



Let's Play  
Bridge Club  
Kelowna  
Newsletter

*Newsletter Editor: Paul Jackson*



## President's Message

by Wendy Webb

### Season's Greetings!

It was wonderful to see 20 tables at our Christmas Party on December 15. Judging by the laughter and chatter I heard, everyone had a good time! Check out the photos at the end of this newsletter. We want all our members to feel welcome and included at our events, so it was great to see players from the 199er game as well as the Open games. There were people who hadn't played at the club for some time and visitors from Vernon. Face to face bridge is the best!

Thanks to the crew that came early to set-up, everyone for the amazing food, Mary for playing the piano, Doug for directing and especially Dawn and Paul, our newest board members. Dawn crafted the games and Paul procured the prizes. Paul has also taken on the role of newsletter editor.

Our membership continues to grow and I'm confident 2024 will be another successful year for our club. Thanks to you all for your continued support! As always feel free to contact me at [wjwebb54@icloud.com](mailto:wjwebb54@icloud.com) with any comments or suggestions.

Best wishes for a joyful holiday season and happy and healthy New Year!



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## Club Manager's Report

by Kelly Meenagh

The year 2023 had been a great year for our club as more players have returned to face-to-face play. Thank you to all of you for making our club an inviting place for everyone.

In my capacity as Club Manager, I also would like to thank our Board of Directors for the wonderful work they have done to ensure our club runs smoothly. I also want to thank our game directors – Aline, Bill, Doug and Wendy – we could not do it without each of you!

There are a couple housekeeping notes I would like to pass on. As the size of our games increase, so does the noise level in the hall. Please try to keep your voices down – it is okay to socialize with your opponent's when you arrive at the table, but please try to ensure it does not distract players at other tables!



I would like to remind everyone that it is not acceptable to discuss a board from the previous round when you get to the next table (or when your new opponents arrive at your table). Your new opponents may not have played the board – and any comments you make could put your opponents in an awkward situation when they do play that board. For example – if you happened to mention to your partner that “I would have made 4 if I had not got such a bad trump split” - you have created a situation where your opponents have obtained extraneous information (and the provisions of Law 16D may come into play).

Wishing each of you all the best this Holiday season!

**DUPLICATE BRIDGE**



**TAKES A LIFETIME TO MASTER**

## Member's Corner



*Interview with Gwen Nicholson and Dawn Hill*

by Paul Jackson

### Dynamic Duos: A Bridge Story



Greetings, Duplicate Bridge Enthusiasts!

In this edition of our newsletter, we delve into the captivating world of dynamic duos, highlighting the remarkable partnership between Dawn Hill and Gwen Nicholson. You know, like Batman and Robin, Ernie and Bert or Peanut Butter and Jelly!

Well, Dawn and Gwen are like Peanut Butter and Jelly! You will almost always see them sticking together at the Bridge Club in what is a classic long-term partnership.

Let's first meet Gwen, born in Edmonton, the eldest of three siblings who mastered

the art of adaptability through 32 moves by the age of 18.

Married to Ian since 2010, Gwen and Ian have a blended family of six children, enjoying the joys of three grandchildren.

Her formative years unfolded during the UWC International Baccalaureate scholarship program in Singapore, a cultural melting pot that left her with a hint of a British accent.

Gwen's academic journey led her to a degree in Calculus and Organic Chemistry from the University of Alberta, followed by a brief stint as a Math and Science teacher before plunging into the IT world in the early '80s. It is notable that Gwen was first introduced to Bridge in University as a "drinking game". She admits that she does not recall much about playing bridge in those days.

Gwen's professional path continued to unfold with founding an IT consulting firm, navigating uncharted territories with youthful naivety. She later thrived at IBM, delving into software training and sales, and then served as VP of Sales for a Gas Measurement and Compliance company.

Beyond her professional endeavors, Gwen embraces a life rich in road cycling, skiing, crafts, and travel.

As the President of the Kelowna Calligraphers' Guild, she weaves creativity into her pursuits.



While Calgary claimed the bulk of her adult life, Gwen's journey took a turn to Kelowna in 2017. Engaging with the Newcomers Club, casual bridge games, and lessons with Diana which led her to Dawn, creating a formidable bridge-playing duo.

In the realm of bridge, Gwen values the balance between competition and fun. Grateful for the support of Diana and the camaraderie with fellow players like Bill, Elaine, and Jennifer, Gwen cherishes the continuous journey of learning and improving alongside her partner, Dawn.



Now, lets meet Dawn!

Dawn's bridge saga began post-retirement, a decision that led her to the world of cards in 2017. Fast forward to 2019, and destiny intervened as she crossed paths with Gwen, marking the inception of a partnership that would soon become entrenched in friendship. Little did they know that their alliance would be tested early on by the unforeseen challenges of the global pandemic. Their partnership, born just a few months prior, proved resilient as they seamlessly transitioned to online play, reinforcing the strength of their bridge connection.

