



**2010 Results**

- ♣ Stefan Mecay, TX
- ♣ Chris Withers, CA
- ♣ George Young, VT
- ♣ Rob Hassard, NJ
- ♣ Keith Wixson, NJ
- ♣ Paul Sampson, OH

♣ George Young, VT

† 57 📖 2006-2010



**2010 Results**

- ♣ Bruce Reiff, OH
- ♣ Jeff Meyer, MA
- ♣ Brandon Bernard, PA
- ♣ Rich Meyer, MA
- ♣ Lisa Gutermuth, NC
- ♣ Cliff Ackman, PA

♣ Bruce Reiff, OH

† 46 📖 2000-2010



**Top Laurelists**

Stefan Mecay, TX	373
Chris Withers, CA	125
Rick Young, NC	100
Keith Wixson, NJ	86
Marvin Birnbaum, NY	70
Bill Edwards, VA	54
Bruce Monnin, OH	46
James Terry, NJ	37
Rob Hassard, NJ	32
Stuart Tucker, MD	31



**Top Laurelists**

Arthur Field, SC	92
Luke Koleszar, VA	48
Jeff Mullet, OH	43
Steve Shambeda, PA	42
Fred Minard, PA	35
Joe Lux, NY	34
Bruce Reiff, OH	30
Curt Collins II, PA	30
Bruce Young, SC	30
Jamie Tang, MD	30

**Twilight Struggle (TWS)**

The Deluxe Edition with the Chinese Civil War variant was the default version, intended to dampen a Russian advantage drawing bids of 3 or more. It seemed to have had some effect, with the Russians still winning 38 of 67 (but down 13%). Play eventually provided a foursome of three-time champ Stefan Mecay, defending champ Chris Withers, and perennial contenders Rob Hassard and George Young. Despite the Russian edge, three of the four had won his quarter-final as the US.

Chris bid 3 for the Soviets in the semis and gained favorable board position using early plays of DeStalinization and DeColonization. Rob's Americans finally succumbed to Wargames on Turn 9. The other semi was over far sooner. Stefan's Soviets rapidly took Italy (by coup) and France while George engaged in parallel play, gaining a favorable position in Asia. He scored both Asia and Middle East, pushing his VPs to 13! But, in a fatal misplay, he used his last 3 card in space. Stefan then dropped Blockade, clearing West Germany for a concession.

Stefan bid 4 for the Soviets in the Final, forcing Chris to play the US for the first time in two years. The US was saddled with all three Scoring Cards on Turn 1 while the Soviets couped them out of Iran and Panama. DeStalinization on Turn 2



gave the Soviets the rest of the Americas, which the US was never able to impact significantly. Board position was solidly Soviet and Final scoring reflected that with a +20 victory.

**Union Pacific (UNP)**

By Round 3, there were only three unbeaten players left—defending champ Curt Collins II, Rich Irving and Bruce Reiff. Jeff Meyer won the draw from the also-rans to be moved up to the winners board. He then proceeded to dominate the hotshots to make the Final on his own merits. Bruce finished second to also advance. Curt was a distant fourth and that ended his title defense. Brandon Bernard beat Tom Browne, James Pei and Steve Shambeda in Semi #2 to advance while Rich Meyer took Semi #3 over Jack Stalica, Fred Minard and Alan Stencius.

Brandon jumped out to an early lead after the Final's first scoring round. Bruce was last, but gained control of the Union Pacific - which would be huge later—with the Meyer clan completing the sandwich in the middle. Positions remained unchanged in the second scoring round. The key to the end of this happy story was Brandon building the Yellow trains and Jeff the Black. Bruce had one share of each and was quietly reaping the rewards thereto. In the third scoring round some ownership jockeying took place, but Bruce's solo second place shares of Yellow and Black remained good and things started going horribly wrong for the Bruce watchers of the world. In the last scoring round the plague king, true to his name, took control of both Purple and Green which coupled with the Union Pacific and the two seconds was enough: Bruce 119, Jeff 99, Brandon 99, and Rich 98.





