



PLAY AND LEARN BRIDGE IN A WELCOMING ENVIRONMENT

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ALERT – November 29, 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 since the beginning of October.

Open Players			499er Players			99er Players		
	Name	MP		Name	MP		Name	MP
1	David Baker	48.71	1	Suzanne Edwards	15.94	1	Reinhold Kauk	9.16
2	Margot Stockie	32.06	2	Kathy Russell	14.12	2	Joe Blake	8.64
3	Cindy Mahn	30.45	3	Stephen Nantes	11.40	3	Steven Allen	8.14
4	Moira Hollingsworth	25.07	4	Shelley Metcalfe	11.17	4	Elinor Girouard	7.05
5	Colin Harrington	20.40	5	Brian Kirkconnell	9.82	5	Marg Sanderson	6.75
6	Edith Ferber	19.32	6	Jim Dalgliesh	8.95	6	Belinda Burt	6.20
7	Bruce Roberts	18.65	7	Sue Voll	8.93	7	Donald Rieger	6.12
8	Mike Peng	18.09	8	Aggie Udvari	8.34	8	Nancy Cattanach	5.94
9	Robert Griffiths	16.74	9	Joan Slover	8.19	9	Donna McKay	5.90
10	Liz McDowell	16.12	10	Kevin Latter	7.93	10	ML Benjamins	5.74
11	David Wilson	14.13	11	Barbara Lindsay	7.90	11	Kathleen Burns	5.34
12	Neil Jeffrey	14.07	12	Nanci Phelan	7.56	12	Virginia Alviano	5.25
13	Tom Ramsay	13.97	13	Robert Gilck	7.32	13	Martin Jones	5.01
14	Ted Boyd	12.85	14	Renate Boucher	7.20	14	Molly Worden	4.94
15	Malkin Howes	12.17	15	Roy Dandyk	6.80	15	Steven Reinhart	4.61
16	Dianne Aves	11.90	16	Andy Wilson	6.62	15	Sandra Hennessey	4.61
17	Stephen Young	10.95	17	Ted Kennedy	6.49	17	Don O'Bright	4.28
18	David Longstaff	9.48	18	Cheryl Kip	6.07	17	Richard Wehrle	4.28
19	Ronald Sayle	8.54	19	Judy Beauchamp	6.04	19	Joani Horvath	4.22
19	Paul Stillman	8.54	20	Adriaan Kempe	5.98	20	Liz Graham	4.10
19	Sharon King	8.54	21	Susan Kerrigan	5.71	21	Valirie Binkle	3.98
22	John Moser	8.35	22	John Kip	5.64	22	MJ Hartleib	3.86
23	Sandy Graham	7.76	23	Jim Veitch	5.59	23	Kim Hauley	3.84
24	Wayne Schroeder	7.53	24	Marlene Dopko	5.55	24	Ginny Scott	3.83
25	John Vandergriff	7.45	25	Lynda Burnett	5.49	25	Susan Durance	3.82



New Player Profiles

By Louise Dawdy

Today we are highlighting new player Kevin Loader.

Kevin started playing bridge when his brother-in-law moved to Kitchener from Whitehorse and needed a partner. They played together for a year or so at a local community centre before his brother moved again (Kevin adds: “perhaps for not leading his suit one too many times”).

Not long after that, COVID took away face-to-face options, and Kevin’s bridge playing became limited to playing online with robots. Salvation came when his wife Hilary decided to take the plunge and attend the GRBC Learn to Play Bridge in a Day course at the start of 2021.

As so often happens with gateway drugs, one thing led to another, Beginner 1 begat Beginner 2, and then coaching followed until - as you may guess, dear reader - Kevin partnered with his wife! They now look forward to playing in the 0-19 tournament every Thursday evening and are slowly progressing in their bridge journey together.

Insofar as best-lesson-learned goes, Kevin has come to realize that no sooner do you come across a useful rule or principle than exceptions come along to make things more complicated! But a useful tip that has helped his bidding is “Don’t tell the same story twice”. Kevin feels that this principle has helped him focus on the right bidding options, including most importantly PASS.

