



PLAY AND LEARN BRIDGE IN A WELCOMING ENVIRONMENT

[Website](#)  
[Facebook Page](#)

## ALERT – January 10, 2022

### 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 December.*

| Open Players |                     |       | 499er Players |                   |      | 99er Players |                  |      |
|--------------|---------------------|-------|---------------|-------------------|------|--------------|------------------|------|
|              | Name                | MP    |               | Name              | MP   |              | Name             | MP   |
| 1            | David Baker         | 25.83 | 1             | Suzanne Edwards   | 9.89 | 1            | Joe Blake        | 6.54 |
| 2            | Cindy Mahn          | 16.69 | 2             | Roy Dandyk        | 9.86 | 2            | Steven Allen     | 6.24 |
| 3            | Edith Ferber        | 14.09 | 3             | Lynda Burnett     | 8.69 | 3            | Belinda Burt     | 5.59 |
| 4            | Colin Harrington    | 13.40 | 4             | Tony Verhoeven    | 7.55 | 4            | Reinhold Kauk    | 5.48 |
| 5            | Margot Stockie      | 13.13 | 5             | Jim Hardy         | 7.23 | 5            | Virginia Alviano | 5.14 |
| 6            | Moira Hollingsworth | 12.62 | 6             | David Embury      | 7.20 | 6            | Martin Jones     | 5.03 |
| 7            | Liz McDowell        | 11.14 | 7             | Stephen Nantes    | 7.09 | 7            | Brian Gaber      | 4.53 |
| 8            | Robert Griffiths    | 10.53 | 8             | Barbara Arthur    | 6.95 | 8            | Rick Arthur      | 4.32 |
| 9            | Bruce Roberts       | 9.83  | 9             | Jim Dalgliesh     | 6.66 | 9            | Nancy Cattanach  | 4.03 |
| 10           | Ted Boyd            | 9.53  | 10            | ML Benjamins      | 6.28 | 10           | Gordon Hunter    | 3.55 |
| 11           | Tom Ramsay          | 9.31  | 11            | Shelley Metcalfe  | 6.15 | 11           | Liz Graham       | 3.22 |
| 12           | David Wilson        | 8.58  | 12            | Robert Gilck      | 6.09 | 12           | Marilyn Rootham  | 2.83 |
| 13           | Dianne Aves         | 8.41  | 13            | Grant Roberts     | 5.77 | 12           | Lynn Campbell    | 2.83 |
| 14           | Mike Peng           | 7.74  | 14            | Brian Kirkconnell | 5.52 | 14           | Shirley Clarke   | 2.54 |
| 15           | Mary McClelland     | 7.66  | 15            | Kevin Latter      | 4.89 | 15           | Molly Worden     | 2.50 |
| 16           | Peggy Pearson       | 7.64  | 16            | Andy Wilson       | 4.78 | 16           | Carol Robinson   | 2.42 |
| 17           | Stephen Young       | 7.52  | 16            | Joan Slover       | 4.78 | 16           | Trent Robinson   | 2.42 |
| 18           | Sandy Graham        | 7.50  | 18            | Jim Veitch        | 4.39 | 18           | Kim Hauley       | 2.41 |
| 19           | John Vandergrift    | 7.07  | 19            | Kathy Russell     | 4.26 | 19           | Sara Ellis       | 2.38 |
| 20           | Neil Coburn         | 6.70  | 20            | Karen Whitworth   | 4.22 | 20           | Elaine Doyle     | 2.23 |
| 21           | Neil Jeffrey        | 6.68  | 21            | Cheryl White      | 4.06 | 21           | Pat McDonald     | 2.22 |
| 22           | James Stewart       | 4.75  | 22            | John Kip          | 3.94 | 22           | Noah Pace        | 2.16 |
| 23           | David Longstaff     | 4.69  | 22            | Cheryl Kip        | 3.94 | 23           | Kim Wakeford     | 2.14 |
| 23           | William Christian   | 4.69  | 24            | Susan Kerrigan    | 3.54 | 24           | Connie Green     | 2.13 |
| 25           | Malkin Howes        | 4.29  | 25            | Sandra Jonasson   | 3.51 | 24           | Elinor Girouard  | 2.13 |

## Delay in the Club's Re-Opening Date

*Contributed by Cindy Mahn, President*

Given the partial lockdown for non-essential services announced this past Monday by the Government of Ontario until January 26, the board met earlier this week and have decided to delay the targeted re-opening of January 17 until there are further updates from the provincial government. Please stay tuned for updates in February.

