

The Kibitzer



Winter 2019

Volume 66, Number 4



**John Dong and Bruce Zhu,
winners of two bronze medals at
the World Youth Championships**



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with John Rayner & Jill Thompson, and Lee Daugharty
April 24–26, 2020

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John's Cell: 905-599-4592

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APRIL 24-26, 2020**

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Sharing with: _____

Address: _____ Apt. # _____

City: _____ Postal Code: _____

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MAIL TO: JILL THOMPSON, 65 SHELDRAKE BLVD., UNIT 304, TORONTO, ON M4P2B1



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Editor's Note

Wow. I got back from Niagara Falls last Sunday night and I'm still reeling. And not because my team finished last in the Sunday Swiss. It's because Lorna Johnson and Kathy Morrison and many of the Unit 255 Directors put on a clinic in how to run a tourney. The hospitality was unparalleled, culminating in a free lasagna dinner on the Saturday night. Plus they hired a two-piece band to play everyone's faves. Just ask anyone from the Waterloo gang if they had a good time. Robert Griffiths' new byline photo is of him dancing. Did I mention the open bar?

So how did they do it? Well, it started with a sponsor--Jaclyn Morrison of Hollis Wealth Management. She's a budding bridge player and thanks to her the tourney was a huge success. Here's

hoping we can get back to some of that old-time hospitality with live music and dancing on a Saturday night.

On a sadder note, in the past three months or so, Ontario lost six tournament players, including superstar C. Bruce Elliott. That's 2 "L's", 2 "T's"; give 'em hell Elliott! (His words.) Please see the In Memoriam section to commemorate the others: Dick Hart, Lynda Marks, Martin Miller, Abe Paul, and Eva Upper.

A Kibitzer mainstay over the years has been the Tournament Trail, usually placed on the last page. I was fortunate enough in August to get on the trail with friends Debbie Feldman, Chris Cowan, and Mel Norton. We trekked to Grand Rapids, MI, and played a ton over six days. A photo later in this issue shows us at a minor league baseball game. Next August the most enticing tourney seems to be the North Bay Regional. Here's an idea: why don't you and your favourite partner and teammates make plans now to head on up to North Bay? Sure, Montreal will be fun, but that's July. North Bay in August...by the lake...no bugs...just sayin'. If you do come to play I promise to put your picture in the Kibitzer! Even if you're from Waterloo.

Andy Stark

andy.kibitzer@gmail.com

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Join Darlene Scott & Mike Kammermayer On a Bridge Cruise! Two Exciting Itineraries



9-Night Mediterranean Cruise

Onboard the Celebrity Constellation

August 27 - September 5, 2020

PORTS OF CALL: Venice, Italy • Koper, Slovenia • Dubrovnik, Croatia • Kotor, Montenegro • Naples, Italy • Rome, Italy • Florence, Italy • Provence, France • Barcelona, Spain

Stateroom Category	Price Per Person (CAD\$)
Inside	\$2,111
Oceanview	\$2,741
Veranda	\$3,901
Concierge Class	\$4,451
Aqua Class	\$5,701
Sky Suite	\$7,901

TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

- Prices as of September 19, 2019.
- Prices are per person in CAD and based on double occupancy.
- Prices not guaranteed until under deposit.
- Deposit of \$500 per person due at time of booking, refundable up to April 15, 2020, less a \$100 administration fee.
- Final Payment is due in full by April 15, 2020.



14-Night Vietnam & Thailand Cruise

Onboard the Celebrity Millennium

February 28 - March 14, 2021

PORTS OF CALL: Singapore, Asia • Bangkok, Thailand • Ho Chi Minh, Vietnam • Hue/Danang, Vietnam • Hanoi, Vietnam • Hong Kong, China

Stateroom Category	Price Per Person (CAD\$)
Inside	\$3,224
Oceanview	\$2,785
Veranda	\$4,214
Concierge Class	\$3,765
Aqua Class	\$4,095
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TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

- Prices as of September 19, 2019
- Prices are per person in CAD and based on double occupancy.
- Prices not guaranteed until under deposit.
- Deposit of \$750 per person due at time of booking, refundable up to October 10, 2020, less a \$100 administration fee.
- Final Payment is due in full by October 10, 2020.

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

**Next Unit 166 Board meeting
Saturday January 4, 2020,
at 11:30 am at the Sheraton Hotel,
123 Queen Street West, Toronto.**

**The Annual General Meeting, open
to all Unit 166 members, is to follow
at 2:30pm.**

Winners of the Kate Buckman Award

- 1982 Kate Buckman
- 1983 Ruth & Al Stevens
- 1984 Duke Wilson
- 1985 Chuck Jane
- 1986 Doug Drew
- 1987 Howard Schooley
- 1988 Glad Millman
- 1989 Katie Thorpe
- 1990 not awarded
- 1991 Elizabeth Fraser
- 1992 Eric Murray
- 1993 Steve Cooper
- 1994 David Bryce
- 1995 Barbara Seagram
- 1996 Bina Adams
- 1997 Nancy Hart
- 1998 John Carruthers
- 1999 Enid Roitman
- 2000 J. & F. O'Dowd & G. Harris
- 2001 Joan Richardson
- 2002 Patti Lee
- 2003 Michael Davey
- 2004 Irene Warner
- 2005 John Rayner
- 2006 Viktoria Renaud
- 2007 Fred Andreychuk
- 2008 Marion Watson
- 2009 Barbara Sims
- 2010 Hazel Wolpert
- 2011 Paul Cronin
- 2012 Mark Liberman
- 2013 Wayne Ruttan
- 2014 Lee Daugharty
- 2015 Carol Bongard
- 2016 Gary Westfall
- 2017 Audrey Grant
- 2018 Rob Drummond
- 2019 Jacqueline Syer



Winners of the Audrey Grant Award

- 2005 Audrey Grant
- 2006 Flo Belford
- 2007 Pat Teeter
- 2008 Patti Lee
- 2009 Hazel Wolpert
- 2010 Enid Roitman
- 2011 Barbara Seagram
- 2012 Sally Rewbotham
- 2013 Wayne Ruttan
- 2014 John Rayner
- 2015 *not awarded
- 2016 Steve Overholt
- 2017 Michael Yang
- 2018 Michael Kammermayer
- 2019 Josee Hammill

Nominations Please!!

For Unit 166 members only

Kate Buckman Award

Do you know someone who contributes to others' enjoyment of the game of bridge? Do you know someone who should be honoured by the Board of Unit 166? We're looking for nominations for the Kate Buckman Award for 2019. If you don't nominate someone, then we can't honour them and we really want to celebrate this kind of person and the contributions they make to the game of bridge.

Audrey Grant Award

Do you know a bridge teacher who exemplifies the best of the profession? Do you know someone who should be feted by the Board? Submit the nominations for the Audrey Grant Award for 2019. Again, if you don't nominate then we can't celebrate the excellence of this teacher's skill and dedication.

The Unit 166 Board of Directors should consider

for the Kate Buckman/Audrey Grant (circle one or both) Award.
The reason that this person deserves your consideration is:

Please submit to Andy Risman
714-1121 Steeles Avenue W, Toronto, Ontario M2R 3W7

arismanca@rogers.com

Deadline: December 31, 2019



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

Ontario Unit No. 166 Nominations For Board Of Directors

Five Directors are to be elected to the Board for a term of office of two years and nominations are invited for these positions. Nominees must be members of Unit 166. The election will be held Thursday through Saturday at the Toronto Regional and at advance polls to be held in the period between the close of nominations and the beginning of the Toronto Regional. Nomination forms must be signed by two members and accepted by the nominee, and must be received by the Unit 166 Election Coordinator by March 5, 2020.

