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**BRIDGE CANADA
ENGLISH EDITOR**

Jude Goodwin
37776 2nd Ave
Squamish BC
CANADA V8B 0A1
(604) 898-9807 (w)
(604) 892 4997 (c)
jude@cbf.ca

**CANADIAN BRIDGE
FEDERATION INC.**
www.cbf.ca

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

Janice Anderson
2719 East Jolly Place
Regina SK S4V 0X8
jan@cbf.ca

CBF HOTLINE
306 761 1677
FAX: 306 789 4919

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APRIL 2011



bridge

2011 CBF Hall of Fame
INDUCTEES

page 5

Canada



2011 CANADIAN BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS
MAY 21 - 28, 2011 REGINA SK



play more

BOARD OF DIRECTORS**Zone I**

Kathie Macnab zone1@cbf.ca
5 Wren Street Halifax, NS B3M 2R1
902-443-4676

Zone II

Jean Castonguay zone2@cbf.ca
136 Ave. Du Manoir
Ville de Léry, QC J6N 3N7
450-692-4974

Zone III & CBF President

Nader Hanna zone3@cbf.ca
7 Bradenton Drive
Willowdale, ON M2H 1Y4
416-756-9065

Zone IV

Neil Kimelman zone4@cbf.ca
105 Royal York Drive
Winnipeg, MB R3P 1K2
204-487-2390

Zone V

Jerry Mamer zone5@cbf.ca
151 Nordstrom Road
Saskatoon, SK S7K 6P9
306-688-3951

Zone VI & CBF Vice President

Peter Morse zone6@cbf.ca
5570 Woodpecker Place
N. Vancouver, BC V7R 4P2
604-988-3927

CBF Executive Assistant

Janice Anderson jan@cbf.ca

Charity

Gim Ong charity@cbf.ca
32 Sandusky Drive
Winnipeg, MB R3T 5W4
204-775-5114

Junior Manager

Nader Hanna jrbridge@cbf.ca

Webmaster & Editor

Jude Goodwin jude@cbf.ca

Ex-officio

George Retek (ACBL D1 Director)
retrek@cbf.ca | 514-937-9907

Paul Janicki (ACBL D2 Director)
p_janicki@hotmail.com | 905-471-546

Claire Jones (ACBL D18 Director)
stats@accesscomm.ca | 306-584-3516

Jonathan Steinberg (ACBL WBF rep)
jonathan.st@sympatico.ca | 416-733-9941

Message from the President

by Nader Hanna

Last year we created the Canadian Bridge Hall of Fame and inducted five great players; Sami Kehela, Eric Murray, Percy Sheardown, Bruce Elliot and Sam Gold. This year we induct five more; Diana Gordon, Eric Kokish, George Mittelman, Doug Drew and Ralph Cohen. Read more about the new inductees and their achievements in John Carruthers excellent article inside this issue. The Canadian Bridge Hall of Fame is entirely online and may be accessed through the Canadian Bridge Federation website at www.cbf.ca. Make sure to visit the Hall of Fame periodically as we continue to add new pictures, hands, articles and other interesting information for each Hall of Fame member.

It also gives me great pleasure to announce that starting in 2011 a new trophy, the Mark Molson trophy (pictured bottom right), will be awarded to the Flight A winners of the Open Canadian National Teams Championships (CNTC-A). The old Sam Gold trophy, previously awarded to the CNTC-A winners, has been retired and the Canadian Senior Teams Championship (CSTC) trophy has been named the Sam Gold trophy. Mark Molson was a great Canadian bridge player who won the CNTC-A seven times in addition to winning seven North American Championships. He also won a Silver medal and a Bronze medal while representing Canada in world competition. Mark died in 2006 at the age of 56.

Finally, I look forward to seeing many of you at the Canadian Bridge Championships May 21 - 28, 2011 in Regina. The winners of the Open, Women and Senior team competition will play against Mexico for the right to represent our WBF zone at the next World Team Championships to be held in Veldhoven, Netherlands, October 15 - 29, 2011. In addition to the three national team competitions, the Canadian Championships also include the Canadian IMP Pairs, the Canadian Open Pairs and a Swiss Teams competition. The Senior Teams Championship, the IMP Pairs, the COPC and the Swiss Teams do not require pre-registration or club qualification. Hope to see you in Regina.



Nader Hanna



Mark Molson

**C.B.F. MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM**

(Please print clearly to ensure you receive your mailings)

NAME: _____

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MAILING ADDRESS: _____

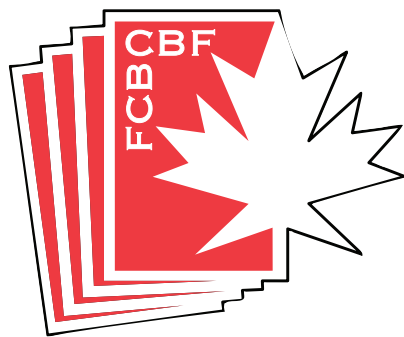
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from the cbf office

Executive Assistant
Jan Anderson

CBF Annual General Meeting

Saturday, May 28, 2011 8:30am
Regina Travelodge Hotel & Conference Centre
During 2011 Canadian Bridge Championships
This meeting is open to all paid-up members of the CBF.

Agenda

- Adoption of 2010 AGM minutes
- Appointment of CBF Auditors
- Confirmation of new Zone Directors
- Highlights of 2011 CBF Board of Director meetings
- Highlights of 2011 CBF Charitable Foundation meeting
- Any other business

Please Support the CBF

Are you a member of the CBF? You can check your CBF status through My ACBL on www.acbl.org. If you did not include CBF dues with your ACBL dues you can still become a paid-up member of the CBF by completing the form on page 2.

Time to renew your ACBL membership? Don't forget to include the CBF dues with your ACBL renewal!

Address Changes

We get our mailing addresses directly from the ACBL. If you submit an address change to the ACBL, it will also result in an address change with the CBF.

Attention Club Managers

In July please watch your mail for a package of sanction applications for CBF events. This package included the following:

- CNTC and COPC club qualifying game applications
- 2011 Erin Berry and 2012 Helen Shields Canadian Rookie-Master game applications
- 2012 CBF STAC – instructions on how to apply
- Call for nominations- in Zones III and VI.
- Poster for 2012 Canadian Bridge Championships
- CBF calendar

Please make sure you apply for sanctions if your club wishes to hold any of these games.

