

Hello District 10!

Even though I am relatively young for the bridge crowd -- retirement is still quite a long way off for me -- I have been playing the game since I was a high school student in the Detroit area, so I have many years of experience in my belt. My first tournament was 35 years ago at a regional in Detroit. Although I completed my Life Master requirements in 1995, most of my success over the years has come through partnerships formed during my time in Dallas between 1997 and 2011.

Even though I have lived in Birmingham since 2011, my bridge activity remains centered around the Dallas area. Due to combined restrictions of work and my masterpoint level, there is unfortunately only one regular club game a week that I could even potentially attend, and as I had a standing game with one of my partners from Dallas on that same evening, I have not really had much opportunity to establish any kind of partnership in the Birmingham area.

While it is something of a pity that the local bridge scene does not offer many opportunities for me, online bridge has more than made up for that. Additionally, the creation of the virtual clubs in 2020 became a great opportunity for me to both reconnect with old friends in Dallas, and finish the final stretch to Sapphire Life Master.

I still anticipate many years of active bridge play ahead, and I expect Diamond Life Master will be just a matter of time. I look forward to the resumption of NABCs and the opportunities to play at the NABC+ level.

Kevin Podsiadlik