The Kibitzer Summer 2015 Volume 61, Number 2



Sarah Toy, Aayushi Jha, Eila O'Neil, and Sarah Nanji participating in Kids' Day, 2015





Editor's Note

Belated but heartfelt congratulations to David Deaves and his partner Doug Andrews for doing well in the World Senior Pairs last fall in Sanya. They finished ninth overall. DD is on a roll—he was on the winning GNT team in early April (see p. 37).

Remember John Armstrong? "You send, we print; you no send, we no print." Please keep those hands and stories coming in.

You will note this issue's heavy coverage of Kids' Day. What an eye-opener this day is—just so refreshing and wonderful to see and feel the buzz in the room when nearly 500 kids fill it with their passion for bridge. We have to keep Kids' Day going strong.

Andy Stark andy.kibitzer@gmail.com



Cover photo courtesy of W. Krats

JS photos courtesy of Jonathan Steinberg

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The Unit 166 Financial Statements can be found on the Unit's website at: www.unit166.ca



Zero Tolerance Issues

Any Unit 166 tournament Zero Tolerance concerns, or Zero Tolerance tournament situations which were not satisfactorily resolved, should be reported to ZT@execulink.com



Congratulations to Unit 166 President Carol Bongard on winning the Kate Buckman Trophy in 2015



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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



Nomination Form

For Directors at Large Unit 249 Board of Directors

Elections will be held Aug. 8, 2015 at Unit 249 General Meeting, to be held in Tillsonburg, ON.

	-			
	Nominee	ACBL#	Signature of Nomine	
				
	Nominators	ACBL#	Signature of Nominators	
1				
2				
Nominations must be received by the Secretary, Board of Directors, Unit 249 not later than July 18, 2015. Send to: Lee Easterbrook Secretary, Board of Directors 89 Riverview Dr., Unit 1006 Chatham, On N7M 6A4				
	nned copy of signed f	form may be emailed to gmail.com):	
Date	of Receipt:		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
(to be completed by Secretary)				

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www.tsvc.ca/bridge

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Canada's Future Bridge Stars

By Nader Hanna

For the last few months I had the pleasure of mentoring a group of 14 young players ages 11 - 16.

My involvement started when I was asked to help with last year's annual School Bridge Day. The event, which is held as part of the Toronto Easter Regional, is the brainchild of Flo Belford and thanks to her efforts over the last 20 years and the efforts of many teachers who introduced bridge in their schools, more than 400 students participate in the event each year.

Seeing that many young kids play and enjoy bridge raises the question of why they lose their enthusiasm for the game as they grow older, and why we do not see similar number of students playing bridge by the time they get to university. Though it is true that bridge has a lot of competition for the attention and interest of youth, I also think that one of the reasons that kids do not stick with bridge may be that we do not pay enough attention to helping them develop and learn more about the game. I believe that it is very important to not only welcome young players, but to also support them and make it easy for them to learn and appreciate the beauty of our game.

Accordingly, I made it known to some

teachers that I am available to help their students develop their game to the next level. Teachers started identifying kids who showed interest in learning more about the game and referring them to me.

Since September, I have been meeting with the group, every two weeks or so, for about three hours. We also have some practices on BBO in between the in-person sessions. The group continues to grow and the kids show commitment and a great appetite for learning. They have tremendous enthusiasm for the game and many played at the Toronto CBF regional in September and the Toronto New Year sectional in January. Several are also planning to participate in the Youth NABC in Chicago this summer.



Julia, 11, already fiercely competitive

The kids were excited to learn about the CBF Junior Program and the opportunity to represent Canada at the bi-annual World Youth Team Championships (WYTC) which consists of four team competitions, the World Junior and the World Girls Teams for players under 25 years of age, the World Youngsters Teams for players under 20 years of age, and the World Kids Teams for players under 15 years of age.

Upon learning that the CBF can only afford to send two fully subsidized teams to participate in the Junior and Youngster competitions, the kids and their parents decided to start a fundraising campaign to raise \$30,000 to help send a team to the Kids competition at the 2016 WYTC in Salsomaggiore, Italy.

You can read about this amazing group of kids, and their dream of representing their country in the game they love, on their fundraising website at cbfkids. causevox.com.

With such enthusiasm, and your support, we can all feel optimistic about the future of bridge in Canada.



Jacob, 14, studies the dummy



Olivia, far right, ponders her next bid

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Partnership Desk Wanda Pearce 647 835 5774 wlpearce61@gmail.com

The Kibitzer Information

ADDRESS CHANGES: Please notify the ACBL at...

6575 Windchase Blvd., Horn Lake MS 38637-1523, or addresschange@acbl.org, or (662) 253-3136

This will also correct your Kibitzer address.

The Kibitzer does NOT store address information.

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Full Page \$275; 1/2 Page \$165; 1/4 Page \$100; 1/8 Page \$60 (All plus HST)

See back cover for contact information about placing an ad.

KIBITZER ONLINE: http://unit166.ca

IMPORTANT KIBITZER DATES:

Deadline:	Publication:
December 15	February 1
March 15	May 1
June 15	August 1
September 15	November 1
	December 15 March 15 June 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.





Wake Up Call By Carole Coplea

Bridge is special. It is more than just another game or pastime, it is a global network of like-minded people who enjoy a mental workout while socializing with friends, family, and meeting new people. For this reason alone, it is imperative that we keep the game alive for future generations.

The ACBL is an organization that is dedicated to supporting duplicate bridge in North America, and offers opportunities for us to improve our skills and meet new people over the bridge tables.

It may surprise you to learn that membership in the ACBL has shrunk from a high of over 200,000 to 167,000. If this trend continues, within twenty years the ACBL as we know it will be a mere shadow of itself, according to a leading bridge expert. The average age of ACBL members is 72 or thereabouts, and growing older every day.

So, what can be done to reverse this trend and build a dynamic and viable ACBL for the future of bridge?

