

August 21, 2022



London Bridge Centre Newsletter

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Virtual Club Games

LBC

Monday	6:45	Open
Tuesday	9:15	Open
Wednesday	9:15	0-500
Thursday	9:15	Open

Tillsonburg DBC

Tuesday	7:00	Open
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LBC members welcome

Notice of Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of London Bridge Centre Inc. will be held at the bridge club on Saturday, September 24 at 12:30 pm. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the meeting. A bridge game will follow the meeting. This game will be considered a Club Championship and so extra points will be awarded.

Resumption of Tuesday Evening In-Person Game – Expressions of Interest Requested

We have had a number of requests to bring back the Tuesday evening game at the club. Historically this was a limited-point game. This is on the agenda for the September 14 board meeting. To assist us in deciding when/whether to hold an in-person game in the evening, please express your interest by emailing me by September 13 at Janine@janinehiggins.ca. We want to meet our members' needs (especially those who cannot play during the daytime) but we don't want to start another in-person game unless we can expect enough tables to make it run well.

In the email, use 'Evening Bridge Game' as the subject line, and please indicate:

Your name

How many masterpoints you have (an approximation is fine)

How regularly you think you would play (e.g. most weeks, every other week, occasionally)

How soon in the fall you will be available to play

Any other comments (e.g. you need to find a partner to play)

Thanks in advance for your assistance!

Janine Higgins
LBC President

COVID Protocols Update

Thankfully there is a gradual and continuing trend downwards in most measures of Covid activity. This has allowed our club to reopen and to offer an increasing number of face-to-face games. We expect and hope attendance will increase as we move into the fall.

We continue to have Covid protocols in place as recommended by Middlesex-London Health Unit and as described on our [website](#).

The board has decided to add another measure to protect our members. We are requesting that any player who has a positive test for Covid within a three-day interval of playing at the club notify the director of that game by email. The director or a designated board member will send an email to all players in that game telling them that a player has subsequently developed Covid (no names given).

Please ensure your email address on file under membership is current.

Prompt notification of exposure to Covid allows an individual to pay attention to symptoms, self-test if appropriate, and consider adjusting contact with vulnerable others. Current recommendations after exposure can be found on [the Ministry of Health](#) website, page 27.

It is of paramount importance that you do not attend in-person games when you have any symptoms of Covid, influenza, or other infectious diseases.

We hope this extra step in caring for each other will make in-person bridge safer and allow it to flourish.

Alison Marr
LBC Board member

Membership at LBC

With the fall quickly approaching, we look forward to seeing all of you back at the bridge club. We continue to welcome new members to the club. Members whose memberships expired on June 30, 2022, are encouraged to renew their memberships.

Membership and fee information is available on the club [website](#).



Check It Out



Calling all History Buffs!

“Culbertson” by John Clay details both the amazing and complex life of Ely Culbertson and how he was instrumental in the development of the contract bridge as we know it today. Also on our shelves are four early Culbertson instructional books.

“The Walk of the Oysters” by Rex Mackey is equally comprehensive in its accounting of the early evolution of the game.

As in any other game involving prestige and high stakes, bridge has bred its own generations of cheaters. Have you heard of Terence Reese and Boris Shapiro? We have no fewer than thirty-seven of their instructional titles on our shelves. Conversely, you could read about the accusations of their cheating in international tournaments. Alan Truscott outlines the case against them in his “The Great Bridge Scandal”. And, in fairness, Reese himself offers his defense in “Story of an Accusation”.

“Bridge Scandal in Houston” by Danny Kleinman analyzes the number of ‘coughs and sniffs’ made by Cohen and Katz in tournament play. “Under the Table” by Avon Wilsmore makes his case against the Italian Blue Team.

“Canada’s Bridge Warriors” by Roy Hughes completes this theme of International play and competition.

All in our library.



Unit 249 Sectional Tournaments

Unit 249 will be hosting sectional tournaments this summer. The St. Thomas Jumbo Sectional will be held September 10-11. Further information on this tournament can be found on the Unit 249 [website](#).

LBC is hosting the Sectional Bridge Tournament in October.

