



September 2015

## Center for Bridge Education News

### Collin Tackles Pro-Am

Want to have a great time at the bridge table? Try playing with one of the kids from our CBE sponsored clubs. Collin Ritchie took pity on Lauren Friedman and agreed to play with her in the Quicktricks pro-am game in May. Also playing in the game was another Lowell student, Dante Tam.



He played with Harlan Hullinger. Collin is 13 years old and is a 7<sup>th</sup> grader at St. Stephen School. He plays at the Lowell High School club. But from his composure at the table you would think he had been playing for years.

The evening started by filling out convention cards. Collin plays Standard American with almost no gadgets. Walking through the card, the pair agreed on stand-

ard limit raises, but inverted minors.

At the first table, the auction proceeded as follows:

Collin	North	Lauren	South
			P
1C	P	1H	P
2C	P	2S	P
3N	P	P	P

Lauren thought a long time before her last pass, thinking that she had already earned a zero on only the 2nd board of the night. The hand is in the next column.



### President's Letter by Jim Leuker

Welcome to the new school year and another year of teaching bridge to our San Francisco students. CBE is now in its ninth year and is seen as one of the most successful youth bridge teaching programs in the country. This year we'll have bridge programs running at CAIS (Chinese American International School), Lowell HS and Galileo HS. Thank you to all of you teachers, volunteers and students for participating in these ongoing programs.

Welcome back from Chicago and the Youth North American Bridge Championship (YNABC) to our six youth competi-

None Vul

Q2  
AK5  
J632  
10864

K85  
7  
AQ10  
AKJ972

AJ743  
Q109642  
74  
—

1096  
J83  
K985  
Q53

As you would expect, North led a diamond. Collin took the K with the A, cashed the 2 top clubs and led a low club. When the Q fell Collin got 5 clubs, 2 diamonds, and 2S. He was unwilling to part with the Q109 of H on the run of the clubs. Clearly he can make 4 if he leads a spade to the A and then back to the K after the Q of clubs is knocked out and Lauren could have been a real hero if she had bid 4S which as the cards lie can make 6. But who cared. He made his contract.

At the second table, Collin forgot that 2C was Stayman and the auction went as follows:

Collin	North	Lauren	South
	P	1NT (15-17)	P
2C	P	2D	P
P	2H	P	P
3D	P	P	P

The hands are on page 2.

tors—Amelia Lee, Marisa Li, Lisa Liao and Oliver Noss of Lowell HS and Kai Chang and Pico Gilman of CAIS. You represented CBE very well. Whether you finished your events in the winners circle or not, we know you had a great experience playing against other kids from all over the U.S. and elsewhere. We're so proud of you!

Welcome to our newest CBE board member, Gail Gabiati. We're so glad to have you join us. Best wishes to board member Marion Robertson, who is recovering after an illness at the Chicago NABC. We hope we'll be seeing you back at the bridge table real soon.

To everyone else, keep playing and keep spreading the good word about our wonderful game of bridge.

## Collin

(Continued from page 1)

None Vul

K9864 Q10753 7 104  Q5 AJ QJ862 8752  A103 K964 543 QJ3	J72 82 AK109 AK96
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After Lauren made three, and Lauren reminded him of stayman, Collin asked how he showed diamonds if 2C asked for a major. Lauren lied a little and said you don't. (She later sent him an email talking about minor suit stayman.)

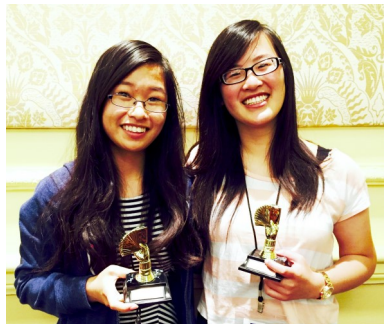
Lest you think it was an evening of accidents, later the following auction occurred. Both sides were vulnerable. 4Sx went down 2 for a cold top for Collin. The smile on his face was as bright as could be. (The pro's were sitting north and east.)

Collin	North	Lauren	South
	2S	P	3S
X	P	4C	P
P	4S!	P	P
X	P	P	P

Lauren later reported that it was one of the most fun bridge evenings she had in a long time.

## Six Go to YNABC

"I had a ridiculous amount of fun playing in Chicago. Who knew playing bridge for approximately 9 hours a day could be so great?" That was Amelia Lee's reaction to the Youth NABC.



Marisa and Lisa

Amelia, who is starting her freshman year at UC San Diego, was one of six young players CBE sent to the Youth NABC in Chicago in August. Joining Amelia were Oliver Noss, Marisa Li, and Lisa Liao all from Lowell High School. Kai Chang and Pico Gilman, veterans of three previous YNABC'S, from Chinese American International School rounded out the group. Additionally, our sponsored organization, Silicon Valley Youth Bridge sent fourteen young players.

Amelia continued, "One of the best things about the youth NABC was being able to play with players our own age, at various skill levels. Not only did I feel like I was part of a new generation of bridge players, I was also able to connect to many people who also share a love for the game. There were people from every end of the United States and even a group from Bermuda!"

She related the story of a "mother and her very young daughter (who was eager to go home). The bidding went pass-pass-pass, giving the daughter a chance to bid. She bid 5H! Of course we all passed, and the mother went ahead and played the hand and she

made it, getting 100% for that board!"

Lisa Liao, who is a freshman at UC Irvine, felt the experience improved her bridge skills. Playing with Marisa Li, she found this hand remarkable.

North Deals, N-S Vulnerable

North: (14 points) ♠ KQ1096432 ♥ — ♦ AKQ43 ♣ —  West: (6 Points) ♠ A875 ♥ 103 ♦ J6 ♣ J10963	East: (12 Points) ♠ — ♥ AQ9762 ♦ 105 ♣ AQ752  South: (8 Points) ♠ J ♥ KJ854 ♦ 9872 ♣ K84
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West	Marisa	East	Lisa
	1S	2H	P
3C	3S	4C	P
5C	5S	P	P
X	P	P	P

Marisa made 6. Lisa said she was proud of her partner for bidding to the 5 level on her own.

Veteran YNABC attendees Kai Chang and Pico Gilman turned in 62% and 72% games in the cardroom pairs, but it was a different story in the open pairs, not breaking 40%. Kai says, "We're at an in-between point, but want to improve over the school year, and play well in the Open next year."

A few days later, Kai's mother asked CBE for more advanced lessons for Kai and Pico. Those lessons have been arranged.

## Peninsula Youth Bridge Joins CBE

Peninsula Youth Bridge is joining CBE, resulting in youth bridge programs from San Francisco to San Jose, making CBE one of the largest programs in the country. Founded by Carol Knowles and Jeanie Kwong, the Peninsula program will begin offering classes in mid San Mateo County starting this fall.

A committee has been working since spring on the best way to launch this new pro-

gram. With helpful input from both CBE and SiVY, PYB will be sponsored by CBE. The program is being supported by the Unit 498 board with a donation of \$500 to launch its teaching program. Volunteers are already being recruited to form teaching teams to be sent to each participating school. Jeanie is working with the San Mateo Gifted and Talented Education program to identify schools where bridge clubs are most likely to be successful.

### Contact Information

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