

The Kibitzer



Spring 2026 | Volume 73, Number 1



Doug Drew
(1930-2025)

Margaret Drew
(1938-2025)



It feels to me that due to the kind of winter we are having folks would hunker down and play bridge even more than they usually do. I mean, what else do we have? Netflix? Bah. The only problem might be actually travelling to the bridge club, as we continue to dig out from the snowfall from over two weeks ago.

Sadly, the Hart House is (temporarily?) closed. I just learned of this news last night. This issue's installment of the Ontario Bridge Odyssey features the Hart House so I hope things get settled quickly and we can

go back to playing at one of Ontario's oldest bridge clubs. If you are in the Toronto area and you want to take a ride in a time machine, I urge you to get yourself down to the U. of T and Hart House and play in their Tuesday evening 6:30 pm game. (When they're back up and running of course.)

Thank you to our contributors this issue: **John Carruthers** who is a longtime friend of Doug Drew, pays tribute to Doug who, along with his wife Margaret, passed away last December; **Martin Hunter** continues with his series on bridge protocols and procedures, (see Director Please!); **Robert Griffiths** writes about two more adventures with Bob, **Doug Dolbear** presents double-barrel two bids, a homegrown opening bid structure to show both majors; and, **Laurence Gifford** gives us a discovery play—one of those, “Now-why-didn’t-I-think-of-that?” plays that come up more often than you think.

Stay warm—hope to see you at a tourney soon!

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

On the cover: Doug Drew & Margaret Drew.

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CONCERT FOR CAMBODIA

Sunday May 3rd @ 11.30 am
at The Granite Club in Toronto

All contributions to Barbara Seagram's & Patti Lee's Cambodia projects

The event will feature **ROBERT PILON**, one of Canada's most celebrated performers, best known for his lead roles in *The Phantom of the Opera* and *Les Misérables*. His extraordinary talent, with a career spanning international stages and four recorded albums, will make this an unforgettable afternoon. Robert has also performed for Queen Elizabeth II. There will be a large choir accompanying him. It will be a very special show.

Event Details:

- 11:30 am - Reception & Luncheon
- Followed by - Robert Pilon's performance

ROBERT PILON'S PERFORMANCE SPONSORED BY

DONALD K. JOHNSON O.C.

PRESENTING SPONSORS: ISADORE & ROSALIE SHARP

EVENT SPONSORS:

DIRECT TRAVEL

LOLA MACANOWICZ, CO-OPERATORS FINANCIAL

INVESTMENT SERVICES

BROWN BOOK COMPANY

RICHARD ALLIN OF SPRINKLERKINGS

REVEREND JOHN P. COMISKEY

LES & JEAN GAGNON



To attend, the minimum contribution is \$150 per person - **WITH NO MAXIMUM**. All but the first \$50 (to cover some expenses) is eligible for a tax receipt. For example, a \$150 contribution provides admission plus a \$100 tax receipt; a \$300 contribution provides admission and a \$250 tax receipt; a \$500 contribution provides admission and a \$450 tax receipt and so on.

Your donation & registration can be sent by etransfer to Patti Lee: pattilee@sympatico.ca

Send your email address also and your postal mailing address in order to receive a receipt.

PLEASE FILL IN THIS FORM IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND:

NAME: _____ EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

POSTAL ADDRESS: _____ TEL. NO: () _____

Necessary for receipts to be issued

CITY _____ PROVINCE/STATE: _____ POSTAL CODE/ZIP CODE: _____

MY CONTRIBUTION IS: (minimum \$150.00. No maximum) \$ _____

ETRANSFER TO PATTI LEE pattilee@sympatico.ca Or mail cheque (made out to Canadian Landmine Foundation) to: Heather Seagram, 278 Fairlawn Ave. Toronto, ON M5M 1T1 Canada

Cannot attend but would like to donate? We will send you some new bridge lesson recordings to enjoy.

Email barbaraseagram@gmail.com

Supported by The Canadian Landmine Foundation and The Rotary Club of Toronto West



Niagara Open Sectional February 13-15, 2026

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

Friday February 13, 2026

Open Pairs	1:00 & 6:00
999 ^{er} Pairs	1:00 & 6:00
299 ^{er} Pairs	1:00 & 6:00

Hospitality will follow afternoon game

Saturday February 14, 2026

Open Pairs	10:00 & 2:30
999 ^{er} Pairs	10:00 & 2:30
299 ^{er} Pairs	10:00 & 2:30

Hospitality will follow afternoon game

Sunday February 15, 2026

Bracketed Swiss 10:00am playthrough

Short break after 3rd Round

For Reservation

1-877-688-2324 Ext 2

Or Click

[Niagara Area Unit 255 Sectional Tournament](#)

Or

www.holidayinn.com/stcath

enter NAU as the group code

\$149 (single or double)

if booked before

January 26, 2026

FREE Parking

Fantastic Niagara Hospitality

Tournament Chair:

Kathy Morrison 289-968-9889
Email chair@unit255.org

Partnership Chair:

Sheila Langstaff 905-246-3309
Email partnership@unit255.org

Stratification

(Subject to Director's discretion)

Open Pairs	0 to ∞ masterpoints
999 ^{er} Pairs	0 to 1000 masterpoints
299 ^{er} Pairs	0 to 300 masterpoints

General Information

Two single Session entry is available for all pairs
All events will have 3 strata at the Director's discretion.
\$17/player/session. All players **MUST** have an ACBL #.
Guest memberships are currently FREE. Contact
Tournament Chair if you require a number.
Extra \$4 for non-current members
All events stratified by average masterpoint.

Sectional Tournament Sponsored by

Jaclyn Morrison



(905) 937-0962

jac.morrison@iaprivatewealth.ca





Open and 499 Local Sectional

Location: Bridge Centre of Niagara
2E Tremont Drive #5
St. Catharines
Phone: 905-704-0446

Saturday, March 14:

- Open and 499 single sessions
- Stratifications:
 - Open Pairs. 0 to ∞ masterpoints
 - 499er Pairs 0 to 500 masterpoints
 - Subject to Director's discretion
- Times: 10 am and 2:00 pm

Sunday, March 15:

- Bracketed Swiss Teams: 2 Session play through.
- Stratifications:
 - Open Pairs. 0 to ∞ masterpoints
 - 499er Pairs 0 to 500 masterpoints
 - Subject to Director's discretion
- Times: 10 am & TBD

GENERAL INFORMATION:

- Silver Points (80% of total)
- Coffee and light snacks will be available
- \$16/player/session for current ACBL members.
- Not an ACBL member? Not to worry. [Click here](#) to find out how to join for FREE! (Additional fee of \$4/person/session for lapsed memberships)
- Only one person to register & pay on behalf of each partnership or team

This is a **Zero Tolerance** Tournament. Play fair and have fun.

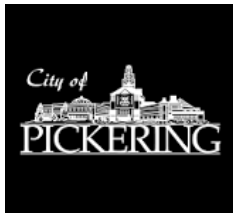
Click [here](#) to register and pay

Tournament Chair:

Brian Jones
Phone: 365 888 1851
Email: chair@unit255.org

Partnership Chair:

Peggy-Sue Verkerk
Phone: 905 359 0159
Email: partnership@unit255.org



PICKERING LOCAL SECTIONAL

March 14 & 15, 2026

held at the Don Beer Arena in Pickering



**** IMPORTANT NOTE **** This event is limited to 25 tables.

Players MUST preregister with the Registration/Partnership Chair, Brenda Griffiths, Beegriffiths55@hotmail.com or cell# 416-817-1379

EVENT SCHEDULE: 10:30 am & 2:30 pm

Single Session Stratified Pairs Games, on Saturday & Sunday

CASH ONLY: \$15 per session for ACBL members (additional \$4 for non-members)

Free (sandwich) lunch if sign up for both am and pm sessions on same day.

STRATIFICATION: A= 1500+ B = 500-1499 C= < 500

(May be adjusted at Director's discretion. If numbers permit, there will be a separate section for novices.)

LOCATION: Don Beer Arena

940 Dillingham Rd, Pickering (exit 401 Brock Rd and travel 2 blocks south)

Tournament Chair:

Doug Darnley, Ddarnley@rogers.com 416-258-1331

Free coffee, tea & snacks – Masterpoints awarded at 80% silver/ 20% black.

Toronto Easter Regional 2026

MARCH 31 - APRIL 5, 2026

We are so happy to welcome you back for the 2026 Toronto Easter Regional!
Book your room early for special rates - limited number of rooms. Don't be disappointed!

AMENDED to include Fast Pairs Games

Tuesday March 31, 2026

Bracketed Round Robin Teams	10:00 & 2:30
Open Pairs (Open/2000/1250)	10:00 & 2:30
Gold Rush Pairs (750/500/300)	10:00 & 2:30
199er Pairs	10:00

Wednesday April 1, 2026

Bracketed Round Robin Teams	10:00 & 2:30
Open Pairs (Open/2000/1250)	10:00 & 2:30
Fast Pairs*	10:00 & 1:30
Gold Rush Pairs (750/500/300)	10:00 & 2:30
199er Pairs	10:00

Thursday April 2, 2026

Fast Pairs*	10:00 & 1:30
Sheardown Bracketed KO(1&2 of 4)	10:00 & 2:30
Bracketed Round Robin Teams	10:00 & 2:30
Open Pairs (Open/2000/1250)	10:00 & 2:30
Gold Rush Pairs (750/500/300)	10:00 & 2:30
FREE LESSON	9:00
0-20 Pairs Supervised \$12 ***	10:00
199er Pairs	10:00

Friday April 3, 2026

Sheardown Bracketed KO (3&4 of 4)	10:00 & 2:30
Open Pairs (Open/2000/1250)	10:00 & 2:30
Gold Rush Pairs (750/500/300)	10:00 & 2:30
Bracketed Round Robin Teams	10:00 & 2:30
FREE LESSON	9:00
0-20 Pairs Supervised \$12 ***	10:00
199er Pairs	10:00

Saturday April 4, 2026

Open Pairs (Open/2000/1250)	10:00 & 2:30
Gold Rush Pairs (750/500/300)	10:00 & 2:30
Bracketed Round Robin Teams	10:00 & 2:30
FREE LESSON	9:00
199er Pairs	10:00

Sunday April 5, 2026

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

*Strats at directors discretion based on attendance



Sheraton Centre Toronto Hotel

123 Queen St. West, Toronto ON M5H 2M9

Rooms - Ask for special bridge rate of \$159 plus tax if booked by March 1, 2026

Book your group rate for American Contract

Bridge League 2026

or 1-888-627-7175

Players must have an ACBL number. Guest memberships are currently free. Contact Darlene if you require one.