### 2010 Results

- ♣ John Emery, SC
- ♠ Ray Stakanas, MI
- ♣ Ralph Gleaton, SC
- ♠ Bruce Young, SC
- ♠ Bruce Wigdor, NJ
- ♠ David Wong, NJ

♣ Jim Burnett, TN

† 25 📖 1991-2010



### 2010 Results

- ♣ Randy Buehler, WA
- ♠ Eric Freeman, PA
- ♣ Matt Peterson, MN
- ♠ Lexi Shea, CT
- ♠ Geoffrey Pounder, on
- ♠ Mike Kaltman, PA

♣ Eric Freeman, PA

† 67 📖 2008-2010



John Emery, SC

### Top Laurelists

John Emery, SC	191
Bruce Young, SC	150
Ray Stakanas II, MI	106
Bruce Wigdor, NJ	74
Ray Stakanas Sr, MI	64
Paul Wright, PA	52
Ed Kendrick, uk	51
Larry Davidson, CA	46
Herbert Gratz, aa	34
Ralph Gleaton, SC	30



Randy Buehler, WA

### Top Laurelists

Eric Freeman, PA	48
Andrew Gerb, MD	33
Randy Buehler, WA	30
Nick Page, on	18
Sceadeau D'Tela, NC	18
Matt Peterson, MN	12
Scott Chupack, IL	12
Kevin Brown, GA	12
Lexi Shea, CT	9
Mike Kaltman, PA	9

## Up Front (UPF)

As usual, the former champs were out in force with seven present representing 14 past triumphs as their bona fides. Not that anyone needed convincing. The five Swiss rounds reduced the very capable field to eight and when the casualties were cleared, '01 champ Bruce Wigdor was the only player with a clean slate. Ken Whitesell and the Stakanas father and son duo comprised the second tier of seeded players with 4-1 records. Gleaton, Wong, Young, and Emery completed the octet with a distinct South Carolina twinge to the bargain basement 3-2's. Four former champs with 11 total titles had run the gauntlet thus far and those without titles were hardly babes in the woods.

The playoffs immediately took a toll on the top seeds with only Ray Stakanas Sr left standing and the Greenville trio still intact. Another round pared that list to five-time champ Emery vs perennial bridesmaid Stakanas. Midway through the third deck, a nasty hit on John's main group left him one loss from breaking, but he recovered to run out the deck and win his sixth title. Or did he?

An observer points out an OB error. John had played with too many men. Chagrined, John offers forfeiture. Ray, ever the gentleman, declines. The two replay the match with the correct OBs and John wins handily. But his humility earns



him a Sportsmanship nomination which his many admirers reward with their votes naming him Sportsman of the Year as well. Some guys can just do no wrong.

## Vegas Showdown (VSD)

There were no double winners in the preliminaries this year. The two heats generated 19 different winners, but four did not show for the semi-final, allowing 2009 Runner-Up, Sceadeu D'Tela into the field as an alternate.

The closest semi-final win was Lexi Shea over Geoffrey Pounder. They finished tied at 59 points and Lexi advanced due to 8 money left over to Geoffrey's 2, earning Geoffrey the nod for 5th place laurels. This outdistanced Raphael Lehrer at 53 and Kevin Wojtaszczyk at 36. The closest semi-final from top to bottom found Eric Freeman topping fellow 2009 finalist, Mike Kaltman, 57 to 56, with Pat Richardson and Eric Monte both close behind at 53. The 1-point loss copped 6th place overall for Mike. Notable in this game was a turn where Mike and Eric mutually benefited from the Visionary event card when each overbid the other by the minimum on a Premier tile to score two fame apiece. Randy Buehler advanced to the Final easily with a 12-point win over Rod Spade, with Matthew and David Gagne trailing by 21 and 23, respectively. Matt Petersen punched his Final ticket with a 4-point margin over Sceadeau D'Tela and Chad Weaver, with Alfred Smith 21 points behind.

The Final goes 22 turns. On Randy's tableau at the end; a Lounge, three Fancy Lounges, a Nightclub, six Slots, a Restaurant, two Fancy Restaurants, and a Buffet. It is good for a two-point win and his second shield at this, his first WBC. Final Score: Randy 79, Eric 77, Matt 66, Lexi 52.





