

October 22, 2023



London  
Bridge Centre

Newsletter

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**President’s Message**

Our Annual General Meeting was held on Sunday, October 1, 2023. Thank you to the 39 members who joined us for the formal presentation. A special thank you to our retiring board members: Gayle George, Rick Jordan, and Leszek Wroblewski. The newly elected board members are: Al Edwards, Tom Jolliffe, and Sandra Letton.

The newly formed board, elected officers, and appointed committee chairs are as follows:

Angie Francolini, President

Janine Higgins, Past-President

Tom Jolliffe, Vice-President

Kate Brooks, Treasurer

Al Edwards, Vice-Treasurer

Deb Ellison, Membership Secretary

Danielle Galbraith, Secretary

Alison Marr, Chair, Education

Fiona Woytowicz, Chair, Library Services

Board Members at Large: Don Hambley, Sandra Letton, Judy Stirling

28 of us celebrated the start of our new fiscal year with a lively game of bridge. As we look forward, the board is taking a pragmatic approach. While there is good reason for optimism, we recognize that the status quo is not viable. Here is what you can expect in the coming months: more special events, more communication, a restart of virtual club play, and a call-out for expertise.

We are focused on the London Bridge Centre mission: A great place to play. A great place to grow.

Thank you for being part of our community!

Angie Francolini, President

**Virtual Club Games**

**Tillsonburg DBC**

**Tuesday 7:00 Open**

**LBC members welcome**

## SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19 – TEAM GAME AND ‘WEAR YOUR STORY’

Please put **Sunday, November 19** in your calendar. The game will start at 1 p.m. but come a few minutes early to chat. Instead of food as a social activity, we ask that you **wear something that tells a story about yourself**. This could be:

- a t-shirt or sweatshirt representing your favourite team, band, hobby, or vacation
- a sweater or jewelry you made yourself
- a pin or symbol of your present or previous career
- an organization that is meaningful to you
- or anything else you dream up.

This will be an **Eight is Enough team game**. In this format, teams are relatively balanced because no team can contain more than two advanced players. Start thinking about your team now. You will need four intermediate players or two rookies and two advanced players or some similar combination to make up your team.

In Eight is Enough each player is assigned a point value based on that player's total masterpoints. Each team consists of four players whose total point value does not exceed **8**.

- Flight C players with 0 - 300 masterpoints = 1 point
- Flight B players with 300 - 1000 masterpoints = 2 points
- Flight A players with 1000+ masterpoints = 3 points

This means that if two Flight A players want to play together, they will play with two Flight C players: 3 plus 3 plus 1 plus 1 equals 8.

A team may have a value of less than 8, but may not exceed 8.

Sign up at the club. Full team sign-ups are strongly encouraged. Those who sign up as a pair will be matched with other pairs if possible.

If you have questions about your team composition or to get assistance in forming your team, contact Jim Stewart at [jimstewart587@gmail.com](mailto:jimstewart587@gmail.com) or 519-472-0408.

### Reminder

In December, the social game will be on Saturday, December 2, at 1 p.m., following the Artisans' Show and Sale. Those making a purchase of \$25.00 or more will receive a 50% discount on their bridge entry for the open club championship game. Our food theme will be **cookies!**

## CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES

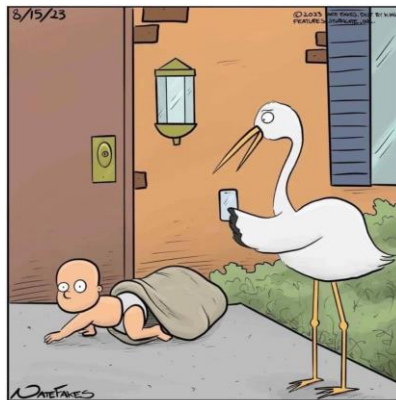
Starting **Monday, November 6 until Sunday, December 3**, all face-to-face games at the London Bridge Centre will be rated as **CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES**. That's right, all face-to-face games will award an enhanced number of black points until December 3.