CBF Board of Directors Meetings

The CBF Board of Directors will meet in Regina, SK May 18-20, 2011 just prior to the Canadian Bridge Championships. If you have any matters you wish to have discussed by the Board, please contact your Zone Director or Janice Anderson.

CANADIAN BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Our annual bridge championships will be held May 21-28, 2011 in Regina. See page 4 for a schedule of events. Below are some notes regarding the COPC.

2011 Canadian Open Pairs Championship

Held during the Canadian Bridge Championships May 21-27, 2011 in Regina, SK

Friday, May 27 and Saturday, May 28, 2011.
Start times: 10:00 am & 3:30 pm each day.

All entrants must have club round qualification (earned or purchased) and be paid up CBF members.

Entry fees: \$20 per player per session

No pre-registration is required. Purchase your entry prior to start time.

2011 COPC champions receive a \$2000 cash prize and the pair finishing second receives a \$1000 cash prize.

MAGAZINE CREDITS

Many thanks to Jonathan Steinberg for use of his photos. And thanks to our proofreaders including Nicholas and Judith Gartaganis and John Armstrong.

CANADIAN BRIDGE FEDERATION MISSION

The mission of the Canadian Bridge Federation is to promote bridge within Canada and protect and advance the national interests of Canadian bridge, including the selection and support of Canadian bridge teams and players for international bridge competition.



cbf.ca

2011 CANADIAN BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

MAY 21 - 28, 2011



Regina SK

Schedule

Regina Travelodge Hotel

4177 Albert Street

306-586-3443

Quote Block ID #29526

in order to get our special rate

\$119.95 + taxes

For information or to register contact:

Canadian Bridge Federation

2719 Jolly Place Regina, SK S4V 0X8

(306)761-1677 can.bridge.fed@sasktel.net

Event Details

Events not requiring pre-qualification

CSTC: Canadian Senior Team Championship

Wednesday, May 25 - Saturday, May 28, 2011 (4 day event)

All entrants are guaranteed two days of play. Entrants must be turning 60 or older in 2011. All players must be paid-up members of the CBF. Entry fees: \$560 per team covers first two days (includes \$200 IF Surtax). Purchase your entry prior to start time on Day 1.

Day 1 & Day 2: 10:00 am & 4:15 pm.

Planned format is a complete Round Robin to qualify the top four teams for the Semi-Final.

Day 3: 10:00 am & 5:15 pm. Semi-Final.

Two winning teams qualify for the final.

Day 4: Final: 10:00 am & 4:15 pm

2011 CSTC Champions will represent Canada in the Senior Bowl at the World Team Championships in Veldhoven, Eindhoven, the Netherlands October 15 - 29, 2011.

CIPC - Canadian IMP Pairs Championship

Thursday, May 26, 2011. 10:00 am & 3:30 pm (2 sessions)

Entry fee: \$20 per player per session.

All participants must be paid-up members of the CBF. No pre-registration are required. Purchase your entry prior to start time. Cash prizes for top three pairs.

Swiss Teams

Saturday, May 28, 2011. 10:00 am & 3:30 pm

Entry fee: \$120 per team

No pre-registration is required. Purchase your entry prior to start time. This event is open to anyone. (CBF membership is not required)

Visit cbf.ca/BWeek

for up-to-date times and info

Saturday, May 21

CNTC A	12:30 7:30 pm	Round Robin	Day 1
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Sunday, May 22

CNTC A	9:00 am 12:30 pm 7:30 pm	Round Robin	Day 2
CNTC B	12:30 pm 7:30 pm	Round Robin	Day 1
CWTC	12:30 pm 6:15 pm	Round Robin	Day 1

Monday, May 23

CNTC A	9:00 am 12:30 pm 7:30 pm	Round Robin	Day 3
CNTC B	9:00 am 12:30 pm 7:30 pm	Round Robin	Day 2
CWTC	9:00 am 1:30 pm 7:00 pm	Round Robin	Day 2

Tuesday, May 24

CNTC A	9:00 am 12:30 pm 7:30 pm	Round Robin	Day 4
CNTC B	9:00 am 12:30 pm 7:30 pm	Round Robin	Day 3
CWTC	12:30 pm 6:15 pm	Round Robin	Day 3

Wednesday, May 25

CNTC A	10:00 am 5:15 pm	Quarter Final	
CNTC B	10:00 am 5:15 pm	Semi-Final	
CWTC	10:00 am 5:15 pm	Semi-Final	
CSTC	10:00 am 4:15 pm	Round Robin	Day 1

Thursday, May 26

CNTC A	10:00 am 5:30 pm	Semi-Final	
CNTC B	10:00 am 5:30 pm	Final	
CWTC	10:00 am 5:30 pm	Final	
CSTC	10:00 am 4:15 pm	Round Robin	Day 2
CIPC	10:00 am 3:30 pm	2 Sessions	

Friday, May 27

CNTC A	10:00 am 5:15 pm	Final	Day 1
CSTC	10:00 am 5:15 pm	Semi-Final	
COPC	10:00 am 3:30 pm	Qualifying	

Saturday, May 28

CNTC A	10:00 am 5:15 pm	Final	Day 2
CSTC	10:00 am 5:15 pm	Final	
COPC	10:00 am 3:30 pm	Final	
Swiss Team Event	10:00 am 3:30 pm	2 Sessions	

THE CANADIAN BRIDGE HALL OF FAME

2011 Inductees*John Carruthers, Harrow, ON*

Our second batch of inductees into the Canadian Bridge Hall of Fame, to be inducted at the Canadian Bridge Championships this year, consists of Ralph Cohen, Doug Drew, Diana Gordon, Eric Kokish and George Mittelman.

Ralph Cohen

Ralph Cohen (1926-2006) was one of Sam Gold's protégés in his early days of bridge in Montréal. He partnered Gold in the 1964 Olympiad – Sami Kehela says, "Gold and Cohen played at least as well as did Murray and Kehela." Cohen also won two Inter-City Challenges for Montréal (1967 and 1968) playing with Gold. He was already one of Canada's top players when the opportunity arose to make bridge his career, with the ACBL. When the ACBL moved its headquarters from Greenwich, CT to Memphis, TN in 1971, Cohen moved with them, where he lived until he died in 2006, serving the ACBL in various capacities.

