

DIAMOND IN THE RUFF

President's Report

Anne Hollingsworth, President D21 October 2024

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We have recently had two successful District 21 Regionals. Thanks to all who were in Santa Clara and Sparks. Both tournaments were larger than the prior year, which is a good trend, although we are still below pre-Covid attendance.

In Santa Clara, we were back in the large ballroom and it was nice to have the space! The Hyatt has been a good venue for us with comfortable hotel rooms, good playing space, and attentive staff in the restaurants. I didn't hear any complaints about the playing room temperature. The hotel offered fixed priced lunches and dinners at reasonable prices. They knew the "crunch" times with breakfast and lunches and were ready for us. In addition to special meals, they had a concession set up for pizzas, soup, salads, and sandwiches. We will be back next year!

The Sparks Regional had a much larger attendance than last time. It was nice to have several brackets for teams most days, and a good table count for open and gold rush pairs. In reviewing the comments on the tournament, one player commented that everyone was nice and courteous – as it should be.

Anne Wilson and Brenda Hatton have brought back speakers between the games, and there was a big turnout. I counted at least 50 attendees one day. Players want to continue to improve their skills, and we'll continue these learning opportunities.

At both recent Regionals, local volunteers helped with the Welcome and Partnerships desks. Many thanks to all who helped. We cannot run these tournaments without volunteers.

Anne and Brenda have been our Tournament Chairs for the past several Regionals. They are volunteers and dedicate many hours to ensuring the venue, hotel, concessions and games meet your expectations. When you see them, be sure to thank them for their dedication and efforts! They are doing a fabulous job.

Coming up soon is the Las Vegas NABC. I expect to see a large number of players from our District there. For those going, may you have fun and come home with lots of points.

Right after the holidays, District 21 will be holding our Monterey Regional starting on Monday, January 6. It's always popular, so be sure to book your room now if you haven't already. It's a favorite and likely to sell out.

As you are planning your 2025 tournament attendance, please remember to SAVE THE DATE for the San Francisco NABC (November 27-December 7).

I look forward to seeing many of you in Las Vegas and Monterey.

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