



PLAY AND LEARN BRIDGE IN A WELCOMING ENVIRONMENT

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## ALERT – August 9, 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 July.*

Open Players			499er Players			99er Players		
	Name	MP		Name	MP		Name	MP
1	David Baker	31.43	1	Stephen Nantes	18.21	1	Joan Slover	6.53
2	Colin Harrington	18.00	2	Brian Kirkconnell	17.21	2	Reinhold Kauk	5.09
3	Margot Stockie	16.86	3	Ted Kennedy	12.70	3	Anita Hanson	4.74
4	Mike Peng	16.30	4	Barbara Arthur	11.28	4	Joani Horvath	4.25
5	Moira Hollingsworth	15.97	5	Ron Lawrence	10.99	5	Noah Pace	4.22
6	Liz McDowell	15.30	6	Casey Baron	10.60	6	Barb Neibert	4.03
7	Cindy Mahn	14.87	7	Suzanne Edwards	10.56	7	Susan Durance	3.95
8	Ted Boyd	14.87	8	Salvatore Pace	9.33	8	Sue McDonald	3.88
9	David Longstaff	12.28	9	Shelley Metcalfe	8.99	9	Charlene Schell	3.85
10	Dianne Aves	12.10	10	Jim Dalglish	7.02	10	Elinor Girouard	3.70
11	Tom Ramsay	11.25	11	John Hanemaayer	6.13	11	Molly Worden	3.64
12	Bruce Roberts	10.16	12	Kathy Russell	6.06	12	Pat McDonald	3.53
13	Neil Jeffrey	9.48	13	Robert Walker	5.70	13	Jim Fox	3.42
14	Robert Griffiths	8.75	14	Roy Dandyk	5.67	14	Belinda Burt	3.39
15	John Moser	7.96	15	Kevin Latter	5.42	15	Steven Allen	3.31
16	Peggy Pearson	7.66	16	Lynda Burnett	5.28	15	Joe Blake	3.31
17	Pat McMillan	7.40	17	Jack Cole	4.89	17	Nancy Cattanach	3.20
18	Adrian Record	6.19	18	Sue Voll	4.83	18	Kim Wakeford	3.18
19	John Vandergrift	6.05	19	Jackie Logie	4.81	19	Debbie Miethig	3.04
20	Neil Coburn	5.84	20	Barbara Lindsay	4.77	20	ML Benjamins	3.01
21	Scott Hills	5.78	21	David Embury	4.68	21	Julia Prendiville	2.86
22	Mary McClelland	5.76	22	Renate Boucher	4.57	22	Audrey Cook	2.83
23	Sandy Graham	5.64	23	Jim Veitch	4.50	23	Elisabeth Graham	2.80
24	Malkin Howes	5.62	24	Marlene Dopko	4.31	24	Ed Murphy	2.50
25	Edith Ferber	5.16	25	Bev Hitchman	3.95	25	Valirie Binkle	2.35

## A Warm Welcome to our club's latest member

- Jaye Stief
- 



### Rookie Ramblings – Re-Opening Wobbles

*Contributed by Sue Moses*

The prospect of playing face-to-face bridge is scaring me! I know Covid and meeting people again is scary, but that is the least of my worries. Let me explain.

First, lately I have only played bridge in my PJ's. Do you think people will mind if I show up with my housecoat over my PJ's? I would be completely decent, but really? I have to get up and get dressed before playing? Isn't that asking a lot?

Besides, I have been eating my breakfast, lunch, dinner, and snacks while I play, so of course I have gained weight and nothing fits me. So, when I finally find something that fits, looks ho-hum, and drive to the club, I will be looking for something to eat.

Also with all the time between rounds, I am accustomed to running to the bathroom, washing the dishes, checking for mail, taking out the garbage, etc. You understand, sometimes there are nine minutes to fill as well as the times I am dummy. So, playing in person - if you see me cleaning up the kitchen, making tea, selecting a puzzle, or just wandering around when I should be putting out dummy's cards, please gently direct me back to my table.

Then there are the cards! A few of us got together and played a few hands in person recently, and I was overwhelmed with what I had to do with my cards. Deal!!? Sort the cards? Why don't they just move on their own? Play each card? At one point, I totally lost what was happening because I had to do so much with those cards physically!

Where is the history button so I can check how everyone else is doing? How did they make that and I didn't? Let me just check! What do you mean I can't see how each table played a hand? How will I survive until the end of the game!!

