

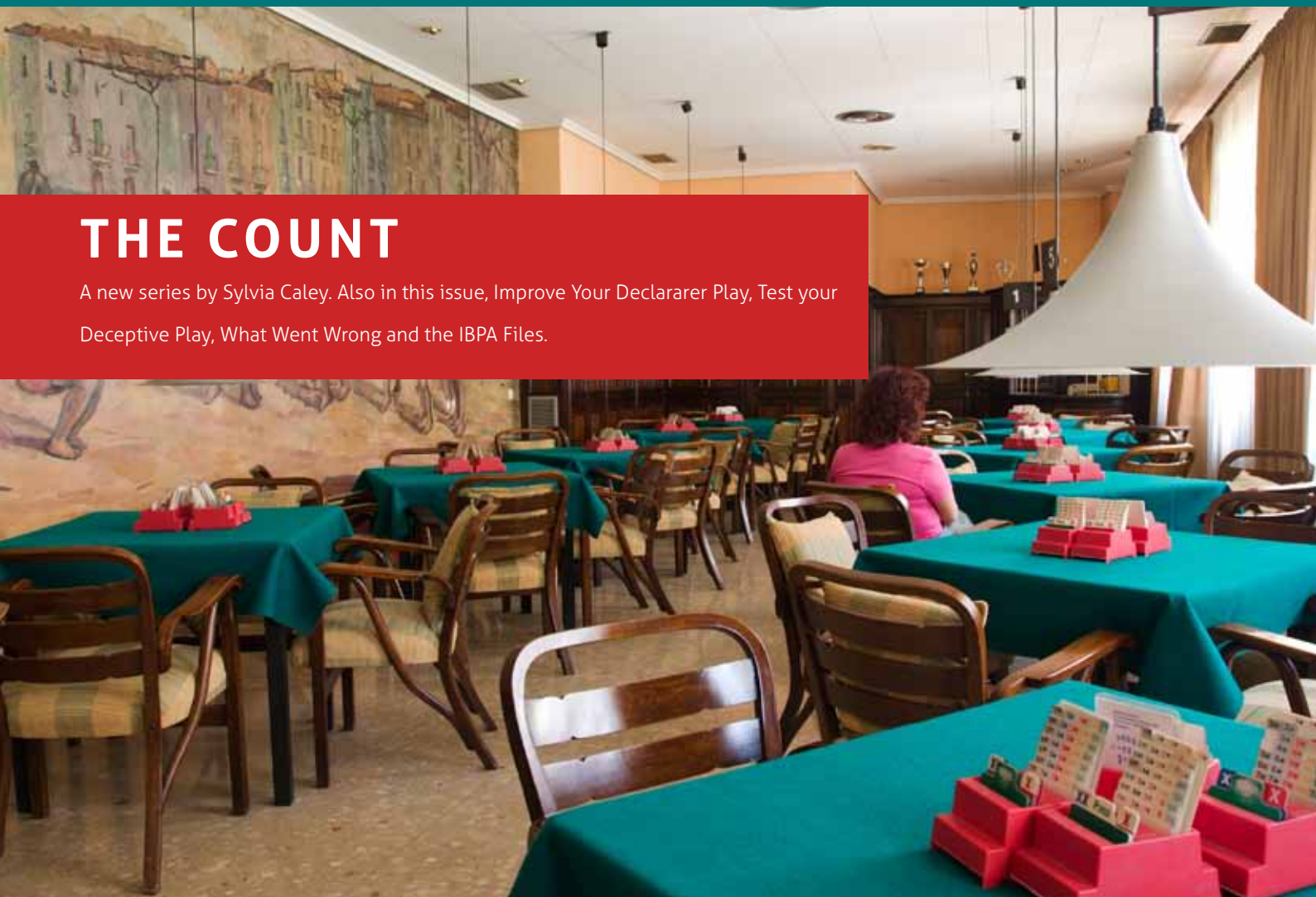


bridge

Canada

THE COUNT

A new series by Sylvia Caley. Also in this issue, Improve Your Declarer Play, Test your Deceptive Play, What Went Wrong and the IBPA Files.



THE CANADIAN BRIDGE FEDERATION

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.

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EDITOR'S COMMENTS

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

Congratulations to John Carruthers and Allan Graves for being the 2015 nominees to the Canadian Bridge Hall of Fame. Their nomination will now go to the CBF Board of Directors for ratification. The award ceremony will take place during the 2015 Canadian Bridge Championships, to be held in Montreal, during the last week of May.

2014 REISINGER CHAMPIONSHIPS

More kudos are due to Allan for his team winning the 2014 Reisinger. Well done Allan!

SANYA WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Congratulations to the following Canadians:

- Vincent Demuy; 5th-8th Open Teams (losing to Monaco in the quarter-finals by 8 IMPs)
- Dan Jacob and Jurek Czyzowicz, Bronze Medal, Senior Teams
- Gray McMullin, Bryan Maksymetz, Samantha Nystrom, Rock Shi Yan, Daniel Korbel; 17th-32nd in the Open Teams.
- Dan Jacob and Jurek Czyzowicz; 4th Senior Pairs
- David Deaves and Douglas Andrews; 9th Senior Pairs

0 – 5000 MINI BLUE RIBBON PAIRS

Congratulations also goes out to Ina Demme and Bill Kertes for their win at the recent fall NABCs, held in Providence. See the article later in this issue on this wonderful achievement.

Other Canadian players successful in Providence including Dan Jacob and Boris Baran who had three high finishes in the following Providence NABC events:

- 4th in the Life Master Pairs
- 9th in the Reisinger
- 11th in the Mitchell Open BAM teams.

