

## Information for Lehigh Valley Bridge Association Unit Games, 2009

<b>Date and Time</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Game (see below/reverse for description)</b>
December 11 <sup>th</sup> , Thursday 7:00 p.m.	Lehigh County Senior Center	Stratified Pairs
January 11 <sup>th</sup> , Sunday 1:00 p.m.	Lehigh County Senior Center	Stratified Teams—Charity Game (ACBL charity)
February 1 <sup>st</sup> , Sunday 1:00 p.m.	Lehigh County Senior Center	“Souper” Bowl Stratified Pairs—Charity Game in memory of Bob Pope
March 1 <sup>st</sup> , Sunday 1:00 p.m.	Lehigh County Senior Center	Stratified Teams
April 5 <sup>th</sup> , Sunday 1:00 p.m.	Lehigh County Senior Center	Individual—pre-registration necessary
May 7 <sup>th</sup> , Thursday 7:00 p.m.	Lehigh County Senior Center	Stratified Teams
June 6 <sup>th</sup> , Saturday 2:30 p.m.	Lehigh County Senior Center	World-Wide Simultaneous Pairs (stratified)
July 19 <sup>th</sup> , Sunday 1:00 p.m.	Lehigh County Senior Center	North American Pairs Qualifier
August 13 <sup>th</sup> , Thursday 7:00 p.m.	Lehigh County Senior Center	North American Pairs Qualifier
September 27 <sup>th</sup> , Sunday 1:00 p.m.	Lehigh County Senior Center	Stratified Teams—Charity Game (ACBL charity)
November TBD, Sunday 12:30 p.m.	Brookside Country Club	Holiday Party (pairs)
December 13 <sup>th</sup> , Sunday 1:00 p.m.	Lehigh County Senior Center	Pro-Am Teams—Charity Game (Local Charity)— pre-registration necessary

**Stratified Pairs:** This is the format you know and love. Cost is \$5 per person except charity games which will be \$7 per person.

**Stratified Teams:** Find a second pair with which to form your team. This event will be stratified assuming there are enough teams. Scoring will be using the Swiss Teams format in which any win over a team wins you some masterpoints. Cost is \$5 per person except charity games which will be \$7 per person.

**“Souper” Bowl Stratified Pairs:** This pairs game will be held on Super-Bowl Sunday. You’ll be home in plenty of time to see the Super Bowl! This will be a charity game and will be held in memory of Bob Pope, a former Unit 133 President. Charity funds will be donated to a charity of Bob’s family’s choosing. Also, in keeping with the Souper Bowl theme, there will be an addition to the entry fee of a can of soup. The soups will be donated to a local soup kitchen. There will also be door prizes and prizes for the winners! Anyone wishing to donate a prize, please contact John Schwartz (see below) or Barbara Stabile—thanks.

(over for more information)

**Individual:** Ever feel like your partner let you down at the bridge table? Here's a chance to be let down by many partners! Come as an individual (aren't we all?). Then you'll play a pairs event where each round you'll have a different partner. Scoring for each hand is the same as for a regular pairs game. This is a great chance to play with those players you've always admired! Bidding conventions, by necessity, will be fairly standard except when you happen to play with a regular partner. Pre-registration is required so that we can try to get a multiple-of-4 number of players so as to minimize sit outs. Please pre-register by contacting John Schwartz (info below). Also, please arrive 15 minutes before game time so that you can get your table assignments by round. Cost is \$5 per person. (If you are willing to come only if needed to even out the number of players, please contact John Schwartz.)

**World-Wide Simultaneous Pairs:** In this event, the same hands are played at sites across the world. Local scoring is match-pointed as usual against the pairs in the room. ACBL masterpoints are based on this local score and the game will be stratified. The masterpoint awards are ½ red and ½ black. World-wide scoring is match-pointed across all the sites around the globe. In June 2008, in the Saturday game, there were 5,481 pairs playing at 268 clubs in 37 countries! There is a nice booklet with hand records and analyses and a web site where you can see how you did when matchpointed across all the sites. Imagine getting a score of 5,480 on a hand! Cost is \$8 per person.

**North American Pairs Qualifier:** A highly prestigious "grass roots" event, the North American Pairs (NAP) starts at the club level in June, July and August. The two games listed here are such club-level qualifiers. The masterpoint awards are ½ red and ½ black. A player may qualify as often as desired and with as many different partners as desired. These games will be stratified per NAP requirements--the three stratifications are 0-500 non-Life-Master, 2000, 2000+. In each stratification, the top half of the field qualifies for the district final which is held in October. To play at the district final, both players must have qualified at the club level and must be members of district 4. The players do not need to have qualified together. The top three pairs in the district in each flight receive a financial incentive to participate in the National event at the following Spring NABC (March 2010 is in Reno). Cost is \$6 per person.

**Holiday Party:** This elegant event is held at the Brookside Country Club in Lower Macungie Township. It consists of a social time followed by dinner then capped off with a pairs bridge game. Lunch is at 12:30. Come earlier to socialize. Tickets are sold in advance. Cost is yet to be determined.

**Pro-Am Teams:** Come as a pair. The pairs will be divided into the two halves ("pro" and "am") according to the total masterpoints for the two players. Then there will be a random assignment of teams with one pair from each half. A normal Swiss Teams format will be played with the "pro" pair always playing at the table against the opposing "pro" pair. Pre-registration is required as we need to have an even number of pairs. Please pre-register by contacting John Schwartz (info below). Also, please arrive 15 minutes before game time as we need to then get the teams formed. As this is also a charity game, cost will be \$7 per person. (If you are a pair or individual who is willing to only come if needed to even out the number of pairs, please contact John Schwartz.)

For any of these events, if you need help finding a partner, contact John Schwartz at 610-391-0261 or [schwartz1@enter.net](mailto:schwartz1@enter.net). No guarantees, but John will try to match up those who are looking.