



PLAY AND LEARN BRIDGE IN A WELCOMING ENVIRONMENT

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ALERT – January 31, 2022

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 December.

Open Players			499er Players			99er Players		
	Name	MP		Name	MP		Name	MP
1	David Baker	47.13	1	Suzanne Edwards	19.09	1	Brian Gaber	8.71
2	Edith Ferber	30.46	2	Jim Hardy	14.39	2	Virginia Alviano	8.64
3	Cindy Mahn	28.56	2	Grant Roberts	14.39	3	Joe Blake	7.84
4	Margot Stockie	25.25	4	Lynda Burnett	13.55	4	Martin Jones	7.68
5	Robert Griffiths	24.91	5	Barbara Arthur	12.14	5	Steven Allen	7.54
6	David Wilson	21.54	6	Brian Kirkconnell	12.08	6	Rick Arthur	7.53
7	Moira Hollingsworth	19.01	7	Roy Dandyk	11.63	7	Reinhold Kauk	7.39
8	Colin Harrington	18.58	8	Jim Dalgliesh	11.18	8	Belinda Burt	7.08
9	Mike Peng	17.78	9	Kathy Russell	10.54	9	Andy Martinek	6.38
10	Mary McClelland	16.78	10	Tony Verhoeven	10.25	10	Louise Dawdy	6.25
11	Liz McDowell	16.65	11	Kevin Latter	9.68	11	J. Lewis Corbin	6.06
12	Neil Jeffrey	15.52	12	Joan Slover	9.50	12	Marilyn Rootham	5.95
13	Bruce Roberts	15.35	13	Robert Gilck	9.15	12	Lynn Campbell	5.95
14	Tom Ramsay	14.28	14	Paul Latimer	8.89	14	Nancy Cattanach	5.92
15	Sandy Graham	14.16	15	Judy Beauchamp	8.48	15	Joan Lawson	5.73
16	Stephen Young	14.03	16	David Embury	8.24	16	Kim Wakeford	5.47
17	John Vandergrift	13.89	17	Nanci Phelan	8.19	17	Elinor Girouard	5.43
18	Ted Boyd	12.98	18	Lissa Lowes	8.16	18	Gordon Hunter	5.39
19	Dianne Aves	11.18	19	Sue Peterson	7.87	19	Ginny Scott	5.38
20	Neil Coburn	11.01	20	Carolyn Baechler	7.23	20	Sue McDonald	4.99
21	Susan Lawton	10.35	21	Cheryl White	7.22	21	Liz Graham	4.72
22	Peggy Pearson	8.74	21	Brenda Semple	7.22	22	Jane Wilson	4.60
23	Wayne Schroeder	8.61	21	Sue Moses	7.22	23	Carol Robinson	4.56
24	Steve Carpenter	8.42	24	Isabel Hetherington	7.18	23	Trent Robinson	4.56
25	John Hanemaayer	8.07	25	Stephen Nantes	7.09	25	Kathleen Burns	4.40



Jane Lemke

Contributed by Louise Dawdy

Today we are highlighting Jane Lemke. Jane is a long-time bridge player. As a teenager, she was not so much “interested” in bridge as she was coerced to become a fourth. Jane played rubber/kitchen bridge for years while raising her family and also enjoyed playing bridge on “Pogo”, an online platform (no longer available).

Outside of bridge, Jane works on college course development work, enjoys her family, quilting, reading, knitting, and crocheting, as well as genealogy research (when she has time!!!). Jane is a big Louise Penny fan and recently enjoyed *State of Terror* (cowritten with Hillary Clinton). Jane recommends Louise Penny’s Chief Inspector Gamache series (can’t put them down) but, as quick advice, Jane suggests that anyone taking them on should start at the beginning of the series (#1 *Still Life*).

Jane joined [ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com) in 2006 and has since discovered a family history book that has enabled her to connect with at least four direct relatives, which has been fun and has allowed her to continue to expand her family tree knowledge. Another interesting discovery was the attestation papers for her father and several of his relatives who enlisted together in August 1915 and served in the 3rd battalion machine gun corps, Canadian Expeditionary Force.

