



Hello Josee,

Spring has arrived and with it, the beginning of golf season which partly explains my lack of news lately. Historically, Fall and Winter have always been my favourite seasons. My mom is often appalled when I say this



as for her it is Spring and Summer and she associates my choices as liking things that are all "dying". For some reason however, this spring has brought to me a renewed sense of hope and awe as nature wakes up from its long slumber. I am yearning to join the "birding movement" as I come across more and more people who are birders. This must be a

sign! Anyone willing to take me by the hand and help me start, please reach out! Anyhow back to the season choices, spring has now crept up to second place, nudging winter out of that position. My mom is ecstatic at the news!

I just finished my spring lessons series and all I can say is

WOW! Such positive energy in all my groups. They are so enthusiastic, keen and appreciative that it made teaching a breeze. I caught myself early in the beginners series telling the students that they are learning a GAME. I begged them to remember that it is a GAME. Lighten up I said and leave your ego at the door! Let's have a good time. And a good time we did. This little speech was good for me too, as I can now tell myself the same when I play golf and whiff a shot. No one cares, it is a game, I will not be remembered for missing my drive on the 15th hole!

Things on the bridge front will be pretty quiet this summer except for the bridge game I run over the months of July and August on Bigwin Island. If you happen to be on Lake of Bays or nearby on a Wednesday afternoon and would like to join us to

play, send me a note. I would be happy to invite you.

Next Thursday I will be driving up to our cottage as I am the bridge director for a fundraiser for the Baysville Winter Pantry. I am so delighted that my friends Shirley and Maureen are expecting a full house with 12 tables playing. I am grateful to

Barbara Seagram who has sent some draw prizes to support their efforts. I include below the link for anyone interested in

donating to this cause.

Speaking of Barbara, have a look below for details on her Cambodia fundraiser and the Barbados Bridge tournament which is always such a wonderful event. I had signed up to go Covid year and had to cancel. I am still trying to get my ducks in a row so that I can attend!

teaser this is what I have in mind. In person, Beginners and Advanced beginners, Two over one (offered in 1 or 2 sessions), a couple evening Bid and Play sessions. That's for a start.

Maybe Intro to Declarer play and Intro to defence later in the Fall. For the online side of things, I will offer once a month a 2 hour lesson on a specific topic. I don't want to over promise so

Lessons (in person and online) will resume in September. As a

hour lesson on a specific topic. I don't want to over promise so these are just loose ideas. If you have some specific requests, do let me know. I want to offer courses that appeal, and are in demand. So let me hear from you. Final details will appear in your inbox by early August.

I am going on a fabulous hiking trip in early September. I'll be hiking Hadrian's Wall with five friends. My last big trip was in 2019, so you can imagine how much I am itching to get back to this. So the plan is for in person lessons to



start at the end of September. If you have some tips on this fabulous hike, do let me know. I am a little nervous at the prospect of hiking 20 to 28 km each day.

More details below on all things bridge. If you are dying to work on your game during the summer, make a note of all my online recordings. There is something for everyone! I will be back in full swing in September!

In the meantime do have a wonderful summer, and stay in touch. I am never far from my computer.

Josée



I just wanted to take a moment to say a huge congratulations to Joanne Pooley and Jill Gray for making Life Master! **

This is such an incredible achievement and I am so happy for you! Your hard work, dedication, and passion for the game have truly paid off. Keep up the amazing work and keep reaching for the stars!

Thank you also to Jill for coming to help me with the beginners this spring. I am so grateful to you for all you did to support the new players. Their experience was enriched by your very presence.

DID YOU KNOW THAT? BRIDGE FUN FACTS



Can you guess the name of the German bridge player who, alongside her partner Roy Welland, triumphed in the Bermuda Bowl, showcasing exceptional strategic skills and teamwork, and paving the way for greater gender diversity in the sport?

Sabine Auken, born in Berlin, Germany in 1963, is a highly accomplished bridge player who made history as the first woman to win the Bermuda Bowl. Auken's journey to success was characterized by determination, perseverance, and exceptional skill. She first began playing bridge at a young age and quickly demonstrated her talent for the game.