INTERMEDIATE ARTICLES

We have a couple of new articles for intermediate players in this issue. Sylvia Summers has written the first in a series of articles on The Count (not the one from Sesame Street). There is also an intermediate play problem. I hope members find these of benefit to their game.

HUMOROUS CONTRIBUTIONS TO BRIDGE CANADA

I encourage all readers to email me any of your funny bridge stories (we all have them!). A \$50 honorarium will be given to the authors of all such anecdotes used in future Bridge Canada issues.

Neil Kimelman. Bridge Canada Managing Editor. editor@cbf.ca



Photo: Neil Kimelman. Photo Credit: Jonathan Steinberg



Photo: Allan Graves with winning Reisinger Team L-R: Allan Graves, Richard Schwartz, Ron Schwartz, Lotan Fisher, Espen Lindqvist and Boye Brogeland. Photo Credit: ACBL Daily Bulletins



Photo: Ina Demme and Bill Kertes. Photo Credit: ACBL Daily Bulletins

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JERRY MAMER

Editor's Note: Jerry is the 2nd CBF Board of Directors to be featured in the 'Meet...' series. He is Zone V Director, representing CBF members living in Saskatchewan and Alberta.

I usually say I grew up with a deck of cards in my hand. Cards were always played by both my mother's and father's families. I started playing with the adults and visitors by the time I was 10. Though we didn't play bridge I played all kinds of card games. When I moved to Prince Albert in the summer of 1971 I was working at Burns Foods as a line worker on the hog slaughter floor. One of the meat inspectors who I worked beside said they needed a player for their bridge team on Sunday at a bridge club. (Who knew there were places like this?) We played the strongest team in the club and got soundly beat. One of the players against whom I had played came over and said he would like me to come out and play with him in a rookie master game the club held once each week. That was the start and I was hooked. Through the years bridge players have made up a large part of my friends and acquaintances.

When I was first dating my wife she thought she might try to play bridge though she had never played any type of cards. We arranged to go to the home of a couple who played bridge. I thought I was being very gentle with helping her. After about an hour when I tried to explain how a hand might have been played she looked at me and said, "Try to imagine how little I care." We never played again, and so we were able to get married 39 years ago and live happily.

Over the years I have been part of bridge in several ways. At the club level I have served as the Vice President of the Saskatoon Bridge Club. I am also a director at the club, make duplicate boards for club play, and recently have been giving workshops for intermediate and advanced players. At the Unit level I am in my 12th year on the executive. I was vice president and president and now am the past president. I chaired sectional tournaments for several years and started the practice of cooking a hot meal for players between sessions during the Sunday Swiss. Roast beef and Pulled Pork were two of the player's favourites. I also chaired a regional in 2011 that turned



out to go very well. I am now the Zone V Director for the CBF.

As far as playing, I have represented my district in both the GNTs and GNPs. I also represented my province back in the days you needed to qualify for play at the CNTC. I have been fortunate to have many good partners over the years which made doing well easier. Peter McLaren from Prince Albert has been my longest running partner. We have been playing on and off for more than 40 years.

In my life outside of bridge I spent 30 years in Education. I was a Principal for 25 years and did work for the Saskatchewan Department of Education on implementation of a new curriculum, and also promoting distance education via a TV satellite platform called SCN here in Saskatchewan. In the town I lived I was also on City Council for eleven years, five as the mayor. For a while I was the school principal, mayor, chairman of the police commission, chairman of the area ambulance service and sat on the fire department board. Phone calls were a way of life for me. I retired from teaching in June 2004 and drove ambulance for the next year as a way to make a clean break and to relax.

My wife and I moved to Saskatoon in September 2005. Since then I have worked five semesters replacing women on Maternity leave and spent four years on the provincial executive of the Superannuated Teachers Association. In 2010 my wife was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease and I have relinquished several of my roles so that I can care for her at home. When I am no longer able to do that I plan to sell my house get a condo and do some traveling and play more bridge.



TEST YOUR *Deceptive Play*

PROBLEM 2
Plan the play in IMPs.
Answer on page 15

CONTRACT: 4♠ IMPs
LEAD: ♦9

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

DID YOU KNOW?

Helen Prowse, a retired dentist, has taken a number of classes at Halifax Bridge World. It was during a class that she asked her teacher, Janet Corkum, if the latter would agree to play with her in the 2014 Erin Berry Rookie Master game. Janet instantly agreed and they had a date.

