

September 26,
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	0-100
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

Message From the President

With every passing week, we are getting closer to our reopening where we will provide face-to-face games in addition to an on-line schedule of games. As we remain committed to providing a safe environment for our members, all LBC decisions are guided by public health protocols.

The Board of LBC has approved the following vaccination policy as an important step in ensuring our commitment to safety and responsibility in stopping the community spread of COVID-19.

In accordance with Wednesday's announcement from the Provincial government requiring a vaccine certificate/passport, upon reopening, LBC will require everyone entering our club to be double vaccinated and show proof thereof at their first game. No exemptions will be allowed.

In addition, we have purchased multiple HEPA filter units that will give us 3.3 air exchanges every hour which is higher than the guidelines established by the CDC. There will be multiple hand sanitizing units including one at every table. Initially, there will be no snacks served and accessibility to beverages may be reduced. These are just a few examples of changes we are making and all changes will evolve over time as required.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support of LBC by playing in our online games.

Stay well, stay safe,

Judy Stirling

Fall IMP League - Starting October 20, 2021

We're bringing back the fun IMP league for a social evening of bridge. We'll start with a Zoom Meet 'n Greet at 6:45 p.m. to chat with your teammates and opponents followed by a 7:00 p.m. game on BBO. The league will be four to six weeks in length; all games will be on Wednesday nights. (If the game time doesn't work for you, you can reschedule with your team and opponents.)

What's the IMP League? Essentially, four people are on a team. For instance, team A plays team B - what that means is that two pairs from team A play against two pairs from team B. After a short break, the pairs from each team play the other pair they haven't played yet. Then everyone compares notes on how they did with the same hands.

Match points will be given and the cost will be \$7CAD per player, per match.

Now's the time to put your team of four/five players together. The league will be stratified so your team will be playing against teams of similar experience.

If you'd like to join the league, please register [here](#) with the name of your team (be creative!), the captain and the team members. If you don't have a partner or a team and would like to join the league, please contact Sara Ellis ellis.saraj@gmail.com or Judy Stirling judystirling0@gmail.com informing them of your playing experience and masterpoints. They will do their best to match you up.

We're looking forward to another great time. More details are [here](#).

Volunteers - We Need You

The LBC has had an outstanding volunteer commitment which has been the single most important contributor to our success. When we return to face-to-face bridge, we will need more volunteers to ensure that we are following all safety protocols. For instance, we will need two or three volunteers to wipe down tables at the end of each game, refill the sanitizer bottles, wipe down the card decks or door handles, etc.

In addition, some of our regular volunteers who, for many years, have taken out the garbage, emptied blue boxes, loaded and unloaded the dishwasher, etc. may want to take a break. So, if you can spare some time before or after any of the games you play, please contact Judy Stirling judystirling0@gmail.com.

A Reminder About Our New Partnership Desk

EVER NEED A PARTNER??? Do you have between 0 and 199 masterpoints? Try our new partnership desk.

We have started a pilot project to help the 0-199 MP players find partners. Many of these players started playing bridge during the Covid- 19 lockdowns and have had little opportunity to meet other players and find new partnerships.

If you find yourself unable to play in some of our online games for lack of a partner then this program is for you. You don't have to be a current member of LBC. As long as you are playing or have played in our online games, you can participate in this program.

Kim Hauley, one of our LBC members, is compiling a list of all interested players. Here's how it works:

If you are looking for a partner, you can email or call Kim a day or two ahead of the game with the request, e.g., ***"Can you help me find a partner for the Thursday morning 0-100 game?"***

Kim will email your request to her list of players, ***"Jane Doe is looking for a partner for the Thursday morning 0-100 game. If you are interested, please contact her at..."***

If you are contacted, you and your potential partner can discuss bidding systems and explore a possible fit. We will not be finding compatible matches - that will be up to you.

If you want to be on Kim's list, please email her at kahaul@hotmail.com or call her at 519-520-4737. She will need your name, email, your BBO username and phone number (optional).

If you have any questions, please contact Judy Stirling at judystirling0@gmail.com

Good luck everyone!

Looking Ahead

We are planning another AGM in October. Once again, you can participate by Zoom from the comfort of your home. Look for further information in the coming weeks.