Session Fees: \$22 CAD (members) +\$4 for non-members.
Students \$17

***** Players can ask bidding questions in Pairs Supervised game**

Single session entries are available for all pair events
EXCEPT FAST PAIRS.

All 4 session KO teams use the mini Solway format. Teams are guaranteed sessions of play the 1st day. The top 4 teams in each group advance to the 2nd day's semifinals.

Tournament Chair:

Darlene Scott

DarleneScott@me.com

Partnerships:

Elizabeth Williams

elizwilliams12345@gmail.com

ZERO TOLERANCE for unacceptable behaviour! If someone negatively affects your enjoyment at this tournament, please IMMEDIATELY contact a Director.
A fun time is guaranteed for all!

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♥ ZERO TOLERANCE TOURNAMENT ♠

Let's Play Bridge!

Peterborough Local Sectional Tournament

Saturday May 2 & Sunday May 3, 2026

► **IMPORTANT NOTICE** ◀

NEW LOCATION

PREREGISTRATION REQUIRED

St Catherine School

25 TABLE LIMIT

1575 Glenforest Blvd

Peterborough

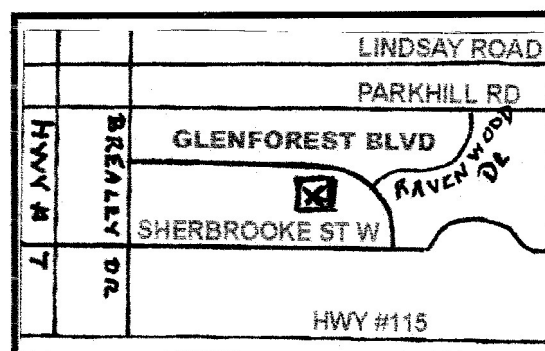
HOW TO PREREGISTER

Send an email to:

lornebridge@outlook.com

INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING INFO:

1. *Your name*
2. *Your partner's name*
3. *Sessions you intend to play*
4. *Please state if you need a partner.*



Tournament Events

Saturday May 2nd
Stratified Open Pairs

Two single sessions
10:30am and 2:30 pm

► This is not a 2 session total point event

Sunday May 3rd
Swiss Teams

Two session play-through
10:30 am start with lunch break

Stratification/ Awards

Strata will be at Director's discretion, depending on attendance

Awards will be 80% silver points & 20% black points

FREE

COFFEE, TEA, & SNACKS

PURCHASE

LIGHT LUNCH on
SATURDAY & SUNDAY

Entry Fees (CASH ONLY)

\$14 per player per session - ACBL members

\$4 extra per player per session for non ACBL member

Tournament Chair:

Priscilla Lorne

lornebridge@outlook.com

705-772-0510

Partnerships:

Maureen Nichols

mo.nichols13@gmail.com

705-991-0009



Kingston & the Islands Regional Bridge Tournament May 5 – 10, 2026

Join us in Kingston, Ontario, Canada May 5-10, 2026

**** Plus a Bonus Day Online on Monday May 11, 2026 ****

Playing Site: The Quality Inn & Conference Centre 33 Benson Street, Kingston, ON

- ✓ Convenient location and free daytime parking for bridge players
- ✓ Complimentary tea, coffee & small pastries before the morning sessions (Wed-Sun)
- ✓ Water available all day (please bring your own refillable bottle 🍷 if possible)
- ✓ Free Chalk Talks (Wed – Sat during the lunch breaks)

Stay Where You Play: Bridge Rates Available for two on-site hotels (limited – book early!)

To book, call the hotel directly and ask for the Bridge Rate for the KDBC Bridge Tournament.

The Quality Inn 33 Benson St, Bldg #1

1-613-546-3661 ext 0

\$139 CDN + taxes + overnight parking fee
of \$6 per vehicle

Comfort Suites 33 Benson St, Bldg #2

1-343-477-0280 ext 0

\$159 CDN (incl breakfast) + taxes + overnight parking
fee of \$6 per vehicle



Tournament Chair: Kathy McDonald

KDBCtournaments@gmail.com 613-329-9058

Partnership Chair: Anne Lamarche

KDBCtournamentspartners@gmail.com

More Info at <https://www.bridgewebs.com/kdbc/>

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♥ ZERO TOLERANCE TOURNAMENT ♠



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

Come get your share of SILVER POINTS!!!

**Saturday, May 23: Non-Life Master, <500 MP and A/X/Y Pairs
at 10:00am & 2:30pm**

Two Session Play-through, although single session pairs will be welcome

Saturday Stratifications:

Non-Life Masters, <500 MPs:	A: 300-500	B: 100-300	C: 0-100
A/X/Y Pairs:	A: 2500 +	X: 1000-2500	Y: 0-1000

Sunday, May 24: Bracketed Teams (by Total Team MPs)

Two Session Play-through starting at 10:00am with a short break for lunch.

Top Bracket available to all, at Director's discretion.

A lunch will be available for purchase each day.

Entry Fees (debit or credit card only):

Saturday - \$17.50 / person /session.

Sunday - \$140 per Swiss Team (2 sessions).

ACBL members, whose memberships are not current, add \$4 / person/ session.

Non-ACBL members are required to join the ACBL.

Chair: Kathy Russell, GRBCSectional@gmail.com

Partnership Desk: Rick Arthur, grbcpartnership@maildepot.net

Location:

**Hespeler Memorial Arena, Beehive Lounge
640 Ellis Road West
Cambridge 519-740-4681 ext. 4605**

Directions:

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

OAKVILLE SUMMER REGIONAL

July 21 - 26, 2026

St Volodymyr Cultural Centre

1280 Dundas St W.,

Oakville, ON L6M 4H9

FREE PARKING (arriving by air? Toronto
YYZ 20 minutes away)



Tuesday July 21, 2026

Oakville Bracketed KO Teams

(1st & 2nd of 4 Sessions) 10:00 & 2:30

Oakville Open Pairs 10:00 & 2:30

199er Pairs Single Session 10:00

Oakville Gold Rush Pairs 10:00 & 2:30

Wednesday July 22

Oakville Bracketed KO Teams

(3rd & 4th of 4 Sessions) 10:00 & 2:30

Round Robin Bracketed Teams 10:00 & 2:30

Oakville Open Pairs 10:00 & 2:30

199er Pairs Single Session 10:00

Oakville Gold Rush Pairs 10:00 & 2:30

Thursday July 23

Oakville Bracketed KO Teams

(1st & 2nd of 4 Sessions) 10:00 & 2:30

Oakville Open Pairs 10:00 & 2:30

199er Pairs Single Session 10:00

Oakville Gold Rush Pairs 10:00 & 2:30

Hospitality 5:30-6:30

Friday July 24

Oakville Bracketed KO teams

(3rd & 4th of 4 Sessions) 10:00 & 2:30

Round Robin Bracketed Teams 10:00 & 2:30

Oakville Open Pairs 10:00 & 2:30

199er Pairs Single Session 10:00

Oakville Gold Rush Pairs 10:00 & 2:30

Hospitality 5:30-6:30

Saturday July 25

Round Robin Bracketed Teams. 10:00 & 2:30

Oakville Open Pairs 10:00 & 2:30

199er Pairs Single Session 10:00

Oakville Gold Rush Pairs 10:00 & 2:30

Sunday July 26

Bracketed Swiss Teams 10:00 & TBD

*Note: Bracket 1 is open to all players. Depending on
entries, it may be run with a Swiss movement.*

Stratification: Subject to Director's discretion

All four session KO teams use the mini Soloway format. Teams are guaranteed two sessions of play the first day. The top four teams in each group advance to the second day's semifinals.

Gold Rush - 750/500/300 Masterpoints

Each player less than 750mp

199er - 0-200 Masterpoints

Open Pairs - Open/2000/1250

MUST be an ACBL member to play

\$22 player/session for ACBL members

Extra \$4 for lapsed ACBL members

Free guest membership available for non-ACBL members. Contact Darlene if you require one.

HOST HOTEL -Special bridge rates-limited space
TownePlace Suites 754 Bronte Rd, Oakville, ON
905-847-6667 or click here:

[Towneplace Suites by Marriott Oakville](#)

**\$179 King/ \$189 2 Queen/ \$204 Suite w/ 2 Queens
& sofa bed. Rooms plus tax**

**Fully equipped kitchen, 55" TV inbuilt Netflix,
on-site laundry facilities, private patio with BBQ
Free: parking, wi-fi, hot buffet breakfast**

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Let's Play Bridge!

Tournament Co-Chairs:

Darlene Scott: DarleneScott@me.com

Catherine Griffin: cathgriffin@rogers.com

Partnership Chair: Elizabeth Williams:
elizwilliams12345@gmail.com



THE BIG NICKEL REGIONAL

GREATER SUDBURY ONTARIO

August 26, 27, 28, 29, 2026
Garson Community Centre
100 Church Street,
Garson ON

Tournament Chair: Leslie Dickson
leslie.dickson@sympatico.ca 705-929-2506

Partnership Desk: Sally Lamothe
lamothesally@gmail.com 705-929-6112

Stratification

199er Pairs (by average) A. 100-200 B. 50-100 C. 0-50
Open Pairs (by average) A. 2500+ B. 1250-2500 C. 0-1250
Gold Rush (by average) A. 500-750 B. 250-500 C. 0-250
Single sessions are available in all pairs
Stratifications may be changed at Director's discretion

Cost per session:
Wednesday to Friday \$18
Cost for Swiss: \$180 per team
(includes lunch)



Wednesday, August 26

1:00pm and 6:30pm

Stratified Open Pairs

Gold Rush Pairs

199ers Pairs (if numbers warrant)

Thursday, August 27

10:30am and 3:00pm

Stratified Open Pairs

199er pairs (if numbers warrant)

Bracketed Knockouts (Soloway style)

(Teams are guaranteed two sessions of play on the first day. Top four teams in each bracket will advance to the second day semifinals and finals)

Friday, August 28

10:30am and 3:00pm

Stratified Open Pairs

Gold Rush Pairs

199er pairs (if numbers warrant)

Knockout 3rd and 4th sessions

Saturday, August 29

9:30am

Swiss Teams

299er Swiss (if numbers warrant)



Fairfield Inn and Suites by Marriott

490 Barry Downe Rd., Sudbury

705-560-0111

Book your special rate – (press CTRL & click)

Special Rate \$189.00 for a Standard 2 Queen beds room

Must be booked prior to August 5, 2026

**Includes breakfast, Wi-Fi, parking, indoor pool, hot tub,
and fitness center**

Other nearby hotels

Microtel Inn and Suites by Wyndham

1312 Kingsway, Sudbury

705-470-6161

Hilton Garden Inn

475 Barry Downe Rd, Sudbury

705-586-3001

Comfort Inn East

440 2nd Ave N, Sudbury

705-560-4502

TownePlace Suites by Marriott

1710 Kingsway, Sudbury

705-525-7700

Moonlight Inn and Suites

350 Moonlight Ave., Sudbury

1-800-424-0321



Ontario Bridge Odyssey, Part III

The Ontario Bridge Odyssey (OBO) reached its third day back in April of 2025. The tour had already gone from Mississauga to Kincardine to Owen Sound to Collingwood and was now headed to downtown Toronto. My partner for the fifth game was longtime Toronto bridge player and all-around-good guy, Mark Liberman.

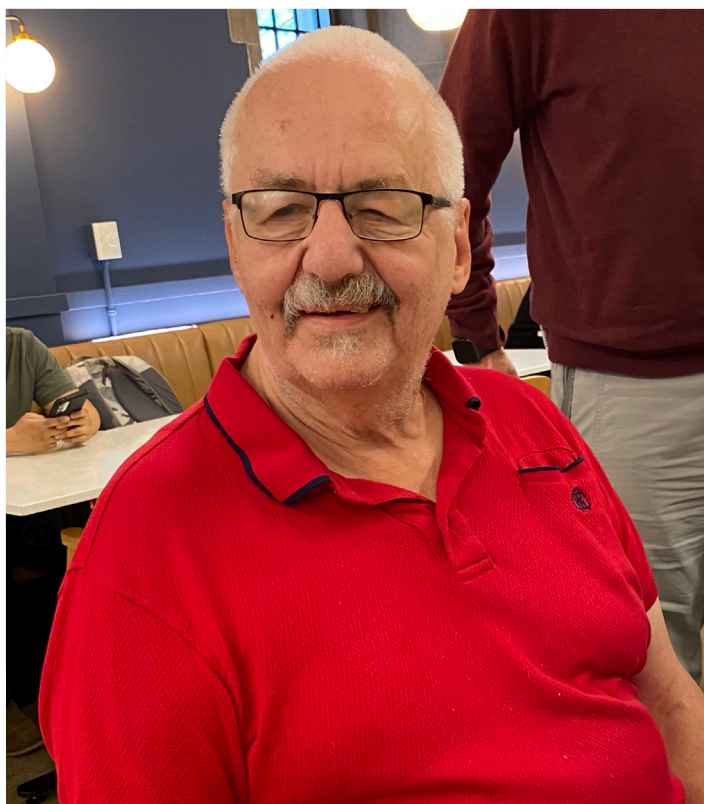
I first met Mark over 35 years ago. I would see him at every Sectional and Regional tournament, Mark often playing with Dudley Camacho. Indeed, Mark and Dudley had a solid partnership: one year in the 90s, they even made it to the semi-finals of the CNTCs.

Mark is a steady player, a student of the game, and one of the nicest guys you will ever meet. It was probably due to his treating everyone so respectfully that Mark was nominated for (and won!) the Kate Buckman Award in 2012.

The game with Mark was to be held at the venerable Hart House on the Tuesday evening. I had only started playing at the Hart House in the past two years. I highly recommend you play in this game as the Hart House is a veritable walk back in time, and not only because the building itself finished construction in 1919, but because the design of it can make you feel like you are playing in a castle from Medieval times. The playing room is not well lit, and the sound can ramp up oh-so-quickly, often reverberating off the walls. But the HH has charm and if you come early enough you can sit yourself down at a perfectly lit table. Just be sure to sit North-South.

Club manager Kevin Johnston says the bridge club started sometime before 1950. Of note, the club started because students were gambling away their tuition money in dark corners of the Hart House. Parents complained to the university, so a formal (not-for-money) club began. Bridge was flourishing back then, so it's not like bridge was just going to go away.

If you go you should go a bit early and enjoy the Arbor Room café, located in the basement. They have everything you could want for a pre-game meal, even beer! Plus, you'll be sharing tables with bridge players and/or students. Takes you back to your youth. But now, instead of cramming for a test, you go over your responses to INT.



Hart House Bridge Club
 University of Toronto
 7 Hart House Circle, Toronto
 Club Manager: Kevin Johnston
 Email: harthousebridgeclub@gmail.com
 Website: <https://sites.utoronto.ca/bridge/>

Kudos to Kevin: he took a club of about 3-4 tables and has it now blossoming, sometimes getting as many as 21 tables. He says, "Hart House is the largest and longest-running University-based bridge club in North America, and quite possibly the world. We occasionally have Swiss Teams with Bridgemates and hand records. We love running interesting movements, such as Symmetrical Merge (not invented by us, but to my knowledge not run by anyone else ever). Sometimes we get a Canadian champion playing at our club such as Jacob Freeman, winner of the 2025 CNTCs. Currently Aled laboni is probably our top regular and he is generous sharing his knowledge."

Here's a fun fact: between April of 2024 and April of 2025, Hart House Bridge Club had a total of 218 different player attend at least one game. And what a mix of players! From longtime players to short time players, from professionals to students to young and

old, HH has bridge players of all kinds. Where else can you find the partnership of Bugg-Free? That's Grace Bugg and Mary Free, two HH regulars.

Mark and I had a beauty with just under 70%. Here is one of our tops:

Bd. I	♠ Q J 6	
Vul: None	♥ A K 5 4	
	♦ 9 7 5 3	
	♣ Q 7	
♠ 8 5 3		♠ A K 10 9 7 4 2
♥ Q 9 7 2		♥ 10
♦ A Q J		♦ K 6 4
♣ A 9 2		♣ 6 4
	♠ —	
	♥ J 8 6 3	
	♦ 10 8 2	
	♣ K J 10 8 5 3	

North dealt and opened 1♦. I could have overcalled 1♠, or 2♠ or 3♠ or even 4♠, so I decided to 'hedge' and bid a heavy 3♠. Bid'em up! South didn't want to be shut out so made a negative double, and Mark raised me to 4♠ with his three-card support, two aces and a couple queenly side pieces. Good bid because it propelled North to also not want to be shut out. He bid 5♥. That got passed around to Mark who found an easy double.

I was on lead so started with a top spade. Declarer ruffed in dummy, played a trump to his ace, and put the ♠Q on the table. I covered, and declarer ruffed with dummy's ♥8. Another trump, the last one in dummy, was played to the king and declarer got the news that Mark held the two boss trumps. Not good for NS. Declarer tried the club queen, but Mark watched my play of the 4 (upside down, showing an even number), and so Mark ducked. Another club was played to dummy, and Mark won his ace. He cashed his two high trumps, drawing declarer's small trumps, and then Mark got out his last spade to declarer's jack.

Declarer, down to four diamonds, played one. I



Hart House Bridge Club managers Kevin Johnston & Frank O'Connor

hopped up with the $\diamond K$, and cashed my last spade, and then Mark mopped up the last trick with his diamond ace. Our six tricks were two hearts, two diamonds, one club, and one spade for down four and +800. Most of the EWs got to play in spades, as there were many +420s, but a couple +450s, one +480, and some +170s.

Our opponents got their revenge on the very next board: they were the only pair in the room to bid and make $4\heartsuit$ with two balanced hands and a total of 23 HCPs between them. Two finesses worked making it a 25% game, but hey, that's bridge and that's the way the cookie crumbles. Let's now close on a high note: a grand slam that was bid by only two pairs: your intrepid heroes and Shidi Zhao & Yu Li. Here are the EW cards:

Mark	Andy
$\spadesuit A J 5$	$\spadesuit —$
$\heartsuit A J 5 4$	$\heartsuit K 10 7 3$
$\diamond A 8$	$\diamond K Q J 9 5 4 3$
$\clubsuit A 9 7 6$	$\clubsuit K 10$

Everyone was vulnerable. South dealt and passed, and then NS stayed silent throughout. Mark, in second seat, opened $1\clubsuit$. I responded $1\diamond$ and Mark showed the nature of his hand with a jump to $2NT$. I decided there and then we probably have a diamond slam, or possibly in notrump, so rather than try to locate a heart fit, I bid $4\clubsuit$ Gerber.

Mark bid $4\diamond$ which shows either 0 or 4 aces. It must be four aces otherwise he does not have a $2NT$ rebid. So now I can count tricks: one spade, two hearts, seven diamonds and two clubs. That's twelve tricks in notrump. As the saying goes, "Where there's 12 there's 13," so while I could not count 13 tricks, I figured we'd have some chances—as in maybe Mark has the spade king (I did not ask for kings) or the club queen or the heart queen.

The opening lead was the $\spadesuit 10$ and I was wrong. The 12 tricks I counted in the bidding were the same 12



tricks I was looking at in the play. But I was not wrong about the chances: now I have a two-way finesse for the $\heartsuit Q$ or a squeeze. I won the spade lead with dummy's ace and pitched a low heart from hand. My plan was to cash all the clubs and diamonds and come down to two hearts and a black card in dummy and the $\heartsuit K 10 7$ in hand. If someone was guarding hearts and the black suit I retained in dummy, then they would be squeezed or I could still finesse for the heart queen.

At trick two I played a club to my king and South played the jack! I then played the $\clubsuit 10$ to dummy and the $\clubsuit Q$ popped up! So, the $\clubsuit 9$ was the 13th trick. I. Did. Not. See. That. Coming. Still, +2220s are always welcome. (Where is that luck when I buy lottery tickets?)

*News Flash Alert! It was in the middle of writing this piece when I received a call from Mark. We were going to play at the Hart House next week, but the club is now closed until further notice. Kevin has resigned and they are now looking for a manager. Bummer.

The OBO will continue in May with a write up on my games with Danny Miles and Hazel Wolpert. Stay tuned!



Doug Drew (1930-2025) Remembrance of Things Past

By John Carruthers

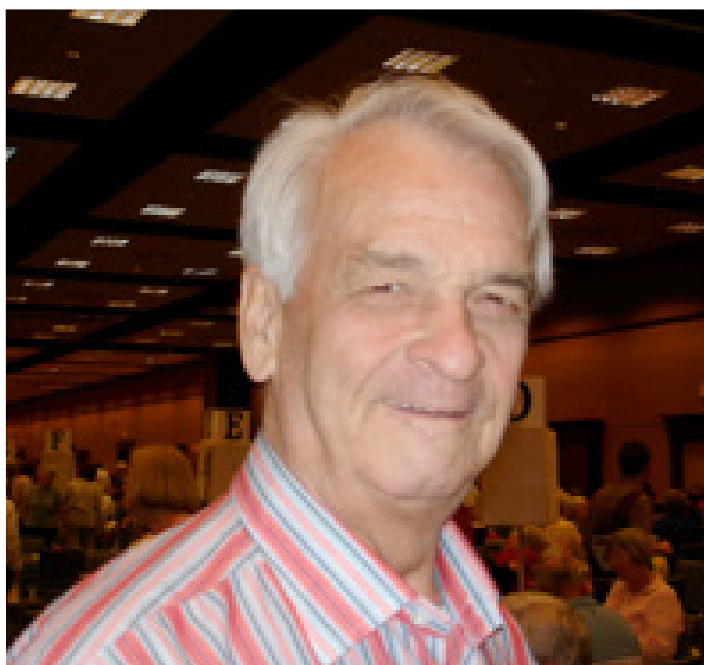
In the summer of 1974, Alex Kisin (a sometime partner and teammate of mine and then CBF President), said to me, “You’re a logical thinker, come to work with me in DP – Data Processing – at NOMA Lights.” To convince me, Alex told me that NOMA was a haven for bridge players, including himself, Doug Drew and two of my other partners and teammates, Subhash Gupta and Dominic DiFelice, among others. Unemployed at the time, I accepted on the spot, not even asking how much money I’d be making! I trusted Alex to take care of me, and he did.

I did, however, tell Alex that I had had no experience with computers. As I related to Alex, my closest brush with that then-new technology was in my third year of Chemistry and Mathematics at Mount Allison University, where I took a course titled, “Numerical

Analysis and Computer Programming” (in 1966, Mt. A. had an IBM 360, then a state-of-the-art machine). The programming language we were to learn was FORTRAN, a science-based language; today, I shudder just thinking about it. In that class, we were divided into pods, based on our major, and instructed to come up with a project that could be programmed in FORTRAN. My three-person pod chose to investigate reaction times in some chemical process, the details of which, 60 years on, escape me.

At the time, being an impecunious student, I had two jobs at the university, in addition to my course and laboratory load: Chemistry Library overseer, two evenings per week, and lab assistant, three afternoons per week. My pod-mates and I were to meet on a Tuesday evening, one of the nights I had to work in the Chemistry Library. My two other pod-mates met anyway, wrote a program, booked computer time and ran it the next day. It so happened that it was the only program in the class that ran bug-free the first time! So I successfully completed and ran a computer program without ever coding a line, touching a punch-card (remember them?) or even seeing the computer. That project was worth 50 percent of our final mark and was the only reason I passed the course successfully (the prof was so boring that I attended the first and last classes only, and I was not alone in doing so).

NOMA was a wonderful company to work for, a family business with no unions (and never any clamouring to form them) started by a Hungarian immigrant family, Theresa Beck, and her son Tom, in the 1950s. Their trusted and brilliant right-



hand-man was Rudy Kohler, President, to whom Doug Drew reported; Doug was Vice-President of Manufacturing and Subhash (an engineer) and Dominic (a mathematician) both reported to him. Alex Kisin (a mathematician) also reported to Rudy Kohler. Theresa, then in her seventies, would often stop by Alex's and my office to quiz us about the day's newspaper bridge column.

Doug was the best problem solver I've ever met. As a very bright Civil Engineering graduate of the University of Saskatchewan in the early Fifties, he could resolve any physical, mechanical or electrical issue with ease. Doug's genius, however, unlike many of his ilk, was that he was brilliant at human relations as well. He was beloved by his reportees and was out on the manufacturing floor four or five times a day, building relationships and ensuring that things were running smoothly. When José Damiani, President of the WBF, asked me to run the 1997 World Junior Team

Championships in Canada, the second person I asked to be part of the organizing team was Doug (the first was, of course, my wife Katie Thorpe). They were both instrumental in making the tournament a resounding success.

For a year or so, until Subhash left for Alberta (Dominic had already gone back to school), Doug, Alex, Subhash and I went to lunch together daily. Conversation was always about bridge, never about work. I was already close to Alex and Subhash, and quickly became very fond of Doug as well, really appreciating his intelligence, kindness, humour and deft handling of problems at work. At the time, Doug's spouse was the brilliant educator Dr. Doris Ryan, divorced from Buddy Ryan, the NFL football coach, and whose sons, Rex and Rob, also became NFL coaches. Doris worked at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education of the University of Toronto, later becoming Vice-President of the University of New Brunswick. The twins Rex and Rob were just youngsters when they lived with Doris and Doug in Toronto. Now they are both retired from coaching and Rex is a television star, analyzing NFL football for ESPN in his engaging, inimitable style.

Doug finally settled down, after separating from Doris, with Margaret Harrison, to whom he was married some 40-odd years. Margaret also had famous relatives, being a cousin of the renowned artist Mary Pratt of the Newfoundland Pratt family, whose husband Chris Pratt and daughter Barbara Pratt are also well-known and brilliant artists.

Doug's career as a bridge administrator is unparalleled in Canada and seldom matched in the world. He held elected office for about 40 years, from the 1950s to the 1990s and at various times was the President of ACBL Unit 166, President of ACBL District 2, President of the CBF and President of the ACBL, as well as being Chair of the ACBL Board of Governors and District 2's representative to the ACBL Board of Directors for decades. Doug was also a Vice-President of the World Bridge Federation and served on the

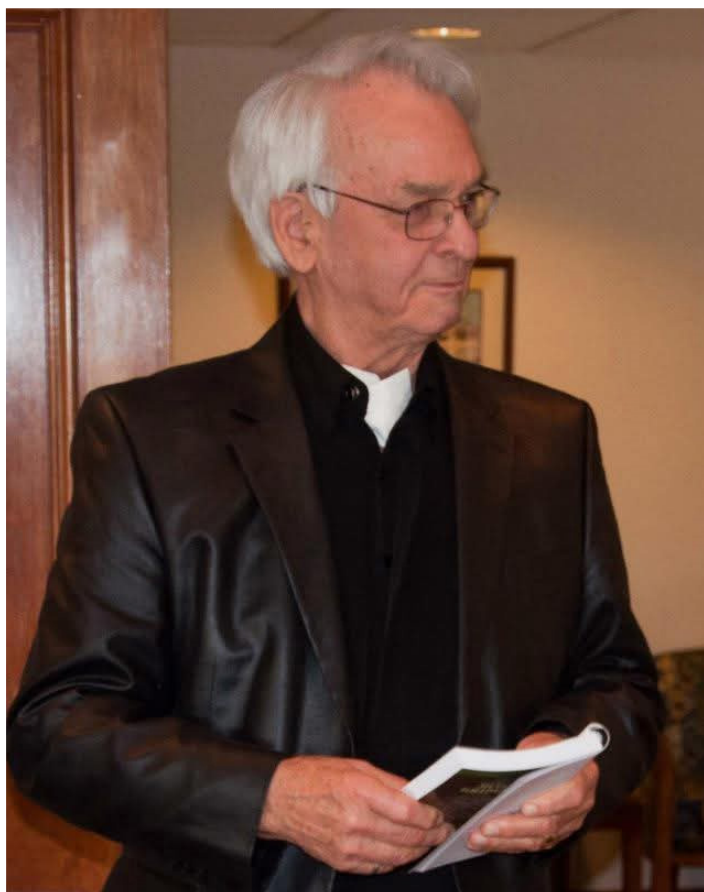


Photo Credit: Diane Jamieson



WBF's Executive Council. He was an administrator non pareil.

Doug was a founding member of the Canadian Bridge Federation. He was always a Canadian first and was behind the creation of the two all-Canadian districts of the ACBL, Districts 1 and 2. Doug had a plan for the secession of the CBF from the ACBL, having worked out all the details (the all-Canadian districts was the first step in that plan), chief among them financial and, of course, master points and tournaments. However, there was never enough interest among the CBF membership and its administrators to go forward with his plan. Doug also created the ACBL's Educational Program. He was an early inductee into the Canadian Bridge Hall of Fame.

While I always had other regular bridge partners, I played a little with Doug in our NOMA days, employing a system we invented one lunchtime to

amuse ourselves: "Five-Card Minors" (I assure you, no alcohol was involved!). We had many a laugh at the table, mostly from our opponents, until they realized that our opening five-card minors dictated opening three-card majors, often stealing their suit!

In addition to his excellent work in the 1997 World Junior Team Championship in Hamilton, Doug chaired and organized many local Sectional, Regional and National tournaments, including the Summer NABCs in Toronto, the Toronto Easter Regional and the Niagara Falls Regional.

Doug and Margaret moved to Victoria some years ago to be close to their grandchildren. A year ago last fall, one of our nieces was getting married in Vancouver so, after the wedding, Katie and I took a side-trip to Victoria and Nanaimo to visit our bridge friends there, including Doug and Margaret. We had lunch together and spent an enjoyable afternoon in their company with Barbara Stewart and Michael Roche – we were delighted to have been able to re-connect with them after a few years. Doug and Margaret were both as healthy as could be expected, given their advancing years, so their deaths 14 hours apart on December 2nd of 2025 was a bit of a shock.



Margaret and Douglas Drew

d. December 2, 2025

DREW, Margaret Elizabeth Harrison June 1,
1938 – December 2, 2025

DREW, Douglas Arlen March 3,
1930 – December 2, 2025

It was the early 70's in a piano bar in Toronto where Doug and Margaret first met. It was the beginning of the great adventure of the rest of their lives together.

Douglas was born in Vancouver, BC. He grew up in Davidson, SK where he was raised by his grandparents. He was a graduate of the University of Saskatchewan, Engineering. After graduating, Doug married and settled in Ontario where he and his first wife Betty raised 3 children.

The thing that most defined Doug throughout his life, was his love of Bridge. Doug was a founding member of the Canadian Bridge Federation and a Hall of Fame member. He served as a representative on the American Contract Bridge League board of directors from 1969 to 1993 and served as president of the ACBL in 1984. He was responsible for the creation of the ACBL Educational Program. Doug also served on the World Bridge Federation executive. Doug played his last game at the Monterey Bridge Club a week before he passed.

Apart from his bridge accomplishments, Doug was a professional engineer, finishing his working career at Noma.

Margaret was born in Fredericton, NB. She attended MacDonald College, graduating as a teacher in home economics. Most of her working life she worked for the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, responsible for managing the educational program for rural youth 4H and was the regional supervisor of home economists. After she and Doug married, she changed careers,

leaving one form of home economics for another, selling real estate. It was the hustle and bustle of the Toronto market in the early 80's. Her incredible people and organizational skills made her a natural.

Although Margaret never played bridge, she supported Doug's other love. Margaret played a huge role in organizing social activities and events particularly when Doug was ACBL president.

In retirement, they lived in Sarasota FLA and most recently in Victoria.

Margaret never met a sunset she didn't like. Get togethers were always filled with laughter, song, dance, ukulele playing, card games and often too much wine. Doug and Margaret were devoted to each other, a perfect complement. She was his sweetheart and he was her babe.

When Margaret was hospitalized in late September, Doug was at her side daily. Margaret entered Victoria Hospice on November 29. Doug joined her on November 30. Together till the end, Margaret and Doug died on December 2nd, 14 hours apart, a fitting ending to their love story. We will miss them dearly.

~Reprinted with permission from Doug's daughter Diane Jamieson and www.earthsoption.com



Director Please!

By Martin Hunter

This column will be a primer on the disclosure of partnership agreements.

Bridge is not a game of secret messages; the auction belongs to everyone at the table. Opponents are entitled to know the agreed meaning of all calls. The bidding side has an obligation to disclose its agreements according to procedures established by the ACBL.

While the Laws of Bridge allow players to ask questions, at their turn to bid or play, the ACBL has its own Alert Procedure, which includes 'Announcements.'

Alerts are made **verbally**, by saying the word, "Alert," and they are made **visually**, by showing the "Alert" card from the bidding box. The alerting side must make sure that both opponents are aware of the alert.

When a call has been alerted, an opponent, at their turn to call, may ask about its meaning. The preferred form of the question is as simple as, "**Please explain.**"

When asked, the bidding side must give a full explanation of the agreement.

Stating the common or popular name of the convention is not sufficient. For example, if partner bids 2♣ over their INT opening, it is not sufficient to say, "Landy" if the opponents inquire after your alert. You should say, "Shows both majors, at least 5-4 either way."

All relevant disclosure should be given automatically.

Players who remember that a call requires an Alert, but cannot remember the meaning, must still alert. Adjustments for violations are not automatic, but pairs that frequently fail to alert may find themselves receiving a Procedural Penalty.

A player who is misinformed by an opponent's failure to alert will be protected. However, an adjustment will be made only when the misinformation was a direct cause of the damage. A player who does not ask about an alerted call will not be protected, even if the meaning of the call is not what they expect.

Players who, by experience or expertise, recognize that their opponents have neglected to alert a special agreement will be expected to protect themselves. An opponent who actually knows or suspects what is happening, even though not properly informed, may not be entitled to redress if he or she chooses to proceed without clarifying the situation.

When an Alert is given, **ask**, do not **assume**.

There are 3 types of Alerts that occur in face-to-face bridge; there are only two in online bridge.

Pre – Alerts: these are made before the round or match begins. They include

~any system that has a 1-level opening bid that is artificial or forcing (eg., Strong Club)

~artificial preempts below 3NT (eg., opening 2NT for the minors)

~any Unusual Systems

Immediate Alerts: in face-to-face bridge: as described above. In online bridge, typing on the message line of the Bid Box, before you make your bid, is best.

Most artificial calls are alertable: exceptions include Stayman and Michaels Cuebids.

Most natural calls are not alertable: exceptions include natural 2♣ openings.

Delayed Alerts / Post Alerts: these are made after the auction is over, before the opening lead is faced.

- Any alertable call at the level of 3NT or higher, starting with Opener's rebid
- All responses to ace-asking bids (Blackwood, Gerber, RKCB, etc.)
- Any control-showing bids

There should be no need for opponents to ask questions, once an auction gets beyond 3NT, as the declaring side (maybe the defending side) is required to offer up all explanations, without prompting, before the opening lead is made.

There are no Delayed Alerts Online – they are always immediate.

Announcements include:

- Forcing or semi-forcing INT
- Opening INT range
- Opening I-level bids that 'could be short.' For example, you should announce, "Could be as short as two," if that is how short the club suit could be in your system.
- Bids that show length in another suit (transfers) – state the name of the suit

Subsequent columns will address specific situations and bidding sequences.

Any questions and/or comments? Please direct them to martinhunter@rogers.com



Young students in Cambodia. Please see p. 3 for details on how you can help a worthy cause



Adventures with Bob

By Robert Griffiths

Finding the 4-3 fit

This hand is from the recent London tournament. It features a creative bid by my partner, Dorin Toma.

He was South and opened with 1♣ after three passes. West overcalled 1♥ and I made a negative double. East passed and Dorin had a tough choice. His hand is strong in either minor but he liked his spade holding and chose a bid of 2♠, showing spades with extras.

I ought to have jumped to the spade game, but I bid only 3♠, knowing that Dorin would only decline the invitation if his earlier bid had been overly aggressive. That way, if it all turned bad, it would be his fault. He, of course, bid 4♠ and West led the ♥A followed by the ♥K.

Board 16
West Deals
EW Vul

♠ Q 7 6 4
♥ 9 7 6
♦ 9 8 7 6
♣ A K

♠ 8 2
♥ A K J 10 3
♦ Q 3
♣ 9 8 4 2

♠ J 10 5 3
♥ Q 5 4 2
♦ J 4 2
♣ 7 6

♠ A K 9
♥ 8
♦ A K 10 5
♣ Q J 10 5 3

Dorin ruffed the second heart, played off the top two trumps, crossed to dummy with a club and played the ♠Q. At this point, if the spade split was 3-3, he would make 12 tricks but West showed out, so East was entitled to a spade trick. But that was all.

The ♣A was played, then the closed hand entered with a diamond. Dummy's last heart was thrown on the ♣Q. East could ruff whenever he wanted but that was the last EV trick. All of dummy's losers could be thrown on declarer's clubs.

The hand was played twelve times, ten of them in diamond or spade partscores. It took some vision to see that a 4-3 spade fit would likely play well with his strong holding and ability to ruff hearts in the hand with the shortner spades. If the North hand had to ruff hearts, the expected 4-2 spade split would doom the contract.

Wasting a gift

Here's a hand from a local game. I was North, dealt and opened 1♠. EVW passed throughout as my partner bid 2♥. I raised to 3♥ and he bid the game.

West found the exotic lead of the ♦J, which went around to South's king.

At trick 2, South led a small heart to dummy's queen, losing to East's singleton king. Oops.

Board 1
North Deals
None Vul

♠ Q J 10 6 4
♥ A Q 8 2
♦ 7 5 3
♣ K

♠ A 9 2
♥ J 10 5
♦ A J 10
♣ 10 9 6 4

♠ K 8 7 3
♥ K
♦ Q 8 6 4 2
♣ 8 7 3

♠ 5
♥ 9 7 6 4 3
♦ K 9
♣ A Q J 5 2

There was still a diamond, a heart and a spade to lose, so the contract went down one. Just like the rest of the field. Actually many went down two, losing two hearts, two diamonds and one spade.

This hand came early in the day and my partner had lots of time to consider what he had done. The opponents had given him a gift and he had failed to appreciate it. He spent much of the rest of the round sadly shaking his head, muttering about what could have been. Mistakes weigh heavily on some people.

At trick 2, he had options better than the simple heart finesse. If he had led a heart to dummy's ace, then played three rounds of clubs, throwing both of dummy's diamonds, the contract would be made against any 3-1 or 2-2 heart division. As the cards sit, if he had played this way, he would make 11 tricks, losing only one heart and one spade.

Playing matchpoints, it seems wrong not to take the finesse when a holding of king and another heart in the West hand would give you no losers in the suit. Especially when much of the field will play it that way.

But the opponents here have done something odd in the diamond suit, giving South a chance to lose no diamonds, when normally there is a sure diamond loser (or two, as is the case here). After receiving this gift, there is no reason to play 'with the field'. The best way to play this heart combination for one loser is to play the ace first, planning to later play a small heart towards the queen. And playing the ace on the first round of the suit would give South the timing to get rid of all of his diamond losers before the defenders could take a shot at them.

And for newer players, this is why it is usually unwise to underlead an ace against a suit contract. Your opponent might take a trick with the king while your ace just watches.





Double Barrel 2 Bids

By Doug Dolbear

Here's a gadget I came up with that lets us preempt the auction when we hold both majors. With 9+ cards in the majors and 6-11 points we open $2\heartsuit$ or $2\spadesuit$, depending on the hand shape.

$2\heartsuit$ = 4 spades, 5+ hearts, 6-11 HCPs
 $2\spadesuit$ = 5+ spades, 4+ hearts, 6-11 HCPs

The logic behind the bid is that good opponents are usually able to find their spade fit over a standard weak $2\heartsuit$ bid, or find their major fit over a standard weak $2\heartsuit$ bid. However, when holding both majors, our two-suited preempt forces them to come in at the 3-level if they dare.

The full range of 6-11 HCPs isn't always used. For example, with 6-7 HCPs we must have a singleton, and we must have most of our values in the long suits. Some 11-point hands we would consider good enough to open $1\heartsuit$ or $1\spadesuit$ instead.

We also use this system after RHO opens $1\clubsuit$ or $1\diamondsuit$, with a slightly wider range of 6-12 points.

In my partnership with Keith Heckley, we have been using Double Barrel bids for three years, and we have noticed that they come up frequently. On average we bid this way 1.5 times per session. High frequency is one of the main advantages of the system. With both majors, we can often take action when the field has to pass the first time around.

Responses after the $2\heartsuit$ opening:

- $2\heartsuit$ and $2\spadesuit$ = preference, non-forcing
- 2NT = artificial force, at least game invitational values
- $3\clubsuit$ and $3\diamondsuit$ = to play
- $3\heartsuit$ and $3\spadesuit$ = to play, Law of Total Tricks bid; no interest in game
- 3NT = to play
- $4\clubsuit$ = modified Key Card for hearts (over $2\heartsuit$), or spades (over $2\spadesuit$); Responses are 0, 1 no Q, 1 with Q, 2 no Q, 2 with Q, 3
- $4\heartsuit$ and $4\spadesuit$ = to play

After $2\heartsuit$ -2NT:

- $3\clubsuit$ = minimum (6 to bad 8 HCPs) with shortness in a minor; $3\diamondsuit$ asks which minor; with step responses
- $3\diamondsuit$ = non-minimum (good 8 to 10 HCPs) with shortness in a minor; $3H$ asks which minor; with step responses
- $3\heartsuit$ = 4522 with 8-9 HCPs
- $3\spadesuit$ = 4522 with 10-11 HCPs
- $4\clubsuit$ and $4\diamondsuit$ = good 10 to 11 HCPs, with shortness in the bid suit

After $2\spadesuit$ -2NT:

- $3\clubsuit$ = minimum (6 to bad 8 HCPs) with shortness in a minor; $3\diamondsuit$ asks which minor; with step responses
- $3\diamondsuit$ = non-minimum (good 8 to 10 HCPs) with shortness in a minor; $3\heartsuit$ asks which minor; with step responses
- $3\heartsuit$ = 5+ hearts, 6-9 HCPs
- $3\spadesuit$ = 5422 with 8-9 HCPs
- 3NT = 5422 with 10-11 HCPs
- $4\clubsuit$ and $4\diamondsuit$ = 10+ to 11 HCPs with shortness in the bid suit

In competition:

We use these rules if the opponents bid over our 2♦ or 2♥ opening:

~If 2NT is available then it's the asking bid, as if they had passed. A double or redouble would show both minors.

~If 2NT is not available then double is the strongest bid, showing at least values for a game invite. Other bids are to play.

~Exception: If they make a bid that shows both minors, then we play Unusual vs Unusual.



Discovery play

By Laurence Gifford

This one, from an online game, tickled me. Playing imps, all vulnerable, in fourth seat, South holds:

♠ 4 2
♥ 10 4
♦ A 9 7 5 2
♣ A 10 5 4

The bidding proceeds:

West	North	East	South
1♠	Double	2♠	3♦
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♣
Pass	5♦	all pass	

The opening lead is the ♠K. Here is what South was looking at:

♠ A 6
♥ A Q 5 2
♦ Q J 8 3
♣ K J 9

♠ 4 2
♥ 10 4
♦ A 9 7 5 2
♣ A 10 5 4

Declarer ducked the spade king lead, and after the switch to the ♣3, declarer clicked on the ♣9 in dummy and it held. She then passed the ♠Q to West's king, suffered a club ruff and eventually lost a heart finesse for two down.

Teammates scored 170 in 2♠ for one imp away.

In the post-mortem, Keith Balcombe offered an elegant solution: overtake the ♣9 with the ace and take the heart finesse. If it loses, the diamond king must be with Opener to justify the bidding, and the only chance is to drop it singleton. Voila.

The full deal:

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



Keith Balcombe



William “Bill” Wallace Memorial Trophy

Congratulations to Norm Malette for receiving the William “Bill” Wallace Memorial Trophy. Bill Wallace was one of the driving forces behind establishing bridge in Sudbury and across Northern Ontario. His tireless efforts to promote and grow, teach the game left a lasting impact on our bridge community. The award honors the legacy of William, reflecting both promotion of the game and encouragement of players, past and present.

The Board of Directors wants to recognize Norm for stepping up at the start of COVID to set up and direct our online games through Fall 2021 - work that helped sustain our club’s revenue and supported the North Bay and Thunder Bay clubs as well.

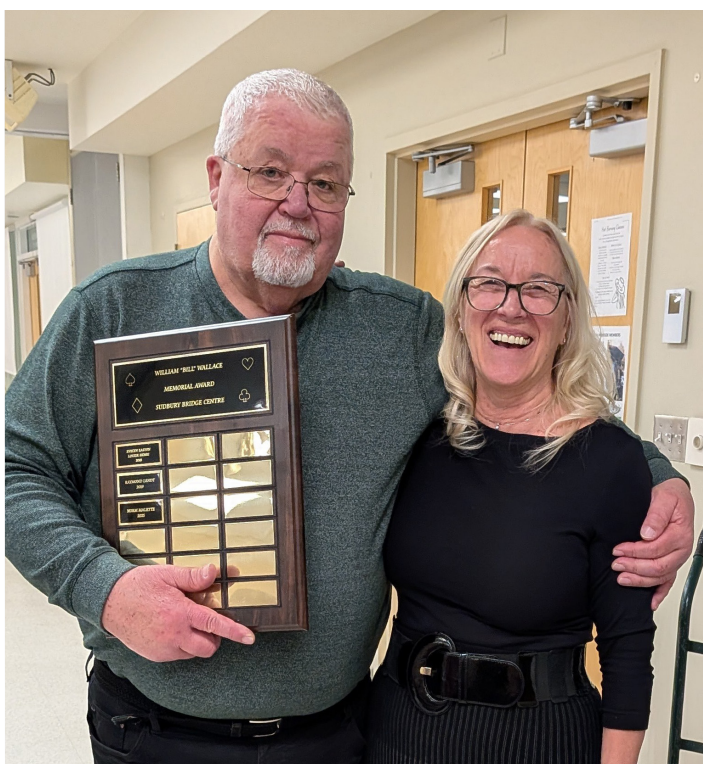
Since our move to Parkside, Norm has served as our primary Games Director and Club Manager. He

has also earned the qualifications needed to direct Local Sectional Tournaments in Sudbury, North Bay, and Sault Ste. Marie - a vital contribution, as these tournaments wouldn’t be financially viable without a local director.

Norm, thank you for your dedication and hard work. Your efforts have made a meaningful and lasting impact on our club, and we are truly grateful.

The Jerry Aceti Memorial Award is given to a rookie player (fewer than 20 masterpoints) who receives the highest number of points from December 1 to November 30th of the current year. They must also be a member of the ACBL.

Congratulations to the 2025 winner - **Rob Puro** for his skyrocket to 50.1 masterpoints in his first year of playing bridge.



Norm Malette & Elaine Tisdale (Sudbury Bridge Club President)

Rob Puro and Millie Wood Colton (Unit 238 President)

TEBC celebrates 100 years of bridge

The Toronto East Bridge Club (TEBC) celebrates the birthdays of their members once a month and we host special events for all the holidays and significant events happening in Canada. Club owners, Laurie Miller and Glenna Richardson went into high gear to ensure that the 100th anniversary of the greatest game was well honoured. The members of TEBC are just as enthusiastic to celebrate and contribute to make any occasion a grand one.

The 100th anniversary celebration held last November was a roaring success. Appetizers, music, mocktails, and costumes in the theme of the 1920s were featured throughout the evening, followed by a game of bridge. The balloon display created by Patty Callahan and Dale Lark added a whimsical feel to the party.



Laurie Miller and Glenna Richardson



The TEBC Gang

Unit 166

2025 Mini-McKenney Awards

0–5	
Mike Saidi	83.01
George Leaker	38.27
Diane Westgate	27.46
5–20	
Nicole Noxon	76.95
Ebru Demirtas	55.89
Michael Ward	34.61
20 to 50	
Nancy Nicowski	93.05
Aftab Alibhai	62.18
Roger Couldrey	53.28
50–100	
Denys Skalskyi	240.86
Kit Moore	156.61
Susan Guichon	90.83
100–200	
Louis Daigneault	321.22
Sarah Stairs	141.89
Ilkka Kakkanen	116.54
200–300	
Alan Burnham	207.36
Peter Barber	90.71
Xinshan Zhao	66.76
300–500	
William Steele	160.36
Judith Hackett	135.55
Gordon Lee	128.19

500–1000	
Mingmin Zhu	197.09
Nirmal Bahal	184.06
Bernie Fernandes	158.80
1000–1500	
Kathryn Jensen	329.97
Jenny Mercer	286.57
Jagjit Pal Singh Anand	241.33
1500–2500	
Kim Jenkinson	650.32
Steve Bonnar	271.74
Linda Hechter	265.48
2500–3500	
Myrtle Herzenberg	288.15
Claude King	268.53
Rod McLeod	267.34
3500–5000	
Peter Peng	547.42
Douglas Dolbear	518.03
Debbie Feldman	272.17
5000–7500	
Edward Xu	720.82
Jianfeng Luo	615.63
Alex Kornel	518.40
7500–10,000	
Peter Wong	731.15
Barbara Shnier	345.04
Wendy Dooley	341.87
Over 10,000	
Mel Norton	1080.94
Jonathan Steinberg	987.45
David Grainger	945.31

Unit 166

2025 Ace of Clubs Awards

0–5	
Mike Saidi	62.54
Jim Stacy	24.50
Steven Garmaise	23.51
5–20	
Nicole Noxon	50.28
Michael Ward	34.61
Deborah Braithwaite	27.44
20 to 50	
Nancy Nicowski	57.52
Roger Couldrey	39.14
Nancy Miao	34.30
50–100	
Kit Moore	108.35
Marvin Ens	71.47
Denys Skalskyi	68.36
100–200	
Louis Daigneault	159.09
Ilkka Kakkanen	114.00
Derek Cox	57.31
200–300	
Alan Burnham	114.47
Peter Barber	60.60
Eric Pinto	55.21
300–500	
William Steele	103.57
Robert Saggo	80.80
Walter Grondin	66.63

500–1000	
Penny Robinson	79.15
Dean Hartwell	69.15
Aled Iaboni	66.47
1000–1500	
John van Nuland	143.12
Walter Smeding	140.19
Jill Schaffran	121.75
1500–2500	
Andre Desmarais	177.50
Steve Bonnar	158.17
Morteza Maziar	134.73
2500–3500	
Rod McLeod	201.01
Joanne Grandy	122.65
Keith Pugsley	115.34
3500–5000	
Douglas Dolbear	169.19
Terry Bradley	139.40
Debbie Feldman	129.64
5000–7500	
Steven Mehta	318.64
Barb Seagram	187.66
Alex Kornel	184.91
7500–10,000	
Roger Snowling	219.38
Jack Shinehoft	207.58
Wendy Dooley	202.48
Over 10,000	
Mel Norton	329.82
Gary Westfall	141.25
Andy Firko	134.55

Unit 166

2025 Virtual

Ace of Clubs Awards

0–5	
George Leaker	22.38
Patricia Volker	4.96
Arun Palit	3.23
5–20	
Ebru Demirtas	41.81
David Lee	25.54
Nicole Noxon	20.12
20 to 50	
Gail Cosgrove	22.28
Mary Hill	22.28
Nancy Nicowski	17.30
50–100	
Denys Skalskyi	31.44
Branka Milojevic	24.44
Susan Guichon	21.96
100–200	
Mark Trojanowski	78.23
Simon Davis	48.51
Sybil Eade	45.96
200–300	
Liz McNally	49.30
Michele Eaton	42.38
Gord Smith	42.38
300–500	
Gordon Lee	121.27
Pat Whyte	102.89
Catherine Colburn	73.89

500–1000	
Nirmal Birhal	159.84
Bernie Fernandes	137.68
Jerry Howarth	135.57
1000–1500	
Kathryn Jensen	192.03
Frank Indelicato	125.97
Susan Bond	75.78
1500–2500	
Kim Jenkinson	469.76
Jerry Lenders	123.45
Raymond Mitchell	93.24
2500–3500	
Myrtle Herzenberg	269.50
Mike Fernane	138.38
Bob Saunders	109.34
3500–5000	
Peter Peng	141.93
Steve McGrahan	68.31
Phil Dowd	55.20
5000–7500	
Jianfeng Luo	132.42
Vera Carpenter	75.25
Detlef Ladewig	25.24
7500–10,000	
Barbara Shnier	127.89
Roman Klein	112.26
Wendy Dooley	86.36
Over 10,000	
Mel Norton	376.42
Gary Westfall	287.40
Andy Firko	275.20

Correspondence



Hi Andy,

I have discovered first hand how to get in trouble with EDGAR.

There are three things bridge players are terrified of: death, going down in a cold slam, and EDGAR, the computer program that identifies online players who might be engaged in online cheating. Until recently, I was afraid of only two. As a result of the following hand I am now afraid of all three.

Playing online I picked up ♠J9876 ♥K2 ♦A3 ♣Q1034. LHO opened 1♦, partner passed, RHO bid 2♣, I passed, LHO bid 2♦, partner passed, RHO bid 2♥, I passed, LHO bid 3♣, partner passed, and RHO ended the auction with 3NT.

Me to lead. My cursor was on the seven of spades as we play attitude leads. After clicking on the 7 I looked up, and to my horror, I had led the KING of hearts!! Oh well, my bad as they say, as I tried to figure out what to say to my partner about my dumb lead.

Dummy arrived with ♠Qxx ♥A ♦KQJ10xx ♣9xx. Declarer won the lead per force, played the ace-king of spades, and then a diamond to the king which was ducked, then took a club finesse. Down three after we took a club, a diamond, and five heart tricks.

It is not often an opening lead makes a difference of five tricks, all through ignorance not brilliance. I would appreciate it if anyone could tell me if I should expect a visit from EDGAR and/or the ACBL.

Bridge is a crazy game. All the best,

Jack Shinehoft

The Kibitzer Information

The Kibitzer is available online at www.unit166.ca, every three months: February, May, August, and November. Readers are invited to share their email addresses with the ACBL so that they may receive notification The Kibitzer is ready for viewing.

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

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Summer	Apr. 20	May 15
Fall	July 20	Aug. 15
Winter	Oct. 20	Nov. 15
Spring	Jan. 20	Feb. 15



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UNIT 166 FACE-TO-FACE BRIDGE CLUBS

Please check the Unit 166 website for
up-to-date club information www.unit166.ca

ALBION HILLS BRIDGE CLUB

Mayfield United Church,
12496, Dixie Road, Mayfield, Caledon ON
Steven Norris 647-234-6352

albionhillsbridge@gmail.com

- Thur 1:00 pm Open

BRIDGE AT THE TEMPLE

Temple Sinai
210 Wilson Ave., Toronto ON M5M 3B1
Richard Ross 416-816-7115

- Mon 12:00 pm 0-1000/Open
- Tues 12:00 pm 0-1000/Open
- Fri 12:00 pm 0-1000

BRONTE BRIDGE CLUB

Burlington East Presbyterian Church
505 Walkers Line, Burlington
Jackie Syer 905-844-0574

syerjacqueline@gmail.com

jackiesyer@gmail.com

- Wed 12:30 pm Open
- Wed 12:30 pm 0-500

ETOBICOKE BRIDGE CENTRE

Etobicoke Olympium
590 Rathburn Rd
Etobicoke, ON M9C 3T3
Steve Overholt 647-897-6179

All face-to-face games are temporarily
inactive

HALTON BRIDGE CLUB

Burlington East Presbyterian Church
505 Walkers Line, Burlington
Jackie Syer 905-844-0574

syerjacqueline@gmail.com

jackiesyer@gmail.com

- Tues 12:30 pm Open

HART HOUSE BRIDGE CLUB

7 Hart House Circle, Toronto, ON
416-978-2452
harthousebridgeclub@gmail.com
<http://sites.utoronto.ca/bridge/>

- Tues 6:30 pm Open

INA & FRIENDS LM PAIRS

Temple Sinai
210 Wilson Ave., Toronto, ON M5M 3B1
416-816-7115 or 416-706-8550
Richard Ross & Ina Demme
lifemastersbridge@gmail.com

- Fri 12:00 pm Open

MARILYN'S BRIDGE CLUB

Flower City Senior Center
8870 McLaughlin Rd S.
Brampton L6Y 5T1
(905) 791-4239
Gary Westfall
gwestfall@rogers.com

- Fri 1:00 pm Open

MOBRIDGE

Sherwood Village
2225 Erin Mills Pkwy, Unit #155A
Mississauga, ON L5K 1T9
www.mobridge.club
Max Rutherford 905 403 1333
mail@mobridge.club

- Mon 7.00 pm 0-99
- Mon 7.00 pm 0-1500
- Tue 12.30 pm Open
- Wed 7.00 pm 0-499
- Thu 12.30 pm Open
- Fri 12.30 pm 0-1500
- Sat 10.00 am Open

OAKVILLE BRIDGE CLUB

Trinity United Church
1250 McCraney St. E
Oakville, ON L6H 3K3
Darlene Scott
oakvilledarlene@gmail.com

- Mon 12:15 pm Open

Free lesson prior to game; arrive at 11:30 am

SHORELINE BRIDGE CLUB

Burlington East Presbyterian Church
505 Walkers Line, Burlington ON
Jackie Syer 905-844-0574
syerjacqueline@gmail.com
jackiesyer@gmail.com

- Fri 12:30 pm Open
- Fri. 12:30 pm 0-500

STEPPING STONE BRIDGE CLUB

Armour Heights Presbyterian Church
105 Wilson Ave. (Avenue & 401)
Cyndy Winkler cyndywinkler@gmail.com
<https://www.bridgewebs.com/steppingstones/>

- Mon 12:30 pm 0-20
- Tues 12:00 pm 0-399

TORONTO BRIDGE

Leaside Memorial Community Gardens
Rob Drummond 647-629-3408
info@torontobridge.ca

- Wed 12:00 pm Open
- Thur 9:00 am Limited (0-500)
- Thur 12:00 pm Open

TORONTO EAST BRIDGE CLUB

1512 Kingston Road, Scarborough, ON
416-419-3089 - Glenna Richardson
416-276-6415 - Laurie Miller
torontoeastbridgeclub@gmail.com

- Mon 1:00 pm Supervised, 0 - 20
- Mon 7:00 pm Open and 0-20
- Wed 12:30 pm Open and 0-20

**Our next Board meeting will be
held on Mon., May 25, at 7:00 pm.**



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K9K 0E1 *tel. 705-876 8138 email. lynstevens@hotmail.ca*

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email. tweedguy@gmail.com

SUPPLY MANAGER: Paul Campbell
47 Herrell Ave., Barrie, L4N 6T7
email. pacam1947@hotmail.com

UNIT 246 FACE-TO-FACE BRIDGE CLUBS

AJAX BRIDGE CLUB

46 Exeter Rd., Ajax
Sonia Ostroff
905-419-0870

- Tues 7:15 pm Open

AURORA BRIDGE CLUB

406 Millard Ave, Newmarket, L3Y 1Z9
905-895-7321

Linda Lord lindaleelord@hotmail.com

- Wed & Fri 12:30 pm Open
- Tues 6:45 pm Open
- Thurs 12:30 pm 0-300

BARRIE BRIDGE CLUB

Unit #3, 18 Alliance Blvd., Barrie
705-721-9233

Jane Foster janekf74@hotmail.com

<https://www.bridgewebs.com/barrie/>

- Mon 1:00 pm 299er
- Tues 1:00 pm Open
- Wed 1:00 pm Open
- Fri 12:00 pm Open

BELLEVILLE DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

Belleville Masonic Temple, 132 Foster Avenue
Belleville, K8N 3P9

Club website: www.bridgewebs.com/belleville

- Tues & Thurs 1:00 pm Open

Club manager - Peter Tarle peter@tarle.com

BLUE MOUNTAIN DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

100 Minnesota Street, Collingwood
705-888-9211

Ruth Eidt rutheidt@gmail.com

- Tues & Thurs 1:00 pm Open

COBOURG DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

232 Spencer Street E., Cobourg

pgiannandrea@gmail.com

- Wed 1:00 pm Open

ORILLIA DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

Orillia Square Mall, Unit 22
1029 Brodie Drive,
Severn Twp. L3V 0V2
705-323-4944

Jean Belfour: jeanbelfour007@gmail.com

Club website: www.bridgewebs.com/Orillia

- Mon 1:00 pm Open
- Wed 1:00 pm 299er
- Thurs 1:00 pm Open

Details at: www.bridgewebs.com/orillia/

NORTH SIMCOE BRIDGE AND GAMES CLUB

(formerly Midland Bridge Club)
The Brooklea Golf and Country Club,
8567 Hwy. 93, Midland

