

December 19, 2021



London  
Bridge Centre

Newsletter

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Happy  
Holidays!

As another very unusual year comes to an end, the London Bridge Centre sends warmest wishes for a SAFE and happy holiday season and a wonderful New Year. To help fill the void of cancelled plans, we are running all of our virtual games except on December 25 and January 1. Hope to see you online.

A reminder that we have suspended our Face-to-Face games until we receive further public health direction. Thank you to those who have supported these games. We hope to see many of our members in the new year once the situation improves.

*Janine Higgins*

**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**



## LBC Holiday Game Schedule

Although our face-to-face games are temporarily suspended due to the pandemic, we will still run our Monday to Friday virtual games. There will be no virtual games on **Saturday, December 25 and Saturday, January 1**. "See" you at the table.

Tillsonburg DBC has resumed Friday afternoon face-to-face games. However, on **December 24 and 31** the Friday games will be on-line only.

## Library News

Since LBC opened its doors in 2015 until 2021, Roger and Judy Jolliffe were our co-librarians serving with dedication and excellence. They created a spreadsheet on our website (click [here](#) to view) which catalogues over 1,000 books. Their tenure came to an end with Roger's passing in late August. We owe both Roger and Judy a big "Thank You" for their tremendous contribution to our club.

We offer a warm welcome to our new co-librarians, Fiona Woytowicz and Marion Gamble (a former librarian).

At the December board meeting, a motion was passed to give our librarians a budget of \$100 per year for the purchase of new books.



## News from the ACBL



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

## News from BBO

Click [here](#) to access the ACBL Winter Festival Schedule, December 22-23

### Profile – Al Edwards – Former Board Member

*Where were you born?* Strathroy General Hospital.

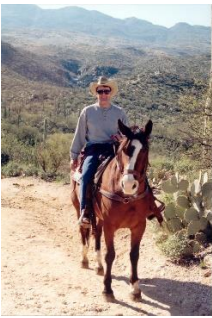
*Where did you go to elementary school?* S.S. #6 Bosanquet (one-room schoolhouse about three miles from Arkona, Ontario).



*What was your first job?* Helping out on the family farm; feeding and cleaning up after livestock.

*What job did you hold the longest in your working career?* Chief Actuary at London Life.

*In how many cities have you lived?* Two – London and Waterloo during university; plus, several years on the family farm near Arkona.



*What was your best vacation?* A dude ranch just outside Tucson, Arizona with Sue and our two horse-loving daughters (then ages 13 and 10) after a visit to see the Grand Canyon.

*How old were you when you first started playing bridge?* I first played in the Maths Lounge at the University of Waterloo at age 20. Sue and I later played kitchen bridge with her parents for a few years - before children. My bridge career really started in 2000 when we took a series of group lessons from Arlene Lundgren. I earned my first Masterpoints in 2003 at the London Regional.

*How did you find LBC?* Sue and I were members of the group that launched LBC in 2015.

*What motivated you to become a board member?* We wanted London's bridge community to grow, and that would take lots of effort from several people. There was a job to be done – why not me?

*What has surprised you most about being a board member?* The diversity and depth of talents that people bring to LBC and the willingness of so many to pitch in and help.

*What have you found most challenging?* Balancing our various playing and lesson programs to appeal to the wide range of interests in our membership. Some want a social game, others seek competition, many want to improve their skills and all want to enjoy their experience at LBC.

*What was your favourite part of being a board member?* Feeling that I contributed to building the LBC community. Sue and I have used our financial and analytical skills to help build a solid financial base that gives the club flexibility to transition out of the pandemic closure.

*What do you like best about LBC?* The people that we work with and play with.

*Tell us about your other hobbies.* I am an avid golfer and lifelong voracious reader. Seeing the world through the eyes of my grandchildren is a constant delight.

*What would people be surprised to know about you?* A family favourite is my banana cream pie – following my mother's recipe.

