



# Daily Bulletin

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## Young players living Tucker's dream

Five years ago, one of Patty Tucker's biggest dreams was realized in Norcross GA, a suburb of Atlanta. The founder of Atlanta Junior Bridge had achieved major success with that organization, but she wanted more for young bridge players.



"There are groups of kids playing all over the country, but they never get to meet each other," Tucker says with her typical passion.

"I met so many nice people who I have been friends with for years and years," she adds, "and I met them at NABCs. I thought the kids deserved the same."

That desire gave birth to the first Youth NABC, which was organized to run concurrent with a sectional in Norcross. When the three-day tournament concluded, Tucker counted 198 different players age 19 and younger, including 98 Atlanta Junior Bridge members. The number of participants is still a Youth NABC record.

Tucker, co-chair at this tournament with Bryan Delfs, says there's a good chance the record will be broken in Atlanta.

Although Tucker has not chaired every Youth

NABC, she has not missed one. "I have helped where needed," she says.

She loves the fact that some of the Youth NABC competitors meet online partners face to face for the first time, or get their first taste of duplicate.

The Youth NABC grew out of Atlanta Junior Bridge, which has taught bridge to 4000 young players. The AJB data base has more than 1400 families.

Kids, she says, go in and out of bridge, but there is a core of about 60 in the Atlanta area who play regularly and show up for all the tournaments.

Tucker says she was inspired to start the Youth NABC "because I thought there were a lot of kids who were just like me who would love bridge and want to play. I wanted to give them the opportunity to play with people their own age. It's much more fun to play with your peers."

Life is good for Tucker these days. She teaches 16 bridge classes a week, has a contract with Master Point Press to produce eight bridge books, and her Whirlwind Bridge company, which puts on the Learn Bridge in a DAY? seminars, is going great guns. She even gets to play bridge now and then, although not as often as her husband and favorite partner, Kevin Collins, would like.

In the end, she says, relationships and friends made through bridge are more important than masterpoints and trophies. "You can accumulate too many of those," she says, "but you can never accumulate too many friends."

## Welcome to the Youth NABC

Where has the time gone? It seems like yesterday that we were playing bridge in Philadelphia. It seems like only a short time ago that this event was last in Atlanta.



Welcome to all of our new players, who are competing in the Youth NABC for the first time.

Welcome back to all of those players who have previously attended a Youth NABC. We're thrilled to have you with us.

Day one is over, and we are delighted to report that this is the largest start to the Youth NABC ever. We are expecting more and to arrive on Friday and Saturday, which has the potential to make this the largest Youth NABC ever.

If you have any friends or family members who aren't playing, they can still register on site and participate.

We have some great entertainment planned for you as well, which will be held in the Hanover Ballroom at 5:30 p.m. on Friday and Saturday.

Don't forget to take your shot at naming the Mystery Hand, displayed in this issue.

Best of luck to all of our competitors!

## Wide variety of competitors for Youth NABC's return to Atlanta

Erica Everett lives in Foley AL, a town of about 14,000 near the Florida Panhandle. She drove from there to Atlanta, and professes, "I can't believe I did that." Atlanta, she says, is "huge, and scary at times." The traffic on the interstate highway is intimidating.



**They came all the way from McGrath AK to play in the Youth NABC: seated, Cherish Andrews, Sterling Magnuson and Madelyn Novak; standing, Jett Novak, Sarah Edwards and Bryan Goodwin.**

Still, Everett would do it again in a heartbeat if her daughter, Nia, wanted to attend another Youth NABC. Bridge, says Everett, is great for her daughter.

Nia is about to enter the fifth grade in Foley, and her mother notes that from the third grade to the end of the fourth, Nia's math grades have improved measurably. "Her scores are now at the seventh-grade level," Everett says, "and she improved in one year after starting bridge."

Nia and her mother are among the players and families who have flocked to Atlanta for the 6th Youth NABC, the first of which took place five years ago in the Atlanta suburb of Norcross.

Nia plays bridge every Tuesday and proclaims bridge to be "pretty fun." She says she likes the card play better than bidding.