Beyond the bridge table, Dawn's life unfolds with a fascinating chronology. From her roots in Metz France to a nomadic journey across Canada due to her father's Air Force career, Dawn eventually found her home in Victoria. Her high school job led her to her husband, Jamie, a Navy man who left the service to be closer to his beloved Dawn. They have been happily married since 1979! Dawn and Jamie have one daughter.

Dawn's professional journey in medical technology paints a picture of dedication and expertise. With a diploma in hand, she contributed over three decades of service in hematology and transfusion medicine at prestigious institutions like Vancouver General and Royal Jubilee hospitals. Retirement beckoned after 31

years, bringing forth new adventures and challenges.

Sailing, a shared passion between Dawn and Jamie, unfurls a canvas of memorable voyages on their 27-foot sailboat and beyond.



Stories of travels to exotic locales, from New Zealand to Croatia, paint a vivid picture of a life well-lived.

The narrative takes an unexpected turn as Dawn and her family embark on a caretaking journey of Knox Mountain Park in Kelowna, culminating in the creation of their dream home from 10 acres of raw land in Joe Rich. Sailing, building, and hobbies such as quilting, and line dancing become threads in the fabric of Dawn's life.

The bridge table becomes a canvas for personal growth as Dawn reflects on her journey towards a more respectful and enjoyable play.

As with many bridge players, Dawn had to learn that bridge is not something you can "win" all the time. It is more of a journey of growth and refinement that never seems to end, which truly makes bridge a great pastime.

Dawn and Gwen are what every bridge player seeks – a great partnership and great friendship. Dawn summed it up nicely when she stated she considers the LPBC members her "Clan". I think that hits the nail on the head!

In future editions, we look forward to exploring more dynamic duos and regular players who enrich our bridge community. Stay tuned for more tales from the tables, where cards unfold stories, and partnerships become legends.

*Friends & Partners!*

## LOOKING FOR A BRIDGE PARTNER?

If you are new to our club or do not have a game partner, we have a very efficient method putting your name out there. All you need to do is login to the Let's Play Bridge Website, go to "Calendar" section, then go to the day you require a partner and click on that day. A new box will open, and you will be able to then add your name to that day as someone seeking a partner. Alternatively, if there is already someone registered for that day who is "seeking" a partner, then you can send them an email directly by clicking on their name. If you wish to be old school, you can call them on your rotary phone as their number is displayed when you hover on their name in the calendar! EASY PEASY!

Bridge is a partnership game whose basis is mutual respect and understanding of how difficult this game is. Being at the club on time is a measure of respect for your partner. Carefully avoid any remark or action that might cause embarrassment or that might interfere with any player's enjoyment of the game. Each time you play you need to have a current convention card available for the opponents' use. An added benefit is that you both will be speaking the same language during the game. Know what you have agreed to: what to alert, what to announce, when conventions are used. If you play with multiple partners on a frequent basis, keep a copy of the card for future reference as this will save you time when agreeing to play the next time.



### LPBC Members Achievements April - December 2023

**Diamond Life Master**  
Don Bell

**Ruby Life Master**  
Leah Koffski  
Linda Henry

**Bronze Life Master**  
Maureen Sheasby

**Life Master**  
David Crest  
Laurie Macdonald

**Advanced NABC Masters**  
Mary Meenagh  
Kim Regier

**NABC Masters**  
Susan Darnbrough  
Jerzy Jankowski  
Chris Mazurkewich  
Wanda Mazurkewich  
Allison Sawyer

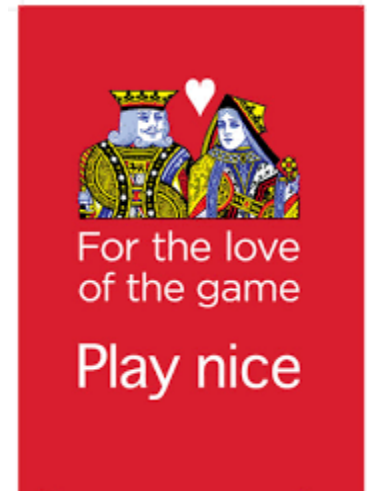
**Regional Master**  
Margaret Craig  
Amber Garon  
Bill Ashton

**Sectional Master**  
Larry Johnson  
Paul Jackson

**Club Master**  
Elizabeth Binnie

**Junior Master**  
Judy Hillaby  
Alyson Kennedy  
Glen Kennedy  
Charles Lund  
Diane Valentini

**Congratulations to all!**



## BRIDGE ETIQUETTE AND RULES (For Duplicate Bridge Players)



1. Once the bidding has begun, general conversation is not encouraged at the bridge table. All players need to understand that duplicate bridge is a very competitive game and thus each player needs to respect the rights of all other players. Before the first board begins it is certainly permissible to exchange pleasantries with partner and the opponents.

