

APRIL 2004



bridge

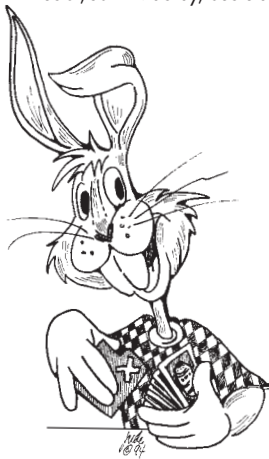
You're invited!

Bridge Week Committee members extend a happy invitation to St. Catharines. See page 5 for all the info.

Canada



2004 BRIDGE WEEK CREW (left to right) : Jerry Smee, Daily Bulletin , Paul Thurston, Co-Chair. Fred Andreychuk, Co-Chair, Stan Dillabough, Director (Missing: John Arblaster, Director, John Mackay, Secretary/Treasurer)



IN THIS ISSUE

Articles :: by John Carruthers, Paul Thurston, Eric Kokish, Audrey Grant, Jim Priebe, and Martine Lacroix.

Junior :: News and information

CBF :: Board Updates and plans

Happy Spring to all!

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**NEXT MAGAZINE
AUGUST 2004
Deadline :: JULY 1, '04**

AD RATES

Full page \$500
Half page \$300
Quarter page \$175
Business Card \$100

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if 3 issues paid in advance.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE : LE MOT DU PRÉSIDENT

The CBF has set a goal for itself to achieve one hundred percent funding for our international teams within three years. As part of this effort we have completed the first ever CBF regional in Montreal in February. What a success this was! We raised a total of \$18,000 for our fund.



L'objectif de la FCB est de financer à 100 %, d'ici trois ans, les dépenses des équipes qui représentent le Canada au niveau international. Le premier régional de la FCB a eu lieu à Montréal en février dernier. Ce fut tout un succès ! Les 18 000 \$

recueillis iront directement au Fonds international.

Congratulations to Jean Castonguay, tournament organizer and tireless worker, to Rollande Makarewicz, President of the Montreal Bridge League, and to the whole Montreal Bridge League board for supporting this event.

We hope, in future years, to be able to run a split regional – one in Eastern Canada and one in Western Canada. At present, this is outside ACBL regulations, and we are working to persuade the board to revise their laws. If we are successful, we will make this into a truly great annual Canadian event. I urge bridge players all across Canada to endorse our efforts to be successful with this formula. We need to persuade unit and district boards to support our plan, and then encourage volunteers to make it happen (see page 10 for updates).

Speaking of a truly great annual Canadian event, our STAC this February was our most successful ever (financially – we raised \$7000) even though our table count was down slightly. The storm in the Maritimes caused cancellation of several games.

We are welcoming two new board members this year – Mike Hartop from New Brunswick and Francis Guadino from Thunder Bay. It is great to see the involvement of interested and capable people from across the country.

Félicitations à Jean Castonguay, organisateur du tournoi et travailleur infatigable, à Rollande Makarewicz, présidente de la Ligue de bridge de Montréal et à tous les bénévoles de la Ligue qui ont apporté leur contribution à la réussite de cet événement. À partir de l'an prochain, nous espérons être en mesure de tenir un split-régional annuel — un dans l'Est du Canada et l'autre dans l'Ouest. Pour le moment, cela va à l'encontre des règlements de l'ACBL, mais nous travaillons fort pour les persuader de réviser cette loi. Si nous réussissons, nous avons l'intention d'en faire un grand événement annuel pan-canadien.

J'espère que tous les bridgeurs du Canada appuieront nos efforts pour que cette formule soit un succès. Les unités et les districts devront aussi nous accorder leur soutien.

Parlant d'événement annuel canadien, notre sectionnel dans les clubs (STAC) en février a connu le plus gros succès financier à date (nous avons recueilli 7000 \$) même si le nombre de tables

Suite à la page 4

KENNY GEE WINS FINAL RICHMOND TROPHY RACE : HIS 6TH**2003 Year of the Ram**

by Kenny Gee

I would like to thank all my partners and teammates for their efforts which contributed to my 6th straight win of the Richmond Trophy. This will be my last Richmond. I have asked the CBF to remove my name from the Richmond Trophy Race. I have enjoyed the last 6 years and it is time to pass the torch. I wish all the Canadians luck this year. I am sure 2004 will be another great year for all bridge players.

1 Ken Gee, Regina SK	1568	25 Tom Buttle Toronto ON	461
2 Gavin Wolpert, Thornhill ON	1202	26 Louise Zicat Gatineau QC	440
3 Vincent Demuy Laval QC	1192	27 Dan Jacob Vancouver BC	434
4 Barry Harper Regina SK	875	28 Doug Fraser Victoria BC	431
5 Martin Caley Montreal QC	861	29 Bryan Maksymetz Coquitlam BC	424
6 Cameron Doner Richmond BC	834	30 Gerald McCully New Westminster BC	421
7 Peter Clark Ottawa ON	670	31 Allan Graves Victoria BC	420
8 George Mittelman Toronto ON	656	32 Claude Laberge Longueuil QC	415
9 Jonathan Steinberg Toronto ON	622	33 Peter Petruzzellis Toronto ON	415
10 Shi Yan Delta BC	580	34 Sylvia Fay Caley Montreal QC	409
11 William Ge Vancouver BC	555	35 Piotr Klimowicz Edmonton AB	397
12 Richard Anderson Regina SK	524	36 Darren Wolpert Thornhill ON	396
13 Ian Boyd Calgary AB	518	37 Anna Boivin Victoria BC	395
14 Jean Castonguay Lery QC	516	38 Alice Anderson Tillsonburg ON	394
15 Renlu Wang Delta BC	496	39 Paul Graham Calgary AB	391
16 John Gillespie Orleans ON	493	40 Samantha Nystrom Burnaby BC	383
17 Andre Chartrand Chateaugay QC	493	41/42 Andy Stark Lethbridge AB	382
18 Richard Lesage Verdun QC	485	41/42 Alex Hong Delta BC	382
19 Heather Peckett Nepean ON	484	43/44 William Treble Winnipeg MB	378
20 Patrice Roy Sherbrooke QC	482	43/44 Francesca Walton Calgary AB	378
21 Helene Beaulieu Sherbrooke QC	477	45 John Lien Surrey BC	377
22 Robert Hollow Madoc ON	472	46 Nicholas Gartaganis Calgary AB	371
23 Nicolas L'Ecuyer Montreal QC	466	47 John Currie Halifax NS	368
24 Paul Janicki Markham ON	462	48/49 Barry Pritchard Edmonton AB	367
		48/49 Martin Hunter Mississauga ON	367
		50 Boris Baran Cote Saint-Luc QC	365

LE MOT DU PRÉSIDENT *Suite de la page 3*

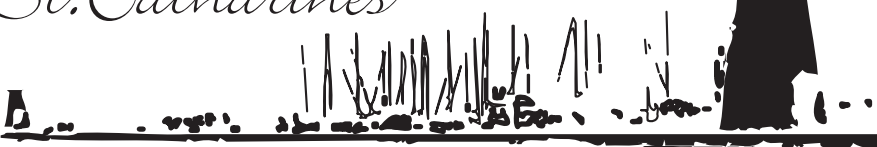
connu une légère baisse. La tempête de neige dans les Maritimes a causé nombre d'annulations.

Deux nouveaux membres se sont ajoutés au conseil d'administration cette année, Mike Hartop du Nouveau-Brunswick et Francis Guadino de Thunder Bay. Bienvenue à ces deux recrues. C'est formidable de voir l'implication et l'intérêt des gens à travers le pays.

2004 BRIDGE WEEK CANADA

IN THE HEART OF NIAGARA

St. Catharines



You're Invited! After two years of superb Western Hospitality (Penticton in 2003 and Edmonton in 2002), the CBF's Bridge Week is returning to Central Canada June 19-26 when St Catharines, Ontario will roll out the red carpet. Whether you arrive before the bridge events start, stay after the last trick has been turned, or simply maximize your enjoyment of the eight scheduled days, you (and your family – don't forget to bring along non-competitors for a memorable holiday) will find lots to see and do in St Catharines and the surrounding Niagara Region.

