

CBC NEWSLETTER APRIL 2019



GENERAL MEETING – ELECTION Monday – May 13, 2019 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM

We will be having our Annual Meeting and Election of Officers on Monday, May 13 at 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM. There are two (2) At-Large Member vacancies to be filled at this time.

We would like as many Club Members to attend as possible. A quorum of Eligible Voting Members is required to make this Election possible. To be eligible to vote, a member must have played in 10 games in the past twelve months; a list of eligible members is available at the CBC.

The Nominees for the two (2) At-Large Board Members are:

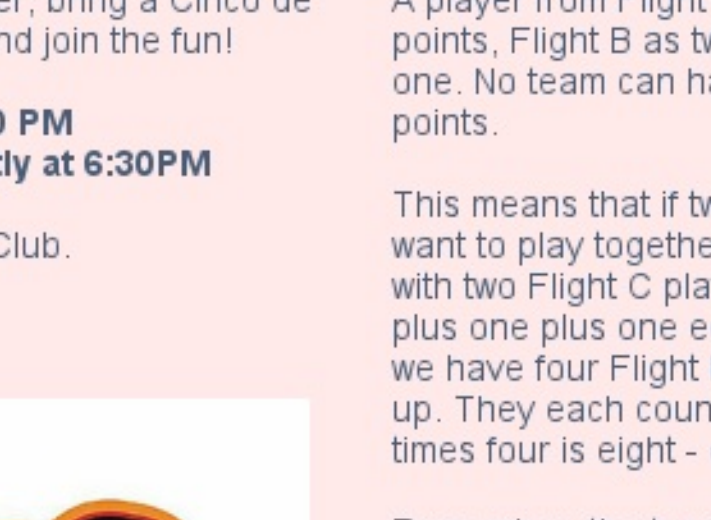
Frazer McCrorey
Scott McPherson
Hansa Patel
Judy Rockwell

The two nominees who receive the most votes will be duly elected as members of the Board of Directors for a three-year term, beginning June 1, 2019.

We are very appreciative that we have these four nominees who are willing to serve on the Board. Please come to the meeting and vote your choice of candidates.

An absentee ballot is available for those members who cannot attend the meeting - [Click HERE](#) to download the absentee ballot and for instructions on how to submit the completed ballot.

Thank you for all of your support,
MaryAnn Cross, President Columbia Bridge Club



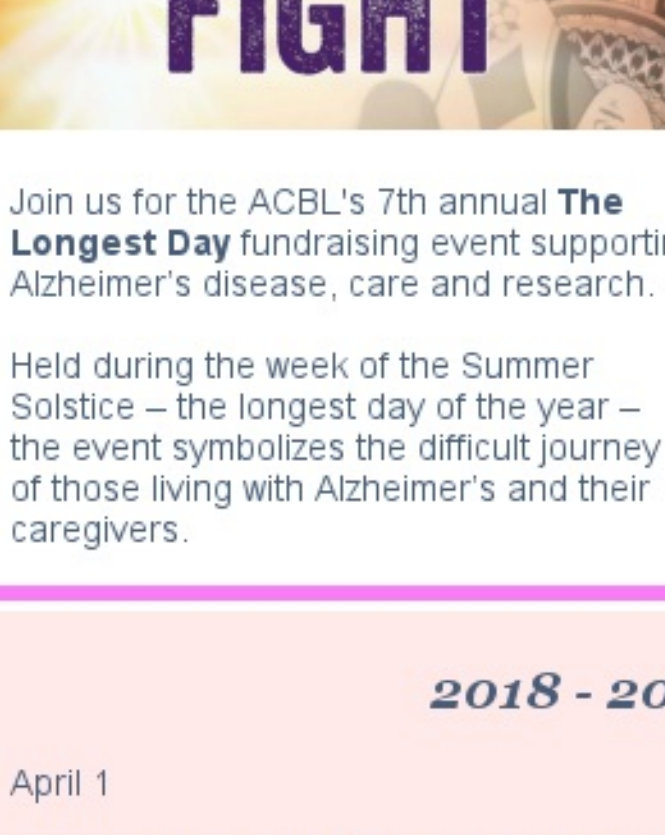
Cinco de Mayo - Thursday Team Game & Potluck May 2

On Thursday - May 2nd the CBC is having their annual Cinco de Mayo themed Eight is Enough Handicapped Team game!

Get your team together, bring a Cinco de Mayo food to share and join the fun!

