

The Kibitzer



Fall 2019

Volume 66, Number 3



Jackie Syer's license plate.

2019 Kate Buckman Award Winner
Jackie Syer, holding the trophy
with her daughter Marcia Syer-Poyntz



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is Eddie Kantar’s series called “Take All Your Chances.” Although his hands are aimed towards the newer-to-advancing player, there’s something in his work for everyone.

As for local players’ success, Susan Cooper of Toronto and Andrew Russell of St. Catharines were on a team that finished third overall in the 0-10,000 Mixed Swiss Teams. And the Kibitzer’s photographer Jonathan Steinberg did well, racking up over 110 masterpoints with his partner Alex Hudson.

On a sad note, Toronto’s David Caplan passed away in late July. Please see page 42 for some kind words by Fred Gitelman.

As always, “If you send, we print; if you no send, we no print.” Keep those articles coming!

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

Editor’s Note

The summer is winding down and the bridge play just keeps on rolling. Hope to see you at one of the many fall regionals on the schedule: there’s Orillia in September, Buffalo in October, and Niagara Falls in November. See the back page for dates.

Recently the NABCs were held in Las Vegas. One of the highlights of reading the online Daily Bulletins (www.acbl.org)

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To view the minutes of the Unit166 Board meeting held last January please click on unit166.ca and then click on 'Meeting Minutes' in the left column.

The next Unit 166 Board meeting is scheduled for Saturday August 31, 2019 at 10:30 am at the Holiday Inn, Yorkdale.

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District 2 Website

(Visit www.acbldistrict2.org for details)

- All District 2 tournaments & results
- District 2 business
- NAP/GNT tournament information
- District 2 Director's page for ACBL news & info
- Graham Warren is the District tournament coordinator - gwarren@rogers.com
- Martin Hunter the NAP/GNT coordinator - martinhunter@rogers.com



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Unit 246 Items of Interest

(Visit www.unit246.com for details)

- 1st time members of the ACBL can apply to the Unit 246 Board for a \$20 rebate for their 2nd year of ACBL membership
- Bridge teachers can list their services on the Unit 246 website free



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**The Unit 249 Annual General Meeting
will be held at 10:30 am,
Saturday, September 7, 2019 at the
St. Thomas Jumbo Sectional
located at the
St Thomas Seniors Centre,
225 Chestnut St., St. Thomas, ON.**



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Notice to All Clubs & Tournament Managers in Units 166, 246, 249 & 255

If you plan to run a tournament, please check with your Unit Coordinator to see if the date is free. There is an agreement among the four Units in southern Ontario that their tournaments will not compete with one another. This does not apply to those clubs which have an historic tournament weekend - they are set aside for you.

Graham Warren, District 2 Tournament Coordinator



Day of Bridge

The London Bridge Centre participated in the Canadian Bridge Federation's Day of Bridge on Wednesday, June 19. Five separate sessions of bridge were played during the Day of Bridge, along with a Silent Auction and a Play with a Master Auction. Personal donations, combined with almost 100 items contributed by members to the Silent Auction, resulted in the members of the London Bridge Centre raising \$7,901 for the Alzheimer Society London and Middlesex.

The CEO of the Alzheimer Society of London Middlesex, Carol Walters, was extremely grateful for the efforts undertaken by the London Bridge Centre, which over the past three years has raised over \$23,000 in support of the local Alzheimer Society.

Many thanks to Jackie Potters and her Day of Bridge Committee (Louise Caicco, Sheila Elston, Angela Francolini, Betty Grant, Francoise Greenwell, Tom Jolliffe, Alison Marr and John Stoffman) for organizing this successful event and to the members of the London Bridge Centre for their generous support of the Alzheimer Society London and Middlesex.

For the members of the London Bridge Centre, the Day of Bridge continues to be a fun filled event for our members, while also helping to support those impacted by Alzheimer's Disease. The strong sense of community experienced at LBC is greatly enhanced by our participation in such a worthy cause. Regardless of the Masterpoints awarded, we were all winners in the Day of Bridge.

Pictured above from left to right: Ken Wigle, Aaron Brown and Tom Jolliffe.

The Kibitzer Information

A printed version of The Kibitzer is now available. Please see page 17 for how you can subscribe. The Kibitzer is available online at www.unit166.ca, every three months: February, May, August, and November. Readers are invited to share their email addresses with the ACBL so that they may receive notification The Kibitzer is ready for viewing.

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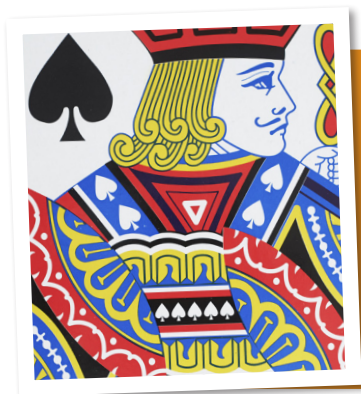
IMPORTANT KIBITZER DATES:

Issue:	Deadline:	Online Posting:
Winter	Nov. 1	Nov. 15
Spring 2020	Feb. 1	Feb. 15
Summer 2020	May 1	May 15
Fall 2020	Aug. 1	Aug. 15

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.

Kib Interview with Greg Coles



Last we saw Greg Coles he was directing at the Thornhill Sectional over the Canada Day Weekend. At that time his life was upside down as he and his wife were in the middle of a move to Horn Lake where he has been recently hired by the ACBL to work in their IT department.

Kib: So, Greg—have you settled in yet?

We're not moved yet, I went down there last month to close the deal on the new house but we only put our house here up for sale the day we left for Horn Lake. That was May 14th when we listed and we sold it on May 19th. Our closing is July 3rd so we'll be heading south on either July 2nd or 3rd depending on when we're ready to go. I am working the Thornhill Sectional June 29 and 30 and then my bridge club is having a going away party for me on July 1 so leaving before all of that isn't feasible.

Kib: Sounds like a great photo op. Can you send us a photo?

I don't have many photos but I will send you one we took in our new kitchen of our place down south. Of

course, the Halloween picture you have of Mr. Avery and me, on the Kibitzer cover last year, is always a good one.

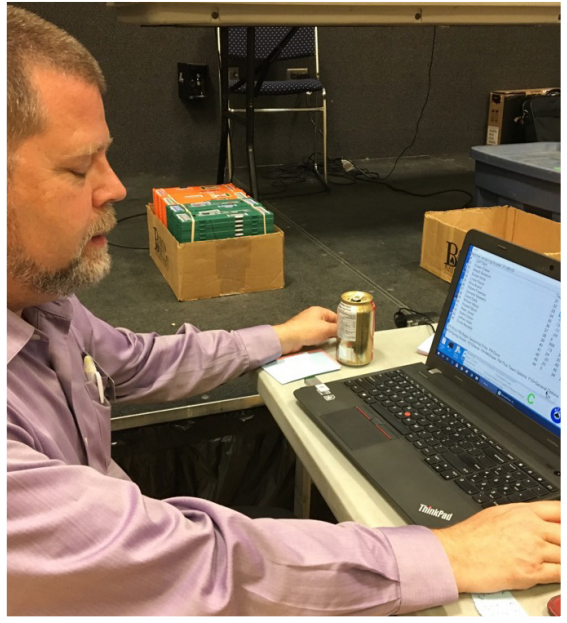
Kib: So let's go back closer to the beginning. How did you get started in our game?

My "bridge story" is rather fascinating (at least in my humble opinion). I'll try to keep it brief and I am sure you'll need to make it even briefer. Here we go....

The first time I played bridge "for real" was September 15, 2004. Prior to that, I had seen my parents and a few of my aunts and uncles playing it at some family reunions. My cousins and I were always busy playing euchre so we didn't pay much attention. In my late teens, I'd often borrow books from my older brother's library and one day I found one called, "The Joy of Bridge" by Audrey Grant. I read it from cover to cover multiple times – it was fascinating. As a side note, Audrey was and still is one of my bridge heroes. She's one of only two celebrities who I've ever asked for an autograph – the other being Ozzy

Osbourne. It's pretty cool that I now consider her a friend as well as a hero. Anyway, while it was a fun read, I didn't have anyone to play bridge with so my fascination with the game went on the back burner for over a decade.

Fast forward to about 2001, the whole "internet thing" had started to catch on. I discovered a site called Pogo and saw that, amongst dozens of games, they had rubber bridge. I remembered the book so I decided to give it a shot. I knew almost nothing but began to learn quickly. I started partnering quite frequently with a lady from Tennessee and one evening she asked me if I'd ever played Duplicate Bridge to which I replied "I have no clue what that is." She assured me I'd be very good at it and asked me if she could send me some books. What she sent me were the Easybridge manuals which I also read from cover to cover multiple times. She also told me about the ACBL. I joined just to start getting the magazine – I was a member for about three years before I ever earned even a fraction of a masterpoint. Eventually BBO came along and I started playing a little bit on there. In the summer of 2004 BBO added ACBL sanctioned games. Keep in mind that I was now in my early thirties. I had two very young children and I was an executive, a workaholic executive – an 80 hour work week was normal for me so there wasn't a lot of time to spend playing games (it was mostly when I was



A rare action photo of a Director at work! Here's Greg at his laptop preparing his homegrown program to get the Thornhill Bracketed Swiss up and running.

in hotels while travelling). I played in a grand total of two sanctioned games on BBO in August of 2004, doing very well in one and just scratching in the other. I had earned my first points! Another big event that happened that summer was that my position at work changed so I was travelling far less and my schedule wasn't as hectic. I saw an ad in the newspaper for the Midland Duplicate Bridge Club and I decided to give them a call. They found me a partner so on Wednesday evening of September 15, 2004 I ventured off to the bridge club for the very first time. I had no idea how that night was going to change my life forever!

