

WELCOME TO

BRIDGEISCOOL.COM

SCHOOL BULLETIN



BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE AMERICAN CONTRACT BRIDGE LEAGUE



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Juniors and 2006

Hope you enjoy the first edition of the Bridge Is Cool Bulletin. This is the old Grapevine newsletter for Juniors in it's exciting new form.

There are so many fun things happening in 2006. Be sure to stay in touch with the BridgeisCool.com web site for all of the latest information.

Try our new interactive quiz on page 2 and plan to participate in the Junior activities for which you qualify in the new year ...

- ♠ NA College Bridge Team Championship
- ♠ The King/Queen of Bridge Scholarship
- ♠ World Junior Pairs and Camp (Slovakia)
- ♠ OKBridge Junior Collegiate Team Championship (online)
- ♠ World Youth Team Championship (Thailand)
- ♠ Scholarships for Junior Bridge Teachers
- ♠ The Three North American Bridge Championships (Dallas, Chicago, Hawaii)
- ♠ Masterpoint Races

We have a lot to look forward to, so get involved!

Wolpert and Ryman shatter age record in Blue Ribbon Pairs victory



Check out the details of the spectacular Blue Ribbon Pairs win by Juniors Gavin Wolpert and Jenny Ryman at our BIC web site (Youth Trumps the Experts).

On this deal from the second final session, a well-reasoned bid by Ryman paid off handsomely:

Dlr: West	♠ Q J 10		
Vul: Both	♥ K 9 6 3		
	♦ Q 7 4 2		
	♣ J 10		
	♠ 4		♠ K 8 3 2
	♥ A J 7 5		♥ 10 8 4
	♦ J 9 3		♦ A 8 6 5
	♣ A 6 5 4 2		♣ 8 7
	♠ A 9 7 6 5		
	♥ Q 2		
	♦ K 10		
	♣ K Q 9 3		

(continued on page 4)

Attention college students! Win a trip to Chicago!

The 2006 North American College Bridge Team Championship will be held online at www.bridgebase.com on Saturday, Feb. 18, at 1 p.m. Eastern Standard Time.

Qualifying teams will win a trip to the Summer North American Bridge Championships to play in the final.

Teams from colleges or universities (more than one team per school is welcome) may register for the zonal qualifying stage by contacting juniors@acbl.org before Feb. 12, 2006. Teams must consist of four players born in 1980 or later. Players must attend the same school and must be currently taking at least seven semester hours of credit.

The number of teams qualifying depends on the number of teams playing in the online event. Each qualifying team member will receive airfare to Chicago from a city in North America and hotel expenses for three nights. Members of the winning team will each receive a \$500 scholarship.



January 2006

AMERICAN CONTRACT BRIDGE LEAGUE

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www.acbl.org



Scholarships available for Juniors

A scholarship program is available for ACBL Juniors. The program is available to college and high school bridge players who actively seek to teach bridge to others. It is open to all ACBL Juniors still involved in the educational system.

The program will award \$500 scholarships to those who teach a class of at least eight students under 26 years of age the equivalent of the ACBL Bidding Series (Club Series) or 16 hours of lessons. The ACBL Education Department will provide books, t-shirts and an additional stipend of \$350 for teaching the course. The scholarship is payable only to an accredited college, university or trade school for high school graduates.

Contact Charlotte Blaiss juniors@acbl.org to register classes for the school and scholarship program.



2006 World Junior Pairs and Camp

Join other Junior players from all over the world for the World Youth Pairs and Camp. Both events will take place in **Piestany, Slovakia**. The Youth Pairs will run from June 30–July 2 and will immediately be followed by the camp July 3–10.

These events are not just for experienced players. Any ACBL Junior age 17 to 23 may apply. Some subsidy may be available from the United States Bridge Federation; however, Juniors will be responsible for their own transportation. For more information, contact juniors@acbl.org.

Play Contest

Test your bridge IQ! Win a copy of the Bridge Master 2000 CD with more bridge fun than ever before by correctly solving the problem. Submit your detailed response to juniors@acbl.org.

Contestants must be Juniors (under 26), ACBL members and registered at the Bridge Is Cool web site. All submissions must be received prior to Feb. 25. A drawing of all correct answers will take place on Feb. 27. The correct answer and winner will be posted on the Bridge Is Cool web site.

IMPS

Both sides vulnerable.

