

The Kibitzer



Fall 2024 | Volume 71, Number 3





BRIDGE ON THE DANUBE

APRIL 18–30, 2025

with LINDA TUFF as Instructor & Director
& Nancy Strachan as Director also

WITH BARBARA SEAGRAM & ALEX KORNEI
who will be along to visit & play and party!

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Apr. 18: Arrive Budapest
Apr. 19: Budapest
Apr. 20: Embark ship
Apr. 21: Budapest
Apr. 22: Bratislava
Apr. 23: Vienna
Apr. 24: Krems & Spitz
Apr. 25: Linz
Apr. 26: Passau/ Vilshofen
Apr. 27: Disembark. Drive to Regensburg & on to Prague
Apr. 28: Prague
Apr. 29: Prague
Apr. 30: Fly home

**STAYOVER IN BUDAPEST PRE-CRUISE (2 NTS): &
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**BARBADOS SUN SEA & SLAMS: SUN. FEBRUARY 9 – SUN. FEB 16, 2025
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ACBL SECTIONAL BRIDGE TOURNAMENT with SILVER MASTER POINTS

NEW SPECIAL FOR SUNBAY GUESTS

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**Get Friday night for \$125.00 USD instead of
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SINGLE: \$220.00 vs \$270.00 USD

Have exclusive seminar with Barbara on Sat. 8 Feb

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**SEVEN NIGHTS ACCOMMODATION INCLUDING ALL
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HOST HOTEL: BARBADOS BEACH CLUB MAXWELL COAST ROAD, CHRIST CHURCH

This hotel is now sold out.

SUNBAY HOTEL is almost across the street from BARBADOS BEACH CLUB: 200 steps

You will have access to beach at Barbados Beach Club (as these are sister properties) & 5 drink tickets

**INCLUDED: BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER & LOCAL DRINKS ARE ALL INCLUDED AT SUNBAY. HOUSE WINE
WITH LUNCH & DINNER. MANAGER'S COCKTAIL PARTY. CLOSING BANQUET SAT EVE @ BARBADOS BEACH
CLUB. TAXES & HOTEL GOVERNMENT LEVY INCLUDED. WIFI IS FREE. BRIDGE WORKSHOPS ARE FREE.**

GRATUITIES ARE NOT INCLUDED. WE RECOMMEND \$30.00 USD PER PERSON.

**TRANSFERS TO & FROM AIRPORT INCLUDED ONLY ON SAT FEB 8 & SUN FEB 9 AND ON SUN FEB 16.
BRIDGE COMMITTEE TAKES YOU TO & FROM AIRPORT ON THOSE DATES ONLY (ALSO FRI for SUNBAY)**

BOOK YOUR OWN AIRFARE (NOT INCLUDED). NOTIFY ROGLYN HINDS OF YOUR FLIGHT PLANS.

Contact Roglyn Hinds roglynhinds@gmail.com so she can arrange transportation to and from airport

BRIDGE EVENTS ARE NOT INCLUDED. Cost: \$15.00 USD per session. All bridge is optional.

This is a smaller tournament. Very friendly and fabulous. It will be sold out so book now.

Highly recommended by Barbara Seagram & Alex Kornel.

Barbados is Barbara's homeland for MANY generations (almost 4 centuries!)

**Barbara Seagram & Alex Kornel will be attending the tournament in 2025. There will be TWO free
seminars given by Barbara while there (Sun am & Sun aft: 9 FEB) FLY IN ON SAT 8 FEB to attend**

TO BOOK: Contact Reservations Department at Barbados Beach Club 1-246-428-9900
or email reservations@barbadosbeachclub.com BOOKING CODE: **BRIDGE 2025**

DEPOSIT @ SUNBAY: \$510.00 USD per person (dbl occ) or \$810.00 USD (sgl occ)

Deposit is fully refundable if you cancel prior to November 30, 2024

Think of this as a packaged vacation and not just a hotel room. Hence this cancellation policy.

Contact Roglyn Hinds: Tournament chair roglynhinds@gmail.com or 246-231-0149

9 Feb: 10 – 12 & 2.00-4.00 pm: Bridge lessons
10 Feb: 9.30 am: Pairs Game
10 Feb: 7.00 pm: Pelau Pairs # 1 session
11 Feb: 9.30 am: Pairs Game
11 Feb: 7.00 pm: Pelau Pairs # 2 session
12 Feb: 9.30 am: Pairs Game
12 Feb: 2.30 pm: Rum Pairs
13 Feb: 9.30 am: Team Game # 1 session
13 Feb: 2.30 pm: Team Game # 2 session
14 Feb: 9.30 am: Pairs Game
14 Feb: 2.30 pm: Lady Burton Pairs # 1 session
15 Feb: 9.30 am & 2.00 pm: Lady Burton Pairs # 2 & 3

*My name is Barbara Seagram & I am a bridge player, author and teacher. I was born and raised on this beautiful island in the Caribbean. The Barbados Bridge Committee do a wonderful job running this delightful bridge tournament in February each year. Imagine \$1,190.USD per person (dbl. occ) to spend a week at a hotel in Barbados in February, including all meals and drinks. They even pick you up at the airport! The players are friendly, the sun shines forever and the island beckons. You cannot afford to not go! It is a very special island and we invite you to visit and enjoy all its magic.
barbaraseagram@gmail.com*

There is no significance to the names Pelau Pairs, Rum Pairs, Lady Burton Pairs etc: It is just a designation to distinguish one event from another. Cost per session is \$15.00 USD



It's August now and already I miss my commute to the Metro Toronto Convention Center and the national bridge tournament. *Ha! Who else can say that?* That's because I seemed to always catch a decent day for my bike ride in. When I pulled up one day

beside two other bike-riding bridge players I wanted to say, "Aren't we the smartest bridge players?" But I just thought it instead. Not only did it feel good to get that exercise in, but more importantly I saved \$30 in parking fees, which meant more money for Don Juan's hot dog stand and the delicious Polish sausage.

Thanks to Tournament Chair Darlene Scott and her crackerjack committee, the NABC was a tremendous success! See Barbara Seagram's kudos on p. 6 and all the photos on pages 35-37. I interviewed former Torontonians and world class player **Geoff Hampson** for the Daily Bulletin and touched it up for our Kibitzer readers. Like good ol' 70s marketing strategy, "It's new and improved!"

Thanks to contributors **David Turner, Jennifer Verdam, Ian Findlay, Bob G,** and **David Ellis.** And **Frank Mustoe** for informing us on another successful Barrie BC student tourney. The Kib greatly appreciates the efforts of our contributors—wouldn't be the Kib without them!



Congratulations to the **Canadian Women's Team.** They're raising money to fund their trip to Buenos Aires in October, so for details on how you might contribute please see the blurb on p. 23. Here's a picture of **Lesley Thomson** and **Jonathan Steinberg.**

Jonathan is not only a bigtime contributor to the Kibitzer (he takes and shares his many photos), but also, he gave the women's team \$1,000 to go towards their fundraising. Well done, JS!

Congrats to **Josée Hammill** for winning the KB (Kate Buckman) Award. You can see some lovely photos of Josée and family later in this issue. The Kib has yet to find time to sit down with the 2024 Audrey Grant award winner Andy Stark (blush), but there's still time to get a photo or two from that ne'er-do-well. How often does he do well? Ne'er.

And the accolades keep coming in for Canada's **Eric Kokish**—superstar player, coach, and writer. District 1 created a plaque and presented it to Eric's family at the NABC (pics in this issue). I remember years ago reading the words of **Eric**—maybe in the ACBL Bulletin or maybe in the Bridge World, probably both. He had some interesting terms to describe some of the random elements of our beloved game, terms such as, "The Great Shuffler in the Sky" and "the bridge gods." It's taken me a while to come around to truly (madly and deeply) understand exactly what those terms imply. Two recent tournaments have solidified for me what Kokish was referring to and I'd like now to share these concepts with you, although it pains me to do so.

Speaking of pain, let's start with that. They say there are four levels of pain: the first level being your day-to-day pain such as stubbing your toe or touching a hot pan. The second level is childbirth. The third level is passing a kidney stone. The fourth is stepping on Lego. Or so they say. Last June in Penticton, one of my Mixed Teams teammates, Paul O'Hara, had the misfortune of experiencing kidney stones one full day before our event was to start. One of the symptoms of kidney stones is vomiting, which comes not from the stone—it's the body's reaction to the *pain of the stone.* It took maybe an extra day or so to get the pain levels under wraps, but Paul was confined to his hotel room for the quarter finals and semi-finals—only if we made it to the finals might we have seen Paul.

So, partnerships were suddenly in disarray—our two remaining men needed to play with ‘new’ partners, I with Roisin O’Hara, and Bill Kertes with Hazel Wolpert. Not that Flight A players can’t handle this situation as both Bill and I had played with our ‘new’ partners before, but the intricacies and details of system bit us in the fourth quarter of the semi-final versus the Montreal team captained by Marc-André Fourcadot. We relinquished a 33-imp lead. One crucial hand was when my partner and I mixed up the meaning of 4♣. One of us thought it was keycard ask, the other thought it was natural and forcing. Oops. There went 17 imps. And we lost by 13. I’d rather step on Lego.

Yes, the 13 imps could have been made up in any number of hands in the first 59 boards, but the fourth quarter mistakes tend to stand out in your memory bank. Would we have won if Paul was healthy? We will never know. But it just felt like the bridge gods did not smile down upon us in Penticton. Usually when you lose 17 imps on a board it means the hand was a grand slam. As was the case, 7♣ is gin. The winning team got to 7NT which is not cold—it required a squeeze. The squeeze was there but imagine if we switched one card from East and put it into West—now the squeeze does not work and...we win for stopping in game. Those would be smiling, nay *laughing* gods. My kind of gods.

Then in July at the NABC I was on a good team in the Grand National Teams. What made it extra special is that we were the home team. We had a good first day to qualify third out of 25 teams. We drew a Minnesota team in the round of 16 and beat them fairly handily. For the round of 8 we drew a good team from District 7. We were up in the fourth quarter (those dreaded words!) but gave it all back when four slam swings did not go our way. That’s 0 for 4 on slam hands!

The one I remember the most was a 6♠ contract—I had to guess how to get back to my hand to draw trumps. Do I play a pre-emptor for two or more clubs, or do I play him for three or more hearts? He

did not lead a club, so it seemed logical that he did not have a singleton. But as it turned out he did have a singleton club, so when I tried to ruff a club back to hand, I was overruffed and down I went. The loss was 13 imps because the opponents stopped in game at the other table. If I had elected to ruff the heart back to hand, we would have won 13 imps and we’d be going through to the semi-finals to take on Geoff Hampson and the eventual champions from Vegas. Would we have beaten them? We will never know.

“We will never know” sums up the bridge gods’ MO. We will never know how they work and why they work but they work and sometimes they work for us and sometimes they work against us and all we can really do is accept they are out there and do our best in their world. Dealing with the bridge gods is part of playing bridge. While it is easy to recall all the occasions they work against us I shall endeavour to recognize when they work for us, such as bidding a grand slam and making it when the king of trumps is where we need it to be. Yes, this has happened, and it will happen again, I hope. More to come on this theme. Feel free to share your stories of the bridge gods working for you or against you. You can email me at:

Andy Stark
andy.kibitzer@gmail.com
 647 530 1360

Alert!

Due to unforeseen circumstances,
 the Toronto Labour Day Sectional
 is cancelled this year.

On the cover:
Geoff Hampson at the recent NABC

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Kibitzer Editorial Policy

The Kibitzer is published to promote bridge and to inform members of ACBL Units 166, 238, 246, 249 and 255 about tournaments and special events, as well as to entertain with deals and articles of interest. It is also a forum for the exchange of information and opinion among the members. Opinions expressed in articles or letters to the Editor are those of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect those of the Unit Boards of Directors or the Editor. The Kibitzer reserves the right to edit or exclude submitted material.



