

JUNE 7TH – GREATER CINCINNATI YOUTH BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIP!

Hopefully, you've saved June 7th on your calendar – the Greater Cincinnati Youth Bridge Championship is scheduled for 7:30 PM at the Sharonville Convention Center. It will be run as a pairs event open to anyone in high school or younger, but if you don't have a partner, let us know ahead of time and we'll set you up. It's free, and a great way to end the year.

The winners will bring back a pretty nice perpetual trophy to their home school for bragging rights for the year, but everyone is guaranteed to have a great time! June 7th – mark those calendars!

UPDATE: We just heard that our Youth Bridge Championship will be featured nationally in a coming issue of the ACBL's Bridge Bulletin! ACBL CEO Robert Hartman will be in attendance at the game, so let's make sure we impress him and the rest of the nation with a HUGE turnout!

ACBL JUNIOR/YOUTH MEMBERSHIP

If you recently filled out an ACBL membership form over the past month or so, you should be getting your welcome materials soon. Please take note of your membership number – the original number assigned to you with your temporary card may have changed. If you're not a member, the Cincinnati Bridge Association will pay for you to join! The ACBL recently consolidated its Youth (U21) and Junior (U26) memberships into a single membership tier; for \$15/year, you get the Bridge Bulletin, free entries at NABC tournaments and the Youth NABC, subsidized entries to the World Championships, and more. It's a great deal!

NON LIFE MASTER SECTIONAL



The Cincinnati NLM Tournament at the Cincinnati Bridge Center is a great opportunity for newer bridge players to get their feet wet in a tournament-style atmosphere. Half price entry fees for youth! Silver points! Game times are Saturday at 10 AM and 3 PM and Sunday at 10 AM (Swiss Teams).

We know of at least one Youth Team planning to play in the Sunday Swiss -- form a Team of 4 from your school and join us!

CBA MENTOR-NOVICE PROGRAM

Interested in taking your game to the next level? The Cincinnati Bridge Association Mentoring Program is a great way to learn from an established player. The program matches more experienced players with newer advancing players, and some of us are looking forward to partnering with some of our Youth.

Mentors are encouraged to play with their partner at least four times between Opening Night and the end of September. Mentoring pairs play for half price. Designated Mentoring dates at the CBC are selected Wednesday evenings and Sunday afternoons.

If you're interested, please visit the CBA website (cincybridge.com) and click on the link for the Mentoring Program to sign up. **Make sure to tell us you're part of the Youth program so we can match you up with our selected mentors.**



PLAYING BRIDGE ONLINE

There are several online bridge websites, but the most popular is Bridge Base Online, or BBO (bridgebase.com). It's a great way to get a few hands in if you've only got a few minutes, connect with other kids around the world, and improve your game.

You need to create a Username to log in, and then you can "Friend" other users. I'll collect the Usernames of any of our Cincinnati Youth Bridge members in future newsletters – let me know if you want to keep your Username private. If we get enough interest, I'll set up some team games.

dopp: A.J. Stephani

isaac418: Isaac Stephani

LOCAL CLUB GAME SCHEDULE

Duplicate bridge clubs are sanctioned throughout the Greater Cincinnati area. Many of you have been to the Cincinnati Bridge Center in Evendale, but there are also bridge clubs in Northern Kentucky, Anderson, Middletown, and a few other locations. Many of these clubs offer newcomer games or masterpoint limited games for persons learning the basics.

Cincinnati Bridge Center

Mondays, 7:00 PM: Intermediate (<2000 MPs)

Tuesdays, 7:00 PM: 99er (0-99 MPs)

Fridays: 11:00 AM: Non Life Master (<500 MPs)

Saturdays: 1:00 PM: Newcomer (0-30 MPs)

Northern Kentucky Bridge Club

Wednesdays, 6:30 PM: 199er (0-199 MPs)

1st Fridays, 10:00 AM: 99er (0-99 MPs)

Come on out and play! Youth play for only \$2 at the CBC.

ACBL YOUTH NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Each summer, the ACBL holds the Youth National Championship during the Summer NABC (usually called the "Summer Nationals"). This year, it takes place in Atlanta, and we'd love to chaperone a group of kids. It's a fantastic time, the entry is FREE, and it's a great way to improve your game super fast. If you're interested, please let A.J. Stephani know ASAP so he can arrange for lodging and other logistics.

SCHOOL BRIDGE CLUBS IN GREATER CINCINNATI

These clubs may be open to students in other schools – please contact the person below for more information:

Indian Hill (Mondays, 2:45-4:30): Susan Wisner (513.561.3156) or Cliff Pleatman (513.543.1423)

St. Xavier (Mondays, 3:15-5:15): A.J. Stephani (513.313.0488)

Lakota West (Mondays, 2:50-4:00): Peter Rice (513.677.6606)

As we look forward to next year, we're always interested in starting new bridge clubs. This is MUCH easier if we have a teacher or administrator from the school who can sponsor the club. We'll provide the instructor, the materials, and everything else, but we need someone who is familiar with the school's policies to get it started. Please contact Mike or A.J. if you're interested in working with us to get one started at your school.