

February 9, 2020



Newsletter

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**Starting Wednesday, April 1  
Afternoon 0-300 Section!**

After the game schedule changes in November, some LBC members requested that the LBC Board augment the weekly game schedule to include a 0-300 section on Wednesday afternoon. This game would run as a separate section beside the current Open Game. Before considering this schedule change, a survey was done in December to determine the number of players who would be interested in playing in this section.

78 members, most of whom play duplicate regularly at LBC, responded to the survey. Their responses indicate that there is sufficient interest to operate the proposed section. About 35% indicated that they would play more frequently in total than currently. Others would shift their play from other games, commonly Wednesday evening or Thursday afternoon.

**The LBC Board reviewed the survey results, and has decided to launch a new 0-300 Wednesday afternoon section starting April 1.** April and May are strong months for attendance at all our games, so this timing should allow both the new section and the Wednesday evening 0-300 game to attract enough players to be viable.

**Players with fewer than 50 masterpoints are encouraged to come to play on Wednesday evenings.** If at least 3 tables attend, we will run a separate section. If fewer 0 – 50 players attend, the more experienced players and director **Peter Tuttle** welcome them to play in the C strat of the 0-300 game.

Thanks to all who responded to the survey. Your input to this decision is appreciated.

**Al Edwards**



## Parking Issues

Recently, two adjacent tenants, **Millstone Homes** and **Southwestern Ontario Student Transportation Services**, erected **Reserved Parking** signs in front of their store locations.

The landlord has confirmed that 3 and 6 parking spots respectively have been reserved for the clients of these two organizations. The **London Bridge Centre** has been requested that our members **adhere to these Reserved Parking signs** and that we park in locations to the south and east of the club. LBC members with limited ability are welcome to park close to the club while others are encouraged to join **ParticipACTION** and park a little farther from the entrance to the club.

**Tom Jolliffe**



## Congratulations!

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 first 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 our LBC members who placed first in either of these two competitions. Click on the above links to view more results.

### Ace of Clubs

0 – 50 MP	Adam Witoslawski	38.11
5 – 20 MP	Dennis Hack	63.02
20 – 50 MP	Helen Holmes	51.51
100 – 200 MP	Rick Jordan	114.17

### Mini-McKenney

0 – 5 MP	Adam Witoslawski	41.60
5 – 20 MP	Dennis Hack	71.36
100 – 200 MP	Rick Jordan	192.13

## Upcoming Events

Click [here](#) to view the LBC Special Events calendar.

### Tournaments

#### Sectional

Burlington 0 - 500

Click [here](#) for further information.

March 7<sup>th</sup>

Royal City Spring Fling (Puslinch, Guelph)

Click [here](#) for further information.

March 21<sup>st</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>

Brampton

Click [here](#) for further information.

April 18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup>

#### Regional

Toronto

Click [here](#) for further information.

April 7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>

Gatlinburg

Click [here](#) for further information.

April 20<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>

### Sunday Games at LBC @ 1:00 p.m.

STaC Team Game (silver points \$2 non-members)

Please sign up as a team of 4.

February 16<sup>th</sup>

Club Championship Team Game (extra points)

Please sign up as a team of 4.

March 1<sup>st</sup>

Pairs Game (Open, 0 – 300 MP)

March 15<sup>th</sup>

Pairs Game (Open, 0 – 300 MP)

March 29<sup>th</sup>

## Upcoming Events

continued

### Special Games

#### February 10<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> – Canada-wide CBF STaC Week

Silver points, \$2 surcharge waived for LBC members

- **NOTE:** Sunday, February 16<sup>th</sup> STaC **Team** game @ 1:00 p.m.

Please sign up as a **team of 4**.

Sign-up sheet will be available at the front desk.

#### Monday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> ACBL-wide Seniors Championship

- must be age 59+

\$1 surcharge waived for LBC members

### Opportunities to Improve your Game

#### Rookie/Master: Monday, February 24<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30

- A sign-up sheet is available at the front desk.

#### 5th Chair (Master Your Game): Monday, April 6<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30

#### Rookie/Master: Monday, May 11<sup>th</sup> @6:30

- This will be a single event Master/Rookie game for all interested.
- However, it will **also** be the **first game** for people participating in a Rookie/Mentorship program consisting of 5 games.
  - Mentors and Mentees in this program should be available to play together at a **Kick Off Game** on the evening of **Monday, May 11<sup>th</sup>**, as well as 4 more times **before September 30<sup>th</sup>**.
  - More information and details regarding partnerships will follow at a later date.



# Learning Opportunities at LBC

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



**MARCH 28<sup>th</sup>**  
**9:30 to 2:30**  
**@ LBC**

**Always wondered about playing Bridge?**

**Do you have friends who you just know  
would be good at Bridge?**

**Did you play Bridge at home growing up or  
at University a long time ago?**

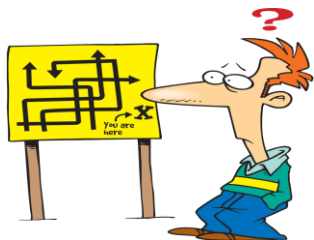


You'll nail the basics of bridge in this interactive class that has both instruction and coached play. If you're just starting, returning to the game or wanting to "test the waters" before taking formal lessons, this course is for you. Leave the class and take on a newcomer game!

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

For further information please call, **Barb O'Brien, Course Administrator** at 519-663-9979 or **Jane King, Instructor** at 519-495-3043.

## Ongoing Learning



**Lost & Found**

**Weekly**  
**Immediately following the**  
**Monday morning game.**



Ask questions about bidding and play of the hand to help you find solutions for your bridge dilemmas.

Join **Dwight Bender** and others who play Monday morning.

