara Prior will be directing a **Limited Game** (0 – 750 MP's).

Peggy Tatro will be directing a **Novice Game** (0 – 20 MP's).

Wednesday, July 25th:

- The **Noon** Game at **Terra Linda** will be an **Open, Stratified Club Championship** with extra MP and overall awards!
- The **6:30 PM** Game at **Fuldek** will be an **Open, Stratified NAP Qualifying** Pairs Game with \$11 Card Fees.

Wednesday, August 1st:

The **6:30 PM** Game at **Fuldek** will be an **Open, Stratified NAP Qualifying** Pairs Game with \$11 Card Fees.

Sunday, August 5th:

The **1 PM** Game at **Terra Linda** will be an **Open, Stratified Unit** and **NAP Qualifier** Pairs Game. **Will you help with refreshments?** Contribute toward making our Unit games the best with good grub! (Free plays to Unit games or cash \$\$ if you do – contact **Peggy Tatro** per the info at the bottom.)

Monday & Tuesday, August 6th & 7th:

The **11:45 AM** Games at **Pickleweed** will be **Open, Stratified NAP Qualifying** Pairs Games with \$11 Card Fees.

Sunday, August 12th:

The **1 PM** Game at **Terra Linda** will be an **Open, Stratified Unit TEAM** Game and Peggy will have a sign-up sheet up soon or you can email her to register your team. **Will you help with refreshments?** Contribute toward making our Unit games the best with good grub! (Free plays to Unit games or cash \$\$ if you do – contact **Peggy Tatro** per the info at the bottom.)

Wednesday, August 15th:

The **6:30 PM** Game at **Fuldek** will be an **Open, Stratified NAP Qualifying** Pairs Game with \$11 Card Fees.

REMINDER: The 2nd 2018 District 21 **STaC week is August 20th -26th** and all games with that label will have **\$12 Card Fees**.

Monday & Tuesday, August 20th & 21st:

The **11:45 AM** Games at **Pickleweed** will be **Open, Stratified STaC** Pairs Games.

Wednesday, August 22nd:

The **6:30 PM** Game at **Fuldek** will be an **Open, Stratified STaC** Pairs Game.

REMINDER: The All Western Championships **Regional in Santa Clara** runs from August 28th - September 3rd.

Tuesday, August 28th:

- **Pickleweed** will be **Closed** today only, so NO **11:45 AM** Game.
- The **11 AM** Game at **Belvedere** Community Center will be an **Open, Stratified Pairs** game this day only, returning to **Limited** (2100) next week.

UNIT 508 CLUB CONTACTS -

For More Info, Partnership and to **Register your Teams for Team Games:**

"BELVEDERE" - **Barbara Prior** at cardscases@aol.com or 415-892-1856

"FULDEK" -

Wednesday Evening Game at Terra Linda:

Hannah Kishi at 415-897-7664 or hrdhrtd@aol.com

Thursday Novice Game at Belvedere:

Henry Kingdon 415-572-9458 or h_kingdon@yahoo.com

"HOPPE" (Thursday & Friday at Belvedere)

David Blohm at david_blohm@hotmail.com or 415-332-9548

"PICKLEWEED" - **Ellen Weingart** at grammyellen@comcast.net or 415-461-5905

"TERRA LINDA" - **Peggy Tatro** at peggytatro@sonic.net or 415-299-7511