



The Kibitzer

Spring 2018

Volume 65, Number 1

*Celebrating
the
Sectional*





Editor's Note

Ever since I started playing bridge I have looked forward to attending the sectional weekend tournament--for the bridge and the camaraderie. I was just at the St. Catharines Sectional and I saw Bill Koski. Me: "Hey Bill, did you know you have more silver points than anyone else in our District?" Bill: "No, but I do get to a lot of sectionals." You can read more from Bill and other sectional stars on page 14.

Way back in 90 or 91 I attended my

first Beacon Sectional. Sandy Boyko was my teammate and driver. Our partners got into a heated discussion during the trip there. The weak no-trump was the subject. One thought it was necessary to play some kind of rescue runouts when a 12-14 INT opening bid was doubled. The other teammate thought it was not necessary.

"Listen to me!"

"No, you listen to me!"

"NO, YOU LISTEN TO ME!!"

The car was filled with rhetoric and passion and volume. When we looked up for our exit we saw a sign, "Bridge to Lewiston." Dwight Bender has a similar story. Maybe we all do when we drive to a sectional and talk bridge in the car? Hope to see you at a sectional someday.

Andy Stark

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We are pleased to announce that the bridge bulletin

The Kibitzer **will once again be available in print.**

The cost of a one-year subscription (four issues) is \$28.

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The Kibitzer Information

A printed version of The Kibitzer is now available. Please see details on page 39 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.

Advertisers: Please proofread your ad to ensure all the dates, times, prices, and other important details are to your liking. We will print what you send us and only edit for typos and grammar.

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Please send to Andy Stark, andy.kibitzer@gmail.com

KIBITZER ONLINE: <http://unit166.ca>

IMPORTANT KIBITZER DATES:

| Issue: | Deadline: | Online Posting: |
|-------------|-----------|-----------------|
| Summer | May 1 | May 15 |
| Fall | Aug. 1 | Aug. 15 |
| Winter | Nov. 1 | Nov. 15 |
| Spring 2019 | Feb. 1 | Feb. 15 |

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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(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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(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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Some Unit 249 Board members just after their big meeting at the Stratford Sectional in November

Standing - Tom Ramsay, Gary Westfall, Tom Jolliffe, Maria Deaves. Seated - Jed Drew, Hazel Hewitt, Ted Boyd

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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IMPORTANT NOTICE

**First Annual General Meeting
Niagara Area, Unit 255
Saturday, March 3rd, 2018
Bridge Centre of Niagara**



Come out and meet your Unit 255 Board of Directors. Find out what has been done and what is being planned. Get involved. There is lots of work to be done. Our Unit is committed to providing opportunities for our members to play, learn and improve their bridge.

The Unit 255 By-Laws are posted on our website www.unit255.com. Please take some time to read them before attending the meeting. You will be asked to approve these By-Laws at the meeting.

Agenda

4:30 AGM starts

- Introduction of Unit Board of Directors and Committee Chairs
- Approval of Unit 255 By-Laws

5:30 Dinner (Sponsored by Unit 255)

- Cash bar will be available

7:00 Special Unit Championship Game

- Stratified
- Triple masterpoint awards

Cost of \$6.00 includes dinner and special game fee. Please sign up so that we can ensure that we have enough food for all. Your attendance is important since a quorum is required to approve our By-Laws.

Please support you new Unit by attending this important meeting.



Lino and Terrence: 2017 Silver Point Champs

Amongst all players in District 2, Lino D'Souza, along with his partner Terrence Rego, won the most silver points in 2017 and they are leading the silver point race in 2018. Lino and Terrence were partners in every sectional but one: Cambridge in June. There they were teammates in the Sunday Swiss, which they won.

Kib: Guys, please share with us how you first started, your successes and disappointments, and whatever else you'd like to mention.

Lino: My first sectional was at the Royal York in 1994. We had the director called on us because we were playing the 2♦ Multi convention—popular elsewhere in the world but not in Canada.

Terrence: My introduction to bridge started in the mid eighties in Mumbai, India. In 1989 I played for India at the World Junior Championships, in England. The experience was wonderful and encouraged me to learn more and improve my game. I moved to Canada in 2002 and after a few months played my first sectional

in Oshawa. I was amazed at how courteous and pleasant Canadian bridge players are. I played with a few different players before I teamed up with my current partner Lino. Since then we have won many tournaments and have had numerous high finishes in most events.

Lino: Soon after my first sectional I played in the Easter Regional at the Royal York in Toronto. I remember winning the open pairs with Irfan Ashraf by ½ board over Ron Bishop and partner, and we made the bulletin the next day. The headline was, "Flight B Pair Wins the Open."

Terrence: Lino has more of a matchpoints approach to the game while I tend to be more IMPs style. For most of 2017 we teamed up with Dorin Toma and Gabriel Tatar, two very good players and our results have been astounding. We are encouraged by our results and hope to do well in bigger events.

Lino: My favourite Sectional is Oshawa for their great hospitality, ease of access, and great

organization. Recently, London was good too. I think most bridge players want easy access, parking, plenty of coffee, and some snacks. The playing site is crucial, too; very often we find sites where players are tripping over one another, long line-ups, and not enough thought given to refreshments, etc.

Terrence: My biggest disappointment was losing the GNT Flight A semi-final qualification by one IMP. Our best recent result was winning the open pairs in a strong field at the Niagara Falls Regional.

Lino: A few years ago, while playing against Joey Silver and John Carruthers, I made a play defending Joey's 6NT contract that put Joey down. He led a low diamond from his hand towards {Jxx in the dummy. I played low smoothly with {Qx. The jack lost to partner's king and later Joey took a losing finesse so I scored

my now singleton queen. Good ol' second hand low!

Terrence: I recently played the mini Spingold at the Toronto NABC with Andy Stark and finished second. The playing conditions, and organization was excellent. Having firm agreements in a partnership is our key to success. Master points have never interested me. I don't have enough black points to be called a life master.

Lino: Terrence is a great partner, very thoughtful and accurate in his carding. Our regular Swiss teammates Dorin and Gabriel are a good fit for us and we look forward to doing well in the bigger avenues against more established pairs.

Kib: Thank you, Lino & Terrence and we wish you continued success—especially when you graciously allow the editor to play on your team.



Lino D'Souza and Terrence Rego





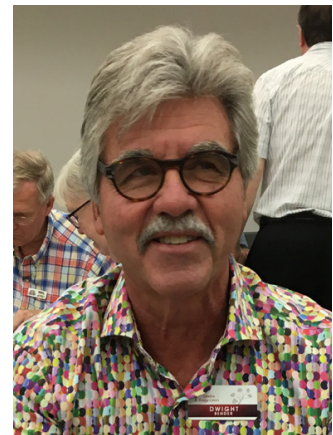
Sectional Stars

In North America there is a bridge tournament held every weekend of the year. You could look it up. These weekend tournaments are called 'Sectionals' and have been around for years. We bridge players go through phases attending, and then not attending, these ubiquitous yet underrated events. The Kibitzer asked a few of the top Ontario silver point winners to help us celebrate the sectional tourney by sharing some of their experiences. There are no slouches on this panel: from the Silver Point Top 100 list on page 24 we have Bill Koski (#1), Dave Baker (#2), Martin Hunter (#5), Tom Ramsay (#6), Dwight Bender (#7), Paul Janicki (#15), and Mary Howe (#20). They're all actively attending sectionals and some just played, (and won--Dave Baker and his partner Diane Bourdeau won the Friday aft. pairs) in St. Catharines this past weekend.

Kib: When did you attend your first sectional tourney?

Dwight: The first sectional I attended was in London in the mid 70s and the most recent was in Scottsdale in the fall of 2017.

Dave: I don't remember my first sectional, but I started duplicate bridge in 1972, so it was probably a year before my first scary outing. I do remember that my masterpoint total for my first year playing once or twice a week was 32. Nowadays, that is a fairly successful Regional weekend.



Dwight Bender

Mary: The first sectional I ever attended was in the late 1970s in London. I played with Rev. Jack Boyd in a novice game and with David Burke in the Open Game. There were no flighted games in those days, so everyone played in the open game.

Bill: I attended my first sectional tournament in Sault Ste. Marie in 1967 after playing bridge for only a few months. I was in university and a group of guys needed a

fourth for a team game and dragged me along. At the time I had about 4 points and collected 5 during the tournament.

Martin: I started attending club games in the fall of 1987 with colleagues from school and attended my first sectional in January 1988, at the Royal York.

Paul: I do not recall my first Sectional. I played bridge sporadically in the 70s because my real passion was chess. I remember attending the Peterborough Swiss in the mid-70s.

Tom: I clearly remember my first bridge tournament, a 99er two-session event at the 1988 Easter regional. Playing with Fran Chivers we won each session and were first overall for 4.75 masterpoints. I don't remember my first sectional though. It was later that year, probably in Toronto in September.



Paul Janicki

2) Do you have any memories from that first tournament?

Dave: I have trouble remembering last week.

Mary: I had only played a few novice games at the bridge club but I marveled when I showed up at the tournament and saw some young kids walking around. I was amazed that such young people were playing bridge. I soon found out that they were caddies, something I had never seen at the bridge club. The air in the playing site was blue because the majority of people smoked while they played. Most people had a cigarette sitting in the ashtray while they contemplated what they were going to bid or play. Smoking was a good stalling technique as well as a crutch. Thankfully things have changed!

Paul: My team was 4-0 at the break—we were feeling good. Then we played some guys I had never seen before and they thumped us. My teammates had a good laugh—the two ‘strangers’ were John Carruthers and Ted Horning.

