



## The Philadelphia Story - 2018 Spring NABC DD Report – Mark Aquino

The Philadelphia Spring NABC was a great tournament! Attendance at 10,316 tables was 3% over predictions. The tournament co-chairs, D4 District Director Joann Glasson, and her husband Bob, put together an awesome team of volunteers. The hospitality was over the top, including a fantastic a capella group known as “The Jersey Tenors”, as well as a complete Atlantic City Boardwalk arcade replication. There was a nice new feature of a free rubber bridge room where top pros played a few hands with local club players and tournament attendees. All in all, considering the relatively attractive bridge rate for a major Northeast city, the large number of our players in attendance, and especially because of the great success our players enjoyed at all levels of competition (as highlighted below), the Philadelphia Spring 2018 NABC was, without question, a very, very special tournament for our D25 bridge players.

### D25 is the Number One District !!!

Wow!! We are all so proud!

Adam and Zach Grossack of Newton, MA won the NAP Flight A. Zach Grossack had 4 other top 10 NABC+ finishes with 4 different partners and was 3<sup>rd</sup> overall in masterpoints – amassing nearly 350 in the 10 days! Only 20 years old, this Tufts University student’s NABC masterpoint total is an all-time D25 record!

Sheila Gabay, Newton, MA and Pat McDevitt, Brookline, MA won the Rockwell Mixed Pairs – for the 2<sup>nd</sup> time in six years!

Terry Lubman, Riverside, CT, and Doris Greenwald, Stamford, CT, finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Smith Women’s LM Pairs.

When the World Championships were held in Philadelphia in 2010, Rich DeMartino and Pat McDevitt won, nearly 8 years later they returned to finish 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Leventritt Silver Ribbon Pairs.

### D25 Top 25

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Residence</u>	<u>Masterpoints</u>
1.	Zachary Grossack	Newton, MA	349.33
2.	Adam Grossack	Newton, MA	163.72
3.	Patrick McDevitt	Brookline, MA	156.25
4.	Sheila Gabay	Newton, MA	104.56
5.	Richard DeMartino	Riverside, CT	101.08
6.	Terry Lubman	Riverside, CT	84.73
7.	Doris Greenwald	Stamford, CT	77.88
8.	Ronald Mak	Manchester, CT	72.41
9.	Walter Lee	Sudbury, MA	65.00
10.	Laurence Lebowitz	Boston, MA	58.57

11.	Jeffrey Goldman	Norwalk, CT	56.32
12.	Kamla Chawla	Longmeadow, MA	55.60
13.	Paul Fireman	Chestnut Hill, MA	55.12
14.	Karen McCallum	Exeter, NH	54.18
15.	Jack Mahoney	Brunswick, ME	51.86
16.	Dan Morgenstern	Brunswick, ME	51.86
17.	Bernard Yomtov	Cambridge, MA	51.55
18.	Harold Feldheim	Hamden, CT	49.20
19.	Robert Lavin	Longmeadow, MA	48.78
20.	Stephen Kolkhorst	Portland, ME	47.31
21.	David Waterman	South Harpswell, ME	47.31
22.	Alan Watson	Lexington, MA	44.77
23.	Laurence Lau	Westport, CT	43.92
24.	Bill Irvine	Quincy, MA	42.45
25.	Barbara McLagan	Sudbury, MA	41.83

**NABC+ Top 10 Finishes by D25 players**

Adam Grossack - Zachary Grossack ,	Newton Baldwin	NAP Flight A	1 <sup>st</sup>
Sheila Gabay, Newton – Pat McDevitt, Brookline	Rockwell	Mixed Pairs	1 <sup>st</sup>
Doris Greenwald, Stamford–Terry Lubman, Riverside	LM Womens'	Pairs	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Richard DeMartino – Patrick McDevitt	Leventritt	Silver Ribbon Pairs	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Zachary Grossack	Silodor	Open Pairs	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Zachary Grossack	Jacoby	Open Swiss	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Skip Page, Rye, NH–James Hickey, Londonderry	President's Cup	Flt C	4 <sup>th</sup>
Susan Lincoln, Boxford,MA–Keith Kimball, Nashua	President's Cup	Flt C	5 <sup>th</sup>
Bernard Yomtov, Cambridge, MA	Leventritt	Silver Ribbon Pairs	6 <sup>th</sup>
Kamla Chawla, Longmeadow, MA	Smith	LM Womens' Pairs	6 <sup>th</sup>
Zachary Grossack	Kay	Platinum Pairs	9 <sup>th</sup>

