

Hi Duplicate Lite Enthusiasts,

This newsletter includes important information for upcoming events, renovation schedules, and possible dates for club closures.

It is gratifying to report that our attendance numbers continue to be strong! We had 22 new players in April, and the lesson activities are popular. The Wednesday game is growing and for the past several weeks, the open section has had eight+ tables, enough players for a regular Mitchell table movement!

Lessons – two sets

- **experienced or advancing players**
- **the new player**

Experienced and advancing players: Improve your Defense! Wednesdays, May 11, May 18, May 25 & June 1

Jane Youngberg will be starting a set of 4 lessons on Wednesday May 11 at 4:15 p.m. after the Wednesday Game. These lessons will target intermediate and advancing players. Defense is the quickest way to improve your game and scores! learn to communicate better with your partner and score more tricks! Cost is \$15.00 per lesson or \$40.00 for the series. No partner necessary. Each lesson can be attended independently as the topics are separate.

New Players: Supervised Play on Wednesday evenings at Elgin Hall

Supervised Play sessions for new players will be starting up this Wednesday, May 11, from 6-8 p.m. at Elgin Hall. No partner required. Cost is \$10.00 per session including coffee and refreshments.

These sessions are designed for players who know the basics of Bridge and/or have recently taken introductory lessons to Bridge but have had little experience. There will be an emphasis on developing a positive environment which encourages learning, making new friends and having fun.

The two hour format will usually involve a mini lesson (15 minutes approx.) followed by play of hands to practice the mini lesson focus and/or basic Bridge concepts. For example, it is anticipated that the first session on May 11 will review the principles of *Opening a Major*. Future upcoming sessions will cover other topics such as *Opening No Trump & Responses to a No Trump opener* (including Stayman) and *Opening a Minor*. The program will run every Wednesday evening through May and early June. It's ultimate continuation will depend on interest and attendance. The sessions can be attended separately - no problem if you miss a week or two.

Special Event Volunteer Celebration - Thurs June 9th, 2016

Thursday, June 9th will feature a recognition day to celebrate our club volunteers and as well, our 5th Anniversary of Duplicate Lite! The theme is yellow! Wearing something yellow (eg. hat, clothing items, shoes, socks) is a way of saying "thank you" to our wonderful volunteers. Prizes will be given to creative wearers of yellow!

There will be entertainment, extra master points awarded, and lunch. Please note that the duration of the game will be longer:

- start time 9:30 am
- finish time 1:45 -2:00 pm

Pre registration is a must and *the cost is \$15 per person. Please sign up at the club including making your payment. Participants are asked to be at Elgin Hall on or before 9:15 a.m. The game will be limited to 30 tables.*

Website <http://www.duplicatelite.ca/>

We have had 18,000 pages viewed on our web site in the first four months!! Don Nagy has done an amazing job of building and maintaining our website. It is current and full of tips and information! Please visit the website when you need information!

Name tags and Badges

The strength of our club is the welcoming and friendly atmosphere we have created together. Wearing your name tag helps to maintain this atmosphere. Lauren Cockroft is accepting name tag orders for the next run of badges (\$8.00 and please indicate pin or magnet).

Suggestion Box and Questions

We have implemented a way to ask bridge questions or make constructive suggestions for improvement, Please submit your questions or ideas by dropping them in the suggestion box on the stage.

Hand Records

We are encouraging you to be kind to the environment by looking on line at the hand records and results rather than picking up a hand record. The club will continue to make hand records available for players who wish to discuss the hands after the game.

Renovation Update for Elgin Hall

The City has informed us:

- Our parking lot is scheduled to be paved at the end of August, 2016. This is good news but unfortunately we may have to close for 1 – 2 weeks during this process.
- Elgin Hall will likely be renovated November and December of 2016. The city is working on securing Sunnyside Hall for us during the renovation time but such a possible arrangement has not been confirmed as yet.

Fee Increase- to \$8.00

Everyone is aware that the costs for our grocery and other household expenditures have gone up in recent times! Similarly the running of our Bridge club has gone up as well.

- Purchase prices for Bridge supplies and materials are increasing significantly, especially with our low Canadian currency compared to the US dollar
- ACBL has raised the Table fees for games.
- We are also a club with an emphasis on learning and with a continuing commitment to growing and investing in the future of bridge in Surrey. Eventually we hope to reach our goal of having a Bridge Center! This involves expenditures and outlays which are likely greater than many clubs:
 - 2 directors due to the size of our game and an emphasis on education
 - being current with the latest equipment and technology
 - scheduling several special events
 - investment in expanding programs and improving facilities
 - additional insurance costs for the society
 - weekly volunteer voucher program

As a result of these factors, we will be raising the fee to \$8.00. This will allow us to adequately meet our expenses and enable us to continue our educational program and build towards our own bridge center. Thank you for your support and understanding.

Please note that the Vancouver Bridge Center charges \$10 per game.

The fee increase will come into effect on Wednesday, May 18th and on Thursday, May 19th.

Harrison Retreat with Barbara Seagram: October 3 - 5, 2016

Registration is still available. Please contact Carroll Guichon <mailto:carrollguichon@shaw.ca>. The flier is attached.

Closure during Penticton Regional – Wednesday June 15 and Thursday June 16

Most of our directors attend this fun tournament and the clubs may be closed on June 15 and June 16.

Tournament – Sectional

May long weekend at Queensborough. Less than 20 minutes from Elgin Hall.

Information for the tournament can be found here
<http://web2.acbl.org/Tournaments/Ads/2016/05/1605058.pdf>

If you are a player with less than 50 points and are looking for a partner please contact Rhoda at rafler@shaw.ca 604-273-698

Summary

As we approach the midpoint of 2016, our Bridge club continues to be very successful. We look forward to improvements in our facilities at Elgin Hall and to exciting possibilities for continued growth of Bridge in our community.

Ask your bridge playing friends to join you at one of the Wednesday/Thursday game sessions; for your non bridge playing friends, encourage them to take part in our lesson programs. We will be offering more lessons for beginners in the September! And consider coming out to assist on a Wednesday evening with the Beginner's Supervised Play session will get underway this Wednesday, May 11.

See you at the table!

Cheers,

John, Ed (Happy), and Jane

Editor: Ed Youngberg