**Dinner starts at 5:30 PM
Game starts promptly at 6:30PM**

Team Sign up at the Club.



Each player is assigned a point value. A player from Flight A counts as three points, Flight B as two and Flight C as one. No team can have more than eight points.

This means that if two Flight A players want to play together, they have to play with two Flight C players. Three plus three plus one plus one equals eight. Sometimes we have four Flight B players, who team up. They each count as two points and two times four is eight - eight is enough!

Remember, the team points do not have to equal eight. You may play with any number of points, as long as your team does not exceed eight.

Masterpoints are awarded for the top Team finishes and each team that wins a single match will earn masterpoints.

The game is handicapped: teams with a total MP holding under 3000 will receive additional imps each round!

The Longest Day June 17

The CBC will be holding 4 - 18 board games on Monday, June 17th.

Game times are:
9:30 AM 0-50 & Open Pairs
12:30 PM 0-300 & Open Pairs
3:30 PM Open Pairs
6:30 PM Open Pairs

This year's Chairs are Judy Rockwell and Charmelle Staples and they are looking for items for the Silent Auction and help with lunch, dinner and snacks.

Last year's donation from the CBC and it's members was in excess of \$2,900.00! The goal this year is set at \$3,000.00. Please plan to help make this year more successful than ever.

2018 - 2019 Cup Races

April 1

It has been a busy winter at the Columbia Bridge Club. We have had terrific attendance with some nice large games and many masterpoints being won. There has been considerable jockeying for position in the top ten lists since February with a new name joining the top ten list in one of the categories.

In the **Sol Lourie Open** category, the same ten people who made the list last time are still on the list but there has been some shuffling of positions. Mohan "This is a Recording" Ball once again leads the pack with a whopping 271 masterpoints followed by second place Jay Shahani with 204. Pat Webb continues in third place followed by Alice Moore, Hap Neuffer, and Mike Bitonti, all bunched up closely in the fourth, fifth, and six positions. Joyce Lauterbach holds the number seven slot while Mary Tonwill, Harold More, and Mirza Baig round out the top ten.

In the **Henry Mills Under 2000** category, Mike Bitonti holds a pretty comfortable lead with just under 162 masterpoints with frequent partner Mirza Baig almost 51 points back in second place. Beth Watson is neck and neck with Francis Robinson for the next two slots separated by only 0.07 points. Bill Charlwood is close behind for fifth place with Jack Wilkinson a close sixth. Eddie Crosby, Jim Chianelli, and Scott McPherson hold the seventh, eighth, and ninth positions, with Chuck Kennedy checking in at number ten.

In the **Coleman-Farrell Non-Life Master** category, Beth Watson is leading with a tad under 106 masterpoints but is closely followed by Eddie Crosby with nearly 95 points. Myra Jaynes has been out of commission for the past few weeks but still holds on to the number three slot (and get well soon, Myra, we miss you). Brenda Isbell is in the number four slot followed by Shelby King at number six and Daniel Heath at number seven, who are separated by a mere half of a masterpoint. Mary Joseph, who has been helping some of our newer players to earn some masterpoints (thank you, Mary!) is in the eighth slot followed by Janet Sheridan, and Judy Rockwell.

In the highly competitive **Centurion Cup** race, Eddie Crosby continues to outpace the rest of the field leading second place Judy Rockwell by over fifty masterpoints. Just back of Judy is third place Mike Mayfield followed by Jim Bull and Stella Donegan. Charles Williams follows in the sixth position with Hansa Patel close behind at number seven. Newcomer to the top ten list Karen Replogle has claimed the number eight slot while Vicki Strasser and Caroline Grimbail round out the top ten.

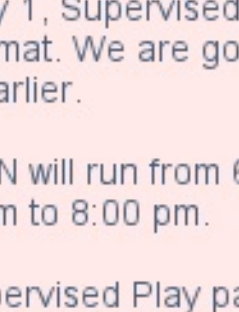
April is ACBL Charity month with a lot of extra point games and May is Grass Roots month with every game being an extra points game. So anything is possible. Just like the NCAA basketball playoffs, it is just a matter of who gets hot at this time of year. So come on out and join everyone at the table and maybe, just maybe, you will be the one dusting off a place for that (imaginary) cup trophy.

Hope to see all of you there!!

