

The Kibitzer

Spring 2016

Volume 62, Number 1



Dan Korbelt, winner of the 2015 Richmond Trophy



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Editor's Note

As Richard Dawson used to say, "Survey says!" Some of you took the time to fill out our wee survey that appeared in the previous issue—Winter 2015. You can still fill it out and mail it in to me as 19 Kibitzer readers did. (Full disclosure: it felt like a time warp back to the '80s getting all that mail! So thrilling, let me tell you.)

Or you can click on a link and complete the less-than-two-minute survey on Survey Monkey. The link is on page 12 and my snail mail address can be found on the back page. Easier still, you can find the link at **www.unit166.ca**.

You can read about some of the preliminary results and reader comments later in this issue.

On a sad note, we mourn the passing of a young bright light, Samantha Nystrom. Sam, who was on the winning Canadian Open Team in 2014, died last December.

Andy Stark
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The Kibitzer Information

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This will also correct your Kibitzer address.

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See back cover for contact information about placing an ad.

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IMPORTANT KIBITZER DATES:

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Fall/Winter	October 1	November 1

Kibitzer Editorial Policy

The Kibitzer is published to promote bridge and to inform members of ACBL Units 166, 238, 246 and 249 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.



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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@primus.ca

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

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 three 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

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Bridge Canada Magazine

The Canadian Bridge Federation (CBF) publishes its bilingual Bridge Canada magazine on the CBF website at www.cbf.ca. The bi-monthly magazine is only accessible by CBF members; however, as a seasonal gift, the CBF is making the December issue available for free on the website.

This is a chance to take a glimpse at what is happening with bridge in Canada. The magazine features a variety of articles by Canadian writers, including educational articles, quizzes, bridge humor, interviews with Canadian bridge personalities, and reports of Canadian and World championship events.

The magazine is one of the benefits of the CBF membership which is available for a modest \$18/year. You can join online through the CBF website at www.cbf.ca.

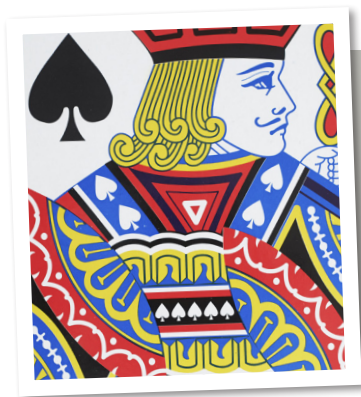
If you have any questions, please contact Ina Demme at ina@cbf.ca for more information.



Great Grandmothers Can Play Bridge Too!

Joan Priebe achieved Emerald Life Master status this November. She has been a keen bridge enthusiast for over 60 years, and this achievement complements other recent milestones in her active life: 80th birthday (one up from 39), being a great- grandmother (Joan now has a great granddaughter after seven great-grandsons) and soon to come: a 60th wedding anniversary in 2016.





Survey Says!



We received just under 100 responses to the Kibitzer survey that was published in the previous issue, (Winter 2015). Most of you got online by going to www.surveymonkey.com/r/JWLSPZZ and filled out the 6 questions on Survey Monkey while 20 readers mailed in their responses via snail mail. The numbers below don't always add up to the same; this is due to some folks only answering some of the questions.

Please weigh in by completing the survey if you have not done so. Meantime, here are some notes, quotes, and numbers.

1) Which features would you like to continue to read? Vote for as many as you wish. Here are the top four vote getters:

Humour pieces	74%	Story hands	69%
Lesson hands	57%	Club News	54%

Each of the other choices received between 40-50% of the votes.

2) The Kibitzer relies on contributions from our readers. Who would you like to continue to read?

David Deaves and John Cunningham were the top vote getters at 11 each, while John Rayner and David Colbert each received 10 votes. One reader asked, "Is David related to Stephen?" The answer is no. Although they may be 9th cousins, twice removed, David has more masterpoints.

Also garnering votes, (in no particular order): Ray Jotcham, John Carruthers, David Silver, Ron Bishop, Carole Coplea, David Baker, Audrey Grant, Barbara Seagram, Jim Priebe, Paul Thurston, The Shoe, and Terry Bradley. One reader commented, "Terry Bradley made me put him down." See elsewhere in this issue for another TB gem.

3) Do you use the Tournament Trail as your main source for tourney info?

Yes – 47 No – 46

One reader asked, "What's Tournament Trail?" To this reader I say: Well, besides

a long year of Sectionals and Regionals, it's the title of our back page. Clearly though we're divided: some keep the Kib on hand to consult; others get online to check out the schedule.

4) Do you read the Tournament Winners section?

Yes – 44 Sometimes – 26 No – 22

So while the majority of our respondents like to read over the names of tournament winners, maybe even see their own names in print, a good chunk of our readership is fine without the Tourney Winners section.

5) Beginning in 2016 the Kib will publish 3 times per year. Is that acceptable?

Yes – 60 No – 31

6) Starting next year the Kib will begin a transition towards becoming an online magazine. Do you find that acceptable?

Yes – 52 No – 39

It's safe to assume all or almost all Kibitzer readers understand the nature of the magazine business. However there is still a group of people out there who need or desire the experience of holding a paper magazine in their hands. Some comments:

"...have vision problems, will probably never read it online."

"we are not all on the internet—nor plan to be."

"The Tournament Winners section is important."

"I always used to read the Canadian Bridge magazine, but since it became online only I don't go to the website to read it. Such a shame for columnists and printers, editors, etc. for all their time and effort."

"What about those who do not have access to internet? Not acceptable to change to online. Some of those who don't have internet may cancel membership if book isn't included."

"I hate reading material online. I do not read news online and an online version of the Kibitzer would be a travesty. The CBF material now goes unread."

"I read it on the bus, but I would prefer you save money and paper and put it online. Eventually I will migrate to a tablet with satellite wireless."

"In the area of my residence internet service is not easy and quickly becomes quite pricey, with a cap in GBs. I must admit that I am not fond of reading anything of any length online and I am quite sure that the combination of the above 2 factors would mean I would not read the Kibitzer ever again."

"Acceptable I suppose, although I prefer a hard copy."

"I would miss it but would be okay."



The Dutch Coup

By Terry Bradley

There I was minding my own business with my usual motley assortment of 7 points in quacks when I heard my right-hand opponent open the bidding with 1 Diamond, none vulnerable at matchpoints. I of course passed, and LHO offered 1 Spade. After a pass from my Dutch partner, RHO rebid INT. I passed again and that is when all hell broke loose as LHO plunked down the 7 Clubs card!

It went all pass and Dutch tabled the 10 of diamonds.

♠ K 9
♥ A 8 7 4
♦ A K 8 2
♣ 10 8 7

Lead: ♦10

♠ J 7 6 3 2
♥ Q J 6
♦ Q J 5
♣ 4 2

West	North	East	South
	1♦	Pass	1♠
Pass	INT	Pass	7♣(!)
All Pass			

Sure looked cold to me. I could visualize 13 tricks for declarer: seven clubs, two diamonds, one heart, two spades and a spade ruff. Or maybe declarer had six solid clubs and the heart king. The only surprise I had in store for declarer was the bad spade break. Notice my crafty RHO did well to prefer clubs—if he went back to spades I'd have them for sure.

The full deal:

♠ K 9
♥ A 8 7 4
♦ A K 8 2
♣ 10 8 7

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

♠ A Q 10 8 5 4
♥ 3
♦ —
♣ A K J 6 5 3

Declarer won the diamond ten with the ace, (pitching a spade from hand), and called for a low club. It went two-

ace-nine. Declarer now must decide to simply go for the drop of the club queen or play for the queen onside by going back to dummy to take a finesse. Rightly or wrongly, he decided to give himself the option so he led a low spade from his hand. Also rightly or wrongly, (my vote: wrongly) my partner, Dutch, did not ruff the spade—instead he pitched the heart ten!