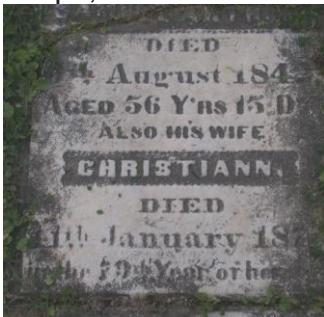
Two of Jane’s genealogy discoveries were made through CanadaGenWeb’s Cemetery Project (<https://cemetery.canadagenweb.org/>) and the Ontario Cemetery Finding Aid (<https://ocfa.islandnet.com>). Both are searchable and include numerous tombstone photos (thanks to the many volunteers who take these photos). Included below is the tombstone, found in Binbrook Cemetery, of Jane’s great grandparents, Samuel and Christiann (Phillips) Arthur, born in Cornwall England in 1791 and 1794 respectively.

Like many of us, Jane is grateful for Zoom and the ability to chat online. Her favourite pandemic memory is a garage get-together that allowed more folks to be included in their gathering (outside numbers vs inside numbers) - oh my, how our perspectives have changed!

Jane’s favourite bridge tip, courtesy of Sandra Lee, is “Stop and Think!”. Great advice, Jane and Sandra!

Although Jane would love to look forward to playing in person, the commute to GRBC from her home in Burlington is a bit of an offset. Jane fervently hopes that GRBC continues to offer online games and tournaments.

Jane does need to be recognized for her fabulous job as an unsolicited member-at-large for both her recruitment abilities as well as her persistence! After years of trying to convince her husband, Ken, to give bridge a whirl, he finally jumped onboard! And, if you recall, we mentioned Jane’s son-in-law, Bill MacGregor, as a GRBC newcomer in the Dec.13, 2021 Alert. Jane wants to extend her heartfelt congratulations to GRBC for their very informative workshops, excellent member communication, and their BBO tournaments.



Partner Up

Click [here](#) to watch a six-minute YouTube video about the importance of finding a compatible bridge partner. It's not easy, but it is definitely worth working for and waiting for.