News from BBO and the ACBL

Eh, What's Up Doc(umentary)?

When's the last time you went to a movie premiere? Update that date to Sept. 30 (no matter where you are on the globe) for the free online viewing of [Double Dummy](#)! This fantastic bridge documentary about youth players on the way to the junior world championships has been newly recut and is ready to make its debut.

New Site in the Sky with Diamonds

Have you seen the new acbl.org? ACBL launched it about a week ago. The whole site has been refreshed, but something of particular note that has been revitalized is the [search function](#). It starts searching for content as soon as you start typing. You can read about all the website updates on this [page](#).

Canadian Bridge Federation

The Canadian Bridge Federation (CBF) is the national bridge organization responsible for promoting and protecting the rights and interests of Canadian bridge players both domestically as well as at the international level.

As a recognized partner of the American Contract Bridge League (ACBL) the CBF ensures that the ACBL recognizes and supports the special needs and interests of Canadian bridge players.

The mission of the Canadian Bridge Federation is to promote bridge within Canada and to protect and advance the national interests of Canadian bridge, including the selection and support of Canadian bridge teams and players for international bridge competition.

There are many benefits of being a CBF member – click [here](#). One of them is their online magazine published every two months. The CBF now runs online pairs games on BBO for CBF members during special weeks such as Silver Linings or Stardust Week. They also run a Fall Online Team League. If you would like to play in CBF events, or have regular access to the magazine, you can join the CBF immediately on the website – click [here](#). You can also pay your CBF dues at the same time as your ACBL dues, by making sure you click the box to include CBF dues when renewing.

For any questions, please contact Ina at canbridge@rogers.com.

Introducing Bridge Whiz

A **FREE** on-line program to teach young people grades 4 through 12 the wonderful game of bridge.

Hurry! Classes begin in October. Register your (grand)children today! For information and registration click [here](#).

Learning Opportunities

NEW TO BRIDGE?

Want to learn bridge or have friends who would enjoy the game? Contact Hazel Hewitt at 519-274-9724 or hazeljhewitt@hotmail.com. Bridge is fun. Come and learn online and be a part of it.

WANT TO TUNE UP YOUR SKILLS?

LBC's teachers are busier than ever providing fifth chair teaching online. Go to our Online Fifth Chair Coaching site to select your teacher and topic, [click here](#).

PATTI LEE LESSONS

Patti Lee and Barbara Seagram are great friends of LBC. They have taught many of our players and Patti ran a directors' course for many years which was attended by some of our current directors. They have also been instrumental in creating a charitable organization that supports schools in Cambodia. Patti Lee describes their work in an informative 30-minute video ([here](#)). Patti will be running some courses this Fall, with all proceeds going to support these schools. A flyer describing the courses are attached to the newsletter. If you attend any course, you will receive a donation receipt for the full amount of the course fee. If you are unable to attend a lesson that you are interested in, sign up anyway. You will receive the link to the recorded session and the accompanying notes.

A reminder for those players new to bridge

We have two online games of special interest to you:

Thursday mornings at 9:30 a.m. for those with 0-100 masterpoints
and
Saturday afternoons at 1:15 p.m. for those with 0-200 masterpoints

Our website includes a full page of resources to get you playing online [here](#).

If you have any questions, please contact:
Audrey Craig audrey-craig@rogers.com
Judy Stirling judystirling0@gmail.com



Sharing Some Good News

Since April 2020, when we began our LBC online games, our game directors have donated their time, free of charge, so we could continue playing bridge and supporting our club. Since January 2021, this dedicated hard-working group has directed more than 277 games. Assuming they are required to be online for at least four hours for every game, that equates to more than 1,108 hours of time!!

And now the good news...at our recent Board of Directors meeting, a motion was passed that will allow us to pay our directors a small honorarium per game retroactive to August 1, 2021.

A huge **THANK YOU** to Bruce Moor, Dwight Bender, Tom Jolliffe, Al Edwards, Audrey Craig, Jed Drew (Tillsonburg), and Jim Wright (St. Thomas)

A special thank you to Audrey Craig who has directed more games than any other director.



Profile – Hazel Hewitt



Where were you born? My birth was in the family farmhouse in Oxford County, Ontario because the first Hewitt son was to be born on the farm.

