



PLAY AND LEARN BRIDGE IN A WELCOMING ENVIRONMENT

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ALERT – December 6, 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	54.60	1	Kathy Russell	16.81	1	Reinhold Kauk	9.76
2	Margot Stockie	36.05	2	Suzanne Edwards	16.54	2	Elinor Girouard	9.48
3	Cindy Mahn	33.12	3	Stephen Nantes	14.24	3	Joe Blake	8.64
4	Moira Hollingsworth	26.98	4	Shelley Metcalfe	13.51	4	Steven Allen	8.14
5	Colin Harrington	23.95	5	Brian Kirkconnell	12.66	5	Marg Sanderson	7.71
6	Edith Ferber	20.45	6	Kevin Latter	10.82	6	Belinda Burt	7.25
7	Mike Peng	19.54	7	Jim Dalgliesh	10.50	7	Donna McKay	6.75
8	Liz McDowell	19.41	8	Aggie Udvari	9.92	8	ML Benjamins	6.65
9	Bruce Roberts	18.65	9	Sue Voll	8.93	9	Nancy Cattanach	6.37
10	Robert Griffiths	17.87	10	Renate Boucher	8.72	10	Virginia Alviano	6.30
11	David Wilson	17.10	11	Andy Wilson	8.49	11	Donald Rieger	6.12
12	Neil Jeffrey	14.67	12	Barbara Lindsay	8.33	12	Kathleen Burns	6.10
13	Tom Ramsay	14.66	13	Joan Slover	8.19	13	Molly Worden	5.81
14	Ted Boyd	14.58	14	Judy Beauchamp	8.01	14	Martin Jones	5.62
15	Dianne Aves	13.85	15	Nanci Phelan	7.99	15	Pat McDonald	5.41
16	Stephen Young	13.81	16	Robert Giiick	7.32	16	Ginny Scott	4.79
17	Malkin Howes	12.96	17	Adriaan Kempe	7.18	17	Susan Durance	4.73
18	David Longstaff	11.36	18	Roy Dandyk	6.80	18	Joani Horvath	4.65
19	John Moser	9.68	19	Lynda Burnett	6.66	19	Steven Reinhart	4.61
20	Neil Coburn	9.62	20	Jim Veitch	6.53	19	Sandra Hennessy	4.61
21	Sharon King	9.50	21	Ted Kennedy	6.49	21	Valirie Binkle	4.46
22	Ronald Sayle	9.49	22	Cheryl Kip	6.35	22	Liz Graham	4.34
22	Paul Stillman	9.49	23	Susan Kerrigan	6.14	23	Don O'Bright	4.28
24	Wayne Schroeder	9.01	24	John Kip	5.92	23	Richard Wehrle	4.28
25	Sandy Graham	8.60	25	Sue Peterson	5.77	25	Sue McDonald	4.22



Congratulations....

To the following local players who have advanced to the next level.

Club Masters

- **Carolyn Israel**
- **Dona Reinhart**

And a warm welcome to the following new ACBL members.

- **Jennifer Baker**
 - **Linda Deluca**
 - **Pamela McCreary**
 - **Andrew McNaught**
 - **Paul Salters**
-

What Can You Buy for \$25?

Contributed by Cheryl Kip, Membership Lead

A quarter tank of gas? Lunch for two at Tim Horton's? OR - a six-month membership at Grand River Bridge Club (special price for January 1, 2022 - June 30, 2022).

We'll be returning to some face-to-face games in the new year (tentatively scheduled for the week of January 17). The cost for a face-to-face game for a non-member will be \$9, but for members it's only \$7. Members also get the benefit of reduced prices for lessons - and they will be supporting a great club!

If you're just renewing your membership, all you have to do is make an e-transfer to clubmanager@grandriverbridgeclub.com or send a cheque payable to "Grand River Bridge Club" to Bev Pope, 40 Piccadilly Square, New Hamburg, On N3A 0C7.

If you're joining for the first time, you also need to fill out [this membership form](#).

Monday Night 999er Game

Our inaugural Monday night 999er game failed to attract enough tables for BBO to let it run. Please be sure to register for this coming Monday night's game if you wish to keep this game, as otherwise the club will need to discontinue it.

Time You Learned Your Lessons!

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

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



Playing Face to Face

In-person bridge will soon make a welcome return to our club. This workshop is intended to ease newer players into the mechanics of playing face-to-face games. We will learn about in-person registration, bidding, alerts, table movements, calling the director, scoring with Bridge-Mates, and (as time permits) review the basics of duplicate bridge scoring.