In 1971, with the move to the USA, Cohen became Assistant Executive Secretary to Richard Goldberg when the position of Executive Secretary was the highest administrative position in the League. He succeeded Goldberg in 1984 and the position was renamed Executive Director. Cohen held that position for 2½ years until 1986, when he was named consultant to the League, a position he held until his retirement in 1991. During his stint in Memphis, Cohen was also a member of the ACBL Laws Commission, eventually becoming Co-Chairman. From 1996, Cohen was also Vice-Chairman of the World Bridge Federation's Laws Committee. Cohen was awarded the Sidney H. Lazard Jr. Sportsmanship Award in 2006.

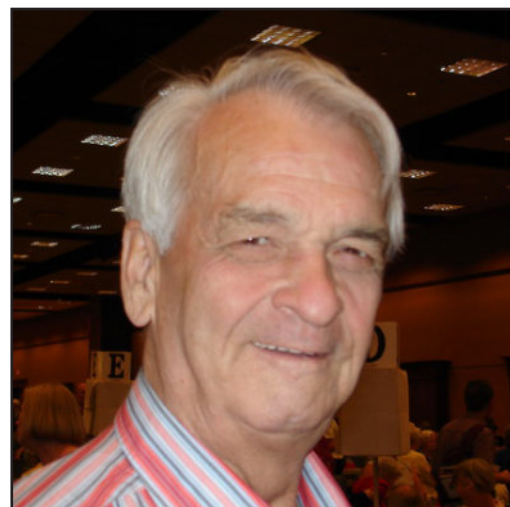
On the occasion of his winning the Sportsmanship Award, former ACBL President Joan Gerard told a story about Cohen when he was in Memphis and in charge of the Grand National Teams. She was her district's GNT Coordinator and called Cohen to ask his advice about a request from a player to be added to a GNT squad even though he had not played in qualifying rounds because of illness. "Do what you want," Cohen told Gerard, "but consider what you will say when another player wants in despite not playing because of a sick pet or a hurt child." That wisdom, Gerard said, served her well from that point on.

As a player, in addition to placing fourth in the 1964 Olympiad for Canada, Cohen represented the USA on numerous occasions in world championships. He came fifth in the 1990 Rosenblum, fourth in the 1994 Senior Teams and fifth in the 2005 Transnational Teams. He won four North American bridge titles: the IMP Pairs (1990), the Open Swiss Teams (1995, 1998) and the Senior Knockout Teams (1997). He also served as Non-Playing Captain of both Canadian (2001) and American (2003) Venice Cup teams, earning a bronze medal with the Americans.

Jordan Cohen, one of three sons of Ralph and Joan Cohen, said his father loved bridge and believes that his father's love of bridge kept him going through a long battle with cancer. Only three days before his death, Ralph made his way to the bridge club in Memphis, where Jordan and his brother, Billy, were playing. During the game, Ralph took a fall and, unbeknownst to anyone at the time, suffered a broken shoulder and hip. Despite the injuries, he finished the game and came in first. "He went out a winner," said Jordan.

Doug Drew

Doug Drew and Canadian bridge administration were synonymous for 30 years. It was because of Doug that we have a Canadian Bridge Federation; he was one of the six founding members in the 1960s. From 1969 until 1993 Drew continuously held elected office, serving as the District 2 representative (with a three-year hiatus) on the ACBL's Board of Directors, always watching out for Canadian interests. Doug was the driving force behind the creation of two all-Canadian districts

**RALPH COHEN****DOUG DREW****DIANA GORDON**

THE CANADIAN BRIDGE HALL OF FAME 2011 INDUCTEES

(continued)

(1 & 2) in the ACBL. He served as ACBL President in 1984 and Chairman of the Board of Directors in 1985. He also served as Unit and District President during many of those years.

Drew has superb organizational and problem-solving abilities, evidenced in the tournaments he chaired and co-chaired over the years, including the Canadian Nationals Regional Tournament in Toronto, the Niagara Falls Regional and the 1997 World Junior Bridge Team Championships in Hamilton, Ontario. The Regionals he ran for District 2 in Toronto and Niagara Falls always made a profit and it was mostly because of Doug that the World Junior Championship came in under budget. Drew initiated the action required to create the ACBL Educational Foundation, the non-profit teaching arm of the League.

Drew has always taken an eager interest in our international teams and the World Bridge Federation. While Director of ACBL District 2, he was one of the ACBL's representatives on the WBF's Board, serving on their Executive Council, the Appeals Committee, the Corporate Development Committee, the Finance Committee, and the Master Points Committee.

While Drew's accomplishments as a bridge administrator overshadowed his success as a player, he has won numerous titles. He also created his own bidding system, "Five-Card Minors", intended to be a fun-to-play method for the amusement of its devotees and opponents alike. The key to the system is that playing five-card minors dictates that you open three-card majors.

Diana Gordon

Diana Gordon, Canada's only World Grand Master, was the premier female player in Canada for about 30 years. Her record of playing in seven straight Olympiad Women's Teams may never be broken. Diana has a complete set of medals from World Championship play: gold from the 1982 World Mixed Pairs; silver from the 2000 Olympiad Women's Teams; and bronze from the 1989 Venice Cup and 1996 Olympiad Women's Teams. With regular partner Sharyn Reus, Gordon also won the Canadian Open Pairs Championship in 1982 – they remain the only women's pair to have done so. For about thirty years, Diana never lost a knockout match in the Canadian Women's Team Championship (not to mention winning it 15 times!) – she almost performed the same feat in the CNTC, but lost in the final in 1994 – the best result ever by a women's team in the event. Other top tens in World Championships came in the Women's Pairs, Mixed Pairs and Women's Teams. Diana also won the North American Women's Swiss Teams in 1985.

Here is Diana at the top of her game in Rhodes, at the 1996 Olympiad. Canada was playing India, always a tough match for us, whether in the Open or the Women's Teams.



ERIC KOKISH



GEORGE MITTELMAN

Dealer East. NS Vul.

		♠	A K Q J 10 8 6 5		
		♥	3		
		♦	K 8		
		♣	K 6		
		♠	9 4 3		
		♥	10 8 2		
		♦	Q 9 4		
		♣	9 8 5 3		
		♠	7 2		
		♥	Q J 6		
		♦	10 6 5 3 2		
		♣	Q J 10		
West	North	East	South		
--	--	1♥	Pass		
Pass	4♠	Pass	Pass		
Pass					

Playing ace from ace-king with an even number of cards in the suit, Gordon led the heart ace, receiving an upside-down count signal of the eight from Reus. Trick two was a problem – it looked like the defence needed two diamonds and a club to beat four spades. That would require West to hold either the diamond queen or the club king in most instances. Gordon knew that Reus could not have both those cards as she'd have bid over one heart with her three-card support – they bid aggressively over opening bids, especially with support.

