



PLAY AND LEARN BRIDGE IN A WELCOMING ENVIRONMENT

ALERT – June 17, 2024

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

Looking Ahead

- ♥ June 14-15: All F2F games will be **Membership games** – extra black points, no extra cost. Non-ACBL members can play in these games but will not be eligible for masterpoints...
- ♥ June 10-16: All BBO games will be **Silver Linings games**. \$1 surcharge, extra **silver** points
- ♥ June 17: Sue Moses will be teaching a bridge lab **mini-lesson introducing signals**
- ♥ June 17-21: All open F2F games will be **NAP games**, \$1 surcharge
- ♥ June 22-23: **BBO Charity games**, extra masterpoints, \$1 surcharge
- ♥ June 24: Cindy Mahn will be teaching a bridge lab **mini-lesson on reverses**
- ♥ June 28: **F2F POP-UP game** for the Friday afternoon 749 game. \$1 surcharge, 50% **red** points.
- ♥ June 29-30: [Thornhill Summer Sectional](#)
- ♥ June 30: BBO **POP-UP Games** (\$1BBO surcharge)
- ♥ July 1: There will be **no bridge lab on Canada Day**
- ♥ July 1: All of our games will proceed as usual on Canada Day. Please wear **red** and white to the afternoon F2F games. A photographer may be present.
- ♥ July 8-July 12: All open F2F games will be **NAP games**, \$1 surcharge
- ♥ July 18-28: [Toronto NABC](#)



A Warm Welcome to the Following New Club Members

- Kelly Kempel
 - Terry Visentin
-



to the following local players who were in the money last weekend at the Seaforth Tournament.

- **Jennifer Verdam and Adrian Record**, 1st in A, Percy Sheardown Open Pairs
- **Kathy Russell and Bob Griffiths**, 2nd in A, Percy Sheardown Open Pairs
- **Diane Bourdeau and Edith Ferber**, 6th in A, Percy Sheardown Open Pairs
- **Thea Davis and Margot Stockie**, 7th in A, Percy Sheardown Open Pairs
- **Paul Latimer and John Hanemaayer**, 3rd in B, Percy Sheardown Open Pairs
- **David Embury and Neil Coburn**, 4th in B, Percy Sheardown Open Pairs
- **Susan Kerrigan and Donna McKay**, 8th/9th in B, Percy Sheardown Open Pairs
- **Dave Baker, Bob Griffiths, Andy Stark, and Terrence Rego**, 1st in A, Sunday A/X Swiss Teams
- **Adrian Record, Jenn Verdam, Ted Boyd, and Diane Bourdeau**, 2nd in A, Sunday A/X Swiss Teams
- **Stephen Carpenter, Neil Jeffrey, Paul Latimer, and John Hanemaayer**, 1st in B, Sunday B/C Swiss Teams
- **Roy Dandyk, Suzanne Edwards, Neil Coburn, and David Embury**, 3rd in B, Sunday B/C Swiss Teams
- **Sue Moses, Brenda Semple, Cheryl Kip, and Lynda Burnett**, 2nd in C, Sunday B/C Swiss Teams



For Players with More Than One BBO ID

For all BBO players with more than one BBO ID - (your club manager login, your player login, your spouse's login) - please note that BBO has changed the way their logins work. Click [here](#) for more information.

This was done to make it easier for the 90% of their players with only one BBO login, - so for them, it just loads the page as already logged in and saves a step.

If you leave BBO by minimizing the "app" or without logging off, you will automatically be logged into BBO the next time you bring up the "app," or open a BBO window or tab. Your login will be the same ID with which you logged in last time.

If you use the LOG OFF button each time you leave BBO, it will then offer you the ability to choose your login ID each time. For those of you who go to BBO multiple times with multiple IDs, you should get in the habit of choosing LOG OFF every time you leave BBO.



Tell Me About It – Mistaken Explanation

When in the course of human events a bridge player gives an incorrect explanation of his partner's bid according to their convention card, an inescapable obligation is placed upon the latter to correct his partner's misinformation. However, this can not be done immediately – because it would cause the scales to fall from the eyes of the mistaken explainer and give him a chance to fix things. Thus, the correction must wait until at least the end of the auction or possibly until the end of the hand, depending on which side buys the contract.

If the miscreant pair is declaring, then the end of the auction is the time to produce the corrected explanation – because the new information will help only the defenders. If at this time the defenders feel they have been damaged by the incorrect explanation, they should summon the director.

