



San Mateo Unit 498

June 2021

The Unitizer



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Message from the President... Bob Gleason

June 2021

Club-level qualifying for the North American Pairs (NAP) competition is about to begin, with games to be scheduled by local clubs in June, July, and August. Each club can decide whether to hold the qualifying games on BBO or in person. In the case of on-line NAP qualifiers, the ACBL has restricted the competition to human beings. If your favorite partner is a robot, find another. Clubs will establish schedules for their NAP qualifiers and send notices to their members or post the information on their web sites.

Our Longest Day campaign to raise money to fight Alzheimer's Disease has begun. If you would like to contribute, you can do so at https://act.alz.org/site/TR?team_id=676797&fr_id=14244&pg=team through the end of July. In recognition of donations of \$50, \$100, or \$200, some of the best players and teachers in our unit have volunteered to play bridge with you and offer tips to improve your game. Details of this program were e-mailed to Unit 498 members a few weeks ago. If you would like to participate, but did not receive the message, please let us know. We will also host games on June 19 and 20 for which part of the table fees will go to the Alzheimer's Foundation.

Thanks to those who responded to our survey regarding the resumption of bridge face-to-face. Falling infection rates and California's decision to reopen in June are cause for optimism. We still do not know when we might be able to resume or what restrictions we will face, however. The survey gives us useful information regarding how many unit members will resume playing in person when it is possible, and preferences regarding format of the games. The survey is still open for others who would like to offer their opinions at <https://forms.gle/QToRBvv9AUzr1iak7>.

The Cañada campus where we hold our August sectional tournament is closed. The San Mateo County Community College District made this decision in February. We held off on canceling the tournament in hope that they might rescind this decision as the COVID situation improved, but this has not happened. Because some of the preparation and publicity for this tournament must start a couple of months before it, we have run out of time. I will ask our Board of Directors to cancel it in early June. Prospects for our Non-Life Master Sectional in October are considerably better. There is still substantial work to be done and some uncertainty, but two of our clubs have made progress toward securing a site that we could also use for this game.

We held our monthly unit-sponsored game on May 29 with a total of 12 tables divided into open and 499er sections. Kaili Jiao took 1st place in the open game with 67.8%. Two pairs tied for second with 61.7%: Jennifer and Phil Kuhn, and Mary and Jay Bates. In the 499er game, Bob Chang and David Sweet finished 1st with 61.7%, just ahead of Bev Hall and Katherine Kwong with 60%. Thanks to Raad Bunni for directing.

The May mentor-mentee games drew a total of 13 tables. The top finishers in Section 1 were Cynthia Wener and Robert Ng (60%), and Sum Tang and Art Quey (58.9%). Rita Gupta and Pete Goldsmith captured Section 2 honors at

72.7%, followed by a two-way tie: Lauren Rosen - Janice Nakao and Gloria Halliday - Raad Bunni each had 60.7%. Participation in the two games totaled 13 tables. Thanks to Art Quey for directing.

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