

Crystal Bridge Club

Welcome to The Common Game

More Players, More Play, Better Bridge!

Need: Encourage more people to play more bridge at clubs, sectionals, and regionals.

Idea: Run a series of contests where performance and attendance are rewarded.

Clubs play the same set of hands from a common library (similar to a STaC).

Benefits:

- Encourage players to play more often at clubs.
- Reduce redundant Board preparation efforts.
- Offer postmortem analysis of hands.
- Smaller Clubs have an opportunity to participate in a larger field

Footnote: There are NO fees for participation and there are NO additional ACBL masterpoints awarded.

For Participants:

When will results be available?

A: As each club's results are reported, the results will be matchpointed and rankings posted; like watching the returns come in on Election Night starting at 4PM local time.

How can I receive my emailed results immediately following the game?

A: Players who have their email addresses registered with the ACBL will automatically have their results emailed to them after the game. If you do not have your email address registered with the ACBL, you can enroll on The Common Game website.

- Type your ACBL number in the login field on the top right hand corner of the page and click "Login"
- Click on "Modify Profile" on the top right hand corner
- Fill in your ACBL, name and email address in the form

Crystal Bridge Club

- Click SUBMIT at the bottom of the page

Once you've done this, you will receive emailed results after the game. If you do not see emailed results, be sure to check your spam folder as results often get stuck in the spam folder. If you have any issues signing up please contact Sara@TheCommonGame.com.

What is the scoring methodology?

A: Results for each board will be match-pointed and player totals normalized for a 24 board play.

When is a club game considered to be a "299er" Common Game competition?

If the field is made up of 5 or more players having 500+ masterpoints then it is considered an Open game, otherwise it is considered a 299er game.

Can winners of a "299er" Common Game competition place in the Common Game Open competition?

No. However, players with 0-299 masterpoints who play in Open game are eligible to place in BOTH the Open and "299er" competitions.

What if either my partner or I do not have an ACBL number?

A: If either player is missing an ACBL number the pair will not be considered for rewards or recognition. Talk to your game director for details on how to become a member.

What is the PR Handicap on my results?

A: This is your pair handicap for the Handicap Game. e.g. If you current handicap is -7.80 you are expected on average to score a 57.80% game. So if you score a 60% "gross" your "net" is 52.2% against the field. This is based on the work of Chris Champion:

Why is my percentage at the club different than my percentage on The Common Game?

Crystal Bridge Club

A: An individual's percentage at the club may differ from their percentage on The Common Game because we match point each board across the entire Common Game field and then calculate the Percentage (i.e if you score a 70% at the club and your percentage on The Common Game is 65%, this may be due to you playing in a weaker field at the club in comparison to a stronger overall field on The Common Game.) To learn more about this and understanding your results on our site please watch our [Personal Results Tutorial](#)

What does "Optimum" mean on the BridgeComposer hand record PDF?

A: The Encyclopedia of Bridge defines par(optimum) as "the result on a hand if both sides have done as well as possible." This implicitly includes both bidding and play. As described following, BridgeComposer uses the double dummy analysis to determine the par score for a deal.

What does the PBN link next to "Boards Date" on my personal results page do?

A: PBN files are used for importing your personal game results into BridgeBase Online or Double Dummy Solver Hand Analysis tools (be sure to save as a txt file, NOT an HTML file)

In my emailed results, why does it take me to a page with a yellow hand and white exclamation point when I click on the link to my results?

A: This is an issue with your browsers "Google Toolbar." You can uninstall your Google Toolbar and this should eliminate this issue. If you are still experiencing issues with this please contact us at Help@TheCommonGame.com

Are the hands truly random and not "juiced" somehow?

A: Yes they are truly random. This is a common misperception since many players are often used to relatively "flat" hands produced in typical shuffle and deal games. We use the industry standard utility Bridge Composer which does not provide any options for attenuating or manipulating hand distributions. In addition, we are using the open source utility "Big Deal" (an option inside Bridge Composer) to generate the actual hands. These hands are added to our library and NEVER touched thereafter.

How do I join or obtain more information?

Go to <http://www.thecommongame.com>