



PLAY AND LEARN BRIDGE IN A WELCOMING ENVIRONMENT

## ALERT – May 20, 2024

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

### Looking Ahead

- ♥ May 13-19: Our BBO games will be **NABC Fundraiser games**. \$1 surcharge, extra masterpoints
  - ♥ May 17: the **Friday night open game** is cancelled.
  - ♥ May 20: There will be **no bridge lab on Victoria Day**
  - ♥ May 20: All of the games on Victoria Day will proceed as usual (but everyone will be wearing crowns).
  - ♥ May 24: There will be **no Friday night game**
  - ♥ May 25 and 26: **All of our games are cancelled because of.....**
  - ♥ May 25-26: [The Grand River \(Cambridge\) Sectional](#)
  - ♥ May 27: Roy Dandyk will be teaching a bridge lab **mini-lesson analyzing the hand records** from the Saturday 99er game
  - ♥ May 27–June 1: All F2F games will be **Club Championship games** – extra black points, no extra cost
  - ♥ May 31–June 2: [Niagara Sectional 0-750 Tournament](#)
  - ♥ June 3: Dave Quarrie will be teaching a bridge lab **mini-lesson on card combinations** in Play of the Hand (Suits)
  - ♥ June 3-9: all BBO games are **NAP games** – extra half red points, \$1 surcharge
  - ♥ June 8-9: [Toronto 0-500 Sectional Tournament](#)
  - ♥ June 8-9: [Goderich \(Seaforth\) Sectional](#)
  - ♥ June 10: Jack Cole will be teaching a bridge lab **mini-lesson on scoring** via Zoom
  - ♥ June 10-15: 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 10-15: all BBO games will be **Silver Linings games**. \$1 surcharge, extra **silver** points
  - ♥ June 17-21: all open games will be **NAP games**, \$1 surcharge
  - ♥ June 22-23: **BBO Charity games**, extra masterpoints, \$1 surcharge
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### Congratulations

to the following local players who won extra masterpoints in the **STaC games** in the second half of last week...

- **Jim Dalgliesh and Suzanne Edwards**, 1<sup>st</sup> in A, Wednesday afternoon 749 game
- **Kathy Burns and Sally Turnbull**, 2<sup>nd</sup> in A, Wednesday afternoon 749 game
- **Joan Stroud and Audrey Cook**, 1<sup>st</sup> in A, Wednesday afternoon 299 game

- **Virginia Alviano and Nanci Phelan**, 2<sup>nd</sup> in A, Wednesday afternoon 299 game
- **Steve Allen and Joe Blake**, 3<sup>rd</sup> in A, Wednesday afternoon 299 game
- **Louise and David Bell**, 6<sup>th</sup> in A, Wednesday afternoon 299 game
- **Pat Gascho and Donna McKay**, 5<sup>th</sup> in B, Wednesday afternoon 299 game
- **Jim Dalgliesh and John Kip**, 1<sup>st</sup> in A, Friday afternoon 749 game
- **Roy Dandyk and David Embury**, 2<sup>nd</sup> in A, Friday afternoon 749 game
- **Peter Gaasenbeek and Andrew Widdis**, 3<sup>rd</sup> in A, Friday afternoon 749 game
- **Doug Fickling and Mark Sherwood**, 4<sup>th</sup> in A, Friday afternoon 749 game
- **Peter Hambly and Charles Walkey**, 5<sup>th</sup> in A, Friday afternoon 749 game
- **David Dennis and Robert Gilck**, 6<sup>th</sup> in A, Friday afternoon 749 game
- **Pat McDonald and Ginny Scott**, 3<sup>rd</sup> in B, Friday afternoon 749 game
- **Louise Dawdy and Kevin Latter**, 4<sup>th</sup> in B, Friday afternoon 749 game
- **Allan Coyne and Allen Pengelly**, 1<sup>st</sup> in A, Friday night open game
- **Robert Griffiths and Adrian Record**, 2<sup>nd</sup> in A, Friday night open game
- **Edith Ferber and Kathy Russell**, 3<sup>rd</sup> in A, Friday night open game

Click [here](#) for full results.

