

January 6,

2019



Newsletter

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Happy New Year

Thanks to Marlene Benny and her team for arranging an outstanding New Year's brunch and Bruce Moor for organizing the bridge game to help us welcome 2019.

CHEERS!





We Want to Hear from You!

London Bridge Centre opened in November 2015. In our three years, we have enjoyed social events, lessons, seminars led by Audrey Grant and Barbara Seagram, and a terrific bridge library. LBC members own the club and elect the volunteer Board of twelve to oversee operations. Many volunteers have generously contributed their time, talent and energy for the good of the not-for-profit club and their fellow members.

Along the way, members, guests and visitors have played over 15,000 tables of bridge! Now we need your help to make the next three years even better.

What could we do better or differently to improve the bridge experiences and satisfaction of current members and visitors, and attract new members?

To find out, this coming week all newsletter subscribers will receive a survey invitation in a Pianola e-mail. This survey is your opportunity to make a difference by sharing your perspective and suggestions with the Board and our committees. Whether you come to Bridge Lab once a month or play several times weekly in the ACBL-sanctioned games, are a current or former member or have been a visitor, we'd like to hear from you. Thank you in advance for sharing!

Paper copies of the survey will be made available at the club next week for those who require that format.

Thanks to the volunteer working group who have developed the survey – **Al Edwards, Deb Ellison, Chris Piper, Jim Stewart and Hui Zhu**. Thanks also to the panel of 35 members who participated in a test run.

Al Edwards
President, LBC



Thanks Brian

On December 18, the hot water heater at the club failed. Many thanks to **Brian Sheardown**, who removed the old one, picked up a larger-capacity replacement and had it installed on December 24th. Hurrah! We can use the dishwasher again!

Upcoming Events



January 7th to 11th - Club Championship Week

Extra points, no surcharge



Sunday, January 13th - CNTC Qualifier Swiss Team Game

Red points, \$1 surcharge

Please sign up at the front desk.



Saturday & Sunday, January 26th & 27th - London Sectional at LBC

For more information, click [here](#).

Calling all bakers!



Volunteers Needed!

The **London Bridge Centre** is, once again, hosting **Unit 249's Western Ontario Sectional on January 26 and 27**. And what do good hosts do? They bake cookies.

LBC members have been exceptionally generous in preparing baked goods for previous sectionals held at the club. We are hoping members can volunteer their baking skills by bringing baked goods to our upcoming sectional. All contributions are greatly appreciated. Volunteers to help co-ordinate the serving of baked goods throughout the tournament would also be quite helpful to your tournament organizers.

Please contact [Tom Jolliffe](#) if you would like further details or would like to volunteer to help.

Learning Opportunities at LBC

To view all, click [here](#).



**Master Your Game
Wednesday,
February 6th
9:30 to 11:30 a.m.**

Sign up as a table of four to play bridge for the morning. Enjoy a little help from our friends at LBC who generously offer their time and expertise to guide your play. A sign-up sheet will be at the main desk closer to the event date. Please sign up early. Registration will close on Friday, February 1st at 4:00 p.m. to allow time to recruit table coaches.

Take advantage of these ongoing opportunities!

★ Lost and Found

Join a master bridge player, after the **Monday morning** 0-300 game, for some answers regarding your questions about difficult hands. We will help you identify where you **Lost** it and help you **Find** the correct contract, declarer play or defense for any particular hand you choose from the morning session.

★ *Ask Dwight*

If you are puzzled about a hand, email [Ask Dwight](#). Provide **the session, board number and your question**. Dwight will provide you with helpful tips. View solutions for past questions on the [LBC web site](#), under **Learn to Play Bridge**, or click [here](#).

2019 Winter Courses

To view information about our dedicated teachers, click [here](#).

NOTE: Please register at least 7 days before the course begins.

Play of the Hand 1:
Instructor, Audrey Craig

Begins: Monday, January 14, 2019

Time: 1:00 p.m. to 3:15

Duration: 4 sessions

Final
registration
date
soon!

Course Topics: Making a plan, developing tricks through promotion and length, developing tricks by finessing, and eliminating losers by ruffing or discarding.

Click [here](#) for course details and registration.

Bridge Basics 1:
Instructors, Hazel Hewitt and Jane King

Begins: Wednesday, February 6, 2019

Time: 1:00 p.m. to 3:15

Duration: 8 sessions

Course Topics: Hand evaluation, bidding ladder, no-trump opening bids and responses, minor suit opening bids and responses, major suit openings and responses, and dummy points. Hand play and defense will be included in each class.

