

## Why Should I become a CBF Member?

*The CBF is the heart of Bridge in Canada. We have Programs in place to introduce the game we love to young and old Canadians alike. We represent Canada on World Bridge issues, and have an infrastructure to identify the best teams to represent Canada at World Championships, similar to the Olympics.*

*We also have a charitable arm, where the CBF raises funds and distributes to worthy Canadians and community based Programs.*

*All this with only 1 full time employee and a volunteer Board of Directors comprising of only 6 people. Each year it is a challenge to break even, with rising costs and the demographics all Bridge organizations face. Here is what we do:*

### Developing new players

The CBF has an active Junior program. We sent 3 teams to the World Junior Championships in 2018. The program includes mentoring, education, working with young players from across the country and arranging for partners, and arranging trials.

We administer the Erin Berry Memorial Fund, which each year gives support to worthy young players attending bridge tournaments.

We run 2 rookie master games per year, with hand analysis, to encourage newer players and support local bridge clubs.

Three years ago, we partnered with Audrey Grant to organize and deliver seminars across Canada for newer players.

### Programs in place to help Canadian players develop and improve their game.

Bridge Canada Magazine – Bridge Canada is an online only magazine – the cost of printing and mailing is prohibitive. It contains articles of interest to all levels of bridge players and is published in French and English.

We try to hold a CBF Regional in different parts of the country when we have the local volunteers to run it and when we can get one scheduled with the local units.

We are working on providing more support with educational materials, articles in Bridge Canada, and other resources for newer players.

We run grassroots qualifiers at clubs for COPC, CNTC. We want to bring people to the clubs to qualify and these games give out increased levels of Masterpoints.

In 2015 we instituted the Canadian Online Team Championships that allows members from across Canada to play against each other on BBO.

### Giving back to the Community

We administer the CBF Charitable fund, which distributes charity funds raised by clubs to worthy Canadian Charities.

We have worked with the ACBL to create a Canadian version of the Longest Day, the Day of Bridge benefitting Canadian Alzheimer Societies, to distribute funds raised by Canadian clubs to the Canadian Alzheimer Society in Canada and to ensure that funds raised in Canada stay in Canada

### Developing a Canadian Bridge Identity and Legacy

We annually award mini-Richmond pins to the CBF members who have won the most Masterpoints within our 6 Zones and also Canada wide.

We administer the Canadian Hall of Fame to recognize Canadian players' bridge accomplishments, both at the table and away from it.

International issues – we have been working for a long time to have more of a Canadian voice in World Bridge Federation issues. Recently we succeeded in having a seat at on the World Bridge Federation governing Board. We are now working with the ACBL, USBF and Mexico in a properly constituted Zone II of the World Bridge Federation.

Other initiatives to raise the profile of bridge -- from time to time opportunities arise where we can work to raise the profile of Bridge. Last year Zoomer magazine ran a promotion where they were looking for the "Ultimate Zoomer" in various associations that represent pastimes such as curling, running, sailing and bridge. Martin Hunter was selected as our Ultimate Zoomer, and had a great picture in the magazine, as well as online news items about bridge in Canada.

Running a merit process to select and subsidize the best players in Canada to represent us internationally.

We organize the Canadian Bridge Championships every year, trying to move it across the country to allow people from many parts of Canada to participate. This is not a money making proposition. We sometimes make a little, but we often lose money on these. The costs include shipping screens, and boards across Canada to wherever the Championships are, and pre-duplicating boards for the competition.

The CBF provides subsidies for our international teams, approx. \$60,000 in the non- open World Championship years split among the teams attending.

The CBF organizes and subsidize the Canada-Mexico playoffs when necessary, and work with our international teams when they are going to the World Championships

Maintain an effective Infrastructure to deliver the above Programs and Services.

Maintain our website and update it with news about Canadian events and players as well as information about world events. Our website is bilingual.

We look after Canadian issues when they arise -- for example, working with the ACBL to understand our events so that we are not negatively affected when they decide to change masterpoint formulas (this has happened a few times to CNTCs and CWTC), when they changed ACBL score so that Canadian clubs no longer had correct sanction fees

Membership administration -- we have been upgrading our ability to contact CBF members and not depend on the ACBL to do this for us. We are now sending out dues notices to players.

We continually work on looking for corporate sponsors to allow us to take on additional initiatives.

We are working to make all of our communications bilingual.