THE CHALLENGE

In North America, there are literally millions of bridge players. Most people play bridge socially, with friends and family. Another large group play duplicate for fun, but are not members of ACBL.

The challenge for the ACBL is to encourage social players and casual duplicate players to join ACBL and earn master points.

I asked some leaders in the Kibitzer readership for their thoughts on this issue.

JOHN CARRUTHERS is the editor of the International Bridge Press Association Bulletin, the former editor of The Kibitzer and the former manager and NPC of Canada's Junior Bridge Program.

BARBARA SEAGRAM is is a well-known author. Her best-known book is "25 Conventions You Should Know," now deemed to be the best selling bridge book of the last 50 years.

MICHAEL KAMMERMAYER a Bridge teacher who runs games in the Oakville/Burlington area.

NADER HANNA is the President of the Canadian Bridge Federation and one of Canada's top players.

WHAT ARE THE OBSTACLES TO OVERCOME?

There are numerous factors that make it difficult for ACBL to attract members. All four leaders identified the proliferation of video games, hundreds of cable TV channels and social networking websites combined with the steep learning curve, the time commitment required to learn the game and the image of bridge as an old people's club. Young people may not have the money to invest in books and lessons and shy away from bridge as something 'uncool'.

YOUTH VS SENIORS

Opinions were split on whether the ACBL should focus on attracting young players and students, or seniors who are retiring and need something to do with all that free time.

Nader commented, "It is true seniors are a greater source of new players (aging population, time and financial resources). However, if we do not make the game more attractive to youth, the game will eventually die."

SOCIAL BRIDGEVS DUPLICATE

The issue of promoting social bridge raised some concerns, because social bridge does not help players to accumulate master points. However, the vast majority of bridge players are not members of ACBL and do not play in duplicate clubs.

Kammemayer commented: Social bridge players are usually afraid of duplicate games. There would need to be a big push to educate these people as to the advantages of duplicate. Right now the biggest competition for ACBL club owners is from non-sanctioned games run by various municipal and city programs. These programs often charge \$2 or \$3 and are hybrids between social and duplicate bridge.

THE ISSUE OF MASTERPOINTS

Seagram commented, "Duplicate awards master points. That is the big hook for all players once they get into duplicate. I think we have to push duplicate and push the idea that the face of duplicate is now a new and different one."

Kammermayer: "The heart and soul of the ACBL is the master point system. Without competition for master points I don't think people would be attracted to organized bridge."

However, according to Carruthers, the emphasis on master points may turn some people off. "Many are encouraged too early to play duplicate bridge in order to win master points and become life masters. The result in many cases is that they play at a club, feel uncomfortable or intimidated, and quit the game altogether."









BRIDGE SCHOOL CREDIT

The idea of offering bridge as a school credit was generally well received.

Carruthers pointed out that Canada lags behind other countries. "If the game is to survive, we need to get it introduced into the school system. In countries such as Indonesia, China, and Poland, the game is introduced to school kids. It has been proven that bridge improves students' abilities in other areas, academically and socially"

Where it has been introduced in Canada, there are some challenges, Carruthers said, "Not many (students) continue to play the game into their teenage and university years. I think one of the reasons is that the school programs are designed to introduce the kids to the game but not necessarily to maintain their bridge development to the intermediate level."

Seagram commented: "The ACBL has developed one-hour programmes that can be held at lunch or any other time. It definitely helps the kids with their logical thinking and should be a recognized course credit ...but we still have to convince the educational system."

WHAT ARE THE SOLUTIONS?

From my perspective as a rank and file ACBL member, looking into the future is a murky business at best. There does not seem to be a magic bullet to attract newcomers or encourage lapsed members to re-join.

What is clear is that the ACBL needs to develop a long-term, multi-dimensional strategy that covers several bases: young people, the over-50 age group, social bridge players, and lapsed members.

BRAINSTORMING

One way to start the process is brainstorming sessions in the form of round table discussions at the unit and district levels. These discussions can bring together recognized leaders, young players and others to discuss the challenges and suggest solutions.

ASK THE MEMBERSHIP

The general membership should also be asked for their input, using the ACBL Bulletin and website as a way to communicate their ideas and concerns.

A PLAN OF ACTION

Here are some ideas to consider:

- increase outreach to school administrators and provide the materials to teach bridge to students
- develop relationships with local charities that target youth (provide bridge materials, card tables, etc.)
- for social players, instead of master points, offer rewards for achieving certain goals
- challenge ACBL members to sign up new members (friends, relatives, etc.)
- develop better public relations materials and outreach to local media
- promote the image of bridge as a cool way for all age groups to have fun
- organize special events with cash prizes
- offer free lessons and books for

newcomers to bridge

 organize regular social events, such as pro-am games, marathons and charity fundraisers

Each one of these ideas needs its own well-developed strategy to make it work. For example, to harness the power of word-of-mouth advertising, the ACBL can organize a membership drive and incentivize members by giving them a credit towards their annual fee for every new member they sign up.

In my opinion, the ACBL needs to set an annual membership goal and build towards that and apply the resources needed. The strategy needs to be ongoing, permanent and flexible to address changing social conditions, technology, and other factors.

All ACBL members have a stake in ensuring that our duplicate bridge games continue in the future. Let's all start now!

Carole Coplea is a communications strategist and a long time ACBL member. She is the author of Death In Duplicate, a murder mystery about bridge players and available through Master Point Press. You may contact Carole with your ideas for the future of bridge at copleac@gmail.com.

DISTRICT 2 NORTH AMERICAN PAIRS 2015–16

Flight A OPEN

Flight B Under 2500 MP

Flight C Non-Life Master under 500 MP

(as of May 2015)



You and your partner could represent District 2 in the North American Final, to be played at the Reno NABC in March 2016

The ACBL and District 2 award \$\$\$ to the top 2 pairs in each Flight Club Qualifying Games take place during June, July, & August

*** A Club qualification is required for entry into the District Final ***

District Finals will be held in October... details to follow in the Fall Kibitzer

MAKE SURE YOUR CLUB HOLDS NAP QUALIFYING GAMES

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- 2. Port charges and taxes of \$460 CDN per passenger are additional.
- 3. Transportation to New York and airport/pier transfers are not included, but can be arranged.
- 4. Some of the restaurants have a cover charge. Details available.
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Kids' Day, 2015

(But everyday is Kids' Day!)

