

# **BRIDGE ON THE EDGE, INC.**

**A NOT FOR PROFIT BRIDGE CLUB OWNED BY ITS MEMBERS  
SERVING THE ST. JOHN'S DUPLICATE BRIDGE COMMUNITY**

**October 2017 Newsletter**

## **HAPPY 1ST ANNIVERSARY**

Bridge on the Edge celebrated our First anniversary as a “player-owned club” in September with an anniversary cake.

In just one year BOTE members have adopted a Constitution, held our first AGM, installed our first elected Board, introduced 99er games, hired a Club Manager, trained many dealers, mentors, and directors, and found a new home. We have an Education Committee, a Social Committee, and a Club Recorder. You might say we have been busy!



## **ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD MINUTES**

Minutes of the September 2017 Board Meeting are posted on the BOTE website under [Information](#) on the sidebar. Highlights of the meeting are:

- ♣ The Club’s fiscal year will run from April 1 to March 31.
- ♣ An accountant will be hired to review the finances from September 1, 2016, to March 31, 2017, once the accounts have been brought up to date.
- ♣ Table fees will be reduced to \$5 per person until the end of September and during the month of December.
- ♣ The Board has approved criteria for hiring bridge teachers for BOTE and have established compensation for such teachers (see p. 3).
- ♣ Players are being asked to not request N/S seating at games unless it is absolutely necessary.
- ♣ Players who find the Club cold have been asked to bring an extra sweater as others complain of the building being too warm.



- ♣ Coffee and tea will continue to be provided as long as players either clean up the Club cups or bring their own.
- ♣ A Christmas celebration is in the works. Stay tuned! The last game before the holiday season will be December 21, and the first game in 2018 will be January 2.
- ♣ The Club Manager honorarium has been increased from \$500 to \$600 per month.

## EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT

The Education Committee, under the leadership of Heidi Janes, Janet Hannaford, and Roy Perry, is pleased to report a number of projects that have been launched this fall.

**The M2M Mentoring Program** pairs up newer players (mentees) with more experienced players (mentors). The program's purpose is to guide mentees' growth in all aspects of the game. The pairs agree to play three games together, each taking the responsibility to make the experience a success. In appreciation for their time, mentors are awarded three free games. Eleven pairs have teamed up for the M2M experience this fall.

**Lessons on Basic Defense** is an 8-week course delivered by Deirdre Davis on Mondays from 9:30 to 11:30 am for \$10/lesson. While drop-ins were initially welcome, the interest in this class was so high, only those pre-registered are now able to attend. This class has been fully booked for the entire fall session.

**Advanced Bidding & Conventions** for intermediate and advanced players is being offered by Tom Dale on Mondays from 9:30 to 11:30 am for \$10/lesson. Deirdre and Tom have coordinated their schedules using the same time slot on different days. To ensure a spot in these classes, members are encouraged to sign up online in advance.

**Who's the Captain: Mastering Your Bidding Skills** is an 8-week course with emphasis on improving bidding skills and is being delivered by Randy and Marilyn Bennett on Thursdays from 9:30 to 11:30 am for \$10/lesson. Randy will provide instruction for all levels, while Marilyn will concentrate her time with the beginner group. Members are encouraged to book online to ensure a seat.

**Completing Your Convention Card** is being presented by Anne Hughes on Tuesdays, October 24 and 31, from 9:30 to 11:30 am. This is a great opportunity for newer players who would like to begin using convention cards. It should be noted that having a "completed" Convention Card is mandatory at sanctioned games.



## BRIDGE TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS/REMUNERATION

The Board approved the following:

1. That any teacher hired by BOTE must have demonstrable subject matter knowledge, as evidenced by at least 400 MPs. This is a quality assurance mechanism.
2. To manage educational programming on a semester basis; as such, there will be another Call For Teachers later this fall in order to decide upon winter offerings. This will allow adaption and response to changing member needs and teacher preferences.
3. That, with respect to teacher compensation, effective Monday, Sept. 18, 2017:
  - a. Teachers will earn 60% of the student registration fees for each of their workshops/ 40% goes to BOTE.
  - b. If there are fewer than five (5) students registered in a session, the teacher will keep the fees and BOTE will top up to ensure a total compensation of \$50 per session. That means if a teacher has only four students, s/he still gets \$50. By contrast, if there are ten students, then the instructor gets 60% of the student registration fees, i.e. \$60. As such, the compensation is \$50 or 60% of the student registration fees, whichever is greater.
  - c. Instructional assistants will be organized, as required, by the instructors. Any compensation they receive will be from the teacher's remuneration and at the teacher's discretion; BOTE will not be involved in this aspect.