---



### Congratulations...

*to the following local players who have reached the next rung of the ACBL ladder.*

#### Junior Masters

- **Richard Hodgson**
- **Andrew McNaught**

#### Club Masters

- **Ione Hunt**
- **Don O'Bright**

#### Life Master

- **Sandy Graham**

#### Bronze Life Master

- **Donna Carpenter**
- 





## A Warm Welcome to

the following new club members.

- **Marg Benian**
- **Lori Curtis**
- **Ken Lemke**

For information on how to renew your membership or join our club for the first time, click [here](#).

---

## 19er Game on Thursday Nights

Our 19er game on Thursday nights has been struggling – not always enough registrants for the game to go ahead and last night it sadly it wasn't a go – but hopefully next week's game will get a shot in the arm from the 18 eager graduates of Beginners 2, coaching groups, and Jack Cole's workshop on playing in our online games. **If you have fewer than 20 master points, please consider coming out for this coming Thursday night's game, starting at 6:30 pm.** If you need help getting a partner, contact [Cheryl Kip](#).

---

## New Schedule of Games for the Guelph Bridge Club

*Contributed by Tom Ramsay, President*

As you may know, our club opened its doors last fall, but we have recently had to cancel all of our face-to-face games due to the Omicron variant. As of Monday, January 10, all of our games will be on BBO. We will be offering three 199er games, four 499er games, and four open games per week. Fees will remain at \$5 (\$7 during Silver Linings week, January 17-23). Complete details of our revised schedule can be found on the [Guelph Bridge Club](#) website, but here is a brief summary.

- No change to Monday - the 499 game at 12:45 pm continues.
  - Tuesday afternoon's game will now be a 0-499 game starting at 12:30 pm. The 0-999 game has been discontinued.
  - A Tuesday evening 0-199 game, 18 boards, has been added, starting at 6:30 pm. It will run concurrently with our normal open game at 6:45 PM.
  - A Wednesday afternoon 0-199 game, 18 boards, has been added starting at 12:30 pm. It will run concurrently with our normal open game at 12:45 pm.
  - No change to Thursday - the 0-199 game at 12:45 pm continues.
  - A Friday afternoon open fast pairs game has been added, starting at 12:30 pm. It will run concurrently with our normal 0-499 game at 12:45 pm.
  - No changes to our weekend games - Saturday afternoon 0-499 at 12:25 pm and Sunday morning open fast pairs at 10:30 am.
-

# TIME YOU LEARNED YOUR LESSONS!

*It's official. We aren't re-opening in January after all (thank you, Omicron). As a result, we are offering more online lessons this month (see below).*

- *To register for our online beginner lessons (which begin on Thursday, January 13), click [here](#).*
- *To register for our online lessons for advancing players, click [here](#).*

*Some of the timelines are short – so don't delay – register right away!!!!!!!!!!*



## Beginners 1

This course provides a hands-on introduction to the game of duplicate bridge. If you don't register for this course now, you will have to wait until September.

Level: **Beginner**

Instructor: Al Pengelly

Mode: Online

Current Enrollment: 8

Dates: Thursdays, 6:30 pm – 9:00 pm, January 13, 20, 27, February 3, 10, 2022

Fee: \$85 (includes the cost of the text)

---

| We        | They |
|-----------|------|
| <b>20</b> |      |
| 50        |      |
| 100       |      |
| 200       |      |
| 30        |      |
| 70        | 120  |
| 240       |      |
| <b>60</b> |      |

## Scoring

This workshop will teach the principles of scoring of individual hands, leading from played around the kitchen table, through duplicate bridge at the club, and culminating with Swiss Team events. Attention will be given to vulnerability, doubles, and some simple strategies to improve your scores. Several hands will be examined to illustrate the lessons.

