

Daily Bulletin



2019 Youth NABC

Editor: Chip Dombrowski

Chinese team wins Youth Swiss

A team of players from Beijing won the National Youth Swiss Teams. Yuchen Xu, Yufan Liao, Baozhuo Jiang and YuQi Wen finished 2.48 victory points ahead of the team captained by Harrison Luba of Lynnfield MA. Luba played with Michael Xu, Arthur Zhou and Michael Hu, all from California's Silicon Valley, and Canadians Olivia Laufer and Alben Maria Vassileva.

The winners have all been playing around eight years. Jiang came to the 2012 YNABC, and in 2014 Wen played in the Cardrook Pairs. It's the first time at a YNABC for Xu and Liao. They've never played as a team before.

The Luba team led after the qualifying session with a carryover of 20 VPs, about 12 ahead of the Chinese team. "In the morning we didn't play so well, but in the afternoon we were more focused,"



Winners of the National Youth Swiss Teams: Yufan Liao, captain Yuchen Xu, Baozhu Jiang and YuQi Wen of Beijing, China.

Jiang said.

"We had to win our match against them to catch up," Yuchen Xu added. "I think we all did well today, especially in the afternoon."

The team receives \$4000 in scholarships.

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Teen gets involved with teaching

Nathan Susser learned bridge on a cruise with his great-grandmother Jean Krakower in 2016 when she turned 100. He played a few times on the cruise and then didn't really think about the game for a year.

After her death, he got interested in bridge and decided he'd like to teach it to kids. He reached out to San Francisco's Parks and Recreation Department and, at 15, started his own card camp at the Chinatown Rec Center. But he realized he wasn't qualified to teach bridge.

"I was teaching games like war, spades, hearts," said Susser, now 17.

Then he found out about the Center For Bridge Education, a kid- and family-oriented local nonprofit. They were starting a program called Cardology Kidz and teaching a new game called Handz.

Handz, designed by Richard Bellerose, is a simplified game that plays like bridge without

the bidding. Players write down their high-card points and distribution on erasable information sheets that everyone can see. They use that information to arrive at a contract and start playing right away.

The CBE, says teaching coordinator Deborah Drysdale, has two prongs: spokes and a hub. "The spokes are going out to schools," she explains. It varies by semester, but volunteers are going out about four

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Nathan Susser teaches bridge at a middle school in San Francisco, starting with a simplified version of the game, called Handz.



The Center For Bridge Education's Cardology Kidz program brought 16 students the Youth NABC. Fourteen of them are seen here with teaching coordinator Deborah Drysdale, left, and coaches William Zhu, second left, and Edmund Wu, right.

Xu wins Sportsmanship Award

Michael Xu, 16, of Palo Alto CA won the Master Point Press Sportsmanship Award.

Xu started playing about four years ago when he went to one of Silicon Valley Youth Bridge's monthly free pizza parties.

This is his third time playing in the Youth NABC.

"I feel really honored that a lot of people voted for me," Xu said. "This award is especially meaningful to me. My mentor Michael Rosenberg is all about ethics and goodwill. He has spent a lot of time on me. I feel like winning this award shows his efforts are not wasted."

He will receive a \$1000 college scholarship from Master Point Press.



Michael Xu

Dealing out a big 'thank you' to our



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BARON BARCLAY
BRIDGE SUPPLY



FINAL ATTENDANCE
through Saturday
319.5 tables
A new record!

National Youth Swiss Teams



Winners: Yufan Liao, captain Yuchen Xu, Baozhul Jiang and YuQi Wen of Beijing, China.



Second place: Arthur Zhou, Michael Xu, Albena-Maria Vassileva, captain Harrison Luba, Olivia Laufer and Michael Hu.

Cardrook Pairs



First overall, morning: Eric He and Edward He. They were also second in A in the afternoon.



First in B and second overall, morning: Michael Hu and Luke Tong



First overall and first in B, afternoon: Nancy Yu and Joey Qi



First in C, afternoon: Matthew Xie and Divine Onyeagocha. They were also second in B in the morning.



First in C, morning: Leo Wang and Nicholas Wang



Second in C, morning: Eddy Qi and Nolan Balocki



Second in B, afternoon: Andrew Jin and Michael Hu



Second in C, afternoon: Markel Powell and Chibuihie Iherobiem



These players won section tops in Saturday's Cardrook games.

