



PLAY AND LEARN BRIDGE IN A WELCOMING ENVIRONMENT

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ALERT – September 13, 2021

Top Online Master Point Earners at our Club

Contributed by Allen Pengelly

This table lists the individuals who have earned the most master points at our club in each of three master point bands since the beginning of August.

Open Players			499er Players			99er Players		
	Name	MP		Name	MP		Name	MP
1	David Baker	32.38	1	Salvatore Pace	12.24	1	Charlene Schell	4.77
2	Colin Harrington	14.91	2	Brian Kirkconnell	10.54	2	Joani Horvath	4.20
3	Mike Peng	13.11	3	Shelley Metcalfe	10.08	3	Aggie Udvari	4.07
4	Margot Stockie	13.02	4	Barbara Arthur	9.83	4	Joe Blake	3.31
5	Cindy Mahn	12.57	5	Suzanne Edwards	9.44	5	Reinhold Kauk	3.28
6	Ted Boyd	11.51	6	Roy Dandyk	8.04	6	Anita Hanson	3.11
7	Robert Griffiths	10.82	7	Barbara Lindsay	7.91	7	Noah Pace	3.00
8	Moira Hollingsworth	9.78	8	Kathy Russell	6.70	8	Belinda Burt	2.87
9	Liz McDowell	9.31	9	Ron Lawrence	6.64	9	Pamela Knight	2.82
10	Neil Jeffrey	9.26	10	John Kip	5.92	10	Steven Allen	2.63
11	David Longstaff	8.80	11	David Embury	5.76	11	Marg Sanderson	2.60
12	Tom Ramsay	8.41	12	Sue Voll	5.29	12	Barb Neibert	2.58
13	Bruce Roberts	8.36	13	Jim Dalgliesh	5.15	13	Elinor Girouard	2.58
14	John Vandergrift	7.38	14	Cheryl Kip	5.09	14	Gordon Hunter	2.40
15	Sandy Graham	6.99	15	Patricia McLaughlin	4.58	15	Brian Gaber	2.34
16	Stephen Young	6.35	15	Patrick McLaughlin	4.58	15	Rick Arthur	2.34
17	Ronald Sayle	6.27	17	Stephen Nantes	4.53	17	Kim Wakeford	2.17
18	John Hanemaayer	6.06	18	Vivian McLellan	4.46	18	Susan Durance	2.10
19	Adrian Record	5.88	18	Judy Widdecombe	4.46	19	Elaine Doyle	2.06
20	Malkin Howes	5.68	20	Margie Whyte	4.29	20	Virginia Alviano	2.04
21	John Moser	5.58	21	Grant Roberts	4.21	21	Molly Worden	2.02
22	Kandis Smith	5.33	22	Betty Wendling	4.17	22	Don O'Bright	1.98
23	Dianne Aves	4.99	23	Bev Hitchman	4.06	22	Richard Wehrle	1.98
24	Scott Hills	4.82	24	Lori Cole	4.05	24	Debbie Miethig	1.91
25	Pat McMillan	4.39	25	Kevin Latter	3.97	25	John Aldridge	1.87

Notice of Annual General Meeting

Please mark your calendar and plan to attend our annual general meeting on Monday, September 27 at 11:00 am. The meeting will be held via Zoom.

This important meeting gives our current members an opportunity to learn about the club's activities over the last year, including information about our financials. As well, club members vote in the members of the board of directors.

Pre-registration is required. Email [Joan Lawson](mailto:Joan.Lawson) for the link.

Thursday Night 19er Game

For the last couple of weeks, there haven't been enough players for our Thursday night 19er game to be a go. Understandable, it's been a great summer.

But now it's time to get serious about bridge! If you have fewer than 20 master points, we would really like to see you out to our game this coming Thursday night. We really want to be able to continue to offer this game!!!!

FUNNY OXYMORONS

FOUND MISSING
OPEN SECRET
SMALL CROWD
ACT NATURALLY
FULLY EMPTY
PRETTY UGLY
ORIGINAL COPY
ONLY CHOICE
LIQUID GAS

AND THE MOTHER OF THEM ALL

SOCIAL DISTANCING



Rookie Ramblings

Bits and Pieces of Childhood Bridge *Recalled by George Pepall*

The first puzzle to solve was what a bridge has to do with a card game. No one I knew thought it important to know, so once I realized that it had nothing to do with my Meccano set, nor bodies of moving water that needed permanent crossings, I thought about it less concretely and came up with bridging the gap between the person across the table and me. I've been trying to do that ever since, but so do we all - whether in bridge or in human relations.

But just what was it about this game that caused some young students to stay up all night? That sent seniors into paroxysms of fury at their partners? That made people curse like navy knaves? Cribbage? Rummy? Hearts? I was exposed to them all, but this game took these behaviours to another level. If I just kept playing, maybe I'd figure it out.

