

B-E-R
BEER DUDE

Happy MMXIX - bring on the rain once the Monterey Regional is over! 2017 & 18 Saturday D21 Board meeting days were wet & made for icky drives for those like me who commute to/from. I hope all you escargots who've incurred directors' wrath & chastisements have made your primary 2019 resolution to **PLAY FASTER (& stop yakking until the round's over!)**. Onward I tread ...

Last 3 Unit games of the year saw 8.5 tables 11/28, 5.5 12/14, & 7 on 12/19. The overall-hitters saw some newer/less-experienced players at/near the top, to wit: 11/28, Vicky Chen-Inja Hwang (combined MP's <500) atop, Roger Edelson-George Proper (combined MP's <75) 2nd, with Eric-Dick 3A, Jack Shiffer-Chet Young 4A, the Tamms (combined MP <300) 5A/3B, & Kerstin Barnett-Catherine Warren (combined MP's <500; they had super-game @ U502's Holiday Party, which I ran) 4B. 12/14, Joanne Cobeen-Roseanne Smith topped it, w/"H"-Dick 2nd, Dexter-Gordon 3A/1B, Roger Edelson-Bob Post (combined <150 MP's) 2B, & the Tamms 3B. 12/19, Barb Lanier & Trudie Sinclair took top honors, Roger E-Marcia Mattoon 2A/1B, "H"-Larry Zeni & the sax combo 3/4A, Foster Tom (a promising newcomer who did well @ our Holiday STaC party)-Aki Watanabe 5A/2B, & Kerstin-Carrie 3B. Jan games are Fri 11th (we don't run them opposite Regionals) & Wed 30th.

Not much in-out/rank advancement. Marge Black transferred to Oakland; the transfer-in I saw (from Palo Alto Unit) was a Sunnyvale resident - methinx the outdated ACBL software that generates these reports messed up again - & I'm sure I'm not alone among Unit e-contacts having to deal with it. Roger Edelson hit 20MP's to make club Master, & is well on his way to 50. Misook Jung (whom I presume plays nights/tourneys/online; I've not met him @ my/U502 games) is our latest LM.

At da club, Dick Walker topped Nov; NLM whopper was Jan Kosel, who got the bulk of hers in the club games - Dick got the better portion of his in the Unit games. No Club Champ or special games in Jan - full list of everything for 2019 is on our website. Club Championship games (extra MP's) are the 2nd Weds in Feb, May, Aug, & Nov, 3rd Fris in Mar, Jun, Sept, & Dec (unless there's a STaC conflict). Extra games last Fri & TBD Wed in October (Club Appreciation Month). ACBL-wide games TBD - I don't mind duplicating the boards. More later - once I see what fits w/our Wed & Fri games.

Soapbox (sorta) - regarding ACBLScor v8.29, which you had to use if you ran the Instant Matchpoint game. For club games you ran thereafter, you couldn't print the usual results list in toto if there was any tie for places which earned masterpoints. Many club directors (including me) reported this to ACBL on first occurrence - we got back the standard reply of "we're aware of the problem & are working on it" (or something like that). A couple weeks later, it dawned on me to reinstall the previous version (8.29 was off the ACBL site; 8.27 was still there) - voila - problem gone! Sent that to ACBL - took a couple of days before they put the word out to the world.

I've not done any programming in 50 yrs, but I know what went wrong here (& it's odd, given that we didn't have this problem in 2017). The place fields were defined as integer fields (which I gleaned from the error msg that popped up when I tried to print the recap list - if there was a tie, all that printed were the integer placings). Integers are whole numbers; ties are fractions (e.g. 1/2, 2/3/4, etc). Thus, place fields for each strat must be designated as text to allow for the slashes in ties (if those fields are designated as number fields, fractions will get turned into decimals - 1/2 becomes .50). Simple fix - the average code geek could do it & test it out in an hour or less.

I close with a trivia question: There's an old song from a Fred Astaire movie which contains the line "I might as well play bridge with my old maid aunt" & is the only song I know of which mentions our beloved game. Can you name that tune? If so, ...

Tweak beerman1949@gmail.com to brag/gripe/suggest; Unit info & game results available 24/7 @ www.berunit497.org.