

2011 Results

- ♣ Steven LeWinter, NC
- ♠ Nick Page, on
- ♣ Rob Flowers, MD
- ♠ J. Oppenheim, VA
- ♠ Mark Love, MD
- ♠ David Duncan, PA

♣ Eric Freeman, PA

† 94 📖 2008-2011



2011 Results

- ♣ Ed Paule, NJ
- ♠ Charles Drozd, IL
- ♣ Andy Gardner, VA
- ♠ Jim Kramer, PA
- ♠ Jim Eliason, IA
- ♠ Ed Menzel, CA

♣ Charles Drozd, IL

† 36 📖 1991-2011



Top Laurelists

Eric Freeman, PA	48
Nick Page, on	36
Andrew Gerb, MD	33
Steven LeWinter, NC	30
Randy Buehler, WA	30
Seadeau D'Tela, NC	18
Rob Flowers, MD	12
Matt Peterson, MN	12
Scott Chupack, IL	12
Kevin Brown, GA	12



Top Laurelists

Andy Gardner, VA	342
Dan Henry, IL	272
Michael Kaye, CA	246
Ed Menzel, CA	232
Charlie Drozd, IL	188
Darren Kilfara, uk	146
Ed Paule, NJ	126
Michael Ussery, MD	118
John Pack, CO	114
Alan Applebaum, MA	113

Vegas Showdown (VSD)

Despite being out of print, 2011 was VSD's most successful year in its fourth outing at WBC. Thanks to Bob Wicks, Mohegan Sun, a Connecticut casino, sponsored the event with prize support in the form of a T-shirt and deck of cards for each player. The three heats produced 29 games, from which, Alex Bove and defending champion Randy Buehler emerged as double winners. The closest game was also the lowest scoring contest in the history of the tournament; Jim Fry besting Doug Faust, Alfred Smith and Eric Cheatam, 27-26-25-24. In contrast, the biggest win (23 points) belonged to Mark Globus.

Six of the 27 qualifiers opted out, allowing four runners-up to advance as alternates to the five 5-player games of Round 2. The closest semi, both between first and second as well as overall from top to bottom was Nick Page over alternate David Duncan. They finished tied at 43 with Nick advancing due to \$9 in change besting David's \$5. Eric Monte, 2009 champion Eric Freeman, and Cary Morris finished close behind at 40, 38, and 35 points respectively. Both Erics were also involved in the closest top to bottom semi-final last year.

The largest victory in the semis went to another alternate, Mark Love, who finished a comfortable 17 points over defending champion Randy Buehler and Greg Thatcher. In the other semis, it was Rob Flowers by seven over 2008 champ Andy Gerb, Steve LeWinter by five over Michael Kaltman, and Jeremy Oppenheim by six over James Denham.



Victory in the Pacific (VIP)

The bids increased from 4.5 to 4.8, and the Japanese winning percentage dropped eight points, but remained a very strong 60%. After five rounds, Jim Eliason was the only unbeaten player—no doubt yearning for a return to the days of the last man standing swiss format. Four former champions manned the gauntlet standing between him and his first VIP title. Ed Paule, defending champ Andy Gardner, 2006 champ Ed Menzel, and 2008 champ Charles Drozd manned the next tier at 4-1. The remaining three places were filled by John Sharp, 2009 champ Mike Kaye, and Jim Kramer who edged four other 3-2 players by tie-breaker.

Eliason's luck ran out in Round 6 against Kramer's hot Allied dice. Paule, Gardner and Drozd also advanced. Round 7 found Ed, the new top seed, bidding 6.5 to play the IJN vs. Andy while Jim bid 5.5 vs. Charles. In both games, the 7th AF did not survive Pearl Harbor, putting the Allies in trouble. Andy surrendered after Turn 4 with both Samoa and Pearl Harbor in IJN hands. However, Charles was able to keep the IJN PoC low, forcing Jim's concession after Turn 6.

The Final matched an unstoppable force (Paule, 6-0 with the IJN) vs. an impenetrable defense (Drozd, 5-0 with the Allies). True to form, Paule bid 5.5 POC for the IJN. Charles gamely held out till Turn 7 but the game was all Japanese from the outset and Ed Paule became the 12th different VIP champion.