Next, what to do with the cards? I was never an adept shuffler, or dealer for that matter, but who cares when you're playing duplicate bridge? Chalk one up for duplicate boards and for BBO. If I could shuffle and deal adequately, I might have played poker instead...but then I'd be a whole lot poorer and what youngster wants to be that?

In my case, family had a lot to do with getting me started, especially my grandmother. It was a poorly-kept secret that Ethel and her friends whiled away many an afternoon à la table de Bridge. She couldn't resist trying out a hand or two of play on me (no bidding, thank you!). But all was not well when she reached out to seize my heart king with her heart ace. I knew a lot more about kings than aces from reading historical novels and held a firm view that kings had real power and strength. I knew nothing of aces. Even Easley Blackwood had to invent a convention to ask about aces. (That's Easley Senior. Easley Junior. was a famed musician and composer, but not famed enough to have a convention named after him.)

My father rarely spoke of his WWII experiences, but one scenario he painted happily for our family had him off duty on the deck of the Mauretania II as she proceeded from Halifax to Portsmouth Harbour to deliver her human cargo for active service in Europe in 1941. Allegedly the crossing was so uneventful that the off-duty officers played bridge on the open deck on the way over. No U-boat dared interrupt the rubbers, nor risked coming within range of the Mauretania II's protective weaponry.

I also remember my father being phoned in our cottage community at some ghastly hour of the night to come over and make a fourth next door.

Next Time: Anecdotes from Bridge in Early Adulthood

Time You Learned Your Lessons!

While we wait to see when our club will re-open, amid all the uncertainty one thing we know for sure that the September lessons will all be online. The uncertainty may be preventing people from committing, or maybe it's the nice weather, but autumn is here and **for sure all of our September lessons will be online**. If we don't open in October (as it's looking now), most of the October lessons and courses will be postponed until we are open, and a few more online lessons will be scheduled for October. Watch this space.

Don't be shy - please sign up for [beginning](#) or [advancing](#) lessons. Click [here](#) for information on how to pay. Herewith a list of the September **online** lessons.



Learn Bridge in a Day (workshop)

Beginner

Saturday, September 11, 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

\$25

Instructor: Sue Peterson

Current Enrollment: 8 (Room for more)



Beginners 1 (five-lesson course)

Beginner

Thursday nights, 6:30 pm – 9:00 pm, September 16 – October 14

\$75 & \$10 text

Instructor: Al Pengelly

Current Enrollment: 5 (Room for more)



Hold Up Plays in No Trump (workshop)

Intermediate

Monday, September 13, 9:30 am – noon

\$20 for members/ \$25 for non-members

Instructor: Malkin Howes

Current Enrollment: 1 (AKA USE IT OR LOSE IT)



The Law of Total Tricks – The Most Effective Tool in Competitive Bidding (workshop)

Novice

Wednesday, September 22, 9:30 am – noon

\$20 for members/ \$25 for non-members

Instructor: Stephen Carpenter

Current Enrollment: 1 (AKA USE IT OR LOSE IT)



Lose Your Trick When It's Safe

Contributed by Robert Griffiths

Board 12					
South Deals					♠ Q 9
E-W Vul					♥ A J 2
					♦ 4 3 2
					♣ J 8 6 4 3
♠ K 10 6 5 4					♠ J 3 2
♥ 10 4					♥ K Q 9 6 3
♦ 7					♦ K Q 8 5
♣ Q 10 9 7 2					♣ 5
					♠ A 8 7
					♥ 8 7 5
					♦ A J 10 9 6
					♣ A K
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>		
					1 N
Pass	2 N	Pass	3 N		
All pass					

South dealt and opened 1NT, North raised to 2NT, and South bid the no trump game on the strength of his five nice diamonds.

West led the ♠5 and South thought it over. Before he could realistically assess his chances, he had to try the ♠Q at Trick 1. Once it won the trick, he had reasonable hopes of four diamond tricks, two clubs, one heart and two spades.

At Trick 2, South led a small diamond to his jack and was surprised when it won.

What should he do now? Should he try to arrange another diamond finesse?

To make his contract, South needs to set up the diamonds, and in order to set up his diamonds, he needs to lose a diamond trick. And he needs to lose the diamond while he still has control of both major suits.

If the diamond split is 3-2, there is no problem, as ace and another diamond in any order will clear the suit. But if the split is 4-1, the only way to handle the suit for one loser is to play the ♦10 at Trick 3. East can win this trick, but the heart entry in dummy will allow South to finesse East's other honour to bring in the suit for one loser.

South has to ensure that he loses his diamond before he uses the ♥A, his only stopper in that suit as well as his only entry to finesse the diamonds.

If West were the opponent with four diamonds, the situation is hopeless. Let's not worry about that one.