Zachary Grossack Rockwell Mixed Pairs 10<sup>th</sup>

Andy Avery, Jamaica, VT Leventritt Silver Ribbon Pairs 10<sup>th</sup>

Dan Morgenstern – Jack Mahoney, Brunswick, ME 0-10,000 Swiss 10<sup>th</sup>

Other Notable Accomplishments by New England Players in Philadelphia

Joseph Sackett- Jill Sackett, Winchendon, MA Ed Foundation KO-2 2<sup>nd</sup>

Alan Godes, Needham, MA Fri-Sat KO3 1<sup>st</sup>

Stephen Kolkhorst, Portland - David Waterman, So. Harpswell, ME Fri Gold Rush Pairs 2<sup>nd</sup>

Silvia Szanto – Rufus Cole, Cos Cob, CT Friday Open Pairs 1<sup>st</sup> X/Y

Kate King, Dorchester, MA Sat AM 299er Pairs 2<sup>nd</sup>

Muggsie Rocco, Carlisle, MA – Carol Fountain, Chelmsford, MA Sat Gold Rush Pairs 2<sup>nd</sup>

Karen McCallum, Exeter, NH College Planning CKO#2 1<sup>st</sup>

Daniel McGuire, Epsom, NH – Wayne Burt, Pembroke, NH College Planning CKO#3 2<sup>nd</sup>

Silvia Szanto, Cos Cob, CT Sat Day Side Swiss 1<sup>st</sup> C

Adi Chehna, Marlborough, MA Sat Eve B/C/D Swiss 1<sup>st</sup> B/C

Bradley Clark, Stratham, CT Sat Eve B/C/D Swiss 2<sup>nd</sup> B

Linda Dale Mulholland, Sandy Hook, CT - Jim Walsh , Madison, CT- Rosemary Benedict, Oxford, CT Sat Eve B/C/D/Swiss 1<sup>st</sup> D

Howard Abrams, Cambridge, MA Sat Eve 299er Pairs 1<sup>st</sup>

Walter Lee, Sudbury, MA Sat A/X Pairs 2<sup>nd</sup> X

Wendy Jarett, Lexington, MA - Ulla Winkler, Somerville, MA Fri-Sun AM Series 2<sup>nd</sup> B/C

Howard Abrams, Cambridge, MA – Allen Barber, Andover, MA Sunday AM 299er Pairs 2<sup>nd</sup> A

Susan Johnson - Paul Johnson, Veazic, ME Architzel Sun Aft Side Game 2<sup>nd</sup> C

Paul Hattis, Newton, MA Sunday Day Open Pairs 2<sup>nd</sup> C

Howard Abrams, Cambridge, MA Sunday Aft 299er Swiss 2<sup>nd</sup> C

Marshall Thomas-Sarah Widhu, Nashua, NH - Sunday Day Bracketed B-2 1<sup>st</sup>

Robert Leese, Amherst, NH – Lucy Hulse, Stoneham, MA Sunday Day Bracketed B-2 1<sup>st</sup>

Silvia Szanto – Rufus Cole, Cos Cob, CT Sunday Day Bracketed B-5 1<sup>st</sup>

Michael Feeney, Cambridge, MA, Mary Jo Feeney, JP, MA - Livingston Carroll, Sherborn, MA – Trey Heyer, Boston, MA Sunday Day Bracketed B-6 2<sup>nd</sup>