~Jack Self

APRIL 2019

	(Open)	Henry Mills	(Under 2000)	Coleman-Farrell	(Non-LM)	Centurion	(Under 100)
Sol Lourie	271.31	Mike Bitonti	161.73	Beth Watson	105.81	Eddie Crosby	94.88
Mohan Ball	204.37	Mirza Baig	109.93	Eddie Crosby	84.86	Judy Rockwell	44.47
Jay Shahani	183.27	Beth Watson	105.81	Myra Jaynes	79.06	Mike Mayfield	36.61
Pat Webb	168.96	Francis Robinson	105.74	Brenda Isbell	67.52	Jim Bull	29.57
Alice Moore	163.96	Bill Charlwood	104.50	Charmelle Staples	61.25	Stella Donegan	28.93
Hap Neuffer	161.73	Jack Wilkinson	101.75	Shelby King	59.97	Charles Williams	24.69
Mike Bitonti	150.45	Eddie Crosby	94.86	Daniel Heath	59.42	Hansa Patel	23.90
Joyce Lauterbach	124.23	Jim Chianelli	93.69	Mary Joseph	57.39	Karen Replogle	21.72
Mary Tonwill	115.12	Scott McPherson	90.51	Janet Sheridan	56.79	Vicki Strasser	19.16
Harold Moore	106.20	Chuck Kennedy	83.47	Judy Rockwell	44.47	Caroline Grimbail	18.78
Cavlyn Cramer							



Congratulations!

Masterpoint Milestones

Bronze Life Master
Morris Mitchem Jr

Life Master
Morris Mitchem Jr

Regional Club Master (100+ MP)
Stella Donegan

Club Master (20+)
Karen Replogle

Junior Master (5+)
Velma Pruitt
Patti Robinson
Robert Robinson
Delores Taylor
Donna Ugino

Supervised Play - Change in Schedule

Starting May 1, Supervised Play on Wednesday evenings is going to have a slightly different format. We are going to try running shorter sessions which will allow participants to get out earlier.

Our LESSON will run from 6:00 pm - 6:30 pm, and then we will have MENTORED PLAY from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm.

Several Supervised Play participants have commented on the length of the session, so we'll tighten everything up and get folks out by 8pm.

We will also change over to running Supervised Play every other Wednesday in May before taking June and July off for summer break. May 1, May 15, and May 29 will be the Supervised Play dates for May.

We'll gauge the response and participation in May to see if this is a desired format to continue in the fall.

If there are any questions, please feel free to contact Mike Bitonti at (803) 386-8887.

Upcoming Special CBC Club Games and Area Tournaments

Special Games at the CBC

Apr 13	Birthday Party (12:30 PM) Open Pairs
Apr 17	NO SUPERVISED PLAY
Apr 18	Individual Game (6:30 PM) No partner needed (signup required)
Apr 22	Club Closed - Easter Sunday
Apr 24	NO SUPERVISED PLAY
Apr 25	Hi-Low Game (12:30 PM) Novice & Experienced Pairing Encouraged
May 2	Cinco de Mayo Potluck and Team Game 5:30PM / 6:30 PM
May 8	NO SUPERVISED PLAY
May 11	Birthday Party (12:30 PM) Open Pairs
May 13	ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING and ELECTIONS 5:00 PM
May 16	Individual Game (6:30 PM) No partner needed (signup required)
May 22	NO SUPERVISED PLAY
May 23	Hi-Low Game (12:30 PM) Novice & Experienced Pairing Encouraged
May 27	NO 10:00 AM Game
May 31 - June 2	Club Closed - West Columbia Sectional

Area Sectional and Regional Tournaments

April 22 - 28	Gatlinburg Regional
May 3 - 5	Spartanburg Sectional
May 4 - 5	DISTRICT 7 GNT FINALS: Flights A and C
May 8 - 11	Highlands Mother's Day Sectional
May 20 - 16	Richmond Regional
May 30 - June 2	West Columbia Sectional
June 1 - 2	DISTRICT 7 GNT FINALS: Flights B and Championship
June 10 - 16	Greenville Regional
June 27 - 30	Flat Rock Blue Ridge Spectacular Sectional

[Click on Tournament for Flyer](#)

Common Courtesy at the Bridge Club (But Which Do Not Seem to Be Too Common)

~ by Jack Self

Here are a few things we can do at the Club to make ALL PLAYERS enjoy themselves more. I have personally witnessed each of these common courtesies being violated.

If you spill it - clean it up. No explanation necessary - other than that the directors are not your personal maid service..

