



Daily Bulletin

Volume 4, Number 2

Friday, July 29, 2011

Party begins, and all join in

As the fourth Youth NABC kicked off on Thursday, the Sheraton Centre Hotel was charged with the energy of more than 100 young bridge enthusiasts who couldn't wait to sit down to play – or jump up, run around and make noise.

The tournament continues today with one of two main events – the Baron Barclay National Youth Open Pairs. Compared to the warm-up Card Rook Pairs, the Open Pairs is more “serious,” although that term probably does not apply to a group whose truly serious goal is having fun.

Nevertheless, each member of the winning pair in the Open will receive a \$1000 scholarship from Baron Barclay Bridge Supply, the world's largest seller of bridge books and other bridge equipment.

Last year's Open Pairs winners – Andrew and Richard Jeng of Johns Creek GA – are back to try for two in a row.

Most of the young players were accompanied by parents who have discovered that bridge is an ideal activity for their children.

Natalie Gallimore of Ottawa made the five-hour drive from home with her three children – Rhyanna, Rhys and Pierce Melanson, 13, 11

and 9 years old, respectively. All three, Gallimore said, learned bridge in school, where the game is a regular part of the curriculum.

Rhyanna and Rhys won a tournament after taking up bridge when the school's chess club was discontinued. The Youth NABC has been great for the youngsters, Gallimore said. “We really like it. It's now just a matter of planning the summer vacations around it.”

Carol Bongard, president of Unit 166, is Co-Chair with Dana Norton of the Youth NABC.

Bongard teaches bridge in schools in the Toronto area – grades two through six. “I'll teach anybody who comes in. The kids love it, and they are just like sponges. Anything you tell them they soak right up.”

Norton said she was encouraged by the first-day turnout – and she is expecting lots more for the national events today and tomorrow (Aileen Osofsky National Swiss Teams).

“I thought it went quite well,” Norton said. “All the kids enjoyed themselves, and that's what we want.”

Marilyn MacDiarmid of Moncton NB traveled

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Australian observer's take: ACBL leads youth move

Peter Gill, an Australian expert and tournament veteran, has been observing efforts to recruit young players to the game of bridge for 44 years. He has done a lot of such work himself.



In his view, what's going on in North America is miles ahead of efforts anywhere else in the world.

“It's fantastic,” he said. “This is like the pinnacle.”

Gill said he dropped in on his first Youth NABC in Washington DC two years ago. “I was really impressed with Richard and Andrew Jeng.” He was referring to the young Georgians who are defending champions in the Baron Barclay National Youth Open Pairs. Richard became ACBL's youngest Life Master a couple of years ago.

Gill's view is that great strides have been made in youth recruitment in just a few years. “America has gone from the place that didn't do much to doing really well.”

He said he particularly likes the way young people are taught to play, and he referred to comments about the importance of partnership trust from the Jeng brothers after they won the 0-1500 Life Master Pairs earlier in the tournament.

He also praised Atlanta Junior Bridge, the brainchild of Patty Tucker. She organized and brought off the first Youth NABC in her back yard in 2008.

“What's going on in Atlanta is way ahead,” Gill said. “Some much thought and planning has gone into the novel ideas that work.”

Gill has seen many efforts to recruit young players, “and if you do it right, there's a huge interest.”

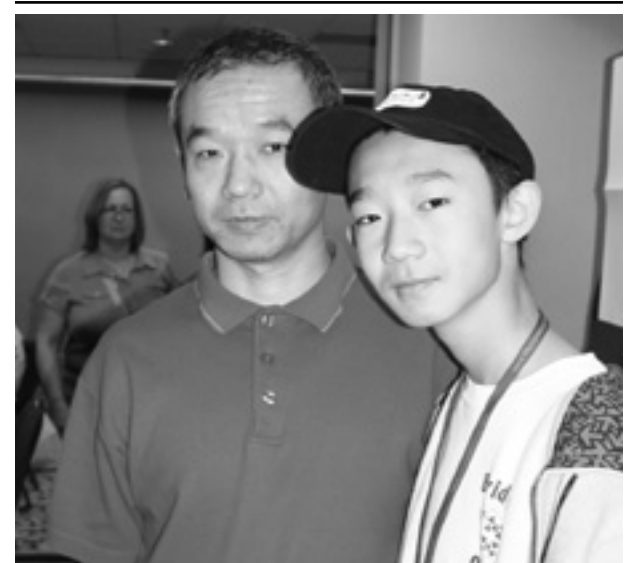
The ACBL, he says, is doing things right these days. “American bridge,” he said, “has a great future.”