If you played Tuesday afternoon at the Toronto Easter Regional this year and you listened closely you may have heard the faint echoes of kids laughing, prancing around, and high-fiving each other from the previous day: Just another year and just another successful onesession tournament for Flo Belford and her army of volunteers.

Kids' Day at the Regional is starting to get a buzz. Students as young as 9 and as old as 16 come to play from all over the GTA, accompanied by their regular teachers and their bridge teacher. The kids play about eight boards, each board against another pair. Yes, that is a one-board movement. But the youngsters show patience beyond their years as they wait for the next table to open up.

Roman Klein, bridge teacher at an Oakville school says, "They're crazy, in the good way of course—they love to play. For them theory is a nuisance. They can hardly sit still. They sometimes stand up at the table and play." Flo, who's been teaching bridge to school-aged kids for years, likes to focus on the play and keep the bidding lessons simple. She doesn't even bother teaching INT openings

since they can still describe their hands with a one-of-a-suit bid. "No INT openers, and no Stayman. One year I attempted to teach takeout doubles and before I knew it they were opening the bidding with 'Double."

In total 472 students attended--that's I18 tables of perpetual motion. While each section-winning pair scored up a game easily north of 65%, the biggest game of the day belonged to a pair who posted an 84.5% game. Another pair, Jordan Harper and Sam Sherratt had a unique auction. Here was their bidding with Jordan as South:

West	North	East	South
		Ι♡	2 ♦
2 🛊	3 ♦	3 ♡	Double
4 ♡	Pass	Pass	Director!

At her third turn to bid, Jordan called over a Director. She inquired, "If I double 3° and they go to 4° does it mean that I have already doubled that contract, too?" "No, you have to double that one, too," responded the Director. Gleefully, Jordan placed another red card on the table and that became the final contract.

Check out the opening lead. From a holding of:

♠ K 8 6 3 ♡ J ◇ A K 8 7 5 ♣ Q 10 5

Jordan led the five of diamonds as the tall director bit his tongue. Her partner, Sam Sherratt, calmly won the queen and shifted to the king of trumps. The North-South defenders got their four defensive tricks for a splendid down one and plus 200. But it was East-West who got in the first high five—so excited they only went one down.

One high schooler, a declarer in a 2-level contract, could not believe how strong his partner's hand was for opening INT on:

★ K 4 ♡ A K 7 5 ◇ A K 9 3 **♣** K Q J

Together they held two aces and 32 HCPs, so missed the laydown 3NT.

Lynn Hope, a Grade 4/5 Enhanced Classroom teacher at Helen Wilson has been attending this event for a few years. She says, "They learn to think in different ways, and get experience playing with a partner. They look forward to this day." Another teacher, Kandice Raymond, an Enhanced Classroom teacher at Greenbriar, says "The students get Gary Westfall about once per week. They learn all kinds of learning skills, like logic and reasoning. Plus they get social skills. I'm usually in the classroom during the bridge class and it's definitely loud and

chatty in there. The kids love to play."

Before starting the event the students congregated in the foyer waiting for their table assignment. A group of students from Greenbriar were asked what they found so cool about bridge. The responses came fast and furious: "You have to think." "You have to use your memory." "You have to plan it out." "You need good communication." "Teamwork." "Collaboration."

Two students from Greenbriar, Aayushi Jha and Sarah Nanji, drew a pair from W. H. Morden, Sarah Toy and Eila O'Neil. Ms. Nanji declared the first contract and made it. She was ecstatic. At another table, the first deal was passed out. So the kids reshuffled and bid out the next hand. It too was passed out. Another shuffle ensued and this one led to a 5 Diamond contract down a bunch.

The law of averages dictates that some junior playing in this event is going to be Canada's next star. It might even be Nathan Richardson. Needing clarification on a rule Nathan jumped up from his table when it was his turn to play a card as a defender.

He ran to the first Director that he could find and asked, breathlessly, "If I can't play, do I have to trump?"

The tall Director responded, "You mean if you can't follow suit, do you have to trump in?"

"Yeah."

"No, if you need to make a discard, you can play whatever you want."

Nathan's face lit up as he bolted back to his table. The Director followed to see firsthand why a ten-year old kid was refusing to trump something. Nathan's trump holding, after six tricks had been played, was the singleton king. (The ace, queen, and jack of trumps had already been played.) The king was the boss trump. Nathan was waiting until he got

the lead so that he could play his king and draw two trumps from his opponents. Wow!

And wow to Flo Belford and all her volunteers. Come see for yourself next year: 9:30 am on the Monday before Easter. Feel free to volunteer and see the joy on the kids' faces for yourself. Be sure to let Flo know your interest by emailing her at fbelford@sympatico.ca.

Kids' Day at the Toronto Regional



472 school kids NOT on their iPads



Audrey Grant holding up her chart on Opening the Bidding



Flo Belford explaining the one-board movement



High schoolers Mica Ong, Andreas Skenderija, Melanie Paré, and Kyle Kennery

Port Franks Vacation Sectional)

Sat. June 27

Sun. June 28

Open Pairs Playthrough Swiss Teams - Open

299's Pairs Single Session entries always welcome

- 299's

Stratifications: (Master points are averaged)

Open Pairs	299's	Entry fee:
A - Over 1500	A - 200 - 300	\$10/person per session
B - 750 - 1500	B - 100 - 200	Non ACBL members \$13
C - 0 - 750	C - 0 - 100	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

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.