Also, Kevin has found that analyzing bad boards can be a big help. It helps identify where he deviated from the norm and figure out why it cost him, as well as expose bad habits (many he didn’t realize he possessed).

When not playing bridge, Kevin works as a planner/scheduler for a local poultry company.

Kevin also enjoys listening to an eclectic range of music (all the way from hard rock and blues to folk and classical), playing guitar, and trying his hand at a wide range of cuisine.

With some light at the end of the long COVID tunnel, Kevin is looking forward to the return of live music and, most of all, putting faces to the many BBO user names when live bridge returns.

Welcome, Kevin!

Puns and Groaners

- The roundest knight at King Arthur’s round table was Sir Cumference. He acquired his size from too much pi.
 - Time flies like an arrow. Fruit flies like a banana.
 - A hole has been found in the nudist camp wall. The police are looking into it.
 - She was only a whiskey maker, but he loved her still.
 - A sign on the lawn at a drug rehab centre said: ‘Keep off the Grass’.
-

Guelph Bridge Club Christmas Parties

Contributed by Tom Ramsay, President

Please join us for our second annual online Christmas party on Saturday, December 4. We'll have a two-session game (single session entries welcome) with three flights. Price: \$7 BBO.

- 0-199 flight - 9:30 am and 1:45 pm
- 0-749 flight - 9:45 am and 2:00 pm
- Open flight - 10:00 am and 2:15 pm

Prizes of \$10 LCBO gift cards (Tim Horton's cards substituted on request) will be awarded as follows for each flight. You must play both sessions to qualify for a prize.

This is a special Christmas game and everyone is welcome. Just sign on to BBO 20-30 minutes before each session as for a regular game.

We will also be hosting a live Christmas party at the club on Saturday, December 18. Details are still being worked out and will be announced shortly. This will give us two chances to wish a Merry Christmas to all our players and thank them for their support in 2021. Cheers to all.

Time You Learned Your Lessons!

Registration for the winter beginners' lessons has now been enabled. Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

- Our introductory session **Learn Bridge in a Day**, will take place on Saturday, January 8, and it will be ONLINE. Learn Bridge in a Day offers its participants a taste of bridge so they can find out if they would be interested in learning how to play our game.
- **Beginners 1**, a series of five lessons, will be offered on Thursday nights from 6:30 pm – 9:00 pm ONLINE. The first lesson will take place on Thursday, January 13, 2022.
- **Beginners 2**, another series of five lessons, will be offered on Thursday nights from 6:30 pm – 9:00 pm in the teaching room at our club. The first lesson will take place on March 10, 2022.

All of our lessons for advancing players will start after our re-opening and will be in person. Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

- John Hanemaayer recorded his **novice** workshop on **Filling out your Convention Card**, and it is available for \$10.
- Stephen Carpenter recorded his **novice** workshop on **Killer Signals**, and it is available for \$10.

To order one or both of these recordings, send in your payment specifying what it is for (click [here](#) for information on how to pay).





Picturing Defenders' Hands

Contributed by Robert Griffiths

Board 12		♠ 8 6 5 4	
South Deals		♥ J 7	
E-W Vul		♦ A J 7	
		♣ A Q 7 2	
♠ J 9 7 3	<div style="display: inline-block; background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> N W E S </div>	♠ A 10	
♥ Q 10 9 3		♥ K 8 6 5 4	
♦ Q 10 6		♦ 8 4 3	
♣ 8 3		♣ J 10 9	
		♠ K Q 2	
		♥ A 2	
		♦ K 9 5 2	
		♣ K 6 5 4	
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
			1 N
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	2 ♦
Pass	3 N	All pass	

South opened 1NT, and a simple Stayman sequence quickly landed him as declarer in 3NT. West led the ♥3 and South considered. He knew that West was a good standard player who would reliably lead the fourth-best of his longest suit. Since the ♥3 was the lowest outstanding heart, he was confident that West held four hearts and East five.

South saw no advantage to holding up, won Trick 1 and counted tricks. He had high hopes for four clubs, two diamonds and one heart and thus needed to find two more tricks. But he could not lose the lead - the defence had already established four hearts.