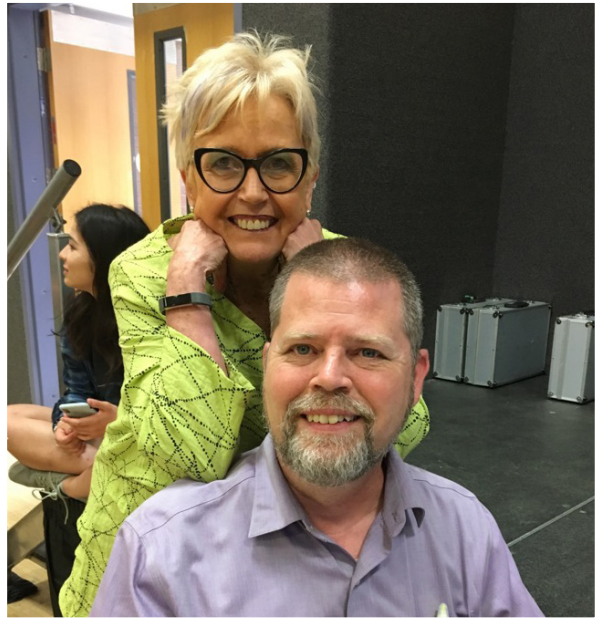
When I arrived, the Partnership Coordinator whom I'd spoken to introduced me to the Club Manager. He needed to add me into their system so I gave him my ACBL number. He said that he'd heard that I already had some masterpoints to which I proudly responded, "Yes, 1.08!" I had never seen a board, a bidding box or a traveler – but I was playing bridge. It was also that night that my journey into bridge technology started. At the end of the game I said to the manager "So, will the results be on the internet or...?"

This got a little chuckle as a response. He explained that he took the scores home and that I'd get to see my results next week – the club didn't even have a computer! I immediately started researching on how to build a free website and the club's first website was launched just over a month later. It also turned out that my partner and I had won that evening so my masterpoint total almost doubled.

One thing led to another: I played every Wednesday evening at the club with my first regular partner BJ Kubetz.

We played for a few years before BJ unfortunately passed away, rather suddenly, in 2007. I then began to play with my club partner who I still play with today, Anna Jansen. Around 2006, the Club Manager, Bill Francis, encouraged me to become a club director and then shortly after that

he asked me to take over his job. I joined the Unit Board (thanks to strong encouragement from Tom Kinnear), took the teacher accreditation (from my hero Audrey), and became a TA (Tournament Assistant, that's a tournament director who doesn't actually work for the ACBL). Somewhere around 2009 something else very interesting happened – I got the invite into the "secret club." Every bridge area has that group of expert players and I've often described it as a secret club. It doesn't matter how good you are, you don't get into that club until a member of the club invites you. It was George Knight who extended me that invitation. George is an incredible card player and he's a very observant guy – he had noticed a lot of potential in my game. I have played MANY sessions with George since



*Thornhill Sectional Directors
Nancy Strachan and Greg Coles.*

then and I can honestly say that I've thoroughly enjoyed each and every one of them. Even when we're not playing our best, we still have a lot of fun. I also learned a lot from him and I think he'd be the first to admit that he's learned a few things from me as well. Through George's introduction I have also played many sessions with Rob Avery, Bill Koski, Susie Cooper, Randal Davidson, to name a few. What a fun bunch of people! If anyone feels that I've contributed to the "bridge scene" in Ontario then next time you see them, thank Tom Kinnear and/or George Knight. If it wasn't for the support and encouragement from those two gentlemen there would be a good chance that none of this would have happened.

In late 2014, after working several tournaments as a TA, I was asked to join the ACBL as a part-time employee working as a Tournament Director. I now had a new reason to work on "bridge technology" – I didn't have a rack. A rack is that awful looking vinyl thing that we hang on the wall

at tournaments for teams to get their assignments when playing team games. As stated earlier, I didn't have one and if I was going to run a tournament on my own then I'd need something. I decided that I could probably write a computer program to do it and project the assignments on the wall. Computer programming has been an on and off hobby of mine since I was about 12 years old. The program has gone through many iterations; it started with Swiss but then I realized that the huge benefit of using technology is to help with the start of KO's and Bracketed Swiss events.

Kib: Greg, we've seen your program in action and it really helps expedite the game. Have you received good feedback on it?

Sorry, Andy, gotta go. The movers are here! Maybe we can continue this conversation at a later date?

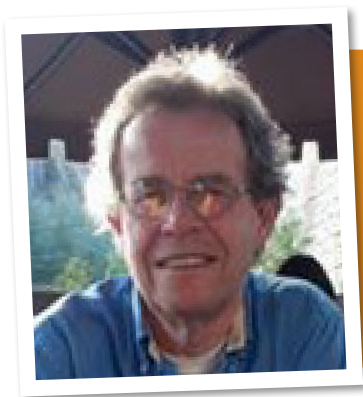
Kib: Sure thing, Greg. All the best down in Horn Lake! ♠



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For Newer Players

By Robert Griffiths

Eddie Kantar Hand

This is a hand I ‘borrowed’ from Eddie Kantar’s tips for newer players. With EW passing throughout, North opens 1♦, South responds 2♣, North raises to 3♣ and South tries to find 3NT by bidding 3♠, showing his good stopper. North will have none of that and merely retreats to 4♣ so South tries 5♣, ending the auction.

Board 4

Dlr: West

Vul: Both

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

West finds the ♥K opening lead; East wins the second heart and comes back with the ♠9. Declarer is at the crossroads. He has only two reasonable chances to make 5♣, either by taking the spade finesse or to set up dummy’s diamonds for two spade pitches. East’s spade switch has forced him to make an early decision.

Should South play the ♠Q on the lead or go up with the ace to rely on a 3-3 diamond split? Although most newer players should not be worried about precise decimal fractions, they should know this much: the chance of any finesse working with no extenuating factors is about 50%; the chance of an even split of an even number of outstanding cards in any suit is less than 50%. That is, missing 6 cards, the odds of a 3-3 split are less than 50% (36% if you want to be precise).

What does this mean? His chances are better by taking the spade finesse at trick 3 (50%) than they would be by playing for a 3-3 split in diamonds (36%).

But what if the hand were just a teensy bit different, like this:

Board 4

Dir: West

Vul: Both

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

The only difference here is that now South has only one spade loser and so, needs only a 3-3 or 4-2 diamond split to pitch his one losing spade (he has lots of dummy entries to set up the long diamond). Now, the odds favour playing the ♠A on the third trick to go after the diamonds. The chance of an acceptable split is the aforementioned 36% plus the chance of a 4-2 split which is 48% for a total of 84%). That makes setting up a diamond trick for one pitch the heavy favourite.

Playing with the odds on any given hand doesn't guarantee success and sometimes you will see the newer players scoring higher than the more experienced because the stronger players play with the odds and some hands go against the odds. Having said that, you do want to give yourself the best chance every time you can.

I have pasted a probability table below. Notice that with an odd number of missing cards, the 'good' split is most likely outcome. But with an even number (except 2), the most likely outcome is a 'bad' split. That is, with 4 cards missing do not expect a 2-2 split; with 6 missing, do not expect 3-3 and with 8 missing, do not expect 4-4.

# of cards missing	Distribution	Probability	Combinations
2	1 - 1	0.52	2
	2 - 0	0.48	2
3	2 - 1	0.78	6
	3 - 0	0.22	2
4	2 - 2	0.41	6
	3 - 1	0.50	8
	4 - 0	0.10	2
5	3 - 2	0.68	20
	4 - 1	0.28	10
	5 - 0	0.04	2
6	3 - 3	0.36	20
	4 - 2	0.48	30
	5 - 1	0.15	12
	6 - 0	0.01	2
7	4 - 3	0.62	70
	5 - 2	0.31	42
	6 - 1	0.07	14
	7 - 0	0.01	2
8	4 - 4	0.33	70
	5 - 3	0.47	112
	6 - 2	0.17	56
	7 - 1	0.03	16
	8 - 0	0.00	2

Risking an Overtrick

Do you risk a sure contract to make an overtrick?

Here's a recent tournament hand where I, West, dealt and passed. North opened 1♦ and my partner Mike Peng overcalled 1NT. South might have muddied the waters by bidding spades but chose to pass. I bid 2NT, inviting game in NT and Mike, with his maximum, accepted.

Against 3NT, South led the ♠6, North played the queen and Mike was in with the king at trick one. Mike can count nine tricks now: five clubs, two diamonds, one heart and one spade.

But, he is playing slowly, watching the opponents' cards as he cashes his clubs, then plays the ♦A and ♦K and is in the dummy.