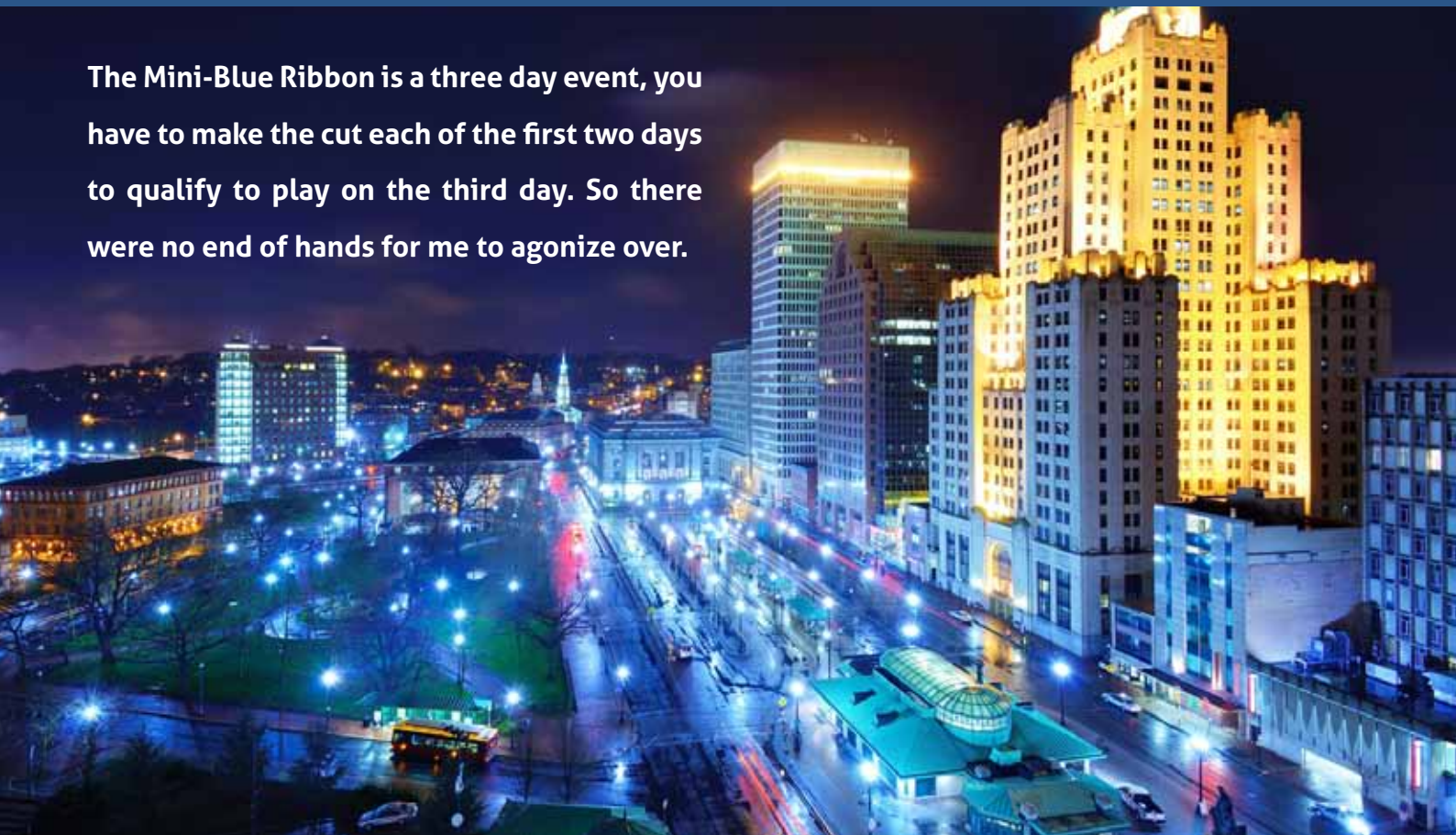
Shortly afterwards, Helen realized her upcoming trip to England would only bring her home on the afternoon of the game. She tried to cancel citing she might be too tired, but Janet said "Nonsense, we will play if you are awake!" And play they did, winning the event with a 69% game.



What is a Rookie Master Game? Canadian Rookie-master games are held twice a year (spring and fall) in clubs across Canada. At least one member of each partnership must have fewer than 50 master points. The Helen Shields is the spring Rookie-Master Game. The Erin Berry is the fall Rookie-Master Game. The games are run using computer hands so that players across the country play the same deals, and printed hand analyses, prepared by top Canadian players, are provided. The pair with the best percentage score in Canada is declared National Winners and receives a trophy. The pairs with the top percentage score in each Zone receive a plaque. All club winners receive certificates. A "Rookie" is considered to be a player without much experience at playing duplicate bridge. Although we use a masterpoint cut off of 50, we are really intending that the player be fairly new to the game of duplicate bridge.

NOT BLUE IN PROVIDENCE

The Mini-Blue Ribbon is a three day event, you have to make the cut each of the first two days to qualify to play on the third day. So there were no end of hands for me to agonize over.



By Ina Demme

My partner Bill Kertes and I were on our way out of the playing room after the final session of the Mini-Blue Ribbon Pairs (open to players with under 5,000 masterpoints) after looking at the final standings and seeing that we had finished 3rd. The difference among the top three was very small, only a matchpoint or two. I knew there were quite a few hands that would keep me awake at night, wondering why I didn't play a different card or made a different bid. The Mini-Blue Ribbon is a three day event, you have to make the cut each of the first two days to qualify to play on the third day. So there were no end of hands for me to agonize over.

As we were on our way to partake in the wonderful hospitality the organizers in Providence had provided, we heard the director calling our names and asking if we were still in the room because we had won the event. Someone had found a scoring correction that was enough to move us into first place! We were thrilled, and I knew I would sleep much, much better!

The first day of the event, we had two sessions of just over 54% so we qualified easily in 40th place out of 104 pairs. The second day, we didn't do quite as well having a 55ish% in the afternoon and just over 50% in the evening once again qualifying mid-pack. (26th out of 52 pairs). The last day we started with 53.85% in the afternoon which moved us up to 13th before the final session. We had saved our best game for last – we had 61.38% in the evening.

Continued on next page



NOT BLUE IN PROVIDENCE

THE MINI-BLUE RIBBON PAIRS, PROVIDENCE RI NABC

Here are a few interesting hands. The following board was worth 23.5 out of 25 for getting to 4♠ and making it.

♠ Q 10 9 8 7
♥ A
♦ 6 3 2
♣ 10 9 6 3

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

♠ A J 3 2
♥ K J 7 3
♦ K J 4
♣ K J

The auction:

West	North	East	South
1♣	Pass	1♥	1NT
Pass	2♥1	Pass	3♣2
Pass	4♥3	Pass	4♠

- 1 transfer
- 2 super accept
- 3 retransfer

The finesse for the ♠K was onside and West had a difficult lead problem every time he was in, so I only lost two clubs and the ace of diamonds to make 4♠.

