



# *The Kibitzer*

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*Fall 2017, Number 3* **ONLINE**

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**Canada's 52 All-Time**



**Greatest Bridge Players**



## Editor's Note

The NABCs were recently held in Toronto. Congratulations first and foremost to tournament chair **Ina Demme & her team of volunteers** for their hard work. More congrats go to the following locals for high finishes in national events:

**David Grainger** came 2nd overall in the Roth Open Swiss Teams and won the Open GNT! **Sudhir Patwardhan & Steve Overholt** won the Bean Red Ribbon Pairs! **David Cohen** and **Ken Collins** took 3rd, while father/son combo **David & George Halasi** came 7th overall. David and Ken also took 6th in the Young 0-2500 Pairs.

**Daniel Lavee & Daniel Miles** were on the 6th place team in the 0-10,000 Mixed Swiss Teams. **Helen Johnston & Anna Dosseva** placed 8th overall in the Wagar Women's Pairs. **Steven Mackay & Jim Priebe** were on the 2nd place team in the Truscott Senior Swiss Teams. **Doug Baxter & David Lindop** finished 9th overall in the Life Master Pairs.

Making it to the Round of 16 in the Spingold: **John Rayner & Robert Lebi** (on Team RAYNER) and **Les Amoils** (on Team MITTELMAN). **Alex Kornel & Barbara Seagram** finished 3rd overall in the Bruce 0-6K Life Master Pairs, outpipping **John**

**Laufer & Sean Pryke**, who finished 4th; **Bill Kertes & Hazel Wolpert** were 8th overall. **Li Zhang Yang, Ronald Baecker, William Ju, Roy Song, Jake Liu & Tong Chen** came 2nd in the GNTs, Flight C. (See page 31 if you would like to be part of this team next year).

And last but not least, **Chris Cowan & Debbie Feldman**, along with **Doug Barnes & John McWhinnie**, for winning the Mini-Spingold! They beat out **Detlef Ladewig, Terrence Rego & yours truly** in the final.

Andy Stark

[andy.kibitzer@gmail.com](mailto:andy.kibitzer@gmail.com)

*On the cover: Joan Eaton, Eric Murray, Fred Gitelman*

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This is a smaller and gentler tournament. Very friendly and fabulous.

**Highly recommended by Barbara Seagram & Alex Kornel.**

**Barbados is Barbara's homeland for MANY generations (almost 4 millennium!)**

Barbara & Alex will be attending the tournament in 2018. There will be THREE free seminars given by Barbara & Alex while there. Alex will also be available to go over hands anytime.

ACBL Master Points (black) will be awarded to ACBL members who contact Barbara to say that they are registered for attending this tournament.

**TO BOOK: Contact Roglyn Hinds [roglyn@caribsurf.com](mailto:roglyn@caribsurf.com) or 246-231-0149**

Prices for bridge average \$15.00 USD per player per session. All bridge is optional. Roglyn will help to find you partners.

12 Feb: 9.30 am: Individual  
12 Feb: 7.00 pm: Pelau Pairs # 1 session  
13 Feb: 9.30 am: Pairs Game  
13 Feb: 7.00 pm: Pelau Pairs # 2 session  
14 Feb: 9.30 am: Pairs Game  
14 Feb: 3.00 pm: Rum Pairs  
15 Feb: 9.30 am: Team Game # 1 session  
15 Feb: 1.00 pm: Team Game # 2 session  
16 Feb: 9.30 am: Pairs Game  
16 Feb: 7.00 pm: Barbados Pairs # 1 session  
17 Feb: 9.30 am & 3.00 pm: B'dos Prs # 2 & 3



My name is Barbara Seagram & I am a bridge player, author and teacher. I was born and raised on this beautiful island in the Caribbean. The Barbados Bridge Committee do a wonderful job running this delightful bridge tournament in February each year. Imagine \$1,050 USD per person to spend a week at a hotel on a beach in Barbados in February, including all meals and drinks. They even pick you up at the airport! The players are friendly, the sun shines forever and the island beckons. You cannot afford to not go! It is a very special island and I invite you to visit and enjoy all its magic.

Go early and enjoy a tour with Barbara and a professional guide. Register with Barbara well in advance if you wish this.

[bseagram@uniserve.com](mailto:bseagram@uniserve.com)



## *The Kibitzer online Information*

The Kibitzer online is now an online magazine so no hardcopies will be mailed out. Readers are invited to share their email address with the ACBL so that they may receive 1) notice of the Kibitzer being ready at [www.unit166.ca](http://www.unit166.ca), plus 2) a PDF of the Kibitzer via an email sent directly to you. You can, if you wish, print the issue at home; you need Adobe Reader downloaded to your computer.

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#### **IMPORTANT KIBITZER DATES:**

Issue:	Deadline:	Online Posting:
Winter	Nov. 1	Nov. 15
Spring 2018	Feb. 1	Feb. 15
Summer 2018	May 1	May 15
Fall	Aug. 1	Aug. 15

### **Kibitzer Editorial Policy**

The Kibitzer is published to promote bridge and to inform members of ACBL Units 166, 238, 246 and 249 about tournaments and special events, as well as to entertain with deals and articles of interest. It is also a forum for the exchange of information and opinion among the members. Opinions expressed in articles or letters to the Editor are those of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect those of the Unit Boards of Directors or the Editor. The Kibitzer reserves the right to edit or exclude submitted material.



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**Ken Collins and  
David Cohen  
placed 3rd in  
the Red Ribbons  
and 6th in the  
0-2500 Pairs.**

*Photo by JS*



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## **Nominations Please!!**

**For Unit 166 members only**

### **Kate Buckman Award**

Do you know someone who contributes to others' enjoyment of the game of bridge? Do you know someone who should be honoured by the Board of Unit 166? We're looking for nominations for the Kate Buckman Award for 2017. If you don't nominate someone, then we can't honour them and we really want to celebrate this kind of person and the contributions they make to the game of bridge.

### **Audrey Grant Award**

Do you know a bridge teacher who exemplifies the best of the profession? Do you know someone who should be feted by the Board? Submit the nominations for the Audrey Grant Award for 2017. Again, if you don't nominate then we can't celebrate the excellence of this teacher's skill and dedication.

The Unit 166 Board of Directors should consider

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for the Kate Buckman/Audrey Grant (circle one or both) Award.  
The reason that this person deserves your consideration is:

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Please submit to Andy Risman  
714-1121 Steeles Avenue W, Toronto, Ontario M2R 3W7

[arismanca@rogers.com](mailto:arismanca@rogers.com)

**Deadline: December 31, 2017**



The Unit 166 Financial Statements can be found on the Unit's  
website at: [www.unit166.ca](http://www.unit166.ca)



### **Zero Tolerance Issues**

Any Unit 166 tournament Zero Tolerance concerns, or Zero Tolerance tournament situations which were not satisfactorily resolved, should be reported to [ZT@execulink.com](mailto:ZT@execulink.com)

# Ontario Unit No. 166 Nominations For Board Of Directors

Five Directors are to be elected to the Board for a term of office of two years and nominations are invited for these positions. Nominees must be members of Unit 166. The election will be held Thursday through Saturday at the Toronto Regional and at advance polls to be held in the period between the close of nominations and the beginning of the Toronto Regional. Nomination forms must be signed by two members and accepted by the nominee, and must be received by the Unit 166 Election Coordinator by March 5, 2018.

The Spring issue of the Kibitzer will publish a picture and short resume (50 words or less) for candidates who submit this information, together with their nomination form, to the Unit Election Coordinator by January 20, 2018. The schedule and locations of the advance polls will be published in the Spring Kibitzer. The voting booth will be open at the Toronto Regional for one hour and will close 15 minutes prior to game time of each afternoon and evening session on the election days.

## Unit 166 Nomination Form

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ACBL #: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

POSTAL CODE: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

Is hereby nominated as a candidate for the Board of Directors of ACBL Unit 166.

SIGNATURE OF NOMINATOR: \_\_\_\_\_

ACBL #: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE OF SECONDER: \_\_\_\_\_

ACBL #: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE OF NOMINEE: \_\_\_\_\_

ACBL #: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please send nominations and resume  
to Election Coordinator:**

Wiebe Hoogland

36 Carmine Crescent

St. Catharines L2S 3M5

or e-mail to [wbybrenh@cogeco.ca](mailto:wbybrenh@cogeco.ca)

For information phone (905) 688-0734







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## District 2 Website

(Visit [www.acbldistrict2.org](http://www.acbldistrict2.org) for details)

- All District 2 tournaments & results
- District 2 business
- NAP/GNT tournament information
- District 2 Director's page for ACBL news & info
- Graham Warren is the District tournament coordinator - [gwarren@rogers.com](mailto:gwarren@rogers.com)
- Martin Hunter the NAP/GNT coordinator - [martinhunter@rogers.com](mailto:martinhunter@rogers.com)



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## Unit 246 Items of Interest

(Visit [www.unit246.com](http://www.unit246.com) for details)

- 1<sup>st</sup> time members of the ACBL can apply to the Unit 246 Board for a \$20 rebate for their 2<sup>nd</sup> year of ACBL membership
- Bridge teachers can list their services on the Unit 246 website free



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**Auditor:** Gary Westfall, 38 Mallard Crescent, Bramalea, ON, L6S 2T6, 905-791-4239, [gwestfall@rogers.com](mailto:gwestfall@rogers.com)

**Notice to All Clubs & Tournament Managers in Units 166, 246 & 249**

If you plan to run a tournament, please check with your Unit Coordinator to see if the date is free. There is an agreement among the three Units in southern Ontario that their tournaments will not compete with one another. This does not apply to those clubs which have an historic tournament weekend - they are set aside for you.

*Graham Warren, District 2 Tournament Coordinator*



# Canada's 52 All-Time Greatest Bridge Players

by Andy Stark

This past July Canada turned the big One-Five-Oh. To help commemorate the occasion I thought the Kib should get in on the action by celebrating Canada's greatest bridge players. Many of these players are "ours" as they reside in Ontario. Now for the number: 50 or 100? Years ago Brent Manley, editor of the ACBL Bulletin, published a list of the 52 Most Influential People in Bridge. Why 52? You know why. 52 is the perfect number; it means you're playing with a full deck.

In the past few years, sports leagues like the NBA and NHL have showcased their own top players of all-time, 50 for the NBA, 100 for the NHL. More recently, CBC Radio compiled a list of the 100 greatest Canadian bands. Arcade Fire was their No. 1 pick and coming in second was my No. 1 pick and maybe yours—The Band. Seriously? The CBC judges must have been up on crippled creek the night they drove the ol' Band down to number two. Ah, but there it is—the Band represents the old guard and Arcade Fire represents the new

kids on the block; any kind of all-time list of anything has to reconcile nominees from multiple generations. Which segues nicely to this question: will the Top 52 list be universally agreed upon? The answer is: not likely—well, about as likely as you never going down in a contract again for the rest of your life. Jeff Rubens, editor of the Bridge World, was asked for his thoughts on who should be on this list and he politely declined to participate. However he did add that the project "seems potentially controversial."

So we must compile and view our list knowing that it is a mosaic of subjectivity (40 Canadian players were asked to provide their picks), mixed with the objectivity of looking up player records. WBF, NABC and CNTC victories all weigh heavily in determining a player's excellence. Of note, not all CBF Hall of Famers make the top 52; plus many fine young players such as Shan Huang do not make the list because they have yet to build up their resume with NABC wins and international medals.