North

♠ A 4 2
♥ Q J 10 4
♦ —
♣ A K Q 10 9 8

South

♠ K 10 9
♥ 9 5
♦ K Q J 6
♣ 6 5 4 2

South	West	North	East
Pass	Pass	1 ♣	Pass
1 ♦	Pass	1 ♥	Pass
1 NT	Pass	3 NT	(All Pass)

West leads the six of spades. **How do you plan the play?**

BRIDGEISCOOL.com

They're adding up by the thousands — the visitors to the new BridgeIsCool.com web site for younger players. This is where you now can find the latest news of junior events, accomplishments and more. You also can register to receive special announcements and be eligible for contest prizes.

BridgeIsCool also links you to our partners in bridge — organizations such as Girls Inc. and the YMCA that are helping the ACBL spread the word about our great game. You also will find links to teachers dedicated to mentoring younger players and even to other gaming sites.

Add BridgeIsCool.com to your favorites, sign up and visit us often.



ACBL Juniors represent USA & Canada in World Championships in Thailand



One Canadian and two USA teams have qualified to participate in the 2006 World Youth Team Championship in Bangkok, Thailand, July 29–August 8. Also, in Bangkok there will be the a Schools Division for players under the age of 21. The USA will send two teams and Canada plans to send one team to participate in the World Schools Team Championship.

Canada's lineup for the Youth Championship includes Gavin Wolpert, David Grainger, Erin Anderson, Samantha Nystrom, Daniel Korbel and Susan Korbel. John Carruthers will be non-playing captain.

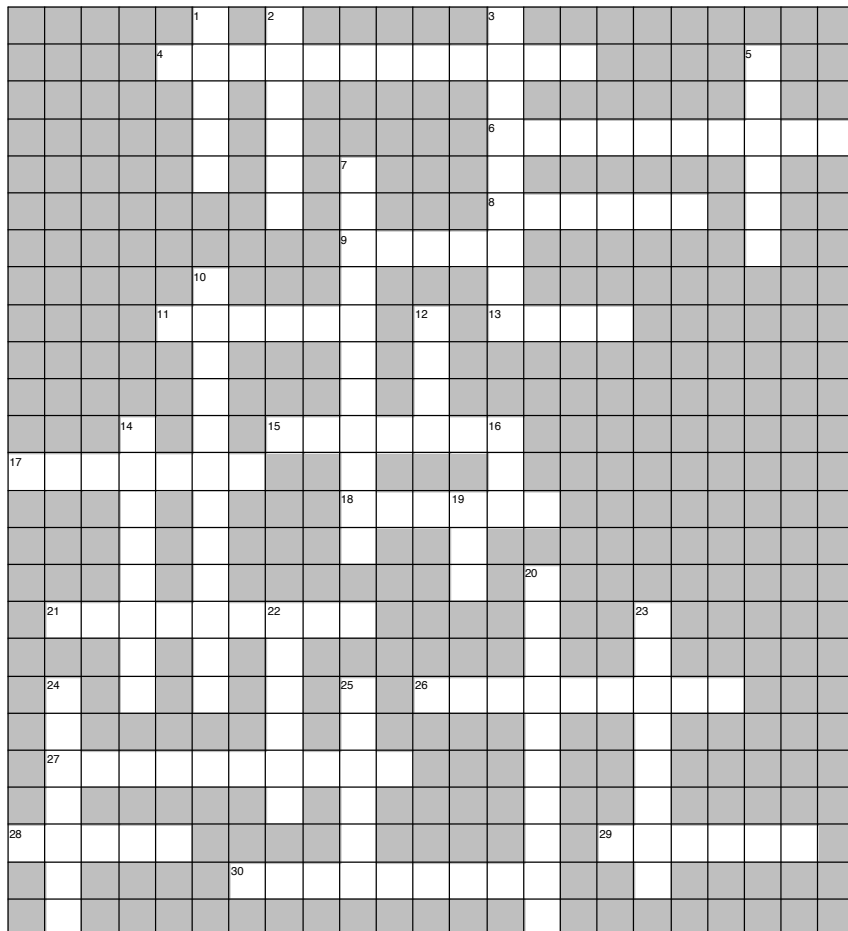
USA Team 1 – Joe Grue, John Kranyak, Justin Lall and Ari Greenberg — were approved by the United States Bridge Federation to defend their title as World Champions which they won at the 2005 event in Sydney, Australia. They added Jason Feldman and Josh Donn as their third pair. Bob Rosen is non-playing captain.