Board 5. Thurs afternoon (hands rotated):

♠ 7 6 4 3
♥ 2
♦ Q 9 8 6 3
♣ A K 6

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

♠ A J 10 5 2
♥ K J 6
♦ A K 7 4
♣ 7

What is the Mini-Blue Ribbon?

The Mini-Blue Ribbon Pairs is a nationally rated event held at the fall American Contract Bridge League (ACBL) North American Bridge Championships (NABC). It is a six-session matchpoint pairs event with two qualifying sessions and two semi-final sessions typically starting on the first Tuesday of the NABC. The Mini-Blue Ribbon is restricted to players with fewer than 5,000 masterpoints who have earned a blue ribbon qualification. The first event was held in 2005.

Past Winners

- 2005 Marty Harris, Jacob Morgan
- 2006 Joe Houde, Divakar Bhargava
- 2007 Patricia Menefee, Andre De Leon
- 2008 Roger Coffman, Chris Coffman
- 2009 Harold & Ronald Huffaker
- 2010 Mark Jones, Doug Levene
- 2011 Susan Fulton, John Hogan
- 2012 Peter Worby, Kevin Young
- 2013 Suman Agarwal, Harjinder Ajmani
- 2014 Ina Demme, Bill Kertes

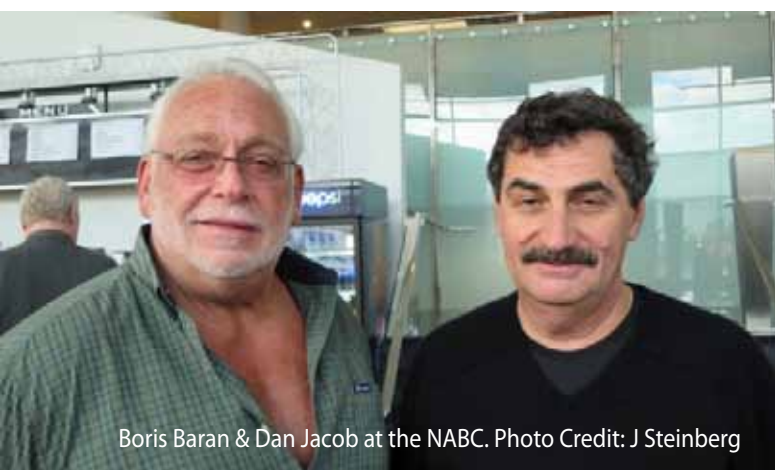
West	North	East	South
-	Bill		Ina
-	-	Pass	1♠
1NT	2♥1	Dbl	2♠
P	3♠	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

1 transfer

We happened to arrive at the best contract on this particular layout of cards. Even though 4♠ can make on a strip end play if you knew spades were 4-0, it is unlikely that it will be made at most tables. As it happens 3NT is a much simpler contract since you know where all the high cards are located. On best defence the Q♣ is ducked and the second club is won. When you run five diamond tricks, West is squeezed and must discard one spade, one heart and one club. After cashing the last club in dummy you play a spade to the ten and South is end-played and must give you a ninth trick.

This next deal is one of the hands that would have kept me up at night since I decided to take a chance on 2NT instead of making the better bid of 3♦ (hands rotated):

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



Boris Baran & Dan Jacob at the NABC. Photo Credit: J Steinberg

The auction:

West	North	East	South
-	Bill		Ina
-	Pass	1♥	Dbl
1♠	2♣	Pass	Pass
2♠	2NT	All Pass	

Bill's 2NT was intended as wanting to compete in one of the minors. At matchpoints with two probable heart stoppers and spades well covered I decided to pass which was the wrong decision, particularly when my hand was rich in quick tricks and we had a 4-4 diamond fit. With both minor suit Queens and the heart King onside you still only have 7 tricks in no-trump, while four diamonds is cold.

Editor's note: Bill has previously won the 0-1500 Mini-Spingolds at the 2001 Summer NABC held in Toronto. Ina, who is the CBF Coordinator, was second in the Wagar at the same NABC. In addition she has three CWTCs to her credit: 2004, 2012, and 2013.

This is the 2nd time in 3 years that a Canadian pair won this event. In 2012 Kevin Young and Peter Worby were triumphant.



WHAT WENT WRONG ?

by Paul Thurston

Let's warm up with a short quiz focused on possible initial actions before we peruse a scenario developed by our four combatants.



1. With no one vulnerable, as dealer, you hold:

♠ - ♥A 7 3 ♦AJ 10 7 6 4 3 ♣8 6 4

What is your call?

2. With no one vulnerable, in second seat, you hold:

♠A Q 10 9 8 4 3 ♥J ♦5 ♣K J 7 2.

Dealer passes – what is your call?

3. With no one vulnerable, in third seat, you hold:

♠K 6 ♥K Q 10 9 5 4 2 ♦9 ♣A 10 3.

The auction starts:

LHO	Partner	RHO	You
	Pass	1♠	?

What is your call?

As we'll see, there may well be no purely right or wrong answers to this quiz although the choices made will have a profound effect on the rest of the bidding and the final result. Here's the full layout and the auction as actually perpetrated:

Dealer: North Vulnerable: None

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

West	North	East	South
	Pass	1♠	4♥
4♠	5♥	5♠	Pass
Pass	6♥	Pass	Pass
Double	All pass		

Taking these actions in turn:

1 North: Pass. The North collection is a curious mixture of offense and defense that seems singularly unsuited for any high-level diamond opening, especially at the prevailing vulnerability conditions.

