



CLUB NEWS

WELCOME

So, here we are at the end of July and what a great summer we have had in Saskatoon. Unlike many parts of the continent we have enjoyed fine weather and enough rain to keep things green. We feel for people suffering from the effects of the growing climate crisis.

We are pleased to congratulate the following members on Masterpoint achievements:

NABC Master (200 Masterpoints) Margaret Cram
Silver Life Master(1000 Masterpoints) Carolann Murray

The club name tags are available at the desk—\$12.00

IMPORTANT: the Saskatoon Fall Sectional will be:

September 29th to October 1st (not the dates in the Green Book.)

As people know, members who have attained the rank of Life Master may have their pictures on the wall of the club. This is a valuable archive and we are grateful to LINDA & FRED SMITH who have undertaken scanning these photos for preservation in a digital archive.

CONDOLENCES

News has reached us of the passing of long time members of our club, Ev Poole and Catherine Gauchier. Our condolences to their families and friends.

CLUB MANAGER PAGE

AUGUST FACE TO FACE GAMES

Monday August 7 & 21 Regular Club Open games at 1 pm

Monday August 14 Open Club Championship game at 1 pm

Monday August 28 Open Unit Team Game at 1 pm

Wednesday August 2, 23, 30 Reg games Open & U750 at 1 pm and Mentor game at 7 pm

Wednesday August 9 NAP Open & B and Reg U750 Game at 1 pm and Mentor game at 7pm

Wednesday August 16 Open & U750 Club Championship at 1 pm & Mentor C.C. at 7 pm

Friday August 4, & 25 Regular Club Open & U500 games at 1 pm

Friday August 11 NAP Open & B and NAP U500 NLM at 1 pm

Friday August 18 Open & U500 Club Championship at 1 pm

SURVEY

Buz and the executive will be looking for ideas on what new games we can get going that YOU WILL support. Please help them out by completing the survey when it comes out. Some have written US, however, we need all your ideas.

BEREAVEMENTS

Now I am back I would like to catch up on those members who have passed away since September 2022. Please let me know and send copy of obit if you have it. I need to update ACBL records.

NEGATIVES FOR PHOTOS ON NORTH WALL

We are looking at upgrading or retaining a digital copy of some of the photos on the North Wall that were taken by Mr. Fong. Does anyone know if the negatives exist, please?

LATE BREAKING NEWS

Here is some **Breaking News!**

ACBL has announced that **all players from August 1st can play in ANY Virtual Club game online.** A result of this decision is that the Saskatoon Bridge Club is changing its lineup of online games immediately and will not be partnering with any other clubs. Watch for the new timetable, **ALL funds earned in these games will stay with the Saskatoon Bridge Club.** We will need feedback on our choice of times and games.

I (Buz) don't fully understand what this means but more INFO will be available at the Club from John.

BAD JOKE TIME

So, one day a bridge duffer was in a second hand store and he saw an old brass lamp which appealed to him. He made an offer for the lamp which was accepted and took it home.

Well, his wife took one look and said "What is that piece of junk? You just clutter the house with garbage."

Sheepishly, he took it down into the basement. He got a soft cloth and started polishing the lamp.

"Poof!" There was a loud flash and there stood a genie in exotic clothes.

In a loud, commanding voice the genie said, "I will grant you one wish, whatever your heart desires."

The duffer gave it a few moments of thought because he was a kind hearted man. Then, he pointed to a large map hanging on the wall and asked "Please, let all of the countries live in peace and harmony."

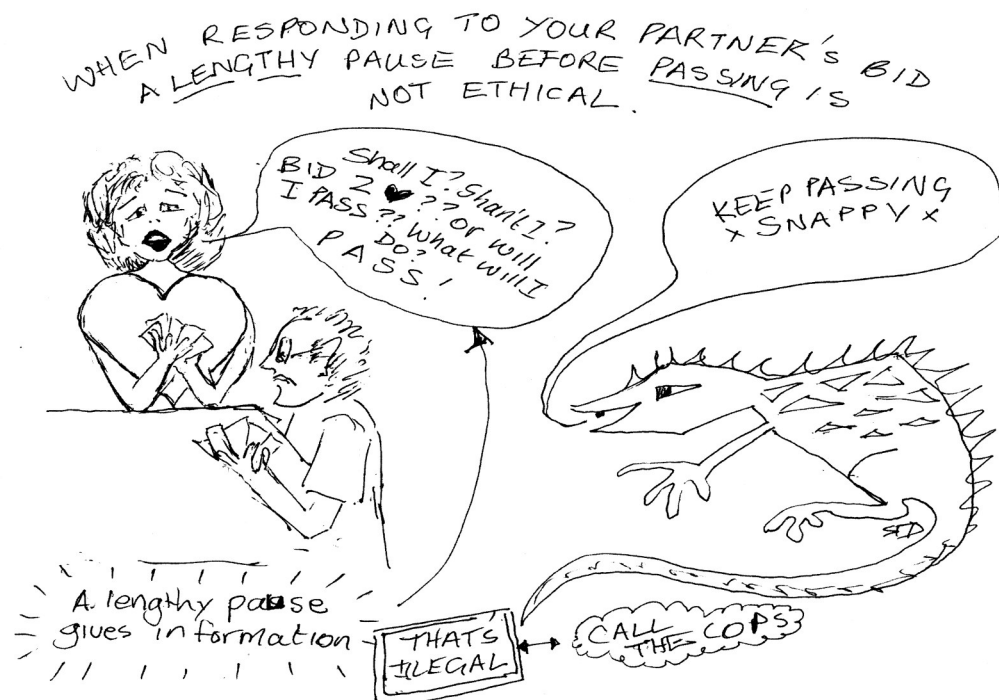
"Alas." replied the genie, "Much as I would like to do that, it is beyond my great powers. After all. I am only one genie. Please ask something else."