If the miscreant pair is defending, then the corrected explanation must wait until the hand is over – because the new information may help their defence. Once again, if the innocent pair feel they have been damaged by the incorrect explanation, they should summon the director.

Next week: Why you are not allowed to hear your partner's announcements and alerts.

On Track... ..To Online



AND THE WINNER IS... It's Lucky Week 7 of our **online playing draw** and we have our next winner, **JOAN HARTVIKSEN! Congratulations** to Joan who competed (with 15 other players) for **Red** points in our 299er game on Tuesday, June 4. We had **65** entries this week, to win a \$25 gift card from Timmies. **Every time a current GRBC member**

plays in one of our online games, their name goes into the draw. Play with us on BBO by Monday, and the next winner could be you!



GRBC Membership Renewal Drive 2024-2025

Contributed by Joan Slover

Memberships ... are off to a great start! **The number of our fully-paid up members stood at 113 as of Thursday!**

Just to note, if you are using a debit card payment at our club you need to see the game director first (sorry we have only one Interac machine) but then proceed over to the membership table to verify that the membership person has highlighted your name to show that you have paid. Cash (\$70) is great since the membership minion doesn't have much change. No \$100 bills, please, unless you want to made a charitable donation! Cheques are the best! We can see who you are, what you are paying for, and no change is required.



I'm not saying that I need it, but I would feel better if I had it.....



Bean There Done That

Contributed by Steve Allen, Treasurer (GrandRiverBridgeClubTreasurer@gmail.com)

There is an **urban myth** about the cost to GRBC when paying for our products and services via e-transfer. For example, people feel compelled to add \$1.25 to a \$70 membership fee. This article explains why you do not have to do this.

We use TD Canada Trust (TDCT) as our bank. They need to make as much money as they can to keep their shareholders happy. One of their ways of generating income (and screwing the customer) is to charge transaction fees. Yes, we could use a fee-free Credit Union “bank” but you and I know how difficult it is to change your bank, your insurance company, your weight, your name, your spouse, etc. It is called human inertia.

Our first 30 TDCT transactions are free of fees each month. After that, they charge \$1.25 per transaction. It’s important to know what transactions are subject to a fee and which ones are not. The number in [=parenthesis], below, shows an approximate count of these each month.

\$1.25 fee is charged for money going out of our bank account:

- Cheques to pay expenses (eg Dare Foods rent) [=8]
- Credit card payments where the vendor prefers to receive payment from us this way (for example, ACBL). There is only one TDCT transaction: a cheque to pay off the credit card balance each month [=1]
- GRBC is not permitted to make e-transfers [=0]

\$0 fee is charged for money going out of our bank account:

- Direct payments where we’ve authorized the vendor to take money directly out of our account (for example, Bell Canada) [=2]

\$1.25 fee is charged for money coming into our bank account:

- e-Transfer payments (eg renewing membership) - via Interac [=TBD: ask me in a month 😊]
- Direct deposit for vendors who prefer this payment method (for example, ACBL) [=1]

\$0 fee is charged for money coming into our bank account:

- Cash and cheque deposits totalling <\$5,000 [=0]
- Debit card payments (for example, buying a cheat sheet) – via the SquareUp device
- Credit card payments (for example, buying a convenience card) – via the SquareUp device. *We discourage VISA and MasterCard payments because of the hefty 3% credit card fees that get passed along to us from SquareUp.*
- NOTE: SquareUp merges all of the debit and credit transactions for the day into a single deposit. TDCT does not charge us for the deposit [=0], but SquareUp reduces the deposit amount by their fee.

Back to the urban myth: there are several transactions for which we could be charged a banking fee ... not just those e-transfers!

Good news! Except for the membership drive in June and lesson enrolments in August-September, we don’t pay any TDCT banking fees in the other months (there’s fewer than 30 fee-able transactions). We will likely incur about \$160 in banking fees for the year. It’s just the cost of doing business, folks.

From the Archives - Conventional Wisdom

Convention cards are what we call those small 8" by 9" pieces of paper used to record partnership agreements and secondarily to keep score on the other side. The ACBL requires everyone to display an easily-accessible filled-out convention card, and furthermore both partners are required to have identical cards (this requirement is honoured more in the breach than in the observance, at our club at least). The idea is that the opponents should be able to look at your card as an alternative to questioning you about your partner's bid. Filling out a convention card with your partner is a good idea - as you'd be amazed at how often it comes in handy to understand your partner's bids. Some regular partners have very detailed agreements on their convention cards, but this is not at all necessary.

