

BY-LAWS OF THE TRI CITY BRIDGE CLUB

Club # 146738, Unit 481

Revised & Adopted 11/19/24

THE CLUB

The Club functions within the by-laws and regulations of the American Contract Bridge League (ACBL), its District (#20) and its unit (#481).

The geographical area within which this Club shall have jurisdiction shall be such an area as is presently, or may in the future be, assigned to it by the Unit.

OBJECTIVES OF THE ORGANIZATION

- A. To preserve and promote the best interest of, and to stimulate interest in, the area of playing competitive duplicate contract bridge and any modification thereof.
- B. To cooperate with and assist the League and Unit in the promotion and conduct of contract bridge tournaments.
- C. To encourage the highest standards of conduct and ethics by its members, and to enforce such standards.
- D. To cooperate in League and Unit charity programs and to sponsor and conduct charity events with the object of realizing funds to be devoted to worthy humanitarian causes.
- E. To conduct such other activities as may be in keeping with its principal objectives.

ARTICLE I – PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules contained in the modern edition of “Robert’s Rules of Order” shall govern the Club in all cases where they don’t conflict with these By-Laws or those of the ACBL.

ARTICLE II – MEMBERSHIP

- A. Any person of good moral character and residing within the jurisdiction of the Club, subject to Unit regulations, is eligible for membership; no person shall be denied membership because of race, creed or color.
- B. Such person, upon favorable auction, shall become a member unless:
 - 1. Such person changes residence to a place outside the jurisdiction of the Unit. In this case, such person shall become a member of the new Unit immediately upon the processing by the ACBL of their change of address.

2. Such person has failed to pay their dues in accordance with the ACBL.
 3. Such person has been suspended or expelled from membership in accordance with regulations established by the ACBL, Unit Board of Directors and Club Officers. However, such regulations shall apply to the rules of due process applicable to membership corporations, and to such regulations as are established by the Club that shall not be in conflict with those of the Unit or the ACBL.
- C. All members and guests are expected to observe the Club’s “General Bridge Etiquette Policy” and ACBL’s “Play Nice-Zero Tolerance Policy”. If, during a game or other club activity, any club official (Board Member, Game Director or Club Manager) feels that a club member has violated either of these policies, they should consult with other club officials at the event. These club officials should determine if a penalty or sanction should be given to the offending member(s) or guest(s). The penalty or sanction may include a reprimand, an adjusted score, a temporary suspension from the club, or any other action deemed appropriate. Any action taken should be reviewed at the next full Board meeting.

ARTICLE III–DUES AND FEES

The club does not currently collect annual dues. The Board may establish annual dues if they feel they are needed in the future. ACBL dues are the responsibility of each individual member.

Game fees are set by the Board.

ARTICLE IV–MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

- A. The annual meeting of the general membership shall be prior to *December 15* of each year.
- B. The Board of Directors of the Club shall fix the time and place of the annual meeting and shall give notice to all members at least 10 days prior to the meeting.
- C. Special meetings of the members to consider specific subject matters may be called at any time by the President of the Club, or by petition of members (at least 10). Notice of time, place and agenda shall be posted and announced at game times 10 days prior to meeting.
- D. A quorum for the transaction of business at any annual or special meeting shall consist of 1/4 of the membership.

ARTICLE V-CLUB BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- A. Board members will be elected at the annual meeting to maintain the Board at 5 members.
- B. Terms shall be two (2) years, with a limit of two (2) consecutive terms. Terms shall begin on January 1 of the next year.

With the approval of the Board of Directors one member may have a single exception for a third term on the Board.

C. Duties of:

- 1. President -conduct all meetings.
- 2. Vice-President -assist and serve when President is absent.
- 3. Secretary:
 - a. Prepare & manage minutes of meetings, including a minute book and all organization documents.
 - b. Keep a current membership list.
 - c. Assist presiding officer before each meeting to prepare detailed agenda.
 - d. Preserve all necessary official documents of the organization except those specifically assigned to others.
 - e. Prepare & post required notice of Annual & special meetings.
 - f. The Secretary may appoint a Recording Secretary to fulfill some or all of the above duties. The Recording Secretary reports directly to the Secretary.
- 4. Treasurer:
 - a. Responsible for all collection & timely deposit (minimum weekly basis), safe-keeping & expenditure of all funds of the organization & for keeping accurate financial records.
 - b. Present financial report at each Board meeting and submit annual financial report.
 - c. Collect and record all game entry fees.
 - d. The Treasurer may appoint a Recording Treasurer to fulfill some or all of the above duties. The Recording Treasurer reports directly to the Treasurer.
- 5. Board as a whole: shall have authority over Club affairs between meetings, shall make recommendations to the Club and shall act as Finance Committee.

- D. Board shall meet as deemed necessary by the Board but not less than quarterly.
- E. Vacancy on the Board will be appointed by remaining members.

ARTICLE VI–CLUB OFFICERS

- A. The Club President, Vice-President, Secretary & Treasurer shall be members of the Board of Directors and shall be elected by that body.

ARTICLE VII–DUTIES OF THE CLUB MANAGER AND GAME DIRECTOR

The duties of the Officers shall be as outlined in the Rules and Regulations of ACBL, with emphasis on the following points:

- A. The Club Manager may be a paid position and will be appointed by the Board of Directors and with the approval of the ACBL.
- B. Duties of the Club Manager:
 - 1. Handle all correspondence, including monthly reports at Unit, District and ACBL level.
 - 2. Obtain all necessary information of special games and present said information to Club members in time to schedule those games if sufficient interest is generated.
 - 3. Purchase supplies for the Club.
 - 4. Train new candidates for this position.
- C. Duties of the Game Director:
 - 1. Prepare hall for game.
 - 2. Direct game and regulate the playing atmosphere in accordance with ACBL Rules and Regulations, the Club’s “General Bridge Etiquette Policy”, and ACBL’s “Play Nice-Zero Tolerance Policy”.
 - 3. Secure hall after play period has ended.
 - 4. Shall play for the benefit of the Club at no charge.

ARTICLE VIII–COMPENSATION

- A. Salary for Manager and compensation for Game Director must be approved by Board of Directors.
- B. Club will have free session on the date of the annual meeting.

ARTICLE IX–IMPEACHMENT

Any Board Officer or Board Member may be removed for cause only by the constituency that elected him/her. The Officer or Director against whom such charges are brought shall be notified in writing, by Registered Mail, of the charges against him/her at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting of his/her constituency. Such person shall be given the opportunity to be heard before the membership of his/her constituency and be represented by Counselor of his/her choosing.

ARTICLE X–AMENDMENTS TO THE BY-LAWS

Members of the Club may make amendments to the By-Laws by petition. This petition must be signed by at least ten (10) members and submitted to the Secretary at least twenty (20) days in advance of the annual meeting or any special meeting called for that purpose. A petition may also be signed by a majority of the Board of Directors. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to incorporate the text of the proposed amendment(s) in the notice of the meeting.

ARTICLE XI–TOURNAMENTS

The Club, in conjunction with the Unit, shall have authority over all tournaments conducted by it, subject to the rules and regulations of the ACBL.

ARTICLE XII–COMMITTEES

The President, with approval of the Board of Directors, shall appoint such Committees as may be necessary or desirable to perform the functions of the organization and shall define their duties.