



Ruminations on Reservations

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I've given some thought lately to my reservations. Here's what I know:

- I have reservations about eating sushi, despite the fact that everyone I know thinks it's just wonderful
- I have reservations about swimming (who am I kidding?), I mean playing, in the ocean...there are sharks out there searching for well-aged grandma flesh, you know
- I have reservations about heights and cling to the side of an interior wall if I go up in an observation tower
- I have reservations about driving at night in unfamiliar areas now that I have successfully passed my 76th year on this planet
- I have reservations about risking my contract by taking an obvious finesse when my left hand opponent has bid a suit ... too often I lose to the king offside ... who makes an overcall on 10 fifth anyway?
- I have reservations about ordering clothing from Amazon because their AI has the audacity to suggest a size for me ... even though it might be correct 😊
- I have reservations about paying \$15 for a glass of sauvignon blanc when I know a bottle of the same wine in my refrigerator cost \$8
- I have reservations about visiting certain questionable sites on the internet; what will my family think when I am enjoying my final reward and they are clearing out my computer??
- I have reservations about discussing politics but sometimes I just can't help myself
- I have reservations about going to McDonalds and ordering my favorite sausage/egg/McMuffin with hash browns, but sometimes satisfy my guilty pleasures anyway
- I have absolutely no reservations about making reservations early for the regionals I plan to attend...that's right! I've already booked for Santa Clara and Sparks/Reno, and you could too

Do you have reservations? How easy is it to go to d21aclb.org, search for the tournament that interests you and make an online commitment? Yes, maybe you are dithering about attending, or your partner hasn't confirmed.

Remember we have a great Partnership Desk and you really do want to go and compete, refresh friendships and catch up on all the gossip.

The hotels ask that you cancel at least 2 days in advance, so what do you have to lose? You lose the opportunity to have me reply to your email begging that I find a room for you at the reduced rate as follows: You just realized that the tournament is three days away and NOW you want a room?? So far I have been only muttering to myself when these emails arrive (a surprising number of them, actually) and restrain my instinct to at least scold a little before replying that I will do my best to help. Start booking now, and if you run into issues, remember I am here to help. Do yourself (and me) a favor and book early for the tournaments you are likely to attend. And while you are at it, encourage your partners to do the same.

All the best from Napa...hope to see you in Santa Clara!

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