

THE NOTTINGHAM BRIDGE CLUB

Newsletter - June 2023

Honorary Life Members

At the AGM, Mark Goddard and Mel Shepherd were made Honorary Life Members in recognition of their many years of service to the club. They joined a very select group and we decided that we were overdue in recognising them all with an Honours Board on the wall.



We then realised that we did not have a board for winners of the Jordan Cup so decided that the wall would look good with a new set of boards. Our thanks to Phil Gross for putting the boards together.

It's a big deal

We now have five drives at the club, all of which need a set of boards to be dealt in advance. ... and we expect to need a sixth set in the not too distant future.

So we thank Neil Marriott for stepping forward and organising a rota of people to ensure the boards are ready for drives. There's room for more to join the rota. So, if you are comfortable with running a computer, have a word with Neil and he can explain what is involved. It is a job that can be done by coming a bit early to a drive and filling in your time by dealing a set of boards.

For the Swiss Teams competition we used four sets of 36-boards, and found we did not have boxes to hold them. So our thanks go to Pete Walker for his carpentry skills in making us some new, larger boxes.

We plan to replace some of the old boards, mainly green ones, that are showing their age. As a first step, we bought some lovely red ones. Unfortunately the quality has proved to be disappointing: some of the clips didn't work and some of the boards are too big to fit into the dealing machine properly. So, they will need to go back to the supplier and replacements found.

Committee

Following our AGM in March, the committee now comprises:

Andrew Scott (President)
David Dunford (Chairman)
Jean Mckee (Secretary)
Phil Gross (Treasurer)
Wilf Fenwick
Marc Gaudart
Paul Goodwin
Sue Hollins
Margaret Litchfield
Gerry McCormack
Sheilagh Resnick
Stefka Samus
Dave Treharne

Paperless

With the introduction of electric hand driers in the club toilets we can now dispense with the paper towel dispensers. We thank Sefka Samus for project managing the whole process through to their installation



Evening Meal

Marian Donaldson is organising another evening meal. It is at 7pm on Tuesday 20 June at Rakky Rakkas. This is a Turkish restaurant, further up Mansfield Road at 575A.

To book your place, see the sign-up sheet on the notice board at the club.



The suggested meal, giving you a full range of flavours, is the special platter which comprises Lamb Shish, Chicken Shish, Kebab, Chicken Wings, Lamb Ribs, Lamb Chops, Chicken Beyti and Mixed doner served with Bread, Rice and Salad. But if you prefer to choose your own, that is not a problem, just make a note on the sign up sheet.

Beginners and Beyond

Do you know someone who would be interested in learning to play bridge? Perhaps it's someone who already plays social bridge but would benefit from a thorough set of lessons. Andrew Scott will be starting a new beginners' course after the summer. Get them to send an email to Learn@NottinghamBridge.Club and Andrew will tell them what is involved.

Our gentle Wednesday Acol-only drives, where people can ask for advice, are proving very popular, and we have had up to ten tables. Our enthusiastic team ensures that everyone gets a game, so you don't have to turn up with a partner. The sessions are not just for people who have learnt at our club. We have people who have learnt elsewhere – one even just learnt on a bridge cruise - and at this stage in their playing career need a slower game than they can get elsewhere. If you play social bridge with friends, why not suggest they come along!

Thursdays

Our Thursday evening drives are progressing well thanks to all the work put in by Lesley and Paul Sweet. If you are free on a Thursday evening, why not come along and join in.

Master Points

Congratulations to those promoted in April:

Liz Beswick and Anna Harper : District Master
Irene Brown : Advanced Master
Marc Gaudart : 1 Star Master
Louise Scull : 2 Star Master
Sylvia Goodlud : 1 Star Premier Master

Congratulations are also due to Keith Rodgers for gaining the greatest number of master points at the club last year.



This news prompted us to look at who played most times with us last year. Of the 193 people who played face-to-face, five got into three figures with Elizabeth Dunford playing the most, at 122 drives. Ninety people played online and Lynne Cumberpatch and Stuart Wharton together topped the list at 51 drives each.

Teams

Overall, our teams had a good season in the county teams of eight competition. Gambit came top of division 1, and Aldecliffe second. Our Team A won the second division and so are due for promotion. Team B were headed for second place, but were pipped at the post. Ruff and Ready, however, failed to live up to the promise of the previous season, where they finished ahead of Team B. Winning Division One meant that the club fielded a team in the EBU's Garden Cities competition. However, despite a couple of wins, the team failed to make it past the regional qualifier.

Our Swiss Teams at the end of April had a good turnout, with fourteen teams competing. Every team managed to win at least one match, and so everybody went home with master points. Our next Swiss Teams is on Saturday, 17 September. However, do let us know if you would like more teams play. If we could get just four teams together we could have an enjoyable afternoon or evening playing three eight-board matches.

What Next?

If you have any suggestions as to any other improvements we can make to the premises – or the bridge that we offer – you can enter them in the red Suggestions Book kept on the table outside the office or mention it to one of our committee. Suggestions are reviewed at committee meetings: the next one is on 23 September.

Also, we are always in need of new people to direct or score. People are shy to volunteer but, if you know someone who you think would be suitable, whisper their name in the ear of one of the committee members.