

September 24,  
2023



London  
Bridge Centre

Newsletter

*Inside this Issue:*

**Facility Rental  
To Make You Smile**  
Page 2

**Action Steps from the  
Brainstorming Session**  
Page 3

**Upcoming Sectional  
Tournaments**  
Page 4

**Education**  
Page 6

**In Case You Have  
Forgotten**  
Page 9

**Judi & Gord's Lesson**  
Page 10

**Virtual Club Games**

**LBC**

Tuesday 9:15 Open  
Wednesday 9:15 Open

**Tillsonburg DBC**

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

**NOTICE OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF  
LONDON BRIDGE CENTRE INC.**

**To: Members of London Bridge Centre Inc.**

The Annual General Meeting of the Members of London Bridge Centre Inc. will be held on **Sunday, October 1, 2023, commencing at 12:00 noon** at London Bridge Centre, Unit 9-1106 Dearness Drive, London ON N6C 1N9.

The purpose of the meeting is to provide an update on LBC progress, approve the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held September 24, 2022, review the financial statements, appoint an auditor to conduct next year's review engagement, elect directors and consider by-law amendments. **There will be a question-and-answer period after the official reports have been presented.**

The agenda, draft minutes of the September 24, 2022 meeting, unaudited financial statements, proposed by-law amendments and proxy form are available for your review on the club's website under [Member Info > Member Meeting Reports and Financials](#).

Attendees are welcome to bring a lunch to enjoy during the meeting.

**A Sunday Social Game follows the AGM (expected game time shortly after 1:00 p.m.) with a club championship rating; extra points. Players of all levels are welcome.**

Only members of the London Bridge Centre may vote at the Annual General Meeting. Others may attend by invitation. A quorum is required to conduct business and members unable to attend may provide their proxy to another LBC member.

## MORE INFORMATION RELATING TO THE ANNUAL MEETING

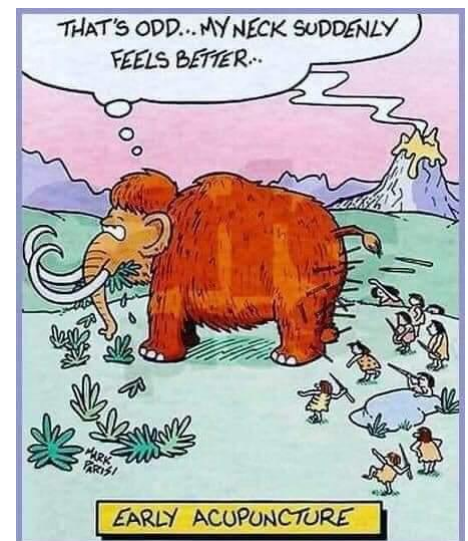
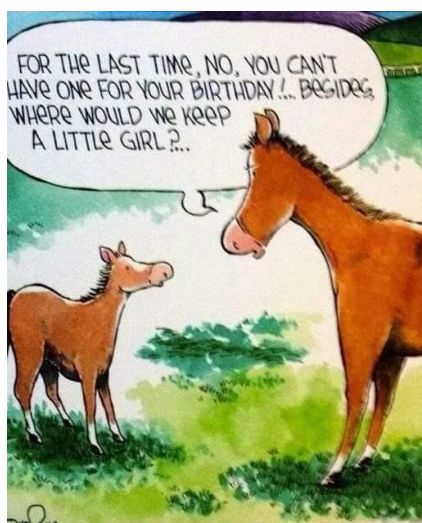
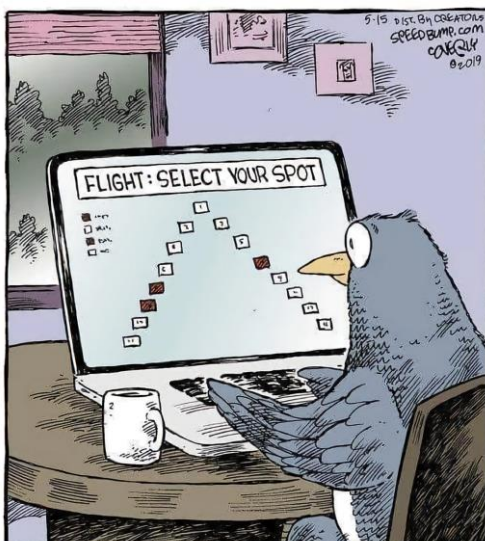
The board has approved changes to our by-laws. The impetus for the changes was the new Not-For-Profit Corporations Act. A number of procedural issues reflect what the new act mandates. As well, some language has been changed to reflect current practices (e.g. clarifying that meetings can be held electronically and changing the membership year to our financial year end). The version on the website highlights changes made.