Just how difficult is it to make the top 52? Check out the following group of players who round out the top 100 (in alphabetical order):

Les Amoils, Aidan Ballantyne, Gloria Bart (Silverman), Jackie Begin, Corti Boland, Harry Bork, Gerry Charney, Don Cowan, Bill Crissey, Susan Culham, Mike Cummings, Karen Cumpstone, Cam Doner, Doug Drury, Sheila Forbes, Waldemar Frukacz, John Gowdy, John Guoba, Subhash Gupta, Mike Hargreaves, Barry Harper, Arno Hobart, Ted Horning, Shan Huang, Marty Kirr, Piotr Klimowicz, Beverly Kraft, Irving Litvack, Steve Mackay, Zygmunt Marcinski, Buddy Marsh, Mike Martino, Jim McAvoy, Gord McOrmond, Mickey Miller, Danny Miles, Pamela Nisbet, Duncan Phillips, Frederic Pollack, David Sabourin, Duncan Smith, Jeff Smith, Sylvia Summers (Caley), Paul Thurston, David Turner, Frank Vine, Hazel Wolpert, Linda Wynston

## **52 Michael Schoenborn**



If you're playing in the CSTCs (Canadian Senior Team Championships) and you look over and see a guy nicknamed

"The Shoe" as your screenmate, prepare to finish in second place. The

Shoe has won the CSTCs a total of five times, most recently with partner Fred Lerner and teammates John Gowdy and David Turner. They will represent Canada in Lyon in August. The Shoe has won one Canadian National Team Championship (1986) and is known to be a squeeze expert, often identifying any type of squeeze at the table, and then writing an article or even a book about it. That book's title is 'Bridge on a Shoestring,' published by Masterpoint Press.

## **51 John Rayner**



John has won one CNTC, one CSTC, and one Canadian Open Pairs Championship, (COPC) and has represented

Canada on numerous occasions, most often with his long-time partner Mike Roche. One of John's top five finishes in an NABC was in the Blue Ribbon Pairs where he and Mike came fourth overall, just missing victory by one poor result on a board. John is a popular bridge teacher in the GTA and widely considered Canada's third best bridge teacher behind Audrey Grant and Barbara Seagram. Pretty good company! JRay founded the Mississauga-Oakville Bridge Centre, now known as MOBridge, which is a strong community-oriented club—a must visit if you are ever in Mississauga or Oakville.

## 50 Sandra Fraser



Sandra, of Victoria BC, has won 3 CWTCs and 1 CNTC (2006). Sandra is one of only four women to have won the

Canada's Open Team Championships. Sandra has represented Canada many times at WBF events, from Biarritz in 1982 to Chennai in 2015. At NABCs, Sandra has one first-place finish, the Mixed Board-a-Match teams in 1981 and five runner-up finishes, most recently in the Senior Mixed Pairs.

## 49 Kismet Fung

You can call it destiny or karma or kismet, but Kismet Fung pulled off the super-rare double silver at the World Championships in Philadelphia in 2010. She came second with Brian Glubok in the Mixed Pairs, and then she came second overall with her regular partner Susan Culham in the Women's Pairs. The only other player on this list with two WBF silvers in pair events is Peter Nagy. Incredible stuff. Kismet is also no slouch on the home front as she has amassed a total of five Canadian Women's Team Championship (CWTC) victories.

## 48 Bryan Maksymetz

Isn't it nice when partner is always "max" for his bidding? Well, that's what you get when you play with Bryan "Maks" Maksymetz.<sup>1</sup> Bryan is a perennial favourite at the CNTCs

no matter what team he is on. His first win was in 1984 with a band of upstarts and his most recent victory was 30 years later in 2014 with yet another dark horse squad. Five times Bryan has come second in an NABC including twice in the Spingold.

## 47 Jurek Czyzowicz

Jurek is one of our country's most thoughtful players. Not quite a human rain delay but Jurek is known for his deep studies and for most often coming up with the right play. He has won 3 CNTCs, 3 CSTCs, 3 COPCs, and 1 WBF Bronze (Sanya Senior Teams, 2014) mostly playing with another top Canadian, Dan Jacob. If this list combined the top 52 players with the top 52 nice guys, Jurek's name would be at the top.<sup>2</sup>

## 46 David Lindop

Some know David as Mr. David Lindop while others know him as Mr. Audrey Grant; we can all agree David is a very good bridge player. He has three CNTC wins under his belt, the first coming in 1991 with a young up-and-comer on the team, Geoff Hampson. In 2014 he partnered with Doug Baxter to win with Rayner-Roche and Hargreaves-McAvoy. In addition, David has won one NABC event, the Wernher Open Pairs with Robert Lebi and he has a runner-up finish in the Truscott Senior Swiss. While David is still an active player today he keeps himself busy designing the daily column on Audrey's website, [betterbridge.com](http://betterbridge.com)

<sup>1</sup> Maybe I should check with his partners on this claim.

<sup>2</sup> As for who's name would be on the bottom...hmm.

## 45 Doug Fraser

Aka “Foggy,” Doug originally hailed from Montreal but now resides on the left coast. Doug has won three CNTCs and two NABCs, including the Mixed Board-a-Match Teams with his wife Sandra. Doug also has three runner-up finishes in NABC events. On the world scene, Doug has represented Canada ten times with his best finish fourth overall in the 1997 Transnational Open Teams in Tunisia.

## 44 Keith Balcombe



If you ever want a lesson on how a defender should smoothly play his cards in tempo try to kibitz KB. I'll never forget

one of his deceptive plays on opening lead. He led the spade 2 from QJ1082 into dummy's known spade length. Declarer went up with the ace and down with the contract. Keith has won one CNTC, (and come second too many times to tell—all right, six). Keith's all-time highlight was winning the 2002 IOC Grand Prix in Salt Lake City. He and his team (Joey Silver-Fred Gitelman, Nick Gartaganis-Peter Jones, and partner Gord Campbell) surprised Team Italy in the semis, and Team Poland in the finals—a fantastic achievement for Canada.

## 43 Mary Paul



There is a trophy that is awarded bi-annually to the women's team representing Canada at the Venice Cup.

Mary's name appears five times on this trophy—four times because she won that year's CWTC, and once because the trophy is named after her! Mary won a total of 7 CWTCs and in 1977 she became the first woman to win a Canadian Open Championship. She won her second CNTC in 1993.

## 42 Joan Eaton



Joanie Mitchell is to Canadian folk music as Joanie Eaton is to Canadian bridge.<sup>3</sup> Joan the bridge player has won

the CWTCs a total of seven times with two different partners, Barbara Clinton and, in more recent years, Karen Cumpstone. In addition, Joan has four NABC victories—including two in the Mixed Board-a-Matches with life/bridge partner Nader Hanna, and one Mixed Pairs victory with Les Amoils. Joan came second in the 2005 Women's KO Teams and has represented Canada internationally eight times.

<sup>3</sup> I've looked at it from *both sides now*.

## 41 Gordon Campbell

Gordon was part of a historic win for Canada in 2002. It what seems like ages ago the International Olympic Committee looked long and hard at adding bridge to the Summer Games schedule. To test out the possibility, the IOC co-hosted world-class events with the WBF. In Salt Lake City, Team Canada upset two powerhouses in the semis and finals to win the gold medal. GC was on that team partnering Keith Balcombe. Gordon has won three CNTCs, finished runner-up three times, and won one NABC—the Baldwin NAP Pairs with Piotr Klimowicz in 2006. Gord also won a gold medal in the 2002 Commonwealth Nations Bridge Championships.

## 40 David Grainger



“The Grange” has won one CNTC (2009) and quite a few NABCs with his most recent victory coming in the

GNTs during the most recent NABC in Toronto. The win was sweet revenge for losing in the finals last year with the same team from California. That makes for his sixth NABC win to go with two NABC runner-up finishes. Coming up with the likes of Dan Korbel and Gavin Wolpert, David was a star for many years on Canadian Junior Teams. He was part of the team that won bronze at the 2005 World

Youth Teams in Australia. David won the Richmond Trophy in 2011.

## 39 Michael Roche



Aka “The Piglet.” Many of North America’s top bridge players have a nickname and the Piglet is no exception. Mike’s wit is

as sharp as his cardplay. Many years ago he sat down with partner John Rayner to play against the great Bob Hamman in a major KO event at an NABC. Mike noticed Bob’s shirt buttons were threatening to pop open due to Bob’s belly being housed by too small a shirt. Mike said, “I see you go to the same tailor we do.” Many teams have augmented themselves before heading off to international play by adding Mike. The Piglet has won three CNTCs, one CSTC, and two NABCs and represented Canada ten times in international play. Mike was a long-time resident of Toronto but now resides in Victoria, BC.

## 38 Nader Hanna



Nader has a unique resume of NABC and Canadian Bridge Federation (CBF) victories in that he has won events

with four different types of scoring:





the Wernher Open Pairs (2005), the Keohane North American Swiss (2011), the Freeman Mixed Board-a-Match (2012 and 2014), and two CNTCs (1996 and 1999). Nader can often be seen at WBF championships representing Canada as a player or coach or NPC. Nader was president of the CBF from 2009-2016—setting the record for longest tenure. Fun fact: Nader is a better bridge player than he is an Oh Hell player.

### **37 Sharyn Reus**



Sharyn won a total of ten CWTCs and three WBF bronze medals. One of those bronzes came at the World

Women's Team Olympiad in Rhodes in 1996. Sharyn was part of an all-star squad that also included Dianna Gordon, Francine Cimon, Rhoda Habert, Beverly Kraft, and Barbara Saltsman. The other bronzes came at the 1988 Women's Team Olympiad in Venice and the 1989 Venice Cup in Perth.

### **36 Katie Thorpe**



Have you ever heard of a Thorpe Dummy? Say your RHO opens the bidding with 4 Spades. You overcall

5 Hearts, get doubled, and play it

there. You await with bated breath the sight of the dummy. Well, if Katie is your partner you are more than likely to receive three trumps and two aces, or the like. Now there are 850 reasons why Katie has made this list, but mainly it's because she is one steady solid player and partner. Katie has won ten CWTCs, one COPC, in 1990 with life/bridge partner John Carruthers, one CSTC—the only woman thus far to have won a CSTC (2015), one WBF silver medal for the 2000 Women's Team Olympiad in Maastricht, and two WBF bronze medals (1988, 1989). Katie is a CBF Hall of Famer.

### **35 Darren Wolpert**



There once was a time when Gavin Wolpert was known as Darren's younger brother, but nowadays Darren is more

known as Gavin's older brother. But this has nothing to do with bridge ability and more to do with Darren not playing as much as he used to. Darren is considered a "natural." He makes plays and bids that escape many of us, and he makes it seem effortless. Darren has won six CNTCs, one COPC, one WBF silver for the Transnational Mixed Swiss in Lille in 2012, and one NABC—the 2012 Vanderbilt.



### **34 Dan Korbel**



Known as 'dank' on Bridge Base Online, Dan's bridge ability is the opposite of dank. He also has a talent at explaining what experts are thinking at every given moment of a bridge hand. Just get onto YouTube, search for 'Dan Korbel' and see for yourself. Dan's magic number appears to be 4—he has won four CNTCs, four NABCs, and has four second-place finishes in NABCs. One of his bridge highlights was garnering a silver medal in Lille (2012) in the Transnational Mixed Teams. Now living in the USA, Dan is a bridge professional attending NABCs and contending in any and every event he enters. Dan is definitely trending upwards on this list.

### **33 Drew Cannell**

Drew has a bridge career that is as eclectic as it is successful. How many of us can say we have won a bridge championship on five continents? Heck most of us are happy to win on one continent. If Antarctica ever hosts a bridge event I'm betting on Drew. Drew has won one zonal gold and one zonal silver in the Central American and Caribbean Bridge Federation (CACBF) championships, two CNTCs and four NABCs including the NAP Baldwin Flight A in 1986 with G. Sekhar. They were the first Canadian pair to win this prestigious ground

roots event. Another first for Drew came in 1985 when he was on the first all-Canadian Bermuda Bowl team. Up to that point Canadians playing in a Bermuda Bowl were part of a North American team.