Gordon solved the problem neatly by leading a low club at trick two – Reus gave her the three, showing an even number, which needed to be four for the defence to have a chance. Declarer won the king, drew trumps and led her second club. Diana won the ace and exited with the king of hearts. Declarer could ruff that but had to lose two diamonds for one off. The game was made at most tables in both the Open and Women's events.

2011 CANADIAN BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

MAY 21 - 28, 2011 Follow the action at www.cbf.ca/BWeek

THE CANADIAN BRIDGE HALL OF FAME 2011 INDUCTEES (continued)

Eric Kokish

In 1978, Eric Kokish and Peter Nagy came second in the World Open Pairs; the winners were Marcelo Branco and Gabino Cintra of Brazil. The Canadians and the Brazilians became very good friends. A few years later, the Brazilians remembered the friendly Canadians and invited them to come to Brazil and Argentina on a bridge tour. The tour was a success and in 1985, when Brazil was hosting the Bermuda Bowl, they again invited Kokish to come and coach them in the weeks preceding the championship. Brazil lost in the semifinal to the USA when Bob Hamman bid and made a tricky three no trump contract on the last board. However, a career was born.

In the 26 years since then, Kokish has become the top bridge coach in the world. His teams have won gold, silver and bronze medals in World Championship play – the list of winners includes Brazil, the Netherlands and the USA. His main gig these days is with the Nickell team, current holders of the Bermuda Bowl. In Women's World Championships, his clients have included the USA and Russia, both recent winners. This year, he will also be inducted into the ACBL Hall of Fame.

Kokish is no slouch as a player either. In addition to the second in the World Open Pairs, he came second in the 1995 Bermuda Bowl to none other than Nickell (for the USA). He was part of a group of young Montréal players who burst upon the scene in the early 1970s – with partner Joey Silver and teammates the Crossley brothers, Kokish won the 1974 Vanderbilt on home soil, in Vancouver.

There is a third prong to Kokish's bridge pitchfork: writing and editing. For years he was the Chief Editor of the World Championship books, transforming them from mere fact reportage to detailed analysis. He is currently editor of WBF News, the official news organ of the World Bridge Federation. Before moving to Toronto some ten years ago, while still in Montréal, Kokish edited *Mélange de Bridge*, the Montréal Bridge League's annual publication. He has been the bridge columnist for both the Montréal Gazette and the Toronto Star and has edited Daily Bulletins all over the world.

Kokish is also well-known as a top bidding theorist, so it is fitting that the following deal presents that aspect of his talent. It won the 1978 Romex Award for Best Bid Hand of the Year from the International Bridge Press Association.

West
 ♠ A 7
 ♥ A 8
 ♦ 7 6
 ♣ A K 10 9 7 3 2

East
 ♠ K Q 10 2
 ♥ 5 4 3 2
 ♦ 8
 ♣ Q 8 6 4

West	North	East	South
Kokish		Nagy	
--	1♦	Pass	1♥
2♣	Pass	4♣ ¹	Pass
4♥ ²	Double	4♠ ³	Pass
4NT ⁴	Pass	6♣ ⁵	Pass
Pass	Pass		

1. Preemptive
2. Cue bid
3. Spade control, denies heart control
4. Stronger than five clubs, still interested in slam
5. Charmed, partner - could I have more?

It is worth noting that the same year Kokish won the Romex Award, he also came second in the competition, with a different partner!

George Mittelman

George Mittelman has won two World Championships, the 1982 Mixed Pairs and the 2002 Senior Teams. Along with a silver medal in the 1995 Bermuda Bowl, Mittelman has also won two bronze medals in the Rosenblum Cup (1982 and 1990). On one of those occasions, in the now-infamous Geneva Incident, the team was robbed of the chance to play for gold by a scoring error. He has won more CNTCs than any other player (eight) and has won four North American bridge titles: two Open Swiss Teams (1986, 1995), a Board-a-Match Teams (1998) and a Senior Teams (2006). George has also been Non-Playing Captain of Canada's Olympiad, Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup Teams on numerous occasions.

Here is Mittelman in action some years ago at a local Toronto tournament, playing with John Gowdy:

Dealer South. Both Vul.

♠ J 10 4 3	♠ K 5 2	♠ Q 8 6
♥ J 4 2	♥ 9 8 5	♥ Q 7 6
♦ A K 10 9 6 4	♦ Q J 2	♦ 8 5
♣ --	♣ A 7 5 4	♣ J 10 9 8 2
	♠ A 9 7	
	♥ A K 10 3	
	♦ 7 3	
	♣ K Q 6 3	

West	North	East	South
Gowdy		Mittelman	
--	--	--	1NT
Pass	3NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Not willing to surrender an undeserved diamond trick to declarer with possible bad breaks about, Gowdy led the diamond ace, then continued with the king and another upon seeing the dummy. In a flash, Mittelman discarded the heart queen! Declarer could no longer make the hand. Note that if Mittelman had retained the heart queen, declarer could have employed an avoidance play, leading hearts twice from the dummy toward his hand. If Mittelman played the queen on either of those leads, he'd be allowed to hold it; if not, the third round of hearts would force him to win the queen. In either case, the long heart would provide declarer's ninth trick.



George Mittelman, Melih Ozdil, Amos Kamenski, Pihás Romik, Yeshayahu Levit



Dear Caley

What does it take to become a good bridge player?

Jean Fox Montreal, Quebec

There are a number of attributes that make a good player. I've always thought of it as a combination of three:

- 1) The knowledge to understand the cards: bidding, declarer play and defensive play
- 2) The competitive fire to want to win
- 3) The calm to control your fire

In my experience there are plenty of players with the fire to want to win and too few with the calm to control their fire.

Becoming a good bridge player is not the only goal a player might have. Becoming a successful player would certainly be of interest as well. To become a successful player you need a good partner. The easiest way to find a good partner is to be a good partner.