As a matter of fact, when you're starting out it's wise to have as few conventions as possible. KEEP IT SIMPLE STUPID works for the US Navy, and it works for bridge as well.



Learning at your Leisure

We have the following recorded lessons available for the modest fee of \$10. To order one or more of our lessons, send an etransfer to GrandRiverBridgeClubTreasurer@gmail.com and then write to [Rita](#) specifying which lesson(s) you are interested in.

- Opening Leads (Stephen Carpenter) (2 hours, 35 minutes)
 - Third-Seat Play (Stephen Carpenter) (39 minutes)
 - Defensive Signals (Stephen Carpenter) (1 hour, 45 minutes)
 - Second Seat Play (Stephen Carpenter) (1 hour, 21 minutes)
 - Discards and Strategies (Stephen Carpenter) (1 hour, 6 minutes)
 - Playing in Our Online Games (Jack Cole) (27 minutes)
 - Scoring Matters (Jack Cole) (2 hours, six minutes)
 - Get That Extra Trick by Playing Card Combinations Correctly (Stephen Carpenter) (2 hours, 8 minutes)
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Player Profile – Sandra Stone

Contributed by Louise Dawdy

This week, we are happy to introduce Sandra Stone. Sandra hails from Sault Ste Marie where her early career in newspaper advertising began in The Sault at the *Sault Star*. Years ago, thanks to the *Waterloo Record*, Sandra was lured to our area. As she did not have a post-secondary degree at the time, she took full advantage of the educational opportunities available in our community and completed a part-time business administration degree at WLU.

Sandra left her career in the newspaper advertising business to become National Marketing Manager of a Kitchener-based jewellery store chain during its expansion mode (from eight to 32 stores during her tenure). From there, Sandra joined Ivanhoe Cambridge, in their Shopping Division. All the while, Sandra continued with her formal education, achieving three industry-specific professional designations through the International Council of Shopping Centres (ICSC).

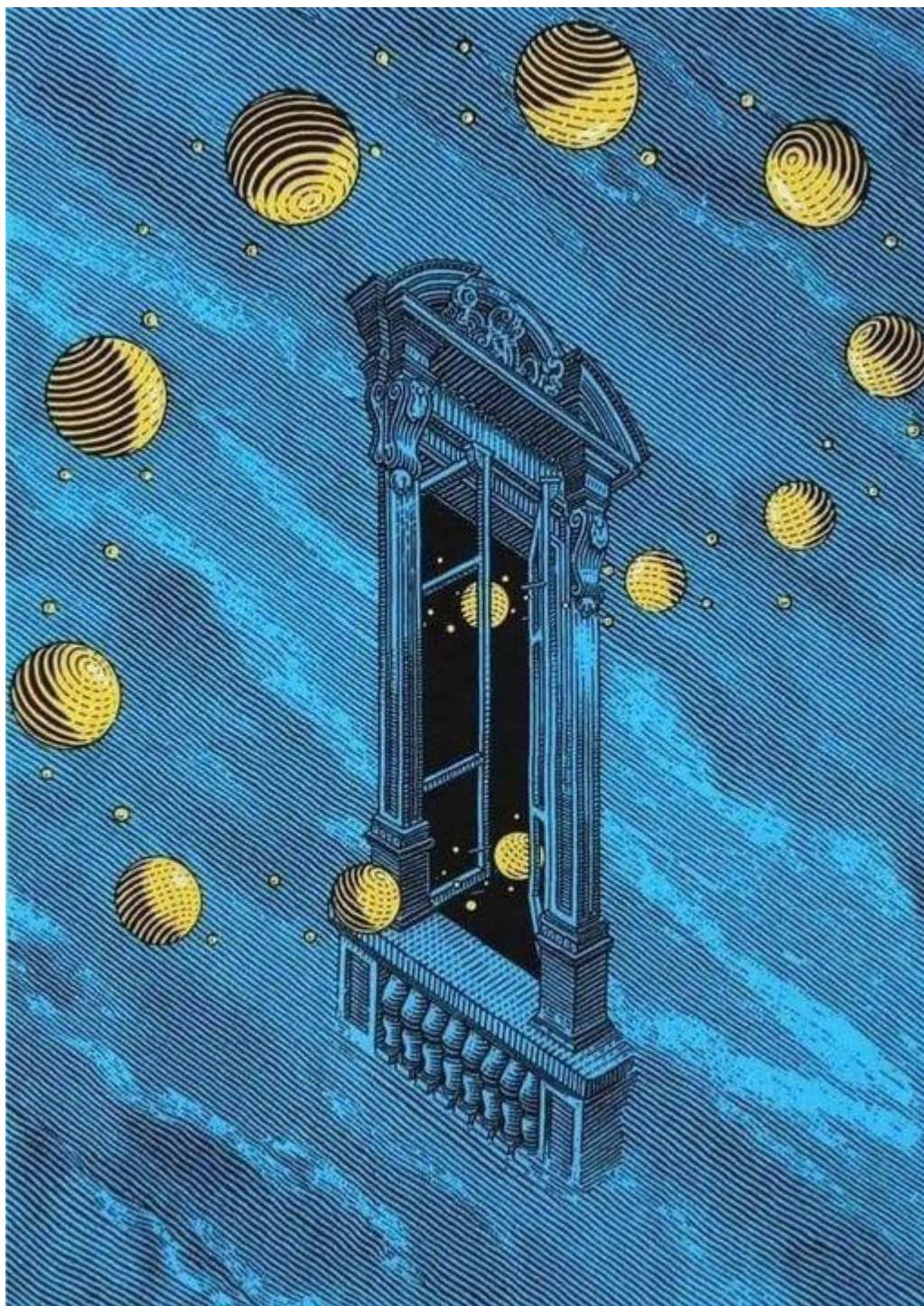
Sandra went on to become the ICSC's Canadian representative on their Professional Development Committee, teaching their Shopping Centre Management course at US conferences and seminars. Following a life of transfers to different Ontario cities, Sandra asked to return to K/W, where she managed Conestoga Mall for the last 20+ years of her "working life".