👉 If the cards have to lie a certain way in order for you to make your contract, assume they lie that way.



Dear David

Bidding to the Limit

This is a continuation of my previous article that talked about bidding to the limit of your trump holding. For example, if partner opens a weak 2♠ and you have three spades, bid to the three-level (nine-trick level). If you have four spades, bid to the four-level (ten-trick level). This article is about what level you should open at if you have a pre-emptive hand. With a six-card suit, open at the two-level. With seven, the three-level. With eight, the four-level.

Sometimes, however, you might feel that your hand is not good enough to bid at the proper level. Let's say you are vulnerable and you hold: Q876542 5 4 A972. My advice is either to open 3♠.... or pass! Opening 2♠ makes it too easy for the opposition to come into the auction.

D 13	N North ♠ 964 ♥ KQ6 ♦ AJ4 ♣ A972	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>W</th> <th>N</th> <th>E</th> <th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1♣</td> <td>P</td> <td>1♥</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>2♠</td> <td>X</td> <td>P</td> <td>3♣</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>3♠</td> <td>P</td> <td>3NT</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	W	N	E	S	1♣	P	1♥		2♠	X	P	3♣	P	3♠	P	3NT	P	P	P	
	W	N	E	S																		
1♣	P	1♥																				
2♠	X	P	3♣																			
P	3♠	P	3NT																			
P	P	P																				
W West ♠ KQJ10875 ♥ 73 ♦ 932 ♣ 5	E East ♠ 2 ♥ J942 ♦ KQ875 ♣ QJ4																					
	S South ♠ A3 ♥ A1085 ♦ 106 ♣ K10863	3NT S NS: 0 EW: 0																				

The dynamics of pre-emption are the same when you are in a competitive auction. West's failure to bid 3♠ gave North/South room to investigate. The double showed three-card heart support and 3♠ asked for a spade stopper. 3NT produced ten tricks and a top board. If West had bid 3♠ initially, South would have had to take an immediate shot at 3NT or bid beyond 3NT which will not lead to a happy outcome.

Four hands later, I had a similar problem.

D 17		N North ♠ 6 ♥ 873 ♦ AK973 ♣ KQJ2	W N E S 1♦ 3♥ X P 4♣ P 5♦ P P P
W West ♠ KQJ9852 ♥ 9 ♦ 64 ♣ 1083		S South ♠ A1043 ♥ K5 ♦ QJ105 ♣ A97	E East ♠ 7 ♥ AQJ10642 ♦ 82 ♣ 654
		5♦ N NS: 0 EW: 0	

The worry of only having one stopper in hearts caused me to make a negative double, trying for a spade fit. This caused us to get to the inferior 5♦ contract and an average result. If East had pre-empted with only 2♥, it would allow me to try for spades and then bid 3NT over 3♣.

Bid 'em up!



For Intermediate *Jake's*
Play a Bad Hand Well

#39

♠ J 10 6
 ♥ 8
 ♦ Q J 8 7 2
 ♣ K J 10 2

N
W E
S

♠ 9 7 3 2
 ♥ K 9 7 2
 ♦ A
 ♣ A 8 4 3

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	Pass	Pass	1 ♣
Pass	1 ♦	Pass	1 N
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	Pass
Dbl	Pass	2 ♥	Pass
Pass	3 ♣	All pass	

West started out by cashing his ace, king, and queen of spades. East followed suit twice and then discarded a small heart (asking for a heart lead). West obliged, leading the ♥5 to East's ♥A, whereupon East led back a small heart. I played my ♥7 and West played his ♥Q, which I ruffed with dummy's ♣2. Next, I led the ♦Q from the board, which was covered by East's ♦K and my ♦A. Now what?