Level: **Beginner/Novice**

Instructor: Ted Boyd

Date: Saturday, January 15, 10:00 am – noon

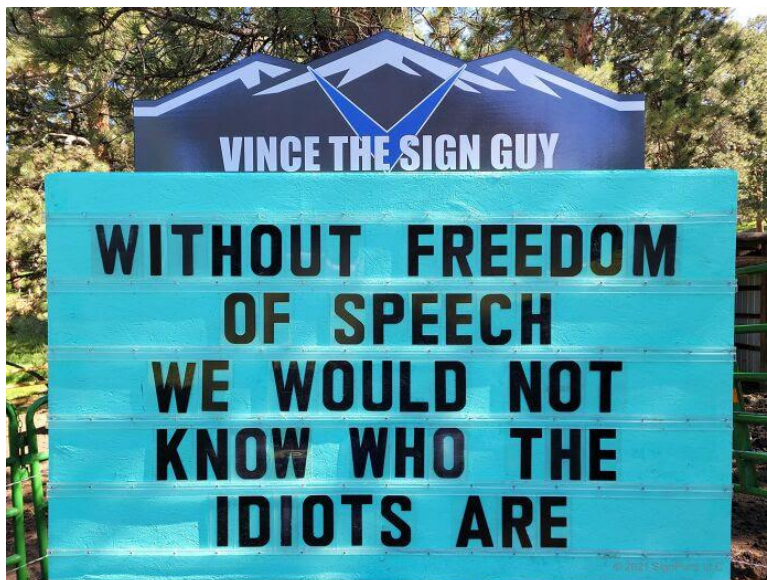
Mode: Face-to-Face

Fee: FREE

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- 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).



FOR INTERMEDIATE PLAYERS



24-imp Swing, Anyone?

Contributed by Robert Griffiths

It's time for a silly hand!

In team games, now and then you will run across a double game swing: N/S will bid and make a game their way while at the other table, their teammates (the E/W pair) with the same cards will bid and make a game their way. When you add the two game scores together, that team will have won between 13 and 16 IMPs, depending on vulnerability. The hand below is from a 2004 tournament and is a rather extreme example.

Board 12 ♠ —
 South Deals ♥ 6
 Both Vul ♦ K J 9 8 3
 ♣ A Q J 10 7 4 3

♠ A 6 5 4	<div style="background-color: green; color: white; padding: 5px; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> N W S E </div>	♠ K Q 10 9 8
♥ Q 9 7 3		♥ A K J 10 8 2
♦ 10		♦ 7 5
♣ 9 8 6 5		♣ —

♠ J 7 3 2
 ♥ 5 4
 ♦ A Q 6 4 2
 ♣ K 2

Here's how the bidding went at one table.

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
			Pass
Pass	1 ♣	2 ♣ ¹	2 ♠ ²
4 ♥	6 ♦	6 ♥	Pass
Pass	7 ♣	Pass	7 ♦
Pass	Pass	7 ♥	Pass
Pass	Dbl	All pass	

1. Michaels (both majors)
2. Unusual vs Unusual (10+ HCP with good diamonds)

At this table, North led the ♣A. Declarer ruffed it in dummy and took all of the tricks by drawing trumps and throwing his losing diamond on dummy's long spade, carefully playing one of East's top spades first to allow for a 4-0 split.

And at the other table...

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
			Pass
Pass	1 ♣	2 ♣ ¹	2 ♦
2 ♥	4 N	5 ♥	6 ♦
6 ♥	7 ♦	Dbl	All pass

1. Michaels (both majors)

When N/S bid the grand slam, West got off to the ♠A lead and South had an easy time making all of the tricks with seven clubs, five diamonds and a spade ruff.

Both successful contracts could go down with more accurate opening leads, but then the story wouldn't be so exciting.

This wasn't your usual game swing: the first N/S pair scored +2470 for making their doubled grand slam while their partners contributed +2330 for theirs. For their efforts on this hand, the team scored a total of 4800 points, giving them a gain of 24 IMPs on the hand, the maximum possible to win on one board.

If the defence had taken their tricks each time, the swing would have gone to the other team.

📣 Larry Cohen calls the opening lead “the opening guess”.



An Arizona Highway Patrol officer stops a Harley for traveling faster than the posted speed limit, so he asks the biker his name. “Fred,” he replies.

“Fred what?” the officer asks.

“Just Fred,” the man responds.