If you drop a bidding box, put the cards back in order. DO NOT leave them in a mess on another table - see above.

Leaving a nearly empty coffee pot on the burner. Perhaps my pet peeve. If you get a cup of coffee and there is less than one cup remaining, then take the pot off the burner, turn the burner off, and empty and rinse out the pot. Do all three of those. Do not turn off the burner and put the pot back on the burner. Do not sit the dirty pot on the counter.

Help clean up the break room after the game. I see the same person clean up the break area after every Wednesday game and the same person clean up the break area after every Friday game. While I do appreciate it and try to remember to say so, where are all the other people who have eaten the snacks on the table? There is no reason why EVERYONE cannot help with the clean up. That means men, women, A players, C players, new players, long-time members, EVERYONE. And, no, that is not a director duty. And, no, that is not the custodian's duty.

Put your chair back under the table when you leave. I learned to do this from my first grade teacher, Mrs. Fulton. She has not yet called me to tell me she didn't mean it.

Make sure the water faucet is turned off after you use it. Make sure the water is not running. Don't just assume you turned it off. Look at it and see if it is still running.

Make sure you close the refrigerator door. Seems like a no-brainer to me.

If you are late finishing a board after the round is called, pass the boards that you have already finished to the next table. There is no reason that the players at the next table should have to sit and wait while you finish the last board late. There is no reason the players at the next table should have to call the director and ask him/her to "get us a couple of boards."

Any more common courtesies you want to add to the list? Let me know. Perhaps we can add to the list in a future article.

What Can I Do to Become a Better Bridge Player?

~ by Jack Self

Note: The following articles in this article are solely those of the writer and do not, by any means reflect any official position of the Columbia Bridge Club or any of its other members.

The following article is intended for those players who are in the 300 – 800 masterpoint range but those under 300 might profit from reading it also.

I often get asked by our up-and-coming players, "What can I do to improve my game?" They truly want to be better players and perceive themselves as stuck in a rut and not making much progress. While I do not have any magical solutions, I will offer the following tips that I think will help.

#1 – Play more often. But I do not mean play more in our Club games. Most of you, I realize, are playing in a lot of Club games. But you need to play in some non-competitive games where making mistakes does not mean you "earn a zero." Here's an idea. Get three of your friends to meet you at the Club an hour before the game starts and get a couple of decks of cards and go sit at a table and play. Just shuffle and deal a play. Go ahead and make your mistakes in bidding, play, and defense. I promise you that after a while, you will start making fewer mistakes because you will begin to recognize those situations where mistakes are apt to occur. In fact, it would be a great idea to get five or six people to agree to come at a regular day. That way if someone cannot make it, you'll still have enough to play. Most likely, others will see what you are doing and pretty soon you will have two or even three tables of players. And one more tip – do not let anyone stand over your shoulder giving you lessons. Make it a non-stressful "fun" game where you do not have to agonize over every mistake. Help each other. If you see someone at your table make a mistake, then let him or her know that. That is how you get to be better. We used to do exactly this when I was in college and first learning to play. I attribute most of my learning to exactly these "fun" sessions.

#2 – Play in a Club game with someone who is better than you are. Okay, I am not saying that you should never play with someone with fewer masterpoints than you. Of course not! But, as often as you can, try to play with someone who is considerably more skilled than you. And how do you get that someone to play with you? ASK THEM! Do not be afraid. And if they tell you they cannot play, don't take it personal. Many players have regularly scheduled games with their usual partners and do not have many days when they can play. But most of them will be glad to play with you on occasion but, let's face it, they are not going to be the ones to ask you to play, so you will have to do the asking.

Corollary to #2 for those "considerably better players." If someone asks you to play and you agree, then remember that they are probably nervous just to ask you. Don't make every hand a lesson. A gentle hint at the end of play is often more helpful than a formal lesson. And if you cannot play, just say "no" but explain why you cannot play at that time and keep the door open for playing at some later date.

#3 Read some bridge books. I cannot stress this enough. You want to be a better defender? Read a book about declarer play. You want to be a better defender. Read a book about defensive play. Carefully follow each deal that the book presents. The more times you read about a line of play or a line of defense that works, the more likely you are to recognize the situation when it comes up.