The Spring issue of the Kibitzer will publish a picture and short resume (50 words or less) for candidates who submit this information, together with their nomination form, to the Unit Election Coordinator by January 20, 2020. The schedule and locations of the advance polls will be published in the Spring Kibitzer. The voting booth will be open at the Toronto Regional for one hour and will close 15 minutes prior to game time of each afternoon and evening session on the election days.

Unit 166 Nomination Form

NAME: _____

ACBL #: _____

ADDRESS: _____

POSTAL CODE: _____ PHONE: _____

Is hereby nominated as a candidate for the Board of Directors of ACBL Unit 166.

SIGNATURE OF NOMINATOR: _____

ACBL #: _____

SIGNATURE OF SECONDER: _____

ACBL #: _____

SIGNATURE OF NOMINEE: _____

ACBL #: _____

**Please send nominations and resume
to Nominations Coordinator:**

Michael Yang

11 Zambri Walk

Scarborough, ON M1P 1H9

or e-mail to torontoyouthbridge@gmail.com

For information phone (647) 818-1516





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paul.bourassa200@gmail.com

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pokerjunkie7@hotmail.com

Board Member Timmins: Bob Pawson, 705-268-2610; bobpawson1@yahoo.ca

Board Member New Liskeard: Alan Young, 705-563-2996;

youngalan1234@gmail.com

District 2 Website

(Visit www.acbldistrict2.org for details)

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

Come to North Bay for bridge!

Sectional - April 17-19, 2020

Regional - August 18-23, 2020



President: Linda Lord, 5930 17th Sideroad RR 1, Schomberg ON L0G 1T0;
905-939-8409; linda@unit246.com

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doug@unit246.com

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medhat@unit246.com

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647-515-4775

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

President: Tom Ramsay, 65 Bayberry Drive Unit C08, Guelph, ON, N1G 5K8, (519) 265-1767, tandrumsay@yahoo.com

Secretary: Jennifer Verdam-Woodward, 35536b Huron Road, Goderich, ON, N7A 3X8, (519) 440-9346, jenvw@hurontel.on.ca

Treasurer: Jed Drew, 55 Fairs Cres., Tillsonburg, ON, N4G 5W2, (519) 842-8786, jed.drew@gmail.com

Webmaster: Tom Jolliffe; 18 Cadeau Terrace, Unit 10, London, ON, N6K 4Z1, (519) 639-2206, tom.jolliffe@rogers.com

Tournament Coordinator: Ted Boyd, 58 St. Andrews St., Cambridge, ON, N1S 1M4, (519) 740-9614, boydst1945@gmail.com

Membership Chair: Maria Deaves, 306-45 Pond Mills Road, London, ON N5Z 4W5, (226) 663-9260, maria@deaves.com

IN Coordinator + Education Liaison: Hazel Hewitt, PO Box 2461, 84 Church St. South, St. Marys ON, N4X 1A3, (519) 284-3482, h.hewitt@rogers.com

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Auditor: Gary Westfall, 38 Mallard Crescent, Bramalea, ON, L6S 2T6, (905) 791-4239, gwestfall@rogers.com



Who is this man
and why is he
devilishly grinning?

Photos by J.S.

President and District 2 Rep.: Muriel Tremblay, Niagara on the Lake, muriel@cmtmc.ca

Vice President and District 2 Rep.: Wiebe Hoogland, St. Catharines, wybren@bell.net

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Treasurer and Recorder: Chris Loat, St. Catharines, chrisloat@bell.net

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I/N Coordinator: Lucy McEwen, Niagara on the Lake, lucymcewen@gmail.com

Director at Large: Elinor Grill, St. Catharines, elinorgrill@gmail.com

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Disciplinary Chair: Paul Cronin, Niagara Falls, p hm@execulink.com

Audit: John Mackay, St. Catharines, john.mackay@bell.net



Co-chairs Lorna Johnson and Kathy Morrison up on stage at the Niagara Falls Regional. So great to dance to live music at a bridge tournament!

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

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

Graham Warren, District 2 Tournament Coordinator

The Kibitzer Information

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

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:
Spring 2020	Feb. 1	Feb. 15
Summer 2020	May 1	May 15
Fall 2020	Aug. 1	Aug. 15
Winter 2020	Nov. 1	Nov. 15

Kibitzer Editorial Policy

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

Cindy Mahn &
Liz McDowell

Photos by J.S.



Mel Norton,
Debbie Feldman,
Chris Cowan, and
Werdna Krats,
taking a break from
the Grand Rapids
Regional last August.
“For the fifth third
time, can’t you
follow suit?” said
nobody ever.

The Kibitzer

Is now available in print. For more information and details,
please contact

Vladimir Kondratsky
North Bridge Distribution
40 Champlain St.
North Bay, ON. PIB 7M4



Kib Interview with Bronze Medalists Bruce Zhu and John Dong

Last August, two Canadian juniors, Bruce Zhu and John Dong, performed exceptionally well on the world stage, bringing home two bronze medals in the 6th World Youth Open Championships held in Opatija, Croatia. The first medal was in the world pairs game and the second in a knockout event.

The Kib sat down with them in October over a pint (and two hot chocolates) to discuss their recent success.

Kib: *Take us back to your very first introduction to bridge. Who got you started? What were your first impressions?*

Bruce: I first learned bridge in fifth grade. At that time, I was already interested in board and card games such as chess. When I moved to a new school in fifth grade, W.H. Morden Public School, I joined a bridge club run by an ACBL volunteer teacher, (unfortunately I forgot her name). I gained more interest in bridge and lost interest in chess as I came to realize a team game is more challenging and

rewarding compared to an individual game. Later on, she took our bridge club to the Easter Regional Schools Tournament where I met Nader Hanna and I've been part of his training group since. Also, around that time, I showed up to John Rayner's Mississauga-Oakville Bridge Club with no partner. So, John Rayner was actually my first partner at the club! Later on, he found me a partner at the club, Gordon Harron, who mentored me, and we also formed a partnership. Occasionally, we still play together.

John: I learned bridge at a youth bridge club ran by Michael Yang, who at the time was hosting beginner's classes for free. How I came across bridge of all games was pure chance; I believe my mom's friend had heard about it from somewhere and told her about it or something. At first I just enjoyed it as a hobby, and didn't really see myself going far with the game. In fact, it took me a year and a half to earn 5 masterpoints, and another year to reach 20. I guess the turning point in my bridge career was when Bruce and I were selected to play for U15 Canada in the World Youth Team

Bridge Championships in Italy. That was when I started working really hard on my game. Still, Bruce and I had the typical junior problem of not being taught how to defend, and we knew it, too. So we decided to just bid over whatever the opponents were bidding whenever we had the chance so we could hog all the hands.

Kib: *You both mention some early partners/mentors. Who else has helped you along in your progress?*

Bruce: I can name a few mentors such as Nader Hanna, Eric Kokish, Daniel Lavee, Danny Miles, Chris Chalcraft, and Gordon Harron. Gordon was a partner, too but not so much now. Other recent partners have been Jacob Freeman and John.

John: I've had so many mentors over the years. My dad mentored me a lot when I first started, and around the time I attained 5 masterpoints, a good club player named Ambrose Ng mentored me as we played regularly in club games. Then, Nader coached Bruce and me the year before we played in Italy. Daniel Lavee and Danny Miles then started an online mentoring program that greatly helped all of us juniors. Recently, Bruce, Jacob, and I have been mentored by Eric Kokish which has also been very helpful. I'm truly thankful for all the good players who have volunteered to mentor us in the otherwise nonexistent junior program. I'm also thankful for my past and current partners who have really helped me get to where I am now, including Bruce, Jacob Freeman, Martin



Bruce Zhu

Zhao, and some local GTA players such as Paul Janicki and Steve Mackay.