NATIONAL YOUTH SWISS TEAMS

18 Tables / Based on 38 Tables

13.06	1	Yuchen Xu, Nashville TN; Yufan Liao - Baozhuo Jiang - YuQi Wen, Beijing China	81.48
9.80	2	Harrison Luba, Lynnfield MA; Michael Xu, Palo Alto CA; Arthur Zhou - Michael Hu, San Jose CA; Olivia Laufer, Toronto ON; Albena-Maria Vassileva, North Bay ON	79.00
7.35	3	Rory Xiao, Fremont CA; Brandon Ge, Cupertino CA; Darwin Li, Richmond Hill ON; Jonathan Yue, San Jose CA; Michael Serafini, Calgary AB	66.30
5.51	4	Kayden Ge, Cupertino CA; Brian Zhang, Dublin CA; Charlie Chen - Andrew Chen, San Jose CA	54.70
4.35	5	Yunshan Wang - Tsz Fei Wang, North York ON; Sharon Mi, Mississauga ON; Nicole Qian, Gainesville FL	53.67
3.73	6	Richard Lourie, Jamaica Plain MA; Rohan Srivastava, Piedmont CA; Hao Hao Chen, Hinsdale IL; Kevin Jiang, Deerfield IL	50.09
3.27	7	Hao Li - Garrett Liu, Oakville ON; Yolanda Ling, Markham ON; Katherine Yang, Scarborough ON	48.12
2.90	8	Michael Zheng - Alex Zheng, San Jose CA; Jonathan Shi - Lucas Huang, Palo Alto CA	47.82
2.61	9	Katherine Hwang - Jack Boge, New York NY; Avery Silverstein, Ridgefield CT; Aldwyn Lin, Williamsburg VA	46.48
2.37	10	Jeffrey You, Nepean ON; Han Wu, Markham ON; Samuel Li, North York ON; Melody Zheng, Gloucester ON	44.30

SATURDAY AFTERNOON YOUTH PAIRS

12.0 Tables

	A	B	C		
3.81	1			Michael Passucci, Clarence Center NY; Colleen Stewart, Williamsville NY	63.06%
2.86	2			Nathan Gennaro, San Carlos CA; Miranda Schuyler, Discovery Bay CA	62.78%
2.14	3	1		Ashley Chen - Richard Chan, Arcadia CA	58.61%
1.61	4			Daren Liu - Tyler Mu, Williamsville NY	57.78%
1.44	5/6	2		Maximilian Santiago, St. George Bermuda; Gareth Cooper, Smiths Bermuda	57.50%
1.06	5/6			Jamie Chepenik - Brooke Chepenik, Maitland FL	57.50%
1.18		3	1	Charles Boisvert, Southampton Bermuda; Daniel Macphee, Devonshire Bermuda	55.56%
0.65		4		Brett Baumgartner, Pembroke Bermuda; Shane Krueger, St. David Bermuda	52.22%
0.89		5	2	Erin Li - Ethan Li, Arcadia CA	51.39%
0.66		3	3	Gabriella Quinn-Sirera - Sydney Daponte, Smiths Bermuda	46.94%

SATURDAY MORNING CARDROOK PAIRS

15.0 Tables

	A	B	C		
2.03	1			Eric He - Edward He, Bellevue WA	80.36%
1.70	2	1		Luke Tong, Princeton NJ; Michael Hu, Plainsboro NJ	73.21%
1.14	3			Sydney Thompson - Brooke Thompson, Apopka FL	69.64%
1.28	4	2		Divine Onyeagocha, Orange NJ; Mathew Xie, Los Angeles CA	64.29%
0.84	5/6	3/4		Leondina Passucci, Clarence Center NY; Luna Liu, Williamsville NY	61.31%
1.20	5/6	3/4	1	Leo Wang - Nicholas Wang, Redmond WA	61.31%
0.54		5		Geoffrey Yu, Redmond WA; Alex Zhou, Woodinville WA	60.12%
0.90		6	2	Nolan Balocki - Eddy Qi, San Francisco CA	52.98%
0.60			3/4	Markel Powell - Chibuihie Iherobiem, Orange NJ	47.62%
0.60			3/4	Toby Lee - Edmond Tso, San Francisco CA	47.62%