Bridge clubs were unable to schedule club championship games during Covid and to help rectify the loss of these missed games, the ACBL has awarded sanctions for several additional club championship games to be used before the end of 2023.

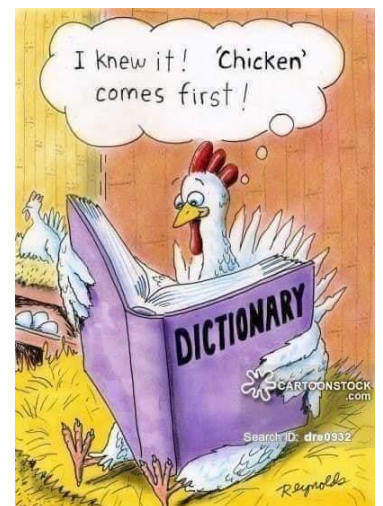
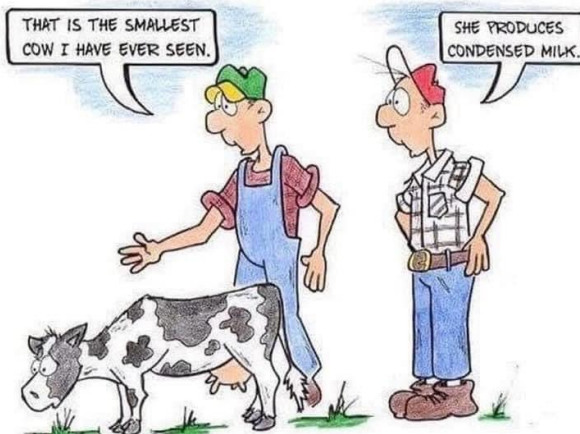
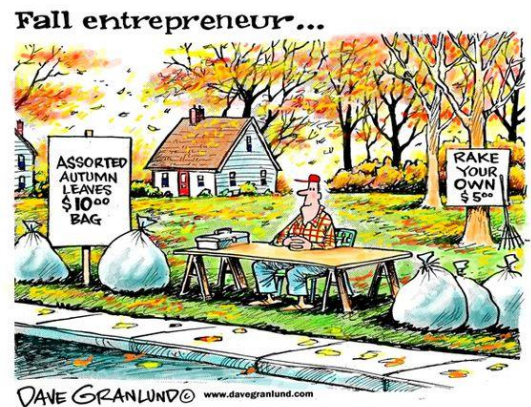
STaC week follows on December 4 through 8 with silver points awarded all week. Then there will be one more championship week December 11 to 17 with extra black points awarded.

So don't miss out on this unique extended opportunities to earn additional masterpoints. Come early, come often, help support your club, and chalk up some more masterpoints as well.

## TO MAKE YOU SMILE



"Hold still! I have to get a photo to show you were delivered."





## Annual Artisans' Show and Sale Saturday, December 2, 2023

Don't Miss This! The Annual Artisans' Show and Sale returns to the London Bridge Centre on Saturday, December 2, 2023, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The show and sale will be followed by an open club championship (masterpoints will be awarded) bridge game beginning at 1:00 p.m. Five new artisans are joining the show and sale this year providing an opportunity to view one-of-a-kind works of art such as jewelry, quilts, painting, wood art, and more. Join us to meet the artisans; learn about their creations; socialize; and kickstart your holiday shopping! Many of the unique items displayed will be available for sale.

Make a purchase of \$25.00 or more and receive a 50% discount on your bridge entry for the open club championship game following the show and sale. That's not the only benefit – the artisans will be donating 30% of their total sales to Mission Services of London to assist in providing Christmas dinners for those in need in our community.



See you on December 2!



## EDUCATION

### Teachers and students are busy in the following classes:

Advancing your Game Part 1 - Mary Howe  
Bridge Basics I - Jane King  
Bridge Basics III - Barb O'Brien  
Lost and Found - Dwight Bender

### Looking to the New Year, the following classes will be offered:

2/1 - Peter Tuttle  
Bridge Basics I - Barb O'Brien  
Play of the Hand - Marie Wiley

Dates and other details will be provided in the next few newsletters.



