

ISPA



INFO



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From the Editor

The end of the skat season is now here, and hopefully many new friends and memories have been made over the previous year. Many of the new people from the skat club in Saskatoon were able to travel and experience our tournament circuit for the very first time (away from home that is), while other familiar to the different venues were able to make it out to visit and compete too. I hope your club was also able to send out your members to see and play skat over our great country. I must admit that I was disappointed I could not be more active this past year; however, work and a young family consumed a large amount of the minimal spare time that I had.

Our local club has had another successful season of recruitment and is working feverously to enlist the new recruits into not only learning the game but also to have them remain as full time players. Our goal is to retain two full tables (eight new players) for the coming years. It is exciting to see some of our newer members taking an active role in the upbringing of the new members, as they are to express their experiences of learning such a challenging game as they themselves just underwent the sometimes mind-warping training.

I sincerely hope many of your clubs are also experiencing an influx of new people. Please let us know how you are doing and how your local membership is doing.

Finally as mentioned previously my occupation (which has been going through non-stop dramatic changes) along with my family have been keeping my free time tied up. Therefore, when the current year expires I will submit my resignation from the executive of ISPA Canada. It has been a great pleasure to meet you, and I wish all of you the best in the future. Anyone who is interested in filling this position can contact any member of the board for information about the position. Finally, I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



ZUM GEBURTSTAG WÜNSCHEN WIR RECHT VIELE
JAHRE IN GUTER GESUNDHEIT UND "GUT BLATT".



ON YOUR BIRTHDAY WE WISH YOU MANY
MORE YEARS OF GOOD HEALTH AND
AND NATURALLY ALWAYS " Good Cards".

The Executive ISPA Canada-USA & ISPA INFO

Do you have something to contribute? All submissions are greatly welcomed and appreciated. Kindly have anything you wish to have added sent to me no later than March 31th, 2015 to atchisondonald@hotmail.com for publication in the winter edition of the ISPA Info. This information will be passed onto the new ISPA Secretary immediately upon its reception and to Hans-Jürgen Steinmetz H-J.Steinmetz@usask.ca

A message from Bill Thompson, President, ISPA USA

Greetings, Skat friends in North America,
I have now served over one year as USA Section President for ISPA. This past year I made a commitment to play all five of the ISPA-sanctioned events played in the US, comprising Las Vegas, Texas, Cleveland, Seattle and Omaha. I am very happy that I was able to meet that goal. I also requested that our North American tournament calendar include some of our non-ISPA events in order to give them more visibility and participation. I hope to make some of those events in 2015, too.

I have had the opportunity to meet many new friends, introduce myself, and listen to your feedback regarding competitive Skat. I want to let you know that I have been busy bringing more and more exciting Skat events to our country, and to North America in general.

This February, our New Braunfels, TX club members will host the 2015 North American Championship. A week of Skat in Texas in February should sound very good to our players who live in the Northern climates. The Texas players are very hospitable and welcoming, so I encourage you to attend for what should be a fun and satisfying week of card play. Check the ISPA North American tournament calendar for details.

Next autumn, our Omaha club will host our inaugural US Open Championship. This will become an annual major event with a rotating site in the US. The tournament entry fee will be generally be in the \$80-\$90 range with all entry money paid back in prizes. The title of US Open Champion may be won by any ISPA player regardless of national origin, hence the name of the event. Again, check the calendar for details.

Finally, and most excitingly, we have been given a tentative opportunity by the ISPA World Executives to host the 2016 ISPA World Championship in Las Vegas, NV. We are still in the process of selecting the final dates and host venue, but please plan now to attend the World Championship sometime in the second half of the year 2016.

I hope to see as many of you as possible at our 2015 events. It will be an exciting year for ISPA USA!

Bill Thompson
President, ISPA USA Section

Message from Hans-Jürgen Steinmetz, President, ISPA Canada

Dear Skat friends,
Another year past and our ISPA Canada had 15 tournaments in 13 cities. Most of our clubs reported a good attendance despite the fact that none of us is getting any younger.

Some of the highlights of our tournaments were the Canadian Championship, the North American Championship and the newly introduced Masters tournaments.