### **32 Francine Cimon**



Francine has been victorious in the CWTCs a record sixteen times! Francine won the inaugural CWTC in 1980 and most recently in 2014, a span of 34 years of championship level bridge. At the international level Francine has won one silver medal (Maastricht in 2000) and two bronzes (Rhodes in 1996, Perth in 1989). Back in 1976 she competed in the Women's Team Olympiad and finished fourth overall along with Canadian luminaries, Dianna Gordon and Sharyn Reus. Francine is a CBF Hall of Famer.

### **31 Kamel Fergani**



Kudos to Kamel—after a serious health scare a couple years ago Kamel is back and seemingly playing better than ever. Just last May his team came second in the CNTC, losing the final by twoimps. In total, Kamel has won six CNTCs and two NABCs

including the 2016 Wernher Open Pairs with regular partner Frederic Pollack. Together they form a world-class partnership. In Wroclaw last year they finished 13th in the World Open Pairs and 5th in the World National Open Teams. Kamel also forged a strong partnership with Nic L'Ecuyer as four of Kamel's CNTC wins came while partnering Nic.

### 30 Judith Gartaganis



If Judy's name sounds familiar it's because there was an article in the ACBL July Bulletin about her induction,

alongside her life/bridge partner Nicholas Gartaganis, into the CBF Hall of Fame. Judy has won the CNTCs four times, and has been second six times. Judy won a World Bridge Federation (WBF) Silver Medal in the 2012 Transnational Mixed Teams and she won a gold medal in the 2002 Commonwealth Nations Bridge Championships. In 2004 Judy won the inaugural CIPCs with partner Piotr Klimowicz.



### 29 Bruce Ferguson



Number 20 on the ACBL's Top 500 all-time list of masterpoint holders, Bruce, originally from the Maritimes, is now a bridge

professional living in California. Bruce has won one CNTC (1992), three NABCs including the Baze Senior KO Teams in (2007) and twice he finished runner-up in NABCs including the Reisinger in 1995. Bruce brings to the table his 'down East' folksy charm combined with razor sharp hand analysis.

### 28 Dan Jacob

Dan, originally from Romania, is a contender in almost every event he enters. He has won three CNTCs, two CSTCs, four COPCs with three different partners, and one CIPC. 2014 was a hot year for Dan as he and his partner Piotr Klimowicz won the COPC and CIPC—that's two titles over three days. As for NABCs, Dan has two firsts and three seconds. Dan's best finish at the WBFs was when he and his partner Jurek Czyzowicz won bronze at the Senior Teams in Sanya (2014).



## 27 Bruce Gowdy

When you were 19 years of age were you playing bridge? Bruce was. Not only that, he was winning a Spingold! Way back in 1949 he played on the Alvin Landy squad and defeated a team that included Oswald Jacoby and Waldemar von Zedtwitz in the finals. Wow. 15 years later Gowdy played in another Spingold final but lost to four slouches named Murray, Kehela, Sheardown, and Elliott. Bruce has also won one CNTC (1971) and represented Canada in WBF tournaments on four occasions, winning silver in the Senior Pairs in Montreal with Arno Hobart (2002) and bronze in the Open Teams Olympiad in Miami (1972). Bruce is in the CBF Hall of Fame.

## 26 Vincent Demuy



*Mesdames et messieurs, je présente un joueur de bridge merveilleux!*

Before leaving Canada behind, along with his

three CNTC victories (2003, 2008, 2012), and WBF Bronze at the 2005 World Youth Team Championships (WYTCs), Vince has gone on to win three NABCs, finish second twice in NABCs, and most tellingly, earn a bronze medal at the 2015 Chennai Bermuda Bowl as part of USA 1, which means he won a US Trials. Vince's talent and ability were recognized early on as ten years ago Vince and

partner Gavin Wolpert were featured in a Canadian documentary film 'In the Cards: The Secret World of Professional Bridge.' You can view it on YouTube. Here is a very recent photo of Vince with his daughter Jade—clearly as proud of her father as we Canucks are.

## 25 Gavin Wolpert



Darren's younger brother Gavin<sup>4</sup> is a bridge professional now living in FLA. Before he left the Great White

North, Gavin won one CNTC (2003) and one WBF bronze at the 2005 WYTCs. Since then GW has added six NABC wins and two NABC seconds. Most impressive was winning the US Trials in 2015 and going on to win bronze at the Bermuda Bowl in Chennai. One of his all-time bridge highlights must be when he won the 2005 Blue Ribbon Pairs with Jenny Ryman, his future wife. You've heard of the Group of Seven? Well Gavin is part of the Group of Five, the number of Canadians who have won the Kaplan Blue Ribbon Pairs. The other four? Haig Tchamitch, Mark Molson, Robert Lebi, and Sami Kehela. Pretty awesome company!



<sup>4</sup> For you, Darren; could be the last time in print.



## 24 Dianna Gordon



Dianna is without a doubt one of our most accomplished players—she has a sparkling resume that culminated in

her becoming a CBF Hall of Famer. Dianna has won the CWTCs a total of fifteen times and has represented Canada in 23 world championships, from 1976 in Monte Carlo, where she finished fourth in the Women's Teams, to 2011 in Veldhoven. She won one NABC, the Machlin Women's Swiss Teams in 1985 and finished second in three NABCs. Most tellingly, Dianna has a WBF gold medal: she and her partner George Mittelman won the Mixed Pairs in Biarritz in 1982. To complete the WBF championship medal trifecta, Dianna has one silver and three bronze medals.

## 23 Ralph Cohen



How good was Ralph? Sami Kehela once said, "Sam Gold and Ralph Cohen played at least as well as did Murray and

Kehela." Ralph played on a team with Murray-Kehela at the 1964 Olympiad where they finished fourth overall. Later, after moving to the USA, where Ralph worked for the ACBL in various

roles, Ralph would go on to win four NABCs and finish second twice. Ralph represented the USA at a few world championships, his best finish being a fourth in the 1994 Senior Teams, and fifth in the 1990 Rosenblum. Ralph, father of two other Cohens you may have heard about—Jordan and Billy—won the Lazard Sportsmanship Award in 2006.

## 22 Billy Cohen



Billy was born a Canadian and he remains a Canadian, but his family moved to the USA when he was about 12 years old. Billy

stayed in the warmer climes where he has built up a stellar bridge career. He has one CNTC victory (1989) and five NABC wins, including the prestigious Reisinger Board-a-Match Teams (1987). The team, which won by 5.5 boards, was comprised of Ron Smith, Billy, Jaggy Shivdasani, and Zia; afterwards Zia famously remarked how wonderful bridge is for bringing people together since the team "had a black, a Jew, an Indian, and a Paki playing together." Billy also has nine NABC second place finishes, including four in the Spingold.



## 21 Nic L'Ecuyer



Nic grew up playing all kinds of card games with his parents, uncles, and grandmother; one day he got the chance to replace an uncle at the bridge table and that was that. Nic is a mainstay at the Canadian Nationals where he is a contender every time. So far he has 6 CNTC wins, perhaps the most exciting being when he partnered Kame Fergani and teamed with D. Wolpert-Czyzowicz and Doug Fraser-Jeff Blond in 2000. Nic also has 4 NABC wins with three different partners, one NABC second, and a 5th place finish at the World Open Teams in Wroclaw in 2016. Before his grandmother died Nic made a pledge to her that he would one day be part of Canada winning a world championship. No pressure, Nic, but I believe you will come through.

## 20 Sam Gold

Aka Mr. Bridge of Canada, Sam Gold, died in 1982 but was mentor to all of the Montreal greats such as Kokish, Mittelman, and Silver, to name a few. By extension he had an influence on L'Ecuyer and Demuy without those two ever having met Mr. Bridge. Sam was an excellent player, an innovative tournament director (inventing many new duplicate movements) and a bridge administrator as he built up the Montreal Bridge League. Sam

represented Canada in the 1964 World Team Olympiad where he played with Ralph Cohen and teamed with Murray-Kehela. The team eventually lost in the semi-finals. In 1948 Sam achieved his Life Master status, only the second Canadian to do so, thus becoming ACBL Life Master #132. Sam is one of the few people on this list who has a trophy named after him: the Sam Gold Canadian Senior Team Championship Trophy. Players to this day speak with reverence when they talk about Sam Gold.

## 19 Robert Lebi



Robert is like vintage wine in that he gets better with age. He has won three CNTCs, two CSTCs, and four NABCs,

including the Kaplan Blue Ribbon Pairs with Mark Molson in 1989. In addition, Robert has two NABC seconds, including the Reisinger with a team that was five-sixths Canadian. 2006 and 2008 were especially good years as Robert won a CNTC and an NABC in each of those years. Fun fact: Robert cannot play cards without chewing gum. Well, he can, but not as well. Popeye is to spinach as Robert is to aspartame.



## 18 Neil Chambers

Neil was born in Saskatchewan, spent a few years of his life in Vancouver, and now lives in the USA. Before leaving Canada, Neil had some early success playing with Allan Graves as they reached the semi-finals of the 1975 Olympiad Trials. Neil has won six NABCs including the Vanderbilt in 1992. He also has three NABC second-place finishes including the Spingold in 1986. At the world level, Neil has three gold medals and three silvers. His big win came in Istanbul in 2004 in the Senior Teams while playing with regular partner John Schermer.

## 17 Nick Gartaganis

If you happen to be walking around a major bridge tournament and you see a man wearing a small red backpack with a Canadian flag, no, it's not some lost Euro-bound student in the middle of his gap year, it's Nick! Formerly of Montreal, now living in Calgary, Nick won his first CNTC in 1982 and his most recent CNTC in 2016 and in between he won three others. Nick is always a threat. Always. Possibly the most underrated achievement in the history of Canadian bridge was Team Canada winning the 2002 IOC in Salt Lake City. Nick was part of the Cinderella dragon-slaying squad that defeated Italy in the semis and Poland in the finals. If that event had been a Bermuda Bowl, the six players on the team, (Silver-Gitelman, Balcombe-Campbell, and Jones-Gartaganis),

would have streets named after them from Richmond to Rimouski. In other WBF events Nick has two fifth place finishes—the 2013 Bermuda Bowl in Bali, and the 2016 World Bridge Games in Poland. Nick won a gold medal at the 2002 Commonwealth Nations Bridge Championships and a silver medal at the 2012 World Transnational Mixed Swiss Teams. This year Nick and his wife Judy were inducted into the CBF Hall of Fame.

## 16 Boris Baran

Aka 'Bo,' aka 'BoBo,' aka 'The Only Man in the History of the CNTCs Who Showed Up to Play Bridge Wearing a Speedo.' Okay maybe he only did that once. Not sure if it counts as intimidation tactics because, fortunately, screens were in use. Boris has won seven CNTCs, five NABCs, four of which were the Keohane North American Swiss Teams, and two NABC seconds. On the international scene Boris won a silver medal as part of the great Canadian run in the 1995 Bermuda Bowl when Canada made it to the final but lost to Team Nickell. But Boris did go on to win WBF gold in the Senior Swiss Teams in his hometown of Montreal in 2002. He also has a bronze for coming in third at the 1990 Rosenblum in Geneva. In 2012 Boris was inducted into the CBF Hall of Fame along with long-time partner Mark Molson. Bo knows bridge.



## 15 John Carruthers



Here's an overheard conversation between Sami Kehela and Bob Hamman at a previous NABC in

Toronto: Hamman: "Long time no see! How are you?" Kehela: "I'm doing well, but I'm not playing all that much." Hamman: "So who's the best Canadian team nowadays?" Kehela: "Oh...John Carruthers and some other guys." John, aka JC, is frequently in the winner's circle. He has four CNTC victories, three NABCs, plus a second place finish in the 1988 von Zedwitz LM Pairs, five CSTCs, with two seconds, one COPC (1990) and a WBF silver medal for finishing second in last year's World Senior Pairs with partner Joey Silver. JC has won two prestigious international events, both held in Netherlands: the Forbo Teams in 2000 and the International Invitational in 2001. Another feather in his cap was when he won the first Richmond Trophy race for most masterpoints in 1974—with a whopping 524.<sup>5</sup> JC is a CBF Hall of Famer, IBPA editor, coach, non-playing captain, mentor, former Kibitzer editor...he does it all and he does it well.

