



MINNESOTA GOPHER REGIONAL

Gopher Regional Tournament Flyer

Units 103 and 178

May 20-25, 2024

Patti Stuhlman & Warren Nelson, Co-Chairs ♠♠ Matt Koltnow, DIC ♠♠ Mike Cassel, editor

WELCOME

You are receiving this Bulletin because you played in the 2023 MN Gopher Regional. We are delighted to be playing face-to-face bridge at the Crowne Plaza Aire Hotel near MSP Airport and Mall of America. We have more playing space on the Ballroom level this year. The Gopher tournament has a schedule that appeals to players at every level: a full week of fun-filled bridge events Team games, Stratified Open Pairs, Gold Rush Pairs every day and M-Th Intermediate/Newcomer games.

Make your hotel reservations early. \$115 single or double, \$145 suite until May 10. Call (952) 854-9000. Be sure to use the group code for the Tournament - **MGB**. Meet new people, see old friends, and win lots of masterpoints. We will do everything we can to ensure you have a wonderful time. A special thank you to the Minneapolis Grand Slam Club for sponsoring the Daily Bulletin.

Welcome to the MN Gopher Regional.

*Patti Stuhlman & Warren Nelson
Tournament Co-chairs*

COVID VACCINATIONS

Covid vaccinations are not required this year. Please wear a mask at the table if your opponents ask you to do so. Free masks are available at the Information Desk. Masks are optional in the hotel and playing areas. If you feel sick, please stay home!

INFORMATION DESK

Pick up a free pen or pencil and tournament sticker for your convention card. Borrow a card holder for the day. Information, Messages, and Lost and Found are found here. Pick up a restaurant guide for the Mall of America and surrounding area. A "What to see and do in the Twin Cities area" (Minneapolis/St. Paul and suburbs) handout is available as well.

PARTNERSHIP DESK

Do you need a partner or teammates for the bridge tournament? If so, email **Anne Schaeffer** hawkeyeannie67@gmail.com or text message 612-987-8607. Once the tournament begins, come to the Partnership desk one hour before each session. Intermediate-Newcomer partners are made at the same partnership desk as regular games.

MINNEAPOLIS GRAND SLAM CLUB DAILY BULLETIN SPONSOR

The MGSC has been running continuously since 1937. The club has been playing face to face monthly at the St. Paul Club in Roseville. Online play has migrated from Friday to Tuesday evenings at 6:30pm. A Zoom discussion follows the event. Are you an advancing player interested in improving your bridge game? No better venue than the MGSC!



Mon. Bulletin

D14 Fast Results Daily Bulletins appear in your email every morning. Upload them to your phone with this QR code or the QR codes at the information desk

This Week's Gopher Regional Schedule

ATTENTION: 2nd session start time at 2:30pm NOT 3pm

Monday May 20

10 AM OPEN PAIRS (1st session of 2)
BRACKETED SWISS TEAMS (1st sess of 2)
GOLD RUSH PAIRS (1st session of 2)
299er PAIRS (Single session)

230 PM OPEN PAIRS (2nd session of 2)
BRACKETED SWISS TEAMS (2nd sess of 2)
GOLD RUSH PAIRS (2nd session of 2)
299er PAIRS (Single session)

Tuesday May 21

10 AM JILL + MIKE FLADER OPEN PAIRS (1st session of 2)
PEGGY KAPLAN GOLDEN GOPHER KO (1 of 2 qualifying sess)
GOLD RUSH PAIRS (1st session of 2)
299er PAIRS (Single session)

230 PM JILL + MIKE FLADER OPEN PAIRS (2nd session of 2)
PEGGY KAPLAN GOLDEN GOPHER KO (2 of 2 qualifying sess)
GOLD RUSH PAIRS (2nd session of 2)
299er PAIRS (Single session)

Wednesday May 22

10 AM PEGGY KAPLAN GOLDEN GOPHER KO (cont'd fr/ Tues)
SCOTT KRUPKE OPEN PAIRS (1st session of 2)
BRACKETED SWISS TEAMS (1st sess of 2)
GOLD RUSH PAIRS (1st session of 2)
299er PAIRS (Single session)

230 PM PEGGY KAPLAN GOLDEN GOPHER KO (FINALS)
SCOTT KRUPKE OPEN PAIRS (2nd session of 2)
BRACKETED SWISS TEAMS (2nd sess of 2)
GOLD RUSH PAIRS (2nd session of 2)
299er PAIRS (Single session)