Looking at the tournament rankings for the year 2014 one name was mentioned in most of the standings, Frank Heuvelmans, one of our top Canadian players. With skill and cards running in his favor, Frank went to participate at the World Championship 2014 in Asuncion, Paraguay. After 12 from 15 rounds he was ranking first with 17176 points (165 won and 13 lost games), 941 points ahead of the second ranking Yahya Saglam and 993 points ahead of the third ranking Ari Burgers. On 16th place was Hans-Jürgen Neubert with 13576 points. Franks strategy for the last three rounds was clear, since only the highest-ranking 16 players after 15 rounds are going through into the final. He only needed to play the 100% games. Frank ended up after 15 rounds with 18864 points in second place, which qualified to play in the final.

Two of our players, Ron Link and Horst Gonschorek ranked on place 17 and 18 after 15 rounds. Ron was only 11 points behind the 16th with 16520 points.

Here are the World Cup results after the 5 rounds in the final were played.

	Name, Firstname	Country	FINAL (5 Rd)			
			After		Total	Table
			15 Rounds	Points	Points	Points
1	Neubert,Hans-Jürgen	D	12	16,687	5954	18
2	Saglam,Yahya	D	4	18,569	5710	17
3	Käfer,Holger	D	8	17,041	5693	16
4	Burgers,Ari	D	1	19,855	5321	15
5	Thomsen,Christian	DK	7	17,083	5189	14
6	Heuvelsmans, Frank	CA	2	18,864	4896	14
7	Holzer,Richard	D	6	17,347	5273	13
8	Becker,Lauro	PY	15	16,593	5160	13
9	Grunert,Rainer	D	14	16614	4825	13
10	Hoffmann,Ina	D	16	16,531	4491	12
11	Kraft,Thomas	D	5	17,566	4197	11
12	Schachenreiter,Jürgen	AT	9	16,925	4220	10
13	Bougard,Armand	BE	10	16,879	3339	10
14	Myrczik,Jozef	PL	11	16,862	2918	9
15	Brzoska, Henryk	PL	13	16,681	2525	8
16	Eisenkolb,Bernd	D	3	18,636	1714	7

The Hagen International Team did win with 85.009 points the team event and is therefore the 5th time World Champion. The Team members are Holger Käfer, Yahya Saglam, Frank Heuvelmans, Scott McCormick, Jutta Khalil and Horst Hagen.

Our Canadian national team managed to come in 3rd from 9 teams after a very slow start. This event was played over 4 rounds.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL WINNERS!

All results are posted on the ISPA World Homepage "ISPAWORLD.ORG".

Like you could read on the front page of our ISPA Info our editor and secretary Don Atchison resigned his position with ISPA Canada. His work as a pilot and his young family keep him too busy to do any extra work. On behalf of ISPA Canada I like to thank him for the excellent service he provided to the membership in the past 3 years.

Please join me to wish him luck for his professional career and with his young family. I'm sure you will see him at some of our tournaments once in a while.

If you know anyone who likes to take the opportunity to serve ISPA Canada as secretary I would appreciate if you would inform me.

I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy Healthy New Year. Hope to see you all at the tournaments!

Hans-Jürgen

Red Deer Skat Club

Greetings from everyone at the Red Deer Skat Club. As 2014 comes to an end, we would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and all the best in 2015! As we wind down 2014 here in

Red Deer, we are looking forward to crowning a new club champion and end the year with our Christmas wind up and mini club tournament.

Our club has had a great year, we enjoyed hosting our Tournament May30-June 1st, playing every Monday and many of us have been able to travel to other tournaments throughout the year as our schedules permitted, Vegas is only a few weeks away and we plan to have a good attendance there again. Our club has seen some growth and new players, we currently have 25 members and we average about 4-5 tables for play each Monday, we even get some guests from Edmonton attending the odd time too!

Looking forward into 2015, we hope for continued growth, we plan to do a little advertising in local media and offer some lessons for these new beginners. We will be once again hosting our tournament at around the same time of year; a poster will be online as soon as we have it all planned.

Merry Christmas to all and to all a Gut Blatt!

Toronto

Unfortunately, no results or information was provided by the club about their event.



The winners from left-right: Kevin Thompson (1), Bernie Krebsbach (2) and Agi Sauernheimer (3 and best lady).



The tandem winners from left-right: Berni Krebsbach and Horst Gebert.



The winners from left: Frank Heuvelmans (2), Billy Howard (1) and Kevin Thompson (3).