Kib: *What play (declarer or defensive) was an eye-opener for you? For example, when I first started, I was transfixed by squeezes and all the variations.*

Bruce: Endplays! At first, I was very interested when I threw a defender in with no winning options.

John: I was thrilled when I found out about endplays and squeezes and when I pulled them off the first time. But one particular play I found quite fascinating was leading the opponents' suit in notrump. (I learned about the play from our American teammate Harrison, who was playing in 3NT needing to knock out an ace and held xx opposite xx in another suit that the defense didn't lead. He won the opening lead in dummy and played a small club, righty with QJT9xx played the 9 and lefty with AKx innocently

ducked so the suit was blocked!) I've realized over the past few years that this play arises surprising frequently and is almost always a prospect in a hopeless NT contract. For example, playing against Dan Korbel and Darren Wolpert in the Spingold the past summer, I had something like ♠Kxx ♥AKxx ♦10xx ♣xxx opposite ♠A10x ♥109x ♦AKjxx ♣Qx, and I won the ♠Q lead in dummy and finessed the ♦ immediately to conceal my diamond holding, since if diamonds were friendly I had nine tricks. Darren won the queen and switched to a heart, and I won in dummy and played a club to my queen for my ninth trick when Darren ducked from Axx. Although we lost the match pretty badly, (Jacob and I had a huge set in that set but all our other sets were bad), that was a memorable moment of an otherwise disappointing national for me.

Kib: *You are both currently in high school—Bruce in California, John in Ontario. What do you plan on studying at university?*

Bruce: In the future, I want to do something with robotics. Because most universities don't have a robotics major, I would probably major in electrical engineering.

John: I plan on studying along the lines of engineering and computers in the future, I'm not sure what specifically.

Kib: *Well done on your 2 recent Bronze medals at the World Youth Championships! What memories will you have from that experience?*

Bruce: After the first day of the pairs, we were actually below qualifying at 49.62%. Although our score was not admirable, it was mostly due to unlucky results (the opponent's bidding slam without the cashing AK of a side suit and we didn't find the lead from Kx) so I still liked our chances. We picked up in the second day to qualify comfortably. In the final, after the second session, it was unlikely for us to catch first or second, so I told John to play steady for third place. We played steady bridge (getting a 0% round from our teammates wasn't nice though), but we almost ended up fourth if not for the last board, where the opponents chose to play clubs instead of NT, giving us an 83.33% board. Thus, we slipped into third by 0.08%. For the teams, I thought we played fairly steady bridge the entire way through, except we were shooting against Poland in the semifinals down by 54 IMPs with 14 board left.



John Dong

An interesting hand in the pairs can be found at this link:

<http://youth.worldbridge.org/6th-world-youth-open-championships-canadian-in-action-by-fernando-lema/>

Also, in the pairs, we played a variable NT (11-14 when non-vul. in 1st-3rd seats, 15-17 otherwise) which got us a few incredible results. Here's a hand:

North (me):

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

South was dealer, non-vul vs. vul.
Because 1NT would've shown 11-14, the auction went:

West	North	East	South
			1♣
1♦	1♠	2♦	Dbl*
Pass	2♠	All pass	

South's double was a Support Double showing three-card support for North's spades. I chose to bid 2♠ because it was matchpoints. The defense led three rounds of diamonds and I ruffed. I then played two rounds of trumps, West winning and returning a trump. Now I'm in for eight tricks, a 96.15% result, when most of the field

was going down in 2NT or 3NT.

John: In the World Pairs we had such a wild ride! Our first session was solid (close to 60%) and we were feeling good about the tournament. However, our second set was below average, and our third set was a disaster. Nothing we did seemed to work, and our opponents kept playing perfectly when it mattered. It was just one of those sessions that couldn't end quickly enough. In fact, we even accepted a bad claim from an English pair, who tried to take back his claim, but we didn't let him! It would've been quite embarrassing if we didn't qualify because of that. At the end of the day, we were in serious danger of not qualifying.

However, our worries slowly disappeared when, through playing good bridge and taking the boards that were handed to us, we comfortably racked up 3 60%ers in the second day to qualify in eighth position. Meanwhile, our American teammates Finn and Harrison, after a strong start, had struggled since and needed a 58 in the final session just to qualify. They did easily with a 68% game!

We had a magical start to the third day, as we were leading at something like 85% after the first seven boards, of which there were three somewhat tough slams that we bid and made for good scores. But we cooled down and we were in fourth after the first session. In the second session, the third-place team had a bad set but the first two were still on fire so we were very comfortably in third. In the third set we were again doing very well

halfway through and appeared to have secured a medal and have a shot for second. However, the tables turned after a zero against our teammates Finn and Harrison, and a few more bad boards. We were in fourth before the last board, which was against a Greek pair that finished 8th, but they played in clubs instead of notrump and we got a good score that got us into third.

The teams contest was shaky for our team, as we struggled early in the round robin (Harrison and I had a bunch of disasters from system differences) but we went on a late run to capture third place. We had to select the fifth seed Italian team ITALIA because the eighth seeded Danish-Swedish-Israeli team, MEISTERS DISCIPLE, was known to be good. Italy also performed well against us and we were down 11 at the half, but we won thanks to this deal:

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

Harrison opened 3♣ with the 7-6 and rebid 4♠ after it went P-P-3♥. I corrected to 5♣ and we went for 500. Knowing the junior field, we figured we were winning imps on that board and we were right! At the other table they bid to 4♠ doubled, and our teammates

defended right on par to collect 2000 and pull us through to the semi-final.

We didn't fare so well in the semis against the eventual winners POLAND, and being down 50 after 3 quarters we decided to swing in the last set. Harrison and I started off with some great boards and we had gained all the momentum, but we went -1000 in 4♥ redoubled on a late board when we could've gone +1000 in 3NT redoubled. That ended our late run, but it was still really fun to just play a set where we were just there to have fun.

In the third-place playoff, we faced DISCIPLE, who were a team of very good players but insane bidders! Harrison and I faced our Danish friends who, favourable, opened 3♠ on ♠A J 5 4 2 ♥J 9 7 ♦9 5 4 ♣J 4. I asked them what they would've opened if they had ♠KQJ10xx and they said 2♠! Both our pairs played well in the match and we claimed the bronze.

Kib: *Should we keep an eye out for any other up-and-coming Canadian juniors?*

Bruce: Jacob Freeman is already accomplished. Darwin Li is probably an up-and-comer especially considering his age.

John: Besides Jacob and Darwin, Michael Serafini from Calgary also has potential but lacks a good mentor in his area.

Kib: *Playing high level bridge how do you handle your emotions when partner makes an error?*

Bruce: Everyone makes mistakes.

We try to talk about screw-ups only after the session, and only talk about necessary systematic changes or positive things during a session. It's just an unofficial agreement John and I have.

John: I agree 100% with what Bruce said. One thing I can add to Bruce's answer is that most of the time when my partner makes a mistake, I probably could've prevented it by not giving partner a decision or making the situation clearer, and although I might've had good reasons to play the way I did, it's never worth persuading partner that it was his fault. I think the important thing is to just force myself to only apologize at the table regardless of what I thought, and explain my point of view all I wanted after the session (as long as it's constructive for the partnership). This strategy worked especially well for me playing with Harrison to allow us not to get caught up in our bad boards.