We are pleased that Al Edwards, Tom Jolliffe, and Sandra Letton have agreed to stand for election as incoming board members. Nominations can also be received at the meeting.

## FACILITY RENTAL

Did you know that our club rents its facilities from time to time? If you have a one-time or ongoing event that needs a home at a time when we are not running a bridge game, consider renting the club facilities. Historically we have charged \$85 for an evening or half day. Depending on the event there may also be a cleaning fee. Contact Tom Jolliffe at 519-639-2206 or email [tom.jolliffe@rogers.com](mailto:tom.jolliffe@rogers.com) for more information.

## TO MAKE YOU SMILE



## **UPDATE: ACTION STEPS FROM THE BRAINSTORMING SESSION: HOW DO WE CONTINUE TO CREATE A VIBRANT LONDON BRIDGE CENTRE?**

The summary notes from the Brainstorming Session were shared in the August newsletter. The board has met twice since the session, and, this topic was, and will continue to be, a central part of the board agenda.

The board actioned several items:

We authorized an advertising spend to promote the upcoming Taste of Bridge session (September 24). Many of the participants will be new to bridge and the London Bridge Centre.

We will be adding a 0-20 game, on Saturday mornings, to promote the adoption of sanctioned bridge.

For the first time, we are leveraging our newsletter distribution to promote the rental of our facility among our members, friends, and affiliates.

We will be seeking quotes/advice for promoting the LBC online through social media, search engine optimization, and links to BBO and ACBL platforms. London has many top-rated digital businesses that could help us advance our online presence.

Next Steps:

We also discussed the absence of any “cost-saving” initiatives, which was likely a function of our approach and focus on growth for the brainstorming session. The board came to the conclusion that some effort must be applied to cost reduction (namely, lease costs). It should not be the majority of our effort, but, having some options, if need be, seems prudent.

We also came to the conclusion that we need approximately 100 more active members - to comfortably break even. So, this is a measurable goal that we will aim to deliver against. The first gap is membership renewals; we are below last year. The board will initiate a membership drive, as we did successfully last year.

When the board reforms, we will continue to prioritize and activate the ideas captured in July and welcome any expertise to aid our effort.

Angie Francolini, on behalf of the Board of Directors

## UPCOMING SECTIONAL TOURNAMENTS

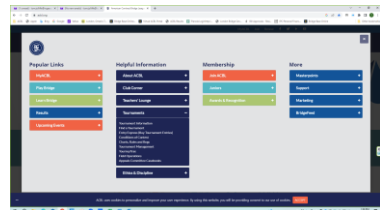
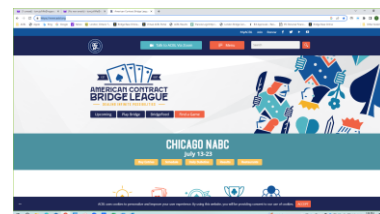
A sectional tournament will be held in London on the weekend of October 21 and 22. A sectional tournament is an opportunity to meet and play bridge with other bridge players from clubs throughout southwestern Ontario, from Owen Sound, Guelph, Kitchener/Waterloo, Simcoe, Tillsonburg, St. Thomas, Chatham, Windsor, Sarnia, Parkhill, Goderich, Stratford, and Kincardine. A sectional tournament is funded and administered by your unit and hosted by volunteers from local clubs.

All points awarded at sectional tournaments are SILVER which offers players a local opportunity to earn SILVER masterpoints towards their Life Masters.

### ACBL Introduces ONLINE REGISTRATION

For those familiar with sectional tournaments, game day registration usually involves a lineup to pay your game fees. No longer do you need to wait in line as ONLINE REGISTRATION is now available for our sectional and regional tournaments.

To register go to <https://www.acbl.org/> and click on **Menu.**



Click on [Express Entry](#) under Tournaments

Then scroll to find your tournament and click on **Buy Entries.**

Once you have registered online for your pair or team, you will receive an email prior to the session indicating your seat assignment. No more lineups, simply go directly to your seat assignment. Fees for Sectional Tournaments have remained unchanged at \$12.50 per session.

See the tournament flyer for further information.