Getting Here St Catharines is approximately 1- 1.5 hours driving time from Toronto. If you're flying into Ontario from out-of-province, our recommendation is that you try to book Westjet or the newly available Canjet into Hamilton's Mount Hope Airport. This airport is about 45 minutes from St Catharines and, if you'd like, we'll arrange an airport pickup for you. (A \$10 "donation" per person per trip covers our expenses) To arrange this service, contact Ernie Sibbett, our Transportation Chair, at 1-905-935-0066 or email to carrober@enoreo.on.ca.

Remember to book early for tournament site accommodations at the *Quality Inn-Parkway* (1-905-688-2324). We have a large block of rooms reserved at a preferred rate of \$99 (single or double) but if the supply runs out, the Heart of Niagara Hospitality Group that will be our hosts also owns the nearby Howard Johnson's and Holiday Inn properties and will accommodate you there for the same rate.



PLAYING SITE

Quality Hotel and Parkway
Convention Centre
327 Ontario St., St Catharines

Ph 1-905-688-2324

Fax 1-905-704-5655

Room rates are \$99
single or double

Schedule of Events

Sat, June 19	CNTC-A	Round Robin
Sun, June 20	CNTC-A	Round Robin
	CNTC-B	Round Robin
	CWTC	Round Robin
Mon, June 21	CNTC-A	Round Robin
	CNTC-B	Round Robin
	CWTC	Round Robin
Tue, June 22	CNTC-A	Round Robin
	CNTC-B	Round Robin
	CWTC	Round Robin
Wed, June 23	CNTC-A	Quarter Finals
	CNTC-B	Semi-finals
	CWTC	Quarter Final/Semi-Final*
	CSTC	Day 1 : Qualifying
Thur, June 24	CNTC-A	Semi-Final Sessions 1 & 2
	CNTC-B	Final
	CWTC	Semi-final/Final**
	CSTC	Day 2 : Semi-Finals
	CIMP	Two Sessions
Fri, June 25	CNTC-A	Semi-Final Session 3
		Final - Session 1
	CWTC	Final***
	CSTC	Final
Sat, June 26	CNTC-A	Final sessions 2 & 3
	COPC	Final

SCHEDULE NOTES

* if more than 16 teams enter it will be QF,
otherwise Semi-Final

** if more than 16 teams enter it will be SF, otherwise Final

*** if more than 16 teams, otherwise no play on this day.

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www.cbf.ca/BWeek

And, if you can manage to fit it in, there will be *Lots of Bridge* to be played during Bridge Week. In addition to the usual championship events (CNTC A & B, Women's Teams and COPC – we're hoping for a home field advantage!) there are two new events on the schedule. The Senior Teams will be a three-day event starting Wednesday June 23 that will determine our National Representative for the World Senior Olympiad Teams in Istanbul this fall. Pre-qualification is not necessary for this event other than being the right age! Check the conditions on the CBF website at www.cbf.ca. Also offered for the first time will be a 2-session IMP Pairs with \$prizes that will be run on Thursday June 24 (no pre-qualification required here either).

Last but certainly not least, don't forget to drop into our *Hospitality Suite* that will be open every evening after play to give you a chance to unwind, find a sympathetic ear or two to fill with stories about your brilliancies (and, of course, your partner's blunders!) while enjoying a glass of Niagara wine or local brew-ery product. A varied menu of food will be offered nightly along with coffee, rolls, and fruit every morning. For sure try to arrive on time for the Friday evening Kickoff Party in the Hospitality Suite so that you can say "Hello" to the finest group of volunteer organizers and workers a co-chairperson could ever hope to have assembled

THE 1ST CBF REGIONAL

Montreal, QC : Feb 24-29, 2004

Jean Castonguay reported on the success of the first ever CBF Regional. Luck was on our side and the weather was wonderful. The tournament raised \$18,000 for the CBF International Fund.

The CBF Board plans to continue holding CBF Regionals – one Regional each year in the late January to early March timeframe. For 2005 the CBF is actively looking for a site in Western Canada. District approval must be received before a site can be confirmed. The CBF has approached Districts 18 and 19 seeking their approval to run a Regional in 2005 for the benefit of the CBF International Fund. Our hopes are that one of these Districts will step up as host.

The CBF hopes to be able to rotate the Regional on a four year cycle around the country. Another plan that will be considered at the CBF Board meetings in June is the possibility of running a Regional in conjunction with Bridge Week.

CBF STAC : Feb 16-22, 2004

About 90 clubs took part in this year's Sectional Tournament at Clubs, with 2,575 total tables. This is down 132 tables from 2003 STAC but a storm in the Maritimes caused the cancellation of several games. The profit from the STAC should be about \$7,100 - up over 2003 due to the much more favourable exchange rate. The STaC web page received 2,717 hits from online visitors during the event.

TOP 20 MASTERPOINT WINNERS 1ST CBF REGIONAL, February, 2004

- 1 73.20 Pierre Daigneault, Montreal QC
- 2 68.97 J Robinson, Montreal QC
- 3 68.27 James Gordon, S Burlington VT
- 4 67.65 Harold Feldheim, Hamden CT
- 5 63.73 Andre Laliberte, Quebec QC
- 6 55.73 Vincent Demuy, Laval QC
- 7 55.73 Daniel Lavee, Thornhill ON
- 8 44.78 Kamel Fergani, Longueuil QC
- 9 42.47 Stephen Brown, Ottawa ON
- 10 39.36 Richard Anderson, Regina SK
- 11 39.36 Janice Anderson, Regina SK
- 12 37.28 Fred Hoffer, Cote Saint-Luc QC
- 13 37.28 Don Pfafsky, Toronto ON
- 14 35.45 Andre Chartrand, Chateaugay QC
- 15 35.45 Jean Castonguay, Lery QC
- 16 35.44 Christian Houle, Saint-Laurent QC
- 17 29.87 Michele Gagne, Montreal QC
- 18 29.87 Miville Lacasse, St Leon QC
- 19 29.87 Louis Dessureaux, Montreal QC
- 20 29.86 Monroe Miller, Cote Saint-Luc QC

TOP 20 MASTERPOINT WINNERS 3RD CBF STAC, February 2004

- 1 58.28 William Koski, Gilford ON
- 2 28.18 George Kitchen, N. Gower ON
- 3 28.14 Jean-Francois Boucher, Chicoutimi QC
- 4 27.73 George Knight, Borden ON
- 5 25.30 Norma Keswick, Bathurst NB
- 6 22.18 Joan Gaudette, Aylmer QC
- 7 21.11 Jerry Richardson, London ON
- 8 20.83 Malcolm Ewashkiw, Belleville ON
- 9 20.68 Danny Schamehorn, Washago ON
- 10 20.39 Miki Sheldon, Ottawa ON
- 11 20.37 Jan A Harrison, Ottawa ON
- 12 19.58 Terry Tack, London ON
- 13 19.29 Lorna McDonald, St. Albert AB
- 14 19.25 Charlotte St Amant, Trenton ON
- 15 18.59 Hank Dubblestye, Sudbury ON
- 16 18.50 Ruth Feinstein, Montreal QC
- 17 18.23 Huguette Dufour, Jonquiere QC
- 18 18.02 Gladys Gill, London ON
- 19 17.81 Joan Priebe, Mississauga ON
- 20 17.69 David Binder, Nepean ON

Erin Berry

MEMORIAL FUND

by Janice Anderson

This fund was established in 2001 as a trust fund set up by Erin Berry's father, Larry Berry, and is meant to help Juniors 19 or younger with expenses incurred to attend bridge events. The 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.

For the first four years, 2000 - 2004, only the interest income on the Fund is available for disbursement. After that time frame, a schedule has been drawn up to ensure that the fund remains in place for several years.