Kib: *Excellent answers, guys! I know a few players who have been playing for decades who would do well to read and re-read your attitudes towards errors. Last*

question: Do you have any amusing hands or anecdotes from anywhere in the last couple of years?

Bruce: Here's a funny hand from the Montreal Regional, also involving the weak notrump:

<p>(Bruce)</p> <p>♠ 7 5 2</p> <p>♥ 9 6</p> <p>♦ --</p> <p>♣ A K Q 10 7 4 3 2</p> <p>♠ A</p> <p>♥ J 8 7 3 2</p> <p>♦ A K 10 9 7 6 3</p> <p>♣ --</p>	<p>(John)</p> <p>♠ K J 10 6 4</p> <p>♥ A K 10</p> <p>♦ Q 5</p> <p>♣ 9 8 5</p>
--	---

The bidding:

West	North	East	South
		INT	2♦*
3NT	Pass	Pass	Dbl
Pass	Pass	Rdbl	All pass

*2♦ was DONT showing diamonds and a higher ranking suit.



Photo courtesy of J.S.

Bruce Zhu, Martin Zhao, Albena-Maria Vassileva, John Dong

The bidding was ridiculous, and we should've got what we deserved, but South led the $\diamond A$ and then played a small diamond, West discarding two major suit cards. John ran the clubs, pitching spades from his hand. South decided to keep his diamonds and not his hearts, and North decided to keep his spades and not his hearts, so John made 6 in the end for +1400. I don't think this hand is going to win the best bidding award :)

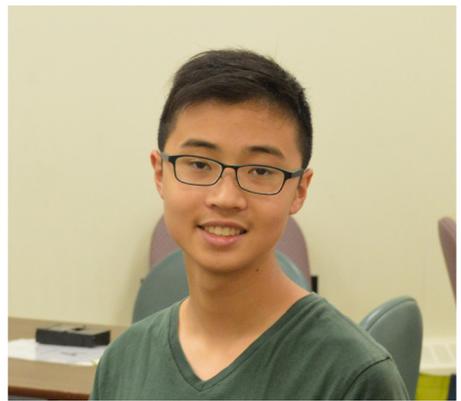
John: Here's an interesting hand from the U16 teams last year in Shanghai. After our exhausted 4-handed team got clobbered by Sweden, we were playing for fifth place in a full day match against Norway. After being down 11 imps before the final segment and dropping another 11 on the first board of the segment, the match was clearly not going our way. However, this was the second board:

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

I was sitting East and my partner (Martin Zhao) was West. I passed as dealer and Martin opened 2♥ in third seat. My screenmate doubled, all signs pointing to him having a monster hand. So instead of preempting 4♥ or 5♥, I

psyched 5♦, which without agreement was natural and to play. Two more passes came back to my screenmate, who had no choice but to double (as it turned out, he could've actually passed and collected an unusual 550). I pulled to 5♥. At this point, of course, my 5♦ didn't seem like a legit bid considering I was a passed hand, but the damage had been done. Lefty, thinking that his partner probably had support for spades and had shown a big hand, bid 5♠. Righty knew 100% that I was psyching at this point, but how was he to know his partner wouldn't take 6♦ as a cuebid? So, he passed and 5♠ became the final contract, off two. Our teammates only collected 500, so we kind of needed that board. In fact, the momentum change was evident as we took the lead by bidding and making a slam off two aces on the next board and we never looked back, winning the set 54-17.

Kib: Thanks John and Bruce! All the best in your future endeavours both at the bridge table and with your studies. We'll look forward to seeing your names in the Bulletin someday.



John Dong

**Attention Club Directors!
Looking for a good way
to run a Swiss Teams event?
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Check out this link:

<https://www.bridgewebs.com/meaford/Options%20for%20Scoring%20Swiss%20Teams%20at%20Clubs.pdf>



*Carol Clements & Gail Pimm from the Aurora Bridge Club,
at the Buffalo Spooktacular in October.*

Photo courtesy of J.S.



Maria Goes For Gold

By David Deaves

To achieve Life Master status, Maria needed about 3 1/2 gold points at the Toronto Regional. She got most, but not enough, and was very disappointed. A month later we went to visit her sister in the B.C. Rockies near Calgary. On the way we sidetracked for a few days in Red Deer, Alberta for part of the Red Deer Regional and picked up a B pair for the Knockouts, bracket 2.

Dir: North
Vul: NS

♠ A 9 3
♥ Q J 3
♦ A Q 10 6 3
♣ 5 2

♠ Q 10 2
♥ 7 6 5 4
♦ J 2
♣ J 10 9 7

♠ J 8 5 4
♥ K 8
♦ 9 5 4
♣ K 8 4 3

♠ K 7 6
♥ A 10 9 2
♦ K 8 7
♣ A Q 6

West	North	East	South
	(Maria)		(DD)
	1♦	Pass	3NT
Pass	4NT	Pass	6NT

SLAM BIDDING (AGGRESSIVE)

In bracket 2, if you bid and make a slam it appears to go a long way to winning a match. Our partners would come back to our table, telling us the match was lost because they did not do well. They did not know about the power of Maria's aggressive slam bidding. Let's look at one example:

My 3NT response showed a flat 15-17 HCPs, and Maria's 4NT was quantitative. When the dummy came down I commented that 4NT was aggressive. Maria said, "No, I added a point for the 10 of diamonds and another point for the fifth diamond. Also, you're supposed to be a good player, so make it." With both rounded kings (clubs and hearts) onside, I felt silly for having opened my mouth as 13 tricks came home. Maria's slam aggression had won another match. We ended up in third place for 6 gold points, and Maria had enough gold for her Life Master status. I saw her on her phone and asked what she was doing. "I'm emailing Andy Stark and everybody else I know."

This hand illustrates an important part of hand evaluation technique. Maria correctly realized her hand was far better than first appearance; her analysis of the diamond suit was accurate. Also, her values were well placed. The heart sequence is certainly better than a stray queen and a stray jack. My bid of 6NT was based on my 16 HCPs becoming 17 with my prime values, the 10 and 9 of hearts, and the extremely valuable king of diamonds. As the bidding auction progresses, you should constantly reevaluate your hand.

SLAM BIDDING (VERY AGGRESSIVE)

Dir: South
Vul: Both

♠ 2
♥ A Q J 10 4 2
♦ J 9
♣ A K 9 8

♠ J 5 4 3
♥ 8 6 3
♦ A Q 8 5
♣ 7 2

♠ 7
♥ 9 7 5
♦ 4 3 2
♣ Q 10 6 5 4 3

♠ A K Q 10 9 8 6
♥ K
♦ K 10 7 6
♣ J

West	North (Maria)	East	South (DD)
Pass	3♥	Pass	1♠
Pass	4♣	Pass	3♠
Pass	5♠	Pass	4NT
All Pass		Pass	6NT

A day later we played in the A/X Open Pairs before travelling to the Rockies. Now that she was a "Life Master," Maria was bidding with relaxed abandon. We were so-so in the first session and had a bunch of bad results in the first half dozen hands in the second session. Then this deal came up. The 3♥ response promised 17 plus HCP. I guess the long hearts made Maria bid 3♥ instead of 2♥, but after the previously chronicled hand I had learned to keep quiet and not comment. In our system 4NT assumes hearts as trump for Key Card purposes and 6NT seemed obvious. On the seven of clubs lead the hand played itself. After cashing six hearts and two clubs West came down to four spades and the ace of diamonds and I came down to five spades. I exited with the nine of diamonds from dummy, as would you, to endplay West for 12 tricks. For newer players, I will explain. West was squeezed after declarer cashed the first eight tricks and could not afford to discard a spade and therefore had to come down to a singleton ace of diamonds. If you wish to improve your declarer play, you must read these situations and trust your analysis. After a deal, I hear too many players say, "I thought so, but I was afraid to try it." This deal scored very well as 6♠ went down on the lead of the ace of diamonds. If Maria had not bid 3♥ over my 1♠ opening I'm not sure that I would have bid 6NT. Most likely I would have gone down in 6♠ as did other declarers. Anyway, after this hand our game improved. This was another example of excellent hand evaluation by Maria.

