

# Rochester Duplicate Bridge Club January 2020



Happy New Year to all! It hardly seems possible we're into a new year, but our bridge community is strong and growing, thanks to the work of many volunteers. Maybe 2020 is the year you can get involved, whether helping our dealers, volunteering to help for special events, teaching, playing with a new and emerging player, helping with Chat Bridge, driving our players to and from games, etc. As “they” say, just do it!



WANT AD –. Linda and Tom Grigoleit are retiring as chairs of the April sectional after 2020. They are looking for a volunteer(s) that will work with them this year in the planning, etc. Please contact them directly, or let Sue know if you are interested in helping our club shine in Minnesota.

## **NEW BOARD**

Congratulations to our incoming board members for 2020 – Arne Fockler (one year term), Cindy Heins, Matt Belau, John Woog, Ed Prosser, and Gloria Georger . Continuing board members are Mary Jo Kelly, Betty Shidler, and Yvonne Sterioff. Our thanks to Bob Roediger, Tom Grigoleit, Sharlene Owens, and Deb Ernster for completing their two year terms. And we can't forget our capable, thoughtful president, Mary Foss. Her leadership was the impetus for getting a lot accomplished this past year. Thanks, Mary! The organizational meeting of the new board will be Wednesday, January 8, 11 am.



## **SPECIAL GAMES**



Throughout the year, Club Membership games are scheduled, one for each game session. This is a way to say thank you to those with ACBL

memberships. While anyone may play during these games, only ACBL members may be awarded master points. Both people in the partnership must be ACBL members; otherwise, the pair is ineligible. (Sue has Instant Membership forms for anyone that wishes to join.) The first membership game of the year will be January 10.



As a “perk” to club members, when there are special games with enhanced master points (and additional ACBL fees per table), there is no extra charge to local players.

In January, some games are designated as Junior Fund games. The extra fees that the club submits help fund our younger players to compete in tournaments around the world.

On the bulletin board, only **special** games are listed in the colored listing. Just remember, there are games every week (see calendar on the website), as scheduled, unless canceled because of a holiday (or for other reasons).

The website calendar gives you a whole month’s activities in one glance. Scroll to the bottom to find the printable version.

Welcome new ACBL members Connie & Kurt Dalzell, Earlene & Harlan Wickre, and Leon Ernster.

### ***IN MEMORIUM***

In 2019, we lost three bridge players – Darlene Enderson, Ron Fess, and Ellie Fish. They were all a vital part of our club at some point. Their bright smiles and personalities will be missed. Per Board policy, we will remember them with roses during the week of January 20.



## ***INCLEMENT WEATHER***

In the event of inclement weather, our policy is to cancel games if the Rochester Public Schools are closed at game time. We **do not** cancel games because of wind chill, as we can make the choice whether to venture out (without standing at a bus stop). Watch for cancellations posted on the website and the scrolled cancellations on KTTC. Also, every effort will be made to send an email in a timely fashion.



## ***HEALTH TIP***

Just a reminder – if you are sneezing, coughing, feeling wobbly or just plain sick, please stay home. While hand sanitizer is always out at the games, airborne germs can be just as dangerous. Remember, the preferred way to cover a cough or sneeze is with your arm or elbow. Let's all be well through this upcoming winter season. (Have you had your flu shot???)



## ***PATNERSHIPS***

We all get canceled once in a while or are just looking for a partner. On the website, there is a function that allows you to post your need for a partner for a specific game. Check it out! It will appear on the calendar as a small icon, looking like a small person. Also, I am working on a partnership card similar to the ones used at tournaments. We have the partnership bulletin board – why not use it in the same manner? I will let you know when I have perfected the card and the procedures.

## ZERO TOLERANCE

As we enter the New Year, please review the Board policy on Zero Tolerance, attached to this newsletter. Let's make our games comfortable and welcoming to all!

**BE KIND.  
ALWAYS.**

## GRAND NATIONAL TEAMS QUALIFIER



A Grand National Teams qualifier has been scheduled for January 29. (We usually have Swiss teams on the fifth Wednesday.) A signup (teams of 4) will be available January 1. The District 14 GNT finals are April 18-19 in Edina.

## CLASSES

Spring classes are now available through Community Education online (Rochester Public Schools – Adult Enrichment). Two beginning classes and one intermediate class will be offered. Need to brush up on some basic skills? Read the descriptions and choose one that is right for you!

I wish you all the best in 2020 – see you at the bridge table.

Sue Greenberg, Club Manager



Quote for the month: “Write it on your heart that every day is the best day in the year.” Ralph Waldo Emerson

Director tip for the month – Do not touch your bidding box until you have decided what your bid shall be. Fiddling with the bid choices sends unauthorized information to your partner, and it especially egregious when you pass after touching other bids.

## January Special Games Calendar

**Chat bridge each Mon. at 10 am**

Jan. 1, Wed. afternoon – regular game; happy hour after the game-  
BYO beverage and a snack, if convenient. Wear your sequins and  
tiaras to celebrate 2020!

Jan. 3, Fri. afternoon – Junior Fund game

Jan. 6, Mon. afternoon - Junior Fund game

Jan. 7, Tues. afternoon - Junior Fund game

Jan. 10, Fri. afternoon – Club Membership game

Jan. 15, Wed. afternoon - Junior Fund game

Jan. 16, Thurs. evening - Junior Fund game

3<sup>rd</sup> Friday happy hour after the game; BYO beverage and a snack, if  
convenient

Jan. 21, Tues. afternoon – Club Championship

Jan. 29, Wed. afternoon – GNT Swiss teams qualifier

Jan. 30, Thurs. afternoon - Junior Fund game

## ***January tournaments***

January 23-25 – New Brighton sectional