SATURDAY AFTERNOON CARDROOK PAIRS

17.0 Tables

	A	B	C		
1.92	1	1		Nancy Yu - Joey Qi, San Francisco CA	71.43%
1.44	2			Eric He - Edward He, Bellevue WA	70.83%
1.17	3	2		Michael Hu, Plainsboro NJ; Andrew Jin, Newtown PA	70.24%
1.12	4	3	1	Divine Onyeagocha, Orange NJ; Mathew Xie, Los Angeles CA	63.19%
0.66	5	4		Munachiso Iherobiem - Marquis Douglas, Orange NJ	60.71%
0.49	6	5		Alex Zhou, Woodinville WA; Geoffrey Yu, Redmond WA	60.32%
0.53		6		Leondina Passucci, Clarence Center NY; Luna Liu, Williamsville NY	58.33%
0.84			2	Markel Powell - Chibuihie Iherobiem, Orange NJ	53.67%
0.55			3/4	Tiger Li - Andrew Jiang, Buffalo NY	48.21%
0.55			3/4	Leo Wang - Nicholas Wang, Redmond WA	48.21%

BARON BARCLAY NATIONAL YOUTH PAIRS – CORRECTED

20.0 Tables / Based on 39 Tables

16.66	1	Arthur Zhou - Michael Hu, San Jose CA	70.60%
12.50	2	Katherine Yang, Scarborough ON; Yolanda Ling, Markham ON	67.23%
9.37	3	S. Reese Koppel, Metairie LA; Michael Xu, Palo Alto CA	66.60%
7.03	4	Rory Xiao, Fremont CA; Brandon Ge, Cupertino CA	63.48%
5.55	5	Samuel Li, North York ON; Han Wu, Markham ON	62.87%
4.76	6	YuQi Wen - Baozhuo Jiang, Beijing People's Republic of China	61.96%
4.17	7	Darwin Li, Richmond Hill ON; Michael Serafini, Calgary AB	61.89%
3.70	8	Miranda Schuyler, Discovery Bay CA; Olivia Schireson, Stanford CA	60.05%
3.33	9	Garrett Liu - Hao Li, Oakville ON	59.17%
3.03	10	Yufan Liao, Beijing China; Yuchen Xu, Nashville TN	59.09%
2.87	11	Albena-Maria Vassileva, North Bay ON; Olivia Laufer, Toronto ON	59.01%
2.56	12	Lauren Liu, Princeton NJ; Brandon Fong, Mount Laurel NJ	57.70%
2.38	13	Carl Marco - Eric Berenblit, Palm Coast FL	55.71%
2.22	14	Arthur Gong - Nathan Gong, Sammamish WA	55.06%
2.08	15	Kayden Ge, Cupertino CA; Charlie Chen, San Jose CA	54.12%
2.52	16	Jaan Srimurthy, Brookline MA; Jonathan Yue, San Jose CA	53.89%
1.85	17	Jonathan Shi - Lucas Huang, Palo Alto CA	52.86%
1.75	18	Alex Zheng - Michael Zheng, San Jose CA	52.86%
1.67	19	Hao Hao Chen - Shi Chen, Hinsdale IL	52.19%
1.59	20	Daren Liu - Tyler Mu, Williamsville NY	52.19%



Michael Xu of Palo Alto CA won the Master Point Press Sportsmanship Award.

Consolation Pairs



First overall: Colleen Stewart and Michael Passucci



First in B: Richard Chan and Ashley Chen. They also won the Thursday afternoon Cardrook Pairs.



First in C: Charles Boisvert and Daniel Macphee

Youth Swiss

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Youth Pairs

On Friday two members of the second place team – Hu and Zhou – won the Baron Barclay National Youth Open Pairs, a day after placing 55th in the Wernher Open Pairs. They’ve been playing together for four years, but it’s their third Youth NABC because Zhou didn’t go to Atlanta. They won the National Youth Swiss Teams two years ago in Toronto.

“I feel like in the final session, the first three rounds weren’t very good,” Zhou said. “And then Michael helped us regroup.”

Hu agreed it was a rocky start. “This dude [indicating Zhou] gave us a zero on the first board,” he said.

“At one point we doubled them, and it looked like it was making,” Zhou said. “Declarer went down. That was the turning point.”

Baron Barclay provides a \$2000 college scholarship to the winning pair.

Teaching

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elementary and middle schools at a time.

“The hub is people come to us.” That’s the Cardology program for adults and Cardology Kidz for youth. The name comes from the location: a room at a hospital where they can meet without having to pay rent.

When Susser attended the first meeting of Cardology Kidz, there were eight kids. He was the only one with any bridge knowledge. That made it easy for him to pick up Handz quickly. He also started taking bridge lessons from Bellerose.