First, he played his top clubs and was happy to see the 3-2 split, but the opponents threw nothing helpful as South ran the clubs. At Trick 6, he led a small diamond to Dummy's jack, and when the jack won he had his eighth trick. When he cashed Dummy's ♦A, West dropped the queen. Now, South led the ♦7 off the board and East played low, South had to choose - had West started with the doubleton Q6 of diamonds or the Q106?

If South had paid attention to West's hand, he would have a big clue. West had shown four hearts and two clubs and either two or three diamonds. But if West held only two diamonds as his play of the queen suggested, that would leave him with five spades. Is it likely that West would lead from a broken four-card heart suit if he held a longer spade suit? South thought "No, he wouldn't", and reasoned that West must have started with four hearts, four spades and two clubs, leaving him with three diamonds. Accordingly, Declarer played the ♦K, capturing the ♦T and making four diamond tricks and his contract.

West's play of the ♦Q on the second lead of the suit is a falsecard that every player should make. The first diamond lead established that West held the ♦Q. Now his 10 and his queen were equals. If West thoughtlessly were to play the ♦10 on the lead of Dummy's ace, South will confidently play his king on the third round of the suit, knowing that West still holds the queen. Playing the queen is the only way to give South the chance to go wrong.

When you have a choice, play the card you are known to have.



Dear David

Getting In

It is frustrating as a defender when you have winning tricks in your hand but no entry to cash them. Let's look at one way your partner can help you realize your winners,

W	N	E	S
	P	1♥	P
2♣	P	3♣	P
3NT	P	P	P

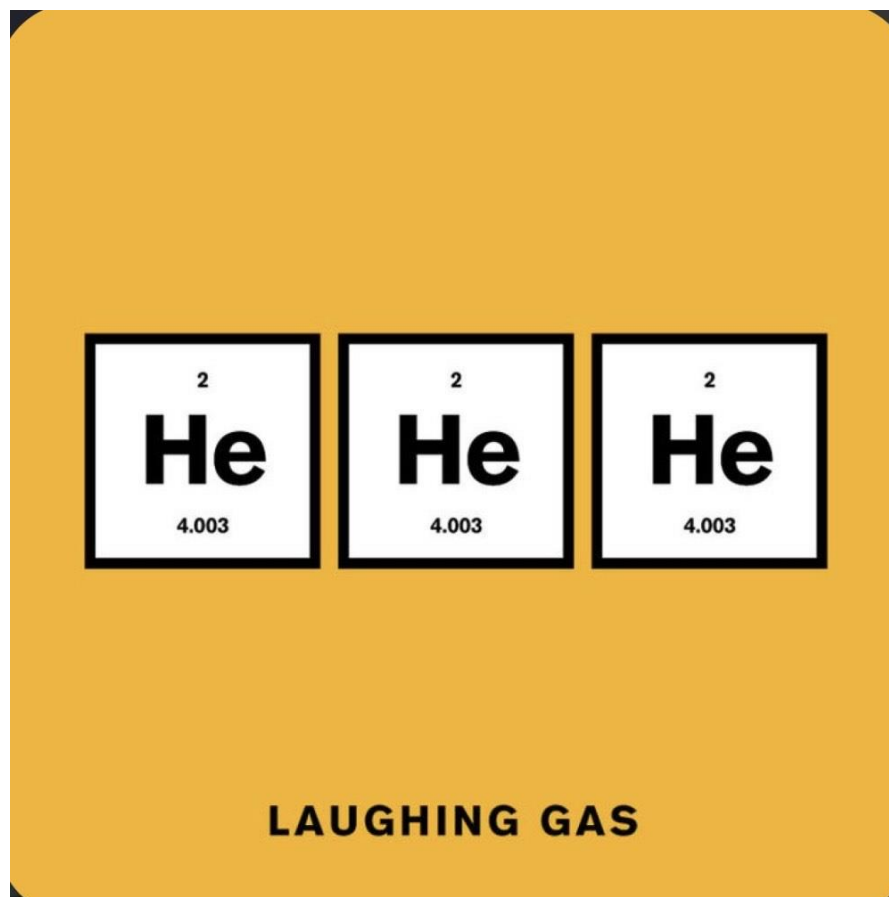
<div style="border: 1px solid white; padding: 2px; display: inline-block; margin-bottom: 10px;">♦6</div> <div style="border: 1px solid white; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">♦2</div>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr style="background-color: #000080; color: white;"> <th style="padding: 5px;">E</th> <th style="padding: 5px;">East</th> </tr> <tr style="background-color: #cccccc;"> <td style="padding: 5px;">♠</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">AQ9</td> </tr> <tr style="background-color: #cccccc;"> <td style="padding: 5px;">♥</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">A10865</td> </tr> <tr style="background-color: #cccccc;"> <td style="padding: 5px;">♦</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">42</td> </tr> <tr style="background-color: #cccccc;"> <td style="padding: 5px;">♣</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">A73</td> </tr> </table>	E	East	♠	AQ9	♥	A10865	♦	42	♣	A73				
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♠	AQ9														
♥	A10865														
♦	42														
♣	A73														
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr style="background-color: #ffff00;"> <th style="padding: 5px;">S</th> <th style="padding: 5px;">South</th> </tr> <tr style="background-color: #cccccc;"> <td style="padding: 5px;">♠</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">8732</td> </tr> <tr style="background-color: #cccccc;"> <td style="padding: 5px;">♥</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">J9</td> </tr> <tr style="background-color: #cccccc;"> <td style="padding: 5px;">♦</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">AJ9</td> </tr> <tr style="background-color: #cccccc;"> <td style="padding: 5px;">♣</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">K964</td> </tr> </table>	S	South	♠	8732	♥	J9	♦	AJ9	♣	K964	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr style="background-color: #ffff00;"> <td colspan="2" style="padding: 5px;">Select cards to play for all 4 players</td> </tr> <tr style="background-color: #cccccc;"> <td style="padding: 5px;">3NT W</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">NS: 0 EW: 0</td> </tr> </table>	Select cards to play for all 4 players		3NT W	NS: 0 EW: 0
S	South														
♠	8732														
♥	J9														
♦	AJ9														
♣	K964														
Select cards to play for all 4 players															
3NT W	NS: 0 EW: 0														