Thursday May 23

10 AM LARRY OAKEY OPEN PAIRS (1st session of 2)
BRACKETED SWISS TEAMS (1st sess of 2)
LARRY OAKEY GOLD RUSH PAIRS (1st session of 2)
299er PAIRS (Single session)

230 PM LARRY OAKEY OPEN PAIRS (2nd session of 2)
BRACKETED SWISS TEAMS (2nd sess of 2)
LARRY OAKEY GOLD RUSH PAIRS (2nd session of 2)
299er PAIRS (Single session)

Friday May 24

10 AM CITIZEN MITTEN OPEN PAIRS (1st session of 2)
BRACKETED SWISS TEAMS (1st sess of 2)
GOLD RUSH PAIRS (1st session of 2)

230 PM CITIZEN MITTEN OPEN PAIRS (2nd session of 2)
BRACKETED SWISS TEAMS (2nd sess of 2)
GOLD RUSH PAIRS (2nd session of 2)

Saturday May 25

10 AM OPEN PAIRS (1st session of 2)
BRACKETED SWISS TEAMS (1st sess of 2)
GOLD RUSH PAIRS (1st session of 2)

215 PM/TBA OPEN PAIRS (2nd session of 2)
BRACKETED SWISS TEAMS (2nd sess of 2)
GOLD RUSH PAIRS (2nd session of 2)

PHOTOS, RESULTS, AND MORE INFO
SCAN w/YOUR PHONE CAMERA ▶
bit.ly/gopherregional



You must be a member of the ACBL to play in the tournament. Apply for a free 120 day Guest Membership at ACBL.ORG –Join – Guest Membership. Do this before May 10th. The ACBL will email you a membership number to use at the tournament. If you have 0-15 masterpoints, you may play for free in any game throughout the Gopher Regional tournament compliments of Units 103 &178.

299er/ INTERMEDIATE/NEWCOMER GAMES

MN Gopher has offerings specifically intended for **Intermediate/Newcomer (I/N)** players, those players with *fewer than 300 masterpoints*. These offerings include:

- **299er single session games** Monday through Thursday, at 10:00 a.m. and 2:30pm. If you want to see what a tournament is like, try one of these.
- **Entry fees to 299er games are \$15** a session for players with 16-299MPs. These games award red master points while allowing you to compete against your peers.
- **Free lessons** will be held from 1:45-2:15 Monday through Thursday in the 299er playing area. Buy your lunch and come to the playing area for the Lunch and Learn Program.
- Regional tournament play gives you opportunities to meet other bridge players, improve your bridge skills, and ask questions of higher-ranked players.

Daily “Lunch and Learn” Topics

Monday- Thursday Sessions will be held in the 299er area at 1:45pm for ½ hour. Bring your lunch – and learn!

*Monday, May 20. **Points Schmoints:** with Keith Thompson*
There’s a lot more to see in your hand than High Card Points

*Tuesday, May 21. **Dangerous Opponent** with Connie Nelson*
Come learn how to identify your most dangerous opponent and make your contract even if you have to give up the lead one or more times.

*Wednesday, May 22. **Common Mistakes We All Make** with Teri Blu*
We’ve all gotten THAT look from partner – how to avoid common mistakes that you & your partner make.

*Thursday, May 23. **4th Suit Forcing** with James Schnepf*
If a new suit by responder is always forcing, why is 4th Suit Forcing even needed? Find out why it is a convention, when to use it, and how it can help your game.

*Friday, May 26. **Morning Hand Post-Mortem** hosted by Matt & Jason Bribitzer-Stull*
IN THE BALLROOM Last year’s lively discussion highlighted the many slam decisions from the morning game.

Highlights of the 2024 Gopher Regional

1. **Tues-Wed Peggy Kaplan Bracketed KO** a 2day-4session Swiss/Knockout (KO) modeled after the Soloway KOs at Fall NABCs. Tuesday’s 2 sessions played as a bracketed round-robin Swiss will qualify 4 teams in each bracket to Wednesday’s KO semifinal and final.
2. Single session entries are welcome in the Open Pairs and Gold Rush Pairs.
3. Friday between sessions – discuss the morning hands with Matt & Jason Bribitzer-Stull
4. Highly subsidized Saturday lunch (\$5)
5. A 2-session Open & Gold Rush Pair event returns Saturday. The Director in Charge will establish the break points between brackets
6. Saturday’s team event will be a 2 session bracketed Swiss like Mon., Wed., Thur., & Fri.
Play against your peers
7. We have a new playing space, the Lounge area next to the Ballroom

[fastresultsdailybulletins](#) produce pictures of event winners in their results pages. We’d like to see your smiling face in the bulletin.

