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NVBA E-News - first beginner lesson and 99er game a huge success! - holiday party is 12/12

NVBA Board of Directors <announcements@nvba.org>

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Reply-To: announcements@nvba.org

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Dear Ronald:

Turnout was excellent for last Thursday's debut of **free lessons for newer players** at 6:15pm before the unit game, and of a new **99er mini game** alongside the open game starting at 7pm. The first lesson focused on opening 1NT and how to raise in notrump with a balanced hand. The 99er game had four tables -- congratulations to winners **Jerry Griffin - Leo Surla** (NS) and **Robert Gentry - Scott James** (EW). [Full results here](#). This week's lesson will discuss the Stayman convention. If you came last week, we hope you'll come back. If you couldn't make it last week, we hope you'll come this week. If you have friends or family members who might be interested, please encourage them to come too. More details below.



The open section at last week's unit game was a **GNT qualifier** with 14 teams. Congratulations to the winning team, **Hal Hindman - Sumner Steinfeldt - Robert Gookin - Sarah Anne Cressy**. [Full results here](#).

In last Tuesday's online NVBA 699er game, congratulations to winners **George Saile - Sharon Saile** at 60%, **Deanna Shuman - Ann Hunter** at 56%, and **Joseph Luchini - Victoria Luchini** at 54%. All are NVBA players. [Full results here](#). Starting with this week's game, **Joe Hertz** will host a **recap of the boards on Zoom** following the game.

Mark your calendar for the **NVBA holiday party on December 12** before the regular Thursday unit game. The NVBA will provide the meat. Everyone who participates should bring a side dish: starch, veggie, or salad. Watch this space for additional details.

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

There are now **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 next three weeks will continue to discuss 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. If you need a partner for the mini game, please mention that in your email.

The lesson is free. All participants in the mini game must pay the facility's \$2 security fee. The mini game is otherwise free for first timers and players with under 5 masterpoints, and half price (\$5) for players with 5 to 20 masterpoints. If you are attending the lesson and planning to play in the mini game, it will help the game start on time if you pay before the lesson starts.

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 \(3830 Seminary Road, Alexandria\)](#).
- There is 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 for the 99er game, please email [Marty Bley](#).
- If you need a partner or teammates for the open section of 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 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". Starting 11/19, Joe will host a recap of the boards on Zoom following the game.
- 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. There is now 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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