To apply for an award from the Erin Berry Youth Memorial Fund, an application for funding will need to be submitted to the CBF executive Secretary-Treasurer by May 1st of each year. 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 including 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
World Scholar Games
Bridge Training Sessions
Canadian Junior Trials
World Youth Team Championship
Junior World Championship
Other bridge-related activities.

Only after the above are granted will the Trustees consider tournaments. Funding will not be given for cash prize events or for events in which an individual is receiving pay or compensation, making it a professional arrangement.

JUNIOR SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY : \$500 USD + \$350 USD

A new scholarship program is available for ACBL Junior players. The program, which owes its funding to generous external donations, is available to college and high school bridge players who actively seek to teach others to play bridge. It is open to any and all ACBL Juniors still involved in the educational system. The initial program will award a \$500 scholarship to those who teach a class of at least eight students, all under 25 years of age, the equivalent of the ACBL Bidding Series (Club Series) or 16 hours of lessons. The ACBL Educational Foundation and the ACBL Education Department will provide books, T-shirts and an additional stipend of \$350 for teaching the course. The scholarship is payable only to an accredited college, university, or trade school for high school graduates. To register your classes, contact Charlotte Blaiss at charlotte.blaiss@acbl.org.



JUNIOR bridge

REPORT FROM THE MANAGER

by Ed Antosz

The junior scene has been active as we are gearing up for the next team trials and the launch a program for new bridge players.

JUNIOR NPC :: Jonathan Steinberg has been named Non-Playing Captain of the junior team which will represent Canada at the 2005 World Junior Championships. Jonathan brings with him experience and interest in junior bridge as well as administrative experience as a member of the ACBL Board of Directors for District 2.

Oops! :: The report from the World Junior Championships which appeared in the last issue of Bridge Canada leaves me a little red-faced. Many of the excellent plays on both opening leads and defensive plays were authored by David Grainger. My apologies to David. A corrected version can be found on the CBF website.

2005 Junior Team Trials :: The Kingston Regional is the site of the next Junior Team Trials to select the team which will represent Canada at the 2005 World Junior Trials. The trials will be run May 22 - 24, 2004. Eligible juniors are players who are born on January 1, 1979 or later. Anyone interested in playing in the trials should form a team of four and submit their entry to the CBF. Details and conditions of contest are available on the junior pages at www.cbf.ca.

Accommodation and travel subsidies will be available. For more information contact Ed Antosz at antosz@uwindsor.ca

1ST WORLD SCHOOLS TEAM BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIP

The CBF has been invited to enter a team in the First Edition of the World Schools Team Bridge Championship which is to take place at the summer NABC in New York City, July 12 - 14, 2004. Six teams will take part in this event – three from Europe and three from North America. Players must have been born on or after January 1, 1983 in order to be eligible to participate. A complete round robin of 24 board matches will be played. Final ranking will be based on the total VPs won by each team. The winners will receive the WBF Schools Trophy (to keep until the next event) as well as replicas for each player and the non-playing captain. Souvenir gifts will be given to the first three teams.

Even though information has been sketchy and changing continually, the CBF has decided that they would like to send a team to the World School Team Bridge Championship. We will use the 2004 Junior Team Trials as a method for selecting our team. The deadline for entering teams in the 2004 Junior Team Trials is April 15. Entries must be accompanied with a \$100 deposit.



JUNIOR NEWS

from Jonathan
Steinberg, NPC

The ACBL has improved and redesigned their on-line junior pages. Check it out at:
web2.acbl.org/html/juniors.html

ACBL juniors are 25 years of age or younger. The WBF allows players up to 26 years old to compete. Note that you must have been born on or after January 1, 1979 to be eligible for the 2005 Canadian Junior Team.

The ACBL offers heavily discounted entry fees to ACBL junior members who attend NABCs. The ACBL junior coupon allows you to pay just US \$6 per session (any event) and is available to players 21 and under and/or full time students 22-25. This summer's NABC in New York City has a week-long schedule of special events for young players.

For more information check out the January 2004 edition of the ACBL junior publication, *The Grapevine*:
web2.acbl.org/library/thelibrary/grapejan04.pdf

Following the NABC there will be another Junior Bridge Camp (July 17-24) which I urge all of you to consider attending. More information can be found in *The Grapevine*.

NEW JUNIOR POLICY : At the meeting in March, the CBF motioned to adopt a new Junior Policy. Details can be found on the CBF website.

2003 MASTERPOINT RACES

YOUTH

1	Vincent Demuy, Laval QC	1192
2	Samantha Nystrom, Burnaby BC	383
3	James Dulmage, Regina SK	89
4	Daniel Lavee, Thornhill ON	58
5	Erin Anderson, Regina SK	57
6	Anton Blagov, Toronto ON	43
7	Trevor Hart, Trail BC	33

JUNIOR

1	Gavin Wolpert, Thornhill ON	1202
2	Vincent Demuy, Laval QC	1192
3	Ian Boyd, Calgary AB	518
4	Samantha Nystrom, Burnaby BC	383
5	Daniel Korbel, Waterloo ON	316
6	Timothy Capes, Toronto ON	245
7	Matthew Mason, Toronto ON	224

JUNIOR CALENDAR

May 1 : Application deadline for Erin Berry Memorial Fund Grants

May 22-25 : CBF Junior Team Trials, Kingston

JR EVENTS at NABC NEW YORK

July 12 : 12:30pm : Open Ceremonies for World Schools Team Bridge Championship (see page 9)

July 12 - July 14 : World Schools Team Bridge Championship

July 14 : World Junior Individual Championship - Beginning in the evening session and continuing through Friday afternoon.

July 16 : 6:00pm : Closing Dinner and Awards Ceremony for the World Schools Team Championship and the World Junior Individual Championship.

July 17 - July 25 : Junior Bridge Camp in Nyack, New York

Aug 1-11: 19th European Youth Team Championship, Prague, Czech Republic

CANADIAN BRIDGE FEDERATION CHARITY FOUNDATION

Charity

2003 CHARITY DONATIONS

Canadian Feed the Children Domestic Project	\$ 4,000
Campaign 2000 Report Cards	\$ 2,000
Discretionary Funds	\$ 7,000
Chairperson (\$1000)	
Family Service Ass'n of Toronto	\$ 500
(Growing Up Healthy Downtown Toronto)	
Daily Bread Food Bank	\$ 500
Zone I (\$1000)	
St. Vincent de Paul Society	\$ 1000
(St. Pat's Alexander School/The Breakfast Club)	
Zone II (\$1000)	
Foundation de l'Hopital Ste-Jerome	\$ 1000
Zone III (\$1000)	
Daily Bread Food Bank	\$ 1000
Zone IV (\$1000)	
Thunder Bay Regional Hospital	\$ 300
Shelter House	\$ 300
'Community Assistance Trust'	\$ 400
(Sault Ste. Marie)	
Zone V (\$1000)	
Regina Women's Community Centre and Sexual Assault Line	\$ 500
Regina Indian Community Awareness (Chili for Children)	\$ 500
Zone VI (\$1000)	
Mustard Seed Food Bank	\$ 1000

TOTAL 2003 DONATIONS: **\$13,000**

RENO UPDATE : No-Split

Site – At the ACBL Board of Directors meetings in Reno, the CBF Motion requesting a change in rules so that the CBF Regional could hold a split-site Regional was defeated. The CBF still plans to pursue a rule change but it is unlikely that we will see a split-site CBF Regional in the near future.

ACBL STATS UPDATE

The ACBL is in excellent financial health with net assets of \$7,150,000. Annual revenue and expenses are each about \$9,000,000. ACBL membership as of March 1, 2004 was 167,231. This breaks down to 149,855 paid up members and 17,376 non-dues paying Life Masters. From Feb 2003 to Feb 2004, ACBL membership increased by 1,227, marking the first time in several years that total membership increased. Tournament attendance has grown about 10% over the last three years, led by STACs. In 2003, there were 160,000 sanctioned tables at Regionals, 156,000 at Sectionals, and 91,500 at STACs.