To the Editor:

Huge congratulations to all the organizers and all the volunteers who gave their all to making the Toronto NABC such an enormous success.

The Maple Leaf discount was a great thing for Canadians. The refreshments at start and end of day were outstanding. The lovely red insulated registration bags were fabulous. The teeshirts for sale were terrific, and best of all: one day when we had a torrential downpour at lunch break, sales soared that day! The novices and intermediates came in droves to

play and were cared for and made to feel special.

The venue was amazing with all that lovely natural light. The directors were great. Toronto showed off well and Americans LOVED our city. We exceeded 9,500 tables, the best turnout ever since pre-Covid.

Thank you to all those who worked so hard to make this such a whopping success.

Barbara Seagram

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12496, Dixie Road, Mayfield, Caledon ON
Steven Norris 647-234-6352albionhillsbridge@gmail.com

- Thur 1:00 pm Open

BRONTE BRIDGE CLUBWalton Memorial United Church
2489 Lakeshore Road W., Oakville
Jackie Syer 905-844-0574jackiesyer@gmail.com

- Wed 12:30 pm Open
- Wed 12:30 pm 0-299*

*(\$5 games for the month of June)

**ETOBICOKE BRIDGE CENTRE**Etobicoke Olympium
590 Rathburn Rd
Etobicoke, ON M9C 3T3
Steve Overholt 647-897-6179

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- Mon 12:00 pm Shuffle & Play
- Mon 12:00 pm Lessons
- Wed 12:30 pm 0 - 750
- Wed 12:30 pm 0 - 20

(supervised lesson at 11:15)

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505 Walkers Line, Burlington
Jackie Syer 905-844-0574jackiesyer@gmail.com

- Tues 12:30 pm Open

HART HOUSE BRIDGE CLUB7 Hart House Circle, Toronto, ON
416-978-2452harthousebridgeclub@gmail.com<http://sites.utoronto.ca/bridge/>

- Tues 6:30 pm Open

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Please check the Unit 166 website for up-to-date club information www.unit166.ca

INA & FRIENDS LM PAIRS

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210 Wilson Ave., Toronto, ON M5M 3B1
416-816-7115 or 416-706-8550
Richard Ross & Ina Demme
lifemastersbridge@gmail.com
• Fri 12:30 pm Open (Stratified)

MARILYN'S BRIDGE CLUB

24 Alexander St.
Brampton, ON L6V 1H6
(905) 791-4239
Gary Westfall
gwestfall@rogers.com
• Fri 12:30 pm Open

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Sherwood Village
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Mississauga, ON L5K 1T9
www.mobridge.club
mail@mobridge.club
• Mon 7:00 pm 0-1500
• Tues 12:30 pm Strat. Open
• Wed 7:00 pm 0-300
• Thurs 12:30 pm 0-2500
• Fri 12:30 pm 0-750
• Sat 10:00 am Strat. Open

OAKVILLE BRIDGE CLUB

Trinity United Church
1250 McCraney St. E
Oakville, ON L6H 3K3
Darlene Scott
oakvilledarlene@gmail.com
• Mon 12:15 pm Open
Free lesson prior to game; arrive at 11:30 am

SHORELINE BRIDGE CLUB

Burlington East Presbyterian Church
505 Walkers Line, Burlington ON
Jackie Syer 905-844-0574
jackisye@gmail.com
• Fri 12:30 pm Open

STEPHEN'S BRIDGE CLUB *LEE'S BRIDGE CLUB STARTS SEPT. 9

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210 Wilson Ave., Toronto ON M5M 3B1
Richard Ross 416-816-7115
• Mon 12:30 pm Open
Lunch served at 12 noon

STEPPING STONE BRIDGE CLUB

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105 Wilson Ave. (Avenue & 401)
Cyndy Winkler cyndywinkler@gmail.com
<http://www.bridgewebs.com/steppingstones/>
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• Tues 12:00 pm 0-399

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Rob Drummond 647-629-3408
info@torontobridge.ca
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• Thur 12:00 pm Open
• Wed 12:00 pm Open

TORONTO EAST BRIDGE CLUB

1512 Kingston Road, Scarborough, ON
416-419-3089 - Glenna Richardson
416-276-6415 - Laurie Miller
torontoeastbridgeclub@gmail.com
• Mon 7:00 pm Open and 0-20
• Wed 12:30 pm Open and 0-20

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416-922-1105 - Ron Bishop
• Tues 6:30 pm Open
• Tues 6:30 pm Easy Going

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905-419-0870

- Tues 7:15 pm Open

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905-895-7321

Sally Loates sara.loates@yahoo.com

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- Thurs 12:30 pm 0-500
- Fri 12:30 pm Open

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18 Alliance Blvd
Barrie, ON
705-721-9233

Jane Foster janekf74@hotmail.com

- Mon 1:00 pm 299er
- Tues 1:00 pm Open
- Wed 7:00 pm Open
- Fri 12:00 pm Open

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Belleville Masonic Temple, 132 Foster Avenue
Belleville, ON, K8N 3P9

Club website: www.bridgewebs.com/belleville

Games are open; 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday.

Club manager - Peter Tarle peter@tarle.com

BLUE MOUNTAIN DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

100 Minnesota Street
Collingwood, ON
705-446-9592

Christine Blake chrisedb@rogers.com

- Tues 1:00 pm Open
- Thurs 1:00 pm Open

COBOURG DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

232 Spencer Street E.
Cobourg, ON
pgiannandrea@gmail.com

- Wed 1:00 pm Open

LINDSAY DBC

210 Kent St. W.
Lindsay ON
705-464-9210

Doug Brenner dbrenner@sympatico.ca

- Tues 1:00 pm Open

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Orillia Masonic Temple
24 James Street E
Orillia, Ontario
705-323-4944

Jean Belfour: jeanbelfour007@gmail.com

Club website: www.bridgewebs.com/Orillia

- Mon 1:00 pm Open
- Wed 1:00 pm 299er
- Thurs 1:00 pm Open

Details at: www.bridgewebs.com/orillia/

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(formerly Midland Bridge Club)

427 William Street, Midland, Ontario

Jeanette Halliday: jhalliday123@gmail.com

Club website: www.bridgewebs.com/midland/

- Mon 1:00 pm Open
- Tues 7:00pm Learning game
- Wed 1:00 pm Open
- Thurs 1:00 pm Social
- Fri 12 noon Bid Euchre

PETERBOROUGH BRIDGE CLUB

184 Marina Blvd.
Peterborough, ON
705-745-2331

Anne Martens ptbobridge@gmail.com

- Mon 1:00 pm Open
- Mon 1:00 pm 49ers
- Tues 1:00 pm 0-750
(one partner must be under 750 mps)
- Wed 1:00 pm Open
- Thurs 1:00 pm 0-750
- Fri 1:00 pm Open

RICHMOND HILL BRIDGE CLUB

Elgin Barrow Arena, 43 Church Street S,
Richmond Hill, L4C 1W1

Susan Beals sbealsca@yahoo.co.uk

- Thur 12:45 pm Open
- Sat 12:45 pm Open

THORNHILL BRIDGE CLUB

7755 Bayview Ave
Thornhill, ON
905-883-955

Medhat Fawzy medhatfawzy@hotmail.com

- Mon 1:00 pm Open
- Tues 1:00 pm Open

Student Tournament at the Barrie Bridge Club

Nearing the end of the school year, the Barrie Bridge Club hosted a bridge tournament for students from Codrington Public school. Beginning last September, the students (in grades 4/5, 6/7 and 7/8) enjoyed lessons and played one 50-minute class each week. Supplies of cards and bidding boxes stay at the school, and their teachers report it is common to see students playing bridge during lunch or recess.



Every successful tournament relies on the contributions and dedication of many, beginning with the students' teachers and principal. Our local Unit 246 contributed towards transportation costs and members of the Barrie bridge club provided a pizza lunch and snacks at no cost to the students. We are indebted to the Educational divisions of the ACBL for providing books to help the students learn, and twelve trophies for the top N-S and E-W winners at the final tournament.

Congratulations to Casper G. and Matthias W. who earned an impressive 75% score, pictured here with bridge teachers Ginny McKay and Frank Mustoe.



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tel. 519 996 4372 email: henkflora@outlook.com

UNIT 249 FACE-TO-FACE BRIDGE CLUBS

BREW'S BRIDGE CLUB

770 Maxwell St., Sarnia, ON
519-381-6792
Randy Breuer

- Tues 12:45 pm Open
- Wed 12:45 pm Open
- Fri 12:45 pm Open

GRAND RIVER BRIDGE CLUB

2481 Kingsway Drive, Kitchener, ON N2C 1A6
519-893-4595
David Baker

- Mon 9am Bridge Lab
- Mon 1:00 pm Open, 299
- Tues 1:00 pm Open
- Wed 1:00 pm 749, 299
- Thurs 1:00 pm Open
- Fri 1:00 pm 749
- Fri 7:00 pm Open
- Sat 9:00 am 99

GODERICH BRIDGE CLUB

300 Bethune Cres, Goderich, ON
226-773-0241
Maureen Knowler

- Tues 1:00 pm Open

GUELPH BRIDGE CLUB

23 Victoria Rd N, Guelph, ON N1E 5G6
519-400-4053
Thea Davis

- Mon 1:00 pm 499, Open
- Tues 1:00 pm 199
- Wed 1:00 pm 199, Open
- Thurs 1:00 pm Swiss teams, alternating weeks
- Fri 9:00 am Non-sanctioned
- Fri 1:00 pm 499, Open
- Sat 1:00 pm Open, first Sat. of each month

UNIT 249 FACE-TO-FACE BRIDGE CLUBS

KINCARDINE CHARITY BRIDGE CLUB

601 Durham Street, Kincardine ON
430 McLeod Avenue N2Z 1X1
226-396-6008

Tom Rajnovich tom.rajnovich@gmail.com

- Mon 12:45 pm Open
- Fri 12:45 pm Open

Advance registration is required to play in these games. Please email Tom Rajnovich or call him at 226-396-6008.