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## Tell Me About It - Alerts and Announcements

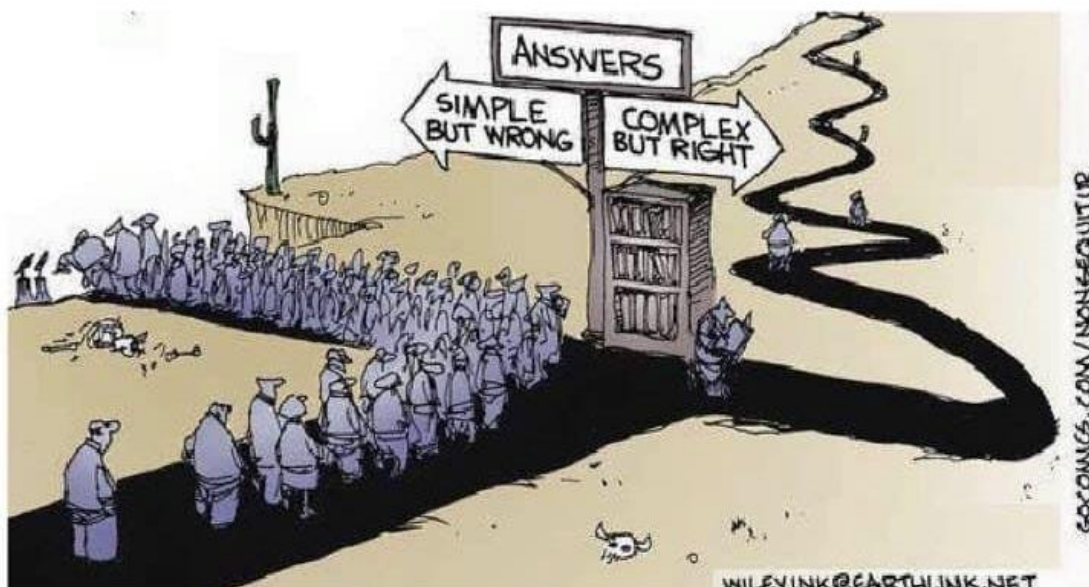
Last week, we promised to tell you about [announceable](#) bids. There are only four situations where an announcement is required. **In club games:**

- If your partner opens 1♣ or 1♦ and he or she might have fewer than three cards in that suit, you must say "could be short".
- If your partner opens 1NT, you must announce your agreed point range (usually 15-17).
- If your partner opens 1NT and you make a transfer bid (2♦ or 2♥), your partner must say the name of the suit you are transferring to (either "hearts" or "spades").
- If your partner opens 1♥ or 1♠ and your agreement is that a bid of 1NT is forcing or semi-forcing in that situation, your partner must say "forcing" or "semi-forcing" if you respond 1NT.

**In online games**, the announcements are the same, but the person making the announceable bid has to type the announcement on the line underneath his or her bid.

Next week, the [alertable](#) bids.

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*Contributed by Sue Peterson*

Never been to a tournament – What to expect?

One always remembers their first bridge tournament. Mine was a Sectional (just like our upcoming tournament) that was held at the Hespeler Arena in Cambridge in 2015. My partner and I kept talking ourselves into going and then into not going, but fortunately our bridge ultra egos that love the game won out and we went to our first tournament.

Boy, were we glad we did! We got there super early to scope out the venue and realized it was totally easy to sign up for a session. There was a bit of a line-up, but everyone was very helpful. I'm sure we looked totally overwhelmed, but we managed to find the line for novice players and everything flowed smoothly from there.

When you come, make sure you know your current number of masterpoints. This will help you find the correct section.... Heaven forbid you end up in an Open Players game!

Once you are signed in, it is easy breezy.... Well except for maybe the bridge (which can always be a challenge). The various sections of play are by colour – so easy to find. I have no idea how the two directors managed the whole tournament, but they did so with style and efficiency.

You're playing with those at the same level and you will meet some nice people from all over Ontario and even the U.S. My main piece of advice is to relax..... relax and enjoy yourself. Everyone is in the same boat. As novices, you're all a bit nervous and want to do your best.

My partner and I came home with a few masterpoints, which was just the icing on the cake. We were very proud of ourselves and have been to quite a few subsequent tournaments.

- If you don't have a partner, [Moirra Hollingsworth](#) would be delighted to find you one.
- Lunch will be available for purchase.
- Lots of our members bring home-baked goodies, yum! (Yours will be greatly appreciated!)