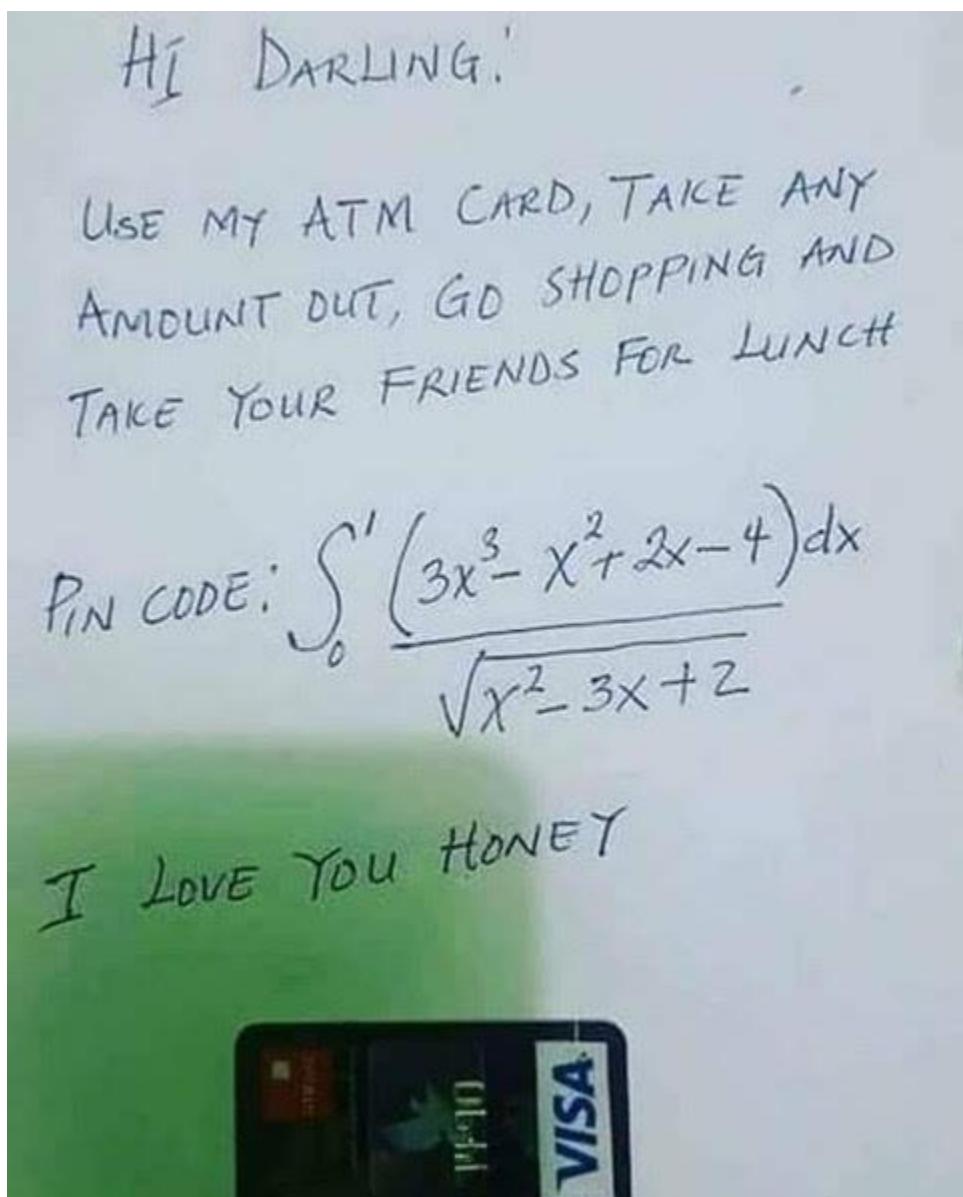
Canadian Bridge Federation

This is for those readers who are not already a member of the Canadian Bridge Federation.

The CBF is offering a free three-month membership to new sign-ups for lapsed members.

Click [here](#) to register.

CBF members receive a bi-monthly online magazine and are able to participate in the Great Canadian Bidding Contest. As well, they can participate in CBF-members-only virtual bridge games held on BBO on the third Saturday of every month. For more information, click [here](#).



Number Rules!

Contributed by Liz McDowell

Thanks to all who have sent me positive feedback about my column. I really appreciate your messages. If you are emailing to ask further information about these rules, I will read and attempt to follow up on your questions in a further column.

This week's column will be a review of the rules of 15 and 20.

Rule of 15

I was asked by a newer player to further explain the rule of 15. Here is my response.

Opening in fourth seat with the Rule of 15 is a light bid (fewer than 13 points), not a full opener. You MUST have 11 high card points (not counting distributional points) with four spades (some points must be in spades). Why? The auction has gone Pass Pass Pass to you in fourth seat, so if you now pass the auction is over and you may get a bad result for not opening your hand. Suppose you open in fourth seat with your better minor (you cannot open a spade as you don't have five) and partner bids 1♥. You still have room to bid 1♠ showing four. Now if your partner bids 1NT, you PASS, or if partner bids 2♥ showing five, you PASS, or if partner raises your minor suit or spades, you PASS. The object is to find a contract to play in at a low level since you do not have a full opener of 13 points and your partner has already passed.

Since you are a newer player, do not even try to learn Drury. It's just too difficult right now for you. The Reverse Drury I wrote about in my column is actually called Reverse two-way Drury. Just keep in mind that if you are the responder and your partner opened in fourth seat, it could be a light opener - so get out at the lowest level as you are already a passed hand.

Hope this helps and please remember that using this rule must be a partnership agreement.

Rule of 20

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

What could go wrong?