## THE LONGEST DAY 2017

Along with numerous other Canadian and US bridge clubs, BOTE participated with the Alzheimer Society again this year to raise funds to support local programs and services for individuals and their families affected by Alzheimer Disease. The event took place in June and involved a week of fund-raising initiatives that included a silent auction, coffee breaks, donations, sale of tickets, and BOTE table fees. Kudos to the fundraising committee (Laura Flynn, Kevin Flynn, Brenda Conway and Maura Beam), the Board, particularly Janet Hannaford who gave selflessly of her time, and most of all to the general membership, who contributed in every way to the success of the initiative. The total amount generated by the fundraising event was \$3,681.27. Great work everyone!"



## 99ers GAME

BOTE introduced the Thursday 99ers Game in the spring of 2017. This is a competitive game for players with 0-99 master points. The pace is slightly slower, usually 20-21 boards instead of 24-27 boards. The Club was averaging 5 tables per session until around June when interest dropped off considerably. The Board is trying to determine if there is enough interest to continue this format and will be discussing the matter at future meetings. Therefore, if you know other players who may be interested in this game, spread the word. If you would like 99er games on a different day, please let the Board know your opinion.

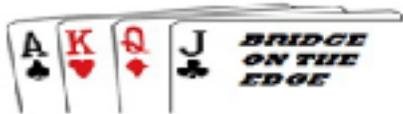
## “SHOUT OUT” TO OUR DEALERS ♠♥♦♣

BOTE is managed by a voluntary administrative board, but there many other volunteers whose efforts help ensure the smooth running of our club. In this newsletter, we want to give a “shout out” to our volunteer dealers, as listed below. Great work, everyone!

Barb Slattery gets a special commendation for her tireless efforts to train and schedule dealers, always making sure that we are good to go at game time. Thanks Barb.

- |                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| 1. Barb Baldwin     | 13. Judith McIntyre                      |
| 2. Nellie Burke     | 14. Lorne Warren                         |
| 3. Shahti Chandra   | 15. Mary Lou Martin                      |
| 4. Brenda Conway    | 16. Pauline Mackey                       |
| 5. Fran Cook        | 17. Pramilla Paddock                     |
| 6. Esther Dooling   | 18. Shirley Ryan                         |
| 7. Eva Down         | 19. Schakti Rahul                        |
| 8. Susan Follett    | 20. Dan Regan                            |
| 9. Marlene Greey    | 21. Barbara Slattery, Dealer Coordinator |
| 10. Joy Hoskins     | 22. Helen Sullivan                       |
| 11. Heidi Janes     | 23. Sandra Tobin                         |
| 12. Wanda Lundrigan | 24. Marilyn Walborne                     |

*Submitted by Heidi Janes, VP, BOTE*



Wednesday, October 25

**Earn Gold!** The ACBL-wide Instant Matchpoint Game will be held **Wednesday afternoon, October 25**. One gold point is awarded to section tops in both directions at each participating club. Winners of the ACBL-wide Instant Matchpoint Game will be recognized in the ACBL Bridge Bulletin and on the ACBL website. Each player will receive a booklet with analysis of all 36 deals by Larry Cohen. Check out the ACBL website for more details.

## CONTEST - *Write a caption!*

Is it Dorothy from the Wizard of OZ? Is it the Queen of Hearts? Or could it be one of our very own BOTE members, a very enthusiastic bridge lady? Whoever donned these shoes is definitely a *shopper extraordinaire!* So the Board has offered a prize to the person who can write the best caption for the picture below.

*The member who submits the best caption for this picture wins a free game! Send your submission to [Tim Summers](#). One submission per member please. Winner to be announced in the next Newsletter.*