## 14 Joey Silver

It's only fitting that Joey and JC, "Men with Hats," are next to each other on this list. They have now played as

partners for almost 20 years. A CBF Hall of Famer, Joey will tell you what he thinks is their biggest highlight but it might be winning a silver medal in the 2016 Senior Pairs. Joey has a superb record dating back to the 70s. One of Sam Gold's protégés, Joey burst on the scene in 1974 by winning the Vanderbilt with Eric Kokish and the Crossley brothers, David and Bob. Continuing the run in '74, Joey had two NABC seconds that year: in the Reisinger and the Mixed Board-a-Match. Joey has won five CNTCs, five CSTCs, four NABCs, two NABC seconds, two WBF silver medals, the aforementioned Senior Pairs and the 1995 Bermuda Bowl. In addition, he is the 1985 Cavendish Invitational Pairs champ and the winner of the 2002 IOC Grand Prix. Although bridge did not become an Olympic sport, for all intents and purposes, Joey can say he has an Olympic gold medal.

## 13 Bruce Elliott



From the CBF website's Hall of Fame section: "Bruce Elliott was born in 1922...Bruce won the Chicago Trophy (now

the Reisinger) in 1948 playing with Agnes Gordon, the first of his four major North American titles. He won the Chicago Trophy again in 1951 playing with Percy Sheardown. With Sheardown, Kehela and Murray, Elliot won the 1964 Spingold Master

<sup>5</sup> Today for Shan Huang that's two regionals and a sectional.



Knockout teams and the foursome successfully defended the title in 1965, becoming the only foursome to date to achieve such a feat. Elliott represented Canada twice in the World Team Olympiad, winning a bronze medal in Deauville, France in 1968." Last year I received a letter to the editor of the Kibitzer and the writer expressed his gratitude to Bruce for playing with him up in Muskoka. Bruce was not only still playing but still winning.

## 12 Peter Nagy

Peter won not one but two WBF silver medals in the Open Pairs! He first won in 1978 in New Orleans with Eric Kokish, then again in 1990 in Geneva with Ralph Katz. Peter was part of one of the greatest Canadian teams ever assembled: Nagy-Kokish, Mittelman-Graves and Murray-Kehela; they won the bronze medal in the 1982 Biarritz Rosenblum. Before moving to the USA (to be with the love of his life Donna Hay), Peter won two CNTCs. He also won four NABCs, including the 1993 Vanderbilt, and he came second eight times. Peter is in the CBF Hall of Fame and just last week was inducted into the ACBL Hall of Fame as the latest recipient of the von Zedwitz Award. Peter died too young, just 60 years of age in 2003; otherwise he would surely have added to his major victories.



## 11 Agnes Gordon



Winner of the 2009 von Zedwitz Trophy, Agnes won ten NABCs including the Wagar KO Teams in 1967, the year that

she died. She won the Reisinger in 1948. Let that sink in. Perhaps most famously she won the Mixed Pairs in 1963 with Eric Murray, posting a 78% game in the final session. Murray, a frequent partner, once wrote, "Agnes never came close to touching a wrong card or making a questionable bid. Everyone who played with Agnes marvelled at her perfection. There was no better female bridge player in North America (including Helen Sobel) and very few male players her equal." Agnes also has eight second-place finishes at NABCs.

## 10 Eric Kokish



Widely considered to be the world's greatest bridge coach, Koach K makes the top ten of Canada's greatest players.

Let's see why. Look no further than earlier this month when Eric and his new partner Fred Gitelman were part of the team that won the Yeh Bros Cup in Japan, a tourney that featured a world-class field. Now let's look way back to 1974 when Eric burst on

the scene with a win in the Vandy partnering Joey Silver. Eric claimed second in another NABC that year. But a favourite year for Eric might be 1978 when we won the Mitchell Open Board-a-Match Teams and a Silver Medal with Nagy in the World Open Pairs in New Orleans. Although he has not played all that often in the last 20-odd years, Eric has won five Canadian National Team Championships (CNTCs), two NABCs, two WBF silver medals, (including the 1995 Bermuda Bowl), and two WBF bronzes for placing third in two Rosenblums (1982 and 1990). Eric is in two Halls of Fame—the CBF and the ACBL. Like former NHL star and Hall of Famer Jacques Lemaire, Eric is an excellent player and an excellent coach. But unlike Lemaire, Eric is playing again and tearing it up.

## 9 Mark Molson

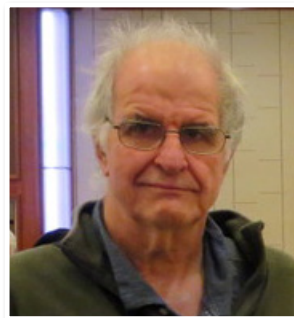


Back in the 90s I got the opportunity to go out for dinner between sessions of a regional pair game

in Montreal with Mark Molson. I couldn't wait to talk about the hands. Nipping that idea in the bud, Mark said to me, "I don't like to talk about the hands; I prefer to give my brain a rest." I may have been crestfallen then but I so get that concept now. Mark was an easygoing guy but at the table he liked to push his opponents around with partner Boris Baran. They

were known as "The Thugs" after all. Mark won seven CNTCs, seven NABCs including two in 1989: the Blue Ribbons (with Robert Lebi) and the Reisinger. He also came second four times in NABCs. On the world scene Mark won a WBF silver medal in the 1995 Bermuda Bowl and a bronze medal in the 1990 Rosenblum. Mark was inducted into the CBF Hall of Fame alongside Baran in 2013. Try taking Mark's advice next time you're in contention—at dinnertime just talk about an interesting hand or two.

## 8 Allan Graves



Here is the seven-word entry for Allan on Wikipedia: "Allan Graves is a Canadian bridge player."

Given that most of us only aspire to be a bridge player, that is high praise indeed. Thank you, Wikipedia. Actually if you're ever looking for hope and inspiration it's worth delving deeper into AG's playing record. He has a total of eight NABC victories since 1986, but six of those wins have come in the past four years! Talk about getting better with age. He has three NABC second-place finishes and seven CNTC wins. Allan won one WBF bronze medal, at the Rosenblum in Biarritz in 1982. Two years ago when Allan was inducted into the CBF Hall of Fame he was the highest ranked Canadian Grand Life Master. It's probably due to Allan coming on so strongly in the past

few years that he is ranked so highly amongst his peers still playing.

## 7 Fred Gitelman

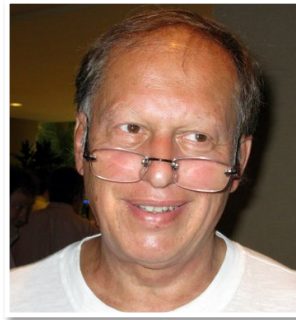


As Master of Ceremonies at the 2017 ACBL Hall of Fame Dinner, John Carruthers said at one point, "Just my opinion

but if the ACBL had their own version of Mount Rushmore the four people on it should be Vanderbilt, Culbertson, Goren and Gitelman." Founder of Bridge Base Online (BBO) and therefore instrumental in popularizing online bridge (with assist from his life/bridge partner Sheri Winestock and programmer extraordinaire Uday Ivatury), Fred is also a fabulous player. He has won two CNTCs and eight NABCs including two Spingolds and a Reisinger. Fred also has eleven NABC seconds. On the world stage Fred is all-world winning two gold medals (the IOC Grand Prix in 2002 and the Knockout Teams in 2010), four silver medals (including the 1995 Bermuda Bowl while playing with George Mittelman and the World Juniors with Geoff Hampson) and two bronzes. Earlier this month while partnering Eric Kokish, Fred won the Yeh Bros Cup held in Japan against an international field. Fun fact 1: Fred and his mom Joan play together at least once per year on BBO. Naturally they get hundreds of kibitzers. Fun fact 2: Fred is too young to be inducted into the CBF Hall of Fame, but you can bet

the house he'll be voted in the year he turns 60.

## 6 George Mittelman



Ready to play Jeopardy? Alex Trebek is a Canuck so what the heck. Answer: This world champion Canadian bridge

player does not shop at Walmart or Costco because they cut out this, also his last name. Question: What is the Mittelman? There is no weakness in George's game; he's just one of those natural card players that make you sick to play against because he's so good. For starters he has two WBF gold medals—the Mixed Pairs in 1982 with life/bridge partner Dianna Gordon and the Senior Teams in 2002 in his hometown Montreal. Completing the medal trifecta, George won silver in the 1995 Bermuda Bowl and two bronzes in the Rosenblum (1982 and 1990). On the national front, George has won eight CNTCs, more than any other player, and one CSTC. As for NABCs, George has four wins and four second-place finishes. According to Joey Silver, George has formed two partnerships that rank in the top ten all-time Canadian bridge partnerships—one with Graves and the other with Gitelman.

## 5 Hugh Ross



Hugh's inclusion on this list may be a surprise because you didn't know he was Canadian, but it should be no surprise

that he would make the top five.

Hugh was from Montreal but left for California soon after graduating from McGill University. Hugh's WBF and NABC records are extraordinary. Representing the USA he has three Bermuda Bowl victories with three different partners: in 1987 with Mike Lawrence, in 1985 with Peter Pender, and in 1976 with Erik Paulsen when they beat the Blue Team in the final. Hugh has three WBF silver medals and one bronze. As for NABCs, Hugh has 19 wins and eight second-place finishes. Two of his wins came with Zia. They won the 1990 Nail Life Master Pairs and then defended that title in 1991.

## 4 Percy Sheardown



If this top-52 were purely objective-based then CBF Hall of Famer Percy Sheardown, aka 'Shorty,' would appear a little

further down since clearly he does not have as many major event titles as Hugh Ross.<sup>6</sup> But this list was based on some Canadian bridge players

taking the time to send to me who they think are Canada's best. One has Shorty ranked 18th, another has him ranked first (!) and everyone else has him ranked somewhere in between but typically in the top five. The late Ralph Cohen once said he was the greatest ever. Percy went into the ACBL Hall of Fame in 2005 for winning numerous Canadian titles before the CNTCs existed. He won the Reisinger before it was called the Reisinger—the Chicago in 1936 and 1951 and he was part of the great Canadian foursome of Murray-Kehela, Sheardown-Elliott who won back-to-back Spingolds playing as a foursome in 1964-65. They also won a WBF Bronze in Deauville in 1968 at the Open Olympiad. Shorty is to Toronto as Sam Gold is to Montreal as Meyer Schleifer is to Los Angeles—one of those players who is a mentor to the greats, someone who, "when they get their paws on the dummy," produces more tricks than anyone else. Shorty had a policy, amazing when you think about it—to help mentor local Toronto players he would accept any and all requests for a game at the club. It may have amounted to only one game, but folks remember gestures like that. Sheardown became Canada's first Life Master in 1948.



<sup>6</sup> Nobody else has close to 19 NABC titles. (Except the next player on this list.)



### **3 Geoff Hampson**



Aka "The Pup," for following around John Gowdy and kibitzing him at local tournaments in the late 80s; aka

"The Hamster" for, well, you can work this one out. If #1 Jeff Meckstroth is concerned about anyone surpassing his masterpoint total it has to be Geoff, currently #10 on the ACBL Top 500. Current score, not including this NABC: Meck, 84 thousand and change, Hamp, a mere 46 thousand and change. It's just a matter of time... But let's see why Geoff ranks so highly. He has 19 NABC wins and 15 second-place finishes. You name an event and Geoff has won it. (Except for the Vandy; c'mon Geoff.) Before leaving for the USA to become a professional player in the early 90s Geoff won one CNTC with Gowdy as his partner. At the WBF level Geoff has two gold medals (the 2010 KO Teams and the 2001 Transnational Open Teams), one silver (the 1991 World Juniors while partnering Gitelman) and two bronzes. Geoff's current partnership with Eric Greco would be widely considered to be on pretty well anyone and everyone's shortlist for world's best. Fun fact: Geoff can sing! Geoff's parents are Joe and Sharon Hampson. Who are they? Joe was a singer/songwriter and a member of the Travellers, a Canadian folk group in the 60s-70s. Sharon is the Sharon of Sharon, Lois &

Bram, a famous Canadian children's entertainment group.