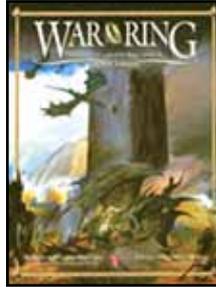


2011 Results

- ♣ Steve Packwood, MN
- ♠ Charlie Drozd, IL
- ♣ Andy Choptiany, PA
- ♠ D. Nicholson, NY
- ♣ Pat Richardson, VA
- ♣ Bruce Monnin, OH

♣ Vince Meconi, DE

† 42 📖 1991-2011

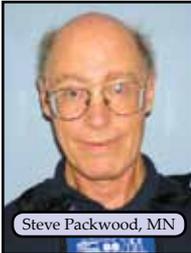


2011 Results

- ♣ Ty Hansen, DC
- ♠ Alan Sudy, VA
- ♣ Lucas Rhodes, PA
- ♣ K. Wojtaszczyk, NY
- ♣ Todd Treadway, VA
- ♣ Ted Lange, ae

♣ Kevin Wojtaszczyk, NY

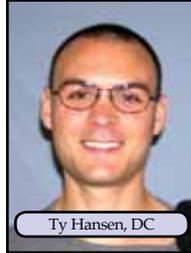
† 23 📖 2006-2011



Steve Packwood, MN

Top Laurelists

Andy Gardner, VA	169
Pat Richardson, FL	158
Ray Freeman, CA	133
Dennis Nicholson, NY	127
Jon. Lockwood, VA	125
Vince Meconi, DE	123
Ed Menzel, CA	116
Darren Kilfara, uk	99
Bruce Monnin, OH	82
Ewan McNay, CT	80



Ty Hansen, DC

Top Laurelists

Chris Trimmer, TX	106
Kevin Wojtaszczyk, NY	101
Ty Hansen, DC	42
Phil Rennert, MD	30
Jason Levine, NY	24
George Young, VT	24
Alan Sudy, DC	18
Jacob Hebner, CO	18
Nick Anner, NY	17
Lyman Moquin, DC	16

War At Sea (WAS)

Steve Packwood (6-2) won his second title 15 years after taking his first by defeating Charlie Drozd (6-1-1). Charlie also was runner-up in *VIP*, narrowly failing to become the first player to win both in the same year. Jonathan Lockwood (4-2) became the only player since the elimination rounds were expanded to make the playoffs four years in a row. In the quarter-finals, top seed Charlie's Axis cruised past Ray Freeman (3-3), Dennis Nicholson's Axis (4-3) upset Pat Richardson (4-1-1), Andy Choptiany's Allies (4-2-1) were .5 better than Jonathan, and Steve's Axis crushed Bruce Monnin (4-2). A round later, Charlie's Axis overcame Dennis using only nine ASW to sink his first seven U-boats and won anyway. Meanwhile, Steve's Allies defeated Andy.

In the Final, Charlie left his Axis comfort zone and took the Allies for a 2.0 bid. On Turn 4, the Axis sortied in the Barents, winning the area and sinking Convoy 2B. On Turn 7 eight Allied ASW rid the South Atlantic of six U-boats, but Axis LBA sank Convoy 3C. The Allied bid of 2.0 flipped an Allied 1-POC victory to a 1-POC loss.

Charlie copped Best Axis Player with a 5-0-1 log, while Jonathan nabbed Best Allied Player laurels at 4-1-0, the sixth time he has been so designated. The Allies won 43 of 76 contests, with three ties. These results contrasted with last year's, when the Axis won a majority of the games. However, this year the Axis won six of seven playoff contests.



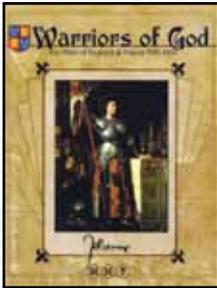
War of the Ring (WOR)



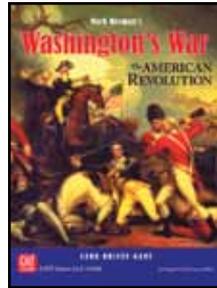
The sixth battle for Middle Earth ended with a pair of new finalists as the rotating titles of Chris Trimmer and Kevin Wojtaszczyk were laid to rest! 26 games were played with the Free People winning 12. The new SE format reduced the field to three unbeaten by Monday night. Ty Hansen narrowly avoided defeat vs two-time champion Wojtaszczyk when there was no dawn on the final turn, eliminating a possible game dunking *Will of the West*. A.J Sudy needed two Free People wins to stay unbeaten and Lucas Rhodes had to put down defending champ Trimmer to round out the top three.