### Practice and Play

A reminder that there are now two opportunities for Practice and Play with teachers present to help you with bidding and play:

Tuesday afternoons at 1 p.m.  
Saturday mornings at 9:30 a.m.

Just drop in, no need to register; we'll find you a partner.

We are soon introducing a 0-20 masterpoint game on Saturday mornings to give new players a chance to play in a sanctioned game where they can earn masterpoints in a relaxed friendly and familiar environment.

## 5th Chair Coaching

A reminder that we have six teachers offering 5th chair coaching. This [link](#) will take you to the page where the teachers are listed.

This month I would like to highlight two teachers and others will be featured in subsequent newsletters.

### Audrey Craig

Audrey is offering to teach short courses to a group of four players online on the following topics:

- 2/1
- Play of the Hand
- Competitive bidding
- Blackwood
- Balancing
- Defense
- Jacoby 2NT
- 2 club opener
- Negative doubles



The cost is \$10 per person per two-hour lesson. Let her know you are interested in a group or alone and she will put a group together when numbers allow.

### Hazel Hewitt

As well as teaching specific intermediate-level topics, Hazel teaches Beginner Bridge online. The cost for eight lessons is \$100 plus the purchase of a booklet.

All you need is enthusiasm and a computer. There are four people in each class and classes are scheduled to suit your availability. For further information call Hazel at 519-274-9724 or email her at [hazeljhewitt@hotmail.com](mailto:hazeljhewitt@hotmail.com)

LBC members, please let your friends and neighbours know of this opportunity to get started playing Bridge.



### In Case You Have Forgotten...

(More about etiquette and protocol at the bridge table)

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

#### Tip 47 - EXCERPT FROM ACBL ZERO-TOLERANCE POLICY:

The ACBL is attempting to eradicate unacceptable behaviour in order to make the game of bridge more enjoyable for all. The following are some examples of behaviour which will not be tolerated:

- a) badgering, rudeness, insinuations, intimidation, profanity, threats, or violence.
- b) negative comments concerning opponents' or partner's play or bidding.
- c) gloating over good results.
- d) constant and gratuitous lessons and analyses at the table.
- e) loud and disruptive arguing with a director's ruling.

If a player at the table behaves in an unacceptable manner, the director should be called immediately.

#### Tip 48 - IF ANOTHER PLAYER IS MAKING YOU UNCOMFORTABLE

- Ask quietly that they stop. Sometimes a simple "could we play the next board now please?" will be enough.
- If they persist, call the director and then state the problem quietly and calmly to the director with "I" messages; e.g. "I am feeling uncomfortable because there are raised voices"
- If the director does not handle the situation appropriately in your opinion, speak privately to the Director of Bridge Operations or a member of the Board of Directors. A report and record of the incident will be made. It will be helpful in assessing future incidents with that individual.
- While the discipline process is confidential (the person reporting will only be informed whether the situation has been resolved to the satisfaction of the Conduct Committee), your assistance and support of the process is appreciated.



It was a dark and stormy Halloween day!!!!

Cloud and confusion surrounding my mind.

Judi, Gord, Marie & Adele

### What should I do with this hand?

♠ T  
♥ QJ752  
♦ T862  
♣ 943

My partner opened 1 heart.

Let's think about my bid options.

**A bid of 2 hearts** would show a simple raise, 6-9 points with heart support.

My partner would expect to see this holding.

**A bid of 3 hearts** would show a limit raise, 10 – 12 points with heart support.

My partner would expect to see this holding.

♠ KT  
♥ QJ75  
♦ T862  
♣ 943

♠ KT  
♥ QJ75  
♦ A862  
♣ J43

**A bid of 4 hearts** is a pre-emptive raise - very few points and long hearts. This is the correct response. It describes my hand perfectly.

A preemptive raise shows partner that you will take many tricks if playing the hand, but you will not take many tricks if defending the hand.

To review: A bidding auction of 1 heart, 4 hearts does not show an opening bid opposite partner's opening bid. The pre-emptive raise indicates lots of trump and little defense.

It is important to learn this basic structure of bidding before learning *The Law of Total Tricks* and *Bergen Raises*.