Mike has won 8 tricks and now leads a heart towards his ♥AQ. There are 15 HCPs combined in the opponents' hands; North opened the bidding and South has shown up with one point so far, the ♣J, leaving 14 undetermined points. All Mike cares about here is the ♥K. He has been watching for opponents' signals in the heart suit. But competent players cannot be trusted to give honest signals in a situation like this.

Could North have opened the bidding without the ♥K? Yes, he might have opened with a light 11 HCP and South could be sitting with that card. Should Mike take the heart finesse, risking his contract?

Board 28

Dir: West

Vul: N-S

♠ A Q 5
♥ K 5 4 2
♦ Q J 6 4
♣ 6 3

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

This hand was from a pair game, where the scoring heavily rewards the largest score; scoring +430 when much of the field is scoring +400 would give an excellent matchpoint result. Of course, losing the finesse and scoring -50 would score close to 0. Mike considered all of this and decided to risk the finesse---it won and we scored 73% on the hand with our +430.

Mike realized that North, the opening bidder was a heavy favourite to hold the ♥K and it was worth the risk.

But, what if this hand were played in a team game, which rewards bidding and making games? Now the odds change. When there are 9 tricks and a score of +400 available, it would be foolish to risk this score based on the knowledge gained from the opponents' bidding. Opponents sometimes deceive us with their bids. In this case, declarer should not take the finesse and should be happy to score up the +400. If the finesse wins it will lead to +420, a gain

of 1 IMP. But if the finesse loses, leading to -50, the loss will be heavy: 11 IMPs away. In short, in team games, don't

take risky overtricks as they are not worth the risk.

A Very Big Double

East dealt and opened 1♦ and South had to stop to catch his breath. His plan was to open 2♣ then rebid 2NT to show his flat 23 HCP but East had rained on his parade. South briefly considered quitting bridge altogether but decided to give it one more try. He started with a double. There are Normal doubles and there are Big doubles. This one is a Very Big Double. After West's pass, North should bid 1♠, not because the spades are better but just in case, as happens here, he finds that he needs to bid again.

After East passes, South has a way to clarify his strength. If he had 15-18 HCP he would have immediately bid 1NT over East's 1♦ bid. If he had 19-21 he would double 1♦, then bid the cheapest NT over North's response. With 22-23 HCP, South doubles then jumps in NT, bidding 2NT over North's 1♠.

On hearing about South's monster hand, North can afford to clarify his shape. He bids 3♥, which shows at least a four-card heart suit. And, since he bid spades first, he must have at least five spades. (With 4-4 in the majors, he would have bid hearts first). Even though North's hand has not much in the way of high cards, he should do his best to direct South to play in a major.

The 3♥ bid should be enough for South

to jump to 4♠. No matter how bad North's hand is, South wants to be in game if North has shape.

Board 6

Dir: East

Vul: E-W

♠ Q J 9 6 5

♥ 10 9 7 5 2

♦ 7 3

♣ 9

♠ 4 3 2

♥ 6 3

♦ J 4 2

♣ J 10 6 5 4

♠ K 7

♥ J 8 4

♦ K Q 10 9 6

♣ K 8 2

♠ A 10 8

♥ A K Q

♦ A 8 5

♣ A Q 7 3

East leads his ♦K, South puts his 23 points on the table for all to see, and North makes his plan. He has a diamond loser, and possible losers in spades and hearts.

North wins the ♦A in dummy, plays the ♣A and ruffs a club to his hand to lead the ♠Q. He finds the ♠K outside and spades split 3-2 so there is no loser there. After drawing trumps, he can play the ♥AKQ to discover no losers there, so he easily makes 12 tricks.

While it's hard to bid the slam, no pairs should stop short of game. This hand was played in an A-X game as well as a Gold Rush game. 14 of the 16 A-X pairs

reached a major suit game but only about half of the Gold Rush pairs did so, many of them playing in 3NT which has no hope on a diamond lead. There are 2 bidding problems here: South needs to show his monstrous balanced hand and North, with his 3 HCPs has do his best to find the major fit.

The newer players probably had trouble describing a hand as strong as South's after the opponents opened

the bidding. But, somewhere in one's bidding toolbox should be the means to describe this strong a hand without simply jumping to 3NT. This is which is what I suspect many of the Gold Rush players did.

And the North players might not realize the importance of playing in one of their majors if partner held a very strong NT hand.

Recognizing the Danger Hand

South dealt and opened 1♣. West passed and North bid 1♦; East passed. South then bid 1NT and North made it simple, jumping to 3NT.

Board 26

Dir: South

Vul: Both

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

West led the fourth best spade, the ♠7 and declarer counted his tricks. On the spade lead, he has two spades and three clubs and needs to find four more tricks. Where should he look for them?

There are potential tricks in the red suits but South has to be careful. He cannot afford to lose trick 2 to East; a spade will come back through South's ♠A10 and EW will have three spade tricks and two red aces to set the contract.

So, how can South set up red tricks without losing control? Answer: by crossing to dummy with a club at trick 2 and leading a low diamond. Now, if East has the ♦A and he hops up with it, South will have four diamond tricks, enough for his contract. If East ducks the diamond, South will have one diamond trick "in the bag" and can set up his nine tricks by working on hearts. And, if West has the ♦A, he cannot threaten the contract because a spade lead from the West side gives South an extra spade trick.

South has to realize that the danger hand here is East because East can lead spades to the defenders' advantage. So, South has to control how he loses the lead; here if East wins trick 3 without capturing a diamond honour, South has the timing for nine tricks, just as he does if East ducks. ♠

Jackie Syer: Winner of the 2019 Kate Buckman Award

If you played at the Toronto Summer Regional you walked by Jackie Syer—she was busy working the partnership desk. If you frequent any one of the three bridge clubs she runs (Halton, Bronte, and Shoreline Bridge Club) you see Jackie on a regular basis. And you have the added bonus of knowing how tasty her homemade snacks are. Jackie, a deserving recipient of the Kate Buckman Award, was presented with the trophy last July by Unit 166's Andy Risman (see front cover).

I first met Jackie back in the mid-90s at John Rayner's Mississauga-Oakville Bridge Club. She was new to the club and somewhat new to duplicate bridge, but she carried an air of confidence: she refused to be intimidated by the more experienced players. She played with Val Speakman in those days—they were both pleasant to play with and against, and both eager to learn.

Fast forward to today and now Jackie is running her own games. She took the games over from people who were 'retiring.' Jackie decided from the get-go that she would run the games with the intent of growing them. She says, "There are two components to bridge—people and masterpoints, and you better put people first."

So successful are her club games that she now requires pre-registration. She gets up to 28 tables in the peak bridge seasons of fall and spring. What her players have come to know is that her games



Toronto 2017 NABC volunteers:
Charlotte St. Amant, Jackie Syer & Lyn Stevens

Photo by J.S.

start on time—not a minute late. She employs good directors (Nancy Strachan, Martin Hunter, Murray Shapcott, Chris Cowan, Sherill Bain, and Peter Basciano) if not directing herself. If someone shows up without a partner Jackie is available to fill in. Players are guaranteed to play 24-27 boards per session. And then there's the secret to winning over bridge players: through their stomachs. Jackie bakes delicious goodies which are eagerly gobbled up. Come for the bridge; stay for the banana bread!

But not only does Jackie play bridge, she quilts, too! It even says so on her license plate: "I QUILT 2" (see front cover). Her friend Carl Yanch attempted to get "I QUILT" but that plate was already assigned so the 2 was added. Once at a traffic light, a guy in a pickup truck pulled up beside her, rolled down his window and asked

Jackie, "Ma'am, what else do you do?" Jackie had a good laugh at that one. And boy does she quilt—some of her quilts have won awards.

Jackie got her start in bridge soon after marrying her husband Bruce. The game piqued her interest in more than one way because her in-laws played duplicate by driving to the game in separate cars. (There was not one argument in the car on the way home.) When she first told her mother-in-law that she was interested in taking up bridge Jackie was met with, "That'll be a waste of your money." Jackie fondly recalled an early auction in a game versus Bruce's boss. It went 1♣ by Bruce, Pass by the boss, 5♣ by Jackie. The boss then asked, "Do you play Gorem?" You read that right: "Gorem" is what he asked. It was around 1993, soon after Bruce died, that Jackie ventured out to Rayner's club.

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See page 32-33 for full tourney schedule

Jackie volunteered at the two most recent Toronto NABCs, in 2011 and 2017. She knows marketing and the proof is in the numbers—she has successfully grown each game and will continue to provide a fun, efficiently

run, pleasant game for all the lucky players out in the Oakville-Burlington area. Congratulations, Jackie and thank you for all you do to enhance bridge players' enjoyment of the game! ♠

Jackie's award-winning quilts



This quilt was inspired by a picture from an Australian magazine, has 2160 pieces, and took roughly two months to complete using over 700 different colours

The design is called a traditional Pineapple Quilt containing 2550 pieces that took about six weeks to complete



A scrap quilt using multi colours on a black background—1250 pieces + 1 (Teddy)



When To Be High At The Table

By Michael Schoenborn
(the Shoe)

It was a great pleasure for Fred Lerner and me to be added to Doug Andrews' BC team of Michael Dimich, Nick Stock, and Stephen Vincent for the Canadian Championships. We reached the final of the CSTC, where Fred and I left the boys to finish up in a very tough spot, trailing by 35 IMPs in the last quarter.

