

**It's official . . . Summer is here!**How do we know?   Because the calendar says Memorial Day is past.  Because there no longer is a threat of snow.  Because many of our snowbirds have returned.  And to celebrate, we're hosting a Welcome Back game at the bridge center.   Come join us at Tuesday's game, June 4, where we'll include a continental breakfast beginning at 9 a.m. with the extra masterpoint game at 10 a.m.

**Lessons** - Our free lessons for the summer begin next week.  As you know, we're hosting lessons for those wishing to learn how to play, and lessons on Defensive Strategies for novice and intermediate players.  We have plenty of room for additional participants in the Learn to Play class (Fridays at 9 a.m).  And, since more of you signed up for the Defensive Strategies lessons than we can comfortably host at one time, those lessons are now offered on both Wednesdays and Fridays (Fridays are full;  Wednesdays have room).  On both days, following the lesson, a 199er section will be available.  Lesson participants are encouraged to stay and play.  If you're interested, you must pre-register by contacting Allison White at [allisonwhite49770@gmail.com](mailto:allisonwhite49770@gmail.com) or 231-753-2686 and purchase the text Defensive Play at Bridge by Barbara Seagram.

Speaking of lessons,  the "Ask Mike" (Sears) lessons will be held again this year.  Tuesdays, 0900-0945.  First one will be June 11.  Bring your questions about bidding, play or conventions  . . . a hand you played last week . . . or anything at all . . . and he'll provide his insights (which, as he states, may or may not be helpful!).

**Zero Tolerance Policy** - Now is a good time to remind everyone that we fully endorse the ACBL's ZT Policy.  We've reprinted some of the information that the ACBL has provided so that each of you has quick access to examples of behavior that ARE and ARE NOT acceptable at the club:

*Every club has that player, the really wonderful, witty, intelligent person that everybody enjoys conversing with unless the topic is bridge. The player who immediately becomes unbearable when the boards hit the table. The player who snarls at partner and intimidates the opponents with harsh words and bad behavior. The player who eventually has the director called to his table.*

*The ultimate purpose of the Z-T policy is to create a much more pleasant atmosphere. We are attempting to eradicate unacceptable behavior in order to make the game of bridge more enjoyable for all. Below are some examples of commendable behavior, which, while not required, will significantly contribute to the improved atmosphere:*

* *Being a good “host” or “guest” at the table.*
* *Greeting others in a friendly manner.*
* *Praising the bidding and/or play of the opponents.*
* *Having two clearly completed convention cards readily available to the opponents.*

*The following are examples of behavior that will not be tolerated:*

* *Badgering, rudeness, insinuations, intimidation, profanity, threats or violence.*
* *Negative comments concerning opponents’ or partner’s play or bidding.*
* *Gloating about taking a contract and going down in lieu of allowing opponents to declare.*
* *Constant and gratuitous lessons and analyses at the table.*
* *Loud and disruptive arguing with a director’s ruling.*

*If a player at the table behaves in an unacceptable manner, the director should be called immediately. Annoying behavior, embarrassing remarks or any other conduct which might interfere with the enjoyment of the game are specifically prohibited.*

**2019 Tournament Schedule –** We’ll keep reminding you about the Unit’s tournaments this year:

      May 31-June 2          Kalamazoo Sectional

      **June 22-23             Petoskey Sectional for Future Life Masters**

      August 19-25             Grand Rapids Regional

      September 6-8          Traverse City Sectional

      **September 27-29** **Petoskey Sectional**

Click [HERE](http://www.district12bridge.org/upcoming.html) for a complete listing of the District 12 tournaments for 2019.

**North American Pairs (NAP) Competition** -  Every summer, District 12 offers games in which players can qualify for the North American Pairs competition at a national tournament.  We participate in those qualification events during the months of June, July and August.   All games the weeks of June 3 & 17, July 8 & 22, and August 5 & 26 will be qualifying events.

**Facility Update** - As we rapidly approach the 10th anniversary of our beautiful bridge center, we recognize that various aspects of the facility are requiring attention.  Both the age of the facility and the ever-increasing (we hope!) utilization bring demands that need to be addressed:

Chairs - Our chairs are showing the wear and tear of use.  24 new ones have arrived and are in play.  The remainder are to be replaced by mid-summer.  The old chairs are being donated.

Parking lot - With the increasing number of players attending certain games, we have outgrown the current parking lot.  Players have had to park on the lawn, which is damaging the lawn and the irrigation system.  A parking lot expansion is in the works!

Bridgemates - Those too are getting a lot of use.  And those darned keys were not behaving properly.  We've cleaned the contacts for each of them so they should now work as designed.  Please let us know if you find one that is not.