This is a great opportunity for all members to participate in a tournament. Tournaments are definitely not just for advanced players. Even the most junior players can have a great time and collect some points. One thing to note is that in club games you almost always get only black points. Note that in club games black points are almost always awarded although there are a few special games where other coloured points are given. For any of you who are interested in achieving Life Master or other ACBL milestones, be aware that you need points of different colours. At this tournament, you can get silver points.

The other great thing about tournaments is team games. We encourage you and your partner to start thinking about joining another pair to create a team. The team games on Sunday are really fun and a bit of a different side to bridge. We hope that most of you will participate on Sunday as well as Saturday. The teams will be grouped with teams of similar points, which makes for a more enjoyable day, especially for newer players who might be intimidated playing at a table with advanced players.

Our club is well known for its hospitality, including providing a range of savory and sweet snacks before the games begin. We will be looking for contributions closer to the tournament date, but you can start thinking about what your contribution might be.

Check out the flyer on the next page.



89th Western Ontario Sectional Bridge Tournament London, Ontario October 22 & 23, 2022



**London Bridge Centre
1106 Dearness Drive, Unit 9
London, On N6E 1N9**

Saturday October 22 at 10:30 am
Strati-flighted Pairs (play-through)
A/X: 2500+, 0-2500
B/C/D: 1000-2000, 500-1000, 0-500
Novice Pairs: 0-300 (1 session)

**Lunch at nearby local restaurants*

Saturday October 22 at 2:45 pm
Strati-flighted Pairs (2nd session)
Novice Pairs: 0-300 (1 session)

Note: Flight eligibility is based on the player with the highest masterpoints. Stratification within the flight is based on average masterpoints. Silver masterpoints awarded.

Pairs: \$12.50 per person, per session
(Note: \$5.00 per person for those with 0-5 masterpoints and those 21 years old and under. 1 session only.)

Tournament Chair:
Janine Higgins
janine@janinehiggins.ca
(519-439-5136)

Partnership:
Gayle George
Gaylergeorge@gmail.com
(519-851-0316)

Sunday October 23 at 10:30 am
Swiss Teams: (play through)
A/X Teams: A: 2500+, X: 0-2500
B/C/D Bracketed Teams: 0-2000

Note: Teams are bracketed by total team points. Silver masterpoints awarded.

Teams: \$100.00 per team

**A light lunch will be available on Sunday only. Cost is \$10.00.*

**Free coffee and snacks available both days.*

Covid-19 Protocols

**All participants must be fully vaccinated according to Health Canada guidelines.*

**Proof of vaccination is required. Please arrive early to comply with this requirement.*

**All participants must be both covid and symptom free for 7 days with no contact with someone know to have covid for 7 days.*

**Masks are highly recommended. Be prepared to wear a mask if necessary.*

**Hand sanitizers will be available.*

Note: These protocols are subject to change in order to comply with provincial guidelines.

www.londonbridgecentre.ca

EDUCATION AT THE CLUB**A Taste of Bridge at London Bridge Centre****Sunday, September 18****1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.****Unit 9 - 1106 Dearness Drive****Preregistration is required.****Click [here](#), to register online.**

A Taste of Bridge is an introductory session for people who are considering learning to play this popular card game. No prior bridge experience is needed. In three hours, we aim to show how much fun the game can be and hope you will see what a challenging and interesting game it is. Come alone or bring a group to the event. All are welcome. **There is no fee.**

For further information contact:

Marie Wiley mewiley@rogers.com

Sara Ellis ellis.saraj@gmail.com

Please note that proof of Covid Vaccine and photo ID will be required.

Toward the end of summer, the Education Committee and LBC teachers put together a program for the coming year. We are pleased to be offering in-person classes again. These have always been popular and are a terrific way to learn with lively interaction between teacher and players as well as providing a way to make new friends and form new bridge partnerships. 5th chair coaching has blossomed during the pandemic and is continuing with several teachers willing to take on new students.

IN-PERSON TEACHING AT LBC

COURSE (# sessions)	TEACHER	START DATE & TIME	
Bridge Basics 1 (8)	Barb O'Brien	Sept 27	1:00 pm
Advancing Your Game Part 1 (4)	Mary Howe	Oct 4	9:30 am
Bridge Basics 2 (4)	Mary Howe	Nov 1	9:30 am
2/1 Game Forcing (4)	Peter Tuttle	Oct 19	1:00 pm

For course details and registration click [here](#).