### **1/2 Eric Murray & Sami Kehela**



When we talk about Canada's greatest all-time bridge players there is Eric Murray and Sami Kehela and then there's everyone else. So it's only fitting that they're being ranked as tied for 1-2. Why are they tied? Let's just say it's

a nod to the game's most important maxim: Bridge is a partnership game.

Not for the first time are they being put on the proverbial pedestal. Long-time Toronto player Roy Hughes wrote an excellent book published by Masterpoint Press called, "Canada's Bridge Warriors: Eric Murray and Sami Kehela." Here's an excerpt:

"For my generation, Murray and Kehela were a Canadian legend. There was front-page coverage of Canada's progress at the Olympiads, and Murray and Kehela were always the anchor pair. Whenever there were magazine articles or television clips about bridge, Murray and Kehela were there. Murray was always outrageously quotable, and Kehela, dressed in black and a study in

concentration, made the perfect foil. And, of course, the cigars made for good photographs.”

Let’s look at their numbers.

Sami won three CNTCs and ten NABCs including three Spingolds, two Vanderbilts, one von Zedwitz LM Pairs and one Blue Ribbon Pairs (with partner Baron Wolf Lebovic). He finished in second place at four NABCs (including a runner-up finish in the Blue Ribbons with Eric). In WBF events Sami has three Bermuda Bowl silver medals and three bronzes. Sami represented Canada thirteen times at world championships, (sometimes teaming with top US pairs to represent North America). I have no idea how much Sami won at the rubber bridge table at Irving Litvack’s Regal Club in Toronto but it was more than the other pigeons, er—guys.

Eric won four CNTCs and 14 NABCs. As mentioned under Agnes Gordon’s bio, Eric won the Mixed Pairs with her in 1963, recording a 78% game in the final session. Before Eric partnered Sami he played and won with Doug Drury. Together they won the Wernher Open Pairs in 1954 and defended in 1955. At the world level, Eric has four WBF silver Medals and three bronzes. The extra silver was when Eric played in the 1962 Bermuda Bowl in New York, losing to the Blue Team in the finals. If only YouTube were around then. It would be so interesting to watch them play bridge without screens—plus all that

smoking... all those... “randomly” placed cigarettes. But I digress.

Here’s what other people have to say about the WGBP and the GOAT.<sup>7</sup>

Eric Rodwell wrote in an email, “I played once with Eric Murray. We were just under average after 9 boards. He poured on the afterburners and we wound up with a 226 on a 156 average. He was a nice man, and funny.”

Bob Hamman, from Hughes’s book: “You never really beat Murray and Kehela—you were just temporarily ahead of them.”

Peggy Sutherlin: “Doug Drury created the Drury convention as Eric opened all hands in third chair.”

Eric Murray: “The convention was invented for the express purpose of mitigating the losses suffered by my partners because of my incontrollable mania for opening balanced Yarboroughs in third or fourth position with one spade.”

John Carruthers: “It was de rigueur to criticize Murray and Kehela’s bidding as agricultural but Murray has the best bidding judgement of anyone I’ve ever seen, at the table or in print. Not to mention table presence AND presence at the table.”

Eric Kokish (and others): “Eric was a great player but Sami was

<sup>7</sup> World’s Greatest Bridge Player and Greatest of All Time.

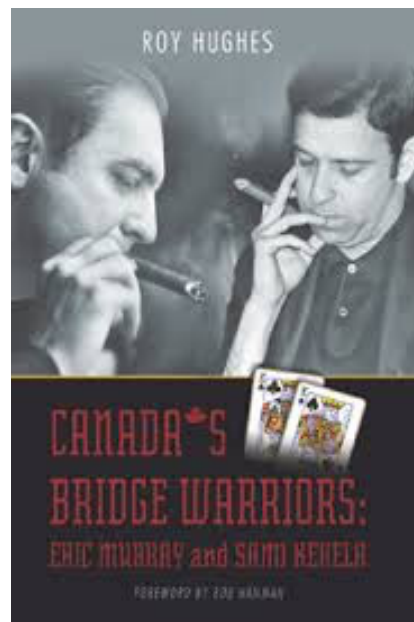
the better technician.”

Eric Murray, in a letter to the Editor of the Globe and Mail in 1982: “Mr. Kehela is still Canada’s most effective bridge player and still one of the best in the world, an opinion which I invite you to test by selecting your favourite partner.”

Edgar Kaplan, in a world championship report featured in the Bridge World: “Sami Kehela played an entire World Championship without touching a wrong card.”

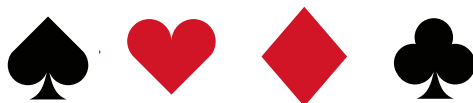
Joey Silver: “Murray-Kehela, an easy choice, the two greatest Canadian bridge players for Canada—one of the world’s great partnerships.”

It was once said that the secret to their successful partnership was because each thought the other the greater player. Ladies and gentlemen: the WGBP and the GOAT, Murray and Kehela.



*Thank you to the following who assisted in this project: David Baker, Drew Cannell, John Carruthers, David Colbert, John Duquette, Nick Gartaganis, John Gowdy, Nader Hanna, Mike Hargreaves, Neil Kimmelman, Eric Kokish, Ray & Linda Lee, Vince Oddy, John Rayner, Eric Shepherd, Joey Silver, and Ross Taylor*

*An earlier version of this list was serialized in the Daily Bulletin of the recent Toronto NABC. The list has since been further vetted and revised.*



## **LOOKING FOR “EXPERT NOVICES”**

to enter the McNab GNT competition in 2018.

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Two over One play.

**Contact Ron, [ronbaecker@gmail.com](mailto:ronbaecker@gmail.com), 647-986-3364.**

(I was on the team that represented District 2 and placed 2nd this year in Toronto.)



## *Teacher of the Year*



Enid Roitman, from Toronto, Canada, taught elementary school for many years before beginning her second career as a bridge teacher. In addition to teaching bridge on cruise ships, she teaches four to six classes each week at bridge clubs, private clubs, and in people's homes.

As an elementary teacher, she participated in a program called "Book Buddies," where her Grade 3 students were paired with kindergarten students each week to read to the younger ones. All the children loved the program and it inspired Enid to teach bridge to kids as an

extracurricular activity, which she organized and taught for ten years. She called the program "Bridge Buddies" and held several tournaments each year for her students at Barbara Seagram's Bridge Club and at some sectional and regional tournaments in Toronto. Here, experienced players volunteered to play with the kids for an afternoon. There were prizes, refreshments, and trophies for the winners. Some of her students went on to participate in the first ACBL School Duplicate Bridge Tournament, which took place across the US and Canada in 1995. There was much excitement in the school when two of her students placed first overall in this tournament, winning trophies, and scholarships for their future education.

In 1999, Enid began teaching bridge on cruise ships. Gerry Fox, the owner of Grand Slam Cruises, wrote:

"Enid is simply perfect for cruise teaching. She has a long history of retaining just about everyone who crosses her path on the ship. She is a star performer and marvelous ambassador for the game of bridge, setting a standard that is very difficult to emulate."



Enid's teaching philosophy is

"...to make my students feel comfortable and to help them have fun learning. I do not encourage people to memorize anything that they don't understand. I do lots of reviewing and try to keep things simple. I recognize that people have different learning styles, and often concepts need to be presented in a variety of ways." Enid regularly organizes and assists with fundraisers for a number of charities, including Wellspring Cancer Support Centers. She maintains an active part in her community, cares about her students, and according to one: "is a gifted teacher with a wonderful sense of humor. She maintains a welcoming atmosphere in every class, and is talented, thoughtful, and sensitive."

In 1999 Enid was the recipient of the annual "Kate Buchman Award," presented to the person who contributes the most to others' enjoyment of bridge. She received the 2010 "Audrey Grant Award," an award that recognizes excellence in bridge teaching. During July's NABC in Toronto, Enid was named the 2017 "Teacher of the Year" by the American Bridge Teachers' Association.

She suggests that from time to time all teachers take a course in something that they know nothing about such as learning a new language or learning to play a musical instrument. This can be a humbling experience, and it gives an insight into what your students are feeling and how vulnerable they are in your classes.

Here's Enid's advice to bridge teachers everywhere:

Be prepared, encouraging, kind, and patient. If you ever notice some "deer in the headlight" looks in your class, perhaps you are going too quickly.

Congratulations, Enid!



*Ray Lee (far left) with six of the 2017 ABTA Teacher of the Year Nominees, including: Enid Roitman (third from left) and Josee Hamill (second from right)*



# A Senior Moment... of Success

By David Turner

Winnipeg belied its reputation by providing perfect weather for the Canadian Bridge Championships. The Seniors' division featured an unusually strong field of seven teams, and the three-day double round robin was close all the way. At the last, Team TURNER (David Turner/John Gowdy, Fred Lerner/Michael Schoenborn) nosed out another four-man team, DOMANSKY (Domansky /Campbell, McLellan/Laframboise) for first place by less than a quarter victory point.

There were two similar bidding problems from the round robin you might like to try with your favourite partner (all spot cards are approximate):

West	East
♠ A K 9	♠ 3 2
♥ A	♥ J 8 7 6 5
♦ A 3 2	♦ 4
♣ A K Q 9 8 7 6	♣ J 10 4 3 2

West is the dealer.

2♣	(P)	2♥	(Dbl)
3♣	(P)	4♦	(P)
?			

I hate 2♥ second negative (it too often gets in opener's way), but here it worked great. Our opponent gave up on the grand slam and bid 6♣ for a push. I think opener should bid spades twice to seek third round control and reach the excellent grand. 4♦ is a splinter bid agreeing clubs as trumps and showing a singleton or void in diamonds. Here's another:

West	East
♠ K	♠ A Q 9 7
♥ A K 3 2	♥ 9 4
♦ Q	♦ 6 5 4 3 2
♣ A K Q 10 7 6 5	♣ J 2

The opponents are silent.

2♣	2♦
3♣	3♠
4♥	5♣
All Pass	

We weren't playing 2♥ second negative (which would have helped again!) and responder might have bid 3♦, but chose to pinpoint his values. Over 4♥, it was tempting to bid 6♣ with third round heart control, but with only two clubs ....Another push.

How'd you do?

Both semi-finals were close most of the way, with TURNER defeating ZAMBONINI (Zambonini/Hanna, Rayner/Roche, Czyzowicz/Jacob) and Domansky besting CARRUTHERS (Carruthers/Silver, Kirr/Thorpe, Thurston/Balcombe).

This was our major bidding triumph from the semis, with opponents silent throughout:

♠ 9	♠ A K J 7 6
♥ Q J 2	♥ A 9 8 4 3
♦ 10 5 4 2	♦ ----
♣ K Q 10 9 6	♣ A 4 3

Turner	Gowdy
Pass	1 ♠
2 ♣	3 ♥
4 ♥	6 ♣

Since we play a weak 2♦ opener, we don't need a passed hand 2♦ as natural, so we use 2♦ as Drury and 2♣ as natural (a Roy Hughes idea). My hand wasn't a model for the bid, but it was all John needed to bid the reasonable slam once I showed some heart fit. How would you play it on a low diamond lead? (Solution below.)