In 2006, Auken formed a partnership with Roy Welland, a German-born

player residing in the United States. Together, they competed in the Bermuda Bowl, facing off against formidable opponents from around the world. The tournament showcased Auken's strategic prowess, sharp card sense, and excellent teamwork with Welland.

Their path to victory was no easy feat. They faced intense competition from renowned players, including multiple world champions. However, Auken and Welland demonstrated remarkable resilience and consistency throughout the tournament, impressing both their peers and spectators. Their triumph in the Bermuda Bowl not only solidified their place in

bridge history but also shattered the long-standing gender barrier in the sport, inspiring a new generation of female players.

Sabine Auken's success continued beyond the Bermuda Bowl. She went on to achieve numerous other notable accomplishments in bridge, including several European championships and a silver medal in the Venice Cup, another prestigious international competition. Her achievements have not only earned her respect and admiration within the bridge community but also helped elevate the visibility and recognition of women in the sport, encouraging greater gender diversity and inclusivity.



Did you know that Zia Mahmood, the renowned bridge player, gained a reputation for his unorthodox style of play, often taking bold risks that paid off, and has since won multiple world championships with various countries?

Zia Mahmood, born in Karachi, Pakistan in 1946, is considered one of the most influential bridge players of all time. He gained global recognition for his remarkable card play skills and intuitive bidding strategies. Zia's breakout

moment came in 1979 when he represented Pakistan in the Bermuda Bowl, the pinnacle of team competition in bridge. Against all odds, the Pakistani team, led by Zia, triumphed over strong opponents to claim the championship. This victory marked the first time a team from a non-traditional bridge-playing nation had won the Bermuda Bowl, and it showcased Zia's ability to outmaneuver more experienced opponents.

Zia's success continued over the years, and he became known for his daring and unconventional style of play. He was unafraid to take risks and often made aggressive bids and plays that defied conventional wisdom. Zia's ability to read his opponents and anticipate their actions became legendary, earning him the nickname "The Great Zia." He has represented several countries, including Pakistan, the United States, and Monaco, and has won multiple world championships, including the Bermuda Bowl and the World Team Olympiad.

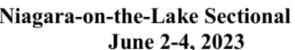
Off the bridge table, Zia is known for his charisma and captivating personality. He has written several bridge books, sharing his insights and strategies with aspiring players. Zia's contributions to the game, both as a player and as an ambassador, have had a profound impact on the popularity and development of bridge worldwide.

UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS IN ONTARIO

Don't miss your chance to participate in the two tournaments below. It promises to be a thrilling experience.

For those who need SILVER points, the Niagara Intermediate / Novice Sectional begins Friday, June 2, in the Niagara-on-the-Lake Community Centre, 14 Anderson Lane, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ont., and continues through Sunday, June 4. It's limited to players with fewer than 750 master points. For more info, click the link below:

View Tournament Flyer in PDF





NOTL Community Centre 14 Anderson Lane, NOTL (off Hwy 55/Mississauga Rd) 905-468-4386



0-750 Tournament

Friday June 2nd, 2023

750 Pairs 1:00pm & 7:00pm 199 Pairs 1:00pm & 7:00pm

Saturday June 3rd, 2023

750 Pairs 10:00am & 2:30pm 199 Pairs 10:00am & 2:30pm

Lunch will be available for purchase

Sunday June 4th, 2023

750 Pairs 10:00am & 2:30pm 199 Pairs 10:00am & 2:30pm

Lunch will be available for purchase

All players are required to abide by the COVID protocols of ACBL and the Province of Ontario

Tournament Chair:

Chandi Jayawardena 905-941-1676 Email chandij@sympatico.ca

Partnership Chair:

Peggy-Sue Verkerk 905-359-0159 Email peggysueshaver@yahoo.com

Stratification

 (Pair Average and strats adjusted as attendance warrants)

 750 Pairs
 200 - 750

 199 Pairs
 0 - 200

General Information

All Events are Single Session

\$15/player/session for ACBL members Extra \$4 for lapsed ACBL members Temporary membership for non-ACBL members will be available.

All events stratified by average masterpoints.