## 90<sup>th</sup> Western Ontario Sectional Bridge Tournament London, Ontario



American Contract  
Bridge League

**October 21-22, 2023**

**London Bridge Centre  
1106 Dearness Drive, Unit 9  
London, ON N6E 1N9**

**Saturday, October 21, 10:30 am**

**Strati-flighted Pairs (Play-through)**

**A/X: 2500, X: 0-2500**

**B/C/D 1,000–2000, 500-1000, 0-500**

**Novice Pairs: 0-300 (1 Session)**

*Lunch at nearby local restaurants*

**Saturday, October 21, 2:45 pm**

**Strati-flighted Pairs (2<sup>nd</sup> Session)**

**Novice Pairs: 0-300 (1 Session)**

Pairs will be stratified by average  
masterpoint holdings

**Entry Fees:**

ACBL Members - \$12.50 / person / session

Non-ACBL Members - \$16.50 / person /  
session

**Chairperson:** Tom Jolliffe  
(519) 639-2206  
tom.jolliffe@rogers.com

**Partnerships:** Gayle George  
(519) 851-0316  
gaylergeorge@gmail.com

**Register Online - [www.acbl.org](http://www.acbl.org)**

**Sunday, October 22, 10:30 am**

**Bracketed Swiss Teams (Play-through)**

**A/X Teams: unlimited—open to all**

**Flight B: 0-2000**

***Note:** Teams will be bracketed by total  
team points.*

***Teams:** \$100 per team*

*A light lunch will be available on Sunday.*

*Cost is \$12.*

**Director-in-charge: Martin Hunter**

### **Covid Protocols**

All participants are requested to be  
vaccinated. .



**EDUCATION**

# Beginner Bridge Lessons

Looking for a new hobby?

Learn to play bridge!



Course will be taught by Jane King.

**Bridge Basics One** is an introductory course to the game of bridge that covers basic terminology, bidding, card play and defense.



**COST: \$145 plus text**

**Sessions: 8**

**Date: Tuesdays, October 3<sup>rd</sup> to November 21<sup>st</sup>**

**Time: 9:30 to 12:00**

**Location: London Bridge Centre**

**1106 Dearness Drive, Unit 9**



Registration: Online at <https://www.londonbridgecentre.ca>

Questions: Contact Jane King @ [janeking914@yahoo.com](mailto:janeking914@yahoo.com)

# Advancing Your Game

**An intermediate bridge course being taught face-to-face at the London Bridge Centre.**

This course is designed for players who have completed several beginners' bridge courses and who play in competitive duplicate bridge games on a regular basis.

- Bidding and play topics will be reviewed and extended.
- Handling the opponents' interference will be discussed extensively during each class.
- Standard conventions will be fine-tuned to develop effective, competitive duplicate bridge strategies
- Good bridge judgement will be stressed.

Lesson 1: **NoTrump & its "gadgets"**

Lesson 2: **Major Suit Bids & Strategies**

Lesson 3: **Minor Suit Bids & Strategies**

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

The detailed course outline can be found on the London Bridge Centre website.

## Thursday Mornings 9:30 - 12:00

Part 1: Four weeks, Oct. 26, Nov. 2, 9, 16, 2023

Part 2: Four weeks, dates to be announced in spring.

*Note: Part 1 is a prerequisite for Part 2*

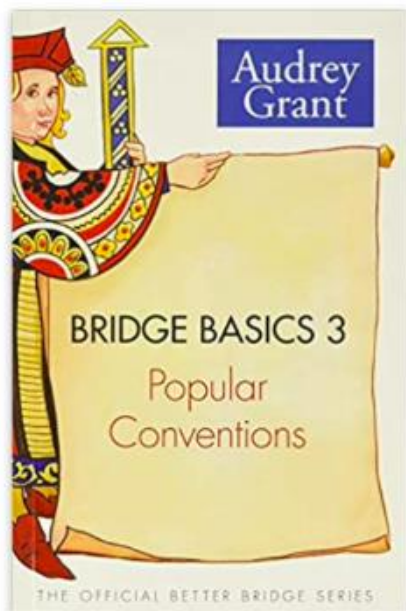
**Course Instructor:** Mary Howe

**Course cost:** \$60 plus \$15 for the Student Notebook

Register at the London Bridge Centre website.

*Deadline for registration is October 20, 2023*

## Bridge Basics 3 -Popular Conventions



This five-session course is for those who have taken an introductory bridge course and who have gained some experience in playing bridge. It includes several popular conventions: Stayman, Jacoby Transfers, strong opening bids, and slam bidding with Gerber and Blackwood.

The course will run from October 12 to November 9 from 1 p.m. to 3:15 p.m. at the London Bridge Centre.

The teacher is Barb O'Brien.

