

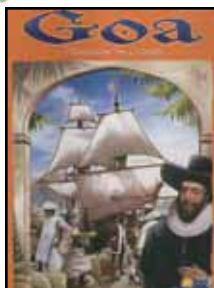


2009 Results

- ♣ Ed Menzel, CA
- ♠ Richard Beyma, VA
- ♣ D. Zimmerman, PA
- ♠ John Clarke, FL
- ♠ Vince Meconi, DE
- ♠ Jim Tracy, OH

♣ Vince Meconi, DE

† 35 📖 1992-2009



2009 Results

- ♣ Alex Bove, PA
- ♠ Chris Moffa, NJ
- ♠ Chris Trimmer, TX
- ♠ Aran Warszawski, IS
- ♠ Jeff Meyer, MA
- ♠ Steve Shambeda, PA

♣ Alex Bove, PA

† 38 📖 2004-2009



Ed Menzel, CA

Top Laurelists

Ed Menzel, CA	182
Vincent Meconi, DE	156
Allen Kaplan, NJ	91
Dave Zimmerman, PA	78
Ted Drozd, IL	62
Barry Shoults, MI	56
Jim Tracy, OH	38
William Place, PA	31
Richard Beyma, MD	24
Mike Pacheco, CA	24



Alex Bove, PA

Top Laurelists

Alex Bove, PA	117
Chris Moffa, NJ	84
Arthur Field, SC	84
Raphael Lehrner, MD	79
John Kerr, VA	48
Rod Spade, PA	46
Kevin Walsh, NY	45
Chris Trimmer, TX	38
Perrienne Lurie, PA	30
Jeff Mullet, OH	21

Gettysburg (GBG)



Can anybody beat Ed Menzel at *Gettysburg* '88? The answer would appear to be no, at least when the title is on the line, as the Californian made it four straight titles in 2009 to trail only Bruce Beard's current WBC title streak. Ed finished with an 8-4 record. In all, a record 67 total games were played and just six years ago we were down to eight players and seven total games. By Friday night, a record 17 players had played the required minimum three games to qualify for the Final Four. The top qualifiers were, in order, Ed Menzel (6-4, 68 points), Dave Zimmerman (4-1, 66 points), Richard Beyma (4-3, 64 points), and John Clarke (4-5, 62 points). Ed Menzel was the only player to repeat from last year's final four.

Ed had to reverse an earlier loss to John Clarke to reach the Final, but for the fourth year in a row, it found him matched against an adversary who had defeated him earlier. Richard had scored a July 1 knockout as the Confederates vs him despite a bid of 5.0, but again it was Ed turning the tables in the rematch. Richard acquired the Grey for a bid of 7.0. The tide turned on Turn 9 as the Confederates suffered an infantry flip and the two blocking unit losses. Turn 10 saw more Southern reverses, with an infantry flipped in one battle and a double infantry flip in another, followed by a chit transfer and the same result on the reroll. The snowball continued rolling downhill on Turns 11 and 12 with more Confederate casualties, leading to Lee's concession on Turn 12.



Goa (GOA)

Most of the 18 games were decided by two Mpoints or less. The highest winning score was 54 (by both Rod Spade and Aran Warszawski), and the lowest was 43 (Michael Isgur and Alex Bove).

The tendency has been for winners to advance their spice and expedition card tracks to the bottom, but this year only five did so. Cards were still important, though, as 12 of 18 winners advanced that track all the way. Having the flag at the beginning of the game (seven of 18 wins) and having most money at the end (11 of 18) also characterized many victories, though the eventual champion had neither.

The Final featured three former champions. In the early game, Chris Moffa advanced evenly while Chris Trimmer used his first turn plantations (double-ginger and double-cinnamon) to push quickly down the ship-building track. Aran went for early cards but drew poorly, at one point having to discard twice before drawing two others. Alex Bove failed twice on colonies in the first round and fell behind.

Moffa used his two Phase B tiles (Espionage and Vice King) to advance the ship-building track to the bottom and three other tracks to level 4. Bove's purchase of six extra actions (three from the flag) helped him overcome a third colonization failure to edge Moffa 51-49. Six VP from two tiles (Duty and Mission), enabled Trimmer to finish third with 44 points. Aran's unlucky draws continued with five expedition cards scoring only eight VP to give him 39.



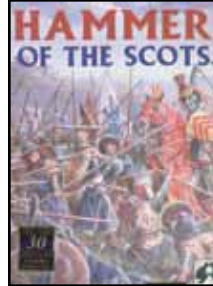


2009 Results

♣ Ed Beach, MD
 ♠ Justin Rice, VA
 ♠ Chris Withers, CA
 ♠ Rob Doane, MA
 ♠ Dave Cross, VA
 ♠ Ken Lee, PA

♣ Justin Rice, VA

† 20 📖 1993-2009



2009 Results

♣ Lyman Moquin, DC
 ♠ Ric Manns, IN
 ♠ Phil Rennert, MD
 ♠ George Seary, NY
 ♠ Mike Dauer, TX
 ♠ Fred Bauer, VA

♣ George Seary, NY

† 16 📖 2003-2009



Ed Beach, MD

Top Laurelists

Chris Withers, CA	333
Ed Beach, MD	237
Mark Booth, VA	107
Rob Doane, MA	96
Dave Cross, VA	91
B. Passacantando, CT	84
Paul Nied, KS	78
Steve Likevich, OH	66
Justin Rice, VA	53
Michael Pacheco, CA	46



Lyman Moquin, DC

Top Laurelists

George Seary, NY	195
Lyman Moquin, DC	109
Rick Young, NC	108
Ric Manns, IN	68
Hank Burkhalter, GA	57
Phil Barcafer, PA	53
Bruce Reiff, OH	51
Bill O'Neal, NY	33
Jeff Mullet, OH	30
Susanne Tuch, NY	26

Great Campaigns (GCA)

Having ended Chris Withers eight year hold on the title, Ed Beach was not about to let him start another streak, so he started one of his own. He topped Justin Rice in the Chickamauga Final to claim his second straight title.

Perennial champion Chris Withers went 4-0 in the prelims, and clinched an elimination-round bye with his win over Beach in their third-round "McLemore's Cove" showdown. Rob Doane earned the top seed at 3-0. Ken Lee went 2-1 after a long absence to join Dave Cross (3-1), Beach (2-1) and Rice (2-2) in the elimination round, where Rice topped Cross and Beach beat Lee in "Seven Pines."

In the "Wilderness" semi-finals Rice ripped off an improbable initial run to put Doane's Yanks in a deep hole in their match while Beach and Withers fought a wild battle, with several up-and-down swings. When Beach cleared Parker's Store (for the third time) late on Turn 2, Withers conceded and our Final was set.

"Chickamauga" from *Battle Above the Clouds* was the Final battle. Rice took the offensive-minded Rebs, but Beach quickly tore off seven-straight initiatives to block Bragg's easiest path over the Chickamauga. Rice responded by driving forward to Lookout Mountain and splitting the Union army, but Beach threw Thomas and Steedman forward to steady the line. Turn 2 attacks were halted by Ed's one-sided combat dice, and the Yanks' spoiler attacks against Longstreet secured Chattanooga on Turn 3.



Hammer of the Scots (HOS)

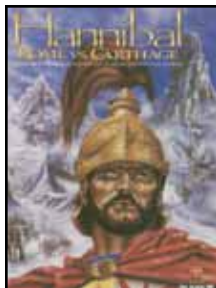
Bidding for sides was closer than in previous years, although English wins once again outnumbered Scot victories, especially in the early rounds.

In the semis, Lyman Moquin won early over Phil Rennert, trapping and killing Edward I quickly and forcing a mid-game concession. Ric Manns surprisingly outbid defending champ George Seary for the privilege of 'wearing the kilts' and played a very aggressive strategy, garnering a close victory, that was not decided until the very last card play, but nonetheless ended Seary's four-year reign.

This set the stage for an unfamiliar Final: Ric again bid for the Scots, Lyman for the English. The opening move by Ric's Scots on Turn 7 sent a raiding party into vacant England, which distracted Edward's horde; The King and Hobelar were sent South to dispatch the raiders. This required two card plays for the English to first clear England, and then return to the head of the large but stagnant army. The remainder of the turn was an all out brawl, with most of the blocks from both sides being eliminated. During Turn 8, Ric recovered just enough to set the stage for a 7/7 noble count for the start of the last turn.

Seeing that the Scots were heading for a 7/7 tie, with his last card play Lyman sent what little he had left into an all out desperate battle around Atholl, which caused three more blocks to leave. The Scot reinforcements fell just short of enough force to carry the battle, giving the English an 8/6 win.





2009 Results
 ☞ Keith Wixson, NJ
 ⚔ Kyle Greenwood, HI
 ⚔ Roderick Lee, CA
 ⚔ James Pei, VA
 ⚔ Henry Rice, NM
 ⚔ Marc Berenbach, MA
 ⚔ Stuart Tucker, MD
 † 54 📖 1996-2009



2009 Results
 ☞ Jeff Burdett, NY
 ⚔ Dave Cross, VA
 ⚔ Kirk Harris, NJ
 ⚔ Chris Striker, PA
 ⚔ Nat Pendleton, PA
 ⚔ Tim Rogers, SC
 ⚔ Ed Beach, MD
 † 62 📖 2006-2009



Keith Wixson, NJ

Top Laurelists

Keith Wixson, NJ	283
James Pei, VA	254
Jim Heenehan, PA	206
Chris Byrd, CT	157
Peter Reese, VA	94
Gary Andrews, NY	62
Nick Anner, NY	60
Aaron Fuegi, MA	60
Jung Yueh, MA	50
Scott Moll, VVA	48



Jeff Burdett, NY

Top Laurelists

Jeff Burdett, NY	120
Bryan Collars, SC	62
Dan Gallagher, MD	60
John Wetherell, PA	60
Dave Cross, VA	42
Alan Sudy, VA	41
Chris Striker, PA	39
Ken Richards, SC	38
Rob Seulowitz, NY	36
Alan Hill, MD	36

Hannibal (HRC)

Bidding PCs for sides resulted in an average Bid of 0.9 for Carthage. In six of 90 games, PCs were bid to be Rome (max of two PCs), and in 53 games Carthage was sought. Given this Bidding context, wins were fairly even. Round 1 went to Rome 14-11, but Carthage bounced back in Round 3 (12-8), so that by tournament end, the 90 games split 45-45.

Round 1 saw the fall of defending Champion Jim Heenehan as his Carthage fell to Tim Miller's Rome by a 10-8 province count as Scipio and Marcellus pounded into Idubeda on Turn 9. It would be the first of many upsets as the field was awash with sharks.

Round 4 dawned on six remaining unbeaten. Kyle Greenwood's Rome defeated Roderick Lee 10-8. Henry Rice's Rome downed Kevin Wojtaszczyk 10-7, benefitting from Philip's peace and Messenger Intercepted on Turn 8. Keith Wixson sent Hannibal on Turn 3 to hold Syracuse against James Pei's game-long attempt to get it back (with only a Turn 9 Carthaginian relief army driving off the besiegers for good).