# Learning Opportunities at LBC Courses

To view teacher bios, click [here](#).

## Available Courses

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

### Winter Session

#### Bridge Basics 2

Instructor: Audrey Craig

Begins: Monday, February 24<sup>th</sup> \*

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

Duration: 4 sessions

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



### Spring Session

#### Lebensohl Convention

Instructor: Ross Driedger

Begins: Thursday, March 5<sup>th</sup>

Time: 9:30 – 12:00

Duration: 2 sessions

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

#### Take-Out Doubles

Instructor: Audrey Craig

Begins: Monday, March 30<sup>th</sup>

Time: 1:00 – 3:15

Duration: 2 sessions

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

#### Negative Doubles

Instructor: Audrey Craig

Begins: Monday, April 20<sup>th</sup>

Time: 1:00 - 3:15

Duration: 2 sessions

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

# Learning Opportunities at LBC

## Courses (cont'd)

To view teacher bios, click [here](#).

### Spring Session (cont'd)

#### Defense 1: Opening Leads & Signalling

Instructor: Marie Wiley

Begins: Wednesday, April 1<sup>st</sup>

Time: 1:00 – 3:15

Duration: 4 sessions

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

#### Bridge Basics 1

Instructors: Hazel Hewitt & Jane King

Begins: Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>

Time: 6:30 – 9:00 p.m.

Duration: 8 sessions

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

#### Bridge Basics 3

Instructor: Hazel Hewitt

Begins: Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup>

Time: 9:30 – 11:30

Duration: 6 sessions

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

#### Play of the Hand 2

Instructor: Audrey Craig

Begins: Monday, May 4<sup>th</sup>

Time: 1:00 – 3:15

Duration: 4 sessions

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

#### Yellow Card (SAYC)

Instructor: Hazel Hewitt

Begins: Wednesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>

Time: 1:30 – 3:30

Duration: 3 sessions

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

#### Advancing Your Game Part 1

Instructor: Mary Howe

Begins: Thursday June 4<sup>th</sup>

Time: 10:00 – 12:15

Duration: 4 sessions

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

**NOTE:** Part 1 is a prerequisite for Part 2.

Part 2 is taught in the fall. [Course Outline](#)



## TIPS for AVOIDING SLOW PLAY

by Martin Hunter (with his permission to reprint)

**Fast(er) Players are not that much faster than Slow(er) Players. They just tend to do fewer things that slow down the game.**

Slow(er) players are more likely to be not ready to bid, play, or even start a hand. Why?

- 1) They are writing in their scorecards when they should be taking their cards from a board, making a call, playing a card, or entering information into the Bridgmate.
- 2) They are entering information into the Bridgmate, when they should be leading, displaying the dummy, or playing a card.
- 3) They are discussing the result or announcing their current hand, when they should be starting the next hand.
- 4) They are not ready to start a round promptly, for non-bridge reasons.

### ***What can we do to waste less time?***

**If you are the Opening Leader:** Your only task is to make the opening lead.

Do not write in your scorecard. Do not enter any information in the Bridgmate.

Place your opening lead face down. Allow your partner and / or declarer to ask any questions they may have. Then, face your opening lead.

It takes 5-10 seconds for Dummy to display their hand properly.

Most good declarers take at least 15 seconds to study the dummy, make a plan, ask about defenders' carding. That is plenty of time for you to do the other stuff.

**If you are the Dummy:** Your **immediate** task is to display your dummy properly. Do not write in your scorecard. Do not enter any information in the Bridgmate. You will have plenty of time during the play of the hand to do the other stuff.

**At the end of the hand:** The Bridgmate operator's only task is to complete the data entry and have the opponent accept. Do this before entering anything into your score card or discussing the hand.

### **Be Ready to start next round promptly**

If you are an EW pair waiting to go to a table that is still playing after a round has been called, be ready when they finish – do not wander off

If you are a NS pair waiting for an EW pair that is still playing after a round has been called, be ready when they finish – do not wander off.



**Some things to keep in mind**

Claiming (and conceding) speeds up the game. We understand that experienced players are more comfortable doing this, but playing out all 52 cards is often unnecessary.

We all like to discuss the results, but anything more than 10 seconds is excessive between hands and anything at all is unacceptable, if your table is behind.

While Players are required to shuffle their cards, before returning them to the pocket of the board, a little mixing is enough. Multiple shuffles just slow down the game.

Picking up / counting your cards one-at-a-time slows down the game.

Asking questions during the auction slows down the game and can create a problem for your partner. Unless an opponent's bid is alerted, and if you have no intention of bidding, it is best to ask questions:

- a) before you make your opening lead (if on lead) **or**
- b) after opening lead is made face down.

***It is understood that difficult hands will come up, both in bidding and in play, that will take longer than others to complete, but actively ethical players make a concerted effort to catch up, once they have fallen behind, regardless of the reason for their lateness. If your table is behind, during a round. You must be aware of this issue.***

Do everything you can to finish the hand promptly. (See # 1 - 4 above)

***If a table is late finishing a round: (after round has been called)***

Get the result into the Bridgmate, accepted, and move on. Forget your scorecard for the time being. Absolutely no discussion and no other time wasting (See # 1 - 4 above.)

***If a table is late starting a round: All 4 players*** are responsible for getting caught up, regardless of who was at fault for the delay. No time wasting (See # 1 – 4 above.)

Comments to Director, such as “It’s not our fault” or “They were late” serve no purpose.

***Please Note:***

It is considered poor etiquette to ask for boards from another table, before a round is called.

It is a violation of procedure for a NS pair to not pass completed boards to the next table, after a round has been called.

***Martin Hunter (ACBL Tournament Director) – January 2020***

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