

February 21, 2021



Newsletter

## *A Message from the President*

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**Hello Everyone,**

In a few weeks time, it will be the one-year anniversary of the closing of the LBC doors and the suspension of face-to-face bridge. With the arrival of the vaccines, we can now see blue sky at the end of the tunnel. In addition to the longer daylight hours, our world is getting brighter. We now have 7 weekly on-line games and we add special games for special occasions. We remain a very active club, not only through your participation in our games, but also because of your involvement in our educational programs. Many LBC members have effectively made the transition to on-line teaching and learning. Currently, we have over 100 members involved in our learning programs!!

We all look forward to reconnecting with friends through face-to-face bridge. However, we realize the popularity and advantages of on-line bridge. With your help and feedback, we will navigate our way through this integration when the time comes.

Thank you once again for your continued support of LBC through your involvement in our on-line games.

Stay well,  
**Judy Stirling**



Please note that membership fees are waived indefinitely. Your current membership will be recognized until further notice.

## Bridge News

### Virtual Club Games

	LBC	
Monday	6:45	Open
Tuesday	9:45	Open
Wednesday	9:45	0-500
Thursday	9:30	0-50
Thursday	9:45	Open
Friday	9:45	0-500
Saturday	1:15	0-200

	Tillsonburg DBC	
Tuesday	7:00	Open
Friday	1:15	Open

**LBC members welcome**  
For additional information regarding  
Tillsonburg games contact Jed Drew.  
[jed.drew@gmail.com](mailto:jed.drew@gmail.com)



### Extra Game Added

Click [here](#) for more information.

From February 22<sup>nd</sup> -28<sup>th</sup> part of each Virtual Club entry fee will be given to the [ACBL Educational Foundation](#), a non-profit organization devoted to learning and spreading the game of bridge far and wide. Your game fee will remain at \$5 USD.

**Double Black Points** for all games throughout the week

**Added Game**

Saturday, February 27<sup>th</sup>

**Open @ 1:30**

## IMP League Results

Ten teams have taken advantage of the opportunity to play in IMP leagues games on Thursday evenings from January through March. This allowed us to have 2 flights and robust competition. To view current standings, click [here](#).

## Bridge News



### Virtual Club Swiss Teams

Bridge Base Online and ACBL have developed a format for Swiss teams within the Virtual Club domain. LBC has scheduled two team events. Players should register as a foursome. To view more information see the LBC [website](#) and to register your team, [click here](#).

**We are looking forward to enjoying this opportunity. Please join us!**

**Sunday, March 7<sup>th</sup> @ 1:00 p.m.**

**Sunday, March 21<sup>st</sup> @ 1:00 p.m.**

Registration closes on the Friday before each game.



### North American Online Bridge Championships March 13<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup>

Click [here](#) for information and schedule.

**Congratulations to LBC members who previously won the privilege  
to represent District 2.**

- ♠ Dwight Bender (with Keith Heckley from Hamilton) Open Pairs, Flight A
- ♠ Ken Bowlby and Peter Tuttle Open Pairs, Flight B

## Bridge News

### New Rank Achievements

Junior Master	Greg	Hanbuch
Junior Master	Leslie	Harden
Junior Master	Patricia	Malvern
Club Master	Nancy	Hunter
NABC Master	Larry	Norman



To check out all new rank achievements, click [here](#).

### Mini-McKenney and Ace of Clubs Competitions

The ACBL recognizes individuals within each Unit who have earned the most masterpoints during the year when compared to their peers. The **London Bridge Centre** is a member of **Unit 249** which includes all sanctioned bridge clubs in Southern Ontario. Several London Bridge Centre members placed in either the **Ace of Clubs race** (masterpoints earned at club games within Unit 249) or the **Mini-McKenney competition** (all masterpoints earned in the year).

Congratulations to **Adele Woolfe** and **Rick Jordan** for winning both the 2020 Unit 249 **Mini-McKenney** and **Ace of Clubs** competitions in their respective categories.

To view all who placed in the top ten for each category, click on following links:

[Unit 249 Mini-McKenney](#)

[Unit 249 Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs](#)

[District 2 Mini-McKenney](#)

[District 2 Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs](#)

## Bridge News

### Question & Answer: Subs

#### Question

I have noticed that some people are playing in limited point games when their points exceed the limit. Do they receive points? Is this a common occurrence?

#### Answer

The only time we have someone in the limited point game who has more points than the limit is when we need a sub to fill in a half table. In this case, the player(s) are volunteering to be substitutes and will not be in a regular partnership. From experience, I believe that the registered players would prefer to play against people they know rather than robots.

The downside is that should the subs do well, they will be assigned points. I have tried in the past, without success, to make the players **not eligible** when the points are assigned by ACBL, so currently the subs get to keep points earned.

If individuals with fewer points than the limit are available for the game, and do not have a partner, we will preferentially choose them for subs. All they need to do is show up at the partnership desk, or send a chat message to the **vacb272120 director**, and we will chat with them to see if they want to sub. Then, they need to stay online, and **if there is a half table**, we will invite them within 2 or 3 minutes **after the game starts**.

It is not a perfect system, but it works well most of the time.

Thanks for your question.

**Bruce Moor**

**Chair Game Directors**



## Learning Opportunities Courses

### Advancing Your Game

Instructor: [Mary Howe](#)

This is an eight-week course designed for players who play duplicate bridge on a regular basis. Bidding and play topics will be examined. Standard conventions will be reviewed and extended to develop effective strategies for handling the opponents' interference. The use of good judgement will be emphasized. Following the completion of this course, players will be more comfortable and successful competing against London's better bridge players in the open games.

**NOTE:** For a detailed course description and online registration, please check the LBC web site or click [here](#). The course will be taught online via Zoom and BBO.

