

The Kibitzer



Fall 2026 | Volume 73, Number 3





Join the elegant Oceania Marina, a masterpiece of small-ship luxury, on the exclusive Bridge Cruise departing June 8, 2027. This beautiful, JUST refurbished ship welcomes just 1,250 guests, ensuring an intimate atmosphere and the unparalleled service that is Oceania's hallmark.

Linda Tuff will be your bridge instructor, director and tour leader.
Nancy Strachan will also be your director.

This cruise also features world-renowned chef, Sara Moulton, doing culinary demonstrations and specially crafted menus

**LINDA TUFF, NANCY STRACHAN & OCEANIA ARE HIGHLY RECOMMENDED
by BARBARA SEAGRAM & ALEX KORNEL**

INCLUDED: All specialty dining, shipboard gratuities, unlimited wifi, complimentary wine and beer with meals (OR shore excursion/shipboard credit: \$400.00 USD per person), Additional \$150.00 USD shipboard credit. Bridge program also included. Airfare not included.

MUST BOOK WITH CAROLYN KREMER AT DIRECT TRAVEL TO TAKE PART IN OUR BRIDGE PROGRAM

Prices: (Other categories available)

Inside Stateroom: \$5,699.00 USD (\$7,849 CAD) Verandah Stateroom: \$7,199.00 USD (\$9,949 CAD)



Linda Tuff won the 2022 Teacher of the Year Award. She manages Halifax Bridge World club in Halifax, Nova Scotia

**To book, call Carolyn Kremer (Direct Travel / was Vision Travel):
705-435-5533 or 1-800-363-5533 # 1435. Email: ckremer@dt.com**

DAY	PORT	ARRIVE	DEPART
Jun 8	London (Southampton), UK	Embark 1 PM	5 PM
Jun 9	At Sea		
Jun 10	Skagen, Denmark	11 AM	8 PM
Jun 11	Copenhagen, Denmark	7 AM	8 PM
Jun 12	At Sea		
Jun 13	Stockholm, Sweden	7 AM	5 PM
Jun 14	Helsinki, Finland	11 AM	8 PM
Jun 15	Tallinn, Estonia	7 AM	2 PM
Jun 16	Riga, Latvia	9 AM	5 PM
Jun 17	Visby, Sweden	7 AM	1 PM
Jun 18	Berlin (Warnemunde), Germany	8 AM	10 PM
Jun 19	Aarhus, Denmark	10 AM	6 PM
Jun 20	At Sea		
Jun 21	At Sea		
Jun 22	London (Southampton), UK	Disembark 8 AM	



ABOUT MARINA

Tonnage: 66,084 Length: 784.9 feet
Guest Capacity: 1,250

Marina blends sophistication with a contemporary flair to create a casually elegant ambiance. From the sparkling Lalique Grand Staircase to the stunning Owner's Suites, designer touches are everywhere.



DIRECT TRAVEL®
Personalized Experiences

TICO # 50023504



Eagle-eyed (and older) readers may have spotted an anomaly on this issue's cover: that we are celebrating 50 years of the Kibitzer. Didn't we do that back in 2004? Yes, we did. So, what's with the 50th anniversary repeat?

Well, it's complicated. I'm going to write

up a full explanation in the Winter issue, due out in November. The short answer is this: in 1976, the Kibitzer, as we know it today, in magazine format and approximately 40-52 pages long, began life in its new iteration. So, we are celebrating 50 years of that version of the Kib—the modern Kib. Details forthcoming.

On the cover this issue we feature two of the nicest people in the bridge world: **Laurie Miller** and

Lorraine Eaglesham. Laurie is the 2026 Kate Buckman award winner and Lorraine was named the 2026 ABTA teacher of the year. Congrats, Laur & Lor!

Thank you to **John Carruthers** for a thrilling report of his team's national win at the recent Summer NABC. Also, thanks to **David Ellis** for an article on passive/active leads and **Robert Griffiths** with another instructive deal. And **Howard Laufer** is back! Thanks also to **Jonathan Steinberg**, the Kib's most prolific photographer!

Andy Stark
andy.kibitzer@gmail.com
 647 530 1360

On the cover:
**Laurie Miller &
 Lorraine Eaglesham**



Editor's Note.....	3	ADVERTISEMENTS:	
Juniors shine at the NABCs.....	17	London & Baltic cruise.....	2
Codrington PS Junior tourney report.....	18	NAP info	4
Bridge movie	18	Beginners bridge lessons	5
Laurie Miller wins the Kate Buckman	20	Tourney ads	6
Kib interview with Lorraine Eaglesham	28		
John Carruthers.....	32	UNIT BOARDS:	
Penticton photos by Jonathan Steinberg.....	36	Unit 166	46
Howard Laufer.....	37	Unit 238	48
David Ellis.....	39	Unit 246	48
Robert Griffiths	44	Unit 249	50
St. Thomas bridge clubs turns 80.....	45	Unit 255	52
		Kibitzer Information.....	38
		Tournament Trail.....	53



The NAP is a terrific way to participate in ACBL-wide grassroots events. Everyone has a chance to compete for a North American Championship!

Flights and Timeline

The NAP is a pairs event. This year, for the first time, there are four flights:

- Championship Flight Open to any player
- Flight A Players with fewer than 6000 MPs
- Flight B Players with fewer than 3000 MPs
- Flight C Players with fewer than 750 MPs, non-LM

Club qualifying takes place through the end of August. ***Please watch for a qualification game near you.*** Our District Final will be online, Saturday November 21, 2026.

In the Championship Flight and flight A, the top three pairs qualify to advance; in flights B and C, the top four pairs qualify to advance. The NABC Final will be contested at the Spring 2027 NABC in Dallas, TX.

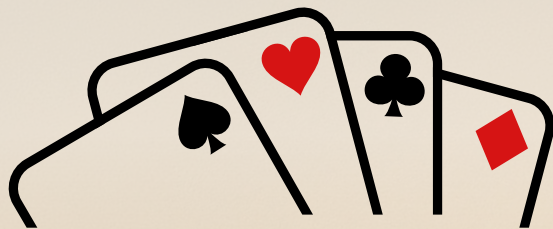
Award Subsidies

Travel subsidies are awarded to players who place in the top two in each flight of the District Final. 1st and 2nd place: \$700 US per person. Additionally, all entry fees for the NABC Final are paid by the ACBL.

We hope you will consider challenging yourself. Feel free to ask us anything. We look forward to seeing your name in lights!

...Ken Collins (coordinator), 416-471-5699

...Edmund Fok (director), d2.gnt.nap@gmail.com



Bridge Lessons for Beginners *and rusty players*

at Christ Church Deer Park
Thursday mornings at 9:30 am
from Sept. 17 to Nov. 19



For more details, please contact instructor **Andy Stark**
647-530-1360 • andy.kibitzer@gmail.com



Niagara Sectional August 14-16, 2026

Community Centre
14 Anderson Lane, Niagara on the Lake
(off Hwy 55/Mississauga Rd)
905-468-4386

0-750 Tournament

Friday August 14th, 2026

750 Pairs	1:00pm
299 Pairs	1:00pm

Saturday August 15th, 2026

750 Pairs	10:00am & 2:00pm
299 Pairs	10:00am & 2:00pm

Lunch will be available for purchase

Sunday August 16th, 2026

750 Pairs	10:00am & 2:00pm
299 Pairs	10:00am & 2:00pm

Lunch will be available for purchase

Mini Lessons will be provided @
9:15am for both Saturday and
Sunday by Muriel Tremblay

Silver Points

Great Venue - Prizes
Free Parking
Most Friendly Atmosphere

Tournament Chair:

Brian Jones	365-888-1851
Email	chair@unit255.org

Partnership Chair:

Peggy-Sue Verkerk	905-359-0159
Email	partnership@unit255.org

Stratification

(Subject to Director's discretion)

750/500/100 masterpoints
300/200/100 masterpoints

General Information

All Events are Single Session

\$15/player/session. All players **MUST** have an ACBL #.
Guest memberships are currently FREE. Contact
Tournament Chair if you require a number.
Extra \$4 for non-current members
All events stratified by average masterpoints.
Cash (preference) and Credit Card accepted.

Sectional Tournament Sponsored by
Jaclyn Morrison



(905) 937-0962

jac.morrison@iaprivatewealth.ca





THE BIG NICKEL REGIONAL

GREATER SUDBURY ONTARIO

August 26, 27, 28, 29, 2026
Garson Community Centre
100 Church Street,
Garson ON

Tournament Chair: Leslie Dickson
leslie.dickson@sympatico.ca 705-929-2506

Partnership Desk: Sally Lamothe
lamothesally@gmail.com 705-929-6112

Stratification

199er Pairs (by average) A. 100-200 B. 50-100 C. 0-50
Open Pairs (by average) A. 2500+ B. 1250-2500 C. 0-1250
Gold Rush (by average) A. 500-750 B. 250-500 C. 0-250
Single sessions are available in all pairs
Stratifications may be changed at Director's discretion

Cost per session:
Wednesday to Friday \$18
Cost for Swiss: \$180 per team
(includes lunch)

For a listing of hotels, please consult the
Summer issue of the Kibitzer.

Wednesday, August 26

1:00pm and 6:30pm

Stratified Open Pairs

Gold Rush Pairs

199ers Pairs (if numbers warrant)



www.discoversudbury.ca

Thursday, August 27

10:30am and 3:00pm

Stratified Open Pairs

199er pairs (if numbers warrant)

Bracketed Knockouts (Soloway style)

(Teams are guaranteed two sessions of play on the first day. Top four teams in each bracket will advance to the second day semifinals and finals)

Friday, August 28

10:30am and 3:00pm

Stratified Open Pairs

Gold Rush Pairs

199er pairs (if numbers warrant)

Knockout 3rd and 4th sessions

Saturday, August 29

9:30am

Swiss Teams

299er Swiss (if numbers warrant)



BIG NICKEL REGIONAL TOURNAMENT

... is hosting a **FREE**

Two Session Learning Experience!

Breakfast with Danielle

Thursday August 27th & Friday August 28th

9:00am – 10:00am

Bidding practice ...

Dealing with Doubles/Dealing with Pre-empts

Continental breakfast included

Geared for Novice players ...

helpful to players of all levels

For over a decade Danielle Gosselin has been teaching bridge lessons in the GTA to beginners and those who wish to improve their game. She and her husband Martin Hunter host a bridge weekend at Fern Resort twice a year



Labour Day Silver Point Sectional

September 5 - 7, 2026



At: St. Volodymyr Cultural Centre
1280 Dundas St. W.,
Oakville ON L6M 4H9
Free parking

Saturday September 5

Oakville Open Pairs 10:00 & 2:30
(A/X, B/C/D – 2 Session stratiflighted pairs)
299er Pairs Single Session 10:00 & 2:30
0-20 supervised pairs 10:00

Sunday September 6

Oakville Open Pairs 10:00 & 2:30
(A/X, B/C/D – 2 Session stratiflighted pairs)
299er Pairs Single Session 10:00 & 2:30

Monday September 7

Bracketed Swiss Teams 10:00 a.m. & TBA

Events are stratified by average Master Points and flights are based on highest Master Points of pair/team.

Stratiflighted event:

A: 4500+, X: 0-4500, B: 1500-3000, C: 750-1500,
D: 0-750

Single session entries for all Pairs games are welcome.

Tournament co-chairs: Catherine Griffin: cathgriffin@rogers.com
Darlene Scott: DarleneScott@me.com

Partnership Chair: Elizabeth Williams: elizwilliams12345@gmail.com

Session Fees

\$22 for ACBL members
+\$4 for non-current members

\$17 for students (under 21) & ACBL members
+\$4 for non-current members

All players MUST have an ACBL number. Guest memberships are currently free. Contact Darlene if you require one.

Nearby Hotel -Special bridge rates -limited space

TownePlace Suites
754 Bronte Rd, Oakville, ON
905-847-6667

Rooms are \$184 Cdn per night.

To book a reservation go to:

[Book online \(reservation link\)](#)

♥ ZERO TOLERANCE TOURNAMENT ♠ **Let's Play Bridge**

74th Annual St. Thomas Jumbo Tournament



Sept 12th – 13th 2026

Sessions both days 10:00 am and 2:30pm. Hot meal between sessions

Entry Fees \$17.50 per session

To participate in this tournament, players must have an ACBL Player Number. Non-ACBL members are welcome and will receive a complementary temporary ACBL membership (not applicable to lapsed members).