Donna Earl: fredearl@rogers.com

Club website: www.bridgewebs.com/midland/

- Mon 1:00 pm Open
- Tues 7:00pm Learning game
- Wed 1:00 pm Open
- Thurs 1:00 pm Social
- Fri 12:00 pm Bid Euchre

PETERBOROUGH BRIDGE CLUB

184 Marina Blvd., Peterborough
705-745-2331

Birte Ayer birteayer@gmail.com

- Mon 1:00 pm Open
- Mon 1:00 pm 49ers
- Tues 1:00 pm 0-750
(one partner must be under 750 mps)
- Wed 1:00 pm Open
- Thurs 1:00 pm 0-750
- Fri 1:00 pm Open

RICHMOND HILL BRIDGE CLUB

Elgin Barrow Arena, 43 Church Street S,
Richmond Hill, L4C 1W1

Susan Beals sbealsca@yahoo.co.uk

- Thur 12:45 pm Open
- Sat 12:45 pm Open

THORNHILL BRIDGE CLUB

7755 Bayview Ave., Thornhill
905-883-955

Medhat Fawzy medhatfawzy@hotmail.com

- Mon 1:00 pm Open
- Wed 1:00 pm Open

WASHAGO BRIDGE CLUB

4108 Canal Rd., R.R.#2
Washago, L0K 2B0
Anne Sixsmith
647-528-1170

- Friday 12:00 pm Open



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Director at Large: Gary Robertson
7839 Talbot Trail, Blenheim, ON N0P1A0
tel. 519-809-7000 email: garrobert@gmail.com

UNIT 249 FACE-TO-FACE BRIDGE CLUBS

BEACHGROVE BRIDGE CLUB

14134 Riverside Dr East, Windsor, N8N 1B6
519-564-7185
Marica Janisse
Private: May thru December
• Tues 6:30 pm

BREW'S BRIDGE CLUB

770 Maxwell St., Sarnia, 519-381-6792
Randy Breuer
• Tues 1:00 pm Open
• Wed 1:00 pm Open
• Fri 1:00 pm Open

GRAND RIVER BRIDGE CLUB

2481 Kingsway Drive, Kitchener, N2C 1A6
519-893-4595
Kathy Russell

Grand River runs a combination of 11 face-to-face games and one virtual game per week. Please see our website for schedule details.
<https://grandriverbridgeclub.com/>

GODERICH BRIDGE CLUB

Trinity Church 245 Mill Road, Goderich,
519-524-9635
Mary-Lynne Telford
• Tues 1:00 pm Open

Please see our website for schedule details.
<https://www.bridgewebs.com/goderichbridge/home.html>

GUELPH BRIDGE CLUB

23 Victoria Rd N, Guelph, N1E 5G6
519-400-4053
Thea Davis

The Guelph Bridge Club runs a series of 7 face-to-face games per week. Please see our website for schedule details.
<http://www.guelphbridgeclub.org/gametimes.html>

KINCARDINE CHARITY BRIDGE CLUB

601 Durham Street, Kincardine,
226-398-6008

Tom Rajnovich tom.rajanovich@gmail.com

- Mon 12:45 pm Open
- Wed 9:30 am Mentor
- Fri 12:45 pm Open

Please see our website for schedule details:
<https://www.bridgewebs.com/kincardinecharity/>

LAKESHORE BRIDGE CLUB

#594 - 5030 Howard Ave., Oldcastle ON
519-996-4372

Ewoud Van Goch

Rob Garrioch

519-919-4455

- Mon 12:45 pm Open

LONDON BRIDGE CENTRE

9-1106 Dearness Drive, London,
519-601-2582

Angie Francolini presidentlbc@rogers.com

The London Bridge Centre runs 9
face-to-face games per week. Please see
our website for schedule details:

<https://www.londonbridgecentre.ca>

MAPLE CITY DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

304 St Clair St, Chatham
USB Sports Bar downstairs
519-809-7000

Gary Robertson garroberr@gmail.com

- Mon 1:00 pm Open
- Wed 1:00 pm Open

MEAFORD BRIDGE CLUB

Knox Presbyterian Church
591 St. Vincent St., Meaford
226-568-3204

Jan Chappelle janchappelle@gmail.com

- Mon 1:00 pm Open
- Thurs 1:00 pm Open

OWEN SOUND DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

1450 2nd Ave W, Owen Sound
519-372-1922

Patricia Barker

osduplicatebridgeclubnews@gmail.com

- Mon 6:45 pm Open
- Wed 1:00 pm Open

PARKHILL LEISURE CLUB

176 Broadway Street, Parkhill
519-476-3144

Lynn Whalen ldw@execulink.com

SAUGEEN SHORES DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

525 Iving's Dr., Port Elgin,

Manager: John Lightfoot, 519-797-5858

littlebear@bmts.com

Website: [Lake & Bay Bridge](#)

- Tues 1:00 pm Open
- Fri. 1:00 pm Open

SIMCOE DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

150 Colborne St. S.

St. James United Church

Simcoe, N3Y 4H6

519-631-5531

Jim Wright jwr1002393@rogers.com

- Wed 1:00 pm Open

ST. THOMAS DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

225 Chestnut Street, St. Thomas, N5R 5B2
519-631-5531

Jim Wright manager@stthomasbridgeclub.org

- Tues 1:00 pm Open
- Tues 1:00 pm 0-500
- Thur 1:00 pm Open

THE DUNES

Ausable Port Franks Community Centre
9997 Port Franks Road, Port Franks
519-719-2483

Janette Pedler pedlar99@hay.net

TILLSONBURG DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

Tillsonburg Seniors Centre
45 Hardy Ave., Tillsonburg
519-631-5531

Jim Wright jwr1002393@rogers.com

- Fri 1:00 pm Open

WINDSOR SOCIAL DBC

333 Lacasse Blvd. Tecumseh

Roger Papineau rogerpapineau@sympatico.ca

- Wed 12:45 pm Open
- Fri 12:45 pm Open



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Webmaster: Dena Jones

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info@unit255.org

UNIT 255 FACE-TO-FACE BRIDGE CLUBS

BRIDGE CENTRE OF NIAGARA

2E Tremont Drive, #5
St Catharines, ON. 905-704-0446
info@bcon.club

We offer open and/or restricted level games most days.

Please check our website for our current schedule: www.bridgecentreofniagara.com

NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE DUPLICATE BRIDGE CENTRE

NOTL Community Centre,
14 Anderson Lane, NOTL, ON
Claude Tremblay claudet@cmtmc.ca

- Tues 1:00 PM Open
- Fri 1:00 PM Open



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.



In Memoriam

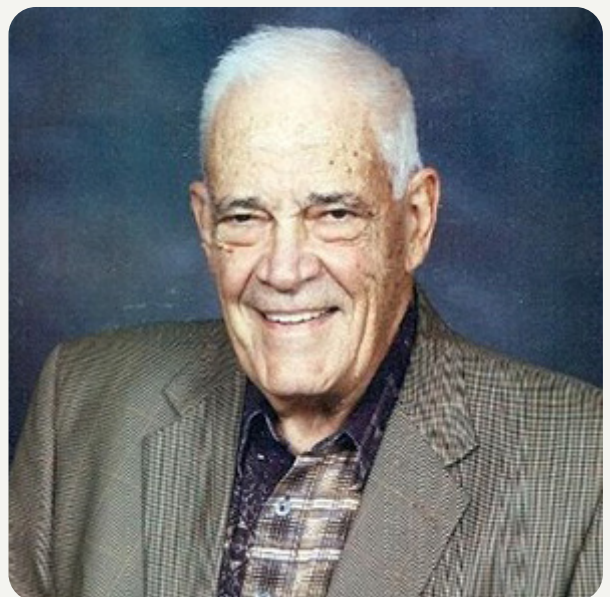


Barb Clinton

Barb was a four-time winner of the Canadian Women's Team Championships in 1994, 2003, 2005, and 2009. While the team's makeup was different each time, Barb always partnered with Joan Eaton. Barb also won the Canadian Mixed Teams Championships in 2020 with Eiji Kujirai who says, "Barb was a very kind and pleasant partner to play with—winning the Canadian Mixed Teams with Barb will always be one of my all-time bridge highlights. I will miss her."

Bruce Gowdy

Bruce became Life Master #269 in 1949, which was a record at the time as he was only 19 years old. Bruce was inducted into the Canadian Bridge Federation Hall of Fame in 2014. His bridge accomplishments were lifelong and many, including winning a bronze medal as part of Canada's team at the World Bridge Olympiad in 1972, and a silver medal in the 2002 World Senior Pairs with Arno Hobart.



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.

2026

February

13-15 St. Catharines
16-22 Sectional Tourney at Clubs
25-Mar 8 NABC St. Louis

March

14-15 Pickering
14-15 St. Catharines I/N
21-22 Guelph (Local)
31-Apr 5 Toronto Easter Regional

April

10-12 Callander, Gateway to the North
18-19 GNTs, Mississauga
20-26 Gatlinburg Regional
23-24 Burlington (Local)

May

2-3 Peterborough (Local)
5-11 Kingston Regional
23-24 Cambridge

June

6-7 Seaforth
24-28 Can-At, Halifax, NS

July

8-19 NABC Minneapolis
21-26 Oakville Regional

August

8-9 Tillsonburg
14-16 Niagara-on-the-Lake, I/N
26-29 Sudbury Regional

September

5-7 Oakville Labour Day

October

14-17 Winnipeg Regional
16-18 Sudbury (Garson)
17-18 London
23-25 Toronto, I/N

November

6-8 St. Catharines
26-Dec. 6 NABC San Diego

All tournaments are Sectionals unless noted.

Deadline for the Spring Kibitzer: Apr. 20, 2025

The Kibitzer

Andy Stark

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