In Round 5, the top-rated 3-1 player, Tom Richardson, faced Kyle in an attempt to end the event in the planned five rounds. Despite the death of Africanus on Turn 8, Kyle swung a 9-7 victory. Wixson edged Rice with even less to spare, tying 9-9. This left



two 5-0 players who had to return Monday for an unprecedented 6th round. The omens were bad for Kyle though whose loss was predicted early and realized in short order. Still, not bad for a newcomer.

Here I Stand (HIS)

We set a record with 15 opening round games, each won by a different player. The most notable game was our three-player contest in which Mary I made her first WBC appearance. The extra burnt debaters in England propelled Jeff Burdett to a Papal win (and seemingly built up his Catholic karma for later in the week). Nat Pendleton scored the only one-turn preliminary round win (with the Hapsburgs), needing only 90 minutes to polish off his foes.

Power selection in the Final was as follows: Tim Rogers (Protestant), Dave Cross (Ottomans), Nat Pendleton (England), Kirk Harris (French), Chris Striker (Hapsburgs), and finally Jeff Burdett (Papacy). After a quick first turn in which all players jockeyed for position, the game quickly heated up—quite literally for Tim who had two debaters burnt at the stake. Going into the last turn, the Reformation was still in trouble, especially in England where another debater was burnt. So Nat published the Book of Common Prayer, even though most of England is still Catholic. The Reformation attempts failed and the entire island revolted! With the Reformation in deep trouble, a Papal win was secure. Jeff won his second game of the week based on the strength of burnt debaters, this time without the aid of Bloody Mary. With the win he became both the first two-time champion and the first to record back-to-back titles. And he was playing the Papacy because all five other players had passed on that power before him!





2009 Results

♣ Henry Dove, MD
 ♠ Patrick Gorman, PA
 ♠ Joe Collinson, MD
 ♠ Bill Beswick, IN
 ♠ Matthew Beach, MD
 ♠ Kevin Youells, PA

♣ Kevin Youells, FL

† 45 📖 1993-2009



2009 Results

♣ Blair Morgen, NJ
 ♠ Rob Seulowitz, NY
 ♠ Mike Wojke, PA
 ♠ J.-F. Gagne, qc
 ♠ Dennis Mishler, GA
 ♠ Chris Orszak, CT

♣ D. Bohnenberger, PA

† 29 📖 2007-2009



Henry Dove, MD

Top Laurelists

Harald Henning, CT	126
Rolinda Collinson, MD	90
Jonas Borra, NY	84
Mike Backstrom, MN	68
Jeff King, OH	64
Gregory Kulp, NJ	64
Haim Hochboim, is	60
Robert Destro, NJ	60
Joe Collinson, MD	58
Henry Dove, MD	50



Blair Morgen, NJ

Top Laurelists

Patrick Maloney, PA	60
Blair Morgen, NJ	30
Rob Seulowitz, NY	18
Jeff Bowers, UT	18
Tony Defeo, CT	18
Mike Wojke, PA	12
Romain Jaques, qc	12
Jim Doughan, PA	12
Peter Eirich, MD	10
Jean-Francois Gagne, qc	9

History of the World (HWD)

This year marked the first use of a second heat which generated our highest attendance in four years. The demo was also well received with nearly a dozen people attending. Newcomers fared well this year, as Nick Page learned the game at the demo and then proceeded to win his first game. Four earned their first laurels including our new champion who celebrated his first WBC with inaugural wood.

Semi-final winners were Henry Dove by nine points over Matthew Beach and Bill Beswick who tied for second, Patrick Gorman who finished ten points ahead of top alternate David Anderson, and Kevin Youells over Joe Collinson by seven in the closest semi-final, setting our field of six for the Final.

After getting passed the Minoans and playing the Hittites minor empire, Kevin took the initial lead but it was not to last. Patrick followed his Egyptians with the Chou Dynasty and forged a two-point lead after two epochs. Kevin regained the lead—and a huge target—when he drew and kept the Romans in the third epoch. After that, it was all Henry as he played the Arabs followed by the Franks for a huge back-to-back score and a resounding lead which he never relinquished. He was passed the Incas/Aztecs which cut his score to 21 points, but it was enough to keep the lead. The US did not appear in the last epoch, and



Henry was passed the Netherlands instead. Patrick had a chance to catch him while playing Great Britain, but Henry was not to be denied and won by 18.

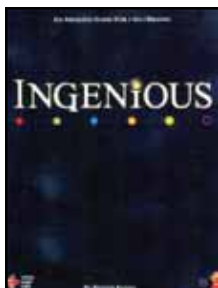
Imperial (IMP)

Most of the players learning the game in the demo actually stayed to play. This helped bring the total number of players in the first heat to 23, spread over five tables. Due to conflicts with the incredibly popular *Dominion* and *Atlantic Storm* tournaments, turnout was not so good for the second heat. Only 14 players were mustered, eight of whom were die-hard repeaters from the previous heat. The only positive was that since only three tables were needed for *Imperial*, we all managed to fit in the ballroom.

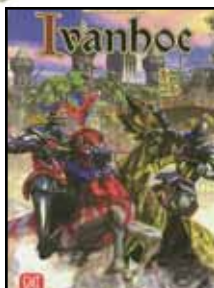
Turnout for the semi-final was very good with 12 players competing on three tables albeit without two-time champion Patrick Maloney who, in part due to his helpful nature and free advice, finished no higher than third in either heat and thus was ineligible to advance. However, he was not alone as virtually all the eventual laurelists were new to the list.

The winners of those three semi-final games: Rob Seulowitz, Blair Morgen, and Michael Wojke, all advanced to the Final along with top runner-up Jean-Francois Gagne. "JF" introduced an extremely aggressive style of play, and all players needed to adjust. The Final began with Blair controlling Britain, France and Italy, Michael controlling Germany, and JF controlling Austria/Hungary and Russia. Rob opted to begin play with no flags. At one point, Blair controlled as many as four nations. This strategy paid off, and after a long and contentious game, Blair was victorious.





2009 Results
 ♣ Brittany Bernard, PA
 ♠ Matt Calkins, VA
 ♠ Daniel Eppolitto, NV
 ♠ Bruce Reiff, OH
 ♠ Joe Yaure, PA
 ♠ Jon Gemmell, MD
 ♣ Peter Stein, OH
 † 139 📖 2007-2009



2009 Results
 ♣ Keith Levy, MD
 ♠ Terri Wicks, CT
 ♠ Frank Mestre, NY
 ♠ Kelsey Lee, PA
 ♠ Gino Sinigaglio, NJ
 ♠ Haim Hochboim, is
 ♣ Lee Mewshaw, MD
 † 103 📖
 2001-02, 05-06, 08-09



Brittany Bernard, PA

Top Laurelists

Brittany Bernard, PA	30
Andy Latto, MA	30
Bruce Reiff, OH	21
Chris Johnson, CA	20
Matt Calkins, VA	18
Rob Winslow, NY	18
Peter Stein, OH	17
Daniel Eppolitto, CA	16
Jamie Tang, MD	12
Joe Yaure, PA	6



Keith Levy, MD

Top Laurelists

Keith Levy, MD	30
Andy Latto, MA	20
Dave Buchholz, MI	20
Bob Titran, NY	20
Steve Scott, CA	19
Terri Wicks, CT	18
Frank Mestre, NY	12
John Ellsworth, IL	12
Ken Lee, PA	12
Mark Love, MD	12

Ingenius (ING)

The number of games played increased to 64 which meant people were playing more than one heat. That was my goal when I changed the format to best two games. It also solved the problem of effectively being eliminated if you lost your first heat. I was hoping all players who won two or more games would get into the semi-final round with a handful of players with a first and a second filling out the field and that is what transpired. Karen Roberts was the only tripple winner, with Joe Yaure, Steve Cameron, Tom Dunning, Nick Smith, David Maynard, Brittany Bernard, Peter Stein, Andy Latto and Daniel Eppolito winning twice.

In the semis, Table #1 had Matt Calkins score a perfect game of all 18s to knock out defending champ Latto, Greg Wilson and Laurie Wojtaszczyk. Table #2 was very close with Brittany Bernard squeaking by Nick Smith, Joe Yaure and Karen Roberts. At Table #3 Alexandra Henning, Katie McCorry and Bruce Bernard were not up to denying the Evil Empire of Bruce Reiff, which made him the only returning finalist. At Table #4 Daniel Eppolito edged Jonathan Gemmell while I and Dan Mathias watched.

The Final was close with plenty of defensive moves but seemed somehow less interesting without me in it for the first time. Near the end, Bruce's beloved Green betrayed him as he got cut off. It was Brittany who stayed in contention throughout and had the right tile at the right time to win with 13 points over Matt 11, Daniel 10-13 and Bruce 10-11.



Ivanhoe (IVH)

Ivanhoe seems to have found its niche as a quick and light end-of-day session. All it needs is someone willing to shoulder the burden of being in charge and keeping the records. Of course, the willing and self-sacrificing GM is what separates the successful events from the used-to-be's.

The late night crowd had a really good mix of young and older players. For the most part, the people who came to the demo did as well as the more experienced players—and as a consequence we had all new laurelists. Some of the top players had never played more than a game or two previously.

Even so, observing the strategies played, taught me a lot of things about this game that I had never considered previously. The players seemed to genuinely like playing because, as the last game of the day, it wasn't overly long or complex. I had a lot more players than I ever anticipated. I averaged about 60 players each night but one. Sadly, I only got to play one game because I kept myself in reserve for games with insufficient players. Nevertheless, I enjoyed myself. Afterwards, I kept saying I was never going to GM again, but now that I have a little distance and a lot more rest, I think I would like to try it at least one more time.

There's a lot of "homework" involved in GM'ing. I missed games I wanted to play because I was entering information, sorting out the rankings and printing the results. But then again, if everybody felt that way, there would be no WBC.

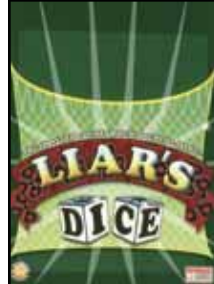




2009 Results

- ♣ Ewan McNay, NY
- ♠ Steve Cuccaro, MD
- ♣ Greg Tanner, AZ
- ♠ Sean McCulloch, OH
- ♠ Jeffrey Martin, CT
- ♠ Mark Mitchell, VA

♣ Steve Cuccaro, MD
 † 37 📖 1991-2009



2009 Results

- ♣ B. Beckerman, NY
- ♠ Peter Staab, PA
- ♠ Kathy Kilroy, PA
- ♠ Adam Nolan, VA
- ♠ Josh Githens, SC
- ♠ Stephanie Kilroy, PA

♣ Jason Levine, NY
 † 183 📖 2003-2009



Ewan McNay, NY

Top Laurelists

Steve Cuccaro, MD	142
Peter Stein, OH	86
Tom McCorry, VA	46
Lee Rodrigues, VA	42
Ewan McNay, CT	40
Llew Bardecki, on	40
Marc Houde, VA	35
Sean McCulloch, OH	34
David Buchholz, MI	30
Bruce Glassco, NJ	30




Bernard Beckerman, NY

Top Laurelists

Josh Githens, SC	36
Daniel Hoffman, NC	36
Bernard Beckerman, NY	30
Kathy Kilroy, PA	30
Josh Lanham, MD	30
Thomas Browne, PA	30
L. Dan Hoffman, MD	30
Lucimara Martins, MD	30
Peter Staab, PA	18
Scott Buckwalter, MD	18


Kremlin (KRM)

 Steve took an early lead in the Final with control of Nestor and Badenuff (starting as Foreign Minister but quickly moved into the Defense Minister slot). Nestor lasted until the 4th turn thanks to some luck with both die rolls and his starting Intrigue cards (flu vaccine and one of the two Release From Sanitarium cards). However, a failure on Turn 2 left Steve with just two waves, and due to a heavy toll with the Turn 4 health dice the Party Chief position went to Gofebrook, who had been lurking in the second level of the Politburo. He turned out to belong to Ewan's faction, and Ewan proceeded to rearrange the politburo more to his liking, moving Shootemdedsky to Foreign Minister and having Protzky replace him as KGB head, as well as replacing Badenuff (still at Defense) with Talksalott.