LONDON BRIDGE CENTRE

9-1106 Dearness Drive, London, ON
519-601-2582

Janine Higgins janine@janinehiggins.ca

- Mon 9:15 am 0-500
- Mon 1:00 pm Open
- Tue 1:00 pm Bridge Lab
- Thur 1:00 pm 0-100
- Thur 1:00 pm 0-1500
- Fri 9:15 am 0-500
- Fri 1:00 pm Open

MAPLE CITY DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

304 St Clair St, Chatham, ON
USB Sports Bar downstairs
519-809-7000

Gary Robertson garroberr@gmail.com

- Mon 1:00 pm Open
- Wed 1:00 pm Open

MEAFORD BRIDGE CLUB

Knox Presbyterian Church
591 St. Vincent St., Meaford
226-568-3204

Jan Chappelle janchappelle@gmail.com

- Mon 1:00 pm Open
- Thursday game starts in October

OWEN SOUND DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

1450 2nd Ave W, Owen Sound, ON
519-371-9949

Gord E Close gordeclose@gmail.com

- Mon 6:45 pm Open
- Wed 1:00 pm Open

PORT ELGIN DBC

600 Tomlinson Drive, Port Elgin, ON
519-832-9505
Ian Walker

- Tues 12:30 pm Open

SAUGEEN SHORES DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

525 Ivings Dr., Port Elgin, ON
Manager: John Lightfoot, 519-797-5858
littlebear@bmts.com

Website: [Lake & Bay Bridge](#)

- Tues 12:30 pm Open
- Fri. 12:30 pm Open

SIMCOE DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

150 Colborne St. S.
St. James United Church
Simcoe, ON N3Y 4H6
Jed Drew 519-842-8786
jed.drew@gmail.com

- Wed 1:00 pm Open

ST. THOMAS DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

225 Chestnut Street, St. Thomas, ON N5R 5B2
519-631-5531

Jim Wright manager@stthomasbridgeclub.org

- Tues 1:00 pm Open
- Tues 1:00 pm 0-500
- Thur 1:00 pm Open

TILLSONBURG DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

Tillsonburg Seniors Centre
45 Hardy Ave., Tillsonburg, ON
Jed Drew 519-842-8786
jed.drew@gmail.com

- Fri 1:00 pm Open

The Unit 249 AGM will be held Sun., Sept. 8 at the St. Thomas Sectional (see p. 39). Members wanting more info should email Jennifer Verdam at jennverdam@gmail.com

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UNIT 255 FACE-TO-FACE BRIDGE CLUBS

BRIDGE CENTRE OF NIAGARA

2E Tremont Drive, #5
St Catharines, ON. 905-704-0446
niagara@bridgewebsemail.com
We offer open and/or restricted level games
most days.
Please check our website for our current
schedule: www.bridgecentreofniagara.com

NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE DUPLICATE BRIDGE CENTRE

NOTL Community Centre,
14 Anderson Lane, NOTL, ON
Claude Tremblay claudet@cmtmc.ca

- Tues 1:00 PM Open
- Fri 1:00 PM Open

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Wrong turn in Wroclaw

This year the CBF decided to send one junior team to the world championships in Wroclaw, Poland. Actually, 2024 was considered “an off year” in that a country vs. country world championship was not contested, but rather a transnational world championship was. This means anyone can play. For example, a 6-person team could be comprised of players from six different countries. Team Canada had six Canadians on it, and I was their non-playing captain. The

team consisted of the highly experienced pairs of Olivia Laufer-Cindy He, and Quan Chen-Garrett Liu, and the first-timers Simon Hungate-Jeff Martinovic.

Canadian junior star Jacob Freeman played on a transnational team in the Under 31 category, but alas his team did not make the final four. Another star, and recently crowned ACBL King of Bridge, Darwin Li, winner of two



front row: Simon Hungate, Quan Chen, Garrett Liu, Cindy He, Olivia Laufer, and Jeff Martinovic. back row: npc Andy Stark

gold medals in the previously held Transnationals (2022) was on a multi-country team in the U21 category. His team just missed qualifying for the playoffs.

And then there was Team Canada, competing in the U26 category. I have some good news and some bad news. First the bad news (always start with bad news). The bad news is we finished 19th overall. (The really bad news is that the event consisted of 19 teams.) The good news, the piece we will hold forth as motivation for future events, is that after the first four boards we were leading the event. I watched as we built up a 38-0 lead versus a good team from Hungary-Israel. But after that amazing start Team Hungael clawed back to make it close, so after the first match Team Canada was in fifth place overall! But it was all downhill from there as far as the team play went.

Luckily there are other events at Junior worlds including a Board-a-Match and many Pairs events. Each Canadian pair represented us well. After the first session, Chen-Liu were numero uno of 88 pairs in the Pairs 'B' Final with

an 80% game; they fell back to 7th overall after the final session. And Laufer-He finished sixth overall in the Women's U26 'A' Final. Super well done—those are grueling sessions.

Here was one of the women's top boards. See if you can match wits with Cindy He who was South on this hand, and eventually on lead versus 2♠. The full deal:

♠ A 5 ♥ Q 9 7 5 ♦ K J 10 ♣ A J 5 4	♠ Q 2 ♥ 10 8 4 2 ♦ A 9 8 4 ♣ K 9 8
♠ K J 10 8 7 3 ♥ A J 6 ♦ 7 5 3 ♣ Q	♠ 9 6 4 ♥ K 3 ♦ Q 6 2 ♣ 10 7 6 3 2



Anshul Bhatt of India, and Canadians Simon Hungate, Darwin Li and Jeff Martinovic play a few hands of bridge on the soccer pitch during the first day of competition





Cindy spotting her surname, with Olivia

North, Olivia Laufer, opened INT which got passed around to West who competed with 2xDx to show an undisclosed single suiter in a major. East bid 2xSx to mean “pass or correct.” If West held hearts, East was ready with great support, and so could stand West bidding 3xHx. But holding spades, West just passes and there they are.

If you look at the South hand only what is your opening lead? Cindy kicked off with a low diamond and the hand was over. Declarer could only take 8 tricks. At all the other tables, the opening lead was either a heart (from North) or a trump or a club. At all the other tables declarer had the timing to take 9, 10, or 11 (!) tricks. It’s hands like these, simple lead problems (or guesses) that when you get them right it leads immediately to a good result. Here, a non-diamond lead allows declarer the chance to set up the club king to pitch a losing diamond in dummy.

Simon and Jeff got some great experience representing Canada and we hope they will be back to try again at the Trials to determine Canada’s teams in 2025. Playing with Evan Park, Simon went on to win a Collegiate Pairs event at the Toronto NABC. Thanks to David Colbert, Renette Bourgeois, Michel Lorber, and Shan Huang for their excellent mentoring and coaching to help prepare the three pairs.

Overall, the Canadian team deserved a better fate, but sometimes the bridge gods do not smile down upon us. The bridge gods only smiled for the first four boards. From there we took a wrong turn in Wroclaw, but we shall return to the world scene. We’ll be back in 2025.





Interview with Geoff Hampson

I first met Geoff Hampson at a sectional tournament in Oakville in the fall of 1989. At that time, I was not accustomed to seeing anyone younger than me at a bridge game, so he stood out. I asked a teammate, “Who’s the kid?” “Oh, that’s Geoff Hampson.” “Is he any good?” “He thinks so.” (He was exuding confidence.) “But yeah—he’s good now, and he’ll probably be great.”

Over the next couple of years, I’d see Geoff at sectionals and regionals. In 1991, I lost to his all-star GNT Flight B team in our district finals. Geoff played on a team with Fred Gitelman. They were on Canada’s silver medal winning team at the 1991 junior World’s. Later Geoff formed a partnership with John Gowdy—in ’92 they won the CNTCs with David Lindop and Ed Bridson. For the World’s they added Mark Molson and Boris Baran.

Gowdy tells a story of how at the Bermuda Bowl Geoff had doubled an opponent’s 4NT keycard bid. Gowdy’s screenmate asked, “What’s the meaning of double?” Gowdy replied, “He doesn’t think you know your methods.” The opponent was incensed at the nerve of ‘the pup’—Gowdy’s name for Geoff—the sheer audacity! Why, this opponent was going to teach the youngster a lesson...except, as it turns out, they really didn’t know their methods and so got a poor result.

Over the next 30 years or so, Geoff would move to the United States and play bridge professionally. He’s accumulated more masterpoints than any other Canadian-born player, now over 55,500. Oh wait—tack on another 120 because Geoff was on the winning Open GNT team at this year’s NABC. And add another 80 for going deep into the Spingold. Not including online masterpoints, there are only six players alive who have earned more masterpoints than Geoff Hampson. You could easily make the case that he’s the Canadian GOAT. And that claim is not just based on the attrition/accumulation of masterpoints, but for all

his major wins, including the 2010 world championships. He will be representing the USA this fall at the World Mixed.

I ran into Geoff last month in Penticton, BC. Geoff was there to play in the famous and fabulous Penticton Regional. I was there for the concurrently held Canadian Mixed finals. (Third overall, thanks for asking.) Knowing Geoff would be in Toronto for the NABC, I thought it might be fun to interview him for the ACBL’s Daily Bulletin, with sort of a ‘prodigal son returns home’ theme. Geoff grew up in Toronto and here we are at yet another (fantastic) NABC in his hometown.

Kib: Besides seeing family and friends, what else do you enjoy about coming home?

Geoff: I still love Toronto as a great cosmopolitan city and still have many lifelong friends that I don’t get to see as often as I would like.

Kib: When did you move to the US to become a pro? Looking back was it a smooth transition?

Geoff: In around 1993 I left Toronto and moved to Michigan for love. I was lucky that one of my good friends, Jill Levin, a lawyer, knew my history and recognized that I had legal claim to US citizenship. After jumping through a few hoops, I was awarded a US passport and working in the US was a breeze. Compared to other tales I think this could be considered smooth.

Kib: Toronto hosts an NABC once every 6 or 7 years. Are they extra special for you? What’s been your greatest or most favourite bridge triumph in Toronto?

Geoff: I don’t think I have done too well in Toronto NABCs, but I do recall former teammates and great friends

Brian Platnick and John Diamond won a Spingold there playing 4-handed in a very dramatic finish. I will take partial credit as the person who convinced them to try switching to a big club system which they really took to and excelled at.

Kib: Tell us what you're up to—how much are you playing bridge? Teaching bridge? Thinking bridge? Any hobbies or non-bridge activities taking up your time?

Geoff: I play the 3 NABCs, the US team trials, and as often as possible I play in World Championships on the Nickell team. I play online with my regular partner Eric Greco around once per week with Nick Nickell and Ralph Katz. I also play maybe 6 regional tournaments a year with a small collection of close longtime friends. I field questions from friends on occasion and try to help with Juniors when I have the time. I took up online Barbu which I play around one game each day, purely for fun (or frustration depending). I also play Padel around 2-3 times a week and maybe once a month I golf. I play a little poker but home life with my wife Lindsay and our dog Charlie takes up the majority of my time.

Kib: When you come back home, is there something or someplace no longer here that you miss? I've got a teen and a tween, so I miss the Organ Grinder.

Geoff: Cebo was a wonderful restaurant 30+ years ago, I have loads of good memories from there. Plus...Horning's bridge club.

Kib: Quick. What's a bridge maxim that works well for you?

Geoff: 8 ever 9 never?

Kib: What 80+ yr old players are still playing at a high level?

Geoff: Hamman for one. And Weischel. If he's 80 I don't know. I really don't know how old the old guys are but lots of them still play great.

Kib: Do you feel high-level bridge is at its historical best (due to system improvements, etc.) or do you detect a drop off in the last 30 years or so?

Geoff: The game has never been this tough. It used to be that upsets early in major KOs were rare, but now they are routine. Online bridge has made it possible for everyone to get better and fast. Partnership improvements are hard to keep quiet.

Kib: After you left for the US for a career in bridge, so did Gavin Wolpert, Vincent Demuy, Daniel Korbel, David Grainger, and Shan Huang, to name 5. If you were all eligible to play for Canada at a world championship and you get a year to prepare, who plays with whom? And how do you like your chances?

Geoff: It's hard to create a bad lineup with those guys. I don't know how we would go but it probably wouldn't be me deciding. Although I have almost no experience with any of them as partner, I could play with any one of them and be happy.

Kib: Do Murray/Kehela in their prime crack this lineup? Why or why not?



Geoff and regular partner Eric Greco

Geoff: It is impossible to say about Murray and Kehela; they were the very best when they played, but the game has grown so much since then that comparing them is tricky. I suspect that in the modern age of bidding and evolved carding and defensive agreements they would have been much better than they were in the 60s-70s but who knows.

Kib: You and Greco have a strong partnership. What's most important for you in a long-term partnership?

Geoff: We think about the game along the same lines most of the time and when we don't, we can come to an agreement for the future and let it drop without too much fuss. This was not always the case, but I think that is where we are now.

Kib: You come from a musical family--mom was the Sharon in *Sharon, Lois and Bram*, and dad Joe was in the Canadian folk group *The Travellers*. How about yourself? Do you sing or play an instrument when not playing bridge?