Tops in the Youth Teams were David Yoon, Sarah Chen, Linda Cai and Edward (SM) Li.



While the Youth Open Pairs was in progress, younger players were competing in the Card Rook Pairs.



Bob Feng with his father, Jason Feng.



2011 Youth NABC Schedule Toronto Canada

Youth NABC events are open to any player 19 years of age or younger with fewer than 5000 masterpoints (or the equivalent) as of July 1, 2011.

Entry fees

The entry fees for the 2011 Youth NABC are \$10 per session. (Complimentary access to the Youth Lounge, opportunities to compete for prizes and scholarships and admission to the Winner's Reception on Saturday).

Friday, July 29

- 9 a.m. Questions and Answers by Astronaut Greg Johnson. Outside Essex Ballroom, Sheraton.
- 10 a.m. & 2 p.m. BARON BARCLAY NATIONAL YOUTH OPEN PAIRS
Two sessions. Players must be available for both sessions. Each member of the winning pair will receive a \$1000 scholarship.
- 10 a.m. Cardrook Pairs
Single session

- 2 p.m. Cardrook Pairs
Single session

Saturday, July 30

- 10 a.m. & 2 p.m. AILEEN OSOFSKY NATIONAL SWISS TEAMS
Two sessions. Teams must be available for both sessions. All members of the winning team will share a \$4000 scholarship.
- 10 a.m. Cardrook Pairs
Single session
- 2 p.m. Cardrook Pairs
Single session
(Cardrook Pairs are games designed for less experienced players.)

Bridge Classes Just for Parents

Friday, July 29, and Saturday, July 30

10 a.m. to noon. Conference Rooms D and E on the Mezzanine Level at the Sheraton Centre Hotel.

Bridge for Parents – Start to Play I

This class is designed for new players or players who haven't played in many years and want to learn something about the "new" bridge. Learn the basic concepts of the game, ranks of the suits and basic hand evaluation. You will learn how an auction proceeds, what a "trump" contract is, as well as

notrump. You will also learn what to bid and how high to bid. The instructor is Wanda Pearce of Ontario.

Bridge for Parents – Advance Your Game I

These lessons are for parents who know the basics of the game and want to improve their skills. The focus will be on planning the play, the play of the hand in notrump and in suit contracts, and hand evaluation after each bid. Drawing trumps and when to delay drawing trumps will be covered as well.

The instructor is Viktoria Renaud, also of Ontario.



Runners-up in the Youth Teams: Oren Kriegel, Amber Lin, Brandon Harper and Ryan Miller.



Ashley Spalding of Versailles KY with her daughter, Kendall, 6. The Youth NABC is Kendall's first tournament.



First in the Morning Card Rook Pairs: Ellie Fashingbauer and Grace Strasen.



Emily Zhang and Anson Tong were second in the Morning Card Rook Pairs.



Victor Lamoureux and Peter Ku were first in the Youth Pairs Strat A



Evan Berman's coonskip cap helped him and Alec Zhan win the Youth Pairs Strat B.

Below: These two pairs tied for first in the Youth Pairs, Strat C: Rhyanna Melanson, Rhys Melanson, Jeff Robinson and Aodhan Murphy.



Pierce Melanson and Brandon Lin were tops in the Afternoon Card Rook Pairs.



Emily Kim and Nayoung Ko took second in the Afternoon Card Rook Pairs.



Tournament Director Nancy Watkins sells entries on opening day.

Hi! My name is. . .

Grace Park

What city do you live in?

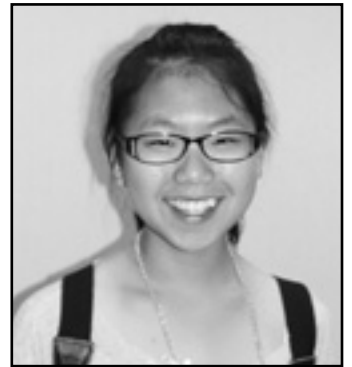
Riverview ON

How old are you?