Hamilton

	Name	Club	Total
1	Billy Howard	CLE	5909
2	Frank Heuvelmans	OTT	5837
3	Kevin Thompson	CLE	5698
4	Berie Krebsbach	TX	5558
5	Norbert Bub	MTL	5405
6	Thomas Rausch	TOR	5312
7	Heidi Frank	HAM	5277
8	Antonietta Bub	MTL	5269

Winner of the Series

1	Antonietta Bub	MTL	1591
2	Kevin Thompson	CLE	1865
3	Norbert Bub	MTL	1595
4	Bill Thompson	CLE	1790
5	Billy Howard	CLE	1502



The winners of the series: Bill Thompson, Kevin Thompson, Antonietta Bub, Norbert Bub and Billy Howard.



The winning team: Berni Krebsbach, Antonietta Bub, Barbara Eggers and Klaus Patommel.

Kitchener



The winners from left: Kevin Thompson (2), Horst Kreitzer (1) and Horst Wessel (3).



The winners of the Series from left: Horst Kreitzer (2x), Kevin Thompson, Bernie Krebsbach and Frank Heuvelmans.



The winning tandem Team from left: Horst Kreitzer and Bernie Krebsbach.

1	Kreitzer, Horst	KW	6487
2	Thompson, Kevin	CLE	5775
3	Wessel, Horst	KW	5727
4	Rausch, Thomas	TOR	5531
5	Heuvelmans, Frank	OTT	5520
6	Bub, Norbert	MTL	5485
7	Krebsbach, Bernie	TX	5187
8	Metz, Mike	KW	5140
9	Barta, Siegfried	KW	5009
10	Thompson, Bill	CLE	4904

Cleveland

A very successful Great Lakes Week of Skat concluded in Cleveland with a Vorturnier and ISPA tournament graciously hosted by the Cleveland Maennerchor in the historic Old Brooklyn neighborhood. Twenty-five players from Cleveland, Ontario, Texas, and the Midwest competed for the top prizes, and two more beginning players took part in the Vorturnier. The Maennerchor kitchen staff delighted our visiting guests great food and beverages at low club prices.

The big story was Kevin Thompson capping off a truly amazing week of Skat. On Friday, Kevin captured both the second round and the overall prize in the Vorturnier. That turned out to be just a warm-up, as he then blitzed through five rounds of the main tournament on his way to 6424 points and his fourth ISPA tournament victory at the tender age of 19. In the week's four ISPA tournaments, Kevin earned two first prizes, a second prize and a third prize. He also won a Vorturnier, four Seriensieger prizes and two team prizes, including a first prize in the 2-player teams in Cleveland along with his brother, Kyle Thompson. Although he tried unsuccessfully for his gold ISPA pin, Kevin actually met the requirements for achieving a silver ISPA pin in all four ISPA tournaments during the Great Lakes Week of Skat—truly remarkable card playing. Congratulations, Kevin!

Heidi Frank, who played most of the tournament at table 1, claimed the Best Lady

Name	Club	Total Score
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prize. The Seriensiieger were Thomas Rausch (1), Heidi Frank (2), Bill Thompson (3), Harald Kroos (4) and Kevin (5). Series 3 and 4 were noteworthy because Bill Thompson lost a clubs without 10, yet still managed to win the series, and Harald Kroos topped 2000 points, best of the tournament.

We the Cleveland Skat Club members look forward to hosting our visiting tournament players and their guests again in August 2015!



The winners of the series from left: Heidi Frank (also best lady), Bill Thompson, Harald Kroos and Kevin Thompson. Not shown is Thomas Rausch.

#	Player Name	Club	Total
1	Thompson, Kevin	CLE	6424
2	Kroos, Harald	NM	6132
3	Gebert, Horst	TX	5318
4	Krebsbach, Bernie	TX	5298
5	Beckerman, Roger	CLE	5261
6	Frank, Heidi	HAM	5149
7	Janke, Juergen	HAM	4963
8	Leissner, Jim	TX	4743

Skatpuzzle solution
 Trick 7: VH leads the ace of heard, MH queen of spade, HH king of club
 Trick 8: MH leads the club 8, HH club 7, VH club 9
 Trick 9: VH leads the diamond 9
 MH (the player) has only two options left: to discard the ace of club or take the diamond 9 with the jack of diamond.
 The game is not winnable for the player anymore because the player in HH did discard his king of club in trick 7 and did not take the club 8 with his club 10 in trick 8.



The winners from left: Kevin Thompson (1), Harald Kroos (2) and Horst Gebert (3).



