

# The Cavendish Bridge Club of Toronto

## OVER THE YEARS

### September 1944

The Cavendish Bridge Club of Toronto was formed at the home of Mr. & Mrs. T. P. Lorimer. The original members were: Mrs. Cecile Howley, Mr. Douglas Woodrow, Mr. A.E. Donahue, Mrs. Jessie McGarvie, Mrs. Elsie Curtis, Mrs. Phyllis Beacock, Mrs. Eva Orr, Mr. A. Slemmestad, Mr. Kenneth Burnham, Mr. Clare Patterson, Mrs. Jean Lorimer, Mr. T. P. Lorimer, Mrs. Jessie Moody, Mrs. Evelyn McKinney, Mr. Gordon McKinney, Mrs. Audrey Cartwright & Mr. Duke Cartwright. Annual Membership Fees were \$2.00.

### September 22, 1964

Mo Wallace became Vice-President

### September 8, 1967

The Club moved its games to the St. Clair Bridge Club at 3740 Bathurst Street. Start time 8:15 p.m. The club was situated over Hedges Furniture Store just south of Wilson Avenue. Card fees were \$1.25 for members and \$1.50 for non-members. Refreshments available, coffee and cold drinks 15 cents.

### September 1970

Beryl Parsons became Treasurer.

### September 1978

Beryl Parsons was the President. Card Fees were \$2.25 for members and \$2.50 for non-members. Coffee and cookies would be served during the evening.

### September 1979

Prior to this the club only played from September to June. During the 1979-80 season the club began playing in August (on an experimental basis). The games commenced at 8:00 p.m. Annual Membership fee was raised from \$2.00 to \$3.00. Dennis and Pamela Bradley were committee members.

### September 1980

The Club moved to a new hall. It was situated upstairs in the Lawrence Park Community Church at 2180 Bayview Avenue just south of Lawrence. The card fees were \$2.50 for members and \$3.00 for non-members. This slight increase reflected the higher rental cost and the proposed new ACBL table fee. Refreshments served at no extra cost. Approval was given to Dorothy Zienkiewicz to get a price on a second-hand typewriter for use by the club. It was proposed that cigars be banned from the games. It was also moved that certain tables be designated as "non-smoking" tables.

#### September 1981

Dennis Bradley was president, Neil Burnham was Vice-President and Lesley Waghorn was a committee member. It was noted that the hall was uncomfortably hot and it was hoped some remedy could be found for next summer. It was suggested that the Director should not play when a large number of tables made up the game and that possibly the committee members should each take a turn being available as a partner. A committee member disagreed with this and the matter was left for discussion.

#### September 1983

During the year, two air-conditioning units (paid for by Cavendish) had been installed in the hope that this would make the room more comfortable for non-smokers. Membership was limited to 130.

#### September 1984

Congratulations were given to Lois Blake and Lesley Waghorn who came first overall in the Ladies Pairs at the ACBL National Championships in San Antonio. Neil Burnham was President. It was proposed that the longest-standing member of the club, Jean Lorimer, in whose home the club originally began, should be made an honorary member with the privilege of paying no further game fees; carried unanimously.

#### September 1985

With an increase in the number of players, it was suggested and approved that at ten minutes before game time members only would be admitted in advance of non-members. The president brought forward the question of faster scoring for games, and the committee agreed that the directors be approached and asked to take whatever assistance is offered by qualified people to speed up the scoring of a game. The directors were also asked to have the games match-pointed immediately at the end of the game, and that the entering of the results should be shared as mentioned above with the help of qualified persons. The committee unanimously agreed that Bonnie Norris should be a stand-in for reserve director. The president proposed that a time limit for each round be adhered to more strictly with the use of two clocks, - one set to ring with a three or four minute warning and the second for the movement change.

#### August 1988

There was some quite heated discussion regarding the catering requirements and duties (preparation, cleaning-up, etc. etc.). A notice was made up by the president, Lee Stratton, and with the aid of Denise Donovan a copy was placed on each table reminding all players the club is a non-profit club and everyone was expected to bear a share in assisting with the cleaning of tables, garbage, etc. etc.

#### May 1989

A poll was taken during the Winter as to members' preference for a smoking or non-smoking club. Over 90 members responded to this poll with nearly two-thirds (63%) in favour of no smoking in the playing area: five members indicated they would not continue to play in a non-smoking club. It was moved that for three months from June 1, 1989 no smoking would be allowed at the tables in the main playing area and that from September 1, 1989 there would be no smoking at all in the Church. - for summer months, smoking would be permitted in the small sitting-room in the kitchen. Carried.

#### August 1989

The president read a letter dated June 2, 1989, and a petition of August 4<sup>th</sup> signed by 47 players requesting that the ban on smoking be rescinded. The president then read a letter dated August 10<sup>th</sup> received from the Lawrence Park Community Church outlining the policy adopted by the Trustees that no smoking would be permitted anywhere in the Church; a notation added that smoking was allowable in the parking areas. This seemed to finalize the matter. The discussion ended with the general consensus to let the matter cool off.

#### September 1989

A motion was made that one or two smoking breaks of five minutes each be given during a game. There was sharp dissention from various members. A vote was taken and defeated.

#### September 1990

The question of using a computer was raised with very little support.

#### March 1991

It was agreed that an earlier start of 7:30 p.m. would commence on May 1<sup>st</sup>. The president said he had at last managed to get a telephone placed for emergency use outside the Church office door downstairs. This was not generally advertised so that it would not be used frivolously.

#### October 1991

There were complaints about one or two players who displayed exceptional rudeness and awkwardness at the table. These players were spoken to diplomatically.

#### June 1996

Following notification from the Lawrence Park Community Church that the weekly rent would be increased by \$50.00 a night as a result of the high-tech security system that had been installed in the Church requiring a Sexton to be on duty from 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m., the members were notified that an increase in the weekly entry fee would be required. A poll was taken of the players present that night as to whether the club should remain open during the rest of the summer; the majority voted to continue playing during the month and an increase of 50 cents per player was agreed upon. This would not be sufficient to cover the additional rent and steps were taken to ascertain whether another hall could be obtained.

#### July 1996

Following an extensive search, an arrangement was made with the Bedford Park United Church on Ranleigh Avenue to rent their downstairs hall, including tables and chairs for \$60.00 a night.

#### September 1996

A number of members thought that conditions and parking at the Bedford Park United Church were not satisfactory. One or two halls including Taylor Place were under consideration.

November 1996

It was moved that the club should buy a Laptop computer. The question of purchasing bidding boxes was deferred until the New Year when hopefully sufficient locked space would be available at Taylor Place.

September 2002

Membership in the club would not be limited as to number and renewal fees would not be required at the present time. The maximum number of tables will be held to 26.

**THE CAVENDISH IS YOUR CLUB**

**CAVENDISH IS THE OLDEST, CONTINUALLY OPERATING BRIDGE CLUB IN TORONTO AND IS ONE OF THE OLDEST IN THE ENTIRE ACBL WITH A HISTORY DATING BACK TO 1944.**

**BEFORE RECOMMENDING CAVENDISH TO ANYONE, PLEASE BEAR IN MIND OUR HIGH STANDARDS OF ETHICAL AND POLITE BEHAVIOR.**