

August 16, 2020



Newsletter

Virtual Club Games

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

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Hello to all members of LBC,

I hope you are all staying healthy and Covid-free. We see some of you on-line but there are many others who could be enjoying bridge in our on-line games hosted by Bridge Base Online. There is a brief learning curve but that is soon followed by the friendly and lively competition that is an integral part of our club. We are available to help those who may be challenged by the technology. Please take the time to read **Judi Carter's article** in this newsletter. I think you will find it helpful.

We know of a few bridge clubs (one in Florida and another in Canada) that have reopened or are about to re-open during this challenging time and we are keeping a close eye on these clubs. In the meantime, we are developing and honing a set of safety protocols to be put in place when there is a sufficient shift in the [Middlesex-London Health Unit](#) guidelines which would allow us to re-open.

September has always been a busy time at the LBC as it is the month for annual membership renewals. The current memberships will be extended until a later date which has yet to be determined.

September has also been the month for our **Annual General Meeting** when we ratify amendments to our by-laws as well as make changes to our Board of Directors. This year, we have decided to postpone our AGM to the end of October or November with the faint hope that a change in the Covid-19 situation would allow us to meet in person. If that is not possible, we may hold our AGM online through a Zoom format where we have the capacity to host large meetings.

All the best,
Judy Stirling

Bridge News

New Rank Achievements Updated by ACBL August 1st, 2020

Junior Master Nancy Hunter

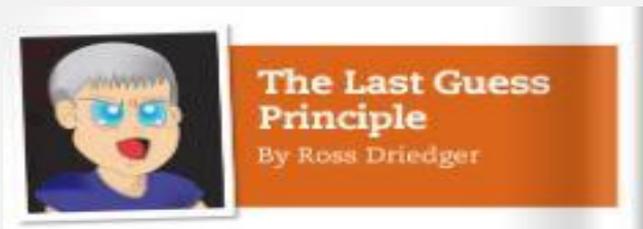
Club Master Barbara Miles

Regional Master Betty Grant
Carol Zettel



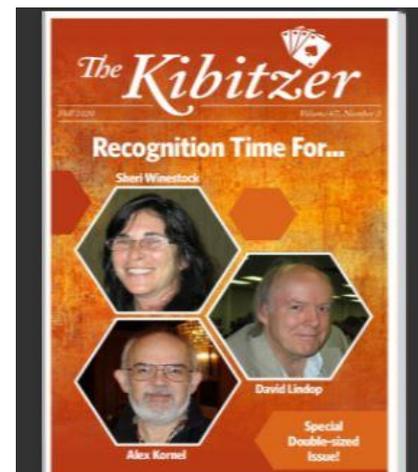
This issue of the ACBL Unit 166 fall Kibitzer

marks a new design using *Flipit* technology. Also, it is a double-sized issue so hope you have some time to familiarize yourself with the app, and of course, read the articles.



Check out the article written by LBC's **Ross Driedger**. You will find it on page 38.

Well done Ross!



To link to the Kibitzer, click [here.](#)

Learning Opportunities

Although our current course offerings are limited, please continue to check our web site and future newsletters for developing opportunities. Click [here](#) to view online courses.

Don't
Miss
Out!

NOTE:

**Registration closes
on August 25th**

Advancing Your Game

Instructor: [Mary Howe](#)



Online Course

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.

NOTE: For a detailed course description and online registration, please check the LBC web site or click [here](#).

The course will be taught online during September and October 2020.

Duration: 8 weeks

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

Dates: September 9, 16, 23, 30,
October 7, 14, 21, 28

Fee: \$100 plus the Student Handbook cost (to be determined)

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: 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 by email at maryhowe@comcast.net



The course will be taught virtually using the Zoom platform. Students will receive an email before each lesson with the hotlink to the online Zoom classroom.

Note: You do not need to load the Zoom software ahead of time since it will automatically load onto your computer when you click the hotlink in your weekly email message.

Learning Opportunities continued



2/1

2 Over 1 Game Force is the most popular bidding system in use in tournament bridge across North America. It is not radically different from Standard American bidding. However, it has some added considerations that make game and slam bidding more accurate.

This course will be taught in the format of 5th chair.



Audrey Craig

[Instructor](#)

A group of 4 will play prepared hands specifically developed by Audrey for this course via **Bridge Base Online (BBO)**. Audrey and her students will communicate via **Zoom** throughout each 2-hour lesson with applied practice. This is a 4-session course.

Although each group will have only 4 participants. Audrey is available to work with multiple groups and arrange suitable times for each group. Please register with a partner or group of 4.

Cost: \$50 per person

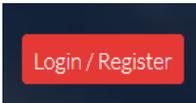
Please email Audrey for further information and to register at audrey-craig@rogers.com

You will need to have a BBO login. Your current login is to be used.

If you do not have one, see below for instructions to create a login.

You will **not** need to download Zoom technology. Audrey will send you an invitation that includes a hotlink before each session.

To Create a BBO Login

- Go to [Bridge Base Online](http://www.bridgebase.com) www.bridgebase.com
- Click on Register 
- Complete the information to become a member. **It is free.** At this point you create your **User Name** and **Password**. **Save this information.** It is required later.

User name Max 10 characters	Required 0/10	Real name
Password Max 10 characters	Required 0/10	ACBL Number
Confirm password Max 10 characters	Required 0/10	Other
E-mail address	Required	



Peter Tuttle

Hello to the Tuesday bunch! Here is a lesson for you.