Level: **Novice**

Instructor: Jack Cole

Date: Tuesday, January 18, 6:30 pm – 9:00 pm

Mode: ONLINE

Fee: \$20 for members/ \$25 for non-members

---

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE FOLLOWING TWO WORKSHOPS BE TAKEN AS A UNIT, AS MANY OF THE SAME CONCEPTS ARE PRACTISED AND REINFORCED.**



## **Hand Evaluation (Suit Contracts)**

This workshop will demonstrate that all point counts are not equal, especially in suit contracts. Adding up your high-card points when you pick up your hand is just the start. First, you have to establish whether they are good high-card points or bad high-card points. Furthermore, your hand often gets better (or worse) as the bidding progresses.

The participants in this workshop will play 12 suit-contract hands where they are challenged to bid to the right level.

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

Level: **Intermediate**

Instructor: Malkin Howes

Date: Saturday, January 22, 9:30 am - noon

Mode: ONLINE

Fee: \$20 for members/ \$25 for non-members

---



## **Responding to Invitational Bids**

This workshop emphasizes the differences between suit contracts and no trump contracts when it comes to using point count. It will build on the concepts taught in the hand evaluation workshop – when to upgrade and when to downgrade your hand, based on your hand's composition and information gleaned from the subsequent bidding. It is thus highly recommended that both workshops be taken as a unit.

The participants will play up to 16 boards (depending on time) that involve an invitational bidding sequence, with the last bidder making the decision about whether or not to go to game.

Then the hand will be played out and the correctness of that decision analyzed.

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

Level: **Intermediate**

Instructor: Malkin Howes

Date: Saturday, January 29, 9:30 am - noon

Mode: ONLINE

Fee: \$20 for members/ \$25 for non-members

---



## The Basics of Bridge Defence

This course presents all the basic concepts of good defensive play. It is intended for players of all levels who have not yet taken a defensive course.

The course focuses on five aspects of defence: opening leads; third seat play; signals; second seat play; and discards. Each lesson covers one aspect of defence for both no trump and suit contracts, and includes playing hands to enhance understanding. Specific topics include Rule of 11 on no trump leads; when to cover an honour; when to play high in second seat; when to play low in third seat; splitting honours; count, attitude, and suit preference signals; and defensive strategies (for example, active versus passive, cutting declarers' communications, and forcing defence). Lesson hand-outs and hand records will be provided.

Although not required for the course, a companion textbook is recommended (*Eddie Kantar Teaches Modern Bridge Defence*, which may be purchased from Amazon: new \$29.95, used from \$12.16)

The Basics of Bridge Defence is designed as a complete five-week course, and students are encouraged to take all five lessons. Nevertheless, it will be possible to take individual lessons on a pay-as-you-go basis.

Level: **Beginner/Novice/Intermediate**

Mode: ONLINE

Instructor: Stephen Carpenter

Course Cost: \$75 for members, \$85 for non-members

Cost for an Individual Lesson: \$20 for members, \$25 for non-members

Dates: Wednesday mornings 9:30 am - noon, February 2, 9, 16, 23, and March 2

---



Betty: I guess a bottom's a bottom.


Fred: Yes, but two bottoms in a row is really too much.

**FOR INTERMEDIATE PLAYERS**



**Another Trick 1 Trial**

*Contributed by Robert Griffiths*

|                 |   |              |
|-----------------|---|--------------|
| <b>Board 12</b> |   |              |
| South Deals     | ♠ 8 7 6 4   |              |
| E-W Vul         | ♥ Q 10 9  |              |
|                 | ♦ K Q J 10 4  |              |
|                 | ♣ 2   |              |
| ♠ Q 9 3         |  | ♠ J 10 2     |
| ♥ K J 8 7 5     |   | ♥ 6 3        |
| ♦ 3             |   | ♦ A 9 8 5    |
| ♣ Q J 9 4       |   | ♣ 10 7 6 5   |
|                 | ♠ A K 5   |              |
|                 | ♥ A 4 2   |              |
|                 | ♦ 7 6 2   |              |
|                 | ♣ A K 8 3   |              |
| <i>West</i>     | <i>North</i>  | <i>East</i>  |
|                 |   | <i>South</i> |
|                 |   | 1 ♣          |
| 1 ♥             | Dbf   | Pass         |
| Pass            | 3 N   | 2 N          |
|                 |   | All pass     |

South dealt and opened 1♣, and West found a 1♥ overcall. North's negative double showed spades and some values and, after East's pass, South jumped to 2NT. North raised this to 3NT, and West led the 7♥, his fourth-best.