Silver Points

Great Venue • Prizes • Free Parking

Most Friendly Atmosphere

Sectional Tournament Sponsored by Jaclyn Morrison of



(905) 937-0962 jac.morrison@iaprivatewealth.ca

LOOKING FOR GOLD AND RED POINTS? Plan to attend the South Western Ontario Regional Bridge Tournament in Kitchener, ON

July 4-9, 2023

Playing Site: Bingemans Conference Centre 425 Bingemans Centre Drive, Kitchener, ON Marshall Hall Building

Lower Per Session Prices 199er games \$10 (ACBL Members only *) All other games \$17 (ACBL Members only *) ACBL members, whose memberships are not current, add \$4 /person /session

Tournament Chair: Ted Boyd <u>boydst1945@gmail.com</u> Partnerships: Louise Hollingsworth <u>louisehollingsworth@yahoo.com</u>

View Tournament Flyer in PDF



South Western Ontario

Regional

Bridge Tournament

Kitchener, ON

July 4-9, 2023

Tuesday July 4

Open Pairs	.10:00	am	à	3:00	pm
Gold Rush Pairs	10:00	am	a	3:00	pm
Mini-Soloway Knockouts T-W (1 & 2 of 4)	10:00	am	a	3:00	pm
199er Pairs			1	0:00	am

Wednesday July 5

Open Pairs10:00	am	& 3:00 pm
Gold Rush Pairs10:00	am	& 3:00 pm
Mini-Soloway Knockouts T-W (3 & 4 of 4)10:00	am	& 3:00 pm
Mini-Soloway Knockouts W-T (1 & 2 of 4)10:00	am	& 3:00 pm
199er Pairs		.10:00 am

Thursday July 6

Open Pairs	.10:00	am	a	3:00	pm
Gold Rush Pairs	.10:00	am	a	3:00	pm
Mini-Soloway Knockouts W-T (3 & 4 of 4)	.10:00	am	a	3:00	pm
Mini-Soloway Knockouts T-F (1 & 2 of 4)	.10:00	am	ā	3:00	pm
199er Pairs			1	0:00	am

Friday July 7

Open Pairs	.10:00	am	à	3:00	pm
Gold Rush Pairs	10:00	am	a	3:00	pm
Mini-Soloway Knockouts T-F (3 & 4 of 4)	.10:00	am	à	3:00	pn
Mini-Soloway Knockouts F-S (1 & 2of 4)	10:00	am	a	3:00	pm
199er Pairs			1	0:00	am

Saturday July 8

Open Pairs	10:00	am	a	3:00	pm
Gold Rush Pairs	10:00	am	a	3:00	pm
Mini-Soloway Knockouts F-S (3 & 4 of 4)	10:00	am	a	3:00	pm
199er Pairs			1	0:00	am

Sunday July 9

Bracketed Sv	wiss	10:00	am	â	TBA	4
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Stratifications

Open GamesA:	Open, X: 0	-3000, Y:	0-1500
Gold RushA:	0-750, B:	0-500, C:	0-200
199 GamesA:	: 0-200, B	: 0-100, 0	: 0-50

Playing Site

Bingemans Conference Centre

425 Bingemans Centre Drive, Kitchener, ON Marshall Hall Building

Lots of free parking

This will be a cash free (Credit and Debit Cards only) tournament

Masks will be available .

No lunch or coffee will be available at the tournament site

Tournament Hotel

Courtyard by Marriott

(formerly the Radisson) 2960 King Street East, Kitchener, ON Free parking for hotel guests Phone 1-519-894-9500

Rate: \$149.99 Book by phone before June 3

Lower Per Session Prices

199er games \$10 (ACBL Members only *) All other games \$17 (ACBL Members only *) ACBL members, whose memberships are not current, add \$4 /person /session This will be a cash free (Credit/Debit Cards only)

Tournament Chair

Ted Boyd

tournament

boydst1945@gmail.com

Partnerships

Louise Hollingsworth Louisehollingsworth@yahoo.com

2023 CAMBODIA PROJECTS **FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN CONTINUES**

barbaraseagram.clickfunnels.com/may-2023-new-bridge-lesson-series

with Barbara Seagram & Patti Lee

ALL donors who donate \$55.00 or more receive three recordings (& student notes) on our new Slam Bidding series Hand Evaluation, Control Bidding & Slam Bidding Conventions And, if you donate \$100.00 or more you get a tax receipt (for Canadians).







