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## NVBA E-News - 11/14 unit game is teams - free beginner lessons and 99er mini game start this week

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NVBA Board of Directors &lt;announcements@nvba.org&gt;

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### Dear Ronald:

Last Thursday's unit game had 11 tables. Congratulations to winners **Alan Schwartz - Annie Schwartz (EW)** and **John Wertman - Joia Hertz (NS)**. [Full results here](#). This week's unit game will be a [GNT qualifier team game](#).



This week marks the start of a new series of **free lessons for newer players** at 6:15pm before the unit game, and a new **99er mini game** alongside the main game starting at 7pm (attendance permitting). If you're interested in the lessons or the mini game, please come. If you have friends or family members who might be interested, please encourage them to come. More details below.

After a hiatus last week for election day, the Tuesday online NVBA 699er game will resume this week (11/12 at 7pm) with a special promotion offering double black masterpoints.

Congratulations to these NVBA members who [advanced in rank in October](#): new junior masters **Westy Kent, Carol Rentz, and Mindy Scango**; new club masters **Bonnie Norem and Lawrence Zerolnick**; new NABC master **Thomas Osborne**; new advanced NABC master **Sylvia Hall**; new life masters **Santosh Chokhani, Brenda Egeland, and Michael Miale**; new bronze life master **Mark Orms**; new silver life master **Daniel Morgan**; and new emerald life master **Mark Tonnesen**.

The NVBA [Winners Circle](#) now includes a list of NVBA masterpoint winners at October's [Lancaster regional](#). Congratulations to top winners **Amy Brisson (46.5)**, **Hal Hindman (46.5)**, and **Sumner Steinfeldt (38.8)**.

Longtime NVBA member **Mark Chen** is relocating to Charleston, South Carolina, this week. For the past 2+ years, he has written and edited this weekly NVBA email, keeping us all informed and connected. We extend our heartfelt thanks for his dedication and contributions, and we wish him the best as he embarks on a new chapter of his life.

### Free Beginner Lessons Before the Unit Game and 99er Mini Game Alongside the Main Game

**Starting this Thursday, November 14, there will be free lessons for newer players before the weekly NVBA unit game** (located at Beth El Hebrew Congregation, [3830 Seminary Road, Alexandria](#)). Each week's lesson will be **from 6:15pm to just before 7pm**. The lessons will be aimed at beginning players and anyone else who wants to review or relearn the fundamentals of bridge. The lessons for the first four weeks will deal with opening 1NT and responder's possible responses to that bid.

If there are eight or more players, **a separate mini game limited to players with fewer than 100 masterpoints will start at 7pm and end at about 9pm**. You are welcome to play in the 99er mini game whether or not you participate in the lesson.

Reservations are not required, but it would be nice to know who is attending, so we can prepare enough handouts for the lesson and set up tables for the mini game. If you plan to attend this week's session, or a future session, **please inform Marty Bley** at [campspringsduplicatebc@gmail.com](mailto:campspringsduplicatebc@gmail.com). If you need a partner for the mini game, please mention that in your email.

All participants must pay the facility's \$2 security fee. The mini game is free for first timers and half price (\$5) for players with under 20 masterpoints.

### Thursday Night NVBA Unit Game

- The NVBA unit game starts at 7pm. Please arrive at least ten minutes before game time.
- The game is held at [Beth El \(3830 Seminary Road, Alexandria\)](#).
- Starting 11/14, there will be a free lesson for newer players before the game at 6:15pm, and a separate 99er mini game (if attendance permits) from 7pm to 9pm.
- If you need a partner or teammates for any Thursday unit game, please email [Amy Elmore](#), preferably by 4pm on Tuesday. You can also use the [RSVP Bridge](#) reservation system to look for a partner.
- Plan ahead for future unit games by viewing the [2024 Unit Game Schedule](#).

### NVBA Clubs and Online Games

- The [Clubs](#) page of the NVBA website lists 16 in-person club games. If you're interested in playing one of these games, please contact the listed director to confirm the game is on, make a reservation, and get help finding a partner if you need one.
- The [NVBA online 699er \(formerly 499er\) game](#) is on BBO every Tuesday at 7:00pm. The game is hosted by NVBA director Joe Hertz in partnership with the SE Carolina Club of Clubs. On BBO, select "Virtual Clubs", then "ACBL - North America", then "NVBA/SE Carolina - 699".
- All can play in any [SE Carolina Club of Clubs](#) game on BBO. Multiple 799er, 0-2500, and open games are offered each day. If you are an NVBA player, \$2 of your entry fee comes back to the NVBA to help support our activities.

### Just for New and Intermediate Players

- Players of all levels are always welcome at the NVBA unit game on Thursday evenings. Starting 11/14, there will be a free lesson for newer players before the game, and a separate mini 99er game (if attendance permits).
- The NVBA online 699er game on Tuesday evenings was established specifically for new and intermediate players.
- ACBL offers [Community Games](#) on BBO on Tuesday and Thursday evenings at 6pm (0-20 players) and 6:10pm (0-50 players) with a free lesson on Zoom after the game.
- [ACBL Clubhouse](#) games take place on BBO daily, with multiple sessions for 0-20, 49er, 99er, 199er, and 299er players.
- ACBL offers free no-masterpoints [Social Bridge](#) games on RealBridge every Monday from 6pm to 9pm. Drop in any time and stay as long as you like.
- [Shark Bridge](#) offers ACBL members a free daily 12-board no-masterpoints tournament with a robot partner against robot opponents. No board timer or round timer. Start any time and finish by midnight.
- The *Learn About Bridge* section of the [NVBA home page](#) has a list of links to useful resources.

### Selected Upcoming Sectional, Regional, and National Tournaments

- [Las Vegas 2024 Fall NABC](#) - Thu 11/28 to Sun 12/8
- [District 6 Sectional Tournament at Clubs \(STAC\)](#) - Mon 12/9 - Sun 12/15

- The NVBA website has a list of other [2024 tournaments of interest](#).

Play well, have fun, and see you at the tables!

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