Geoff: I only sing when in the car or on my own, but I do share some of their love for music.

Kib: I've been thinking a lot lately about the concept of what Zia called Heat 1, where you're locked in, you 'see' the cards well, you consistently make the right decision, and can't seem to go wrong...Can you elaborate on this concept?

Geoff: I think the Zia analogy has lots of merit and applies to any day, or part of a day, and any form of scoring. Sometimes you just feel like you are getting your hands right and the hands they are getting right you are putting them in tough spots wherever possible. If you can make the routine hands hard on your opponents, then they will eventually mess up some of them. The days where you are "seeing the whole board" are special, rare, and feel extra great. Doesn't really matter if it's a 2-day match, or a 2-board round, or anything in between.

I know that there have been matches where I was "in the zone" but the ones that stay with me more are the ones where I feel like I blew it. In Wroclaw recently we played a very strong Swedish - English team in the semi-finals. Both teams played quite well, and the match was very close throughout. I feel like that was a match where playing my



12-year old Geoff on the cover of his mom's record



best was especially key to our success. We had recently been added to a team comprised of great friends which added mightily to the satisfaction from the play and the win.

There have been hands that stay with you forever, both good and bad. Some of the good ones involve being “ahead” when the key play arrives, and you smoothly do something that they can’t play you to have found. Here’s an example.

I was in 3NT. LHO had overcalled diamonds. I had $\diamond A J 8 x$ in my hand and dummy had $\diamond 9 x x$. The diamond king was led. I had a single stopper in another suit and only 8 winners. It seemed like they would find the defense to cause me problems if I ducked or won. So, at trick one I played the jack. The opening leader (a superstar player) had already led the queen without a moment of thought and was mildly shocked when his partner pitched and I drove out his stopper, building my ninth trick.

Another thing that can be fun is recognizing when the “obvious” play is also clearly wrong, and the absurd looking play is obviously right.

The Trials is an event where you keep facing great pairs and teams. Sometimes you will find that these teams just keep getting their hands right. Recently, playing against Chip and Marty, Chip played a hand like he saw everyone’s hand, eventually coupling me at tricks 12-13 out of my tiny trumps. The previous year Brad and Joe, also on that team, seemed like they had the hand records, getting every decision right. This year, in one particularly painful set, they had a small slipup early on and then proceeded to destroy us for the next 12 hands, nearly putting the match out of reach. Good pairs are going to get the best of you sometimes. It’s tough to swallow but best to learn how to get past it or it’s going to distract you when it’s time for you to shine.

Greco is usually in the zone and a fantastic declarer, so I am never unhappy to have him playing a hand and I do my best to keep him involved in decision making. That said, in years past, he would sometimes arrive at a tournament rusty, and I would need to try and protect him (simplify hands) for a couple of days to let him get up to speed. If we lasted the first day or two, we often went on to win something.



Geoff and partner Brad Moss before the start of this year’s GNT finals ... which they won!

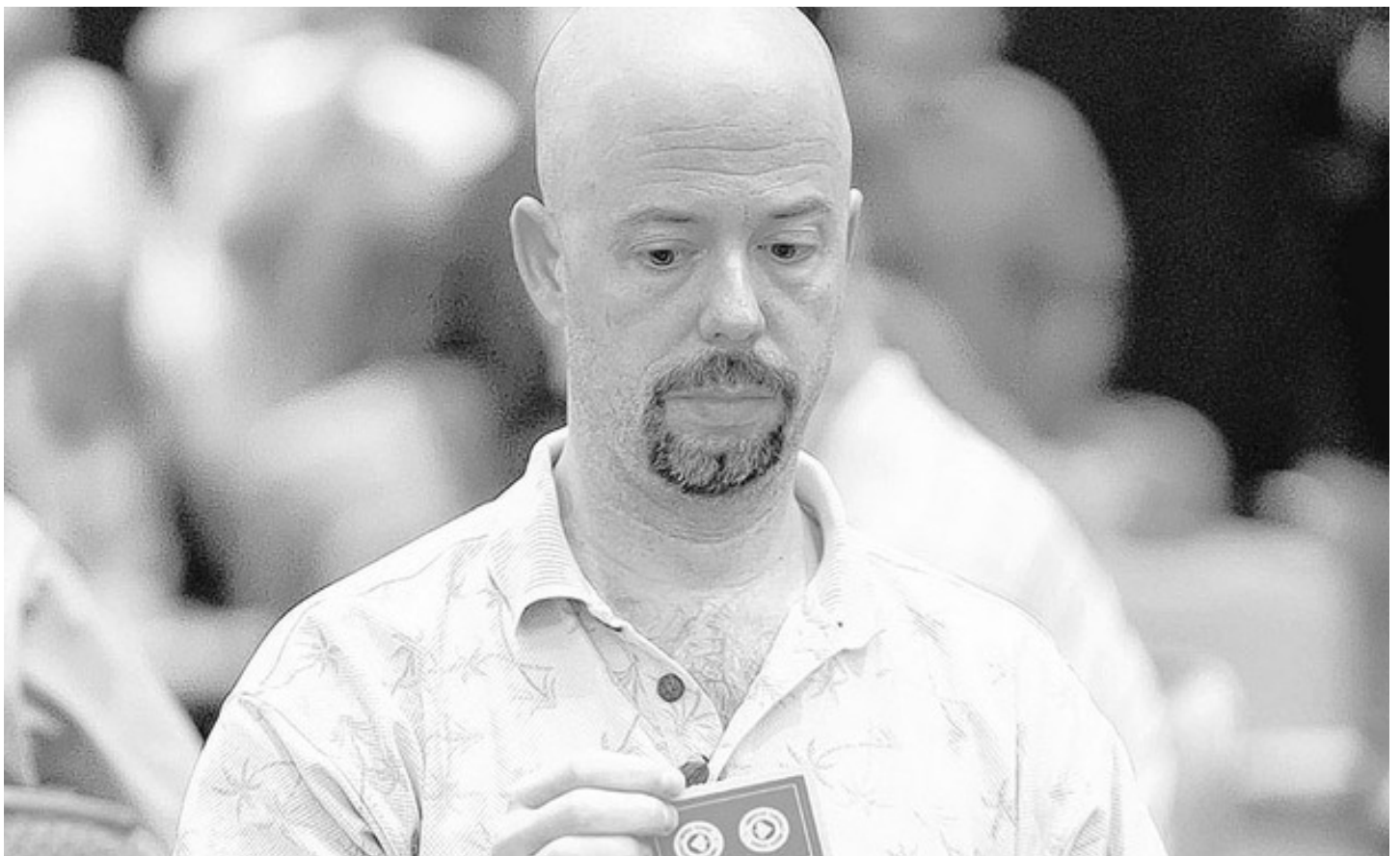
At my best I try and stay focused and in the moment. I love bridge problems and if I can bring my forces to bear on them, I think I can get most right.

Kib: I once learned a play in the trump suit from you. When holding 10xx, you played low, then the 10, as if holding an original Q10x. This may be standard stuff, but still, as you say, it gets tough to play against.

Geoff: Not playing your cards, especially trumps, bottom up is important.

Kib: When you're playing without screens, do you sometimes get a read on a player's hand due to their body language and then make a decision based on your read? Seems some players bring a good poker game to the bridge table.

Geoff: A few years ago, I had KJ9x in hand and A8xx in dummy. I was about to safety play the suit for my contract but when I led to my K, LHO followed with Q. I didn't want to lose control, so I left trumps alone for a



while and later on, when I was overruffed by that hand with the 10, I was sunk. It is tricky learning the spots that you can and can't afford to let go and sometimes you mess up trying to be fancy but in the long run it pays off to be sneaky.

Kib: How about with screens? Can you still feel out an opponent, one who is on the other side of the screen? I suppose the tough opponents don't give much away with their body language.

Geoff: Without screens you can tell when someone is uncomfortable, and sometimes even with screens. Even good players have "tells," squirming around, looking surprised, nervous, etc. Some players have fake tells, pretending to be unhappy when they are happy. Screens and tablets change a little how you "read" the table, but the clues are still there just in a different format.

Kib: Say you're defending, and declarer is looking for a queen. They make their play, you make yours, they then tank. Is this ok and part of the game? As a defender, what are you thinking of? (Mike Roche once told me that he thinks over and over: Bacon and eggs, bacon and eggs...)

Geoff: I see no issue with thinking there. I have no go-to-thought there; I just wait.

Kib: Final question. And thanks for doing this, Geoff. You left the GTA just over 30 years ago. As a player, how have you evolved?

Geoff: As a younger player I think I did more deciding and less communicating. As a more mature and trusting player I try and describe my hands, signal carefully, involve partners where possible and play a more evolved and interactive style. The other style has merit, and I might benefit from using it more in appropriate situations. Players are constantly evolving—it's part of what makes the game endlessly fascinating. I always believe that my partner and I can crush any pair, and with our teammates we can crush any team. That isn't to say that we won't face considerable challenges, just that even the best have bad days and we can help them have those on our good days. Focusing on the shot in front of you is key. I keep trying to let the past remain in the past and focus on what is ahead. This is not always easy, but I think it is the best approach and I try to play this way.

Muy Buenos Aires

The team that won the Canadian Women's Team Championship is off to the World Championships in Buenos Aires in October. They are holding a raffle to raise funds to cover travel expenses. Tickets are 1 for \$10, 3 for \$20 and 10 for \$50. The prizes are: 1st - \$300 gift certificate for the Four Seasons Toronto, 2nd-7th - a club or online game with a designated member of the women's team, 8th - 5 free plays to the Ina and Friends game Fridays or Monday game at Temple Sinai, 9th - Barbara Seagram book.

If you would like tickets please email Lesley Thomson at thomsonles@hotmail.com with your email and phone number (so that we can contact you when you win!) and please send an e-transfer to that email address. Thank you for your support. Special thanks to Jonathan Steinberg for contributing \$1,000!



The teamimps the 4th quarter of the finals. Never in doubt!



Elimination or Reversal?

By David Turner

I'm always looking for interesting hands to share with you, and often they involve hands from actual play where one or more experts went astray. This one, however, arose in a bidding practice session on BBO (and I like to look at the play of the contract we reach before I go on to the next hand).

Sidebar: If you're working on your partnership bidding in a particular area, or if you are considering adding a new tool to your bidding toolkit, BBO allows you to "Start a Bidding Table" and bid some random hands, with or without interference. If you're a "bit" nerdy like me, you can teach BBO to produce specific types of hands, like "South opens INT and North has slam-invitational values with both minors." But you can also just type in something like "hcp(south)>12 and hcp(north)>12" on the DealSource screen to make sure the hands are worth bidding.