We approached the final with some trepidation, as Domansky had had their way with us in both round robin matches. After a high-scoring tie in the first quarter, we won the next two quarters by 16 and 12, and so we were nursing a 28 IMP lead going into the 4th 14-board segment. The outcome turned on this hand. Here is the opponent's auction, starting on your right:

West	East
	1 ♠
2 ♦	2 ♠
3 ♦	3 ♠
4 NT	5 ♥ (2 keycards for spades)
6 ♠	

You, South, are on lead with this hand:

♠ 6  
♥ Q 9 8 7 6 2  
♦ 4 2  
♣ A J 10 2

What'll it be?

Suppose you lead the club ace (would you?) and see this dummy:

♠ Q 7  
♥ A  
♦ A Q J 10 9 8 7  
♣ K 8 6

Partner plays the club five (standard signals), and declarer plays the three. What do you play next and why?

It looks like if declarer has a small doubleton diamond he's going set unless he started with Qx of clubs, or partner has a surprise trump trick. If he has a stiff small diamond he might be able to ruff out partner's third king without having to guess the diamond layout if you leave him enough entries. The only entry you can guarantee removing is the heart ace, so heart it is! Declarer's hand:

♠ A K J 9 8 7   ♥ x   ♦ x   ♣ Q 9 7 4 3

Oops! Perhaps giving partner a club ruff would have been better! However, declarer drew trumps, and went after diamonds ... he would make if the  $\diamond$ K came down doubleton in either hand or if the clubs broke. A scary two down and the match winner, as we lost the final quarter by only 11 IMPs to hold on to a 17-IMP margin.

Congrats to the Domansky team for excellent play over five days, also 4-handed.

As at date of writing we have added Andy Altay and Marty Kirr as our third pair, and our next hurdle is a playoff in Mexico

in July. By the time you read this we will have hopefully gone off to Lyon, France for the World Championships, and I'll have more success to report next issue.

Solution to  $6\clubsuit$  play problem above:

The best play seems to be a low heart away from the ace to the queen at trick two, losing to the king in either hand. With the round suits both 3-2 this makes comfortably. But - scary thought - what if LHO \*ducks\* from his king-third? Not sure I could've done it! ~DT



**THE CANADIAN SENIOR TEAM OF TURNER-GOWDY-LERNER-SCHOENBORN HAS ADDED MARTY KIRR AND ANDY ALTAY FOR THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS IN LYON, FRANCE IN AUGUST, 2017.**



# *In Memoriam*



*Geraldine (Gerry) Pearl Hutchison Lachance was born in Medicine Hat Alberta. She served in the navy during WWII. She attended University of Toronto where she met her husband Bill. After many years of teaching Phys Ed., they retired and spent ten years living their dream on Sightseer III, their sailboat.*

*Back on land they moved to Collingwood in 1989. Gerry decided to share her passion for the game of bridge with others. She started beginner bridge lessons at the Leisure Time Club, a seniors club in Collingwood. Then she saw the need to have a more relaxed atmosphere for*

*the beginners to play and hone their skills before moving on to ACBL clubs. She started the Collingwood Social Duplicate Club, which has now expanded into three weekly sessions. Gerry took the Director exam and then set up classes to encourage other players to become Directors for both the ACBL clubs and the Social Duplicate games. Gerry also helped several of the Lady Probus Clubs to start duplicate bridge games.*

*Collingwood has seven weekly duplicate games and the majority of the players have taken lessons from Gerry. In appreciation of her dedication her many students nominated Gerry for the Order of Collingwood, an award given in recognition of how she has enriched the lives of so many people, and in so many ways. The ABTA also recognized her excellence by awarding her the Master Teacher Award.*

*Missing Gerry is her family: (husband Bill, six children, ten grandchildren), and the entire bridge community. But her memory will live on in the many games that are and will be played here in the town of Collingwood.*

*Sandy Dickson,  
Gerry's long-time friend, bridge partner, fellow teacher*

# NIAGARA 299er SECTIONAL

BRIDGE CENTRE OF NIAGARA  
6-2E TREMONT DRIVE.  
St. CATHARINES, ON. L2T 3B2

**August 19th and 20th, 2017**

## **Stratified 299er Pairs**

Saturday, 10:00 am & 2:00 pm  
and  
Sunday, 10:00 am & 2:00 pm

Two Single-Session Events Both Days  
\$13.00 per person, per session  
(\$3.00 extra for non or unpaid ACBL Members)

## ***Free Lunch Between Sessions - Both Days***

(Start-up free breakfast available both days)

Stratifications for all sessions based on average masterpoints:  
A: 0-300; B: 0-200; C: 0-50  
(0-50 Separate Game if Attendance Warrants)

**Chair:** Wiebe Hoogland: 905-688-0734  
**email:** [wbybrenh@cogeco.ca](mailto:wbybrenh@cogeco.ca)

**Partnership Chair:** Sue Arnedt: 905-892-6009  
**email:** [sarnedt@cogeco.ca](mailto:sarnedt@cogeco.ca)

Bridge Centre of Niagara  
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St. Catharines, ON  
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905-704-0446

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TOWN OF GODERICH

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# BRIDGE SECTIONAL

Goderich Columbus Hall  
390 Parsons Court, Goderich, Ontario

## August 26 & 27, 2017

**Saturday, August 26, 2017**

Open Pairs - 11:00 am & 4:30 pm (2 sessions)  
Stratified as follows: **A:** 1500+ **B:** 500-1500 **C:** 0-500

**Sunday, August 27, 2017**

Stratified Swiss Teams - 11:00 am and TBA  
Stratifications: **A:** 1500+ **B:** 500-1500 **C:** 0-500

**299 EVENTS IF NUMBERS PERMIT**

**Entry Fee: \$13.00 / session**  
\$3.00 extra for NON-ACBL members

**Sunday Lunch: \$10.00 / each**  
**Cash Bar Available**

---

Tournament Chair **Maria Deaves**  
(519) 395-5185  
[maria@deaves.com](mailto:maria@deaves.com)

Partnerships &  
Motel Information **Jen Verdam-Woodward**  
(519) 440-9346  
[jenvw@hurontel.on.ca](mailto:jenvw@hurontel.on.ca)



# **Labour Day Silver Point Sectional Bridge Tournament**

**September 2 to September 4, 2017**

**Location: Holiday Inn Yorkdale , 3450 Dufferin Street, Toronto**

**End of Summer Bridge Blast!**

**Note new Game Times**

## **Schedule of Events**



### **Saturday, September 2**

10:00 & 2:30 - A/X, B/C/D pairs - 2 session stratiflighted open pairs, single session entries are also welcome

10:00 & 2:30 - 0-500 Pairs – 2 single session stratified pairs event-

10:00 & 2:30- 0-100 Pairs- 2 single session events

**Steve Overholt will be running a 30 minute bridge lesson 45 minutes before each session for anyone interested in attending**

### **Sunday, September 3**

10:00 & 2:30 - A/X, B/C/D pairs – 2 session stratiflighted open pairs, single session entries are also welcome

10:00 & 2:30 – 0-500 Pairs – 2 single session stratified pairs event

10:00 & 2:30- 0-100 Pairs- 2 single session events

**Steve Overholt will be running a 30 minute bridge lesson 45 minutes before each session for anyone interested in attending**

### **Monday, September 5**

10:00 & TBA – Stratiflighted Swiss Teams

10:00 & TBA - Stratified 0-300 Swiss Teams

Stratiflighted events: A: 3500+, X: 0-3500, B: 1500-2500, C: 750-1500, D= 0-750

**Steve Overholt will be running a 30 minute bridge lesson 45 minutes before the first session for anyone interested in attending**

**EVENTS ARE STRATIFIED BY AVERAGE MASTER POINTS & FLIGHTS ARE  
BASED ON HIGHEST MASTER POINTS**

**Chairperson:** Ann Shaw 905-855-7177/ 647-961-4822 or [ashawc646@gmail.com](mailto:ashawc646@gmail.com)

**Partnerships:** Joanne Gilmore 905-820-7391 or [jgilmore@toronto.ca](mailto:jgilmore@toronto.ca)

**Entry Fee: \$14.00 for ACBL Members and \$17.00 for Non- ACBL Members  
or unpaid Members**

**Special Entry Fee of \$10.00 for the 0-100 games only**



# 68th Annual St. Thomas Jumbo Tournament

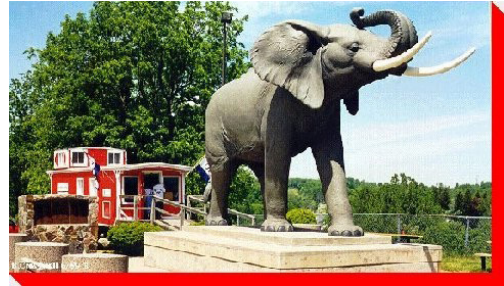
## September 9–10, 2017

Sessions both days 11:00 am and TBA.  
Hot meal between sessions

Entry Fees \$12.50 per session

Non-ACBL members add \$3.00 per session

(In consideration of those who are sensitive to fragrance,  
this is a scent-free tournament)

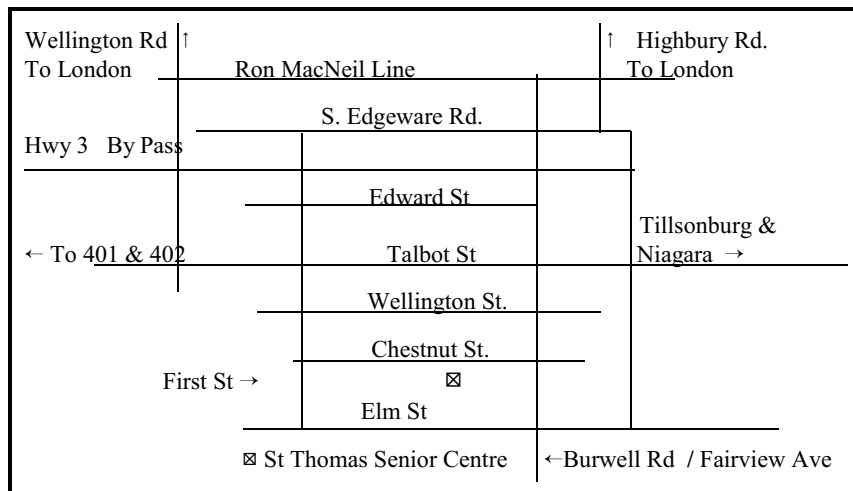


### Saturday Sept 9th

2-Session Stratified Pairs Playthrough (single sessions welcome)  
299er Pairs Playthrough (single sessions welcome)

### Sunday Sept 10th

Bracketed Swiss Teams bracketed by team total points



### Location

St. Thomas  
Senior Centre,  
225 Chestnut St.,  
St. Thomas

### Tournament Chair

Jim Wright  
(519) 631-5531  
[manager@stthomasbridgeclub.org](mailto:manager@stthomasbridgeclub.org)

### Partnerships

Jim Wright  
(519) 631-5531  
[manager@stthomasbridgeclub.org](mailto:manager@stthomasbridgeclub.org)

### Stratification

Based on player with highest number of masterpoints

### Pairs

Strats:: A=1500+, B=500-1500, C=0-500  
299ers: A=100-300, B=20-100, C=0-20

### Teams

Strats: A=1500+, B=500-1500, C=0-500;  
299er Teams: 0-300

# ORILLIA REGIONAL

**Tuesday, September 12 – Sunday, September 17, 2017**

Please join us for fun, bridge, **GOLD** points  
and great hospitality at the  
**Orillia Curling Club, Barnfield Point Recreation Centre**  
500 Atherley Road, Orillia, Ontario, L3V 7Y1

**EXTRA MASTERPOINTS!! All team games are bracketed!!**

**Entry Fee:** \$16 per session (includes HST)  
\$4 extra for non or unpaid ACBL members.

**Free Registration Gifts and free parking! Early start times!**

**Great Location** – Tudhope Park on the shores of Lake Couchiching. Enjoy a walk between Sessions.

**Where to Stay:** at the lovely **Best Western Plus** – less than 1 kilometre from the playing site. \$109.95 per night includes a full buffet breakfast and free parking. Enjoy their walking trail to scenic Tudhope Park. Call 1-888-869-2306 and mention 'bridge tournament' for the special offer. The cut-off date is Aug. 12 so please make your reservations early.

