

Tournament Report- Rosenblum January 8-10, 2026

Attendance

Thursday pairs had 35 tables in the AM. Afternoon games had 26.5 tables.

Friday pairs had 37.5 tables in the AM. Afternoon games had 27.5 tables.

Saturday was Swiss Teams. We had 28 teams—and 4 different brackets. This was the same amount as our October tournament, so the day of the week doesn't seem significant.

Carolyn Stolz was Partnership Chair, and she did a terrific job.

Menu

Thursday was lasagna from Hobnobbers. Ordered three ½ trays. They delivered for \$25 plus driver's tip and they use their own delivery staff—worth it. Used chafing dishes to keep the food warm until served. Also served garlic bread and salad. I was advised that the 3 full and ½ trays would not be enough food for this large crowd, so we ordered Domino's pizza. All food got eaten except 1 slice of pizza. (I watched as everyone going through the line got a normal serving of lasagna and 1-2 slices of pizza). Note that salads should be planned daily for three LARGE salads (approx. 6 large containers of lettuce (spring mix/baby spinach used for most part). Sherrie provided this plus a couple of members brought salads. I am convinced that no matter how much food you put out, they will consume most of it even if it's double what they should be eating.

Thursday menu was Firehouse Subs. Our initial order was 9 boxes (3 Chicken, 3 Italian, 3 Ham and 1 Veggie) Jag, the manager, told me I could add to the order at 10 in the morning and they could deliver all by 12:00. We ended up ordering an additional 6 boxes due to the crowd. We had 2-3 boxes left over which we served on Saturday to supplement the Chinese food. We also served potato salad from Captain Sids (2 gallons plus 2 quarts). We also served coleslaw made and donated by John Federico. Wanda brought her giant White chocolate bread pudding which was completely consumed.

Saturday we served Generals Chicken, Vegetable fried rice & egg rolls from Bamboo House. We doubled the order when the restaurant told us 1 pan would feed 20, and we had 28 teams. Lots left over. One pan probably feeds 40-50 for chicken and fried rice. Egg rolls, while very popular, were very expensive at \$2.50 per egg roll so suggest other options or omission of eggrolls. No leftovers on eggrolls.

Donations

Most donations have to be solicited. Some people will bring desserts unsolicited but donations are best recruited and specific. Jim Thornton brought ice all three days, specific requests for soft

drinks (David Williams, Gary Bergeron, David Woods, Charles Waldrop, John Musser, John Hurley, David Wright, Nelson Daigle, Om Garg were sufficient. Lots of Diet Coke leftover. Received \$45 in cash donations.

Margaret Shirer, Nancy Gates and Raphael Velazquez each brought two-three dozen donuts on different days. Wanda Hogan made a double batch of white chocolate bread pudding (very popular); Susan Klees brought a cake and an appetizer tray. Several other people brought in desserts on different days. Jean Talbot contributed cash—and I am sure there are other donors that I am omitting—but for whom I am eternally grateful. Desserts usually come in unsolicited but you may have to supplement cookies, etc. from Sam's or Costco if not enough desserts are donated. Try to get an idea of what to expect.

Other

We paid Monique \$150 per day (504)975-2224 to work in the kitchen (recruited by Keenan) so that chairpersons would be able to play and have someone to help prepare, set out, and clean up after lunch. This person worked approx. 4 hours each day of the tournament, coming in about an hour after the game started and staying thru lunch clean up. End of day cleanup was up to the chair/ volunteers recruited by the chair.

Sherrie Goodman/ Chair

Note: Normally the food budget for a 3 day tournament is \$1,500- \$2,000. This tournament had the highest attendance since Covid so more food was needed (but more money was raised). It is important that enough food is provided to feed everyone. More food may have to be ordered at the last minute and it is good to have that option (example is the pizza to supplement the lasagna). On the 0-20 day, the players finish early and you may want a menu that allows them to eat earlier. Otherwise, lunch is usually 1:00-1:15. Plan deliveries for no later than 12:45.