As Sandra's busy career came to a close, it became apparent that retirement would not be easy without some form of mental challenge. Having read that bridge was the chess of card games, Sandra took bridge lessons just before the pandemic, and then quickly forgot everything she had learned during lockdown. In the fall of 2023, Sandra retook lessons, this time at GRBC, where she learned and retained much more of the basics. Sandra found the classes to be quite comprehensive and quickly realized the significant benefit of playing at GRBC, where the atmosphere is encouraging to beginners, enabling them to continue to learn without fear of mistakes. Aside from bridge, Sandra's free time is shared with volunteer work, which includes being a member of the Board of Governors of the Grand River Hospital Foundation, as well as participating in the Women's Leadership and Ambassador Committees of the Greater Waterloo Chamber of Commerce.

Sandra has also enjoyed a 40-year+ friendship with a group of ladies (Stitch & Bitch) that meet regularly as well as enjoy outings and trips together. Her favourite travel memory was in Zimbabwe and Botswana: seeing Victoria Falls, riding an elephant, and seeing wildlife up close. Although Sandra's family lives all over Canada and the US, she keeps in regular contact through text, phone, and visits. During hockey season, she watches a lot of hockey as she has two nephews in the NHL. Sandra even has bragging rights that she has sipped from the Stanley Cup! One of Sandra's nephews is Mark Stone, the Captain of the Vegas Golden Knights; the other is Michael Stone. Although now retired from the Calgary Flames, Michael still works in player development.

Sandra is also an avid gardener. In her latest undertaking, she removed all the sod from her backyard and planted native species, as well as installing a special drainage system with a French drain. She reflects that she not sure she would repeat the exercise as it used to take her 20 minutes to mow the lawn, whereas now it takes four hours a week to weed it!

Insofar as bridge tips go, Sandra recommends just to pay attention and have fun: every bid means something; every card and the order of play affects the outcome; and every suggestion from a more-experienced player is helpful.



The Window Paradox by Istvan Orosz



Dear David

Longest, Not Strongest

Early in our bridge-basics instruction, we learned that with two suits of equal length, we should open the higher-ranking suit first and then bid the lower-ranking suit twice, if possible. I've often observed players opening their second-longest suit first because their longest suit was a minor and didn't have as many high cards as their longest suit. Here is an example.