Gofebrook gave Ewan one (failed) attempt at waving before his waning health put him in the Kremlin wall, after which Protzky became Party Chief. To no one's surprise, Ewan remained in control, naming Strychnin as KGB head and bringing Karrienko back to the Politburo in his starting position as Defense Minister. Turn 5 yielded another failed wave attempt, and the Politburo remained stable until the successful wave ending Turn 6. At this point, Steve took control of Protzky by Adding Influence to get 10+, but to no avail—Protzky didn't survive the health phase. His replacement Strychnin survived health die rolls and card play to wave twice in the next two turns, winning the game and the title for Ewan on Turn 8.



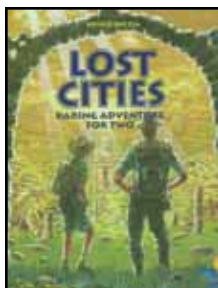
Liar's Dice (LID)

 Still a great draw in its seventh year at WBC, *Liar's Dice* drew 183 crazed liars with hopes of becoming the ultimate prevaricator. The festivities started with the traditional massed cup shake and resounding smash to the tables led by the reigning Caesar and consul in togas.

From the crowd of 183 hopefuls, 32 accomplished liars (or bluffers if you prefer the more pc version) emerged for the semi-final round. The Final consisted of Bernard Beckerman, Peter Staab, Stephanie Kilroy, Stephanie's mother Kathy and a former runner-up, Adam Nolan, and past champion Josh Githens. An esteemed gathering of liars to be sure. Only three people have managed to laurel twice in seven years of WBC *Liar's Dice* and two of them were now at the table.

Four exactors later we were down to two liars left with one die apiece. Peter started the bidding with one 5 and Bernard followed by bidding one 6. At that moment Peter told Bernard he had made another mistaken bid. Once again Bernard bid 6's when the dice only went up to 5 with a star replacing the 6. Bernard re-bid as one star. Peter thought there was no way that Bernard had a star under his cup as he tried to bid a "false 6" with his first bid. Peter had a 4 under his cup so he called Bernard only to reveal Bernard's star. Slip of the tongue or smart double think ploy? Only Bernard knows for sure, and like any good poker player, he's not saying.





2009 Results
 ♣ Rebecca Hebner, CA
 ♠ Sam Atabaki, CA
 ♣ Eric Brosius, MA
 ♠ Richard Fetzer, NY
 ♣ John Corrado, VA
 ♣ Andy Latto, MA
 ♣ Ivan Lawson, MD
 † 166 📖 2000-2009



2009 Results
 ♣ John Emery, SC
 ♠ Richard Beyma, VA
 ♣ Jeff Paull, IN
 ♣ George Young, VT
 ♣ Bryan Collars, SC
 ♣ Bill Powers, VA
 ♣ Andy Lewis, DE
 † 50 📖 2008-2009



Rebecca Hebner, CA

Top Laurelists

Andy Latto, MA	61
Rebecca Hebner, CA	50
Jared Scarborough, IL	48
Sean McCulloch, OH	34
Daniel Karp, MD	32
Eric Brosius, MA	30
Jarett Weintraub, NY	30
Chris Entwistle, MD	30
Daniel Broh-Kahn, MD	30
Laurel Stokes, NJ	26



John Emery, SC

Top Laurelists

John Emery, SC	30
Chris Byrd, CT	30
Richard Beyma, VA	18
John Miklos, GA	18
Jeff Paull, IN	12
Scott Moll, VA	12
George Young, VT	9
Mark Giddings, NY	9
Bryan Collars, SC	6
Marc Berenbach, MA	6

Lost Cities (LST)

The first heat drew 54 pairs, while the others attracted 40, 20 and 40 pairs, respectively. Erica Kirchner posted the top individual score of 361; no one has yet topped 400. The closest defensive struggle was posted by Marc Berenbach with 75 over Peggy Pfeiffer with 73 and we again had a tie that required a fourth hand. The struggle in mutual futility was turned in by Steve Koleszar who beat Emma Hauser by a score of 10 to (-44). Eric Brosius and Edward Roberts were the only players to win in all four heats.

Heading into single elimination, each of the 32 qualifiers as well as the five alternates had at least two wins. Among them were four former champions: Andy Latto, Sean McCulloch, Jarett Weintraub and Rebecca Hebner. Rebecca made it as an alternate as several qualifiers failed to post, including Jarett. In her initial SE round, she lost, but advanced anyway by forfeit when her opponent withdrew due to a schedule conflict. After three SE rounds, four players had advanced to the semis: Sam Atabaki, Eric Brosius, Richard Fetzer, and... Rebecca. Sam continued his steamroller SE run, compiling an average score of 213. Meanwhile, Rebecca had prevailed in nail biters with an average score of 94-74. Sam averaged +93 over his opponents. In the Final, Sam went up ten after the first hand and Rebecca seven after the second. Sam had cut into her lead by the end of the last hand, but Rebecca, the alternate qualifier, prevailed by a score of 104 to 100, for her second title.



Manoeuvre (MAN)

During the Swiss rounds, not surprisingly Britain and France were the most played as they are powerful and straightforward. However it was good to see that many players went for some of the other countries in much larger numbers than the previous year and with a lot of success even against Britain and France. The W-L records for the countries in winning percentage order were Ottoman Empire 15-7, Austria 6-4, Britain 16-15, Prussia 9-9, Russia 8-9, France 18-20, Spain 5-10, and United States 1-5. The biggest movers were Ottoman Empire up from 8-9 and Austria up from 1-5. The biggest loser was France dropping from 27-14.

Three unbeaten players advanced to SE play along with five 3-1 players after tie breakers were applied. John Emery's British defeated Steve Raszewski's French by concession. Jeff Paull's British defeated Bill Powers' French at nightfall 9-7. George Young's British killed five of Bryan Collars Prussians. Richard Beyma's French killed five of Josh Githens' British. John Emery's Russians then defeated George Young's Austrians 15-5 while Richard Beyma's Ottomans edged Jeff Paull's French 8-6 in a pair of semi-final games ended by nightfall.

The Final was a two-game match. In the opener, Richard's Austrians were able to squeak out a 10-8 nightfall win. As dusk fell in the second battle, John's Prussians managed a 13-7 nightfall advantage which gave him the title 21-17 on aggregate score.



**2009 Results**

♣ Jeff Mullet, OH
 ♠ AJ Sudy, VA
 ♠ Tedd Mullally, NJ
 ♠ Bill Crenshaw, VA
 ♠ Kevin Sudy, VA
 ♠ Pete Pollard, TN

♣ Bill Crenshaw, VA

† 31 📖 2005-2009

**2009 Results**

♣ Terry Coleman, CA
 ♠ Pete Staab, PA
 ♠ Ken Gutermuth, NC
 ♠ Nicole Reiff, OH
 ♠ Bruce Reiff, OH
 ♠ Jeremy Billones, VA

♣ Terry Coleman, CA

† 43 📖 1992-2009



Jeff Mullet, OH

Top Laurelists

Bill Crenshaw, VA	192
Harald Henning, CT	116
Arthur Field, SC	80
Kevin Sudy, VA	76
Jeff Mullet, OH	64
Ewan McNay, CT	58
AJ Sudy, VA	54
Stefan Mecay, TX	51
Tom Taaffe, VA	46
Peter Staab, PA	42



Terry Coleman, CA

Top Laurelists

Bruce Monnin, OH	112
Terry Coleman, CA	83
John Coussis, IL	79
Dennis Nicholson, NY	70
Peter Staab, PA	66
Ken Gutermuth, NC	62
Derek Landel, NY	54
Harry Flawd, PA	45
Bruce Reiff, OH	44
Jeff Martin, CT	39

Manifest Destiny (MFD)

Jeff Mullet, playing Pennsylvania, overcame game-long low Profit with timely attacks, cards and collaboration to win over perennial finalists (and Northern Virginia gaming buddies) Bill Crenshaw (Quebec), AJ Sudy (Virginia), and Kevin Sudy (Louisiana), and *MFD* laurelist newcomer Tedd Mullally (Mexico). Mexico (five wins) and Pennsylvania (four wins) dominated the event, with Louisiana picking up two wins and Virginia and Quebec one each. Game speed increased as well with only a couple of games flirting with the four hour maximum time while several 4-player games finished in less than three hours.

The Final featured largely mismatched home and Destiny cards, a slow start and an exciting finish. Quebec took the early lead as he cashed Hudson's Bay for the Profit increase on Turn 1 and hit his Mechanization research roll on Turn 2. When he played Fulton and got Steamships on Turn 4, followed shortly thereafter by Electricity, Quebec appeared to be on his way. Mexico also started well, gobbling up most of Mexico in two turns and hitting his Turnpike roll on Turn 3, but did not have California Gold Rush (which Virginia never played), starting with Manifest Destiny and later drawing Louisiana Purchase, which wasn't played until the 1/2 transition turn.

Final scores: Jeff Mullet (PA) 30 VPs/\$30, AJ Sudy (Virginia) 27 VPs/\$65, Tedd Mullally (Mex) 27 VPs/\$0, Bill Crenshaw (Que) 26 VPs/\$20, Kevin Sudy (La.) 26 VPs/\$5.

**March Madness (MMS)**

A record 28 coaches contested the first heat. Derek Landel managed to draft Arizona 2001, the same team he had taken to within inches of the online title game, and rode his favorite horse to the regional final where it met its end at the hands of Peter Staab's Nevada Las Vegas juggernaut averaging 120 points per game.

The second heat on Wednesday morning drew 24 but came down to Bruce Reiff's 2001 Michigan State vs defending champ Terry Coleman's Indiana State squad, with Larry Legend's crew winning 106-98. Terry picked up the Birdman in the #4 seed with the 18th pick.

Heat #3 was the soft touch with but 14 players. Terry punched his Final Four ticket again as his Arkansas whopped Jeremy Billones 2006 Florida 81-51.

The last heat drew 18 players but was the most entertaining. Young Nicole Reiff topped three veteran players before coming up short against ex-champ Ken Gutermuth in the regional final and settling for fourth place laurels *ahead* of her dad.