Joyce Leary, Andover, MA	Architzel Sun Eve Side Game	1 <sup>st</sup> C
Barbara Murphy, Newton, MA	Sunday Open Pairs	1 <sup>st</sup> B
Meiyan Duan – Shen Duan, Andover, MA	Sunday Open Pairs	2 <sup>nd</sup> C
Gary Peterson, Marlborough, MA-Christine Pettengill, Everett, MA So. Harpswell, ME-Stephen Kolkhorst, Portland, ME	David Waterman, Sun Gold Rush Swiss	1 <sup>st</sup>
Sonja Smith, No. Granby, CT, Paul Burnham, Wilton, CT	Mon-Tue Side Series	2 <sup>nd</sup> A 1 <sup>st</sup> B
Lucia Enica, Belmont, MA	Mon-Tue Side Series	1 <sup>st</sup> C
Jonathan Clark-Jeff Clark, Branford, CT	Mon Aft Day Gold Rush Pairs	1 <sup>st</sup>
Lucia Enica, Belmont, MA	Mon-Tue AM CKO	1 <sup>st</sup>
Selen Hotamisliligil, Weston, MA	Monday CKO-1	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Bruce Adler, Wilton, CT	Monday CKO-2	1 <sup>st</sup>
Howard Siegel, Boston, MA	Monday Day CKO-2	1 <sup>st</sup>
Rain Yu Han Lan, Sudbury, MA	Mon Eve B/C/D Side Swiss	1 <sup>st</sup> B
Todd Kerekes – Patricia Kerekes, Manchester, NH	Monday Gold Rush Pairs	1 <sup>st</sup>
Ginny O'Toole, Yarmouthport, MA - Chuck Greenslit, Framingham, MA - Sol Hartman, Brewster, MA – Barbara McLagan, Sudbury, MA	Tues-Thurs AM KO-1	1 <sup>st</sup>
Stephen Gladyszak, Chelsea, MA	Tues-Thurs AM KO-1	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Nicole Gardner, Watertown, MA – Elizabeth Wood, Arlington, MA – Diana Chirita, Lincoln, MA - Susan Lincoln, Boxford, MA	Tues D/E/F Side Swiss	1 <sup>st</sup>
Alexander Frieden, Brookline, MA	Mon-Tues Side Series	1 <sup>st</sup>
Chang Liu, Cambridge, MA – Yin Yichen, Boston, MA	Tuesday Open Pairs	1 <sup>st</sup> C
Stephen Kolkhorst, Portland - David Waterman, So. Harpswell, ME	Tue-Wed KO - 3	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Michael Wavada, Enfield, CT- Kenneth Leopold, Avon, CT- Trevor Reeves, Farmington, CT – Joseph Sackett, Winchendon, MA	Tues-Wed KO-4	1 <sup>st</sup>
Chris Terajewicz, Newton, MA	Wed 49er Pairs	1 <sup>st</sup> C
Grace Ashton – Johari Ajwang, Hanover, NH	Wed 49er Pairs	2 <sup>nd</sup> C
Laurence Lebowitz, Boston, MA – Adam Grossack, Newton, MA	Wed CKO-1	1 <sup>st</sup>
Alexander Frieden, Brookline, MA	Wed CKO-3	1 <sup>st</sup>
Ginny O'Toole, Yarmouthport, MA - Chuck Greenslit, Framingham, MA - Sol Hartman, Brewster, MA – Barbara McLagan, Sudbury, MA	Wed CKO-3	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Joyce Leary, Andover, MA – Ulla Winkler, Somerville, MA	Wed Eve B/C/D Side Swiss	1 <sup>st</sup> D