Harley Bress, former ACBL employee now living and teaching school in tiny McGrath AK – population 300, "maybe 350," he says – escorted three young players to the Youth NABC in Philadelphia last year. For the Atlanta tournament, he doubled the total.



**The 6th Youth NABC featured this international table: Michael Luzzi, Amanda Luzzi, Venezuela; Madeline Wheaton, Canada, and Bunmi Soremi, Nigeria.**



**David Metcalf and Nancy Watson are the tournament directors for the Youth NABC.**

He says the three who went to Philadelphia last year spread the word about how much fun they had playing bridge. "More kids turned out to play this year," Bress says. "They heard the other kids talking about how much fun they had so they wanted to come."

Bress has offered bridge an elective for students at his school, and the youngsters are keen enough to play that they will stay on for the World Youth Open Bridge Championships, which begin on Saturday and

*continued on next page*



**Snehal Oberai of Atlanta fills out one of the forms with names from the collages created by Youth NABC Co-Chair Patty Tucker. Anyone who puts 15 names on the form will be entered in a drawing. Three winners will each receive an iTunes gift card. Entrants are encouraged to ask for help in identifying people in the collages, made up of photos from the first Youth NABC in 2008. Check out the collages on the next page.**

### YNABC competitors

*continued from previous page*

continue through Aug. 11.

The young players have come from all over the U.S. and from a few foreign countries. A contingent from China is expected today.

One table in the Thursday games featured players representing three different countries – Canada, Venezuela and Nigeria.

The Nigerian player, Bunmi Soremi, is the daughter of Dr. Oludapo Soremi, a pediatrician in Apopka FL, near Orlando. Bunmi is enrolled in a gifted program at her school and was encouraged by her teacher to take up bridge, which was just introduced, “because it includes problem solving, logic and strategy.”

Soremi says his other daughter is likely to acquire an interest in bridge because the girls are “competitive.”

Jake Olsen, about to enter his sophomore year in high school in Portland OR, traveled on his own to Atlanta for the Youth NABC. The trip across the country wasn’t so bad, the 15-year-old says, but confusion set in once he landed at the airport in Atlanta.

He couldn’t find the MARTA station right away and had to ask several time, then he wasn’t sure which train to take, but he’s settled in at the Best Western Hotel with three roommates.

Jake has been playing online with Amber Lin of New Jersey, and the two met in person for the first time in Atlanta. They won their section with a 64% game in the morning pairs event on Thursday.

Bridge, he says, “is a challenge, and it helps my mental ability in school. I really love it.”

Jake says he wasn’t much of a reader before taking up bridge, but now he’s reading a lot, favoring Kurt Vonnegut currently.



*Nia Everett and her mom, Erica.*



*Amber Lin and Jake Olsen were second in the Thursday Youth Pairs, Strat A.*

*Jenna Strickland and Andrew Kukapali.*



### Guess the mystery hand

This hand was held many years ago by a famous player. It was played against other famous players in a famous event. Those are all the hints you will get for now. Maybe more tomorrow. Here’s the hand:

♠7 6 5 2 ♥K 4 3 2 ♦J 5 3 ♣K 10

# BARON BARCLAY BRIDGE SUPPLY



Players sign up for the 6th Youth NABC. The first of the popular tournaments took place five years ago in the Atlanta area.



Winners of the Thursday Youth Pairs, Strat A: Christopher Forte and Rianne Heading.



Matthew Tracy and Christian Kofod were first in the Thursday Youth Pairs, Strats B and C.



Zinan Zhou and Bai Lu were second in the Thursday Youth Pairs, Strat C.



Second in the Morning Cardrork Pairs were Robert Brownrigg and Nickolas Edstrom.



Katherine and Matthew Pope were first in the Morning Cardrork Pairs, Strat C.



Kevin Rodriguez and Niresha Wanigasekara, winners of the Morning Cardrork Pairs, Strats A and B.



Amanda Harper and Kristofer Edstrom were second in the Morning Cardrork Pairs, Strat A.