BARBADOS SUN SEA & SLAMS SECTIONAL BRIDGE TOURNAMENT WITH SILVER MASTER POINTS SUN. FEBRUARY 11 – SUN. FEB 18, 2024

or SAT. FEB 10-FEB 18, 2024 with BRIDGE WORKSHOPS ON SUN FEB 11, 2024

with Barbara Seagram

ACBL SECTIONAL BRIDGE TOURNAMENT with SILVER
MASTER POINTS
at SUNBAY HOTEL in BARBADOS

SEVEN NIGHTS ACCOMMODATION INCLUDING ALL YOUR MEALS & DRINKS

USD \$1,120.00 PER PERSON (DBL. OCC.) \$1,785.00 SINGLE OCCUPANCY

OR EIGHT NIGHTS ACCOMMODATION

INCLUDING ALL YOUR MEALS & DRINKS

USD \$1,280.00 PER PERSON (DBL. OCC.) \$2,040.00 SINGLE OCCUPANCY

EXTRA NIGHTS: \$160.00 USD per person DBL OCC. or \$255.00 per person SGL OCC.

Come early or stayover to tour this lovely island.

HOST HOTEL: BARBADOS BEACH CLUB MAXWELL COAST ROAD, CHRIST CHURCH. This hotel is already sold out.

SUNBAY HOTEL is almost across the street from BARBADOS BEACH CLUB

You will have access to beach at Barbados Beach Club (as these are sister properties) & 5 drink tickets per person handed out on 11 Feb.

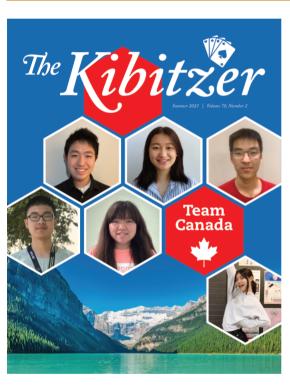
Barbara Seagram & Alex Kornel will be attending the tournament in 2024. There will be TWO free seminars given by Barbara while there (Sun am & Sun aft: 11 FEB) FLY IN ON SAT 10 FEB to attend.

TO BOOK: BOOKING CODE: BRIDGE 2024

Contact Roglyn Hinds: Tournament chair roglynhinds@gmail.com

or 246-231-0149

For more details, **DOWNLOAD Flyer in PDF**



THE ONTARIO KIBITZER SUMMER EDITION IS OUT

CLICK ON THIS LINK TO DOWNLOAD IT

bit.ly/kibitzer may2023

The Kibitzer is a newsletter serving the Bridge community in Ontario ACBL Units: 166, 238, 246, 249 and 255.

It is published quarterly and consists of from 40 to 48 pages of news about bridge; including upcoming bridge tournaments, club activities, interviews, interesting hands, winners, and book reviews.

FACE TO FACE GAMES IN OR NEAR TORONTO

ROB DRUMMOND HAS TWO FACE-TO FACE GAMES PER WEEK:

Leaside Memorial Arena in Toronto

rob@torontobridge.ca or call (647) 629-3408

Thursday at 9.00 am: 0-500 master points Thursday at 12 noon: OPEN GAME HART HOUSE: FACE-TO-FACE GAMES

Tuesdays at 6.30 pm me@emma-knight.ca

Toronto Lawn Bridge Club Ron Bishop: 416-922-1105 44 Price Street

OPEN: Tue 6:30 PM No Game in August EASY GOING: Tue 6:30 PM No Game in August

TORONTO EAST BRIDGE CLUB (FACE-TO-FACE)

Mondays @ 7 pm and Wednesdays 12.30 pm

https://www.bridgewebs.com/torontoeast/home.html

CALEDON BRIDGE CLUB

Steven Norris stspnorris@outlook.com

RICHARD ROSS HAS A FACE-TO-FACE GAME

On Monday afternoon at 1.00 pm: stratified game LIVE at St. John's York Mills Church. In Toronto.

Yonge and York Mills

Richard at 416-816-7115

RICHMOND HILL BRIDGE CLUB

Richmond Hill has Face-to-Face games on Thursdays and Saturdays.