Tournament

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



www.ezlink.ca/~seth/portfrankstournament.html

THORNHILL SUMMER SECTIONAL

Saturday, July 4th – Sunday, July 5th, 2015

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

Event Schedule

Saturday, July 4

Stratified Open Pairs - Two session event, single entries welcome

1 & 6:30 A: open, B: 750 - 2000, C: 0 - 750

0 – 299 Pairs 1:00 & 6:30 pm 0 – 50 Pairs (if numbers sufficient) 1:00 & 6:30 pm

Sunday, July 5

Stratiflighted Swiss Teams 11:00 am & TBD

Playthrough, lunch on site

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: \$12 (includes HST) per session for ACBL members (\$3 additional fee for non or unpaid ACBL members), \$5 for students

LOTS OF FREE PARKING

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. The Centre is on the northeast corner of Bayview and John Street. John Street is between Steeles Ave. and Hwy 407.

HAMILTON SECTIONAL

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

JULY 18th & 19th 2015

\$5 LUNCH SERVED AT SITE SAT. & SUN. HOSPITALITY ON SAT. PRIZE FOR MOST MP'S EARNED AT THE TOURNAMENT

Saturday July 18th (\$12.00 per session) Random Prizes Drawn All Day

Stratified (OPEN PAIRS)

10:30 am

Tournament Chair

(single session entries welcomed)

Michelle Ellis

All flights are play through

905-525-1433 mellis2728@gmail.com

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

Stratified OPFN PAIRS

3:00 pm

(single session entries welcomed)

All flights are play through

Free Parking

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

NEWCOMER & INTERMEDIATE GAMES 10:30 am Prizes for 0-20 MP's

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

NEWCOMER & INTERMEDIATE GAMES 3:00 p.m.

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

Sunday July 19th (1/2 hr. lunch)

Stratified Swiss Teams (\$96 per team) 10:30 am **Partnership Desk** C: 0-750 B: 750-1500 X: 1500+ A: 2500+ Sat. 9:30-10:25 am

2-2:55 pm

Sun. 9:30-10:25 am

NEW/INTER. Stratified Swiss Teams 10:30 am Joe Blatnick

905-592-9663

0-50/100/300 (\$96 per team) tanjoe@cogeco.ca

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Niagara Intermediate - Newcomer 0-300 Sectional August 15-16

Stratified 299'er Pairs

Saturday, 10:00 am & 2:00 pm and Sunday, 10:00 am & 2:00 pm

Two Single-Session Events Both Days

\$12.00 per person, per session (\$3.00 extra for non or unpaid ACBL Members)

(Free Lunch Between Sessions - Both Days)
Stratifications for all sessions:

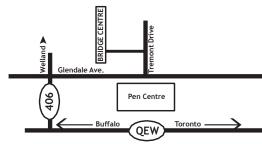
A: 0-300; B: 0-200; C: 0-50

(0-50 Separate Game if Attendance Warrants)

Chair: Lorna Johnson: 905-894-4056 e-mail: bridgeplayer64@gmail.com

Partnership Chair: Sue Arnedt: 905-892-6009 e-mail: sarnedt@cogeco.ca

Bridge Centre of Niagara 2 Tremont Drive, St. Catharines, ON L2T 3B2 905-7040446



♣ FREE LUNCH ♠ PRIZES ♥ FREE PARKING ♣ SILVER POINTS

65th Annual St. Thomas Jumbo Tournament

Sept., 12-13, 2015

Sessions both days 11:00 am and TBA. Hot meal between sessions Entry Fees \$11.00 per session

Non-ACBL members add \$3.00 per session

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

Saturday Sept 12th

2-Session Stratiflighted Pairs Playthrough (single sessions welcome) 299er Pairs Playthrough (single sessions welcome)



Sunday Sept 13th

2-Session Swiss Teams Stratified and 299er team

Wellington Rd		Highbury Rd.
To London Ron N	MacNeil Line	To London
	S. Edgeware Rd.	
Hwy 3 By Pass		
	Edward St	
← To 4 <u>01 & 402</u>	Talbot St	Tillsonburg & Niagara →
_	Wellington St.	
	Chestnut St.	<u> </u>
First St →		
	Elm St	
⊠ St	Thomas Senior Centre	←Burwell Rd / Fairview Ave

STRATIFICATION:

Based on player with highest number of masterpoints

Pairs

Strats: A=2500+, X=0-2500, B=500-1500, C=0-500

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

Teams

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

299er Teams: 0-300









LOCATION:

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

TOURNAMENT CHAIR:

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

PARTNERSHIPS:

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



Underbidding By John Cunningham

It's common to underbid bad hands and overbid good ones, particularly in 2 Club auctions. Take this one from a recent club game.

Suppose you open an artificial, strong, 2♣ and the pumpkin on your left interjects 2♠. Many have the notion that a double of that bid depicts a double negative while a pass indicates values. (For some time it wasn't thought to apply at the 2-level, but now it seems universally accepted.) Anyway, it's useful to have a definition as to the stress point: say a control or two, for instance.

Absent that discussion I hold at unfavourable vulnerability:

♠ J 7 6 ♥ Q 8 4 3 2 ♦ Q 6 2 **♣** 8 2

Partner opens 2 Clubs. RHO overcalls an agonized 2 Spades. This little hand of mine, bereft of controls, seems worth an undefined pass to me. (Have you defined the ranges?)

LHO raises to 3 Spades and partner doubles.

Well!! In theory a pass by partner

here would show a flat hand, and a double would be penalty except that the vulnerability arguably skews this significantly—at least according to Reese. But I imagine from my holding that partner doesn't eat chocolate. So? I'm going to call an unsteady 4 Hearts.

That goes back to RHO who bids 4 Spades: a "fielder's choice" - the worst sin in Bridge. I have surely a minimum here, hence I am constrained to show that by doubling.

Good ol' Partner. Partner is there with 5 Clubs. Not 4NT, 5 Clubs. What is THAT?

