

March 14, 2021



Newsletter

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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

A Message from the Editor

Dear Readers,

It is bittersweet to say my farewell as your newsletter editor. I began this task in October of 2017. Right off the start, I loved the job! I enjoyed the feeling of connection with all the members of LBC. I think a newsletter helps us maintain a strong sense of community. Thank you so much for your support and encouragement throughout the years. That said, it is time to step aside and encourage a fresh perspective.

Putting a newsletter together involves many people. Readers contribute poems, articles, lessons, member information, and report the events that keep our club vibrant. Board members communicate decisions, special events and clarify bridge news and etiquette. However, I need to say a special thank you to the team that works in tandem with the editor every time we publish. **Judy Stirling** and **Al Edwards** write many of the articles you read. They also proofread each edition. Kudos go to **Sue Edwards** - proof-reader extraordinaire! She and I can discuss the value of an Oxford comma and debate the purpose of bold, italics and font. She makes sure the website and newsletter are in sync and she is patient all the while. When we think the edition is ready for publication, Sue sends it to you through Pianola.

I am pleased to introduce our new editor, **Penny Finneron**. Penny is eager to be a volunteer for LBC. Her organizational skills and attention to detail will stand her in good stead. I know she will bring a new eye, fresh enthusiasm, and excellent skills to the task at hand. Penny, thank you for taking on this project. Enjoy.

Yours in bridge,

Adele Woolfe

Bridge News

Unit 249 has cancelled our July regional and all sectional tournaments for 2021. In their place, the unit is planning a series of unit championship games on BBO to be run by various clubs in Unit 249. The first unit-wide tournament is scheduled for the weekend of **March 27-28** and will be run by the Guelph Bridge Club. **Please register at least 30 minutes before game time.**

All members of the London Bridge Centre are eligible to play in this tournament. There will be three flights in both the Saturday Pairs game and the Sunday Swiss Teams game; Open, 0-750 and 0-199. Participants may register online via BBO under the Guelph Bridge Club. Complete information for this tournament can be found at the [Guelph Bridge Club](#). Instructions are also available on how to register for [Swiss Team](#) games. As this tournament is held in Stardust Week, masterpoint awards will be double the rate of a club game; 1/4 gold, 3/4 black. BBO game fees are \$7. Further Unit 249 wide games will be

New Rank Achievements



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

Please note: There can be a delay of about two months before rank achievements are confirmed by ACBL and reported to LBC.

Junior Master

Barry Brown
Douglas Fairbairn
Laura Fairbairn
Mary Lou Greenwood

Club Master

Joan Conlon
Linda Ritchie

Sectional Master

Sally McHenry

IMP League Results

With only three weeks left in our Tournament, there are some very tight races in both flights. It may be a photo finish. One of the teams is using Zoom prior to the game so everyone can participate in a 'meet and greet' before assembling on the battlefield. It's wonderful to actually "see" people again. To view current standings, click [here](#).

NEW ON LBC's WEBSITE

As novice players, we start with counting points and natural bids; if we have mostly clubs, we bid clubs. Soon we start to hear about - and then learn - conventions which use artificial bids. First Stayman, then Jacoby transfers; two Clubs becomes a question, two Hearts means we have spades. Next Gerber, Blackwood, Michaels, Cappelletti, maybe even Tuttle - many of them bearing the name of their inventor or promoter. At times, it seems that a bid can have any exotic meaning that a pair agrees on and notes on their convention card.

The ACBL has imposed some restrictions on the conventions that may be used at various levels of play. These restrictions are detailed in four "Convention Charts" which were updated in November 2018. See LBC website ([here](#)) for more information.

LBC has adopted the ACBL Basic+ convention chart for our club games with masterpoint limits of 200 or fewer. For our Open and 0-500 games, the ACBL Open convention chart applies. While the Basic+ chart is more restrictive, most commonly used conventions (including all those named above) are allowed on both these charts.

For virtual club players – we have added some other new material on the LBC website. Are you familiar with the double dummy analysis? Are you allowed to consult your convention card during play? Do you know how, when and what to announce? Ever wondered about strange results on ACBL Live? Check it out [here](#).