Jan Nettler, Florence, MA – David Rosnick, Amherst, MA	Wed Eve 299er Pair	1 <sup>st</sup> D
Dan Jablonski, Stoneham, MA - Cecilla Borrás, Waltham, MA	Wed Mixed Pairs	1 <sup>st</sup> B
Timothy Hill, Wellesley, MA	Wednesday Zip KO-1	1 <sup>st</sup>
Jack Mahoney – Dan Morgenstern, Brunswick, ME	Thurs Day Open Pairs	1 <sup>st</sup> B
Jan Nettler - Sheila Ryan, Florence, MA - David Rosnick, Amherst, MA	Thurs Day CKO-4	1 <sup>st</sup>
Kim Smith, Fairfield, CT- Jill Dimitrief, Boston, MA	Thurs Eve 299er Pairs	1 <sup>st</sup>
Chuck Greenslit, Framingham, MA - Barbara McLagan, Sudbury, MA	Thu Open Pairs	2 <sup>nd</sup> B
Alexander Frieden, Brookline, MA – Donald Caplin, Waltham, MA	Thu Zip KO-1	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Sondra Caplin - Donald Caplin, Waltham, MA	Fri-Sun Side Series	2 <sup>nd</sup> A
Richard DeMartino, Riverside, CT	Friday Day Open Pairs	1 <sup>st</sup> A
Susan Wavada, Enfield, CT	Fri Aft 299er Pairs	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Arkadiusz Sitek, Ashland, MA	Fri CKO-4	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Robert Leese, Amherst, NH – Marshall Thomas, Nashua, NH	Fri Bracketed B Sw– 2	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Jan Nettler - Sheila Ryan, Florence, MA - David Rosnick, Amherst, MA	Fri Brack B Sw– 6	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Laurence Lebowitz, Boston, MA – Adam Grossack, Newton, MA	Fri Day Flight A Swiss	1/2 A, 1 <sup>st</sup> X
Sonja Smith, No. Granby, CT, Paul Burnham, Wilton, CT – Ann Baum, Waltham, MA, Edward Scolnick, Wayland, MA	Fri Day Flight A Swiss	1 <sup>st</sup> Y
Peter Clay, Wellesley, MA – Barry Margolin, Arlington, MA - Nathan Glasser Somerville, MA	Friday Zip KO-1	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Harrison Luba, Lynnfield, MA	Thu-Sat AM Side Series	1 <sup>st</sup> C
Sheila Ryan, Florence, MA - David Rosnick, Amherst, MA	Thu-Sat AM Side Series	2 <sup>nd</sup> C
Jan Nettler - Sheila Ryan, Florence, MA - David Rosnick, Amherst, MA	Fri-Sun Side Series	1 <sup>st</sup> C
Alexander Frieden, Brookline, MA	Fri-Sun Side Series	2 <sup>nd</sup> C
Alexander Frieden, Brookline, MA , Kimberly Gilman, Carlisle, MA	Sat AM Swiss	1 <sup>st</sup>
Silvia Szanto – Rufus Cole, Cos Cob, CT , Terry Lubman, Riverside, CT	Sat Aft Swiss	1 <sup>st</sup> A/B
Sabrina Miles, Mansfield, MA, Darryl Legassie, Milton, NH	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sat Evening Swiss	1 <sup>st</sup> A
Rick Holcomb, Malden, MA – Peter Manzon, Waltham, MA	Sunday Morning Side Game	1 <sup>st</sup> A/B
Silvia Szanto – Rufus Cole, Cos Cob, CT	Sunday Morning Side Game	2 <sup>nd</sup> C
Bill Irvine, Quincy, MA - Haven Sharaf, Danvers, MA	Sunday Afternoon Side Game	1 <sup>st</sup> A

Rick Holcomb, Malden, MA – Peter Manzon, Waltham, MA	Sunday Afternoon Side Game	2 <sup>nd</sup> A / 1 <sup>st</sup> B
Phyllis Fireman, Chestnut Hill, MA	Sunday Flight A Swiss	1 <sup>st</sup> /2 <sup>nd</sup> X
Rick Holcomb, Malden, MA – Peter Manzon, Waltham, MA	Friday Sunday Side Series	1 <sup>st</sup> / 2 <sup>nd</sup>

### Overview of Board of Directors' Meetings

This is a pivotal period for the ACBL. Our goal is to increase membership, improve technology, and bolster volunteerism. Our average age has increased steadily over the past two decades and there is no turnaround in the foreseeable future. The ACBL reminds me of a large canoe. Each of the various stakeholders has a paddle - the CEO, the Board of Directors, the staff, tournament directors, club owners, online bridge companies, professional players, the Board of Governors, the Districts, the Units, and the membership at large. The first challenge in enabling the ACBL to move forward and make swift progress is finding a way to get everyone in the canoe – without the canoe capsizing under the weight. Next, we have to be careful that some stakeholders are not paddling too swiftly, or perhaps not paddling hard enough. Finally, and even more difficult, is to get folks to not all paddle on the same side of the canoe. When any of these situations occur, instead of our being able to move forward, we just end up going around in circles – or worse yet, we might even risk capsizing. I think all parties are working hard to try to figure out how to keep the canoe afloat and to keep it heading in the right direction, but we've sure got a lot of work to do in the months and years ahead.

