

March 20, 2022



London  
Bridge Centre

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
Saturday	1:15	0-200

**Tillsonburg DBC**

Tuesday	7:00	Open
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**LBC members welcome**

***We have re-opened!***

As you most likely know, we have begun the shift back to face-to-face bridge at LBC. Masks will be required and everyone must provide proof of double vaccine if they haven't already done so. Refreshments will not be served so please bring your own snack and drinks.

**The Friday morning 0-500 game will be returning!** For the time being, we will maintain a schedule of virtual games as we move towards our goal of a hybrid model of face-to-face and virtual games.

As a start, **we have discontinued our Friday morning 0-500 virtual game and we have added a Friday afternoon 0-500 face-to-face game.** We expect a gradual increase in attendance at LBC and when we are sufficiently busy, we will offer the Friday morning 0-500 game at the club as per the pre-pandemic schedule.

We're starting with these face-to-face games:

**Friday at 1:00 p.m.**

- 0-500 game - **Pre-registration is required.**

- Open game - **Pre-registration is not required.**

**Monday at 9:15 a.m.** - 0-500 game starting tomorrow March 21. **Pre-registration is required by Sunday at 5:00 p.m.**

**Tuesday at 1:00 p.m.** - Bridge Lab with Peter Tuttle starting this Tuesday, March 22. **Pre-registration is required.**

Check the club's website each week where the pre-registration forms for that week will appear on the home page. NOTE: you can register even if you don't have a partner. We will match you with someone who has also registered without a partner. The club's COVID Safety Plan is available on the website.

All other virtual games will continue as scheduled.



## NEW RANK ACHIEVEMENTS

To check out all new rank achievements, click [here](#).



New Junior Master	Lydia Lee
New Club Master	Donna Bandur
New Club Master	Fran Barnett
New Club Master	David Girvan
New Club Master	Leslie Harden
New Sectional Master	Nancy Bartholomew
New Sectional Master	Sara Ellis
New Regional Master	Shirley Briley
New Regional Master	Angie Francolini
New Silver Life Master	James Jordan
New Gold Life Master	Ross Driedger

**Please note:** There can be a delay of about two months before rank achievements are confirmed by ACBL and reported to LBC.

## Congratulations to Sue Jordan!

Congratulations to Sue Jordan for placing 437<sup>th</sup> of all ACBL members in the Barry Crane Top 500 for 2021. Sue also won the Unit 249 Mini-McKenney competition in the 500-1000 MP category. Sue earned an astonishing 354.58 MP during 2021. A close second and third were Jim Jordan at 336.10 MP and Rick Jordan at 304.45 MP.

Sue also won the 2021 Unit 249 Ace of Club competition in the 500-1000 MP category with 351.81. Final standings for the 2021 District 2 and Unit 249 Mini-McKenney and Helen Shanbrom Ace of Club competitions can be found on our [Member Info](#) page.

What is the Mini-McKenney Competition?

The Mini-McKenney Masterpoint Races recognize the ACBL members who earn the most masterpoints (MPs) in sanctioned tournaments and clubs (excluding NAP/GNT qualifiers and STaCs) within a calendar year. There are 15 race categories ranging from 0-5 masterpoints to 10,000+. A player is placed in a category based on his/her MP totals at the beginning of a given year. This race is named after William E. McKenney. His originality, drive and organizational ability did much to establish the ACBL. McKenney was the ACBL's first executive secretary and remained at the helm until 1947.

What is the Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs Competition?

The Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs winners are honored with a certificate for the most wins in club games during the previous year and within their respective point count category. Black points are counted and not points earned in STaCs and other special games paying pigmented points. This award is named after Helen Shanbrom, the most successful club player in ACBL history. Helen died in 2013 at the age of 90. Among her many contributions, Helen was a respected volunteer, philanthropist and highway safety advocate.

## News from the ACBL



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

### Be Mindful of Potential Scams

Note that **ACBL has no 1-800 numbers**. There is a 1-888 number if you are calling from Canada, but in all other circumstances, you will need to use a 1-662 number.

**Canadian members should call:** 888-219-9901

Sadly, there are scammers out there who may answer any old 1-800 numbers the ACBL previously had and ask for bank information. Please be careful and only use the official numbers.

Additionally, please be careful about email scams. **No one from the ACBL will ever ask for gift cards or banking information in an email.** This includes district/unit officers. You can read more about what to look out for the ACBL [website](#).

### ACBL Update to Covid Protocols for Tournaments

Due to the [CDC's updated recommendations](#) released on Friday, February 25, the ACBL's Covid protocols for tournaments have changed. These standards apply to all tournaments– sectionals, regionals and NABCs.

[Click here to read the revised Covid protocols.](#)

If the COVID-19 Community Level as determined by the CDC ([click here to search by county](#)) is "high," face masks will be required. **Masks will be optional** (though they are always recommended) for tournaments held in counties notated as having a "**low**" or "**medium**" Community Level as indicated by the CDC.