**Where to visit:** Orillia is home to a broad spectrum of restaurants – everything from fine dining to take-out. You'll also find myriad attractions such as the Mariposa Market, Stephen Leacock Museum, Casino Rama, an Arts district, boat cruises, the OPP Museum and many other interesting sites.

## **Attention Intermediate & Novice Players**

Don't miss the opportunity to receive free tips from some wonderful bridge experts.

The lessons are at 10 am on Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

### **\*\*\*\*Special GOLD RUSH games\*\*\*\***

If you have 750 masterpoints or less, win gold in these events if you place in A or B.

Stratification is as follows: A = 300 – 750, B = 100 – 300, C = 0 - 100.  
See Schedule for dates.

Tournament Chair – Linda Lord, [lindaleelord@hotmail.com](mailto:lindaleelord@hotmail.com), 905-713-9141.  
Partnerships – Marilyn Maher, [marilynmaher@hotmail.com](mailto:marilynmaher@hotmail.com), 705-242-4059.

**Please arrive at least 15 minutes before game time.**

# SCHEDULE

**Game start times are:**

**Tuesday only: 1 pm & 6:30 pm.**

**Wednesday, Thursday & Friday: 11 am & 4:00 pm.**

**Sunday Swiss: 11 am & TBD.**

## **Tuesday, Sept. 12**

Afternoon & Evening:

- GOLD RUSH Pairs (100/300/750) two sessions.
- Open Stratiflighted Pairs (1500/2500/open)
- Tues. & Wed. Bracketed KO sessions 1 & 2 of 4.
- Intermediate/Novice Games.
- Afternoon & Evening Side Game Series\* - 5 sessions Tuesday – Saturday.
- Evening Swiss Teams one session.

## **Wednesday, Sept. 13**

Morning & Afternoon:

- GOLD RUSH Pairs (100/300/750) two sessions.
- Open Stratiflighted Pairs (1500/2500/open).
- Tuesday & Wed. Bracketed KO sessions 3 & 4.
- Intermediate/Novice Games.
- Afternoon Swiss Teams one session.

Plus – Morning and Afternoon Side Game Series\*.

## **Thursday, Sept. 14**

Morning & Afternoon:

- A/X & Bracketed Swiss Teams (Open, 0 - 1500) A & X play together.
- Bracketed GOLD RUSH Swiss teams (0 - 750)
- Open Stratified Pairs (750/1500/open).
- Intermediate/Novice Games.

Plus – Morning & Afternoon Side Game Series\*.

## **Friday, Sept. 15**

Morning & Afternoon:

- GOLD RUSH Pairs (100/300/750) two sessions.
  - Open Stratiflighted Pairs (1500/2500/open).
  - Fri. & Sat. Bracketed KO III sessions 1 & 2 of 4.
  - Intermediate/Novice Games.
  - Afternoon Swiss Teams one session.
- Plus – Morning & Afternoon Side Game Series\*.

## **Saturday, Sept. 16**

Morning & Afternoon:

- GOLD RUSH Pairs (100/300/750) two sessions.
- Open Stratiflighted Pairs (1500/2500/open).
- Friday & Saturday Bracketed KO III sessions 3 & 4.
- Saturday Bracketed Compact KO two sessions.
- Intermediate/Novice Games.
- Afternoon Swiss Teams one session.

Plus – Morning & Afternoon Side Games Series\*.

## **Sunday, Sept 17**

A/X Open Swiss Team Event...11am & TBD  
A=open, X=0–5000. A & X play separately.  
Mid-flight Swiss teams.....11 am & TBD  
(1500/3000)  
GOLD RUSH Swiss Teams....11am & TBD  
(300/750)



# The Caledon East Fall Sectional

September 23 - 24, 2017

Caledon Community Complex, 6215 Old Church Road, Caledon East

## Saturday, September 23: Stratified Pairs at 11:00am & 3:15pm

99ers (two single-sessions):	A: 50–100	B: 20–50	C: 0–20
499NLMers (play-through*):	A: 300–500	B: 100–300	C: 0–100
Open (play-through*):	A: 2000+	B: 750–2000	C: 0–750

\*Single morning- or afternoon-only sessions welcome

### PLUS a Special Event **Just for 0 - 499NLMers**

- A one-hour, interactive workshop with Barbara Seagram on “Killer Defence”
- No cost to attend the workshop. Just be a NLM with fewer than 500MPs
- Starts at **09:30** on **Saturday, September 23**. Coffee, tea, bagels, and fruit available
- **ACT SWIFTLY.** Only a few places left for the workshop so register quickly by sending an email with your full name to [stspnorris@hotmail.com](mailto:stspnorris@hotmail.com)
- Plus 10 participants will win one of Barbara Seagram’s cheat sheets in a lucky draw

## Sunday, September 24: Stratified Swiss Teams will start at 11:00am

99ers: Morning-session only	Stratification at director’s discretion and based on attendance		
499NLMers: Two session*	A: 300–500	B: 100–300	C: 0–100
Open: Two session*	A: 2000+	B: 750–2000	C: 0–750

\*Single morning- or afternoon-only sessions welcome

### PLUS a Special Event **Just for 99ers**

- A 45-minute, interactive workshop with Steve Overholt on “Swiss Team Strategy”
- No cost to attend the workshop. Just have fewer than 100 MPs
- Starts at **09:45** on **Sunday, September 24**. Coffee, tea, bagels, and fruit available
- Places are going quickly so register your attendance no later than September 2 by sending an email with your full name to [dingram@bell.net](mailto:dingram@bell.net)

**DON'T WORRY IF YOU DON'T HAVE A TEAM OF FOUR PLAYERS. JUST REGISTER WITH YOUR PARTNER AND WE WILL HELP YOU FIND A TEAM**

**NOTE:** Stratification subject to change on the day based on attendance. Pair or Team stratification will be based on average master points but flight assignment will be based on the player with the highest master points



The traditional Caledon-friendly bridge environment is assured as are:



**Ample Free Parking**



**Free Apples and Cider**



**Homemade Food**



**Prizes**

### Entry Fees

\$13 per person per session for ACBL members  
\$3 extra per session for non/unpaid ACBL members  
\$6 per session for Juniors



### Tournament Chair

Steven Norris  
[stspnorris@outlook.com](mailto:stspnorris@outlook.com)  
647-234-6352

### Partnership Chair

John McWhinnie  
[johnmcw@gmail.com](mailto:johnmcw@gmail.com)  
647-794-7894

### Directions

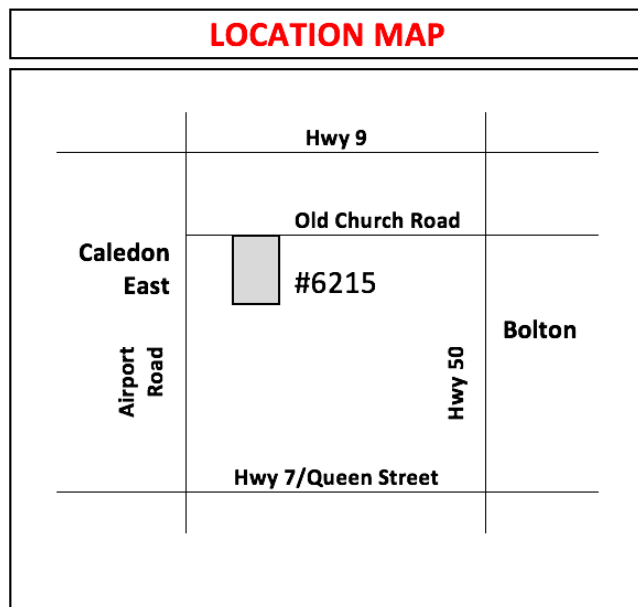
**From the South or West:** HWY 410 North to Mayfield Road; East to Airport Road, North to Caledon East. Down the hill to 3-way lights. Right on Old Church Road to Site

**From the North-West:** HWY 9 East to Airport Road; South on Airport Road to Caledon East. Down the hill to 3-way lights. Left on Old Church Road to Site

**From the North-East:** HWY 9 West to Hwy 50. South on Hwy 50 and through Palgrave. Right at first lights on Old Church Road to Site located just after Town Hall on the left

**From South or East:** HWY 427 North to HWY 50. North on HWY 50 and through Bolton. Down the hill after Gleneagles Golf Club to lights. Left on Old Church Road to Site located just after Town Hall on the left

### LOCATION MAP



Closest accommodation in Bolton, 15 minutes away: The Bolton Inn (905-857-3382)  
and Hampton Inn (905-857-9990)

# COME CELEBRATE CANADA'S 150TH BIRTHDAY WITH US! MAPLE CITY BRIDGE SECTIONAL

Active Lifestyle Centre,  
20 Merritt Ave, Chatham, ON

**September 30th and October 1st, 2017**

**Saturday, September 30th, 11:00 AM and 3:30 PM**

The **John Verkaik** Stratified Pairs (Play-through)

Strat A: open   Strat B: 200-1500   Strat C: 0-200

**Sunday, October 1, 11:00 AM and 3:30 PM**

Stratified Swiss Teams

Strat A: 1500+ avg holding   Strat B: 200-1500   Strat C: 0-200

**Session fee   \$12.50   0-99ers reduced session fee   \$10**

**\$3 additional per session for non or unpaid ACBL members**

Full Course Dinner between sessions \$12 each

Tournament Chair: Lee Easterbrook   519 809-7000

Partnerships: Gary Robertson   519 676-2096

[garrober@isp.com](mailto:garrober@isp.com)

Director: Nancy Strachan

\*Hwy 40 exit from 401 to  
Chatham under construction  
Use Bloomfield Road exit only!



# OSHAWA SECTIONAL

October 28 and 29, 2017

LVIV Hall & Pavilion

38 LVIV Blvd., Oshawa, ON, L1H 3C3

Come and join us for fun, prizes & bridge at LVIV

## Event Schedule:

Saturday, October 28      Stratiflighted Pairs \*\*      10:30am & 2:30pm  
   **Newcomer Pairs** (2 one session games)  
Sunday, October 29      Stratiflighted Swiss Teams \*\* 10:30am & T.B.D.  
   **Newcomer Pairs** (2 one session games)

\*\* Stratiflights: (flights A/X and flights B/C/D)

**Flight A/X** (separate game):      A=3000+, X=0-3000

**Flights B/C/D:**      B=750-1500, C=300-750, D=0-300

Separate **99'er** game if numbers permit (2 one session games)

**Newcomer game**      **0-20 Masterpoints** (2 one session games)

Assignment to flight based on player with highest master points.

Team stratification based on average master points.

**Entry Fees:** \$13 per session for ACBL members,  
(non ACBL members add \$3).  
\$5 for students

**Special rates for Newcomer players (0 to 20 MasterPoints)**

**\$8** for one session      **\$12** for both daily sessions

**\*\*New Sponsor\*\* Doug Baxter, Certified Financial Planner®**



Food available on-site for purchase during one hour break both days

**Expert panel show between sessions (with Team Canada!)**

**Tournament Chair:** Keith Balcombe, [keithbalcombe@rogers.com](mailto:keithbalcombe@rogers.com), 905-242-1981

**Location:** One block north of Hwy 401, East from Simcoe Street on to Lviv Blvd.

## From the West (Simcoe exit closed)

Take the 401 to the **Ritson Street exit**  
turn **right** from the exit on to Bloor St.  
**right** at Albert Street (about 250 metres)  
then turn **left** on to LVIV Blvd.