You are sitting South defending 3NT, and your partner leads the ♦6. As usual, let's take some time at Trick 1 to think about what we know. Declarer should have at least 12 HCP for his game bid. Adding dummy's 14 and your 9 gets you to 35 HCP. If partner has a diamond honour, he can have at most an outside king, which will not be an entry to his hand because the other three aces are in dummy. If you take your ace at Trick 1 and lead back the jack, you will get only four or five diamond tricks if partner has K10xx or K10xxx. If she has Kxxx or Kxxxx, declarer will cover the jack with the queen and his 10 will be high.

What if partner has Q10xx or Q10xxx? Declarer will win the third round of diamonds with the king and your partner will never get her winners because you have no diamonds left. What to do? If you wish to forgo the chance of taking all five diamond tricks, there is a better way. Here is the hand.

D 21		N North ♠ J64 ♥ Q743 ♦ Q10865 ♣ 10	W N E S P P 1♥ P 2♣ P 3♣ P 3NT P P P
		W West ♠ K105 ♥ K2 ♦ K73 ♣ QJ852	E East ♠ AQ9 ♥ A10865 ♦ 42 ♣ A73
		S South ♠ 8732 ♥ J9 ♦ AJ9 ♣ K964	Select cards to play for all 4 players 3NT W NS: 0 EW: 0

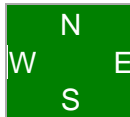
Bridgers often lose sight of the fact that their opponents cannot see their hand. What will Declarer think if you play the jack at Trick 1? He might think that South has Jxx and North has AQxxx, in which case he has to take his king right away lest the opponents take five off-the-top tricks in the suit. Declarer will almost never get this one right. If your opponent makes this play against you (holds up his king), type "wdo" (well done opponent) and move on to the next hand.