Swiss Teams Club Event

LBC's second Swiss Teams virtual club event is Sunday March 21 at 1:00 p.m. Details and advance registration [here](#). **Register your team by Saturday, March 20.**



Join us for another Stardust Week and win gold points online! Stardust Week will take over the Virtual Clubs on Bridge Base Online (BBO) during the week of **March 22-28, Monday-Sunday**. No registration is required. Simply play in your usual Virtual Club game on BBO. What's special about Stardust Week? You'll earn **double** regular masterpoints® in the Virtual Clubs, and points will be **1/4 gold, 3/4 black!** In addition to our regular games, LBC will be adding two new games during Stardust week, March 22- 28. The two additional games will be on Saturday, March 27 at 1:30 p.m. (Open) and Sunday March 28th at 1:30 p.m. (Open).

For more information click [here](#).

Thank you to our Volunteers

So many events and traditions have been put on hold or forgotten this past year that we have all lost count. Recently it occurred to me that we didn't hold our annual volunteer appreciation game in 2020 and may not have one this year either. That is unfortunate but it's also very wrong of us not to celebrate the amazing people who volunteer at our club. You might think that volunteers became superfluous when the club closed its doors but you would be wrong. People still have to check on the premises, pay the bills, liaise with the landlord, do the bookkeeping and banking. Then there are the people volunteering online to schedule games, direct games, work with the ACBL, find fill-ins for games, learn new software and so on. What about the committees that are still functioning like education membership and finance and the board of directors? And a huge shout out to Adele for continuing to produce a high quality newsletter every few weeks. The list goes on and on.

Finally, there is another group of people who are willing to play with less experienced players to help improve their game. They do it for the love of the game and to give back to the club in their own way. Another wonderful group of people to be celebrated.

I am positive I haven't listed all the volunteer activities that make our club successful. But I would like to acknowledge that we wouldn't have a club without all of you. So, thank you and please continue being part of a great bridge club.

Judi Carter

Learning Opportunities Courses

Are you interested in developing your bridge skills?
Would you appreciate some practice in an online environment?

Several teachers from **London Bridge Centre** are offering small group lessons while they sit as **fifth chair** to guide your progress. These lessons may take a variety of formats for communication. Your group will play at a mutually agreed upon time. Prices and the length of each session may vary slightly. Please contact the following teachers if you would like more information. To read about our teachers, click [here](#).



audrey-craig@rogers.com

519 657-3665

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



hazeljhewitt@hotmail.com

519 274-9724

- ✚ Practice & Play (groups of 4)
- ✚ Beginner and advancing beginner



maryhowe@comcast.net

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



petesrecords@hotmail.com

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



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: Suit Preference Signal

You open 4 spades, but the opponents win the contract with their bid of 6 diamonds. Your partner is on lead.

Here is your hand:

♠	K Q J 9 7 3 2
♥	3 2
♦	void
♣	A 10 3 2

- Partner leads the ace of spades.
- You can see an opportunity to beat the contract if partner wins the trick and next leads a club.
- You know that your partner is aware that you have a **wide choice of spades to discard**.
- How can you signal your suit preference for next lead?

Your SPADE discard will provide a signal to your partner.

Excluding the trump suit, what suit would each of the following discards indicate?

- **King (your highest card)** is a signal to play the highest suit that is not trump, in this case hearts.
- **2 (your lowest card)** is a signal to play the lowest suit that is not trump. In this case clubs.

Discard the 2, prompting your partner to lead a club to your Ace.

NOTE: Suit preference must be a clear signal such as this. The key is your partner's knowledge that you have a wide range of cards from which to choose.

Joke of the Day

Why did the turkey cross the road twice?

To prove he wasn't chicken.

Be safe. Be well.

Peter



In Memory of Dear Friends

Paulette Seguin

The woman who was a big impetus for LBC's support of the Longest Day (Alzheimer's Society of London Middlesex) passed away earlier this month. Paulette Seguin, Tom Jolliffe's wife, died after a long battle with Multiple Sclerosis and Alzheimer's Disease. Tom, you are in our thoughts.

[Paulette's obituary](#)

Luke Chelchowski

It is with deep regret that we tell you of the passing of Luke Chelchowski on February 4 in Alberta. Luke was the son of Anna Fokes and the stepson of Richard Fokes. He will be deeply missed.

If you have questions or comments regarding the newsletter, please contact [Penny Finneron](#).

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

Visit the website: www.londonbridgecentre.ca