I played this hand with Cindy Mahn last week and wanted to share what happened with other bridge players. I was sitting North (in second seat) and after West passed, I had the rule of 20 and decided to open this hand. I had 10 HCP, and two five-card suits plus two Quick Tricks. I opened 1♥ and East opted to double. I thought that was fine since I could still bid my diamonds to show both suits. However, my partner bid 1♠ and, before I could bid my diamonds, West decided to bid 2♦. Well, I stayed very quiet and prayed that my partner would pass. But no, my partner decided to bid 2♠ - and thank goodness we were playing on BBO so no one could see how uncomfortable I was. I realized that if the auction were to come back to me, I would simply have to pass and feel so sorry that I had opened in the first place.

But! Now West decided to bid 3♦ and of course I wasted no time doubling. That contract went down for 1100, and I was **so** grateful to West.

What is the answer to my first question, "What could go wrong?" Lots!!!

If you have further questions, please email [Liz](#) and she may put a follow-up blurb in the next week's Alert.

TIME YOU LEARNED YOUR LESSONS!

For more information and to register for our online lessons for advancing players, click [here](#). Some of the timelines are short – so don't delay – register right away!!



Responding to Invitational Bids

This workshop emphasizes the differences between suit contracts and no trump contracts when it comes to using point count. It will build on the concepts taught in the hand evaluation workshop – when to upgrade and when to downgrade your hand, based on your hand's composition and information gleaned from the subsequent bidding. It is thus highly recommended that both workshops be taken as a unit.

The participants will play up to 16 boards (depending on time) that involve an invitational bidding sequence, with the last bidder making the decision about whether or not to go to game. Then the hand will be played out and the correctness of that decision analyzed.

Regular partners may find it beneficial to attend this workshop as a pair.

Level: **Intermediate**

Instructor: Malkin Howes

Date: Saturday, January 29, 9:30 am - noon

Mode: **ONLINE**

Current Enrolment: 18

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



The Basics of Bridge Defence

This course presents all the basic concepts of good defensive play. It is intended for players of all levels who have not yet taken a defensive course.

The course focuses on five aspects of defence: opening leads; third seat play; signals; second seat play; and discards. Each lesson covers one aspect of defence for both no trump and suit contracts, and includes playing hands to enhance understanding. Specific topics include Rule of 11 on no trump leads; when to cover an honour; when to play high in second seat; when to play low in third seat; splitting honours; count, attitude, and suit preference signals; and defensive strategies (for example, active versus passive, cutting declarers' communications, and forcing defence). Lesson hand-outs and hand records will be provided.

Although not required for the course, a companion textbook is recommended (*Eddie Kantar Teaches Modern Bridge Defence*, which may be purchased from Amazon: new \$29.95, used from \$12.16)

The Basics of Bridge Defence is designed as a complete five-week course, and students are encouraged to take all five lessons. Nevertheless, it will be possible to take individual lessons on a pay-as-you-go basis.

Level: Beginner/Novice/Intermediate

Mode: ONLINE

Instructor: Stephen Carpenter

Current Enrolment: 10

Course Cost: \$75 for members, \$85 for non-members

Cost for an Individual Lesson: \$20 for members, \$25 for non-members

Dates: Wednesday mornings 9:30 am - noon, February 2, 9, 16, 23, and March 2

We	They
20	
50	
100	
200	
30	
70	120
240	
60	

Scoring

Most people start by playing bridge socially using rubber bridge scoring. When they graduate to playing duplicate bridge at clubs, the scoring method is called matchpoint scoring. And when people start playing in tournament team games, the scoring method is called IMPs. Each scoring method rewards different playing strategies.

- For example, in rubber bridge games you sometimes underbid because you already have a score below the line. This would be disastrous at clubs and tournaments.
- For example, at the club you pull in your bidding horns somewhat when you're vulnerable, while in tournament team games being vulnerable should encourage you to shoot for the moon.
- For example, in rubber bridge and club games, you should often double your opponents for penalty, but penalty doubles are generally viewed as unnecessarily risky for tournament team games.