For Intermediate *Jake's*
Play a Bad Hand Well

#50

♠ A Q J
 ♥ Q 10 3
 ♦ 9 5 2
 ♣ A J 5 4



♠ 8 4 3
 ♥ A 2
 ♦ A J 10 8 6 4
 ♣ K 9

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	1 ♣	1 ♥	Dbf
Pass	1 N	2 ♥	3 ♦
3 ♥	4 ♦	Pass	5 ♦
All pass			

West led the ♥5 and I tried the ♥10 from the board, but it was covered by the ♥J (not too surprising). What would you do now?

SOLUTION


You have three potential losers: a spade, a heart, and a diamond, but you can lose only two tricks if you are to make your contract. How can you eliminate one of your losers?

Judging by the bidding, East is likely to hold all three kings along with the ♥J. However, West did make a peep during the bidding and might have a couple of queens in the minor suits. If this analysis is correct, the only decent chance to make your contract is to finesse West for the ♣Q in order to discard a losing heart on the third good club.

Since ducking at Trick 1 offers you no advantage, take your ♥A. But now you have a fast heart loser, meaning you have to work on clubs immediately. Cash the ♣K and lead the ♣9 from your hand at Trick 3. If West doesn't play the ♣Q, cross your fingers and play dummy's ♣J. If it wins, cash the board's ♣A pitch your heart loser.

(If West happens to play the ♣Q at Trick 3, you of course take the trick with dummy's ♣A and discard a heart loser on the ♣J. And if East turns up with the ♣Q, down two is good bridge.)

Here is the full hand.

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

As you can see, your plan works on this layout and you lose only the ♠K and ♦Q to make your contract.



New 0-999 Game on Monday Evenings Starting at 6:45 pm

As recommended by several members, the viability of a second 0-999 game will be tested beginning on November 29. Those who wish this game to continue should be sure to provide their ongoing support, as an early review will be conducted with the game's continuity dependent on sufficient participants.

Coming Virtual Events

- Friday, November 26, 12:30 pm, **99er game, (20-22 boards) \$5**
- Friday, November 26, 1:00 pm, **499er game (24 boards) \$5**
- Friday, November 26, 7:00 pm, **open game (24 boards) \$5**
- Saturday, November 27, 1:00 pm, **199er game (20-22 boards) \$5**
- Sunday, November 28, 10:00 am, **499er game (18 boards) \$5**
- Monday, November 29, 12:30 pm, **49er game (18 boards @ 8 minutes) \$5**
- Monday, November 29, 1:00 pm, **open game (24 boards) \$5**
- **Monday, November 29, 6:45 pm, 999er game (24 boards) \$5** 
- Monday, November 29, 7:00 pm, **499er game (24 boards) \$5**
- Tuesday, November 30, 12:30 pm, **199er game (20-22 boards) \$5**
- Tuesday, November 30, 1:00 pm, **open game (24 boards) \$5**
- Wednesday, December 1, 1:00 pm, **499er game (24 boards) \$5**
- Wednesday, December 1, 6:45 pm, **199er game (20-22 boards) \$5**
- Wednesday, December 1, 7:00 pm, **open game (24 boards) \$5**
- Thursday, December 2, 9:30 am, **99er game (20-22 boards) \$5**
- Thursday, December 2, 1:00 pm, **open game (24 boards) \$5**
- Thursday, December 2, 6:30 pm, **19er game \$5**
- Thursday, December 2, 7:00 pm, **999er game (24 boards) \$5**
- Saturday, December 11, **Christmas Games**

If you would like to play in a particular game but lack a partner that day, you can either:

- ♠ Log in to [Pianola](#), click on Partner Finder, and create a Partner Finder Advert. This needs to be done at least a few hours in advance of the game. OR
- ♠ Log in to the game in question and register yourself on the Partnership Desk tab.

If you are looking for a regular partner, contact [Cheryl Kip](#), our membership lead.

We have fun in **spades**.
We play with all our **hearts**.
We treat our members like **diamonds**.
We are offering a new 999er game at our **club**.