In a pairs game the partners' masterpoint totals are averaged. Each pair's average is placed in a strata: A, B, or C. The top third of the averaged partnerships are placed in A, the middle third are placed in B and the bottom third are in C. Winners in each strata are awarded masterpoints. At the end of the game, the stratifications have leveled the playing field by allowing "C" and "B" players to be compared to other "C" and "B" players. Awards are given to each strata based on the number of tables in the game and the type of game being offered. Our club manager does a great job of locating 'special' games that award more points to players without costing players extra money.

Stratification never lowers the points you might win, and sometimes it can raise the points. A "C" player does NOT have to beat an "A" or "B" player to win masterpoints. A "B" player does not have to beat an "A" player to win masterpoints.

ACBL awards points based on the level of competition and the number of tables participating. ACBL can make their own strata in games. One can always ask the director in charge what stratification is being used.

If you want to learn more about stratification – just ask a director. Bridge is a challenging game that always provides opportunities to learn and grow. Join us to nurture your skills, while having fun!

## **Upcoming Special Games and Events**

Mark your calendars; October  $11^{\mbox{th}}$  –  $17^{\mbox{th}}$  is Club appreciation week! Double black points will be awarded in both the f2f and online games.

Monday Oct 11<sup>th</sup>: f2f 0-300 pairs @ 10:30am (with mini-lesson before game) Virtual Open Pairs on BBO @ 1:05pm

Tuesday Oct 12<sup>th</sup>: Virtual Open Pairs on BBO @ 1:05pm

Wednesday Oct 13<sup>th</sup>: Virtual 0-750 Pairs on BBO @12:55pm Virtual Open Pairs on BBO @ 1:05pm

Thursday Oct 14<sup>th</sup>: Virtual Open Pairs on BBO @ 1:05pm

Friday Oct 15<sup>th</sup>: f2f Open and 0-300 Pairs @ 12:30pm

Saturday Oct 16<sup>th</sup>: Virtual Open Pairs on BBO @ 1:05pm