In other words, scoring matters.

This workshop will discuss how our game is scored - and show you how a knowledge of the scoring can/should improve your bidding and play (and results). This workshop will teach the principles of scoring of individual hands, leading to playing around the kitchen table, through duplicate bridge at the club, and culminating with Swiss team events at tournaments. Attention will be given to vulnerability, doubles, and some simple strategies to improve your scores. Several hands will be examined to illustrate the lessons.

Date: Tuesday, February 15, 6:30 pm – 9:00 pm



Level: Novice

Instructor: Jack Cole

Mode: ONLINE

Current Enrollment: 4

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

FOR INTERMEDIATE PLAYERS



Get Rid of the Loser First

Contributed by Robert Griffiths

Here is a hand that was played by Billy Eisenberg over 50 years ago in a competitive game.

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

West led the ♠6, and Eisenberg, South, tried dummy's queen, but East played the king and South won his ace.

South considered the hand. He had four likely losers: two clubs, one heart, and one spade. Eisenberg felt that if West had had both the ace and king of clubs, his opening lead almost certainly would have been a top club, not a spade from a broken suit. So, South assumed that East held either the ace or king of clubs and he had already shown up with the ♠K. So, to open the bidding West must have held almost all of the missing high cards, including the ♥K and the ♦Q.

His only chance to make the contract was to get rid of the spade loser in dummy. Eisenberg could do this only by winning three diamond tricks and throwing dummy's losing spade on the third diamond before going after the trumps.

At Trick 2, South backed his judgment by leading a diamond from his hand to dummy's 10. When that won, he was halfway there. Now he played Dummy's ♦A and then led a heart to his ace, knowing that the heart finesse was probably pointless. Finally, he played his ♦K, throwing Dummy's spade away.

Now he was ready to play hearts, and his only losers on the hand were two clubs and one heart.

The only way that South can avoid four losers on this hand is by playing as he did. He can't touch hearts until he has set up his ♦K and needs to save the ♥A as it is the only entry to his hand to cash the third diamond.

 You often know a lot at Trick 1. Use this knowledge to make a plan.



Dear David

Double Dummy

15 D	N North ♠ 10732 ♥ Q7432 ♦ 7632 ♣	W West ♠ Q4 ♥ A105 ♦ KJ ♣ AQ7632	E East ♠ A6 ♥ K986 ♦ AQ95 ♣ K85	S South ♠ KJ985 ♥ J ♦ 1084 ♣ J1094
				6NT W NS: 0 EW: 0

On this hand, everyone got to a small slam and everyone made 12 tricks. At my table, 3♣ asked for a four- or five-card major and 3NT denied. 4NT was invitation to 6NT if I were to have a maximum, and my fifth and sixth club made it a super-maximum. Normally, these hands would easily produce 13 tricks, but the foul club split reduces you to 12 tricks.

Just for fun, let us pretend that you are in 7NT, with the opening lead of a low heart to the jack and ace. Looking at all four hands (double dummy), you have four heart tricks, four diamond tricks, three club tricks, and one spade trick. Where is number 13 coming from? As is frequently the case, taking all your winners outside of clubs will frequently lead to good things.

15 D	N North ♠ 10732 ♥ Q7432 ♦ 7632 ♣	E East ♠ A6 ♥ K986 ♦ AQ95 ♣ K85	W West ♠ Q4 ♥ A105 ♦ KJ ♣ AQ7632	S South ♠ KJ985 ♥ J ♦ 1084 ♣ J1094
			♦Q	Select cards to play for all 4 players 6NT W NS: 0 EW: 9

Whatever South discards on the ♦Q gives West the last three tricks. You have executed a squeeze!