**Duration:** 8 weeks

**Time:** Mondays, 2:00 p.m. to 4:15 p.m. (Please note time change from original ad.)

**Dates:** March 8, 15, 22, 29

April 5, 12, 19, 26

**Fee:** \$100 plus the Student Handbook \$15 (Total: \$115)

**Registration Closes:** February 28<sup>th</sup>

DON'T  
MISS IT

**Note:** This course was previously taught in 2 parts. If you have already taken Part 1 and are hoping to take only Part 2, please contact the teacher at [maryhowe@comcast.net](mailto:maryhowe@comcast.net)

### Beginner Bridge

Instructor: [Hazel Hewitt](#)



**Have you been thinking about learning to play bridge? Join us!**

Groups of 4 meet online and learn to play bridge in **10 sessions**. New players are welcome to apply and a new group starts when there are 4 participants. Lesson days and time are mutually agreed upon.

Please call or email Hazel for further information.

[hazeljhewitt@hotmail.com](mailto:hazeljhewitt@hotmail.com)

519 274-9724

# Learning Opportunities

For teacher biographies, click [here](#).

## Are you interested in developing your bridge skills?

Several teachers from **London Bridge Centre** offer small group lessons while they sit as **fifth chair** to guide your progress. Contact the teacher of your choice for details.

**Student Comment:** *“I have really enjoyed this. I attended a couple of the in-person fifth chair sessions at the club and like them as well, but I find the virtual ones a bit better. I really like the fact that we cover topics we want and then we can play hands that require use of whatever you are teaching. I cannot learn anything without practice.”*



**Audrey  
Craig**

[audrey-craig@rogers.com](mailto:audrey-craig@rogers.com)

519 657-3665

- ✚ Practice & Play (groups of 4)
- ✚ Specific topics: 2/1, 1430, Jacoby 2NT, Play of the Hand, Stayman, Transfers, Take Out Doubles, Overcalls, Defense



**Hazel  
Hewitt**

[hazeljhewitt@hotmail.com](mailto:hazeljhewitt@hotmail.com)

519 274-9724

- ✚ Practice & Play (groups of 4)
- ✚ Specific topics: Topics have included Michaels, Jacoby 2NT, Big 2C, Blackwood, NT handplay, pre-empts, transfers,
- ✚ Start with brief lesson and specific hands to practice. Random hands are also used.



**Mary  
Howe**

[maryhowe@comcast.net](mailto:maryhowe@comcast.net)

- ✚ Practice & Play: Targets the conventions taught in the **Advancing Your Game course** (Prerequisite)



**Peter  
Tuttle**

[petesrecords@hotmail.com](mailto:petesrecords@hotmail.com)

- ✚ Practice & Play (groups of 4)
- ✚ Provides responses to your bidding and play of the hand questions



**Marie  
Wiley**

[mewiley@rogers.com](mailto:mewiley@rogers.com)

519 433-1537

- ✚ Practice & Play (groups of 4)
- ✚ Provides responses to your bidding and play of the hand questions

## Peter's Lesson



Peter Tuttle

Hello Tuesday and Wednesday folks!

**Lesson:** When to **IGNORE** the *Rule of 7* when playing in no trump?

### Rule of 7: Review

When the defender leads:

- Add the number of cards you hold in that suit in both the declarer and dummy hands.
- Subtract that total from the number 7.
- Duck the trick that many times.

♠	9 8 2	W
♥	Q 10 6 2	
♦	7 4	
♣	9 5 4 2	

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

♠	6 5 4	E
♥	K J 9 3	
♦	A 3	
♣	K Q J 10	

♠	A Q J 7	S
♥	A 8 7 5	
♦	6 5 2	
♣	8 3	

In the last newsletter we applied the **Rule of 7** to help us make a No Trump contract. Bridge *rules* are merely **GUIDELINES**. We need to consider the wisdom of that maxim.

**South is the declarer in 3 No Trump.** Count your winners. (4 spades, 1 heart, 1 club) Diamonds offer the greatest possibility of extra tricks to make the contract.

- ♦ The lead is the 2 of hearts. Because it is likely 4<sup>th</sup> best you can hope that hearts split 4/4. If so, we probably have 3 heart losers and the ace of diamonds.
- ♦ In this case, you need to work on the diamond suit as soon as possible. So, it is wise NOT to hold up in hearts. We don't want East to win the heart lead and switch to clubs.
- ♦ Win the heart with the ace and play diamonds until the opponents take their ace of diamonds.
- ♦ Now a club lead will not hurt you because you hold the ace of clubs. If the opponents switch to clubs, you now have 11 tricks. If they go after hearts, you still win 9 tricks.

### Joke of the Day

What goes well with a **THICK** \$50 steak? ...A **FAT** wallet.



Be safe. Stay well.

*Peter*

## Newsletter Editor Needed!



**Are you comfortable working in Word or desk-top publishing?**

**Do you have an eye for details?**

**Are you an organized person?**

**If so, we would like to speak to you about becoming the LBC Newsletter Editor!**

Since November 2017 Adèle Woolfe has served LBC as our Newsletter editor, giving us a treat to read every 2 or 3 weeks. We thank her for her outstanding contribution to the club by making us aware of all the goings-on at LBC. Communication is so important! She now wishes to step down as editor but will be available to assist the new editor during a transition stage.

We are looking for a volunteer to take over this role. All the information is provided, and we also provide proof-readers and send out the finished product.

If you are interested in this position, please contact Adèle to discuss the details. We would love to hear from you!

If you have questions or comments regarding the newsletter, please contact [Adèle Woolfe](mailto:Adèle Woolfe).

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

**Visit the website: [www.londonbridgecentre.ca](http://www.londonbridgecentre.ca)**