



February 3, 2020 – June 28, 2020
(Mentoring pairs review, sign, and return)

The goals of the mentoring program are to:

- engage newer bridge players, giving them a positive experience and encouraging them to advance in their play by playing with a more experienced partner in an ACBL sanctioned game setting;
- engage experienced players as mentors, tapping into their expertise and commitment to the game; and
- promote good bridge behavior and etiquette

Expectations for Mentors and Mentees

For both partners:

1. Discuss in advance your goals for participating in the program.
2. Discuss in advance your typical availability to play together.
3. Prepare and use a partnership Convention Card the mentee is comfortable with. Add new agreements as the partnership progresses.
4. Demonstrate active ethics, etiquette, and positive interactions with everyone at the bridge table.

For Mentors:

1. Ask your mentee what she/he hopes to gain from the Mentorship Program and if there are any specific things she/he wants to learn.
2. Meet your mentee where they are on the bridge journey. Share new information in manageable doses, when your mentee is receptive, and always away from the table.
3. Be a role model for good bridge etiquette with both your mentee and others at the table.
4. Compliment your mentee when she/he plays well, which goes a long way towards building your mentee's confidence.
5. Mentors receive a \$5 discount on their table fee ONCE per month when playing with their official mentee.

For Mentees:

1. Discuss with your mentor what you want to get out of this program. Let her/him know if there are specific areas you want to focus on, such as play, bidding, or defense.
2. Do your best to absorb the information your mentor gives you. If she/he recommends reading material, please read it. The more effort you put into the partnership, the more successful you will be.
3. Welcome the opportunity to play with your mentor against better players (including in the morning game if that opportunity is presented). Your game will improve when you play with and against better players.
4. Stay in touch with your mentor and keep your scheduled commitments to play.

Mentor _____

Mentee _____

E-mail _____

E-mail _____

Phone _____ (text OK? Y, N)

Phone _____ (text OK? Y, N)

ACBL Number _____

ACBL Number _____

Master Points at start of cycle _____

Master Points at start of cycle _____

Signature: _____

Signature: _____

Program requirements:

- All participants must be current ACBL members.
- Prior mentorship pairs are not eligible to be paired together a second time.
- Mentees should have under 500 masterpoints (MPs). Those with 200-500 MPs may be a mentee but only if they agree to be a mentor to a newer player. Those with fewer than 200 MPs can also apply to be a mentor to a new player. There must be a minimum of 50 MPs separating the mentor from the mentee.
- A player may mentor only one mentee at a time under this program.
- It is recommended that partnerships play at least twice a month at a time convenient for them.
- Partnerships may play at any regularly scheduled club games for which both parties are eligible. Two Monday and Wednesday afternoon games each month are typically designated as invitational, allowing all mentoring pairs to participate. See the mentoring calendar to confirm dates.