I do have some sympathy for a 1♦ opening bid – the likely choice of the under forty crowd (years, not Master Points!). The hand does contain two defensive tricks and an easy rebid but somehow partners never quite cater to this few high cards for a first seat one bid.

For sure, a wait-and-see what develops posture will often allow the player with this type of hand to get more information before contributing a positive action to the auction.

So go back to the quiz, tests need scores and I'd mark this one as:

Pass = 10; 1♦ = 6; 3♦ = 2; 4 or (gasp!) 5♦ = 0.

2 East: 1♠. With North having passed as dealer, at least temporarily there is only one opponent (South) to worry about, which makes preemptive action slightly less attractive than otherwise. However, that East collection is decidedly slanted towards offense compared to defense so an expression of that bias may help partner judge the subsequent auction better. 4♠ may turn out to be too much too soon but you don't need a whole lot from partner to be able to deliver ten tricks and I'd be content

to have the 4-level opening be the first and last active bid in the auction.

As for 1♠, that initial action certainly isn't "wrong" as you may get the auction to yourself and develop the bidding at leisure to investigate a possible slam (maybe even in clubs!) although in the modern competitive jungle, that rarely happens and barricading the opponents may turn out best.

4♠ = 10; 1♠ = 7; anything else = 0 (what else could there be?).

3 South: 4♥. This is where the rot seemed to set in as 4♥ seems to be beyond the pale as the right way to express South's values. His main suit isn't bullet-proof and he holds more defensive cards (♠Kx and ♣A10x) than his partner could reasonably expect for the high-level intervention.

A more typical hand for 4♥ in this seat at this vulnerability might be ♠x ♥K Q J 10 x x x x ♦x x ♣A x or similar. While many players seem to have a problem making simple overcalls with really good hands, 2♥ would be the overwhelming choice in any experts' bidding poll. Some do play immediate-seat jump overcalls as "intermediate" and if you have that club in your bag, 3♥ over 1♠ would be perfect!
2♥ = 10; 4♥ = 4; 3♥ (if intermediate)=10; double (don't admit to this if you chose it above) = 1. Anything else = 0.

Now that we've got the controversial initial actions out of the way, we'll go on to the rest of the merriment. Starting with West's 4♠, surely an acceptable call with four card trump support and some scattered values.

5♥: Having passed to see what would develop, North has found out a lot: his side has a massive ♥ fit and the opponents have spades. Further, opposite a "normal" 4♥ overcall, his side doesn't seem to have a lot of defensive potential so a sacrifice might prove profitable, 5♥ might even make on a lucky lie of the cards and bidding on could cause the opponents to misjudge.

Editor's Note: An expert bid at North's second turn might be 5♦. This bid cannot be natural. It is fit showing and forcing back to 5♥ if the opponents remain silent. If they do bid, it not only suggests a lead if N-S end up on defence, but as well, helps South decide what to do if the opponents compete. He would likely pass with ♦x, but maybe bid on with ♦xxx or ♥x(x).

5♠: Certain the opponents have found a good fit. Lacking a lot of defense, East deemed this one of those rare situations where it could be right to bid 5-over-5, violating the usual expert precept that the "5-level belongs to the opponents". This is where having opened 4♠ would have created a totally different scenario in which East would have ceded captaincy for a final high-level decision to his partner.

Pass by South: With two likely defensive tricks and reasonably expecting some contribution from his partner, South might have doubled to try to stop the runaway train the auction had become. Having contributed a lot to the melee with that 4♥ overcall, South really didn't know what to do and simply tucked his head in and hoped the whole mess would go away.

But, of course, it didn't! North still thought even 6♥ might have some play and that it could still be profitable if 5♠ was as likely to make as East-West's bidding indicated, not to mention South's second-round pass. West had had enough.

And he would have been right if he had been omniscient enough to make the ♣ lead (only if he had a preview of the hand records!) that would have guaranteed a set against 6♥ doubled!

Not unreasonably, West started the play by leading a low spade. Surprise, surprise! With proper play, 6♥ was now cold! Declarer could discard a club from dummy on the opening lead and East would win the ♠A. Whatever he returned (a trump is likely), declarer could win and dump another club from dummy on the ♠K and arrange to ruff his hand's two club losers to deliver twelve tricks: seven hearts in hand, one spade, the two minor suit aces and the two club ruffs in dummy. Actual Final result: East-West +100 for defeating 6♥'s doubled by one trick.

What Went Wrong?

South was a card-carrying member of the "Ruff First, Plan Later Brigade" whose greatest passion in bridge entails ruffing "losers" in dummy whenever possible, as soon as possible and at whatever cost!

This time, indulging in that passion cost the contract as Declarer ruffed the opening lead in dummy (well, North did have trumps and no spades after all) and tried to set up diamonds by cashing the ace and ruffing the second round. There was one possible lie – one of the defenders



CANADIAN BRIDGE HUMOUR

HOW TO ELEVATE PARTNER'S BLOOD PRESSURE

The 1978 Nationals, held in New Orleans, was one of the first NABCs to incorporate bidding boxes. Eric Murray recalls one hand from this tourney, in Roy Hughes great book on Murray and Kehela, Canada's Bridge Warriors. Murray relates what happened:

It went three passes to me and I held:
♠ 6 5 3 ♥ J 7 6 5 ♦ 10 7 6 4 3 ♣ 7.