In my experience a good partner agrees to play a card that includes the other player's favorite conventions. A good partner will never have an auction such as this:

1♦ 1♠
2♦ 2♠
3♦ 3♠
4♦

This auction is the equivalent of an argument and a good partner is the first one to pass! Lastly I would say that a good partner avoids discussing hands at the table. The next hand may require a good deal of thought and energy and you don't want to be wasting your energy or your partner's energy over what my dad would call 'spilt milk'.

Dear Caley

When should I count distribution? How much should I count for Qx or Jx?
Susan Murphy Kingston, Ontario

I know that I've said this before but it bears repeating. A fabulous source of information on this is Dorothy Hayden Truscott's book *Bid Better, Play Better*. Sure she was one of my very best friends but I cannot be accused of prejudice for saying that it's an excellent book since the reviewers all agreed.

In counting distribution Dorothy recommends that you use the standard 1 point for a doubleton, 2 points for a singleton and 3 points for a void when you first look at a hand. But she goes on to say that this changes after a fit is found. For example suppose partner opens 1♠ and you hold:

♠ K 10 x x x
♥ ---
♦ A Q 10 x x x
♣ x x

You would naturally be thinking about slam. Dorothy says that when you discover a big fit like this, you should count 1 point for a doubleton, 3 points for a singleton and 5 points for a void. In counting distribution simply be aware that distributional values may change as the auction progresses.

In the case of Qx or Jx, these holdings are dependent on partner's holding. At the beginning of the auction you should give them their normal high-card point value. If partner opens the bidding you will give them their normal weight but I would count them as high card only not both distribution and high card. If an opponent bids a suit in which you hold Qx or Jx they become dubious values and most likely should not be given full weight.

If what I have written is as clear as mud please just read Dorothy's book.

Dear Caley

My partner likes to psyche after two passes not vulnerable. I never know what to do when I think he is doing this. What do you advise?

Alice Demos, Toronto, Ontario

The very first thing that you should do is alert! Your experience says that this may be a psyche and you should let the opponents know (This comes under full disclosure). The other thing that you have to do is listen to the auction. When you start to come up with a total HCP (high card point) count of more than 40 it's time to suspect that center hand opponent (partner) doesn't have his bid.

Note to the readers: I am getting most of my questions from people I meet at tournaments which means my article favors the East Coast. If you are in the West we'd be glad to hear from you. Please simply submit your questions to the editor. Thanks!

BID YOUR SUITS

I. When you have support for partner

By Neil Kimelman

Part One of a series of articles on guidelines for bidding your suit(s) in several common situations.

When you have your own suit and support for partner

I often see players with support for partner's suit, usually a major, completely ignore their own suit. The thinking is "Why show my minor when I know we are going to play in partner's major anyways." To me, this is completely the opposite of constructive bidding. It is extremely difficult for partner to make accurate decisions when you haven't told him about a very important aspect of your hand.

Show your suit, then support partner. He will value high cards in the two suits you bid, and devalue K's and Q's in the other two suits.

Here is a hand from a recent IMP game in Winnipeg: vul vs. not vul at teams, you hold as South:

♠4 ♥A Q 9 5 ♦2 ♣K Q 10 9 7 6 2. The bidding starts:

West	North	East	South
-	1♥	2♦	?

What is your plan? (Note: A jump in a new suit is a splinter; 2NT is a four card limit raise).

Choices, choices... You could bid any one of:

- 4♥
- 4NT - asking for aces.
- 2NT - four card limit raise.
- 3♣ - and see what happens.
- 4♦ - splinter.
- 3♠ - splinter.

Here are my views of each possible bid, in the reverse order of my preferred action:

6th: 4♥. This is a nothing bid, and could be made on many hands. It does nothing to help partner decide if slam is making or if you are taking a sacrifice.

5th: 2NT. This is better, but not by a whole lot. You show values and four card support.

4th: 4NT, Keycard ask. At least this simplifies the bidding. If north shows four you bid 7♥ (at matchpoints I would bid 7NT). If partner shows three you would bid 6♥. The downside of this bid is that if partner shows two, you may be too high. If partner shows one you are definitely too high! Partner might even have zero key cards, i.e. ♠KQJx ♥J10xxxx ♦KQx ♣void!

3rd: 3♠. At least here you show a four card raise *and* shortness in spades.

2nd: 4♦. This is better than 3♠, as you show a control in the suit the opponents bid.

1st: 3♣. This in my view is clearly the best bid. You have the advantage of showing your suit, then listening to what partner does, if anything. Here are a few possible auction continuations with what I suggest you bid in each one:

A.	West	North	East	South
	-	1♥	2♦	3♣
	3♦	pass	pass	3♥

3♣ creates a game force, unless South rebids 4♣. Therefore 3♥ is game forcing in the above auction. Now partner knows you have clubs with 3+ hearts, and that you must have some slam interest as you didn't simply jump to game.

B.	West	North	East	South
	-	1♥	2♦	3♣
	4♦	pass	5♦	pass

Even though 3♣ is not 100% game forcing it is important in my view to treat this auction as a forcing pass situation (*For more information on forcing passes, please read my article in the last Bridge Canada publication at cbf.ca*) Partner's pass over 4♦ shows a hand with nothing to say, usually a minimum. If partner bids 5♥, I would bid 6♥. If partner doubles, I would bid 5♥, which is a slam try.

C.	West	North	East	South
	-	1♥	2♦	3♣
	5♦	pass	pass	5♥

The 5♥ bid shows a hand with primary heart support and an offensive game forcing hand. You have now described your hand type and partner can now make the best decision during the rest of the auction.

D.	West	North	East	South
	-	1♥	2♦	3♣
	5♦	dbl	pass	5♥

Partner has expressed the opinion that your partnership should not bid on. However he doesn't know about your four hearts and extreme distribution. 5♥ tells him exactly this information.

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Here is an example of this important principle from last year's Canadian Bridge Championships. As South, vul, you hold:

♠ A K Q 10 9 ♥ 8 5 3 ♦ 10 2 ♣ J 7 2.

Partner opens 1♥ and RHO preempts with 3♣. What do you bid? The full deal:

♠	J 8 7 6 5	♠	Void
♥	K J 9 7 4 2	♥	Q 10 6
♦	A J	♦	9 7 5 4
♣	Void	♣	K Q 9 8 6 3
♠	4 3 2	♠	Void
♥	A	♥	Q 10 6
♦	K Q 10 9 5 3	♦	9 7 5 4
♣	A 10 5 4	♣	K Q 9 8 6 3
♠	A K Q 10 9		
♥	8 5 3		
♦	10 2		
♣	J 7 2		

In our match, where my teammates were North-South the bidding continued:

West	North	East	South
-	1♥	3♣	4♥
5♣	Dble	all pass	

5♣ made 6!! At the other table the contract was 5♠ doubled down 1 so we lost 13 IMPs. Even though 3♠ is an overbid in terms of values, it is the right bid. It tells your partner where your length and presumed strength is located so he will be better positioned to make the right decision if the opponents bid at the five level. Here partner would have an easy time knowing to bid on with five card spade support!