Contract: 6♠

Lead: ♦Q

♠ A Q 6 2
♥ Q 9 8 2
♦ 7 2
♣ A Q 4

♠ K 9 5 3
♥ A K 7 5
♦ A 8 6
♣ K 2

You win the first trick with the ace, and you have 12 tricks if both majors break 3-2. If the hearts break 3-2 you can also make the contract if there is a singleton ♠J or ♠10 on your left, so you test the trumps with

the ace and queen and both follow, so you draw the third round with the king, leaving:

♠ 6
♥ Q 9 8 2
♦ 7
♣ A Q 4

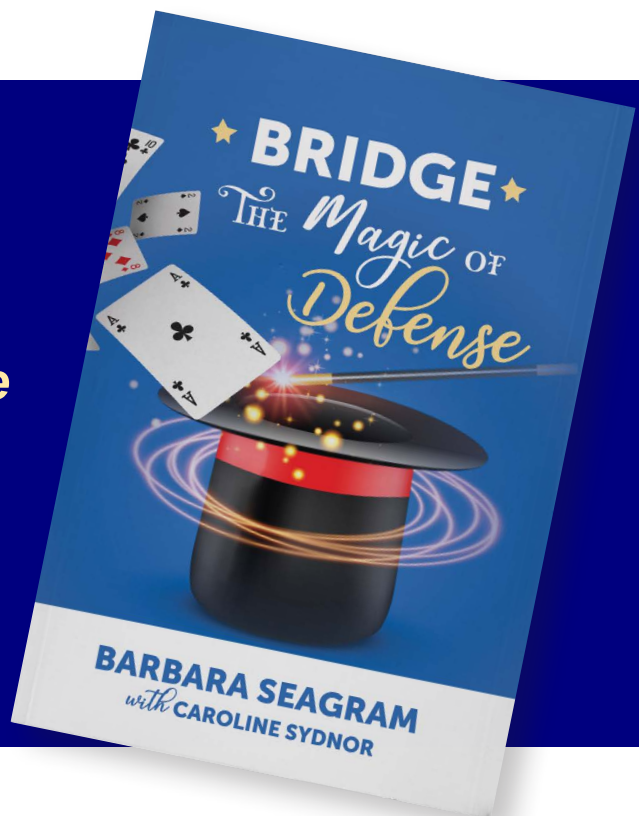
♠ 9
♥ A K 7 5
♦ 8 6
♣ K 2

What to do about the hearts if they're not 3-2? Since I love the elimination play, my first thought was to play ♣K-Q-A, throwing a diamond, and then exit with my remaining diamond. If the opponent who wins that trick started with ♠J10xx he will have to break hearts for me or give me a ruff-sluff for my 12th trick. Sounds good! But ... it occurs to me in time: what if the opponent with the *singleton* heart wins the diamond trick (presumably RHO)? She can safely lead her heart through my AK and I can't pick up her partner's J10xx. Just in time I remember a rare theme of elimination play: cashing one high honour first. I can prevent the potential problem by playing the ♥A FIRST before exiting with the diamond ... now the contract is assured.

Well goody for me for seeing the need to play off the ♥A first. But the observant reader might not have figured that out, since the OBVIOUS way to make 12 tricks in the diagrammed position is to discard a HEART on the ♣Q instead of a diamond, and ruff dummy's fourth heart in hand if necessary. A basic dummy reversal. Sigh:)

Barbara Seagram has won the
2024 ABTA Book of the Year
for her latest,
Bridge: The Magic of Defence

Books available at
www.vinceoddy.com and
www.barbaraseagram.com



Lee is coming back to Temple Sinai!!

It is with great excitement that we announce
Lee's Bridge Club return to live bridge.

September 9 will be the inaugural in-person game.

Join **Lee Daugharty** at Temple Sinai for this special event.

We expect a huge turnout to greet him and welcome his club back.

This new game - played every Monday at 12:30
(lunch served from 11:45) - will feature three sections:

0-500 (a gentle game for social players)

0-1500 (for improving players)

OPEN - Flight A

We are restricted to 48 tables, so it is imperative that you reserve a spot.
Those arriving without having booked will not be guaranteed a seat.

Call (416-816-7115) or
email LeesBridgeClub@gmail.com to book a seat.

Don't forget to tell us which section you wish to play in
and which direction you want to sit.



Leading Your Partner's Suit

By David Ellis

Opening lead of partner's bid suit

Partner's bid suit comes from 4 sources

1. Opening bid:

- 1 of major:
 - HCPs 11-21
 - 5 cards in major
- 1♣ May only have 3 clubs. If clubs are never repeated by partner, clubs are probably not to be considered as lead directing.
- 1♦ Has 4 diamonds (96% of the time)

2. Overall bid:

- 1 of major:
 - HCPs 7-17
 - 5 cards in major
- 1♦ has probably 5 diamonds
- 2-level overall must always have 5+ cards

3. Lead directing double

- A double (X) after an artificial bid like Stayman, Jacoby transfer, a cuebid, or Blackwood is always lead directing
- A Lightner double versus slams: lead dummy's first bid suit
- Same for a double of 3NT: usually means lead dummy's first bid suit

4. A suit (non-jump) in response to partner's takeout double is not lead-directive as it was a forcing bid. The doubler has bid all three of unbid suits.

General concepts of opening leads

- "Leading partner's suit may not be right, but it is never wrong"
- Partner's opening bid may not always be a good lead for you to lead

- Leading partner's suit has the potential to set up tricks for defence
- Ten and above is considered an honour

Principles

- If you have **not supported** partner's suit in the bidding,
 - Show the number of cards you hold (count)
 - Low from an odd number (usually 3 cards)
 - High from an even number (usually 2 cards)
- If you **have supported** partner's suit in the bidding,
 - Show attitude indicating whether you hold an honor
 - Low from an honour
 - Top of nothing (no honour)

When not to lead partner's suit:

- When you have a 3-card honour sequence in another suit (KQJ)
- Lead trump instead of partner's suit
 - If the bidding shows that declarer may ruff his losers in the dummy
 - If dummy may be short in partner's suit
 - If dummy is trump short (2 or 3 cards)
- Slam by opponents

West	North	East	South
1♣	1♥	1♠	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♠	Pass	6♠	All Pass

East is expecting South to lead partner's hearts, the bid suit, by bidding 6♠ with a heart stopper. But if South was holding ♦QJ10 of unbid suit, consider leading ♦Q and not a heart.

Have not supported partner's suit

With singleton:

In suit contract

- Singleton in partner's suit is excellent
- Singleton ace in partner's suit
- Singleton in other suit is effective when you have trump control, and you can regain the lead before trump is completely drawn. After regaining the lead, we can cross to partner's hand by then leading their suit, allowing partner to now give us a ruff in the suit that we originally led.

In a notrump contact

- Never lead a singleton in another suit
- Lead your partner's suit

With Doubleton:

- Q9
- Lead high from a doubleton
- Lead the Q

With 3-card support

- 975
- Lead a low card and make sure your next card played is higher
- Q95
- Lead the 5. Low from an odd number of cards (count)

With 4-card support

- 9753
- Count – Top of nothing. Lead the 7 (or 9.) High from an even number of cards. The 9 is the clearest card, but it might cost a trick later as the 9 may be a winner in no-trump. Use judgment about balancing clarity in count with protecting our holding. The 7 seems high enough for partner to be able to read as a high card.
- Q975
- Count – Lead the 9. High from an even number of cards.

Have supported partner's suit

With doubleton:

- Q9
- Attitude – Lead the Q.
- Lead high from doubleton
- Never lead low from a doubleton honour because it will block the suit

With 3-card support

- 975
- Attitude – lead the 9. Top of nothing
- Q95
- Attitude – lead the 5. Low from an honor

With 4-card support

- 9753
- Attitude – Top of nothing. Lead the 7 (or 9.) High from an even number of cards. The 9 is the clearest card, but it might cost a trick later. Use our judgment about balancing clarity in count with protecting our holding. The 9 may be a winner in notrump. The 7 seems high enough for partner to be able to read as a high card
- Q975
- Attitude – Lead the 5. Low from an honor

• Examples:

N	E	S	W
1♠	2♥	P	4♥

With this hand in South,

♠102 ♥QJ6 ♦J98543 ♣43

P P P

Lead ♠10; nothing else good to lead

N	E	S	W
1♥	INT	P	3NT

With this hand in South,

♠J103 ♥1086 ♦J764 ♣43

P P P

Lead ♥6 low with honour, ♥10 is considered an honour

Congratulations to Josée Hammill, winner of the 2024 Kate Buckman Trophy!

The Kate Buckman trophy is awarded by Unit 166 each year to the person who most contributes to other players' enjoyment of the game. This year, Josée Hammill is the deserving recipient for her tireless promotion and dedication to teaching newcomers to the game.

In 2008 Josée started a small bridge club at Bigwin Island Golf club. She started with 2.5 tables. Players played for a loonie. When Covid hit, the club had grown to an average of ten tables a week. The club, now using Bridgemates, has been sanctioned for ten years. Josée ran that club for 15 seasons (June through August). Josée took a break this summer to work on the NABC-a 2-year commitment.

In 2019, Josée started a Gentle Bridge Game at Armour Heights Presbyterian Church for 0-20 MP and it is supervised. This club was passed on to Cyndy Winkler in 2023 and they now regularly get ten tables.

This October, Josée is starting a new Gentle Bridge Game, also supervised, 0-20 MP on Thursday evenings. Douglas Jordan will be the director and he is prepared to work for free until it grows. He has a team of volunteers who will come each week to help the players.

For information on what Josée teaches at Josée Hammill Bridge, and what she runs, please visit her website at www.bridgewebs.com/josees. Also, here is her email address if you would like to contact her directly: mjhammill@rogers.com.



Josée and family



Josée getting in a few hands at the Easter Regional. That's the Kate Buckman trophy on her right.



Josée and her four grandchildren



A Vandy Grandy

By Jennifer Verdam

Recently I was playing in a for-fun GNT practice game on BBO and we loaded up the 2019 Segment 3 Vanderbilt match featuring Fleisher vs Pavlicek. My partner was Dave Longstaff and we were playing against the Pengs, Peter and Mike. On this deal I was in fourth seat, all white, and looking at:

♠ Q
♥ K Q 10 9 8 7 3 2
♦ J 4 2
♣ A

It went pass by West and my partner opened the bidding with 2NT! Cool. Opponents pass throughout.

He and I are not playing South African Texas, and it is WAY too strong for a straight Texas, so I bid 3♦ and Dave dutifully bid 3♥. Not surprised that there is no super accept but he still could have A or Ax so I soldier onwards.

I bid 4♣. There is a pause. He types, "Do we have an agreement on what 4♣ is?" I respond, "If 4NT is quantitative, ALL 4♣ bids are Gerber." He bids 4NT.

What the--? What is 4NT? I mean it's not key card, since I have the queen, so I am like, "OK so it's not key card - he has three aces. Excellent." And I bid 7NT at which point Dave types, "Wait, are we playing KC Gerber?" I type, "Yes," and Peter types, "Undo?" I respond, "No, it's fine."

Peter leads the ♥5, my dummy is displayed to all, and I see Dave's hand. Actually, here's everyone's hand because there is nothing to the play on the heart lead.

♠ A 10 8 4		
♥ A		
♦ A Q 5		
♣ K Q J 6 4		
♠ K J 9 2		♠ 7 6 5 3
♥ J 6 4		♥ 5
♦ 9 8 6		♦ K 10 7 3
♣ 10 9 3		♣ 8 7 5 2
	♠ Q	
	♥ K Q 10 9 8 7 3 2	
	♦ J 4 2	
	♣ A	

Notice on a club lead dummy is inaccessible. Declarer can try with diamonds, but East can keep declarer out. Declarer can try with the ♠Q, but West will know what to do with that offering.

I should have bid 7♥ since it's teams. Lesson learned!





Happy Anniversary

By Ian Findlay

The 2024 Easter Regional marked the one-year anniversary of me leaving Banff to return to my home in Toronto. While I love the warmer weather and my lifelong golf course Cedarbrae, I do miss a few things about the West: the mountains, my Alberta friends, and of course my bridge partner, Gordon Campbell. This deal came up during the first day of the Bracketed Teams event.

As South, vul vs. non-vul, I picked up

♠A95 ♥A84 ♦AK8763 ♣Q

Here was our auction:

West	North	East	South
Pass	1♥	3♠	1♦
All pass			3NT

The opening lead was the ♠K and here is what I saw:

♠ 2
♥ J 10 9 7 3
♦ 6
♣ A K J 8 6 3

♠ A 9 5
♥ A 8 4
♦ A K 8 7 6 3
♣ Q

Counting my tricks it looks like I have one spade, one heart, two diamonds and six clubs if clubs are 3-3. That is ten tricks, but things will not be that simple. North should have seven spades for his bid, especially missing the AK of spades. How would you tackle this one?