The Covid vaccination requirement is still in place.

Whether at the NABC or at a sectional or regional, attendees should be prepared by bringing masks to the tournament playing areas in the event the Community Level rate changes to "High." Masks are still recommended for attendees who are at high risk for severe illness or otherwise are a member of a vulnerable population. We also ask attendees to be courteous and wear a mask if seated at table with a high-risk player who asks for tablemates to wear masks.

# Buffalo Sectional Bridge Tournament

Friday, April 1 – Sunday, April 3, 2022

Buffalo Bridge Center

3362 Sheridan Drive, Amherst, NY, 14226, (716) 280-6114

**Proof of Covid Vaccination required upon entry,  
masks encouraged but not required**

**Friday, April 1: 10:30 AM Stratified Pairs  
2:30 PM Stratified Pairs**

**Saturday, April 2: 10:30 AM Stratified Pairs  
2:30 PM Stratified Pairs**

**Sunday, April 3: 10:30 AM Stratified Swiss**

Stratum A: 2000+ MP  
Stratum B: 500-2000 MP  
Stratum C: 0-500 MP  
Stratified by average masterpoints

Entry fees: \$12 per session, \$16 for unpaid ACBL members. Players must be ACBL members. New players go to [www.acbl.org/guest-join!](http://www.acbl.org/guest-join!)

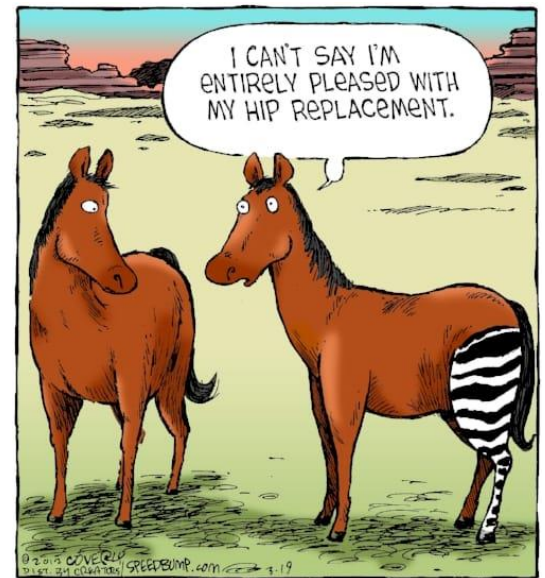
This is a “downgraded” sectional with 65% SILVER POINTS awarded  
Brian Meyer is the Director in Charge

Tourney Chair: Barbara Libby (716) 836-8303 [bplibby1@verizon.net](mailto:bplibby1@verizon.net)  
Tourney Co-chair: Gay Simpson, (716) 836-2519 [Qgs8696@gmail.com](mailto:Qgs8696@gmail.com)  
Partnerships: Gay Simpson, (716) 836-2519 [Qgs8696@gmail.com](mailto:Qgs8696@gmail.com)

Nearby Hotels:  
Homewood Suites, Amherst, (716) 833-2277  
Candlewood Suites, Amherst (716) 688-2100  
Red Roof Inn, Amherst (716) 689-7474

Coffee, tea and water will be available on site.  
On Sunday, sub sandwiches are available for purchase.

To Make You Smile



## Peter's Lesson

Peter Tuttle



**Hello everyone. I am looking forward to seeing you at the club, beginning Tuesday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>.  
Here is a lesson.  
Let the Bidding Inform Your Lead.**

D 12		N	W	N	E	S
		♠ Q104 ♥ K8643 ♦ AQJ103 ♣	P	1♦	P	1♠
			P	2♣	P	2♦
			P	P	P	
W			E			
♠ AKQ8 ♥ 9853 ♦ 10 ♣ 9765			♠ 9752 ♥ KJ ♦ AJ75 ♣ K42			
	S					
	♠ J10643 ♥ A762 ♦ Q92 ♣ 8					
		2♦ N		NS: 0 EW: 0		

### Bidding

- N bids 1 D – Having 2 touching suits of equal length, bid the higher-ranking suit first.
- S responds 1 S - the 5-card suit
- N rebids 2 C – promising 5 diamonds and at least 4 clubs, keeping the bidding low.
- S bids 2 D – showing a preference for diamonds over clubs and a weak hand
- The partnership appears to have found an 8-card fit.

### Selecting the Lead

East is on lead. The bidding indicates that the opener has at least 9 cards in the two minor suits. The opener also did not support responder's spades and did not bid 1 no trump. Therefore, East suspects North wants to use dummy's trumps to ruff. When that seems to be the case, a lead of trump should be considered.

East leads the 5 of diamonds to minimize ruffing abilities.

### Joke of the Day

If I'm counting right...  
It's been *one of those days* for about 2 years now.



*Stay safe.  
Be well.  
Pete*