



PLAY AND LEARN BRIDGE IN A WELCOMING ENVIRONMENT

## ALERT – September 14, 2020

### Top Online Master Point Earners at our Club

*Contributed by Allen Pengelly*

*This table lists the individuals who earned the most master points at our club in each of three master point bands since August 1.*

Open Players			499er Players			99er Players		
	Name	MP		Name	MP		Name	MP
1	David Baker	32.63	1	Allen Pengelly	13.31	1	Ron Lawrence	14.21
2	Margot Stockie	23.12	2	Kathy Russell	11.54	2	Brian Silva	10.67
3	Mike Peng	21.59	3	Brenda Semple	9.09	3	Noah Pace	9.90
4	Cindy Mahn	17.58	3	Sue Moses	9.09	4	Shelley Metcalfe	9.69
5	Colin Harrington	15.65	5	Lori Cole	7.83	5	Suzanne Edwards	9.24
6	Dianne Aves	13.07	6	John Hanemaayer	7.18	6	Salvatore Pace	8.12
7	Moira Hollingsworth	12.68	7	George Pepall	5.99	7	Barbara Arthur	7.89
8	Ted Boyd	11.73	7	Sandy Graham	5.99	8	Stephen Nantes	6.65
9	Liz McDowell	11.63	9	Adriaan Kempe	5.55	9	Nanci Phelan	6.58
10	Edith Ferber	11.58	10	Rebecca Kalbfleisch	5.30	10	Robert Gilck	6.45
11	Robert Griffiths	11.54	11	Janet Howell	5.15	11	Brian Kirkconnell	5.35
12	Tom Ramsay	9.98	12	Sue Voll	5.12	12	Judy Bailey	5.33
13	David Longstaff	9.10	13	John Hayward	4.59	13	Edward Murphy	4.53
14	Diane Bourdeau	8.56	14	Fred Young	4.56	14	Marlene Dopko	4.49
15	Stephen Young	8.22	15	Kevin Latter	4.53	15	Virginia Alviano	4.22
16	William Christian	7.75	16	Paul Latimer	4.49	16	Susan Durance	4.05
17	Stephen Carpenter	7.15	17	Charles Walkey	4.29	17	Marion Allan	3.80
18	Adrian Record	6.96	18	Keith Prosser	4.28	18	Joe Blake	3.32
19	Peggy Pearson	6.29	19	Jack Cole	4.10	18	Steven Allen	3.32
20	Neil Jeffrey	5.89	20	Judy Widdecombe	4.06	20	Elinor Girouard	3.30
21	Bruce Roberts	5.85	21	David Dennis	4.00	21	Susan Kerrigan	3.21
22	Thea Davis	5.44	22	Sally Turnball	3.87	22	Barb Neibert	3.08
23	Wayne Jordan	5.39	23	Sandy Lee	3.51	23	Tim Tremblay	2.52
24	Wayne Schroeder	4.98	24	Laurence Dean	3.27	24	Shirley Clairmont	2.40
25	Kandis Smith	4.00	25	Grant Roberts	3.18	25	Anita Hanson	2.27



## Congratulations

*to the following local players who have advanced to the next level.*

### Junior Master

- **Patrice Baker**
- **Jim Fox**

### Sectional Master

- **Barbara Arthur**
  - **Daniel Dopko**
  - **Suzanne Edwards**
  - **Nancy Phelan**
  - **Robert Somerville**
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## Learning the Lingo

*By Allen Pengelly*

As with any endeavour where a number of people participate in something, there is terminology in the game of bridge that is used to describe common situations, so that they can be described to others without having to repeat the underlying concepts each time the situation comes up.

As Jackie Williams described in last week's Alert, there is a bit of a learning curve to understand the terminology that is used in bridge. When people describe a hand, or a play, they want to use the least number of words possible.

I will aim to describe one or more pieces of terminology each week in the Alert.

### **Volume I – “Establish”**

One of the most common ways to get more tricks when playing as Declarer is to use the cards in a long suit to win more tricks. Fairly often, we do not have all of the top cards in that long suit. Sometimes, it is the best play to lead our long suit until the opponents are all out of the suit, thus creating more tricks for us as Declarer.

The above is the definition of “Establishing a suit”.

Here is an example. Let's say we are declarer, we are playing in a no trump contract, and we have the AK543 of spades, and our dummy has the 762 of spades. We would like to use our length in spades to get more tricks other than just the two tricks we will get for playing the ace and the king. We can play the ace and then the king (hoping that both opponents follow suit both times). If the opponents do follow suit, then eight spades will have been played, and we will have four spades left in our combined hands. That leaves only one spade remaining in the opponents' combined hands.

We can then play a low spade and lose the trick to the high spade in the opponent's hand.

Once we do so, we have the only spades remaining - so it is said we have **established** the suit. The next time that we get the lead, assuming we have been careful about preserving an entry (maybe another terminology article?) to the hand with the established suit, we can play these established cards to win two more tricks.

