



PLAY AND LEARN BRIDGE IN A WELCOMING ENVIRONMENT

[Our Website](#)

## ALERT – February 27, 2023

Click [here](#) to access our regular game schedule.

### Looking Ahead

- ♥ Both today's games (Friday, February 24) will be **Club Championship games** (extra masterpoints, no extra cost).
- ♥ The Thursday morning BBO 99er game is now the **Thursday morning BBO 199er game**.
- ♥ [Barrie Sectional Tournament](#), Saturday March 4 – Sunday, March 5.
- ♥ Effective March 9, there will be a **f2f 499er game on Thursday afternoons**.
- ♥ All of our f2f games during the week of March 21-24 will be **Membership Games**. Membership games award extra masterpoints at no extra cost – but only to paid-up ACBL members (membership in our club is irrelevant). Please note that *both* partners need to be paid-up ACBL members. If you are not already an ACBL member, you can remedy that [here](#) (please be sure to mention our club so that we can earn more up-graded club championship games for our members).
- ♥ [Spring Sectional – Buffalo Bridge Center, Amherst, NY](#). Friday, March 31 – Sunday, April 2.
- ♥ [Toronto Easter Regional](#). Tuesday, April 4 – Sunday, April 9.
- ♥ **Barbara Seagram** will be at our club on Wednesday, May 3. Hold this date!



### Calling All 499ers

Effective Thursday, March 9, we will be adding a second **f2f 499er game**. It will start at 1:00 pm and run concurrently with the open game. Please come out and support your new game!



## Friendly February

This is the last week that you can play free in our club - if you either have never played in one of our regular face-to-face games or haven't played in one of our regular face-to-face games since March 2020 or else are playing in one of our regular face-to-face games with someone with these qualifications. You can play free up to three times. Going once, going twice.....

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## Six GRBC 199ers Celebrating Their Excellent Results and a Birthday at the St. Catharines Bridge Tournament



From Left to Right: Debbie Miethig, Barb Neibert, Rosemary Newkirk, Anita Hanson, Audrey Cook, and Valirie Binkle

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## Beautiful Beautiful Barbados

*Contributed by Margot Stockie*

Last week, a number of us from the Grand River and Guelph bridge clubs spent the week at the Sun, Sea, and Slams bridge tournament in Barbados. We had a terrific time and did our clubs proud with some fabulous results!

Many of us booked for next year and encourage you to join us. The weather was perfect. We stayed by the ocean. The host hotels are all-inclusive and there was a welcome cocktail reception and a closing banquet.

Here are some photos of our awesome time.



Non-Caribbean Mixed Pairs Winners   Pelau Open Pairs Winners   Runners-up, Lady Burton Open Pairs

And just to get you in the mood, click [here](#) for some old-time Barbados music (and scenery).

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**PLAY BRIDGE**



**IT'S CHEAPER THAN THERAPY**





## The Bean Counter

*Contributed by Steve Allen, Treasurer*

Last week, I wrote about the Dare Foods lease renewal. It was not a very upbeat story. Losing money. Inflation. Covid-19. Do we stay with Dare or go elsewhere or become an online only bridge club? Here's how the story ended.

In spite of the doom and gloom, we saw hints of our willingness and ability to survive. People were "belonging" again. Members were supporting our hybrid club:

- F2F revenue was slowly increasing after we re-opened in March 2022. It now represents about 40% of our game income.
- BBO revenues stopped declining by midyear 2022 and remained level into December. It now represents about 60% of our game income.

Oh Magic Eight Ball ... the big question ... is it sustainable for five years? Yuppers! So, the decision was made to renew the lease. We forecast that, with your ongoing support, we will have sufficient funds through to June 30 2028.

We realize that you have lots of online bridge playing options (other clubs, consortium clubs, ACBL). We hope you will choose our BBO games when they are offered at a convenient time for you. And hopefully more of our members will be able to enjoy playing in our wonderful bridge club. It is truly a lovely place. Come out and see it if you haven't already!



