



# Kingston Duplicate Bridge Club & Seaway Bridge Club

## on-line update Nov 2020

### Meet the BOTS! Our new solution to filling half-tables.

One of the advantages of BBO play is that there are no sit-outs. But there is a down side to this too—how to deal with those half-tables when they arise.

Up to now Club members have volunteered as spares. This is a hard ask, because the volunteer spares have to log in before game time and wait around “on stand-by” until the game starts. The Directors and the spares never know until the last minute if there will be a half-table that needs filling out. If there isn’t, the spares can’t play, and that’s disappointing.

But we have a new solution! Don has been test driving using BOT players (robots) as the spares for our Sunday games. So far it has worked splendidly, and so starting soon, the Club will use BOT spares for all open games.



Here’s a quick guide to what you need to know about playing against BOT opps:

- the BOTS can’t win masterpoints! So players coming in behind the BOTS at the end of the game automatically move up one notch (and maybe win points, or more points)
- The BOTS play 2/1 GF, and always describe their conventional bids.
- The BOTS are nice—they never make disparaging comments to each other or anyone. In fact, they never make any comments at all...
- The BOTS are good—partly because unlike us mere mortals, they don’t fall in love with their hands, get tired, get hungry, get distracted, *and* they have perfect memories!
- The BOTS are not infallible though, and you can beat them. Consider playing against them as a good challenge and a great learning opportunity. And, as always, have fun!

**THANK YOU TO ALL OUR COMMITTED MEMBERS WHO VOLUNTEERED AS SPARES OVER THE PAST MONTHS—YOU’VE BEEN INVALUABLE IN MAKING OUR GAMES RUN SMOOTHLY FOR EVERYONE.**

### Other News



**Swiss Teams may be coming to BBO—stay tuned.**

**Games for newer players** We have two games for intermediate or novice players: Tuesdays at 1:05 pm for players with 0-300 masterpoints & Fridays at 1:05 pm for players with 0-500 masterpoints. Note: you have to be a member of ACBL to play in these games.

**And away to the races...**As of writing, Doris Waddell tops our Games Played on BBO with 174 games, followed by Paddy Allan with 157, Josette Arassus with 145 and Charlie Waddell with 136. Keep up the good work!

**Stay well, everyone! And, as always, we love to hear from you.**  
Email us at [KDBConBBO@gmail.com](mailto:KDBConBBO@gmail.com)