SLAM BIDDING (IT'S A BIDDER'S GAME)

Still second session: a few rounds later, this hand came up.

Dir: East
Vul: None

♠ 10 7 6 5 3
♥ A 4
♦ 8
♣ A 10 7 4 2

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

♠ —
♥ K J 10 3
♦ A J 7 3
♣ Q 9 6 5 3

West	North <i>(Maria)</i>	East	South <i>(DD)</i>
		Pass	1♣
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♥
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♦
Pass	4♥	Pass	6♣
All Pass			

myself an easy rebid of 2♣; however, I don't consider this a weak hand so I'm okay with the reverse. Tom Ramsay will tell you I've made reverses with a lot fewer HCP. Anyway, I believe reverses are overrated. In our system Maria's bid of 4♣ promised 5+ clubs and an undisclosed singleton or void, but less than an opening bid. After my diamond cuebid her 4♥ bid promised the ace of hearts and diamond shortness, as I know she would not cuebid a heart singleton or void in my second suit. 5♣ is an easy bid, but 6♣ seemed right as Maria's aggressiveness was catching. I won the diamond opening lead, pulled two rounds of trumps, finessed East for the queen of hearts, and claimed 13 tricks. After this slam we could do no wrong for the rest of the session and won the Flight X, as Maria got another 14 gold points. How many of you would have been as aggressive as Maria with the North hand? I suspect not many, but when I discussed the hand later with Maria, she said she had two machine guns and you always tell me it's a bidder's game. Then she said that I should stop being so conservative. That's why we miss games. Now she's become an expert, and already giving me lessons.

Let's talk about the bidding. Sometimes I open the South shape with 1♦ to give

Woe is me!

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For Newer Players

By Robert Griffiths

Counting Points

You are playing in a team game. In this game, overtricks are not important; making or defeating contracts is all that matters. You pick up a 12-point hand:

♠J 4 2 ♥A K 5 ♦J 10 9 6 2 ♣K 2.

About the time that you decide to open 1♦, you see that your RHO has bid 2NT. You glance at his convention card which says the 2NT range is 20-21 HCPs. So, you pass. LHO bids 3♣ (Puppet Stayman) and RHO bids 3NT ending the auction. (*Ed. note: Puppet Stayman is a version of Stayman. It asks Opener for both 4-card and 5-card majors.*)

You lead the ♦J and dummy puts down ♠K Q 7 3 ♥7 6 ♦8 5 ♣J 10 9 6 5. Partner plays the ♦7, which you take as discouraging (upside down attitude); declarer wins the ♦A then plays the ♠9 from his hand to dummy's ♠K and leads the ♣J playing the ♣8. You win your ♣K and have to decide what to try next.

Board 22

Dir: East

Vul: E-W

♠ J 4 2
♥ A K 5
♦ J 10 9 6 2
♣ K 2

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

Is there any hope for your side here? First, what can partner have? With 20 or 21 HCPs on your right and 6 on your left, plus 12 in your hand, it leaves only 1 or 2 HCPs for your partner. If he has the ♣Q, it may or may not win a trick, and cannot be a threat to the contract.

You won't find enough tricks in diamonds or clubs; spades look unlikely. Your hand has nothing to threaten the contract with. Can partner possibly help? For his possible 2 points he could

have the ♥Q. So, you try the ♥A and partner plays the ♥2, saying he likes the suit. Then you play the ♥K, declarer playing the ♥Q. Partner wins the third heart trick with the jack and follows with four more heart tricks for down 2.

Nice heart shift!

My partner Mike Peng found this defence in a Swiss team match at the regional tournament in Buffalo. Well done, Mike.

Adventures in Buffalo

After every session at a tournament, memorable hands are dragged out and discussed; players examine and share where they went wrong. Sometimes they even blame their partners! Here's a fun hand from the recent Buffalo tournament where the NS scores ranged from +1430 to -1100.

At my table, East dealt and opened 2♠. His suit happened to be the shortest of the long suits around the table. I was South and overcalled 3♣. East added his 2 cents worth with a 3♦ bid. My partner, with his solid 9-card suit jumped to 4♥. East gave up on the master suit and chose to support his partner with a 5♦ bid. I doubled 5♦, hoping that my partner would pass and lead his hearts.

But North who had shown a good hand in the bidding was afraid that he had very little defence against a diamond contract and pulled my double with a 5♥ bid and the auction was passed out there.

Board 26

Dir: East

Vul: Both

♠ K 5

♥ A K Q J 9 8 7 3 2

♦ 10

♣ 7

♠ 8

♥ 10 6 4

♦ A K 6 5 4 3 2

♣ 6 3

♠ A Q 7 6 3 2

♥ 5

♦ J 9 8

♣ Q 9 8

♠ J 10 9 4

♥ —

♦ Q 7

♣ A K J 10 5 4 2

After our auction, the defence could hardly go wrong. East led his ♦8, won by West who naturally returned his only spade. East took his two spade tricks and we were down one after trick 3.

The scoring table at the bottom of this blurb shows the surprising number of pairs who let North make 11 or 12 tricks in hearts.

At one table, a North player saw the auction go: 2♠-3♣-P to him. With matchpoints on his mind, he looked at his hand and thought: I have nine heart tricks. My partner has made a vulnerable 3-level overcall. Likely the spade opener has the ♠A. If partner, for his overcall has the ♣A, the ♣K and the

♦A, we will be able to make 12 tricks in NT. Making 6NT will score a top board if the field is in 6♥. With all this in mind, he bid 4NT, Key card Blackwood, ready to bid 6NT if partner showed 3 key cards with a 5♦ bid.

Sadly, for North, his partner replied 5♥ to the Blackwood bid: the last thing he wanted to hear. Now, his partner's Blackwood reply would make South, not North the declarer in a heart contract and North's ♠K would be under attack at trick one. So, he decided to take his chances by bidding 6NT and would have been rewarded with a top score had East led a fourth best spade. Not this time. There was no entry to his beautiful hearts and the defence made nine tricks for down 8, an odd result for a freely bid slam. Even that wasn't a bottom score.

If anybody is still reading, here's another oddity about this hand, and that is the par contract. With best defence, NS can make just 4♥. The highest contract EW can make is 3NT played by East! So, the par score is 4NT doubled by East, which goes down 1 with best defence. Of course, it's just the par contract, not a contract that anybody in the world would ever bid.

The play in 4NT with South on lead is full of communication problems for both sides, beginning with North's 9 unusable heart tricks. But suppose you were East and found yourself in 4NT. South decides to lead the ♠J, so it looks like you have nine tricks: two spades and seven diamonds. See if you can figure out the way (there is only one

way that works) to play the diamonds for the seven tricks that you need to make your nine tricks.

Here's a hint: the diamond tricks can only be made if the suit breaks 2-1 with a singleton honour in one hand. There are two ways of playing the suit, depending on whether you guess the queen or the 10 to be the singleton. And if you don't win one of the first two diamond tricks in your hand you will have to win the third diamond trick there and be locked out of the dummy.