The days that the board of directors met prior to the start of the Spring NABC actually featured the most productive board meetings I have attended in my relatively short tenure on the board. This I attribute in large measure to a sharp increase in conference calls and detailed committee work done offline in the weeks leading up to the full board meetings – as well as to the excellent leadership and organizational skills of our new President, Jay Whipple, and his committee chairs. The ACBL Board of Directors will be working in the months ahead to enhance progress on strategic initiatives thru improved communication, collaboration and alignment on priorities with the CEO and his management team.

### CEO Update – Bahar Gidwani

- Started temporary memberships. \$7.99 includes 30 day trial, 1-2 ACBL Bulletins and no \$4/session fees
- Changing focus of TAP on “how to play bridge” instead of “how to teach bridge”
- Spent \$2,300 on 4 week online marketing test. Key words “Improving mental fitness” triggered biggest response.
- Expanding Collegiate Bridge with Ed Fund and BBO. 35 college teams (up from 15). 12+ teams to compete in Atlanta
- Formed a Mexican subsidiary
- Membership falloff continues. Lost 12.5K members in 2017 vs. 11K new
- REACH2 6 days -547 clubs - 3294 players. \$30 fee raised \$99K, 21K to districts, \$78K (less 4% admin) to NBO's
- Big Heart ran 1 day in 144 clubs. \$10 fee raised \$1,440 for Charity Foundation
- Testing Purple Pass program to allow payment of entry fees with credit cards. (We'll experiment in Warwick)
- Tournament table counts down 6%. Looking to restructure tournaments and proposing different plans for doing this.
- Finished data migration to new Customer Relationship Management (CRM) and General Ledger Systems (G/L).
- Extended Pianola contract at higher cost.
- Planning to add 2 key staff positions in field operations and IT.
- Must continue to work on improving communication between HQ, the BOD, BOG, and the rest of bridge.

Key motions from the Board meetings - What follows is a capsule summary of the highlights of key motions affecting the players of our district. From a personal perspective, I was quite pleased that many of the motions I had written and important changes I had advocated were approved at these meetings. I didn't win them all, of course. As we go thru the details of the motions, you will see that there some important votes didn't go my way, and some matters were delayed. There were several other detailed matters voted on and discussed during these meetings. Complete details can be found soon when the meeting minutes are posted on [www.acbl.org](http://www.acbl.org). Please feel free to contact me at any time with any questions you may have on any of these items.

Items 181-62 and 181-63 Presidential Appointments affecting D25 players included appointment of Karen McCallum to the Hall of Fame Committee, and Doug Doub to the Competition and Conventions Committee - both through the end of the Spring 2021 NABC.

Item 181-40: Board of Directors' Expenses Reimbursement – This motion would have not required Board members to attend the Board of Governors' Meeting and ended per diem and housing allowance as soon as the board meetings ended – not continuing thru the BOG meeting. It failed by a 1 aye 23 nay 1 absent vote. The board felt that the BOG meetings were very important and the savings generated by this did not warrant board members being discouraged from attending and hearing the opinions of the BOG representatives.

Item 181-11: Revised ACBL Convention Charts – Carried Unanimously – Extensive work was done by Competition and Conventions Committee to develop 4 different convention charts for different levels of competition. Look for more details in upcoming issues of ACBL Bulletin. Effective November 22, 2018.

**Item 181-12: Gold Points Awarded in Non Life Master (NLM) Regionals** – effective 4/2/18 – Carried by a 22-1-2 vote. This motion increases the % of Gold Point awards in <750 mp tournaments to 33% from 25%.

**Item 181-13: Masterpoint Awards at Sectionals with Concurrent NLM Regionals**. – Carried pending a 2<sup>nd</sup> reading in Atlanta. This motion will allow sponsors to count 65% of the tables at NLM Regionals towards the masterpoint awards at concurrent sectionals. The issue here was that concurrent sectionals were getting smaller because of all the NLMs playing at the NLM regional. This bolsters the awards for the LMs playing at concurrent Open sectionals.