**2010 Results**

- ♣ Andy Gardner, VA
- ♠ John Sharp, FL
- ♣ Ed Paule, NJ
- ♠ John Pack, CO
- ♠ Ed Menzel, CA
- ♠ D. Blumentritt, TX

♣ Charles Drozd, IL

† 33 📖 1991-2010



**2010 Results**

- ♣ Vince Meconi, DE
- ♠ Ed Menzel, CA
- ♣ Andy Choptiany, PA
- ♠ Ewan McNay, NV
- ♣ Mike Kaye, MD
- ♣ Jon Lockwood, VA

♣ Vince Meconi, DE

† 46 📖 1991-2010



**Top Laurelists**

Andy Gardner, VA	318
Dan Henry, IL	272
Michael Kaye, MD	246
Ed Menzel, CA	226
Charlie Drozd, IL	152
Darren Kilfara, uk	146
John Pack, CO	114
Alan Applebaum, MA	113
Michael Ussery, MD	78
John Sharp, FL	66



**Top Laurelists**

Andy Gardner, VA	169
Pat Richardson, FL	150
Ray Freeman, CA	133
Jon. Lockwood, VA	125
Ed Menzel, CA	116
Darren Kilfara, uk	94
Vince Meconi, DE	93
Ewan McNay, CT	80
Bruce Monnin, OH	78
Bruce Reiff, OH	71

**Victory in the Pacific (VIP)**

**166** games were played during the second year of the 5/3 Swiss Elim format, down seven from last year's 73. Bid's for the IJN have continued to increase as the field shrinks; this year non-zero bid games averaged 4.525 PoC. Despite the increase, the IJN still managed to win 68% of the contests. After five swiss rounds, unbeaten Andy Gardner was again the top seed going into the playoffs. Next came Ed Paule, John Pack, and Ed Menzel with identical 4-1 records. The last four spots were filled by Daniel Blumentritt, Patrick Richardson, John Sharp, and Mike Kaye whose 3-2 records were deemed the strongest based on strength of schedule.

In Round 6, upsets were the norm with only the #1 seed escaping (#1 Gardner's Allies defeated #8 Kaye, #7 Sharp's Allies defeated #2 Paule, #6 Richardson's Allies defeated #3 Pack, while #5 Blumentritt's IJN defeated #4 Menzel). Round 7 saw Andy bid 6 PoC. The game went seven turns before his IJN prevailed by removing Dan's patrollers from the Hawaiian Islands. The other game saw John take the Allies plus 5.5 PoC to down Pat's IJN in four turns.

Andy paid 5.5 PoC to play the IJN in the Final and things started well with only two ships escaping Pearl. Everything went Andy's way on Turn 5 as

John's last two CV's were sunk and both Marines turned back. With no holes for his reinforcements John conceded and Andy pulled into a tie with Dan Henry as WBC's only two three-time champs.

**War At Sea (WAS)**

Last year the GM declared that the Allied Ledge had gone from marginal to substantial. But after a steady decline in their fortunes over the past seven years, Axis players staged a comeback in 2010, taking 42 of 81 decisions. It was the first time since 2003 that the Axis posted better than a .500 record. The average bid was 1.51. This year, at least, the bidding worked as it should—pushing a slightly unbalanced game into almost perfect balance. Whether this is a return to normalcy or a 1-year aberration remains to be seen.

While there may be some debate as to whether bids are high enough, it is indisputable that they do "move the chains." The outcome of 13 games was altered by the bid. One Allied win became a tie, two ties became Axis wins, and a record six Allied wins became losses after the bid was added. And that is only a summation of the final scores. What is left uncounted is the amount of moves or strategies altered by the bid which are not directly reflected in the score.

Proving that even a blind squirrel finds an acorn occasionally, the GM won his first title with a 7-1 record, ending 19 years of also-ran status. Vince defeated Ed Menzel, whose luck ran out after going a round too far, ending the day 7-1. Andy Choptiany, competing in just his second WBC after a long absence, took third with a 5-2 mark.



