



Let's get ready for Michael Newman and his Global TV camera crew, Thursday, Oct 6!

- **Please wear your name tags, especially on Thursday for filming.**
- **Dressing for "High Society" is encouraged on Thursday! Free bow ties in red, purple, grey and white are available to accessorize! Prizes too!!**
- **All games this week will finish at least 30-60 minutes later than usual due to "Homecoming Week" activities.**
- **Please read the following in preparation for Thursday**

Background Information

History of Duplicate Lite

John Demeulemeester and Jane Youngberg had a vision to start a new Bridge Club in Surrey, BC and launched Duplicate Lite in 2011. A few years later, Ed L'Heureux and Jane Youngberg created a sister club, Surrey Duplicate Club. This club also became very successful with the help of Bob Dillon. Prior to the pandemic, Duplicate Lite had scheduled games Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays with approximately 70-130 players at each game. The pandemic has impacted our attendance and we are hoping that more of our players come back and as well, we will attract new players that are looking for a new activity that challenges the mind and fosters new friendships.

Goals of all 3 clubs:

- be friendly and welcoming to all level of bridge players
- encourage learning for all levels of players
- support the entire bridge community in BC
- attract new and social players
- develop a community of players who make new friends, enjoy playing, and club activities
- value and promote our many volunteers

Interesting facts about bridge

1. Attendance at our tournaments

- local tournaments 400+ players
- Regionals 3000+ players
- Nationals 6000+players.

Besides the clubs,community centres and tournaments, it is impossible to guesstimate how many people play bridge at home and online. Prior to Covid, the American Contract Bridge League, which includes Canada and Mexico, is the largest bridge organization in the world, serving 145,000 members and 3,000 bridge clubs and sanctioning 1,100 sectional and regional tournaments annually.

2. The most famous bridge player in the world was the Egyptian actor Omar Sharif. Other high-profile players are billionaires Bill Gates and Warren Buffett

3. An early version of bridge was played in Britain as far back as the 16th century. The modern form of contract bridge was invented in the 1920s by US billionaire Harold Vanderbilt, who developed an early scoring system.

4, Bridge boosts Your Immune System - A 2000 study at the University of California-Berkeley indicated playing contract bridge can provide a boost to your immune system.

5. Bridge promotes mental health. In 2017, Mayo Clinic researchers found those with a genetic link to Alzheimer's were less likely to develop the mental decline that sometimes precedes dementia if they participated in mind-stimulating activities like web-surfing, playing bridge and socializing.

Some ideas to share if you are interviewed

- Why you play at our club?
- Why you play bridge?
- What do you like most about our club?

We are a group of volunteers and a society. Our plan is to offer a free lesson for beginners and social players in various areas of the lower mainland and Fraser Valley. Many of our clubs have struggled through the pandemic and some of them may close permanently if we don't help them attract new players.