

## Bob Boissoin

### New Bronze Life Master

It was a long and difficult time for Bob to achieve the gold points required to become a Life Master as he only attended Regionals in Calgary and not even all of them. Bob had 15.7 gold points for years and finally in 2020 & 2021, thanks to Mary Ross and Martin McDonald, he played in a few on-line tournaments that awarded gold. He had reached 24.6 gold points where he sat for months until Mary Ross and Bob played in the recent District 18 Pairs Finals. Well, much to their surprise, they won Flight B which awarded them 18 gold points. Never in his life did he ever expect to win to receive 18 gold points from one tournament but they did and he had Mary Ross to thank for it.

Bob's bridge story is rather brief. He started playing bridge in 1963, at lunch time each day, at General Motors in Oshawa Ontario. He and his partner were very fortunate that the two individuals, Brent and Bob, who taught them how to play were very good players and very strict teachers. They played almost every day for a few years until job transfers complicated the noon-hour game. He played with Bob, another Bob, and he also played at the GM bridge club a number of times and attended one Tournament called Par Bridge, i.e. each board arrived at the table with a folded up slip of paper inserted. They could not look at the paper until they had completed playing the board and then upon opening the paper they were awarded points based on the contract arrived at, the opening card lead, making or defeating the contract, etcetera. That was the one and only tournament that Bob attended until 2003 when he returned to the game. Oh, they did place third, East/West, at the Par Bridge Tournament and think they received something like .0005 of a point. One interesting fact, back in the 60's, all good or better players sat North/South, all beginners or less-experienced players sat East/West, a form of stratification before the computer age.

As mentioned earlier, Bob came back to bridge in 2003 after close to a 40 year absence thanks to Dave Macnab, a fellow member of Wintergreen G&CC. Dave invited Bob to play with him at the Martinique and they played many times over the years. Dave also introduced Bob to Mary Ross who is the one person responsible for taking him from 1960's Goren bridge to what you could call modern day bridge. Bob knows he has come a long way from that person who started playing again in 2003. He also realizes he continues learning every game he plays, Thanks to Dave, Martin and especially Mary for your guidance and patience and thanks to everyone that Bob had the pleasure of playing with and against. Without question the bridge world is filled with many wonderful people who are always willing to help you become a better player.

Congratulations Bob