A Spade void surely. And maybe clubs with 3-card heart support? Again, no 4NT...

Well, I did double – partner's bid can't be a slam try, can it? Yuck.

A review of the bidding:

West	North	East 2♣	South 2♠
Pass	3♠	DЫ	Pass
4♡	Pass	Pass	4♠
DЫ	Pass	5♣	Pass ??

Is this an offer to play? Can it be preferable to Hearts?

I could grasp the chance to err by passing. Okay I will.

Successfully, as partner has:

♠ Q ♡AKJ65 ◊A 108 ♣AKJ2

It turns out 5 Hearts was Cunninghamproof; 5 Clubs another story. 4 down.

Moral? Morale. While passing 5 Clubs was most arguably silly, I shouldn't be given that opportunity. Confusion over the double of 4 Spades seems to have been contributory. Oh well; it's only one board.

Here's the entire hand: note that declarer can seem to scrape up a useful seven tricks in Spades.

★ K 5 ♥ 9 7 ♦ J 9 7 5 3 **♣** ○ 10 4 3

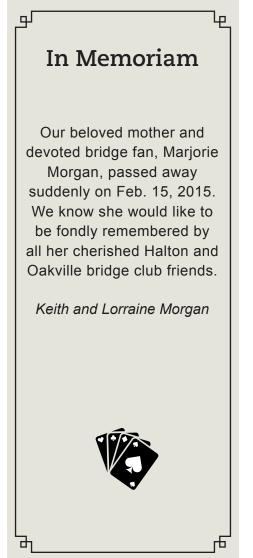
♣ J 7 6 ♥ Q 8 4 3 2 ♦ Q 6 2 **♣** 8 5 **♣** A K | 2

> **≜**A 1098432 ♡ 10 ◇ K 4 **♣** 976

Upon further review...my partner thought that his double was for takeout, while a pass of 3 Spades would show a big balanced hand. I think the point about 4NT as a belated slam try is interesting,

and may have merit.

Even if 5 Clubs was an offer to play, (as I feel it should be), my pass was feeble. But the fact remains that it offered a choice: which I mistakenly took.





Tournament Winners

Western Ontario Sectional London Jan. 24-25, 2015

Sat. Am 299er Pairs (Flt. A + B+ C) Bill Cunningham – Neil Jeffrey, Waterloo

Stratiflighted Pairs A/X (Flt. A) Tom Ramsay, Guelph – Colin Harrington, Cambridge; (Flt. X) Bruce Roberts, Ingersoll – Casey Vandeputte

B/C Pairs (Flt. B) Ewoud Van Goch, St. Catherines – Ross Driedger, London; (Flt. C) David Queen, Cambridge – Robert Sward. London

299er Aft. Pairs (Flt. A) Terry Manske – Jewel Manske, Waterloo tied with (Flt. A + B + C) Bill Cunningham – Neil Jeffrey, Waterloo

Sunday A/X Teams (Flt. A) David Baker, Kitchener; Colin Lafferty, Whitby; Tom Ramsay, Guelph; David Deaves, Ripley; (Flt. X) Len Lucier, Dover Centre; Greg Walzak – Lee Easterbrook, Chatham; Gary Robertson, Blenheim

B/C Swiss Teams (Flt. B) Terry Wright – Ross Driedger – Larry Clipperton, London; Ewoud Van Goch, St. Thomas; (Flt. C) Peter Kraillo – John Boekhoud – David Denomy – Tim Thomas, Chatham

299er Swiss Teams (Flt. A) Margaret Blackie – Murray Blackie – Sheila James – Floyd James, London, (Flt. B + C) Pat White – Susan Kime – Janet Caskey – Don Charles White, London

61st Niagara District Sectional St. Catherines, ON Feb. 6-8, 2015

Friday Aft. Open Pairs (Flt.A) Don Brock, Brampton, Andrew Firko, Oakville; (Flt. B) Phyllis Jones – Mike Fernane, Brampton; (Flt. C) Selina Volpatti – Christopher King, Niagara Falls

Friday Aft. Women's Pairs (Flt. A + B) Eileen Bashak, Fonthill – Connie McNally, St. Catherines

Friday Aft. 299er Pairs (Flt. A + B) Allan Utz, Welland; Ronald Paddon, St. Catherines; (Flt. C) Tony Dai, Toronto, Vladimir Kondratsky, Mississauga

Friday Aft. 49er Pairs (Flt. A + B) Patricia Flaman, Toronto – Patricia Bourne, Etobicoke; (Flt. C) Sally Carter, Newmarket – Patricia Leeson, Aurora

Friday Eve Open Pairs (Alt.A + B) Diane K. M. Gordon, St. Catherines – Andrew Russell, Bowmanville; (Flt. C) Larry Sugden, Guelph – Donna Coombe, Elora

Friday Eve 299er Pairs (Flt. A) Terry Manske – Jewel Manske, Waterloo; (Flt. B + C) Lorraine Schiedel, North York – June Dale, Burlington

Friendly Fred Swiss Teams (Flt.A) Jeremy Smee - Clyde Paul, St. Catherines; Brian

Macartney, Vineland – George Morrissey, Welland; (Flt. B + C) Lois Matton, Guelph – Faye Baker, Hamilton; Diane Jamieson, Kitchener – Charlene Richardson, Moorefield

Saturday Aft. 299er Pairs (Flt.A + B + C) Verne Chant – Linda Chant, Virgil

Saturday KO Bracket I Brian Macartney, Vineland – George Morrissey, Welland; Jeremy Smee, St. Catherines – Rod Jansen, Fonthill

Saturday KO Bracket 2 K Dee Glover, Burlington – Percy Harcourt, Carlisle; Martin Swales, Fonthill – Richard Shannon, Niagara Falls

Saturday A/X Pairs (Flt.A + X) John Laufer, Toronto – Sean Pryke, Dundas

Saturday B/C/D Pairs (Flt. B) Dianne Aves – Pat McMillan, Waterloo; (Flt. C + D) Danilo Fiorenzano – Lynn Freeman, North York