Click [here](#) for course details and registration.

Bridge Basics 3:
Instructor, Audrey Craig

Begins: Monday, February 18, 2019

Time: 1:00 p.m. to 3:15

Duration: 4 sessions

Course Topics: Stayman convention, Jacoby transfers, the strong 2 club opener, and the Blackwood convention.

Click [here](#) for course details and registration.

Bridge Etiquette and Protocol

In conjunction with her presentation at LBC, [Barbara Seagram](#) supplied a valuable information sheet on '*Etiquette and Protocol*' that she had previously shared with the subscribers to her newsletter. The original web source for this information is found in: <http://www.bridgewebs.com>

However, to ease the way we have provided a direct link to the information on the LBC web site. Click [here](#) to access the file.

Or, from the LBC web site, click on [Bridge Links](#) which goes to **Helpful Information**. Then, [Barbara Seagram's "Bridge Etiquette & Protocol"](#). You will be able to download a PDF file of the complete series of information.

In the December 2nd edition of the LBC newsletter, we reprinted **Part One** of the information for your perusal. It addressed *Table Manners* and *The Auction*. In the December 16th issue, Part Two dealt with *Play of the Hand* and *Dummy's Responsibilities*. The third and final instalment in this issue addresses the **Ethics** of considerate play.

[Etiquette and Protocol at the Bridge Table](#)

Above all, avoid any behavior that would make anyone (especially beginners) feel uncomfortable.



Part 3: Ethics

Principle of Full Disclosure

1. The philosophy of active ethics tells us that winners should be determined solely by skill, flair and normal playing luck. Actively ethical partnerships take pains to ensure their opponents are fully informed.
2. A major tenet of active bridge ethics is the principle of full disclosure. This means that all information available to your partnership must be made available to your opponents.

Etiquette and Protocol at the Bridge Table (cont'd.)

3. Let's take a look at *weak two* bids from the point of view of full disclosure. When an established partnership opens a weak two bid, they have a great deal of information of which their opponents are not aware. The convention card discloses the point range, but little else. However, the partners are aware of the range of hands on which the bid can be made (discipline? suit quality requirements? Five -or -seven card suits allowed? side four-card major ok? void ok? positional variations? etc.). Full disclosure requires that all these inferences, restrictions and tendencies be made known to any opponent who specifically enquires about style.
4. If you are interested in knowing these things about your opponent's bid, merely say to the bidder's partner, "Would you tell me more about your style?" You may use the style inquiry to ask about any bid your opponent makes. The actively ethical player will often go beyond what is technically required in volunteering information to the opponents. Quite often, the declaring side in an actively ethical partnership will volunteer such information before the opening lead is made. (But remember, when there has been misinformation given, such as a failure to alert or a mistaken alert, there is a **LEGAL** obligation on the player whose partner misinformed the opponents. He, the bidder, must give the opponents the correct information at the end of the auction if his side is the declaring side or at the end of the play if his side is defending.)
5. New players or infrequent partnerships usually will not have understandings about the items discussed here and, of course, it will be perfectly proper for them to reply, "*We have no agreement as to style.*"

Slow Play

1. Failure to finish on time can do a great deal to chase players away from the game and is extremely distressing to waiting players. Bridge is a timed event. If a pair takes more than their share of the allotted time for each round, they are inconveniencing their fellow competitors as well as gaining an unfair advantage over them. When a pair has fallen behind it is incumbent on them to make up the time lost as quickly as possible whether at fault or not.
2. The actively ethical player makes a concerted effort to catch up when they have fallen behind, regardless of the reason for their lateness. All players are expected to develop this good habit.

Etiquette and Protocol at the Bridge Table (cont'd.)

3. Avoid hesitations by being consistently deliberate in your bidding and play. An acquired habit of playing smoothly and evenly (even on very bad hands) will always give you more time to think. Remember that a hesitation followed by a pass places an extra burden on partner as any bids by him or her must be very clear cut. Do not be upset if an opponent calls the director to monitor the auction in this situation as it is the proper thing to do.

Remember:

- Slow play is subject to penalty, and the penalties are well earned when slow pairs disrupt the normal progression of the game.
- Additionally, players should be available to start each subsequent round promptly, avoiding wherever possible, being late to a table for non-bridge reasons.
- If you are still playing when the next round is called, finish playing the trick then stop. You must pass the played boards to the next table before you restart play.

If you have comments or suggestions, please contact the editor.

[Adele Woolfe](#)

**Keep up to date on everything that's happening
at the London Bridge Centre.**

Visit the website: www.londonbridgecentre.ca