ACBL
American Contract Bridge League

Unit Growth Seminar

ACBL will bring this exciting six-hour Unit Growth Seminar to your unit for FREE.

This Seminar is designed to ...

1. Organize your unit volunteers;
2. Create team work between your units and local clubs;
3. Introduce ACBL membership programs; and
4. Develop goals specifically for your unit.

The net result is increased unit membership and increased interest in your local club games!

To sign up for your Unit Growth Seminar or for more information, please contact:

ACBL Education Field Coordinator
Donna Compton
Donna.Compton@acbl.org
Toll Free: 1.866.783.9369
Tel: 214.378.8284
Fax: 214.373.0370



SECTIONALS SUPPORT INTERNATIONAL FUND

Thank you to the organizers of the Ottawa Sectional and the Regina Sectional who scheduled International Fund games during their tournaments. For only an extra \$1 per player - participants were able to receive masterpoints in the Sectional at Regional rating during the International Fund Games. In fact, during the Ottawa Sectional, the tournament made up the \$1 per player so that the participants

CBF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the membership of the CBF will be held in St. Catharines, ON during the 2005 Canadian Bridge Week. The meeting is planned for Saturday, June 26, 2004 beginning at 9:00 a.m. The meeting is open to all paid up members of the Canadian Bridge Federation.

COPC PRIZE FOR 2004 WINNERS

The winners of the 2004 COPC will be given the opportunity to attend the Open Pairs event being held at the 2005 European Open Championship. That event will take place in June of 2005 in the Canary Islands. We may even be given the opportunity to send our pair without having to pay the entry fee.

The 2005 and 2006 COPC winners would then be given the opportunity to attend the 2007 Open Pairs event at the 2007 European Open Championship.

did not pay extra. These games are a big bonus to the players and to the CBF International Fund. Thank you. It would be wonderful if more Sectionals in Canada would take advantage of this so that they will be able to offer their players more masterpoints while supporting the CBF International Fund.

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LIFE IN THE LEFT LANE

Apologies to Glenn Frey, Don Henley & Joe Walsh (The Eagles, 1976)

by John Carruthers, Toronto

Having had the pleasure of playing with some of North America's most imaginative players (Drew Cannell, Bruce Ferguson, Ted Horning, Howie Weinstein and Eric Murray), it was a no-brainer for me to accept when George Mittelman played Cupid to arrange a partnership between Joe Silver (shown at right, 2nd photo) and me in 2002. As a decent plodder, I am the perfect foil for my more adventurous partners.



Joey is well-known as the perpetrator of "life in the fast lane" actions, referring to his sometimes unorthodox, but usually winning, bidding and play decisions. Recently, Joey and I had the opportunity to play bridge in London, England, and Yokohama, Japan in prestigious team events, the Lederer Memorial and the NEC Cup, respectively. Both nations still legislate driving on the left-hand side of the road.

Oh Boy - Sonny West, Bill Tilghman, & Norman Petty (Buddy Holly & The Crickets, 1957)

Joey and I had been invited to play in the 2003 Lederer Memorial in October at the Young Chelsea Bridge Club in London – we had engaged Adam Wildavsky and Doug Doub as teammates. All of us but Joey were on our way to Monte Carlo for the 2003 Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup. Joey came with his friend Muriel just for the fun of a few days in London. We'd been leading the event until being crushed by the YCBC Knockout Champions in the penultimate round. However, we still had a chance to win – all we needed to do was clobber Zia's All-Stars on Vu-graph in the final round! That was fine – they also had to beat us badly to win. A close

match would mean we'd finish third and fourth. The Vu-graph audience was rubbing their hands in anticipation as Joey and I took our places against Zia and David Burn.

I'll put you in the driver's seat (Joey's) for our first board against Zia and Burn. Joey was the dealer at favourable vulnerability (the proverbial red flag to the bull), and held:

♠ 3 2
♥ J 10 8 6 5
♦ 8 3 2
♣ 9 5 3

Anyone who knows Joey knows that he does not wait around for good fortune to drop into his lap, and he gave the audience a charge by opening one heart. Zia

passed and I perpetrated a forcing no trump. Burn doubled, and Joey, not yet content with his disruption so far, rebid two clubs. The full auction:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Burn	Silver	Zia	JC
—	1 ♥!	Pass	1 NT ¹
Dble	2 ♣!	2 ♥	2 ♠ ²
Dble	Pass	4 ♦	Pass
4 NT	Pass	6 ♦	Pass
6 NT	Pass	Pass	Dble

1. Forcing one round
2. Agreeing clubs, stronger than three clubs

Joey led a club. What do you think your chances are? Not to worry, the full deal was:

Dealer North	NORTH	
Vul: E/W	♠ 3 2	
	♥ J 10 8 6 5	
	♦ 8 3 2	
	♣ 9 5 3	
WEST		EAST
♠ K Q J 6		♠ 9 8 5
♥ K Q		♥ A 9 7 3
♦ A K		♦ Q J 10 9 7 4
♣ K Q J 7 2		♣ void
	SOUTH	
	♠ A 10 7 4	
	♥ 4 2	
	♦ 6 5	
	♣ A 10 8 6 4	

Burn knew that someone was being a bit frisky by the time the bidding came round to him, and when Zia bid two hearts, it was possible that both Joey and I were at it. The All Stars auction got back on the rails until the six no trump bid, described by its perpetrator as the bid of a man "bewildered by the whole affair." The audience watching Vu-Graph was equally bewildered, but loved it. Meanwhile, at the other table:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Wildavsky	Price	Doub	Simpson
—	Pass	Pass	1 ♠
Dble	Pass	2 ♠	Pass
6 NT	Pass	Pass	Dble
Pass	Pass	Pass	

All that excitement for a flat board! And that was how the match went as well; we slugged it out for a 30-30 draw, a result that didn't help either of us.

Walk, Don't Run - Johnny Smith (The Ventures, 1959)

Despite not being able to finish higher than fourth in the Lederer, Joey and I were invited to compete in the ninth NEC Cup in Yokohama in February. This time we were all Canadian, with George Mittelman and Allan Graves as teammates. The event consisted of a two-and-a-half-day Swiss teams, with the top eight qualifying for the quarterfinals. We qualified fifth and drew England, the defending champions, after the top three finishers declined to pick either of us for the 40-board quarterfinal match. We had a small carryover by dint of finishing ahead of them in the Swiss.

Again, let's take Joey's seat. This time you are East, vulnerable, and the opponents are not. You pick up:

♠ A 10 9 8 3
♥ —
♦ J 9 8 7 5 4
♣ K 5

Your LHO, Argentine Pablo Lambardi (apparently still a POW from the Falklands War) opened two clubs. Your ox bid two spades and Brian Senior passed. It's up to you. Joey naturally bid three spades! The Argentine Englishman bid four hearts and I passed, as does the

Northern Irish Englishman. Our hero bid four spades. Five hearts, pass, six hearts to him in machine-gun fashion. No problem. "Six spades," quoth Silver. I know, you're dying to see the full deal:

Dealer South **NORTH**

Vul: E/W

♠ 4 2

♥ 10 9 7 6 4 3

♦ K 3 2

♣ 9 8

WEST

♠ K Q J 7 6 5

♥ void

♦ Q 10 6

♣ Q J 6 3

EAST

♠ A 10 9 8 3

♥ void

♦ J 9 8 7 5 4

♣ K 5

SOUTH

♠ void

♥ A K Q J 8 5 2

♦ A

♣ A 10 7 4 2

WEST

JC

—

2 ♠

Pass

Pass

Pass

Pass

NORTH

Senior

—

Pass

Pass

Pass

6 ♥

Dble

EAST

Our Hero

—

3 ♠

4 ♠

6 ♠

All Pass

SOUTH

Lambardi

2 ♣

4 ♥

5 ♥

Pass

Senior made the obvious 'expert' lead of the ♦K to have a look at Silver's dummy. He was anxious to see what Joey had for this rather unusual auction. He was slightly distressed when his partner interfered with this plan by overtaking with the ace. Not wishing to get these bozos for only 200, Lambardi, 'knowing' his partner still controlled diamonds, exited with the ace of hearts. After I picked my chin up off the table, I was not too rattled to claim. Plus 1660. As was cruelly pointed out later (not within Lambardi's hearing however!), Lambardi was 11-1 against beating six spades doubled since he had only one card in his hand that would beat it at trick two! At the other table:

SOUTH

Mittelman

1 ♥

6 ♥

Dble

* Splinter

WEST

Callaghan

1 ♠

Pass

Pass

NORTH

Graves

2 ♥

Pass

Pass

EAST

Armstrong

4 ♥ *

6 ♠

Pass

As Silver had at our table, Graves also 'walked' the hand. Graves did not find the expert king of diamonds lead, nor did he lead a heart, so the English went for minus 500. It was 19 IMPs to us, but alas, no happy ending as we lost the match by four, being beaten by an odds-against slam on the final board! It was, however, cold on the lie of the cards.