♠ AKJ85 ♥ ---- ♦ Q2 ♣ QJ9753

Since we always look for the highest-scoring strain (NT, followed by majors, followed by minors), opening 1♠ seems to give you a better shot at the biggest plus score. What they fail to realize until it's too late is that you will be poorly-situated to convince partner than you have a playable six-card club suit. An auction may go: 1♠-1NT 2♣-2♥ 3♣-? Responder is 2-2 (or even 1-1) in the black suits and reverts to 3♣ because if both spades and clubs make nine tricks, 140 is better than 110. What happens if you open 1♣ with the same hand? 1♣-1♥ 1♠-1NT 2♠-3♣ passed out. Responder knows that you have longer clubs than spades (always open your longest suit first) and has a chance to safely get out early. Here is the hand that caused the problem for us:

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

Partner knew to open 1♣. After my 1NT response, he dutifully bid 2♣. His 2♣ shows one of two types of hands – either a hand with six clubs and five spades, or a traditional reverse showing four spades, 18-19 HCP, and a balanced hand. At this point, the auction went awry. Since 2♣ might be a reverse with a hand that lacks stoppers in all suits (♠ AKJ4 ♥ 42 ♦ A53 ♣ AK86), I was forced to bid again. Usually, I would bid 2NT to give partner room to further describe his hand by rebidding spades or by bidding anything else, which would promise reversing values. On this hand, given my very poor red suit holdings, I chose to bid 3♣, knowing that he MUST bid again. Unfortunately, he forgot the part about promising to bid again, so we played in 3♣, making four. Fortunately, four tables played in the spade game and failed when the spades split badly and the opponents were in a heart game (making) at the other two tables. We ended up with a top score for our poor bidding. It happens.

One more point about six-five hands. Let's change the East hand a little.

♠ AKJ83 ♥ --- ♦ Q2 ♣ KQJ975 – After 1♣-1NT 2♠-3♣, you can jump to 4♠ with a stronger hand. If partner has ♠Q or ♦K or ♣A (or the ♥A, if they lead a heart), 4♠ will make. If none of that transpires, maybe the ♠Q will drop under the AK of spades. Well worth a jump to game.

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

No. 143

♠ 9843
 ♥ A876
 ♦ 1075
 ♣ J9



♠ K76
 ♥ K109432
 ♦ A8
 ♣ AK

West	North	East	South
		Pass	1♥
2♦	3♥*	Pass	4♥
All pass			

* Weak jump, 6- HCP

I was South, declaring a 4♥ contract. West led the ♦K, ducked all the way around. West continued with the ♦Q and I won the second trick with my ♦A. everyone following.

At Trick 3, I played my ♥K which felled West's ♥5 and East's ♥Q.

At Trick 4, I played my ♥10 to dummy's ♥A and East's ♥J, while West discarded a small club. If you were in my shoes, what would you do now?

SOLUTION

Your problem is the spade suit. If the ♠A is in East's hand, you will be able to score the ♠K by leading a spade from dummy up to it. Given the bidding, however, East is unlikely to hold the ♠A.

Can you make West lead away from his ♠A? In order to do this, you need to execute a strip and end play. And if your strip and end play doesn't work for some reason, you can always fall back on the probably-doomed spade finesse.

Here is the correct play.

At Tricks 5 and 6, cash your ♣ AK to eliminate both yours and dummy's clubs. Both East and West will follow suit.

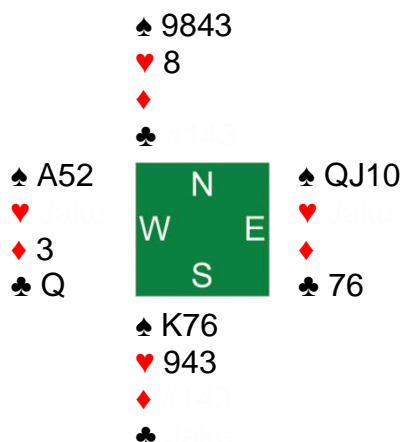
At Trick 7, enter dummy with a heart. The opponents will discard trivial cards.

At Trick 8, lead the ♦10 from dummy and cross your fingers that East does not cover (from the first two tricks you can guess that West has the ♦KQJ sequence but, who knows, prayers may be needed).

Your prayers (or bridge logic) will work! East will contribute the ♦9. Now the \$64,000 question is which card you should play from your hand? Ruff? Nooo, but rather discard a small spade!

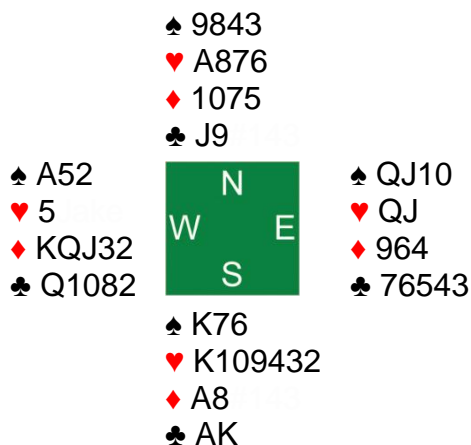
Now West is in the hot seat. If he refuses to take this trick, you will make your contract that way (losing only two spades and a diamond); while if he takes the trick (more likely), he is now faced with an impossible lead problem.