With two teams in the Final Four, Terry was a heavy favorite to win his fourth title. Those odds skyrocketed after Bird and Indiana State put away Pete's Running Rebels 119-108. Now Ken would have to beat Terry twice to claim his third title. With an insurance policy named Bird in his back pocket, Terry aggressively parlayed a 94-92 Arkansas victory over Illinois to win it all without even playing the Final since his were the last two teams left standing.





2009 Results

- ♣ Robert Drozd, IL
- ♠ Doug Galullo, FL
- ♣ Jeffrey Meyer, MA
- ♠ William Burch, MD
- ♠ Fred Minard, PA
- ♠ Kevin Youells, PA

♣ Ilan Woll, CT

† 61 📖 1999-2009



2009 Results

- ♣ Gordon Rodgers, PA
- ♠ Eric Monte, NY
- ♠ Allen Kaplan, NJ
- ♠ Sam Edelston, CT
- ♠ Michael Shea, CT
- ♠ Eric Martin, MD

♣ Mark Guttag, VA

† 62 📖 2004-2009



Robert Drozd, IL

Top Laurelists

Harald Henning, CT	82
Tom Stokes, NJ	55
Gary Noe, FL	52
Bruce Reiff, OH	43
Doug Galullo, FL	42
Peter Staab, PA	40
Ann Cornett, FL	40
Jeff Cornett, FL	38
Carmen Petruzelli, PA	30
Kevin Wojtaszczyk, NY	30



Gordon Rodgers, PA

Top Laurelists

Joe Harrison, KY	108
Robert Eastman, NV	68
Jonathan Miller, DC	57
Steve Lollis, MD	54
Gordon Rodgers, PA	36
Scott Gibson, VA	30
Sam Edelston, CT	27
Harrison Anderson, PA	26
Benoit Groulx, qc	20
Scott Sirianna, NY	20

Medici (MED)



The sport of the trade lords, *Medici* began with 61 competitors, but like the Highlander, there can be only one. The finale started off with very high bidding. However, when your competitors overbid, being the garbage collector can pay off. And pay off huge it did as Rob Drozd picked up 17 points including the 10 gold on three cards for a mere one lira. With this, he established the dominant position and the game quickly devolved into a race for second. End of round 1: Rob Drozd 74, Doug Galullo 37, Jeffrey Meyer 36, Bill Burch 35, Fred Minard 28.

Round 2 saw more aggressive bidding and Minard taking a 5, 4, and 2 of Dyes for 18. Both he and Doug Gallulo both reached the top of their respective towers. Drozd meanwhile continued his frugal ways with a 13-point boat for one lira while all others had three or more shipments already. End of Round 2: Drozd 83, Burch 63, Meyer 62, Gallulo 60, Minard 43.

Round 3 saw the duel for runner-up honors continue, with Gallulo winning the silver metal and Meyer the bronze. Final scores: Drozd 121, Gallulo 100, Meyer 91, Burch 85, Minard 76.

Cutting *Medici* to two heats resulted in by far the lowest attendance figures ever for the event—requiring a reprieve from the Annual Membership vote. The event was ineligible for a Legacy exception due to a past GM failure within the preceding ten-year qualifying period. Legacy rules require a ten year history of meeting minimum standards.



Memoir '44 (M44)

Matches were two-game pairings, with players switching sides between games. Advancement was based on most total medals earned with a most-enemy-eliminated tiebreaker. The theme was the Battle of the Bulge featuring different scenarios in each of seven rounds.

With five players advancing to Round 5, the GM served as an eliminator. Playing against him, Eric Monte lost the first game 3-6 as the Allies and was down to his last roll to avoid losing his 4th medal and the match, when he destroyed the sixth Allied unit to win the game 6-3 and the match 42-38 on figures eliminated. Meanwhile, Allen Kaplan swept Mike Shea 6-3 and 6-5. Mike had just eliminated defending champion, Scott Gibson 11-8 in Round 4. Elsewhere, Sam Edelston won the first game of his match 6-5 as the Axis vs Gordon Rodgers for his ninth straight win. All of his previous victories had been by at least two medals and it looked like Sam, leading 5-3, would take his 10th straight win and the match, when Gordon played "Their Finest Hour". Not only did Gordon roll well enough to activate five units, the maximum possible, but he hit with every one of his rolls, scoring three kills, including a 4-figure tank, and winning the game 6-5. They tied in medals and figures and so Gordon won on the equivalent of a coin flip. Although three players remained and went on to a round-robin play-off which Gordon won after a 1-1-1 split, he owed his title to lightning striking vs Sam in Round 5.



**2009 Results**

¶ D. Gutermuth, NC
 § Vassily Kyrkos, NY
 § Joe Abrams, CT
 ¶ Philip Shea, FL
 ¶ Luke Koleszar, VA
 ¶ Charles Hickok, PA

Richard Irving, CA
 † 57 📖 1991-2009

**2009 Results**

¶ David Meyaard, CT
 § Derek Landel, NJ
 § Verity Hitchings, DE
 ¶ Matthew Beach, MD
 ¶ Joanna Melton, VA
 ¶ Jason Levine, NY

Mark Love, MD
 † 58 📖 1998-2009



Debbie Gutermuth, NC

Top Laurelists

Bill Crenshaw, VA	96
Joe Abrams, CT	66
Eric Wrobel, VA	60
Luke Koleszar, VA	58
Debbie Otto, MO	56
Eyal Mozes, NY	54
Ed Wrobel, VA	52
Steve Dickson, CA	48
Charles Hickok, PA	43
Chuck Foster, TX	42



David Meyaard, CT

Top Laurelists

Marvin Birnbaum, NY	100
Nick Henning, CT	80
Rebecca Hebner, CO	77
Steve Scott, CA	68
Joe Sposito, NJ	63
David Brooks, TN	62
Tom Meier, VA	50
Matthew Beach, MD	36
David Meyaard, CT	30
Daniel Val, es	30

Merchant of Venus (MOV)

In the first heat, Bob Woodson took four turns crossing over to the unfashionable Western Spiral Arm of the galaxy trying to find a place to unload his Space Dust. He finally got a great roll, 665 for 17! On the 14th space he decided to explore a “?” marker-only to find a Telegate. As the Telegate 5 & 6 were already discovered, Bob was sent back from whence he came. *Ouch!* Bob easily wins the fictional “Wrong Way Corrigan” Award. Amanda Stockwell found four relics in the treacherous Asteroid Belt in another game, greatly aiding her victory. Heat 2 was noteworthy for Debbie Gutermuth discovering six planets before her erstwhile competitors and easily winning. Geoffrey Entwistle won his Heat 3 game with the highest total score—mainly because he forgot it was a game to \$2000 and declared victory two full turns after making that total! There were enough qualifiers to field five semi-final games. Vassili Kyrkos edged Charles Hickok in a tight race while Debbie Gutermuth won easily. Luke Koleszar prevented the GM from making his own Final again. Bill Crenshaw found \$160 in penalties on the first five turns of the game are not conducive to winning, although Philip Shea didn’t mind as he used a freighter to power his way to victory. Lastly, Joe Abrams won his way to yet another Final.



Debbie Gutermuth stopped taking pictures long enough to win a tight 5-player Final to \$3000, by getting \$2000 in deeds, locking out many key systems and getting several early factories.

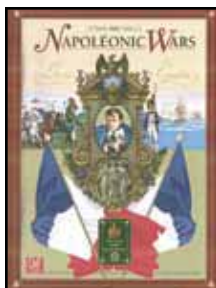
Monsters Ravage America (MRA)

The field was 25% female with 29% new to the event. 54% used the 2005 Menace edition, while 46% used the Ravage edition. The Menace winners were Megaclaw 6, Tomanagi 3, Toxicor 2, Zorb 2, Gargantis 1. Ravage winners favored Bronacle 6, Tomanagi 4 (champion), Ixitpla 1, Glow Wyrm 1.

The biggest Ravage monster was newcomer David L. Anderson’s Glow Wyrm. Newcomer Eric Raymond won two Menace games. Scott Gibson became the first player to win three heat games since Dan Eshleman in 2000. Scott built the biggest Menace monster in the tournament for his third win with Megaclaw.

In the Final David Meyaard played Navy/Glow Wyrm, Verity Hitchings Army/Ixitpla, Matthew Beach Air Force/Bronacle, and Derek Landel Marines/Tomanagi. New York City and the whole northeast, which contains 60% of the health points on the map, became heavily guarded. All four monsters migrated west. Derek had Tomanagi disappear to reappear in the Atlantic and attack NYC. His Kinda Friendly mutation made him immune to the National Guard; he got 15 health. David made the 20th stomp at Minneapolis! Derek went to Three Mile Island and mutated with Armor Scales. Nobody swiped the Challenge. It was brutal but David Meyaard’s Glow Wyrm remained standing with four health, and then dispatched Matthew’s military Mecha-monster to win! The Final produced the only win in 2009 by Glow Wyrm but that was the win that counted the most!



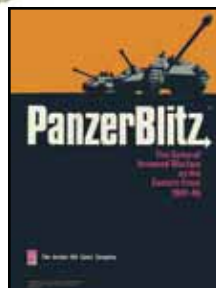


2009 Results

- ♣ Henry Russell, PA
- ♠ Lane Hess, PA
- ♣ Harry Theodore, NY
- ♠ John Emery, SC
- ♠ Jesse Boomer, KS
- ♠ Jim Castonguay, PA

♣ MarkMcLaughlin, CT

† 45 📖 2003-2009



2009 Results

- ♣ Rich Northey, MA
- ♠ Marty Musella, VA
- ♠ Chuck Leonard, PA
- ♣ Alan Arvold, IL
- ♣ Bert Schoose, IL
- ♣ Greg Tanner, AZ

♣ Bert Schoose, IL

† 23 📖 1991-2009



Henry Russell, PA

Top Laurelists

John Emery, SC	138
Lane Hess, PA	132
Bruce Young, SC	110
Ed Rothenheber, MD	96
Scott Moll, VA	80
Henry Russell, PA	78
Melvin Casselberry, PA	75
David Gantt, SC	60
Forrest Speck, MD	60
Scott Fenn, MD	50



Rich Northey, MA

Top Laurelists

Bill Scott, VA	127
Marty Musella, VA	125
Chuck Leonard, PA	90
Bert Schoose, IL	73
Greg Tanner, AZ	50
Dave Giordano, AZ	47
Rich Northey, MA	44
Alan Arvold, IL	36
Eduardo DeNucci, ag	26
Johnny Hasay, PA	21

The Napoleonic Wars (NW5)

The French won eight of the 18 games played with four British, three Austrian, one Russian and two Prussian wins. One deserves special mention. Jesse Boomer's France had a tough first year. With four veteran foes ranged against France, it was soon obvious that France was not going to win—but Jesse refused to quit. France was invaded on Turn 2—Jesse threw them back. They came again on Turn 3 and Jesse held on. Turn 4, in they came again—his back to the wall, in a battle with more than 40 dice on a side—Jesse routed the coalition attacking Paris!