Click [here](#) for more information.

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## Just Can't Get Alert Enough?

The Alert archives are [here](#).

You don't need to be a member of our club to receive our newsletter – so please feel free to tell your non-Alert bridge-playing friends about it, perhaps forwarding this issue to them.

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## The Answer Lady is Back!

Contributed by Susan Lawton

As the “The Answer Lady” I have been responding to questions from “newer” players. A request has been made to share those players’ questions and my responses in the Alert, essentially a column for the beginner player! You can write to me at [suzan2420@yahoo.ca](mailto:suzan2420@yahoo.ca).

### Question

My partner and I played the hand below in a recent online game. My partner sitting South opened the bidding with a 2♣ bid. As North, I responded 2♦, a waiting bid. South then jumped to 4♠ to show that long spade suit. We ended up making six spades! Answer Lady, how should the bidding have gone on this hand? Is it feasible to bid to slam? Signed, two newer players

South Deals     ♠ 10 8 5 3  
E-W Vul         ♥ 5  
                     ♦ K Q 7 2  
                     ♣ 10 8 6 5

♠ 9  
♥ 10 8 7 3  
♦ 10 9 4 3  
♣ A J 3 2



♠ 7 4  
♥ K 9 6 4  
♦ J 8 6 5  
♣ K Q 7

West	North	East	South
			2♣
Pass	2♦	Pass	4♠
All pass			

♠ A K Q J 6 2  
♥ A Q J 2  
♦ A  
♣ 9 4

### Answer

Thank you, Newer Players, for sharing this hand and the associated questions. On occasion, players who open with a strong 2♣ bid feel the weight of responsibility and want to ensure they reach game in their preferred suit. The bidding 2♣-2♦-4♠ hints at that approach. We’ve all been there! South is telling their partner “I have a strong hand and want to play this game in spades”. Unfortunately, when South jumps immediately to 4♠, it ends any further discussion or the possibility of exploring for a slam contract. With a more measured approach, the bidding might go: 2♣-2♦-2♠-4♠ (whereby North says that they have spade support but minimal values).

At this point, South can determine whether or not to proceed. Given the two red flags - North has reported minimal values and South has a worthless club doubleton - it would be quite logical to remain at 4♠. Yes, it is true that six spades was made on this hand, but that is likely because West’s opening lead allowed South to draw trumps, cash the ♦A, and discard their two club losers on dummy’s ♦K and ♦Q.

There is a strong possibility that if North/South were to bid 6♠ the opponents would find their two club winners right off the bat (although it is by no means certain that West would find the winning ♣A lead).

The principle of fast arrival (for example a jump to game) shows a minimum hand and no slam interest. South’s hand was strong enough to warrant slow arrival – but in the final analysis, North’s minimal values (shown by his fast arrival) coupled with South’s two losing clubs should convince South to pass 4♠.

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On Track... To Online



**AND THE WINNER IS...** It's already Week 3 of our **online playing draw!** Congratulations to the winner this week: **Molly Worden**. Molly played in our Tuesday afternoon 299 game. Every time a **current GRBC member** plays in one of our **online games**, their name goes into the draw to win a \$25 Timmies gift card. Play with us on BBO by Monday evening, and the next winner could be you!

The Otto (On Track To Online) Team notes that we had only **66 entries** this week, exactly 100 fewer than the Week 3 draw back in January. Some of our club's online games did not run due to too few players. As you shop for online games to play in, please remember that the **best** thing that you can do for GRBC is to **play in our games**. This builds not only our coffers, but also community amongst fellow club players who can play only online. When you choose to play in non-GRBC games, it increases the chances that our games will be cancelled. In other words, it impacts your fellow members. Surely this is not what you really want.

Please "come home" to GRBC. There are other things as important as large master point awards. Plus, many of our club games feature up to **33% more boards** for the same price! And, for a few more weeks, there is the LOTTO online draw for Timmies cards!

- Our 199 BBO game is Thursday at 9:25 am.
- Our 299 BBO game is Tuesday at 12:30 pm.
- Our 499 BBO game is Saturday at 1:00 pm.
- Our 749 BBO games are Sunday at 10:00 am, Monday at 7:00 pm, Wednesday at 1:00 pm, and Thursday at 9:30 am.
- Our open game is Sunday at 10:05 am. Thank you!



