

November 20, 2022



Report on Sectional Tournament

Our sectional tournament was very successful, exceeding the unit's expectations. We had a total of 50 tables on Saturday and 49 tables on Sunday. The unit made a profit of about \$700 and the club received just over \$1,000. We received positive comments from participants and the tournament director. We send a huge thank you to Gayle George, who ended up as the sole committee member able to attend the event and who very ably shouldered the committee's responsibilities on Saturday and Sunday, and to Gillian Richardson who helped Gayle throughout both days. A big part of our tournament's reputation relates to our hospitality and we are very grateful to Marlene Benny and her crew, and to the many members who kindly brought food for us to serve to tournament attendees. Also thank you to Tom Jolliffe who pitched in to complete the reconciliation spreadsheet for the unit. Many others contributed their time and talents. **You are all appreciated!**



Virtual Club Games

LBC

Monday	6:45	Open
Tuesday	9:15	Open
Wednesday	9:15	0-500
Thursday	9:15	Open

Tillsonburg DBC

Tuesday 7:00 Open

LBC members welcome

Don't Forget.....

LBC Artisans' Showcase and Sale

Saturday, December 3 @ 10:30 am to 12:30 pm



Time for Christmas shopping? Our talented LBC members have created wonderful crafts - woodturning, fine art, jewelry, quilting, solar lights, and more.

Bring your friends and family to our show and sale.

30% of proceeds will go to a local charity, Mission Services London.

Come Early for Best Selection

Cash or cheque only

Bridge game to follow at 1:00 - everyone welcome!

Members \$7, non-members \$9, but **free** to anyone who has made a Showcase purchase greater than \$10!



LBC Holiday Game Schedule

LBC will not run games from December 23rd to the 26th inclusive.

We will not be having a Christmas celebration (luncheon and game) this year. However, plans are in the works to ring in the New Year with a potluck luncheon and game on Saturday, January 7th. We will keep you posted.

Masks and Covid Protocols

In line with the suggestion of Ontario's Medical Officer of Health, we are strongly recommending (but not mandating) that our members wear masks when playing at the club.

We continue to have Covid protocols in place as recommended by Middlesex-London Health Unit and as described on our [website](#).

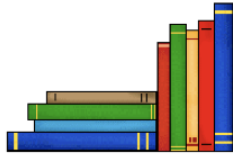
In the summer, the board decided to add another measure to protect our members. We are requesting that any player who has a positive test for Covid within a three-day interval of playing at the club notify the director of that game by email. The director or a designated board member will send an email to all players in that game telling them that a player has subsequently developed Covid (no names given).

Please ensure your email address on file under membership is current.

Prompt notification of exposure to Covid allows an individual to pay attention to symptoms, self-test if appropriate, and consider adjusting contact with vulnerable others. Current recommendations after exposure can be found on [the Ministry of Health website](#), page 27.

It is of paramount importance that you do not attend in-person games when you have any symptoms of Covid, influenza, or other infectious diseases.

We hope this extra step in caring for each other will make in-person bridge safer and allow it to flourish.



Check It Out



Reflections

If you enjoy reading about high-stakes games, international intrigue, triumphant victories, humiliating defeats, and all the stories in between, you may wish to turn to the category of 'Personal Reflections' in our library. We have:

- Omar Sharif's "Life in Bridge" translated by Terence Reese
- "Bridge My Way" by Zia Mahmood which Omar Sharif proclaimed as 'simply the best bridge book ever written'
- Alan Sontag's "The Bridge Bum" is claimed to be 'on everybody's list of the top ten bridge books ever'
- Patricia Sheinwold is worth picking up if for no better reason than her title "Husbands and Other Men I've Played With"
- or "The Lone Wolff" of which Larry Cohen has to say: 'Bobby Wolff opens all the closets and lets us see the skeletons inside'.



Our complete list of authors in this category: Auken, Cooke, Hamman, Horton, King, Machlin, Mahmood, Reese, Schenken, Sheinwold, Shenkin, Sontag and Wolff.

NEW RANK ACHIEVEMENTS

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



New Club Master	Jean De Verteuil
New Sectional Master	Lydia Lee
New Regional Master	Sara Ellis
New Life Master	Larry Norman

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

To Make You Smile



"YOU'RE GONNA PLAY GOLF?
I THOUGHT YOU SAID YOU WERE
GONNA TAKE HIM TO THE CLEANERS."





In Case You Have Forgotten...

(More about etiquette and protocol at the bridge table)

(an excerpt from [LBC's Code of Conduct](#) first printed on January 14, 2018.)

Tip 16 – ALERTS – PART 2 –EXPLAINING

- If an opponent (never your partner) asks for an explanation of an alerted bid at his turn to bid or play, the person who said “alert” (i.e., the partner of the person who made the alertable bid) must explain.
- The person who made the alertable bid may not correct partner or react in any way to the explanation until the proper time (see Tip 17).
- The explanation should be clear, brief, and simple. Explain the bid rather than giving the name of the convention, since not everyone will be familiar with all conventions. So:
 - “Partner is showing both majors” rather than “Cappelletti.”
 - “Partner is asking for a further description of my hand and forcing to game” rather than “fourth suit forcing.”
- The ACBL publication Alert Procedures is available on the ACBL website www.acbl.org.