Jackson Miller and Gianni Hsieh were second in the Thursday Youth Pairs, Strat B.



# 2013 Youth NABC Schedule Atlanta GA

THURSDAY YOUTH PAIRS			
23.0 Tables	A	B	C
5.98	1		Christopher Forte, Palm Coast FL; Raianne Heading, Ormond Beach FL 69.72%
4.49	2		Amber Lin, Edison NJ; Jake Olsen, Portland OR 65.34%
3.36	3	1	1 Christian Kofod - Matthew Tracy, Raleigh NC 64.99%
2.52	4	2	Gianni Hsieh, Naperville IL; Jackson Miller, Vienna VA 63.63%
1.89	5	3	Eleanor Fashingbauer, Belvidere IL; Theo Allen, Armonk NY 63.37%
1.42	6	4	Sidhesh Desai - Nisarg Shah, Alpharetta GA 63.06%
1.39		5	Yichuan Luo, Williamsville NY; J Alex Maloney, Mahomet IL 62.22%
1.04		6	2 Zinan Zhou - Bai Lu, 60.69%
1.33		3	Sharan Kumar, Holmdel NJ; Timothy Lou, Morganville NJ 60.58%
0.95		4	Olivia Colburn - Andrew Mulia, Alpharetta GA 60.09%
0.67		5	Evan Jones, Lower Coverdale NB; Jake Rice, Riverview NB 59.12%
1.39		6	William Marriott, Cary NC; Alexander Sung, New York NY 58.33%
THURS MORNING CARDROOK PAIRS			
14.0 Tables	A	B	C
1.12	1	1	Kevin Rodriguez, Germantown TN; Niresha wanigasekara, Cordova TN 67.76%
0.84	2		Amanda Harper, Winter Park FL; Kristofer Edstrom, Apopka FL 63.69%
0.63	3		Emalie Houk - Alex Houk, Mt Pleasant SC 59.62%
0.47	4		Ryan Jones, Lower Coverdale NB; Jeremy Roberts, Smoke Rise GA 59.52%
0.39	5		Cherish Andrews - Sarah Edwards, McGrath AK 59.40%
0.28	6		Ma Ving Zhi - Anahyah Muldrow, 56.25%
0.65		2	1 Katherine Pope - Matthew Pope, Justin TX 55.26%
0.48		3	2 Nickolas Edstrom, Apopka FL; Robert Brownrigg, Altamonte Spg FL 54.46%
0.36		4	Emily Mattison, Germantown TN; Hudson Cushing, Vancouver WA 53.87%
0.39		5	Jenna Strickland - Andrew Kukkapalli, Cordova TN 51.96%
0.33		6	3 Snehal Oberai - Samay Desai, Alpharetta GA 51.70%
0.24		4	Pico Gilman, San Francisco CA; Julie Mak, San Francisco CA 50.50%
THURSDAY AFTERNOON CARDROOK PAIRS			
17.5 Tables	A	B	C
1.62	1		Hailey Botkins - Bernadette Williams, Williamsburg VA 77.00%
1.22	2		Tanner Hess, Fairhope AL; Cutter Green, Falkville AL 70.58%
0.91	3		Sharan Kumar, Holmdel NJ; Timothy Lou, Morganville NJ 67.25%

THURSDAY YOUTH PAIRS MORNING SESSION			
SECTION III			
A	B	C	
1			69.72%
2	1		62.22%
3			61.89%
4	2	1	60.69%
5	3		55.37%
	4	2	47.17%
SECTION IIIJ			
A	B	C	
1			63.83%
2	2		63.37%
3			63.06%
4	4	1	55.00%
	2	2	50.85%
		3	43.31%
SECTION IIIK			
A	B	C	
1			63.69%
2			59.62%
3			59.52%
4			54.17%
5	1		51.96%
6	2	1	51.70%
	3		50.63%
		2	50.50%
THURSDAY MORNING CARDROOK PAIRS			
SECTION LLL			
A	B	C	
1			63.69%
2			59.62%
3			59.52%
4			54.17%
5	1		51.96%
6	2	1	51.70%
	3		50.63%
		2	50.50%
THURSDAY AFTERNOON CARDROOK PAIRS			
SECTION IIIJ			
A	B	C	
1			67.25%
2	1		63.67%
3			62.73%
4			59.58%
5			58.33%
59.50%			
6			56.70%
7	3		54.33%
	4		52.70%
	5		51.55%