Contact Susan Beals at 416-433-2292 Elgin Barrow Area 43 Church St S,

Richmond Hill sbealsca@yahoo.co.uk

WEST END OF CITY

Etobicoke Olympium & MO Bridge Club also have face to face games.

GET BACK TO THE REAL BRIDGE TABLES, PLEASE!!!

OR at least play in games on BBO which are part of YOUR club.

ACBL BBO games only help BBO, NOT the clubs

GAMES FOR 0-20 and 0-199 MP PLAYERS!

GENTLE BRIDGE & HAPPY BRIDGE with Cyndy Winkler

Mondays at 12.30 (0-20 master points) and Tuesdays @ 12 noon (0-199 master points)

DO COME 15 mins EARLY SO THAT GAME CAN HAVE A PROMPT START

Duplicate bridge is like going on an airplane: you cannot arrive late and you cannot leave early.

BUT, trust me, you won't want to! Cuz everyone is having so much fun in Cyndy's games on Monday and Tuesday!

Pre-register with Cyndy at cyndywinkler@gmail.com

If you need a partner, let her know. ALWAYS show up if you say you are coming. You cannot imagine the complexity of running a duplicate bridge game.

0-199'ers: Face-to face game with Cyndy takes place on Tuesdays @ 12 noon.
0-20 NEW players: Do come on Mondays @ noon

Need a partner? Contact Cyndy!

647-723-3006 CYNDY

FIRST TIMER ATTENDEES: GET A SPECIAL DISCOUNT.

Mention Josée's discount

Armour Heights Presbyterian Church 105 Wilson Ave.

Parking on side streets and on both sides of Wilson https://www.bridgewebs.com/steppingstones/

Fundraiser for the Baysville Winter Pantry

Help us keep families in Baysville and Dorset warm and fed this winter! Shirley Prittie's Winter Pantry provides bi-weekly food support services and hosts free community dinners, all this thanks to the help of local businesses and community groups.

With your donation, we can continue to make a difference in this community.

Even though Shirley already has a full house for the actual tea, you can still contribute to her fundraiser by **donating to the**

<u>Winter Pantry</u> (St Ambrose/Lake of Bays) through the link below. Charitable receipts are provided through Canadahelps.

Let's come together to make a positive impact this winter season! 🔆 🗣

https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/lake-of-baysmission-anglican-church



JOSÉE'S PRE-RECORDED LESSONS

Available for instant delivery! Learn on your own time!

Competitive Bidding - Feb 2023

In this lesson you'll learn how to use takeout doubles, overcalls, jump overcalls, and improve your competitive bidding arsenal.

That means, after you learn the techniques we'll cover, you can open the door to think like a much better player, in just mere hours! It's an incredible valuable skill that anyone can learn and use during all future games.

The hands demonstrated work on the fundamentals of competitive bidding: what you need to interfere, how partner responds to your interference, planning the play after a competitive auction and more!

P.S. This is the mini-video. Watch it to give you a bit of a sense of what the lesson will look like, and always let me know if you have any questions.

Avoidance Plays (Dec 2022)

Imagine playing your next hand, and instead of taking a play which gives a 50-percent chance to win, you can correctly guess the play giving you almost 100% chance to make your contract! That's what an expert does every time, in every game, often by using avoidance plays!

Avoidance means just preventing (or avoiding) a particular defender from gaining the lead. And identifying who is the danger and safe opponent.

That means, after you learn this simple technique, you can open the door to think like an expert, in just mere hours! It's an incredible valuable skill that anyone can learn and use during all future games.

No Trump Defence (Sep 2022)

During this lesson, we will play together 12 specially selected hands from prolific writer and accomplished bridge player Eddie Kantar.

Here's just a small sample of the 12 deals that we'll cover in this live lesson:

· Which thinking habits you, as third hand, must have after the opening lead is made?

- What is a negative discard, and why they are so important at No Trump?
- Before returning partner's suit, why and how to count declarer's tricks?
- · Holding 4 small cards, when you should lead the top one, and when lead the second highest?
- \cdot When declarer leads a suit, why we give count to partner. And sooooo MUCH more...