The trials to select USA Junior Team 2 were held in Denver during the recent Fall NABC. The winners were Noble Shore, Jon Rice, Mike Rice and Mike Gill. The team added Mike Develin and John Barth as their third pair and selected Mike Cappelletti, Jr as their non-playing captain.

Playing for the USA Schools Team will be David Banh, Meredith Beck, Kevin Dwyer, Jeremy Fournier, Robert Glickman, Daniel Goldfein, Sam Katz, Owen Lien, Matt Meckstroth and Xing Yuan. The exact make-up of each team will be determined at a later date.

BRIDGEWORD

By Harley Bress (answers on page 5)



Across

4. 2 heart call after 2 spades
6. Spades over diamonds for example
8. New player
9. English pass
11. Refusal to win a trick
13. Raise only non-force
15. Badly misplay
17. Laydown
18. redouble
21. Type of strong club
26. Tournament giving silver points
27. Queens and jacks
28. Substandard opening
29. duplicate movement
30. Save

Down

1. Jack
2. long pause
3. Captain
5. Threat card
7. 4-4-3-2 for one
10. Diamonds and spades
12. Same result at teams
14. two-suited majors bid
16. Cash winning cards in a suit
19. Cold
20. Hand discussion
22. Doubling penalty
23. Permission to hold a duplicate event
24. Non-attacking
25. Describer

BEGINNER'S CORNER



How do you play this hand to make 12 tricks?

North

- ♠ x x x
- ♥ j x x
- ♦ K Q 10 x
- ♣ A K x

South

- ♠ A K
- ♥ A K x x
- ♦ A J x x
- ♣ Q x x

The contract is 6NT and West leads the ♠Q. What line offers you the best chance to make your contract? (Hint: There are three chances with the best line.)

Declarer needs 12 tricks to make the contract. There are 2 tricks in spades, 2 tricks in hearts, 4 tricks in diamonds, and 3 tricks in

clubs for a total of 11 **sure** tricks. You have 3 chances to make a 12th trick. Can you see how to cater to these chances? First, lead the ♥A or ♥K to see if the ♥Q will drop. When it doesn't, now lead a small heart to the dummy's ♥J hoping West has the ♥Q (if he does, he will probably go up to win the trick, but if he doesn't, you should still play the ♥J from dummy). When East shows up with the ♥Q, win the return and play the last high heart from your hand. If hearts split 3-3, you have 12 tricks.

Blue Ribbon Pairs victory

(continued from page 1)

West	North	East	South
	<i>Wolpert</i>		<i>Ryman</i>
2♣	Pass	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

West's 2♣ was Precision, showing a hand of up to 15 high-card points with five clubs and a four-card major or any hand with six or more clubs. Ryman might have bid 2♠ in the balancing seat, but that wouldn't necessarily show the strength of her hand — plus, it had to be better to have the 2♣ bidder leading up to her strong holding in clubs.

As the play went, West did not get the defense off to the best start, leading a low heart. Ryman finished with 10 tricks for plus 630 and 35.5 out of 38 matchpoints.

OKBridge TOURNAMENT

The 10th annual Junior Collegiate Team Championship sponsored by the Fifth Chair Foundation and OKBridge (www.okbridge.com) will be held Feb. 25–26. This annual event pits college and university bridge teams from around the world in online competition.

The team event is open to Juniors under 26 years of age who are currently enrolled in a college or university. All team members must agree to play under the name of one school, but players are not required to attend the same school.

To register, contact tuna@okbridge.com.

The championship is sanctioned by the ACBL and masterpoints will be awarded. OKbridge provides free, temporary player accounts for all team members.

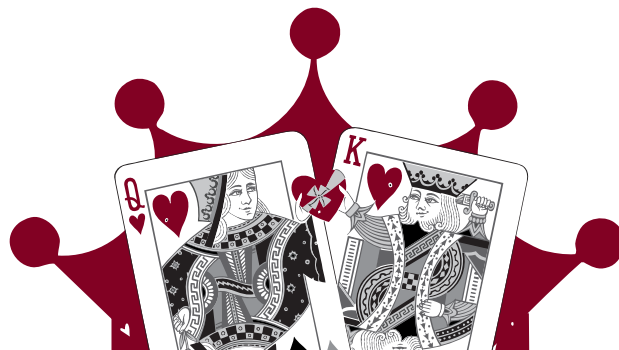
Sponsored by:

Fifth Chair

and



OKBridge



2006 KING/QUEEN OF BRIDGE

Juniors, it is time to apply for the 2006 King/Queen of Bridge Scholarship. The award is presented to a Junior ACBL member who is a graduating high school senior. The \$1000 scholarship will be awarded to a junior for outstanding tournament performance plus administrative, recreational and promotional activities related to bridge.