When the smoke cleared after the final quarter, we had lost by 2 IMPs. At least, on the official scorecard it was 2 IMPs, but it was really 11 IMPs less a 9 IMP cellphone penalty for the malefactors on the other team. The cell phone penalty is, in my opinion, excellent for round robin play where it amounts to a victory point penalty, which is what it should be. The penalty could use some revision for knockout phases, being basically meaningless unless the offending side wins by 1 to 8 IMPs. In that narrow range, the penalty becomes the full match. It would have been embarrassing to win by fewer than 9 IMPs in these circumstances and I would hope that as a team, we would have found a way to decline.

As it was, it was a demonstration of the terrific character of this team that the final tally became a race to assume the blame: Fred and I for sitting out after earlier missed opportunities. Or Nick Stock and Stephen Vincent because they went for a 500 number on a partscore hand when Marty Kirr found a first chair, vulnerable preempt with ♠3 ♥A 8 7 6 5 3 2 ♦Q 10 5 ♣K 10. After the near-automatic takeout double, three spades down two doubled was the best remaining outcome for our side, and the actual result was lose 360 against two hearts making three in the other room, 9 IMPs away. Marty claims three spades doubled should have been 800 with the automatic trump lead, but he was distracted into leading the ace of hearts, as just as he was about to lead, his cell phone rang. A push for three hearts making would have produced a theoretical win by 7 for our side, but I'm still thanking Nick and Stephen for not letting that happen, because it would have meant we win on the inane cell phone penalty.

The serious contender in the blame game was a hand where both sides

bid and made a vulnerable 4♠ for plus 620. Any one of several defences, each simple but nearly invisible, beats four spades. If our side manages it, we pick up twelve IMPS for the win by one, without any need to rely on the penalty. This hand was the culprit (directions rotated for convenience):

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

Versus 4♠, both Wests led the singleton diamond, won by declarer's ace. Declarer could take the heart finesse right now, but Doug Andrews reports that at his table, declarer led a club (club #1) at trick two, losing to the jack. The defence then proceeded with bewildering options, one more obscure than the next, as follows:

GOOD; small trump back by East

With the eight in dummy, an equal, declarer carelessly played low, having already failed to take the heart finesse. Doug immediately faults himself for having failed to put in the seven of spades to dummy-lock declarer, who would then be wishing he had taken the heart hook at trick two before the club exit.

The defence is still not trivial after declarer enforcedly wins dummy's eight and deliberately gives Doug his diamond ruff. Trumps are now 1-1 and declarer has the ace. Now what, for the defence?

A heart looks tough for declarer, especially the king, to dummy-lock declarer again. Who finds these defences at the table? Apparently no-one. In any event, a heart return would fail to defeat the contract. Declarer wins two hearts, pitching club #2. Then a heart down, overruffing East if necessary, and ruff club #3. Pitch club #4 on dummy's last high diamond as Doug ruffs with the king of spades, total loss: one club and two trump tricks.



How about a club back instead of a heart? That works. Declarer ruffs club #2, but cannot complete his club pitches in time.

HOWEVER, declarer should have played the nine, ten or jack of trumps from his hand on the return of a small trump. Then if Doug won the king, the best shot would be to lead a club, punching dummy. Now, however, there is no punishment for having overlooked the heart finesse, which is no longer needed. Ace and a heart ruff would permit trump to be drawn with no loser. Declarer makes five trump tricks in hand, one club ruff, the ace of hearts and three diamonds: ten tricks in all.

If Doug instead chose to commit suicide by ducking the king of spades, a heart hook, one club pitch (#2) and an eventual club ruff (#3) will lead to a situation where declarer is ruffing hearts to exit dummy and draw trump. Declarer must ensure that East does not gain the lead with a club to give partner the diamond ruff. Thus, on the third heart from dummy when declarer has one club (#4) remaining, if East trumps with the queen of spades, declarer must pitch his last club. Doug only gets a diamond ruff with the K 7 of trump remaining, and that was a trick in any event. If East does not ruff, the club is still pitched and later, declarer can draw trump to score a second diamond trick.

There is yet another HOWEVER. My reports say declarer actually took the heart hook before exiting with a club.

If that happens, it eliminates Doug's sensational play of the seven of trumps for the dummy-lock. Now it becomes Michael Dimich's turn to step up gallantly to volunteer for the blame on a preferable defence that would have been:

BETTER: shift to the QUEEN of spades, after declarer starts with the heart finesse and exits a club

East wins and shifts to the queen of spades. Declarer cannot duck, as a second trump means instant defeat. So he wins the ace and takes the club ruff (#2) and pitches club #3 on the ace of hearts, intending to sever communications by leading a low heart from dummy and pitching club #4. East foils this plan by trumping the heart loser, forcing declarer as he has to overruff. Now a trump lead is won by the king and West travels to partner on the ace of clubs to score the diamond ruff for one down, at last.

If you weren't up to the queen of spades shift, I have not found anyone else who was. But in case you are still interested, there is an alternate play that allows partner to be the brilliant one instead of you. Then he can take the blame:

BEST: Win the club and give partner his diamond ruff to excommunicate dummy. From there, let partner figure it out:

This is the ending, after the diamond lead won by South, heart finesse won by dummy, low club from dummy, East winning, and then diamond ruff:

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

You need two more tricks, presumably a club and a trump, so you have to stop two club ruffs in dummy. This means you must lead a trump, in such a way as to set up partner's trump trick and to retain your low trump to ruff a further club pitch on a high diamond. At the other table, John Carruthers defended by giving Marty Kirr the diamond ruff. Marty then had to find the only winning play: returning the king of spades. He considered it but talked himself out of it, on the basis that partner had the club count and would have returned a trump if declarer had four clubs.

So it could realistically have been Marty apologizing, which seems only fair, it seems to me, given that his robust preempt had worked out so well, cell phone and all.

David Turner asks if you can make the hand double dummy. I don't think so, as long as the lead is the singleton diamond. Options to lines of play already shown would be to try to draw trump from dummy. That will be foiled if East rises with the queen of trump. The other possibility is to lead back a diamond to tap West right away. Are you getting the hang of this? West must trump and lead back the king of spades, shifting to a heart if declarer ducks. This hand proves conclusively that it is always right to be high at the first legal opportunity.

Maybe the queen of spades shift was the least complicated option, all told, for the defence. Anyway, four spades making was a terrific result for Nick Stock and Stephen Vincent, but only turned out to be a momentous push. Lose by two, or by eleven in the real world.

So the guy with the cell phone never had to take the blame. Which brings us back to the issue of cell phone penalties... ♠





Could This Be Magic?

By Ray Jotcham

Continuing on with my theme of magical results at the bridge table: it is round one of the open Swiss at the 2019 Toronto Regional. You hold the following hand as South:

Vul E-W ♠ A 10
 ♥ A K Q 6
 ♦ 8 3 2
 ♣ Q 9 8 6

The auction:

West	North	East	South
1♦	2♥*	Dbf	5♣
Dbf	Pass	5♦	Dbf
Pass	6♣!	All Pass	

Partner's call of 2♥ showed a hand with length in both black suits. Opposite Kxxxx in both black suits, I figured to have a play for 5♣ with favourable breaks. The rest of the auction is totally inexplicable.

The opening lead is a low heart, and dummy appears:

♠ J 9 8 6 3
 ♥ 3
 ♦ 7 5
 ♣ J 10 7 5 4

♠ A 10
 ♥ A K Q 6
 ♦ 8 3 2
 ♣ Q 9 8 6

At least I'm not doubled, and the heart lead has saved a couple of losers. I can now get out for two down for -100 which is not good, but not a disaster. I cash my hearts, shedding dummy's diamonds. Now I play ace and ten of spades, giving East the lead. He returns a diamond which I ruff in dummy. Now a spade ruff in hand, a diamond ruff in dummy, and a final spade ruff in hand. I'm prepared to lose the AK of trumps and so continue my crossruff, except my third diamond ruff in dummy is over-ruffed by the club ace from East, who then returns a diamond!

One of the oldest laws in bridge states that if a player wins a trick by revoking, he is penalized that trick plus one of any subsequent tricks won by his side. So the defenders scored **NO** tricks in trumps holding the ace and king! +920,

and a good pick-up. Well bid, partner! Needless to say, with this start, my team went on to win the event. My apologies to those teams that finished behind us.

A second example occurred at a local club. The declarer is a fine player, but for some reason, he has difficulty in holding on to his partners for more than a few weeks. The auction proceeded:

West	North	East	South
Pass	INT	Pass	1♠
All pass			2♥

Partner led the ♦4, and the following dummy appeared:

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

I won the ace of diamonds and returned a diamond to partner's king. A diamond ruff put me in again. Declarer was now marked with a 5-4-3-1 or 5-5-3-0. So a club return cannot cost; I returned a club to declarer's seven, partner's king, and dummy's ace. Declarer now led dummy's spade ten. I declined to cover, and partner was allowed to win the king. Declarer's hand is an open book now: five spades headed by ♠AJ and four hearts headed by ♥AJ. Partner now returned the club four covered by the five and ten (shades of Kresge's, the five and ten cent store) and ruffed by declarer. With the spades three-three, it looks as though declarer can ruff a spade

to establish the suit and then take a heart finesse to make his contract.

