

November 7, 2021



Newsletter

**Inside this Issue:**

**Survey Results**

Page 2

**Annual General Meeting**

Page 3

**Reminders for Playing in Person**

Page 4

**New Rank Achievements**

Page 5

**News from ACBL & BBO, NAP**

Page 6

**Research Study, Learning Opportunities**

Page 7

**Peter's Lesson**

Page 10

**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**

**WE ARE RE-OPENING!**

**Report of the Re-opening Committee and Highlights of Survey Results**

We are delighted to announce that our club will re-open for face-to-face games starting November 15. This decision was based on the response to the survey sent to members. (A summary of survey results is included on page 2.) We will start with three games that were preferred by a high number of respondents and that do not conflict with our existing online games:

- Monday morning 0-300
- Tuesday afternoon bridge lab
- Friday afternoon open

Additional face-to-face games will be added incrementally over the coming months. **Please note that we will not be collecting membership dues until sometime in 2022.**

As noted in the survey, and mentioned in earlier reports, the following protocols will be in place:

- You will be asked not to enter the club unless you are free of COVID symptoms (the same list as you have no doubt seen many places).
- You will need to show proof of double-vaccination when you enter for the first time. Once we have checked it, you do not need to keep showing it at the door, but you should have proof on your phone or have a printed copy with you. If you prefer, you can leave a photocopy at the club. In case there is an inspection, proof of everyone's vaccination status will have to be shown.
- Masks must be worn while in the club.
- Hand sanitizer will be at the door and at tables.
- Tables will be spaced farther apart.
- HEPA air filters have been placed throughout the club.
- Any other requirements of the province or local health unit (e.g., contact tracing information).

We sent this protocol list to the Middlesex London Health Unit who advised they were satisfied. They indicated that the single-most important point was making sure everyone was double-vaccinated.

Continued on next page...

**We will not be serving snacks or beverages, so please bring your own water bottle, tea or coffee.**

**IMPORTANT NOTE:**

Please pre-register for the games no later than 5 p.m. the day before. The registration forms are on the club website ([click here](#)). We hope to be able to accommodate everyone but, with fewer tables in use, there is a chance we will reach capacity before you register. Therefore, it is a good idea to register early.

We ask you to arrive early, especially in the first few weeks, so we have time to check vaccination certificates as well as receive payment. (Yes, those tickets you have stored in your wallet are still good!) Please do not congregate with others.

**SURVEY RESULTS – HIGHLIGHTS**

- 236 responses received, a response rate of 55%. Of these:
  - 99% have had two vaccinations
  - 115 said they would return to the club as soon as face-to-face games resume
  - 62 said not yet, but as soon as they felt that COVID risk was acceptable
- The number of people who said they would return to specific games\* was:
  - 68 - Friday afternoon open
  - 66 - Wednesday afternoon open
  - 47 - Monday morning 0-300
  - 45 - Monday afternoon open
  - 40 - Thursday afternoon 0-1500
  - 20 - Thursday afternoon 0-100
  - 38 - Tuesday afternoon bridge lab
  - 20 - Tuesday afternoon 0-20
  - 26 - Tuesday evening 0-1500
  - 25 - Wednesday evening 0-300
  - 20 - Saturday morning practice and play
- When asked about the use of hand sanitizer between sets of boards
  - 101 said this would make them more likely to attend games
  - 20 said this would make them less likely to attend games
  - 104 said it wouldn't affect their decision
- When asked if they would like help finding a partner during the transition:
  - 29 said yes
  - 126 said no
  - 65 said maybe
- When asked what online games they play in now:
  - 115 play regularly in LBC virtual games
  - 30 play regularly in virtual games of clubs other than London and Tillsonburg
  - 53 play regularly in online games run by ACBL, BBO or others
  - 84 play regularly in informal online games
  - 21 have tried online bridge but do not play regularly
  - 15 have not tried online bridge

\*Apologies for omitting the Friday morning limited point game from the survey. Several of you said it was your preferred game.

## Annual General Meeting

Our AGM was held on October 20 via Zoom. Outgoing President Judy Stirling paid tribute to retiring board members Al Edwards, Bruce Moor and Tom Jolliffe for their truly outstanding service to our club, and noted that we are fortunate to have Bruce continuing as Manager of Bridge Operations.

*Thank You!*



Al Edwards



Tom Jolliffe



Bruce Moor

Incoming President Janine Higgins warmly thanked Judy for her calm and steady leadership especially during our pivot to virtual games during the pandemic. Judy was re-elected to the board for a three-year term and will serve as Past-President.