0.68	4			Emalie Houk - Alex Houk, Mt Pleasant SC 65.00%
1.24	5	1	1	Alexander Sung, New York NY; Brandon Fong, Mt Laurel NJ 63.67%
0.93	6	2		Ryan Jones, Lower Coverdale NB; Jeboa Strong, Foley AL 62.73%
0.70		3		Michael Luzzi, Altamonte Spgs FL; Madeline Wheaton, Alpanomte Spr FL 59.50%
0.52		4		Niresha Wanigasekara, Cordova TN; Kevin Rodriguez, Germantown TN 56.25%
0.39		5		Andrew Kukkapalli - Jenna Strickland, Cordova TN 55.67%
0.31		6		Rachel Tyre - Jemi Folkes, Acworth GA 54.33%
0.57		2		Grace Stoker, Altamonte Spgs FL; Krystal Wu, Johns Creek GA 51.50%
0.43		3		Snehal Oberai - Samay Desai, Alpharetta GA 44.63%
YOUTH SWISS TEAMS				
20 Tables	A	B	C	
5.60	1			Daniel Chai, Marlboro NJ; Edward Cai, Morganville NJ; Victor Lamoureux, Dartmouth NS; Jason Miller, Tampa FL 49.00
4.20	2	1		Caleb Colburn - Sidhesh Desai, Alpharetta GA; Vincent Zhu - Raymond Zhu, Duluth GA 47.00
3.15	3	2		Jeremy Roberts - Abigail Roberts, Smoke Rise GA; Piper Ziebarth, Cordova TN; Eric Rodriguez, Germantown TN 42.00
2.07	4/5			Cooper Smith, Marquette MI; Henry Trautwein, Naples FL; Amber Lin, Edison NJ; Jake Olsen, Portland OR 37.00
2.07	4/5	3		Sophia Chang, San Gabriel CA; Lucy Zhang, Arcadia CA; Ashley Reddock, Alpharetta GA; Divali Legore, Roswell GA 37.00
1.33	6			Mariah Stopper - Raymond Stopper, Houston TX; Kevin Rosenberg, Cupertino CA; Ben Kristensen, Duluth MN 35.00
1.05		4		Evan Berman, Sarasota FL; Tyler Hart, Reno NV; Eleanor Fashingbauer, Belvidere IL; Gianni Hsieh, Naperville IL 33.00
0.69		5/6		Nisarg Shah - Alec Zhan - Anuj Das - Kunal Vohra, Alpharetta GA 32.00
1.16		5/6	1	Brandon Flaschner - Steven Petocz - Todd Cardillo, Palm Coast FL; Michael Fitzpatrick, Palm Court FL 32.00
0.87		2		Evan Jones, Lower Coverdale NB; Jake Rice - Brant Guimond - Dru Guimond, Riverview NB 31.00
0.65		3		Jake Williams - Luke Williams, San Diego CA; Albena-Maria Vassileva - Olivia Laufer, North Bay ON 30.00
0.49		4		Sunidhi Ramesh - Hansen Horvath - Sireesh Ramesh - Wilbert Liu, Alpharetta GA 25.00

64.99%				Christian Kofod - Matthew Tracy, Raleigh NC 64.99%
60.58%				Sharan Kumar, Holmdel NJ; Timothy Lou, Morganville NJ 60.58%
60.09%				Olivia Colburn - Andrew Mulia, Alpharetta GA 60.09%
59.12%				Evan Jones, Lower Coverdale NB; Jake Rice, Riverview NB 59.12%
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50.50%				Pico Gilman, San Francisco CA; Julie Mak, San Francisco CA 50.50%
77.00%				Hailey Botkins - Bernadette Williams, Williamsburg VA 77.00%
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