However, when he cashed the spade ace, I played the queen! Now the wheels started turning. It looked as though the clubs were 4-4 and he knew I had two diamonds. If I had only two spades, then I had all five missing hearts and he had no hope of making the contract. He decided to play for a safe down one. He led the spade jack, pitching a club from dummy and was surprised when I followed low. Another spade was led and partner cooperated by ruffing with the heart nine over-ruffed by the queen and king. Now a high club forced declarer to decide if I had false-carded in clubs as well. He guessed wrong, and I scored the heart ten for a one-trick set. The complete deal:

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

My ploy would only have worked against a real expert playing matchpoints and who realized that going down one instead of two could make a sizable difference in the score. But as we used to say in Montreal, "Even Mrs. Shtul would have made the hand!" I never did meet Mrs. Shtul, but apparently she knew how to make lay-down contracts.

Labour Day Silver Point Sectional Bridge Tournament

August 31 to September 2, 2019

Location: Holiday Inn Yorkdale, 3450 Dufferin Street, Toronto

Schedule of Events

Saturday, August 31

10:00 & 2:30 - A/X, B/C/D pairs - 2 session stratiflighted open pairs, single session entries are also welcome

10:00 & 2:30 - 0-500 Pairs – 2 session stratified pairs event

10:00 & 2:30- 0-100 Pairs- single sessions stratified pair events

2:30 – a single session 0-20 pairs game

Sunday, September 1

10:00 & 2:30 - A/X, B/C/D pairs – 2 session stratiflighted open pairs, single session entries are also welcome

10:00 & 2:30 – 0-500 Pairs – 2 session stratified pairs event

10:00 & 2:30- 0-100 Pairs- single sessions stratified pair events

2:30 – a single session 0-20 pairs game

Monday, September 2

10:00 & TBA – bracketed Stratiflighted Swiss Teams

10:00 & TBA – bracketed Stratified 0-200 Swiss Teams

Steve Overholt soverholt1@gmail.com: 647-897-6179) will be teaching 30 minute Novice- Intermediate classes prior to each session on Saturday and Sunday and prior to the start of the swiss team event on Monday starting 45 minutes before the start of the sessions.

*Stratiflighted events: A: 3000+, X: 0-3000, B: 1250 -2000, C: 750-1250, D: 0-750

* Stratified event – 0-100 games A,B &C stats to be determined by DIC

EVENTS ARE STRATIFIED BY AVERAGE MASTER POINTS & FLIGHTS ARE BASED ON HIGHEST MASTER POINTS OF PAIR/TEAM

Chairperson: Ann Shaw 905-855-7177/ 647-533-7177 or ashawc646@gmail.com or ashaw1309@gmail.com

Partnerships: Joanne Gilmore 905-820-7391/647-232-7391 or jmgilmore14@gmail.com

Entry Fee: \$15.00 for ACBL Members. Unpaid members will pay an additional \$4.00 per session. Non- ACBL members are required to join on a new temporary one month basis (\$10.00) or buy an annual membership.

A Special Entry Fee of \$10.00 for ACBL members in the 0-20 and 0-100 games

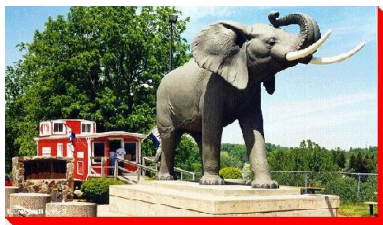
*This year you may buy your entries in advance and avoid waiting in line.

Go to www.unit166.ca – advance entry sales and select the Toronto Labour Day Tournament

PARKING AT THE SITE IS FREE FOR BRIDGE PLAYERS

70th Annual St. Thomas Jumbo Tournament

September 7–8, 2019



Sessions both days 11:00 am and 3:00pm.
Hot meal between sessions

Entry Fees \$12.50 per session

Non-current ACBL members add \$4.00 per session

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

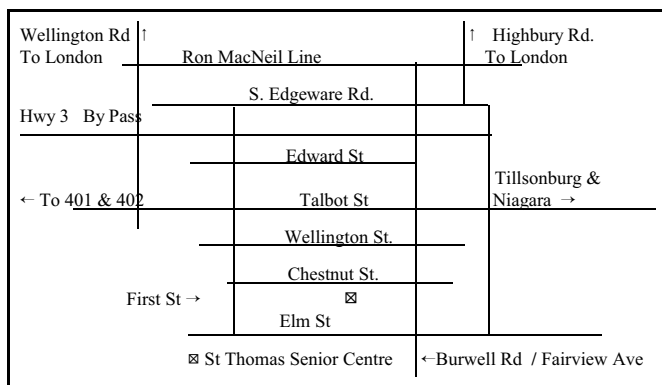
Saturday Sept 7th

2-Session Stratified Pairs Playthrough (single sessions welcome)

299er Pairs Playthrough (single sessions welcome)

Sunday Sept 8th

Bracketed Swiss Teams bracketed by team total points



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

Stratification

Based on player with highest number of masterpoints

Pairs

Strats: A=1500+, B=500-1500, C=0-500

299ers: A=100-300, B=20-100, C=0-20

Teams

Bracketed by team total points

ORILLIA REGIONAL

Tuesday, September 17 – Sunday, September 22, 2019

Please join us for fun, bridge, **GOLD** points
and great hospitality at the
Orillia Curling Club, Barnfield Point Recreation Centre
500 Atherley Road, Orillia, Ontario, L3V 7Y1

EXTRA MASTERPOINTS!!

All team games except Sunday are bracketed (several teams of similar mp level).
Top 3 or 4 teams in each bracket win **GOLD!!!**

Entry Fee: \$17 per session (includes HST)
\$4 extra for non or unpaid ACBL members.

Free Registration Gifts and free parking! Early start times!

Great Location – Tudhope Park on the shores of Lake Couchiching. Enjoy a walk between Sessions.

Where to Stay: at the lovely **Best Western Plus** – less than 1 kilometre from the playing site. \$109.95 per night includes a full buffet breakfast and free parking. Enjoy their walking trail to scenic Tudhope Park. Call **1-888-869-2306** or 705-325-6505 ext. 0 and mention 'bridge tournament' for the special offer. The cut-off date is Aug. 19 so please make your reservations early.

Where to visit: Orillia is home to a broad spectrum of restaurants – everything from fine dining to take-out. You'll also find myriad attractions such as the Mariposa Market, Stephen Leacock Museum, Casino Rama, an Arts district, boat cruises, the OPP Museum and many other interesting sites in Canada's Sunshine City.

Attention Intermediate & Novice Players

Don't miss the opportunity to receive free tips from some wonderful bridge experts. The lessons are at 10 am on Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

******Special GOLD RUSH games******

If you have 750 masterpoints or less, win gold in these events
if you place in A or B.

Stratification is as follows: A = 300 – 750, B = 100 – 300, C = 0 - 100.

See Schedule for dates.

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

Partnerships – Marilyn Maher, marilynmaher@hotmail.com, 705-242-4059.

**Please help us start on time by arriving at least 15 minutes
before game time.**

SCHEDULE

Game start times are:

Tuesday only: 1 pm & 6:30 pm.

Wednesday, Thursday & Friday: 11 am & 4:00 pm. Sunday Swiss: 11 am & TBD.

Tuesday, Sept. 17

Afternoon & Evening:

- GOLD RUSH Pairs (100/300/750) two sessions.
- Open Stratiflighted Pairs (1500/2500/open)
- Tues. & Wed. Bracketed KOI Special* (see information below) - sessions 1 & 2 of 4.
- Intermediate/Novice Games.
- 2 Side Game Series* each 5 sessions – *One is Tuesday afternoon plus Wed. to Sat. mornings 11 am. – The other is Tues evening & Wed to Sat afternoons.*

Wednesday, Sept. 18

Morning & Afternoon:

- GOLD RUSH Pairs (100/300/750) two sessions.
- Open Stratiflighted Pairs – (1500/2500/open).
- Tuesday & Wed. Bracketed KOI sessions 3 & 4.
- Intermediate/Novice Games.

Plus – Morning and Afternoon Side Game Series*.

Thursday, Sept. 19

Morning & Afternoon:

- Bracketed Swiss Teams, including Bracketed GOLD RUSH Swiss teams
- Open Stratiflighted Pairs – (750/1500/open).
- Intermediate/Novice Games.

Plus – Morning & Afternoon Side Game Series*.

Friday, Sept. 20

*Bracketed KO Special - All teams will play a Swiss team event for the first 2 sessions; then top 4 teams in each bracket advance to KO phase on Day 2. Top team will choose from 3rd and 4th place teams for first round of KO on Day 2.

Team Events - several teams per bracket – top 3 teams in each bracket win GOLD!!!

GOLD RUSH Pairs: A = 300 – 750, B = 100 – 300, C = 0-100.

Open Stratiflighted Pairs: A = open, B = 1500–2500, C = 0-1500.

Intermediate/Novice: A = up to 100; B = 20 - 50; C = 10 - 20; D = less than 10. Strats may be changed at Director's discretion.

GOLD RUSH Bracketed Swiss Teams: A = 300 - 750, B = 100 – 300, C = 0 – 100.