Let's say you duck the first spade; the critical play

comes at trick two, when a spade is continued. You must win the spade in hand and pitch a club from dummy! There goes your chance for ten tricks, but clubs do not rate to split 3-3.

You lead the ♣Q and overtake with the ♣K. Now you play the ♣A and watch as East (the pre-emptor) pitches a spade as you pitch a spade from your hand. You now hope that East began with 7-2-3-1 shape with a doubleton heart honour.

You play the ♥J and East covers with the ♥K. You win the ♥A and play back to the ♥10, which West must duck. Now comes the second key play. You play a diamond off dummy intending to duck to West (this is why you had to pitch a club at trick 2). But East plays the ♦Q, so you win the ♦A and play a heart up to dummy. West wins with the ♥Q as East pitches a spade. West plays the ♦10. You pitch a club from dummy and duck in your hand when East does not play the jack. South can now exit a diamond, giving you nine tricks in your hand, or play the ♣10, when you duck in dummy and pitch a diamond from your hand. Now South must make your hand or dummy high.

The full deal:

	♠ 2	
	♥ J 10 9 7 3	
	♦ 6	
	♣ A K J 8 6 3	
♠ K 4		♠ Q J 10 8 7 6 3
♥ Q 6 5		♥ K 2
♦ 10 9 2		♦ Q J 4
♣ 10 9 7 5 4		♣ 2
	♠ A 9 5	
	♥ A 8 4	
	♦ A K 8 7 5 3	
	♣ Q	



Adventures with Bob

By Robert Griffiths

THE RARE VULNERABLE SACRIFICE

It is very seldom the right play when vulnerable to sacrifice at the 5-level against a non-vulnerable game. Our opponents found the good vulnerable sacrifice here and were rewarded for their excellent judgment with a score of 0.

West is in third seat, and has to make choices about his opening bid: 1♥, 3♥, 4♥? I'm sure there were a variety of opinions about this but at my table, West decided that both short suit jacks were worthless as high cards and so he preempted with 3♥.

My partner, North, doubled and East raised to 4♥. North has just made a 'light' double of 3♥, but I don't know that; I am afraid that 4♥ will make and so I try 4♠. Now, West huddles a while and goes on to 5♥ which my partner doubled and this was passed out.

West Deals
EWVul

♠ J	♠ K 10 9 3
♥ A K Q 10 9 7 4	♥ 3
♦ J 3	♦ A 10 9 8
♣ 6 4 3	♣ A 7 5 2
	♠ Q 7 6 4
	♥ J 9 8
	♦ K Q 7 6 4
	♣ J
	♠ A 8 5 2
	♥ 5 2
	♦ 5 2
	♣ K Q 10 9 8

Playing in 5♥, the defence took their 3 aces for down one doubled, +200 for NS. This should be a good result for EW; with careful play, NS can make 4♠. But just doing the right thing doesn't guarantee a good

result for EW. Every other table in a small pairs game played the hand in 3♥ or 4♥ for a NS plus score.

If playing in spades, South should start trumps by leading the ♠K from dummy as West, the preemptor is more likely to be short in spades. When West's jack falls under the king, the principle of restricted choice suggests that it is more likely that the ♠Q is with East and the suit can be brought home by playing spades through East. Since NS can make +420 in spades, the 'par' score of -200 for EW should be average, not the bottom they were awarded.

But, NS were rewarded here for bidding their 20 HCPs all the way to 4♠ which happens to make.

SHOWING YOUR ENTRY

South opened 1♦ and West overcalled 1♠. North passed and East raised to 2♠. These non-vulnerable players will bid without restraint.

South showed his good hand with a double and North thought that his clubs were good enough that his side should be in either 5♣ or 3NT if South had a stopper in spades. So, he came out with a 3♠ bid, asking South if he had a stopper and South showed it with a 3NT bid, leaving this auction:

West.	North	East.	South
1♠	Pass.	2♠	1♦
Pass	3♠	Pass	Dbl
All pass			3NT

Board 15
South Deals
NSVul

♠ 7 4	
♥ K 7	
♦ 7 6 5	
♣ A J 9 5 4 2	
♠ Q J 10 9 3	♠ K 6 2 4
♥ A 9 3	♥ 10 8 6 4 2
♦ J 8 4	♦ 10 9 3
♣ 7 3	♣ K 8
♠ A 8 5	
♥ Q J 5	
♦ A K Q 2	
♣ Q 10 6	

West led the ♠Q which won trick one, then the ♠J, East winning trick 2 with the king. East needs to get his king out of the way so that it doesn't prevent West from running the spade suit when EW get the lead.

South won the third trick with the ♠A had lots of tricks if the club finesse won and lots of trouble if it didn't. So, he led the ♣Q and played low from the dummy, East winning his ♣K.

What should East lead now? Seeing all of the cards, we know that he should lead a heart to his partner's ace so that the contract will go down two as West cashes the last two spades.

Is it totally a guess which red suit East should return? Did East notice which spade West played on South's ace? When South wins the third spade trick, West is the only player at the table with spades; the card he plays should indicate to East where his entry is. If he plays the ♠10, his highest card, it should tell East that his entry is in hearts, the highest suit. East knows that West has lots of spades to choose from, so the ♠10 should leave no doubt. If his entry had been in diamonds, he would signal with his smallest spade.

No matter what signalling methods you use, there are times when you should make use of this kind of suit preference. Notice that if East goes wrong and returns a diamond, declarer will score up ten tricks.

THOSE PESKY BIG SPADES

As dealer, South, you open 1♠; partner responds 2♦. You've opened your 10-point hand and now you have the choice of rebidding your topless spade suit or going to the 3-level in clubs. You try 3♣ and of course, partner bids 3NT. Another fine mess.

Unhappy to leave it there, you show your 2-suiter with a 4♣ bid and partner puts you in 5♣. 4♠ would have been a happier spot but here you are. At least you avoided 3NT.

Board 3
South Deals
E-WVul

♠ A Q	
♥ A 5 2	
♦ A J 9 7 2	
♣ J 10 9	
♠ 4	♠ K 6 3 2
♥ K 9 8 7	♥ Q J 10 6 4
♦ K 10 5 3	♦ Q 8 6
♣ 8 7 6 2	♣ 3
♠ J 10 9 8 7 5	
♥ 3	
♦ 4	
♣ A K Q 5 4	

West leads the ♥7, so you win dummy's ♥A then play the ♣J followed by the ♣10. When East shows out, you have a problem. You need to draw trumps and set up the spade suit then get back to your hand to play the long spades.

The hand would be easy if NOBODY had the ace and queen of spades; you could simply draw trumps, drive out the ♠K, back to your hand with the last trump and win spade tricks. But, the ace and queen missing would be a very unusual distribution.

Your only hope to make your contract would be to play the ♠A then the ♠Q, hoping that whoever holds the ♠K will make a mistake and play it on the queen. East, of course, should duck the ♠Q. He knows from your bidding that you have plenty of spades. If he ducks the queen, you only have one entry to your hand to drive out his ♠K but you can't get back to your hand when the spades are established.

The problem is that you have too many high spades in dummy that are higher than the spades in your hand. But there is a solution. When, at trick 3 you see the 4-1 club split, you should cash the ♠A, getting it out of the way. Then you play two more rounds of clubs, taking out all of West's trumps. And then on the last club you unblock ♠Q from the dummy, getting it out of the way. Now, when all of the high spades (except the king) are in your hand, you can drive out the ♠K, ruff a red card and cash the rest of the spades. The ace and queen in dummy are just nuisance cards that prevent you from being able to cash your long suit.

THE DOWNSIDE OF ONLINE BRIDGE

This is a hand from an online tournament that took place 3 or 4 years ago:

Board 8
West Deals
None Vul

♠ 7 2	♠ Q 5	♠ K 8 4
♥ K 4	♥ A Q 9 6 5 2	♥ J 10 8
♦ 8 3 2	♦ A K J 7	♦ Q 10 9 6
♣ K Q J 10 9 7	♣ A	♣ 8 6 2
	♠ A J 10 9 6 3	
	♥ 7 3	
	♦ 5 4	
	♣ 5 4 3	

The auction was unusual:

West.	North	East.	South
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♥ (1)
Pass	3♥	Pass	3♠
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♣ (2)
Dbl	6♥	Pass	6♠!
Pass	6NT	Pass	7♠!
Pass	Pass	Pass	

- (1) -- Either 1 ace or 2 kings
- (2) -- 1 or 4 key cards (in spades?)

North has shown a strong hand with a self sufficient heart

suit (a bit of an exaggeration perhaps). Having heard about partner's one ace, or two kings, North attempted to sign off in 6♥. South has nothing more than what was shown, but overruled their partner with a 6♠ bid. When North tried 6NT, South again corrected with a 7♠ bid.

An oddity of the hand is that 6♥ and 6NT can fail while 7♠ happens to be unbeatable. The needed finesses all work and the key suits split favourably. Playing in hearts, early spade leads will lead to problems with entries to the South hand. But how could South know all of this? South made unusual decisions during the bidding that happened to work out perfectly.

If this auction occurred between two intermediate players who perhaps had issues about who was the team "captain," you would shake your head and think, "They shouldn't play together for a while."

But South was a world class professional and North was a client, who was paying for good results and good advice.

This hand was played on BBO and was part of a group of hands presented to demonstrate that South had been 'cheating.' When confronted with this hand and others like it, South admitted: "I could tell by looking at the evidence how obvious it was that I was self-kibitzing." That is, South had set up a second computer and was using it to watch the game as it was being played and, as a kibitzer, he was able to see all four hands. An expert could easily see that 13 tricks could be made in spades but that any other slam might go down.

The old football quote, "Winning isn't everything; it's the only thing" seems to apply here.

Can any satisfaction come from a win that comes from having the game so fixed? The only positive about winning this way is that it ensures another payday will come with another client who thinks they are improving their bridge.

Having seen how easy it is to cheat, many BBO players are tending to limit their games to club or private games where the players are all known and trusted. Who wants to play against strangers who may have their partner on the telephone or worse?

On the bright side, BBO has taken steps to prevent cheating. Like watching for players who consistently make illogical plays that work spectacularly in their favour.



On the Tuesday evening of the recently held Toronto NABC, District 1 held a ceremony to honour the late great Eric Kokish. A plaque was crafted and presented to Eric's family as a token of appreciation for all of Eric's contributions to bridge. Accepting the plaque on behalf of the family was his daughter May Chazen.

The first Eric Kokish Memorial Trophy was presented to Canadian junior (and ACBL Director!) Victor Lamoureux. This trophy is given to the junior in District 1 who wins the most masterpoints in a year.



May Chazen and Victor Lamoureux.