## Learning Opportunities

We've had a very good response to Barry Onslow's new course "Cue Bidding Clarified". As a result, we are extending the deadline for registration to **Wednesday, December 22**. This six-hour, three-part, online course starts on January 18, 2022 and will be followed by two sessions (two hours each) of practice and play utilizing the concepts learned in the course. Please click [here](#) for more information and instructions on how to register.

### **Bridge Course: Advancing Your Game – Part 2 with Mary Lynne Howe**

This online, four-week, bridge course is a continuation for players who have completed the first four weeks of Part 1 of Advancing Your Game. A variety of standard conventions will be introduced and fine-tuned. Each class will include strategies for handling the opponents' interference. The use of good judgement will be emphasized.

The four-week course will be taught online using the Zoom platform during February 2022 (Feb. 1, 8, 15 and 22) on Tuesday afternoons from 2:00 – 4:15. ***Please note that Part 1 is a prerequisite for Part 2.***

The cost for the four-week course is \$50 plus \$10 for the Student Handbook.

For a detailed course description of the lesson topics please check the LBC website.

Registration deadline is **January 15, 2022**. Register for Part 2 online at the London Bridge Centre [website](#).

For those players who are interested, private Practice & Play sessions will be offered during March and April after the completion of Advancing Your Game Part 2 for players who have taken the course. Four hands-on play sessions using pre-set hands will target the topics covered in each of the lessons. Registration for these play sessions will be done during the February course.

## ACBL: Learn Proven Methods for Teaching Bridge!

Whether you're a veteran teacher or thinking about forming your first class, ACBL will help you hone your tactics for teaching bridge.

The ACBL offers two teacher-training workshops – one for in-person learning (Best Practices Teacher Certification) and one for online classes (Online Teacher Certification). Each helps you sharpen your teaching techniques, no matter which way you present your course.

In both, they focus on *how* to teach, not what to teach, and after each workshop, you have the opportunity to earn special certification. Additionally, the ACBL Educational Foundation provides graduates with a free year of membership to the American Bridge Teachers' Association (new members only).

Don't miss your chance to grow your bridge-teaching skills in the new year! Click [here](#) for more information.

## Two Club Alert

With the alert procedure changes in January 2021, an opening 2 Club bid that does not meet the definition of **Very Strong** requires an alert.

**Very Strong** is defined as a hand that contains:

1. at least 20 HCP; or
2. at least 14 HCP and is within one trick of game assuming suits break evenly among the other hands; or
3. at least 5 Control Points (A=2, K=1) and is within one trick of game assuming suits break evenly among the other hands.

Under the Basic and Basic Plus convention charts, an artificial 2C opener **must** meet this definition. The Open and Open+ charts allow flexibility to open 2C with playing tricks and fewer points, with an alert required. The 2D response is not alertable now.

There is an article on the LBC website [here](#) that discusses this at length.

## Peter's Lesson



Peter Tuttle

Hello everyone.

Here is a continuation of the lessons about  
*Takeout Doubles.*

Click [here](#) to review previous newsletters.

♠	A K J 10	E
♥	K Q J 6	
♦	6	
♣	A 10 8 6	

A takeout double is used when the opponents have opened a suit. North opened 1 diamond.

East has:

- a minimum **opening hand or better**
  - shortness in the opponent's suit with support in the other suits.
- East bids, "Double."

In previous lessons, we learned that the response by West sets the level of the contract:

- 0 – 8 points - a minimum bid (1 heart, 1 spade or 2 clubs)
- 9-11 points - a jump (2 hearts, 2 spades, or 3 clubs)

When East doubles with a **minimum** opening hand, East usually does not raise or bid again. West decides the level of the contract.

However, look at the point count held by East in this example. The point count is greater than 17. How can East communicate to partner that the takeout double is greater than opening points? East bids again. West can now estimate the combined points and decide the level of the contract.

Some bridge players call this a **FAT DOUBLE**.

### *Just a Thought*

Why do we park on a driveway and drive on a parkway?

*Be safe.  
Be well.*

