



Guide to Regional Bridge Tournaments

Below are a few tips we think will help newer bridge players as well as those trying to reach life master status understand strategies to optimize winning gold points. Hopefully this will make you feel less overwhelmed, and enjoy the atmosphere.

First and foremost, you cannot win GOLD points in a single session event. You must participate in an event that offers at least two sessions. For example, if you play a Knockout event, you do not win Gold until you win the 2nd



Tournament updates 5/20/2022

Columbia held a sectional on May 13 – 15, 2022. We hosted Flights: Championship, A & B GNTs finals. This was quite an honor to host District 7 Grand National Team Finals at our sectional. We welcomed those from our District and the compliments on our hospitality were many. We hosted 40 tables in the GNTs and 56 tables in the Sectional. The table counts were down



LETTER TO CBC MEMBERS FROM JUDY ROCKWELL

As we approach the beginning of a new CBC year (June 1), I would like to thank Shelby King for her service as president for these past two years. I have enjoyed working with her; I especially appreciate how much she included me in all CBC matters...that has some prepared me for taking over the duties of CBC president on June 1, 2022.

These past two years presented unprecedented challenges for everyone (and certainly for CBC). While COVID is still an issue to be dealt with...things are getting better. I look forward to being a part of CBC's resurgence; and I believe that we can orchestrate a gradual return to a fully-opened club once again.

I invite each of you to share any thoughts, concerns, and/or suggestions with me. This is your club and our officers and board members need your input! Once again, thanks, Shelby for

match. Side series award Gold points if you finish in the overalls after playing 2 sessions. If you win a single session event, the best you can do is win Red Points.

For the bridge fanatic, there are three sessions available per day – morning, afternoon, and evening. If you have only the desire and not the stamina, just choose one or two sessions and pace yourself. Remember, entire events have been won or lost over the last board. As you wind down each day, take a deep breath before the last board of the session. Bid and play like your final score depends on it (and it usually does!).

There are two types of events, teams and pairs. The strategy of play is different in each and many people have difficulty switching gears between them. In teams, you want to bid your close vulnerable games and guarantee the contracts. Overtricks are not nearly as important as going plus. In pair

but to put it in to perspective, our attendance was hovering over 50%, the GNTs about 50% of the last face to face tournaments, compared to Gatlinburg tournament which was 30% attendance of prior tournaments. Overall, 119 players got 427.23 earned master points with a total of 96 tables.

So many people made this happen, and Chris and I are grateful. We thank each of you who helped set up tables, make boards, providing bidding boxes, hospitality, clean up, and breaking down the tables and putting back upstairs at the CBC. Our club came together and we had a great tournament. I am very proud to be a CBC member and have you as friends.

Columbia will host our Regional tournament on June 20 – 26 at the Doubletree Hilton on Bush River Road, which underwent a 5 million renovation to its facilities and rooms. Chris and I need many volunteers to make the Columbia Regional a big success, please see the

your tireless efforts on behalf of CBC! No doubt, I need your support as I assume my new responsibilities! Also, thanks to all our members for supporting CBC...the very best way you can continue that support is to participate in our games, classes and special events. I hope to see each of you at the club very soon!

Election **RESULTS**

Our results are in! No surprise as each nominee was uncontested.

Our new board members are: Dick Swanson, Jack Self as VP, Ellis Tesh, Caroline Grimbball stays on as secretary and Bernetha finishes out a term of one more year.

We say goodbye and thank you for your service to CBC either as an officer or a member at large; Mary Ann Cross and Hansa Patel. Jack will assume VP so Judy will select a member at large to take his seat until the next election.

Judy Rockwell assumes her role as President June 1, 2022.



Congratulations to the below change in rank for April, May and June.

events, you are more concerned with playing in major suit and no-trump contracts to maximize the contract value. It is generally acceptable to risk the contract to score those all-important overtricks.

Teams enter into a Knockout event (KOs). KOs start at 10:00 am and 2:30 pm. In a KO, you may have as many as 6 players on the team. You will play 24 boards in a knockout against a single team. Win or go home.

Try to get players with about the same amount of master points as you at first, you will find this works well to keep the 4 of you in a lower bracket. A bracket is where everyone enters a team event; the directors draw a line-dividing players from greatest master points to least Masterpoints. This gives you a good chance of only playing players with the same number of master points as you.