## Bean There Done That

Contributed by Steve Allen, Treasurer ([GrandRiverBridgeClubTreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:GrandRiverBridgeClubTreasurer@gmail.com))  
To be or not to be ... that is the question.

We are two weeks away from the annual membership drive. As Willie Shakespeare postulated in the original version of the story about those two crazy kids, Mack & Beth, why should you become (renew) a member of the GRBC? Here's the cost structure.

- 2024-2025 GRBC membership fees will be unchanged at 7,000 pennies or the equivalent in dollars
- Member costs for playing in GRBC F2F games will hold steady at \$8 (or \$7.50 with a purchase of a 10-game convenience card for \$75)
- Non-member costs for playing in GRBC F2F games will continue to be \$10 (or \$10 with the purchase of a 10-game convenience card for \$100)
- BBO costs will be identical for members and non-members ... currently \$5BBO (roughly \$6.75CDN)

Now back to Mack and what's-her-name. Let's look do the simple arithmetic:  $\$70/\$2=35$ . That means the breakeven point is playing 35 F2F games over the course of the year. That is less than one game per week! Such a bargain!\*

\*If you take lessons, you save money there as well, lowering the breakeven point even more. Click [here](#) for other advantages of membership.



## **Player Profile – Paul Quinn**

*Contributed by Anita Hanson*

Every club needs lively and enthusiastic new members, and GRBC has certainly found one in Paul Quinn. He is brand new — Paul and his wife Val took the last beginners' class and were instantly hooked, but have still only had the opportunity to make it to club games a couple of times.

They have bravely chosen to play together, and so far it seems to be working. Social, as well as enthusiastic, they have already connected with other new players they met at the lessons, and are playing/practising with them in the evenings. It is the complexity of the game, and the opportunity to continue learning forever that appeals to him most. They are both finding GRBC exceptionally supportive, and are very happy to have joined.

Born in Edinburgh, Scotland, Paul came to Canada with his family at the age of five, settled in K/W, and has been here ever since. He attended Eastwood Collegiate and has worked for many years as a trainer in the hydraulic industry. Val is also a long-term employee, but in a different line — she is a food safety consultant, helping food industry producers get everything right. They have four grown children.

Unfortunately, they both love their jobs... which means they aren't planning on retiring any time soon — so it will be a long time before they are able to play any more than the Saturday morning games at the club.

A love of travel seems to be almost universal among bridge players, and Paul is no exception. He not only travels this country extensively for his work, but also he and Val enjoy exploring the globe on their holidays, often enjoying a warm Caribbean getaway in the winter and finding more far-flung adventures in the summer (including an eight-day rafting trip through the Grand Canyon!) Iceland is in their calendar for this July.

Bridge is not Paul's only card game. He is also an avid Texas hold 'em player, playing in several tournaments (often in the money), including the World Series of Poker Senior Championship.

As a beginner himself, Paul's favourite bridge tip is aimed at other beginners: Make sure you understand the game well enough to be able to respond adequately to your partner.

Outgoing, friendly, and voluble, Paul will be a spirited and very welcome addition to our club.

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## Bridge Jargon

*Contributed by Lissa Lowes*

Outsiders say that bridge players speak another language, and I think that's very true. Even using the word outsiders is revealing. When talking to another bridger, we quickly slip into the unique vocabulary, idioms, and short cuts that are the language of bridge.

Here are a few choice phrases – how many do you know??

- chunky 14 count
- Q third
- went for a number
- yarborough
- moose
- not through the Iron Duke
- crashing opp's honours
- on the table
- tight
- seven-bagger
- the death distribution
- quacks
- split your honours
- K and 3 rags

Please feel free to send your answers to [me](#). Perhaps the editor can be persuaded to give a prize to the person who gets the most right. Answers in the next edition of the Alert.

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Verbing weirds me.

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## Tales from Gatlinburg ... I Carried Dave Baker to his Best Finish

*Contributed by Kathy Russell*

A month before the tournament, my partner for Wednesday/Thursday had to cancel. Fortunately (?) for me, Dave Baker was also without a partner for those days, so he agreed to play with me. For years before Covid, I would play in the open game and frequently say to the table "I didn't know how to bid this hand", and Dave Baker (among others) would generously tell me what I should have done. (I have written down pages of bridge tips from Dave and other open players. Thank you all!) I have been blessed to play every other Monday afternoon with Dave since Covid and I am very grateful to him and for his mentoring.