#57

♠ K J 8 3 2
♥ A 7 2
♦ 6
♣ 10 6 4 2

N
W E
S

♠ A 9 7 5
♥ K 8 3
♦ A 10 8
♣ A 9 3

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

1. Single-suited
2. 5+ spades

West led the ♦K, and I took my ♦A, East following suit. At Trick 2, I led my ♠5 toward dummy's ♠K, and both West and East followed with small spades. At Trick 3, dummy's ♠J was covered by East's ♠Q and I took the trick with my ♠A. West, unsurprisingly, showed out of spades, discarding a diamond. At Trick 4, I banged down my ♣A, which surprisingly captured West's ♣Q. What now?

SOLUTION

You have two inevitable club losers and one inevitable spade loser, plus it looks as if you may have to lose a heart. Is there a way to avoid this heart loser? Perhaps you can develop dummy's fourth club and pitch your heart loser on it? Of course, you're missing three club honours, the ♣KQJ, but the good news is that West has already played the ♣Q.

So why did West play the ♣Q on the first round of clubs? Could it be a singleton? Well, we already know that West started with a singleton spade. Surely if West had started with two singletons, he would have bid differently - showing a two-suited hand, for example, or bidding more. So, a reasonable assumption is that he has a doubleton in clubs, either ♣KQ or ♣QJ. So at Trick 5, lead the ♣3 (not the ♣9!) and see what happens.

Your surmise about West's clubs turns out to be correct. Here is the situation after five rounds.

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

On lead at Trick 6, West's best defence is to lead a small heart. You take your ♥K and waste no time leading the ♣9 at Trick 7. East takes his ♣J but now Dummy's ♣10 is good. The best East can do is cash his high spade, the ♠10, at Trick 8 and return a heart at Trick 9. You take this trick with dummy's ♥A and cash dummy's ♣10, pitching your heart loser on it. Cross-ruff.

This line of play also works if West holds the ♣KQJ or if there is 3-3 split in clubs with any high-card distribution.

Here is the full deal.

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

Look how instinctively, the mother croc carries the baby in its mouth.
Nature is beautiful.



19er and 49er Games

Our club instituted these two games for beginning players as a way of easing them into club play. Unfortunately, both games are poorly attended and sometimes don't even run. We realize that small games are not as much fun as big games – but if all of our newer players were to come out and play in these games, they would become big games.

- **If you have fewer than 50 master points, please consider coming out for this coming Monday afternoon's 49er game, starting at 12:30 pm (January 24).**
- **And if you have fewer than 20 master points, please consider coming out for this coming Thursday night's 19er game, starting at 6:30 pm (January 27).**

The most recent 19er and 49er games both ran with four tables. Let's keep the momentum building!

The game directors are always Margot or Ted. Both know you're new and will bend over backwards to help you out. And if you need a partner, please contact [Cheryl Kip](#).

Coming Virtual Events

- Friday, January 21, 12:30 pm, **99er game, (20-22 boards)** \$5
- Friday, January 21, 1:00 pm, **499er game (24 boards)** \$5
- Friday, January 21, 7:00 pm, **open game (24 boards)** \$5
- Saturday, January 22, 1:00 pm, **199er game (20-22 boards)** \$5
- Sunday, January 23, 10:00 am, **499er game (18 boards)** \$5
- Monday, January 24, 12:30 pm, **49er game (18 boards @ 8 minutes)** \$5
- Monday, January 24, 1:00 pm, **open game (24 boards)** \$5
- Monday, January 24, 7:00 pm, **499er game (24 boards)** \$5
- Tuesday, January 25, 12:30 pm, **199er game (20-22 boards)** \$5
- Tuesday, January 25, 1:00 pm, **open game (24 boards)** \$5
- Wednesday, January 26, 1:00 pm, **499er game (24 boards)** \$5
- Wednesday, January 26, 6:45 pm, **199er game (20-22 boards)** \$5
- Wednesday, January 26, 7:00 pm, **open game (24 boards)** \$5
- Thursday, January 27, 9:30 am, **99er game (20-22 boards)** \$5
- Thursday, January 27, 1:00 pm, **open game (24 boards)** \$5
- Thursday, January 27, 6:30 pm, **19er game** \$5
- Thursday, January 27, 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 sometimes use the rules of 15 and 20 at our **club**.