

**Sam Mehta**

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**To:** Sam Mehta  
**Subject:** St. Ann's Bridge Club - internal Policy & Procedure

**DRAFT**

## St. Ann's Bridge Club Internal Policy & Procedure

### **GENERAL:**

The bridge game at St. Ann's is a sectioned game and approved by ACBL.

The bridge game at St. Ann's will be played on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month.

The sanctioned bridge game will be conducted by an ACBL [American Contract Bridge League] certified Bridge Director.

Bridge players at St. Ann's are awarded master-points when a player achieves the required ranking per ACBL rules.

The bridge game will be governed by the ACBL rules and protocols, including the 'Laws of Duplicate Bridge.'

Like most bridge clubs, St. Ann's Bridge club will also function with "Zero Tolerance Policy" as its guiding principle. No improper behavior on part of any bridge player will be tolerated.

### **BRIDGE TIME:**

During the summer months [May to November] the game will be at 7:00 PM sharp and during the winter months [December to April] the bridge game will begin at 4:00 PM. The duration of the game will be three hours.

The bridge game should begin promptly at 4:00 PM in summer and end at 7:00 PM. During the winter months, the bridge game will begin promptly at 7:00 PM and end at 10:00 PM.

### **BRIDGE DIRECTOR:**

The Bridge Director will be compensated for his/her services, per the provisions and as stated in the club's by-laws.

The Bridge director will keep the records of all games played during the year.

The Bridge director will announce the results of the year's bridge-playing activities at an annual event.

### **THE PLAYING OF BRIDGE HANDS:**

In order to play a minimum of 21 boards, all members are requested to play fast, score fast, and move fast, from table-to-table, when the round is called. Each board should be played in 7-1/2 minutes.

For example, in a three-board game, a trimming device will be used and the clock will be set at 22-1/2 minutes. Those players on a given table, who do not complete the playing of the three boards [including the scoring] will be given average points, for the board not played and/or in-process of playing. This rule will be strictly followed and enforced by the bridge director, in the interest of all players.

In order to bring the efficacy in the playing of bridge hands, all bridge players are discouraged to discuss the hands after it is played [the post-mortem] as well to avoid seeing and discussing the scores of boards already played. This will save precious minutes and will allow more boards to be played. All players are requested to help in this matter.

#### **SCORING OF THE BOARDS:**

At least one member of the pair is required to keep the manual score of the games played. This needs to be decided before the game begins. The 'blank' scoring-sheet [convention-card] will be provided by the club.

"Travelers" [the traveling score-sheet] scoring slip needs to be legibly written-down, generally be the north player and approved by any one of the east/west players. The Traveling Score sheet will be provided by the club].

When the "Bridgemate" electronic scoring system is being used, it is operated by the south pair [in cases where the north pair is keeping manual score.]

#### **HOUSE-KEEPING RULES:**

Members are requested to come 15 to 30 minutes prior to the game, to set-up the furniture and other bridge related-items.

Members are also requested to stay behind [after the game is over] and help put-away the furniture and store the bridge related items.

#### **BRIDGE GAME FEE:**

The current game fee is at \$6.00 per game and is subject to change when the board/management decide to do so. There are no annual membership dues charged currently.

A first-time bridge player at St. Ann's will not be charged with the \$6.00 game fee.

When a member brings a new guest who has not played before at St. Ann's, he or she will not be charged with the game fee for that day.

#### **BRIDGE PARTNERS:**

At St. Ann's, the bridge partners for all games are based on individual players picking a number and matching the number with another player, who has picked the same number.

In special circumstances, a pair may request to the bridge director, to play the game with another identified bridge player, generally as a practice for a future bridge tournament, etc. The bridge director will decide on a case-by-case basis, when such a request is made.

#### **TROPHIES FOR THE WINNERS:**

All bridge games played at St. Ann's during the year are duly recorded and each time the results are e-mailed to all the players. The club awards a trophy/plaque to the top three bridge players, who have played 10 or more games during the year, and have achieved the total of highest 'percent' in all the games played.

Bridge players, who have played less than 10 games during the year, are not eligible to receive the trophy/plaque contest.

#### **EXPENSES:**

Members will be reimbursed for any club related expenses that they incur, including ACBL fees, bridge supplies, trophies, summer and winter social events, etc.] and any other bridge club-related expenses. Payment is made based on the receipt submitted.

The St. Ann's church [the current venue of playing bridge] is given a donation for allowing the club to play at their premises. [Currently and during the past two years [i.e., 2017 & 2018, an amount of \$400.00 for each year is paid].

**ANNUAL EVENTS:**

The St. Ann's bridge group generally has two social events in the year. [1] A summer event [pizza-fest] and [2] a winter event [Christmas party] generally held at the Lincklean House in Cazenovia. The cost of the summer event is entirely paid by the club. The winter event is partially subsidized by the club for the regular bridge players and their spouses/partners/friends. Non-bridge playing friends and/or past bridge players at St. Ann's are charged at a slightly higher rate, but their cost is also subsidized.

All members are requested to promote the bridge game at St. Ann's in their respective community and neighborhood and brings new members on-board, in order to continue sustaining the game, as well as have an additional number of tables at any given game.

**OTHER:**

The internal policy and procedure document will be updated/revised as often as it is required, and as indicated in the club's by-laws.