Sandra MacPherson, Katie Thorpe, May Chazen & Jonathan Steinberg



Sandra MacPherson, District 1 President & Marc-André Fourcaud, Vice-President

Toronto NABC

**All photos courtesy of Jonathan Steinberg*



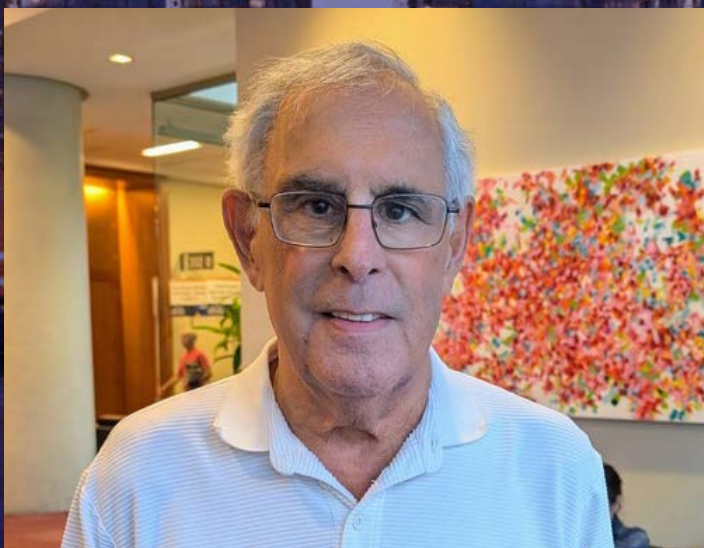
Super vols David and Fran McCrady



Paul Janicki, Barbara Seagram & Alex Kornel



Janice Upenieks, Darlene Scott, Danny Miles, Joo-Hee Janicki & Montie Hamblen



Longtime Kib reader Fred Lerner



Perennial Canadian champ Pamela Nisbet



Wiebe Hoogland, District 2 President & Janice Upenieks, new Ruby Life Master



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CAMBRIAN SHIELD REGIONAL (SUDBURY, ONTARIO)

August 21,22,23,24 - 2024

Garson Community Centre 100 Church
Street, Garson ON (near Sudbury)

Tournament Chair: Jennifer O'Hara, ohara.bridge@gmail.com

Partnership Desk: Linda Anderson, rdanderson002@gmail.com

Phone contact: Leslie Dickson: 705-929-2506

Stratification

Newcomer Pairs (by average) A. 50-100 B. 20-49 C. 0-19

299er Pairs (by average) A. 200-299 B. 100-199 C. 0-99

Open Pairs (by average) A. 1500+ B. 500-1499 C. 0-499

Single sessions are available in all pairs events

Wednesday, August 21, 1:00pm and 6:30pm

Stratified Open Pairs

299ers Pairs (if numbers warrant)

Newcomer pairs (if numbers warrant)

**Thursday, August 22,
10:30am and 3:00pm**

- Stratified Open Pairs
- 299er pairs (if numbers warrant)
- Newcomer pairs
(if numbers warrant)

**Friday, August 23,
10:30am and 3:00pm**

- Gold Rush pairs
A. 500-750 B. 250-499 C. 0-249
- Stratified Open pairs
A. 3000+ B. 1250-2999 C. 0-1250
- 299er pairs
(if numbers warrant)
- Newcomer pairs
(if numbers warrant)

**Saturday, August 20,
10:00am, lunch provided**

- Swiss Teams
- Open Swiss
- 299er Swiss
(if numbers warrant)

**Cost per session: Wednesday
to Friday \$18 Cost for Swiss:
\$180 per team for the day**

NEARBY HOTELS

TownePlace and Suites

1710 Kingsway, Sudbury
1-705-525-7700

Moonlight Inn

350 Moonlight Ave, Sudbury
1-800424-0321

**Microtel Inn and Suites by
Wyndham**

1312 Kingsway, Sudbury
1-705-470-6161

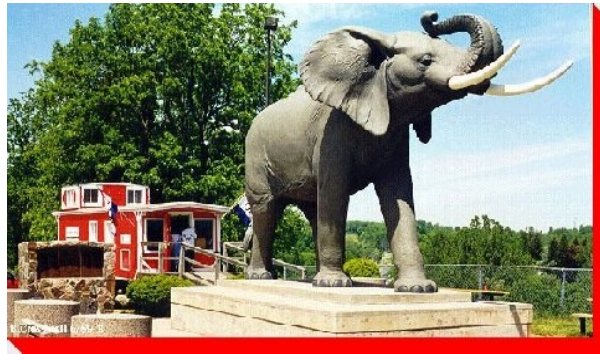
Hilton Garden Inn

475 Barrydowne Rd, Sudbury
1-705-586-3001

**Fairfield Inn and Suites by
Marriott**

490 Barrydowne Rd, Sudbury
1-705-560-0111

72nd Annual St. Thomas Jumbo Tournament



Sept 7th – 8th 2024

Sessions both days 11:00 am and 3:00pm. Hot meal between sessions
Entry Fees \$15.00 per session

To participate in this tournament, players must have an ACBL Player Number. Non-ACBL members are welcome and will receive a complimentary temporary ACBL membership (not applicable to lapsed members).

(In consideration of those who are sensitive to fragrance, this is a scent-free tournament)

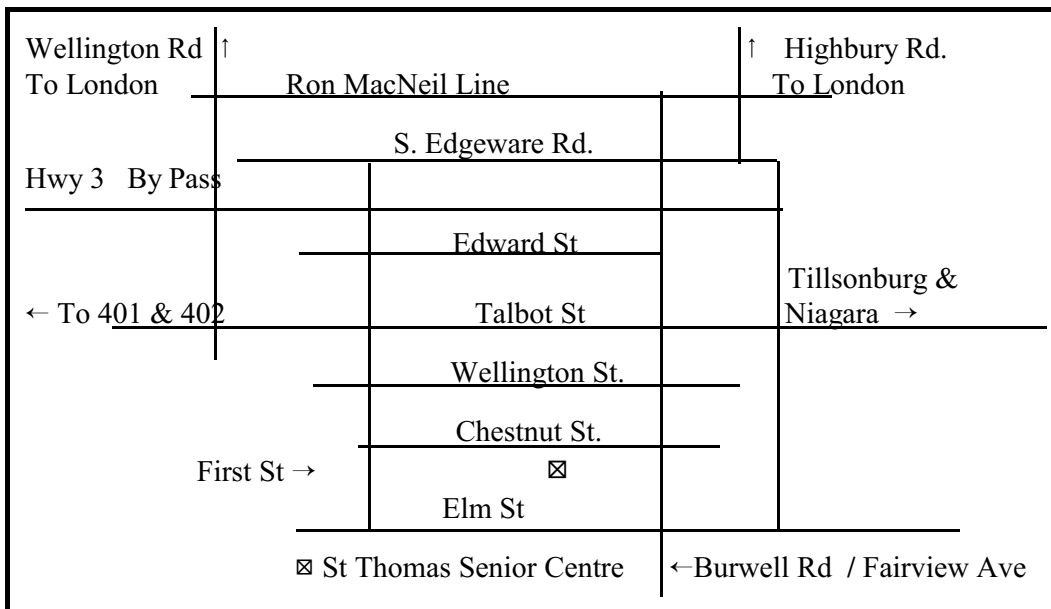
Saturday Sept 7th

2-Session Stratified Pairs Playthrough (single sessions welcome)
499er Pairs Playthrough (single sessions welcome)

Sunday Sept 8th

Open Swiss (A/X) and a Bracketed 0-2000 Swiss bracketed by team total points

On line registration is available on the ACBL website (ACBL, Menu, Tournaments, Entry Express)



Location:

St. Thomas Senior Centre,
225 Chestnut St.,
St. Thomas

Tournament Chair:

Jim Wright
(519) 631-5531
manager@stthomasbridgeclub.
org

Partnerships:

Jim Wright
(519) 631-5531
manager@stthomasbridgeclub.
org

Pairs

Strats: A=1500+, B=500-1500, C=0-500
499ers: A=300-500, B=100-300, C=0-100
all events stratified by average mps

Teams

Bracketed by team total points,
\$120 Entry fee per team

Peterborough Local Sectional Tournament

September 21 and 22, 2024

McDonnel Street Community Centre
(formerly Peterborough Lawn Bowling Club)
577 McDonnel Street, Peterborough, ON

Free coffee, tea and snacks throughout
Light lunch available for purchase both days

Tournament Events

Saturday September 21

Stratified Open Pairs

Two single sessions at 10:30am and 2:30 pm

(note: This is not a two session total point event)

0 to 299 Pairs (if numbers in attendance warrant)

Single sessions at 10:30 am and 2:30 pm

Sunday September 22

Swiss Teams

Two session play-through beginning at 10:30 am with a break for lunch

General Information

Stratification/ Awards

Strata will be at Director's discretion, depending on attendance

Awards will be 80% silver points and 20% black points

Entry Fees (CASH only)

\$13 per player per session for ACBL members

an extra \$4 per player per session for non ACBL members

(Guest ACBL memberships available for non ACBL members)

Tournament Chair: Phil Smith
philsmith.99oak@gmail.com
705-749-9307

Partnerships: Lyn Stevens
lynstevens@hotmail.ca



BRAMPTON BRIDGE BLAST!



September 28th & 29th

**Fall Sectional
Offering 100% Silver**

**Century Gardens Recreation Centre
340 Vodden St. E.
Brampton ON**

Session Fees:

- ACBL Members \$17
- \$4 additional Fee for any player not currently an ACBL Member
- Student Rate: \$5

Tournament Chair: Denise Donovan
dcdonovan49@gmail.com
(416) 575-6754

Partnership Chair: Susan Nolan Thomas
susannolanthomas@gmail.com
(905) 702-0072

Game Times:

**Saturday 10:00 & 3:00
Sunday 10:00 & TBA**

Saturday: Two-Session Stratified

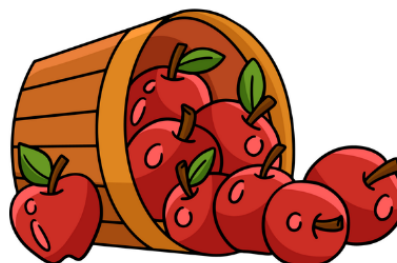
- **499er NLM** (With no one person over 499 MP.) **Single Sessions Welcome.**
- **Open Pairs A/X, B/C/D**

Sunday: Flighted Swiss Teams

- **A/X**
- **B/C/D**

Please note: Stratification is at the discretion of the Director.

**Accessible, Ample Parking
Refreshments
Onsite Concession Stand
Zero Tolerance
Friendly Competition**





Kitchener Local Sectional September 28 & 29, 2024



Saturday, September 28

10:00 am and 2:15 pm

Single Session Stratflighted Pairs

\$13.50 per ACBL member per session

Sunday, September 29

10:00 am & TBD

Stratflighted Swiss Teams

\$27 per ACBL member

Grand River Bridge Club, 2481 Kingsway Drive, Kitchener, 519-893-4595

You must be an ACBL member to play in this tournament.

Lapsed ACBL members must pay an additional \$4 per session / \$8 for Swiss Teams.

Two Flights: A/X (3000+/ 0-3000) and B/C/D (1000-1499/ 300-999/ 0-299)

Stratification is determined by the average of the pair or team.

No player with more than 1,500 masterpoints can play in the B/C/D flight.

All stratifications depend on depth of field. The director may adjust as required.



Optional Lunch \$12 each day

(if you bring your own lunch, be aware that nut products are not allowed in the building)

FREE coffee, tea, and home baking

Tournament Chair: Kathy Russell, GRBCSectional@gmail.com

Partnership Chair: Joe Blake, L16771@yahoo.ca



Click to Register

This event is limited to 24 tables, and pre-registration is strongly encouraged. **ONLY ONE PERSON SHOULD REGISTER ON BEHALF OF EACH PARTNERSHIP OR TEAM.**

Payment can be made by e-transfer to GrandRiverBridgeClubTreasurer@gmail.com (please include the names in the message), or at the door by cash or debit card (please, no credit cards). Players are welcome to try their luck by showing up on the day without having pre-registered, but they risk being turned away. Registration will close for each game as it sells out or at 6:00 pm on Tuesday, September 24, whichever comes first. After the deadline, the club's home page will announce which games, if any, still have space, and players who wish to register for non-sold-out games or to add their name to a waiting list are welcome to send an email to GRBCSectional@gmail.com

COVID Requirements: Proof of vaccination is no longer required; however, players should be prepared to wear a mask when that is requested by another player.