Tip 17 – ALERTS – PART 3 - MISTAKEN EXPLANATION OR MISSED ALERT (Law 75)

- If you notice that your partner did not alert when you think he should have or feel that the explanation your partner gave was incomplete or inaccurate:
 - Maintain your pleasant poker face; you are not allowed to react in a way that will suggest to partner that he has forgotten something.
 - If you become dummy or declarer, you should point out the missed alert or problem with the explanation after the auction has ended and before the opening lead.
 - If you become a defender, you must wait until play of the hand is complete to point it out. If either of the opponents feels that the correct alert or explanation would have changed the way she bid or played the hand you should tell the table that you would like guidance from the director. Don’t forget to say “Director please!”
- If you realize later during the auction that you failed to alert or announce a bid by partner, or gave an incomplete or inaccurate explanation; call the director to correct it, either immediately or before the opening lead is made.
- There is no prescribed penalty for a mistaken explanation or missed alert, but the director may adjust the score if the opponents were damaged as a result.

Tip 18 – SKIP BIDS

- If the player bidding immediately before you makes a skip bid – (i.e., bid one or more levels higher than required, as in opening 2 clubs or 3 spades)– you should pause a few seconds before bidding; otherwise you risk giving your partner unauthorized information.

Conventions. How many are too many?

By Larry Cohen

Reproduced from [BBO Online](#)



I can't believe I'm planning to write a book about conventions. I'm possibly the most anti-convention player/teacher/writer in the world.

In this article, I've excerpted and paraphrased (is it plagiarizing when you take from your own work?) some of what I plan to say in my Introduction to the book.

The "Big 4" (Blackwood, Jacoby Transfers, Negative Doubles, and Stayman) need to be understood inside and out. But there are many conventions that should be avoided.

To succeed at bridge, you need to be good at logic and concentration. Avoiding dumb mistakes is the key to success. Conventions introduce the chance to really screw up the bidding. My estimate is that players make mistakes with new/complicated conventions more often than they use them properly. They don't know if the convention is on by a passed hand or when the opponents interfere. They haven't discussed all the variations and follow-ups.

Most of my students and readers don't like to study and memorize. Even in college with our sharper, younger brains, we didn't enjoy memorizing material to then spit it out on an exam, only to forget most of it two weeks later.

Unless you're trying to win major championships, bridge should be for fun. Sure, you want to do well, but memorizing dozens of conventions is not the formula. Less is more. If your head isn't clogged with artificiality and code, it is easier to focus on basics. Keep it really simple (knowing the necessary conventions thoroughly) and avoid the inverted spiral asks that come up once a year. It is much more important to know bidding basics and your partner's style than to work on fancy stuff.

How often have you had a 40% game and attributed it to the fact that you didn't have enough conventions? Was your 60% game because you played lots of conventions? Usually, 40% means lots of mistakes (and bad luck) and 60% means not many mistakes (and good luck). Did you ever finish second and lament the fact that if you had only been playing reverse-caterpillar relays on Board 7, you would have finished first?

My friend and colleague Barbara Seagram wrote a very successful book: "25 Conventions You *Should* (emphasis mine—not hers) Know." I'd say that's about 15-20 too many.

For my Convention book, I'm focusing on the "Big 4" named above. I'll begrudgingly give the pros and cons of a few others and then a long list of conventions you can live without. In the introduction, I'll essentially be saying: "This is a book on conventions, and by the way, most of them are a bad idea." Possibly the most contrite book introduction ever written.

I know some of you just LOVE conventions. I hope you're not offended. Go ahead, have a ball, play as many as you want (and think of me when you have accidents).

About the Author

Larry is widely regarded as one of the world's best bridge teachers and is as close to a household name as you can probably get in the world of bridge. He has been named ACBL Player of the Year, ACBL Honorary Member of the Year, 2020 Hall of Famer, and has won a total of 25 National Bridge Tournaments. He's also a regular contributor to bridge magazines and has written and produced many best-selling, award winning bridge books, cd's/computer software, videos and webinars.

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Click [here](#) for a printable copy of the invitation

Peter's Lesson



I hope to see you at
Tuesday Bridge Lab.

Peter Tuttle

Would you open 2 No Trump with
the following hand?

Take some time to think it through and use your
judgement. Be sure to discuss bidding options
with your partner so that you have a sound
partnership agreement.

♠ K Q J 7

♥ K J 8 3

♦ K J

♣ A Q 4

This hand adds up to 20 points and only one doubleton. I
have nothing against opening 2 no trump. However, the
diamond suit is less than attractive. The K and J doubleton
is of dubious value. I would prefer to open 1 club. If my
partner has enough to bid – 6 points – then my hand
holds more promise.

- ♣ If my partner bids 1 no trump, I can jump to 3 no trump. We have enough
for game.
- ♣ If my partner bids 1 diamond, I can then show my hearts and we will be
well-placed to get to at least 2 no trump or even game depending on
partner's rebid.
- ♣ If my partner bids 1 heart or 1 spade, I can show my strength by bidding 4
of the same major.

**The key to my decision is that this hand holds points but the trick
taking ability is questionable.**

We just joined a book club. We know no members,
but we love the name. *Read Between the Wines.*

Pete