A.J. was paired with Ty, handing Lucas the eliminator game vs the GM. Lucas's Free People were found early and had a slow go of it while the Shadow had great action dice and event cards which eliminated all the DEW, Lorien and HD with Peligar to close out the 10 VPs before the fellowship could reach Mordor. This successful eliminator role transformed the Ty vs AJ semi into a Final. Ty managed to get Aragorn crowned in Turn 2 while AJ put the Corsairs in play. The Ents were mustered and Smeagol guided the Fellowship on a steady pace. On Turn 11 the Shadow were laying siege to three strongholds and in position for the win, but Frodo dunked the ring first giving Ty his first WOR shield and the first of three titles he would earn that week!





2011 Results
 ♣ Rob Winslow, NY
 ♠ Greg Hultgren, CA
 ♣ Stan Myszak, qc
 ♠ Derek Landel, NJ
 ♠ Steve Smith, NE
 ♠ Robert Sohn, NJ
 ♣ Bruce Monnin, OH
 † 36 📖 2009-2011

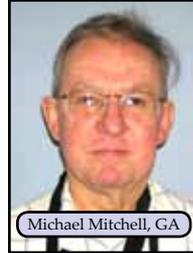


2011 Results
 ♣ Mike Mitchell, GA
 ♠ Tom Drueding, MA
 ♣ George Young, VT
 ♠ M. Birnbaum, NY
 ♠ Michael Ussey, MD
 ♠ Bill Powers, VA
 ♣ Marvin Birnbaum, NY
 † 68 📖 1994-2011



Top Laurelists

Rob Winslow, NY	49
Terry Coleman, CA	30
Greg Hultgren, CA	24
Lembit Tohver, on	18
Stan Myszak, qc	16
Derek Landel, NJ	12
Gary Phillips, FL	12
Jason White, VA	12
Steve Smith, NE	8
Chad Mekash, NJ	6



Top Laurelists

George Young, VT	260
Marvin Birnbaum, NY	251
James Pei, TX	217
Paul Gaberson, PA	198
Brian Mountford, NY	179
Keith Wixson, NJ	120
John Poniske, PA	91
Mike Mitchell, GA	61
Dan Leader, MA	60
Joe Collinson, MD	52

Warriors of God (WOG)

Warriors of God again increased attendance in its Junior year. Over 30 people appeared for Terry Coleman's demonstration followed by 36 players in the first round. Miraculously, exactly half of them brought a game, so none had to be turned away. The English dominated in Round 1, going 13-5. The French made a comeback in Round 2, winning six of nine, including the twin demise of defending champion Coleman at the hands of Greg Hultgren and 2010 runner-up Lembit Tohver to Rob Winslow. These two new worthies would persevere all the way to the Final. The English regained the upper hand in the remaining rounds, winning six of seven to claim 22 of 34 games overall.

In the semi-finals, Rob Winslow (the only returning laurelist to make the prize rounds) won as the English against Stan Myszak's French, while Greg Hultgren's English did likewise against Derek Landel.

The Final began close with Greg's French looking good early in the victory point count. The fickle dice turned against him however as Turns 4, 6 and 7 saw French leaders drop like flies. Rob's English, with numerous healthy leaders, took advantage of this leadership shortage by taking Ile-de-France on Turn 8 and holding it through the end. Not even Joan of Arc could change the tide for the French, and Rob's lead grew until he achieved a 30+ VP automatic victory on Turn 11 to claim the first of two titles he would win that week and his sixth overall.

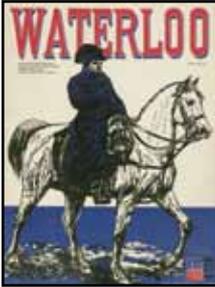


Washington's War (WWR)

It took over 18 hours from the opening round to the end of the Final, but Mike Mitchell's British bested Tom Drueding in a 1779 win for the championship—marking 15 years between titles for Mike since the days when he dominated in *Third Reich*. The Final proved a bit of an anti-climax as the beginning was the usual PC placement fest. Then the British focused on New England while Washington ran around the board battling at Fort Detroit and the middle states to obtain French Intervention. Alas, the game ended before the colonists could make any progress with their newfound strength.

The result was typical as the British held a 47-34 advantage. The duration of the swiss segment was not determined until after Round 3. Five players had earned Elite 8 status with a 3-0 start, leaving 11 2-1 players vying for three remaining slots. Per the event preview a secret vote was taken whether to add a fourth round or a dice off for the last three slots. Only one vote was needed to require a fourth round. To my surprise the most popular response was "I want to play but if I am the only one, change my vote". Gamers are gamers. Ten elected to continue knowing that two of the five winners would be eliminated in a dice off following Round 4. Champion Mike Mitchell won in that fourth round, rolled good dice and then produced three wins in the single elimination portion for his title.