The Columbia Regional has lots of

categories below. We will have catered hotel food for purchase and a hospitality suite for the Columbia volunteers and District 7 board members. Please wear your name badge, offer help to out of towners, listen to the free bridge lectures, buy a bridge book or other goodies they sell, and enjoy your time with friends. It is a great atmosphere and so much fun. Hope to see many of you there. Please let me know if you can help.

- a. Set up tables on Sunday afternoon, June 19, 2022 at 2:00 pm (need 15 people)
- b. Registration desk, COVID check list and placing of armbands: need at least 6 to 8 people to help
- c. Prizes: Shelby King and 4 more
- d. Partnership: Betsy Stanton and Blondelle Grant
- e. Greeters to direct people at the beginning of the tournament: 2 to 4 people
- f. I/N: Lee Webb
- g. Caddies: Bernetha Henry
- h. Hospitality: There will be a hospitality

April:
Frazer McCrorey: Gold Life
Velma Pruitt: Sectional
Jennifer Savitz: Club
Barbara Hinson: Junior

May:
Dick Swanson: Life Master
June:
Cassandra Jackson: NABC
Nancy Morris: NABC
Peter Graham: Sectional



Our annual meeting was Friday the 20th of May. We enjoyed a light brunch provided by Hansa, Judy Rockwell and Francis McMeekin. Thank you ladies!

Players made up 9 tables and all seemed to enjoy the day.

Glenn updated us on our financials and I reported on behalf of Lee for the Sectional update and the Regional in June.

We did profit from the Sectional but the final numbers are not in.

events for novice players. Highly recommended is an event called "GOLD RUSH" events. At the Columbia Regional there will be: 7 two-session GOLD RUSH events, 5 two-session Swiss Team or Round Robin games, 3 four-session Knock outs, take advantage! These events are an excellent opportunity for you to get the coveted gold points needed for life master. Gold points are only given at regional tournaments (with a few online and club events). Try to get these early in your bridge career. I know many players who needed gold and were not able to make life master even with 1000 points because they needed GOLD.

The entire tournament, we have a 49 - 499er section. This means you will never play anyone who has over 500 points. We have hospitality planned for this group so you feel at ease playing in the Regional environment, and play often to get points.

suite for Columbia CBC members with beer, wine, and snacks. We look forward to you visiting, bring your post mortems, and bidding problems (we can't promise to solve them but we will try).

Lee Webb:
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I want to thank so many of you who have encouraged me and supported me as President during Covid. We are in uncharted territory and local bridge clubs are being threatened by attrition, the comfort of playing in one's home and ACBL continuing to sponsor and support tournaments on BBO. All these factors contribute to a lower attendance at our club. My agenda with board support has been to grow our club through education, classes and to provide games for all levels. Thank you Bernetha, Frazer, Laura, Scott, Susan and Judy Rockwell for supporting or teaching some of our new players. We strive to provide a bridge home of comfort and a welcoming face. I will continue my efforts as long as I have a voice at CBC. I ask you to attend our games

A very popular event is the Mid Flight Pairs and Swiss Team events. No player over 3000 points can enter. If you finish in the top 3, you win gold.

and support CBC. We miss all who have chosen to play elsewhere. You are always welcome!

Chris and Lee's recommendation for those who want to optimize chances for gold:

1. Monday: Capital City KO (continues 10 & 2:30 on Tuesday) If you get knocked out, plan on this:

2. Tuesday: Round Robin Teams: 10 & 2:30 AND 7:30: GOLD RUSH night time Swiss teams

3. Wednesday: Gervais Street GOLD RUSH Pairs

4. GOLD RUSH Swiss Teams: 10 & 2:30

5. Friday: Chapin GOLD RUSH Pairs 10 & 2:30

6. Saturday: Round Robin teams OR The Avenues GOLD RUSH Pairs

7. Sunday: Round Robin Teams 9:30 & TBA

8. If you get knocked out of any of these events, play in the Side Series, there are 2 of 5 events. Chris and I won 10 GOLD points finishing in the

Side Series event in
the top in a regional
Good Luck!
Chris and Lee Webb
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Regional Tournament
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