Contract	Made	Score	NS Points	NS %
6♥ N	6	1430	14.5	97
6♥ N	6	1430	14.5	97
4♥ N	6	680	13	87
4♥ N	5	650	10.5	70
4♥ N	5	650	10.5	70
4♥ N	5	650	10.5	70
4♥ N	5	650	10.5	70
4♥ N	4	620	8	53
6♥ N	-1	-100	5.5	37
5♥ N	-1	-100	5.5	37
5♥ N	-1	-100	5.5	37
6♥ N	-1	-100	5.5	37
6♥ N	-2	-200	2.5	17
6♥ N	-2	-200	2.5	17
6NT N	-8	-800	1	7
7NT* N	-4	-1100	0	0

NORTH AMERICAN PAIRS

DISTRICT 2 FINALS

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 17, 2019

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

Compete to represent District 2 in the North American Final,
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	As of May 6, 2109	As of May 6, 2019

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Flt C

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

Unit 249 All Flights

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

Unit 181 All Flights

Location to be Announced

To be eligible for the District Final, players must have a club level qualification,
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Please verify with your Unit Co-ordinator that the required no. of pairs have
registered.

Players must pre-register to play in the NAP District Final and are required to be
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Contact Information:

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

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

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



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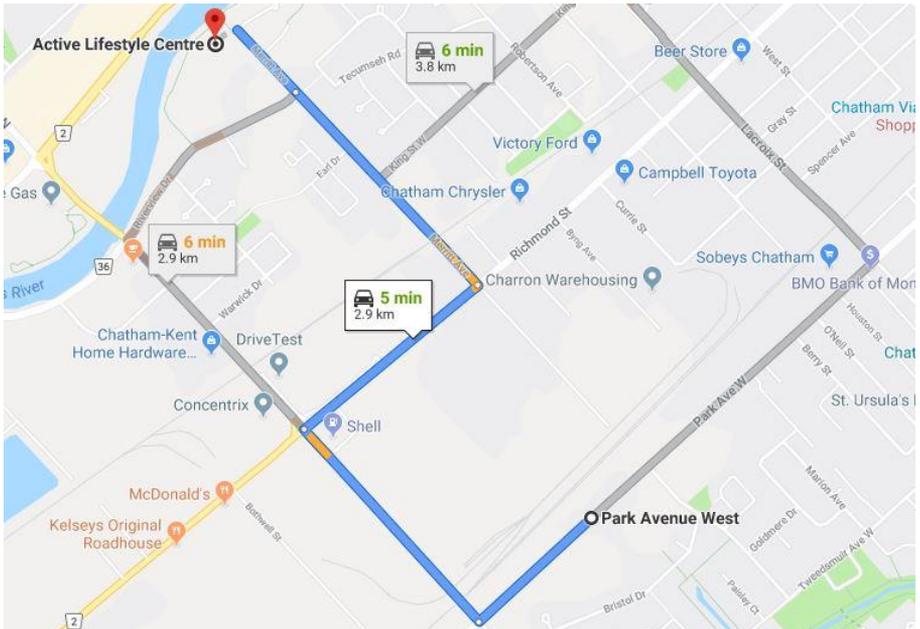
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B/C/D Pairs	11:00 and 3:30 (2 sessions)	(1500-2500, 750-1500, 0-750)

Saturday, January 4

Unit 166 General Meeting at 2:30		
A/X Open Pairs	11:00 and 3:30 (2 sessions)	(3000+, 0-3000)
B/C/D Pairs	11:00 and 3:30 (2 sessions)	(1500-2500, 750-1500, 0-750)
Compact K/O Teams	11:00 and 3:30	(bracketed and/or handicapped)

Sunday, January 5

A/X Swiss Teams	11:00 and TBA (2 sessions)	(3000+, 0-3000)
B/C/D Swiss Teams	11:00 and TBA (2 sessions)	(1500-2500, 750-1500, 0-750)

All Unit 166 Tournaments are Zero Tolerance Events.

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

Tournament Chair: Paul Pointet
ppointet@aol.com
905-601-4224

Session Fee: \$15 per person per session

Note: Stratification by average Masterpoint holding; No individual person may have more points than the limit of the top stratum

Non-active and unpaid ACBL members add \$4 per person per session
Players without ACBL number MUST buy a 1 month \$10 membership BEFORE buying Entry.

Single session entries will be sold if requested.

Group rate rooms call: 1-888-627-7175 or online <https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1563389963665&key=GRP&app=resvlink>

Hospitality reception after 2nd session Saturday. Room TBA
Lowest rate parking available at Green P lot under City Hall (110 Queen St. W.)

City of Toronto Intermediate/Novice Regional January 3-5, 2020

Sheraton Centre Toronto

123 Queen Street W., Toronto 416-361-1000

To enter Gold Rush, you must not be LM or have 750 Points**

Friday, January 3

Gold Rush Pairs (2 sessions)**	11:00 and 3:30 (0-100, 100-400, 400-750)
0-100 (single session)	11:00
0-20 Supervised (single session)	11:00 (this session only is FREE)
0-100 (single session)	3:30

Saturday, January 4 Unit 166 General Meeting at 2:30

Gold Rush Pairs (2 sessions)**	11:00 and 3:30 (0-100, 100-400, 400-750)
0-100 (single session)	11:00
0-20 (single session)	11:00
Compact KO Teams**	11:00 and 3:30
0-100 (single session)	3:30

Sunday, January 5

Bracketed Gold Rush Swiss Teams** 11:00 and TBA (director's discretion)
(Teams are divided into brackets of 7-9 teams with similar point totals...top 40% of the teams in each bracket receive gold points!)

All Unit 166 Tournaments are Zero Tolerance Events

Steve Overholt (soverholt1@gmail.com; 647-897-6179) will be teaching I/N classes on Friday and Saturday at 10:00 and doing hand analysis Saturday at 2:45. Hone your skills before the game to earn those missing Gold Points. (What a Game!)

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

Tournament Chair: Paul Pointet
ppointet@aol.com
905-601-4224

Session Fee: \$15 per session per person. In events where all players must be under 100 MPs, fee is reduced to \$10 per session per person
Non-Active and unpaid ACBL members add \$4 per session
Players without ACBL number MUST buy a 1-month membership BEFORE buying entry.

Note: Stratification is always at director's discretion

Group rate room call: 1 888 627 7175 or online <https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1563389963665&key=GRP&app=resvlink>

Hospitality reception on Friday after 2nd session Room TBA

Lowest rate parking available at Green P lot under City Hall (110 Queen St. W.)

Hospitality reception after 2nd session Saturday. Room TBA

Lowest rate parking available at Green P lot under City Hall (110 Queen St. W.)