Three times the Allies came at Paris—and three times he sent them packing. Reduced to literally only Paris, Jesse fought on! The game went the full five turns, with Jesse battling every step of the way. Although he finished last when the game came to its inevitable end, Jesse's epic defense earned him the GM's nod as an alternate in the Final where he walked away with fifth place wood.

The Final was unusual even by *Napoleonic War* standards. It demonstrated the flexibility of the system, how important a role diplomacy and personalities can play—and how not every game need follow the historical path of *The Napoleonic Wars*. Lane Hess, otherwise known as "the back-stabbing weasel" led Austria into the French camp where he remained till the end, declining to join Russia and Prussia in spending to prolong the war and thereby giving Henry Russell a four-turn French win.



Panzerblitz (PZB)

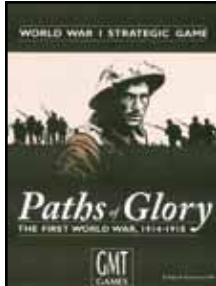
The top four positions for the semi-finals were Rich Northey (4-3-1) with 38 points, Alan Arvold (3-2-1) with 34 points, Marty Musella (2-1) with 31 points, and two-time defending champion Bert Schoose (3-0) with 30 points.

The first semi-final pitted Chuck against Rich in scenario 1A. In the end, some of Chuck's units were able to avoid dispersal and got off some shots on the last German turn but none of the three low odds attacks were successful so the game ended in a 13-13 tie (Russian win) and a well-played victory for Rich.

The other semi sent Marty's Germans against Alan in Scenario 14. The German mobile defense was able to overrun three Russian truck platoons and one infantry company on Turn 6 for four crucial VPs. More importantly, the remaining defenders became invisible to Russian direct fire, leaving Marty with a 34-30 win.

The Final was contested in scenario 52. Rich's German battle group occupied the town of Bednost as they had been alerted to Marty's Russian raiding force in the vicinity. On the last turn, victory depended on the ability of Marty's Russian tank to repeat for a third time its incredible shooting. When his unit ran out of ammo, the CP could not be destroyed so Marty conceded the match by a 21-5 score although it appeared to be much closer than the score indicated. Rich Northey thus won the title and his first WBC wood against a field which included six of the ten previous champions.





2009 Results

♣ Stefan Mecay, TX
 ♠ Dave Dockter, MN
 ♠ Tom Drueding, MA
 ♠ Riku Riekkinen, fn
 ♠ Tom Gregorio, PA
 ♠ Peter Gurneau, WI

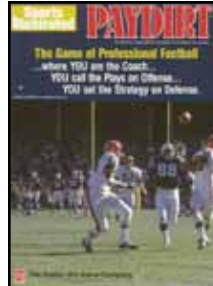
♣ Peter Reese, VA
 † 50 📖 1999-2009



Stefan Mecay, TX

Top Laurelists

Tom Drueding, MA	404
David Dockter, MN	274
Peter Reese, VA	240
Stefan Mecay, TX	232
Chris Byrd, CT	202
Rob Hassard, NJ	181
Marvin Birnbaum, NY	174
Nick Anner, NY	126
Jim Falling, MI	117
Stephan Valkyser, de	96



2009 Results

♣ B. Passacantando, CT
 ♠ David Tianen, WI
 ♠ Devin Flawd, PA
 ♠ Dale Long, NJ
 ♠ Ron Pizarz, VA
 ♠ Harry Flawd, PA

♣ Harry Flawd, PA
 † 49 📖 1993-2009



B. Passacantando, CT

Top Laurelists

Devin Flawd, PA	200
Harry Flawd, PA	150
Bill O'Neal, NY	40
Mike Destro, NJ	36
B. Passacantando, CT	32
Derek Landel, NJ	28
Barry Shoults, NI	24
John Ellmann, MD	22
Jordan Flawd, PA	21
David Tianen, WI	18

Paths of Glory (POG)



A “modified historical campaign scenario” was used for the first time—shifting four victory spaces, making it easier to play the Tsar Takes Command and providing more incentives for the CP to hold real estate in the West. Consequently, the Yanks appeared occasionally (in contrast to their usual absence) and most games saw a real Western Front meat grinder (in contrast to the usual “Defend-the-Rhine” strategy).

After 52 games in the Swiss rounds, we had five 3-0s, a 2-0-1 and two “roll-off” spots. In what has become an annual POG tradition, six prospective giant killers “roll-off” to make the quarter finals. Jeromey Martin and Keith Schoose were the lucky winners. Rising star Tom Gregorio at 2-0-1 and undefeated Gurneau, Mecay, Drueding, Herr Dr and the Finnish Dragon completed the field.

No giants were slain in the Quarters so four previous champs with unblemished records did battle in the semis. Both games went down to the final die roll. Stefan Mecay’s CP, using his traditional Defend the Rhine strategy, defeated Riku’s AP while David Dockter’s CP downed Tom Drueding’s AP.

During the early turns, Dave’s CP was able to setup the West and Italy, while getting the Tsar Takes Command off and beating the AP to total war by two turns. However, reverses in the East sapped replacements and the CP began to collapse on Turns 15 and 16. Stefan’s victory over his teammate would cost them their fourth team title of the decade.



Paydirt (PDT)

AFC coaches showed in record numbers (42) for the opening heat. Devin Flawd was gunning for his fifth straight title, but it would be a quick exit for the champ in the AFC as Doug Porterfield led his Browns to a convincing 57-28 win over Devin’s Colts. The AFC title game came down to duplicate Bills teams. In a hard fought defensive struggle, David Tianen beat Dale Long 12-7 to advance to the Super Bowl.

The NFC heat drew 28 coaches but set a new record for players. Bruno Passacantando bid quick and hard to grab his Giants and try to guide them to the promised land. He started with a 56-36 win over Detroit, and then took down Jordan Flawd’s Vikings 20-13, Barry Smith’s Bucs 34-13 and Harry Flawd’s Saints 34-31 before the true test in the NFC title game against Devin and his five titles. A 27-19 win not only ended Devin’s title defense but completed his elimination of the entire Flawd family.

The Super Bowl was, after many games and rolls of the dice, a formality for Bruno, as he dispatched David Tianen’s Bills even with his +14 point spread, 42-17. A very dominating game, with the Giants running at will, tossing in an occasional pass, but putting forth a dominating effort. Bruno’s victory gave him his first Paydirt title and made him just one of six titleholders thanks to eleven being held by the Flawd clan—all of whom bent to his Giants. It’s back to the drawing board for the Flawd household which will be putting in many more hours this offseason!



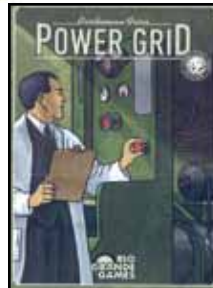


2009 Results

- ☛ A. Collinson, MD
- ♣ Beth Zhao, TX
- ♣ Barrett Straub, MD
- ♣ Henry Pfeiffer, SC
- ♣ James Bell, MD
- ♣ Verity Hitchings, DE

☛ Larry Lingle, PA

† 57 📖 2005-2009



2009 Results

- ☛ Jim Castonguay, PA
- ♣ David Platnick, VA
- ♣ Richard Meyer, MA
- ♣ Ken Horan, PA
- ♣ Keith Levy, MD
- ♣ Robert Woodson, NV

☛ Jim Castonguay, PA

† 129 📖 2004-2009



Ashley Collinson, MD

Top Laurelists

Tom Pavy, OH	69
Paul Weintraub, MD	51
Chris Striker, PA	36
Ashley Collinson, MD	30
John Elliott, MD	30
Henry Pfeiffer, SC	27
Forrest Speck, MD	27
Beth Zhao, TX	18
Chris Gnech, PA	18
Lauren Vessey, VA	18



Jim Castonguay, PA

Top Laurelists

Jim Castonguay, PA	173
Eric Brosius, MA	103
Richard Meyer, MA	72
Bill Murdock, NY	72
Patrick Shea, VA	60
Bill Crenshaw, VA	45
Rod Spade, PA	39
David Platnick, VA	36
Lyman Moquin, DC	33
Barb Flaxington, NJ	33

Pirate's Cove (PRC)

Arrgh! This be an event that rolls more r's and uses more props than a Disney ride. And the ladies are far from helpless damsels on the high seas. Six rogues won in Heat 1. It would be the last time the men acted the part. The Heat 2 winners were Emma Hauser, Chris Daly, Beth Zhao, Rob Drozd, Ron Glass, Claire Pfeiffer and Linda Pattison as the women put them to shame. Emma sank as many as all her dainty adversaries combined. Beth used her wiles to slip by the others by a mere three points. Claire joined her brother Henry as the Pfeiffers ruled the seas—sending six below the waves. Linda continued the Amazon reign of terror, sinking five. Ashley Collinson joined the suffragettes in Heat 3 as Dan Mathias won again. At last a sailor with some iron.

The wenchies again held their own in the semis, sending two to the Final reckoning. Henry slipped into the win column by a lousy point over Linda and two over Emma. Beth bewitched the opposition, sinking more than all three blokes combined and ending Tom Pavy's title defense. Ashley breezed by two other wenchies to advance. Paul Bissa was smitten early and did not stand a chance as they ate him alive. Barrett Straub and Jim Bell rounded out the final five.

The Final was hotly contested—by the wenchies. Beth gave it her all, but Ashley was not to be denied. The brotherhood lagged far behind with the two lasses outscoring the three scum combined! Twas a sad day for men on the high seas.



Power Grid (PGD)

The breakdown for heats entered was 77 in one heat, 41 in two, and 11 who played in all three heats. Heat 1 drew 78 players playing 16 games; 12 on the Germany board and four on France. Heat 2 drew 75 players playing 15 games; ten on the USA board and five on Central Europe. Heat 3 drew 39 players for eight games split evenly between Italy and Benelux.

I used a points-based system for the qualifying format to take the top 25 people for the semi's based on their overall points and a win was a win no matter which heat. It rewarded players who scheduled their convention around *Power Grid* and played multiple heats.

David Platnick won the #3 plant in the Final for \$4 and then bought the four free connection cities to spend his starting \$50 (\$6 for two oils). This put him in a "must upgrade" situation and no way to get turn position for quite a few turns; which helped keep the market moving (he bought eight plants overall). Ken Horan managed to get the #4 plant for \$5 the first turn and immediately upgraded to the #12 plant for \$12 on the second turn. Jim got the 8 plant and Richard the 9, both for cost. So that left Jim as fourth to build and built two just north of the four free connection cities; forcing him into a game of trying to be in good turn position for when things opened up. The game ended with four players building, and powering, 16 cities. The difference between Jim Castonguay winning his third title and David Platnick gaining his first was a single dollar.