However, I have only 900 masterpoints and he has almost 14,000. Playing with him in a tournament like Gatlinburg means playing teams that have multiple Dave Bakers on them, and I was very worried about letting him and the rest of our team down. Dianne Aves and Bruce Roberts agreed to be our teammates, and they are also really good players. My 900 masterpoints made me the lowest member of the team by far.

On Wednesday morning, we played knock-outs (Bracket 2) where we were pitted against a team with at least one professional player. So, in the afternoon we played the Side Swiss where Dave and I played against Jay Whipple III and Billy Cohen (a professional with substantially more points than even Dave Baker!). Anyway, we won a couple of matches but didn't end up in the money.

In the Thursday Bracketed Teams, we were in Bracket 3 of 16! (The teams are ranked by total masterpoints and bracketed into groups of nine: the top nine teams are in Bracket 1, etc. So, our team fell into the group of teams 19-27 out of 149 teams!

Before the first match I asked Dave if I should do anything differently today. Dave said "This is the nicest thing I am going to say to you all day. Play like you did yesterday." What a huge compliment!

I was by no means perfect Thursday, but our team still finished fourth in Bracket 3 and got over eight gold points in a hugely-difficult field. Mike Peng, who was a member of the team that won Bracket 5, told me that he would rather be fourth in Bracket 3 than first in Bracket 5 because the competition is so much more difficult in Bracket 3.

When the Gatlinburg week was over, I commented to Dave that of all the partners he played with in Gatlinburg, he had his best finish playing with me, the player with the fewest masterpoints by far of his partners! (And if you actually believe that I carried Dave, there's some swampland I'd like to sell you. Dave was a super partner and carried me. He never made me feel like he felt he was stuck with me and would rather be playing with someone else.

While he doesn't give out compliments willingly, he never said a sharp word to me when I made a silly mistake. He also trusted me and never put me in a difficult/confusing situation. Thank you for playing with me, Dave!)





## From the Archives – Face-Down Opening Leads

The first thing to make clear is that it is the card that must be face-down - not the player - on the opening lead. Now that this important distinction has been spelled out, let's tackle the reasoning behind it. The opening lead is often crucially important - Larry Cohen likes to tell about a hand (in a world championship game) where the choice of opening lead made a difference of 26 tricks!

So, the opening leader would very much like to get it right, and of course it would be great if his or her partner could just tell him what card to lead - but that wouldn't be cricket (or bridge)!

There are sometimes ways and means, however - for example, if the opening leader's partner were to ask some very pointed questions about what the opponents meant when they bid a particular suit, his interest in that suit might tip off the opening leader as to the best lead. That is why **only the opening leader** is allowed to ask questions about the opponents' bids before selecting his or her lead.

But, by the same token it obviously wouldn't be fair to totally bar the other defender from asking questions about the auction. So, as a compromise, after the opening leader has asked his questions about the auction, he must place his opening lead face-down on the table and say

"Do *you* have any questions, partner?" At this point, the opening leader's partner may ask questions to his heart's content - but the opening lead cannot be changed. Once the opening leader's partner has asked all his questions or indicated that he has no questions, then the opening lead is flipped over and the play of the hand begins.

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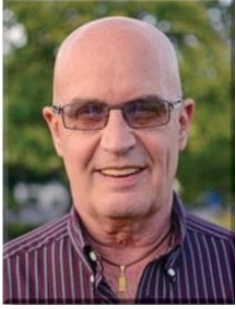
## Say Cheese

Here is Ron Van Der Zwaag showcasing one of the cheese arrays at selected club games. Not exactly cheesecake, but you get the idea.

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Brain cells die, skin cells  
die, even hair cells die.

But FAT CELLS... must have  
accepted Jesus Christ as  
their Lord and Savior  
because they seem to have  
eternal life.



## Dear David

### More Far-Flung Tales

One year Fran Chivers and I went to a different Mexican resort. It had been closed for a few years in order to make extensive repairs and upgrades. When we saw the upgrades and the price (a little less than Cancun), we got on board. (I believe the cost almost doubled the following year.)