The winners of the tandem Team from left: Kyle & Kevin Thompson.

Vancouver

The Vancouver Skat Club held the yearly tournament on August 29th to August 31th 2014. 45 players attended; we welcomed participants from all over Canada, USA and Germany. As always, it was a hard fought 2 day battle, but except for the occasional complaints about bad running cards, people were in good spirits. In the

end we crowned Frank Heuvelmann from Ottawa as the North Pacific champion.

This year, our tournament was a big success, and we are looking forward to providing another tournament next year with even more participation.

	Name	Club	Total
1	Heuvelmans, Frank	OTT	6673
2	Sommer, Michael	EDM	6298
3	Khalil, Jutta	MTL	6205
4	Weirich, Hans	VAN	5842
5	Steinmetz, Hans-Jürgen	SK	5754
6	Pauly, Guenter	USA-CA	5720
7	Link, Ron	EDM	5528
8	Lavoie, Victor	EDM	5469
9	Prohl, Robert	VAN	5395
10	Kranzj, Marta	KEL	5315
11	Hagen, Horst	MTL	5303
12	Reuter, Frank	GER	5296



The winners of the series: Horst Hagen, Jutta Khalil, Frank Heuvelmans, Michael Sommer and Horst Gonschorek.

Seattle

	Name	Club	Total Score
1	Litwiniuk, Marianne	CAL	6517
2	Leissner, Jim	TX	6509
3	Reuter, Frank	D	5358
4	Morlock, Richard	SF	5349
5	Sommer, Michael	EDM	5266
6	Zitscher, Axel	VAN	5163
7	Heuvelmans, Frank	OTT	5058
8	Schloesser, Erwin	D	5056
9	Thompson, Bill	CLE	4971
10	Krajnz, Marta	KEL	4957



The winners in Vancouver from left: Michael Sommer (2), Jutta Khalil (3 and best lady) and Frank Heuvelmans (1).



The winners in Seattle from left: Jim Leissner (2), Marianne Litwiniuk (1) and Frank Reuter (3).

Kelowna



The winners from left: Ron Link (1st and North American Champion 2014), Jutta Khalil (best lady), Erwin Fritz (2) and Ron Knipschild (3).



The winners of the Series from left: Guenter Pittelkau, Frank Tolksdorf, Horst Hagen, Ron Link and Dieter Werner.



The North American Team Champions from left: Dieter Werner, Ron Knipschild, Marianne Litwiniuk and Bernd Luz.

North American Championship

	Name	Club	Total
1	LINK, Ron	EDM	6199
2	FRITZ, Erwin	USA	6170
3	KNIPSCHILD, Ron	CAL	5928
4	HAGEN, Horst	MTL	5916

5	PITTELKAU, Guenter	KEL	5723
6	LEISSNER, Jim	USA-TX	5621
7	STEINMETZ, Hans-Jürgen	SK	5618
8	STEWIN, Hans	USA-CA	5586
9	SCHLOSSER, Erwin	GER	5573
10	LUZ, Bernd	CAL	5571
11	REUTER, Frank	GER	5538
12	MERKENS, Franz	VAN	5514
13	KHALIL, Jutta	MTL	5471
14	WEIRICH, Hans	VAN	5369
15	BIRKER, Werner	CAN	5314
16	ZITSCHER, Axel	VAN	5298

Masters Tournaments

Masters Group A

	Name	Club	Total
1	REUTER, Frank	GER	3802
2	LINK, Ron	EDM	3767
3	KRAJNZ, Marta	KEL	3590
4	RASING, Hans	WPG	3286
5	KHALIL, Jutta	MTL	3276
6	GONSCHOREK, Horst	KEL	3202
7	LUZ, Eric	CAL	3195
8	HAGEN, Horst	MTL	3159
9	WERNER, Dieter	CAL	3009
10	STEWIN, Hans	USA-CA	2968

Masters Group B

	Name	Club	Total
1	CHROSCINSKI, Peter	KEL	3966
2	WEHR, Kurt	EDM	3594
3	ROWEKAMP, Werner	EDM	3425
4	LUZ, Bernd	CAL	3346
5	WEINGART, Horst	KEL	3319
6	WATZLAWEK, Siegfried	KEL	3286
7	WEIHER, Georg	KEL	3149
8	LAVOIE, Joslyn	EDM	3109
9	KROOS, Harald	NM	3021
10	KUHNEN, Frank	RD	2986



Masters Tournament Winners, Group "A" from left: Frank Reuter, Martha Krajnz and Ron Link.

hope to see all of you next year for many memories and lots of skat fun.