Dummy's ♥9 was poised to win Trick 1 as South considered. He wanted to take two spades, two hearts, two clubs, and three or more diamonds, but his problem was how to get to dummy if a defender held up the ace until the third diamond lead. With no sure entry to dummy, South might win just two tricks in each suit.

If the diamond ace is held up until the third round of the suit, the only possible dummy entry will be the ♥Q. But that works only if West forgets to play the ♥K when South plays his only remaining low heart.

South's answer to the problem is to somehow have another low heart. He can do this only if he is awake enough at Trick 1 to "waste" his ♥A. Now he can lead up to dummy's ♥Q twice.

How does South know that West has the ♥K? Both the auction and the opening lead suggest that West has the ♥K and that repeated heart leads towards dummy will give South an entry to the board so that he can enjoy his diamonds.



**Take the time to think before you play to the first trick.**



# Dear David

## Greed is a Terrible Thing

North has promised a club stopper on this auction, so it looks automatic to bid 4♥. However, if hearts and no trump both make the same number of tricks, the no trump contract will prove to be a much better matchpoint result. I greedily went for the gold, not seeing the danger ahead.

|                                    |  |                                     |                                     |  |  |  |  |
|------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|
|                                    |  | <b>N North</b>                      |                                     | <b>W N E S</b>                         |  |  |  |
|                                    |  | ♠ KQ73<br>♥ 54<br>♦ 10543<br>♣ A104 | P 2♦ P 2♥<br>P 2♠ P 3♦<br>P 3NT P P |  |  |  |  |
| <b>W West</b>                      |  |                                     |                                     | <b>E East</b>                          |  |  |  |
| ♠ J1064<br>♥ 9762<br>♦ 76<br>♣ 765 |  | ♣ 6      ♣ Q<br>♣ 9                 |                                     | ♠ 9852<br>♥ J<br>♦ QJ2<br>♣ KQJ82      |  |  |  |
|                                    |  | <b>S South</b>                      |                                     | Select cards to play for all 4 players |  |  |  |
|                                    |  | ♠ A<br>♥ AKQ1083<br>♦ AK98<br>♣ 93  |                                     | 3NT N      NS: 0 EW: 1                 |  |  |  |

Assuming hearts and diamonds split normally, I have 12 tricks if they don't lead a club (six heart tricks, three spade tricks, two diamond tricks, and one club trick). If the opening lead is a club, however, the entry to the KQ of spades is gone. To add insult to injury, when they win the third round of diamonds they can take some club tricks (ugh).

What about those playing a heart contract? Even on a club lead, they will make at least 11 tricks, losing only a club and a diamond. Consequently, making less than 11 tricks will be a big, fat zero. Greed kills.

You duck the ♣K and East continues with the queen, killing your entry to the spades. Furthermore, if you duck the second round of clubs, you may never get the ace. That being said, winning the ace still means you can make only 10 tricks. Anything you do from this point onwards cannot make it worse. I guess I just... waitwaitwaitwaitwait! There is a light at the end of the tunnel! Duck the second club!!!



|                                    |                                     |  |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| 6 <small>D</small>                 | <b>N</b> North                      | <b>W</b> <b>N</b> <b>E</b> <b>S</b>    |
|                                    | ♠ KQ73<br>♥ 54<br>♦ 10543<br>♣ A104 | P P P P P<br>2♦ 2♠ 3NT<br>P P P        |
| <b>W</b> West                      |                                     | <b>E</b> East                          |
| ♠ J1064<br>♥ 9762<br>♦ 76<br>♣ 765 | ♣ 8<br>♠ A                          | ♠ 9852<br>♥ J<br>♦ QJ2<br>♣ KQJ82      |
|                                    | <b>S</b> South                      | Select cards to play for all 4 players |
|                                    | ♠ A<br>♥ AKQ1083<br>♦ AK98<br>♣ 93  | 3NT N NS: 0 EW: 2                      |

A third round of clubs allows you to pitch that pesky spade ace from your hand and then you can throw South's two losing diamonds on the KQ of spades!