We welcomed three new directors to the board: Kate Brooks who will take over the role of Treasurer, Fiona Woytowicz and Deb Ellison.

*Welcome to the Board!*



Kate Brooks



Fiona Woytowicz



Deb Ellison

Treasurer Tom Jolliffe presented the club's financial statement and noted that the combination of rent subsidies and BBO revenues have allowed us to increase our cash holdings. This will assist us to offset the net losses over the ensuing months until we transition back to full operations. [Click here](#) to view the financial statement.

## A Couple of Useful Reminders for Playing in Person

### REVOKES from Bonita Bridge (Florida club near Naples)

Commonly called "reneges", however, that term can be derogatory, the proper term is **Revoke**.

What do you do when a such a faux pas occurs at your table? It depends...**if it is your partner, or even you, who is the perpetrator**, the word is **MUM!** You are under no obligation to unveil the mistaken play - it is your opponents' job to spot it and if they miss it, it's on them.

When you detect the possibility that an opponent might have revoked, save it until the end of the hand. It does no good to call the director for in most cases the director can not rule on the matter until the hand is over. Make a mental note as to what trick the revoke occurred on and call the director when the hand is completed.

The rule is:

(1) a revoke is not an infraction until it has been established.

(2) To be established, either player from the offending side must have played to the next trick. So, if a player fails to follow suit and neither she nor her partner have not played to the next trick the revoke is correctable with no trick penalty assessment (the misplayed card becomes a penalty card).

The best way to avoid revokes is to ask partner, the first time they fail 'to follow' in playing a suit, "No (name the suit), partner? This is one situation when the dummy is allowed to speak during the play - the dummy is allowed to keep the declarer from revoking.

Remember: Unless you are asked a specific question, no lessons at the table during a game!

*(Reprinted with kind permission of Barbara Seagram)*



## Changes in Alert Procedures

ACBL revised the Alert Procedures effective January 1, 2021. An article highlighting the changes appeared in the January 2021 issue of the ACBL Bulletin.

Instead of alerting **transfer** after a No Trump bid, the announcement is now the suit being shown by the transfer bid. So, after 1NT, a response of **2D** is announced as **hearts** while a response of **2H** would be announced as **spades**. Remember that the 1NT opening range should also be announced.

For those playing a short club opener, the announcement is now **could be two** or **could be one**, depending on the minimum number of clubs shown.

Support doubles and redoubles no longer require an Alert.

**Note:** Those who play a system with an artificial one-level opening bid that is forcing are now required to **pre-alert at the start of the round**.

You are encouraged to become familiar with the alert requirements for conventions that you play. While there is no automatic penalty for a failure to alert, score adjustments are possible if the opponents are damaged.

## 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.

New Junior Master	Jean De Verteuil
New Junior Master	Linda Pederson
New Club Master	Sara Ellis
New Club Master	Nancy Herrington
New Sectional Master	Mary Anderson
New Sectional Master	Kim Hauley
New Regional Master	Diane Bryant
New Regional Master	James Caskey
New Regional Master	Karen Stief
New Regional Master	Fiona Woytowicz
New NABC Master	Gayle George
New NABC Master	Françoise Greenwell
New NABC Master	Helen Holmes
New NABC Master	Bev Mannering
New Ruby Life Master	Susan Edwards
New Sapphire Life Master	Judi Waters

## News from BBO and the ACBL



[Click here](#) to access the latest BBO news

[Click here](#) to access the latest ACBL news



## NORTH AMERICAN PAIRS - DISTRICT 2 FINALS

Compete to represent District 2 in the North American Final,  
to be held at the NABC in Reno, NV - March 2022

Flight A (Open) Flight B (0 – 2500 MP) Flight C (NLM, <500 MP)  
as of May 6, 2021 as of May 6, 2021

### WIN GOLD & RED POINTS!

and a travel subsidy, should you finish 1st or 2nd, and play in Reno

FLIGHT B SUN NOV 14 10:00 am & 2:00 pm

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FLIGHT A SUN NOV 21 10:00 am & 2:00 pm

FLIGHT C SUN NOV 21 10:15 am & 2:15 pm

All events are 2-session combined, contested on Bridge Base Online  
Cost: \$18 BBO – to be collected by BBO prior to first session

To be eligible for the District Final, players must be residents of District 2,  
be paid-up ACBL Members, and have a Club Qualification (June – Aug)

[Check to see if you qualified](#)