It was situated on a huge property. Each separate building had four discrete living spaces spaced far apart on a large oval road. You could either wait until a golf-cart came by to pick you up (they circled the oval all day) and take you to the main complex, or you could take a 20- to 30-minute hike. They had a few specialty restaurants that you could go to once as part of the all-inclusive package. We went to one of them for a late supper one night. There were about 30 tables but only two other couples there. The waiter immediately came over to bring us wine. A different waiter stood five feet away from our table the entire evening! Every time I pulled out a cigarette (yes, you could smoke inside!!!), the waiter had a lighter flaming under my nose. More wine. We had our first course. More wine. The intrusive lighter. The main course. Wine/lighter. Dessert/wine/wine/lighter. Time to go to bed.

We had been specifically warned not to tip anyone who worked at the complex, but I surreptitiously slipped the hoverer five whole dollars (American dollars—I'm no cheapskate) and he reacted as if I had just put his three children through college. Then I had to ask him how to find our room. Too much wine, you think? He took us outside and pointed us in the right direction. As long as we didn't weave too much as we cut across the grass, we would be all right. One night, we went to the bar and I asked for Crown Royal – but the bartender had never heard of it. Then I asked for any kind of rye. He started worrying about my hold on sanity. I finally worked it out. "Whiskey". Smiles.

One year, we went to a tournament at Marco Island, Florida. We had arrived late at night so we got to the pool early the next morning. Planning an entire day in the sun, we were very surprised to see that local players Judy Carter and Ed Allen had come to the same tournament. Ed came over and asked me to play a single session with him. It was three single sessions (one per day). You would win overall points if you played two of the three sessions. If you played all three, only your two best scores would count. Fran reluctantly agreed to allow me to play one session. Ed and I got 73%. If we played the next day and had a 50% game, we would probably win the whole thing. I asked Fran for a second day. The weather in Florida seemed a little chillier that day. "Go ahead and play IF YOU WANT TO". 40%. Well now we have to play the third session.

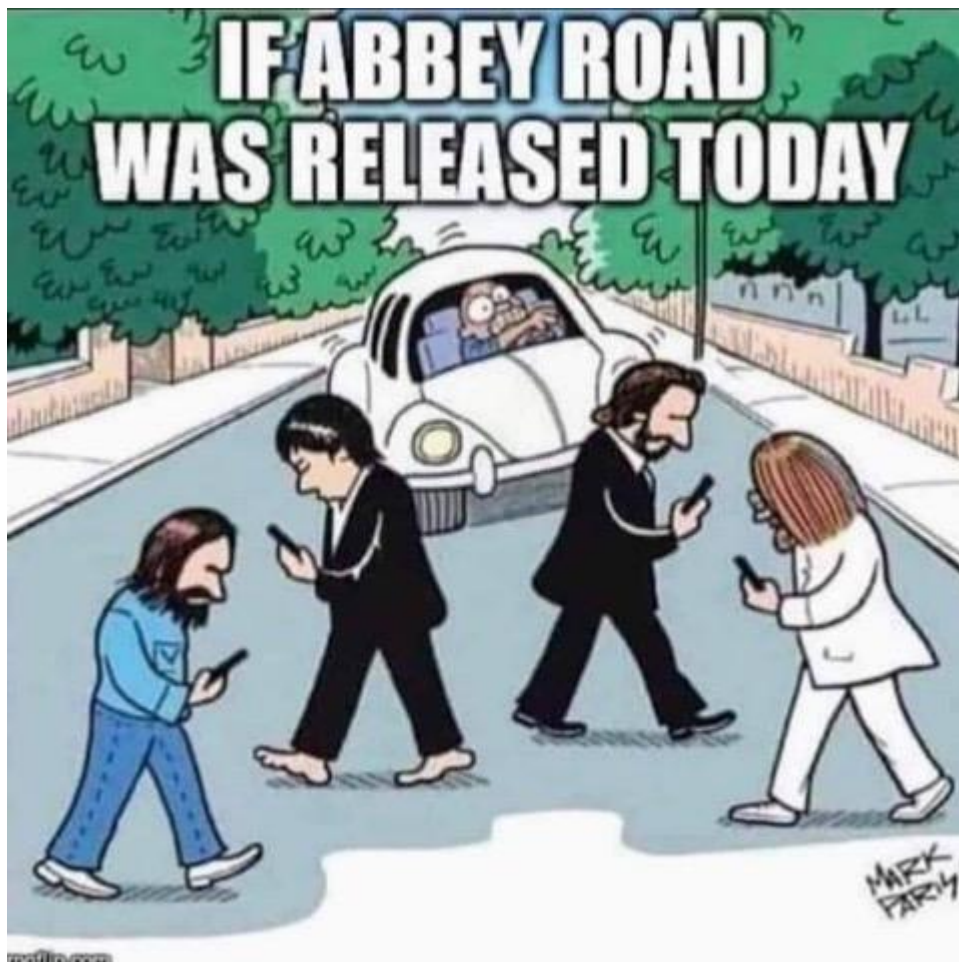
Sadly, we got only a little better than 50% in the third session and we did not win the event. On the brighter side, Fran stopped talking to me for only two days. It could have been worse. Just because you are a pretty good bridge player, it doesn't mean you are smart.