Hand Evaluation throughout the Bidding Sequence: Lesson 3

Count your points when you pick up your cards and don't count them again. BUT, re-evaluate as the bidding progresses.

Lesson 1 looked at decisions regarding your response to partner's opening bid.

Lesson 2 considered your re-evaluation after your partner's rebid.

Lesson 3 explores the opener's possible 3rd bid.

You open the bidding with this hand.

♠ A K
♥ 9 8
♦ Q 10 9 6 2
♣ K Q 10 7

You open 1 D.

Your partner responds 1 H.

You bid 2 C.

Partner rebids 2 H.

Consider the options for your next bid.

2 No Trump: Promises a stronger hand.

2 NT would be a good bid if you held
AK 98 KQ1096 KQ107

3 Hearts: Promises 16 - 17 points.

3 H would be a good bid if you held
K K95 KQ1096 KQ107

PASS: This bid seems to be the best option.

Your partner had an opportunity to encourage game and did not. You have not found a strong fit. Partner likely has a 6-card heart suit, and the rebid indicates 6-10 points. Pass and hope for a plus score.

Joke of the Day: Quote from Will Rogers

There is no trick to be a humorist when you have the whole government working for you.

Virtual Corner



Online Bridge

Judi Carter

So, the only bridge being played at our club is the online variety and this situation might continue for a while. A huge thank you to Bruce Moor, Al Edwards, Dwight Bender and Tom Jolliffe for organizing and running our club games on BBO. Many thanks to their assistants and subs, Audrey Craig, Brian Rice, Jed Drew, Sue Edwards and others. **If you have not yet tried online bridge, think about it.** We are available to help get you started. Not only do you get to play your favorite card game with your friends and favorite partner, but our club earns some revenue that is needed and appreciated.

As a potential online director, I have learned that there are some things players can do to help the games run smoothly. **It really helps if you register for the game at least 15 minutes early.** Indeed, you can register up to two hours before game time. Once registered, you do not have to stay online but you must be back at least five minutes before start time. The directors' greatest challenge is making sure everyone is ready to go. The computer starts the game when everyone is online. It WILL NOT start without everyone present. The directors cannot swap out people and so are faced with frantic phone calls to missing players. **Please be online on time!**

Another challenge faced by directors is **slow play.** Watch the clock and play accordingly; claim when you can; save chatting until after the hands are finished and review your scores at the end of the round, not the beginning. When you do not finish in time, the computer assigns a score to you. Because the assigned score might not be appropriate, directors review the board by looking at the card-by-card play and try to determine the appropriate outcome. Sometimes more than one director needs to get involved. This is seldom to your advantage.

Although directors don't have to deal with leads or bids out of turn, failure to alert is another issue. It is different online, as players alert their own bids, but you must do so and not in the chat line! Routine, announceable bids such as transfers do not usually require an alert (especially if you have posted your convention card on BBO), but any bid that has a special meaning should be alerted. And if your opponent does not alert their bid but you want clarification, just click on the bid to ask the bidder to elaborate.

Online Bridge (Continued)

Finally, directors deal with dropped connections and uneven numbers of players. If you are disconnected, try to get back online as quickly as possible and you will be reseated automatically. Occasionally we need to use subs or a robot. Everyone appreciates the people who volunteer to sub as playing with a robot is just strange. If you are available to sub on any given day, send a chat message to **vacb272120**, the host director for that game. You may even get to play free! To do this, login at least fifteen minutes before game time and send a message to the club director.

I really miss our club face to face games, teaching on Saturday mornings, and all my bridge friends, but honestly online bridge is kind of fun. If you need help getting started contact me or any of the directors or teachers or your friends who are playing online. Help is available. Phone and email information for our members can be found on **Pianola**. Click [here](#) to view information on getting started.



Daily Two-Session Events Award **Gold & Red** Points Single Events Award **Red** Points

Stratification for all events is by the average masterpoint holding of the pair. In any event with an upper masterpoint limit, neither player may exceed the limit for the event. Masterpoint awards for all single-session events are red points.

Click [here](#) for more information and FAQ's.

Click [here](#) for the event schedule.

Virtual Corner

continued



That Darn Alert Box...

Dwight Bender

We all know about using the **Alert** feature on BBO when you are about to make an alertable bid, right?

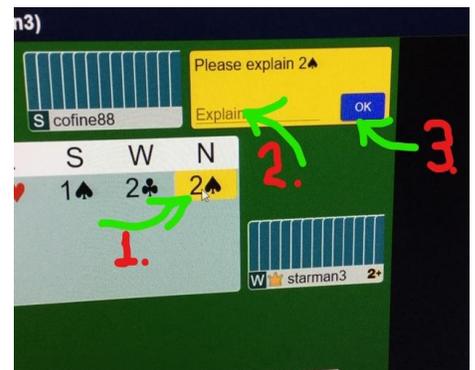
But, just to review the process **before** you make your call:

- 1) Click on the Alert Box located in the Bidding Box
- 2) In the space provided, type in the meaning of your bid
- 3) Click on the denomination and level of your call
- 4) Click OK

It's that easy. But what do you do in the heat of the battle **if you forgot to alert your bid?**

Don't worry. Just follow these easy steps:

1. Click on the bid that should have been alerted as you see it in the Bidding Box.
2. A window will appear in which you can see the word **Explain**. Click on it and type in the meaning of your call. Please be sure to describe your bid in clear terms rather than convention name.
3. Click OK.



That's it! Your opponents will see the alert and the explanation, but your partner will not.

As my father always said, "Better late than never but better never late!"

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

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

Visit the website: www.londonbridgecentre.ca