(In consideration of those who are sensitive to fragrance, this is a scent-free tournament)

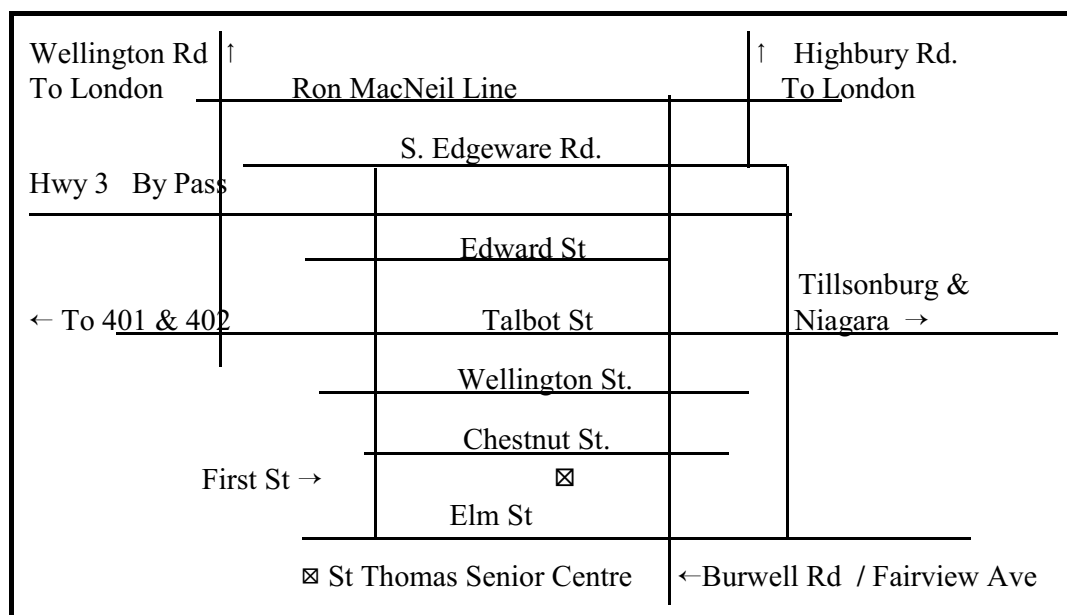
Saturday Sept 12th

2-Session Stratified Pairs Playthrough (single sessions welcome)

499er Pairs Playthrough (single sessions welcome)

Sunday Sept 13th

Open Swiss (A/X) and a Bracketed 0-2000 Swiss bracketed by team total points



Location:

St. Thomas Senior Centre,
225 Chestnut St.,
St. Thomas

Tournament Chair:

Jim Wright
(519) 631-5531
jwr1002393@rogers.com

Partnerships:

Jim Wright
(519) 631-5531
jwr1002393@rogers.com

Pairs

Strats: A=1500+, B=500-1500, C=0-500
499ers: A=300-500, B=100-300, C=0-100
all events stratified by average mps

Teams

Bracketed by team total points,
\$140 Entry fee per team



BRAMPTON BRIDGE BLAST!



- **September 19th & 20th**

Fall Sectional Offering 100% Silver

Century Gardens Recreation Centre
340 Vodden St. E.
Brampton ON

Session Fees:

- ACBL Members \$20
- \$4 additional Fee for any player not currently an ACBL Member
- Student Rate: \$5

Tournament Chair: Gary Westfall
gwestfall@rogers.com
905-791-4239

Partnership Chair: Susan Nolan Thomas
susannolanthomas@gmail.com
(905) 702-0072

Times:

Saturday 10:00 & 2:30
Sunday 10:00 & TBA

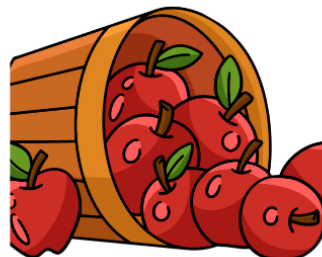
Saturday: Two-Session Stratified
Single Sessions Welcome

- **499er NLM**
(With no one person over 499 MP.)
- **Open Pairs**
Stratified events: A: 4000+, X: 0-4000,
B: 1500-2500, C: 750-1500, D: 0-750

Sunday: Bracketed Swiss

Please note: Stratification is at the discretion of the Director.

Accessible, Ample Parking
Refreshments
Zero Tolerance
Friendly Competition





Canada's Capital Regional

22-27 September 2026

Cohere Centre
(formerly EY Centre)
4899 Uplands Drive
Ottawa, Canada K1V 2N6



Tournament Features:

- 6 days of Open, Swiss Teams, Gold Rush and Knockouts
- 2 supervised/newcomer games
- Daily Chalk Talks by Grand Masters and local experts
- Complimentary morning coffee
- Hospitality and lunches for purchase
- Thursday social with entertainment
- Free parking

Tournament Chair:

Karin Keyes Endemann
613 884-8446

ChairOttawaRegional@gmail.com

Director-in-Charge: Dominique Guay

Partnership:

Cille and Rob Harris

PartnershipOttawaRegional@gmail.com

Host Hotels: *(discounted rates until noon 20 August)*

- Hilton Garden Inn *(code 912)* 613 288-9001
- Fairfield Inn&Suites *(code ORL)* 613 691-2161

Use code "ORT" for the following 3 hotels

- Hampton Inn by Hilton 613 248-1113
- Holiday Inn Express 613 247-9500
- Homewood Suites *(shuttle)* 613 422-3678

Website: [Bridgewebs.com/unit 192](http://Bridgewebs.com/unit192)

Entry Fees: *(CAN\$ per session)*

- ACBL membership required
- ACBL members: \$22
- Unpaid ACBL members: +\$4
- Supervised: (0-20 MP): \$5



SUDBURY BRIDGE CLUB FALL LOCAL SECTIONAL TOURNAMENT

OCTOBER 16-18, 2026

PLEASE NOTE: NEW LOCATION

Doctor Edgar Leclair Community Centre and Arena
158 Agnes St, Azilda, On P0M 1B0

Once again, the Sudbury Bridge Club invites you to join friends, old and new, for a weekend filled with strategy, warm smiles, and our famously delicious treats.

Tournament Chair: Sue Lepage: suemlepage@outlook.com
Tournament Co-Chair: Millie Wood Colton: milliewoodcolton@gmail.com
Partnership Desk: Carole Roy: carolejroy@persona.ca
Director in Charge: Norm Malette
Sudbury Bridge Club: sudburybridge@gmail.com



STRATIFICATION

Open Pairs (by average)	A. 1000+	B. 300-999	C. 0-299
299er Pairs (by average)	A. 100-299	B. 50-99	C. 0-49

EVENT SCHEDULE

Friday October 16 - 10:30 am & 3:00 pm

- Stratified Open Pairs 0 - ∞ MPs
- Stratified 299er Pairs 0-299 MPs (numbers permitting)

Saturday October 17 - 10:30 am & 3:00 pm

- Stratified Open Pairs 0 - ∞ MPs
- Stratified 299er Pairs 0-299 MPs (numbers permitting)

Sunday, October 18 - 9:30 am

- 2 sessions play through
- Stratified Open Swiss Teams

MASTERPOINTS

- ACBL will award the same number of Master Points, but points will be divided 80% Silver & 20% Black.
- Stratification of all events determined by pairs or team.

ACBL MEMBERSHIP

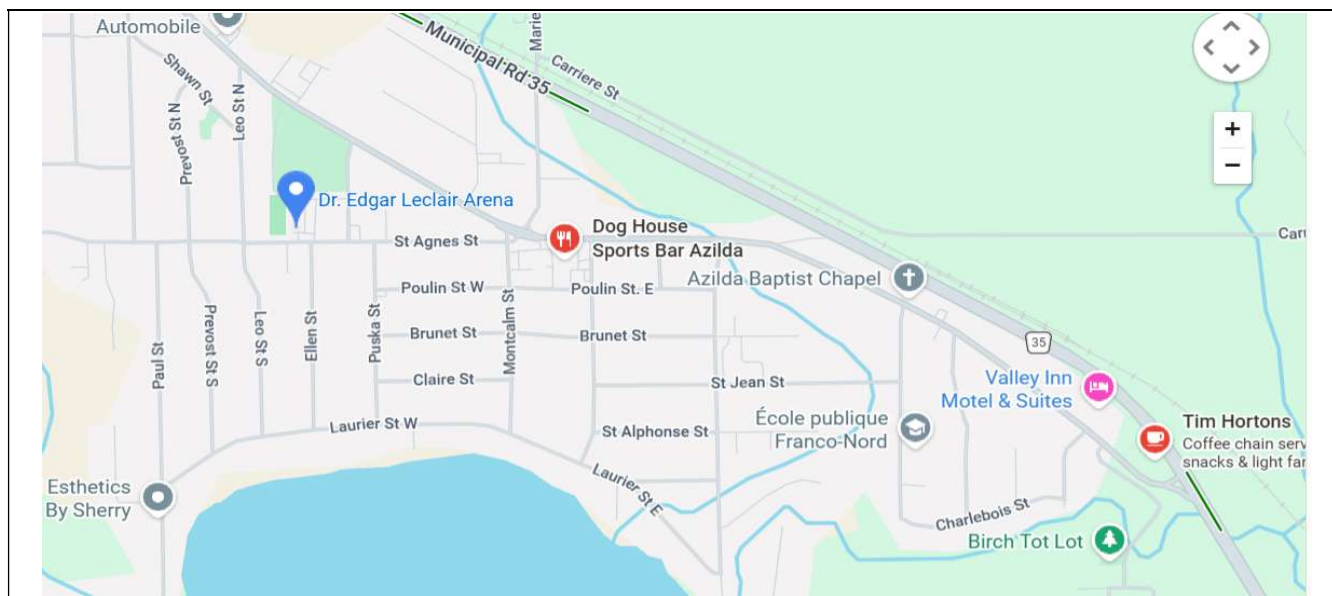
- Mandatory for all participants.
- Temporary memberships are free and available for non-members, There is a \$4.00 fee for unpaid members.

ENTRY FEES

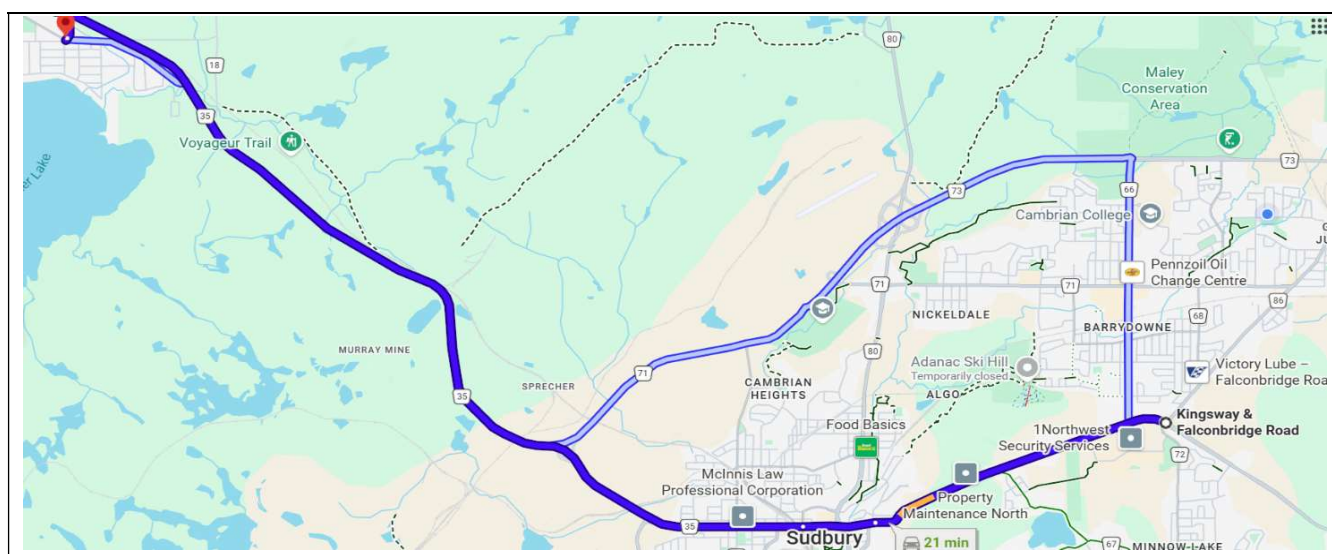
- Friday – Saturday: \$16 per session
- Sunday Swiss Teams: \$160 per team (Free Lunch included)

