

Hello Everyone,

I hope everyone is having a great summer and enjoying all the strawberry pie they can get their hands on. Before summer ends make sure you join your fellow bridge players at the Flying Buckeye Regional September 5th-9th. Closer to home will be the COBA Fall Sectional from October 6-8th at the Abruzzi Italian Club. In the winter there will be a Royal STAC Dec 11-17, this STAC will be a combined effort between Districts 7,10, and 11 which will lead to huge masterpoint payouts to overall winners.

Not too far in the distant future is the nearby Louisville Nationals March 14th- 24th, 2024. I highly recommend people take advantage of the less than 4 hour drive to attend the Louisville Nationals especially if it is your first time. The level of competition and attendance is unlike anything you can get at a regional. There is something for everyone and there are professional teachers giving free talks. To that end it is a great time to play in North American Pairs at the district level and earn some free money to attend the Louisville Nationals( details on page 3).

The COBA Fall Sectional is when Unit 122 will vote for new board members. The backbone of any COBA event is volunteers. Board members help to decide when,how, and what these events look like. (see page 4 for more details).

Taking place right now is the Bridge World Championship in Marrakech,Morocco. This is a great time to kibitz the best players in the world on [bridge base online](#). Even if you can not catch the live play the bulletins of these events are well done and a great read which can be found on the World Bridge Federation site [here](#). Personally I look forward to watching the partnership of Zia Mahmood and Jeff Mechstroth.

Thanks

Tom Bishel

COBA President

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## Flying Buckeye Regional

Is a joint effort between COBA and Dayton Unit 136. There is a great new venue for this regional at the satellite building of Sinclair Community College in Centerville Ohio. Pair events will be held on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday with team days on Wednesday and Saturday. All days at the Flying Buckeye Regional will be started with complimentary bagels or donuts. On Saturday as part of the playthrough swiss a pizza lunch will be provided. For more info visit [cobabridge.org/FlyingBuckeye](http://cobabridge.org/FlyingBuckeye).

<b>All Games Start at 10:00 AM &amp; 2:30</b>	
Tuesday Sep 5	2 Session Open & Gold Rush Pairs
Wednesday Sep 6	A/X Swiss Teams Bracketed Swiss Teams <3000 All Players must be under 3000
Thursday September 7	2 Session Open & Gold Rush Pairs
Friday September 8th	2 Session Open & Gold Rush Pairs
Saturday September 9th	Strati-flighted Swiss Teams Start at 10:00 Playthrough

## **Fall Sectional- October 6-8th**

The Columbus Fall Sectional Will take place October 6-8 at the Abruzzi Italian Club in Westerville. The COBA board voted to return to the 3 day schedule. It is exciting to offer a return of the Sunday Swiss. There will also be a return of the bridge plus on Friday Morning where you can come learn from local experts in a relaxed environment. I look forward to seeing everyone there at this great event.

### **Friday October 6**

9:00 AM

Two Sections 0-750,<1500

Light Lunch Provided

18-21 Boards

Short Discussion of Hands at

12:00

1:30

Three Sections

0-750, <2000, Opens

7:00:PM

Fundraising -Extra Points

Stratified Open Pairs

### **Saturday October 7th**

10:00 & 2:30 Start Times

Two Sections

0-750 Silver Rush, Open Pairs

### **Sunday October 8th**

10:00 Donuts & Orange Juice

10:30 Swiss Teams Playthrough

Bracketed by Masterpoints

Light Lunch Provided

## **North American Pairs**

The North American Pairs is a grassroots pair event similar to the Grand National Teams. Pairs that qualified at the club level in the months of June, July, and August can play at the District Finals at the Cincinnati Bridge Club on **Saturday October 14 and Sunday October 15**. Players who are eligible can play in multiple flights. The top 3 winners from the open flight and the top 4 from flight B (<2500) and flight C (<500 NLM) will be eligible to represent district 11 at the Louisville Nationals. Winners will also receive monetary compensation for traveling expenses to Louisville.

D11 NAPs is a 2- session pairs event that pays out gold/red points. The cutoff for masterpoints is the June masterpoint cycle.

For those interested more information can be found at:

[http://www.district11bridge.com/District\\_11\\_NAP\\_FAQ.html](http://www.district11bridge.com/District_11_NAP_FAQ.html)  
[Those Who Qualified So Far in D11](#)

## **Board of Directors**

At the October Sectional elections will be held for new Board Members. COBA is a volunteer run organization and it is only through support of volunteers that COBA runs sectionals & Life Master Dinners. Board members help to decide the when, how, & what of these tournaments. Board members meet about 3 or 4 times a year for one hour to decide these issues. New board members will serve a term of 3 years. At this time If you are interested in volunteering or becoming a board member please contact any board member or Tom Bishel. Bonus if you are interested in running you will likely run uncontested.