Players must pre-register to play in the NAP District Final;  
Information Required: - Flight, Partnership Names, ACBL #s, BBO IDs, email addresses, Phone #s

Pre-registration to District Co-ordinator:  
Martin Hunter [martinhunter@rogers.com](mailto:martinhunter@rogers.com) 905-510-0411

## Participants Wanted for Research Study

Doug Andrews, a bridge partner of mine, has asked if some of our "older" players would be willing to help his research colleagues at the University of Waterloo by agreeing to be interviewed regarding the impact of Covid-19 on older adults (age 65 and older). Participation is entirely voluntary and there is no compensation; no bridge questions will be asked. If you might be interested in participating, please [click here](#) to see the details. I believe this research study can and will be used to our advantage. Your participation is greatly appreciated.

*Dwight Bender*

## Learning Opportunities

### 5<sup>TH</sup> CHAIR COACHING

**Audrey Craig** is able to take on a few more students.



Practice & Play: (groups of four) Specific topics: 2/1, 1430, Jacoby 2NT, Play of the Hand, Stayman, Transfers, Take Out Doubles, Overcalls, Defense, and Strong 2 Club Openers.

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

The Advancing Your Game bridge course begins in two days!! If you are planning to register, time is running out!

Read on for more information...

This four-week course is designed for players who have completed several beginner bridge courses and who play duplicate bridge on a regular basis. Bidding and play topics will be reviewed and extended.

A variety of standard conventions will be fine-tuned to develop competitive bridge strategies for duplicate bridge play. The use of good judgement will be emphasized.

**Advancing Your Game** (Part 1) will be taught online by Mary Howe. It will consist of four sessions to be held on Tuesday afternoons from 2:00 – 4:15 starting on November 9, 2021. 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. (Part 2 of the course is also 4 weeks and will be offered in the late winter. Part 1 is a pre-requisite for taking Part 2)

The fee for this four-week course is \$50 plus \$9 for the student handbook. The book will be available for you by porch pickup November 7 - 9. (Pick up address will be sent to registrants by separate email). Register NOW.

To register for this course please complete the Registration form found under the “Learn to Play Bridge” section on the London Bridge Centre website.

<http://www.londonbridgecentre.ca>

### Advancing Your Game Course Outline:

#### Lesson 1: No Trump & its “gadgets”

- Opening 1NT, 2NT and 3NT
- Stayman
- Jacoby Transfers
- Minor Suit Transfers
- Invitational Minor Suit Bids
- Handling Opponents’ Interference of 1NT
- Bidding Balanced Hands between 0 - 30 HCP



**Lesson 2: Major Suit Openers**

- Marginal Hands & the Rule of 20
- Dummy Points
- Responding With & Without a Trump Fit
- Help Suit Game Tries
- Handling Opponents' Interference
  - Cue Bids
  - Jordan 2 NT over Doubles
  - Weak/Pre-emptive Raises

**Lesson 3: Minor Suit Openers**

- Responder's Priorities after a Minor Suit Opening
- Reverses
- Negative Doubles
- Opener's Rebid After a Negative Double
- Forcing & Non-forcing Bids

**Lesson 4: Defense & Play of the Hand**

- Opening Leads
- Information gained by Fourth Best Leads
- Second & Third Hand Play
- Declarer's Play
- Defensive Signals & When To Use Them Effectively
  - Attitude
  - Count
  - Suit Preference
- Creating Tricks
  - Length
  - Finesse
  - Trumping
  - Loser on Loser

## Peter's Lesson



Peter Tuttle

Hello everyone. I miss you!

Here is a lesson about

*Take Out Doubles.*

More to follow on this topic in future newsletters.

A takeout double is used when the opponents have opened a suit. You hold a minimum opening hand or better. You also have shortness in the opponent's suit with support in the other three suits.

### Example:

♠ A J 10 6

♥ K J 7 6

♦ 6

♣ A 10 8 6

♣ North opens 1 diamond.

♣ You sit East and hold this hand. You bid "**Double**" asking your partner to bid their best suit other than diamonds.

♣ South passes.

♣ If West (your partner) bids:

❖ **1 spade OR 1 heart OR 2 clubs**

Each of these bids shows a minimum response. The bid shows anywhere from 0-8 points. It tends to show a four card or longer suit.

❖ **2 spades OR 2 hearts OR 3 clubs**

Each of these bids shows 4 or more cards of the named suit and 9 – 11 points.

What do you get when you cross a skunk and a bear?



WINNIE THE POOH!

*Be safe.  
Be well.*

*Peter*