87th Western Ontario Sectional Bridge Tournament London, Ontario

January 25-26, 2020

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

Saturday, January 25, 10:30 am

Coffee, snacks before game time

Strati-flighted Pairs (Play-through)

A/X: 2500+, 0 - 2500

B/C/D: 1000 - 2000, 500 - 1000, 0 - 500

Novice Pairs: 0-300 (1 Session)

Lunch at nearby local restaurants

Director-in-charge:

Martin Hunter

Chairperson:

Bruce Moor

(519) 636-9411

bmoor@sympatico.ca

Saturday, January 26, 2:45 pm

Strati-flighted Pairs (2nd Session)

Novice Pairs: 0-300 (1 Session)

Partnerships:

Tom Jolliffe

(519) 639-2206

tom.jolliffe@rogers.com

Sunday, January 26, 10:30 am

Coffee, snacks before game time

A/X Teams (Play-through)

A: 2500+ , X: 0-2500

B/C/D Bracketed Teams (Play-through)

B/C/D: 0-2000

Teams bracketed by total team points

Light meal available between sessions



American Contract
Bridge League

Pairs will be stratified by average masterpoint holding

Entry Fees: ACBL Members - \$12.50 per person per session

Lapsed ACBL Members - \$16.50 per person per session



www.londonbridgecentre.ca



Memories of Friendly Fred



St Catharines Sectional February 7-9, 2020

Holiday Inn & Suites Parkway Conference
327 Ontario St, St Catharines
(QEW take Exit 47 Ontario Street)
905-688-2324

Friday February 7, 2020

Open Pairs..... 1:00pm
499er Pairs 1:00pm
99er Pairs 1:00pm
Open Pairs..... 7:00pm
499er Pairs 7:00pm
99er Pairs 7:00pm
Friendly Fred Swiss Team 7:00pm

Hospitality will follow evening game

Saturday February 8, 2020

Knock Out (KO) ... 9:00am, 1:00pm & 7:00pm
499er Pairs 1 session 1:00pm
99er Pairs 1 session 1:00pm
Flight A/X Pairs 1:00pm & 7:00pm
Stratified B/C/D Pairs..... 1:00pm & 7:00pm
499er Pairs 1 session 7:00pm
99er Pairs 1 session 7:00pm

Hospitality will follow evening game

Sunday February 9, 2020

499er Swiss Teams ... 10:30am playthrough
Flight A/X Swiss..... 10:30am playthrough
Stratified B/C/D Swiss.. 10:30am playthrough

7 Rounds of 7 Boards

30 minute break after 3rd or 4th round

**Ask for Special Bridge Rate:
\$105 (double, \$10 each
additional person) if booked
before January 7, 2020**

Tournament Chair:

Wiebe Hoogland 905-688-0734
Email Wybren@bell.net

Partnership Chair:

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

Stratification

(Pair/Team Average)

Open Pairs..... 750/2000/unlim
499er Pairs 100/300/500
99er Pairs 20/50/100
Flight A/X 3000/unlim
Stratified B/C/D..... 750/1500/2500

General Information

\$15/player/session for ACBL members
Extra \$4 for lapsed ACBL members
Temporary membership for non-ACBL
members will be available.
All events stratified by average master-
points.

**Free Parking
Overall & Section Top Prizes
KO events maybe
handicapped**



www.unit255.com

OSHAWA SECTIONAL

February 29th & March 1st 2020

LVIV Pavilion & Banquet Hall

38 LVIV Blvd. Oshawa ON L1H 2C3

Close to the 401 with plenty of free parking

5 minutes from restaurants for lunch break

Saturday February 29th : Event will be held at 10:30 AM and 2:30 PM

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

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

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

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

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

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

Sunday March 1st : The event will start at 10:30 AM.

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

Open Swiss Teams: Unlimited MP

Bracketed Swiss Teams: Under 3000 MP per player

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

Entry Fees

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

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

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

Additional:

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

Tournament Co-Chairs: Doug Darnley & Brenda Griffiths

416-258-1331 dougbridge@rogers.com

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



Burlington 0-500 Sectional

Saturday March 7, 2020

ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION
828 LEGION RD.
BURLINGTON ONTARIO

"FREE PARKING"

Stratifications for all sessions based
on average masterpoints:
A: 0-500; B: 0-300; C: 0-50

10:00 a.m. and TBA (play through)
\$14 PER SESSION
\$4 EXTRA FOR UNPAID ACBL MEMBERS

Hamburgers, veggie burgers, garden salad prepared by the Ladies
Auxiliary will be available for purchase.

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

Partnerships: Jackie Syer | jackiesyer@hotmail.com | 905-844-0574



GUELPH SPRING FLING SECTIONAL TOURNAMENT

Saturday March 21–Sunday March 22, 2020



Puslinch Community Centre: 23 Brock Road South, Puslinch ON
From 401 exit # is 299 go north ~3 km

<https://www.google.com/maps/place/23+Brock+Rd+S,+Puslinch,+ON+N0B+2J0/@43.4715385,-80.153831,17z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m5!3m4!1s0x882b8394d3eb0319:0xd28b02765eefb346!8m2!3d43.4715385!4d-80.1516423>

Tournament Chair: Pat Fung; pat.fung@sympatico.ca cell 519-827-7555

Partnership Chair: Larry Sugden; tenor.bridge@gmail.com cell 519-803-7968

Director in Charge: Martin Hunter

Saturday March 21 10:00 AM and 3:00 PM (stratified pairs)

Open pairs (A:2000+ B: 750 – 2000, C: 0-750) 2 sessions

NLM pairs (A: 300-500, B: 100-300, C: 0-100) 2 sessions

199 pairs (A: 100-200, B: 50-100, C: 0-50) single session available

**Sunday March 22 10:00 AM and TBA (A/X teams and Bracketed teams
for players with less than 2000 masterpoints)**

Per ACBL rules, to participate in this tournament, players must have an ACBL player number. Players without an ACBL number must purchase a one month temporary membership for \$10 or join on an annual basis. A \$4 surcharge per session will apply to nonpaid members.

Novice members with less than 5 masterpoints may play 1 free session on Saturday only.

Saturday pairs 2 sessions \$50 per pair for 2 sessions; 199 pairs (\$25 per pair per session)

Sunday Swiss teams \$100 per team (7 rounds: 7 bds/round)

Lunch on premises available on Sunday (\$10 per person)

Coffee and other beverages available as well as other edibles

LEARN, PLAY AND ENJOY BRIDGE AT THE GUELPH BRIDGE CLUB

www.guelphbridgeclub.org 519-763-3160

Toronto Easter Regional 2020

APRIL 7-12, 2020

Sheraton Centre Toronto Hotel
123 Queen St. West, Toronto ON M5H 2M9
Rooms - Ask for special bridge rate
\$129 if booked by March 4, 2020
1-888-627-7175

Tuesday April 7, 2020

Bracketed KO Teams (1 & 2 of 4 sessions)	10:00 & 2:30
Open pairs (Open/4000/2000)	10:00 & 2:30
Super Gold Rush (1500/750/300)	10:00 & 2:30
Compact KO 1	10:00 & 1:00
Swiss Teams - single session	2:30

Wednesday April 8, 2020

Bracketed KO Teams (3 & 4 of 4 sessions)	10:00 & 2:30
Open Swiss Teams (Open/3000)	10:00 & 2:30
Open Pairs (Open/2000/750)	10:00 & 2:30
Bracketed Super Gold Rush Teams (0-1500)	10:00 & 2:30

Thursday April 9, 2020

Sheardown Open KO (1 & 2 of 4 sessions)	10:00 & 2:30
MidFlight Pairs (4000/2000)	10:00 & 2:30
Open Pairs (Open/5000)	10:00 & 2:30
Stratified Fast Pairs (Open/2000/1250)	10:00 & 1:00
Finish by 3:30	
Gold Rush Pairs (750/300/100)	10:00 & 2:30
Compact KO 2	10:00 & 1:00
Swiss Teams - single session	2:30

Friday April 10, 2020

Sheardown Open KO (3 & 4 of 4 sessions)	10:00 & 2:30
Extra Chance KO Teams 1	10:00 & TBA
Gold Rush Pairs (750/300/100)	10:00 & 2:30
Stratified Open Pairs (Open/3000/1500)	10:00 & 2:30
Stratified Fast Pairs(Open/2000/1250)	10:00 & 1:00
Finish by 3:30	
Compact KO 3	10:00 & 1:00
Extra Chance Swiss	12:00 & TBA



Saturday April 11, 2020

Extra Chance KO Teams 2	10:00 & TBA
Extra Chance Swiss Teams	12:00 & TBA
Open Pairs (Open/4000/2000)	10:00 & 2:30
Super Gold Rush Pairs (1500/750/300)	10:00 & 2:30
Stratified Fast Pairs (Open/2000/1250)	10:00 & 1:00
Finish by 3:30	
Unit 166 Youth Cup Pairs (Open/750/100)	10:00 & 2:30
Compact KO 4	10:00 & 1:00

Sunday April 12, 2020

Flight A/X Swiss (Open/5000)	10:00 & TBA
Bracketed Flight B Swiss Teams (0-4000)	10:00 & TBA
Bracketed Gold Rush Teams (0-750)	10:00 & TBA
199er Swiss (single sessions allowed)	10:00 & TBA

Session fees: \$18 CAD (members)

+\$4 for non-current members

Players with no ACBL number MUST buy a 1 month \$10 membership BEFORE buying entry

Single sessions entries are available to all pair events

Bracketed KOs may be handicapped at director's discretion

Tournament Chair:

Darlene Scott

905-257-0304

DarleneScott@me.com

Partnership:

Ann Shaw

905-855-7177 or 437-219-7211

ashawc646@gmail.com

ZERO TOLERANCE for unacceptable behaviour!