*Do you have a piece of bridge terminology that you would like explained? Feel free to contact me at [apengelly@golden.net](mailto:apengelly@golden.net), and I will explain it in a future article.*

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# Your Dangerous Opponent

Contributed by Robert Griffiths

South found himself in a 4♥ contract after a transfer sequence.

**Board 4**

North Deals

Both Vul

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

South chose to superaccept his partner's transfer, showing his approval of hearts. N/S would have arrived at 4♥ in any event since North's bid after a 2♥ response might reasonably have been 2NT or 3NT, offering South the choice of part score or game in no trump or hearts. All roads here should lead to 4♥. West got off to the ♠4 lead and East played the queen. How should South plan to make his game?

Assuming a reasonable (3-1 or better) heart split, South counts his losers and finds a possible heart loser, a sure spade loser, and at least one, possibly two, club losers. South can pitch one of his losing clubs from the dummy on his good diamonds but, before he can do that, he needs to draw trumps. And he'd like to draw trumps without letting West gain the lead to make an inconvenient club lead.

Obviously South doesn't know how the clubs sit, but he wants to avoid finding out the hard way. If West never gets the lead, there can't be two club losers – it's as simple as that. On the other hand, a club lead from *East* is a good thing for South, as it ensures there will be only one club loser - because now his king is bound to take a trick.

So here we are at Trick 1 and South can guarantee a second spade trick by winning East's queen with his ace. However, this is not a good plan – since the extra spade trick in the Dummy won't really help him because he needs to throw a club from Dummy, not from his hand. By ducking East's opening lead of the ♠Q, South takes his first step in preventing West from getting the lead. Now East won't be able to win a trump trick and get to West's hand with a spade. At Trick 2, all East can do is return a diamond or a spade which South can win and then draw trumps.

South needs to draw trump in the way that is least likely to allow the dangerous opponent (*West*) to win a trick. Missing the KT92 in trumps, South should focus on the splits he can manage. If West were to hold the KT9, he could not be prevented from gaining the lead and making the dreaded club switch. The dangerous holding that South *can* handle, however, is KT2 or K92 in the *West* hand.

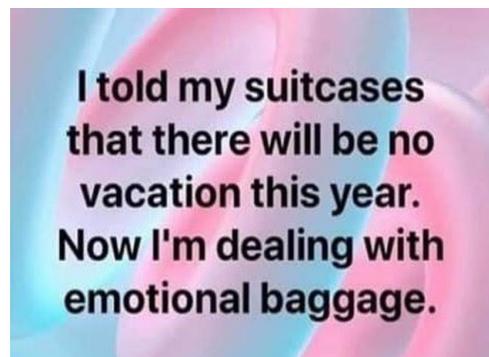
If South were to begin the hearts by playing a small heart towards Dummy's jack, things would look rosy until South discovered that West had South's queen surrounded by the KT and down the contract would go after West won his heart trick and led a club through dummy's king.

But if South begins by leading the ♥Q from his hand, West has no answer. He can cover the queen with the king but then South will win dummy's ace, return to his hand, and finesse again. South is not worried about losing either heart finesse to East. If East gets the lead, he can do no damage: the ♣K is safe.

All of this messing about with the heart suit isn't aimed at preventing heart losers but rather trying to avoid losing the lead to West, the dangerous opponent.

🦋 **Sometimes you need to keep one of your opponents off lead, and that imperative may dictate which finesses you take and how you handle certain suits generally.**

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## Ninth Annual Ray Millie Memorial Tournament

The Guelph Bridge Club is pleased to announce it will be holding the 9th annual Ray Millie Memorial Tournament on Saturday, October 3. Due to Covid19, the club will have to make a few changes, but this has been one of the club's most popular events in the past and they expect it will be just as popular this year. The biggest change of course is that the tournament will be held online on BBO, so no lunch will be provided. Here are the details.

- There will be two flights, open and 0-499
- There will be two sessions, single session entries welcomed
- Masterpoint awards will be the same as in the club's virtual games, and the open flight will get credit for the tables in the 0-499 flight
- The entry fee will be \$5.00 per session, same as the club's virtual games.
- The club will announce overall winners for each of the two flights. Unfortunately the ACBL can't combine the two games and award extra masterpoints as in a tournament, but the club will add the two sessions together manually and announce the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place overall winners in each flight.
- To help the director, the starting times will be staggered. The open games will be at 10:00 am and 2:30 pm, while the 0-499 games will be at 9:45 am and 2:15 pm. You and your partner will have to register separately for each session (register the same way you do for virtual club games). Registration on BBO opens two hours before game time. It would be appreciated if players were to register at least 30 minutes before game time.
- The prizes awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers in each flight will be LCBO gift certificates that will be mailed to the winners (cheaper than mailing a bottle of wine). You'll need to play both sessions to qualify for a prize.

To help the club with its planning, please let us know if you plan to play in this event by emailing Tom Ramsay at [tandramsay@yahoo.ca](mailto:tandramsay@yahoo.ca).