The fee for this five-week course is \$75 plus Audrey Grant's **Bridges Basic 3** textbook. Students are requested to order their own Bridge Basics 3 textbook at [Audrey Grant's Better Bridge website](#) or on [Amazon Prime](#).

Registration is available on the [website](#). Registration deadline is Oct 8.

## DIRECTORS' COURSE

Learn to direct bridge games! ACBL's Unit 249 is sponsoring a course for bridge players who would like to become directors. Our club needs more directors, especially to fill in when someone is on vacation or ill. We hope you will consider taking the course. It will run over the weekend of November 3, 4 and 5. There is no fee for taking the Directors' Course although there is a small cost for materials (to be reimbursed for those who commit to directing at our club). The course will be taught by Martin Hunter, whom many of you will know from his work directing our sectional tournament. For more information please contact Tom Jolliffe at 519-639-2206 or email him at [tom.jolliffe@rogers.com](mailto:tom.jolliffe@rogers.com).





### In Case You Have Forgotten...

(More about etiquette and protocol at the bridge table)

(an excerpt from LBC's Etiquette and Procedures Tips.)

#### Tip 45 - AFTER THE GAME – TIDY UP PLEASE!

- Tidy up the area around your table; leave it ready for the next game; return boards and table mats to the designated area. Place used cups and glasses in the dirty dishes tub, and other materials in the appropriate recycling or waste bin. Remember: you own the club!

#### Tip 46 - LBC CODE OF CONDUCT

- The LBC Code of Conduct was developed to promote a welcoming, enjoyable, and conflict-free environment with games conducted in a spirit of friendly competition.
- The LBC Code of Conduct is based on the ACBL Zero Tolerance policy and Play Nice initiative, as well as the “Best Behaviour” policy from England.
- Enforcement is the flip side of the “Play Nice” coin. Penalties are sometimes needed to incent compliance with the principles of the Code of Conduct. LBC Code of Conduct Regulations outline the process for addressing breaches of the Code of Conduct and the potential consequences.
- Directors are authorized to impose penalties for inappropriate behaviour ranging from adjusted scores up to ejection from the current game with no refund.
- All penalties are reported in incident reports which are referred to the Conduct Committee representative.
- The Conduct Committee representative may refer a charge or complaint to a Discipline Panel hearing, which will normally be held within one week. In such cases, the player may be suspended until the hearing.
- Suspensions may be imposed by a Discipline Panel after a hearing.
- In extreme cases, suspension of one year or more or even termination of membership may be imposed by the Board of Directors after due process and on the recommendation of the Discipline Panel.
- We hope never to have to apply penalties but recognize that they may be necessary in order to maintain the enjoyment of our club by all of the other members.
- If you are awarded a penalty you may have a right of appeal under the LBC Code of Conduct Regulations. If the penalty is affirmed on appeal, please accept the penalty gracefully. It is for the long-term good of the club you own!



## Bidding Up the Line

Judi, Gord, & Adele

### Questions and Queries on a Quiet Tuesday Afternoon

Frequently this question arises, "What do you mean, bid up the line?"

The suits are bid **up** the line from the lowest rank to the highest: Clubs, Diamonds, Hearts and Spades.

♠	K Q J 9
♥	7 6 3 2
♦	10 5 4 2
♣	2

#### Example 1: The responder bids up the line.

Your partner opens 1 diamond. You hold the hand shown and respond by **bidding your 4-card suits up the line**. Look at your hand. You have 6 points, enough to respond. Your spades are very good. However, your response is 1 heart. Bidding one spade would deny 4 hearts because we always bid up the line, the next 4 card suit in the rank sequence of clubs, diamonds, hearts and spades.

**Quiz:** Without seeing the hands, apply the concept of *bidding up the line*.

Read the following bidding sequence to discern what you know about partner's hand.

- You open 1 diamond.
- Responder (partner) answers 1 spade.
- You bid 1 no trump.
- Responder bids 2 hearts.

#### Answer

- ✚ Responder has more spades than hearts.
- ✚ You can assume that responder holds at least 5 spades and at least 4 hearts.

#### Opener also bids up the line.

♠	Q 7 6 5
♥	A K J 3
♦	A 4
♣	Q 8 5

- ❖ Opener bids 1 no trump.
- ❖ Responder bids 2 clubs Stayman, asking for a 4-card major.
- ❖ Opener rebids 2 hearts, bidding up the line.
- ❖ This bid does not deny a 4-card spade suit.

**Tip:** To remember the order for bidding up the line with 4 card suits, think alphabetical order – **C**lubs **D**iamonds **H**earts **S**pades.