



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

OUR FIRST NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2016

We're in Business

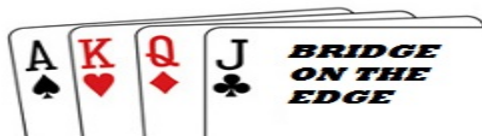
We are not promising a rose garden - the first year we will need your support



The board of directors Joan FitzGerald, Jonathan Cook, Peter Stacey and Tim Summers - Missing Wanda Lundrigan

The directors, namely Jonathan Cook, Wanda Lundrigan, Peter Stacey, Tim Summers and Joan FitzGerald, will complete the incorporation of the club before the end of August.

It is proposed that Jonathan will be elected President and take on the responsibility for club management and club finance. Peter Stacey will serve as Vice- President and assume responsibility for scheduling and training of Directors. Tim Summers becomes the club's communications director responsible for the web page and will represent the newcomers while Wanda Lundrigan becomes assistant Club manager. Joan FitzGerald is the board's mentor and has graciously agreed to hold our hand during this teething process.



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SEPTEMBER 2016 GAME SCHEDULE

All September games will feature competitive and newcomer tables - games fees will be \$10

Joan FitzGerald has offered to play at all September games therefore the Club only has to schedule the Director's in Training for the month. In subsequent months we will have to schedule all three positions:

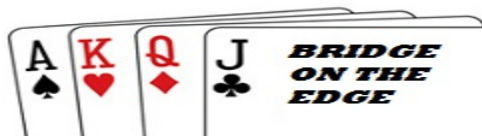
Directors Directors in Training Assistant Directors

Directors in Training are assigned the task of administrating the bridge game, collecting the game fee and mentoring the newcomers tables. This role cannot be assigned to a player.

Assistant Directors are assigned the task of downloading the hands from the Common Game, transferring that data to the dealing machine and preparing the game boards. This activity normally takes about an hour before the game and 15-20 minutes after the final results have been uploaded from the bridge mates. Assistant Directors can be players in the session that their work pertained to.

SCHEDULE OF DIRECTORS IN TRAINING				
		Tuesday		Thursday
Date		Afternoon	Evening	Afternoon
September 6, 2016		Peter Stacey	Dan Regan	Brian Collins
September 8, 2016		Fran Cook	Brian Shortall	Jonathan Cook
September. 13, 2016		T B A	Richard Lash*	T B A
September 15, 2016		Peter Stacey	Dan Regan	Brian Collins
September 20, 2016		T B A	T B A	T B A
September 22, 2016		T B A	Brian Shortall	T B A
September 27, 2016		Fran Cook	Dan Regan	Brian Collins
September 29, 2016		Peter Stacey	Richard Lash*	Jonathan Cook

*Richard Lash is an accredited director, having been away for some time, he would like to direct with supervision for a short period



ACCREDITED DIRECTORS

The following accredited directors have indicated their willingness to assist the Club as mentors to the Directors in Training so that those interested in taking the accreditation exam are properly prepared. We are particularly excited that the Ace of Club's directors have stepped forward to offer their assistance.

Roy Perry	Joan FitzGerald	Richard Lash
Bruce Watson	John Goold	Randy Bennett
Marilyn Bennett		

This mentoring program is in its formative stages and will become more definitive when the Accredited Directors and those wishing to take the accreditation exam have a group meeting. That meeting will set out the roles of the mentor and trainee. A quasi course must be defined and the trainee needs to know the materials that must be obtained and studied.

The following have shown interest in seeking accreditation

Peter Stacey	Brian Collins	Brian Shortall
Jonathan Cook	Fran Cook	Dan Regan
Bev Moore		

TEACHING PROGRAM

Tom Dale has volunteered to head up a teaching program. He is an experienced bridge player and a well respected teacher. The club is very lucky to be able to avail of his talents. The teaching program may begin in October or November 2016 - more likely in 2017. The club will have to learn to walk before it can run.

MENTORING PROGRAM

The Board is also hopeful that we can build a great mentoring program so that more and more players are exposed to Duplicate Bridge.

The following players have indicated that they are willing to mentor newcomers:

Mary Lou Martin	George Etheridge	Judith McIntyre
Jonathan Cook	Fran Cook	Dan Regan



The Club's dealing machine reads the image on the card and loads the boards according to the Common Game hand records.

ASSISTANT DIRECTORS

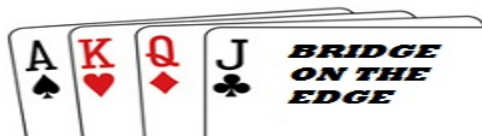
The Assistant Director will be responsible to set up the boards, and to upload the results to the ACBL and the Common Game. This group take responsibility for the dealing machine and the Club's computer, and ensuring that the supply of consumables (as defined below) is adequate. The Volunteers are:

Wanda Lundrigan	Claudia Shortall	Barbara Slattery
Heidi Janes	Rosemary Burke	George Etheridge
Jonathan Cook	Brian Collins	Vipin Acharya
Regina Clarke	Marlene Greey	Judith McIntyre
Susan Follett	Fran Cook	Dan Regan
Tim Summers	Sandra Tobin	Brian Shortall

CONSUMABLES

What are the club's consumables?

- Cards
- Table Mats
- Bidding Boxes and Bidding Cards - especially the one of clubs, Pass and Alert cards
- Convention Cards
- Boards.