Saturday Eve 299er Pairs (Flt. A + B + C) Tony Dai, Toronto – Vladimir Kondratsky, Mississauga

Sunday A/X Swiss Teams (Flt. A) David Baker, Kitchener – Colin Lafferty, Whitby; Tom Ramsay, Guelph – David Deaves, Ripley; (Flt. X) Henryk Nowak – Adam Kohut, Mississauga; Andrew Kita, Scarborough – Zbigniew Pianka, Toronto

Sunday B/C/D Swiss Teams (Flt. B + C) Eric Endicott – Linda Akazawa – Jim Endicott, Toronto – Jorry Chu, Mississauga; (Flt. D) Sharon King, Oakville – Sima Ghorashyzadeh, Mississauga; Lois Matton, Guelph – Danielle Gosselin, Toronto Sunday 299er Swiss Teams (Flt. A) Alexandra Peck – Susan Sillery, Toronto; Robert Brown – Matt Brown, Cambridge; (Flt. C) Mariann Glynn – C. Lee Dunlop – Lezlie Cullen, Toronto – Graham Howes, Etobicoke

Barrie Friendship Day Swiss Teams Barrie, ON Feb. 22, 2015

Stratified Swiss (Flt. A) Paul Janicki & William Koski – John Duquette & Richard Chan; (Flt. B) J. Ronald Moore & Bryce Johnston – J. Mark Wolfe & Sandor Olcsvary; (Flt. C) Ruth Eidt & Steve Roberts – David Verdun & Gladys Barron

Oshawa Swiss Teams Sectional Oshawa, ON March 7-8, 2015

Saturday A/X Teams (Flt.A) Don Kersey
- Shona Donovan, Kingston; Jeffrey Smith,
Ottawa - Daniel Miles, Toronto; (Flt.
X) William Ju, Waterloo - Difan Wang,
Scarborough; Wensong Zhen, Markham Ken Wu, Mississauga

Saturday B/C/D Teams (Flt. B + C + D) Theresa Tierney, Oshawa – Sally Giles, Ashburn; Richard Legault, Courtice – Henry Stevens, Scarborough

Sunday A/X Teams (Flt. A) Don Kersey – Mark Donovan, Kingston – Andrew Firko, Oakville – Don Brock, Brampton; (Flt. X) Casey Vandeputte, Dundas – Bruce Roberts, Ingersoll; Ken Collins, Richmond Hill – Steven Mehta, Mississauga

Sunday B/C/D Teams (Flt. B + C + D) Peter Hutchison, Willowdale – Jerry Machtinger, Toronto; Charles Smith, Bolton – Gaye Villa, Caledon East

Royal City Guelph Sectional Guelph, ON Mar. 21-22, 2015

299er Pairs (Flt. A + B) Susan Lawton, Waterloo – Sharon Boyd, Cambridge; (Flt. C) Paul Gateman – Sandra Gateman, Chesley

A/X Stratiflighted Pairs (Flt. A + B) Ted Boyd, Cambridge – Edith Ferber, Waterloo

B/C Stratiflighted Pairs (Flt. B + C) Harry Shen – Lingyun Cao, Guelph

Aft. 299er Pairs (Flt. A) Peter Grimwood – Marlene Grimwood, Rockwood; (Flt. B) Lezlie Cullen, Toronto – Paul Pointet, Mississauga; (Flt. C) Karen Whitworth, Guelph – Pam Servos, Puslinch

A/X Swiss Teams (Flt. A) Martin Hunter, Mississauga – Bill Koski, King City; Rob Avery, Barrie – George Knight, Victoria Harbour; (Flt. X) Ed Allan, Kitchener – Dan Brown, Elmira; Adrian Record, Fergus – Diane Bourdeau, Cambridge

B/C Swiss Teams (Flt. B) Casey Vandeputte, Dundas – Bruce Roberts, Ingersoll; Robert Griffiths – Jinsheng Huang, Guelph; (Flt. C) Mary Jagodinski – Layna Skovnose, Burlington; Ivan Tavchar – Nellie Tavchar, Oakville Morning 299er Swiss Teams (Flt. A + B) Ron Ellis, Fergus – Paul Radigan, Guelph; Stephen Carpenter – George Malon, Conestogo; (Flt. C) Wayne Schroeder, Kitchener – Roy Dandyk, Waterloo; Adrian Kempe – David Penington, Waterloo

Aft. 299er Swiss Teams (Flt. A + B) Ron Ellis, Fergus – Paul Radigan, Guelph; Stephen Carpenter – George Malon, Conestogo; (Flt. C) Pat White – Don Charles White – Susan Kime – Norma Masterson, London

Toronto Easter Regional Toronto, ON Mar. 31 – Apr. 5, 2015

Tuesday Gold Rush Pairs (Flt. E) Max Rutherford, Mississauga – Amy Lee, Toronto; (Flt. F) Keith Gardiner – Michael Etherington, Oakville

Tuesday A/X Pairs (Flt. A) David Baker, Kitchener – Tom Ramsay, Guelph; (Flt. X) George Berton, Newmarket – Hinda Silber, Toronto

Tuesday Midflight Pairs (Flt. B + C) Harry Freedman, Ottawa – Martin Gordon, Nepean

Tuesday 7:00 pm 299er Pairs (Flt.A + B) Tamara Colbourne – Gail Andrews, Toronto; (Flt. C) Raymond Hui, Scarborough – Yu-No Diane Hsu, Toronto

Tuesday Eve Swiss Teams (Flt. A) Peter Clark, Ottawa – Jacqueline Syer, Oakville; Douglas Dolbear – Daniel Cecchelli, Hamilton; (Flt. B + C) Susan Bartlett – Dale Whitmore – Stan Fong – Margot Fong, Toronto