2009 Results

♣ Thomas Browne, PA
 ♠ Chris Senhouse, MA
 ♣ Bruce DuBoff, NJ
 ♠ Rod Spade, PA
 ♠ Davyd Field, SC
 ♠ Jason Long, PA

♣ Eric Brosius, MA
 † 58 📖 2001-2009



2009 Results

♣ Eric Brosius, MA
 ♠ Robert Drozd, IL
 ♠ Mark Neale, RI
 ♠ B. Beckerman, NY
 ♠ Rich Meyer, MA
 ♠ Ken Gutermuth, NC

♣ Bruce Monnin, OH
 † 58 📖 1994-2009



Thomas Browne, PA

Top Laurelists

Eric Brosius, MA	100
Rod Spade, PA	91
L. Dan Hoffman, MD	72
Brian Reynolds, MD	50
John Kerr, VA	50
Arthur Field, SC	50
Doug Kaufman, MD	49
Eugene Lin, WA	44
Tom Browne, PA	42
Alex Bove, PA	42



Eric Brosius, MA

Top Laurelists

Ken Gutermuth, NC	72
John Coussis, IL	50
Devin Flawd, PA	34
Keith Hunsinger, OH	26
Eric Brosius, MA	20
Brian Farrelly, IL	20
Bruce Reiff, OH	20
Nate Hoam, OH	20
Terry Coleman, CA	20
Dennis Nicholson, NY	20

Princes of Florence (POF)

Close games were common. There were three ties for Prestige Points in the heats, with the winners determined by the tiebreaker, most cash. Two others were won by just one PP. At the other end of the spectrum, David Platnick won his first heat by 27 PP. Alan Elkner was the only player to win both heats.

Some people claim *Princes of Florence* is slanted toward the player who plays 2nd in Round 1. It makes sense in theory, but it didn't pan out in 2009. For the second straight year, the bottom of the order out-scored the top, and in fact Seat 2 came in fifth in five of the eleven 5-player heats. In the semis and Final, players bid for player order, paying florins to get their choice of seats. The average bids were 1st: 117, 2nd: 300, 3rd: 67 florins. All five semis were close.

The Finalists were Bruce DuBoff, Tom Browne, Chris Senhouse, Rod Spade and Davyd Field. After Round 7, Chris lead with 47 PP, followed by Rod with 45, Bruce 42, Davyd 38 and Tom 34. But it wasn't over. Bruce had a Prestige card and Davyd and Tom each had two. Bruce's card was worth five PP for "2 Large Buildings", tying him with Chris. Davyd had "4 Buildings, 2 Freedoms and 4 Works" for six PP, but did not score for "Most Works", leaving him at 44. Tom then revealed "All 3 Freedoms" for eight



PP and "1 Builder, 1 Jester and 2 Landscapes" for seven PP bringing his score to 49, 2 PP ahead of Chris and Bruce and in sole first place. The final scores: Tom 49, Chris 47, Bruce 47, Rod 45, Davyd 44.

Pro Golf (PGF)

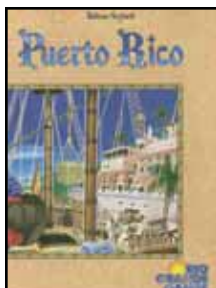


Thinking they would use their experience to grab easy wood, 37 of 2008's duffers returned. However, they soon found that experience was not a key ingredient in *Pro Golf* success as three of the final foursome came from the 19 newcomers.

After the 75-minute first round was completed on the 18 holes of the 2002 version of the Augusta course, three golfers had claimed spots in the Skins game. Bernard Beckerman (playing with Fred Couples) led the field at -8. Mark Neale (Retief Goosen) was right behind at -7, while Eric Brosius (Phil Mickelson) was also safe in the clubhouse at -5. That left only one opening in the Skins game. Five players (Paul Risner, Ken Gutermuth, Robert Drozd, Rich Meyer and Arthur Field) all finished four under par and went into a sudden death play-off on Pebble Beach to claim the last spot. Robert Drozd's David Toms sank a birdie putt on the 2nd hole to move on to the Skins game.

These four players were then transported to the Lancaster Host Golf Club for the 12-hole Skins game. When Eric Brosius birdied the par 3 11th, the Skins were 4, 4, 3 and 0—eliminating Bernard. Either Eric or Robert would win if they took the next hole. Mark halved the hole with a long birdie putt to deny Robert the win. The skin was carried over to the par 4 13th, and Eric, given new life, immediately birdied. Robert and Mark each had birdie putt attempts to halve the hole, but both failed, giving Eric Brosius the come-from-behind victory with five skins.





2009 Results
 🏆 Steve Pleva, CT
 ⚔️ Jeremy Osteen, MD
 ⚔️ John Weber, MD
 ⚔️ Geoffrey Pounder, on
 ⚔️ Haim Hochboim, is
 ⚔️ Aran Warszawski, is
 🏆 John Weber, MD
 † 151 📖 2002-2009



2009 Results
 🏆 Alex Bove, PA
 ⚔️ David Buchholz, MI
 ⚔️ Cheryl Meek, MD
 ⚔️ Tom Dunning, NY
 🏆 Jake Byrens, CA
 🏆 C. Petruzelli, PA
 🏆 Steve Scott, CA
 † 176 📖 2000-2009



Steve Pleva, CT

Top Laurelists

Barb Flaxington, NJ	143
David Platnick, NY	108
John Weber, MD	97
Arthur Field, SC	96
Christian Moffa, NJ	95
Bill Murdock, VA	64
Malinda Kyrkos, NY	63
Steve Pleva, CT	60
Nick Page, on	60
Nicholas Anner, NY	60



Alex Bove, PA

Top Laurelists

Tom Dunning, NY	178
Alex Bove, PA	172
Joe Jaskiewicz, MD	70
Winton LeMoine, CA	64
Steve Scott, CA	44
David Buchholz, MI	40
Bobbi Warczak, CA	40
Chris Terrell, VA	40
David Rohde, MI	40
Michelle Hymowitz, MD	38

Puerto Rico (PRO)

The eventual champion was a newcomer who won his first game in the last heat, followed by three consecutive wins in the elimination rounds to sweep the top honors. And, for the first time, half of the six laurelists came from outside the United States.

The most remarkable result was from a game involving 2006 champ Chris Moffa, reigning Caesar Alex Bove, Kevin Walsh (a two-time WBC semi-finalist), and newcomer Lexi Shea, who had no tournament pedigree. The winner had 75 points, two short of the all-time WBC record, while second (Chris) was a distant 43. The surprise was that the winner was Lexi, whose 32-point blowout win shattered the previous all-time margin of victory of 25 set by Rachel McGinley in 2003.

However, nothing could take away from the record-setting performance by Steve Pleva, who like Nick Page before him in 2008, won the title in his first try. His winning margin of 12 VPs shattered the record for the largest winning margin in the Final, set by Arthur Field in 2002. Final scores (after taking into account the bids) were: Steve 61.5, Jeremy 50, John 48.5, Geoff 48. Taking 17 turns to complete, it was the longest and also the highest-scoring Final ever. Overall statistics from the 74 games followed a familiar pattern, with the two corn seats (starting positions 3 and 4) outscoring the two indigo seats by an average of just over



three points per game. With over 500 tournament games recorded, the Seat winning %s are: 1: 19.9%, 2 19.5%, 3 30.8% and 4 29.7%.

Ra (RA!)

Attendance records fell as 176 sun worshippers gathered. The Thursday heat drew a record 106 players in 22 games, causing a delay as nine more games were retrieved. The other heats filled 15, 18 and nine games and generated two triple and seven double winners. To qualify for the semi's you had to win your first heat unless you won twice. The 25th semi-finalist was Laura Brown who was seeded 36th for winning her only heat played by two victory points.

In the semis former laurelist David Buchholz beat double winner Carmen Petruzelli 41-38. Carmen took 6th place with the lowest percentage of defeat in the semis. Triple winner Jeff Plummer and double winner Rod Davidson got pummeled by Cheryl Meek who posted a 19-point win over Laura Brown 55-36 at Table 2. Table 3 saw the ouster of 2008 laurelist and double winner Eric Freeman by newcomer Jake Byrens in a close 39-36 match. Table 4 was the domain of triple winner and defending champion Alex Bove who advanced with a 45-41 victory over Stephane Dorais. The last table was loaded for bear with two-time champ Tom Dunning and double winners Greg Thatcher and Mario Veillette but it was newcomer Rob Renaud who came closest in Tom's 42-38 win.

The Final was tense. In the closing moments, Alex spent his last sun (the "1") on two monuments to complete 10 point sets that proved to be the difference in defeating David 51-44 with Cheryl third only three points back.





2009 Results

♣ Robert Renaud, NJ
♠ Don Sutherland, CT
♠ Dave Finberg, MA
♣ Scott Anthony, PA
♣ J.R. Geronimo, NY
♣ Rob Kircher, RI

♣ Winton LeMoine, CA

† 139 📖 2008-2009



2009 Results

♣ M. McCandless, LA
♠ Angus McDonald, on
♠ Mark Kennel, DE
♠ Tony Newton, on
♠ Chester Lanham, MD
♣ Bill Duke, MD

♣ Ron Secunda, MD

† 35 📖 1991-2009



Robert Renaud, NJ

Top Laurelists

Robert Renaud, NJ	60
Doug Faust, NJ	20
Mark Delano, CT	20
Don Sutherland, CT	18
Mike Richey, VA	18
Aaron Fuegi, MA	18
Rob Kircher, RI	15
David Finberg, MA	12
Eric Brosius, MA	12
Scott Anthony, PA	9



Mark McCandless, LA

Top Laurelists

Mark McCandless, LA	122
Steve Okonski, MD	120
Ron Secunda, MD	101
Doug Galullo, FL	80
Brian Conlon, OK	74
Mark Kennel, DE	60
William Duke, MD	60
Chuck Foster, TX	60
Ed Wrobel, VA	60
Stan Buck, MD	60

Race for the Galaxy (RFG)

Consistency was prevalent as seven of the last 16 semi-finalists repeated this year despite a 40% attendance increase. With 20 multiple winners, two wins were no guarantee to advance, although none of the six triple winners made the Final.

In the first semi, Scott Anthony knocked out three of the returning semi-finalists, winning by military strength with Epsilon Eridani. Don Sutherland also advanced by military with New Sparta complemented by development points. David Finberg advanced with New Sparta too, but on the strength of Galactic Federation and Pan Galactic League. Defending champ Robert Renaud won the closest semi with Earth's Lost Colony boosted by Diversified Economy.

Renaud's New York team was a force. At least five of them went 10 for 17 but they made the greatest impact in the seeding. Two of them qualified ahead of him but opted not to advance, allowing him to do so in his 'team game', while bringing forth the spectre of co-operative team play moreso than is the norm at WBC. Early in the Final it appeared that Donald was pulling ahead, settling several colonies from New Sparta, but Robert had enough consume points to pull off an unlikely repeat win.

Wins by starting world were clustered abnormally against the prevailing wisdom that higher numbered start worlds are favored. The 2009 distribution was: Old Earth - 10, Epsilon Eridani - 15, Alpha Centauri - 22, New Sparta - 16, Earth's Lost Colony - 7.



Rail Baron (RBN)

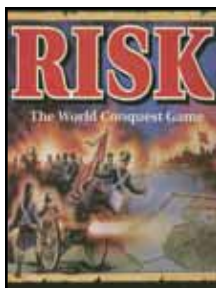
Chester Lanham did his best to stifle the opposition by winning all three of his heats to deprive others from advancing. Bill Duke was the only other player to bag an extra win in the Preliminaries.