Volunteers are in high demand for the CBE’s school bridge programs. “It helps the more table monitors you have,” Drysdale said. “Classroom management is an issue.”

So Susser, eager to teach bridge, got sent to Aptos Middle School. For four months he spent two hours there every Monday teaching Handz at first and then bridge with three other volunteers.

“Being able to teach is really rewarding,” he said. “Bridge is such a dynamic game that makes you use your mind in a way that builds skills that you need later in life.”

Meanwhile, the Cardology Kidz program has grown. One day Drysdale was offering a workshop for people who wanted to teach Handz at her house. Two moms she wasn’t expecting showed up with their 9-year-old sons. She brought them in and taught them the game. She had no idea what was coming next.

“All of a sudden it was like a fire hose of players learning to play Handz,” she said.

“It’s been incredible to watch the Cardology Kidz grow,” Susser said. “It’s gone from two tables to five to eight tables. So many new kids have come through there.”

Two years ago, they sent four students to Toronto; last year in Atlanta, it was seven. They have 16 here in Las Vegas, along with coaches William Zhu and Edmund Wu.

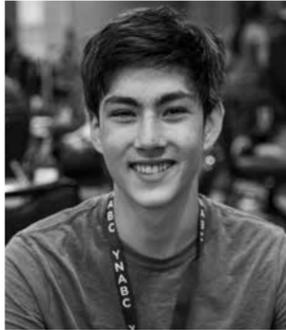
Susser went last year with his sister, but she doesn’t play anymore. His siblings know how to play from the same family cruise, but they gave it up. That leaves Susser as the only one still playing his great-grandmother’s game. “It’s special to me,” he said, “to be able to carry on her legacy.”



Deborah Drysdale is teaching coordinator for the Center for Bridge Education.

What’s your favorite contract?

During Saturday’s lunchtime at the Youth NABC, we asked players this question: What is your favorite contract and why?



“7NT redoubled making.”
[Have you done that?]
“Definitely not.”
Richard Lourie, 17
Boston MA



“I like 2♠. A lot of the time I have a whole bunch of diamonds.”
TaQuan Neblett, 12
Orange NJ



“3NT. I can just bid it and my partners don’t fight with me for it.”
Harrison Luba, 15
Lynnfield MA



“2♥. It seems easy to play. It’s red and that’s my favorite color.”
Juliana Shilipetar, 14
Seattle WA



“3NT. My dad says, ‘Don’t know what to do? Bid 3NT.’ It’s easier to know no one can ruff you.”
Avery Silverstein, 10
Ridgefield CT



“1NT. It’s easy to play because I have limited resources. There’s usually only one suit to set up.”
Michael Xu, 16
Palo Alto CA



“1NT. Because it never makes. I think it’s the most common contract and it goes down the most.”
Michael Serafini, 15
Calgary AB



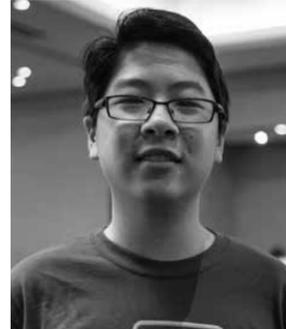
“Probably 3NT redoubled. It’s easier to get away with having crappy hands and not actually being able to make it.”
Olivia Laufer, 16
Toronto ON



“4♠. I like spades because they’re the best major.”
Michelle Yang, 11
Toronto ON



“6♠. It’s never bad to bid and make.”
Olivia Schireson, 14
Stanford CA



“Passout. It’s really fast and there’s no way to go down.”
Han Wu, 14
Toronto ON



“3NT. In notrump nobody can trump you.”
Aryssa Black, 12
Orange NJ



“I don’t really have one. If I had to choose, four of a major.”
Ethan Lacey, 13.
Bermuda



“Maybe 4♠. It’s game in a major but you don’t have to commit too much.”
Daphne Quint, 18
Reno NV



“4NT. It’s sort of in the middle. It’s not too high but not too low.”
Wesley Dominica, 14
Orlando FL



“7NT. It gets you a lot of points and it’s really exciting to play.”
Charlotte Emery-King, 16
Bermuda



“7NT.”
Owen Jiang, 11
Deerfield IL



“I’m really good at 2♣.”
Keira Reiss, 12
Seattle WA



“Probably 3♥. Cause I usually get hearts.”
Declan Reid, 10
Houston TX



“3♦. I play it a lot.”
Olivia Rabinowitz, 13
Williamsburg VA