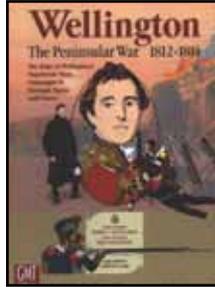


2011 Results

- ♣ Richard Beyma, VA
- ♠ Ray Clark, CT
- ♣ Joe Angiolillo, CT
- ♠ Tim Miller, GA
- ♠ Bruno Sinigaglio, AK
- ♠ Marty Musella, MD

♣ Marty Musella, VA

† 25 📖 1991-2011

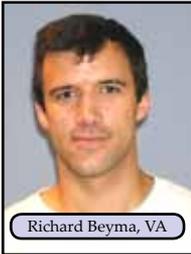


2011 Results

- ♣ Rejean Tremblay, on
- ♠ T. Casselberry, VT
- ♣ Peter Reese, VA
- ♠ Jesse Boomer, KS
- ♠ M. Casselbury, PA
- ♠ F. Morehouse, PA

♣ Rob Olsson, MD

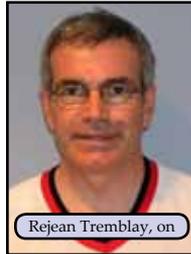
† 26 📖 2006-2011



Richard Beyma, VA

Top Laurelists

Rob Beyma, MD	162
Marty Musella, VA	146
Richard Beyma, MD	107
John Clarke, FL	97
Bruno Sinigaglio, AK	61
Chuck Stapp, NJ	31
Joe Beard, AZ	30
Mark Gutfreund, KY	30
Ray Clark, CT	27
Pat Mirk, FL	27



Rejean Tremblay, on

Top Laurelists

Peter Reese, VA	120
Ed Rothenheber, MD	66
Henry Russell, PA	48
Rejean Tremblay, on	30
David Gantt, SC	30
Melvin Casselberry, PA	27
Tracey Casselberry, VT	18
Al Hurda, on	12
Jesse Boomer, KS	12
Rob Olsson, MD	12

Waterloo (WAT)



Two minor rule changes concerning Prussian & Anglo-Allied (PAA) stacking and attack coordination were added in 2011 to fine tune the play balance. Prohibiting Prussian units stacking in the same hex with British or combining to attack the same French unit also reflect the lack of tactical coordination between the British and Prussian armies.

Ray Clark's French downed Tim Miller's PAA forces in one semi while defending champ Richard Beyma's PAA were able to deny Joe Angiolillo's French in the other.

Richard's PAA triumphed in one of the closest Finals of recent vintage. The French gained an early advantage by sweeping the Prussians from the heights at Quatre Bras with two 2-1 assaults while conducting holding attacks along the entire front limiting Richard's counterattack options. Ray's aggressive advance forced Richard's PAA back to the center. By the end of the first day the loss ratio favored Ray. Dawn saw the tide turn as Ray gambled on two large assaults against doubled PAA positions resulting in exchanges while Richard skillfully maneuvered his PAA forces concentrating his attacks on vulnerable French divisions whose retreats were blocked by restricting rivers and forests. Nevertheless, Ray's French were threatening to turn the PAA left flank, but his attacks netted only exchanges while Richard's eliminated defenders. With the Prussian IV Corps approaching his rear, Ray conceded.



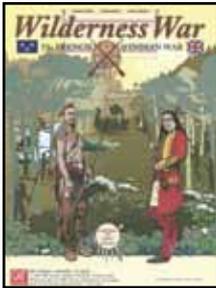
Wellington (WLL)

The tournament was rich with events of note, including the beginning of a family dynasty in Wellington and even a participant from Wellington, New Zealand. The Casselberry family brings a lot of Wellington experience to the table at the WBC, and in the Mulligan round, secured three of the four victories.

One of the more difficult aspects of Wellington is that erstwhile teammates must gauge their support for one another when only one can advance. With only two tables of four semi-finalists, the victorious teams did not face this conundrum. There was a more genuine esprit de corps among the allies as the semi-finals began with each player now expecting his ally to fully support his advance for the first time. This worked for the Allied teams of Tremblay/Tracey C. and Reese/Boomer.