The officer is in a good mood, thinks he might just give the biker a break and write him out a warning instead of a ticket. The officer then presses him for the last name. The man tells him that he used to have a last name but lost it. The officer thinks that he has a nut case on his hands but plays along with it.

“Tell me, Fred, how did you lose your last name?”

The biker replies, “It's a long story, so stay with me. I was born Fred Johnson. I studied hard and got good grades. When I got older, I realized that I wanted to be a doctor. I went through college, medical school, internship, residency, and finally got my degree, so I was Fred Johnson, MD. After a while I got bored being a doctor, so I decided to go back to school. Dentistry was my dream! Got all the way through School, got my degree, so then I was Fred Johnson, MD, DDS. Got bored doing dentistry, so I started fooling around with my assistant and she gave me VD, so now I was Fred Johnson, MD, DDS, with VD. Well, the ADA found out about the VD, so they took away my DDS. Then I was Fred Johnson, MD, with VD. Then the AMA found out about the ADA taking away my DDS because of the VD, so they took away my MD leaving me as Fred Johnson with VD. Then the VD took away my Johnson, so now I am Just Fred.”

The officer walked away in tears, laughing.



Dear David

Whaddya Know?

W	N	E	S
			P
P	1♦	2♥	P
P	P		

W	West	E	East
♠	Q64	♠	A8
♥	J62	♥	K109743
♦	AQ84	♦	K93
♣	Q94	♣	83

The opening lead is the ♦10. You win the ace and play the ♥J♥Q♥K♥A. South leads the ♦2♦4♦J♦K. Everyone follows to the next heart, so they have no more of those. You lead the ♦9 to the ♦Q and cash the good ♦8, pitching a club. At this point, you have only two losers - a club and a spade. When you have inevitable losers, it is always best to take all your winners first before you concede the losers since you never know what might happen. Overtake the ♥6 and run your hearts. Whaddya know? You know South has at least four spades, but he didn't make a negative double of 2♥, which strongly suggests that he did not have enough points to do so. Since he has already shown the ♥A, he is unlikely to hold another ace or king. On the last heart winner, North throws the ♣K. Here are the remaining cards, with East to play.

15 D	N North	W N E S
	♠ KJ9 ♥ Q5 ♦ J765 ♣ AK75	P 1♦ 2♥ P P P
W West	♣K	E East
♠ Q64 ♥ J62 ♦ AQ84 ♣ Q94	♣9 ♥3	♠ A8 ♥ K109743 ♦ K93 ♣ 83
	♠7	
	S South	
	♠ 107532 ♥ A8 ♦ 102 ♣ J1062	
		Select cards to play for all 4 players
		2♥ E NS: 1 EW: 9

Since we already "know" that North has the ♣A and ♣K, leading a club at this point will endplay him into leading a spade away from his king. If North's last three cards are ♠K & ♣A7, he is too good for mere mortals to play against.



#51

♠ J 3
 ♥ J 10 5 4
 ♦ Q J 9 8 3
 ♣ 8 5



♠ A Q 9 5 4 2
 ♥ 7 6 3
 ♦ A
 ♣ K Q 6

West	North	East	South
		Pass	1 ♠
Pass	Pass	2 ♣	2 ♠

All pass

West led the ♣J to East's ♣A. East then returned the ♣10 which you took with your ♣K, West following suit. What should you do now?

SOLUTION

You've already lost one club trick and it looks as if you have three heart losers yet to come, along with two trump tricks.

Time to take stock. Looking at the bidding, we note East's balancing bid of 2♣ (as opposed to a take-out double).

- First of all, if East had had lots of spades, he might well have opted to leave 1♠ in. So, let's assume East is shortish in spades.
- If this is the case, we can also assume that East doesn't have four hearts (or else he would have made a take-out double, instead of overcalling in clubs).
- So, if we assume that East has, say, two spades and three hearts, that means he has approximately eight cards in the minors.
- And since East probably has more diamonds than his partner, he is more likely to hold the ♦K (also suggested by the fact that East is likely to have more HCP than his partner).

If this analysis is true, you are likely to lose at least two trump tricks along with your four losers in the other suits. Houston, you have a problem!

You are going to have to get rid of at least one heart loser before the opponents wake up and start cashing their tricks. Perhaps you can develop the diamond suit for a heart pitch? Okay, so if you're going to get any joy in diamonds, the ♦K must be in the East hand (as already discussed, this is a reasonable assumption). You also are going to need two entries to the dummy. One could be the ♠J (if West holds the ♠K, another reasonable assumption) and a second entry could be a club ruff.

