

Hi Duplicate Lite Enthusiasts

As you aware from our last newsletter, we recently applied to ACBL for approval to run our Duplicate Lite club games ( Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays) on line using Bridge Base OnLine (BBO).

Unfortunately, the processing of our application has been delayed due to staff layoffs at ACBL caused by the COVID 19 pandemic. Therefore, **we will NOT be able to start our games which were initially scheduled for Monday May 11, 2020.**

**We are anticipating that our club will receive notification of approval this coming week and this should enable us to start Duplicate Lite on line on Monday, May 18.**

We will keep you posted!

It is hoped that this online format will be positive for our players and will provide us an opportunity to continue to be actively involved with our club and with fellow Duplicate Lite members.

Nancy Ruegg, our terrific former volunteer who moved to Edmonton, is playing on line with her club in Edmonton. Her comment about BBO Club games is: "Everyone we have connected with has really enjoyed the experience"

Several questions have emerged that we would like to address:

## **Fees,**

The cost of our online games for Duplicate Lite and for the Peace Arch club is \$4.00 US ( 4 BBO dollars) per player.

This \$4.00 US fee is intended to cover the costs for running each game online and as well, to raise some funds to contribute to the payment of rent at East Delta Hall.

Costs incurred for each game include an amount assessed by ACBL and a percentage deduction by BBO . We also provide a stipend to a game director for running the game session. The director is responsible for being on duty online for two hours prior to the game and for two hours during the game.

We are continuing to pay rent at The East Delta Hall. The Hall is owned by a non profit association run by local farmers in Delta. If the Society is unable to bring in revenues during this virus crisis, it may have to close or sell the Hall.

We have a definite interest in having the Hall available to us when we come back. Any monies available from our online games will help us to continue to support the Hall with our rental payments.

Thank you for your understanding regarding the \$4.00 US amount charged for our games. Other clubs are charging \$5.00 US or more (\$8 in Arizona where I play in the winter). The number of players registering for our Duplicate Lite online games will determine whether we break even or not on this project.

## **Purchasing BBO dollars**

We have had feedback about buying BBO dollars so you can play in on our games. If you pay with an Apple account, the cost is almost double.

# Cheating

High bridge ethics are expected from all players. Law 16 of the Laws of Duplicate Bridge states that players are authorized to base their calls and plays on information from legal calls and plays.... To base a call or play on extraneous information [is] an infraction of the law.

a) We are hoping people will be honest.

b) BBO has some logic to attempt to determine if a pair is cheating (ex. 75% of their finesses work). If a pair is deemed to be cheating, BBO will lock them out. The director can also lock them out of the DupLite games if the director believes they are cheating.

c) This is to keep us occupied and give us social time with friends. If we have to put up with a few cheaters to have our fun, not much we can do about it. But we can still have our fun if we want to.

Your online involvement is very much appreciated and encouraged!

Cheers,  
John, Ed, Ben, Bob, and Jane