Bill: My only memory from my first tournament was that back in those days you earned 0.25 for winning a 10-table game at the club and we won our section in the afternoon session of a 2-session pair game and doubled my masterpoint holding.

Martin: My partner and I, the two newbies of the group, were leading our section with a round to go and finished second overall. Later that spring, I won a 0-5 event at The Inn-on-the-Park, a luxury hotel at Leslie & Eglinton that no longer exists.

Dwight: I have no specific memories of my first sectional other than I found it rather intimidating. However, I played in the Mohawk Sectional shortly thereafter in the

Sunday Swiss. After winning the first three matches we lost the fourth match to a very good team. I will never forget the argument (healthy but heated) that my teammates had regarding a bidding sequence that cost us that match. One of my teammates, looking for support for his side of the argument got up from our beer-adorned table, walked to the bar, and asked a patron if he played bridge. Immediately after the 'No' response my teammate said, "Well, suppose you did; you hold ace-king fourth, three little, stiff, and ace-king fifth..." Well. Three of us erupted into laughter—the entire restaurant heard us. We ended up second despite that loss.

3) What is your favourite sectional to attend?

Tom: I like all the Unit 249 sectionals, (I've been on the board since 2009 and try to attend all 8 of our sectionals), but my favourite is Tillsonburg, followed closely by Cambridge and Stratford. Tillsonburg gets the nod for favourite because it's three days and in the summer. The hospitality is great and everyone is friendly, but that's the norm in Unit 249.

Mary: I have many fond memories of Sectional tournaments in which I played. I particularly loved attending the sectional at the Beacon Hotel because of its beautiful view over Lake Ontario and the bridge after-parties that carried on late into the night. The tournament was held in the winter and the playing area featured a long wall of windows facing the lake, making the room either too hot or too cold depending on where you sat. I remember one wintry weekend at the Beacon when the winds created large waves and blew the spray from the lake onto cars that were in the parking lot bordering the lake. I walked out late Sunday night after a weekend of bridge and found my car covered in several inches of frozen ice. I couldn't even begin to open the door and ended up spending another night there.



Mary Howe

Some of my favourite bridge memories were at the St. Thomas tournament where my father got his last few black points to become a Life Master and the organizers made quite a fuss over him. Many evenings between sessions we would drive down to Port Stanley to reconnect with a group of out-of-town bridge friends over a great fish dinner at the beach, rehashing the hands, telling funny stories and learning about each other's lives away from the bridge table. On a few other years, chairman Denzel Thorpe and his team provided a wonderful homemade dinner between sessions with fresh vegetables and beautiful cut flowers from Denzel's garden.

Bill: My favourite is in Coutts, Montana. They provide all the food and liquor that one can drink and the table fees are very low. Not only were the bridge players friendly but the towns folk were too, and welcomed all the bridge players with open arms.

They even billeted some of the bridge players although they knew little to nothing about the game. You won't find hospitality like that anywhere else.

Dwight: I think my favourite sectionals are those at which I am fortunate enough to connect with friends, with whom I can simply enjoy the game, win or lose. There is nothing like having great hospitality on hand and the Tillsonburg Sectional certainly does a great job in that regard. Over the years it has been one of my favourites. Perhaps it sticks in my mind as a favourite for a second reason: Playing in the Friday night game in the 80's with a good friend and partner, Mike Potter, I will never forget the director, also a good friend from London, David Burke, coming to our table after the eighth round and asking us if we would mind taking a drug test after the game. We had about a 76% game at the time and plummeted to a final score of 72% to win my first sectional.

Martin: My favourites have been those with scenic drives and locations, and those with great hospitality. St. Catharines has long been known for great hospitality. Parry Sound was a long drive, but it was September and the colours were amazing. Terrific hospitality there – sad to see it go. Port Franks signalled the end of the school year and was a great drive and nice location. I always enjoyed the Collingwood Sectional – the drive and the location. Oh, I almost forgot; proximity to great bars and/or good breweries is always a plus!



Martin Hunter

Paul: It is difficult to single out one sectional as my favourite as we have so many memorable ones. In no particular order, I will mention Collingwood, Peterborough, St. Catharines, Batawa, and Trenton. The lasting friendships that I formed with players and volunteers are the main thing for me, though the hospitality and scenery are most outstanding.

Dave: My favourite was always Grand Island: nice drive, open spaces, great hospitality, prizes, and it was not crowded on the island. Sorry to lose it.

4) Can you provide a proud moment or two? Maybe you beat an awesome team or won a pair event in a very good field?

Bill: The toughest sectional probably almost anywhere to win was back in the earlier years circa 1990 when the Toronto Sectional was held in the Royal York and there were 10 or so sections in the 2-session open pairs. We won with world champions and North American champions in the field by having two steady 64%+ games.

Dwight: I was mentored by several great players, for which I will be forever grateful. So in recent years one of my personal goals regarding bridge has been to mentor

some of the newer players. Until his passing in 2010, I was fortunate to play with and learn a great deal from Gary Whiteman. Just prior to his passing we spent time and effort mentoring newer players in an effort to improve their skill and enjoyment of bridge. In particular, I have been fortunate to tutor a new player for several years, playing and making significant showing in Flight A events at both regional and sectional levels. Our most recent success was playing in and winning the Saturday Open Pairs at the K/W Sectional in June of 2017 against strong competition. For me, winning that event was not only a thrill for my partner, Ewoud Van Goch and myself, but for me it was much more – seeing a newer player develop successfully and prove he can win playing in a strong field.

Mary: The Beacon tournament was the first tournament that I attended with my future husband, Barry Onslow. We were very fortunate to win our first tournament game together with a 74.6% game. It was the start of our long bridge romance! I still have the Overall Results that were posted on the wall from that game long ago—we had some excellent competition:

2nd Lorne Nichols & Leslie Amoils

3rd John Wiggins & Frances Olch

4th Dick Hart & Don Brock

5th Bruce Elliot & Barbara Sims

6th David & Mary Bryce

Tom: In the 2016 St. Catharines sectional Colin Harrington and I were second in the Fri. aft. game, first in the Fri. night game, first in the Sat. pairs and on Sun. David Deaves and I teamed with Colin and Dave Baker to win the Sunday Swiss—we had a 40 victory point lead with one match to go! Colin and I picked up 60 masterpoints for the weekend. Nothing like that has happened to me before or since.



Tom Ramsay

Dave: We beat the Canadian women's team when my opponent was given a choice of slams on the final hand and chose the wrong one. Played against Eddie Wold and George Rosenkranz and took 14 bids to get to the cold 7NT. George asked me between rounds about our system. We had a 73% game. Another occasion George was playing with Mike Passell and was taking the "bumpkins" for granted when I threw him a curveball in 3♣ doubled and they fell for it. Their argument afterward was music to my ears. One time I told my opponent we were playing Rosenkranz and some rude person at the next table loudly said we were probably playing it incorrectly. Of course, it turned out to be George.

5) Do you have any Sectional related anecdotes or funny stories to tell, perhaps an interesting hand you could share?

Paul: I remember a hand from Peterborough in 2011. I played with a promising up-and-coming player. This player was hungry for new gadgets and every time we played she wanted to try a new one.

I told her about a treatment for when they double our Stayman auction. So, after INT (P) 2♣ (Dbl), Opener's pass shows a club stopper and Responder can then redouble to suggest playing in 2♣ redoubled, bid 2♦ as re-Stayman, or bid anything else which would retain its original meaning.

At some point of the event we faced a very experienced matchpoints player who loves to operate. The first board was bad for him, so he was out to get even.

On the second board, the auction went like this:

| <u>West</u> | <u>North</u> | <u>East</u> | <u>South</u> |
|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| | | Pass | INT |
| Pass | 2♣ | Dbl | Pass |
| Pass | 3NT | All pass | |

The club four was led and the dummy proudly put down. Here is what I saw:

♠ 9 8 7 6
♥ A 10 7 5
♦ Q 10
♣ K J 7

♠ A J 5 3
♥ K 8 4
♦ A K
♣ Q 10 9 6

Oh well, partner forgot the new agreement ...

East played the ♣5, I won cheaply, and for lack of anything better, I decided to continue clubs to see if I could exert some pressure on West before tackling a major. East won that trick and to my surprise West followed. East now switched to a diamond, and West showed an even number, and on the next two tricks, when I continued clubs, he discarded two diamonds while asking for a spade switch.

Now I cashed the ♥K and played a heart to the ace, finally realizing that West had a spade stack! So I cashed the second diamond and threw West in with a spade to give me the second spade trick.

The full deal:

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

4♠ would have gone down two and 3NT has no chance on a diamond lead. Please don't ask about the double of 2♣.

Bill: One of the incidents that I still remember today was from the early years at a sectional tournament in North Bay. Duke Cartright was the Director-in-Charge and someone who everyone loved to have in charge. He always had entertaining stories to tell during breaks and after the evening sessions. I was playing in a one session pair game and we had one of my biggest game in a tournament which was 252 on a 156 average. I was playing with the best player in those parts at the time and after completing the second last round we went into the hallway and Duke was standing there getting some fresh air (smoking was the rule back then and the room was



Bill Koski

blue with smoke). My partner turned to me and said "take it easy the last round and go for averages and we will win". When they were handing out the prizes, Duke interrupted and said "I overheard these two young men talking before the last round started and they felt they would win if they had two averages the last round. Their scores were 12 and 12 leaving no doubt about who would win; second place was five boards behind them. I don't think they know what an average board is.