LESSONS TO LEARN

ONE: If at all possible show where your values and length are located. In that way partner will be able to better evaluate what to do in competitive auctions.

TWO: The corollary, and to some extent contradiction, is that when partner does bid a suit, she/he does not necessarily promise that to be where their values are located, although it is a good indicator.

THREE: When partner has shown two suits, value kings and queens (even J's) in those suits, and devalue your offensive potential if those honours are in the other two suits.

FOUR: 3♠ might get you overboard in the 2nd example hand, but in the long term, it will serve you better than a bid of 4♥.

FIVE: As a rule it is better to bid a good suit than splinter.

SIX: Do not bid Jacoby 2NT with an unbalanced hand, especially with a good suit.






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That *magic* moment

by Michael Yuen

It always feel good when something we talked about comes up at the table. How would you and your partner bid the following deal?

Philadelphia. IMP Pairs. Second qualifying session.
Board 10. Dealer: East. Both vulnerable.

Maurice
♠ 5
♥ J 10 9 7 6 5
♦ A J 9 4
♣ 8 3

Michael
♠ A K Q J 10 7
♥ A K 8 3
♦ 10 7 6
♣ -

Maurice and I had this auction.

West	North	East	South
		1♠	Pass
1NT	2♣	3♥	Pass
5♥*	Pass	6♣	Pass
6♦	Pass	7♥	Pass
Pass	Pass		

5♥* asks for club control.

Here is the full deal.

Dealer: East Vul: Both

		North	
		♠ 8 4	
		♥ 2	
		♦ K Q 3 2	
		♣ A K Q J 10 5	
West		East	
♠ 5		♠ A K Q J 10 7	
♥ J 10 9 7 6 5		♥ A K 8 3	
♦ A J 9 4		♦ 10 7 6	
♣ 8 3		♣ -	
		South	
		♠ 9 6 3 2	
		♥ Q 4	
		♦ 8 5	
		♣ 9 7 6 4 2	

When Maurice invited the grand with the six diamond bid, I was happy to oblige. Our agreements regarding the five heart asking bid are:

No control - pass the five heart bid.

Second round control - with Kxx or Kx bid five no trump.

Second round control - with singleton club bid six hearts.

First round control - bid six clubs.

Erin Berry Memorial Fund

This fund was established in 2001 as a trust fund set up by Erin Berry's father, Larry Berry. The Trust Account is meant to help Juniors 19 or younger with expenses incurred to attend bridge events. The Memorial Fund will be used to help subsidize Youth Category Canadian players, who are members of the CBF, for bridge related activities. In no case will any individual receive more than 75% subsidy to the bridge activity.

APPLICATION DEADLINE IS MAY 15.

To apply for an award from the Erin Berry Youth Memorial Fund, an application for funding must be submitted to the CBF Executive Assistant by May 15th. This application must include the following:

- Candidate's name, address and ACBL number.
- Candidate's birth date and a copy of their birth certificate.
- Description of the event they wish subsidy for - with particulars on dates, cost, etc.
- Budget of their expenses for each event.

The types of events that might be covered for funding are:

Bridge Camps
Youth NABC
Youth Championships
World Scholar Games
Bridge Training Sessions
Canadian Junior Trials
World Youth Team Championship
World Schools Team Championship
Other bridge-related activities.

Only after the above are granted will the Trustees take a look at tournaments. Funding will not be given for cash-prize events nor for events in which an individual is receiving pay or compensation (that is, a professional arrangement).

Please submit all applications for funding to the CBF Office.
Address on front cover.

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Only in Canada you say – pity!

2011 is the inaugural year for an exciting new open event to be held in bridge clubs across Canada. We will be holding a one session sectionally-rated simultaneous game across Canada. It will be match pointed pairs.

All Canadians will have an opportunity to play the same deals and the event will be scored across all participating ACBL-sanctioned clubs. You will be able to compare and discuss results on the ecatsbridge web site following the game.

Using ecatsbridge, a terrific technology, we can post deals, analysis, results and talk to each other about each and every deal. Awards will be both local and nationwide.

This year we are celebrating Canadian club players. We believe that Canada has some of the best bridge clubs in the world and some of the most talented and dedicated players. We want to celebrate the good times we have together and the quality of our second homes, the bridge clubs across the country.

We will be setting up a Facebook page for the event in late April featuring all the bridge clubs that have signed up. We want to hear from you about your bridge club too. Post a picture of yourself. Post a picture of your bridge club. Watch for news on the CBF website.

Barbara Seagram, one of Canada's top bridge teachers and co-author of the award winning best sellers *25 Conventions You Should Know* and *Planning The Play of a Bridge Hand*, will be partnering with writer and Canadian Internationalist Linda Lee, with some help from other top Canadian bridge teachers, to bring you analysis of every deal. The analysis will be aimed at club bridge players from students to stars.

The deals will be available for printing or viewing online after the game. They will also be available to teachers and others as a free download from www.ebooksbridge.com and from the CBF website.

We will honour regional winners and overall winners on the Facebook page.

Bridge club managers and teachers: please let us know you are planning to hold a game so that we can get your club up on the Facebook page and don't forget to send some pictures.

If you would like to help with the event or to let us know your club is planning to participate or for more information please contact

Linda Lee: linda@masterpointpress.co



STAC Canada-Wide 2011 Sectional Tournament at Clubs

The CBF STAC always begins on the third Monday of February. This year the STAC results were uploaded directly to the ACBL results page. This allowed participants to access the results much more quickly and updates happened automatically. Hooray for technology! Below are the top 50 masterpoint winners.