It was clear to me that one of those green pass cards was an error. I peered over the tops of my cards at the opponents but neither one of them looked unduly concerned, so I glanced across the table and saw beads of perspiration forming on Sami's brow so I thought I'd think about this for a while. I started to study my cards and a waterfall was pouring onto the table. Finally I shook my head and said, "Oh I'm not going to open this hand – I don't have the majors", and put my hand back in the pocket.

Sami cried, "I had 19 pts." To which I responded "Why would you pass with 19 points?" Sami exploded across the table to grab my cards. But I wouldn't let him have them. After a brief tussle I spread my cards across the table for everyone to see. He had of course pulled the wrong card. He held ♠ J 10 9 ♥ A Q 8 ♦ A ♣ A K J 5 4 3. It was in one of the Swiss matches. At the other table they played in 3♣ down one, so we won 2 IMPs.

Sami's not one to hold a grudge - within eight months he was speaking to me again.

WHAT WENT WRONG

Continued from previous page.

has ♦KQ and hearts split 2-1 – that would allow this line of play to succeed. It was not to be this time!

Declarer Play Tip:

The next time you're thinking of taking an early ruff in dummy, try to see the long-range implications of this play as it may not actually help further the cause of making your contract even though it might seem like fun at the time! The Brigade mentioned above has enough members!



IMPROVE YOUR DECLARER PLAY

IMPs. Contract: 3NT by South.

Lead: 5♥

♠ 8 5 4
♥ A Q
♦ 7 5 4 2
♣ A K 6 4

♠ A Q
♥ J 9 4
♦ A K 10 8 3
♣ 10 5 3

Plan the play.

Answer on page 20

DUCK DUCK GOOSE

USBF: The American Team Trials
Phoenix Arizona May 9-18, 2014
 Reported by: Suzi Subeck, Chicago



THE IBPA FILES

Board 36. Dealer West. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
L. Stansby	Levin	Bramley	S. Weinstein
Pass	1 ♣	Pass	2NT
Pass	3 ♣	Pass	3 ♦
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
Meckstroth	Lee	Rodwell	Hamman
Pass	1 ♣	Pass	1 ♦
Pass	1 ♥	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
Willenken	Greco	Rosenberg	Hampson
Pass	1NT	Pass	3 ♣ ¹
Pass	3 ♦ ²	Pass	3NT ³
All Pass			

- 1 Puppet Stayman
- 2 At least one 4-card major
- 3 Interested only in a 5-card major

West	North	East	South
Bathurst	Fleisher	Moss	Martel
Pass	1 ♣ ¹	Pass	1 ♠ ²
Pass	1NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

- 1 2+ clubs
- 2 Transfer to 1NT if North has (11)12-14 balanced

Looking at all four hands, you can see that three no-trump can always be made. Indeed the contract succeeded in three of the four rooms.

In the FLEISHER/DIAMOND match, Greco treated his hand as a one no-trump opener (14-16) rather than a 2♦ opener (11-15 with short diamonds). Hampson bid 3♣ (Puppet Stayman) and settled in 3NT when Greco denied a five card major. Rosenberg led the queen of spades and declarer was able to take two spades, four hearts, two diamonds and one club to make his contract.

At the other table in this match, Moss led a heart. Fleisher won in dummy and played a spade to the eight, losing to Moss' jack. Another heart was returned. Fleisher won in his hand and played a spade to the king, losing to Bathurst's ace.



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THE IBPA FILES

Not having the benefit of seeing declarer's hand, Bathurst returned the jack of clubs to declarer's king and Moss's ace. Fleisher won the heart return in dummy and played a club to his nine, winning the trick. Now he cashed the king of clubs, ace of diamonds and ace of hearts. He exited with a spade to East's queen and Moss, with only diamonds remaining, was forced to give declarer the diamond finesse for his ninth trick.

In the NICKELL/BRAMLEY match, Hamman/Lee bid naturally to three no-trump from the South hand. Meckstroth led a club to dummy's king and Rodwell's ace. The seven of clubs was returned and won in dummy with the queen over West's ten. Now Hamman led a spade to the king. Meckstroth could have won this trick and defeated the contract by cashing a club and two more spades. Not knowing how weak declarer's spade holding was, Meckstroth ducked! Now declarer led a diamond to the ace and conceded a club, taking nine tricks (one spade, four hearts, two diamonds and two clubs). Taking a superficial view, the duck of the spade ace was an error, but think again! Look what happened at the other table in this match.

Bramley/Stansby were the only pair to defeat three no-trump. Stansby led the ten of diamonds. Weinstein won in dummy and played a spade to his king. Stansby also ducked his ace! Now Weinstein played a club to dummy's king and Bramley ducked his ace! Weinstein led a heart to his hand and played a club to the queen. This time Bramley won with his ace and played the queen and jack of spades. Stansby won with the ace of spades and cashed three club tricks, defeating three no-trump two tricks for a gain of 13 IMPs. (Not to nitpick great defence, but Stansby should probably have overtaken the queen of spades, just in case Stevie the Poker Player lied a little Of course this defence is really just 'child's play': DUCK-DUCK-GOOSE.



The IBPA Files is a regular article in Bridge Canada and features articles from the IBPA monthly bulletin.

NEW ZONE VI DIRECTOR CBF Board

ANGELA FENTON

Angela Fenton emigrated to Canada in her twenties and played bridge for the whole week of the sea voyage with some university students and thus began her love for the game!

She lives in Vancouver where she has served on the local Unit Board several times in various capacities including tournament chair. Angela hopes this experience will help her in her new position as Zone VI Director on the CBF board.

Angela enjoys playing in club games and local and national tournaments and has attended the Canadian Bridge Championships several times. She especially supports Canadian bridge and would like to promote more knowledge and support for the CBF by players in her area. She would also like to try and regenerate interest in the womens teams (CWTC).

