

NVBA E-News - Silver Spring sectional is Jan 9-12

NVBA Board of Directors <announcements@nvba.org>
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To: RonKral@gmail.com

Mon, Jan 6, 2025 at 6:45 AM

Dear Ronald:

Happy new year!

Last week's unit game had 9 tables. Congratulations to winners **Irene Reiter - Rene Costales** (NS) and **Michael Swift - Andrew Rowberg** (EW). [Full results here](#). The pre-game lesson was on playing in a suit contract. This week's unit game will include the usual open section, a separate 99er section (attendance permitting), and a free pre-game lesson on the topic of major suit bidding. See below for more details about the 99er game and the pre-game lesson. If you haven't tried them yet, please come and check them out!



After a holiday break, the Tuesday **online NVBA 699er game will resume on January 7** at the usual 7:00pm start time.

The **WBL Winter Sectional is January 9-12**. It will include the Thursday unit game (with silver points!) plus pairs and teams games for players of all levels Friday through Sunday at the Margaret Schweinhaut Senior Center in Silver Spring, MD. [Full schedule here](#). **Special note for new and intermediate players:** On Saturday afternoon the schedule includes a section just for players with fewer than 20 masterpoints, and 0-500 sections are offered throughout the weekend.

Registration is open for the **District 6 finals** of the **Grand National Teams**. The registration deadline for Flight C is **January 16**. For the Championship (Open) Flight and Flight B, the deadline is **January 23**. Flight A will be held later, with registration opening in April.

Free Lessons for Newer Players 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 are aimed at players who want to review or relearn the fundamentals of bridge. They address a progression of topics on bidding and play of the hand. There is a schedule of [future lesson topics](#), with links to handouts from past lessons when available.
- 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 [2025 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”. 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 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

- [60th Annual Presidential WBL Sectional](#) (Silver Spring) - Thu Jan 9 to Sun Jan 12
- [Richmond Sectional](#) - Fri Jan 10 to Sun Jan 12
- [Virginia Beach Sectional](#) - Fri Jan 24 to Sun Jan 26
- The NVBA website has a list of other [2025 tournaments of interest](#).

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

Your NVBA Board

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This message was sent to RonKral@gmail.com from announcements@nvba.org

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