HOTELS

- **TownePlace Suites by Marriott**
1-705-525-7700 1710 Kingsway
- **Hilton Garden Inn**
1-705-586-3001 475 BarryDowne Rd.
- **Microtel Inn and Suites by Wyndham**
1-705-470-6161 312 the Kingsway
- **Fairfield Marriot Inn & Suites**
1-705-560-0111 490 BarryDowne Rd.
- **Northland Motel**
1-800-855-4533 3150 Errington Ave Chelmsford
- **Valley Inn Motel & Suites**
705-983-4276 500 Notre Dame St E Azilda
- **Radisson Hotel**
705-675-1123 85 St Anne Rd. Downtown
- **Econo Lodge Sudbury**
705-674-4203 1145 Lorne St
- **Super 8 by Wyndham**
705-522-7600 1956 Regent St
- **Holiday Inn**
705-522-3000 1696 Regent St



Azilda: Dr Edgar Leclair Community Centre and Arena Location



For participants from Southern Ontario locations: Hwy 400 changes to Hwy 69. On Hwy 69, take the South East bypass on the left and turn left onto Hwy 17 (the Kingsway),

1. Follow Hwy 17 West through the City of Sudbury to Azilda or alternatively...
2. From the Kingsway (Hwy 17), Turn right on Barry Downe Rd (across from the Costco), drive to the end and merge left on the roundabout onto the Maley Dr bypass and take the ramp to Azilda/Chelmsford.

From North Bay: Follow 1 or 2 above

From Sault Ste Marie, take Hwy 17 East and exit toward Timmins onto Hwy 144 for 11 km. Turn right on RR Rd 35 to Azilda.

From Timmins, follow Hwy 144 South. Hwy 144 turns into Hwy 35, turn into Azilda.

Generally, whether staying in the South end or New Sudbury area, the drive will be approx. 18 km and a time of 22 minutes. The drive from Downtown Sudbury is a bit shorter at 14 km. and 16 min. If staying in Azilda or Chelmsford, it's a short drive.



Niagara Open Sectional November 6-8, 2026

NOTL Community Centre
14 Anderson Lane, Niagara on the Lake, ON
(off Hwy 55/Mississauga Rd)
905-468-4386

Friday November 6, 2026

Open Pairs	1:00 & 6:00
999 ^{er} Pairs	1:00 & 6:00
299 ^{er} Pairs	1:00 & 6:00

Hospitality will follow evening game

Saturday November 7, 2026

Open Pairs	10:00 & 2:30
999 ^{er} Pairs	10:00 & 2:30
299 ^{er} Pairs	10:00 & 2:30

Lunch will be available for purchase

Hospitality will follow afternoon game

Sunday November 8, 2026

Bracketed Teams 10:00am playthrough

Short break after 3rd Round

Lunch will be available for purchase

FREE Parking
Fantastic Niagara Hospitality

Accommodations and Restaurants
in close proximity

Tournament Chair:

Cathy Williams 905-979-5063
Email chair@unit255.org

Partnership Chair:

Sheila Langstaff 905-246-3309
Email partnership@unit255.org

Stratification

(Subject to Director's discretion)

Open Pairs	0 to ∞ masterpoints
999 ^{er} Pairs	0 to 1000 masterpoints
299 ^{er} Pairs	0 to 300 masterpoints

General Information

Two single Session entry is available for all pairs
All events will have 3 strata at the Director's discretion.
\$19/player/session. All players **MUST** have an ACBL #.
Guest memberships are currently FREE. Contact
Tournament Chair if you require a number.
Extra \$4 for non-current members
All events stratified by average masterpoint.
Cash (preferred) and Credit Card accepted

Sectional Tournament Sponsored by
Jaclyn Morrison



(905) 937-0962

jac.morrison@iaprivatewealth.ca



Canadian Juniors shine at the 2026 Summer NABC!



From left to right: Danny Miles (Junior Coordinator), Wilson Hall, Casper Gu, Rudy Cheng, Annie Zhang, Nina Ke, Shelley Burns (CBF President), Zachariah Willie and William Liu.

We are incredibly proud of:

**Wilson Hall, Casper Gu, Rudy Cheng, Annie Zhang, Nina Ke,
Zachariah Willie and William Liu**

A special congratulations to **Casper Gu, Wilson Hall, Rudy Cheng and Nina Ke**, who won the **2026 National Youth Open Swiss Teams** as an all-Canadian team!

Congratulations to everyone on a fantastic achievement!

If you would like to contribute to the junior fund to help support juniors representing Canada in world championships, please donate here:

<https://cbf.ca/cbf-junior-programs/>

Reprinted with permission from the CBF website: www.cbf.ca

Codrington PS Junior Bridge Tournament

Codrington Public School in Barrie, Ontario, is a non-semester school for students at the primary level through to Grade 8. Beginning in September, students in two classes received instruction in bridge as part of their curriculum. Meeting one class period each week they learned bidding and play techniques, culminating in a recent tournament.

The Barrie bridge club hosted fifty students, giving them an opportunity to play against their peers in a tournament setting. The Barrie club has two areas for play, and this makes it possible to divide the students into two sections. Junior players (some as young as Grade 4), played in one section and were allowed a little longer to play each board. The older students (up to Grade 8) played in another area. This arrangement also allowed for staggered break times.

Trophies were presented by Ginny McKay, one of the bridge teachers, to the top pairs in different grades.



Bridge Movie

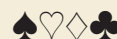
This hand came up at the Kingston Regional last May. It was dealt at the table in a Swiss team event. The hand presents to you lots of decisions, with a few being crucial to your success. Please read along, but more importantly, think along.

Nobody vulnerable, you are West, and you pick up the following:

♠ Q 8 5
♥ K 4
♦ A Q 10 9 7 6
♣ 10 3

The dealer is North and it goes Pass-Pass to South, who opens 1♦.

What is your call?



Ginny also presented certificates to students in their final year at Codrington, acknowledging their completion of bridge lessons.



Teaching students at Codrington would not be possible without support from ACBL's Educational Foundation, which provided books, trophies, certificates, and bridge supplies. We are grateful for financial support from our local Unit 246, and support from members of the Barrie bridge club.

~Frank Mustoe



Bridge Movie continued

♠ Q 8 5
♥ K 4
♦ A Q 10 9 7 6
♣ 10 3

After your pass, the auction continues 1♠ by North, pass from partner, INT by South. Do you bid now?

♠♥♦♣

You cannot bid 2♦ here, as that is Michaels showing 5-5 in the majors. If you feel the need to bid diamonds, you will have to bid at the three-level. For that you should have a seven-card suit. Instead, you should play your green card. "Sit in the bushes," as my father used to say.



Laurie Miller: winner of the 2026 Kate Buckman Award

Rather than conduct a Kib interview of Laurie Miller, we happened upon a different format. Laurie felt more comfortable focusing on the members of the Toronto East Bridge Club and their flourishing community. So, let's hear it from Laurie herself. After the photos you can read the speech given by one of the club's "Besties," Patti Callahan, at Laurie's Celebration party.



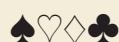
It was a great honour to win the 2026 Kate Buckman Award. My name may be on the trophy, but I believe it is the Toronto East Bridge Club (TEBC) community who is deserving of this award. Truly, this award goes to the following:

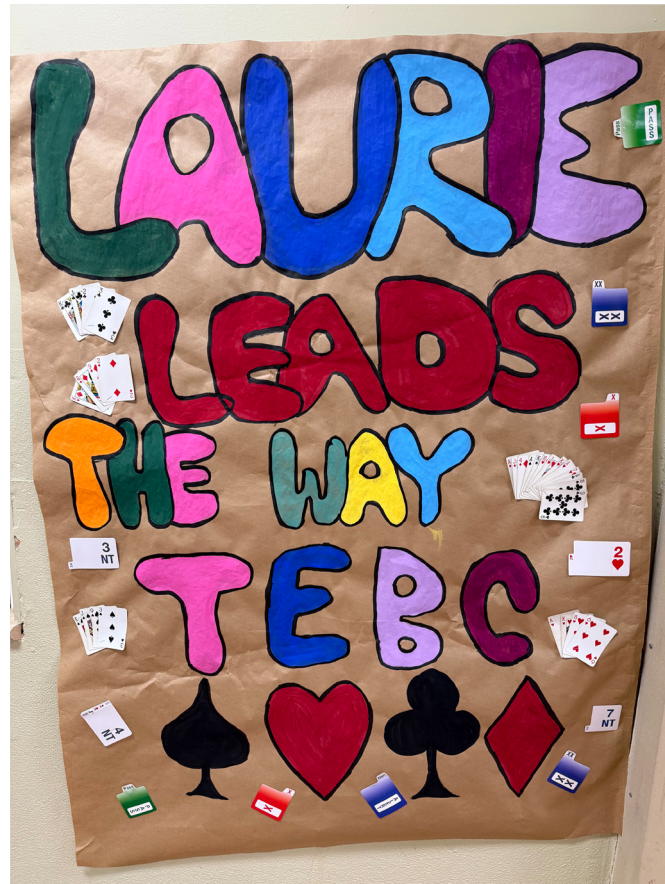
- The eight to twelve players that showed up week after week when we reopened from the pandemic, keeping it viable until the others showed up. And every player that has shown up since.
- The volunteers who bring in treats to share with others from their kitchen or from their travels.
- The volunteers who work in the kitchen, do the dishes, take down, set up and just pitch in as needed.
- The warm welcome the members extend to players coming to the club for the first time.

Bridge Movie continued

♠ Q 8 5
♥ K 4
♦ A Q 10 9 7 6
♣ 10 3

I suppose if you want to declare you can bid two diamonds now, but do you want to declare? I think not, as there are at least four diamonds on your right, so you pass and now it becomes a lead problem. What is your lead versus INT?





Bridge Movie continued

♠ Q 8 5
 ♥ K 4
 ♦ A Q 10 9 7 6
 ♣ 10 3

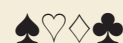
If this problem were given to experts, there would be votes for all four suits. Let's start with spades. The dream scenario is that partner has four spades sitting over dummy. If that is the case you could lead the queen to start trapping dummy's spade honours. Or the 5 as it is your lowest of three, or the 8 to say, "I don't want this suit returned—please find a shift, partner."

If a heart is chosen it would have to be the king. The four is just...wrong.

If a diamond is chosen the normal lead is the ten, but some might lead the queen to trap dummy's singleton jack, or the ace to trap dummy's singleton king (it's a deep game!) Some might lead the 6 or 7 but the ten is best—it shows the 9. The problem with a diamond is that partner probably has only one or zero diamonds, so you are not only giving away a trick, but you would have to get in two more times to set up and enjoy your diamonds.

If a club, again the top of your doubleton is best, so some experts would lead the 10.

Which is what I chose at the table, so let's work with that as your opening lead.





Bridge Movie continued

You lead the ♣10 and down comes the dummy:

North (Dummy)

♠ 9 7 4 2

♥ J 10 3

♦ J 8 5

♣ A J 5

West (You)

♠ Q 8 5

♥ K 4

♦ A Q 10 9 7 6

♣ 10 3

On your club ten lead it goes low-2-queen. Partner's ♣2 is encouraging as you play upside down signals. Even if you don't regularly play UDCA, I'll walk you through it. Simply put, everything is "upside down." While standard carders would play the highest club they can afford here, UDCA players play their lowest. The 2 is a strong signal as it is the lowest card in the deck, so partner likes clubs and would like them returned when you get in.

Declarer plays the ♥2 from hand. Your play.