Now I know this sounds like a lot to worry about, not whine about, but these aren't even the most important problems. I actually yell at my partner! My neighbours think I am a crazy person now! I sit quietly until I yell, "The 8 was good!" "No, that was Bergen!" "Great! No way I am making this!" "Why? Why?" And these are the polite words!

I know I am not alone in this because I hear yelling coming out of other bridge players' houses. I talk to myself out loud now too! "7,8,10, I need the jack to fall!" "Lead a club, come on a club!" I have completely lost my poker face! This is my biggest worry!

How can I now readjust to sitting quietly when my partner leaves me in Bergen! I know there is zero tolerance, but maybe for the first few times we play F2F the directors might show some tolerance - or I can well imagine all the empty tables as so many people get sent home.

(I know a few of you will admit to these worries too!)

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### Sympathy Cards

As a club, we like to send out cards to our members who are going through tough times.

Please let [Cheryl White](#) know about the situation and she will be more than happy to send out a sympathy card on everyone's behalf.

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## Virtual Tournaments

*Contributed by Ted Boyd, Unit 249 Tournament Co-ordinator*

In a normal year, Unit 249 (South West Ontario) offers nine sectional tournaments across the unit, as well as one regional tournament every other year. With the advent of the Covid pandemic and the closure of all its clubs, the unit cancelled all sanctions for its tournaments until January of 2022. This was in keeping with the wishes of the tournament coordinators who were insistent that they would not organize a face-to-face tournament if there were any danger of players becoming ill.

Instead, the ACBL approved registered bridge clubs to offer online games to its members, as identified by the club. Since a club receives 80% of the fees collected, it wasn't long before a number of clubs started advertising across North America for ACBL members to join their games – at which point the ACBL moved to restrict eligible players to their local club or a club at which they had played in the last calendar year.

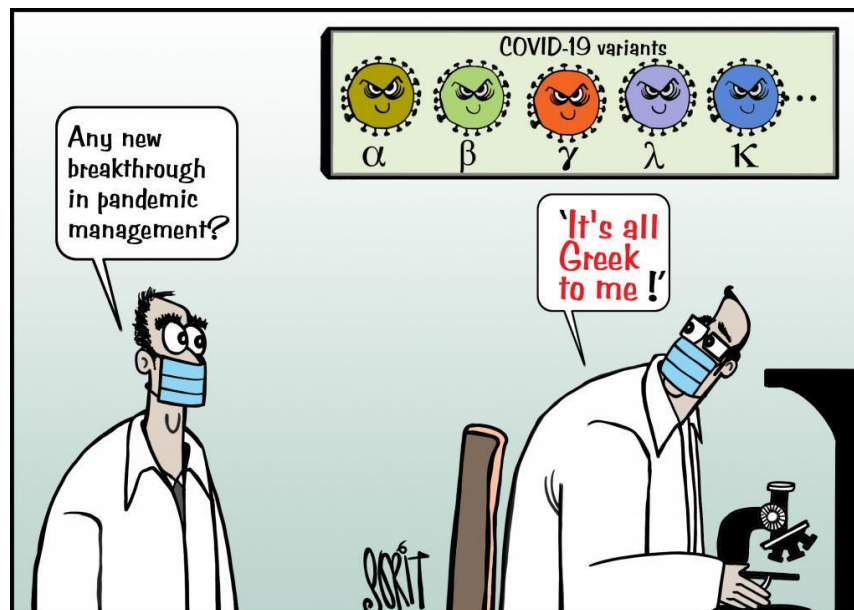
Subsequently, the ACBL (as encouraged by our unit) approved unit-wide games that would simulate unit-wide sectional tournaments, allowing all members of a unit to participate. Our unit then invited its clubs that were past sponsors of sectional tournaments to use the traditional dates for their sectional tournaments to offer online unit-wide games. To date, Guelph, Kitchener, and London have done so. All proceeds accrue to the local club and are designed to help the clubs survive the pandemic.

This weekend, **the Tillsonburg Club is offering online unit-wide games** for all of the members in our unit. Masterpoints are awarded as usual, and in addition cash prizes are awarded to the winners. You can register by going on BBO and clicking on virtual games, North America, and the appropriate game with your partner.

The Tillsonburg games are as follows.

- Saturday Pairs, 9:30 am, 0–500
- Saturday Pairs, 9:45 am, Open
- Saturday Pairs, 1:30 pm, 0–500
- Saturday Pairs, 1:45 pm, Open
- You can play either or both sessions.
- Sunday Swiss Teams, 9:30 am, 0–750
- Sunday Swiss Teams, 9:45 pm, Open
- Sunday Swiss Teams, 1:30 pm, 0–750
- Sunday Swiss Teams, 1:45 pm, Open

Unlike most Swiss team games, you can play either or both Swiss sessions.