Thank you, Partner, it was a trip.

NEC BULLETINS

The NEC Daily Bulletins, edited by Canadian journalist Eric Kokish along with Richard Colker and Pietro Campanile, treats readers to some of the best bridge journalism in the world. All the bulletins in PDF form can be found on the NEC website but because of the heavy 'Canadian' content, we have also uploaded them to the CBF website. Find them in the World Matters section.



ALLAN GRAVES



A DEAL TO TORTURE YOUR INSTINCTS

by Paul Thurston

During the Ontario Zone Trials to qualify 5 teams for the CNTC A Finals this summer, this deal with tough bidding decisions and potentially even tougher play problems came along to vex the N/S competitors.

South's eggs-mostly-in-one-basket jump rebid in spades might not appeal to all although it was surely the right number of spades on values. Options, if available, that might have been more flexible could have been a 2NT call that would have promised 18-19 HCP, albeit in a balanced hand, in most 2-over-1 styles or a Kokish-style double that would have been the equivalent of "I don't know quite what to do but I do have extra values, why don't you tell me more?" Either of these choices might have led to the easily playable club slam (or at least game) but the given 3♣ call transferred the problem to North.

Would 4♣ have been natural or an advance cuebid in support of spades? Would a natural 4♣ be likely to lead to a better contract than 4♠? After all, Reese often wrote that "a stiff King is worth three small cards in support" so the stiff Queen must therefore be worth two – maybe? In any event, North considered showing support to be the most effective choice and it was. On to the play.

The heart lead led to the first of three possible counter-intuitive plays declarer might have to execute to make this iffy game. "Counter-intuitive" plays are simply those that seem to go against the grain of a declarer's natural instincts. Like here, with dummy holding a singleton heart, the instinctive thing to do is win your ♥A at

DLR: S Vul: Both		NORTH	
		♠ Q	
		♥ 6	
		♦ J 9 5 2	
		♣ A J 9 8 7 6 2	
WEST		EAST	
♠ J 7 4 2		♠ 9 5	
♥ K 8 2		♥ Q J 10 9 5 3	
♦ K 10 8 4		♦ A 7 6 3	
♣ 10 4		♣ 3	
		SOUTH	
		♠ A K 10 8 6 3	
		♥ A 7 4	
		♦ Q	
		♣ K Q 5	
WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
-	-	-	1♠
Pass	1NT*	2♥	3♣
Pass	4♣	All Pass	
* Forcing			

trick one. Except after that start, the defense can always prevail regardless of how you proceed.

If you ruff a heart at trick two, the endgame will eventually see East-West arrange to promote the ♠7 to go with one each of spades, hearts and diamonds while not ruffing will leave declarer with no way of disposing of his 3 red suit losers before the defense regains the lead in trumps.

So, duck the first heart you must but watch what happens next! If East continues with a second heart, you must then make the second counter-intuitive play of

Continued on page 17



THINKING ON DEFENSE

by Jim Priebe

Consider carefully before discarding from three small.

DLR: S
Vul: E/W

NORTH
♠ J 2
♥ A 8 6 2
♦ Q 9 7 3
♣ 10 8 6

WEST
♠ A K Q 8
♥ 9 7 5 3
♦ J 6 5
♣ K Q

EAST
♠ 10 9 7 6 4 3
♥ Q
♦ 10 8 4
♣ 9 7 2

SOUTH
♠ 5
♥ K J 10 4
♦ A K 2
♣ A J 5 4 3

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
-	-	-	1♣
1♠	Dble	3♠	4♥
All Pass			

This hand came up during play on the internet on Bridge Base. West won the ♠K lead and continued the suit. I ruffed and considered my options. In addition to a spade loser I had two possible club losers and a possible heart loser. At trick two, I made the unfortunate play of the ♥J, losing to the singleton ♥Q. East returned a diamond to my ace and the ♥K revealed the bad news in

the trump suit. East now came through with a big assist – he pitched a low club!

I could now place both club honors in the West hand so I played ace and another club. West had no good return. If he played a diamond, I could win in hand, unblock trumps, travel to dummy with a diamond, and draw the last trump. I would take the balance with my high clubs. He made a good effort by playing a third round of spades. I pitched the club in dummy and ruffed in hand with the ♥10. I then had a trump coup to make the contract. My lowly ♣543 were high. West could ruff or not, as he wished, but I could play them all out, pitching diamonds, and finally play a diamond and score my ♥A8 in dummy over West's ♥97.

The moral: be very careful about pitching from three small cards in a suit you know declarer will be relying on for tricks. In this hand, the pitch cost a trick, but also gave declarer a clue as to how to play the suit.

A DEAL TO TORTURE YOUR INSTINCTS *continued from page 16*

ruffing with dummy's ♠Q, a card you might have felt much more comfortable about retaining for trump extraction purposes. After ruffing, you cross to a high club and start trumps from the top. You will succeed whenever the suit splits 3-3 or East started with a significant doubleton (Jx or 9x). A trump or diamond shift from East at trick two will pose no problem but what if he instead makes the ruff-threatening shift to his singleton club? Now you must make the third possible counter-intuitive play of winning the club and playing

the ♠A (or King), gobbling up dummy's Queen in the process, and continuing the suit to once again end up with ten tricks whenever trumps are 3-3 or that significant doubleton Jx or 9x appears. Winning the club and leading the ♠Q without overtaking in hand leaves you without any way to play more trumps that doesn't allow East a contract-killing club ruff.

There'll be lots more deals like this when you come to St Catharines this summer for Bridge Week.

Mississippi Hand

by Audrey Grant

When things look too good to be true, they usually are. If you ever pick up a hand like that held by North, you should probably be suspicious . . . especially after you have read the story about the hand.

As North, you might be surprised to hear East double your 7♥ contract. You might even redouble. East will be quite surprised to hear North bid a grand slam in hearts. The astonishment shouldn't prevent East from making a penalty double, since East knows the heart suit is breaking badly for declarer . . . very badly. If that wasn't the case, of course, there would be no story behind the hand.

East will lead a diamond and the hand is a disaster for North-South. In a heart contract, North can take no more than six tricks. East keeps leading diamonds at every opportunity and North never gets a trick with any of the high cards in spades or clubs. In fact, North-South can't make even a game contract. Seeing all the hands, the best the partnership can do is make a contract of 3♠ or 4♣. Not what one would expect with all those high cards.

