



**BRIDGE ON THE EDGE, INC.**  
A NOT FOR PROFIT BRIDGE CLUB OWNED BY ITS MEMBERS  
SERVING THE ST. JOHN'S DUPLICATE BRIDGE COMMUNITY

## **Inaugural Game - what worked - what didn't**

It is a learning experience and a few things worked out, but we must acknowledge that which didn't and work on those kinks.

### **What worked**

#### **Attendance**

Bridge on the Edge, Inc. had its best attendance ever - 17 tables, 11.5 competitive, and 5



newcomers, two of which used the bridgemates.

Thanks everyone, we got off to a great start.

#### **Set up**

Tim Summers, Joan FitzGerald, June Hynes Barb Slattery, and Fran Cook came early to set up the room and make the boards. This work began at 11:30 and finished well before 1pm.

As time goes by and more people learn to use the dealing machine, the club will be able to reduce this time commitment.

#### **Cash Collection**

The envelop system, which Gwenda Jablonski witnessed at another club, and suggested we use, worked extremely well.

#### **Retired Resident Baker**

The Club's retired resident baker, Barb Baldwin returned on her first day of retirement to provide the players with oatmeal cookies - thanks Barb

### **What didn't work**

#### **Noise control**

The room has low ceilings and no curtains, so 30 or more conversations do not contribute to the library atmosphere the players need to concentrate on their game. A number of members requested that announcements be made at the beginning of the session or during hospitality breaks, and that the director be more forcible in maintaining order.

#### **Board movement**

Board movement in respect to sit outs and the newcomer section needs attention, as part of the set up, the director and or mentor must be familiar with table layout and the order in which the boards are played.

### Sit outs and table skips

The table immediately prior to the sit out (assuming the Mitchell Movement) should advise the players that their next table is a sit out, and the round number that triggers a skip should be announced at the beginning of the session.

### Chair and table storage

As the newcomers exit earlier than the competitive players, they should be relieved from any of the chair and table storage. This should be done by the competitive players after the last hand has been played.

### Coffee tea and water

The Elks' downstairs facility has no water. Previously Bridge on the Edge's proprietor carried hot soapy water to complete all coffee and tea clean up. The board did not feel this situation conducive to a volunteer club, and therefore the service was discontinued. Players may bring their own thermos or bottled water. Alternatively they can purchase beverages at the upstairs bar. The Elks were not prepared for the 2 o'clock hospitality break, and this will be corrected at

future sessions, in spite of that they enjoyed their largest one day sales to the bridge players.

### Attendance

The attendance was something that worked, but it also was problematic as the club ran out of bidding boxes, tables and turned away 4 members. Tim Summers and Patricia Heath played without bidding boxes on a small table - It was awkward and very cramped. They played without complaint - thank you, Tim and Patricia.



### Fouled boards

Two boards were fouled - somehow North's hand wound up in the wrong slot (therefore all hands were not in their correct position) - thus the hand record for both boards was inconsistent with the direction these boards were played. This mix up occurred after the boards were initially played. The boards at some tables were played as set out in the hand records while at other this was not the case. ACBL has a complicated procedure to address such a situation and the scores have been adjusted - the final adjusted scores are marked with a "F"

### Scoring

There were a number of requests for scoring adjustments. The administration of scoring adjustments is time consuming and cumbersome. The Club has adopted the practice of passing the Bridgemates so that 4 players are party to the accepted results. Maybe, we should consider having north announcing to the table in a low voice the sacrifice bid "Board 4- 7NT by south - down 5 - not doubled" before passing the bridgemate in a counterclockwise direction around the table. In any case the club may adopt a zero tolerance policy in respect to these requests as the players had ample opportunity to ensure that what was recorded was accurate.

### Next week's schedule

|                      | September 6, 2016 |  |               | September 8, 2016 |
|----------------------|-------------------|--|---------------|-------------------|
| Director             |                   |  |               |                   |
| Director in training | Peter Stacey      |  | Dan Regan     | Brian Collins     |
| Assistant director   | Jonathan Cook     |  | Jonathan Cook | Jonathan Cook     |

## **A final note**

Finally, in spite of all the kinks, there was a great amount of goodwill, as all players want the member owned club to work - it was a fabulous playing atmosphere.

Thank you.

***JONATHAN***