♠♥♦♣

- The new bridge students showing up, practising their game, and who continue to seek new learning opportunities.
- The patience, kindness, and encouragement the members extol to the new bridge students.
- The players who find a costume to wear to support the numerous special events we host.
- The many members who wear their colours to show support for important occasions such as Orange T-Shirt Day, in support of residential school survivors.
- The generous donations from the players for our annual Christmas Lunch fundraiser. Every year we're able to substantially increase the amount we send to the Winter Lunch Program for those in need.
- The members who encourage others to come play at the club or encourage them to learn the game.
- The "Two Queens" of Bridge: Audrey Grant and Barbara Seagram who have both generously given their time in leading workshops events to help raise money in support of the club.

- The kindness, patience and forgiveness players demonstrate when the things don't quite go as planned.
- The energy and enthusiasm from everyone at the club.

TEBC is more than a Bridge Club, it is an important vibrant community. It is hard not to find joy there. I feel it is really the village that makes it easy to be joyful about bridge, not the other way around.

~Laurie Miller



Bridge Movie continued

North (Dummy)

♠ 9 7 4 2

♥ J 10 3

♦ J 8 5

♣ A J 5

West (You)

♠ Q 8 5

♥ K 4

♦ A Q 10 9 7 6

♣ 10 3

There are a couple reasons to play second hand high. For one, pat yourself on the back, you got off to a great lead. Partner's congratulatory ♣2 was all the exuberance you needed to know to get in asap

and continue with your other club. For two, a tricky declarer might win with the jack and later drop your singleton king.

So, you pop up with the king, and it goes ♥3 from dummy and ♥5 from partner. That 5 is partner's lowest. If you play standard count, that 5 would show an odd number of hearts, but since you play UDCA it now shows an even number of hearts. You can safely put partner on a four-card heart holding, the same as declarer.

You are in with the ♥K, what now?

♠♥♦♣

The TEBC held a special luncheon and game for Laurie in early May. Barbara Seagram and Alex Kornel were in attendance and Barbara spoke. Club member Patti Callahan gave a speech and here it is.

Today, we are here to celebrate Laurie Miller, the 2026 recipient of the Kate Buckman Award. Kate Buckman, (1902-1996), was a pioneering bridge figure in Toronto. She founded a premier duplicate bridge club that operated for decades. She is remembered as the woman who fostered a high standard for duplicate bridge in the city. She is also known for high calibre play. Her club was sold to Barbara Seagram and Alex Kornel in 1990.

As a yearly honor, the Kate Buckman Award is presented in Unit 166 to the person who contributes most to other's enjoyment of the game.

Laurie, congratulations on your well-deserved award. Your hard work, dedication, and patience for the Toronto East Bridge Club truly stands out. This recognition is a reflection of the passion and consistency you bring to our club. So many of us are fortunate to have learned how to play this amazing game in this wonderful club. Thank you from all of us at Toronto East Bridge Club.

We still have several founding members here in the club as pillars of this amazing bridge community. I am sure I am not alone saying I so appreciate the time, enthusiasm, and teaching that Laurie gives to us all, novice up to expert.

We are grateful for our Directors, Glenna Richardson, Donald Swaine and our award winner Laurie Miller. And thank you Deborah Braithwaite for spearheading the nomination of Laurie.



Bridge Movie continued

♠ 9 7 4 2
♥ J 10 3
♦ J 8 5
♣ A J 5

West (You)

♠ Q 8 5
♥ K 4
♦ A Q 10 9 7 6
♣ 10 3

Trick question! Of course, you keep up your good work and stamp the ♣3 on the green baize. (Actually,

in Kingston they had nice bridge tables, sans green baize.) Declarer tries the jack from dummy and partner wins his king, declarer playing the ♣6. Partner now plays back the ♣9 as declarer follows with the ♣7.

Thoughts so far? And what do you pitch? Your choices are any of the other three non-club suits.

♠♥♦♣



Bridge Movie continued

♠ 9 7 4 2
♥ J 10 3
♦ J 8 5
♣ A J 5

West (You)

♠ Q 8 5
♥ K 4
♦ A Q 10 9 7 6
♣ 10 3

You pitch an encouraging diamond. Playing UDCA what is your encouraging diamond? The lowest diamond, in this case the 6. Very good. You are a quick study.

Why the diamond? Well, you are not going to score as many diamonds as you think, as declarer is known to hold the ♦K432. How do we know declarer has four diamonds and not three?

Well, look at it from the perspective of someone opening 1♣ with exactly three diamonds. When they do, what is their entire hand shape? The only shape

possible is 4=4=3=2, with 4-4 in the majors, and 3-2 in the minors. There is no other shape where declarer has three diamonds. It is partly why we open 1♣ when we have 4333 shape.

On this hand, declarer had a chance to raise 1♠ to 2♠ but did not. Why not? Because declarer does not have four spades. If declarer does not have four spades then she cannot have three diamonds. Well, she can, but then she would have opened her longer minor, in this case clubs. She did not do that because her diamonds are longer.

To fully understand the concept, just remember this: after opening 1♦, if Opener raises Responder's major, then Opener might have the 'dreaded' three-card diamond suit (as Opener might have 4432 shape). But if Opener does not raise Responder's major, then Opener must have 4+ diamonds.

After you pitch a diamond, dummy wins the club ace. What do you make of partner's ♣9?

♠♥♦♣



Patti Callahan, Dale Larkin, Barb Hoeve, Laurie Miller, and Kate Butler

The “Bridge Besties” started taking lessons in the winter of 2024. Two years later, after several lessons from Laurie and humbling play, the Besties formed a great bond with the four of us and other amazing players at the TEBC. It is truly a community of people willing to share their knowledge, laughter, and foods each week.

Some of us are retired and others on the verge of retirement and we all look forward to increasing hours spent playing the game and learning. We occasionally get together, away from TEBC to play and have more fulsome discussions, trying to solidify our learned lessons, conventions, principals and the shape of our hands!

Bridge Movie continued

♠ 9 7 4 2
♥ J 10 3
♦ J 8 5
♣ A J 5

West (You)

♠ Q 8 5
♥ K 4
♦ A Q 10 9 7 6
♣ 10 3

The ♣9 is a suit-preference signal. Wait, is there such a thing as a suit preference signal in a notrump contract? Yes there is! And it comes up quite often.

Let’s recap: with our ♣10 lead, we hit partner’s five-card suit. This was not only a good opening lead but a fair chance that your esteemed partner is going to play with you again. At the time partner won the club

king, (the second round of clubs), he had three clubs to exit with: the 9, the 8, and the 4. All three of those clubs are now equal in the sense it does not really matter which club is played—each one of them will drive out dummy’s ace and declarer’s last club. So, crazy as it sounds, yes, *you can give a suit-preference signal when defending a notrump contract.*

Similar to the suit-preference signal versus a trump contract, the ♣9 says, “I have a preference for spades, the higher-ranking side suit.” The ♣4 says, “I have a preference for diamonds, the lower-ranking side suit.” Thus, the ♣8, the middle club, would show a preference for hearts.

So, when you get in, and you will get in, you can safely play a spade.





Canada Day, a sea of red and white.



2025 Bridge Bash gang at Bayview Wildwood.



The chefs for the Annual Christmas Lunch Fundraiser
L to R: Alan Conquer & Rob Carson



Canada Day, serving up all our Canadian favourite snacks.
L to R: Joanne Richardson, Jane Ray, Alice Miller, Laurie Miller & Glenna Richardson

Bridge Movie continued

The full deal:

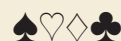
♠ 9 7 4 2	♠ 9 7 4 2
♥ J 10 3	♥ K J 6 3
♦ J 8 5	♥ Q 7 6 5
♣ A J 5	♦ —
♠ Q 8 5	♣ K 9 8 4 2
♥ K 4	
♦ A Q 10 9 7 6	
♣ 10 3	
♠ A 10	
♥ A 9 8 2	
♦ K 4 3 2	
♣ Q 7 6	

After the ♣10 loses to the queen, you got in at trick two with the ♥K. You played a club and partner won his king and cleared clubs with the 9 while you pitched a diamond. Declarer can play three rounds of

hearts picking up your partner's queen, but then must break spades or diamonds.

At the table, declarer played the ♠10 from hand. You can win your queen and exit a spade. This goes to declarer's now stiff ace. When declarer exits a diamond from hand, you can win two diamond tricks and exit with your carefully preserved baby spade over to partner to win and cash a winning club or two.

The final result is down one as declarer comes to these six tricks: one spade, three hearts, and two clubs. Great lead, great defence—your plus score is the number of years the Kibitzer has been around: +50. Roll credits. Finis.





ABTA Teacher of the Year, Lorraine Eaglesham

Kib: Tell us how you first got started in bridge?

Lorraine: My husband, Harry, learned to play bridge as a student at McGill in Montreal in the late 60s. He read Alfred Sheinwold's book: *5 Weeks to Learning Bridge*. After we got married, he taught me, plus he had me read the book (which we still own).

Kib: What were some of your early memories of learning bridge?

Lorraine: Very quickly we started playing duplicate at a nearby club, Nun's Island Bridge Club, where we won the club championship at their year-end in spite of my stomach turning over before every hand! In 1978, we moved to Burlington for a short time and then Unionville in 1980. We played occasionally at the local Burlington club and then at Ted Horning's club in Markham. Although we were obviously beginners by other players' standards, we seemed to frequently score well to their and our amazement! We also became involved in playing and organizing the Unionville Bridge Club for several years before our busy lives (tennis and work) took over and we had a near 20-year hiatus. Upon our retirements, we jumped back into bridge with a flourish.

Kib: How long have you been teaching bridge?

Lorraine: I had a long career in education: high school teacher, guidance counsellor, and principal. Upon retirement in 2007, my bridge playing increased and I started helping out Les Gagnon who was teaching beginners at York Downs Golf and Country Club. I then did some teaching in my home. I also

took bridge courses from Barbara Seagram and got involved in helping Josée Hammill with her courses. That led to Josée asking me to teach some of her courses. When COVID hit, everyone went online and I followed suit. My courses were quickly popular with up to 100 students. After COVID, I returned to face-to-face teaching: a couple years teaching for City of Richmond Hill and now on my own at a church close to my home in Unionville.

Kib: Who, typically, are your students? Do you have some students who have stayed with you over the years?

Lorraine: My students range from complete beginners to full intermediates. Since I take many in from the "bridge cradle," they tend to stay with me. I also get low intermediates looking to improve and they also tend to stay as they progress.

Kib: What textbooks and/or teaching materials do you tend to use?

Lorraine: My series of courses follow Barbara Seagram's programs and I mostly use her textbooks. I also offer both in-person and online lessons on a wide range of topics such as DONT, 2/1, New Minor Forcing, Entry Management, When to Pull Trump etc. These appeal to a wide range of students. I also use material from Bridge Bulletin articles. My favourite sources include Lynn Berg, Robert Todd, Jerry Helms, Larry Cohen, and Eddie Kantar.

Kib: What do you find are some effective methods for teaching beginners?

Lorraine: I find the “Cards on the table” technique to be effective. Students like to manipulate the cards and because all of them participate at the table, it helps to keep their focus. All bridge learners need encouragement but especially beginners. For the quick learners, I give them extra hands during the Play of the Hand session.

Kib: What are some things that you do not do in your classes because you know it is, say, not so effective? For example, sometimes I have taught at clubs where volunteers sit at a table to ‘help,’ but they end up being a ‘hindrance’ in their exuberance to over-explain.

Lorraine: I do not let my beginners ask, “What if?” questions. They need to stay focused on the moment and not on tangents. What if questions can lead to a conversation between student and teacher and it usually leads to another “what if?” question. This is definitely not conducive to learning. However, I tell them that if not answering their question will cause them to not sleep tonight, I will answer their question after class! Bridge is only a game after all!

I do not let volunteers sit at the table with my students. They tend to teach as opposed to encouraging them to figure things out. Because I usually have large classes, I pick former students who are available for students when called for help during the play of hands. I pick those who have empathy and a big smile.

Kib: Can you tell us all about learning you had been named Teacher of the Year by the ABTA? Did you even know you were nominated? Who nominated you?

Lorraine: The ABTA has a very thorough and exhaustive process that includes:

- having a Student Nominator who is responsible for an initial nomination and soliciting testimonials from students. The Student Nominator must have

permission from the teacher to nominate them. My Student Nominator was David Kerner who is a star student. David, along with his partner Vivian Tollefson, were beginners only two and half years ago (meeting in my class) and are already winning Gold Rushes! He had 42 testimonials submitted! They were very satisfying to read.