ONLINE TEACHING

5th chair format teaching is offered by:

Dwight Bender
 Audrey Craig
 Hazel Hewitt
 Mary Howe
 Peter Tuttle
 Marie Wiley

Please see details [HERE](#)

LOST AND FOUND

"Lost and Found" is starting on Thursday, September 8 immediately following the afternoon 0-1500 game. This is a FREE session hosted by Dwight Bender. It is your opportunity to ask questions about bidding, declarer play, or defense regarding any hands played that day. It is suggested that you keep notes during the game of any hands you wish to discuss and bring them to Dwight's attention at the beginning of this free seminar. Dwight will give you his analysis and recommendations. Hand records will be provided to facilitate everyone's participation in the discussion. See you there.



In Case You Have Forgotten...

(This is the fifth in a series about etiquette and protocol at the bridge table)

ETIQUETTE & PROCEDURE TIPS

(an excerpt from [LBC's Code of Conduct](#) first printed on January 14, 2018.)

Tip 4 – GREETING NEW OPPONENTS

- North and South are table “hosts” and should greet visitors as they arrive, e.g. “Welcome to Table 4.”
- Introduce yourselves as appropriate prior to the start of play on each round.
- East & West are table “visitors” and should greet their hosts in turn. If you must briefly discuss the previous hand with your partner, do so before arriving at the table – not by talking over the heads of North & South.

Tip 5 – CELL PHONES

- Cell phones should be silenced during play. If a call MUST be answered during play, you should excuse yourself, step away from the playing tables, keep the call as short as possible, and then apologize again on your return to the table. If at all possible, allow the call to go to voice mail and return it at a break or after the game.
- If you are expecting a call that must be taken, please inform the director before the start of the play. (LBC has not as yet adopted the ACBL tournament policy of automatic procedural penalties for cell phone disturbances.)

Tip 6 – FACIAL EXPRESSIONS

- Maintain a friendly poker face throughout the auction and play.
- Avoid staring intently at a partner’s or opponent’s face during bidding and play; their unconscious reactions may give you unauthorized information.

Tip 7 – COUNT CARDS & REPLACE HAND

- When you take your cards out of the board, count your cards face-down to make sure there are thirteen. If there are not, you should inform the others at the table and call the director (Don’t forget to say “Director Please!”) If there are more than thirteen – it is important that you not turn the cards over to look at the faces (Law 7).
- Once the result of the hand has been agreed upon, shuffle your hand and carefully replace the cards face down in the proper pocket of the duplicate board ready for the next table (Law 7).

Tip 8 – DECIDE, THEN BID

- When it is your turn to bid, you should first decide on your bid. Then, and only then, reach for the bidding card that reflects your decision.
- If you “finger” the bidding cards while you are thinking - especially if you then pass - you may be giving your partner unauthorized information.
- If your partner hesitates, you must be careful not to make any bid or play that might have been suggested by that hesitation.

News from the ACBL and BBO



Click [here](#) to access the latest news

Effingham Crossroads Regional September 20-25, 2022

Join us in Effingham Illinois to earn your share of the gold. Play with some of the best in bridge or against your skills level. There is an event for everyone at the Effingham Regional. For information contact Tournament Chair: Paul Hartke palo@mchsi.com or Partnerships: Linda Thomson thomson4590@gmail.com



Play Bridge around the World!

Alaska on the Ruby Princess

San Francisco CA–San Francisco CA
September 7-17, 2022

[Click here for details](#)

Pacific Coast Sectional

Los Angeles CA–Los Angeles CA
October 3-15, 2022

[Click here for details](#)

Play Bridge around the World! (continued)

Hollywood & Mexican Riviera

Los Angeles CA–Los Angeles CA

October 25–November 3, 2022

[Click here for details](#)

Panama Canal Holiday Cruise

Lima Peru–Fort Lauderdale FL

December 21, 2022–January 6, 2023

[Click here for details](#)