One last Ed and Judy story. We met them at our very first sortie to Barbados. Ed had lived there for some time and so they were staying at a friend's home. It would have been great, except for the fact that it was really hot that week and his friend had no air-conditioning. Ed would walk on the beach in the middle of the night just so he could cool down. Funny story, until... The hotel we stayed in was renovated, but the playing room had no working air-conditioning either. Nor did it have any windows.

So, we are playing the Thursday team game. Sweat is flowing down my face. I am cranky already (who'd a thunk) and I am asking questions about Precision. I get no answers or unintelligible answers. I know not what is happening. I beg the director for a get-out-of-jail-free card. No dice. We lost almost every match. I almost ran from the room when we were done. I now understood how bad the heat was for Ed.

One last story. Fran and I were not allowed to smoke in our room, but we left the patio door open so the fire alarm wouldn't go off when we flouted the rules. Not one single insect came in the entire time. We went to a restaurant and left the light in the bathroom on with the door barely cracked open so we could see when we returned. Have you guessed yet? More than one foot in all directions from the light were bugs of all different kinds. That really bugged me.

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## No. 141

♠ J2  
♥ KQ4  
♦ AK8632  
♣ 98

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ KQ6  
♥ J108652  
♦ 75  
♣ J10

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

\* Michaels over weak two bid - spades and an unspecified minor

I was South, declaring a 4♥ contract.

West cashed his ♥A at Trick 1 as everyone followed.

- At Trick 2, West cashed his ♠A and his partner played the ♠9.
- At Trick 3, West hesitated for a while and eventually exited with another spade. East produced the ♠10 and I won with my ♠Q. Phew! I was still alive! West didn't find the winning club lead.

If you were in my shoes, what would you do now?

### SOLUTION

You've lost two tricks and you have two more losers in clubs. You might think of discarding one of dummy's clubs on your high spade so that you can ruff a club loser in dummy later on. This line of play requires the spades to be no worse than 5-3, a 47% chance - not too shabby, but is there a higher-percentage line of play? What about setting up long diamonds to pitch your hand's losing clubs on?

Of course, the danger is a 4-1 or 5-0 diamond break with the singleton in the East hand (because based on the bidding and West's opening lead, it is highly likely that East has both remaining trumps). Let's take a closer look at this line of play.

If diamonds are splitting 5-0 (a 4% chance), you can't make your contract. So, let's ignore that possibility.

The probability of a 3-2 diamond split is 68%, but given West's Michaels bid, the chances of such a split are vanishingly small. The most likely split, then, is 4-1 - a 28% chance. However, you can halve this percentage since you can handle the singleton being in the West hand (because he presumably has no trumps to ruff with). So, your chance of success if you work on diamonds is

approximately 86% (100% minus half of 28%). In reality, the odds are probably even better than that because it seems likely that West's long minor suit is clubs.

Since 86% is better than 47%, you should choose to work on diamonds.

In order to set up dummy's diamonds if they are splitting 4-1, you are going to need two additional entries to dummy. In order to preserve both dummy's heart entries, you need to postpone drawing trump.