Where did you go to elementary school? The one-room school at Harrington provided my first seven years of education. I started in grade 2.

What was your first job? My first jobs were driving the tractor at harvest, helping to trap muskrats, and making doll clothes and selling them at the Stratford Farmers' Market at our family booth. I was about 8 or 9.

What job did you hold the longest in your working career? After teaching most levels from kindergarten to grade 13, I spent several years as a secondary school guidance counsellor in Thompson and Brandon, Manitoba.

In how many cities have you lived? I've lived for a period in Kapuskasing, Soignies (Belgium), Mons (Belgium), London (Ontario), Mindemoya (Manitoulin Island), Sudbury, Inuvik, Thompson, Brandon, Winnipeg, Victoria, San Diego, Stratford and St. Marys.



What was your best vacation? My favourites were Greece, Whitehorse, San Francisco and the Canary Islands. And Ireland (where I kissed the Blarney Stone), London, England, and Paris. I used to love camping anywhere.



How old were you when you first started playing bridge? We grew up with cards on the table always ready for a game of something, usually euchre. I held a bridge hand at Western for the first time when someone had to go to class and asked me to play dummy. I was hooked.

How did you find LBC? Upon retirement from Brandon, Manitoba, I moved back to southern Ontario and searched for bridge clubs. And there was the Fokes Bridge Club. Of the clubs available, my partner and I enjoyed that one the most.

What motivated you to become a bridge teacher? When I moved back here, I found some bridge players in St. Marys and the local senior centre asked me to teach bridge there. I realized that although I liked to play the game, I knew nothing about teaching it. So, I went to the Kingston Regional that May and Audrey Grant herself was giving a three-day seminar on teaching bridge.

What has surprised you most about teaching bridge? It continues to be interesting that every time I teach a Beginner or Intermediate class, I learn more about the game itself.

Without identifying the players, can you give a brief description of your most challenging call as a teacher? It's always challenging to try to make actual players out of beginners. In a way, I am finding that is easier online than in person. There are more opportunities for online learners to play.

What is your favourite part of being a teacher? The best part is meeting people from all walks of life. I have met some wonderful people teaching and playing bridge.

What would you say to others to encourage them to become bridge teachers? It really is as much fun as playing.

What do you like best about LBC? The people of course. And it's such a clean and welcoming space.

Tell us about your other hobbies. I have pursued lots of hobbies over the years like fishing, freelance writing, travelling, swimming, tour guiding at the Stratford Festival, acting, directing and producing plays in Little Theatre, teacher politics, and, of course, voracious reading. But right now, my favourite hobby is playing with our new Brittany Spaniel puppy 'Ghost'. He's just three months old and such a delight.

What would people be surprised to know about you? I worked for two years at Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe in Belgium teaching at the international school there.

Peter's Lesson



Peter Tuttle

Hello everyone. We have another lesson in our series about **UNBLOCKING**. Here is an example of a strategy to consider so that you can enjoy all your winners.

♠ 8 7 W
♥ A 6 4 2
♦ 10
♣ A K 9 5 3 2

♠ 10 9 6 N
♥ 9 7 5
♦ A K Q 4 2
♣ Q 8

♠ 5 4 3 E
♥ Q J 10
♦ J 8 3
♣ 10 7 6 4

♠ A K Q J 2
♥ K 8 3
♦ 9 7 6 5
♣ J S

The contract is 4 spades South.
West leads the A of clubs.

Count your losers.

- 1 club
- 3 hearts (possibly)

Count your winners.

- 5 spades
- 5 diamonds (probably)

Hmmm! *What can go wrong?*

- J of clubs falls on the A.
- West now plays K of clubs.

STOP! THINK! MAKE A PLAN!

If you ruff the K of clubs in the South hand, you do **not** gain an extra trick. Instead, jettison the 9 of diamonds on the K of clubs. Doing so unblocks the diamond suit so that the 4 and 2 in the North hand are not trapped by the 9. This sets up your 5 diamond winners. With your five spade winners, you have ten tricks.



Parent: What did you learn at school today?
Child: Not enough, I have to go back tomorrow.

Be safe.

Be well.

Peter