This is the notorious 'Mississippi Heart Hand' and it dates from the days of whist. An equivalent version was published by Edmond Hoyle, of 'According to Hoyle' fame, in 1747, and the modern version was published in 1804 by Thomas Matthews. The hand was well known among Mississippi river boat gamblers during the Civil War period. They would try to convince an unsuspecting North to make a heavy bet on taking at least seven tricks with hearts as trumps. Of course, the hand is specially set up so that North can never

DLR: W		NORTH	
		♠ A K Q	
		♥ A K Q J 10 9	
		♦ -	
		♣ A K Q J	
WEST		EAST	
♠ J 9 8 7 6		♠ -	
♥ -		♥ 8 7 6 5 4 3 2	
♦ 8 7 6		♦ A K Q J 10 9	
♣ 10 9 8 7 6		♣ -	
		SOUTH	
		♠ 10 5 4 3 2	
		♥ -	
		♦ 5 4 3 2	
		♣ 5 4 3 2	
WEST		NORTH	EAST
-		7♥	Dble
Pass		Pass	Pass

make more than six tricks with hearts as trumps. The hand was also popular with the professional cheaters in the days of bridge whist when there was no limit to the number of times a player could double or redouble. Even in a low-stake game, the doubling and redoubling could lead to an enormous sum being wagered on whether North could take a seventh trick. It's rumored that Charles Schwab, a wealthy financier and the president of the New York Whist Club, was duped out of \$10,000 on this hand.

The hand is a good illustration of the tremendous effect that distribution can play in the outcome of a hand. When you are looking at a good hand and everyone else at the table is bidding up a storm, it's probably because the distribution is wild. Don't be too shy about bidding more when you hold a very distributional hand, and don't be too quick to double the opponents on high cards alone. Most importantly, be cautious when you are offered that 'sure' bet . . . especially if you're on a river boat steaming along the Mississippi!

HOW WEAK?

Excerpted from Bulletin 4, NEC Cup

By Eric Kokish

In reply to the question: "Just how weak can your weak jump overcalls be at favorable vulnerability?" Professor Graves presented Exhibit A – the East hand on Board 5 of their winning match vs Japan in the Round Robin phase of the 9th NEC Cup. Canadians Allan Graves, George Mittelman, Joe Silver, and John Carruthers played into a quarterfinal placing this February in Yokohama.

While not everyone's cup of tea, Allan Graves' 3♠ is the sort of action that I endorse. The important thing is that Mittelman knew enough about Graves' proclivities to resist bidding 4♠ or a delicate 3♠ over Imakura's negative double and to resist doubling 4♠.

With the ♠K in West and South on play, 4♠ can't be beaten, no matter how loud the double. Declarer played an early trump to the king and West took only three trump tricks. 5 IMPs to Canada for +790 vs +620.

Eric Kokish and Beverly Kraft offer various coaching services and undertake research projects through their company, International Bridge Services, Inc. They can be reached at kokish-kraft@rogers.com or kraft-kokish@rogers.com

Board 5

Dealer North

NORTH

Vul: N/S

♠ J 9 6 3

♥ A K Q J

♦ K J 6

♣ A 4

WEST

♠ A Q 10 4 2

♥ 10 5 2

♦ 7 5 4

♣ K 7

EAST

♠ void

♥ 7 6 4 3

♦ 10 9 3

♣ J 10 8 6 5 2

SOUTH

♠ K 8 7 5

♥ 9 8

♦ A Q 8 2

♣ Q 9 3

Open Room :

WEST

NORTH

EAST

SOUTH

Takayama

Silver

Kaku

Carruthers

1♦

Pass

1♠

Pass

3♠

Pass

4♠

Double

All Pass

Closed Room :

WEST

NORTH

EAST

SOUTH

Mittelman

Ino

Graves

Imakura

1♦

3♣

Double

Pass

4♣

Pass

4♠

All Pass



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HEATHER PECKETT : Top Canadian Woman



Heather Peckett was the top woman masterpoint winner in 2003. She lives in Ottawa ON and works for the federal government as a Chartered Accountant. Heather took up duplicate bridge seriously in the mid 70s after she had finished her degree. She plays regularly at the Ottawa Bridge Centre and the two

Outaouais clubs. "We are lucky to have a choice of clubs in different parts of the area at which to play on most nights," Heather notes. Michael Petras is Heather's favourite partner for team events. For matchpoints, her favourite partners are "those who are willing to play count rather than attitude signals".

Heather had a very successful year winning 484 masterpoints, placing 19th on the Richmond Trophy race. When asked for a favourite tournament Heather told us, "We went to Montreal and won two KO events and placed 6th in the Sunday Swiss. Although I always enjoy tournaments we attend for many reasons, they are even better when we do well."

A Funny Story :: Willie, one of my long time partners, recalls a story of our "checkback Blackwood auction" from a team game at a local Sectional tournament. We had an uninterrupted auction with hearts being bid and supported and I bid 4♣ intended as Gerber. Willie liked my "cuebid" and bid 4NT asking for aces. We both then asked for kings and finally reached 7♥. What a shock when I saw the dummy and realized we had not been on the same wavelength! It was my lucky day, however, as I judged to take a deep finesse of the 10 in the trump suit which worked, as well as another finesse to bring the contract home. At the end of the hand, our opponents displayed great temperament when they didn't make any remarks on our "luck" or bad bidding. As well, at later tournaments when they would see us, they would laugh and ask us if we had had any more of those auctions.

Heather's Tips

- 1: Concentrate on counting every hand. Figuring out the distribution of the hands is so important both for declarer and for defenders
- 2: Keep your systems simple - there is less to forget
- 3: Don't be afraid to ask better players questions
- 4: Develop partnerships with more than one person
- 5: Kibitz better players who play a system with which you are familiar
- 6: Don't make a habit of leading doubletons (unless it is your partner's suit)

Heather's Pet Peeves

The constant changes in the alerts required. For example, I play strong twos with two partners and must alert these even though they are natural bids. Negative doubles over overcalls of 1NT are not alertable any longer. Now, double raises over overcalls are not alertable even though they may be invitational or weak.

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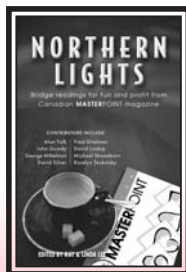
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États d'âme

par Martine Lacroix

Non, je ne vais pas vous entretenir de mes états d'âme quoique, à bien y penser, je sois tentée. Tentée de vous dire que le soleil brille non seulement dans le ciel, mais aussi dans mon cœur et que ce n'est pas le bridge qui en est la cause. Ha ! ha ! Ne vous y trompez pas. C'est le printemps, mes amis, mon cœur est joyeux et mon âme sereine.

Un copain, la voix débordante d'enthousiasme, m'appelle cette semaine et me dit : « Martine, j'ai fait une partie hallucinante aujourd'hui. Tout, absolument tout, a marché. Même nos erreurs les plus stupides. Imagine-toi qu'avec 28 points d'honneur, on n'a pas atteint la manche parce qu'on s'est fourvoyés dans nos enchères. Tu sais quoi ? Tout le monde a chuté à quatre piques et, nous, on est à trois piques faits trois. Un franc top. Ça s'est passé comme ça sur toutes les mains. C'est pas croyable, on a joué 76 % ! »

Il était dans tous ses états.

Ça m'a fait penser à Zia Mahmood qui décrit les trois états du bridgeur dans son livre « Bridge My Way ». En fait, ce n'est pas une invention de son cru, mais celle de Roger Stern, un théoricien américain. Vous avez certainement remarqué que votre

qualité de jeu n'est pas égale. Certains jours, vous jouez très bien alors que d'autres fois, rien ne va. Stern a identifié trois états, qu'il a baptisé *Heat*, mot qui se traduit par chaleur. Peut-être fait-il référence à l'intensité du feu intérieur ? Selon que ce feu est brûlant comme celui de l'enfer, crépitant comme un joli feu de foyer ou mourant comme les braises sur lesquelles on s'apprête à verser de l'eau pour les éteindre complètement ... Ou à l'intensité du feu de la cuisinière : élevé, moyen, bas ?

Toujours est-il qu'à feu vif (état no 1), vous êtes dans un état magique. Vous n'êtes pas un joueur de bridge, vous êtes un poète, un artiste, un dieu. De l'eau bouillante qui chante. Les cartes dansent, volent, virevoltent, elles sont animées de leur vie propre. Vous êtes invincible, la chance vous sourit.

À feu moyen (état no 2), vous réfléchissez et mijotez vos coups. Vous utilisez les ingrédients standard, ni trop, ni trop peu. Vous êtes dans votre état normal.

