



ACBL REGIONAL at SEA

DAILY BULLETIN

Sunday, November 13, 2016 & Monday, November 14, 2016

Welcome aboard Royal Caribbean's **Liberty of the Seas** 7-night Western Caribbean Cruise! This will be a fun-filled week of great food, fabulous entertainment, and of course lots of bridge. You'll have your choice of playing in Pairs, Swiss Teams, Knockout Teams, and/or Side Games, with many opportunities to win Gold Points. There will be daily lectures by our hosts, with Q&A sessions in the afternoons. We'll finish on Saturday evening with a Cocktail Party and presentation of awards.

MEET OUR HOSTS....



ROBERT TODD is a professional bridge player and teacher from Tallahassee, Florida. Although he began playing contract bridge with his parents as a young lad, when he was exposed to duplicate in grad school his enthusiasm deepened into a career. In 2010, Robert identified a need to nurture young bridge players and founded *Adventures in Bridge, Inc.* for that purpose. In addition to teaching and playing bridge, both in person and online, and in national and international competition, he still finds time to host cruises and seminars, and write about bridge for various publications. Robert has been a regular finisher in ACBL's Barry Crane Top 500 (for number of points won in a year) to include this current year, 2016.



CHRISTOPHER RIVERA is a professional bridge player, accredited bridge teacher, and club director at Honors Bridge Club in Manhattan, the largest full-service bridge club in North America. He is also a professional member of the American Bridge Teacher's Association (ABTA), and a former editor of the ABTA's quarterly magazine. Christopher spent nearly twenty years in other career fields, to include publishing, before choosing to make bridge his full-time profession. Nowadays, in addition to directing the club's competitive games, he teaches beginner-to-advanced students in both classes and private lessons.



JOEL WOOLDRIDGE hails originally from Buffalo, New York, but now lives in New York City. He learned bridge from his parents and played his first duplicate game at the age of 9. Two years later, he became the youngest player to achieve ACBL Life Master status. Joel then proceeded to compete in six World Youth Teams Championships. He is now a professional bridge player and teacher, and continues to compete internationally and at home. Joel is a Grand Life Master, having earned more than 10,000 masterpoints. He is in the Barry Crane Top 500 for 2016, and is also #10 on the Player of the Decade list.

Today (SUNDAY) Schedule

8:00 PMWelcome Pairs
(Part of Evening Side Game Series 1st of 6)

TIPS FOR A SUCCESSFUL BRIDGE CRUISE.

- Do be polite to opponents.
- Don't yell at or criticize your partner.
- Don't offer unsolicited post mortems (better to be silent and thought a fool than to open your mouth and remove all doubt!)

Larry Cohen

THINGS TO KNOW...

.... about Stratification

OPEN STRATIFICATION

A = Unlimited
B = 1250-2000
C = 750-1250

GOLD RUSH STRATIFICATION

D = 300-750
E = 100-300
F = 0-100

All stratifications are done by **masterpoint average** (per pair or team). For example, if one player in a partnership has 700 points and the other has 100 points, the points will be averaged out to the 400-point flight: $(700 + 100) / 2 = 400$. In the 2-session Pair games there are two different events (see the masterpoint strata listed above):

- 1) Unlimited (Flights A, B, and C)
- 2) Gold Rush (Flights D, E, and F)

THINGS TO KNOW ...

... about Gold Rush Pairs

To play in the GOLD RUSH PAIRS (which awards GOLD points for the top finishers), no player in Flights D, E, or F can have more than 750 masterpoints.

In this event, averaging is applied to determine which Flight you and your partner will qualify for. Regardless, neither of you can have more than 750.

THINGS TO KNOW ...

... about Gold Points

All events on this cruise pay 100% of land formula

GOLD POINTS:

- 1) for placing Overall in any 2-session event;
- 2) for a Section Top in all 2-session Pairs games;
- 3) for a Section top in all Side Games (providing that you play in at least one other session in the same Series).
- 4) Any points not GOLD will be RED.

***NOTE: BE SURE TO WEAR YOUR NAME
BADGE TO EACH BRIDGE EVENT***

Tomorrow (MONDAY) Schedule

9:00 AMLecture
10:00 AM ...Texas Open Pairs (Session 1 of 2)
10:00 AMGold Rush Pairs (Session 1 of 2)
10:00 AMDaytime Side Game Series
2:00 PMTexas Open Pairs (2nd of 2)
2:00 PMGold Rush Pairs (2nd of 2)
2:00 PMDaytime Side Game Series
4:30 PMQ&As with our Hosts
8:00 PMEvening Side Game Series

THINGS TO KNOW ...

...about Bracketed Swiss Teams

A bracketed Swiss is a non-eliminating tournament format. Brackets are determined not by masterpoints for Open or Pairs games, but by a **team's total points** so that teams are evenly matched with other teams within their group (bracket).

THINGS TO KNOW ...

... about Side Games

STRATIFICATION for Side Game Series:

A = 1000+ B = 300 – 1000 C = 0 - 300

Side Games will be offered throughout the Regional. Please note that the schedules for the Side Games are subject to change.

The **Evening Side Game Series** is scheduled for each evening (Sunday thru Friday) at 8:00 PM.

The **Daytime Side Game Series** is scheduled at 10:00 AM and 2:00 PM each day (Monday thru Saturday).

NOTE: If you wish, you may play with different partners in either of the Side Game Series because you will score as an individual not as a partnership, and your score will be the total of your own two best games.

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ALICE TRAVEL ...



Cheryl Angel will be available prior to the lecture each morning and before each session throughout the day. She will be happy to help with any of your cruise-related questions.

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TUESDAY Schedule

9:00 AMLecture
10:00 AMBracketed Swiss Teams (1st of 2)
10:00 AMDaytime Side Game Series
2:00 PMBracketed Swiss Teams (2nd of 2)
2:00 PMDaytime Side Game Series
4:30 PMQ&A with our Hosts
8:00 PMEvening Side Game Series

The real test of a bridge player isn't in keeping out of trouble, but in escaping once he's in it.

-Alfred Sheinwold