**FOR INTERMEDIATE PLAYERS**



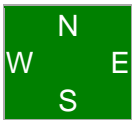
**Cashing Out**

*Contributed by Robert Griffiths*

Playing in a pairs game, your hand is: ♠A643 ♥95 ♦Q6 ♣AKJ104, and your RHO opens 1♥. You make a take-out double and LHO bids 3♣, showing shortness in clubs and heart support. Partner passes and RHO Jumps to 4♥, which is passed out.

You lead the ♣A which wins. Dummy has: ♠KJ98 ♥J63 ♦KJ87 ♣2. What next?

**Board 10**  
 East Deals  
 Both Vul

♠ A 6 4 3 ♥ 9 5 ♦ Q 6 ♣ A K J 10 4		♠ K J 9 8 ♥ J 6 3 ♦ A K J 8 7 ♣ 2  ♠ 10 7 5 ♥ 8 ♦ 10 4 2 ♣ Q 9 8 7 5 3  ♠ Q 2 ♥ A K Q 10 7 4 2 ♦ 9 5 3 ♣ 6
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<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
		Pass	1 ♥
Dbl	3 ♣	Pass	4 ♥
All pass			

It is rare that a defender can tell at Trick 1 that there is almost no hope of defeating the contract and that he had better cash whatever tricks he can, but this time it should be clear. You can see 27 HCP between your hand and dummy, while Declarer opened the bidding and then jumped to game.

Your partner seems to have virtually nothing. It looks as if Declarer will be able to win at least six hearts and five diamonds, and maybe even get a club ruff.

There is a very real danger that if you don't take your ♠A now, you will lose it.

This hand was played at an ACBL tournament. Almost every table played the hand in 4 (or 5) hearts. About a third of the West players didn't realize that their second ace was likely to disappear if they didn't grab it quickly.

Those who simply cashed their two aces in the first two tricks scored about 70%. Those who played anything other than the second black ace at Trick 2 earned a poor score.

** You've got to know when to hold them and when to fold them.**

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**FOR OPEN PLAYERS**



# Dear David

## Elimination and End Play

This is also known as a strip and end play. Just to be clear, I didn't make up these designations.

<b>W</b> West	W	N	E	S	<b>E</b> East
♠A86	1♦	1♠	2♠	Pass	♠53
♥AQ9	3NT	Pass	5♦	Pass	♥532
♦Q965	Pass	Pass			♦AKJ732
♣AK10					♣J2

The 2♠ bid showed a good diamond raise, and East's ill-considered 5♦ bid closed the auction. North led the ♠K, which was allowed to win. He continued with the ♠2, and South followed suit. This contract is now 100% secure. Declarer draws two rounds of trump (three if necessary), leads a club to the ace, trumps a spade, club to the king, trumps a club, and leads a heart. This leads to the following position.

No matter how the heart suit is distributed, the only thing Declarer is required to do is play a higher heart than the one South plays.

- If South plays one lower than the 9, declarer plays the 9. And if North wins the trick, he must lead back a heart or a black card which allows Declarer to trump in one hand and throw away a heart loser from the other hand.
- If South plays the ten or jack on the first heart, declarer plays the Queen, and North is in the same situation – either lead into the A9 of hearts or present a ruff/sluff to declarer.

No matter how you arrange the heart suit in the North/South hands, there is no way for the defense to take more than one trick in the suit.

This hand was perfect for this "coup". What if things weren't quite so perfect?

♥K107

♥AQ6      ♥532

♥J984

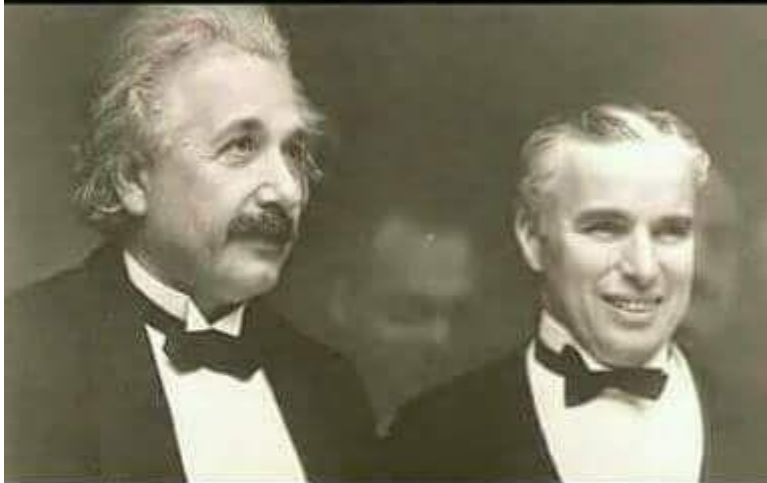
When the first heart is led, South has a choice of four cards to play. If he sleepily plays the 4, declarer will play the 6 and the defense is finished. Even if South plays a heart higher than West's small card, it costs declarer nothing to play his small card. Maybe North will be forced to win the trick. Maybe South will win the trick and decide to give Declarer a ruff/sluff. Maybe South will win the trick and lead another heart, in which case Declarer is no worse off than before.

