



PLAY AND LEARN BRIDGE IN A WELCOMING ENVIRONMENT

## ALERT – November 30, 2020

### 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 October. More than 5000 masterpoints have now been earned in our virtual games.*

Open Players			499er Players			99er Players		
	Name	MP		Name	MP		Name	MP
1	David Baker	56.10	1	Stephen Nantes	14.91	1	Suzanne Edwards	18.72
2	Cindy Mahn	36.93	2	Mary McClelland	14.22	2	Barbara Arthur	12.99
3	Margot Stockie	36.87	3	Kathy Russell	13.57	3	Shelley Metcalfe	12.20
4	Robert Griffiths	34.02	4	Sandy Graham	13.45	4	Nanci Phelan	10.42
5	Mike Peng	30.53	5	Brian Kirkconnell	12.79	5	Joan Slover	9.24
6	Edith Ferber	25.49	6	Roy Dandyk	12.36	6	Susan McDonald	7.25
7	Moira Hollingsworth	24.61	6	David Embury	12.36	7	Steven Allen	7.14
8	Colin Harrington	21.03	8	Keith Prosser	12.02	7	Joe Blake	7.14
9	Dianne Aves	18.46	9	Janet Howell	11.45	7	Susan Kerrigan	7.14
10	Malkin Howes	18.35	10	Judy Widdecombe	11.20	10	Salvatore Pace	6.91
11	David Longstaff	17.97	10	Vivian McLellan	11.20	11	Connie Green	6.66
12	Stephen Young	17.07	12	Brian Silva	10.64	12	Andy Martinek	6.64
13	Liz McDowell	16.70	13	Kevin Latter	10.21	13	John Kip	6.24
14	Diane Bourdeau	16.67	14	Ron Lawrence	10.05	14	Noah Pace	6.16
15	Bruce Roberts	15.52	15	David Dennis	9.96	15	Marion Allan	6.12
16	Tom Ramsay	15.17	16	Dave Leitch	9.77	16	Robert Gilck	6.02
17	Stephen Carpenter	13.94	17	Brenda Semple	9.76	17	Casey Baron	5.61
18	Neil Jeffrey	13.36	17	Sue Moses	9.76	18	Edward Murphy	5.23
19	Ted Boyd	13.24	19	Jim Dalgliesh	9.34	19	Nancy Cattanaach	5.13
20	Peggy Pearson	12.22	20	John Hanemaayer	8.87	20	Marlene Dopko	4.96
21	Adrian Record	11.99	21	Sue Peterson	8.80	21	Elinor Girouard	4.62
22	Sharon King	11.46	22	Cheryl White	8.79	22	Martin Jones	4.54
23	Pat McMillan	11.45	23	Sue Voll	8.65	23	Molly Worden	4.43
24	John Vandergrift	9.72	24	Jim Veitch	7.27	24	Mary Lynn Benjamins	4.33
25	John Moser	9.45	25	Millie McQuillin	7.08	25	Joan Lawson	4.27



## Our Christmas Party

On Saturday, December 12, we will be holding our annual Christmas party. The fee will be the usual \$5 per game, but extra masterpoints and prizes will be available for those who do well in their flight. There will be two sessions, morning and afternoon, but single-session entries are welcomed. There will be three flights, as follows.

0-99	Session #1	Starting time 10:15 am
	Session #2	Starting time 2:00 pm
0-499	Session #1	Starting time 9:45 am
	Session #2	Starting time 1:30 pm
Open	Session #1	Starting time 10:00 am
	Session #2	Starting time 1:45 pm

There are two things you need to do right now, aside from writing the date on your calendar.

- Find a partner (although you can also use the BBO partnership desk at the last minute).
  - Sign up for the Zoom party after your second session so you can see and talk to your fellow players. Just send an email to [DearDavidBridge@hotmail.com](mailto:DearDavidBridge@hotmail.com) by December 11 to sign-up for the Zoom link in advance.
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"When life gives you lemons,  
make lemonade!"  
2020 lemons:





## I Thought It Was a Sacrifice

Contributed by Robert Griffiths

South dealt and opened 1♦. I was West and with 5-5 distribution, I wanted into this auction. I tried 1♠. North showed her good hand with a 2♥ bid, and my partner raised me to 2♠. South competed with 3♥ and I bid 3♠, certain that North would go on in hearts. North did the expected, and 4♥ was passed back to me.

### Board 15

South Deals

N-S Vul

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

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
			1 ♦
1 ♠	2 ♥	2 ♠	3 ♥
3 ♠	4 ♥	Pass	Pass
4 ♠	Dbl	All pass	

There was no doubt in my mind that 4♥ would make their way. I needed to decide whether or not to bid 4♠, hoping to hold my losses to six tricks. Down three doubled would cost only 500 compared to the 620 the opponents would get for making their game contract. My side five-card club suit convinced me that we had good chances of winning at least seven tricks, so I bid 4♠.