The unenviable record for the most hostile destinations was held by Scott Chupack. His first five destinations in Heat 1 were friendly, but 13 of his next 15 were hostile. However, he did win his Heat 3 game. Bill Duke had the most destinations (29) in Heat 2, with Chamblee Shufflebarger close on his heels with 28 in Heat 3.

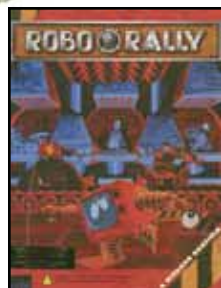
Very noticeable was that most winners held the AT&SF, followed closely by the UP. Relatively few winners held the SP. In the Northeast region, contrary to popular belief, owning the PA did not ensure a win. The B&O did just as well, followed closely by the NYC and C&O. In the Southeast, the SAL and L&N did equally well, and to no surprise, most winners held a Northwest RR. Only a half-dozen or so winners held the NYNH&H and/or the B&M, which seems to lessen their importance. Surprisingly, many winners held the CB&Q and/or SLSF.

Our champion *Rail Baron* this year, Mark McCandless, managed to win our 5-player Final with the C&O, AT&SF, NP, C&NW, and the IC. The other player's holdings were: 2nd: Angus McDonald - PA, SP, ACL, GM&O, CMSTP&P, SLSF. 3rd: Mark Kennel - NYC, SAL, L&N, MP, T&P. 4th: Tony Newton - CB&Q, N&W, GN, UP, WP, D&RGW. 5th: Chester Lanham - B&O, CRI&P, SOU, NYNH&H, B&M.





2009 Results
 ♣ Derek Landel, NJ
 ♠ Richard Curtin, NY
 ♣ Paul Bissa, OH
 ♠ Bill Riggs, VA
 ♠ Charles Drozd, IL
 ♠ Steve Dickson, CA
 Alan Hayes, IL
 † 36 📖 1999-2009



2009 Results
 ♣ Brad Johnson, IL
 ♠ Bill Navolis, DE
 ♣ Jeff Finkeldey, OH
 ♠ Curt Collins, PA
 ♠ Scott Chupack, IL
 ♠ Josh Githens, SC
 Marc Houde, VA
 † 65 📖 1999-2009



Top Laurelists

Rob Lightburn, VA	108
Steve Dickson, CA	53
Phil Rennert, MD	40
Alan Hayes, IL	39
Brandon Bernard, PA	34
Derek Landel, NJ	30
Keith Galbraith, PA	30
Gary Schaefer, PA	30
Eric Wrobel, VA	30
Craig Melton, VA	30



Top Laurelists

Brad Johnson, IL	248
Bill Navolis, MD	53
Scott Buckwalter, MD	40
Bill Dyer, IL	40
Jeff Cornett, FL	40
Jeff Ribeiro, NH	40
Dan Lawall, VA	39
James Kendrick, UK	36
Tamara Houde, VA	30
Rich Shipley, MD	28

Risk (RSK)

Although Matt Tolman and Alan Hayes also won games in the preliminaries; Richard Curtin (a 2007 finalist), Paul Bissa, Derek Landell, Steve Dickson (a two-time champion), Charles Drozd and Bill Riggs qualified for the Final with more eliminated opponents.

Turn 1: Richard secures Australia.
 Turn 2: Derek takes Africa and Charles South America.
 Turn 4: Paul takes North America.
 Turn 6: All six players turn in their first set, culminating with Charles' Army of 15.
 Turn 7: Bill turns in the 7th set for 20.
 Turn 9: The tipping point has been reached. Richard turns in the 8th set for 25, reinforces Siam—bringing its garrison to 53 and begins a march of conquest through China; while Great Britain conquers Scandinavia, thus eliminating Steve. Now, with seven cards in his hand, Richard turns in set #9 for 30, places them in Ural and continues his Asian rampage all the way to the Eastern U.S. where a 17-all standoff with Paul falls one short of success. A reprieved Paul turns in set #10 for 35 and retakes North America. Derek turns in set #11 for 40; putting several in East Africa and the rest in North Africa, from whence he conquers South America. Then his East African horde marches through Middle East, eliminating Charles. That creates set #12 for 45 which crushes Japan and Bill. That becomes set #13 for 50, allowing him to amass 90+ in Japan. Paul is next and his demise fuels set #14 for 55, drawing Richard's concession.



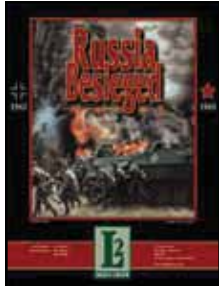
Robo Rally (RRY)

Despite a poor start in the second heat, and the near miraculous luck of Henry Pfeiffer, who with only three cards to program managed to touch Flag 2 despite, or perhaps because of, being interfered with by two other robots on the same turn, I managed with consummate skill to not only catch, but surpass the leaders on the very last hand of the game. Surely this was to be the year of the GM. Perhaps I would even play in the Final instead of just taking notes on the outcome.

I came out strong in the semi-final taking an early lead by virtue of spending the first five turns as a virtual bot. The last register phase of each of the first four turns found my bot sharing a space with Josh Githen's bot—a distinct benefit to both players as neither needed to worry about the actions of the other players. I managed to continue this trend another turn without Josh's help, then the trouble began, and by the end of the game I was back in the pack.

Brad Johnson gave the lie to his frequent insistence that he's really 'not that good' by handily winning his sixth title. Meanwhile, *Robo Rally* remains a Brad lake that the rest of us may visit from time to time, but where no one dare contemplate taking up residence. Perhaps next year I will return the format of detailed action, counting out the fact that Brad won the game despite having to shutdown three times, or that the race for third was so much more intense than that for first, or perhaps not.





2009 Results

- ♣ Rob Beyma, MD
- ♠ Richard Beyma, MD
- ♣ Jim Eliason, IA
- ♠ Art Lupinacci, on
- ♠ Charles Catania, MD
- ♠ Charles Drozd, IL

♣ Rob Beyma, MD

† 20 📖 2006-2009



2009 Results

- ♣ Doug James, NC
- ♠ Bert Schoose, IL
- ♠ Gary Dickson, CA
- ♠ Tim Nielson, VA
- ♠ John Ohlin, FL
- ♠ Tom Gregorio, PA

♣ Tom Gregorio, PA

† 39 📖 1991-2009



Rob Beyma, MD

Top Laurelists

Rob Beyma, MD	120
Art Lupinacci, on	57
Richard Beyma, MD	36
Jim Eliason, IA	30
Jim Miller, VA	21
Craig Champagne, NJ	12
Lembit Tohver, on	9
Charles Catania, MD	6
Jim Tracy, OH	6
Doug Richards, on	6



Doug James, NC

Top Laurelists

Doug James, NC	350
Tom Gregorio, PA	296
Gary Dickson, CA	261
Bert Schoose, IL	111
Rob Beyma, MD	76
George Karahalios, IL	74
Phil Evans, VA	63
Pat Flory, CT	61
Ed O'Connor, NJ	40
Art Lupinacci, on	40

Russia Besieged (RBS)

Sides were determined by bidding VPs with replacement points as a tiebreaker. The VP bids ranged from 16 to 20 with the average bid being 19.2. The most frequent bid was 19 which was also the default number of VPs required. Play balance was perfect with each side winning 11 games.

The Final saw another Beyma family tree father and son match. In a surprise ploy, Richard dropped his bid from 20 to 18. His logic was that Rob usually struggles with the Germans the first time that he plays them in a tournament. Insider info was to no avail this time. Richard's second turn found the Russians faced with many threats and few units. The Russians defended the Luga, the woods in front of Moscow, Bryansk, Kharkov, and Dnepropetrovsk. One of the armies in Odessa was successfully sea moved back to Sevastopol. The last turn was anti-climatic as the Germans ended their turn with 27 VPs and no time. Rob had won his fourth *Russia Besieged* wood in as many years.

The game was much closer than the final VP tally would indicate. In fact, the Russians would have had the edge going into Mar/Apr had Snow been rolled. A Mud/Mud weather roll would have resulted in a very close ending. No one will be surprised if Richard wins it all next year—but that would still keep it all in the family. The apple doesn't fall far from the tree—especially when the apple grows up playing wargames against father tree.



Russian Campaign (TRC)

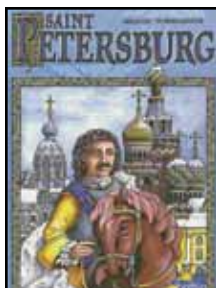


The 19th rendition of the tournament set records in both players and total games played, 93. Much of these impressive numbers can be attributed to the format and the consistent usage of the 5-turn tournament scenario, but it didn't change the outcome as Doug James walked away with his sixth title—albeit not without some chinks in his armor after experiencing preliminary losses to Gary Dickson, Tom Gregorio, and Jeff Martin. Gary and Bert Schoose had strangleholds on the first two playoff slots as they'd gone undefeated against serious competition. Doug James nailed down the third slot while Tim Nielsen narrowly edged Jeff Martin and John Ohlin for the last slot.

James' Germans prevailed over Dickson in the semi-final while Bert remained unbeaten in denying Tim. In the Final Bert consistently forced Doug to AV Russian units on first impulse in order to keep advancing in the south. Particularly noteworthy was that Bert's KMD setup encouraged the creation of a *large* pocket of Russians at Lwow. Bert's pocketed units counterattacked and he used an AR to get a Russian unit into Warsaw on Turn 1. Doug used two of three stukas in July on attacks *in Poland!* Things really broke open in a clear S/O when the overrun of a 3-7 allowed German panzers to attack Kharkov at 4:1 surrounded.

Overall, data suggests that the Russians have a slight edge but that this disappears at the higher skill levels.

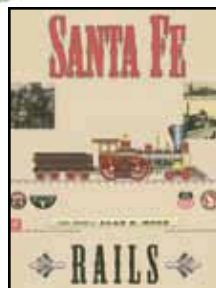




2009 Results

- ♣ Curt Collins II, PA
- ♠ Tom DeMarco, NJ
- ♣ Arthur Field, SC
- ♠ Robert Cranshaw, RI
- ♣ L. Solomon, VA
- ♠ Amy Rule, MD

♣ Steven Quade, MD
 † 115 📖 2005-2009



2009 Results

- ♣ K. Wojtaszczyk, NY
- ♠ Mike Shea, CT
- ♣ Chris Palermo, NY
- ♠ Tom Bissa, MI
- ♣ Phillip White, MD
- ♠ Grant LaDue, NY

♣ Rob Kircher, RI
 † 44 📖 2003-2009



Top Laurelists

Tom DeMarco, NJ	75
Arthur Field, SC	72
Anne Norton, NJ	60
Chris Robbins, UT	52
Curt Collins II, PA	40
Norman Herrick, NE	40
Tom Browne, PA	38
Peter Staab, PA	38
Tom McCorry, VA	30
Cary Morris, NC	24



Top Laurelists

Kevin Wojtaszczyk, NY	50
Rob Kircher, RI	44
Bob Wicks, CT	32
Bill Peeck, NY	28
Chris Palermo, NY	22
Phillip White, MD	22
Grant LaDue, NY	22
Tom Stokes, NJ	20
Andy Lewis, DE	20
Tom DeMarco	18

Saint Petersburg (SPB)

The last board found Robert Cranshaw, Arthur Field, Tom DeMarco, and Curt Collins II in a sprint to a title. Round 1 came and went without major incident except Tom was able to get an Observatory on the table. By the end of Round 2, Arthur had the other Observatory, Tom a Mistress, Robert was working on an early building strategy, and Curt seemed to be hanging on for the ride. Money problems stalked everyone which caused expensive but important cards to be hoarded for use later.