- So, at Trick 4, you cash the  $\spadesuit A$  and rejoice when both opponents follow suit.
- At Trick 5, you cash the  $\spadesuit K$  and rejoice some more when East follows suit and West discards a spade.
- At Trick 6, you lead a small diamond from dummy and ruff it in your hand.
- At Trick 7, you lead a small heart from your hand to dummy's  $\heartsuit Q$ . West will discard another spade and East will follow suit.
- At Trick 8, you lead another diamond from dummy and ruff it in your hand. Dummy's remaining diamonds are now established.
- At Trick 9, you enter dummy with the  $\heartsuit K$  (killing two birds with one stone, in that you draw the last outstanding trump AND you get to dummy). Now you can cash dummy's winning diamonds and pitch your two club losers on them. Making five!

Here is the full deal.

	$\spadesuit J8$				
	$\heartsuit KQ4$				
	$\diamond AK8632$				
	$\clubsuit 98$				
$\spadesuit A75432$	<table border="1" style="background-color: #006400; color: white; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	$\spadesuit 109$
N					
W E					
S					
$\heartsuit A$		$\heartsuit 973$			
$\diamond 4$		$\diamond QJ109$			
$\clubsuit AQ732$		$\clubsuit K654$			
	$\spadesuit KQ6$				
	$\heartsuit J108652$				
	$\diamond 75$				
	$\clubsuit J10$				

Playing the numbers used to mean illegally betting on the lottery, but in bridge playing the numbers is not only legal, it is smart!

Your call is important to us...  
please continue to hold



# 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 April.

Open Players			499er Players			99er Players		
	Name	MP		Name	MP		Name	MP
1	David Baker	27.19	1	Cheryl White	9.02	1	Andrew Widdis	18.41
2	Ted Boyd	17.92	2	Jack Cole	8.84	2	Mark Sherwood	14.86
3	Cindy Mahn	17.75	3	Renate Boucher	8.53	2	Doug Fickling	14.86
4	Margot Stockie	16.46	4	John Kip	8.34	4	Sheila Charters	14.01
5	Mike Peng	14.12	5	Elinor Girouard	8.30	5	Randall DeKraker	11.57
6	Roy Dandyk	13.11	6	Molly Worden	7.72	6	Peter Gaasenbeek	9.86
7	Kathy Russell	12.55	7	Brian Gaber	7.13	7	Paul Raymond	9.31
8	Pat McMillan	12.04	8	Andy Martinek	6.90	8	Robert Darby	7.90
9	Edith Ferber	11.06	9	ML Benjamins	6.89	9	Russel Kerr	7.52
10	Suzanne Edwards	9.34	10	Martin Jones	6.84	10	Phil De Montigny	7.26
11	Lori Cole	9.16	11	Marlene Dopko	6.62	11	Pat Pietrek	7.09
12	Dave Embury	8.89	12	Nanci Phelan	6.30	12	George Rybiak	6.77
13	Stephen Young	8.71	13	Sue Peterson	6.14	13	Richard Rybiak	6.49
14	Moira Hollingsworth	8.64	14	Susan Durance	5.92	14	Debbie Miethig	6.47
15	Malkin Howes	7.80	15	David Dennis	5.85	15	Sharon Nesbitt	6.20
15	John Hanemaayer	7.80	16	Kim Wakeford	5.54	16	Pat Northey	4.98
17	Robert Griffiths	7.63	17	Rick Arthur	5.37	17	Marianne Dziarski	4.44
18	Jim Dalgliesh	7.35	18	Bev Hitchman	4.97	18	Stu Cowan	3.71
19	Neil Jeffrey	7.05	19	Janice Pengelly	4.92	19	Chris Beck	3.61
20	Lynda Burnett	6.91	20	Audrey Cook	4.47	20	Louise Bell	3.59
21	Neil Coburn	6.89	21	Nancy Cattanach	4.23	20	David Bell	3.59
22	Liz McDowell	6.73	22	Vivian McLellan	4.17	22	Carla Laubach	3.56
23	Diane Bourdeau	6.47	22	Judy Widdecombe	4.17	23	Kathy Chandler	3.47
24	Tony Verhoeven	6.40	24	Anita Hanson	3.94	24	Julia Prendiville	3.43
25	Dave Quarrie	6.30	25	Cheryl Kip	3.86	25	Pauline Copleston	3.34

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**.  
 We like tournaments at our **club**.