

Hi Duplicate Lite enthusiasts,

Hope you all had a terrific summer and are enjoying our wonderful Indian Summer. You will find updates for our club in this newsletter.

10 Minute Tip - Thursday, September 15 at 9:15 am

Commencing this Thursday September 15, John Demeulemeester will present 3+ sessions at 9:15 am on the topic of **cue bidding**. All players are welcome - no cost.

Lessons on Hold

Given the uncertainty of dates and the changing renovation timeline (s) for Elgin Hall, our Fall Lessons are being postponed. Lessons will be offered after the renovations are completed. *Please check our website for updates.* The 2/1 series will be offered after the renovation is complete.

Elgin Hall Renovations

Based on the latest information, we're now anticipating the *Elgin Hall renovation to commence in February/March 2017*. The City of Surrey is planning to schedule the interior and parking lot renovation back to back. As a result, it is anticipated that the Elgin Hall facility will be **unavailable for user groups for a 12-14 week consecutive period**. We will keep our Duplicate Lite players posted as to possible alternate sites for our games during this break.

Please respect the "A" and "C" markers at the Thursday morning game

Various tables on Thursdays have markers indicating that the table is "reserved" for either "A" level pairs or "C" level pairs. The purpose of such markers is to ensure that the game is fair for everyone by distributing the various levels of players more evenly across both sections of play. Your cooperation in honouring these designated tables is much appreciated and will help ensure that our two sections will be equal in strength. *A more detailed explanation of the rationale for the "A" and "C" marker system is included further below in this notice.*

Please note that new Stratified Levels for "A", "B" and "C" pairs will be introduced beginning this Thursday, September 15. Information about the new Stratified Levels is presented in the next topic and players are urged to familiarize themselves with these new levels. Thanks for your support.

New A/B/C Strat Levels - beginning Thursday, Sept 15

Over the month of August, 2016 there were an average of 23 "A" pairs, 16 "B" pairs and 8 "C" pairs at the game. We have too many "A" pairs and too few "C" pairs. Ideally, we would want about 16 pairs in each of the three strats.

Many of our beginning players have now earned more than 20 masterpoints and no longer qualify for "C". Many of our middle players have earned more than 100 masterpoints and no longer qualify for "B".

Having equal numbers in the three strats is the most fair. Having more players in the "C" strat will increase the masterpoint awards for the top finishers in "C".

We will start using the following new strat levels for the Thursday morning game. These new levels will give approximately the same number of players in each of the three strats:

"A" - 500+ masterpoints average between you and your partner

"B" - 100 - 499 masterpoints average for you and your partner

“C” - 0 - 99 masterpoints average for you and your partner

Table Designations

"A" TABLE - If you and your partner average 500 masterpoints or more (1000 total for the two players combined), please sit at a table with an “A” marker.

"C" TABLE - If you and your partner average less than 100 masterpoints, please sit at a table with a “C” marker.

NON "A" or "C" TABLE - If you average between 100 and 499 masterpoints, please sit at a table with no “A” or “C” marker.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation

Annual General Meeting - September 1, 2016

The AGM for Duplicate Lite was held following the regular Bridge game at Elgin Hall on Thursday, September 1. There were 22 players in attendance.

The full minutes of the meeting are posted on the Duplicate Lite Website.

Topics included the:

1. "State of the club" address by the chair, John Demeulemeester who reviewed the three main goals of Duplicate Lite:
 - a. To create a friendly non profit club to play, to learn and to improve
 - b. To have a place where new players could start Bridge and have an opportunity to learn and to improve
 - c. To work toward the establishment of a Bridge Centre and possible permanent location in the Peninsula/Surrey area
2. Role of the Society for Duplicate Lite
3. Financials
- 4 . Election of Society Officers
5. Updates on Harrison Hot Springs Land Cruise 4 (October 3-5, 2016); Mentoring Program, Renovations, Long term vision of Bridge Centre

It is anticipated that highlights from the AGM will be shared in upcoming newsletters.

RATIONALE FOR "A" AND "C" MARKER SYSTEM ON TABLES

The purpose of the “A” and “C” markers on the tables at Duplicate Lite is to make the game more fair for everyone. When they first appeared, people mostly respected them. But one year later, many people are ignoring them (perhaps not understanding the purpose of the markers).

If most of the “C” players sit East/West, this will leave mostly “A” and “B” players sitting North/South. These East/West “C” players will play mostly against tougher competition at the table. If the “C” players want to face other “C” players at the table, then some of the “C” players must sit North/South. If most “C” players sit in section B, the few “C” players in section A will face tougher competition and will be at a disadvantage in the overall scoring.

To have a fair game, we need as many “C” players sitting North/South as East/West and as many sitting in Section A as in Section B. The same goes for “A” players and “B” players. Note that the two sections on Thursday morning are equivalent. One is not stronger than the other. The scoring is done across the entire room, across two sections intended to be equal in strength.

The table markers are placed in round robin fashion: A, no marker, C, A, no marker, C, etc. The tables with no markers at the "B" tables and also the overflow tables should either the "A" tables to the "C" tables become totally full. The intention is that every pair would play in turn against an "A" pair, against a "B" pair, against a "C" pair, against another "A" pair, and so on throughout the game. Every pair would face the same level of competition, playing against both stronger pairs and weaker pairs, and would have the same chance at winning a masterpoint award for their strat. All "C" players would face the same number of "A" and "B" players.

If you are an "A" pair, please sit at a table with an "A" marker. Do not sit anywhere else until all places at the "A" tables have been occupied. If all "A" tables are full, then it is OK to sit at one of the "B" tables (no marker). If you are a "C" pair, please sit at a table with a "C" marker. If all "C" places are taken, then it is OK to sit at a "B" table (no marker).

SUMMARY

Well, this notice has included a lot of updates! Thanks for your understanding and support. Look forward to seeing you at the Bridge table!