

Bridge Center of Greater Lansing
325-B N. Clippert, Lansing MI
(517) 351-7007

Welcome to the Bridge Center of Greater Lansing! We hope you enjoy your game today and look forward to seeing you again. The Bridge Center is a Michigan non-profit corporation governed by an elected Board of Directors. We are funded through game fees, membership dues and donations. We would like to acquaint you with some of the features of our club:

ACBL Sanctioned - Games held at the Bridge Center of Greater Lansing are sanctioned by the American Contract Bridge League (ACBL). Players are not required to join the ACBL in order to play here, but only ACBL members will be awarded master points for outstanding performance. See the director or our club manager if you would like information about ACBL membership. The club has ACBL membership applications, which include a first year discount. The Greater Lansing Bridge Center is affiliated with District 12, Unit 195 of the ACBL.

Game Schedule and Fees - Games are held on the following days:

Monday - 12:30 p.m. (\$4) **Novice Game (0-299)**
Monday – 6:45 p.m. (\$5)
Tuesday – 12:30 p.m. (\$5)
Wednesday – 12:30 p.m. (\$5)
Wednesday – 6:45 p.m. (\$5) (Twice monthly, “4 is Enuf” Pair Game)
Thursday – 9:00 a.m. (\$4) (see website for current game description)
Thursday – 12:30 p.m. (\$4)
Thursday – 6:45 p.m. (\$5) (see website for current game description)
Friday - 12:30 p.m. (\$5)
Sunday – 1:00 p.m. (\$4) (Once monthly – see website)

Our Monday and Thursday night, as well as our Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Sunday afternoon games are open and stratified. (In a stratified game players play against others of all masterpoint levels, but points are awarded in each master point stratification). The Monday afternoon game is limited to players with less than 300 masterpoints. Thursday morning events may be directed play or limited point games for beginning players.

Most games are pair events, but the Bridge Center occasionally schedules team events. Throughout the year the Bridge Center holds special games where winners receive higher points than in a regular game. Some of these special games have a higher entry fee (usually \$1 more). The current and next month's special game schedule are posted on the west wall of the main playing room of the Bridge Center and also on the club's website.

Game Results and Masterpoint Awards - Immediately after the game the game director will score the results and determine masterpoint winners. Winners names are announced, and results are posted on our premises. Results and masterpoint awards can also be found on our website.

Website - The Lansing Bridge Center maintains a website at www.lansingbridgecenter.org. The site includes a current game schedule, game results, player phone list, Lansing Bridge Center policies, Board of Directors meeting minutes, and other useful information. Comments and suggestions may be directed to George VanAmburg, webmaster.

Food/Beverages - Food and beverages (except for bottled water) are not allowed in the playing area while games are being held. Food and drink is allowed in the break area, and players voluntarily bring in goodies to share for hospitality breaks. The Center provides coffee and bottled water at each session free of charge.

Mentoring Program - The mentoring program offers an opportunity for novice players to be mentored by a more experienced player. Mentors partner with their mentees at regularly scheduled Bridge Center games and also spend additional one-on-one time with their mentees discussing bidding, play, etc. Mentors are paired with Mentees for a total of twelve (12) playing sessions; by mutual agreement the partnership may be extended for another twelve sessions. For more information, contact Diane Schafer in person or at DinnyS@aol.com

Lessons - Multi-week bridge courses are periodically offered at the Lansing Bridge Center on Tuesday mornings at 9:00 a.m. or Tuesday evenings at 7:00 p.m.. The Bridge Center also periodically offers single session tutorials on specific subjects on Tuesday mornings. Thursday mornings at 9:00 are reserved for informal directed play sessions targeted for all newer players or for limited masterpoint games. See our website for the Thursday morning scheduled events. (In directed play, after the hands are played, bidding and play of the hands are discussed.) Multi-week classes are taught by Accredited ACBL Bridge Instructors. For more information and to view the current class schedule see our web page, lansingbridgecenter.org

Library

The Lansing Bridge Center maintains a library of bridge related books and materials in our rear playing area. Players are invited to browse and checkout materials. Kathy Jernigan is our Librarian and periodically purchases new materials. Contact Kathy at kjernigan2720@gmail.com for more information or to make suggestions for purchases.

Lansing Bridge Center Championship Series (LBCC) - Each year the club sponsors a championship series of 27 specially designated games (36 games in the "D" stratification). A,B, and C stratification players must play in a minimum of 14 of these games in order to qualify for an award; D stratification players must play in a minimum of 12. At the end of the year an average score is calculated for each player, using only their top 14 LBCC games. Bonus points are then added for every game played over the minimum requirement of games, and for each session played in a Lansing Sectional Tournament or Lansing NLM Tournament. Players in each flight with the highest adjusted average score in the series receive free play vouchers to be used at the Lansing Bridge Center. LBCC games are identified on our website and are posted on the game schedule located on the rear wall.

Newsletter - The Lansing Bridge Center publishes a newsletter via e-mail with announcements and information about upcoming special games and events. To get on our newsletter e-mail list, contact George VanAmburg at george@vanamburg.net, or go to our web page and click on "add name" under the player phone list menu item. The Lansing Bridge Center does not share e-mail addresses from the

newsletter list without the consent of the player.

Partnerships -- Local players should make every effort to find a partner before arriving at a game. The game director will accommodate visitors from outside the area, but cannot guarantee a partner for local players (except at the Monday and Thursday morning Novice games). As time permits, the director will assist local players who arrive early without a partner to find a partner.

Phone List - The Bridge Center maintains a telephone listing of local players. You are encouraged to add your contact information to this list. To do so, contact George VanAmburg at george@vanamburg.net, or go to our web page and click on “add name” under the player phone list menu item. The list is posted on the web site or you may see the director or club manager to obtain a copy.

Name tags - Many Bridge Center players wear name tags to make it easier for new players to get to know us, and for us to get to know you as a new player. Permanent bridge-related name tags can be purchased from several sources. The Bridge Center makes available stick-on or pin-on name tags, and encourages you to use them.

Zero Tolerance Policy -- The Lansing Bridge Center is committed to creating a pleasant atmosphere for all players and has adopted a Zero Tolerance Policy which is posted at the center. Complaints re: social or ethical behavior, etc. should be brought to the attention of the Recorder (currently Dick Hill). The Recorder will solve small problems by talking to the individuals involved and will bring larger issues to the attention of the Board of Directors for resolution.

Membership - As noted above, our club is a non-profit corporation supported entirely through game fees and Greater Lansing Bridge Center membership dues. Players become members by paying annual dues (amount to be set by the membership at the annual meeting, currently \$15). New members also pay \$10 for a share of stock in the corporation. **Membership in the corporation is not required in order to play bridge at the Lansing Bridge Center.** Payment of dues is voluntary, but we encourage regular players to support the club by paying annual dues. Only members are entitled to receive advance notice of the annual membership meeting, vote in elections, run for a seat on the board, and participate in the multi-step process of amending the corporation bylaws.

If you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to ask the director, the manager, or any Board Member.

Bridge Center of Greater Lansing Club Manager: Rick Johns

Bridge Center of Greater Lansing Board Members:

Jerry Avery - President
Diane Schafer - Vice-President
Kathy Stepanovich - Secretary
Suzanne Baker - Treasurer
Rick Johns - Member at Large
Kathy Jernigan, Member at Large
George VanAmburg, Member at Large

(rev. 5/16/2016)