

Barbara Nielsen New ACBL Life Master

Barbara and her husband, who has about 30 points, decided to play at the Modesto Regional because it was on the way to their daughters. Barbara needed 7.47 gold points to reach the Life Master level, so they decided to play Gold Rush Pairs.

On the first two days they played they didn't get any points and were kicking themselves for doing so poorly. Our gloom was apparent and they thought of giving up but decided to give it one more try and they just clicked as a team and did great in both sessions. They were astounded when we got top score for the combined sessions and 8.04 gold points. They had others check the print out to be sure they were reading it correctly. It was true and everyone around them gave a cheer and her husband's buttons almost bust as he was so proud to be the one to help Barbara reach her goal.

Barbara believes bridge is a wonderful game and so are almost all of the people playing the game. ACBL games bring people of all experiences and personalities together to enjoy bridge. It is unrealistic to believe we will never encounter people having a bad bridge game and showing it. But since the inception of "zero tolerance", Barbara sees people working harder to be pleasant in spite of the terrible game they may be having. She totally supports and appreciates that the ACBL bars bullies from the bridge table.

Thank you all for the time and effort everyone freely gives to keep bridge alive and well in Utah.