By Round 5, Robert had a clear lead on the building strategy, receiving twice as many building points as anyone else but was falling behind in nobles. He took one more building to trigger an early end to the game. Already money poor and with a fistful of cards, the players saw only three nobles appear. Curt was able to buy the only affordable one leaving the others to stew on their inability to acquire the judge and his ilk. Curt had just enough cash to swipe a final judge to put him into a tight lead for nobles. Poor remainder cash caused some cards in hand not to be purchased. Noble bonuses caused everyone to sprint to the finish but some to fall back as a -5 point penalty was applied to each card in hand not bought.

A nervous finish found Curt with 53 points, Tom 50, Arthur 47, and Robert 37. Curt's victory was all the more surprising for being the only alternate to make it into the semi-finals. Beware those given a second chance.



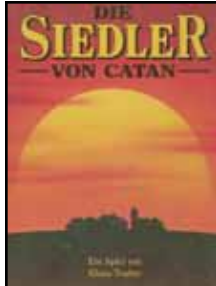
Santa Fe Rails (SFR)

Andy Lewis took top score with 204 in the Preliminaries for the only 200+ game. Chad Gormly had top cash with 72 but that wasn't enough to win his game.

In the semis, Mike Shea played the silent game, collected money and hit the LA lottery for 21 points to win by 10 over Grant LaDue. Tom Bissa didn't need much cash but played a double LA for 42 points to have 28 more city points than his closest opposition and beat Steve Shambeda by five. Chris Palermo wanted to go back to bed and finished his game in 20 minutes. A double El Paso and 21 cash was enough to get the job done as he beat Chad Gormly 41-34. In the last semi, our defending champion, Kevin Wojtaszczyk, didn't play a sign 7 city card but had the most cash to win anyway over Phil White 207-184.

The Final had our defending champion, Chris who was taking his third shot at the title, and a pair of newcomers. Cash was pretty close but you had to earn what you got. Chris took the most cash, but had two fewer city cards than Mike and Kevin. He hit the lottery drawing two San Francisco cards with one of his 2X discards. The trains worked their way to the Southwest and players pitched their Seattle, Portland and Spokane cards. With four connections in Denver and Dallas, Kevin became our first repeat champion in seven years, beating Mike 175-167. Nine of the ten city cards played by Kevin had at least two connections.





2009 Results

- ♣ Rick Dutton, MD
- ♠ Charles Faella, RI
- ♣ Matt Tolman, UT
- ♠ Daniel Ottney, PA
- ♠ Andrew Roosen, MD
- ♠ Tom Dunning, NY

♣ Joseph Maiz, NJ

† 113 📖 1999-2009



2009 Results

- ♣ A. Henning, CT
- ♠ Mark Smith, KY
- ♠ Shannon Keating, IN
- ♠ Rachel Harley, VA
- ♣ Dan Dolan Jr, NJ
- ♣ Sean Drueling, MD

♣ Sean McCulloch, OH

† 203 📖 1993-2009



Rick Dutton, MD

Top Laurelists

Rick Dutton, MD	114
Charles Faella, RI	96
Tom Dunning, NY	87
Matt Tolman, UT	84
Brian Reynolds, MD	83
Roy Gibson, MD	66
Tom Stokes, NJ	60
Rob Effinger, on	60
Aran Warszawski, is	60
David Buchholz, MI	60



Alexandra Henning, CT

Top Laurelists

Kaarin Engelmann, VA	66
Derek Landel, NJ	41
Alexandra Henning, CT	40
Ted Simmons, NJ	40
Greg Berry, VA	39
Ken Gutermuth, NC	30
Jeff Cornett, FL	30
Doug Galullo, FL	30
Devin Flawd, PA	30
Mark Gutttag, VA	30

Settlers of Catan (SET)

There were 26 games played in the first round. Attrition whittled that to 20 in the second, and 18 in the third. Of the 16 to advance, only two won all three games; the rest of the semi-finalists had at least two wins. Tie-breakers were needed for the last slots.

All four semi-final games were close throughout with the winner prevailing by a single point. Dan Ottey 10-9-8-8, defending champ Matt Tolman 10-9-8-5, Rick Dutton 10-9-8-7, and former champ Charles Faella 10-9-7-5 advanced. In such a large event where repeating is rare, three of the four had nonetheless seen the Final before.

Charles and Dan took the favorable wood-brick tiles while Rick and Matt took the ore-sheep tiles to start the Final. In Round 8, Rick used a development card and played his soldier, giving him the largest army for seven points. Charles then got a needed ore and built a second city, giving him eight points. Dan took advantage of that and built the longest road, taking the title from Charles, giving him seven points. Rick then was able to build a second settlement, giving him eight points. By the start of Round 9, Charles reclaimed the longest road title. With two players on the brink of victory, the rolls were in order: 8-5-8-8—giving Rick a total of six ore and nine sheep collected by the end of Round 9.



He was able to upgrade two settlements to cities and declare victory. End game scores were: Rick 10, Charles 8, Matt 6, Dan 5.

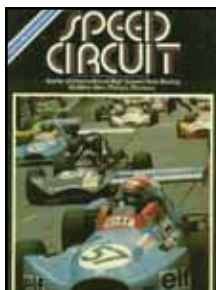
Slapshot (SLS)

Another record crowd on Saturday night included the original GM, Joshua Gottesman, back to see how much damage we'd done to his event. The chest-painted Rangers fans were back, providing the male eye candy that this event sorely needs. Our world famous Reader of the Rules, Keith Hunsinger, was sent to the penalty box for insulting Referee Mark Yoshikawa's height. Finally, the puck was dropped, and the games began. In all, 20 winners advanced to the annual "Massively Unfair semi-final Round", where the games are quick and painful. By the time the Zamboni left, six finalists made their way to the Final table.

The Final progressed with Alex jumping to an early lead. Rachel mainly got her wins by beating up on Sean five straight times. The sixth turn, she decided to draft instead, telling him to "take a breath". Meanwhile, Shannon quietly moved up the ranks, separating herself from patsies Sean and Dan. The first game had involved a double-bruising, but this left hardly any bruisers in play, making it hard for the weaker teams to catch up, and so Sean and Dan were quickly left behind, and Mark, Alex, Rachel, and Shannon made the playoffs easily.

In the first round, Alex defeated Shannon, and Mark topped Rachel. So Mark and Alex squared off for the wood. It took just five deals to put Mark down. The two teams were remarkably similar. Both teams had a 7, two 6's and a 4. But Alex had a 5 to Mark's 3, as well as a better goalie, and that was enough.





2009 Results
 🏆 Doug Schulz, MD
 🏆 Lane Newbury, CA
 🏆 Bruce Rae, bc
 🏆 Robert Kircher, RI
 🏆 Gerald Lientz, VA
 🏆 D. Nicholson, NY
 🏆 Doug Schulz, MD
 † 31 📖 1991-2009



2009 Results
 🏆 Phil Grasha, PA
 🏆 Bill Thomson, TX
 🏆 Pete Pollard, TN
 🏆 A. Cummins, uk
 🏆 Chuck Leonard, PA
 🏆 E. Filipkowski, MD
 🏆 Bill Thomson, TX
 † 21 📖 1991-2009



Doug Schulz, MD

Top Laurelists

Scott Cornett, FL	162
Kevin Keller, MD	95
Doug Schulz, MD	86
Gerald Lientz, VA	81
Terry Schulz, PA	80
Jimmy Fleckenstein, VA	66
Dennis Nicholson, NY	60
John Welage, OH	56
Lance Ribeiro, NH	52
Lane Newbury, TX	36



Phil Grasha, PA

Top Laurelists

Pete Pollard, CA	168
Bill Thomson, TX	164
David Bronkhorst, VA	86
Mike Pacheco, CA	78
Andrew Cummins, uk	74
Eric Stranger, OH	67
Phil Grasha, PA	50
Michael Hennessy, VA	30
Chuck Leonard, PA	28
Michael Day, AZ	27

Speed Circuit (SCT)

Qualifying took place on the fast and simple Hockenheim, the tighter and slower Melbourne, and the long and heavy braking Spa. Nearly half of the top drivers used a race-from-the-back strategy including Rob Kircher, Dennis Nicholson, Lane Newbury, Franklin Haskell and Doug Schulz.

The Final devolved into a two-car race by the end. For most of the race it was clear that Jim Fleckenstein and Doug Schulz would duel for the wood at the end just as they had last year. In 2008 both crashed in the last corner, this year only one would. Jim started from the front of the grid and pushed early, extending a gap while using up most of his wear. Doug started mid-pack but used a high start speed to get up to the back of the front runners by corner #2. From there Doug ran a more conservative race and conserved his wear for a late charge—outlasting the other front runners to be Jim’s sole concern. By the last lap, they ran neck and neck heading into the fifth corner. Jim went faster through the outside of that corner using his last wear and then performed a late brake to stay out of the next corner, gaining the arrow. Doug then dove inside, used a wear and entered the next corner on the outside to stay ahead. This proved to be decisive as Doug was able to block Jim in the second to last corner and forced him into two naked chance rolls which culminated again in his crash in the last corner. Doug became the third two-time Speed Circuit champion—joining Kevin Keller and Gerald Lientz.



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Squad Leader (SQL)

Total matches played increased 53% despite a 16% decrease in number of players. The event was conducted primarily as a weekend tournament with several rounds of early play permitted. Given the increasing number of schedule conflicts and the growing number of former champions participating, the 2010 event will transition to Grogard free form scheduling.

Phil Grasha (PA) amassed a 4-1 record vs. opponents populated almost exclusively by past champions to earn top honors. Due to Phil’s round robin field of opponents, no true Final proved necessary. Scott Bramley (NJ) and Bill Sosnicki (NJ) turned in the most matches played.

Andrew Cummins’ Personal Leader Counter quickly secured an impressive +18 Élan tally in his first match. At the end of four rounds, Sgt Cummins boasted a dominant +38 Élan to claim the 2009 Best PLC plaque. Sgt Eric Stranger led the remaining pack of surviving PLCs with +16 Élan. No one claimed the Pollard Memorial Plaque for dispatching 2008 winner Sgt Thomson as this PLC survived four rounds of combat. Accidentally leading the American attack in Scenario 38 The Factory, Thomson had several platoons of squads broken under his command when this PLC was not leading the routing by example, at the hands of Chuck Leonard’s fire groups. Sgt Thomson spent most of the tournament at double digit negative élan, ending at -12. Sgt Cummins will be the target of opportunity in the 2010 event.

