

DIAMOND IN THE RUFF

President's Report

Anne Hollingsworth, President D21
June 2024

Contact Anne: <u>D21PresAnne@gmail.com</u>



It was such a pleasure to see so many of you at the recent Sacramento Regional. The ballrooms (and hotel) were full with bridge enthusiasts. We thank you for coming! I want to thank Anne Wilson and Brenda Hatton for all their efforts in making this tournament a success. They did a great job as Tournament Chairs for their first Regional.

While we had a great turnout, the Tournament Committee is well aware of various issues with the hotel, the most being the varying temperatures in the playing areas. They will be providing feedback to the DoubleTree so these concerns will not occur for our Regional there year. We heard you and agree you shouldn't need to bring your winter parka to the bridge tables in May and June!

In other news, the D21 Board recently met and approved a policy related to Non-Life Master Regionals. The District is allowed to hold 5 of these per year. The policy provides for Units to host an NLM Regional in cooperation with the District. The Palo Alto Unit held one of these last July with an excellent turnout and will hold another one next month in conjunction with its July Firecracker Sectional. The Reno Unit will also host an NLM Regional in August. We are hoping these limited Regionals will encourage newer players to come and experience a Regional, then attend a District Regional where there's more opportunity for gold points.

Our next Regional is at the Hyatt in Santa Clara at the end of August through Labor Day. If you don't have a reservation, book now.

If you are enjoying playing at our tournaments but would also like to give back, go to the D21 website and volunteer to help at the Welcome/Prize or Volunteer Desks. Volunteers are important to the success of our tournaments! No experience required.

June, July and August are the months to qualify for North American Pairs (NAP). Check your local club for dates and times. If you qualify at a club, plan to play at the District Finals at the Monterey Regional for an opportunity to represent the District at the Spring NABC in Memphis. Jim Coke's article will tell you more!

The Toronto NABC is next month, and I'll be there. I look forward to seeing many of our District players at the tables. We wish our Grand National Team's (GNT's) the best of luck as they compete with teams from other Districts. And good luck to everyone who will be playing there.

In the meantime, enjoy summer and I'll look forward to seeing you at the tables.

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