So, you unblock the ♦A at Trick 3 and lead a small spade toward dummy at Trick 4. If West goes up with the ♠K, you won't lose two spades unless trump splits 5-0. As luck would have it, West does hold the ♠K: his best defense is to duck this trick. You are happy to see East contribute a small spade. So far so good.

Having won the ♠J, you now try a ruffing finesse by leading the ♦Q from the board at Trick 5. If East covers the ♦Q with his ♦K, you ruff in your hand, while if East doesn't cover, you discard a heart loser and cross your fingers that West doesn't produce the ♦K. As we hoped, East does have the ♦K and his best defence is to play it on the ♦Q.

Wasting no time, at Trick 6 lead the last club from your hand and ruff it in the dummy (even though it's good). Then cash the dummy's ♦J and pitch a losing heart. When both opponents follow to this trick, you can breathe a sigh of relief.

You still have to lose two hearts and two spades, but that's okay - you have made your contract!

Here is the full hand.

♠ J 3		♠ 6									
♥ J 10 5 4		♥ A 9 8									
♦ Q J 9 8 3		♦ K 7 6 4									
♣ 8 5		♣ A 10 9 4 2									
♠ K 10 8 7	<div style="display: inline-block; border: 1px solid black; background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px;"> <table style="border-collapse: collapse; margin: 0;"> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W</td><td style="text-align: center;"> </td><td style="text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">S</td><td></td></tr> </table> </div>		N		W		E		S		
	N										
W		E									
	S										
♥ K Q 2											
♦ 10 5 2											
♣ J 7 3											
	♠ A Q 9 5 4 2										
	♥ 7 6 3										
	♦ A										
	♣ K Q 6										

In a different universe, if West chooses to rise with his ♠K at Trick 4, he can immediately cash three heart tricks or alternatively he can continue spades in order to remove one of your board entries. But now you have to lose only one trump trick - so you no longer need to develop the diamond suit.

- So, if West doesn't rise with his ♠K at Trick 4, you lose two spades, two hearts, and one club.
- And if West does rise with his ♠K at Trick 4, you lose one spade, three hearts, and one club.

Either way, you make your contract.





GRBC Christmas Party, December 11

Please plan to join us on BBO on Saturday, December 11 for our annual Christmas party game. The start times are as follows.

199er: 9:45 am and 1:30 pm – 21 boards

499er: 10:00 am and 1:45 pm – 24 boards

Open: 10:15 am and 2:00 pm – 24 boards

The cost is BBO\$5 per game. Prizes will be awarded for the first and second overall winners in flight (pairs are welcome to play in single sessions, but they must play in both sessions to qualify). Just sign on to BBO 20 minutes before each game and register with your partner as usual. Merry Christmas, everyone!

Coming Virtual Events

- Friday, December 3, 12:30 pm, **99er game, (20-22 boards) \$5**
- Friday, December 3, 1:00 pm, **499er game (24 boards) \$5**
- Friday, December 3, 7:00 pm, **open game (24 boards) \$5**
- ~~Saturday, December 4, 1:00 pm, 199er game (20-22 boards) \$5 CANCELLED~~
- [Saturday, December 4, Guelph Christmas games](#)
- Sunday, December 5, 10:00 am, **499er game (18 boards) \$5**
- Monday, December 6, 12:30 pm, **49er game (18 boards @ 8 minutes) \$5**
- Monday, December 6, 1:00 pm, **open game (24 boards) \$5**
- **Monday, December 6, 6:45 pm, 999er game (24 boards) \$5** 
- Monday, December 6, 7:00 pm, **499er game (24 boards) \$5**
- Tuesday, December 7, 12:30 pm, **199er game (20-22 boards) \$5**
- Tuesday, December 7, 1:00 pm, **open game (24 boards) \$5**
- Wednesday, December 8, 1:00 pm, **499er game (24 boards) \$5**
- Wednesday, December 8, 6:45 pm, **199er game (20-22 boards) \$5**
- Wednesday, December 8, 7:00 pm, **open game (24 boards) \$5**
- Thursday, December 9, 9:30 am, **99er game (20-22 boards) \$5**
- Thursday, December 9, 1:00 pm, **open game (24 boards) \$5**
- Thursday, December 9, 6:30 pm, **19er game \$5**
- Thursday, December 9, 7:00 pm, **999er game (24 boards) \$5**
- **Saturday, December 11, GRBC 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 cancelled this week's Saturday game at our **club**.