15

What is your favorite color?

Sky blue and yellow



What is your favorite class in school?

Science and art

Do you have a favorite book or author?

Roald Dahl

Who is your favorite musical artist?

Bruno Mars

Do you like to dance?

No

What is your favorite movie?

Pirates of the Caribbean, Tangled

Why do you like playing bridge?

When your plans work, it feels so great. Bridge can be enjoyable, exciting and even sometimes frustrating, but never boring

When you're not playing bridge, what do you like to do?

Reading or biking

What do you want to do when you grow up?

A surgeon or installation artist



Youth NABC

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to Toronto with 18 young players. The Moncton schools also provide bridge instruction for the youngsters, "and they play two to four hours a day when I'm there."

One of MacDiarmid's charges is MacKenzie Curry, 12. He views bridge as a hard game, but he adds, "I love it. The rewards of success are awesome."

Another of MacDiarmid's protégés is Grace Park, 15. "I like the partnership aspect of bridge," she said. "If you have a good partner, even if you are not the best, if you have a good connection you can win everything."



Noreen Bramsen and Wanda Pearce helped players find partners at the Youth NABC.

Hi! My name is. . .

Jacob Wexel

What city do you live in?

Lilburn GA

How old are you?

17

What is your favorite color?

Blue



What is your favorite class in school?

History

Do you have a favorite book or author?

C.S. Lewis

Who is your favorite musical artist?

Proxy (from Mako records)

Do you like to dance?

Very much. Dancing is culturally diverse and that's what I like about it.

What is your favorite movie?

The Expendables

Who is your favorite actor?

Jet Li

Why do you like playing bridge?

Because of the wonderful people and atmosphere.

When you're not playing bridge, what do you like to do?

I work two jobs, play tennis, and hang out with friends.

What do you want to do when you grow up?

I would like to study aero-dynamic engineering or operate a Chick Fil A.

THURSDAY MORNING YOUTH PAIRS

15.0 Tables

	A	B	C		
4.92	1			Victor Lamoureux, Dartmouth NS; Peter Ku, Princeton Jnct NJ	72.22%
3.69	2			John Maguire - Xinyu Feng, Moncton NB	69.44%
2.77	3			Murphy Green - Laura Green, Alpharetta GA	65.63%
2.08	4			Jeffrey Schwartz, Fairfax VA; Kevin Rosenberg, Cupertino CA	63.89%
2.21	5	1		Alec Zhan, Alpharetta GA; Evan Berman, Sarasota FL	63.19%
1.23	6			David Soukup, Arlington VA; Hakan Berk, Potomac MD	62.50%
1.66		2		Sarah Sims, Newmarket ON; Raianne Heading, Ormond Beach FL	56.60%
1.09		3/4		Mary Wexel - Ruth Wexel, Lilburn GA	56.25%
1.09		3/4		Jason Miller, Tampa FL; Jacob Freeman, Toronto ON	56.25%
0.82		5/6	1/2	Aodhan Murphy - Jeffrey Robinson, Moncton NB	55.56%
0.82		5/6	1/2	Rhyanne Melanson - Rhys Melanson, Ottawa ON	55.56%
0.52			3	Joanna Huang - Leila Feng, Ottawa ON	50.35%
0.39			4	Brandon Yang - Quincy Lam, Toronto ON	49.31%

THURSDAY MORNING CARDROOK PAIRS

10.0 Tables

1.17	1	Eleanor Fashingbauer, Belvidere IL; Grace Strasen, Woodacre CA	75.50%
0.88	2	Anson Tong - Emily Zhang, Naperville IL	73.33%
0.66	3	Yi-Jun Kim, Moncton NB; Kevin Rodriguez, Germantown TN	69.50%
0.49	4	Nicholas Laugen, Altamonte FL; Spencer Dyen, Apopka FL	67.83%
0.37	5	Emily Kim, Moncton; Nayoung Ko, Moncton NB	65.83%
0.29	6	Brody McCurdy - Veronica McCurdy, Sarasota FL	64.00%