À feu bas (état no 3), vous auriez mieux fait de rester au lit. Les cartes sont collantes, les impasses échouent, les couleurs ne divisent pas. Les adversaires vous clouent au pilori.

Stern prétend que si vous identifiez rapidement l'état dans lequel vous êtes quand vous commencez une séance de bridge, vous pourrez améliorer sensiblement vos résultats.

Dans l'état no 1, votre instinct vous guide, soyez audacieux, risquez votre vie. Rappelez-vous que vous êtes le maître. Dans l'état no 2, travaillez dur, restez dans la norme. Dans l'état no 3, ne prenez aucune décision, soyez prudent, passif même. Laissez les

décisions cruciales à votre partenaire, ne faites rien sauf respirer.

En réalité, la plupart des joueurs qui se retrouvent dans l'état no 3 essaient invariablement de récupérer leurs mauvais résultats. Ils courent au désastre. Impossible de réfléchir quand les choses vont de mal en pis. L'idée n'est pas d'apprendre à combattre cet état, mais bien d'apprendre à vivre avec. Zia avoue que c'est le meilleur conseil qu'il n'ait jamais entendu. Revenons à mon ami.

Donneur:Ouest Nord

Vul. : Tous

Ouest

♠ A R V 8 4
♥ A 9 8
♦ A V 3
♣ V 9

♠ —

♥ V 6 2
♦ R D 9 6 4
♣ R 10 6 5 4

Est

♠ D 7 6 2
♥ R D 10 7 5 4 3
♦ 10
♣ 7

Sud (mon ami)

♠ 10 9 5 3
♥ —
♦ 8 7 5 2
♣ A D 8 3 2

Ouest

1♠
5♥
X

Nord

2 SA*
Passe
Passe

Est

3♥
Passe
Passe

Sud

5♣
6♣
Passe

* Les mineures.

Entame : Le Roi de pique.

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« J'ai coupé l'entame à pique, retiré les atouts en deux tours et concédé l'As de carreau. Fait six.

— Tu es vulnérable. Pourquoi pousser le sacrifice jusqu'au niveau de six ?

— Avec mon double fit en mineure, j'ai senti que les adversaires avaient eux aussi un double fit en majeure.

— Leurs enchères n'ont montré qu'un fit à cœur. Ta partenaire aurait pu avoir 2 petits piques et un cœur.

— Peut-être, mais mon instinct me disait le contraire. C'est comme si j'avais vu à travers les cartes. Je savais qu'ils avaient un double fit.

— Une enchère agressive qui a rapporté. Tu as été pas mal chanceux, l'entame à carreau te fait chuter.

— Oui, mais après l'enchère 2SA qui promet les deux mineures, elle est très difficile à trouver. Et puis, l'entameur a le choix entre trois As... pas facile de trouver celui qui fera chuter le contrat. Le plus drôle, c'est qu'avec les absences en majeure, 5♥ ou 5♠ sont infaisables. L'entame se fait dans

l'autre majeure, coupé par le partenaire, retour à trèfle pour couper une seconde fois.

— J'ai vu ça, t'inquiète pas. »

Donneur : Est **Nord**

Vul. : Aucun

♠ A 7

♥ D 10 4

♦ V 4

♣ A R 10 9 4 3

Ouest

♠ R 9 5 4 3 2

♥ R 9 3

♦ A 8 7

♣ 2

Est

♠ V 10 6

♥ V 7 5 2

♦ D

♣ D V 7 6 5

Sud

♠ D 8

♥ A 8 6

♦ R 10 9 6 5 3 2

♣ 8

Ouest

—

2 ♣

Passe

Passe

Nord

—

3 ♣

5 ♠

Est

Passe

3 ♠

Passe

Sud

Passe

4 ♠

Passe

Entame : Le 2 de trèfle.

« L'entame sent le singleton à plein nez. Je me dépêche de retirer les atouts. Au premier tour, la Dame apparaît à ma droite et l'As à ma gauche. Je suis très content que ce soit Ouest qui prenne la main.

— Comme ça s'il revient pique, tu pourras laisser courir jusqu'à ta Dame.

— Il n'est pas fou, voyons. Je sais bien qu'il a le Roi de pique et qu'il n'a plus de trèfle. S'il n'avait que des petits cœurs, il aurait probablement contre-attaqué cœur en espérant trouver le Roi et le Valet chez son partenaire. Mais comme il a fait un retour neutre à l'atout, il a sûrement un honneur de cœur.

— Et alors ? Tu as retiré les atouts et ensuite ?

— Ensuite, j'ai encaissé l'As de pique et j'ai défaussé la Dame de pique sur le Roi de trèfle. Je suis rentré en coupant et j'ai joué l'As de cœur et un petit cœur.

—

— Ouest a fourni un petit sans hésiter et il s'est mis à regarder autour de lui comme s'il n'était pas concerné pas la levée.

— Pas concerné ?

— Ben oui, tu sais. Il faisait semblant de ne pas voir le problème, mais il avait chaud et il transpirait. Je l'ai donc placé avec le Roi de cœur et j'ai appelé la Dame.

— Bravo. »

Donneur : Est

Vul. : E/O

Nord

♠ D 10

♥ V 8 5

♦ A 8 4

♣ D V 10 5 2

Ouest

♠ V

♥ R 9 6 4 3

♦ V 10 5

♣ 8 7 4 3

Est

♠ A R 9 6 5 4 2

♥ 10 7

♦ 7 3 2

♣ 6

Sud

♠ 8 7 3

♥ A D 2

♦ R D 9 6

♣ A R 9

Ouest

—

Passe

Passe

Passe

Nord

—

4 ♣

5 ♠

Est

3 ♠

Passe

Passe

Sud

X

4 ♠

Passe

Entame : Le Valet de pique.

« Encore une manche en mineure ! Mais pourquoi à carreau plutôt qu'à trèfle ?

— Ma partenaire a fait une enchère assez conservatrice à trèfle. Je ne pensais pas qu'elle avait autant de jeu, mais je la comprends, la Dame de pique n'a pas beaucoup de valeur avec ces enchères.

— Mais tu n'as que quatre carreaux ! Qu'est-ce qui t'a pris de les annoncer ?

— Je ne sais pas. Je me demandais si on avait une manche et s'il fallait que j'aille à 5♣. Comme j'étais dans le doute, j'ai décidé d'annoncer une couleur pour voir ce qui allait arriver.

— T'es pas mal chanceux. 5♣ est infaisable contre l'entame à pique.

— Je sais. Je fais 5♦ parce que le mort coupe un pique avec la main courte à l'atout. Après avoir encaissé ses deux piques, Est a ensuite changé à cœur et j'ai refusé de prendre

l'impasse. Je suis monté de l'As et j'ai coupé un pique, Ouest a coupé avec le Valet de carreau, forçant l'As du mort. J'ai retiré les atouts en tirant en tête et j'ai aligné 11 levées.

— Mais, mais pourquoi n'as-tu pas pris l'impasse au 10 de carreau ? Lorsque Ouest a coupé avec le Valet, il me semble que c'était le jeu le plus logique non ? Il est beaucoup plus probable que le 10 soit troisième en Est que réduit à un doubleton en Ouest ?

—Tu es sûre ?

— Oui, j'en suis sûre. Mais j'imagine que quand on enchère comme tu le fais, on ne s'occupe pas non plus des probabilités ! »

Il a raccroché dans un grand éclat de rire en me disant de ne pas m'en faire avec les probabilités, qu'il s'en occuperait une autre fois.

Assemblée générale annuelle FCB

L'assemblée générale annuelle de la Fédération canadienne de bridge (FCB) se tiendra à St.-Catharines, Ontario, durant la semaine canadienne de bridge 2004. L'assemblée est prévue pour le samedi 26 juin 2004 à 9 heures. Tous les membres en règle de la fédération sont invités à y assister.