**Item 181-14: Increasing Masterpoint Awards for NAP/GNT District Finals** – I proposed this motion in order to create a bit more parity with large gold point awards recently awarded in REACH experiments. This increases from 25% to 50% the percent of points awarded in finals of District GNT/NAP Flight C events that will be gold. Depending upon the number of sessions and current field size minimum requirements, this motion also substantially increases (more than 30%) the overall masterpoint awards in all flights. Carried pending a 2<sup>nd</sup> reading in Atlanta, to become effective 8/6/18.

**Item 181-18: Limited NAP Club Games** : This would have allowed clubs to run open NAP club qualifying games concurrent with limited mp games and add them together for increased mp awards for the open events. Motion failed. 4-21-0.

**Item 181-20: Limited and Invitational Games at STaCs**. This motion was divided into two parts, the first, which pertained to scheduling of different game times, only 3 districts voted against. The second half was much more controversial, as it will entail matchpointing across the entire STaC field. This requires those participating in STaCs to duplicate hands. Clubs who do not pre-duplicate, may still participate in a limited manner in the STaC. They cannot get overall awards, but will receive masterpoint awards at 65% STaC rating. The argument for this is that it makes the STaC a much fairer competition. I voted against this 2<sup>nd</sup> motion. STaCs are not going to be 100% fair, and many small clubs who we are trying to support are going to be impacted adversely by this. The motion carried 18-7, and will become effective 1/1/2019.

**Item 181-51: Adjustments to the Spring NABC Schedule** – A few years ago at a Board of Governors' meeting, Michael McNamara of District 3 spoke out about the inability of players under 60 years of age to have a viable NABC event on the first Sunday of the Spring NABC. I proposed a simple solution for this, which is to swap the Lebharr IMP Pairs and the Leventritt Silver Ribbon Pairs. Starting Spring 2019, on the first Friday and Saturday, eligible players will have the option of playing in the Kay Platinum Pairs, the 0-10,000 Swiss Teams, or the Leventritt Silver Ribbon Pairs. On the first Sunday and Monday, they will be able to play in the Lebharr IMP Pairs. This way, players under 60 will be able to play in an NABC event every day of the Spring NABC. Motion carried 21-3-1.

**Item 181-52 NABC Start Times** – This hotly contested motion would have changed NABC Start times from 1 and 7:30 PM to 1 and 7, but would have allowed for the possibility of changing the evening start time to either 7:30 or 8 PM, with 6 months prior approval by the BOD. A lot of folks like the shorter break, but I voted against this because the longer break allows time to get to a restaurant, helps players who want to rest between sessions, or who have physical limitations requiring extra time to get to the playing area, and it also helps TDs who may need the extra time for scoring corrections, and preparing for the next session. Motion failed 10-15.

**Item 181-53: Adjustments to the Spring NABC Schedule** - This was my idea, and I was thrilled that it was unanimously carried to become effective Spring 2019. The NAP B and C finals are being moved to the final weekend of the NABC. The current schedule of holding these events on the first Sunday and Monday of the NABC was instituted when the Red Ribbon Pairs were introduced, but they were moved to the summer NABC in 2016, and the current schedule makes it tough for players who are not retired. Moving it back to the last weekend is seen as advantageous to players still working, and is a boon to attendance that is hurting during the last two days. The board plans to institute a two day event for Flight B and C players during the final Thursday and Friday of the NABC as a warm-up opportunity - and to further bolster attendance.

### **Looking Ahead**

I encourage all to book reservations now for the Summer NABC in Atlanta (July 26-Aug 5, 2018) before rooms at the very attractive rate of \$149 plus tax are sold out. (Remember the new ACBL Policy about booking cancellations!) Most importantly, please don't delay making plans for Hawaii (Nov 22 – Dec 2, 2018 ) before flights fill up and prices start rising!

Don't miss out on these NABC's! Start spreading the news about the Providence Summer 2021 NABC! (July 15-25, 2021) There is absolutely nothing more exciting to a bridge enthusiast than attending an NABC!

Mark J. Aquino, Sr.

District Director, D25