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PREMISES

The board has met with the executive of the Elks Club, who were very supportive of Joan FitzGerald as proprietor of Bridge on the Edge. A number of issues were discussed, in particular the Elks had two irritants that we were asked to address:

- Parking :
 - Elks members were forced to park some distance away their own club, as bridge players had taken the more convenient spaces.
 - The Elks advised that they would be labeling and enforcing some 5 to 6 parking stalls closer to the club as “Members Only”
- Chairs
 - The Elks executive noted that the Bridge Club owned the tables but they supplied the chairs.
 - This forced the Elks to move the chairs upstairs when an Elk event required additional seating, and subsequent to the event return them to the basement.

The Board has written the Elks acknowledging their concerns and setting out the club's wishes to have improved lighting, the window treatment changed, permanent storage space and possible removal of the pool table. The Elks noted that they represented their members, and that the pool table was enjoyed by a number of senior members, therefore it may be difficult to get consent. The Elks appeared to be receptive to the replacement of curtains with blinds and adding some lighting fixtures. They understood the need to house the dealing machine and have on site storage. They did not consider this to be an obstacle.

The “elephant in the room” being the monthly rent was discussed but not defined. The Board is expecting a reply from the Elks. The Board is of the opinion that the good relations established by Joan will continue, and that we will be able to operate from the Elks for the foreseeable future.

FUNDING MEMBERS

The Board gratefully acknowledges the initial capital contribution of the funding members. They have stepped forward to provide the club with the funds:

- to acquire the assets of Bridge on the Edge, and
- to ensure liquidity during the startup period.

It is proposed that their loans will be repaid by the fall of 2017. These funding members are:

Mary Lou Martin	Jonathan Cook	Beverly Moore
Peter Stacey	Brian Shortall	

	<p>Expected Behavior</p> <p>Anything that makes bridge more enjoyable for others</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Greeting others in a friendly manner prior to start of play on each round. 2. Be a good "host" or "guest" at the table. 3. Making your convention card readily available to your opponents and filling it out completely. 4. Do EVERYTHING possible to make bridge enjoyable for yourself, partner and opponents. 5. Give credit when opponents make a good bid or play. 	<p>Unacceptable Behavior</p> <p>Anything that makes bridge less enjoyable for others</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Publicly criticizing partner or opponents. 2. Badgering, rudeness, insinuations, profanity, threats or violence. 3. Negative comments concerning opponents' or partner's play or bidding. 4. Gloating over good results. 5. Objecting to a call for the director. 6. Disputing or arguing with a director's ruling. 7. Poor personal hygiene, grooming or dress.
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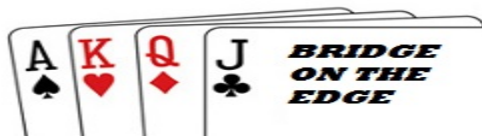
PRESIDENT'S CORNER

The passing of the baton from a sole proprietorship to a not for profit corporation owned by its members would not have been possible without the support of Joan FitzGerald. Not only has she created very large shoes to fill but her contribution to Bridge on the Edge cannot be understated.

The expression of goodwill from both veterans and newcomers is both gratifying and humbling. Your board and I will work hard to ensure that you have a club to be proud of.

Thank you

Jonathan Cook



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MEMBERSHIPS

The Board has decided against charging a membership fee. It is the objective of the Board to lower the game fee as soon as the initial investment is repaid to the funding members.

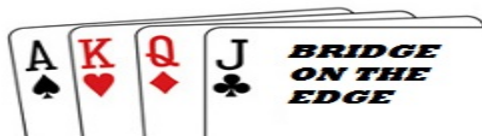
Once their investment is repaid and the club has passed the initial start up phase, it is the intention of the board to resign. The membership will then elect a new board. The new Board together with the membership can decide how to fund the Club's operating costs. Is it from game fees alone or game and membership fees?

A membership application follows. It is important as it ensures that the Club respect your privacy rights yet is able to communicate with each member.

Although, we have tried to ensure that our mailing list is complete, it is most likely that players will be missed. Should you hear anyone indicating that they did not get a newsletter, please advise a board member so that we can get one together with a membership application to them.

In the meantime, please take a moment to complete the attached membership application and bring it to your next game. This will ensure that the club's records are complete and up to date.





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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Title: First Name..... Surname.....

Address:

..... Post Code:

E-mail address:

Home Tel #: Cell #:

ACBL #:

Would you like to receive Club communications through our email group? YES / NO

You can cancel membership of the e-mail group at any time; however this and the club's website are the primary means of advising members of schedules for games and classes.

The club provides the ACBL (American Contract Bridge League) and other bridge organizations with information about the games played within the club. This includes player's names and the results of bridge games. From time to time the Club also publishes the names of members in conjunction with information about their master point status and other bridge-related awards. The club may also use or release members' contact details (telephone number and email address) to assist other members in arranging partnerships. With these exceptions, the club will not use or release members' personal information without permission for any purposes other than internal administrative requirements such as accounting procedures, scheduling of volunteers or notifying members of activities.

Here's what your memberships brings you...

- the right to vote in club elections or referenda and to serve on club committees and boards
- the right to access member-only sections of the club's website providing services such as a partnership desk or additional game and scoring analysis
- the right to be notified of and to participate in all club activities

I apply to become a member of the Bridge On The Edge bridge club. I agree to abide by the Club Constitution and to follow the club's Etiquette Policy. I also consent to the use of my personal information as described above.

Signature of applicant: Date of application: