

## PLAY AND LEARN BRIDGE IN A WELCOMING ENVIRONMENT

# **ALERT - March 1, 2021**

# **Top Online Master Point Earners at our Club**

Contributed by Allen Pengelly

This table lists the individuals who have earned the most master points at our club in each of three master point bands between January 1 and February 23.

Open Players				499er Players			99er Players		
	Name	MP			Name	MP		Name	MP
1	David Baker	58.66		1	Suzanne Edwards	26.36	1	Casey Baron	22.28
2	Robert Griffiths	43.18		2	Stephen Nantes	24.68	2	Salvatore Pace	18.87
3	Mike Peng	38.50		3	Brian Kirkconnell	22.99	3	Nanci Phelan	14.30
4	Cindy Mahn	35.94		4	Janet Howell	21.42	4	Renate Boucher	14.34
5	Colin Harrington	26.12		5	Kathy Russell	20.62	5	Virginia Alviano	12.01
6	Bruce Roberts	29.48		6	Sandy Graham	20.50	6	Judy Beauchamp	10.79
7	Margot Stockie	28.98	`	7	Barbara Arthur	20.49	7	Noah Pace	10.18
8	Moira Hollingsworth	28.00		8	Shelley Metcalfe	20.22	8	Joe Blake	9.57
9	Edith Ferber	27.49		9	John Hanemaayer	17.19	8	Steven Allen	9.57
10	David Wilson	26.13		10	Brian Silva	16.31	10	Belinda Burt	9.42
11	Liz McDowell	23.23		11	Robert Giilck	15.72	11	Mary Lynn Benjamins	9.26
12	Ted Boyd	22.69		12	Tony Verhoeven	14.43	11	Ginny Scott	8.62
13	Dianne Aves	21.35		13	David Embury	14.32	13	Susan Kerrigan	8.47
14	David Longstaff	20.31		13	Roy Dandyk	14.32	14	Susan McDonald	8.46
15	Neil Jeffrey	19.59		15	Cheryl Kip	13.82	15	Martin Jones	8.16
16	Adrian Record	17.03	`	16	John Kip	13.53	16	Marlene Dopko	8.02
17	Tom Ramsay	16.08		17	Paul Latimer	12.93	17	Nancy Cattanach	7.74
18	John Vandergrift	13.56		18	Sandy Lee	12.46	18	Anita Hanson	7.71
19	Susan Lawton	13.21		19	Sue Voll	12.18	19	Kathy Chandler	7.69
20	Steve Carpenter	13.02		20	Jim Dalgliesh	12.01	20	Gordon Hunter	7.36
21	Stephen Young	12.14		21	Sue Peterson	11.58	21	Barb Neibert	7.27
22	Peggy Pearson	10.18		22	Adriaan Kempe	10.68	22	Andy Martinek	7.21
23	Scott Hills	9.37		23	Ron Lawrence	10.28	23	Kathleen Burns	7.04
24	Malkin Howes	8.67		24	David Dennis	9.98	24	Molly Worden	6.78
25	Peter Peng	8.05		25	Rebecca Kalbfleisch	9.88	25	Carol Robinson	6.76
							25	Trent Robinson	6.76

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# **Tributes to Joy Dundas**

When I moved from the Montreal area to Kitchener in the early 80s, one of the first friends I made was Joy Dundas. We met through bridge and played often as partners. Joy lived up to her name and was a delight to play with as a partner. We played at club games and occasionally at tournaments up until Joy began directing bridge games. I then became one of her attendants. I always appreciated Joy as a loyal friend, a competent bridge partner, and also the best director I ever encountered. She was fair, and her wonderful people skills were rewarded by the players who loved and respected her.

We had many good times together. One amusing incident I remember from the "good old days" happened at a regional tournament at the Royal York Hotel in Toronto. We had picked up two men at the partnership desk to play with us on a Swiss Team. During the first half of the event in the afternoon, which was comprised of four matches, we blitzed the entire four opposing teams! We were leading the field by so many points that people were telling us that no one would ever be able to catch up to us. Joy and I went out of the hotel to eat dinner and our teammates went elsewhere. When we returned for the evening session, you would never have recognized our afternoon team. Everything went wrong! We lost three matches and barely squeaked out the last one. It was a very humbling experience, and we wondered for some time after whether we had eaten too much for dinner or whether our partners had had too much to drink!

Aside from bridge, Joy was always eager to talk about her wonderful family. She was so proud of them. Family and bridge were always important to her. I have great memories of our friendship. She was such a magnificent person and so totally unassuming. I never heard a bad word about Joy. She was revered by all of her bridge friends. She had remarkable empathy for people in trouble and her advice pertaining to this characteristic was awesome. I know of this personally.

We had little contact in recent years when Joy had health issues, which she fought with courage, and I was absorbed with caring for my husband who was seriously ill. However, occasionally we would see each other at a Cambridge bridge game and there was always time for a hug. I feel blessed to have had Joy for a friend and she will always be at the top of my best friend list. I will always remember her with love.

To her family: Jim, Michelle, Trevor, Angela, the grandchildren, and her sister, my deepest sympathy. Joy will be greatly missed.

Norma Ingram

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Joy was a grande dame. She taught me everything I ever knew that was important about being a game director. She taught me to know and respect the players in the room; to know the best movements; and to know the rules to run a fair game. She taught us (Jonathan and me) how to run team games. If we had questions, she had answers. When she was directing, she had a quiet authority and the respect of the room. Her games had good fields, ran smoothly, and were fair. It looked easy, but she worked at it. She could tell the noisy pair: "You will not play together anymore" and they didn't! She could tell the angry partner: "Ok, that's enough, move along", and they listened! Players expected to lose boards if they played slowly, and they did. I didn't know Joy outside the bridge club but, as a director and as a club owner, she was everything I aspired to be.

Deaun Moulton

I moved to Cambridge in 1999 and heard there was a bridge game downtown. I figured the old people wouldn't start until 9:30 – 10:00, so I arrived about 9:00 and the room was full of 50 - 60 people already playing bridge! (8:30 am start)

Joy asked if she could help me. I responded that I heard there was a bridge game here. My jaw dropped when she said, "You must be Wayne Jordan". Snap of the fingers. "Jim, get up from there." It did me no good to protest; Joy sat me down with 85-year-old Ann Goodall (who nobody wanted to play with). We did OK ... came first with 62% ... names in the paper. Next week, same thing ... first, with 62%. So, Ann and I played together for years!

As a stranger, I instantly had dozens of acquaintances, some becoming close friends ... Diane Bourdeau ... Paul Street ...Marian Wright ... Doug Foley ... and many others. Joy and Jim were giving people, running free casual games and lessons, always there to help. They worked tirelessly to build the Cambridge club, with no compensation except the knowledge they were helping tons of people fill their time, have a lot of fun and build new, strong relationships. If there is a heaven (and you get there), don't be surprised to see Joy and Jim Dundas sitting as close as dammit to the Big Guy.

P.S. I told my future wife I wouldn't move from Toronto unless she learned to play bridge, that we had to have more than one common activity. She took lessons from Terry Krafchik, who insisted I come too, and it was Terry who alerted Joy to the fact I'd be dropping in to the Cambridge club. God bless two of my favourite people!! Wayne Jordan

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Joy was the person who re-introduced me to bridge after a 30-year lay off. I had always kept my ACBL membership for the *Bulletin*, and one day - out of the blue - this lady called me and told me that there was a tournament coming up and did I want to play? Knowing I was rusty, I demurred but said I would play at her club if she could find me a partner. And that was 15 years ago.

Joy and Norma were always the "designated callers" for our sectional tournament... calling all of our members to remind and encourage them to play. A task only a dedicated bridge player would undertake - thankless, but valuable.

Many thanks to Joy and her love of the game.

Ted Boyd

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I am grateful to Joy for all that she did for bridge: directing, teaching, and running the Cambridge Bridge Club. For me she modelled what a good director does and how to manage a club. She gave generously of herself, putting in countless hours, week after week, year after year.

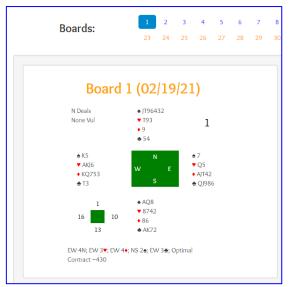
Joy was responsible for getting me back into this game of bridge that we all love. I had taken lessons but then didn't play while my family was young and my career was getting established. Twenty years later, I called Joy to ask if I could try out a social game. "Come for the open game on Thursday morning" she said. I did and she partnered me with Paul Street who I played with for many years. In all those years that I played and she directed, the games ran flawlessly. She made it look easy.

In 2018, Joy was having health problems and needed to retire. She pleaded with me to take over the club because she was deeply concerned about her club members - her bridge family. Joy knew the importance of the bridge family and how for some members it was their main support. I accepted the position and started the impossible task of following in her footsteps. Joy introduced so many of us to bridge and welcomed us into her bridge family. This is what I am most grateful for. Thank you, Joy.

Diane Bourdeau

# TCG - The Common Game: More Game Results, Part 6 Contributed by Jack Cole

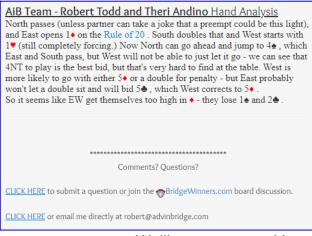
We continue our look at the results of recent matches. Follow the "**The Common Game ClubWebResults Page**" link from your Common Game email to a list of GRBC sessions, and find the session of interest. I'll use the 499er game from February 19 as an example, if you want to follow along. There are two links per session, titled "Game Type" and "Sections HR".



Click on the latter link, named "Leaderboard" (called Open or 299 for some reason). This Leaderboard web page is all about the hands, and the results in the Big Field (in this case, ~ 500 pairs). Your own club results will be the subject in a couple of weeks. Scroll way down, below the Leaderboards, until you see the click-able list of boards, and Board 1, as shown on the left. You can choose any board; I'll stick with #1.

Below the hand layout is the computer's Double Dummy analysis of make-able contracts. Optimal is 4NT for E/W, but the most interesting stuff comes next.

To the right, for the first few hands of the game, we can read an **expert analysis** of each deal. The experts discuss the bidding and key points in the play. They sometimes reference other topics (notice the Rule of 20 link here), **and** you can submit questions to them! There is also a link to a sister site (BridgeWinners.com) where sometimes further discussion ensues, and additional hands from the match are analysed by members. Only about eight hands are analysed, but it's **free expert help!** This analysis is especially useful if you



wonder whether anyone could have found that elusive no trump game. We'll see, next week!

If you missed one of the five previous exciting installments, you can remedy this by clicking on our Alert archives.

# More Reasons for Playing Bridge

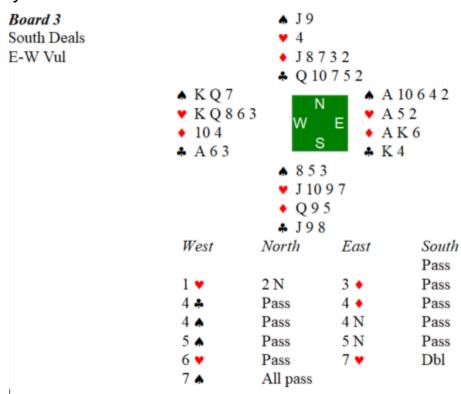
Kim Wakeford has drawn to our attention this short video on the ancillary benefits of playing bridge (besides being fun).

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One Bid Too Many

Contributed by Robert Griffiths



EW 7N; EW 7♠; EW 6♥; EW 3♦; EW 2♠; Par -1520

West dealt and opened 1♥. North took advantage of the vulnerability and bid 2NT. This is the unusual no trump, promising at least 5-5 in the minors. North was suggesting that, at this vulnerability, N/S might find a successful sacrifice against an E/W contract. Not to be this time. E/W were using a defence against the unusual no trump called unusual versus unusual. North's bid promised both minor suits, and E/W's agreement was that if East now cuebid the lower minor, clubs, it would show a good hand with the lower major, hearts. If he cuebid the higher minor, diamonds, it would show a good hand with the higher major, spades. With these bids available to show strong (limit raise or better) hands, a direct bid of either major would promise less than a limit raise.

East wasn't sure whether he should show his heart support or his good spades, finally deciding to bid 3♦ which would show a good hand with spades. South passed and West, liking his spade support cuebid 4♣. This bid promised spade support and showed a control in clubs. After North's pass, East, liking his 18 HCP more and more, bid 4♠. While his previous diamond cuebid had promised spades, the 4♦ cuebid promised a good hand with a diamond control. West could do no more than bid 4♠, the known fit.

East wasn't through though (can I put those words together?). He liked the double fit (hearts and spades) and his partner's implied A, so he bid 4NT, asking for keycards, and West replied with A, showing two keycards in spades plus the AQ. East asked about kings with a 5NT bid and heard that West had the AK.

With everything falling into place, East decided to bid the grand slam. While both East and West knew about the spade fit, West did not know about the double fit – and so East came up with a 7♥ bid, offering West the choice.

South, knowing he had a heart trick, impulsively doubled (not thinking about what that might lead to). West, hearing the double and afraid of a bad heart split, tried 7♠ which was passed out. Here's the auction again, with the meaning of the key bids.

West	North	East	South	
1H	2NT (1)	3 (2)	Р	
4 (3)	Р	4 (4)	Р	
4♠	Р	4NT (5)	Р	
<b>5</b> ♠ (6)	Р	5NT (7)	Р	
<b>6♥</b> (8)	Р	<b>7♥</b> (9)	X (10)	
7♠ (11)	Р	Р	P (12)	

- 1) Unusual NT for minors
- 2) Unusual vs Unusual showing spades
- 3) Cuebid agreeing to Spades, promising a club control
- 4) Showing a diamond control
- 5) Asking for keycards in spades
- 6) 2 keycards + the ♠Q
- 7) Kings?
- 8) **∀**K
- 9) You didn't know I had hearts too!
- 10) You can't make 7 hearts
- 11) Sounds like a bad heart break
- 12) Oops

West might or might not have passed 7♥, but South's double ensured West would run to spades.

If the opponents have stumbled into a bad contract, you should be sure they have no better landing spot before you warn them off with a double.

# **Out of the Mouths of Babes**

While eating breakfast with my ten-year-old granddaughter, I asked her "What day is it tomorrow?" Without skipping a beat, she replied, "President's Day".

She's quite smart, so I asked her "What does President's Day mean?"

I was waiting for something about Washington, Lincoln, Bush, Clinton, or Obama.

She replied, "President's Day is when the president steps outside the White House. If he sees his shadow, we'll have another year of BS."

You know it hurts when hot coffee spurts out of your nose.

Contributed by Suzanne Edwards

## "WHAT A WONDERFUL WAY TO LEARN!"

Contributed by Cheryl Kip

"We had so much fun." "We were so fortunate to be coached by..." "This was a wonderful opportunity."

This is just a small sample of the responses received following our coaching sessions. Since the club first offered these learning opportunities, 180 players have taken advantage of playing with and learning from a more advanced player.

Many thanks to the wonderful coaches who said "Sure, I'd be glad to help out" and volunteered their time and expertise.

**BEGINNER COACHES:** Jane Rushby, Sue Anderson, Sue Moses, Sandy Lee, Judy Beauchamp, David Dennis, Marlene Dopko, Isabel Hetherington, Sue Peterson, Jack Cole, Malkin Howes, Judy Bailey, Sue McDonald, Donna McKay, Elaine Doyle, and Lynda Burnett **0-199 COACHES:** Sue Lawton, Sandy Graham, Jean Farhood, Vivian Zochowski, Sharon Boyd, Roz Shortt, Mary McClelland, Sue Moses, Lori Cole, Paul Latimer, John Hanemaayer, Sue Peterson, Dianne Aves, Kevin Latter, Lynda Burnett, George Pepall, Bonnie Kains, and Neil Jeffrey

**0-499 COACHES:** Stephen Carpenter, Moira Hollingsworth, Ted Boyd, Adrian Record, Sharon King, Peggy Pearson, Neil Coburn, and Mike Peng

Many of the above coached two or more groups. I sure hope I didn't miss anyone! We are so fortunate to have these helpful, gracious players at our club.

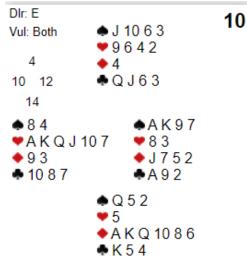
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# Dear David Dear David

# To Bid or Not to Bid: That is the Question!

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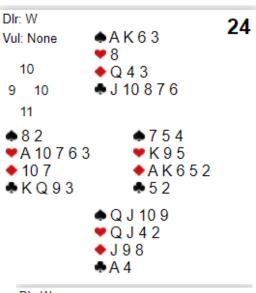
Whether 'tis nobler in the mind to suffer the slings and arrows of outrageous partners, or to take arms against a sea of troublesome opponents.......



East opens 1♦ and South bids??? 2♦ would show the majors, and 3♦ is pre-emptive (not this hand), and double would be silly with this shape. So West bids 1♥, North passes, and East bids 1♠. Now is the time.

Now, a 3♦ must show a good hand (no original pre-empt). West refuses to be shut out and bids 3♥, and now East believes she has enough to bid 4♥. I am pleased to report that, barring a defensive disaster, West has to lose two diamonds and two clubs, proving that pre-empts work. I

am less pleased to report that we had a defensive disas-



Three passes to South, who does not have the values for a traditional opening bid. However, if South opens 1♦, he can pass partner's response. But whenever you open the bidding in fourth seat with 10 or 11 points, everyone else has 9-11 points and they all have something to say, making you very unhappy you started this mess. 1♦-1♥-dbl-2♥. Bidding 2♠ now might cause partner to get a bit exuberant, so you pass, and the auction continues p-dbl-p-2♠-3♥-3♠-all pass. If South had bid 2♠ right away, North would be justified in proceeding straight to game. As it was, good technique produced nine tricks and a top. Curiously, no one passed this hand out.

DIr: W 16 Q 6 3 Vul: E-W ♥J9732 12 A 14 8 KQ82 6 J 7 5 A K 10 9 8 4 2 ♥ A 5 4 ♦ KQ62 843 A 5 3 J 9 6 Q 1086 J 10 9 7 5

1 ◆-1 ▼-1 ★ to South. The theme of these three hands is "prepare for the future". How many hearts should South bid? Whatever he does, the opponents will bid many more spades. Since it looks like they might have a spade game, it's time to think about a sacrifice because they are vulnerable and you are not. You can either pass and hope they don't bid game, or you can employ a tactic called "walking the dog". If you bid 2 ▼, they will bid spades. Then you bid the minimum number of hearts each time until they give up and double. 5 ★ does not make, but 5 ▼ does. Slow and steady wins the race. Walking.



# Flowers Who Are Born to Blush Unseen

# Contributed by Louise Dawdy and Kathy Chandler

This week we are featuring **Sue Moses** as our volunteer par excellence. Sue is one of GRBC's Volunteer Coordinators, and as such she is in charge of co-ordinating all of the beginner coaching groups – a huge job - and of course Sue is coaching several of the groups herself. Sue has also served on the GRBC board of directors.

As a retired teacher who taught almost every grade level in primary, middle, and high school, being a "bridge coach" is a natural fit. As with all great teachers, tutors, and coaches, Sue delights in the "lightbulb" moments when her students grasp a concept and feel that "well now, that finally makes sense!".

Sue started playing bridge in high school, as well as a bit in teacher's college, but it wasn't until retirement that time truly allowed for her to play and excel. When referring to her earlier years, Sue said "I really hoped that I could just pass all the time at first, as it was really scary and I knew nothing. It wasn't until a friend hooked Brenda (Semple) and me up as partners and gave us a place to play together that bridge started to make sense."

<u>Sue's Best Piece of Advice</u> "One of the best pieces of advice I can give a beginner besides play, play, is to find a good partner. By good, I mean someone who wants to get to the same level of bridge as you, someone who forgives you and realizes that bridge is a team game and that both of you will have good days and bad days. Treasure your partner, build them up when they are having bad games, and be willing to discuss methods until you both agree and understand. Talk to your partner honestly and in private often."

Sue's other interests include reading (authors: Lars Kepler, Rhys Bowen, Preston & Child), sewing, knitting mitts, and TV (Superstore, Sabrina). In regular times, Sue tutors math and volunteers at the library, as well as at Monica Place. She loves spending time with her two grand-children ('they make my heart smile"). When not able to smother them with hugs, they "zoom" and read books together.

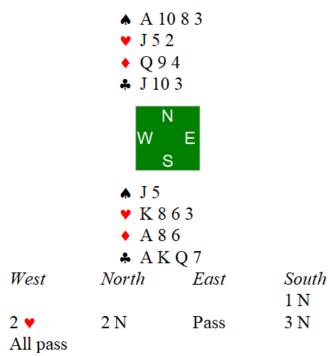
When talking about GRBC, Sue says: "The club has been a wonderful place to play bridge a lot, but more importantly to make friends. Most of my friends have been called on to help out as Brenda and I are the Volunteer Co-ordinators, so being my friend might not be good for them."

Reflecting on her time on the board of directors, Sue says: "Being on the board opened my eyes to the behind-the-scenes running of the club. I have been fortunate to see the kindness, generosity, and time that most of our members so freely give." When asked what she is most looking forward to post pandemic: "I miss the hugs and smiles from my family and friends. When this is over, watch out everyone - because you are all getting lots of long teary hugs."



# Jake's Challenges

Last week, Jake's challenge #12 inexplicably disappeared from the Alert. Here it is (at least we hope so). The solution can be found on our Facebook page.



<sup>\*</sup> Alerted as DONT (meaning at least 5-4 or 4-5 in the major suits)
Sitting South, I opened one no trump. West then bid two hearts, which is DONT. My partner then bid two no trump, inviting me to game, which I accepted as I had a maximum one no trump opener.

West led the ♠7. I played a small spade from Dummy, East followed with a small spade, and I won the trick with my jack. It was quite likely that I could have won the opening lead with dummy's eight (based on the Rule of 11), but I was planning ahead. I cashed four good clubs, discarding a small diamond from Dummy, while West discarded a small diamond and a small spade and East contributed four clubs.

I led a small heart from my hand at Trick 6. West rose with the queen, followed by small hearts from Dummy and East. West then exited with the ◆3 at Trick 7.

Here's what it looked like after six tricks had been played. What now?



# LESSONS NOT YET LEARNED



**Opening Light and Drury** 

It's not too late to sign up for this workshop.

Regular partners may find it beneficial to attend as a pair.

Level: Novice/Intermediate Instructor: Stephen Carpenter

Date: Wednesday, March 10, 9:30 am - noon



# **Beginners 2**

This five-week course is a continuation of Beginners 1 and is suitable for the graduates of Beginners 1, as well as people who played bridge in the distant past but have been away from the game for some time. All concepts are reviewed and reinforced. Bidding is emphasized, including take-out doubles and responses and ace-asking conventions. The principles of declaring no trump and suit contracts will be covered. The same text is used for both beginner courses.

Level: Beginner

Cost: \$75 (\$85 if textbook not already purchased)

Instructor: Allen Pengelly

Dates: Thursdays, March 11, 18, 25, April 1, 8, 6:30 pm – 9:00 pm

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Click <u>here</u> for our workshops for advancing players – including ten new workshops for the spring season (\$20 for members, \$25 for non-members).

Click <u>here</u> for more information about Beginners 2 and to register.

Click here for information about how to pay for your lessons (scroll down).

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# Coming Virtual Activities

- Friday, February 26, 12:30 pm, 99er game, (20-22 boards) \$7
- Friday, February 26, 1:00 pm, 499er game (26-28 boards) \$7
- Friday, February 26, 7:00 pm, open game (26-28 boards) \$7
- Saturday, February 27, 1:00 pm, 199er game (20-22 boards) \$7
- Sunday, February 28, 10:00 am, 499er game, (18 boards) \$7
- Monday, March 1, 12:30 pm, 49er game (18 boards @ 8 minutes) \$5
- Monday, March 1, 1:00 pm, open game (26-28 boards) \$5
- Monday, March 1, 7:00 pm, 499er game (24 boards) \$5
- Tuesday, March 2, 12:30 pm, 199er game (20-22 boards) \$5
- Tuesday, March 2, 1:00 pm, open game (26-28 boards) \$5
- Wednesday, March 3, 1:00 pm, 499er game (26-28 boards) \$5
- Wednesday, March 3, 6:45 pm, 199er game (20-22 boards) \$5
- Wednesday, March 3, 7:00 pm, open game (24 boards) \$5
- Thursday, March 4, 9:30 am, 99er game (20-22 boards) \$5
- Thursday, March 4, 1:00 pm, open game (26-28 boards) \$5
- Thursday, March 4, 7:00 pm, 999er game (24 boards) \$5

We have fun in **spades**.
We play with all our **hearts**.
We treat our members like **diamonds**.
We are very grateful to the volunteers at our **club**.