“King of spades,” said declarer, now confident of making his contract “knowing” I held five spades and Qxx of clubs. He would finesse a club, cash the ace of spades, and ruff a spade. He would ruff a diamond to his hand, draw the queen of clubs, and then play a heart to dummy to pitch his last spade on the diamond king. Ah, but let’s go back to trick four. On the club from dummy I followed low and declarer inserted the jack. Dutch could do no better than follow suit with the queen!

“Wally, you can’t have that card,” bellowed the surprised and disgruntled declarer. Wally’s explanation for not ruffing the spade was that he wanted to show his heart preference and at the same punish a clever declarer who would now be tricked into taking the club finesse. This mischievous deception play shall be henceforth referred to as “The Dutch Coup.”

Edam or Gouda, anyone?

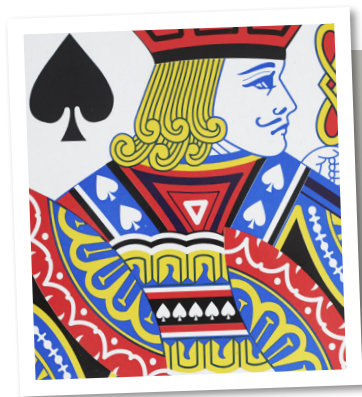


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Thinking Two Tricks Ahead

One of life's thrills for a bridge teacher is seeing our students' eyes light up when they comprehend a new concept. "That is so cool," I often hear them say. Defensive signaling is cool when you think about it. It's like cheating. Legally cheating. Here's a hand that illustrates the suit preference signal but not in the situation we might expect. Call it the Extended Suit Preference (ESP) Signal:

Dealer: South
Vul: N-S

♠ 8 4 3 2
♥ Q J 10 8
♦ K Q
♣ 9 7 6

♠ A Q 6
♥ 5
♦ 9 8 7 6 5
♣ K J 10 2

♠ 5
♥ K 7 6 4 3 2
♦ A 10 2
♣ 8 4 3

♠ K J 10 9 7
♥ A 9
♦ J 4 3
♣ A Q 5

West	North	East	South
Pass	2♣	Pass	INT
Pass	3♠	All Pass	2♠

After a Stayman sequence, South declines North's invitation to game. West leads her five of hearts. The queen is played from dummy. Should East cover or duck?

Oftentimes we cover because it has been ingrained in us: "Cover an honour with an honour." But we should only cover when we know we are promoting something or when we hope to be promoting something. Here, looking at the QJ108 in the dummy East knows she is only helping declarer if she covers.

So East should duck. But which spotcard should she play? The answer is the ♥7.

East can tell from partner's lead that the ♥5 is a singleton. Declarer opened INT so he must have the ♥A9. Therefore, East should give West the information she needs and that information is the location of East's entry for a heart ruff. So right here on opening lead East should give a suit preference signal. This is the "Extended" part of the ESP

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signal because the signal comes before partner gets her ruff. The ♥7, the highest spotcard, indicates a diamond entry; the ♥2 would indicate a club entry. As almost always the case, there are only two suits the signaler needs to show preference for and these are the two side suits remaining. (We give up on trying to show a preference for the trump suit, so rule that out when giving or receiving a suit preference signal.)

The play will then go roughly along these lines: Dummy's heart queen will win and declarer will take a losing spade finesse. West will win the spade queen and return the nine of diamonds (BOSTON—Bottom of Something, Top of Nothing) which has the effect of saying, "Please play hearts or clubs, partner, as I am not interested in diamonds." East will win the ace of diamonds and now play the ♥6. This spotcard will look high to West because it is—the ♥4, ♥3, and ♥2 are still missing. The effect of this signal will say to partner, "After you ruff, please

play a diamond because I certainly do not want a club." This is the SSP signal—or Standard Suit Preference Signal—the one you know and love. It comes as you are giving your partner a ruff.

West will score her ♠6 and get out a diamond after cashing her trump ace. The effect of this defensive play is that West will score one more trick in clubs. Declarer can always shake one club loser on a long heart. The result will be down one. Glory. Applause. If West were to ever play a club it would ride around to declarer's AQ tenace and the contract would make.

When this hand came up at a club duplicate game East-West let the 3♠ contract make. We had time to chat about it before the round was called. On learning about the extended suit preference signal and how it could be used at trick one, West said, "That is so cool."

London Bridge Centre Opens

By Maggie Carruthers



Bridge players in London and from all over southwestern Ontario turned out for Open Houses on November 1st and 2nd marking the Grand Opening of the new **London Bridge Centre**. A phenomenal turnout of 250 came out on the Sunday to investigate what all the excitement was about. After being welcomed by club president Dwight Bender, they experienced user demonstrations of the new Pianola website, met with teachers and directors who were on hand to disseminate information, saw demonstrations of the new dealing machine and toured an outstanding bridge facility where all are welcome to come to play or learn or both.

The festivities continued for the following week culminating in a club championship weekend on Nov. 7 and 8. But that didn't stop the celebration. There were special events held through all of November which attracted new members to join this state of the art, member owned and operated bridge club. So far 314 members have joined the ranks, far exceeding all expectations.

The club offered a "Learn Bridge in

A Day?®" program which was very well received and resulted in about 30 potential new players coming out. This bodes well for the lessons that are offered, some of which are currently underway. The supervised duplicate games are already well received by an eager group of newer players.

Barbara Seagram supported LBC by donating her services to present an educational and entertaining seminar to 50 attendees. In appreciation, LBC made a donation to a Canadian charity that is near and dear to Barbara. The charity supports the operation of 4 schools in Cambodia and Laos.

The London Bridge Centre is off to a great start! It is located at 1106 Dearness Drive, London ON, and can be reached by telephone at (519) 601-2582. The LBC website is www.londonbridgecentre.ca.





Tom Jolliffe, Bruce Moor, and Sue Wark



Players at the first game



Peter Tuttle (in yellow) helping with the Supervised Play session



Interview with Dan Korb



Kib: It's been a fabulous year for you...how would you rank your highlights and where does winning the Richmond fit in on that list?

DK: The biggest highlight was definitely winning my first NABC championship at the Denver nationals. The Mitchell Open BAM was a real roller coaster, as we were three full boards behind the leaders and had a few bad boards in the final evening session. But when we played against the leading team, we had definitely won both boards at our table, so we knew we had a chance. It was a really exciting moment. The biggest lowlight(?) was losing in the Spingold in the summer by one phantom IMP. For those who don't know the story, we had beaten the Jimmy Cayne team (who went on to -- temporarily -- win the Spingold) in the round of 8 by 1 IMP. Unfortunately, during an appeal process, Lotan Fisher and Ron Schwartz successfully argued to gain 2 IMPs back, and we ended up losing by 1 IMP. It turns out there was a mis-scored board and the match was actually ending in a tie, but we found this out too late to do anything about it. Ultimately, this harrowing loss led to my teammate, Boye Brogeland, realizing that Fisher-Schwartz were up to something

and triggered the catching of some very big name cheaters in bridge, so I guess a lot of good came of it, but it was very hard to take at the time.

I have always wanted to win the Richmond trophy, and I could see that I had a good shot at winning this year, so I went for it. It was a fun year and winning the Richmond trophy is an honour and a highlight.

Kib: Do you see yourself moving to the US to play fulltime someday?

DK: It's definitely on my radar. Unfortunately the professional opportunities are so much greater in the US, that it is hard to be a successful bridge professional and live in Canada.

Kib: If you and one of your partners (Darren Wolpert or Huub Bertens) could have any other two pairs who are currently playing competitively on your 6-person team to save the world from alien invaders in an all-world bridge match, who would be on your team?