Tues-Wed Bracketed KO Teams

Bracket A Jonathan Steinberg, Toronto

– David Sabourin, Ottawa; Shan Huang,
Scarborough – Richard Chan, Markham

Bracket B Chris Chambers, Thornhill, Akbar Husain, Markham; Sonia Ostroff, Pickering – John Stafford, Newcastle

Bracket C J Ronald Moore – Marc Brenner, Barrie; Jan Gilewicz, Minesing, J Mark Wolfe, Angus

Bracket D Ron Franks, Thornhill – Jill Thomas – Janice Keane – Krisztina Luttor, Toronto

Wednesday Round Robin Swiss Teams

Fit.A (Top Bracket) Katie Thorpe – John Carruthers, Kingsville; Martin Kirr, Toronto, Joey Silver, Hampstead, QC

Bracket I Rob Avery – Leigh Ives, Barrie; George Knight, Victoria Harbour, Hindupuram Sriharsha, Orillia

Bracket 2 Nancy Mulhall - Michael Moore, Oakville; Louise Fowler, Burlington - Robert Spencer, Freelton

Bracket 3 Pat Fung - Marcel Villeneuve - Janet Waters, Guelph; Thea Davis, Eden Mills

Bracket 4 Ed Hills - Jeannine Hills - Robert Conway, Smithville; Scott Hills, Cambridge

Bracket 5 Jan Flott, Thornhill - Phoebe Visser, Richmond Hill; June Kusiak, Toronto - Kathy Hill, Mississauga **Bracket 6** Pat Robinson - Joan Stock - Barbara Gibbings, Toronto; Sheila McLauchlin, East York

Wednesday Stratified Pairs (Flt. A) Hazel Wolpert – David Cohen, Thornhill; (Flt. B) Terry Du, North York – Kole Meng, Richmond Hill; (Flt. C) John Morrison, Newmarket – Ken Salter, Waterdown

Wednesday Aft. 299er Pairs (Flt. A + B) Marius Cosma – Anda Cosma, Ottawa; (Flt. C) Dave Harris – Antony Stuart, Etobicoke

Wednesday Eve 299er Pairs (Flt. A) Arnold Broudie, Thornhill, Cheryl Atkinson, Toronto; (Flt. B) Marius Cosma – Anda Cosma, Ottawa

Thursday A/X Pairs (Flt. A) Joel Wooldridge, Astoria – Lynne Tarnopol, New York; (Flt. X) Lee Daugharty – Gary Westfall, Brampton

Thursday 0-3000 Pairs (Flt. B) Steven Mehta – Mehdi Sadeghi, Mississauga; (Flt. C) Stephen Foster – Andrew Collins, Toronto

Thursday Gold Rush Pairs (Flt. E + F) Paul Finley, London – Fred Stoneman, Newmarket

Thursday Eve 299er Pairs (Flt. A + B) Helene Lavertu, Toronto – Donna Jensen, North York; (Flt. C) Roger Jolliffe – Judy Jolliffe, London

Thursday Eve Side Swiss (Flt. A) Gerry Wood, Toronto - Daniel Lavee, Thornhill; Richard Bowley - Simon Cope, United Kingdom; (Flt. B + C) John Parkinson - Sydney Johnson, Toronto; Micheline Bujold, Saint-Lambert, QC - Michel Leonard, Saint-Hyacinthe, QC

Thursday - Friday Knockouts

The 'Sheardowns' Ray Jothcam, Scarborough, Stephen Mackay, Markham, Andy Altay, Toronto, James Priebe, Mississauga

Bracket I Paul Janicki, Markham, Don Kersey, Kingston, Bill Koski, King City, Bill Woodcock, Sarnia

Bracket 2 Michael Ritza, Niagara Falls, Max Rutherford, Mississauga, Maureen Clark, St. Catherines, Sharon Stevens, Vineland Station

Friday - Saturday Knockouts

Bracket I John Carruthers – Katie Thorpe, Kingsville, Joseph Silver, Hampstead, QC, Martin Kirr – John Rayner, Toronto, Mike Roche, Victoria, BC

Bracket 2 Richard Garlick – Helene Taylor, Alliston, Charles Smith, Bolton, Gaye Villa, Caledon East

Friday Fast Pairs (Flt. A) Craig Macintosh, Scarborough - John Cook, Toronto; (Flt. B + C) Richard Ross, North York – Mary Lovrics, Don Mills

Friday A/X/Y Pairs (Flt.A + X + Y) Shashi Taylor, Unionville – Gord Brown, Toronto

Friday Eve 299er Pairs (Flt. A + B) Bill Cunningham – Neil Jeffrey, Waterloo; (Flt. C) Sandra Sarner, Toronto – Antony Stuart, Etobicoke

Friday B/C/D Pairs (Flt. B + C) Steve Overholt – Sudhir Patwardhan, Etobicoke; (Flt. D) Pater Hutchison, Willowdale – William Phipps, Pickering Friday Eve Side Swiss (Flt. A) Craig Henderson, Chicago, IL – Kathy Pollock, Amherst, NY, Roger Woodin, Rochester, Randy Breuer, Sarnia; (Flt. B) Paul Selick – Bruce Liberman, Toronto, Tony Viidik – Joan Viidik, Waterloo; (Flt. C) Plamen Minchev, Montreal, Tzvetalin Vassilev – Albena-Maria Vassilev, North Bay, Olivia Laufer, Toronto



Saturday Fast Pairs (Flt. A) Ron Bishop, Toronto - John Duquette, Oshawa; (Flt. B) Robert Lees, Ancaster – Terry Bradley, Burlington; (Flt. C) Jim Ferguson – Diane Ferguson, Peterborough

Saturday Aft 299er Pairs (Flt. A) Roy Wiseman, Brampton – Barbara Dance, Toronto; (Flt. B) Nancy Brown – Bill Robertson, Toronto