In the Final, defending champion Reese turned the first choice into Britain. Jesse Boomer then chose to remain his ally. Rejean Tremblay chose Armee du Nord leaving Armee du Sud to his former teammate, Tracey Casselberry. Britain began the march to Madrid, but after taking Ciudad Rodrigo, the dice abandoned them. Wellington went south to remove the threat posed by Soult, but in a devastating battle, was routed. A '6' Peace Roll brought a swift French victory and since his Armee du Nord outscored Tracey's Armee du Sud 12.5 - 11, Rejean's first WBC title. Peter took the bronze with Britain's 5 points over Jesse's 2-point Spanish effort.



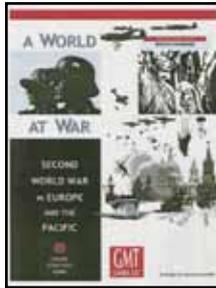


2011 Results

- 🏆 James Pei, VA
- 🥈 Michael Ussery, MD
- 🥉 Grant LaDue, NY
- 🏆 George Young, VT
- 🥈 Paul Gaberson, PA
- 🥉 Keith Wixson, NJ

🏆 Keith Wixson, NJ

† 26 📖 2002-2011



2011 Results

- 🏆 Paul Milne, MN
- 🥈 Steve Erickson, CA
- 🥉 Don Stanley, sk
- 🏆 Timothy Francis, MD
- 🥈 Jon Hogen, CA
- 🥉 Jerry Smolens, PA

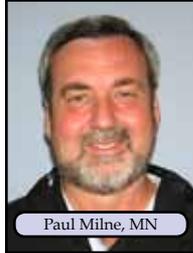
🏆 Mike Crowe, VA

† 32 📖 92-00; 02-11



Top Laurelists

James Pei, VA	336
Keith Wixson, NJ	250
Paul Gaberson, PA	186
Ron Fedin, PA	141
Peter Reese, VA	111
George Young, VT	107
John Buse, IL	99
Tom Drueding, MA	98
Rob Winslow, NY	70
Bruce Wigdor, NJ	48



Top Laurelists

Jason Moore, NY	156
Paul Milne, MN	144
Bruce Harper, bc	121
Jon Hogen, CA	118
Greg Wilson, NJ	96
Bill Moody, PA	96
Herbert Gratz, aa	78
Tim Francis, MD	72
Eric Thobaben, MI	72
Randy Scheers, TX	66

Wilderness War (WNW)

James “The Master” Pei became the first four-time winner in the event’s history. Pei was undefeated, beating Chris Jones, Bob Jamelli, and Michael Ussery in the preliminaries, George Young in the semi-finals and Ussery again in the Final. Ussery defeated Ernie Chambers and Doug Smith in the preliminaries and advanced to the semi-finals on tiebreakers despite losing to Pei in Round 3. He defeated Grant LaDue in the semi-finals to advance to his rematch with the Master. Young and LaDue were each unbeaten in the preliminaries. In Round 3 LaDue knocked out Paul Gaberson, the defending champ, while Young outlasted GM Keith Wixson, 2010’s other finalist. The finalists got to choose between a warhawk and a spiked ballhead warclub replica. The losing semi-finalists each received a book.

The rule changes implemented to address the game’s inherent French advantage may have finally hit home. British players are now allowed to retrieve a reinforcement card from the discard pile at the start of each turn (if conditions permit), the French Marine Detachment units have been reduced to only one loss step, the starting French VPs have been reduced to 3 and side selection has been made random in order to eliminate specialization. This year the games split evenly with each side winning 16 (as compared to French advantages of 69%, 65%, 67%, 61%, 52%, 56%, 71% and 62% in the last eight years. Similar results from the current online tournament have reinforced this trend, but time will tell if this isn’t just a statistical anomaly.



World At War (WAW)

If one takes the term “unique” literally, it is safe to say that this is indeed a unique event. Unlike conventional tournaments, *World At War* takes the form of an ongoing playtest of an incredibly detailed game taking a week to play that has been underway for over 20 years. The participants meet at the end of the week to vote who “won” and decide on the rule changes for next year! If that is not unique enough for you, the participants come equipped with fully magnetized versions of the game which came in extremely handy during the need to change locations due to the unavailability of Lampeter Hall during the auction.

They must be doing something right because they attracted their largest field ever—allowing for eight full campaign games. Two games involved failed invasions of England that were followed by invasions of Russia. One featured an Axis conquest of Spain and Turkey, followed by a 1942 invasion of Russia. And in another, the Allies managed to invade France in 1942, and stay ashore. Two were one-point Axis victories (which means one theater tied, while the Axis won by one turn in the other theater); one was a draw; two were Allied victories; and three were Axis victories ranging from four to eight points.