2022 Los Angeles Sectional

Los Angeles CA–Los Angeles CA

December 11–19, 2022

[Click here for details](#)

Holiday Sectional at Sea

Fort Lauderdale FL–Fort Lauderdale FL

December 23–31, 2022

[Click here for details](#)

New! New Year's Bridge Cruise Sectional

San Diego CA–San Diego CA

December 29, 2022–January 7, 2023

[Click here for details](#)



Tips for Playing Bridge Online – Stay Focused and Play Your Best by Robert Todd

To be a consistently good bridge player requires more than just bridge knowledge or even good bridge judgment. A large part of bridge is about focus and psychology. In many ways, your ability to keep (or regain) your focus in stressful situations is more important than your bridge knowledge.

As a bridge teacher, I often find myself working with my students on bridge concepts (or even their bidding systems/agreements). But as a professional player, that plays with students of many backgrounds and skill bridge levels, I find that one thing almost every player needs is help with the psychology of the game. This is true for all types of bridge – in person and online.

When it comes to playing bridge online, we face a more difficult set of challenges than we do when we're playing in person. Of course, when playing bridge online there are often distractions with things going on around you – either in your home, coffee shop, or wherever you may find yourself playing bridge. But there are other aspects of playing bridge online that are important for you to deal with properly. Let's look at some of the things you can do better:

The Clock – When you're playing online don't get too focused on the time remaining. Most players focus on the clock ticking down in the corner of their screen and let it distract them from playing or defending the hand. 2-3 minutes is a much longer time than you think, so don't panic! *Relax and play the cards the best you can. Don't let the ticking clock pressure you into making bad choices or misclicks.* If you run out of time, the director will make whatever adjustments need to be done.

History – One of the aspects of online play that is often more gratifying than in-person play is the history. You can see every card you and partner played as well as the details of what happened at each of the other tables. In many games, you also get to immediately see your result (% or IMPs). All of this is great information, but it's important for you not to spend too much time looking at it or thinking about this information while you play. So many players get focused on this data and allow it to distract them from their play. Spending time focusing on this information will only distract you and undermine your focus. Remember, the history of your play and the results at the other tables are not going anyway. You can look at them later, keep your focus on the next hand, not the previous one!

Discussion with Partner – When playing bridge in person, it can be dangerous to discuss previous boards in the middle of the session. This is especially true when discussing boards resulting in bad outcomes or where you and partner had a disagreement. Often these conversations distract you and partner from the next board and negatively affect your future results. Many players choose to discuss some things because they're fresh in their minds, and don't want to forget to cover them later (or just can't help themselves). If you do feel the need to discuss a board with partner in the middle of a session, you need to be careful to be constructive towards or complimentary of partner, not critical. When it comes to online and in particular using "chat" it can be very easy to have your tone misinterpreted. Even things that you mean as a compliment if read quickly can be misunderstood. It's always better to wait until the end of the session to discuss things with partner – especially if you're discussing a poor result or something you think they did wrong!

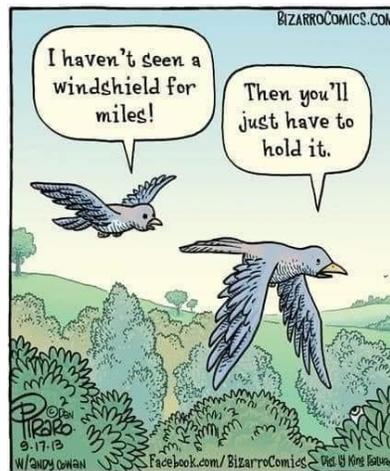
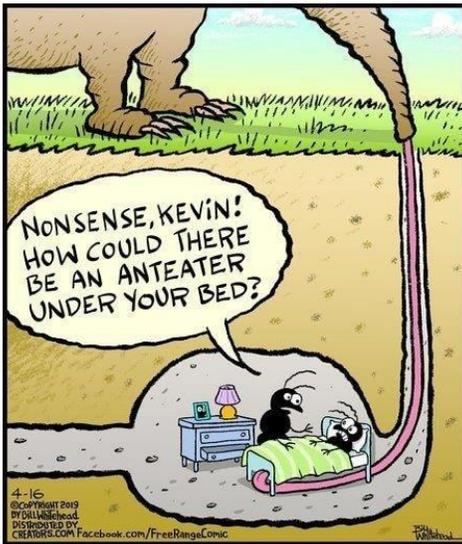
If you want to improve your online bridge results, then put some significant effort into correcting any of these bad habits you might have developed. You'll be amazed at how doing just a bit better at these will significantly improve your scores.