- 1 34.92 Heather Peckett, Nepean ON
- 2 24.43 Rob Avery, Barrie ON
- 3 22.65 George Knight, Victoria Hrb ON
- 4 22.39 Priscilla Kennedy, New Waterford NS
- 5 22.39 Kerry Hicks, Dominion NS
- 6 21.63 Melvin Johnsen, Thunder Bay ON
- 7 21.29 Tim McCormack, Thunder Bay ON
- 8 21.26 Bill Koski, King City ON
- 9 21.12 Dennis Glazebrook, St Catharines ON
- 10 20.94 Kit Nash, Niagara-Lk ON
- 11 20.92 Victor Giaccone, Nepean ON
- 12 20.64 Marcia Shaw, Halifax NS
- 13 20.60 David Jones, Ottawa ON
- 14 20.33 Huan Zhao, Vancouver BC
- 15 20.24 John Morgan, Navan ON
- 16 19.71 Louis Beduz, Creston BC
- 17 18.97 Karl Hicks, Dominion NS
- 18 18.79 Tom Kinnear, Innisfil ON
- 19 18.63 Gilles Baril, Gatineau QC
- 20 18.18 Jeffrey Smith, Ottawa ON
- 21 18.12 Terry Shaw, Halifax NS
- 22 18.11 John Ayer, Dartmouth NS
- 23 17.69 Arthur McMillan, Summerside PE
- 24 17.69 Eleanor Shwaluk, Miscouche PE
- 25 17.30 Germain Clairoux, Gatineau QC
- 26 17.20 Joan Priebe, Mississauga ON
- 27 17.14 Joan Fahselt, Creston BC
- 28 17.10 Fred Arsenault, Marion Bridge NS
- 29 16.43 Nancy Koffler, Saint-Laurent QC
- 30 15.74 Richard Anderson, Regina SK
- 31 15.42 David Sabourin, Ottawa ON
- 32 15.36 Jan A Harrison, Ottawa ON
- 33 15.31 Alice Anderson, Tillsonburg ON
- 34 15.28 Glenn Barkey, Nepean ON
- 35 15.22 Charlotte St Amant, Trenton ON
- 36 14.91 Trisha Fleet, Dartmouth NS
- 37 14.77 Al French, North Vancouver BC
- 38 14.50 David Johnson, Calgary AB
- 39 14.33 Eric Pan, Burnaby BC
- 40 14.17 Robert Gray, Toronto ON
- 41 14.14 Greg Coles, Victoria-Hbr ON
- 42 14.14 Bill Francis, Midland ON
- 43 14.08 Faiz Nadir, Calgary AB
- 44 13.85 Gary Post, Vancouver BC
- 45 13.80 Bill Kertes, Toronto ON
- 46 13.40 Stuart Eastwood, Halifax NS
- 47 13.32 Ady Koffler, Saint-Laurent QC
- 48 13.28 Bill Anderson, Tillsonburg ON
- 49 13.27 Gord Ellis, Hamilton ON
- 50 13.27 Gail Victor, Ottawa ON

SHOWCASE

Viel NT 14 to 17 HP

by Jen Guy Viel, Brossard, QC

This convention uses a 1NT opening bid for all balanced hands with or without a 5 or 4 card majors within a frame of two ranges of 14/15 HCP or 16/17 HCP.

2♣ Stayman asks the opener if he has a 5-card major (M 5). If not, 3♣ asks for a 4-card major (M 4). It is let's say, a kind of Stayman.

A response of 2♦/2♥/2♠ = an opening of 14/15HP.

A response of 2NT/3♥/3♠ = an opening of 16/17HP.

*1NT		= 14/17HP
2♣		= M 5 ? 8HP min.
2♦		= no M 5 and 14/15HP
2♥/2♠		= my M 5 and 14/15HP
3♥/3♠		= my M 5 and 16/17HP
*1NT		= 14/17HP
2♣		= M 5 ?
2♦		= no M 5 and 14/15HP
3♣		= M 4 ?
3♦		= I have both M 4
3♥/♠		= I have this M 4 only
3NT		= no M 4
*1NT		= 14/17HP
2♣		= M 5 ?
2NT		= no M 5 and 16/17HP
3♣		= M 4 ?
3♦		= I have both M 4
3♥/♠		= I have this M 4 only
3NT		= no M 4
*1NT		= 14/17HP
2♣		= M 5 ?
2NT		= no M 5 and 16/17HP
3♣		= M 4 ?
3♦		= I have both M 4
3♥/♠		= I have the M other than this one
4♥/4♠		= all right
*1NT		= 14/17HP
2♣		= M 5 ?
2NT		= no M 5 and 16/17HP
3♣		= M 4 ?
3♦		= I have both M 4
4♦		= Me too, take your pick.

All bids need a statement or an alert.

Jacoby transfer, Smolen and Lebenshol may be used as usual.

When 1NT is an overcall, 2♣ Stayman asks for a M 4 and no longer a M 5. The answers are the same i.e. at the second level it indicates 14/15HP, etc. and 2NT shows 16/17HP with no M 4.

The advantages

• Opening a 14 HCP Viel 1NT makes it more difficult for the opponents to overcall.

• The mechanism allows opener to subsequently define his hand to a tighter 2 point range, instead of the 3 point range for the standard NT. Partner can set the contract at the right level even more easily.

Examples :

- 1) ♠ A K J 3 2 ♥ 3 2 ♦ A J 2 ♣ K 3 2 (16HP)
 2) ♠ J 5 4 3 2 ♥ A Q ♦ A Q 2 ♣ K 3 2 (16HP)

Partner with 6HCP answered 1NT (forcing or not) to the opening bid of 1♠. Hand 1 has more merit than hand 2. Some players will pass but most will bid 2NT and a few will stretch to 3♣. With Viel NT, 1NT would have been the opening (and only) bid.

EXAMPLES Opener Partner

O ♠ A K x x x ♥ K x ♦ Q J x x ♣ J x x (14HP)
 P ♠ J x x x ♥ Q x x x ♦ K x x ♣ Q x (8HP)

1NT 2♦
 2♣ 2NT = better be careful when both hands are weak even when holding both M.

O ♠ A K x x x ♥ K x ♦ Q J x ♣ J x x (14HP)
 P ♠ x x x x ♥ Q x x x ♦ K x x ♣ K x x (8HP)

1NT 2♣
 2♠ pass

O ♠ A K x x x ♥ K x ♦ Q J x ♣ J x x (14HP)
 P ♠ J x x ♥ Q J x x ♦ A K x x ♣ x x (11HP)

1NT 2♣
 2♠ 4♠

O ♠ A K x x x ♥ K Q x ♦ Q J x ♣ J x (16HP)
 P ♠ J x x ♥ J x x x ♦ K x x x ♣ K x (8HP)

1NT 2♣
 3♠ pass (4♠ if bold)

O ♠ A K x x ♥ K Q x x ♦ Q J ♣ Q x x (17HP)
 P ♠ Q x x ♥ J x x x ♦ K x x ♣ R x x (9HP)

1NT 2♣ = M 5 p?
 2NT 3♣ = OK you have 16/17HP but do you have a M 4 ?
 3♦ 3♠ = 3♦ for both M but I have ♥
 4♥ = final decision.