Angel looks forward to working with the other members of the CBF Board and hopes she can be a valuable member.



TEST YOUR *Deceptive Play*

SOLUTION TO PROBLEM 2

FROM PAGE 6

Contract: 4 ♠

Form of scoring: IMPs

Lead: ♦9

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

The lead is obviously a singleton. You are going to lose two aces, and a diamond for sure. Therefore you must assume that the king of spades is onside. However there is a danger of another loser if the ace of hearts is behind the king. After receiving a diamond ruff West will shift to a heart. If this is indeed the case you will go down. The solution is to give the opponents a chance to go wrong. Play the ♦4 from dummy at trick one! After looking around, East will win the jack and play the ace. As we are not inclined to ruff partner's aces, West will probably pitch and that is the end of the defence! On any switch declarer can finesse in spades and pitch the ♥2 on the ♣K. Declarer scores, five spades, three diamonds and two clubs.

This play was found at the table by Germany's Bob Donkersloot. Unfortunately, his brilliant play went for not, as West had the ace of hearts on the actual deal.

THE COUNT: *Part 1*

First in a series of articles on the Count
by Sylvia Caley.



Martin Caley has often said,

"You only have one friend at the bridge table, it isn't the King or the Queen; it's The Count!"

Counting comes up on every hand in bridge. The first thing that you need to do is count your points.

Tip One

If you have 17 or more points, count again.

It's good to know what you have before the auction begins. Big hands are more often miscounted than weaker ones are (It doesn't take much effort to add to 3 or 4). I once counted 4 Aces as 12. Well 4 x 4 is 16 not 12. Needless to say I underbid that hand!

Counting is of major importance on defense. Be aware of the opponents' likely total, add your points and find out approximately how many points to expect from partner.

The first thing to do is to estimate the opponents' likely holding according to the level they have bid to (see below left):

On extremely distributional hands the opponents may have less high cards, but you get the idea. If the opponents are in 3NT and you hold 14 HCPs you might consider making a passive lead rather than leading away from your honors. When you have this much strength, partner is not likely to be of any help setting up your tricks.

As well as counting the declarer's points you will also want to count the declarer's tricks. Here is a hand that came up in the North American Swiss at the recent ACBL Fall NABC (top of next page):

Level of Contract	Approximate points
2	19
3	23
4	26
5	29
6	33
7	36



As West you hold:

♠ 8 7 5 2
♥ A 9 6 5
♦ A 10 7 3
♣ 8

This is the entire deal:

♠ 10 9 6
♥ J 6 5 2
♦ K 8 5
♣ J 6 4

With no one vulnerable this is the auction:

West	North	East	South
	Pass	Pass	1♣
Pass	1♥	Pass	2♦
Pass	3♣	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

♠ 8 7 5 2
♥ A 9 4 3
♦ A 10 7 3
♣ 8

♠ Q 4 3
♥ Q 10 8 7
♦ J 2
♣ 10 9 7 3

♠ A K J
♥ K
♦ Q 9 6 4
♣ A K Q 5 2

You lead the ♠8 and the dummy tables:

♠ 10 9 6
♥ J 6 5 2
♦ K 8 5
♣ J 6 4

This hand clearly illustrates how much information you can get from the auction and the 1st trick. The habit to get into is to listen to The Count!

The first trick proceeds ♠8, ♠9, ♠Q, ♠K. At trick two declarer leads a low diamond from his hand. Do you play low or fly with the ace?

What's going on in the spade suit? Partner could possibly play the ♠Q holding ♠AQx(x), but more likely declarer holds ♠AKJ. From the auction declarer is likely to hold four diamonds and five clubs. Wait! If declarer holds three spades he/she has at most one heart (3145 distribution)!

The answer now is clear. You fly with the ♦A and play hearts from the top. If you had ducked the A♦ declarer would have scored 3 spades, 1 diamond and 5 clubs. But by playing the A♦ followed by hearts from the top you can score 5 tricks first.

Tip Two

If you have 17 or more points, count again.

Here is another example of counting your tricks on defense. Sitting West you hold:

♠ 10 9 8 5 3
♥ 10 9
♦ 7 2
♣ A Q 3 2

With neither side vulnerable the auction proceeds:

West	North	East	South
P	1♠	P	2♦
P	2♥	P	3NT
All Pass			

Since you don't want to lead the club suit, you lead the ♥10. Dummy appears with a 13 count:

♠ K Q J 7 2
♥ K 6 3 2
♦ K J 5
♣ 6

The first trick (playing Standard Count and Attitude) is ♥10, ♥2, ♥8, ♥Q. It appears that partner likes your lead.

At trick 2 the declarer plays a low diamond to dummy's Jack and partner wins the Queen. Partner now returns the ♣9, declarer plays the ♣K and you win the Ace. It seems natural to play another heart but wait. What does declarer have? ♥Q, ♣K, ♣J and both the A♠ and the A♦. As soon as declarer gets in he/she will score four spades and four diamond tricks, to go with the one heart trick he/she already has. What tricks can we take? We've scored one diamond and one club. If partner has the hoped for ace and jack of hearts, we can score one more club and two more hearts. Having counted the tricks, first cash your Q♣ and then lead your last heart. This is the entire hand:

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

If you play the ♥9 before cashing the ♣Q partner may think that this is the deal (top of column):

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

If this had been the hand you would need three hearts, one diamond and one club in order to beat 3NT. In this case partner would duck your ♥9 and then score the two remaining heart tricks.