SOLUTION

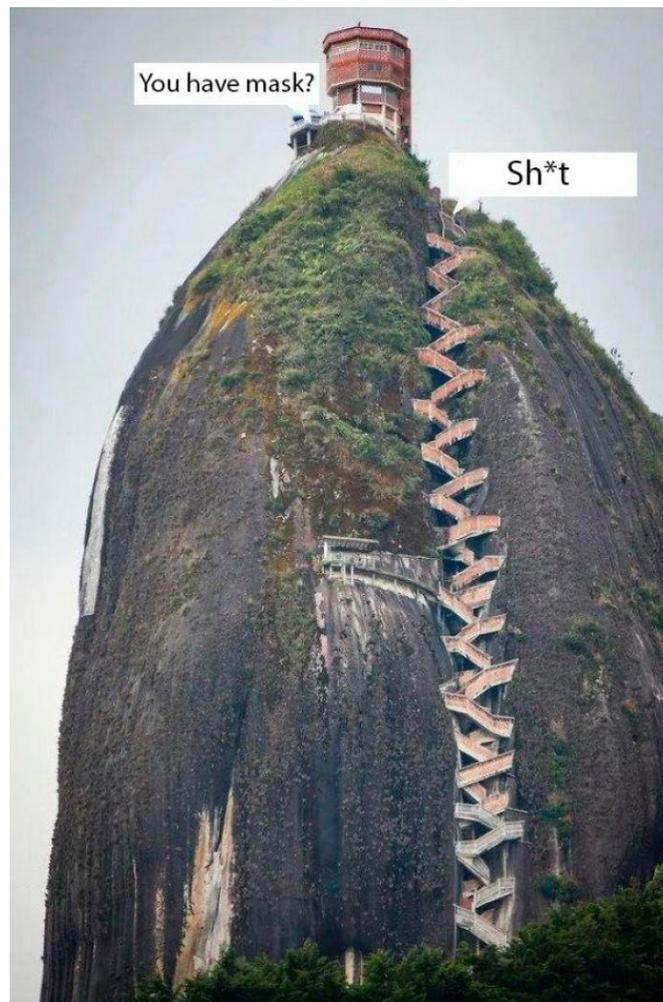
You've lost four tricks, meaning you're tight (can't lose any more tricks). But you still have two potential losers - a heart and the ♣Q. You can eventually discard your heart loser on the ♦J, so the key to making your contract is finding the ♣Q.

Normally with this layout, you would play your ace first and then finesse West for the queen, but is it right in this situation? West has already showed up with 11 HCP (♠AKQ and ♥Q). If he also has the ♣Q, that would mean that he started with 13 HCP and would probably have got into the bidding. It thus seems likely that East has the ♣Q. Therefore, you eschew normal procedure and instead cash dummy's ♣K at Trick 6 and float dummy's ♣J at Trick 7. If East covers the ♣J (as he should with this layout), you can take your ♣A and play a small club toward dummy's ♣10 to mop up the last outstanding trump.

Here is the full deal.

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

All you need in order to be a good bridge player is to be able to count to 13.



Picnic Reminder

We're looking forward to visiting with our bridge player friends at our picnic this coming Sunday (September 12) from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm on the lawn in front of our club. Please bring your own food, drinks, and chair. If it rains or is really cold, we will cancel.

International Fund Weekend

This weekend (September 11 and 12) is the ACBL's International Fund Weekend, meaning that double black master points will be awarded to those who do well. There is a \$2 surcharge.

Coming Virtual Events

- Friday, September 10, 12:30 pm, **99er game (20-22 boards) \$5**
- Friday, September 10, 1:00 pm, **499er game (24 boards) \$5**
- Friday, September 10, 7:00 pm, **open game (24 boards) \$5**
- **Saturday, September 11, 10:00 am, Learn Bridge in a Day \$25**
- **Saturday, September 11, 1:00 pm, 199er game (20-22 boards) \$7 (2X MP)**
- **Sunday, September 12, 10:00 am, 499er game, (18 boards) \$7 (2X MP)**
- Sunday, September 12, 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm, **Picnic**
- **Monday, September 13, 9:30 am, Hold Up Plays in No Trump workshop**
- Monday, September 13, 12:30 pm, **49er game (18 boards @ 8 minutes) \$5 (2X MP)**
- Monday, September 13, 1:00 pm, **open game (24 boards) \$5 (2X MP)**
- Monday, September 13, 7:00 pm, **499er game (24 boards) \$5 (2X MP)**
- Tuesday, September 14, 12:30 pm, **199er game (20-22 boards) \$5**
- Tuesday, September 14, 1:00 pm, **open game (24 boards) \$5**
- Wednesday, September 15, 1:00 pm, **499er game (24 boards) \$5**
- Wednesday, September 15, 6:45 pm, **199er game (20-22 boards) \$5**
- Wednesday, September 15, 7:00 pm, **open game (24 boards) \$5**
- Thursday, September 16, 9:30 am, **99er game (20-22 boards) \$5**
- Thursday, September 16 1:00 pm, **open game (24 boards) \$5**
- Thursday, September 16, 6:30 pm, **19er game \$5**
- **Thursday, September 16, 6:30 pm, Beginner 1 lessons begin**
- Thursday, September 16, 7:00 pm, **999er game (24 boards) \$5**
- Monday, September 27, 11:00 am, **Annual General Meeting via Zoom**

If you would like to play in a particular game but lack a partner that day, you can either:

- ♠ Log in to [Pianola](#), click on Partner Finder, and create a Partner Finder Advert. This needs to be done at least a few hours in advance of the game. OR
- ♠ Log in to the game in question and register yourself on the Partnership Desk tab.

If you are looking for a regular partner, contact [Cheryl Kip](#), our membership lead.

We have fun in **spades**.
We play with all our **hearts**.
We treat our members like **diamonds**.
We want to keep the 19er game alive at our **club**.