## Congratulations...

*to the following local players who earned extra masterpoints in Thursday and Friday's STaC games.*

### Thursday Open Game

- **Mike Peng and Kathy Russell**, 7<sup>th</sup> in A

### Friday 499er Game

- **Roy Dandyk and Ronnie Lowrey**, 1<sup>st</sup> in A
- **Martin Jones and Loretta Molodecki**, 3<sup>rd</sup> in A
- **David Dennis and Bob Gilck**, 5<sup>th</sup> in A
- **Paul Raymond and Rick Arthur**, 3<sup>rd</sup> in B
- **Stu Cowan and Glenn Mockford**, 4<sup>th</sup> in B



# TIME YOU LEARNED OUR LESSONS!

**The Play of the Hand (Suits) course has been cancelled due to insufficient enrollment.**

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- There is still room in the **Lebensohl** workshop, Monday, February 27, ONLINE, 9:30 am – noon, \$20 members/ \$25 non-members. Instructor: Malkin Howes. Level: **Intermediate**. Current Enrollment: **13**.
- **No Trump Interference (Cappelletti, DONT, and Meckwell)**. \$20 members/ \$25 non-members. Instructor: Malkin Howes. Level: **Intermediate**. ONLINE  
**NEW DATE: Monday, March 27, 9:30 am – noon**

Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

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## Beginners 2

Beginners 1 provided a hands-on introduction to the game of duplicate bridge, including basic scoring, basic bidding, and basic play of the hand. The third and fourth lessons focused on no trump bidding, while the fifth lesson concentrated on weak two bids.

Beginners 2 is a continuation of Beginners 1. All concepts will be reviewed and reinforced. Bidding will be emphasized, including take-out doubles and responses and ace-asking conventions. The principles of declaring no trump and suit contracts will also be covered.

Beginners 2 is suitable for players who have either graduated from Beginners 1 or else have been away from the game for a long time.

Instructor: Sue Moses

Mode: IN PERSON

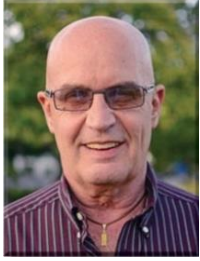
Dates: Saturdays, March 4, 11, 18, 25, April 1, 9:30 am – 12:30 pm

Cost: \$75 (uses the same text as Beginners 1)

Current Enrollment: **11**

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## Dear David

### A Good Hand or a Bad Hand?

Your partner opens 1♣ and you hold J32 Q32 Q32 J432, also known as a “quacky” hand (full of not-very-helpful queens and jacks). You have too many HCP to pass and no four-card suit to bid at the one-level, so you close your eyes and bid 1NT. The next time you will have A109 K109 Q109 10987 and respond 1NT with a smile. Both hands fall within the six-to-nine-point range for a 1NT response, but one is vastly superior to the other. Even though you have succinctly limited the high-card strength of your hand, you may be asked to evaluate whether it’s a bad, average, or good hand.

♠ 7 4  
 ♥ A 2  
 ♦ K 10 8 7 5 3  
 ♣ K 10 7

Your partner opens 1♥ and you bid 2♦ (not game-forcing). Partner now bids 2♠ (either four spades and a strong hand or at least five spades and longer hearts, 11-19 HCP). You choose to rebid 3♥ because you have denied holding three hearts (you did not immediately support the suit). What do you do when partner bids 4♣? That must be a cuebid slam-try. If your hand was ♠74 ♥A2 ♦KQ873 ♣J76, it might be time to bail out to 4♥. But your minimum 2/1 has the ♥A, maybe a ruff or two in the spade suits, the ♣K to go with

partner’s presumed ace, and a long diamond suit headed by the king. A lot of nice values! It can’t cost much to cuebid 4♦ and then sign off after that. Partner’s next bid of 6♥ leads you to begin preparing your excuses.

