

Congratulations to
Pushpa
Prakash,
Silver Life
Master, over
1000 MPs

Rochester Duplicate Bridge Club

August, 2023



Can you believe there's only one more month of summer!! Where did it go? Just a reminder to dress in layers as St. Luke's is air conditioned – some parts of the room are cooler than others!

Dick Estry Life Master party

August 16 will be the celebration for Dick Estry, new Life Master (also Bronze) after the game, approximately 4:30 at Ann Van Ryn's house. Come here the stories about Dick's journey to reach this goal. BYO beverage and a snack, if convenient.

Classes

Three classes will be offered, starting in September. Layne will be holding a beginner's class "Bridge: Exercise for the Mind", Audrey Grant, Book 1, with basics: valuing of the hand, beginning bidding, etc. If you know of people that might want to get into duplicate, this would be a good class for them. Joanne's advanced beginner class "Beyond Basic Bridge" will focus on 1NT bids and responses, preempts, takeout doubles, using Audrey Grant, Book 2. Sue will be offering "Building Blocks for Duplicate Bridge" using Audrey Grant's Book 3 "Popular Conventions" Barbara Seagram's 25 Conventions You Should Know: 2nd Edition (the black book) as the basis for instruction. All classes are available now online through Rochester Public Schools Community Education, Adult Enrichment. (Layne's and Joanne's class will be at Northrup School, and Sue's will be at St. Luke's.)



NAP games

August is the last month for North American Pairs (NAP) qualifying games. We can have two per each game session. If you qualify, you may participate in the district finals with a chance to represent our district (finals online Oct. 7-8) at the nationals (I believe in Louisville in 2024). The points are half red, half black.

Change in BBO policy for virtual clubs

As of August 1, club games will be open to anyone. You will no longer find our club crop up when you go to Virtual Clubs. All games within the 2 hour time frame will appear. There is a search function to find RDBC games among the long list (top right). We still have the option to limit our game to just our club members, guests, or subs. (I am not quite sure how that works yet.) That is something the Board will have to decide at its August meeting. It has been the sentiment of previous boards to keep it as local as possible. Our players feel comfortable knowing who is "across the table" from them. If you have comments about this change, please let Ed Prosser (president) or me know. You should be

receiving a mailing from BBO/ACBL about this change.

Dealing Boards

Boards need to be prepared for games. Our computer operators are ready to go, but we need volunteers to help with inserting boards into the dealer – no experience required! At present, boards are being dealt on Mondays at 11 am, prior to the Monday game. Sign up at the games, or let me know if you can help! We could also use another computer operator. Loading the files, queuing up the dealer program, etc. is not difficult. Two training sessions with a current operator would do the trick. Let me know if you want to give it a try.



Friendship Swiss Teams

Wednesday, August 30, will be another Friendship Swiss teams. Please sign up as a pair; pairs are ranked from most master points to least. Then, there is a random draw to match teams from the top half with teams from the lower half. It's great fun, you meet new people, and you get practice in playing Swiss teams – getting ready for our sectional in October!



Fragrances

Please refrain from wearing perfumes, powders, and scented lotions or aftershave. Those with asthma and other respiratory issues have difficulty breathing when in close proximity to the scents.

At this writing, Olmsted County is still in the "low" COVID transmission rate; however, I have heard on the radio there is a new summer strain cropping up. Hospitalizations are still low; masking is still optional at our games. Just wanted you to be aware – washing hands, using hand sanitizer after coughing or sneezing at our games before touching cards, bidding boxes, boards, etc. Stay home if you are not feeling well. If exposed, stay home for 5 days & then wear a mask in public places for 5 more days. See you at the bridge table with a smile on your face!
Sue Greenberg, Club Manager



AUGUST CALENDAR - Online games; see calendar for special games

Friday – open pairs, 12:30 pm

Thursday – open pairs, 6:30 pm

Saturday – open pairs, 7 pm

F2F games at St. Luke's – see calendar for special games

Mondays – open pairs and 0-299 pairs, 12:30

Tuesdays – 1st & 3rd Pro/Am open pairs (and 5th in August)

Wednesdays – open pairs, 12:30

Thursdays– 0-499 NLM pairs, 12:30

Tournaments

July 31-Aug. 6 – Omaha regional

Aug. 21-24 – Eau Claire regional

Sept. 5-10 – Sioux Falls regional

Sept. 22-23 – Dubuque sectional

Sept. 21-23 – St. Cloud I/N regional

Sept. 25, 27, 28 – Royal STaC F2F at club games