Here is the five-card ending with West on lead.



- If he exits with a diamond or a club, he will give you a ruff-sluff that allows you to eliminate one of your hand's spade losers.
- If he exits with a small spade, you can score your ♠K.
- His best defence is to take the ♠A and exit with another spade, but it doesn't really do him any good because now you can take a trick with your ♠K for your tenth trick.

No matter what West leads, you can always restrict your spade losers to two and make your contract. Here is the complete hand.



This technique is called a strip and end play. Although it sounds vaguely risqué, it is performed fully-clothed.

From Church Bulletins

Low Self Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7 PM. Please use the back door.

Pot-luck supper Sunday at 5:00 PM - prayer and medication to follow.

Miss Charlene Mason sang 'I will not pass this way again', giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.

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 May.

Open Players			499er Players			99er Players		
	Name	MP		Name	MP		Name	MP
1	David Baker	22.93	1	Cheryl White	8.96	1	Peter Gaasenbeek	8.59
2	Cindy Mahn	20.14	2	John Kip	8.64	2	Randall DeKraker	8.05
3	Mike Peng	16.88	3	Kevin Latter	7.26	3	Sharon Nesbitt	6.32
4	Roy Dandyk	16.85	4	Brian Gaber	6.81	4	Andrew Widdis	6.14
5	Edith Ferber	14.75	5	Rick Arthur	6.72	5	Sheila Charters	5.88
6	Ted Boyd	14.16	6	Jack Cole	6.28	6	Mark Sherwood	5.65
7	Kathy Russell	13.97	7	David Dennis	5.54	6	Doug Fickling	5.65
8	Margot Stockie	12.45	8	Marlene Dopko	5.41	8	Richard Rybiak	4.23
9	Malkin Howes	11.85	9	Anita Hanson	5.37	8	George Rybiak	4.23
10	Suzanne Edwards	11.79	10	Barb Neibert	5.32	10	Pat Northey	4.18
11	Moirra Hollingsworth	11.45	11	Virginia Alviano	5.04	11	Nancy Kennedy	3.77
12	Stephen Young	11.42	12	Bev Hitchman	5.01	12	JP Fraresso	3.72
13	Barbara Arthur	11.20	13	Bob GiiLck	4.76	13	Phil DeMontigny	3.39
14	Pat McMillan	8.67	14	Renate Boucher	4.58	14	Casi Zehr	3.22
15	Jim Dalgliesh	8.58	15	Martin Jones	4.44	15	Judy Charbonneau	3.07
16	Dave Embury	7.66	16	Elinor Girouard	4.25	16	Pat Pietrek	3.01
17	Neil Jeffrey	7.64	17	Cheryl Kip	3.95	17	Robert Darby	2.92
18	Dave Quarrie	7.42	18	Andy Martinek	3.80	18	Russel Kerr	2.72
19	Lori Cole	6.80	19	Vivian McLellan	3.70	19	Sonja Miner	2.54
20	Neil Coburn	6.61	19	Judy Widdecombe	3.70	20	Pat Gascho	2.47
21	Steve Carpenter	6.59	21	ML Benjamins	3.62	21	Debbie Miethig	2.36
22	Dianne Aves	6.37	22	Sue Peterson	3.42	22	Sandra Stone	2.26
23	Susan Lawton	6.17	23	Steve Allen	3.38	23	Larry Brooks	2.08
24	Ron VanDerZwaag	5.66	24	Gordon Hunter	3.24	24	Carla Laubach	2.01
25	Lynda Burnett	5.38	25	Marg Sorensen	3.18	25	Don Slowinski	1.97
						25	Ben Cornell	1.97

If you would like to play in a particular game but lack a partner that day, you can either:

- For both online and F2F games, log on 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. *When you use Partner Finder, it will allow folks to see your contact information. If you have posted a Partner Finder ad, kindly remember to check your phone and email and, when you've found a partner, delete your ad. Someone who replied to your ad may be waiting for a response.*
- For online games only, log in to the game in question and register yourself on the Partnership Desk tab (or look to see if someone else has already registered there).

If you are looking for a regular partner, contact [Joan Slover](#), our membership lead. Please let her know what sort of game/partner you are interested in – your playing level, your available time slots, F2F and/or online, and any other pertinent information.

We have fun in **spades**.

We play with all our **hearts**.

We treat our members like **diamonds**.

It's time to renew your membership at our **club**.