### 2010 Results

- ♣ Chris Trimmer, TX
  - ♠ K. Wojtaszczyk, NY
  - ♣ Scott Marcotte, NY
  - ♠ Hans Kirketerp, dk
  - ♠ David Pack, CO
  - ♠ Jacob Hebner, CO
  - ♣ Kevin Wojtaszczyk, NY
- † 24 📖 2006-2010



### 2010 Results

- ♣ Keith Wixson, NJ
  - ♠ George Young, VT
  - ♣ Paul Gaberson, PA
  - ♠ John Faella, RI
  - ♠ Eric Kleist, MD
  - ♠ R. MacInnis, NJ
  - ♣ Don Chappell, TX
- † 58 📖 1994-2010



Chris Trimmer, TX

### Top Laurelists

Chris Trimmer, TX	106
Kevin Wojtaszczyk, NY	92
Phil Rennert, MD	30
Jason Levine, NY	24
George Young, VT	24
Jacob Hebner, CO	18
Nick Anner, NY	17
Lyman Moquin, DC	16
Andy Latto, MA	16
Scott Marcotte, NY	12



Keith Wixson, NJ

### Top Laurelists

George Young, VT	244
Marvin Birnbaum, NY	209
Paul Gaberson, PA	192
Brian Mountford, NY	179
James Pei, TX	127
Keith Wixson, NJ	120
John Poniske, PA	91
Dan Leader, MA	60
Joe Collinson, MD	52
Chris Byrd, CT	40

## War of the Ring (WOR)



27 games were played with two FP MVs, eight FP ring dunks, seven SP MVs and ten SP corruption wins. Dwarven rings bidding ranged from 1-4 to play the SP. 2008 champ Chris Trimmer managed to kill off Strider/Aragorn or Gandalf in all three of his preliminary games while going 3-0!

The semi-finals matched Chris vs Hans Kirketerp and defending champ Kevin Wojtaszczyk vs Scott Marcotte. Chris's SP military slowly tied the noose around the FP. Elsewhere, Scott bid two Dwarven rings to play the FP. He had run the table in the preliminaries with the FP but Kevin quickly moved to crush Helm's Deep and then blitzed through the Dale, Erebor and Woodland, adding Peligar for a SP MV.

The Final was a 2009 rematch as the last two champions met again. Kevin bid four rings for the Shadow. By Turn 3, both Rivendell and Woodland realm were under siege with SP forces from Mordor massing in the Old Forest Road. The FP got a Will and promoted Gandalf the White in Fangorn and proceeded to muster in the Ents as the SP got one last Voice usage out of Saruman. Then the wheels fell off the SP war machine. Chris flipped two Ent cards, launching 15 dice into Orthanc, nearly killing Saruman. With just a Palantir and Army die left and armies two spaces from either



stronghold, Chris snatched victory from the jaws of defeat, as the Lorien Elves marched uncontested into Moria and Dol Guldur for a FP MV!

## We the People (WTP)

2010 marked the transition from *We The People* to the sequel, *Washington's War*. Eight contestants preferred to play the former while *Washington's War* had 50 including seven tyros in the coached division. Dan Hoffman was awarded the annual Minuteman Militia Award as the top novice. The 56 games of *Washington's War* split down the middle with 28 victories per side—seemingly a huge improvement over its predecessor.

After four Swiss rounds seven players tied with identical 3-1 records for the last five slots. Joe Collinson and defending champ Marvin Birnbaum were the luckless odd men out in the resulting lottery. Three-time champ, George Young defeated Eric Kleist, John Faella downed Matt Ellis, Paul Gaberson beat Bill Edwards, and Keith Wixson topped Randall MacInnis in the quarter finals. Young and Wixson advanced over Faella and Gaberson in the semis.

When Keith boldly leveraged the use of a Battle Card to drive Howe out of Boston early in 1775 during the Final, George switched to a Southern strategy. By 1777, the British had five colonies well in hand, having completely locked down GA, SC and NC with red PCs and had four armies wintering in the south. He advanced the British armies in mutually supporting positions to threaten Virginia, drawing Washington south to provide competent leadership and symmetrically oppose the British advance. With the war ending in 1782, George was dealt a paralyzing British hand, guaranteeing Keith his first title with the new version after years of near misses with the old.