## From the East

Take the 401 to the Ritson/Simcoe exit  
Follow the exit as it becomes Drew St  
Turn left on to First Ave; continue 400m  
Turn left on to Albert St; continue 300m  
Turn right on to LVIV Blvd

*Lots of free parking at site and on both sides of the street.*



## **DISTRICT 2 FINALS**

### **SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2017**

### **WIN GOLD & RED POINTS!**

Compete to represent District 2 in the North American Final, to be held at the NABC in Philadelphia, PA - March 2018

**Awards for each flight are:**

**First:** \$700 per player ( ACBL )  
**Second:** \$300 per player + top-up from District 2  
**Third:** Free entry to Philadelphia NAP Final  
**Fourth:** Free entry to Philadelphia NAP Final ( Flts B & C only )

Flight A ( Open )      Flight B ( 0 – 2500 MP )      Flight C ( NLM, <500 MP )

**PLAYING SITES: This is a Multi-site District Final**

Unit 166	Hazel's Bridge Club, <a href="http://www.hazelsbridge.com">www.hazelsbridge.com</a>	416-221-0069
Unit 249	Tillsonburg Seniors Centre 45 Hardy Ave, Tillsonburg	519-688-2520
Unit 181	Tuxedo Bridge Studio, 1460 Chevrier Blvd, Winnipeg	204-453-0708

**To be eligible for the District Final, players must have a club level qualification and be ACBL Members in good standing**

- ✓ There are no Unit finals.
- ✓ Players must pre-register to play in the NAP District Final
- ✓ \*\*\*\* Players are required to be familiar with the Conditions of Contest, in particular the clause regarding placings when only 2 sites hold a District Final
- ✓ A minimum of 5 tables are required to run a Flight.

Please verify with your Unit Co-ordinator that the required no. of pairs are registered

#### **Contact Information:**

Unit 166:	Martin Hunter	<a href="mailto:martinhunter@rogers.com">martinhunter@rogers.com</a>	905-858-7683
Unit 249:	Jed Drew	<a href="mailto:jed.drew@gmail.com">jed.drew@gmail.com</a>	519-842-8786
Unit 181:	Ray Hornby	<a href="mailto:rayhorn@shaw.ca">rayhorn@shaw.ca</a>	204-224-1923



# Niagara Falls Regional

## November 7-12, 2017

### Playing Site – CROWNE PLAZA

5685 Falls Avenue, Niagara Falls, ON L2E 6W7

**Hotel Reservations** call **1-800-519-9911** to book either hotel  
Reserve before October 5, 2017 and request the **ACBL** rate at the following hotels:

#### Crowne Plaza

\$99.....Single or Double

#### Sheraton on the Falls

\$105.....Single or Double

Additional \$20 each for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> person at each hotel

### Schedule of Events

#### Tuesday, November 7

Niagara Bracketed KO Teams (1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> of 4 sessions) ..... 10 am & 3 pm  
Stratified Daylight Open Pairs ..... 10 am & 3 pm  
199er Pairs Single Sessions ..... 10 am & 3 pm  
Gold Rush Pairs (each player less than 750 MP) ..... 10 am & 3 pm  
Evening Bracketed KO Teams (1<sup>st</sup> of 4 sessions) ..... 7:30 pm  
Charity Open Pairs (A=2000+ B=500-2000 C=0-500) ..... 7:30 pm

#### Wednesday, November 8

Niagara Bracketed KO Teams (3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> of 4 sessions) ..... 10 am & 3 pm  
Whirlpool Bracketed KO Teams (1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> of 4 sessions) ..... 10 am & 3 pm  
Stratified Daylight Open Pairs ..... 10 am & 3 pm  
Gold Rush Pairs (each player less than 750 MP) ..... 10 am & 3 pm  
199er Pairs Single Sessions ..... 10 am & 3 pm  
Afternoon Swiss Teams Single Session ..... 3 pm  
Afternoon Side Game Series (2<sup>nd</sup> of 4 sessions) ..... 3 pm  
Evening Side Game Series (2<sup>nd</sup> of 3 sessions) ..... 7:30 pm  
Evening Bracketed KO Teams (2<sup>nd</sup> of 4 sessions) ..... 7:30 pm

#### Thursday, November 9

Whirlpool Bracketed KO Teams (3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> of 4 sessions) ..... 10 am & 3 pm  
Maid of the Mist Bracketed KO Teams (1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> of 4 sessions) ..... 10 am & 3 pm  
Stratified Daylight Open Pairs ..... 10 am & 3 pm  
Gold Rush Pairs (each player less than 750 MP) ..... 10 am & 3 pm  
199er Pairs Single Sessions ..... 10 am & 3 pm  
Afternoon Swiss Teams Single Session ..... 3 pm  
Afternoon Side Game Series (2<sup>nd</sup> of 4 sessions) ..... 3 pm  
Evening Side Game Series (1<sup>st</sup> of 3 sessions) ..... 7:30 pm  
Evening Bracketed KO Teams (3<sup>rd</sup> of 4 sessions) ..... 7:30 pm

#### Friday, November 10

Maid of the Mist Bracketed KO Teams (3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> of 4 sessions) ..... 10 am & 3 pm  
Compact Bracketed KO Teams I (1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> of 2 sessions) ..... 10 am & 3 pm  
Stratified Daylight Open Pairs ..... 10 am & 3 pm  
Gold Rush Swiss Teams (each player less than 750 MP) ..... 10 am & 3 pm  
199er Pairs Single Sessions ..... 10 am & 3 pm  
Afternoon Swiss Teams Single Session ..... 3 pm  
Afternoon Side Game Series (3<sup>rd</sup> of 4 sessions) ..... 3 pm  
Evening Side Game Series (2<sup>nd</sup> of 3 sessions) ..... 7:30 pm  
Evening Bracketed KO Teams (4<sup>th</sup> of 4 sessions) ..... 7:30 pm



Great Hospitality

Overall & Section Top Prizes

Zero Tolerance Policy in Effect

Free Parking

### **Saturday, November 11**

Compact Bracketed KO Teams II (1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> of 2 sessions) ..... 10 am & 3 pm  
Stratiflighted Open Pairs (A/X separate, B/C/D play together) ..... 10 am & 3 pm  
199er Pairs Single Sessions ..... 10 am & 3 pm  
Gold Rush Pairs (each player less than 750 MP) ..... 10 am & 3 pm  
Afternoon Side Game Series (4<sup>th</sup> of 4 sessions) ..... 3 pm

### **Sunday, November 12**

Stratiflighted A/X Swiss Teams (A=5000+ X=0-5000) ..... 10 am & TBA  
Stratiflighted B/C/D Swiss Teams (each player less than 2000 MP) ..... 10 am & TBA  
299er Swiss Teams (each player less than 300 MP) ..... 10 am & TBA

### ***Tournament Co-chairs***

#### **Lorna Johnson**

905-894-4056 cell 905-991-3009  
[bridgeplayer64@gmail.com](mailto:bridgeplayer64@gmail.com)

#### **Kathy Morrison**

289-820-8013  
[kmorrison37@icloud.com](mailto:kmorrison37@icloud.com)

### ***Partnership Chair***

#### **Janice Upenieks**

416-435-3870  
[janice@upenieks.com](mailto:janice@upenieks.com)

### ***I/N Chair***

#### **Allan Utz**

289-273-2727  
[allanutz@gmail.com](mailto:allanutz@gmail.com)

### **Stratification**

**Stratified events** are stratified based on average MP holding of pair or team.

**Stratiflighted events** are flighted based on highest ranked player.

#### **Gold Rush Pairs & Teams**

A=300-750 B=100-300 C=0-100

#### **199er Pairs**

A=100-199 B=50-100 C=0-50

#### **Daylight Open Pairs**

A=5000+ B=2000-5000 C=0-2500

#### **Single Session Swiss Team & Side Games**

A=2000+ B=500-2000 C=0-500

#### **Stratiflighted Open Pairs & Swiss Teams**

A/X A=5000+ X=0-5000

B=1000-2000 C=500-1000 D=0-500

### **Handicapping**

KO Events with only one bracket may be handicapped.

Join the ACBL before or at the Tournament and avoid the \$4.00 Non-Member Fee

For additional tournament details visit our website at:

[www.unit166.ca](http://www.unit166.ca) – Event Schedule

# 35th Annual Festival of Bridge

# Stratford

## November 17th to 19th - 2017

### Friday November 17 th

Youth Bridge Pairs: 10:00 am  
Stratified Open Pairs:  
2:00 pm & 7:00 pm  
Non Life Master Pairs:  
2:00 pm & 7:00 pm

### Saturday November 18 th

Stratified Open Pairs (2  
Sessions):  
10:00 am & 2:30 pm  
(Single session Entries Welcome)  
Non Life Master Pairs:  
10:00 am & 2:30 pm  
0 to 99s Pairs:  
10:00 am & 2:30 pm

### Sunday November 19 th

Stratflighted Swiss Teams  
(2 Sessions):  
10:00 am & 2:30 pm  
Non Life Master Swiss Teams  
(Single Sessions):  
10:00 am & 2:30 pm

### Venue

The Festival Inn  
1144 Ontario St.  
Stratford, ON N5A 6Z3  
519-273-1150  
[www.festivalinnstratford.com](http://www.festivalinnstratford.com)  
Special Hotel Rate:  
\$109 + taxes per night

### Stratification by Average:

A: 2000+ X: 0 - 2000  
B: 1000 - 2000 C: 500 - 1000  
Non Life Masters:  
A: 300 to 500 B: 100 to 300 C:  
0 - 99  
Adjustments at the discretion  
of the DIC

Lunch Available on site  
Special rate for players  
with 0 - 20  
Masterpoints - \$5

### Tournament Chair

Ross Driedger  
226-239-2860  
[ross@earz.ca](mailto:ross@earz.ca)  
Director In Charge  
Joel Shapiro



## Tournament Trail

Page numbers (p.) refer to ads in this issue. An asterisk (\*) means tournament information was in the previous issue. Information is subject to change - check [www.unit166.ca](http://www.unit166.ca) or [www.acbl.org](http://www.acbl.org) for up-to-date information.

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#### AUGUST

- 19-20 St. Catharines 299er,  
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26-27 Goderich, p. 39

#### SEPTEMBER

- 2-4 Toronto, p. 40  
9-10 St. Thomas, p. 41  
12-17 Orillia Regional, p. 42  
15-17 Buffalo  
23-24 Caledon East, p. 44  
30-1 Chatham, p. 46

#### OCTOBER

- 3-9 Ottawa Regional  
14-15 Collingwood  
17-22 Buffalo Regional  
28-29 Oshawa, p. 47

#### NOVEMBER

- 5 NAP District Finals, p. 48  
7-12 Niagara Falls  
Regional, p. 49  
17-19 Stratford, p. 51  
23-Dec. 3 NABC San Diego

### 2018

#### JANUARY

- 5-7 Toronto  
19-21 Buffalo  
19-21 Kingston  
27-28 London  
27-Feb 2 Bermuda Regional

#### FEBRUARY

- 9-11 St. Catharines

#### MARCH

- 8-18 Philadelphia NABC  
10 Burlington 499er  
27-Apr. 1 Toronto Regional  
30 GNT District 2 Finals

#### APRIL

- 13-15 Buffalo  
16-22 Gatlinburg Regional  
20-22 North Bay  
28-29 Brampton

#### MAY

- 15-21 Kingston Regional  
19-27 Canadian Bridge  
Championships, Montreal

**Deadline for the Winter 2017 Kibitzer: Nov. 1, 2017**

*The Kibitzer online*

Andy Stark | [andy.kibitzer@gmail.com](mailto:andy.kibitzer@gmail.com)

107 Kent Rd., Toronto, ON M4L 2X5, ph. 647 530 1360