Flights, Strats and Brackets: Based on Average Points. Averaging cannot allow a player to compete in an event which has a maximum number of points less than the player's total points. KO events may be handicapped. Compact KO Teams - only 4 players per team.

*Side Game Series: Use your 2 best scores from a series and be eligible for gold points! - whether you play with the same partner or with different partners!

Morning & Afternoon:

- GOLD RUSH Pairs – (100/300/750) two sessions.
- Open Stratiflighted Pairs – (1500/2500/open).
- Fri. & Sat. Bracketed KO II Special* (see information below) - sessions 1 & 2 of 4.
- Intermediate/Novice Games.

Plus – Morning & Afternoon Side Game Series*.

Saturday, Sept. 21

Morning & Afternoon:

- GOLD RUSH Pairs – (100/300/750) two sessions.
- Open Stratiflighted Pairs – (1500/2500/open).
- Friday & Saturday Bracketed KO II sessions 3 & 4.
- Saturday Bracketed Compact KOIII two sessions.
- Intermediate/Novice Games.
- Afternoon Swiss Teams one session.

Plus – Morning & Afternoon Side Games Series*.

Sunday, Sept 22

A/X Open Swiss Team Event...11am & TBD
A=open, X=0–5000. A & X play separately.

Mid-flight Swiss Teams....11 am & TBD

GOLD RUSH Swiss Teams....11am & TBD

199'ers Swiss (single sessions) – if numbers permit

The Credit Valley Bridge Association

is pleased to host

The Caledon East Fall Sectional



September 28–29, 2019

Community Complex, 6215 Old Church Road, Caledon East
905-584-2272, ext. 7324

Saturday, September 28:
Events will be held at 11:00am & 3:15pm

Stratified Pairs: Two Single Sessions
0–99ers: Stratification at Director’s Discretion

Stratified Pairs: Two Session Play-Through
499ers(NLM)*: A: 300–499 B: 100–299 C: 0–99
Open*: A: 2000+ B: 750–2000 C: 0-750
*Single morning- or afternoon-only sessions welcome

Just for 0 – 499 Non-Life Masters Defensive Strategy & Signalling

- A 90 minute interactive workshop with Barbara Seagram,
- No cost to attend the workshop. Just be a Non-Life Master with < 500MPs
- Starts at **9:00 am on Saturday, September 28th.**
- Coffee/tea, muffins, and fruit available
- Space is limited so pre-registration is required, no later than September 10th by sending an email with your full name to dcdonovan@bell.net
- First 30 registrants who attend will receive one free copy¹ of Barbara Seagram’s & David Bird’s “Pocket Guide to Defensive Play at Bridge” valued at \$11.25 retail
- Plus Barbara Seagram is donating her popular cheat sheets to 10 lucky winners!



Sunday, September 29: **The event will start at 11:00am**

Bracketed Swiss Teams

Play-through with short break for lunch

0 – 99 Single Morning Session available for those with fewer than 100 points who only wish to play one session. However, we encourage you to stay all day and play in your bracket with players who have similar masterpoint levels to your own.

Please note: 0 – 99 Single session entries will be available for the morning game only. However we encourage you to stay and play the full day in a bracket with those who have similar masterpoint levels to your own.

NOTE: Stratification subject to change on the day based on attendance. Pair or Team stratification will be based on average master points but flight assignment will be based on the player with the highest master points.

A BRIDGE-FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENT WILL BE ENFORCED

 **Ample Free Parking**  **Free Apples and Cider**  **Homemade Food**

Entry Fees

\$13.00 per person per session

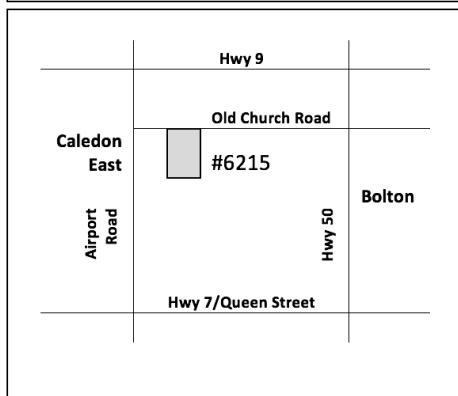
New: ACBL Membership Required;
\$10 Registration Available on site
provides temporary one month
membership to ACBL

\$6 per session for Juniors

Avoid the line ups by purchasing your
entries in advance:

<http://unit166.ca/advanceentry.html>

LOCATION MAP



Tournament Chair

Denise Donovan

dcdonovan@bell.net

416-614-6754

Partnership Chair

John McWhinnie

johnmcw@gmail.com

647-794-7894

Closest accommodation in Bolton, 15 minutes away: The Bolton Inn (905-857-3382) and Hampton Inn & Suites, Brampton (905-857-9990)

Collingwood's Blue Mountain Sectional Bridge Tournament October 19-20, 2019

COLLINGWOOD LEISURE TIME CLUB,
100 Minnesota Street, Collingwood, L9Y 4R5

NOTE: A player cannot compete in a Stratification which has a maximum number of points which is less than the player's total points. Swiss teams will be stratified by the AVERAGE of the players' masterpoint holdings.

Cost per Session - \$13.00 for ACBL members \$17.00
& temporary ACBL membership req

Saturday, October 19

11:00A.M. & 4:00P.M.

Stratified Open Pairs

(A Two-Session Event)

(Single Session Entries are welcome)

299er PAIRS

To ensure prompt "START" times,
please register at least 15 minutes in
advance.

Sunday, October 20

11:00AM. & 3:00P.M.

Two Session Open and 299'er

Stratified Swiss Teams

(if registrations permit)

\$6 Lunch available for purchase

Stratification for all Open Events

A= 1500+ B=500-1500 C- 0-500

Tournament Chair

Evelyn Caroline

705-725-1389

e-mail: becaroline@hotmail.com

Partnerships

Ruth Eidt

705-293-1503

e-mail: rutheidt@gmail.com

Sponsor

Alessandro Lupo, PFP

RBC Dominion Securities Inc

Investment Advisor 705-444-5217

e-mail: alessandro.lupo@rbc.com

Welcome to Scenic Collingwood!

Only 45 minutes West of Barrie-
Exit #96 off Hwy 400, take 90
West to Angus, turn right onto Hwy
10 and drive North to Sunnydale
Corners. Turn left onto Hwy 26 into
Stayner. Turn right at Esso Stn
onto King St N(Hwy 26) toward
Collingwood. At traffic light by
the Toyota Dealership continue
straight on Hume St. Turn right or
North onto Minnesota Street. The
Leisure Time Club is on left. There
is lots of free parking available.

Mariner Hotel

705 445 3330

305 Hume St



37th Annual Festival of Bridge *Stratford*

October 25 to 27, 2019

Friday October 25

1:00 pm and 6:00 pm
Stratified Open Pairs - single sessions
Non-Life Master Pairs - single sessions

Saturday October 26

10:00 am and 2:30 pm
Stratified Open Pairs – 2 session event
Single session entries welcome
Non Life Master Pairs – single session
0-20 Pairs – single session

Sunday October 27

10:00: Bracketed Teams: two sessions
play through event with short break for
lunch

Stratification by Average

A: 2000 +X: 0-2000
B: 1000-1500
C: 500-1000
Non Life Master 0-500
A: 300-500 B: 100-300 C: 0-100
Adjustments at discretion of the DIC

Lunch Available on Site
Free hotel parking

Venue

Quality Inn
1144 Ontario St.
Stratford, ON. N5A 6Z3
519-273-1150

www.festivalinnstratford.com/

Special Hotel Rate:
\$109 + taxes per night

Tournament Chair

Kevin Smith
519-273-2278
judykevin@wightman.ca

Partnerships

Perry Hill
519-301-6770
phillc606@rogers.com

Director in Charge

Nancy Strachan

Entry Fees

\$12.50/session
\$100.00/Bracketed team on Sunday
0-20 Master Points: \$5.00/session
\$4.00 extra/session for non paid up
ACBL members

OSHAWA SECTIONAL

November 2nd & 3rd 2019

LVIV Pavilion & Banquet Hall

38 LVIV Blvd. Oshawa ON L1H 2C3

Close to the 401 with plenty of free parking

Lunch items available on site for purchase both days

Saturday November 2nd: Event will be held at 10:30 AM and 2:30 PM

Stratified Pairs: Two Single Sessions for Novice and Two Session Play-through for all others

(Please note: Single session pairs will be welcome to play in all strata)

Newcomers & Novice: Under 100 (Stratification based on attendance)

BCD Pairs: B: 750-1500 C: 300-749 D: 0-299

AX Pairs: A: 3000+ AX: 0-3000

B,C,D,AX Pair stratification based on average Master points with no player above the MP limit

Sunday November 3rd: The event will start at 10:30 AM.

(Two session play through with short break for lunch.)

Open Swiss Teams: Unlimited MP

Bracketed Swiss Teams: Under 3000 MP per player

The Tournament Director will determine the number of teams in each bracket based on attendance. Bracket assignment will be based on average master points of team members, with no player above the 3000 MP limit.