	Name	Club	Total
1	Jim Stang	USA	6517
2	Ron Link	EDM	6509
3	Joe Schmitt	USA-TX	5358
4	Hans Rasing	WPG	5349
5	Bob Maxwell	USA-TX	5266
6	Kurt Bauer	WPG	5163
7	Horst Kreitzer	KW	5058
8	Jim Leissner	USA-TX	5056
9	Jim Zielinski	USA-Omaha	4971
10	Bill Thompson	USA-OH	4957



Masters Tournament Winners, Group "B" from left: Werner Roewekamp, Peter Chroscinski and Kurt Wehr.



The winners from left: Ron Link (2), Jim Stang (1) and Joe Schmitt (3).

Omaha

On October 3-5, 2014 Omaha hosted it's annual Skat tournament with 26 participants. Comments from the players indicated everyone had a good time. The top winner was Jim Stang with a total score of 6517 points. Just 8 points behind was Ron Link with a score of 6509 points. Joe Schmitt came in 3rd with 5358 points. The woman's trophy was won by Brigitte Soworka.

The Series Winners were Ron Link - Series 1, Joe Schmitt- Series 2, Hans Rasing - 3rd series, Werner Roewekamp - Series 4 and Jim Zielinski - Series 5.

We have excellent facilities here in Omaha and we



The winners of the series from left: Ron Link, Joe Schmitt, Hans Rasing, Werner Roewekamp and Jim Zielinski.



**WIR TRAUERN UM UNSEREN SKATFREUND -
WE MOURN THE LOSS OF OUR SKATFRIEND**

Heinz Scheelisch
Newmarket Skat Club

December 23, 1926-October 7, 2014

After six tricks Forehand (FH) has the ace and 10 of hearts, clubs 9 and diamond 9.
Middlehand (MH) has the ace and 8 of club, spade queen, and the jack of diamond.
Hindhand has the 10, king and 7 of club and the 7 of spade.

Middlehand (MH) plays a spade game. The opponents have 40 points at this time. When all players play at their best, can Middlehand lose the game and if how?

Forehand has to lead for the next trick.

You can find the puzzle solution on page 6

Here is an interesting Skat puzzle. Can you solve it?
(send in by Bob Ewald)

TOURNAMENT



CALENDAR

2015

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Last update: 18 Dec. 2014

MONTH, DATE	CITY	CONTACT	PHONE	Email
JAN 10 + 11	Las Vegas, NV	Guenther Pauly	818-889-8906	guentherdorisp@sbcglobal.net
FEB 6, 7 + 8	New Braunfels, TX 26. North American Championship	Michael Kivlin	830-625-4279	texasakatleague@gmail.com
MAR 28 + 29	Edmonton, AB Alberta Championship	Victor Lavoie	780-691-3619	V_lavoie@Hotmail.com
APR 24, 25 + 26	Montreal, QC 32. Canadian Championship	Jutta Khalil	514-568-8891	jutta.khalil@gmx.de
APR 27 + 28	Ottawa, ON	Marsha Clarke	613-269-2057	m.jclarke@sympatico.ca
MAY 30 + 31	24. SK Tournament Saskatoon, SK	Siegfried Fahr	306-652-0709	fahrside3@sasktel.net
JUNE 27 + 28	Winnipeg	Dinah Kunst	204-453-7766	dkunst60@yahoo.com
AUG 1 + 2	Cleveland, OH	Bill Thompson	440-724-5189	bthompson31@earthlink.net

AUG	4 + 5	Hamilton, ON	Heidi Frank	289-396-0864	hfrank1@cogeco.ca
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AUG	8 + 9	Toronto, ON	Wolfgang Mielitz	905-895-1180	wolfgang43@rogers.com
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AUG	8 + 9	Kelowna, B.C.	Manfred Grossmueller	250-768-9982	grossmuellermanfred@yahoo.ca
AUG	14 - 23	19. Skat E.M. Koblenz, Germany	H.-Jürgen Steinmetz http://www.ispaworld.org/	306-664-3664	H-J.Steinmetz@usask.ca

This Tournament Calendar is also posted on the Internet.
www.skatcanada.ca/canada/events.html