- There is a questionnaire to complete by the nominated teacher which requires a lot of work
- Sample class materials are requested
- A video (5 to 8 minutes) of a sample class is required

I was informed by the ABTA that I was one of two finalists for Teacher of the Year and that the winner was going to be announced at the ABTA convention just prior to the NABC in Minneapolis. Harry and I decided to go and also stay for a few days of the NABC. We got skunked the first two days of play but then came away with 22 gold for a 2nd place in the mid-flights on Day 3.

We attended the Hall of Fame induction for Barbara Seagram. Here is a link to a video of the announcement that Harry recorded:

<https://youtu.be/9txRaacTkyg>

Kib: What gives you a thrill when teaching bridge? What makes it fun for you? For example, I cannot believe how much fun and funny stuff comes up: things students say/do, etc., many things I could not even script.

Lorraine: Nothing can bring me more joy than seeing my students’ eyes light up when they understand a difficult concept. It is so gratifying! I also enjoy the funny stuff that comes up in the classroom. I love when students make funny comments during class. They help put everyone at ease. Here’s a comment from one of my more recent Bridge Basics classes (on the first day). I asked: “Who can tell me what a *trump suit* is?” A gentleman answered: “Dark colour with white shirt and red tie.” The class burst out laughing of course!



Canada takes Minneapolis by storm: Lorraine Eaglesham (left) ABTA Teacher of the Year, alongside Fred Gitelman and Barbara Seagram, ACBL Hall of Fame inductees



Kib: Ha! Good one! I might add orange foundation on the lapel. Is there anyone in your life you would like to thank for helping you as a player and/or teacher?

Lorraine: My husband, Harry, for encouraging me to learn this incredible game. I played a lot of card games as a child and jumped right into bridge. Les Gagnon, who invited me to be a table helper in his

classes many years ago.

Barbara Seagram and Josée Hammill, who encouraged me to take the leap from helper to teacher. The ABTA, who provides wonderful supports for bridge teachers and provided me with personal recognition that I could not have dreamed of.

What Lorraine's students have to say about Lorraine...

Barbara McClelland, King City

Without Lorraine, I wouldn't know how to play bridge. It's as simple as that. Lessons with Lorraine at the helm were attempt #4 for me, and she made things click. I am now at a competitive level. Thank you, Lorraine.

Jane Casey, Thornhill

Lorraine brings her experience as an educator to the process of teaching bridge. She has solid knowledge of the game and her love of it is both inspiring and motivating. Her skills are many and have helped me to improve my game: she is patient, kind and respectful. She clearly understands adult learning styles and her use of visuals (e.g. overheads in class) and recordings of each lesson (which she shares afterwards) have assisted me in grasping complex concepts.

Doris Tardibuono, Markham

I enrolled in Lorraine's Beginner Bridge 8-week program last fall. During the course, she encouraged us to participate in a bridge tournament held at the Sheraton Centre in downtown Toronto. I had only been playing bridge for a few months at that point, so I was pleasantly surprised when my partner and I finished in 1st place in the 0–20 category.

Since then, I have continued to play about once a week. Lorraine also helped me register with a local club, the Unionville Bridge Club. She must have seen some potential in me! Just last night, my partner and I placed 2nd out of 10 tables, despite the fact that the other players had significantly more experience.

These results — and my growing passion for bridge — are entirely due to the encouragement, expertise, and exceptional teaching of Lorraine Eaglesham.

Michelle Busic, Etobicoke

I can't thank Lorraine Eaglesham enough for teaching me bridge six years ago. I've not only become a better, competitive bridge player but I've also gained lasting friendships and valuable life skills. Lorraine's passion for bridge is contagious and her enthusiasm inspired me to always improve.

Maryann Jefferies, Thornhill

I have had other bridge teachers, but Lorraine is by far the best—her preparation of class materials is well-organized, interesting and fun to work through. She is open to our questions and at no time do you feel intimidated and feel that you have asked a “stupid” question. We are lucky to have her.



Old Friends Week

By John Carruthers

When Danny Gerstman phoned me from Buffalo to suggest we play together in an upcoming Regional, I told him I had a better idea. “Let’s play the Life Master Pairs,” I responded. “We’re both going to Minneapolis for the Hall of Fame Ceremony anyway.” Danny was going to see his good friend Jeff Rubens, (of *The Bridge World* fame and a fellow Cornell University alumnus), receive the Sidney Lazard Jr. Sportsmanship Award, and I was going to see ex-Torontonian Fred Gitelman and current Torontonian Barbara Seagram get inducted into the ACBL Hall of Fame.

Danny and I have been friends since the early 1970s, when we rampaged across Ontario and New York state, playing in every Sectional and Regional within 300 miles of Buffalo or Toronto. However, we had not played together in decades, although we had played fairly successfully in some events as teammates.

We quickly decided to stay on in Minneapolis a further couple of days after the LM Pairs to play in the Truscott Senior Swiss Teams. It fell to me to engage teammates. The first person I contacted was Howie Weinstein, another old friend, partner and teammate, now settled in Utah after years in each of Minneapolis, Chicago, Sarasota and Palm Springs. Howie got Larry Robbins, a friend from his days in Chicago, as a partner. We all agreed that a six-person team was preferable to playing four-handed, so Allan Graves (a great Canadian player and another friend, partner and teammate of mine, who now lives in Vermont – after residing in Vancouver, Los Angeles, and Toronto), and Mike Gamble (another terrific Canadian player, now living in Sarasota, after Ottawa and British Columbia) were drafted onto the team. We were a motley crew of three mobile Canadians and three Americans, all in almost-familiar partnerships.

The Truscott Senior Swiss Teams is a two-day event with eight 7-board matches per day, the first day consisting of two Qualifying sessions and Day 2 consisting of the Final two sessions. Our team played well on the first day, qualifying in sixth position. We had a bit of a rocky start in the first Final session but recovered well enough to be in second place when we faced Joanne and Jack Weingold, Dennis and Jerry Clerkin, and David Berkowitz/Jeff Meckstroth.

One of the real pleasures of bridge is beating up on the all-time greats. This seldom happens in more-physical sports such as tennis and soccer but, in bridge, the vagaries of chance and playing well at the right moment sometimes permit a less-renowned team to beat a more-formidable opponent. Don’t get me wrong, I’m always pretty confident of holding my own against anyone but, let’s face it, Meck and Berk would be favoured in almost any encounter.

This was the first board of the match. Danny and I had a magical fit for our traditional Jacoby Two Notrump methods...

Dealer West. Neither Side Vulnerable.

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

1. 4-card spade support, forcing to game
2. Good second suit, at least 2 of the top 3 honours

Danny was able to visualize my hand perfectly: good spades, heart control and the king of diamonds. There was nothing to the play on the king-of-clubs lead – Danny ruffed the club, drew trumps, set up the diamonds, returned to hand with a club ruff and took the heart finesse for the overtrick. When it failed, he was plus 980; that was worth 11 IMPs to us when the Clerkins missed the slam at the other table.

The next board was my favorite deal of the tournament. Play along with me as I negotiate the declarer play.

Dealer North. East-West Vulnerable.

♠ A J 10	♠ 8 7 4		
♥ 9 4 3	♥ A 2		
♦ J 9 6	♦ A Q 7 5 4		
♣ 8 6 4 3	♣ A K 5		
West	North	East	South
<i>Gerstman</i>	<i>Berkowitz</i>	<i>Carruthers</i>	<i>Meckstroth</i>
—	Pass	1♦	1♥
Pass	2♥	Double	Pass
3♦	All pass		

I evaluated my hand as better than a strong notrump, so opened one diamond, planning to jump to 2NT over Danny's one of a major. The bidding did not go as I had anticipated, and I had a decision to make at my second turn. I resolved it in favour of double, my only other choice being a timid pass. Danny made a good decision to bid three diamonds rather than three clubs.

Meckstroth led the king of hearts and Berkowitz followed with the jack. I ducked my ace at the first trick to reduce the defensive flexibility and won the second heart with the ace. Since I could afford to lose one trick in each suit and the spade honours rated to be split or both on my left, I decided to cash the ace of diamonds and lead low to the jack. However, when I did play the ace, Jeff dropped the king under it! That left David with a natural trump trick. Rather than drawing two more trumps immediately and leave Berk with the master diamond, I led a spade to the ten and North's queen. Berkowitz got out with his remaining heart, which I ruffed.

If the defenders' clubs were split three-three, dummy's fourth club would provide a discard for my third spade, obviating the need for a second spade finesse, so I cashed one high club, drawing the jack from Berkowitz, led a diamond to the jack (heart from Meckstroth) and played another club from the dummy. When Berk followed with the queen, I let him hold it. He exited with the ten of diamonds, forcing my queen (another heart, this time the queen, from Meck) and leaving himself with the now high eight of diamonds, topping my seven. I cashed the king of clubs, learning that Meckstroth had the master club when Berkowitz discarded a spade, declining to ruff.

At this point, I had the losing seven of diamonds and two low spades left in my hand and now knew that North had started with 4=3=4=2 distribution (South with 3=5=1=4) and had two spades and the eight of diamonds remaining. These were the cards that were left (as I envisaged them):

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

What an elegant ending! With just three tricks to play, I had two ways to succeed: I could lead to the ace of spades and play the eight of clubs, making my seven of diamonds en passant whatever Berkowitz did, or I could exit with the seven of diamonds, endplaying him.

I exited with my losing diamond to Berkowitz's eight, forcing him to lead into dummy's ace-jack of spades. I know Berk well – he would never ruff with the eight of diamonds and let me make the 'beer card' if he could

prevent it so, rather than give him the opportunity to say something like, “Nobody makes the beer card against me,” I endplayed him instead. (Had I led a spade to the ace, followed by the eight of clubs, David would have discarded, forcing me to ruff with the seven of diamonds a trick too early to win a beer.) This was the full deal:

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

Berkowitz was endplayed – at least, that was my intent. In truth, the nine and king of spades were reversed in the above diagram, so a second spade finesse would have worked all along (as Berkowitz was pleased to show me)! I actually had three successful lines of play with three cards remaining.

We won an IMP against the one notrump contract, making one, at the other table.

There followed three part-score deals on which they won 1 IMP for an extra overtrick. Then, Danny made two great bids on the same hand, painting me a perfect picture...

Dealer North. Both Sides Vulnerable.

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



West	North	East	South
Gerstman	Berkowitz	Carruthers	Meckstroth
—	Pass	1♥	1♠
3♥ ¹	3♠	4♣	Pass
4♠	Double ²	Redouble ³	Pass
5♣	Pass	6♥	Pass
Pass	Pass		

1. Pre-emptive
2. Would prefer a non-spade lead
3. First-round spade control

After Danny's three-heart bid, my four clubs, as well as being descriptive, said, "This is our hand. If they bid four spades, your pass will be forcing." Had I instead just bid four hearts, in this competitive situation, it would have shown a hand I wanted to play in four hearts, but partner would have been released from the forcing-pass obligation. Danny surprised me by bidding four spades. Berk made it easy for us with his anti-lead-directing double, since I was then able to promise first-round spade control with my redouble. Danny's brilliant five-club bid completed the picture of his hand, so that I had an easy 6♥ bid. At worst, I thought, Danny's trumps might be king-jack-fourth.

Again, there was nothing to the play: I ruffed the diamond lead, finessed the heart jack, drew trumps and, with everything favourable, made an overtrick for plus 1460. That was another 13 IMPs our way and, the last board being a push, a 24-IMP win in the match.

That result leapfrogged us over the Weingold team into first place, a lead we never relinquished for the remainder of the event. We eventually lost a match at the end but had enough of a lead to hang on to win handily.

Seen at the Penticton Regional in June



Penticton boardwalk goats
(Bob Hamman not pictured)



Douglas Jordan & Karen Lane



Shelley Burns, CBF President

Photo Credit: JS



What's a Takeout Double?

By Howard Laufer

Early in our marriage, my wife and I began playing what I like to call “kitchen bridge” with our neighbours, Peter and Pam. Peter, an accountant by trade and a bridge enthusiast, introduced us to the basics of the game.

Bridge, however, was only part of the evening's entertainment. Around the kitchen table we spent as much time discussing family news, current events, and neighbourhood gossip as we did playing cards. The competition was always spirited because the format was simple: the “guys” versus the “gals.” Every Friday night, for almost a year, the four of us gathered around the table for laughter, conversation, and bridge.