The duffer pondered a moment and said, "Please make me the best bridge player in the world."

"Hmm..." the genie shook his head sadly "let's take another look at that map!"



DIRECTOR CALL



HESITATION

Come on! It has happened to all of us.

Partner makes a bid (or right hand opponent) and we do not know how to respond. It is fine to take your time to evaluate your options BUT if you take your time and then PASS, that is **illegal** information because it says you have other options.

Similarly, during the play of the hand, it is fine to consider what card to play but it is not fine to take your time if you have a singleton. Hesitation before playing a singleton implies a choice when there is none. It is **illegal**.

If you think that there has been an **illegal** hesitation, call the Director.

If you have been guilty of an inadvertent hesitation during the auction (your mind was still on the previous hand, for example), you can protect yourself by saying "Sorry, I do not have a problem" and PASSING.



BREAKING NEWS



LEARN TO PLAY BRIDGE AT THE SASKATOON BRIDGE CLUB

TUESDAY EVENINGS 7:00 PM SEPT 5, 12, 19, 26 OCT 3

5 CLASSES for \$50 per PERSON

THIS IS A VERY BASIC BEGINNERS CLASS

PRICE INCLUDES MEMBERSHIP TO THE CLUB FOR 2023

REGISTER via E-MAIL to CATHY WALSH cp.walsh@sasktel.net

Wednesday nights

Wednesday 7:00 pm Coaching Game ([PreRegister](#))

Pre-register at SaskatoonBridgeClub.ca

Cathy says: "What I am doing these days is offering a small 20 minute lesson prior to the game at 6:30 pm, handouts included.

This has proved to be very popular."

THE 7:00 PM GAME HAS MENTORS ASSIGNED TO EACH TABLE TO ASSIST THE PLAYERS UNDERSTAND AND TO GIVE SOME HELPFUL HINTS ON THEIR PLAY

THIS IS OPEN TO ANY NEW PLAYERS AND/OR PLAYERS THAT HAVE LESS THAN 200 MPS

PROPOSAL FOR THURSDAY AFTERNOON MENTORED GAME

Maureen Scott is keen to revive a Master/Non Master game in September. It was tried unsuccessfully in the spring but did not happen presumably because of the unseasonable weather!

We will have an online sign-up sheet like the Wednesday Night Coaching group and if we do not have at least three tables there will be no game. The game will take place Thursday afternoon from 1-4. This is an opportunity for people who prefer not to drive in the evening,

Masters also known as Mentors sit North and East. We are currently determining if mentors should have a master point limit. If you have a mentor please sign up, if you need one we will find one for you. A bit more time will be given to play the hands so minimal discussion can occur. I have the list from last year and will be calling people to see if they are still interested. Maureen is looking for someone to assist her as she will be going out of country in November.

Maureen Scott

306-373-0408

cel 306-220-7037

moscott@shaw.ca

PLEASE SUPPORT THESE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES & BE SURE TO LET YOUR FRIENDS KNOW THAT IT IS A CHANCE TO LEARN THE ULTIMATE CARD GAME!



MASTERPOINTS & GAME STRATIFICATIONS.

So, a number of people have questioned how we a) divide the games into Sections and b) how we stratify the games.

The purpose of dividing the games into sections is to allow less experienced players to play against their peers. Our goal is that, as players gain experience, they will transition into the A section. As an executive we totally understand that it can be very intimidating playing against a pair who have a bazillion match points. So first off, what number of masterpoints constitutes a beginner?

This is what I did.

I took the data base for the last 3 years and extracted the players who have played in that time. I removed people who have passed away.

553 players were in the data set.

Some surprising results:

The median was 310 mps— that is the number where half the data set have fewer than 310 points and half have more.

**A quarter of the dataset had fewer than 50 points. Really surprising but probably represents very occasional players plus people who have tried it and then decided they did not like it.

A quarter of players had more the 900 points. Within this population 40 people had more than 2400 points.

If we wanted to have two equal sections the matchpoint cut-off would be 300. This makes no sense. I don't believe that players with less than 300 points make up half of our regular players—see ** above. If we made the division 900, I believe that the games would be evenly split, if that is what we wanted.

The strats we use are arbitrary, they don't actually relate to the club membership.

It seems unfair to our less experienced players that the Monday game is an Open game.

Please fill out the attached questionnaire. There will be copies at the Club.

QUESTIONNAIRE

NAME (OPTIONAL)

No OF POINTS (APPROXIMATE)

HOW MANY TIMES DO YOU PLAY A WEEK?

ARE YOU SATISFIED WITH THE GAME SET UP?

IF NOT:

Do you feel disadvantaged by the strata limits?

Do you want sections where the upper limit is changed?

Something else

ARE THERE SUGGESTIONS YOU HAVE ABOUT THE GAMES?

ANYTHING ELSE?

IN WHAT CIRCUMSTANCES WOULD YOU PLAY MORE?

THANK YOU – hand your comments to any of the board

(Mark Churchman, Buz Trevor, Margaret Cram, Janet Markowski, Bette Wilson, Brenda Jordan or John Dickey)