**2010 Results**  
 ♣ Paul Gaberson, PA  
 ♠ Keith Wixson, NJ  
 ♠ Bill Peock, NY  
 ♠ James Pei, VA  
 ♠ Paul Haseler, au  
 ♠ Gary Phillips, FL  
 ♣ Keith Wixson, NJ  
 † 23 📖 2002-2010



**2010 Results**  
 ♣ Tim Hitchings, DE  
 ♠ Evan Hitchings, DE  
 ♠ Derek Whipple, WA  
 ♠ Isacc Clizbe, VA  
 ♠ Joseph Belyeu, AL  
 ♠ Bill Thomson, TX  
 ♣ Tim Hitchings, DE  
 † 25 📖 1991-2010



**Top Laurelists**

James Pei, VA	296
Keith Wixson, NJ	186
Paul Gaberson, PA	178
Ron Fedin, PA	141
Peter Reese, VA	111
Tom Drueding, MA	98
George Young, VT	95
John Buse, IL	75
Rob Winslow, NY	70
Bruce Wigdor, NJ	48



**Top Laurelists**

William Rohrbeck, NH	116
Tim Hitchings, DE	95
Keith Hunsinger, OH	50
Arthur Davis, MI	41
Evan Hitchings, DE	40
Derek Whipple, WA	28
Larry York, CA	20
Curtis Dietrich, FL	20
David Cross, NJ	18
Dale Long, NC	16

**Wilderness War (WNW)**

Paul Gaberson became our second three-time champ. He was undefeated, winning three times with each side, beating Paul Haseler, Mike Ussery, Gary Phillips and Keith Wixson in the preliminary rounds, Bill Peock in the semi-finals and Keith again in the Final. The Top New Player Award went to Australian Paul Haseler, who finished fifth and just missed reaching the semi-finals. His only loss was to the eventual champ in Round 1.

The Final started great for the Brits. Montcalm's initial attack at Hudson Carry North failed when Webb intercepted from HCS and threw up fieldworks. Levis reinforced Montcalm and they drove the Brits back in the second attack on the space but both Montcalm and Levis were killed! But by 1759 it was just another example of how resilient the French can be even after an early disaster. Paul's 6-0 record and three titles speak for themselves. The only question remaining is whether he can beat the Master to be the first to four titles.

Each year we've tried new house rules to address French dominance without much effect. This year the French won 69% of the games played compared to 65% last year, and 67%, 61%, 52%, 56%, 71% and 62% in the preceding six years. However, the rate was 84% in the first two rounds and only 46% thereafter (once novice players are culled), so among the highly skilled things might be evening out. I have not given up on balancing the game and more changes are in store for 2011.



**Wooden Ships & Iron Men (WSM)**

The field continued trending younger as most new players were in their teens and not yet borne the last time this game was printed.

The first semi-final featured a head-to-head reversal of fortune between 2008 champ Evan Hitchings and defending champ Derek Whipple. Derek played a conservative game, denying Evan any of the high-risk, high-reward maneuvers he's prone to make. Evan saw his only opening mid-to-late game and capitalized on it to win by only a few hull hits. The other semi-final saw perennial bridesmaid, Tim Hitchings, opposing rookie-of-the-year Isaac Clizbe. Isaac went for quantity over quality, choosing a squadron of three average SOLs to Tim's two elite SOLs. Isaac's maneuvering was flawless, but he could not overcome Tim's superior gunnery. His higher rate of fire resulted in all of Isaac's ships striking their colors.

The Final was something of a family "rubber match". Evan had beaten his dad in the semi-finals in 2008 and Tim returned the favor in 2009. This time around, both commanded conventional squadrons of two British 74 gun ships-of-the-line and, from the outset, it was obvious that both were playing conservatively. With good players, that combination usually favors the luck of the die. This year was no exception, as Tim was able to take down a rigging section on one of Evan's ships and then concentrate the fire of both of his ships against the other to take the wood at long last after 20 years of servicing this event.