- 2. At no time should there be any discussion of the hands. Wait until the game is over for postmortems. Not only is it illegal to discuss hands in front of opponents, it is usually not in the best interest of a partnership effort.**
- 3. Always keep your mannerisms and intonations consistent. Neither partner nor the opponents are entitled to information gained from deviations in behavior or voice fluctuations. It takes a great deal of effort to master a uniform tempo of play and a steady voice level, but without them, the opponents obtain much more information that you need to give them.**
- 4. Avoid hesitations by being consistently deliberate in your bidding and play. An acquired habit of playing smoothly and evenly (even on very bad hands) will always give you more time to think. Remember that a hesitation followed by a pass places an extra burden on partner as any bids by him or her must be very clear cut. Do not be upset if an opponent calls the director to monitor the auction in this situation as it is the proper thing to do.**
- 5. Playing deliberately is not the same thing as "slow play". The latter comes about mostly because of bad habits such as (a) too much general conversation and waste of time, (b) not thinking about bridge when the opponents pause to think about bids or plays, (c) wasting the other players' time by such things as writing down the contract before leading or putting your hand down as dummy. Remember that unduly slow play is subject to penalty at the discretion of the director.**
- 6. Any player, except the dummy, must call the director when law infractions, hesitations, rude behavior, or problems of any kind occur. The director's responsibilities include handling all law and rule infractions as well as running a smooth and pleasant game. Remember that the director is your friend but that does not mean that he or she will always rule in your favor. All directors try to be knowledgeable and impartial in applying bridge laws that are not generally known nor easily understood. It is also in your best interest as a bridge player to learn the basic bridge laws covering such things as dummy's rights and penalty cards as well as those concerning your responsibilities as a participant at the table.**
- 7. There are certain table manners (or rules) that all bridge players should know. Some of these are: (a) The cards should not be taken out of a board until all players are present. When you have removed your hand, but before looking at the cards, count them to ensure that you have exactly thirteen. (b) All players should have completed convention cards and those of partners should match. The opponents should review each others' convention cards for general approach before bidding or play begins. It is wise to look at carding agreements related to defense and opening leads, notrump ranges, types and ranges of opening two-bids, and other non-alertable calls that may be of importance. (c) It is inappropriate to grab an opponent's convention card during the auction period. However, when it is your turn to call, you may ask to see a convention card and may then ask any questions about alerts or the auction. Inquiries concerning alerted calls can only be made at your opportunity to call or before you have played to the first trick when play commences. Be careful about asking about alerted calls during the auction as players have been known to become confused or to forget their agreements; however, it is usually in your best interest to know what is going on before you make a competitive call and before play starts. (d) The North player is responsible for the proper observance of all procedures and for maintaining proper conditions of play at the table. For examples, North is responsible for turning the boards and South, East, and West may not touch the boards without North's permission. Nobody can**

reach under the top board to get their hand from the next board. (e) After a board has been played, you may not, without permission, remove someone's hand to look at it. If you have received permission, only one hand at a time may be out of the board. (f) When play commences, do not detach a card from your hand until it is your turn to play and you have decided to play that card. Do not pull up a card, push it back into your hand, and then pull up another card. Nor should you detach a card and then replace it to play another card. Also do not detach your card before it is your turn to play and never rearrange your hand when you are out of a suit. All of these maneuvers provide additional valuable information to the declarer. (g) When you are on opening lead, detach a card from your hand and lay it face down on the table. This prevents irregularities...such as leading when it is not your turn to do so and allows questions about the auction and any alerts to be answered. All players, except dummy, may now request a review of the auction and an explanation of any alerted calls. You, as the opening leader, should ask before you make your faced lead. Other players may also ask for a review of the auction at their first opportunity to play. (h) As dummy you may not call the director. In fact, you may not call declarer's attention to anything except that he is about to lead from the wrong hand or to ask if he is out of the suit being played. As dummy you may not play or touch any card in dummy (even a singleton) until declarer calls the card. If declarer designates a suit, but not the rank, he is deemed to have called for the lowest card of the suit indicated. If declarer designates a rank but not a suit, he is deemed to be continuing the suit in which dummy won the last trick.

8. In bridge as in other competitive endeavors it is extremely important to learn how to win and to learn how to lose. While it is acceptable in tennis or football to do "high fives" when completing a successful maneuver, it is not proper behavior at bridge. In fact, it is not even proper to commend partner for an extraordinarily good play or defense in front of the opponents. On the other hand, it is also poor behavior to berate partner when he or she plays less than perfectly. Likewise, it is not proper to chastise the opponents when a poor play turns out to be lucky or a good play provides you with a bad board.

9. And last, but certainly not least, ENJOY THE GAME...and remember at all time that it is only a game.