Dir: E		
Vul: NS	♠ A 9 6 3 2	;
	♥ J 6 4	
5	♦ 4	
15 10	♣ 9 4 3 2	
10		
	♠ K Q J 10 8	♠ 7 4
	♥ K Q 10 8 7 5	♥ A 2
	♦ A 6	♦ K 10 8 7 5 3
	♣ ----	♣ K 10 7
	♠ 5	
	♥ 9 3	
	♦ Q J 9 2	
	♣ A Q J 8 6 5	

Your ♠K was not worth much, but 6♥ is a fine contract if spades split normally. On this hand, it would be defeated by an immediate spade ruff. Without the ruff, it would still be defeated if North held on to all his spades. I won the diamond lead and chose to play five rounds of hearts. North discarded a spade.

Many players make the mistake of thinking that because they have a very limited hand they cannot contribute any forward-going bids. The question at hand should be found in the quality of the limited hand. Within the context of my previous bidding, do I “owe” my partner a bid? Maximum - at least one bid, maybe more. Good - at least one bid. Minimum - get out of Dodge as fast as you can.

## Top 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 January.

Open Players			499er Players			99er Players		
	Name	MP		Name	MP		Name	MP
1	Mike Peng	22.62	1	Suzanne Edwards	16.38	1	Rick Arthur	9.78
2	David Baker	20.21	2	Shelley Metcalfe	13.22	2	Nancy Cattanach	7.06
3	Ted Boyd	16.61	3	Cheryl White	12.60	3	Brian Gaber	6.66
4	Colin Harrington	14.35	4	John Kip	11.66	4	Belinda Burt	5.47
5	Sandy Graham	11.55	5	Barbara Arthur	11.04	5	Debbie Miethig	5.15
6	Neil Jeffrey	11.22	6	Lori Cole	10.40	6	Louise Dawdy	5.12
7	Liz McDowell	10.97	7	Roy Dandyk	10.29	7	Paul Raymond	5.05
8	David Longstaff	10.52	8	Lynda Burnett	9.84	8	Audrey Cook	4.97
8	Edith Ferber	10.52	9	Cheryl Kip	9.61	9	Don Slowinski	4.47
10	Mary McClelland	9.79	10	David Dennis	9.51	9	Ben Cornell	4.47
11	Kathy Russell	8.85	11	Adriaan Kempe	9.37	11	Molly Worden	3.79
12	Robert Griffiths	8.33	12	Jack Cole	9.33	12	Elaine Doyle	3.58
13	Malkin Howes	7.41	13	Renate Boucher	8.61	13	Casi Zehr	3.43
14	Stephen Young	7.29	14	Martin Jones	7.28	14	Jane Wilson	3.37
15	Margot Stockie	7.26	15	Virginia Alviano	7.04	15	Kathy Chandler	3.20
16	John Hanemaayer	7.17	16	Barbara Lindsay	7.02	16	Patricia Northey	2.77
17	Neil Coburn	6.89	17	Jim Dalgliesh	6.58	17	Rick Prendiville	2.75
18	Wayne Jordan	6.81	18	Jean White	6.26	18	Chris Beck	2.50
19	Moira Hollingsworth	6.68	19	Kevin Latter	6.17	19	Valirie Binkle	2.48
20	Dave Quarrie	6.50	20	Susan Durance	6.16	20	MJ Hartleib	2.25
21	Bonnie Kains	6.23	21	Marlene Dopko	6.05	21	Jeannie Leforge	1.86
22	Ronna Hoy	5.59	22	Brenda Semple	5.81	22	Donna McKay	1.83
23	Scott Hills	5.55	23	Bev Hitchman	5.67	23	Doug Livesey	1.82
24	Peter Peng	5.05	24	Nanci Phelan	5.58	24	Denise Ontonovich	1.75
25	Diane Jamieson	4.33	25	Robert Gillick	5.19	25	Charlene Schell	1.75

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 [Joan Slover](#), our membership lead.

We have fun in **spades**.

We play with all our **hearts**.

We treat our members like **diamonds**.

We are starting a new f2f 499er game at our **club**.