DK: There are so many fabulous bridge players out there that this question is impossible to answer. The individual

player who has always played the best against me is Bobby Levin.

Kib: How is your partnership coming along with Huub and can we expect to see you two playing together on the Richie Schwartz team this year?

2015 Richmond Trophy Leaderboard

- 1) 2372* Daniel Korbel, Hamilton
- 2) 1868 Shan Huang, Toronto
- 3) 1617 Jonathan Steinberg, Toronto
- 4) 1399 David Sabourin, Ottawa
- 5) 1106 Richard Chan, Markham
- 6) 1007 Dan Jacob, Vancouver
- 7) 874 Cameron Doner, Surrey
- 8) 833 Hannah Moon, Prince Albert
- 9) 730 Nicolas L'Ecuyer, Montreal
- 10) 694 Susan Peters, Vancouver
- 11) 693 Keith Heckley, Hamilton
- 12) 676 Martin Hunter, Mississauga
- 13) 671 Ken Scholes, Bellevue
- 14) 667 Andrew Firko, Oakville
- 15) 645 Ray Jotcham, Scarborough
- 16) 643 Heather Peckett, Nepean
- 17) 625 Joseph Sauro, North Bay
- 18) 574 David Baker, Kitchener

*New record

DK: Huub and I will not be playing together in the next cycle; we both have different professional engagements. I will be staying on the Richie Schwartz team though and am excited at the prospect.

In terms of playing with Huub, it has been a fabulous experience for me. I agreed to play mostly Huub's system, which is quite a lot different from the Canadian

approach to bidding. I remember the first regional we played together at in June, I was so topsy-turvy I'm sure that Huub was regretting that I would be his partner for the next year! But after some practice with the system our partnership started developing and we have become surprisingly effective. Huub is a complete natural at bridge; he always knows the whole hand and knows what cards to play on defense and declaring. It's a real treat to watch.

Kib: I remember one of your first sectionals. We played on a team together in Brampton—Don Brock brought you out. It was evident then that you take to the game in a natural way. What part of the game do you think you had to work the hardest at—that is, was there a facet of the game that did not come naturally? If so, how did you overcome that 'weakness'?

DK: Haha, yes, I remember that Sectional like it was yesterday! That was not my first Sectional, but it was my first ever Flight A victory. I remember how exciting that was! Thanks for bringing that up. Back then I of course had no

idea that bridge would take me as far as it has.

There are two types of players: naturals and thinkers. I am definitely a "natural" player. Neither way is better than the other; it's more a factor of how one's brain approaches the game. For example, when I think about bridge my brain automatically eliminates a number of

possibilities that it deems irrelevant, whereas from my understanding a thinker will explore many more possibilities to arrive at their conclusion. Frequent Richmond Trophy winner Shan Huang is a good example of a thinker.

The part of the game that is hardest for me is giving partner leeway. If partner has made a weird bid or a wrong play, instead of allowing for it I might bury him for it. This is something I have been working on recently. Playing Precision with some of my partners has helped since in Precision you never have a good hand for your bidding, unless you open 1♣, so I have become accustomed to letting partners off the hook.

Kib: Do you think newer players can overcome their weaknesses with hard work or does there need to be an innate sense of the game in order for someone to achieve success?

DK: It is really helpful to have that unquantifiable ability known as “card

sense,” but I really believe that a good work ethic and learning the game the right way is enough to achieve success. The most important thing is to have the right attitude to the game: it’s OK to make mistakes (EVERYONE does, even superstar players) but it’s extremely important to have the mindset of wanting to learn and improve, rather than the mindset of rationalizing your actions and being critical of partner’s mistakes.

When I was new to bridge, I read every bridge book I could get my hands on. This was extremely helpful to me when I was learning the game: the constant drills and exposure to situations and concepts was a good substitute for experience.

Learning to count is one of the most important things you can do if you want to improve. An expert player is always counting: counting tricks, counting trumps, counting high card points, and especially counting the opponents’ distributions. For example, an expert



Huub Bertens and Dan Korbel celebrating their victory in the Mitchell Open BAM in Denver

visualizes declarer's hand—he asks himself, Is declarer 5-4-3-1 or 5-4-2-2? The reason good players seem to take all their tricks on defense is that they pay attention to the cards played and the distributions around the table, and know what to do with that information. It's not magic, but it is hard work. The good news is that I can tell you that once you learn to do it, the game becomes easier and more natural, until it's just part of the way you play the game. And bridge becomes even more fun when you make great plays because you are counting.

It's very helpful to find a good teacher or teachers; one way is if your local area has a mentor program, or if you have the disposable income, hiring a professional is effective. Or even just finding a better player you trust and asking their advice on situations you find difficult. Just be careful that you are asking the right people for advice; it can be detrimental to learn bad habits or bad bidding ideas.

Kib: Does one need to be brilliant at bridge in order to succeed?

Bridge isn't about the hands where you do something brilliant; they are few and far between, and in fact I will often go an entire tournament without doing anything that I am particularly proud of. It's a matter of fact that bridge is won in the trenches. Winning bridge is about counting the points so you get your K-J guesses right more of the time, or counting the distributions so you know when or and when not to make a switch, or making the best bid every time.

Kib: Thanks, Dan, and all the best in 2016.

Q: How does Dan Korbel win 13 IMPS? By being a good bidder. Watch him bid to a beautiful 7 Diamond contract with John Carruthers. This deal is from a Regional Swiss a few years ago. JC was West, Dan East.

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

JC	Dan
1♣	1♠
2♣	2♦
3♦	4♦
4♥	4NT
5♣	5♥
7♣	7♦
All Pass	

Dan's 4♦ bid set diamonds as trumps; he was confident JC would trust that this bid is forcing so JC bid 4♥ to show a control (ace, king, singleton or void). 4NT was Roman Keycard Blackwood. 5♣ showed one keycard with diamonds as trump. Dan then bid 5♥ to ask about the queen of diamonds. JC knew that Dan implied they held all five keycards, as it went past the safety level of 5 Diamonds. Thus, 5♥ was a grand slam try. JC accepted and bid 7♣ to emphasize his great clubs. Dan corrected to 7♦.

And that's the way you do it.



Ross Anderson Best Award

By David Cohen

As most of you know Ross Anderson represented the “BEST” in bridge.

His level of enthusiasm for the game was amazing. He could (and would) talk about bridge for hours. He would review hands and figure out better (smarter) ways to bid and play them. He was an avid reader of bridge books and magazines. He even developed a complete bidding system which was a modification of Precision that he and a few partners played for many years.

Ross was also the ultimate sportsman. He realized that bridge was a game with clearly defined rules of etiquette. Cheating was intolerable; rule bending, unacceptable. If in doubt, he called the director—even to make sure that opponents were protected.

Ross was also the consummate bridge teacher, always willing to help beginners and intermediates. He was patient and used his teaching experience to clearly explain each point.

In honour of Ross we are creating the Ross Anderson “BEST AWARD”. The letters in “BEST” stand for Bridge, Enthusiasm, Sportsmanship and Teaching.

People can nominate individuals for this award. Nominations will be reviewed by Hazel Wolpert and a panel of advisors and the winner will have their name engraved on the plaque and a \$100 donation will be made in their name to support Junior Bridge in Canada.

The first award will be made in the spring of 2016.



Ross Anderson and John Caruthers

Vince Oddy Bridge Supplies

New Books

Tips On Card Play by Mike Lawrence – \$25.95

Tips On Bidding by Mike Lawrence – \$21.95

Tips On Competitive Bidding by Mike Lawrence – \$21.95

Buy all 3 for \$63

New Software

Bridge Baron 26 is now available!

Go to our website for a list of the new features

\$89.95 – Download for \$85 & save the shipping

We now carry Super Boards – Work great in dealing machines.

Check our web site for prices

Carry Cases – Aluminum with reinforced corners

**Introductory special – Get a set of 1-36 Super Boards
in an aluminum case for \$150**

Kibitzer Special – books that will make you laugh

Robin Hoods Bridge Memoirs by David Bird – \$19.95

The Kings Tales by the Kings – \$19.95

The New Kings Tales by the Kings – \$19.95

North Of The Master Solvers Club by Frank Vine – \$19.95

Bridge Hands To Make You Laugh & Cry by David Bird – \$22.95

Bridge Mix by Paul Holtham – \$19.95

Pick any book for \$5 each or all 6 for \$25



Check out our website
for a complete list of
available products



42 Stemmler Drive, Aurora ON L4G 6N4

1-800-463-9815 or 905-727-2300

www.vinceoddy.com bridge@vinceoddy.com



BURLINGTON 0-500 SECTIONAL

SATURDAY MARCH 12th 2016

ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION

828 LEGION RD.

BURLINGTON ONTARIO

"FREE PARKING"

HOSPITALITY WILL BE LUNCH

STRATIFIED PAIRS

2 SINGLE SESSION EVENTS

\$15.00 PER SESSION

\$3 EXTRA FOR NON-MEMBERS

10:00 A.M.: (0-50 0-300 0-500)

2:00 P.M.: (0-50 0-300 0-500)



Chair: Michelle Ellis | mellis2728@gmail.com | 905-525-1433

Co-Chair: Darlene Scott | DarleneScott@me.com | 905-257-0304

Co-Chair: Nora Hovland | norahovland@gmail.com | 905-465-1415





ROYAL CITY (GUELPH) SPRING FLING SECTIONAL TOURNAMENT MARCH 19 & 20, 2016

Tournament Chair Thea Davis

theadavis@xplornet.com | (519) 856-9371

Partnerships Pat Fung

pat.fung@sympatico.ca

Jack McFadden (519) 821-9958

Saturday March 19 10:30 am and 3:30 pm Open Pairs \$24 per person for 2 sessions Flight A 2000 plus Flight X 0-2000 Flight B 500/LM-1500 C 0-500/NLM

I/N 299 \$12 per session per person

Assignment to Flight Based on Player with Highest Masterpoints

Sunday March 20 11:00 am and TBA

Strati-flighted Swiss Teams - \$96 per team

Flight A 2000+ Flight A/X 0-2000 Flight B 500/LM – 1500 C 0-500/NLM

I/N 299 \$48 per session per team Single sessions welcome in 1st half only

Stratifications based on the # of teams

LUNCH AVAILABLE ON SUNDAY \$10 pp

Pair/Team Stratification Based on Average Masterpoints

FREE COFFEE AND SNACKS THROUGHOUT

**Novice ACBL members with 5 or fewer points FREE on Saturday Additional
\$3 per session for Non/Unpaid ACBL Members**

**Puslinch Community Centre 23 Brock Road South, Puslinch
N0B 2C0 Exit Highway 6 North - site is 3km north of 401**

To pre-register please click:

<http://guelphbridgeclub.org/guelphsectionalreg.html>

Toronto Easter Regional 2016

Tuesday, March 22 – Sunday, March 27, 2016

Same Location – Free Parking! International Plaza Hotel

655 Dixon Road, Toronto, Ontario M9W 1J3 416-244-1711 or 1-800-668-3656 or e-mail joy.thadickal@internationalplaza.com before Mar 1/2015

Quote: Regional Bridge Rate of \$111CAD/night!!!

Stay Wednesday & Thursday get 2 free plays!

(Must book under Regional Bridge Rate to qualify – Only the first 180 room/nights on our block qualify – so book quickly! See Tournament Chair For FPs)

Full schedule of events for all players: 0-199, 0-750, Swiss Teams, Pairs, Knock-outs, Match Points, IMPs and the SHEARDOWN TEAMS

They are back! Our Wildly Popular Events Are Here Again!

Midflight (0-3000) Pairs Tue / Thurs / Fri / Sat; Swiss on Wed & Sunday

Fast Pairs (5 Minutes Per Board) – Fri & Sat

New Event – 2-Session Gold Point Swiss - Fri & Sat Eve.

Sheardown KO Teams - \$30 per person entry fee, \$2,000 prize pool
(based on 16 teams)



Flights, Strats and Brackets based on Average Points.



Calling all Intermediate and Newcomer Players!

~100 Games (\$10 per session) Tues-Sat 1pm and 7pm

Guest Speakers – Thursday, Friday and Saturday at Noon

Chair: David Halasi

halasid@rogers.com

647-641-5432

Partnerships: Jan Keane

janice_keane@yahoo.ca

416-997-4911

This tournament has Zero Tolerance For Unacceptable Behaviour!

If someone Negatively affects your enjoyment, please report this to the tournament staff.



Schedule

Tuesday, March 22nd

Bracketed KO 1 (1st/2nd sessions) (3rd & 4th on Wed.)..... 1:00 & 7:00 pm
Stratiflighted Open Pairs (A/X:Open/5000, **Gold Rush** C:300-750, D:0-300).... 1:00 & 7:00 pm
Midflight Stratified Pairs.....A:1500-3000; B: 0-15001:00&7:00pm

Wednesday, March 23rd

Morning KO teams (1st of 3 sessions) 9:00am
Morning Side Series Pairs (1st of 3 sessions)..... 9:00am
Bracketed KO 1 (3rd/4th sessions) (Cont. From Tues.) 1:00 & 7:00 pm
Stratiflighted Swiss Teams (A/X:Open/5000, **Gold Rush** B:300-750, C:100-300) 1:00 & 7:00 pm
Stratified Pairs (A:Open, B: 750-2000, C: 0-750) 1:00 & 7:00 pm
0-300 Pairs (Single Session)..... 1:00& 7:00 pm
Midflight Stratified Swiss.....A:1500-3000; B: 0-1500..... 1:00&7:00pm

Thursday, March 24th

Morning KO teams (2nd of 3 sessions) 9:00am
Morning Side Series Pairs (2nd of 3 sessions)..... 9:00am
Stratiflighted Open Pairs (A/X:Open/5000, **Gold Rush** B:300-750, C:0-300) .. 1:00 & 7:00 pm
Midflight Stratified Pairs....A:1500-3000; B:0-1500 1:00 & 7:00 pm
Percy Sheardown Open KOs (1st/2nd) (continues Friday - \$120/team per session). 1:00 & 7:00 pm
Flight B 0 – 3,000 KOs (1st/2nd) (Bracketed; continues Friday) 1:00 & 7:00 pm

Friday, March 25th

Morning KO teams (3rd of 3 sessions) 9:00am
Morning Side Series Pairs (3rd of 3 sessions) 9:00am
Stratified Fast Pairs (A:Open, B:750-2000, C:0-750) (Finish by 3:30pm)..... 10:00 am & 1:00pm
Stratiflighted Open Pairs (A/X:Open/5000, **Gold Rush** B:300-750, C:0-300) .. 1:00 & 7:00 pm
Midflight Stratified Pairs....A:1500-3000; B: 0-1500 1:00 & 7:00 pm
Bracketed KO 3 (1st & 2nd) (3rd & 4th on Sat.) 1:00 & 7:00 pm
New Event!—Stratified Evening Swiss Teams (2 sessions - continues Sat Eve) ... 7:00pm

Saturday, March 26th

Stratified Fast Pairs II (A:Open, B:750-2000, C:0-750)
(5 Min per Board - Finish by 3:30pm)..... 10:00 am & TBA
Stratiflighted Open Pairs (A/X:Open/5000, **Gold Rush** B:300-750, C:0-300) .. 1:00 & 7:00 pm
Midflight Stratified Pairs....A:1500-3000; B:0-1500 1:00 & 7:00 pm
Bracketed Compact KO teams 1:00 & 7:00 pm
Evening Swiss Teams (continues from Fri Eve - no new entries)..... 7:00pm
District 2 Grand National Teams..see www.unit166.ca for more information ..1:00& 7:00pm

Sunday, March 27th

Stratiflighted* Swiss Teams (7 matches of 7 boards) 10:00 am & TBA
Midflight Swiss Teams (7 matches of 7 boards)10:00 am & TBA

Sunday Flights: A:Open, X:0-5000, B: 1500-3000, C: 0-1500, D: 0-750 and 0-300

Evening Swiss.....7:00 pm.....(Single session) Tuesday and Thursday

Note: Thursday and Friday KO Finals can be played at a time of mutual convenience for both teams.

KOs to be handicapped at Director's discretion



Hospitality Suite Available After the Evening Session Wed-Sat Evening

DISTRICT 2

GRAND NATIONAL TEAMS

2016

Open Flight	No Masterpoint limits
Flight A	Under 6000 Masterpoints
Flight B	Under 2500 Masterpoints
Flight C	Non-Life Master under 500 masterpoints (as of Sept. 2015 Bulletin)

**Winners of each Flight will represent District 2 in the North American Final,
to be played at the Washington NABC in July 2016.**

Entries at the National Final will be covered by the ACBL or District 2

All players must be paid-up ACBL members and residents of District 2

Teams may consist of 4, 5, or 6 members

Dates: Saturday, March 26 (& Sunday March 27, depending on # of entries)

Times: 1:00 & 7:00 pm / 10:00 am

Cost: \$80 per team, per session (subject to change)

Place: International Plaza Hotel, Toronto, ON
(in conjunction with the Toronto Easter Regional)

Teams are asked to Pre-register with the DISTRICT CO-ORDINATOR

Individuals or Pairs looking for Partners / Team mates may also contact the

DISTRICT CO-ORDINATOR

Martin Hunter | martinhunter@primus.ca | 905-858-7683

Sarnia Bluewater Sectional

April 2-3, 2016

Sarnia Collegiate Institute and Technical School
271 Wellington Street Sarnia, ON N7T 1H1



Saturday, 2 April 2016

The Elizabeth Fraser Memorial Stratified Pairs

11:00 AM and 3:30 PM (two-session event, single sessions welcome)

Subway Saturday, Pizza Sunday

Sunday, 3 April 2016

The Royer Stratified Swiss Teams

11:00 AM and TBA

For information and partnerships, contact Charles Dalmas

519-337-3399 | Charles.L.Dalmas@gmail.com

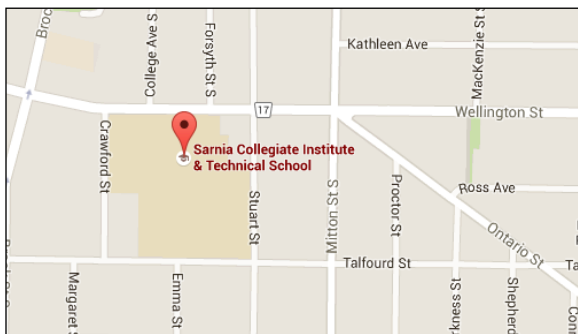
Upper Masterpoint Limits

A: 1000+, B: 300.01-999.99, C: 0-300

Average MP's in all events

Cost is \$13.00 Per Pairs Session, and \$13.00 Per Teams session, which includes both HST and hospitality/lunch. There is an ACBL-mandated, additional charge of \$3.00 for non-paid members or non-members.

Directions From The Bluewater Bridge: Take the Front Street Exit. Turn right on Front Street. Continue on Front Street to Wellington Street. Turn left. Follow Wellington street past Brock Street. School is on the right. From 402 West: Take the Christina Street exit. Turn left at the end of the access road. Continue along Christina to Wellington Street and turn left. Follow Wellington Street past Brock Street. School is on the right. **From Provincial Highway 40:** Bear left at



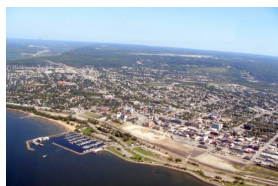
Churchill Road when you can no longer go straight. Follow Churchill Road to Vidal Street South. Turn right on Vidal Street South. Bear right onto Brock Street South. Follow Brock Street South until Wellington Street. Turn right and follow Wellington a short distance. School is on the right.

Gateway to the North Sectional

April 22-24, 2016



North Bay Elks Club
325 Elks Lane
North Bay, Ontario
705-474-7491



Schedule of Events

Stratification of all events determined by pair or team average

Friday April 22, 1:00 & 7:00 pm

Stratified Open – A: 1500+; B: 500-1500; C: 0-500

Stratified 299er Pairs

Newcomer Pairs 0-50 fewer boards, more relaxed

Saturday April 23, 10:30 am & 3:00 pm

Stratified Open – A: 1500+; B: 500-1500; C: 0-500

Stratified 299er Pairs

Newcomer Pairs 0-50 fewer boards, more relaxed

Free Light lunch provided between Saturday sessions

Sunday April 24, 10:00 am

Stratified Swiss Teams 2 Session Play Through

Based on Average Master Points A = 1500+ B = 500-1500 C = 0-499

Stratified 299er Swiss Teams – Two Single Sessions

This is a zero tolerance tournament. Please let the Directing Staff know if someone negatively affects your enjoyment of this tournament.

Cost \$10 / session - Sunday team \$100 includes lunch

\$3 extra for non or unpaid ACBL members

Newcomers Pairs \$6 / session + \$3 for non or unpaid ACBL members

Tournament Co-chairs

Michael Beauchamp

John Biondi

Partnerships: Barbara Bukowski

North Bay Duplicate Bridge Club 705-476-2345

michael-lynn@outlook.com

dymondace1@yahoo.com

biederman@sympatico.ca

northbaybridge@gmail.com

The Credit Valley Bridge Association

BRAMPTON SECTIONAL

23-24 April 2016



Region Of Peel Agricultural Society
12942 Heart Lake Rd., Caledon, L7C 2J3

From the east, west or south: From Hwy 401 go north on Hwy 410 and exit at Mayfield Rd. (10th exit). Go west (left) on Mayfield Rd. Go north (right) on Heart Lake Rd. The fairgrounds are on the west side of the road approximately 3 km north.

From the north: Take Hwy 10 south until it merges with Hwy 410. Stay on Hwy 410 and exit at Mayfield Rd. Go west (right) on Mayfield Rd. Go north (right) on Heart Lake Rd. The fairgrounds are on the west side of the road approximately 3 km north.

SATURDAY APRIL 23

Stratified Pairs – 2-Session playthrough - A=2000+; B=750–2000; C=0-750

Stratified 299er pairs – 2 Single sessions - 1/2 price for players with 0-5 MPs.

Stratified 49er pairs (if attendance warrants) – 2 Single sessions - 1/2 price for players with 0-5 MPs.

Game times: 11:00 am & 3:15 pm

SUNDAY APRIL 24

0–199 Swiss Teams

Game times: 11:00 am & 3:15

Stratiflighted Swiss Teams

A/X, B/C/D

Playthru – 45 minute break at midpoint

A=2500+; X=0-2500; B=0–1500; C=0–750; D=0–300

Game time: 11:00 am

Flight eligibility will be determined by average master points of team members.

Enjoy the hospitality and finish early!

Entry Fees:

\$13/player/session for ACBL members

\$16 for non-ACBL members

Tournament Chair

Lee Daugharty calendar@interlog.com





The Peterborough Sectional 2016

Sat, April 30–Sun, May 1

Same Great Location, Same Great Hospitality

McDonnell St. Activity Centre

577 McDonnell Street

****Lots of Free Parking****

Saturday April 30th, 11am & TBA (Approx. 2:45)

(Playthrough – lunch for sale on site)

- Open Pairs - Stratified A/X & B/C/D – single sessions welcome
- 199 pairs (Single Sessions)

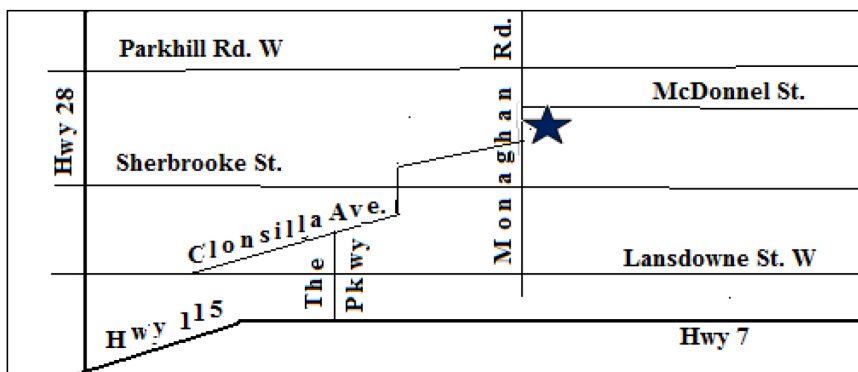
Sunday May 1st, 11am & TBA

(Playthrough – Swiss Chalet dinner for sale on site)

- A/X Swiss Teams (A=3000+, X= 0–3000)
- B/C/D Swiss Teams (B=750-1500, C=300–750, D=0–300)
- 199er Swiss Teams (Single Sessions)

Entry Fees:

\$12 per session for ACBL members (\$3.00 additional fee for non or unpaid members), \$5 for students,



Tournament Coordinator

Ron Haney (705) 738-3100 | ron@unit246.com

Partnerships

Dwight Goden (705) 742-0962 | peterboroughbridge@cogeco.net

Toronto Symphony Volunteer Committee Annual Bridge Fundraiser

Friday, May 13, 2016

Timothy Eaton Memorial Church, 230 St. Clair Avenue West

Registration: 8:15 am–9:00 pm

Duplicate (ACBL Sanctioned) and Social Bridge

Cost: \$75

Silent Auction • Dutch Auction • Prizes



Wine reception and buffet lunch. Be entertained with recordings by the Toronto Symphony Orchestra and the Toronto Symphony Youth Orchestra.

Guest Speaker: Bridge Expert, Patti Lee

Director: Wayne Ruttan

To register call 416-593-7769, ext. 258

TSV.CA/Bridge

Are You Ready For Something Different?

Then please join us for a fun weekend on **May 14 & 15**.
Play bridge in Thornhill. We're offering a special tournament
with a *little extra*. You'll have the chance to win—not just
masterpoints—*but money, too*.

How does it work?

Saturday will be a pairs event and there will be 4 stratified sections with 2 money winners in each section. Pair strats will be determined by the average of a pairs' total masterpoints. Overall winners will receive cash prizes as well as black masterpoints.

Sunday will be Stratiflighted Swiss Teams (A plays separately from B,C,D).

Prize Money

Pairs finishing 1st and 2nd overall in each of the 4 sections will receive cash prizes with the \$ amount based on total attendance.

For example, with a turnout of 60 tables per session, the prize money would be:

Based on 60 tables	A	B	C	D
1st place	\$300	\$250	\$150	\$100
2nd place	\$150	\$125	\$ 75	\$50

The number of winners in each section could change according to attendance.

Pair Stratifications

A - Any pair may play in A.

B - Restricted to pairs with a masterpoint average less than 2500.

C - Restricted to pairs with a masterpoint average less than 1000.

D - Restricted to pairs with a masterpoint average less than 300.

Number of sections & stratification subject to change based on turnout.

Stratiflighted Swiss Strats

Flight A – Unlimited and open

Flights B/C/D: B=1000-2500, C=300-1000, D=0-300

Like the pair prizes, cash prizes for the Sunday Swiss will be determined by attendance. The number of sections & stratification is subject to change based on turnout.

Entry Fee

Just **\$13** per session, per person, students **\$5** (includes HST)
(must play both sessions to win daily cash prizes.).

Where?

At the Thornhill Community Centre, main floor, south end. The address is 7755 Bayview Ave., Thornhill. The Centre is on the northeast corner of Bayview and John Street. John Street is between Steeles Ave. and Hwy 407.

****LOTS OF FREE PARKING****

Times

Saturday Pairs: First session starts at 1 pm and second session starts at 6:30 pm.

Sunday Swiss: 11 am & TBD (Playthrough, lunch on site.).

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

Partnerships: Sally MacRae, sally_macrae@yahoo.ca, 416-488-4332



KW Summerfest (Cambridge) Sectional

June 4-5, 2016



Featuring:

- ♣ Newcomer friendly tournament: \$5/ game ticket for 19ers
- ◇ Continuing the successful Saturday night Fast Pairs
- ♠ Located in the Beehive Lounge of the Hespeler Arena, close to the 401
- ♥ Free and copious parking
- ♣ Coffee, tea and homemade goodies will be available throughout the tournament
- ◇ Lunch on site both days, and there is easy access to a variety of local restaurants for the Saturday Fast Pairs players

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Saturday June 4 (10:00 am start)

Stratified Open Pairs (playthrough or single sessions) 10:00 am and 2:00 pm
299er Pairs (single sessions) 10:00 am and 2:00 pm
19er Pairs 10:00 am

Lunch is available on site between sessions (sandwiches, relish tray).

Tickets \$8.00 per person.

Fast Pairs (one session) 7:00 pm to 10:00

Sunday June 5 (10:00 am start)

Stratified Open Swiss Teams (playthrough)
299er Swiss Teams (playthrough)

Swiss Chalet quarter chicken dinner will be served between sessions.

Tickets \$9.00 per person.

Stratification:

A: 1500+ B: 750 - 1500 C: 0 - 750

Stratifications by average of pair and team

Game fees including HST*

\$5 per player for each 19er game

\$12 per ACBL member per Open or 299er game

\$96/ team for Sunday Swiss teams

* For non or unpaid ACBL members, add \$3 for Open, or 299er or Swiss Team games; no added fee for 19er games.



Tournament Coordinator: Ted Boyd (519) 740-9614 | boydst1945@gmail.com
Partnerships: Pat McMillan (226) 647-0187 | patmctiger@hotmail.com

Location:

Hespeler Arena, Beehive Lounge
640 Ellis Road West,
Cambridge, ON N3C 4K1
P: 519-740-4681 Ext.4605

Directions:

Highway 401 to Townline Road (exit 286),
north on Townline Road to Ellis Road
West, left on Ellis Road West to Hespeler
Arena on the left.

Port Franks Vacation Sectional



Sat. June 25

Sun. June 26

**Open Pairs Playthrough
299's Pairs**

**Swiss Teams - Open
- 299's**

*Single Session entries
always welcome*

Stratifications: (Master points are averaged)

Open Pairs

A - Over 1500

B - 750 - 1500

C - 0 - 750

299's

A - 200 - 300

B - 100 - 200

C - 0 - 100

Entry fee:

\$12/person per session

Non ACBL members \$13

Meal between games \$9

All sessions start at 11AM with the second session to be announced.
Free coffee & refreshments before games.

Come & Enjoy: friendly people, free parking, air-conditioning.
Come for the weekend and enjoy Club Game at 1:00PM Friday, the
beaches, golf courses, Pinery Provincial Park, Huron Country Playhouse,
and other attractions in the area.

Partnerships: Sue Trumper
519-238-5516
strumper@hay.net

Please arrange partners by June 23rd.

Accommodations:
www.lambtonshores.ca

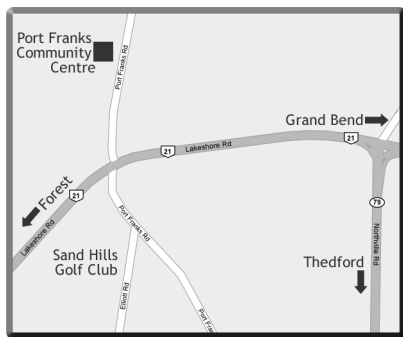
Tournament

Chair: Jean Potthoff
519 243-3026
jpotthof@execulink.com

Directions:

Port Franks Community Centre
9997 Port Franks Rd.

Signage will direct you from Northville on Hwy 21 between Forest & Grand Bend. Turn North on Port Franks Rd to the Community Centre. Port Franks Rd. is opposite Sand Hills Golf Course.



www.dunesBridgeClub.com



THORNHILL SUMMER SECTIONAL



Saturday, July 2nd–Sunday, July 3rd, 2016

Please join us for fun, silver points, great bridge and hospitality
at the Thornhill Community Centre.

Event Schedule

Saturday, July 2

Stratified Open Pairs - <i>Two session event, single entries welcome</i>	1 & 6:30
0 – 300 Pairs	1 & 6:30
0 – 50 Pairs (if numbers sufficient)	1 & 6:30

Sunday, July 3

Stratified Swiss Teams	11:00 am. & TBD
<i>Playthrough, lunch on site</i>	

Flights: Stratified by average of total masterpoints,
Saturday - A: open, B: 750–2000, C: 0–750
Sunday - Flight A/X: (separate) A=3000+, X=0–3000
Flights B/C/D: B=750–2000, C=300–750, D=0–300

Please help the Directors start on time. Arrive to register
at least **15 minutes** before game time.

Entry Fees: \$13 (includes HST) per session for ACBL members
(\$3 additional fee for non or unpaid ACBL members), \$5 for students.

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

Partnerships: Sally MacRae, sally_macrae@yahoo.ca, 416-488-4332

Location: Main floor, south end of the Thornhill Community Centre,
7755 Bayview Ave., Thornhill. Located on northwest corner of Bayview
and John. John Street is between Steeles Ave. and Hwy 407.

****LOTS OF FREE PARKING****

HAMILTON SECTIONAL

ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION BRANCH 163
435 LIMERIDGE RD. E.
HAMILTON, ON. L9A 2S8

July 16th and 17th 2016

**\$5 LUNCH SERVED AT SITE SAT. & SUN.
HOSPITALITY ON SAT.**

PRIZE FOR MOST MPs EARNED AT THE TOURNAMENT

Saturday July 16th (\$12.00 per session)

Random Prizes Drawn All Day

Stratified (OPEN PAIRS) 10:30 am

(single session entries welcomed)

All flights are play through

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

Stratified OPEN PAIRS 3:00 pm

(single session entries welcomed)

All flights are play through

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

NEWCOMER & INTERMEDIATE GAMES 10:30 am

Stratified Pairs 0-20/50/200 **0-20 & Students \$6**

NEWCOMER & INTERMEDIATE GAMES 3:00 pm

Stratified Pairs 0-20/50/200 **0-20 & Students \$6**

Sunday July 17st (1/2 hr. lunch)

Stratiflighted Swiss Teams (\$96 per team) 10:30 am

C: 0-750 B: 0-1500 X: 0-2500 A: 2500+

NEW/INTER. Stratiflighted Swiss Teams 10:30 am

(\$96 per team)

\$3 EXTRA FOR NON-MEMBERS

ZERO TOLERANCE IN EFFECT!!!!

STRATIFIED BY AVERAGE MP PER PAIR/TEAM

Tournament Chair

Michelle Ellis

905-525-1433

mellis2728@gmail.com

Partnership Desk

Sat. 9:30-10:25 am 2-2:55 pm

Sun. 9:30-10:25 am

Joe Blatnick 905-592-9663

tanjoe@cogeco.ca

Free Parking



Tillsonburg's 37th Annual Golden Leaf Sectional Bridge Tournament

Aug. 5-7, 2016



Tournament Manager – Jed Drew Jed.Drew@gmail.com (519) 842-8786

Partnerships – Liz Illes tonyilles@sympatico.ca (519) 688-9400

Friday, August 7

\$12/player per session* (includes HST)

11:00 am - Single Session

Open Pairs – Stratified

I/N 299'r Pairs – Stratified

3:00 pm - Single Sessions

Open Pairs – Stratified

I/N 299'r Pairs – Stratified

Saturday, August 8

\$12/player per session* (includes HST)

11:00 am & 3:00 pm

Two-Session Play-Thrus

Open Pairs – Stratified

I/N 299'r Pairs – Stratified

Single Session Entries are Welcomed in
Either Session

Sunday, August 9

\$96 per team* (includes HST)

10:30 am / TBA

Back by Popular Demand!!!

Bracketed Swiss Teams

Bracketed by Team Total Masterpoints

7 Rounds of 7 Boards

Pairs Stratifications Based on Average Masterpoints

Open: (A: 2000+, B: 750-2000, C: 0-750)

I/N 299'r: (A: 100-300; B: 20-100; C: 0-20)

NOTE: Stratifications are dependent upon depth of field – Director may adjust

Electronic Scoring

Catered Lunch Available On-Site Daily for \$8.00 per person

*Novice ACBL Members with Less than 5 Masterpoints receive one **FREE** session on Friday or Saturday

Additional \$3 per session for Non/Unpaid ACBL Members

**New Swiss start time
and match lengths –
designed to allow an
earlier finish!**

Tillsonburg Community Centre – Lions Auditorium

45 Hardy Ave., Tillsonburg, ON N4G 3W9

Free Coffee and Snacks Throughout

Our Catered Lunches are Rated A+
Excellent Playing Site / Free Parking

Good Dining Nearby

Friendly Relaxed Atmosphere

**Tillsonburg Offers the Best Value for
your Tournament \$\$\$**

Host Hotel

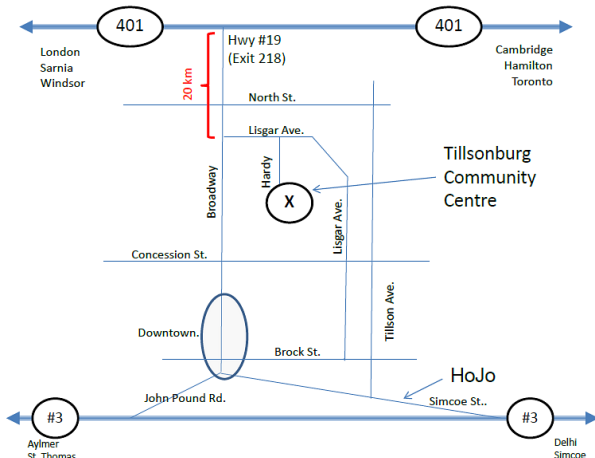


92 Simcoe Street, Tillsonburg

Phone directly to the Hotel to receive

a 10% discount rate:

1-866-942-7366



For More Information Please Visit Our Website <http://www.tillsonburgbridgeclub.ca/TOURNAMENT.html>

In Memoriam

Samantha Nystrom

1984-2015

Canadian Champion, Diamond Life Master,
Beginners' Bridge Teacher Extraordinaire

Born on January 16, 1984.

At age 11 Sam and her mother decided to take bridge lessons.
As her mother says, "She picked it up much faster than me."
After that there was no stopping her.

When she was 18 she became the youngest life master in
British Columbia. In 2004 she was a member of the Canadian
Under 21 team at the World School Team Championships.
In 2014 she became one of 4 women ever to win the CNTC's.

Samantha will be greatly missed. She was loved by all who knew her.
She had a contagious smile and a way that always made you feel
special at the bridge table.

—Susan Cooper

Club News

Exercising the Brain At the Midland Bridge Club

Google “benefits of playing bridge” and you’ll be surprised at the number of articles published on how this game keeps the mind active and youthful. In 2000, according to blueberrybridge.com, a professor proved that playing bridge increases the levels of infection fighting T-cells in the blood stream. While the average age of an American Contract Bridge League member is 67, the large number of nonagenarians and older that play bridge is not just a coincidence – it’s an interesting AH-HA statistic. Whether it’s the focused strategic thought process or social team player interaction, there’s no doubt that playing bridge is an extremely good exercise for the mind.

For instance, Peterborough resident, Hazel Brunford, a top bridge player, turned 100 in July. Then there’s Lily Hansen, 103, of Ludington, Mich., who has played bridge for nine decades and is the director of a duplicate bridge club. “Everybody asks how come I am 103 and still driving ... still around,” she said. “♠Bridge♥ keeps your brain working. I honestly believe that.”

The Midland Bridge Club has its own nonagenarians: Noreen Baer, a long-time member and multi-year Terry Fox Walk participant and Sheila Hawkins, bridge teacher and eponym for one of the club’s rooms - The Hawkins Room.

According to AARP (the U.S. equivalent to CARP), Hall of Fame tennis star Martina Navratilova wrote that bridge “is more than just a card game. It’s a cerebral sport. Bridge teaches you logic, reasoning, quick thinking, patience, concentration and partnership skills.” Warren Buffett, 85, who plays bridge with Bill Gates, age 60, once said that he wouldn’t mind going to jail if he had three cell mates who were capable bridge players.

In May, the Midland Bridge Club made a strategic move into its new home at 427 William Street. With the help of generous donations of money, materials and labour, the inside has been completely transformed, redecorated and upgraded. Accessibility is superb with the rooms being all at ground level. And the tables are permanently set up for players to just sit down and play. There are regular ACBL sanctioned games on Monday afternoons and Wednesday evenings.

The club, with its full kitchen, climate controlled rooms and huge parking lot, is an ideal place for area residents to host a card party in exchange for a donation. In December, the Full Deck bridge group, who used to play at the Calvary Baptist Church, began to host their Thursday afternoon games at the Midland Bridge Club.

About the Midland Bridge Club

The Midland Bridge Club opened May 1, 2015 at 427 William Street, just south of Yonge Street, directly in front of the Huronia Gymnastic Club. The current president is JoAnn Jackson and the club's manager is Greg

Coles. Our website is www.midlandbridge.ca and we've VERY social:

LIKE us at facebook.com/midlandbridge
Follow us on Twitter: @MidlandBridge



Midland Mayor Gord McKay presents Sheila Hawkins in June with a special plaque recognizing her years of volunteering.

Catching up with Tom Ramsay

Tom Ramsay wears two presidential hats. He is president of the Unit 249 Board of Directors and president of the District 2 Board. If that's not enough, Tom still dabbles in organizing bridge tournaments.

Kib: What are the highs and lows of organizing a Sectional tournament these days?

TR: The best part of putting together a sectional tournament is the teamwork involved. There is so much to do and if you can get a good team together, you can identify the problems and come up with solutions, and spread out the workload and have fun doing so. The real reward is the tournament itself, seeing everyone, especially those new to bridge, having a good time. The only downside is that there is a LOT of work.

Kib: Tell us about Guelph and the Guelph sectional coming up in March. What can the out-of-town folks expect both at and away from the table while playing in that tourney?

TR: Well first of all, the actual work for Guelph is done by Thea Davis as Tournament Chair, with tremendous support from Catherine Spencer, manager of the Guelph Bridge Club.

And they get help from a host of GBC members. In March, 2015, we held our first Sectional in Guelph. We have a great location, 3 minutes north of the 401, easily accessible from London, Hamilton, or Toronto. We expected 30-40 tables as a lot of players were still down south, so we only rented part of the rec. center, but we had well over 50 tables each day. We had to set up extra tables everywhere, including one in the cloakroom! This year we've rented the whole facility and will have room for everyone. We had a huge turnout in the 299er sections will have lots of games for newer players next year too.

Kib: What restaurants do you recommend?

TR: There are lots of good restaurants about a 5-10 minute drive north of the playing site. Borealis is one of the best (and closest), on Gordon Street. They have a great beer selection and excellent food, usually from local suppliers. A little further north on Stone Road are all the chains such as East Side Mario's, Milestones, Swiss Chalet, Buffalo Wild Wings, plus lots of pubs, and fast food, Thai/Vietnamese, Chinese, etc. You won't go hungry here.

Kib: Besides David Deaves (a contributor in the previous Kibitzer), who else do you enjoy playing with?

TR: I like playing with several different partners, each with a totally different style. Colin Harrington and I play a Forcing Club system with lots of artificial bids while David Deaves and I use Strong 2 Bids, Forcing Jump Raises, and don't open 3-card suits. Cindy Mahn and I play a basic 2-over-1 system; Dave Baker and I open 5-card majors, a 1 Club opening bid can be short, and all jumps are Mini-Splinters. It's fun to play different systems.

Kib: The Kib is planning to go completely online starting in 2017 with the possibility of providing hard copies for those who opt-in on a pay-per-issue basis...do you think the bridge players in your area would like to keep reading the Kib as a hard copy if it cost, say \$5 per issue?

TR: I know electronic distribution would save the units a lot of money, so I can't argue with the decision. I'd probably just print the tournament info from my computer to save the \$5.00. I don't think there'd be much demand for copies at this price, but I could be wrong.



Kib: The Kib is always interested in hearing about neat bridge hands—anything exciting or educational come up recently for you?

TR: Here's a hand that came up in a Team League last fall. I picked up, 3rd seat, none vulnerable.

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

That's right—an 8-5 hand. Partner opened a weak 2 Spades! Now what? Next hand passed and I guessed to bid 4 Hearts. Partner put down

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

With clubs 2-1, I made 6 for 480 when 7 Clubs was cold. The other table bid with no interference: Pass, 2♣-2♦, 2♥-2♠, 4♥-Pass for a push board. Not the greatest bidding at either table. Can you suggest a scientific auction? Deaves and I would bid as follows:

Pass	2♥ (strong)
2NT	3♣
4♣	5NT (grand slam try: bid 7♣ with 2 of the top 3 clubs)
6♣	Pass

We don't have the tools to bid 7.

Kib: Nor does the Kib. Thanks, Tom. See you in Guelph in March!

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.

2016

FEBRUARY

12-14 St. Catharines*

MARCH

5-6 Oshawa Teams*
10-20 Reno NABC
12 Burlington, 0-500, p.26
19-20 Guelph, p.27
22-27 Toronto Regional, p.28

APRIL

2-3 Sarnia, p.31
8-10 Buffalo
11-17 Gatlinburg Regional
22-24 North Bay, p.32
23-24 Brampton, p.33
30-May 1 Peterborough, p.34

MAY

14-15 Thornhill, p.36
17-23 Kingston Regional
21-28 Cdn. Championships,
Toronto

27-29

MAY

Sudbury

JUNE

4-5 Cambridge, p.38
25-26 Port Franks, p.39
27-July 2 Halifax Regional

JULY

2-3 Thornhill, p.40
5-10 London Regional
16-17 Hamilton, p.41
21-31 Washington NABC

AUGUST

5-7 Tillsonburg, p.42
8-14 Montreal Regional
16-21 North Bay Regional
20-21 St. Catharines 299er

SEPTEMBER

10-11 St. Thomas
17-18 Barrie
24-25 Caledon East
30-Oct. 2 Trenton

Deadline for the *Spring 2016 Kibitzer*: June 1, 2016

The Kibitzer

Andy Stark

107 Kent Rd., Toronto ON M4L 2X5

ph. 647 530 1360

