

Program Guidelines

The HBC Mentor Program offers the opportunity for guidance and directions to mentees, and provides mentees an avenue to obtain answers to their bridge questions.

Obligations of the Mentor

Meet with your mentee by phone or in person and set up an appropriate convention card. The starting place should be using conventions the mentee is experienced in playing.

Play with your mentee a minimum of three times, preferably more often as schedules allow. Playing in HBC games helps support our club.

Coach before or after a game, by making observations and offering suggestions. Be kind. Keep in mind the mentee's skill level and experience. Bridge is hard. Advice may cover bidding, play of the hand, defense, signaling, etc., based on the mentee's questionnaire and observations of the mentor. Often suggestions on bridge books or other learning resources can prove invaluable. Be aware of and help coach improved table etiquette.

Advice should be given at the end of the game, not at the table, as with all partners. The mentor should be available after a game at HBC or by email to answer questions.

Please reinforce ACBL and HBC zero tolerance culture and always keep in mind the skill level of your mentee.

Obligations of the Mentee

It is the mentee's responsibility to initiate the initial interaction.

The mentee should be specific when asking questions, providing the mentor with a reference to the HBC or BBO website for hands.

Accept constructive critiques as assistance to help you meet your goals, not criticism. We all make mistakes, even the experts.

Try to incorporate your mentor's suggestions into your game and discuss source materials or lessons to strengthen each aspect of your game.

Your mentor is donating his time; please be patient when interacting by email.