Current Board Members-

Expiring- Tom Bishel(President), Judy Williamoson , Lewis Rakocy, Joe Wernet

Expiring 2024- Janet Cordova, Howard Sanders(Vice President)

Expiring 2025- Toni Bales(2nd Term), Trish Jones ( 2nd Term, Treasurer) , Daniel Loveland(Secretary), Siraj Haji

## Life Master Dinner

The Life Master Dinner was held in conjunction with the Unit 122 Spring Sectional and everyone had a great time. Huge shoutout to all of the New Life Masters from 2022 . Pictures and the pamphlet can be found at [cobabridge.org](http://cobabridge.org) under special events. Thanks to all the volunteers who made this happen: Judy Williamson, Patricia Jones, Toni Bales, Jane Cordova, Cynthia Windsor, Kay Penson , Frank Paynter, Joe Wernet , Daniel Loveland, Mary Jane & Michael Gladfelter and anyone else I failed to mention THANK YOU.



## New Ranks Achievements

JUNIOR MASTER- **Fred Shirley, Jai Gaur, Stephanie Tasker, Ted Tasker**

CLUB MASTER- **Gregory Siehl , Robert Wagoner**

SECTIONAL MASTER - **Shirley Block, Susan Culkar**

REGIONAL MASTER- **Marsha Spears**

NABC MASTER- **Jerry Smith, Ronald Taylor**

ADVANCED NABC MASTER- **Jim Janik**

**NEW LIFE MASTER- Debbie Marhefka**

SILVER LIFE MASTER- **Richard Hobart**

RUBY LIFE MASTER - **James Bishel, Daniel Loveland**

GOLD LIFE MASTER- **Lowry Miller , Eric Kahn**

DIAMOND LIFE MASTER- **Mary Jane Galdfleter**

EMERALD LIFE MASTER- **Terry James**

<b>Upcoming Notable Tournaments</b>			
<b>Date</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Points</b>
<b>Sep 5-9</b>	<b>Flying Buckeye Regional</b>	<b>Dayton</b>	<b>Gold/Red</b>
<b>Oct 6-8</b>	<b>Columbus Fall Sectional</b>	<b>Westerville</b>	<b>Silver</b>
<b>Oct 6-8</b>	<b>Indianapolis NLM Regional</b>	<b>Indianapolis</b>	<b>Gold/Red</b>
<b>Oct 14-15</b>	<b>D11 North American Pairs</b>	<b>Cincinnati</b>	<b>Gold/Red</b>
<b>Oct 29-31</b>	<b>Spooktacular Sectional</b>	<b>Cincinnati</b>	<b>Silver</b>
<b>Nov 7-11</b>	<b>Louisville/Lexington Regional</b>	<b>Louisville</b>	<b>Gold/Red</b>
<b>Nov 23-Dec 3</b>	<b>Fall Nationals</b>	<b>Atlanta</b>	<b>Plat/Gold/Red</b>
<b>Dec 8-10</b>	<b>Dayton Sectional</b>	<b>Kettering</b>	<b>Silver</b>
<b>Dec 11-17</b>	<b>Royal STAC Combined D7,D10,D11</b>	<b>At the Club</b>	<b>Mixture of Gold/Red/Silver/Black</b>
<b>Dec 19-22</b>	<b>ACBL Online Regional</b>	<b>BBO</b>	<b>Gold/Red</b>

## Chicago Nationals

Shout Out to all those who had tremendous success at the tournaments !!!!!

0-10K Mixed Swiss - 5th Place

Toni Bales, Michael Gladfelter, Mary Jane Gladfelter

Grand National Teams Flight A- 5/8 Place

Michael Gladfelter, Mary Jane Gladfelter

Monday Bracketed Teams 11

Robert Kaplan - 1st Place

Tuesday Bracketed Teams 14

Robert Kaplan- 1st Place

Sat Gold Rush

Arainne Hinkle, Phillip Hinkle -3rd C

von Zedtwitz Life Masters Day 1 of 2

Toni Bales- 10th Places

Wed- Thurs Side Pairs

Robert Kaplan, Skip Yassenoff- 1st C

Saturday Mid-Flight

Sherry Allison, Rick Ramey - 4th

Wed-Thurs Side Pairs

Diane Halloran, Ronald Rybak-1st B

Thurs-Sat Side Pairs

Diane Halloran, Ronald Rybak-2nd, 1st B

Saturday Gold Rush

Arianne Hinkle, Philip Hinkle - 3rd C

## Cincinnati Event Winners

Sunday	Monday Pairs	Wednesday Swiss
Siraj Haji, Brian Snell(4th)-Pairs Emmy Haji-Toni Bales -(1st in Swiss)	Jim Janik-Charles Driscoll(2nd C) Bob Davis-Robert Jobu(3rd C) Sudheer Pimputkar(2nd) Alex Khrakovsky(3rd)	Cheryl Schneider-Terry James (4th) Sudheer Pimputkar(5th)
Thursday Pairs	Mon-Tues Knockout	Friday Pairs
Cheryl Schneider-Terry James (3rd) Siraj Haji (2nd)	Emmy Haji - Toni Bales (4th)	Mary Jane & Michael Gladfelts (1st) Cynthia Windsor-Janet Cordova (3rd C)
Thursday-Friday Knockout	8 is Enough Swiss	
Larry Jones (2nd)	Robert Kaplan- Diane Russell- Deborah Walter- Skip Yassenoff (3rd)	

## Cincinnati Up and Comers

Sunday Gold Rush	Tuesday Bracketed Team 3	Thursday Gold Rush
Charlie Driscoll-Jim Janik (1st)	Jan Hall- John Adkins- Sue Gross- Kathrin Fellows (2nd)	Jan Hall- Melanie Myers (5th)