Entry Fees

Over 20 MP: Current ACBL members pay \$14 per session on Saturday/ \$112 per Swiss team on Sunday (2 sessions)

Newcomers (under 20 MP): \$7 per session on Saturday/ \$56 per Swiss team on Sunday

Students: \$5 per session on Saturday/\$40 per team on Sunday

Additional:

- Lapsed ACBL members add \$4 /person/session
- Non-ACBL members are required to join on a temporary 1 month basis \$10

Newcomers (under 20 MP) Bonus: One month free ACBL membership!

Tournament Co-Chairs: Doug Darnley & Brenda Griffiths

416-258-1331 dougbridge@rogers.com

Partnerships: Jack Stafford 905-431-1694 jkerrstaff@gmail.com+

Niagara Regional



November 5-10, 2019



Niagara Falls



Welland Canal



Niagara on the Lake - Clock Tower

Booking Your Hotel

Playing Site:

Crowne Plaza

5685 Falls Avenue,
Niagara Falls, ON. L2E 6W7
Reservations 1-800-519-9911

Reserve before October 3, 2019 and request the ACBL rate at the following hotels:

Crowne Plaza

\$105
Single or Double

Sheraton on the Falls

\$110
Single or Double

GREAT NIAGARA FEATURES

- ♥ Registration Gift
- ♥ FREE I/N Lecture @ 9:00am
- ♥ FANTASTIC Niagara Hospitality
(after the 2nd session)
- ♥ Overall and Section Top Prizes
- ♥ FREE Parking
- ♥ GOLD RUSH games
- ♥ KO Teams games
- ♥ Swiss games

Tournament Co-Chair: Lorna Johnson
Tournament Co-Chair: Kathy Morrison
Partnership Chair: Janice Upenieks
I/N Chair: Allan Utz

(905) 991-3009
(289) 820-8013
(416) 435-3870
(289) 273-2727

bridgeplayer64@gmail.com
kmorrison37@icloud.com
janice@upenieks.com
allanutz@gmail.com

Event Schedule

Tuesday November 5

Niagara Bracketed KO Teams (1 st & 2 nd of 4 sessions)	10:00 & 3:00
St Catharines Open Pairs	10:00 & 3:00
99 ^{er} Pairs Single Session	10:00 & 3:00
Gold Rush Pairs	10:00 & 3:00
Niagara on the Lake Swiss	3:00
Welland Open Pairs	7:30

Wednesday November 6

Niagara Bracketed KO Teams (3 rd & 4 th of 4 sessions)	10:00 & 3:00
Whirlpool Bracketed KO Teams (1 st & 2 nd of 4 sessions)	10:00 & 3:00
St Catharines Open Pairs	10:00 & 3:00
99 ^{er} Pairs Single Session	10:00 & 3:00
Gold Rush Pairs	10:00 & 3:00
Niagara on the Lake Swiss	3:00
Niagara Falls Open Pairs Series (1 st of 3 sessions)	7:30

Thursday November 7

Whirlpool Bracketed KO Teams (3 rd & 4 th of 4 sessions)	10:00 & 3:00
Hornblower Bracketed KO Teams (1 st & 2 nd of 4 sessions)	10:00 & 3:00
St Catharines Open Pairs	10:00 & 3:00
99 ^{er} Pairs Single Session	10:00 & 3:00
Gold Rush Pairs	10:00 & 3:00
Niagara on the Lake Swiss	3:00
Niagara Falls Open Pairs Series (2 nd of 3 sessions)	7:30

Friday November 8

Hornblower Bracketed KO Teams (3 rd & 4 th of 4 sessions)	10:00 & 3:00
Fort Erie Compact Bracketed KO Teams (1 st & 2 nd of 2 sessions)	10:00 & 3:00
St Catharines Open Pairs	10:00 & 3:00
99 ^{er} Pairs Single Session	10:00 & 3:00
Gold Rush Pairs	10:00 & 3:00
Niagara on the Lake Swiss	3:00
Niagara Falls Open Pairs Series (3 rd of 3 sessions)	7:30

Saturday November 9

Grimsby Compact Bracketed KO Teams (1 st & 2 nd of 2 sessions)	10:00 & 3:00
St Catharines Open Pairs	10:00 & 3:00
99 ^{er} Pairs Single Session	10:00 & 3:00
Gold Rush Pairs	10:00 & 3:00
Niagara on the Lake Swiss	3:00

Sunday November 10

Bracketed Swiss Teams	10:00 & TBD
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Regional Tournament Sponsored by

Jaclyn Morrison of
HollisWealth[®]

(905) 937-0962

Jac.morrison@holliswealth.com

Stratification

(subject to Director's discretion)

Stratified events are based on average MP holding of pair or team

Gold Rush

A=300-750 B=100-300 C=0-100

Each player less than 750MP

99er

A=50-100 B=20-50 C=0-20

Open Pairs

A=2,500+ B=750-2,500 C=0-750

Extra \$4 for lapsed ACBL members
Temporary membership for non-ACBL members will be available.

Zero Tolerance Tournament – Play Nice

For Additional tournament details visit our website at: www.unit255.com

NORTH AMERICAN PAIRS

DISTRICT 2 FINALS

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 17, 2019

10:30 a.m. & 3:00 p.m.

Compete to represent District 2 in the North American Final,
to be held at the NABC in Columbus, OH - March 2020

WIN GOLD & RED POINTS!

Awards for each flight are:

First: \$700 US per player

Second: \$300 US per player + \$CAN top-up from D2

Third: Free entry to Columbus NAP Final.

Fourth: Free entry to Columbus NAP Final. (Flts B & C only)

Flight A (Open)	Flight B (0 – 2500 MP)	Flight C (NLM, <500 MP)
	As of May 6, 2109	As of May 6, 2019

PLAYING SITES: This is a Multi-site District Final

Unit 166 Flts A & B

Hazel's Bridge Club, www.hazelsbridge.com 416-221-0069

Flt C

MOBridge <http://mobridge.club/> 905-820-5728

Unit 249 All Flights

Tillsonburg Seniors Centre 45 Hardy Ave, Tillsonburg 519-688-2520

Unit 181 All Flights

Location to be Announced

To be eligible for the District Final, players must have a club level qualification,
and be ACBL Members in good standing.

A minimum of 5 full tables are required to run a Flight.

Please verify with your Unit Co-ordinator that the required no. of pairs have
registered.

Players must pre-register to play in the NAP District Final and are required to be
familiar with the Conditions of Contest.

Contact Information:

Unit 166: Martin Hunter martinhunter@rogers.com 905-510-0411

Unit 249: Jed Drew jed.drew@gmail.com 519-842-8786

Unit 181: Bob Kuz bobkuz89@gmail.com 204-396-3199



MAPLE CITY BRIDGE SECTIONAL

Active Lifestyle Centre,
20 Merritt Ave, Chatham, ON

November 30th and December 1st, 2019

Saturday, November 30th, 11:00 AM and 3:30 PM

The **John Verkaik Stratified Open Pairs** (Play-through)

*plus a 0-20 section if numbers warrant

Sunday, December 1st, 11:00 AM and 3:30 PM

Open Swiss Teams & 499er Swiss Teams

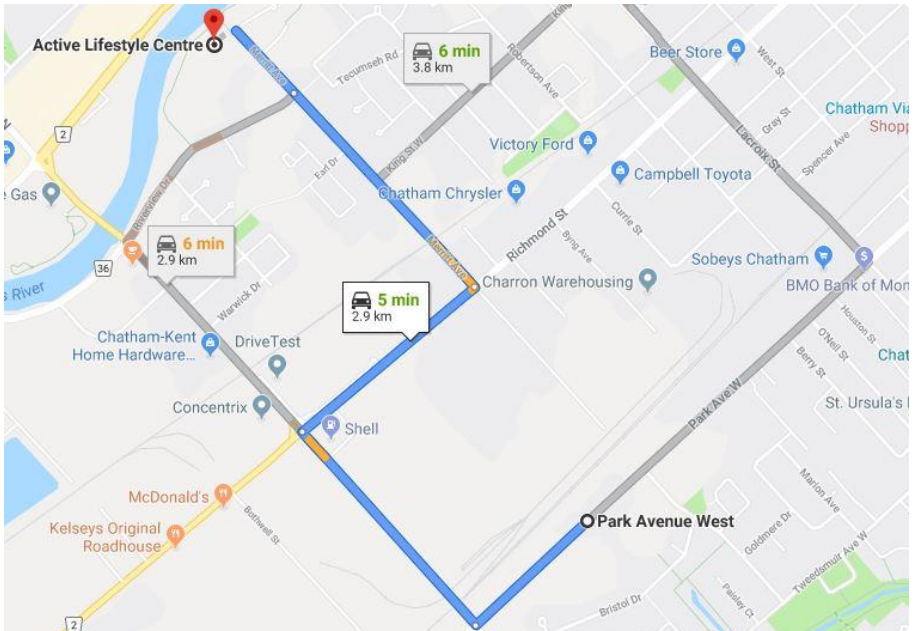
Session fee \$12.50

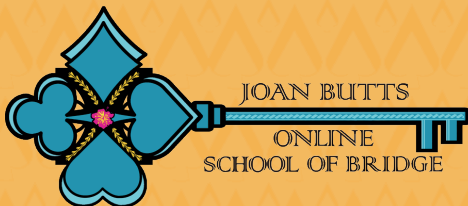
\$4 additional per session for unpaid ACBL members (except 0-20)

Full Course Dinner between sessions \$12 each

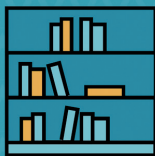
Tournament Chair: Lee Easterbrook 226 881-3963

Partnerships: Gary Robertson 519 676-2096 garroberr@isp.com





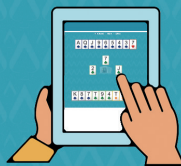
Learn, practice and play bridge online



- Access the Lesson Library
- More than 100 bridge lessons
- Hundreds of bridge hands to play



- Lessons include videos, notes and hands to play online.
- Also review videos explain how to play the hand.