Mary: I remember the Stratford 1995 sectional when Jerry Richardson and Don Brock mis-duplicated their two boards at the start of the evening session. They were penalized two full boards for the error but they were so far ahead in the game that night that they still won the event despite the huge penalty! Don Lesperance & I were a distant second place!

Tom: A few years ago David Deaves and I were out for dinner between sessions in Stratford. Before ordering I went to wash my hands so I asked David to order a beer for me if the waiter came by. He did. David had said, "I'll have a large Creemore and my partner will have the same." The waiter thought we were a gay couple and gave us outstanding service for the rest of the meal.

Dave: This is not from a Sectional but last year, playing in final of the Blue Ribbon pairs, my unseen screen opponent made a crazy play, giving us a top. On the next board, he made another crazy play and I got a bottom. I should have known who it was before I walked around the table. It was Zia, of course.

This Zia story is from a sectional: I played 3♣ doubled against Zia. I had it made in my head, but the six groupies around his table unnerved me and I lost focus. They all smiled at him, admiringly.

Mary: One of my favorite hands from the past was at the Toronto sectional playing with Elaine Morrison. We bid a grand slam and the trump suit was not mentioned until the seven-level.

| <u>North</u> | <u>South</u> |
|--------------|--------------|
| | INT |
| 2♠ | 2NT |
| 3♦ | 3♥ |
| 4♦ | 4♠ |
| 5NT | 7♣ |

2♠ was a transfer to clubs. 2NT showed a positive hand for clubs. 5NT was the Grand Slam Force asking partner to bid the grand if she holds two of the top three trump honours. The full deal:

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

Another of my favourite early learning experiences was a hand played at the Chatham sectional. I held these spade and diamond suits as part of my hand.

♠ Q x x
 ♦ A K x x

♠ K x
 ♦ x

I led a small spade away from the king towards the queen in the dummy. The ace was ducked and I promptly pitched my ♠K on the ace and king of diamonds. My partner, Don Wilkinson, became very animated and I couldn't understand what I had done wrong but when the hand was over he told me I had just executed a Morton's Fork. I had never heard of that term but my partner had certainly recognized it! Here's a hand from the Toronto sectional that proves that sometimes it's better to be lucky than good. I was playing with Rea Rennox when she led the ♠A against a 4♥ contract. This dummy appeared:

♠ K Q x
 ♥ x x x
 ♦ J x
 ♣ A K J x x

♠ J x
 ♥ Q x x
 ♦ A K x
 ♣ x x x x x

I carelessly played a small club instead of a spade, planning to discourage partner from shifting to a club (not that she needed any discouragement looking at that dummy!) I now had a penalty card on the table. Rea led a diamond to my king. I was about to cash the ace of diamonds when the declarer told me that my club was a penalty card and she demanded that I lead it. I was not particularly happy to do that but it was my own stupidity and lack of focus that had put me in this situation. As it unfolded, Rea trumped the club, returned a diamond to my ace and received another opportunity to trump. 4♥ was down on a play that I would never have found except that I was forced into leading a club. The hardest part was maintaining a calm demeanor at the table before we could leave and move out of earshot to giggle about what had just happened.

Kib: Thank you for all these great memories and stories! Any final thoughts?

Martin: As my teaching career progressed, I "lived" for the weekend tournaments

and started to go further from home and stayed over for the weekend. I loved the bridge: for the challenge and the social aspect of it. These days, I am directing many sectionals, but still get to attend a few out of my Unit – I can always get to Oshawa or Markham.

Paul: I last played in the Toronto Sectional in January. I don't play as often as I would like, because my work for the ACBL and WBF occasionally interferes.

Tom: I like to have at least a 90-minute break between sessions: time to go for a beer and a meal. Unfortunately most sectionals today provide food on site and shorten the break to 45 minutes or so. I seem to be in the minority here.

Mary: Playing at the Silver Point Club sectional in December 1996 with Don Lesperance, one of my frequent partners and a flamboyant character, we won the London Bridge Club's section of the Silver Point sectional. Sadly, it was the last time I played with Don because he passed away the following week, leaving behind many wild and wooly stories and fond memories. He and I participated in all the local sectionals and regionals over our lengthy partnership.

Dave: After we formed the Grand River Bridge Club, I developed closer associations with many of the other players. We now regularly travel to many tournaments as a group, mixing and matching partnerships and teams. We share rooms, food and after game drinks, communally. This part of the game has been more rewarding to me than my previous 40+ years of masterpoint accumulation.



David Baker

Dwight: I recall setting out for the drive from London to the Guelph Sectional on a Saturday morning many years ago. Back in those days I would say that “keen” was a vast understatement when referring to my partner's and my interest in bridge. Earlier on in one's bridge career the only topic of conversation in driving to a sectional tournament was bridge, bridge, and more bridge. Medical ailments, sports or philosophy received no airtime back then! True to form, such was the case again on this day. Fortunately we had left home in plenty of time because we overshot the exit from the 401 into Guelph by well over 25 miles! The sign for Milton was our clue to turn around. We made it back in time for the 1:00 pm start—barely. The perfect ending would be to say we won the event but sadly, such was not the case. But the friends and food still made it all worthwhile!

Top 100 All-time Silver Point Winners

The following list represents the top 100 silver point earners amongst bridge players residing in one of our five units: 166, 238, 246, 249, and 255.

| Rank | First Name | Last Name | Unit | Silver Points |
|------|------------|------------|----------|---------------|
| 1 | William | Koski | 246 | 3365 |
| 2 | David | Baker | 249 | 3202 |
| 3 | Alice | Anderson | 249 | 3128 |
| 4 | Bill | Anderson | 249 | 3030 |
| 5 | Martin | Hunter | 166 | 2758 |
| 6 | Tom | Ramsay | 249 | 2500 |
| 7 | Dwight | Bender | 249 | 2422 |
| 8 | Jerry | Richardson | 249 | 2385 |
| 9 | Don | Brock | 166 | 2266 |
| 10 | Robert | Colton | 249 | 2124 |
| 11 | William | Woodcock | 249 | 2043 |
| 12 | John | Duquette | 246 | 1964 |
| 13 | Danny | Schamehorn | 246 | 1933 |
| 14 | Mark | Liberman | 166 | 1912 |
| 15 | Paul | Janicki | 246 | 1891 |
| 16 | Colin | Harrington | 249 | 1877 |
| | Gary | Whiteman | Deceased | 1867 |
| 17 | Fran | Chivers | 249 | 1753 |
| 18 | Lloyd | Harris | 238 | 1748 |
| 19 | Joseph | Sauro | 238 | 1712 |
| 20 | Mary Lynne | Howe | 249 | 1696 |
| 21 | Alan | Lee | 166 | 1678 |
| 22 | Hans | Jacobs | 246 | 1677 |
| 23 | Richard | Anderson | 166 | 1623 |
| 24 | Andy | Stark | 166 | 1527 |

| Rank | First Name | Last Name | Unit | Silver Points |
|------|------------|------------|----------|---------------|
| 25 | Debbie | Bennett | 246 | 1462 |
| 26 | George | Knight | 246 | 1459 |
| 27 | Paul | Thurston | 246 | 1447 |
| 28 | Andrew | Firko | 166 | 1427 |
| | Ronald | Sutherland | Deceased | 1409 |
| 29 | Rashid | Khan | 166 | 1409 |
| 30 | Ben | Hooyer | 249 | 1402 |
| 31 | Andrew | Tylman | 166 | 1396 |
| 32 | Jonathan | Steinberg | 166 | 1386 |
| 33 | Eiji | Kujirai | 166 | 1385 |
| 34 | Gary | Westfall | 166 | 1371 |
| 35 | Detlef | Ladewig | 166 | 1342 |
| 36 | Stephen | Mackay | 246 | 1339 |
| 37 | Martin | Newland | 238 | 1337 |
| 38 | Martin | Miller | 166 | 1313 |
| 39 | Terry | Tack | 249 | 1311 |
| 40 | Robert | Schives | 249 | 1301 |
| | Mavis | Cole | Deceased | 1301 |
| 41 | Charlotte | St Amant | 246 | 1279 |
| 42 | Keith | Balcombe | 246 | 1271 |
| 43 | David | Deaves | 249 | 1269 |
| 44 | Naveed | Ather | 166 | 1246 |
| 45 | Peter | Wong | 166 | 1239 |
| 46 | John | Moser | 249 | 1231 |
| 47 | Despina | Georgas | 166 | 1226 |
| 48 | Brent | Gibbs | 166 | 1197 |
| 49 | Lino | D'Souza | 166 | 1178 |
| 50 | Malcolm | Ewashkiw | 246 | 1177 |
| 51 | Lewis | Richardson | 166 | 1172 |
| 52 | Dudley | Camacho | 166 | 1170 |
| 53 | Richard | Chan | 246 | 1168 |
| 54 | John | Laufer | 166 | 1145 |

| Rank | First Name | Last Name | Unit | Silver Points |
|------|------------|-----------|----------|---------------|
| 55 | Marc | Langevin | 238 | 1128 |
| 56 | Ray | Jotcham | 166 | 1128 |
| 57 | Jeanne | Colton | 249 | 1125 |
| 58 | Robert | Lewis | 249 | 1115 |
| 59 | Wendy | Dooley | 166 | 1105 |
| 60 | Roger | Snowling | 166 | 1090 |
| 61 | Dale | Freeman | 238 | 1080 |
| 62 | David | Grainger | 166 | 1075 |
| 63 | Ringo | Chung | 166 | 1065 |
| 64 | John | Rayner | 166 | 1048 |
| 65 | John | Gell | 166 | 1045 |
| 66 | Douglas | Markovic | 246 | 1040 |
| 67 | Rob | Avery | 246 | 1030 |
| | Colin | Revill | Deceased | 1028 |
| 68 | John | McFadden | 249 | 1011 |
| 69 | Doug | Baxter | 166 | 1010 |
| 70 | Abe | Paul | 166 | 994 |
| 71 | Brian | Thomas | 238 | 978 |
| 72 | James | Priebe | 166 | 968 |
| 73 | Nader | Hanna | 166 | 959 |
| 74 | Ina | Demme | 246 | 955 |
| 75 | Ron | Bishop | 166 | 952 |
| 76 | Ron | Smith | 166 | 944 |
| 77 | George | Hodgson | 249 | 933 |
| 78 | Gerry | Vanlierop | 249 | 926 |
| 79 | Frances | Freeman | 238 | 906 |
| 80 | Marilyn | Pearce | 249 | 905 |
| 81 | Jeremy | Smee | 255 | 905 |
| 82 | Jennifer | Swimmer | 166 | 892 |
| 83 | Andrew | Risman | 166 | 891 |
| 84 | Marlene | McFadden | 249 | 885 |

| Rank | First Name | Last Name | Unit | Silver Points |
|------|------------|------------|----------|---------------|
| 85 | Ron | Groulx | 249 | 883 |
| 86 | Doug | Barnes | 166 | 876 |
| 88 | Daniel | Lavee | 246 | 869 |
| 89 | William | Sheryer | 166 | 853 |
| 90 | Elizabeth | McDowell | 249 | 850 |
| 91 | Roman | Klein | 166 | 846 |
| 92 | Cindy | Mahn | 249 | 818 |
| | Samantha | Nystrom | Deceased | 814 |
| 93 | Morrie | Kleinplatz | 249 | 812 |
| 94 | Joy | Phillips | 166 | 806 |
| | Hindupuram | Sriharsha | Deceased | 795 |
| 95 | Eva | Upper | 166 | 791 |
| 96 | Ann-Marie | Crabbe | 166 | 791 |
| 97 | Norma | Ingram | 249 | 790 |
| 98 | Bill | Kertes | 166 | 789 |
| 99 | Reg | Young | 249 | 788 |
| 100 | Stephen | Goldin | 166 | 781 |

CLUB DIRECTOR COURSES

Refresher Course

Sun., Feb. 18, Mississauga

Full course, with exam

Fri., May 18 - Sun., May 20

Mississauga

Details and Registration; Please contact
Martin Hunter martinhunter@rogers.com

Mike Roche remembers...



My favourite sectional was always the Beacon, in Jordan, just outside St. Catharines. They had a terrific smorgasbord but the big seller was free beer after the Saturday night game. I can't tell you the year I first went there, but I do know I brought a good bottle of wine: Baby Duck. □ Does anyone remember Duke Carthright and Jack and Peggy Whitehouse? Usually the entire place was taken over by the bridge players and there were always parties in various rooms after the beer ran out.

We always had two special entertainers...impromptu...Abe Paul singing, "The House of the Rising Sun" followed by George Mittelman singing Manfred Mann's big hit, "Do Wah Diddy." I can still hear George and his raspy voice. "There she was just a walkin' down the street..."

Good times. Of course it always snowed in Jordan on the Saturday night so we woke up bleary-eyed to a lot of snow. The bridge was played downstairs with floor to ceiling windows. The lake was often frozen and after all the beer the night before it was very hard to play if you were forced to look out the windows. The ice and snow kept rolling and heaving, rolling and heaving...well you get the picture. Fond memories!

Paul Thurston remembers...



Of course I'm biased but I have to cast my vote for the "Beacon Sectional" from the 60s into the 80s as the very best sectional for a host of reasons.

Sponsored by the Niagara District Bridge Association, this lively and hospitable event was held for many years at the Beacon Motor Inn, a comfortable if not lavish motel on the shore of Lake Ontario just outside of St Catharines.

So many things were "right" about the event but the attendance figures say it all: it was not uncommon for the three-day table count to exceed 500 tables with 100+ teams contesting the Sunday Swiss and 100+ tables sitting down for the first session of the Saturday Open Pairs. Short editorial comment: in that bygone era, there was no stratification or flighted events so that the Open Pairs was truly Open with qualification for the evening Championship round being a feather in the cap of any and all attendees – and, yes, there was a "Swamp," aka the Consolation Pairs, available for the Saturday evening session for those who hadn't made the cut.

On the hospitality side of things, The Beacon (no one ever called it the Niagara District Sectional in those days!) featured something special for the players every day. After the Friday afternoon events, there was a Wine and Cheese party hosted by the N.D.B.A. Ladies, while an open party suite was available Friday evening. Post-game Saturday had the popular Beer-n-Pretzels get-together for players to celebrate or drown their sorrows while talking about the day's deals. Sadly, there were no hand record sheets in those days so discussions required a keen memory!

At the half-way break during the Sunday Swiss, players got to enjoy the sumptuous Beacon Smorgasbord (\$10 extra on the entry fee but the actual price was much higher and heavily subsidized by the NDBA). Who can forget the spectacle of Buffalo's Dan Gerstman returning from the buffet line with a plate heaped high with lobster tails and only lobster tails as the "Big Noise" was apparently on a seafood-only diet?! Speaking of Buffalo, our stateside neighbour was always well represented at the tables as in addition to multiple National Champion Mr. Gerstman, regular attendees included Bob Freedman-Jim Mathis, John Toy-Tom Donnelly, Mary McKenna, Buddy Seidenberg, John Conway-Marcia Freed, John Kilmer-Kamil Bishara, Christine Urbanek and I'm sure many others; I apologize for forgetting. Hinterlanders like Hamilton's Frank Vine-Lou Woodcock and Mike Martino and London's David Burke, Mary Howe, Jerry Richardson, Sid Kirsh and Bob Lewis were also regulars but the sheer volume of excellent players from Toronto guaranteed that the various fields would be at the top of the heap in both quantity and quality. Names from the glory days of Toronto-bridge who made the short drive down the QEW: Joyce and Duncan Phillips, Sheila Forbes-John Laskin, Gord Chapman-John Sabino, Gail and Ray Jotcham, Tom Greer-Ivan Struminger, Diana Gordon-George Mittleman, John Guoba, John Carruthers, David Bryce, John Gowdy, Mike Schoenborn, John Stevens, Franco Bandoni, Harmon Edgar, Don Cowan, Mike Cummings and I'm sure many others – but the Editor has space limits as does my memory!

Waiting to greet the foreigners were many local players eager to take a scalp or two from their illustrious visitors. Most visibly successful at the table were Niagara's ladies who tended to dominate the Friday Afternoon Women's Pairs: Fran Aboud, Linda Lehoux, Mary Lou Ruta, Ruth Stevens, Pat Teeter, Pat Braun, Cathy Collins, Diana Cunningham, Tara Schooley and Val McQuarrie all doing very well in the first event before turning their focus to serving the wine and cheese!

Our Niagara District males did less well in those years of Toronto-Buffalo domination of Southern Ontario bridge but the likes of Rick Delogu, John Haines, Harvey Fogel, John Mackay, Ron Nichol, Charley Knight, Dave Teal, Rob Crocker, and Allan Leaver were players who gave a solid accounting of themselves. I did play and win my first tournament event in the Friday Non-Masters Pairs in a 3-way partnership with Harvey Fogel and the Director who was constantly at our table trying to sort out the confusion arising from Harvey's hand never quite having the goods he advertised in the bidding. Again, memory fails me but I don't think saying Harvey psyched 7-8 times that session would be an overbid!

Speaking of Directors, The Beacon would not have been the rousing success it was without the very capable stewardship of some the ACBL's most notable Directors of the era: Shirley Neilson, Duke Cartwright, Harry Allen and Nancy Hart and, I'm sure, many others. The other part of tournament administration that went into making the Beacon so good was the host of willing and able N.D.B.A. volunteers under the leadership of several excellent Tournament Chairs: Maurice Williams, Clive Foster, Lou Butko, and I even chipped in with several years assisting Maurice and as Chair following his retirement.

The bridge? Like the little girl with the curl, when it was good, it was very good but was really quite secondary to the great social time everyone had.

One I remember:

Dir: N
Vul: Both

| | | |
|----------|------------|-----------|
| | ♠ 87 | |
| | ♥ Q10762 | |
| | ♦ J10875 | |
| | ♣ J | |
| ♠ KJ1053 | | ♠ AQ64 |
| ♥ J83 | | ♥ K |
| ♦ K | | ♦ AQ96432 |
| ♣ A543 | | ♣ Q |
| | ♠ 92 | |
| | ♥ A954 | |
| | ♦ - - | |
| | ♣ K1098762 | |

| West | North | East | South |
|---------|--------|----------|----------|
| | Pass | 1♦ | Pass (1) |
| 1♠ | Pass | 4♣ (2) | 4♦ (3) |
| 4NT | 6♦ (4) | Pass (5) | Pass (6) |
| Dbl (7) | Pass | Pass | 6♥ (8) |
| Dbl | Pass | Pass | Pass (9) |

Opening lead : ♣A

1. After partner (Ron Nichol, my regular partner of that era) passed in first seat and East opened, I couldn't quite figure out a sensible bid to take – a preemptive 3♣ with 4 decent ♥s on the side seemed wrong and the hand's high-card content wasn't quite up to our standards for a 2-level vulnerable overcall so "pass for now" seemed best! (This was the Sunday Swiss and we liked to think we were disciplined bidders – usually!)

2. 4♣ was alerted and explained as a splinter raise of ♠s.

3. Now I was having serious regrets about not having taken a shot at disrupting the bidding at my first turn but since they seemed headed for a high-level ♠ contract, I

decided to do what I could to be a nuisance while hopefully ensuring I'd get a ♦ lead versus ♠ and I did always have ♣ to retreat to.

4. But over West's Blackwood, partner decided his excellent support for my "natural" bid of ♦'s warranted a boost to a slam of our own.

5. East's pass showed whatever number of Keycards she had.

6. No double (yet) so no trouble (yet).

7. Now the double!

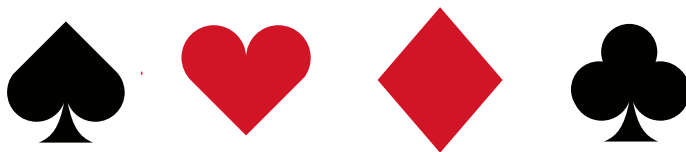
8. With West's opening lead versus 6♦ doubled part way out of her hand and East appearing supremely content, I had to remind them the auction wasn't quite over. Why 6♥? I didn't think partner was a complete lunatic and thought he'd have to be ready for something other than ♦'s so by trying 6♥ first (one full level lower than 7♣ after all!) I hoped he'd get the message that I had ♣ and ♥ - full-blown canape at the 6-level no less!

9. In for a penny in for a pound and it won't be that long until the Buffet is ready!

West cashed the ♣ ace and decided to get her singleton ♦ out of the way before proceeding with further black suit business. But I ruffed and decided to cash the trump ace to possibly limit defensive ruffs before pitching a ♠ from dummy on the good ♣K. Except East's ♥ on the ace was very large indeed! King of ♣'s and more clubs to pitch dummy's ♠s and some ♦s until West ruffed the fifth ♣ - overruffed, ♥Q and one more ♦ ruff to run some more ♣s and get rid of dummy's remaining losers to chalk up the dynamic score of +1660 and enter +20 in our IMP score when we compared with teammates Allan Leaver-Rob Crocker who wondered if we might have entered the score in the wrong column!

Like many other good things from that era, The Beacon finally came to an end but the NDBA entered a new phase of great bridge and fabulous Niagara hospitality when the tournament moved to the Parkway Inn in St. Catharines and flourished largely due to the stewardship of Fred Andreychuk and, after his untimely passing in 2008, Wiebe Hoogland.

Mrs. T. and I have left Niagara after 40 years living and playing bridge in St Catharines but many enduring memories of The Beacon will live forever!



OSHAWA SECTIONAL

March 3rd & 4th 2018

LVIV Hall & Pavilion

38 LVIV Blvd., Oshawa, ON, L1H 3C3

Saturday March 3

Stratiflighted **Pairs** (2 sessions)

| | | | |
|--------|-------------|-----------|---------------------|
| A/X: | A: 3000+ | X: 0-3000 | 10:30 AM 2:30 PM |
| B/C/D: | B: 750-1500 | | 10:30 AM 2:30 PM |
| | C: 300-750 | D: 0-300 | |

One Session Games (led by Rea Rennox)

99er Pairs: 0-99 MP 10:30 AM & 2:30 PM

Newcomers: 0-20 MP 10:30 AM & 2:30 PM

Guest Presenter: Steve Overholt **9:30 am**

Lunch Break (One Hour)

Available on site:

Chili, Veg Quiche or Schnitzel on a bun
with Beverage & Dessert: \$10.00

Tournament Co-Chairs:

Doug Darnley 416-258-1331

dougbridge@rogers.com

Brenda Griffiths 416-817-1379

Partnerships:

Jack Stafford 905-431-1694

jkerrstaff@gmail.com

Location:

One block north of Hwy 401
- from the WEST on 401 take
the Simcoe Street exit, turn left
onto Bloor, left at the lights on
Simcoe, then turn on first right
to LVIV.

Sunday March 4

Stratiflighted **Swiss Teams** (2 sessions)

| | | | |
|--------|-------------|-----------|---------------------|
| A/X: | A: 3000+ | X: 0-3000 | 10:30 AM 2:30 PM |
| B/C/D: | B: 750-1500 | | 10:30 AM 2:30 PM |
| | C: 300-750 | D: 0-300 | |

One Session Games (led by Rea Rennox)

99er Pairs: 0-99 MP 10:30 AM & 2:30 PM

Newcomers: 0-20 MP 10:30 AM & 2:30 PM

Guest Presenter: *To be announced* **9:30 am**

Lunch Break (One Hour)

Available on site:

Ukrainian food, Veg Lasagna or Schnitzel on a bun
with Beverage & Dessert: \$10.00

From the EAST on 401 take the
Ritson/Simcoe exit, follow Drew
St., then left on 1 Ave., left on
Albert St., then left to LVIV. Lots
of parking onsite and also on
both sides of the street.

Prizes Provided By: Doug
Baxter, Certified Financial
Planner



Flights based on average Master points (with no player above the MP limit)

Prizes awarded for 1st place in all events

Entry Fees: (Director in Charge: Nancy Strachan)

ACBL Members: \$13 per session

Newcomers (one session): \$ 8

Students: \$ 5 per session

Newcomers (two sessions same day): \$12

Surcharge for non-members of the ACBL in Flights A/X/B/C/D: \$4 per session

Toronto Easter Regional 2018

Intermediate and Novice/Newcomer Bridge Section
for players with 0 – 199 MPs

Tuesday March 27 – Sunday April 1st

SHERATON CENTRE HOTEL 123 Queen St W - Toronto, ON

Come and enjoy an extensive schedule of games and learning sessions for all players with less than 200 Master Points, including ...

- **SATISFACTION GUARANTEED** for First-time tournament players
(or your entry fee returned)
- NEW: Hesitating to play your first tournament? It is time!
Supervised 0-20 MP Game – Wed.& Sat games include free food
- 199er games at every session
- Several 49er games, three 0-20 MP games
- One free 0-5 Newcomer game
- Awards for Event winners
- Other fun prizes
- \$5 Swiss teams for 99ers
- Free lessons by top Unit 166 bridge teachers
- Hand analysis in between sessions
- All <100 events (ie, 49er, 0-20) pay only \$10

**Win your first
tournament Master Points !!!**
Only friendly people allowed

This is your best chance to start enjoying tournament bridge!!

Partnerships or any other issues: Contact Intermediate/Novice Chair Steve Overholt 647.897.6179 or email etobicokebridge@gmail.com



Toronto Easter Regional 2018

March 27th-April 1st

New Downtown Location! Parking, Transit, GO Train Accessible!
123 Queen St West, Toronto, ON M5H2M9
416-361-1000 or 1-888-627-7175

Quote: Group Code American Contract Bridge League for a room rate of \$118CAD/night!!
Or book online: <https://www.starwoodmeeting.com/Book/ACBL2018>

+++++

Full schedule of events for all players: 0-200, 0-750, Swiss Teams, Pairs,
Knock-outs, Match Points, IMPs and the SHEARDOWN TEAMS

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

Gold Rush Pairs, KOs & Teams

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

Fast Pairs - 2 sessions by 3:30! Friday and Saturday

Flights, Strats and Brackets based on Average Points.

Calling all Intermediate and Newcomer Players!

Full I/N Schedule available at www.unit166.ca

Guest Speakers – Thursday, Friday and Saturday at Noon
Hospitality Suite Available!

Convenient Parking & Public Transit options available –
See www.unit166.ca for details



Tournament Chair

David Halasi
647-924-6939

Partnership Chair

Jan Keane
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 27

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Open Pairs (Open/4000/2000) | 11:00 & 4:00 |
| GOLD RUSH Pairs (1500/1000/500)..... | 11:00 & 4:00 |
| Bracketed KO I | 11:00 & 4:00 |
| (Continues Wed @ 11 & 4) | |
| 0-200 Stratified Pairs (1 Session)..... | 11:00 & 4:00 |
| Side Game Series I (1 Session) | 11:00 & 4:00 |
| Side Game Swiss Teams (1 Session) | 4:00 |

Wednesday, March 28

| | |
|----------------------------------|--------------|
| Open Pairs (Open/2000/750) | 11:00 & 4:00 |
| Flight A Swiss Teams..... | 11:00 & TBA |

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Bracketed Flight B (0-3000) Teams | 11:00 & TBA |
| Bracketed GOLD RUSH (0-750) Teams | 11:00 & TBA |
| 0-200 Stratified Pairs (1 Session) | 11:00 & 4:00 |
| Side Game Series I (1 Session) | 11:00 & 4:00 |

Thursday, March 29

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Open Pairs (Open/3500) | 11:00 & 4:00 |
| Midflight Pairs (3000/1500) | 11:00 & 4:00 |
| GOLD RUSH Pairs (750/300) | 11:00 & 4:00 |
| Sheardown Open KO | 11:00 & 4:00 |
| (Continues Fri @ 10:00 & 3:00) | |
| Sam Nystrom Bracketed Midflight KO (0-5000) | |
| (Continues Fri @ 10:00 & 3:00) | 11:00 & 4:00 |
| Bracketed GOLD RUSH KO (0-750) | |
| (Continues Fri @ 10:00 & 3:00) | 11:00 & 4:00 |
| Side Game Swiss Teams (1 Session) | 4:00 |
| 0-200 Stratified Pairs (1 Session) | 11:00 & 4:00 |
| Side Game Series I (1 Session) | 11:00 & 4:00 |

Friday, March 30

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Stratified Fast Open Pairs (Open/2000/750) | |
| Finish by 3:30pm | 10:00 & 1:00 |
| Open Pairs (Open/3500) | 10:00 & 3:00 |
| Midflight Pairs (3000/1500) | 10:00 & 3:00 |
| GOLD RUSH Pairs (750/300) | 10:00 & 3:00 |
| Fri/Sat Bracketed KO | 10:00 & 3:00 |
| (Continues Sat @ 10:00 & 2:30) | |
| 0-200 Stratified Pairs (1 Session) | 10:00 & 3:00 |
| Side Game Series II (1 Session) | 10:00 & 3:00 |
| Compact KO (Continues Sat @ 7:30) | 7:30 |
| Side Game Series II (1 Session) | 7:30 |

Saturday, March 31

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Stratified Fast Open Pairs (Open/2000/750) | |
| Finish by 3:30pm | 10:00 & 1:00 |
| Open Pairs (Open/4000/2000) | 10:00 & 3:00 |
| GOLD RUSH Pairs (1500/1000/500) | 10:00 & 3:00 |
| Bracketed Compact KOs | 10:00 & 3:00 |
| District 2 Grand National Teams | 10:00 & TBA |
| 0-200 Stratified Pairs (1 Session) | 10:00 & 3:00 |
| Side Game Swiss Teams (1 Session) | 3:00 |
| Side Game Series II (1 Session) | 10:00 & 3:00 |
| Side Game Series II (1 Session) | 7:30 |

Sunday, April 1

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Stratiflighted Swiss (Open/5000) | 10:00 & TBA |
| Midflight Swiss (3000/1500) | 10:00 & TBA |
| GOLD RUSH Swiss (750/300) | 10:00 & TBA |

Playing Site / Host Hotel
 Sheraton Centre – In the heart of downtown!
 123 Queen St. W., Toronto, ON 416-361-1000
 Room rate: \$118 CAD
 Session fees: \$17 CAD (members)
 +\$4 for non-current members

Note: KO events may be handicapped





ROYAL CITY (GUELPH) SPRING FLING SECTIONAL TOURNAMENT MARCH 24 & 25, 2018

Tournament Chair Thea Davis

theasdavis16@gmail.com | (519) 400-4053

Partnerships Pat Fung pat.fung@sympatico.ca

Jack McFadden (519) 821-9958

Saturday March 24 10:30 am and 3:30 pm Open Pairs

\$25 per person for 2 sessions

Flight A 2500+ Flight X 0-2500 Flight B 500/LM-2000 C 0-500/NLM

I/N 299 \$12.50 per session per person

Assignment to Flight Based on Player with Highest Masterpoints

Sunday March 25 10:00 am and TBA

Stratiflighted Swiss Teams - \$100 per team

Flight A 2500+ Flight X 0-2500 Flight B 500/LM – 2000 C 0-500/NLM

I/N 299 Swiss Teams \$50 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 play
one free session on Saturday only

Additional \$4 per session for Non/Unpaid ACBL Members

Puslinch Community Centre 23 Brock Road South, Puslinch N1H 6H9
From 401 travel north at Exit 299 Brock Road - site is 3km north of 401

LEARN, PLAY AND ENJOY BRIDGE

THE GUELPH BRIDGE CLUB

644 Imperial Road North, Guelph ON N1H 7M3

519 763-7160 www.guelphbridgclub.org

DISTRICT 2 GRAND NATIONAL TEAMS 2018

| | |
|-------------|--|
| 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. 2017 Bulletin) |

Winners of each Flight will represent District 2 in the North American Final, to be played at the Atlanta NABC in July 2018

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 31 (& Sunday, April 1 if more than 5 teams enter)
Times: 10:00 & 3:00 pm / 10:00 am
Cost: \$80 per team, per session (subject to change)
Place: Sheraton Centre 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 / Teammates may also contact the

DISTRICT CO-ORDINATOR

Martin Hunter

martinhunter@rogers.com

905-858-7683

Gateway to the North Sectional

April 20-22, 2018

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 20th, 1:00 & 7:00 pm

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

Stratified 299er Pairs

Newcomer Pairs 0-50 (fewer boards and more relaxed)

Saturday April 21st 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 and more relaxed)

Light lunch provided between Saturday sessions

Sunday April 22nd 10:00 am

Stratified Swiss Teams 2 Session Play Through

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

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 for all sessions is to be determined

Tournament Chair:

Andrew Aitchison – amhsn@cogeco.ca

Partnerships:

Jim Lamorie – jimlamorie@gmail.com

North Bay Duplicate Bridge Club: 705 476 2345 or

northbaybridgeclub@outlook.com



The North Bay Club has arranged accommodation at favourable rates for out-of-town players.

Comfort Inn Airport

1200 O'Brien St

North Bay

705-476-5400 or 844-682-6145

Canadore College Residence Accommodations

15 College Drive

North Bay

705-980-1301 ext 0

For the best rate identify yourself at the time of booking as a participant in the North Bay Bridge Club Sectional Tournament when booking.

The Credit Valley Bridge Association

BRAMPTON SECTIONAL

April 28-29, 2018



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 28: Stratified Pairs at 10:30 am & 3:00 pm

| | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|-------------|----------|
| 99ers (2-single sessions): | A: 50-100 | B: 20-50 | C: 0-20 |
| 499NLMers (2-sessions*) | A:300-500 | B: 100-300 | C: 0-100 |
| Open (2-sessions*) | A: 2000+ | B: 750-2000 | C: 0-750 |

Game times: 10:30 am & 3:00 pm

* Single morning or afternoon only sessions welcome

SUNDAY, APRIL 23: Stratified Swiss Teams will start at 10:30 am

99ers: Morning session only

Stratification at director's discretion and based on attendance

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------|-------------|----------|
| 499ers: 2- sessions* | A:300-500 | B: 100-300 | C: 0-100 |
| Open: 2- sessions* | A:2000+ | B: 750-2000 | C: 0-750 |

* Single morning or afternoon only sessions welcome

Entry Fees:

\$13/player/session for ACBL members

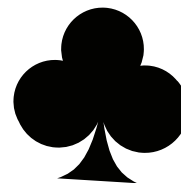
\$17 for non-ACBL members

Tournament Chair

John Quayle john.quayle46@gmail.com

Partnerships

Marilyn Rochford marilynrochford@gmail.com





The Peterborough Sectional 2018

Sat, May 5–Sun, May 6

Same Great Location, Same Great Hospitality

McDonnel St. Activity Centre

577 McDonnel Street

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

Saturday May 5th, 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) depending on number of players

Sunday May 6th, 11am & TBA

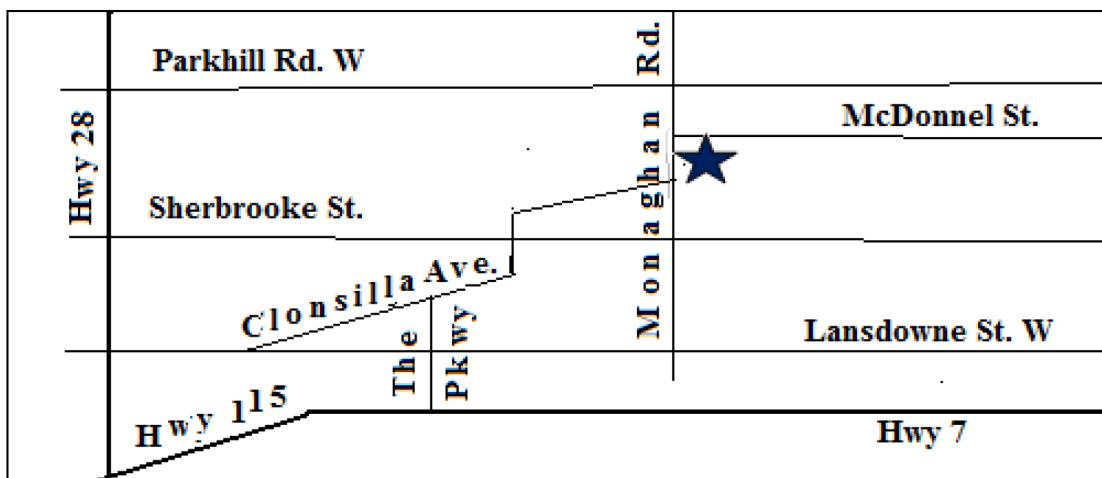
(Playthrough – lunch for sale on site)

- 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:

\$13 per session for ACBL members

(\$4.00 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 | dgmgoden@gmail.com



June 2 – 3, 2018

The Grand River (Cambridge) Sectional

hosted by The Grand River Bridge Club

Close to the 401 with plenty of free parking / Wonderful homemade treats

Win first overall in your strata or bracket and receive a free game at the newly located Grand River Bridge Club.

Saturday, June 2: Events will be held at 10:00 am and 3:00 pm

(Lunch available for \$10: Pita Pit Sandwiches, Chips and Drink)

Stratified Pairs: Two Single Sessions for 99ers and Two Session Play-through for all others
(please note: single session pairs will be welcome to play in all strata)

| | | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 99ers: | A: 50-100 | B: 20-50 | C: 0-20 |
| 499ers(NLM): | A: 300-500 | B: 100-300 | C: 0-100 |
| BCD Pairs: | B: 1500-2000 | C: 1000-1500 | D: 0-1000 |
| AX Pairs: | A: 2500 + | X: 0-2500 | |

Stratification subject to change (based on attendance). Pair stratification will be based on average master points but flight assignment will be based on player with the most points.

Sunday, June 3: The event will start at 10:00 am

(Lunch available for \$10: Swiss Chalet ¼ Chicken Dinner, Side, Bun and Drink)

Bracketed Swiss Teams: Two Session Play-through with short break for lunch.

The Tournament Director will determine the number of teams in each bracket (based on attendance). Teams will play within their bracket only. Bracket assignment will be based on average master points of team members.

Entry Fees: \$25 per pair per session on Saturday. \$100 per Swiss Team on Sunday (2 sessions).
ACBL members, whose memberships are not current, add \$4 /person /session.
Non- ACBL members are required to join on an annual basis or join on a new temporary 1- month basis.

Tournament Coordinators:

Bill and Bev Pope (519) 390 – 0885
billandbevpoppe13@gmail.com

Location:

Hespeler Arena, Beehive Lounge
640 Ellis Road West, Cambridge, ON N3C 4K1
(519) 740 – 4681 Ext. 4605

Partnership Desk:

Ronna Hoy Home (519) 650 – 1551
Cell - Call or Text (519) 242 - 9975

Directions:

Highway 401 to Townline Road (exit 286),
North on Townline Road to Ellis Road West,
Left on Ellis Road West to Hespeler Arena.

Toronto Non-Life Masters 499er Sectional Tournament

Saturday and Sunday June 9 & 10, 2018

Novice Pairs Game C 0-199, D 0-49, E 0-10
Intermediate Pairs Game A 0-499, B 0-299 mps
Swiss Teams Game A 0-499, B 0-299, C 0-49

Guest Speakers between Sessions @ 2:15

Saturday June 9th

Single Session Pairs
10 am and 3 pm

Sunday June 10th

Single Session Pairs at 10 am
Single Session Swiss Teams at 3 pm

Leaside Memorial Gardens
1073 Millwood Road, Toronto

Where: Laird Dr., Millwood Rd and Southvale Dr. intersection

Lots of Free Parking or
From Eglinton or Donlands stations take the 56 Leaside bus
From St. Clair station take the 88 or 88A South Leaside bus

Game Fees \$13
Non and Unpaid ACBL members+\$3



Tournament Chair

Wayne Ruttan
416-284-8887
wayne.ruttan063@sympatico.ca

Partnership Desk

Wanda Pearce
647-835-5774
wpearce61@gmail.com

Director in Charge

David Eddy



Sarnia Bluewater Sectional

June 9-10, 2018

Great Lakes Secondary School
(formerly S.C.I.T.S.)
271 Wellington Street Sarnia, ON N7T 1H1

Saturday, 9 June 2018

The Elizabeth Fraser Memorial Stratified Pairs
11:00 AM and 3:30 PM (two-session event, single sessions welcome)

Lunch is Subway - Cost \$7

Sunday, 10 June 2018

The Royer Stratified Swiss Teams
11:00 AM and TBA

Lunch is Mary Brown's Chicken, \$5 per piece and includes potato wedges and either mac salad or cole slaw

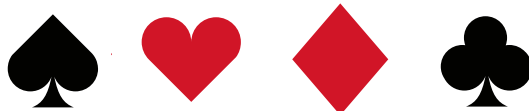
For information and partnerships, contact Charles Dalmas

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

Upper Masterpoint Limits

A: 1,500+, B: 500.01-1,499.99, C: 0-500

Average MP's in all events



Sarnia Bluewater Sectional (continued)

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.



Cost is \$12.50 Per Person Per Pairs Session, and \$12.50 Per Person Per Teams session. As of March 1, 2018, the ACBL Board of Directors has decreed that all players must have a valid ACBL membership number to participate in any sanctioned tournament. The charge for nonpaid members who have such membership numbers but have let their memberships lapse is \$4 extra per session. Anyone who has never had an ACBL membership number must either buy an annual membership or buy a special, 1-month membership for \$7.99. Because they would then be current members, players who buy memberships of either type would be exempted from the \$4 additional charge.



South Western Ontario

Regional

Bridge Tournament

Kitchener, ON

July 3-8, 2018

Schedule of Events

Tuesday July 3:

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|
| A/X/Y Open Pairs | 10:00 am & 2:30 pm |
| Gold Rush Pairs | 10:00 am & 2:30 pm |
| Compact Knockout | 10:00 am & 2:30 pm |
| 19er Pairs | 10:00 am |
| Evening Side Series (Fast Pairs)..... | 7:00 pm |

Wednesday July 4:

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|
| A/X/Y Open Pairs | 10:00 am & 2:30 pm |
| Gold Rush Pairs | 10:00 am & 2:30 pm |
| 299er Pairs (Single Sessions) | 10:00 am & 2:30 pm |
| Bracketed Knockout (1 & 2 of 4)..... | 10:00 am & 2:30 pm |
| 19er Pairs | 10:00 am |
| Compact Swiss Teams | 2:30 pm |
| Evening Side Series (Fast Pairs)..... | 7:00 pm |

Thursday July 5:

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|
| A/X/Y Swiss Teams | 10:00 am & 2:30 pm |
| Gold Rush Swiss Teams..... | 10:00 am & 2:30 pm |
| 299er Pairs (Single Sessions) | 10:00 am & 2:30 pm |
| Bracketed Knockout (3 & 4 of 4)..... | 10:00 am & 2:30 pm |
| Stratified Open Pairs. | 10:00 am & 2:30 pm |
| Evening Side Series (Fast Pairs)..... | 7:00 pm |

Friday July 6:

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|
| A/X/Y Open Pairs | 10:00 am & 2:30 pm |
| Gold Rush Pairs | 10:00 am & 2:30 pm |
| 99er Pairs (Single Sessions) | 10:00 am & 2:30 pm |
| Bracketed Knockout (1 & 2 of 4)..... | 10:00 am & 2:30 pm |
| 19er Pairs | 10:00 am |
| Compact Swiss Teams | 2:30 pm |
| Evening Side Series (Fast Pairs)..... | 7:00 pm |

Saturday July 7:

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|
| A/X/Y Open Pairs | 10:00 am & 2:30 pm |
| Gold Rush Pairs | 10:00 am & 2:30 pm |
| 99er Pairs (Single Sessions) | 10:00 am & 2:30 pm |
| Bracketed Knockout (3 & 4 of 4)..... | 10:00 am & 2:30 pm |
| 19er Pairs | 10:00 am |
| Youth Game, Pairs | 10:00 am |
| Evening Side Series (Fast Pairs)..... | 7:00 pm |

Sunday July 8:

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| Bracketed Swiss Teams | 10:00 am (Playthrough) |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|

Per Session Prices:

| | |
|-----------------|--------------------------|
| Youth Game | free |
| 0-19 games | \$10 |
| 0-99 games | \$10 (ACBL Members only) |
| All other games | \$17 (ACBL Members only) |

ACBL members, whose memberships are not current, add \$4 /person /session. Non-ACBL members are required to join on an annual basis or join on a new temporary 1- month basis.

Playing Site

Bingemans Conference Centre

425 Bingemans Centre Drive, Kitchener, ON

Marshall Hall Building

Lots of free parking

Coffee costs \$1.

No outside food or drink is allowed on site.

Lunch Menus - \$12 (tax included)

Tue: Soup, sandwich, sweet, pop/water

Wed: Mac & Cheese, salad, sweet,
pop/water

Thu: Quiche, garden salad, sweet,
pop/water

Fri: Lasagna, Caesar salad, sweet,
pop/water

Sat: Hamburger, potato salad, sweet,
pop/water

Sun: Wrap. Asian slaw, sweet, pop/water

Side Series:

Evening games are Fast Pairs to get you out early.

Play 1 or more sessions with the same or different partners. Must play at least two sessions in the event to be eligible for gold point awards.

- Zero Tolerance is in effect for this tournament.
- In consideration of those who are sensitive to fragrance, this is a scent-free tournament
- Please bring a sweater to the playing site.
- When an event has an upper MP limit, all players must have fewer than that number of master points.
- Daily Speaker Program.
- [Single session entries welcome.](#)

Directions to Site

From London and points west on Hwy 401:

- Take exit 278B for King St E towards Kitchener-Waterloo.
- Take entry ramp onto HWY 8 W.

From Toronto and points east on Hwy 401:

- Take exit 278 to merge onto HWY 8 W. toward Kitchener/Waterloo

From both directions – continue:

- Take exit HWY 7 E/HWY 85 N towards Guelph/Waterloo.
- Fork right towards Victoria St./ Frederick St./Wellington St.
- Take Wellington St. exit and Keep left.
- Make a left on Wellington and
- continue straight as the street turns in to Bingemans Centre Dr.
- Bingemans entrance is on the left.

Stratifications

Open Games

A: 3000+, X: 1500-3000, Y: 0-1500

Gold Rush

A: 500-750, B: 200-500, C: 0-200

299 Games

A: 100-300, B: 50-100, C: 0-50

99 Games

A: 50-99, B: 20-49, C: 0-19

Tournament Hotel

Radisson Hotel

2960 King Street East, Kitchener, ON

Free parking for hotel guests

Rate: \$114.99, Single or Double

Ask for “**Bridge Rate**” at 1-800-333-3333.

Tournament Chair

Ted Boyd

boydst1945@gmail.com

Partnerships

Patricia McMillan

palemusic@icloud.com



For Newer Players

By Robert Griffiths

There is a very good bridge book written by Marty Bergen called “Points Schmoints” which discusses when you should and shouldn’t pay a lot of attention to High Card Points. This hand shows an extreme example of when you might ignore your lack of HCP.

Dir: South
Vul: None

♠ 2
♥ J
♦ A K Q 9 6 5 4 2
♣ A 9 2

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

♠ A J 4
♥ -
♦ 10 8 3
♣ K Q J 8 7 6 4

South dealt and quietly opened 1♣ and West quietly overcalled 1♥. North began with a double; this normally implies holding spades but here he chose to show his very strong hand

by doubling first, planning to show his 8-card suit later. Little did he know.

East decided that since his partner’s values were in hearts and with his partner’s promised 5-card suit, plus his own seven hearts, one of the opponents must be void in the suit. He thought that there was a very good chance that NS would be able to make 11, 12, or even 13 tricks in one of the minors.

A raise of hearts is reasonable. But how high? It’s tempting to just jump to 4♥, but East here thought that North or South would just push on to their game, then maybe more. So, he hopped right up with a bid of 5♥. South and West passed, leaving North having to guess. And of course he misguessed. North doubled, hoping to take the “sure” plus score. He could have beaten the contract by leading his singleton spade, but since it was his day to misguess, he tried the ♦A, hoping to find the shortness in the South hand.

West trumped the diamond lead, drew trumps, and was able to make the contract by leading spades towards his hand twice.

The preempt of 5♥ with 0 HCP forced North to have to make his decision at the 6-level. NS can take 13 tricks in diamonds or 12 in clubs (but only if West finds an opening diamond lead—unlikely).

It's a good rule of thumb that when you are going to preempt, go as high as you are willing to go immediately, not giving the opponents room to find their comfort level. After you make a preemptive strike, don't bid again. Let the opponents make the last guess.

Dir: W
Vul: Both

♠ 9 4 2
♥ 3
♦ 10 9 8 6 4 2
♣ 8 6 3

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

♠ A J 10 8
♥ A J 10 8 7 6 4
♦ A Q
♣ - -

Here's a hand that was played at the recent tournament in London by Ted Boyd from Cambridge. The auction was short:

| | | | |
|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| <u>West</u> | <u>North</u> | <u>East</u> | <u>South</u> |
| Pass | Pass | INT | 4♥ |
| Dbl | All pass | | |

The contract looks impossible; there

are 2 heart losers, 2 spade losers and a diamond loser that can only be avoided only by somehow finding an entry to dummy for the finesse. But Ted found a way, with a little help from the defence.

He ruffed the club lead and considered the Hearts. If one opponent held a singleton honour, Ted's ♥A would take it but that would leave the other opponent with two sure heart tricks with the Q95 (or K95).

So Ted tried a different approach, leading his ♥J. This lead troubled West, who, after a lot of thought and being afraid that Ted was being sneaky with the AKJ of hearts, played his ♥Q and returned another club. Ted ruffed the club then drew the rest of the trumps, crashing East's now bare ♥K in the process.

Now we are down to this position:

♠ 9 4 2
♥ - -
♦ 10 9 8 6
♣ 8

| | |
|---------|---------|
| ♠ Q 7 3 | ♠ K 6 5 |
| ♥ - - | ♥ - - |
| ♦ J 4 | ♦ K 7 5 |
| ♣ Q 9 7 | ♣ J 10 |

♠ A J 10 8
♥ 8 7
♦ A Q
♣ - -

Ted simply led his ♠J, letting the opponents win the trick to return a club which Ted ruffed, continuing with

the ♠10, losing to the other spade honour. On winning the second spade honour, there was no better play for the defence than returning another club, but Ted could ruff with his last trump. With the ♠K and ♠Q gone, Ted had managed to make an entry of the dummy's ♠9 and was finally able to take the winning diamond finesse for his tenth trick. If the opponents try something funny like ducking a spade, Ted will not get his diamond finesse

but will avoid a spade loser instead.

Back at trick 2, if West ducks the ♥J, the contract will have no chance—the defence taking two heart tricks plus gaining the timing to make declarer ruff clubs too many times, losing control of the hand.

After the hand, Ted thanked his partner for having that vital ♠9.

John Gowdy remembers...



One of the things I miss from the “old days” at sectional tournaments is the directors and their rulings. They not only looked for justice but they made rulings in a humorous manner. Here I offer you two of my favourites:

After a competitive auction, East, before eventually passing, hesitated for about two minutes over North's bid of 4♠. West, in the pass out seat, bid on to 5♥. North put his hand up, “DIRECTOR, PLEASE.” After looking at all four hands his

ruling was, “You don't need a director—you need a double!” So North doubled 5♥. As the director left the table he finished his ruling with “Oh, and lead a diamond.” The table shrugged and played on. No appeal or complaint.

The second comes from a midnight Swiss at the Beacon Motor Hotel. The only players in the event were staying overnight at the hotel and alcohol and the teams' ability to consume and perform became very important. We were playing in the last match (for the win) and it was clear that my LHO had started drinking at dinner and had not slowed down. Again a competitive auction; this time LHO bid 5♦ over our 4♠ and got doubled. I lead the ♠A and the worst dummy anyone had ever seen came down...clear that it was going down 1100 or more. Declarer started to laugh but LHO threw up (to be clear—vomited!) on his own dummy, an obvious attempt to have the hand thrown out. Again, “Director!” This director, Peter Mollement, showed up and I told him that as director he should clean up the dummy so that we could get our number and win the event.

His ruling: “Mr Gowdy, in bridge, as in golf, you play them where they lie!”



Correspondence

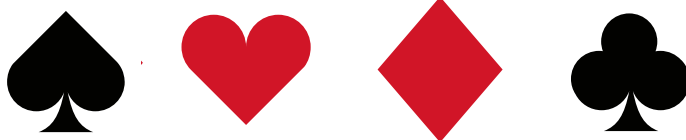
Hi Andy,

I want to congratulate Keith Balcombe and his team for organizing and putting on a memorable Oshawa sectional that was completed recently. The attendance was notable by the number of top flight A players and novices who came out to support Keith, and Rea Rennox also a local bridge teacher. Our community in Durham is fortunate to have Keith, Rea, and others to organize tournaments and help promote bridge to new and established players alike. With their continuing involvement and

contributions, we should feel confident that attendance and the level of bridge at our local and regional tournaments are bound to improve.

Congratulations; and thank you as well to previous tournament coordinators, Darla Peterson and Doug Darnley, and the countless volunteers behind the scene who have helped to make the Oshawa tournaments such a success.

Regards,
Bing Wong,
Unit 246





A Diamond in the Rough

By Doug Baxter

Students of the game have one time or another read about advanced and expert level plays. Occasionally, in reports about the final stages of Canadian or North American or World Championships, we read about famous players making these plays at the table.

Rare is it we see expert plays pulled off at a club duplicate game and by a lesser-known player. Here is a real gem given to me as a problem by our good friends Peter and Elaine Johannsson. Their friend, Jerry MacDonald, was the only declarer to succeed in 3NT in a 9-table club game!

How would you do?

The contract is 3NT by South; West leads the ♥5; East playing the jack.

Over to you:

♠ J 10 8 2
♥ 6
♦ K 10 9 8
♣ A 10 4 3

♠ K 5
♥ A Q 3
♦ A 6 5 4 3 2
♣ 7 6

The problem might be hard to see – but the diamond suit is blocked, even if the missing diamonds are divided 2-1. Jerry found the only winning line: Win the heart lead with the queen and fire back the heart three at trick two, discarding the ♦8 from dummy. As Eddie Kantar would say, “Key play!” Win trick three, (probably the defense will play another heart), and discard the ♦9 from dummy. Only now is the diamond suit unblocked, so that you can take six diamonds, two hearts, and one club for nine tricks.

The full deal:

♠ J 10 8 2
♥ 6
♦ K 10 9 8
♣ A 10 4 3

♠ A Q 7
♥ K 10 8 5 2
♦ J
♣ Q 9 8 2

♠ 9 6 4 3
♥ J 9 7 4
♦ Q 7
♣ K J 5

♠ K 5
♥ A Q 3
♦ A 6 5 4 3 2
♣ 7 6

Notice that if you tackle diamonds at trick two you can no longer make the hand. You can win the diamond king, and lead a diamond to your ace, but now the high diamonds are in the dummy. If you cash them you will have two good diamonds in your hand but no way to get back there—the defense will stop playing hearts. It takes the foresighted play of playing a low heart at trick two. Well done, Jerry!

Joan Eaton remembers...



Many years ago I attended a sectional in southwestern Ontario. Chris Hutton was my partner and also the driver. Alex Kornel asked us for a ride so he sat in the back and stayed quiet for most of the ride. Now Chris had a lead foot. We flew down the 401 like only bridge players can fly when late for a tournament.

We arrived to the event in time. Before getting up from her seat, Chris happened to look down. She noticed a dead fly on her white dress. She rhetorically asked, “Now what could possibly have killed this fly?” Alex from the back seat piped up, “It probably saw the speedometer.”

Andy Stark remembers...



Years ago I played with Barbara Sims in the Stratford Sectional open pairs. We played down the middle Standard American and finished third overall. I remember playing a ♠ contract and dummy holding ♦ A Q 9 6. RHO had opened the bidding and was marked with the ♦K. I held ♦J 3 so the finesse was doomed to lose. So I called for the ace of diamonds and all followed. I then called for the ♦6; RHO played the ♦8 and I won the ♦J in hand. I have the look on RHO's face still captured in my mind...pure shock.

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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Deadline for the Summer 2018 Kibitzer: May. 1, 2018

The Kibitzer

Andy Stark

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