



Greetings Harrisburg Bridge Club Members:

HBC annual membership renewal instructions are at the end of this letter.

It's been another great year at HBC. In addition to our regular schedule of club games, we ran several

Sectional tournaments and were selected to host three District 4 North American Pairs Finals in the championship flight as well as Flights B & C. We will also be holding a 0-750 NLM Rainbow gold & silver point tournament in mid-November. All of these events offered our members the opportunity to earn gold, red and silver points at their home club! The continued efforts of Bob Priest in working with the district have been instrumental in getting these events scheduled at HBC.

Our current table count for 2025 is higher than the previous year, and we are one of the few clubs in the country to achieve and even exceed pre-COVID playing levels. Many kudos go out to Linda Davis, whose tireless work to identify guaranteed partners (GPs) for all of our regular weekday games ensures that players without a partner will be always be able to participate in those games. The willingness of the large number of GPs to donate their time is also greatly appreciated. Thanks to a robust Education Committee chaired by Mike Mendelson, our membership numbers continue to grow, and we're constantly working with our beginner players to introduce them into regular ACBL-sanctioned games. While we have many talented instructors, special thanks to Dennis Shaub and Jack Rudy who teach our beginner classes. New BB1 classes which started in September should increase our table counts in beginner games as well as provide a source for additional new club members. These newer players bring a great deal of enthusiasm about learning and playing bridge, and represent the future of our club.

We continue to adjust our game schedule to accommodate the needs of our diversified membership, as our club offers a great variety of games for players of all skill levels. We run many games that offer extra master points at a low cost – thanks to Bob Priest for organizing these games and keeping track of a complicated calendar. We have made generous contributions through donations and designated games to both the Alzheimer's Association and our designated 2025 local charity, the George & Hettie Love Memorial Library (George was a long-time club member and previous President of HBC). The work of Club Manager Jim Boyer in creating a roster of qualified game Directors plays a key role in letting us run so many games. Also, kudos to Cecile Hund and her Hospitality Committee for arranging delicious food for many of our special events. Finally, I'd like to recognize a special group of people – including Cindy Mueller, Pat Bettger, Susan Hunter, Cathy Becker and Marilyn Gillespie - who come to the club every weekend to prepare the boards for the upcoming week.

The efforts of House Manager Mike Mendelson to make improvements to both the clubhouse and the building grounds have been noteworthy. Improvements were made to the ladies' bathroom, to our building roof, and to the lighting in the clubhouse, and we now have periodically scheduled carpet cleaning within the building. We also have hired a landscaping contractor to assist with maintaining the grounds around the building – many thanks to Midge Sobolewski for her past and ongoing efforts to improve the appearance of our exterior grounds!

Our finances are in good shape too. This is due to our strong table count and sound financial management. It means we can meet both our regular expenses as well as future needs. Our table fee for regular games remains at \$8, which is easily the lowest cost for playing sanctioned bridge at any club in our area. Special thanks to our Treasurer, MaryRose Noto-Hardy, for being an exceptional custodian of our funds, and also to the Assistant Treasurer, Darius Kapadia, for collecting and counting game receipts and doing the weekly bank deposit!

Our membership rolls continue at a high level, as we now have more than 400 club members for 2025. Many thanks to Membership Chair Bill Even for his hard work in maintaining the membership files and in finding innovative ways for our club members to renew their annual commitment.

While the year 2025 was highly successful for HBC, it also brought with it some sadness as we lost a number of long-term members. Our thoughts and prayers are with Suzanne Mioff, Ethel Cohen, Barbara Epstein, Jerry Buckwalter, Blanche Woolford, Mary Eberle and Steve Winer, as well as their families.

2025 has been especially challenging for me as I've been away from the club more than usual, both because of several vacations as well as dealing with emergent medical issues. Many club members pitched in to cover my normal responsibilities, but I'd like to recognize the efforts of Vice President Andre St. Omer Roy in picking up the slack.

We are required by our By-Laws to hold our Annual Meeting before the end of the year. The 2025 Meeting is set for **Saturday, December 6th**. The meeting will begin at **11:00 a.m.**, followed by a **free luncheon** at approximately 11:45. Following lunch (approximately 12:30), there will be two or three extra masterpoint Pairs Games (Open and several limited point games) with **no entry fee** for members of the Club. Please sign up in advance so that we can ensure adequate food. A signup sheet is available in the Club, or you can Email the club at harrisburgbc@gmail.com.

During the annual meeting, we will elect new board members for three-year terms. The Nominating Committee has recruited the following candidates: **Jeremy Lynch, Barb Roth, Bernadette Black, Ray Rizzo and Monica Knopf**. Board members elected at this meeting will take office at the conclusion of the annual meeting, and then there will be a brief, but important, meeting of the new Board to elect officers for 2025. The nominees are: **President – Andre St. Omer Roy; Vice President – Dave Charleston; Secretary - Cecile Hund; and Treasurer – Chris St. Omer Roy**. I am pleased with the talent and energy of our new Governors and confident that our proposed Management Team will serve you well.

Membership renewal will be simplified this year. Simply place payment in an envelope and return it to the club, either by U.S. Mail (Harrisburg Bridge Club, 349 North 21st Street, Camp Hill, PA 17011) or by placing it in the wooden membership box mounted on the wall behind the door to the room behind the Director's desk. The cost is \$15 for annual membership or \$150 for lifetime membership. Checks are highly encouraged. Be sure to include your name and any changes to your contact information. Current lifetime and emeritus members need not take any action unless contact information needs updating. If you do not plan to renew your membership, kindly notify us.

Best Regards,
Jack Hund
Harrisburg Bridge Club President