Then Peter and Pam moved away.

With their departure, our bridge game quietly disappeared as well. Life moved on, and for the next thirty years I scarcely gave bridge a second thought.

Fast forward three decades.

Retirement arrived, and I happily filled my days with golf, curling, and travelling. One afternoon after a round of golf, a fellow retiree named Ron casually asked, “Do you play bridge?”

“It's been a long time,” I replied confidently, “but sure, I can play.”

Looking back, those may have been the most dangerous words I've ever spoken.

“We've got a regular game every Thursday afternoon at the Legion Hall,” Ron said. “We need a spare player. Interested?”

The following Thursday, I took my seat opposite my new partner, Alex. It didn't take long to discover two

important facts: they were playing rubber bridge, and they were playing for money.

That should have been enough warning for anyone.

The first two hands passed uneventfully. Both sides reached routine part-score contracts, and I began to relax. Then came the third hand—the hand that forever changed my understanding of bridge.

My left-hand opponent opened 1♣. My partner, Alex, doubled. My right-hand opponent passed. I examined my miserable five-point hand, saw little reason for optimism, and confidently passed.

What happened next occurred so quickly that it remains frozen in my memory.

Alex sprang from his chair as though launched by a catapult. His eyes flashed. Then he delivered six words that echoed throughout the building:

“YOU CAN'T PASS A TAKEOUT DOUBLE!”

The room fell silent.

I looked around the table and sheepishly asked the obvious question.

“What's a takeout double?”

That, unsurprisingly, was the end of the money game.

To his credit, Alex quickly realized what he was dealing with. His expression softened, and he sat back down.

“Let's forget the money game,” he said. “We'll start a practice game instead. We can talk through the hands and teach this rookie some basic bridge.”



Everyone laughed as Alex shuffled and dealt.

That next hand became my first “official” bridge lesson.

A few hours later, as I was leaving the Legion Hall, Alex called after me with advice that would prove invaluable.

“Hey, rookie—it wouldn’t hurt you to read a good beginner bridge book.”

The next day I bought Brent Manley’s *The Everything Bridge Book*.

That book changed everything.

Before long, my wife and I joined the local duplicate bridge club. One lesson led to another, one game led to hundreds more, and a casual invitation gradually became

a lifelong hobby.

Today, more than twenty years later, we’re still playing regularly—both online and face-to-face at local clubs. The game continues to challenge us, frustrate us, and occasionally humble us.

But most of all, it has enriched our lives.

Bridge has given us far more than cards and conventions. It has introduced us to wonderful people, lasting friendships, endless learning opportunities, and countless memorable stories.

And every now and then, when I hear someone mention a takeout double, I can’t help but smile and think back to that memorable day at the Legion.



The Kibitzer Information

The Kibitzer is available online at www.unit166.ca, every three months: February, May, August, and November. Readers are invited to share their email addresses with the ACBL so that they may receive notification The Kibitzer is ready for viewing.

****Advertisers:** Please proofread your ad to ensure all dates, times, prices, and other important details are to your liking. We will print what you send us and only edit for typos.**

KIBITZER ADVERTISING RATES:

Full Page \$180; 1/2 Page \$110; 1/4 Page \$70; 1/8 Page \$40 (All plus HST)

Please send to Andy Stark, andy.kibitzer@gmail.com

KIBITZER ONLINE: <http://unit166.ca>

IMPORTANT KIBITZER DATES:

Issue:	Deadline:	Posted online by:
Winter	Oct. 20	Nov. 15
Spring	Jan. 20	Feb. 15
Summer	Apr. 20	May 15
Fall	July 20	Aug. 15



Opening Leads: Active vs. Passive

By David Ellis

There are only two types of opening leads: active and passive. The following is a breakdown of when to be passive and when to be active.

I. Passive Defense

- Passive is always the default lead and does not give away tricks to declarer
- Not to lead passively, there must be a specific reason from the bidding
- Typical passive leads
 - from a strong sequence
 - suits with no honours
 - suits in which declarer is strong
 - a trump vs. a grand slam
- Indications for passive lead
 - Declarer has stretched for their contract
 - Suits are splitting badly for declarer
 - Declarer's hand is very strong: INT-3NT
 - Declarer's partnership has a total of 25-29 HCPs
 - Contract INT
 - Declarer's partnership has 20ish HCPs
 - Declarer must develop tricks
 - 28% of INT contracts fail
 - Contract 6NT

2. Active Defense

- Cashing defensive winning tricks quickly before declarer can set up and win tricks
 - This means leading or leading away from honours, hoping to find partner with something in the suit
 - Risky especially as an opening lead, as the lead might give away trick(s)
- Indications from bidding and reviewing Dummy
 - When declarer has a side suit to sluff losers or trump losers in dummy
 - Declarer has extra strength to run quick tricks
 - Favourable splits with opponents' suit. Declarer has 5-2 split versus 3-3 opponents split
 - Against small slam in a suit: set up second trick before playing the ace
- An Active lead 4th highest of longest / strongest in a notrump contract
 - (K542 lead the 2) (K8652 lead the 5)
 - If declarer has AQ of the led suit this lead has given away a trick.
 - Leading from 5-card suits is an Active lead
 - No Stayman; dummy has not indicated a 4-card major or has 4-3-3-3 distribution and perhaps a long minor.
 - Reconsider this lead as a routine

3. Joint Active / Passive leads are top of 3- card sequence with honours (QJ10x, J109, 1098)

- The best types of leads
- Does not give away a trick
- May set up extra tricks

Hand Examples

South
♠ J874
♥ K83
♦ 7654
♣ Q9

Passive Lead: ♦7

Active lead: ♥3 as it has most potential of getting more tricks, runs the risk of giving away a trick to declarer

South
♠ QJT5
♥ K83
♦ 7654
♣ Q9

♠Q top of honour sequence is the joint active and passive lead as it gives away nothing but can be used to promote spade tricks by knocking out ♠A + ♥K

South
♠ K7
♥ K74
♦ K7642
♣ A73

Passive leads can be difficult especially when each suit has a single honour as a lead from each suit is active. South must lead the most passive of all the suits.

Passive Lead:

In a suit contract, length can be a problem as declarer may be short; so, lead ♥4, which is the most passive.

In a NT contract, lead from length especially a 5-card suit to lead ♦4

Active Lead is ♥4 or ♦4: the 4th highest of longest / strongest

South
♠ K52
♥ 87654
♦ 752
♣ 62

Passive Lead is ♥8 as longer to suit the more passive because declarer is less likely to have cards in the heart suit so leading hearts will unlikely set up a heart trick. Lead "Top of Nothing"

Active Lead: ♠2. Of the honourless suits, clubs are the most active as partner may have honours in that suit.

Only types of defenses are in Suit contracts

1. **Defensive Ruffs** (early ruffs before drawing trump)
2. **Prevent Declarer's Ruffs** (trump leads)
3. **Forcing Defense (Tapping Defense)**

Active vs. Passive Defensive leads

All leads will be passive unless there is a bidding sequence that suggests an Active Lead.

Examples of Active leads from bidding

Example #1

South	W	N	E	S
♠ 62	1♥	P	1♠	P
♥ 642	3♥	P	4♠	P
♦ K9643	P	P	P	
♣ 764				

The Bidding Assessment:

West has long hearts (6+) and East will use the long heart suit to sluff losers in his hand or ruff losers in Dummy's hand. Therefore, South's opening lead must be Active Defense to win tricks before declarer can sluff or trump all the losers.

South's active lead would be ♦4, playing 4th highest of longest and strongest.

Example #2

South	W	N	E	S
♠ Q52			1♠	P
♥ QJT9	1NT	P	2♦	P
♦ KT73	2♠	P	P	P
♣ 54				

The Bidding Assessment:

This is a suit preference auction in which West chose spades over diamonds. East has losers in the diamond suit and will use Dummy trump to sluff diamond losers in his hand. Therefore, South must make an Active Lead of trump (♠4) even with the ♠Q to decrease the ruffing power of declarer.

Example #3

South	W	N	E	S
♠ QJ63	1♦	P	1♥	P
♥ 65	1♠	P	2♣	P
♦ T98	2♥	P	4♥	P
♣ KQT7	P	P	P	

The Bidding Assessment:

West is showing an unbalanced hand. East's rebid of 2♣ is 4th suit forcing to game. Declarer has weakness in clubs as 2♣ was artificial and often a weak suit. Dummy (West) will have 3 hearts, 4 spades, 5 diamonds, 1 club. Declarer will ruff losing clubs. Therefore, an Active Lead is necessary by leading trump, ♥6.

Example #4

South	W	N	E	S
♠ 984			1NT	P
♥ Q975	3NT	P	P	P
♦ KJ52				
♣ A6				

E/W can have 25-29 HCPs and South has 10 pts, so North has little or nothing. This calls for a passive lead. West does not have a 4-card major as there was no Stayman bid or could be a balanced hand 4-3-3-3. Therefore, a major suit should be led as West has length in the minors. Leading a heart might give declarer an extra trick, so South must lead ♠9, a passive lead.

Example #5

South	W	N	E	S
♠875	P	P	1♠	P
♥AQT7	2♣	P	2♥	P
♦QJT8	3♠	P	4♠	P
♣J5	P	P	P	

The Bidding Assessment:

West initially is a passed hand, responded at the 2♣ and then jumped to 3♠ indicating that he has three trumps and he probably has some shape (singleton or doubleton in hearts). South has East's side-suit (hearts) well under control. If West does have shortage there then your heart honours are going to get ruffed away. East's bidding indicates 5 spades and 4 hearts with at least nine cards in the majors. An Active lead is necessary as Declarer will use trumps to ruff losers in Dummy, so South should lead a trump to cut down on declarer's ability to ruff losers, not top of an honour sequence.

Ongoing changes in defensive strategy once Dummy is displayed

- Can change from passive to active
 - What are Dummy's assets that Declarer can use?
 - Dummy has a short suit: Declarer will try to ruff losers: lead trumps
 - Dummy has a long suit to sluff losers: Active lead to win quick winners
 - **Never ever break new suits** unless there is a specific reason
- If the opening lead was a success, then it may become necessary to change the lead styles as the play progresses
- Always watch signals from your partner. E.g. if he signaled showing a doubleton then you can lead that suit so the defense will get an extra trick

Dummy evaluation

Example #1

W	W	N	E	S
♠Q875			1♠	P
♥84	3♦	P	4♠	P
♦AKJ85	P	P	P	
♣76				
	S			
	♠A3			
	♥K952			
	♦Q72			
	♣8532			

The Bidding Assessment:

West, Dummy, has 10-12 pts and 4 spades using Bergen Raises. E/W have 9 spades and the split is 2-2.

Passive Lead: ♣8 "Top of Nothing"

Re-Assessment: Dummy comes down. West has 11 HCPs, East has 13, South has 9 HCPs North has 7ish HCPs. Declarer will use Dummy's long diamond suit to sluff losers; South's ♦Q is finesseable. South cannot deal with the declarer's doubletons with only two trumps. After winning the first club lead, declarer plays trump in which South wins with the Ace. South should rethink a passive defense, because Declarer will use the long diamonds. South must hope North has the ♥A to win two heart tricks and the ♠A to prevent E/W getting any overtricks.

Example #2

W 3	W N E S
♠ T74	1♠ P
♥ 87532	2♠ P 4♠ P
♦ 7	P P P
♣ AK62	
	S 3
	♠ J83
	♥ 94
	♦ AJ92
	♣ Q875

The Bidding Assessment:

West has 6-9 pts and 3 spades; East has 19-20 and is unbalanced, maybe with 6+ spades. South has 11 HCPs. North has 4 pts give or take. No need for an active lead. South should lead ♥9.

Re-Assessment: Dummy comes down. West has a 5-card heart suit. As Marty Bergen always said, "I never saw a 5-card suit I did not like!" In West's hand, there is not enough entries to make the 5th heart a winner. The danger is the singleton diamond. So, after losing the heart declarer plays a diamond; South must win with the ♦A and lead a trump to decrease the number of trumps in diamond ruffs in dummy.