Send an email to help@thecommongame.com

In the subject line: type your **ACBL player #**

Click on: **Insert pictures** icon

Open your **‘image.jpg** and click/enter

Hit send

Crowne Plaza Aire Onsite Dining

AiRECraft Grill

Breakfast 7:00-10 am
Lunch 11-2:30 pm
Dinner 5-9:00 pm

Caribou Coffee Kiosk

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Hours: 5:30 AM-9:00 PM
**Enjoy a tournament \$15 lunch deal or
\$10 pizza and a beverage.**

Grab & Go

Near Registration Desk
find salads and other snacks
and prepared foods.

Things to Do in Minnesota

"Go-pher" the FUN! MINNESOTA GOPHER REGIONAL

THE MALL OF AMERICA

So many restaurants and so much shopping! Conveniently located only one mile from the bridge table, you can walk or hop on the Blue Line Tram whose station is right outside the hotel

MUSIC AND THEATRE LOVERS

The Guthrie Theatre in Mpls (612)377-2224 features "Richard II" and "Henry V" (Shakespeare) Tuesday through Saturday nights at 7:30pm

The Orpheum Theatre in Mpls (800)982-2787 features "Michael Jackson - The Musical" each weeknight at 7:30pm and Sat at 2pm

The St. Paul Chamber Orchestra (651)291-1144 plays Mozart's Piano Concertos Nos 18 and 23 Ordway Concert Hall TH (7p)/F (11a)/SAT (7p)

MINNESOTA LANDSCAPE ARBORETUM

Located 30 min straight west of the bridge table, the Arboretum is 1,200-acres of rare plants, walking trails, and professionally-maintained gardens. Advance tickets and reservations are required (612)301-6775, open 8am to 5pm - perfect for getting your mind off the cards

A GOLFER'S PARADISE

There are *two dozen* public golf courses within a 10-mile radius of the host hotel for this Regional - bring your clubs and enjoy some of Minnesota's greenery on the links

MYSTIC LAKE CASINO

Whether your cards are HOT or you want to change your luck, Mystic Lake is under 30 min away from the bridge table, located in Prior Lake. They're open 24 hours - (800)262-7799

MINNEAPOLIS SCULPTURE GARDEN

The Minneapolis Sculpture Garden is an 11-acre park with more than 40 iconic sculptures. No tickets are needed and admission is free. They're open from 6am to midnight.

MISSISSIPPI RIVER CRUISE

The Padelford Riverboat in St. Paul runs a 90-min fully narrated cruise on the Mississippi Saturday at 2:30pm. You can get more information by calling (651)370-9385

MINNEHAHA FALLS PARK

Just a 10 minute drive (or 20 min up the Blue Line Tram), the 193-acre Minnehaha Falls Park features a 53-foot waterfall, limestone bluffs, and miles and miles of walking trails. Get more info by calling (612)230-6400

CANTERBURY PARK

Horse racing, poker tournaments, and more are at Canterbury Park (952)445-7223, just 22 minutes from the host hotel in Shakopee - they are open 24 hours, if you just can't get enough of the cards

SPORTS FANS - TAKE IN A HOME TEAM BASEBALL GAME

20

21

22

23

24



v TEXAS

7:10pm

25



v TEXAS

1:10pm

MGSC's Deduction of the Day

Albert Dormer's 'Dormer on Deduction'-- 'Inferential Reasoning in the Play of the Cards at Bridge' is a treasure trove. Exercise your deductive powers this week:

♠ A 9 4
♥ Q 10 7
♦ 8 6 3
♣ A Q J 2

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ K J 10 8 6 5 2
♥ -
♦ J 10 7
♣ K 10 8

West	North	East	South
-	1♣	Pass	4♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Opening lead: ♥4

You play the ♥10 from dummy and ruff East's jack. To avoid a trump loser, do you start by laying down the ♠K, or play low towards the ace?

Discussion tomorrow and a new challenge.