

1046-05-1506

**William M Ella\*** (wella9cd@umw.edu), 1914 Cambridge Drive, Vinton, VA 24179, and **Michael L Follett, Chelsey A Cooley, Eric A Gilson** and **Lorenzo Traldi**. *Generalized Dice: An Investigation of Dice Families*. Preliminary report.

A generalized die is an ascending list of integers; we think of the integers in the list as labels appearing on the “sides” of the die. A die  $X$  is stronger than a die  $Y$  if there are fewer pairs  $(i, j)$  with  $x_i < y_j$  than pairs  $(i, j)$  with  $x_i > y_j$ ; if neither of  $X, Y$  is stronger than the other then  $X$  and  $Y$  are tied. A dice family  $D(n, a, b, s)$  contains all  $n$ -sided dice whose labels lie between  $a$  and  $b$  and sum to  $s$ . We discuss interesting experimental results concerning the overall tie density in a family, and the percentage of dice that tie over half of their “siblings.” Families of four-sided dice have unusually high tie percentages. We also explore theoretical results concerning weakly balanced dice, which have equal numbers of wins and losses, and symmetric dice, which have a palindromic label structure; these two initially very different sounding subsets turn out to be closely related. We also discuss experimental results related to other open questions regarding dice families. (Received September 15, 2008)