- Put your new skills to the test
- Play unlimited hands, anytime, against the computer.

“I have just started the OSOB ten days ago and, referring to the lesson and practicing every day, I am already feeling an improvement in my bridge. Thank you Joan!”

- Gold Member

The Online School of Bridge is a place to learn, practice and develop new skills to use at the bridge table. Featuring more than 100 bridge lessons covering bidding, play and defence, the Online School of Bridge offers the most modern approach to learning to play bridge.

The course curriculum draws on Joan's many years of experience as a bridge teacher and offers lessons from beginner to advanced levels. Each lesson has been designed to build on the ones before it, so you can start from the beginning or revise topics of interest.

A new lesson, complete with four new bridge hands to play, is added each week so you will never run out of things to learn. Gold Members can also play the hands from Joan Butts' books online or play unlimited bridge hands each day.

**Become a Gold Member today and enjoy
a 7 day free trial:**

joanbuttsbridge.com/join-usa



In Memoriam

David Caplan

Last July the bridge world lost another one of the good guys in David Caplan. David was not only an expert bridge player, he was a recent Canadian national champion, having won both the Open Pairs and the IMP Pairs with his brother Mark.

David was a popular politician noted for being honest and hard working—a true man of the people. He was a Liberal MPP from 1997 to 2011, infrastructure minister in 2003, then health minister in 2007. Former Premier Kathleen Wynne wrote, “He was a friend and colleague. Love and condolences to David’s family.”

Fred Gitelman was a childhood friend of the Caplan brothers; he wrote an eloquent eulogy on Bridgewinners detailing their growth as players and how kind David was as a partner and person. (For the full article please see www.bridgewinners.com) Here’s an excerpt from Fred:

We would often skip school in order to play at Ted Horning’s local club. I remember one day that David had somehow been allowed to borrow his father’s beautiful red TR-8 convertible. We were running a bit late to get to the club, so we decided to save time and

leave the car in the parking lot with its top down. That was a safe thing to do in the Toronto suburbs at the time. After the game, David and I were walking through the parking lot toward the car as we talked about the hands. David opened the car door without really paying attention and an absolute flood of water came rushing out - it was sunny before and after, but there had been a huge rainstorm during the game and the sports car had filled up with water while we were playing! David thought this was very funny. He didn’t seem to be especially concerned about how his father might react. I am sorry but I don’t remember how David’s father Wilf actually reacted but my guess is that he also thought it was funny even if he kept that to himself. I always thought that David had a lot of Wilf in him while Mark seemed more like his mother, Elinor (who is famous in Canada - ask Google if you are curious)...

...David and Mark qualified to represent their District in the Championship Flight of the 2019 Grand National Teams. That gave them an excuse to come to Las Vegas for the Summer Nationals which took place a couple of weeks ago. It was wonderful to see my two oldest

friends. For an hour or so it felt like we were teenagers again. We even talked about trying to put the band back together for a future CNTC. Now that will never happen, but I am so grateful

that I got a chance to see David (and Mark) at the Nationals. Thank you for living, David Caplan. You made the world a better place just by being yourself.



Photo by J.S.

Mark and David Caplan a few years ago...



Mark & David Caplan after winning the 2019 Canadian Open Pairs Championships last May in Burnaby, BC.

Hand for Chuck

By David Cohen



I'd like to dedicate this hand to my friend Chuck Arthur who passed away in May.

When I started playing bridge 25 years ago, Chuck was there. When I started going to the bar and discussing the hands after the games, Chuck was there. When I needed advice on a hand, Chuck was there. He had filing cabinets full of hand records, with all his contracts, leads, score and MPs on every hand. It was because of him that I am such a stickler on the rules of the game. To me, Chuck was Mr. Bridge. I wish I could ask him what kind of a squeeze this hand produced.*

Playing with a less experienced player, you hold:

♠ K x
♥ A x x
♦ K J 9 x
♣ Q x x x

Partner opens 1♣ and you decide to bid a sensible 3NT. Partner bids 4♣, which for today has to be Gerber, I

show my ace and partner bids 6NT. The opening lead is the ♥K.

♠ A 10 x
♥ 10 9 8
♦ A x
♣ A K J x x

♠ Q x x x	♠ J x x x
♥ K Q J x x	♥ x x
♦ x x	♦ Q 10 x x x
♣ x x	♣ x x

♠ K x
♥ A x x
♦ K J 9 x
♣ Q x x x



Chuck

Photo by JS

You thank partner as you notice he forgot to open INT, thus allowing you to play. Since the only shot is that East holds the $\heartsuit Q$, you play for that.

Duck the opening lead and win the heart continuation. Play off five rounds of clubs. First, East has to make his three pitches from:

	\spadesuit A 10 x	
	\heartsuit 10	
	\diamondsuit A x	
	\clubsuit A K J	
\spadesuit Q x x x	\spadesuit J x x x	
\heartsuit J x x	\heartsuit --	
\diamondsuit x x	\diamondsuit Q 10 x x x	
\clubsuit --	\clubsuit --	
\spadesuit K x		
\heartsuit x		
\diamondsuit K J 9 x		
\clubsuit x x		

East can either pitch two diamonds

and one spade, or one diamond and two spades. If he does the former then declarer's diamonds will get setup, so it is best if East holds onto four diamonds and reduces down to two spades.

You, South, follow to the first two clubs and then pitch your small heart on the last club.

Now during all this West has to make three pitches. Two hearts and one spade are easy, but West will soon have to make a pitch on the third diamond, which then squeezes him in spades and hearts. West cannot keep the $\heartsuit J$ and a spade guard.

I hope Chuck was watching me and smiling as I made the contract. \spadesuit

**This is a classic non-simultaneous double squeeze. Well done, DC! Ed.*





Correspondence

In case this is of interest for the Kibitzer...it came up at the recent NABC in Vegas.

West	North	East	South (me)
1♥	2♥	Pass	Pass
5♥	7♠	4♥	4♠
		All pass	

North

♠ A K Q 10 3

♥ ---

♦ A 5

♣ A K 9 8 5 3

South (me)

♠ J 8 7 5 2

♥ K 8 6

♦ Q J 8 6

♣ J

West found the only lead to give me grief: the ♦10.

Tough to be put to the test at trick one when the club suit in dummy begs to be established, providing 3 diamond pitches. And with any other lead, I

would have the timing to take all my chances. While West rated to have the diamond king, she was after all in third seat and who would underlead a king against a grand slam?

I failed the test and put all my hopes and dreams in the club suit. Alas, the clubs broke 5-1 and it was not to be. A cunning lead by Irina. I shall be aware of her the next time we meet.

Her hand was

♠ 6

♥ A J 7 3 2

♦ K 10 9 4 3 2

♣ 2

East held

♠ 9 4

♥ Q 10 9 5 4

♦ 7

♣ Q 10 7 6 4

Most were in 6♠ only and those in 7♣ did not have the temptress on lead.

Barbara Seagram

barbaraseagram@gmail.com

Hi Andy

I wonder whether you might have space for a correction to our Spring 2019 article, titled “Defenders, Know Your Rights.”

We stand corrected. Martin Hunter has kindly brought to our attention (Newcomer and Intermediate players beware) of a faux pas in the following description of the Dummy rights as described in topic 4, Declarer’s Lead out of Turn, Spring 2019 Kibitzer, page 21.

DELETE: “The Dummy can verbally remind the Declarer during the play of the hand if she is in her hand or tap the table to signal the lead is on the table.”

INSERT: “While the Declarer ponders her next play, the Dummy is not permitted to either tap the table or communicate by saying, “You’re in your hand” or “You’re on the table.” Dummy is not permitted to participate in the play or communicate anything about the play.

Dummy is permitted to try to prevent an irregularity only. If Declarer detaches a card from his hand, (when he is in the Dummy) or if Declarer starts to call or point to a card, (when the lead is in her hand), Dummy can say something. That’s it; remain silent otherwise.”

Thanks,

Brothers Gray

Andy:

The Barrie Bridge club hosted a bridge tournament for students from Codrington Public School in Barrie and Cookstown Public School. About a hundred students, from classes in grade 4 through grade 8, spent the morning bidding and playing bridge.

During the last class with our youngest students, the teacher asked if anyone would like to say something. There were several heart-warming comments, including this one: “People say bridge is just for old people.” (Lots of laughter from the class.) “But I LOVE bridge - and I’m young.”

Frank Mustoe



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.

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Regional
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FEBRUARY

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MARCH

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APRIL

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17-19 North Bay
18-19 Brampton

Deadline for the Winter 2019 Kibitzer: Nov. 1, 2019

The Kibitzer

Andy Stark

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