One of our players, Elihu Feustal, used a video camera to interview each player at three intermittent points, providing a visual and oral history of each match that were posted on YouTube.



The Seven Heroes of 2011

2011 is destined to be remembered ever more as the end of “the streak”. Consul Reiff, he of the 44 titles, had never failed to win at least one for 20 years. In two decades he has amassed more bragging rights than any one mortal should ever enjoy, so his recent struggles were met with considerable mirth. Herewith, we salute those who brought this reign of terror to an end.

It all started quietly on Monday afternoon with Bruce defending his 2010 *Union Pacific* title from his customary vantage point in the Final. But Curt Collins, the 2009 champ, had other ideas and made him settle for silver with a 131-118 victory.

Tuesday brought another opportunity as he sought his fifth *Auction* title. But our auctioneer was slow to respond and barely qualified as the last non-winning alternate. He ended his day in the semis at the hands of Rob Buccheri who went on to finish second overall.

Wednesday and Thursday were spent in pursuit of his tenth *Football Strategy* plaque. Ray Stakenas II denied him 14-11 in the fifth round of the first heat. Bruce hastily rearranged his schedule to play in the poorly attended second heat for a backdoor route to the Final. But out of nowhere, rookie Larry Hiemenz upset the nine-time champ in the first round! Reiff watchers were now excitedly questioning whether this could be the year.

Friday brought *Battleline*, an event he has owned four years running. There would not be a fifth. Barrington Beavis stopped the defending champ in the Quarter-finals on his way to a second place finish. Bruce would settle for 6th—but no fez—in the Trial event and the pressure mounted.

Saturday’s title hopes came down to six rounds of *Battle Cry* but Bruce was ousted short of laurels in the Quarter-finals by Phil Shea who lost in the next round to finish third. Daughter Nicole rubbed salt in her father’s wounds by winning *Slapshot* late that night.

Sunday dawned on the Streak’s last hope: the *Ingenius* semi-finals—or as fellow Cabbie Pete Stein put it: “Bruce’s pathetic last stand”. Paired with Jason Levine, Rebecca Hebner and Meghan Friedmann, the Consul could manage no better than third. Winner Meghan was destined to finish second in the next round but had already won the most important game of the week. The streak was over!

I invite all seven to toast an end to the streak at the Good Spirits Bar before the Sandman Parade on Thursday. The drinks are on me.

Upcoming BPA Competition

BPA members can revel in several opportunities to relive past glories or improve on their best performances in the year ahead.

WBC Pre-Cons

Saturday, July 28th, 2012

So many games, so little time! Pre-Cons are the answer to schedule conflicts for “meaty” games requiring your full attention. This year offering

- *Age of Renaissance* • *Axis & Allies*
- *18XX* • *Hannibal* and *Grognardcon* including
- *Afrika Korps* • *Anzio* • *Bulge '81* • *Gettysburg*
- *Panzerblitz* • *Russian Campaign* • *Squad Leader*
- *Waterloo* • *Wooden Ships & Iron Men*.

Sunday, July 29th, 2012

- *A Few Acres of Snow* • *Manifest Destiny*
- *Paths of Glory* • *Through the Ages*
- *Victory in the Pacific* • *War of the Ring*

July 30th – August 5th, 2012

WBC 2012

Lancaster Host Resort, Lancaster, PA

November 1st–4th, 2012

EuroQuest X

Hilton Pikesville, Pikesville, MD

A dozen Euro tournaments, open gaming galore, and the debut of the latest Euros from Essen.

January 24th–27th, 2013

Winter Activation Meeting (WAM) XI

Holiday Inn, Timonium, MD

Four tournaments for Card Driven Wargames.

Play By Email Tournaments

Frequent partial play keeps skills sharp and provides daily vicarious thrills at your convenience. Ongoing events include:

- *Battles of the American Revolution*
- *Washington’s War* • *Russian Campaign*
- *Breakout Normandy* • *Manifest Destiny*
- *Afrika Korps* • *Bitter Woods* • *Here I Stand*
- *Age of Renaissance* • *Stone Age*
- *Gettysburg* • *War At Sea* • *Squad Leader*
- *Victory in the Pacific* • *Advanced Civilization*
- *Amun-Re* • *Paths of Glory* • *March Madness*
- *Wilderness War* • *Great Campaigns*
- *Pro Golf* • *Speed Circuit* • *For The People*