The award is presented by the ACBL Educational Foundation.

To apply, send your resume to juniors@acbl.org.



Junior Fund Games

Junior Fund Games may be held every month of the year except April and September! Juniors, please encourage your local clubs to hold sectional-rated black point

Junior Fund Games. (This means participants can win more masterpoints for playing!) An additional fee of \$1 per player per session above the regular game fee is charged by the ACBL with the monies going to support ACBL's School Bridge Program, maintenance of the BIC web site, reduced entries for Juniors at all NABCs and other Junior programs and activities.

Encourage your club to hold Junior Fund Games to support Junior Programs!

Articles for the BRIDGEISCOOL BULLETIN

Let us hear from you by submitting an article or an interesting bridge hand or problem for the **Bridgeischool Bulletin**. Write about anything of interest at your school or club. If your material is published, you will receive a bestselling bridge book. Send the article or bridge hand to juniors@acbl.org or to Juniors, 2990 Airways Blvd., Memphis TN 38116.

North American Bridge Championships

Make plans to attend one of the three NABCs held each year. Meet bridge players from across the world! Play bridge or watch some of the best players play! The first Saturday of each NABC is designated as **JUNIOR DAY**. During the Summer NABC a special Junior Day Reception will be held from 5–6 p.m. A meal will be served and a special program will be presented.

Juniors under 16 years of age may play in any event except NABC events with an International Fund surcharge for only \$1 per session. Juniors 16–25 may play in any event for only \$7 per session. Junior coupons may be picked up at any selling station.

The 2006 NABCs are scheduled as follows:



SPRING • March 30–April 9

Dallas TX
Hyatt Regency Dallas



SUMMER • July 13–23

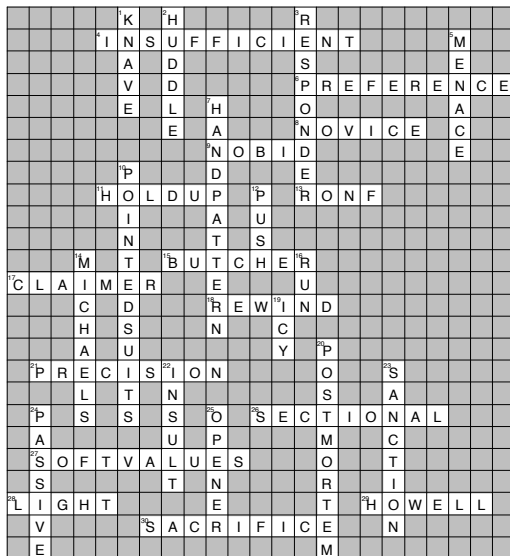
Chicago IL
Hyatt Regency Chicago



FALL • Nov. 16–26

Honolulu HI
Hilton Hawaiian Village

BRIDGEWORD Answers (Puzzle on page 3)



Masterpoint Races

Youth (under 19)

1.	Justin Lall, Dallas TX	680
2.	Kevin Dwyer, Lehigh Acres FL	366
3.	Jeremy Fournier, Knoxville TN	361
4.	Jenny Ryman, Thornhill ON	324
5.	Owen Lien, Hickory NC	313
6.	Matt Meckstroth, Gainesville FL	266
7.	David Banh, Annandale VA	216
8.	Keith Veale, Ottawa ON	206
9.	Jason Chiu, Piscataway NJ	182
10.	Shane Zeller, York PA	176

Junior (under 26)

1.	Joe Grue, New York NY	1504
2.	Gavin Wolpert, Thornhill ON	1010
3.	Will Engel, Freeport IL	915
4.	John Hurd, New York NY	832
5.	John Kranyak, New York NY	811
6.	Joel Wooldridge, Buffalo NY	726
7.	Vincent Demuy, Montreal-Nord QC	723
8.	Justin Lall, Dallas TX	680
9.	Jon Rice, Winston-Salem NC	611
10.	Mike Rice, Winston-Salem NC	593

(See full winners lists in the April Bridge Bulletin.)



AMERICAN CONTRACT BRIDGE LEAGUE

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