About the Author



Robert is a professional player and teacher that you'll find all over North America (and the world). He is the founder of [Adventures in Bridge](#) and you'll find him hosting events, either virtual or in-person, almost every week of the year! Robert's also the president of the [ACBL Educational Foundation](#) where he's working to build an institution to shepherd the long-term good of bridge!

To Make You Smile



Columbia Employee Store Invitation

Details:

- **London Bridge Centre offer is valid August 19 - September 11!**
- Store is stocked with current season products from our family of brands – Columbia, Mountain Hardwear, SOREL and prAna – **items are priced up to 50% off retail.**
- For store access, please provide your digital invite on next page (printed or shown on your mobile device) + proof of affiliation/membership
- Invitees can bring up to four additional guests with each visit
- This offer is for store access (not valid online)
- Summer Sale going on now! Save up to an **ADDITIONAL 50% off** select styles, while supplies last!
- ***Store will be closed on Monday, September 5, in observance of Labour Day***



**SUMMER SALE
IS HERE!**

UP TO AN ADDITIONAL
50% OFF
EMPLOYEE STORE PRICES

*ON SELECT STYLES, WHILE SUPPLIES LAST



EXCLUSIVELY FOR:

London Bridge Club

VALID DATES

08/19/2022 - 09/11/2022

VALID FOR YOU + 4 GUESTS

WHAT TO BRING

**THIS INVITATION
PHOTO I.D.**

PROOF OF AFFILIATION

*business card / membership card /
company email signature / pay stub /
original email / other form of affiliation*

LOCATION & HOURS

1-1425 Max Brose Dr
London ON, N6N 0A2

MON-FRI: 10AM - 8PM

SAT: 9:30AM - 6PM

SUN: 10AM - 5PM

**Store Closed Sept. 5th
in Observance of Labour Day**

YEAR ROUND ACCESS

MILITARY PERSONNEL: EVERY DAY

SENIORS (65+): FIRST TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH

Questions? Please email: londonemployeestore@columbia.com



Valid for you and up to 4 guests for multiple visits during your invite period. Columbia reserves the right to modify or cancel this offer at any time. Please present this original invitation to the receptionist for entry and again at checkout. This invitation is non-transferable. You must be present during shopping. The products purchased are intended solely for the buyer's own personal use, including gifts to others. Resale of products is strictly prohibited. Columbia Sportswear limits the number of items purchased to no more than 10 of the same style. For team and company purchases, please speak to a member of our store management team. Offer may not be combined with any other offer or discount. Valid from dates listed above. ©2022 Columbia Brands USA, LLC.

Peter's Lesson



Peter Tuttle

I hope to see you
Tuesdays at LBC.

Lead Directing Double

In past newsletters we have explored the use of doubles for takeout of the opponents' suit. However, when our opponents make a bid that is artificial, such as Stayman or Jacoby transfers, your bid of double indicates that you have length and strength in the artificially bid suit. It asks partner to lead that suit at the first opportunity.

Your Hand

♠ A 8 5
♥ 4
♦ 9 8 6 4
♣ K Q J 9 5

Lt Hand Opp

1NT

Partner

Pass

Rt Hand Opp

2♣

You

Double

2 clubs is an ARTIFICIAL bid. You have both length and strength in clubs and a lead of clubs by your partner should garner tricks.

Your Hand

♠ 8 5
♥ K 9 7 6 4
♦ A J 2
♣ K T 5

Lt Hand Opp

1NT

Partner

Pass

Rt Hand Opp

2♥

You

?

2 heart bid is a transfer to spades - artificial. With honours in all 3 other suits, simply pass. Leave the decision regarding lead to your partner.

Joke of the Day

My mother went to a wedding and the usher asked her,

"What side are you on?"

She replied, "Are they arguing already?"

