

Tomorrow's Schedule

FRIDAY, November 12, 2009

Morning Handicap Knockout Teams (finals).....9:00
 Side Game (MORNING Series, 4th of 5)..... (1500+ / 500-1500 / 0-500).....9:00

Weekend Knockout Teams

(opening round and quarterfinals) (bracketed) 1:00 & 7:00
Stratified Open Pairs (1500+ / 500-1500 / 0-500)..... 1:00 & 7:00

Side Game (SECOND Series, 1st of 5) (1500+ / 500-1500 / 0-500).....1:00
Afternoon Stratified 199er Pairs (100-200 / 50-100 / 0-50).....1:00

Stratified Evening Swiss Teams (1500+ / 500-1500 / 0-500).....7:00
 Side Game (SECOND Series, 2nd of 5) (1500+ / 500-1500 / 0-500).....7:00
Evening Stratified 199er Pairs (100-200 / 50-100 / 0-50).....7:00

Events in **boldface** are the first session of a multi-session event, or of a Side Game Series. (Side Games can be entered at any time and carry no obligation to play in any other games in the series.)



Bridge by the Flag

Thursday Edition

Bridge by the Flag is the Daily Bulletin of the 2009 Vancouver Regional, held at the Guildford Sheraton Hotel in Surrey, across the street from the flagpole that flew over Expo 86. At 86 meters it was the world's tallest free-standing flagpole at that time. When the fair ended the flagpole was moved to the Flag Motors car dealership here in Guildford. The flag itself is replaced several times a year and takes quite a beating, especially in winter conditions—so it might not look as majestic as it does on the cover page here...



Bridge by the Flag Editor:

Bruce McIntyre (Burnaby BC)

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I welcome news, stories, photos, interesting deals, and other material for *Bridge by the Flag*,

and I'll print as much as I can—from experts, intermediates and novices alike. I will be available for digital photos of overall winners of all strats before the afternoon session and again after the evening session. Any win is important enough for a photo: no matter the bracket or the strat. If you have a digital camera and see an winner, snap a picture and come find me! I have a gizmo that can read most memory sticks.

Each edition of *Bridge by the Flag* (and other recent McBruce Daily Bulletins) are posted online early each morning to this address:

www.matchpointer.com/db.htm

Also online: results and hand records for pairs games, which I hope to have online daily before you get home after the evening session. You'll also find links to a site which displays the photos of winners (taken daily from 12 to 1pm and from 9 to 10:30pm outside the main playing area) and allows you to download copies or order prints.

A link to the Daily Bulletin page will be found at the District 19 website at www.d19.org

Bridge by the Flag

♠ ♥ ♦ ♣ Daily Bulletin of the ♠ ♥ ♦ ♣
 ♠ ♣ 2009 Vancouver Regional ♠ ♥
 ♠ ♥ ♦ ♣ Editor: Bruce McIntyre ♠ ♥ ♦ ♣

Today's Schedule

Thursday, November 12, 2009

Morning Knockout Teams

(semifinals)..... (bracketed)..... 9:00
 Side Game (MORNING Series, 3rd of 5)
 (1500+ / 500-1500 / 0-500)..... 9:00

Prime Time Knockout Teams

(semifinals and finals)
 (bracketed)..... 1:00 & 7:00

Stratified Swiss Teams

(1500+ / 500-1500 / 0-500)..... 1:00 & 7:00

Side Game (FIRST Series, 5th of 6)

(1500+ / 500-1500 / 0-500)..... 1:00

Afternoon Stratified 199er Swiss Teams

(100-199 / 50-100 / 0-50)..... 1:00

Side Game (FIRST Series, 6th of 6)

(1500+ / 500-1500 / 0-500)..... 7:00

Evening Stratified 199er Swiss Teams

(100-199 / 50-100 / 0-50)..... 7:00

Bold: first session of a new event or side series.
 (Side games may be entered at any time.)

Brain Warmups

Your daily warmup puzzle!

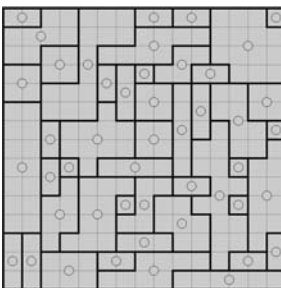
In each issue this week we will feature a small, easy version of a puzzle beside the instructions; then, on another page, a larger, more difficult version will appear. Most important: in all of these puzzles, you will be able to solve them without guesswork, by logical deductions alone. (Isn't that what we're all trying to do at the table? Why take a finesse when you have a 100% line?)