If someone negatively affects your enjoyment at this tournament, please contact a Director IMMEDIATELY.

A fun time is guaranteed for all!



Toronto Easter Regional 2020

APRIL 7-12, 2020

Intermediate / Novice Schedule

Sheraton Centre Toronto Hotel
123 Queen St. West, Toronto ON M5H 2M9
Rooms - Ask for special bridge rate
\$129 if booked by March 4, 2020
1-888-627-7175

Tuesday April 7, 2020

49er Pairs 10:00
199er Pairs 10:00 & 2:30

Wednesday April 8, 2020

49er Pairs 2:30
199er Pairs 10:00 & 2:30

Thursday April 9, 2020

0-5 Pairs Supervised** - **FREE** 10:00
99er Pairs 10:00 & 2:30
I/N Hospitality after 10:00 game

Friday April 10, 2020

0-20 Pairs Supervised 10:00
99er Pairs 10:00 & 2:30

Saturday April 11, 2020

199er Pairs 10:00 & 2:30
49er pairs 2:30

Sunday April 12, 2020

199er Swiss 10:00 & TBA
(single sessions allowed)

ZERO TOLERANCE for unacceptable
behaviour!

If someone negatively affects your
enjoyment at this tournament, please
contact a Director IMMEDIATELY.

A fun time is guaranteed for all!

Session fees: \$18 CAD
(members)
+\$4 for non-current members

All events under 100 Master
Points pay only \$10 per
session

Tournament Chair:

Darlene Scott
905-257-0304
DarleneScott@me.com

Partnership:

Ann Shaw 905-855-7177 or
437-219-7211
ashawc646@gmail.com

Intermediate/Novice Program Supervisor:

Steve Overholt
647-897-6179
soverholt1@gmail.com

Free Lessons offered
Tuesday through Saturday at
9:00

**Supervised games means
players can ask bid-ding
questions during the game.
Questions? Need a partner?
Call Steve

Gateway to the North Sectional

April 17-19, 2020

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 17th, 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 18th. 10:00 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)
Snack Table Provided

Sunday April 19th 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
Lunch Included

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



SARNIA BLUEWATER BRIDGE TOURNAMENT

SATURDAY MAY 2ND
11:00 A.M. & 4:00 P.M.
STRATIFIED PAIRS
0 - 99 & 100 - 299,

WE WILL PROVIDE THESE GAMES SEPARATELY
IF 6 OR MORE TABLES ARE REGISTERED FOR EACH.

FLIGHT "A" 1500+ ; FLIGHT "B" 500 - 1500
FLIGHT "C" 0 - 500
SINGLE SESSION ENTRIES AVAILABLE.

SUNDAY MAY 3RD
10:30 A.M. & TBA
BRACKETED SWISS TEAMS
ALL ENTRIES \$12.50
PER SESSION

GAME SITE

Sardo Club

770 MAXWELL STREET
SARNIA

Tournament Chair
Randy Breuer
519-381-6792



Partnerships
Jerry Vopika
519- 542 -8840
jvopika@sympatico.ca

Free coffee and refreshments
No meals will be provided between sessions.

In Memoriam



Bruce Elliott

Bruce was a charter member of the Canadian Bridge Hall of Fame. With partner Percy Sheardown and teammates Murray and Kehela, he was part of the four-man team that won the Spingold in both 1964 and 1965 – the only 4-man team to repeat. He represented Canada in the World Team Olympiad, winning a bronze medal in France in 1968. He was invited to play with Omar Sharif in the Omar Sharif Travelling Bridge Circus. Bruce traveled the world playing bridge and won four major North American titles. He loved spending time at his cottage on Skeleton Lake, Muskoka and was an avid fan of the Blue Jays, Raptors and Maple Leafs. (Excerpted from the Globe and Mail obituary.)



Dick Hart

Dick earned his Life Master status in 1958. He was LM #1898! Coincidentally, Dick's bidding was from 1898. While he may not have played a lot of system, he sure took a lot of tricks. Dick played frequently with Don Brock and together they were giant slayers once beating the allstar team of Geoff Hampson-John Gowdy and George Mittelman-Fred Gitelman. If ever Dick's partner made a cuebid and an opponent asked him what the bid meant, Dick would respond, "That's bridge, Mister." Mister Hart was devastating on opening leads and a great teammate; I'll always cherish the events I played with Dick on the team.



Lynda Marks

Lynda was a popular club player frequenting such clubs as Kate Buckman's, Hazel's, Partner's, Lee's, and the Cavendish. She amassed 3210 masterpoints during her lifetime. The photo you see of her here was taken during a tournament at Gatlinburg with the McCradys, Fran and David, and Doris Opdenvale. The foursome entered two knockouts and won them both! Lynda is wearing a Gatlinburg hat. I'll remember her for her thoughtful analysis during the post-mortem.

In Memoriam



Marty Miller

Martin Miller was a world class player. Oh sure, he could make mistakes like the rest of us, but I once played against Marty and Joel Wooldridge in a KO event at the TO Regional and it made my head spin. They were double dummy perfect. Card for card. Originally from Rochester, Martin married Patti Lee a few years ago, and together they lived in Toronto. He was a kind and thoughtful man with a great smile.



Abe Paul

Abe was like a bull in a china shop. He could be awkward, clumsy, and intimidating. He had huge hands. When he held a bridge hand it looked like he was fanning 13 business cards. Abe was an actuary who spent 20+ years in Atlanta where he played with some of the top players. Abe earned just under 8,000 masterpoints; one of his original partners was John Rayner. When Abe retired, he often played at MOBridge with partners Barbara Sims and Bill Howlett, among others. I'll remember Abe for two of his great talents: playing the Moysian (4-3) fit like a champ and predicting his final percentage score with incredible accuracy, often within 1%.



Eva Upper

Eva earned just over 6400 masterpoints during her lifetime and approached each and every one of them as if she were a student of the game. She was cerebral and had a dry sense of humour. I'll never forget her cryptic performance once at a MOBC Xmas party. She told the audience that she would act out a word and we were to guess the word, which turned out to be "ingratiante." Well, needless to say, nobody guessed the word, but upon reflection we should have figured it out: Eva dressed head-to-toe in grey and pretended to eat—in grey she ate.

Photos courtesy of J.S.

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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Niagara Falls

JUNE

- 13-14 Toronto Leaside, 499er

Deadline for the Spring 2020 Kibitzer: Feb. 1, 2020

The Kibitzer

Andy Stark

126 Ivy Ave., Toronto ON M4L 2H7