When your team is behind and there is no time left on the clock, the quarterback throws a Hail Mary pass as far downfield as possible and hopes for the best. Sometimes, greed thrills you to death.



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

#55

North Deals ♠ 10 6 4  
 None Vul ♥ K 8  
 ♦ A J 8 5 4  
 ♣ A K 4



♠ A K Q J 7  
 ♥ Q 9 7 5 3  
 ♦ Q 9  
 ♣ 3

| <i>West</i> | <i>North</i>     | <i>East</i> | <i>South</i>     |
|-------------|------------------|-------------|------------------|
|             | 1 N              | Pass        | 3 ♠ <sup>1</sup> |
| Pass        | 4 ♠              | Pass        | 4 N              |
| Pass        | 5 ♥ <sup>2</sup> | Pass        | 6 ♠              |

All pass

- 5/5 majors, game-going or better
- 2 keycards without the queen of spades

West led the ♣Q. Plan the play.

**SOLUTION**

You have a sure loser, the ♥A, and you could also lose the ♦K and maybe another heart or two as well. If the diamond finesse works, your chances of success will be greatly improved, but if the finesse fails the contract will go down for sure. You should look for better odds than just 50%.

You might as well start by working on the heart suit. You're hoping for a 3-3 split or else a 2-4 split with West having two hearts. Since a worse split would make this line of play unsuccessful, you might as well plan your play based on this assumption. And of course, if Plan A (setting up the hearts) doesn't work, you still have plan B in your pocket (finesse in diamonds later on). The best way to tackle hearts is to lead a small heart from your hand toward the dummy's ♥K, but if you do that there is no convenient way to return to your hand. (The trump suit provides some entries, but you don't want to play on trumps yet as you are going to need the board's trumps later on to ruff hearts. Nor do you want to return to your hand with club ruffs as a bad trump split could cause you to lose control of the hand.)

So, not ideal but we live in an imperfect world, lay down dummy's ♥K at Trick 2. One of the opponents will take this trick with his ♥A and most likely will return a trump at Trick 3. Of course, you will take this trick with one of your high trump cards and then cash your ♥Q at Trick 4. Both opponents follow (hurrah!). At Trick 5, lead another heart and see what happens.



# January Virtual Games

*Contributed by the Games Committee*

For the past while, BBO online players have been receiving 125% of the master points of regular club games, but this multiplier will be disappearing effective January 3. After that all games will be at 100% club rating, the same as regular face-to-face games.

However, there will be some special games in January.

- **January 6 – 9: Junior Fund (2x regular club points, 100% black, game fees \$7)**
- **January 17 – 23: Silver Linings Week (2x regular club points, 100% silver, game fees \$7)**

## Coming Virtual Events

### JUNIOR FUND GAMES

- Friday, January 7, 12:30 pm, **99er game (20-22 boards) \$7 (double points)**
- Friday, January 7, 1:00 pm, **499er game (24 boards) \$7 (double points)**
- Friday, January 7, 7:00 pm, **open game (24 boards) \$7 (double points)**
- Saturday, January 8, 1:00 pm, **199er game (20-22 boards) \$7 (double points)**
- Sunday, January 9, 10:00 am, **499er game (18 boards) \$7 (double points)**
  
- Monday, January 10, 12:30 pm, **49er game (18 boards @ 8 minutes) \$5**
- Monday, January 10, 1:00 pm, **open game (24 boards) \$5**
- Monday, January 10, 7:00 pm, **499er game (24 boards) \$5**
- Tuesday, January 11, 12:30 pm, **199er game (20-22 boards) \$5**
- Tuesday, January 11, 1:00 pm, **open game (24 boards) \$5**
- Wednesday, January 12, 1:00 pm, **499er game (24 boards) \$5**
- Wednesday, January 12, 6:45 pm, **199er game (20-22 boards) \$5**
- Wednesday, January 12, 7:00 pm, **open game (24 boards) \$5**
- Thursday, January 13, 9:30 am, **99er game (20-22 boards) \$5**
- Thursday, January 13, 1:00 pm, **open game (24 boards) \$5**
- Thursday, January 13, 6:30 pm, **19er game \$5**
- Thursday, January 13, 7:00 pm, **999er game (24 boards) \$5**

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 more online lessons at our **club**.