North doubled 4♠ and led the ♥A. I was quite happy with the dummy. We had three red losers off the top and two more possible losers in the black kings, so unless there was an ugly surprise, I thought, -300 should be a good result.

But none of the surprises on this hand turned out to be ugly. North continued with a second heart which I ruffed. I led a club to the queen, which won, then led the ♠Q, capturing South's king. Both black suits behaved so favourably that I was able to throw two of Dummy's diamonds on the last two clubs in my hand and ruff a diamond in Dummy, making an overtrick. Some sacrifice!

All of my careful analysis during the auction was wrong. The hand 'belonged' to the pair holding a combined 15 HCP. The pair with the 25 HCP and the nine-card heart fit wouldn't even make their game, having two losers in each black suit. Of course, if you switch the two black kings in the N/S hands, then N/S can make 5♥ and E/W will go down two in 4♠.

We look at our hands and listen to the auction and then we make our best guesses, but often they are just guesses.

For his bid, partner might have had a hand like: ♠Q742 ♥K54 ♦K53 ♣986. If that were his hand, I could find a way to lose seven tricks in 4♠ doubled. Perhaps three clubs, two diamonds, one heart and one spade. That would cost -800.

**You pays yer money and you takes yer chances.**

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## Learning the Lingo – ENTRY

*Contributed by Jean Farhood*

What in the world is an entry?

An entry is the way to access established cards in another suit in order to discard losers in your hand. This is important in both suit and NT contracts.

If you recall Allen Pengelly's article in the first "Learning the Lingo" column on September 14, he talked about establishing a suit. But what good is it to establish a suit if you have no way to get to your good cards?

It is crucial to plan your communication between your hand and dummy or, in other words, your transportation between the two hands. You must have a high card winner as an "entry" to the other hand in order to be able to enjoy the established suit.

Take this example in a NT contract.

♠ A K 8 6 3  
♥ 8 6 4  
♦ K 9 2  
♣ 5 3

	N	
W		E
	S	

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

Let's say that the ♦Q has been led. It is very important that you win the ♦A at Trick 1 in your hand in order to preserve the ♦K as your "entry" once the spades have been established.

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**The Perfect Mask!!!!**

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## Jokes

Way too many people are sending in jokes for us to acknowledge. let alone publish them all. But your jokes and cartoons are very welcome – please keep them coming!!!!!!!

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# Dear David

## Points Schmoints

I had two hands, both of which I got wrong. Can you help?

On the first hand, opener bid 1♠ with five spades, 13 HCP, and a doubleton QJ of clubs. Without any interference, I responded 3♣ with four-card support and 12 HCP. My partner then devalued his QJ of clubs and passed! Four spades, in retrospect, was a cinch! To be noted, with this partner I use Jacoby 2NT only if I have 13+ points and, of course, four-card support.

Sometimes you devalue your hand when you have an unsupported king in a suit that your left-hand opponent has bid. This is not the case here. A QJ combination is nice because of the touching honours. QJx is better. QJ10 is even better. AKQJ10 is even even better. The point is that it could always be better, but QJ opposite partner's AKxx would look nice.

When we first learned bridge, an important rule was "find your eight-card major suit fit". As above, a nine-card fit is often better and so is a 13-card fit. Stop looking for perfection! Play Jacoby with 3+. If you are unwilling to do that, make a 2/1 response to 1♠ (even in a four-card suit) and jump to game at your next turn to bid.

Here's a good rule. If your partner opens the bidding and you would have opened the bidding had you been the dealer, you must be in game. You will make a game most of the time. STOP COUNTING HIGH-CARD POINTS! They are an entry-level tool. A109 QJ10x KQ109 Q10 is only 14 HCP, but to open anything but 1NT with four tens and two nines is a mistake.

The second hand was basically the same scenario as described above, albeit complicated by interference from the opponents.

D 9	<b>N North</b> ♠ AK1064 ♥ Q1073 ♦ 3 ♣ 653	<table border="1"> <tr> <th>W</th> <th>N</th> <th>E</th> <th>S</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>P</td> <td>1♦</td> <td>P</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1♥</td> <td>1♠</td> <td>X</td> <td>3♣</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	W	N	E	S		P	1♦	P	1♥	1♠	X	3♣	P	P	P	
W	N	E	S															
	P	1♦	P															
1♥	1♠	X	3♣															
P	P	P																
<b>W West</b> ♠ 75 ♥ J8652 ♦ KQ7 ♣ 1087		<b>E East</b> ♠ J8 ♥ AK4 ♦ J10965 ♣ KJ4																
	<b>S South</b> ♠ Q932 ♥ 9 ♦ A842 ♣ AQ92	3♣ N      NS: 0 EW: 0																