Interpreting partner's lead

- The concept of **BOSTON: Bottom Of Something Top Of** nothing must be expanded. The default lead is Top of Nothing, a Passive lead. When partner gives a passive lead, it is unnecessary to return partner's lead. With an Active lead, Bottom of Something, always be careful as that lead may give declarer an extra trick.
- However, once a defender regains the lead, the one leading into the Dummy should be active leading through Dummy's KJ or QJ in a suit or through dummy's single honour (K) 3 card suit hoping partner has AQ. Lead actively through strength in Dummy and lead passively through declarer is the concept.

Conclusion

- The default lead should always be passive except when the bidding suggests an active lead and the defence must win tricks immediately.
- Throughout the play of the hand, the defense will often change either from Passive to Active or vice versa.





Longshot

By Robert Griffiths

This hand is from a recent team game.

South dealt and opened 1♥, West passed, and North squeaked out a 2♥ raise. East bid 2♠ and South took his shot at 4♥. This was passed back to East who really really wanted to bid 4♠, but finally passed.

West led the ♠3, and East won the ace. At this point, EW can cash two diamond tricks, then sit back and collect the ♥Q to set the contract. But East returned a spade; declarer won the king, then led a top heart and got the bad news there.

Board 21

South Deals

EW Vul

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

Prospects look bleak. South has lost a spade plus he has to lose 1 heart, 2 diamonds and possibly a club. An honourable man might give up his heart trick, let the opponents take their two diamonds then try the club finesse to see if he goes down 1 or 2.

But this is a team game, and if there is a sliver of a chance of making the contract, you must go for it. There is a 25% chance that West was dealt both club honours. So, South led a club towards the board and played the 10 when West followed low. South was shocked when the 10 won but kept his composure enough to get back to his hand with the second high heart and repeat the club finesse. When it won, a diamond was parked on the ♣A and his only other losers were the heart queen and one diamond.

Another routine game comes home. Note that East can make 4♠ if he finds the ♦Q. He probably will find it.





ST. THOMAS DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB MARKS 80 YEARS

We're celebrating!

This year, our local bridge club in St. Thomas turns 80. The Club has operated continuously since 1946; we are the oldest running ACBL sanctioned club in the region!

With 45-plus paid members, we are tiny but mighty, like Jumbo the elephant, the mascot for our annual sectional in September. Jumbo was a world renowned circus elephant in the 1800s. He died tragically on September 15 (my birthday!) in 1885 after a train ran into him. A lot of trains came through St. Thomas back in the day.

A statue of Jumbo stands large and proud near the train tracks where he died. The Elgin County Heritage Centre in St. Thomas has an exhibit dedicated to Jumbo.

We hope you will join us to celebrate our 80th anniversary this year at the Jumbo Sectional, held at the St. Thomas Senior's Centre, 225 Chestnut St., St. Thomas, September 12–13.

~Carole Coplea



PRESIDENT / TREASURER: [ANDREW RISMAN](#)

Toronto tel. 647-286-1576

VICE PRESIDENT / TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE CHAIR:

[DARLENE SCOTT](#) Oakville tel. 905-257-0304

PUBLICITY / KIBITZER LIAISON: [DAVID McCRADY](#)

Toronto tel. 416-293-1837

ELECTIONS / NOMINATIONS: [DAVID McCRADY](#)

Toronto tel. 416-293-1837

INVENTORY CONTROL: [ELIZABETH WILLIAMS](#)

Burlington tel. 905-510-5481

EDUCATION LIAISON / YOUTH BRIDGE:

[DOUGLAS JORDAN](#) Toronto tel. 647-700-7105

AWARDS CHAIR / CVBA: [ED TRUEMAN](#)

Brampton tel. 647-330-5234

COBA: [MIKE KAMMERMAYER](#)

Oakville tel. 905-561-5193

At-Large Board Members:

[SHEILA XU](#) North York tel. 416-998-0166

[MEL NORTON](#) Burlington tel. 905-467-8012

[DANNY MILES](#) Toronto tel. 647-990-3601

OTHER OFFICIALS

SECRETARY / ELECTRONIC CONTACT:

[DEBRA KESTENBERG](#)

Toronto tel. 647-514-3221

TOURNAMENT SANCTIONS / MEMBERSHIP CHAIR:

[MARTIN HUNTER](#)

Mississauga tel. 905-510-0411

I/N CO-ORDINATOR:

ACCOUNTANT: Xponents CPA Professional Corporation

<https://www.xponents.cpa/>

KIBITZER EDITOR: [ANDY STARK](#)

Toronto tel. 647-530-1360

WEBMASTER: [MARTIN HUNTER](#)

Mississauga tel. 905-510-0411

REGIONAL DIRECTOR (ACBL): [DARLENE SCOTT](#)

Oakville tel. 905-257-0304

UNIT 166 FACE-TO-FACE BRIDGE CLUBS

Please check the Unit 166 website for
up-to-date club information www.unit166.ca

ALBION HILLS BRIDGE CLUB

Mayfield United Church,
12496, Dixie Road, Mayfield, Caledo ON
Ed Trueman

edtrueman55@gmail.com

- Thur 1:00 pm Open

BRIDGE AT THE TEMPLE

Temple Sinai
210 Wilson Ave., Toronto ON M5M 3B1
Richard Ross 416-816-7115

- Mon 12:00 pm 0-1000/Open
- Fri 12:00 pm 0-1000

BRONTE BRIDGE CLUB

Burlington East Presbyterian Church
505 Walkers Line, Burlington
Jackie Syer 905-844-0574

syerjacqueline@gmail.com

jackiesyer@gmail.com

- Wed 12:30 pm Open
- Wed 12:30 pm 0-500

DUNDAS DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

Dundas Senior Center
10 Market St. S., Dundas
Eileen Grady 905-379-4029

eigrady@gmail.com

1:00 pm on the 1st and 3rd Sat. of every month

ETOBICOKE BRIDGE CENTRE

Etobicoke Olympium
590 Rathburn Rd
Etobicoke, ON M9C 3T3
Steve Overholt 647-897-6179

- Wed 12:00 pm 0-1000
- Wed 12:00 pm 0-50 with
a supervised lesson at 11:30 am

HALTON BRIDGE CLUB

Burlington East Presbyterian Church
505 Walkers Line, Burlington
Jackie Syer 905-844-0574

syerjacqueline@gmail.com jackiesyer@gmail.com

- Tues 12:30 pm Open

HART HOUSE BRIDGE CLUB

7 Hart House Circle, Toronto, ON
416-978-2452
harthousebridgeclub@gmail.com
<http://sites.utoronto.ca/bridge/>

- Tues 6:30 pm Open

INA & FRIENDS LM PAIRS

Temple Sinai
210 Wilson Ave., Toronto, ON M5M 3B1
416-816-7115 or 416-706-8550
Richard Ross & Ina Demme
lifemastersbridge@gmail.com

- Fri 12:00 pm Open - Stratified
- Fri 12:00 pm 0-1000

MARILYN'S BRIDGE CLUB

Flower City Senior Center
8870 McLaughlin Rd S.
Brampton L6Y 5T1
(905) 791-4239
Gary Westfall
gwestfall@rogers.com

- Mon 1:00 pm Open

MIDTOWN TORONTO NOVICE DBC

Armour Heights Presbyterian Church
105 Wilson Avenue
North York, ON M5M 2Z9
Douglas Jordan
douglasjordan@yahoo.ca

- Wed 6:30 pm 0-100
- Thu 6:30 pm 0-20 (Supervised)

MOBRIDGE

Sherwood Village
2225 Erin Mills Pkwy, Unit #155A
Mississauga, ON L5K 1T9
www.mobridge.club
Martin Hunter 905 403 1333
mail@mobridge.club

- Mon 7.00 pm 0-100
- Mon 7.00 pm Open

OAKVILLE BRIDGE CLUB

Trinity United Church
1250 McCraney St. E
Oakville, ON L6H 3K3
Darlene Scott
oakvilledarlene@gmail.com

- Mon 12:15 pm Open
- Free lesson prior to game; arrive at 11:30 am

SHORELINE BRIDGE CLUB

Burlington East Presbyterian Church
505 Walkers Line, Burlington ON
Jackie Syer 905-844-0574
syerjacqueline@gmail.com
jackiesyer@gmail.com

- Fri 12:30 pm Open
- Fri. 12:30 pm 0-500

STEPPING STONE BRIDGE CLUB

Armour Heights Presbyterian Church
105 Wilson Ave. (Avenue & 401)
Cyndy Winkler cyndywinkler@gmail.com
<https://www.bridgewebs.com/steppingstones/>

- Mon 12:30 pm 0-20
- Tues 12:00 pm 0-399

TORONTO BRIDGE

Leaside Memorial Community Gardens
Rob Drummond 647-629-3408
info@torontobridge.ca

- Wed 12:00 pm Open
- Thur 9:00 am Limited (0-500)
- Thur 12:00 pm Open

TORONTO EAST BRIDGE CLUB

1512 Kingston Road, Scarborough, ON
416-419-3089 - Glenna Richardson
416-276-6415 - Laurie Miller
torontoeastbridgeclub@gmail.com

- Mon 1:00 pm Supervised, 0 - 20
- Mon 7:00 pm Open and 0-20
- Wed 12:30 pm Open and 0-20



PRESIDENT: Millie Wood Colton
tel. 705-674-3677, cell. 705-662-8813
email. milliewoodcolton@gmail.com

VICE-PRESIDENT: John Biondi
tel. 705-478-7781
email. dymondacel@yahoo.com

TREASURER: Cheryl Mahaffy
email. jc.mahaffy@fibrep.ca

SECRETARY: Fiona Christensen
tel. 705-673-8478
email. fionamchristensen@gmail.com

TOURNAMENT COORDINATOR: Marc Langevin
email. marc.langevin@fibrep.ca

I/N COORDINATOR: Sue Hemmerling
email. hestia@eastlink.ca

BOARD MEMBER NORTH BAY: Paul Bourassa
tel. 705-493-1148
email. paul.bourassa200@gmail.com

BOARD MEMBER SUDBURY: Chantal Barnhart
tel. 705-562-4829
email. pokerjunkie7@hotmail.com

BOARD MEMBER TIMMINS: Bob Pawson
tel. 705-268-2610
email. bobpawson1@yahoo.ca

BOARD MEMBER NEW LISKEARD: Alan Young
tel. 705-563-2996
email. youngalan1234@gmail.com



PRESIDENT: Linda Lord
5930 17th Sideroad RR 1, Schomberg, L0G 1T0
tel. 905-939-8409 email. lindaleelord@hotmail.com

TREASURER: Susan Beals
34 Falling River Dr., Richmond Hill, L4S 2R1
tel. 416-433-2292 email. sbealsca@yahoo.co.uk

SECRETARY: Jean Belfour
438 Bay St., Orillia L3V 3X6,
tel. 705-323-4944 email. jeanbelfour@sympatico.ca

EDUCATION COORDINATOR: Lorraine Eaglesham
114 Main, Unionville, L3R 2G2
tel. 647-335-4177 email. lmeaglesham@aol.com

REGIONAL CHAIR: Linda Lord
5930 17th Sideroad RR 1, Schomberg, L0G 1T0
tel. 905-939-8409 email. lindaleelord@hotmail.com

TOURNAMENT COORDINATOR: Linda Lord
5930 17th Sideroad RR 1, Schomberg, L0G 1T0
tel. 905-939-8409 email. lindaleelord@hotmail.com

SPECIAL EVENTS: Paul Campbell
47 Herrell Ave., Barrie, L4N 6T7
tel. 705-734-0287 email. pacam1947@hotmail.com

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE:
Doug Darnley
1525 Sandhurst Cres., Pickering, L1V 6Y5
tel. 416-258-1331 email. ddarnley@rogers.com
Janice Upenieks,
17 Maple Dr., Orillia L3V 3W3,
tel. 416-435-3870 email. janice.upenieks@outlook.com
Ken Collins, 338 Murray Dr., Aurora, L4G 6B2,
tel. 416-471-5699 email. ken.collins@solution-integrity.com
Lyn Stevens, 23-1020 ParkHill Rd W., Peterborough,
K9K 0E1 tel. 705-876 8138 email. lynstevens@hotmail.ca

RECORDER: Paul Thurston
18 Mount Grove Crescent, Wellington, K0K 3L0
email. tweedguy@gmail.com

SUPPLY MANAGER: Paul Campbell
47 Herrell Ave., Barrie, L4N 6T7
email. pacam1947@hotmail.com

UNIT 246 FACE-TO-FACE BRIDGE CLUBS

AJAX BRIDGE CLUB

46 Exeter Rd., Ajax
Sonia Ostroff
905-419-0870

- Tues 7:15 pm Open

AURORA BRIDGE CLUB

406 Millard Ave, Newmarket, L3Y 1Z9
905-895-7321

Linda Lord lindaleelord@hotmail.com

- Wed & Fri 12:30 pm Open
- Tues 6:45 pm Open
- Thurs 12:30 pm 0-300

BARRIE BRIDGE CLUB

Unit #3, 18 Alliance Blvd., Barrie
705-721-9233

Jane Foster janekf74@hotmail.com

<https://www.bridgewebs.com/barrie/>

- Mon 1:00 pm 299er
- Tues 1:00 pm Open
- Wed 1:00 pm Open
- Fri 12:00 pm Open

BELLEVILLE DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

Belleville Masonic Temple, 132 Foster Avenue
Belleville, K8N 3P9

Club website: www.bridgewebs.com/belleville

- Tues & Thurs 1:00 pm Open

Club manager - Peter Tarle peter@tarle.com

BLUE MOUNTAIN DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

100 Minnesota Street, Collingwood
705-888-9211

Ruth Eidt rutheidt@gmail.com

- Tues & Thurs 1:00 pm Open

COBOURG DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

232 Spencer Street E., Cobourg

pgiannandrea@gmail.com

- Wed 1:00 pm Open

ORILLIA DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

Orillia Square Mall, Unit 22
1029 Brodie Drive,
Severn Twp. L3V 0V2
705-323-4944

Jean Belfour: jeanbelfour007@gmail.com

Club website: www.bridgewebs.com/Orillia

- Mon 1:00 pm Open
- Wed 1:00 pm 299er
- Thurs 1:00 pm Open

Details at: www.bridgewebs.com/orillia/

NORTH SIMCOE BRIDGE AND GAMES CLUB

(formerly Midland Bridge Club)
The Brooklea Golf and Country Club,
8567 Hwy. 93, Midland

Donna Earl: fredearl@rogers.com

Club website: www.bridgewebs.com/midland/

- Mon 1:00 pm Open
- Tues 7:00pm Learning game
- Wed 1:00 pm Open
- Thurs 1:00 pm Social
- Fri 12:00 pm Bid Euchre

PETERBOROUGH BRIDGE CLUB

184 Marina Blvd., Peterborough
705-745-2331

Birte Ayer birteayer@gmail.com

- Mon 1:00 pm Open
- Mon 1:00 pm 49ers
- Tues 1:00 pm 0-750
(one partner must be under 750 mps)
- Wed 1:00 pm Open
- Thurs 1:00 pm 0-750
- Fri 1:00 pm Open

RICHMOND HILL BRIDGE CLUB

Elgin Barrow Arena, 43 Church Street S,
Richmond Hill, L4C 1W1

Susan Beals sbealsca@yahoo.co.uk

- Thur 12:45 pm Open
- Sat 12:45 pm Open

THORNHILL BRIDGE CLUB

7755 Bayview Ave., Thornhill
905-883-955

Medhat Fawzy medhatfawzy@hotmail.com

- Mon 1:00 pm Open
- Wed 1:00 pm Open

WASHAGO BRIDGE CLUB

4108 Canal Rd., R.R.#2
Washago, L0K 2B0
Anne Sixsmith
647-528-1170

- Friday 12:00 pm Open



President: Jennifer Verdam
315 Margaret Ave., Apt 114, Kitchener ON, N2H 6S5
tel. 519-440-9346 email: jennverdam@gmail.com

Vice President:

Secretary & Director at Large: John Abbott
9185 Blencarn Court, Windsor, ON, N8S 4L3
tel. 519-944-4911 email: johnabbott916@gmail.com

Treasurer: Tom Jolliffe
18 Cadeau Terrace, Unit 10, London, ON, N6K 4Z1
tel. 519-639-2206 email: tom.jolliffe@rogers.com

Education Liaison: Malkin Howes
335 Marlowe Drive, Waterloo, ON, N2I 5A5
tel. 519-884-3146 email: mdare@sympatico.ca

Membership Chair: Brian Clark
33 Thomas Ave, Tillsonburg, ON, N4G 5K8
tel. 519-842-6791 email: brian.clark@sympatico.ca

Supplies Manager: Gord Bryant
tel. 519-204-8870 email: gkbryant@rogers.com

Director at Large: Hazel Hewitt
PO Box 2461, 84 Church St. South, St. Marys ON, N4X 1A3
tel. 519-274-9724 email: hazeljhewitt@hotmail.com

Director at Large: Gary Robertson
7839 Talbot Trail, Blenheim, ON N0P1A0
tel. 519-809-7000 email: garrobert@gmail.com

Director at Large: Alan Pyke

Director at Large: Lorna Graham

UNIT 249 FACE-TO-FACE BRIDGE CLUBS

BEACHGROVE BRIDGE CLUB

14134 Riverside Dr East, Windsor, N8N 1B6
519-564-7185
Marica Janisse
Private: May thru December
• Tues 6:30 pm

BREW'S BRIDGE CLUB

770 Maxwell St., Sarnia, 519-381-6792
Randy Breuer
• Tues 1:00 pm Open
• Wed 1:00 pm Open
• Fri 1:00 pm Open

GRAND RIVER BRIDGE CLUB

2481 Kingsway Drive, Kitchener, N2C 1A6
519-893-4595
Kathy Russell
Grand River runs a combination of 11 face-to-face games and one virtual game per week. Please see our website for schedule details.
<https://grandriverbridgeclub.com/>

GODERICH BRIDGE CLUB

Trinity Church 245 Mill Road, Goderich,
519-524-9635
Mary-Lynne Telford
• Tues 1:00 pm Open
Please see our website for schedule details.
<https://www.bridgewebs.com/goderichbridge/home.html>

GUELPH BRIDGE CLUB

23 Victoria Rd N, Guelph, N1E 5G6
519-400-4053
Thea Davis
The Guelph Bridge Club runs a series of 7 face-to-face games per week. Please see our website for schedule details.
<http://www.guelphbridgeclub.org/gametimes.html>

KINCARDINE CHARITY BRIDGE CLUB

601 Durham Street, Kincardine,
226-398-6008

Tom Rajnovich tom.rajanovich@gmail.com

- Mon 12:45 pm Open
- Wed 9:30 am Mentor
- Fri 12:45 pm Open

Please see our website for schedule details:
<https://www.bridgewebs.com/kincardinecharity/>

LAKESHORE BRIDGE CLUB

#594 - 5030 Howard Ave., Oldcastle ON
519-996-4372

Ewoud Van Goch

Rob Garrioch

519-919-4455

- Mon 12:45 pm Open

LONDON BRIDGE CENTRE

9-1106 Dearness Drive, London,
519-601-2582

Angie Francolini presidentlbc@rogers.com

The London Bridge Centre runs 9
face-to-face games per week. Please see
our website for schedule details:

<https://www.londonbridgecentre.ca>

MAPLE CITY DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

304 St Clair St, Chatham
USB Sports Bar downstairs
519-809-7000

Gary Robertson garroberr@gmail.com

- Mon 1:00 pm Open
- Wed 1:00 pm Open

MEAFORD BRIDGE CLUB

Knox Presbyterian Church
591 St. Vincent St., Meaford
226-568-3204

Jan Chappelle janchappelle@gmail.com

- Mon 1:00 pm Open
- Thurs 1:00 pm Open

OWEN SOUND DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

1450 2nd Ave W, Owen Sound
519-372-1922

Patricia Barker

osduplicatebridgeclubnews@gmail.com

- Mon 6:45 pm Open
- Wed 1:00 pm Open

PARKHILL LEISURE CLUB

176 Broadway Street, Parkhill
519-476-3144

Lynn Whalen ldw@execulink.com

SAUGEEN SHORES DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

525 Iving's Dr., Port Elgin,
Manager: John Lightfoot, 519-797-5858

littlebear@bmts.com

Website: [Lake & Bay Bridge](#)

- Tues 1:00 pm Open
- Fri. 1:00 pm Open

SIMCOE DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

150 Colborne St. S.
St. James United Church
Simcoe, N3Y 4H6
519-631-5531

Jim Wright jwr1002393@rogers.com

- Wed 1:00 pm Open

ST. THOMAS DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

225 Chestnut Street, St. Thomas, N5R 5B2
519-631-5531

Jim Wright manager@stthomasbridgeclub.org

- Tues 1:00 pm Open
- Tues 1:00 pm 0-500
- Thur 1:00 pm Open

THE DUNES

Ausable Port Franks Community Centre
9997 Port Franks Road, Port Franks
519-719-2483

Janette Pedler pedlar99@hay.net

TILLSONBURG DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

Tillsonburg Seniors Centre
45 Hardy Ave., Tillsonburg
519-631-5531

Jim Wright jwr1002393@rogers.com

- Fri 1:00 pm Open

WINDSOR SOCIAL DBC

333 Lacasse Blvd. Tecumseh

Roger Papineau rogerpapineau@sympatico.ca

- Wed 12:45 pm Open
- Fri 12:45 pm Open



President & District 2 Rep.: Muriel Tremblay

Vice President & Electronic Contact: Brian Jones

Secretary: Sheila Longstaff

Treasurer: Kathy Morrison

Tournament Coordinator: Claude Tremblay

Membership Chair & D2 Rep: Wiebe Hoogland

Education & Intermediate/Novice Coordinator:
Ginger Grant

Non-Board members:

Newsletter/Promotions: Heather Beckman

Webmaster: Dena Jones

All of the above may be contacted by emailing
info@unit255.org

UNIT 255 FACE-TO-FACE BRIDGE CLUBS

BRIDGE CENTRE OF NIAGARA

2E Tremont Drive, #5

St Catharines, ON. 905-704-0446

info@bcon.club

We offer open and/or restricted level games most days.

Please check our website for our current schedule: www.bridgecentreofniagara.com

NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE DUPLICATE BRIDGE CENTRE

NOTL Community Centre,

14 Anderson Lane, NOTL, ON

Claude Tremblay claudet@cmtmc.ca

- Tues 1:00 PM Open
- Fri 1:00 PM Open



Kibitzer Editorial Policy

The Kibitzer is published to promote bridge and to inform members of ACBL Units 166, 238, 246, 249 and 255 about tournaments and special events, as well as to entertain with deals and articles of interest. It is also a forum for the exchange of information and opinion among the members. Opinions expressed in articles or letters to the Editor are those of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect those of the Unit Boards of Directors or the Editor. The Kibitzer reserves the right to edit or exclude submitted material.

TOURNAMENT TRAIL

Page numbers (p.) refer to ads in this issue. An asterisk (*) means tournament information was in the previous issue.

Information is subject to change - check www.unit166.ca or www.acbl.org for up-to-date information.

2026

August

14-16 Niagara-on-the-Lake, I/N
18-23 Montreal Regional
26-29 Sudbury Regional

September

5-7 Oakville Labour Day
12-13 St. Thomas
19-20 Brampton
22-27 Ottawa Regional

October

3-4 Kitchener local
14-17 Winnipeg Regional
16-18 Sudbury
17-18 London
23-25 Toronto, I/N

November

6-8 St. Catharines
13-15 Mississauga local
21 NAP District final
26-Dec. 6 NABC San Diego

December

7-13 Region I, Sectional at Clubs

2027

January

8-10 Toronto
8-10 Toronto NLM Regional
23-30 Bermuda Regional

February

19-21 St. Catharines

March

11-21 NABC Dallas
23-28 Toronto Easter Regional

April

19-25 Gatlinburg Regional

May

19-25 Quebec City, CBF Bridge Week
29-30 Grand River

June

12-13 Toronto I/N
23-27 Can-At, Fredericton NB

July

6-11 Waterloo Regional
15-25 NABC Las Vegas

All tournaments are Sectionals unless noted.

Deadline for the Winter Kibitzer: October 20, 2026

The Kibitzer

Andy Stark

36 Poucher St., Toronto ON M4J 2Y9