Ducking by Declarer in Suit Contracts (Jun 2022)

You know that, most of the time, the fate of the hand is determined by how you play to the first trick. That's why many contracts can be won or lost because of that first trick. Some of the things that you will learn in this lesson:

- There's one outstanding difference with ducking plays in suit contracts, you need to know exactly when trumps must be drawn (and what happens if you don't do it!).
- What are the 3 main reasons for making a ducking play in a suit contract.
- Why some hands can be made if you duck the first trick and win the second, while strangely enough the contract cannot be made if you win the first trick.

And much, much more! We'll play each hand twice. One without ducking, and again, the same hand ducking. Then you can easily see what happens in each case.

The 90-minute lesson includes a handout of all the hands (with commentary from Eddie Kantar).

This is an awesome opportunity to get moving towards better declarer play!

Introduction To Defence

Have you noticed that you are defending at bridge 50% of the time? That is right! Did you know that being on Defence is the most fun you can ever have at the bridge table even when you do not have any points in your hand? Let me teach you how to have more fun and to gain respect from all players when you show them you know how to defend!

- Opening Leads against No Trump and Suit contracts
- 2nd hand play
- · 3rd hand play
- Signaling against No Trump and Suit contracts
- And much, much more!!

Introduction To Declarer Play

Bidding is great and winning the contract even better. But if you do not know how to make a plan to make your contract then what good is that! In this 4 week course you will learn:

- Counting Losers
- Counting Winners
- · Ruffing losers in the Dummy
- Extra Winners in the Dummy or in Declarer's Hand
- Long Suit Establishment (aka Taking Tricks with Tiny Cards)
- · When and How to take a Finesse and much more!

Thinking Bridge - Plan Your Moves!

Whatever seat you are in, you have to be planning your moves. Let's spend these sessions where we explore what it feels like to sit in any and all 4 seats, and think like an expert. Only time you will be allowed to relax will be when in the dummy's seat. Complete set of different hands for each of the dates. You will love them! (3 sessions so far)

Basics Beginners Bridge Series

Learn the basic elements of the game of bridge: how to take tricks, how to work with a partner, how to open the bidding in a suit and in No Trump, how to respond, how to compete and more. An 8 week course includes all recordings, PDF of presentations and practice hands for each week.

Intermediate I Bridge Series

For those who feel rusty and need a refresher and for those moving up from Basic lessons. Opportunities to play and practice online will be provided. Lessons are recorded and can be watched on your own time.

A 7 week course includes all recordings, PDF of presentations and practice hands for each week.

Intermediate 2

Weak Two Bids, Strong 2 Club Bids, Slam Bidding, Cue-Bidding First Round Controls, Preempts, Unusual NT, Michaels Cuebids, Opening Light in 3rd seat, Balancing, End Plays, Cross-Ruff, Loser-on-loser play, Introduction to defence, ...and MUCH more!! An 8 week course includes all recordings, PDF of presentations and practice hands for each week.

Intermediate 3

Intermediate III is a full course on Defence and Conventions!

DEFENCE: Third Hand Play, Second Hand Play, Suit Preference Signalling, Strategy on Defence, Lead Directing Doubles, Discarding.

CONVENTIONS: Negative Doubles, Jacoby 2 NT as a forcing raise, Jacoby Transfers, Texas Transfers, Splinters, Roman Key Card Blackwood, Cue Bids, Slam Bidding and lots more!

Learn To Play Two Over One

Learn the system that most of North America now plays. It makes it much easier to get to a better contract, easier to find slams on fewer values and easier to know when to stop in a part score. Learn the forcing No Trump bid.

A two day course + one additional hour of practice hands.

Bid And Play - The Convention Series

Lesson 1 - DONT over 1NT Opening Bid

Lesson 2 - Reverse Drury

Lesson 3 - Jacoby 2NT and Splinters

Lesson 4 - Reverse Bergen/Bergen Raises Lesson 5 - New Minor Forcing/Checkback Stayman

Lesson 5 - New Minor Forcing/Checkback Staymar Lesson 6 - Fourth Suit Forcing

Lesson 7 - Four Way Transfers

All lessons come with recordings and PDF of practice hands.

- · Purchase each lesson individually \$20 or
- Buy all 7 lessons for the price of 6 \$120

Please email me at <u>mjhammill@rogers.com</u>, indicating the course or lesson, and I'll send you all details. If you wish to pay using PayPal I can provide the PayPal link at the time.