Today's puzzle is called **Galaxies**. Your goal is to divide the grid into groups of cells such that:

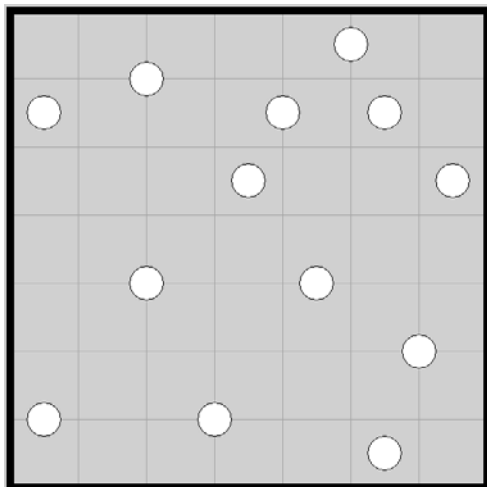
1) Each group of cells has a dot at its exact centre

2) Each group of cells is rotationally symmetrical

In the difficult completed puzzle at the right, you can see what "rotationally symmetrical" means. If you rotate the group of cells, keeping the dot in the centre, you'll get the same shape at some point.



The easy version is below. Hints, and a more difficult version is on page 15. Answers will appear in tomorrow's issue.



You can get a program to create, save, print, and solve unlimited numbers of these programs (size and difficulty are adjustable) here:

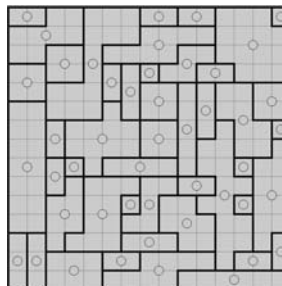
www.chiark.greenend.org.uk/~sgtatham/puzzles/

Galaxies Hints

Beginner's puzzle on page 2

Galaxies recap: Divide the grid into groups of cells so that each group of cells has a dot at its exact centre, and each group of cells is rotationally symmetrical.

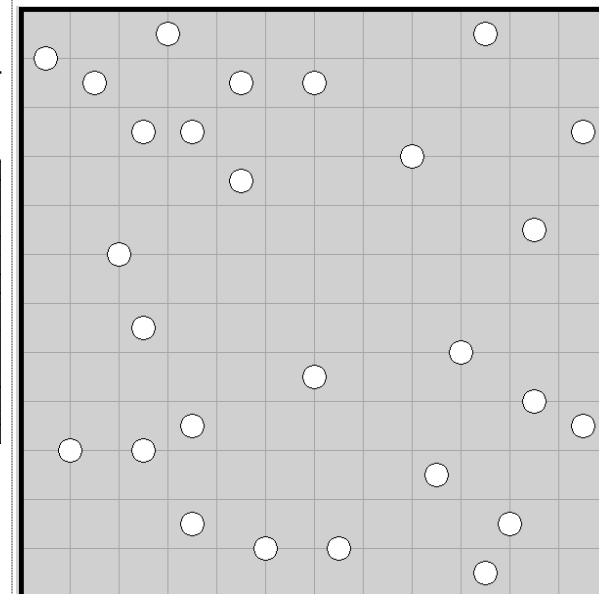
In the difficult completed puzzle at the right, you can see what "rotationally symmetrical" means. If you rotate the group of cells, keeping the dot in the centre, you'll get the same shape at some point.



Galaxies hints: Think in terms of finding the boundaries between the groups of cells, one segment at a time. Start from the outside and work your way in: the outer boundary of the grid will allow you to fill in some boundaries right away to preserve the symmetry. For example, a dot inside a corner cell must be a single-cell group. A dot inside an edge cell must be a group of cells along the edge. Dots lying between two cells or four cells are special cases; borders can be filled in when they are near other dots.

Now can you do the easy one on page 2? Or...

How about a more difficult one, like *this*:



Answers to both puzzles will appear in tomorrow's issue.

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www.chiark.greenend.org.uk/~sgtatham/puzzles/

Bridges Answers from yesterday