Perhaps responder should bid 3NT instead of 3♠ for a better contract?

THE NEWSROOM

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The ACBL is looking for a dynamic chief executive to run their Memphis-based not for profit organization with approximately \$ 15 million in revenues and 61 home office employees and 40 full time Tournament directors. Our CEO will be working closely with a 25 member Board of Directors who are involved with many aspects of our organization. Applicants should have experience in all areas of small business management and will be expected to: manage a staff team; generate revenues; Increase membership; and run a cost effective operation, which caters to the needs of our 165,000 person membership.

To apply, send an e-mail to acblceosearch@gmail.com with a cover letter detailing your qualifications, resume, and salary history and requirement.. The ACBL is an equal opportunity employer.

JUNIOR FUND 50/50

Thank you to Dan Landry and the Canadian Maritime Sectional Tournament in February. During the tournament 50/50 draws were held and \$521.05 was raised for the Canadian Junior Development Fund.



The Canadian Bridge Federation now has six banners, one for each zone. The above banner was on display at the recent CBF International Fund Regional.

2011 CBF INTERNATIONAL FUND REGIONAL

The CBF would like to extend its thanks to Jean Castonguay, Montreal Bridge League and all the players who participated in the 2011 CBF International Fund Regional March 29 – April 3, 2011. This tournament raised \$19,484.30 for the CBF International Fund. Fantastic!! Results can be found at cbf.ca

PICTURED BELOW:

French editor Francine Cimon (left) and English Editor Jude Goodwin



2011 World Scholar Games

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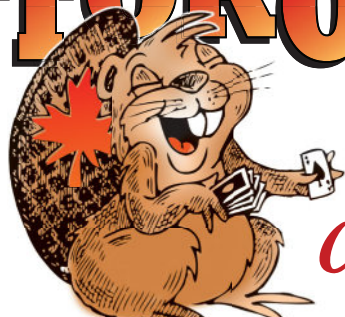
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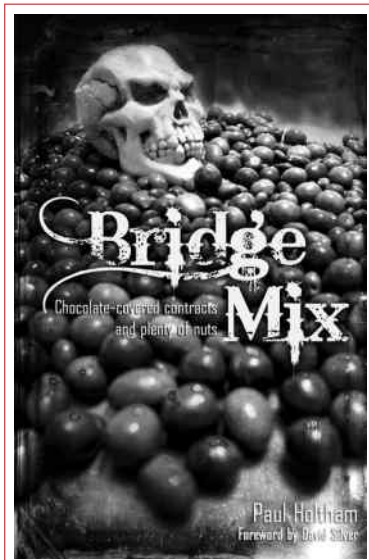


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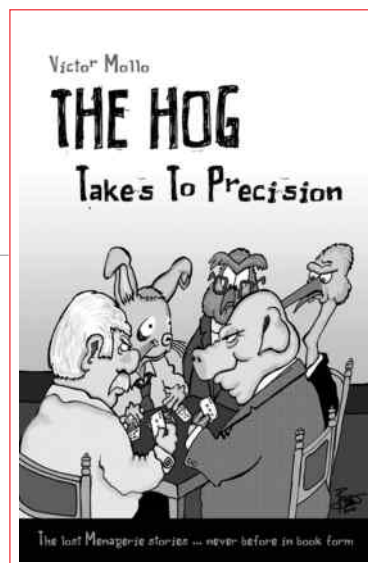
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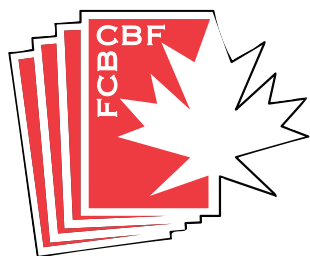
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CALENDAR

Canadian Bridge Federation Calendar of Events as of APRIL 2011. For more information see our website at

cbf.ca

2010-2011 SPECIAL EVENTS AND DEADLINES

2011

April	Charity Fund Month
April 26	(Tues. Eve) Helen Shields Rookie-Master Game (\$6/table)
April 30	Deadline for changes to team rosters & deadline for submitting pre-alerts
May 11	(Wed. Aft) ACBL-wide International Fund Game #2 (\$8.35/table)
May 15	Application Deadline, Erin Berry Fund (see page 11)
May 18 – 20	CBF Board of Directors meetings – Regina, SK
21 - 28 May	Canadian Bridge Championships – Travelodge, Regina, SK See page 4 for information and schedule
May 28	(Sat. Morn) CBF Annual General Membership Meeting – Regina, SK
July 21 - 31	ACBL Summer NABC - Toronto, ON
July 22	(Fri. Eve) ACBL-Wide International Fund Game #3 (\$8.35/table)
July 23 - 24	Bi-Country Playoff - Toronto, ON - note: tentative date
September	International Fund Month
September	Club qualifying games in the COPC (\$4/table)
September	Club qualifying games in the CNTC (\$4/table)
October	Club qualifying games in the COPC (\$4/table)
October	Club qualifying games in the CNTC (\$4/table)
Oct 15 - 29	Bermuda Bowl/Venice Cup/Senior Cup - Eindhoven, Holland
Oct 19	(Wed. Eve) Canada-Wide Olympiad Fund Game (\$8.35/table)
Oct 27	(Thurs. Eve) Erin Berry Rookie-Master Game (\$6 a table)
November	Club qualifying games in the COPC (\$4/table)
November	Club qualifying games in the CNTC (\$4/table)
Nov 28	(Mon. Eve) ACBL-Wide Charity Game #2 (\$6.35/table)
December	Club qualifying games in the COPC (\$4/table)
December	Club qualifying games in the CNTC (\$4/table)

2011 CANADIAN BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS MAY 21 - 28, 2011 REGINA SK



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Isabelle Smith, Hidden: Pamela Nisbet, Kismet Fung
CWTC Gold medal winners 2010.