Think about all your options before you commit.

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## When Albert Einstein Met Charlie Chaplin

 ThinkingHumanity.com



**ALBERT EINSTEIN:** -What I admire most about your art, is its universality. You do not say a word, and yet, the world understands you!

**CHARLIE CHAPLIN:** -It's true, but your fame is even greater! The world admires you, when nobody understands you!



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

#34

♠ Q 10 6 5  
 ♥ A 10 2  
 ♦ 10 3  
 ♣ K 8 6 5



♠ J 8 4  
 ♥ Q 6 3  
 ♦ A Q J 9 7 6 2  
 ♣ —

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
		2 ♥	3 ♦

All pass

West led the ♥8. Plan the play.

**SOLUTION**

You probably have four losers: two spades, one heart (♥K), and one diamond (♦K), meaning that you're a favourite to make your contract - unless something unexpected happens. When you're sitting in the catbird seat like this, you should start thinking about what might go wrong.

From the bidding, it seems almost certain that the ♥8 lead is a singleton and that East holds the ♥K. If this is the case and by ducking you allow East to take the first trick, East will then give his partner a ruff. You therefore need to take the opening lead with dummy's ♥A.

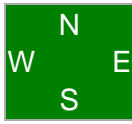
Then, at Trick 2 play the ♦10 to tempt a cover from East. But even if East doesn't cover, eschew the finesse and play the ♦A from your hand. Next, lead your ♦Q. While it is true that if East happened to hold the ♦K, you could have finessed and made an overtrick, it is also true that if West happened to hold the ♦K, he would take the trick, pass the lead to East by leading a spade, and be rewarded with a heart ruff.

By playing the ace of diamonds and another diamond in that order, you greatly reduce the chances that West will still have a trump to ruff in hearts.

This line of play will fail only when West holds more than two diamonds. However, the odds of West holding three (rule out singleton king) or four diamonds are only 17.5%, meaning that you have an 82.5% chance to succeed.

Here is the full deal.

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



As you can see, once you have drawn trumps and regained the lead, you will be able to enter the dummy to lead a heart toward your ♥Q and get the nine tricks you need for your contract.

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## Obvious Signs that Humanity is Doomed





## Coming Virtual Events

- Friday, August 6, 12:30 pm, **99er game (20-22 boards) \$5**
- Friday, August 6, 1:00 pm, **499er game (24 boards) \$5**
- Friday, August 6, 7:00 pm, **open game (24 boards) \$5**
- Saturday, August 7 and Sunday, August 8, [Tillsonburg Unit 249 Special Games](#)
- Saturday, August 7, 1:00 pm, **199er game (20-22 boards) \$5**
- Sunday, August 8, 10:00 am, **499er game, (18 boards) \$5**
- Monday, August 9, 12:30 pm, **49er game (18 boards @ 8 minutes) \$5**
- Monday, August 9, 1:00 pm, **open game (24 boards) \$5**
- Monday, August 9, 7:00 pm, **499er game (24 boards) \$5**
- Tuesday, August 10, 12:30 pm, **199er game (20-22 boards) \$5**
- Tuesday, August 10, 1:00 pm, **open game (24 boards) \$5**
- Wednesday, August 11, 1:00 pm, **499er game (24 boards) \$5**
- Wednesday, August 11, 6:45 pm, **199er game (20-22 boards) \$5**
- Wednesday, August 11, 7:00 pm, **open game (24 boards) \$5**
- Thursday, August 12, 9:30 am, **99er game (20-22 boards) \$5**
- Thursday, August 12 1:00 pm, **open game (24 boards) \$5**
- Thursday, August 12, 6:30 pm, **19er game \$5**
- Thursday, August 12, 7:00 pm, **999er game (24 boards) \$5**

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 offer 17 games a week at our **club**.