

Niagara-on-the-Lake
Duplicate Bridge Centre
Newsletter

www.bridgewebs.com/niagaraonthelake/

Annual General Meeting



Management Committee: Heather , Lucie, Donna, Muriel & Claude.

Management Committee: 2026

Claude Tremblay: Club Manager & Head Director
Donna Williams: Chair, Social Committee
Freda Burgess: Secretary
Heather Beckman: Vice President and Newsletter
Lucie Guay: Chair, Membership
Lynn Hale: Partnership

Year in Review

After a wonderful game of bridge, our club members heard from Muriel and other members of our management team the highlights of last year.

This year, we changed our approach to social events by replacing the Spring Fling with Take-Out Tuesdays. Our goal was to encourage more players to attend the first Tuesday game of each month, rather than simply attracting additional players to one special event. Unfortunately, we did not see an increase in table count, so the Management Committee decided to discontinue Take-Out Tuesdays at the beginning of the new fiscal year- the prime reason being all the extra work for the Social Committee.

We also introduced a participation draw to thank members for supporting our games. Each member attending a game could enter the draw, with the winning name drawn at the Take-Out Tuesday event. As a way of showing our appreciation, the committee decided to continue the program with some changes. Beginning October 1, 2026, the draw will take place the first game of each month with 2 members each receiving 2 free plays.

The total number of tables this past year was 695, 70 tables fewer than the previous year. This lower number was partly due to the club being closed for 5 days due to tournaments, statutory holidays and the drop in table count in Friday games. Despite the drop in table count, the small increase in table fees offset the difference and our net income was positive.

Once again a charitable donation was made by our club - this year $400.00 was made to the Niagara Community and Palliative Care in support of the valuable services they provide to our community.

We now have 93 members and this time last year the number was 84 with a total number of members at 111 at the end of last year.

Sadly, three esteemed members of our bridge community passed away this year: Pat Braun, Henry Beckman and Vincent Sollazzo. Their friendship, dedication and contributions to our club will be remembered with gratitude. They were a part of our bridge family and their presence will be missed.

A Special Thank You

A big thank you to everyone who contributes their time, energy and dedication to our club. Without your help, we certainly would not have the club we all enjoy so much.

To the *Management Committee* for overseeing and managing our club. Their dedication and contributions throughout the year have been appreciated. Their names appear under the photo above.

And to our *Social Committee*, what would our club be without all the work, planning and enthusiasm they bring to our social activities? They go all out to prepare and serve wonderful spreads that we all so enjoy and appreciate.
A special thanks to Donna Williams, our chair; George Papatheodorou and Ken Deeth, who lead the organization of our summer social; Violi Whitmee, who catered our AGM meal: and Lucie Guay who looks after the wine, beer and soft drinks. We are also grateful to Lynn Hale, Marguerite Luzay, Sophie Chess, Mary House and Penny Milligan who come out to help make each event a success.

But we need more members to step up and help next year even if it be for just one event. Please seriously consider helping out and joining our social committee.

Sincere thanks to our *Directors*: Claude Tremblay, Donna Williams, Jerry Smee, Selina Volpatti, Violi Whitmee and Suzanne Haber. Your fairness, professionalism and dedication help create the friendly and enjoyable playing environment we all value.

Finally, thank you to those who support the club behind the scenes.
Dena Jones -for maintaining our website with such skill and timeliness.
Reg Webber -for dealing the boards throughout the year.
Jerry Smee -for preparing posters to promote our events.
John Mackay for conducting this years's financial review.



Some members of our Social Committee: Lucy, Donna, Marguerite Lucie, & Violi

Looking forward to 2027

As we look ahead to 2027, there are several important changes and activities to share with you.

With regards to the *Management Committee,* Lucie Guay will be leaving membership and Jean and John Roynon will be taking her place. Freda Burgess will be leaving as secretary and Jim Baird with be our new secretary. Many thanks to Lucie and Freda for the work they have done over the past year.

Our next event is the *Christmas Party* December 8, 2026 with a change in format we are excited about!
1:00 Bridge game starts at the community centre with snacks.
4:15 Dinner at the Sandtrap Pub and Grill. Appetizer, followed by roast beef dinner - cash bar.
Cost is $40 for members includes bridge.
Contact Donna Williams for tickets.
We hope you will join us for what traditionally has always been a fun event and festive celebration!

***Membership and game fees* will remain unchanged.**

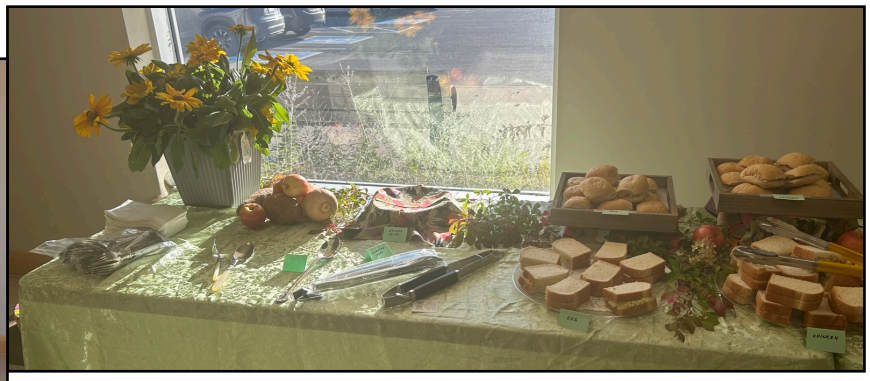
Because of consistently low attendance at our *Friday games* over the winter months, these games on Friday will be suspended from January 1 to March 31 when we will have a welcome back event. We expect to be looking forward to a fresh start in the spring for our Friday games.

***Social event games for 2027* are:**
May 14-Rookie Master.
June 15-Summer Social.
October 19 -AGM
December 7 - Christmas party.

Looking ahead, our goal remains the same- to provide a friendly, welcoming and enjoyable environment in which to play bridge. With your continued participation, support and willingness to volunteer, we can look forward to another successful year together. Thank you for being a part of our club!

Below are photos that give you a snap shot of the delicious spread prepared by our Social Committee along with the enjoyment we all had with our bridge friends. A great time was had by all.


4




EGG
CHICKEN
SALMON













Newsletter Published by Heather Beckman: hbeckman606@gmail.com

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
999er Pairs	1:00 & 6:00
299er Pairs	1:00 & 6:00

Hospitality will follow evening game

Saturday November 7, 2026

Open Pairs	10:00 & 2:30
999er Pairs	10:00 & 2:30
299er 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
999er Pairs	0 to 1000 masterpoints
299er 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

iA Private Wealth™



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