#4 Play more often in an open game. If you want to play like the "big boys (or girls)," then you have to play with the "big boys/girls." I am NOT saying that you should never play in a restricted game. I am just stating that by never or seldom playing in an open game, you will miss so many opportunities to learn from the other players who do not make those mistakes that you want to quit making yourself (they will be making different mistakes!). And let's lay two common complaints to rest right now. Complaint #1 – "Those A players are rude!" Sorry, the A players have no lock on being rude. The two rudest players I've ever encountered at the CBC were one A player (over 3000 points) and one C player (under 100 points). Complaint #2 – "I cannot win in an open game." Okay, maybe true for right now. But you will eventually be able to win, and isn't that your goal? And, besides, if you don't play in open game you most definitely cannot win against the A players.

Join or Renew Your Membership

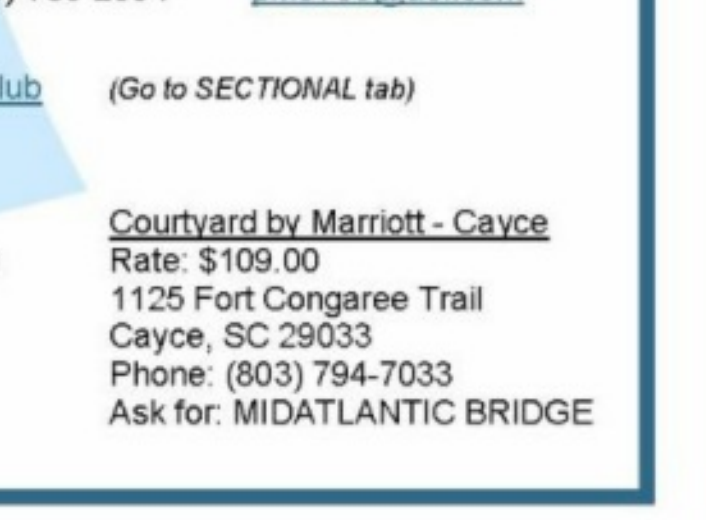


2019 - 2020 CBC Memberships will go on sale May 1.

The CBC Membership year begins on June 1. Perks include FREE ENTRY for the Birthday Game (for your Birthday month), the Holiday Party Game and the Summer Party Game. Please see any director to renew your membership or join the CBC.

Hold the Date - The CBC Summer Party will be held on Saturday, July 13

Karen Hansell and Suzy Weisman are the co-chairs. Please let them know how you can help!



Columbia Palmetto State Summer Sectional May 31 – June 2, 2019

Tri-City Leisure Center 485 Brooks Avenue West Columbia, SC 29169

Famous Columbia Hospitality!

Friday, May 31
Open and 0 - 499 Pairs 9:30 am
Open and 0 - 499 Pairs 2:00 pm

Saturday, June 1
Open and 0 - 499 Pairs 9:30 am
Open and 0 - 499 Pairs** 2:00 pm

Sunday, June 2
0 - 499 Single Swiss Teams ** 10:00 am
Denotes Swiss Teams (includes catered lunch) 10:00 am & TBA

** Denotes regional-rated games to benefit the ACBL Educational Foundation
** Session Completed by ~1:00 pm – Lunch NOT included.

Open Strats: 0-1000, 1000-3000, 3000+ 499er Strats: 0-100, 100-300, 300-500 NLM
Strats determined by average MP
All Strats by team/pair average - 499er players may not have 500 MP nor be a Life Master.
Stratifications may be adjusted at Director's discretion.
ACBL Members: 0-5 MP Play Free in the 9:30 am Sessions!

Tournament Co-Chairs:
Chris and Lee Webb (803) 691-1502 or (803) 331-6894 LeeWebb1@sc.rr.com

Partnerships: Bernetha Henry (803)-783-2564 pm9735@aol.com

On-Line Partnership Desk:
www.bridgewebs.com/columbiabridgeclub (Go to SECTIONAL tab)

Host Hotels:
ALOFF - Columbia Downtown
Rate: \$129.00 (Walk to Vista Restaurants!)

823 Lady Street
Columbia, SC 29201
Phone: (803) 445-1900
Ask for: BRIDGE RATE

Courtyard by Marriott - Cayce
Rate: \$109.00
1125 Fort Congaree Trail
Cayce, SC 29033

Phone: (803) 794-7033
Ask for: MIDATLANTIC BRIDGE

Have a comment or an article you would like to submit? Reply to this email or send to cbc.news.sc@gmail.com. This is your Club newsletter and all suggestions or submissions for future articles are welcome! Please submit articles by the 3rd of the month. All articles are subject to editorial approval and edit.

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