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## Join the ACBL!

If you haven't already, we strongly urge you to consider joining the American Contract Bridge League (ACBL). There are several benefits to membership, but arguably the greatest benefit is the monthly magazine mailed out to you. This month, there is a terrific article "for newer players" by Jerry Helms on p. 47. In it, Jerry explains in an easy-to-understand-and-remember way why it's usually best for opener to bid his second suit if he holds one, even when he has minimum values.

Also of note in the latest *Bulletin* is the important news that local player **Edith Ferber** made the list of the top online scores in the It's Your Call contest.

The ACBL has just introduced a **guest membership option** – a free way for players and students to check out the benefits of membership. With a guest membership, players can play in any club or tournament game, earn up to 20 masterpoints, read online editions of the *Bulletin*, and receive results emails. Guest memberships are completely free, last for 120 days, and are available only to brand-new members (no previous or current members). Click [here](#) to start your guest membership.

And if you decide to take out a full-fledged membership, click [here](#). The cost is only \$66.15 a year – a bargain at the price!

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# LESSONS NOT YET LEARNED



## Learn New Tricks

Do you know someone who likes puzzles and is up for new challenges?

Then please tell him or her about our **online beginner lessons** scheduled to begin this coming Thursday evening, September 17, 6:30 pm – 9:00 pm. The cost is \$75 for five lessons, plus \$10 for the text if not already purchased.

Besides having a lot of fun, your friend will also:

- Discover an inexpensive pastime he or she can enjoy for the rest of his or her life;
- Connect to a strong social network of like-minded people;
- Keep his or her brain healthy and improve his or her memory; and
- Discover a way to make instant new friends when he or she travels.

Click [here](#) for more information.

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## Planning the Play of the Hand at No Trump

This online workshop is for **novice** players who want to improve their play of no trump contracts. Topics will include the rule of 11, holding up (the rule of 7), techniques for generating extra tricks, the concept of the dangerous opponent (and how to keep him or her off lead), and developing a plan for the play.

The students will play several hands that demonstrate the new concepts, using the magic of Shark Bridge.

**Level:** **Novice**

**Instructor:** Stephen Carpenter

**Date:** Wednesday, September 23, 9:30 am – noon

**Fee:** \$20 for members/ \$25 for non-members

Click [here](#) to register and [here](#) for information about how to pay.

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## Annual General Meeting

Just a reminder that our club will be holding its Annual General Meeting on Monday, September 14 at 11:00 am using Zoom. If you haven't already registered, please email Moira Hollingsworth at [rm.hollingsworth@rogers.com](mailto:rm.hollingsworth@rogers.com) and she will fix you up.



### A Sad Passing

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of **Christine Moore**, a long-standing member of our club. If you were lucky enough to be a friend of Christine or even an occasional bridge partner, you will remember a gal with class, with a great smile and laugh, and a huge eagerness to master anything she tried. Christine was an avid golfer, a member of Galt Country Club, a cyclist, a gourmet cook, and of course an excellent bridge player. Christine was diagnosed with ALS last winter and moved to Thornbury earlier this year. Her home there gave her a picture window view of Georgian Bay which hopefully brightened her last days.

We miss Christine and value the time we had together.

### Our Club's Activities this coming week....

- Friday, September 11, 12:45 pm, **499er game** (26-28 boards)
- Friday, September 11, 7:00 pm, **open game** (26-28 boards)
- Saturday, September 12, 10:00 am – 3:00 pm, **Learn Bridge in a Day?**
- Saturday, September 12, 12:45 pm, **199er game** (20-22 boards)
- Monday, September 14, 11:00 am, **Annual General Meeting**
- Monday, September 14, 12:30 pm, **49er game** (18 boards @ 8 minutes) **NEW**
- Monday, September 14, 12:45 pm, **open game** (26-28 boards)
- Monday, September 14, 7:00 pm, **499er game** (24 boards)
- Tuesday, September 15, 12:30 pm, **199er game** (20-22 boards) **NEW**
- Tuesday, September 15, 12:45 pm, **open game** (26-28 boards)
- Wednesday, September 15, 12:45 pm, **499er game** (26-28 boards)
- Wednesday, September 16, 7:00 pm, **open game** (24 boards)
- Thursday, September 17, 9:30 am, **99er game** (20-22 boards)
- Thursday, September 17, 12:45 pm, **open game** (26-28 boards)
- Thursday, September 17, 6:30 pm, **Beginner Lessons Begin**

We have fun in **spades**.  
We play with all our **hearts**.  
We treat our members like **diamonds**.  
We holding a virtual AGM at our **club**.

Our unit (Unit 249) is holding its annual general meeting on Saturday, September 12 from 10:30 am – 12:30 pm. Here is the Zoom link.

<https://zoom.us/j/93708322549?pwd=ZHZub1BsYVNwZDM5VmoyTEs4VTRnZz09>