Saturday A/X Pairs (Flt. A + X) Ross Driedger, London – William Breedyk, Toronto

Saturday B/C Pairs (Flt. B + C) Richard Lash – Gloria Stone, St. John's, NL

Saturday Gold Rush Pairs (Flt. D) David Ryder, Toronto – Bruce Becker, North York; (Flt. E) Lesley Ruggles, Antigonish – Sharon Cupples, Fredericton, NB **Saturday Eve 299er Pairs** Martha Stigler – Linda Armstrong, Toronto

Sunday A/X Swiss Teams (Flt. A + X) Doug Barnes, Caledon - John McWhinnie, Hillsborough - Elizabeth Barnes, Bracebridge - Mike Fernane, Brampton

Sunday B/C/D Swiss Teams (Flt. B) Alain Chamsi, Ottawa, David Lin – Jerry Lin, Mississauga, Gabriel Sitarenios, Richmond Hill; (Flt. C) Karen Kline – Esther Climans – Gillian Mason, Thornhill, Kathy Cohen, Scarborough; (Flt. D) Dinshaw Burjorjee, Oakville, Gordon Harron – Vinod Bhalla – Peter Hidas, Mississauga

Grand National Teams District 2 Finals Toronto, ON Apr. 4, 2015

Open David Baker, Kitchener – Colin Lafferty, Whitby, David Deaves, Ripley – Tom Ramsay, Guelph

(Flt. A) Jianfeng Luo – Peter Wong, North York, Jiawei Luo, Markham – Yan Wang, Scarborough

(Flt. B) Andrew Collins – Stephen Foster, Toronto, Paul Roth, Etobicoke – Jim De Boer, Scarborough



Colin Lafferty, Tom Ramsay, David Baker & David Deaves won the GNT Open and will represent District 2 at the Chicago Nationals in July



Visit the New CBF Website

By Nader Hanna

The Canadian Bridge Federation has recently launched its new website (www. cbf.ca). The revamped website features a new look and feel, as well as enriched content and improved navigation. Sections such as the "Hall of Fame", "Events" and "About the CBF" have undergone major redesign in order to improve the user experience, and provide more organized and substantive information.

The "March are Only Section" of the content of the content of the content.

The "Members Only Section" of the new website allows CBF members to

access current and past issues of the bimonthly Bridge Canada magazine, and to review the latest standings for the various CBF masterpoint races. In addition, CBF members now have the ability to register teams for the Canadian Open and Women team championships, and pay the entry fees by credit card online. More new features are currently under development including a French version of the website, a rich library of historical articles and press clippings, and a monthly



The newly revamped Canadian Bridge Federation website

interactive bidding contest, so stay tuned! To gain access to the member only features of the website, CBF members need to register by selecting "Existing CBF Members - Register Here" from the "Members Only Section" menu, and submitting the required information. Once membership is verified you'll receive an e-mail with a link to reset your login password.

If you are unsure about the status of your

CBF membership, login your MyACBL account at www.acbl.org, and the Dues tab in the Member Information section will indicate if you are a CBF member. If you are not a CBF member you can read about membership benefits in the "About the CBF" section of the website. Should you choose to join the CBF you can submit your application, and pay the membership dues, online from the website.



Congratulations to Howard Weinstein—the latest recipient of the Sydney Lazard, Jr. Award for sportsmanship in bridge. So here's my Howie story.

I was fortunate to be on a Swiss team that included Howard's good friend and expert's expert, Bart Bramley. I was even luckier to play 7 boards with Bramley. I picked up:

≜A ♥AK74 ♦AJ94 **♣**K 1093

Bart opened the bidding one club. Having such a huge hand there would be lots of time to bid hearts so I responded one diamond.

Bart rebid one spade. I now trotted out the fourth suit forcing bid of two hearts—artificial, may or may not have hearts, forcing to game. Bart bid three clubs. I bid four clubs to show trump agreement, and by extension a mild slam try (at least!) because we were now beyond 3NT.

Bart didn't cuebid anything as he had a minimum opening bid, so he bid five clubs. I wasn't passing that so I put him in 6. We were off the queen of clubs but there were some handling issues. He played it beautifully; declarer at the other table, also in 64, went down so we won a bunch of imps.

Later that evening we met up with Howard and told him about our LOL auction. "How so?" Howie asked. "Well, clubs were bid four times in a row. It went blah-blah 3\(\frac{1}{2} \)-4\(\frac{1}{2} \), 5\(\frac{1}{2} \)-6\(\frac{1}{2} \)." Howie got a good chuckle. "I've never heard that one before." So I jotted down both hands. He studied, listened as I told him the exact auction, studied our hands some more, and then said, "Hmph, good auction. Makes sense."

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.

	2015		September
		5-7	Toronto
	May	12-13	St. Thomas
2-3	Peterborough*	15-20	Barrie Regional
4-10	STAC Week at clubs	18-20	Buffalo
11-17	Rochester Regional	26-27	Caledon East
22-24	Sudbury		October
23-30	Canadian Championships,	3-4	Trenton
	Montreal	3-4	Chatham
30-31	Cambridge*	7-12	Ottawa Regional
	June	16-18	Collingwood
6-7	Toronto 299er, p.14	20-25	Buffalo Regional
23-28	Buffalo Regional	20 20	· ·
27-28	Port Franks, p. 25	7-8	November Oshawa
26-1	Can-At Regional, Fredericton		
	July	10-15	Niagara Falls Regional
4-5	Thornhill, p. 26	20-22	Stratford
18-19	Hamilton, p. 27		2016
21-26	Soo Ste. Marie Regional*		January
28-3	Kingston Regional	8-10	Toronto
	August	22-24	Buffalo
6-16	Chicago NABC	22-24	Kingston
7-9	Tillsonburg	23-24	London
15-16	St. Catharines 299er	23-29	Bermuda Regional
17-23	Montreal Regional		February
17 20	Monacai regionai	12-14	St. Catharines
		15-21	STAC (Canada-wide)
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Deadline for the Summer 2015 Kibitzer: June 15, 2015

The Kibitzer

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