This former hand actually came up in a Flight A Knockout and after getting off to the correct lead both players who held the West hand played the ♥9 without cashing the ♣Q. East ducked and as a result 3NT made at both tables.

If you look at the literature you can find a plethora of information related to counting on defense. I would recommend:

A New Approach to Play and Defense
by Eddie Kantar

Countdown to Better Bridge
by Hugh Kelsey

How Good is Your Defense
by Mollo & Nielsen

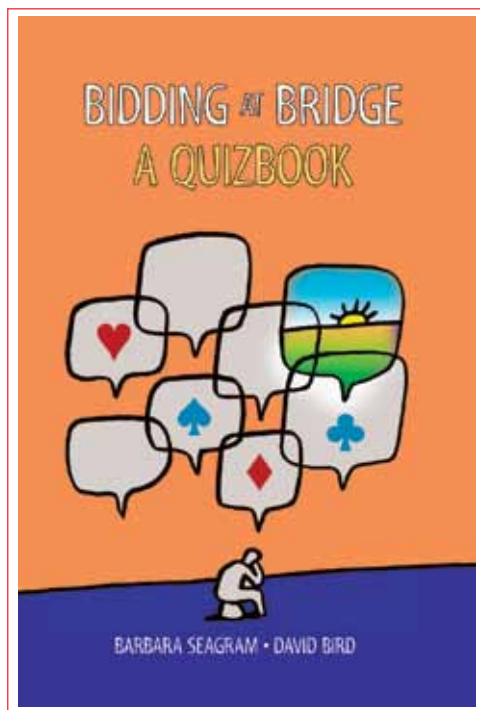
Positive Defense
by Reese & Pottage

Winning Defense for the Advancing Bridge Player by Frank Stewart

Next issue we'll look at some examples of counting as declarer. Until then remember to respect **The Count!**

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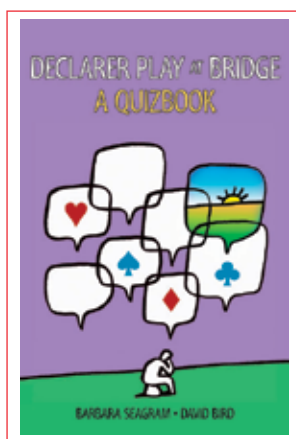
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IMPROVE YOUR DECLARER PLAY

Continued from page 12

IMPs. Contract: 3NT by South. Lead: 5♥

♠ 8 5 4
♥ A Q
♦ 7 5 4 2
♣ A K 6 4

♠ A Q
♥ J 9 4
♦ A K 10 8 3
♣ 10 5 3

If you play the ♥ Q you only have seven tricks, one spade and two in each of the other three suits. The first two important issues to recognize are:

- Spades is your weak suit, and
- East is the dangerous opponent as he can play a spade through your AQ tenace.

If you put in the heart queen and it loses to the king and a spade comes back, you will go down if the spade king is offside and the diamonds do not split 2-2.

A better plan is to win the ♥ A and then play on diamonds. All you need is four diamond tricks, as long as you keep East off the lead. Then you can eventually set up a nine trick in hearts. So the 100% line of play is win the heart at trick one, then play a diamond covering East's card as cheaply as possible. If it loses, then diamonds were at worst 3-1 and the remaining diamonds are good. West cannot play on spades effectively. If he returns a heart to his partner's king that setups the ♥ J as your nine trick, and a spade finesse is only for an overtrick.



The full deal:

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

Declare now cashes his good diamonds and xHxJ. In total he scores 1 spade, 2 hearts, 5 diamonds and 2 clubs for an overtrick.

One note on the play. Once the xDx8 winds trick two, declarer has enough entries in clubs to guarantee five diamond tricks, and his contract. So that is why it was now safe to play a heart at trick five, setting up the heart Jack for his 10th trick.

IMPORTANT POINTS TO REMEMBER

1. At team scoring always ensure your contract before trying to score overtricks.
2. Identify the defender which you either want to or must keep off the lead, and play accordingly.
3. 3NT is a race between the defenders and declarer. Declarer has to get to nine tricks before the opponents get five, and sets the contract. As such who is ahead in the race may determine which suit(s) you need to attack.

EVENTS & DEADLINES

Canadian Bridge Federation Calendar of Events as of November 2014. For more information see our website www.cbf.ca

2015

January (Junior Fund Month)

- Club Qualifying games for CNTC until January 11
- ACBL-Wide International Fund Game #1
Sat aft | 31 January 2015

February

- Canada Wide STAC | 16-22 Feb 2015
- Registration Deadline CWTC | 28 Feb 2015

March

- Registration Deadline CNTC & CWTC | 23 March 2015

April (Charity Month)

- ACBL-Wide Charity Game | Thu morn | 2 April 2015
- Helen Shields Rookie Master Game | 22 April 2015

May (Grass Roots FUNd month)

- Canadian Bridge Championships
Montreal, QC | 23-30 May 2015

June

- Canada-Wide Olympiad Fund Game
Tue Eve | 23 June 2015

July

- ACBL-Wide International Fund Game #2
Wed Eve | 15 July 2015
- CWTC National Finals, held during Regional in Kingston
- CBF International Fund Regional
Kingston, ON | July 28 – August 3, 2015

September

- World Team Championships
Chennai, India | Sep 26-Oct 10 2015



Important Dates

- 2015 STaC Canada Wide | 16-22 Feb 2015
- 2015 CBF Canadian Bridge Championships | Montreal QC | 23-30 May 2015
- 2015 CBF International Fund Regional | Kingston, ON | July 28 - August 3 2015
- 2015 CWTC National Finals | Kingston, ON | July 28 - August 3 2015