**Masterpoints won in local sectional tournaments are 80%
silver and 20% black.**



91st Western Ontario Sectional Bridge Tournament London, Ontario



American Contract
Bridge League

October 19-20, 2024

London Bridge Centre
1106 Deerness Drive, Unit 9
London, ON N6E 1N9

Saturday, October 19, 10:30 am

Strati-flighted Pairs (Play-through)

A/X: 2500, X: 0-2500

B/C/D 1,000–1999, 500-999, 0-499

Novice Pairs: 0-299 (1 Session)

Lunch at nearby local restaurants

Saturday, October 19, 2:45 pm

Strati-flighted Pairs (2nd Session)

Novice Pairs: 0-299 (1 Session)

Pairs will be stratified by average
masterpoint holdings

Entry Fees:

ACBL Members - \$15.00 / person / session

Non-ACBL Members - \$19.00 / person /
session

Chairperson: Tom Jolliffe
(519) 639-2206
tom.jolliffe@rogers.com

Partnerships: Linda Tindale
(519) 871-3740
tindalin1@gmail.com

Register Online - www.acbl.org

Sunday, October 20, 10:30 am

Bracketed Swiss Teams (Play-through)

*Note: Teams will be bracketed by total
team points.*

Teams: \$120 per team

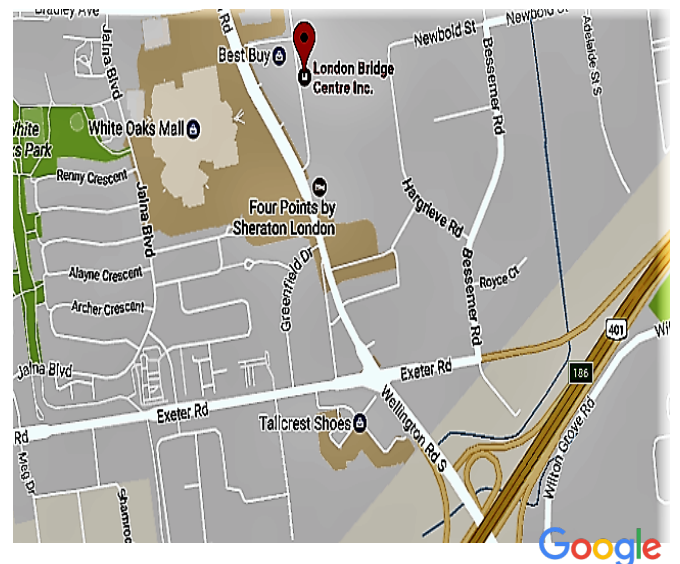
A light lunch will be available on Sunday.

Cost is \$13.

Director-in-charge: Martin Hunter

Register Online Using Entry Express

Go to www.acble.org then click on Menu-
Tournaments-Entry Express.



OAKVILLE FALL REGIONAL

November 5 - 10, 2024
St Volodymyr Cultural Centre
1280 Dundas St W.,
Oakville, ON L6M 4H9
FREE PARKING



Tuesday November 5, 2024

Oakville Bracketed KO Teams
 (1st & 2nd of 4 Sessions) 10:00 & 2:30
 Oakville Open Pairs 10:00 & 2:30
 199er Pairs Single Session 10:00
 Oakville Gold Rush Pairs 10:00 & 2:30

Wednesday November 6

Oakville Bracketed KO Teams
 (3rd & 4th of 4 Sessions) 10:00 & 2:30
 Round Robin Bracketed Teams 10:00 & 2:30
 Oakville Open Pairs 10:00 & 2:30
 199er Pairs Single Session 10:00
 Oakville Gold Rush Pairs 10:00 & 2:30

Thursday November 7

Oakville Bracketed KO Teams
 (1st & 2nd of 4 Sessions) 10:00 & 2:30
 Oakville Open Pairs 10:00 & 2:30
 199er Pairs Single Session 10:00
 Oakville Gold Rush Pairs 10:00 & 2:30
 Hospitality 5:30-6:30

Friday November 8

Oakville Bracketed KO teams
 (3rd & 4th of 4 Sessions) 10:00 & 2:30
 Round Robin Bracketed Teams 10:00 & 2:30
 Oakville Open Pairs 10:00 & 2:30
 199er Pairs Single Session 10:00
 Oakville Gold Rush Pairs 10:00 & 2:30
 Hospitality 5:30-6:30

Saturday November 9

Round Robin Bracketed Teams. 10:00 & 2:30
 Oakville Open Pairs 10:00 & 2:30
 199er Pairs Single Session 10:00
 Oakville Gold Rush Pairs 10:00 & 2:30

Sunday November 10

Bracketed Swiss Teams 10:00 & TBD

Note: Bracket 1 is open to all players. Depending on entries, it may be run with a Swiss movement.

Stratification: Subject to Director's discretion

All four session KO teams use the mini Soloway format. Teams are guaranteed two sessions of play the first day. The top four teams in each group advance to the second day's semifinals.

Gold Rush

750/500/300 Masterpoints
 Each player less than 750mp

199er

0-200 Masterpoints

Open Pairs

Open/2000/1250

\$20/player/session for ACBL members

Extra \$4 for lapsed ACBL members

Free guest membership available for non-ACBL members. Contact Darlene if you require one.

♣ THIS IS A ♦

♥ ZERO TOLERANCE TOURNAMENT ♠

Let's Play Bridge!

Tournament Chair: Darlene Scott
DarleneScott@me.com

Partnership Chair: Janice Upenieks
janice.upenieks@outlook.com

Nearby accommodations that we have a block of rooms.

We strongly recommend booking accommodations early as there is limited space at these rates.

Please mention "AMERICAN CONTACT BRIDGE LEAGUE", dates November 4 through check-out November 10, 2024. Discounted rates are before taxes and while supplies last.

TownePlace Suites by Marriott
754 Bronte Rd,
Oakville, ON L6L 6R8

905-847-6667

\$199 One Bedroom Suite - 2 Beds with Balcony

\$189 One Bedroom Suite - 2 Beds

\$169 Studio Room

Free Parking, Free Wi-fi, Free Full American and Continental and Hot Breakfast, Free Tea and Coffee

ACBL Reservations: <https://www.marriott.com/events/start.mi?id=1714157087869&key=GRP>

Homewood Suites by Hilton
2095 Winston Park Drive,
Oakville, ON L6H 6P5

905-829-9998 ext. 0

\$175 One Bedroom Suite 1 King or Studio Suite 1 King

Free Parking, Free Wi-fi, Free Hot Breakfast

Website: <https://www.hilton.com/en/hotels/yyzovhw-homewood-suites-toronto-oakville/>

Holiday Inn Oakville Centre
590 Argus Road
Oakville, ON L6J 3J3

905-842-5000 / 1-877-660-8550

\$189 Two Double Beds

Free Wi-fi, Free Parking, Full Buffet Breakfast

Website: <https://www.ihg.com/holidayinn/hotels/us/en/oakville/yyzok/hoteldetail>





Niagara Open Sectional November 15-17, 2024

NOTL Community Centre
14 Anderson Lane, NOTL
(off Hwy 55/Mississauga Rd)
905-468-4386



www.unit255.com

Friday November 15, 2024

Open Pairs 1:30pm & 7:00pm
499^{er} Pairs 1:30pm & 7:00pm

Hospitality will follow evening game

Saturday November 16, 2024

Open Pairs 10:00am & 2:30pm
499^{er} Pairs 10:00am & 2:30pm

Lunch will be available for purchase

Hospitality will follow afternoon game

Sunday November 17, 2024

Bracketed Swiss 10:00am playthrough

30 minutes break after 4th Round

Lunch will be available for purchase

FREE Parking

Fantastic Niagara Hospitality

Accommodations and
Restaurants see Reverse or
Website

Tournament Chair:

Cathy Williams 905-979-5063
Email ccwilliams44.cw@gmail.com

Partnership Chair:

Margaret Dykstra 905-732-4324
Email adykstra3@cogeco.ca

Stratification

(Subject to Director's discretion)

Open Pairs 0 to ∞ masterpoints
499^{er} Pairs 0 to 500 masterpoints

General Information

Events can be Playthrough or Single Session
All events will have 3 strata at the Director's discretion.
\$17/player/session for ACBL members
Extra \$4 for lapsed ACBL members
Guest membership for non-ACBL members will be available.
All events stratified by average masterpoint.
Cash and Credit Card accepted

Sectional Tournament Sponsored by

Jaclyn Morrison



(905) 937-0962

jac.morrison@iaprivatewealth.ca



Please Join Us for **Silver*** Points at the
NEWMARKET LOCAL SECTIONAL
October 26 & 27, 2024
held at the Aurora Duplicate Bridge Club.

****IMPORTANT NOTE**** *This event is limited to 25 tables so players should preregister with the Registration Chair, Sally Loates. Sally can be reached at saraloates@yahoo.com or cell# 647-339-0367.*

Event Schedule (at the Director's discretion)

Saturday, Oct. 26 - Pairs 10:30 am & 2:30 pm – separate sessions.

Stratified Open Pairs	A- 2000+	B: 750 – 2000	C: 0 - 749
Stratified Limited Pairs	0 - 300 Pairs		
Stratified Limited Pairs	0 – 50 Pairs (if numbers sufficient)		

Sunday, Oct. 27 - Stratified Swiss Teams **10:30 am. & TBD**

Play through. Pizza can be purchased on-site.

Flight A/X: (separate) A=3000+ X=0-3000

Flights B/C/D: B=750-2000 C=300-749 D=0-299

Stratification is determined by the average of the pair or team. However, averaging does not allow a player to play in a strat if the player's total masterpoint holding is greater than that stratification's maximum number of points.

Session Fees: \$13 (Includes HST) for ACBL members
(Cash only) (\$4 additional fee for unpaid or non-ACBL members)
\$5 for students

Special rate for players with 0 – 20 masterpoints - \$8

Tournament Chair – Linda Lord, lindaleelord@hotmail.com, 905-713-9141

Location – entrance at rear of Newmarket Veterans Assoc. Bldg, 406 Millard, Newmarket, Ont. L3Y 1Z9. Free parking on-site or on adjacent side streets.

***Masterpoints won in Local Sectionals are 80% silver and 20% black.**

TOURNAMENT TRAIL

Page numbers (p.) refer to ads in this issue. An asterisk (*) means tournament information was in the previous issue.

Information is subject to change - check www.unit166.ca or www.acbl.org for up-to-date information.

All tournaments are Sectionals unless noted.

2024

August

16-18 Niagara 0-750
 20-25 Can-Am Regional, Laval
 21-24 Sudbury Regional, p. 39
 31- Sept. 2 Toronto **CANCELLED**

September

7-8 St. Thomas, p. 41
 9-15 District 2 Clubs STaC
 21-22 Peterborough (local), p. 42
 28-29 Brampton, p. 43
 28-29 Kitchener (local), p. 44

October

19-20 London, p. 45
 19-20 Orillia (local)
 26-27 Newmarket (local), p. 49

November

5-10 Oakville Fall Regional, p. 46
 15-17 Niagara-on-the-Lake, p. 48
 28-Dec. 8 Las Vegas NABC

2025

January

3-5 Toronto
 3-5 Toronto NLM Regional

February

7-9 St. Catharines

March

13-23 Memphis NABC

April

15-20 Toronto Easter Regional
 19 GNT, District 2 finals

May

3-4 Barrie (local)
 24-25 Grand River (Cambridge)

June

6-8 Niagara-on-Lake I/N
 21-22 Peterborough
 25-29 Can-At, Fredericton NB

July

1-6 Waterloo Regional

Deadline for the Winter Kibitzer: October 20, 2024

The Kibitzer

Andy Stark

36 Poucher St., Toronto ON M4J 2Y9