



## YIPPEE! LIVE BRIDGE IS BACK

COVID-19! La Soufriere volcanic ash! Hurricane Elsa! We resumed games at the Jimmy Cozier Bridge Centre on 3<sup>rd</sup> July, a one-day later than planned due to the passing of hurricane Elsa.

The Covid Monitoring Unit inspected the premises, checked our protocols, and approved the reopening. There are games Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings and Saturday afternoons.

We anticipate the Tuesday evening games (BBL tournaments) and the Hastings Bridge Club Thursday evening games to resume from September. The BBL Calendar is being finalized. All plans are subject to the directives which are in place at the time.

## NATIONAL TRIALS

Will be held on 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> September to select the Open Team, Ladies Team, Mixed Team, and Seniors Team.

At the 2020 AGM it was agreed that from 2021 the teams would be selected via "Open Trials". Any member therefore can participate in these trials, but only those meeting the criteria to represent Barbados would be eligible for selection to the teams. The AGM also agreed for participants to pay the usual table fees for BBL games - \$7.50 per day.



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

(Edited for this Newsletter)

Dear Friends,

Good News! With a WBF policy change regarding online tournaments, the **31<sup>st</sup> CACBF Zonal Championships** to select our representatives to the World Championship Games will be held online this October.

With the COVID-19 pandemic derailing the international schedule, WBF has waived the usual qualifying requirements for Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup teams. This means is that ANY NBO can be eligible to represent us at the **45<sup>th</sup> World 2021 Bridge Team Championships** to be held in Italy, from 27<sup>th</sup> March to 9<sup>th</sup> April 2022.

The CACBF Zonal Championships will be played on "**RealBridge**" (<https://realbridge.online/>) as it offers a far better and fluid platform to operate. Other Zones have used RealBridge without incidents to select their teams. As NBOs will not have to incur travel expenses I urge all 13 members to support this endeavour. The entry fee is being finalized but I can assure you it will be substantially less than normal. Subject to the number of entries, our Championships should be completed within 8-10 days in the comfort of our homes.

We need teams for the Bermuda Bowl (National Team), Venice Cup (Ladies Team), D'Orsi Cup (Seniors Team) and Wuhan Cup (Mixed Teams). The cost of participation is always a factor in our very tiny zone of 13 countries and less than 1000 players. The total entry fee for all four teams is €16,000.00. Over and above that we would like to be in a position to offer a subsistence subsidy to the players. In reality, we may have to adjust our ambitions and work together to participate in only one of the four above mentioned games and/or the Trans-National Teams (TNT).

We are working through the many options, weighing the cost, and will keep you updated.

Yours in Bridge  
Kip

## GETTING TO KNOW REALBRIDGE

**RealBridge** was launched during the Covid19 lockdowns "to bring back the social and community aspects of the game by connecting people." It is not a free platform like BBO. It is offered as a paid-for service for bridge clubs and NBOs.

The League and CACBF are getting members comfortable with **RealBridge**. The League had a familiarization session on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> July at which 14 members participated and a follow-up practice session of Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> July. The platform is very, very easy to adapt to and without exception everyone has stated it is a much better platform.

CACBF Chief Tournament Director Jack Rhind runs games every Monday evening. Go to the CACBF website (<https://www.bridgewebs.com/cacbf/>) for the link to the games.

## 2021 CHARITABLE DONATION

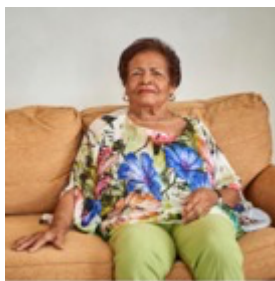
This year's charitable donation was made to our helper Victoria Peters towards repairs to her home which was extensively damaged during hurricane Elsa. The donation total \$3,250.00 with \$1,000 from the League and \$2,250 contributions from members and friends of the League. Victoria was extremely grateful and appreciative and sends her thanks to all.

## THE BURTON'S LEGACY

The League received a \$10,000 legacy from the estate of Hyacinth Lady Burton who passed away in 2019.

The contributions of Sir Carlisle and Hyacinth Lady Burton to the formation, expansion, governance, and international recognition of Barbados Bridge League have been well documented.

## YOLA PARRIS IS A CENTENARIAN



We congratulate Yola Parris who celebrated her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on 10<sup>th</sup> June. The League was unable to celebrate her but shared her joy. Yola boasted she was only "21 years old" and revealed she did not focus on reaching 100 because "they

would put me in a rocking chair in the sun, and I did not want that at all, but I have passed the rocking chair."

## SHIRLEY KING, OBE

On 28<sup>th</sup> May, Shirley received her insignia, Order of the British Empire, from Governor General Dame Sandra Mason. Shirley was named in the 2019 Queen



Elizabeth birthday honours for her contribution to public services in Barbados serving as Confidential Secretary to five Prime Ministers, from Barrow

to Arthur. Indeed, Shirley is recognised in our Independence history as she walked with Barrow on 30<sup>th</sup> November 1966.

Ever humble and unassuming, Shirley said, "I am very thankful for the recognition that has been awarded me and I accept it with all humility." The award ceremony was delayed due to COVID-19 lockdowns.

## SUN, SEA & SLAMS 2022

The interest in this tournament is high with 60 rooms already booked at Barbados Beach Club. We remain hopeful the tournament will take place.

## OPENING 1NT WITH 5-MAJOR

Whenever you have a balance hand and the appropriate point count, open 1NT/2NT. There are absolutely no exceptions. Do not be distracted by a five-card major. Life will be much easier when you open 1NT with a five-card major and a balanced hand.

You will not have a rebid problem and your partner will immediately know about your strength and balanced distribution.

If you open your five-card major, partner will not know about your strength now, and there will be no way to tell him later! Bridge can be a very unforgiving game: Either you open 1NT or can forget about showing your 15-17 HCP. What would you open with this hand?

♠873 ♥KJ865 ♦AQ10 ♣AQ

If you open 1♥, your partner will often respond 1♠. The opponents are silent. It is time for your rebid; decide before continuing.

What are the options?

- Can you pass? Absolutely not! Partner's 1♠ response did not deny a good hand. It promised 6-16 points and was 100% forcing.
- Can you rebid 1NT? No, this shows a balanced minimum; less than a 1NT opening. Obviously, a 1NT rebid misrepresents your strength.
- Can you rebid 2♦? No. A 2♦ bid would promise a four-card suit. You are asking for trouble if you lie about your distribution.
- Can you raise to 2♠? No. This shows a minimum hand with good spade support. Partner's response promises only a four-card suit.
- Can you rebid 2NT? No. This shows more points than an opening 1NT bid. You would need about 19 points to make this bid.

Give up? You certainly do not need this aggravation – life is too short. Ignore your major and open 1NT.

Another example:

♠A10965 ♥KQ7 ♦Q7 ♣AJ4

It is true that partner will not know that you have a five-card major when you open 1NT with hands like these. That is not the end of the world. A convention called [Puppet Stayman](#) allows responder to discover if opener has a five-card major after opening 1NT.

It will be beneficial for you to declare a notrump contract. You would prefer to play last at trick one so that the lead does not come through your honours.

Source: [www.edmontonbridge.ca](http://www.edmontonbridge.ca)

*The League will offer a Bridge Refresher course early next year. Meanwhile there are plenty resources online.*