Deux sectionnels soutiennent le Fonds international

:: Les organisateurs des Sectionnels d'Ottawa et de Régina ont ajouté à leur programme une séance au profit du Fonds international de la FCB. Pour seulement 1 \$ additionnel par joueur, les participants ont reçu des points de maître de niveau régional durant ces séances spéciales. En fait, pendant le sectionnel d'Ottawa, les participants n'ont pas eu à déboursier un sou, puisque le sectionnel a subventionné le dollar supplémentaire à même ses profits. Ces séances offrent un super bonus autant aux joueurs qu'au Fonds international. Merci de votre générosité. Ce serait merveilleux si plus de sectionnels au Canada emboîtaient le pas en offrant encore plus de points de maître à leurs joueurs tout en soutenant du même coup le Fonds international.

BRIDGE WEEK 2004

Une invitation à tous ! Après avoir goûté pendant 2 ans à la délicieuse hospitalité de l'Ouest (Penticton en 2003 et Edmonton en 2002), la semaine nationale de bridge (Bridge Week) retourne au centre du Canada du 19 au 26 juin prochains alors que St-Catharines, Ontario, déroulera le tapis rouge pour nous recevoir.

Que ce soit avant, pendant ou après le tournoi, votre séjour à St-Catharines sera mémorable. Demandez aux membres de votre famille de vous accompagner, même s'ils ne jouent pas au bridge, afin de profiter au maximum de vos vacances dans ce superbe coin de pays tout près de la célèbre région de Niagara.

POUR SE RENDRE : St-Catharines est approximativement à une heure, une heure et demie, de voiture de Toronto si vous venez de là. Si vous prenez l'avion d'une autre province jusqu'en Ontario, nous vous recommandons de prendre Westjet ou le nouveau Canjet jusqu'à l'aéroport de Hamilton's Mount Hope. Cet aéroport est à 45 minutes de St-Catharines et, si vous le désirez, nous pourrions vous cueillir à l'aéroport (moyennant un « don » de 10 \$ par personne par trajet pour couvrir les dépenses). Pour bénéficier de ce service, contactez Ernie Sibbett, le responsable du transport, au 1-905-935-0066 ou envoyez-lui un courriel à carrober@enoreo.on.ca.

Réservez le plus tôt possible au Quality Inn-Parkway (1-905-688-2324). Nous avons réservé pas mal de chambres au taux préférentiel de 99 \$ (occupation simple ou double). Mais, s'il n'y en a pas

suffisamment, le Heart Niagara Hospitality Group qui sera notre hôte possède aussi le Howard Johnson's et le Holiday Inn qui sont à proximité et qui pourront nous accommoder pour le même prix.

Enfin, si vous arrivez à bien gérer votre temps, nous vous promettons des heures et des heures de bridge. En plus des championnats canadiens habituels (CNTC A et B, CWTC et COPC — auxquels nous attendons un nombre élevé de participants locaux), il y aura deux nouvelles compétitions au programme. Le championnat par équipes Senior qui durera 3 jours, commençant le mercredi 23 juin, et dont les gagnants représenteront le Canada aux Olympiades de bridge Senior qui se tiendra à Istanbul cet automne. Aucune pré-qualification n'est requise pour cette compétition (autre que celle d'avoir l'âge requis). Vérifiez toutes les conditions sur le site internet de la FCB. De plus, pour la première fois, une compétition de paires implés en deux séances avec des prix en argent se déroulera le jeudi 24 juin, aucune pré-qualification n'est requise.

Le dernier point, mais non le moindre : faites une visite à la suite d'hospitalité qui sera ouverte tous les soirs après le bridge pour vous permettre de rencontrer les joueurs et de raconter vos exploits du jour tout en dégustant un verre de vin du pays ou une délicieuse bière locale. Un goûter varié sera offert tous les soirs alors que le café sera servi tous les matins accompagné de petits pains et de fruits. Enfin, ne manquez pas la soirée d'ouverture du vendredi à la suite d'hospitalité où vous pourrez dire un petit mot au meilleur groupe de bénévoles et d'organisateurs qui n'aient jamais été rassemblés !



Quelques nouvelles des Juniors *Par Ed Antosz*

La scène Junior a été très animée ces derniers temps. Nous nous préparons pour les qualifications

mondiales et nous lancerons bientôt un programme pour les nouvelles recrues.

Le capitaine des Juniors

Jonathan Steinberg a été nommé capitaine non-joueur de l'équipe qui représentera le Canada au Championnat du monde junior de 2005. Jonathan a une solide expérience autant dans le bridge junior que dans l'administration du bridge. Il est membre du conseil d'administration de l'ACBL dans le District 1.

Oups !

Le rapport sur le championnat du monde junior paru dans la dernière édition de Bridge Canada comportait quelques erreurs. Plusieurs belles entames et coups défensifs ont été réalisés par David Grainger. Mes excuses à David.

Les qualifications Junior de 2005

Le régional de Kingston sera l'hôte des qualifications pour la sélection de l'équipe qui représentera le Canada au Championnat du monde junior 2005. Les qualifications se dérouleront samedi, dimanche et lundi, les 22, 23 et 24 mai 2004.

Les juniors admissibles sont tous ceux qui seront âgés de 25 ans ou moins au 1^{er} janvier 2005. Ceux qui sont intéressés à s'inscrire aux qualifications doivent former une équipe de quatre joueurs et faire parvenir leur inscription à la FCB. Les détails et conditions sont disponibles sur notre site web www.cbf.ca sous Junior.

Des subventions pour le voyage et l'hébergement seront disponibles. Pour plus de renseignements, contactez Ed Antosz à antosz@uwindsor.ca.

Le Fonds commémoratif

Erin Berry

Le Fonds Erin Berry est un fonds fiduciaire qui a été mis sur pied par Larry Berry (le père d'Erin Berry) en 2001. Le Fonds est utilisé pour attribuer des subventions aux jeunes bridgeurs canadiens (âgés de 19 ans et moins), membres de la Fédération canadienne, pour toute activité reliée au bridge. En aucun cas, un individu ne pourra recevoir une subvention couvrant plus de 75% des frais encourus pour une telle activité.

Les activités qui sont éligibles au financement par le Fonds sont :

- Camps de bridge
- Jeux scolaires mondiaux
- Sessions d'entraînement de bridge
- Sélection canadienne des représentants juniors
- Festival international de bridge junior
- Championnat du monde des Juniors
- Autres activités reliées au bridge

Pour faire une demande de subvention au Fonds commémoratif Erin Berry, il faut remplir une demande d'application et la soumettre à la Secrétaire-Trésorière de la FCB avant le 1^{er} mai de chaque année.

Voir notre site web www.cbf.ca pour plus de détails

CALENDAR

Canadian Open Pairs Championship

- **Finale nationale**
25 - 26 juin '04 Bridge Week
- **National Final**
June 25 - 26, '04 Bridge Week

Canadian Open Team Championship

- **Finale nationale** - Bridge Week
CNTC-A 19 - 26 juin 2004
CNTC-B 20 - 24 juin 2004
- **National Final** Bridge Week
CNTC A - June 19-26, 2004
CNTC B - June 20-24, 2004

Canadian Women's Team Championship

- **Finale nationale**
20-25 juin 2004, Bridge Week
- **National Final**
June 20-24, 2004, Bridge Week

Canadian Senior Teams Championship

Qualification / Finale June 23-25, 2004, Bridge Week

2004 SPECIAL EVENTS & DEADLINES

Junior Team Trial Entry Application	April 15	Deadline
Helen Shields Rookie Master Game	April 29	Hand Records
Erin Berry Memorial Fund Application Deadline	May 1	Deadline
International Fund Game ACBL Wide #2	May 13	Eve : Hand Records
International Fund Game Week #2	May 10-16	Shuffle Deal and Play
Canadian Junior Team Trials	May 22-24	Kingston, ON
Bridge Week Canada, St. Catharines	June 19-26	See events above
International Fund Game ACBL Wide #3	July 9	Hand records
International Fund Game Week #3	July 5-11	Shuffle Deal and Play
Canada-wide Olympiad Fund Game	October 13	Eve : Hand Records
Erin Berry Rookie Master Game	October 27	Hand Records

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