Nebulous jumps to 3♣ don't give partner anything to work with. You need to upgrade your communication skills. The way to show a limit raise or better after partner has overcalled is to cuebid the opponent's suit. If you bid 2♥, partner will probably decide his hand isn't good enough and he will bid 2♠. Are you done? No! You have a hand that you would have opened the bidding with. It deserves one more push. Bid 3♣. Partner has a good suit, prime values (AK & Q) and a singleton. You must have an opener (2♥ is at least a limit raise and 3♣ shows even more). The North hand is worth a raise to 4♠. 4♠ making five is a tie for a top score, all on a combined 21 HCP. STOP COUNTING HIGH-CARD POINTS!

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**St. Peter's Basilica**

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## **Our Upside-Down World**

A fine example of how Covid 19 has turned the world upside down.

Monday, November 16, 2020 Open game

Cindy Mahn last

David Baker 2nd last

I guess I won't be the only one who will be glad when this is over.

Bob Gillick

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# LESSONS NOT YET LEARNED



## Tips for Extra Tricks

There is still time to sign up for this **novice/intermediate** workshop on Wednesday, December 2, 9:30 am – noon. The teacher is Stephen Carpenter. Want to earn an extra trick as declarer? Then this is the workshop for you! This workshop will focus on techniques like loser-on-loser plays, making the opponents lead the suit you want, safety plays, and keeping the dangerous opponent off lead.

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## Declarer Puzzles

This is an ALL PLAY workshop for intermediate players who will be challenged to solve a series of tricky but makeable contracts. This workshop is only for people who like to laugh (and cry) a lot. Your genial host will be Malkin.

Level: **Intermediate**

Instructor: Malkin Howes

Fee: \$20 for members, \$25 for non-members

Date: Wednesday, December 16, 9:30 am - noon

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## 2021 Winter Lessons

The schedule for winter lessons is up on our website now. Click [here](#) for information about Learn Bridge in a Day and the beginner lessons. Click [here](#) for the workshops for advancing players.

Players who sign up for one or more of the intermediate winter lessons will receive a free bonus - Barbara Seagram's fantastic Zoom lesson on the two over one bidding system, along with extensive lesson notes.

**Click [here](#) for more information about our lessons and to register and [here](#) for information about paying.**

## Added Games

*Contributed by Mike Peng*

You'll recall that at the beginning of November we added the following two new games to our schedule on a trial basis:

- Wed evening 199er at 6:45pm; and
- Sun morning 499er at 10 am.

Based on your turn-out to those games, we are continuing these virtual games on an ongoing basis. We need your continued support for the new games to succeed!

We are conducting a survey of the Wednesday evening 199er players to see whether any adjustments to the number of boards, start time, etc. might improve attendance. We might also consider similar adjustments to the Sunday morning game.

We will keep you apprised of any changes to the schedule.

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## BLACK FRIDAY – BBO STYLE

If you buy BBO dollars today (November 27), you will get bonus bucks.

- Buy 50 BBO\$ → 10 BBO\$ free
- Buy 100 BBO\$ → 25 BBO\$ free
- Buy 200 BBO\$ → 60 BBO\$ free

## Coming Virtual Activities

- Friday, November 27, 1:00 pm, 499er game (26-28 boards) \$BBO7
- Friday, November 27, 7:00 pm, open game (26-28 boards) \$BBO7
- Saturday, November 28, **Guelph Christmas Party**
- Saturday, November 28, 1:00 pm, 199er game (20-22 boards) \$BBO7
- Sunday, November 29, 10:00 am, 499er game (18 boards)  \$BBO7
- Monday, November 30, 12:30 pm, **49er game (18 boards @ 8 minutes)**
- Monday, November 30, 1:00 pm, **open game (26-28 boards)**
- Monday, November 30, 7:00 pm, **499er game (24 boards)**
- Tuesday, December 1, 12:30 pm, **199er game (20-22 boards)**
- Tuesday, December 1, 1:00 pm, **open game (26-28 boards)**
- Wednesday, December 2, 9:30 am, **Tips for Extra Tricks**
- Wednesday, December 2, 1:00 pm, **499er game (26-28 boards)**
- Wednesday, December 2, 6:45 pm, **199er game (20-22 boards)** 
- Wednesday, December 2, 7:00 pm, **open game (24 boards)**
- Thursday, December 4, 9:30 am, **99er game (20-22 boards)**
- Thursday, December 4, 1:00 pm, **open game (26-28 boards)**
- Saturday, December 12, **GRBC Christmas Party**

We have fun in **spades**.

We play with all our **hearts**.

We treat our members like **diamonds**.

We're keeping the two new games at our **club**.