THURSDAY AFTERNOON CARDROOK PAIRS

7.0 Tables

1.47	1	Pierce Melanson, Ottawa ON; Brandon Lin, Edison NJ	70.00%
1.10	2	Nayoung Ko - Emily Kim, Moncton NB	67.50%
0.83	3	Eiko McCurdy, Sarasota FL; Madeline Wheaton, Altamonte Spring FL	57.50%
0.62	4	Veronica McCurdy - Brody McCurdy, Sarasota FL	56.67%
0.47	5	Dana Timpson, Milton ON; RJ Fashingbauer, Chicago IL	53.33%

THURSDAY AFTERNOON YOUTH SWISS TEAMS

17 Tables

	A	B	C		
4.45	1	1	1	Edward Li - David Yoon - Linda Cai, Bayside NY; Sarah Chen, Fresh Meadows NY	90.00
3.34	2			Oren Kriegel, Skandia MI; Ryan Miller, Tampa FL; Brandon Harper, Winter Park FL; Amber Lin, Edison NJ	88.00
2.50	3			Kevin Rosenberg, Cupertino CA; Jeffrey Schwartz, Fairfax VA; Peter Ku, Princeton Jnct NJ; Victor Lamoureux, Dartmouth NS	86.00
1.88	4			Murphy Green - Laura Green, Alpharetta GA; Richard Jeng - Andrew Jeng, Johns Creek GA	83.00
1.73	5	2		Peter Wexel - Jacob Wexel, Lilburn GA; Allen Yu - Jesse Wang, Toronto ON	76.00
1.30		3	2	Mary Wexel - Ruth Wexel, Lilburn GA; Olivia Edstrom - Kristofer Edstrom, Apopka FL	67.00
0.97		4		Evan Berman, Sarasota FL; Yeram Jessi Kim - Logan Wagner, Moncton NB; Nikita Ladyzhensky, Ellenton FL	59.00
0.61		3/4		Emily Zhang - Gianni Hsieh - Anson Tong, Naperville IL; Eleanor Fashingbauer, Belvidere IL	53.00
0.61		3/4		Jason Miller, Tampa FL; Jacob Freeman, Toronto ON; Alex Rubinchik, New York City NY; Alykhan Velji, Brampton ON	53.00

THURSDAY MORNING YOUTH PAIRS MORNING SESSION

NORTH-SOUTH			SECTION LLL			EAST-WEST		
A	B	C	A	B	C			
1			65.63%	1		Victor Lamoureux, Dartmouth NS; Peter Ku, Princeton Jnct NJ		72.22%
2			63.89%	2		John Maguire - Xinyu Feng, Moncton NB		69.44%
3			62.50%	3	1	Alec Zhan, Alpharetta GA; Evan Berman, Sarasota FL		63.19%
4			59.03%	4		Oren Kriegel, Skandia MI; Amber Lin, Edison NJ		56.60%
5	1		56.60%	5	2	Jason Miller, Tampa FL; Jacob Freeman, Toronto ON		56.25%
6	2		56.25%	6	3	Rhyanne Melanson - Rhys Melanson, Ottawa ON		55.56%
	3	1	55.56%		4	2	Joanna Huang - Leila Feng, Ottawa ON	50.35%
	4	2	49.31%					

THURSDAY MORNING CARDROOK PAIRS

NORTH-SOUTH			SECTION NNN			EAST-WEST		
A	B	C	A	B	C			
1			73.33%	1		Eleanor Fashingbauer, Belvidere IL; Grace Strasen, Woodacre CA		75.50%
2			69.50%	2		Nicholas Laugen, Altamonte FL; Spencer Dyen, Apopka FL		67.83%
3			64.00%	3		Emily Kim, Moncton; Nayoung Ko, Moncton NB		65.83%
4			55.00%	4		Jessica Green - Mackenzie Curry, Riverview NB		54.50%

THURSDAY AFTERNOON CARDROOK PAIRS

NORTH-SOUTH			SECTION PPP			EAST-WEST		
A	B	C	A	B	C			
1			70.00%	1		Nayoung Ko - Emily Kim, Moncton NB		67.50%
2			57.50%	2		Veronica McCurdy - Brody McCurdy, Sarasota FL		56.67%
3			53.33%	3		Yi-Jun Kim, Moncton NB; Kevin Rodriguez, Germantown TN		52.50%