

Cory Schultz

New ACBL Life Master



Cory started playing lunch hour rubber bridge in 2001 while working in Fort Worth TX. He fell in love with the game and was fortunate to have one of the better lunch hour players (an ACBL member) take him under his wing and guide him towards the appropriate learning materials (various books, bridge calendars, software, etc.). Scott and Cory formed a regular partnership and started playing at the local ACBL club and in February 2002, he became an ACBL member. Cory happened to live a 1/2 mile from the club and when the director found that I was willing to be brought in at the last minute he was regularly called in as a last minute partner or to help the games have a better movement. This allowed him to play with numerous players and improve his game through their advice and guidance.

In March of 2002 Scott convinced Cory that they should travel to Houston to participate in the Regional tournament. He found the event slightly intimidating and extremely fascinating. Scott recommended that they play in the 299er event, as he found the bidding and play in the 49er and 99er events to be too unpredictable. They had poor to average results for their first 3 games, but in the last game their luck kicked in and they won the final pairs event. At the end of Cory's first regional tournament he was the proud owner of 4.69 MP, of which 4.06 were Red and 0.63 were black.

Cory continued to play at the club and attended as many of the Dallas/Fort Worth tournaments as he could. In June 2003 his project in Fort Worth was completed and he and his wife moved to Detroit. As soon as they were settled Cory searched out the Detroit area clubs and found a suitable partner in Vickie. Vickie had just begun her ACBL membership but was keen to learn and improve. She had suffered polio when she was a child and her disability made it more difficult to get out so they developed their partnership online using the BBO platform. They would attend occasional club games but their main focus was on the area tournaments. By the time Cory left Detroit in 2008 he had accumulated 137.3 MP of which 20.2 were gold, 25.06 were red, 33.89 were silver and the remaining were online or black.

On returning to Alberta in 2008 he took a year and a half off from bridge due to work commitments. In the fall of 2010 Cory attended a sectional tournament in Lethbridge where he met up with some of the players from the Pincher Creek club. They are an extremely friendly group and convinced him that he should attend some of their club games. The director paired him up with another partner who had just started her ACBL membership but was eager to learn and improve her game. After developing their partnership for a few years Michele and Cory attended the 2012 Regional tournament in Lethbridge where he was able to complete the rest of his colour point requirements. Cory still needed 70+ master points for his life masters status and around this time work commitments again limited him to mostly online games with the occasional club or tournament game.

Cory finally completed his Life Master point requirements at the Calgary Sectional tournament in October, 2017. What made it special is that he was able to partner up with another new club player, Henry, and complete his requirements while introducing him to his first bridge tournament. Henry found the experience fairly exciting and he has indicated that he would like to attend future tournaments.

Cory has tremendous respect for players in rural or remote areas who obtain their Life Master status. For a significant part of his point accumulation Cory benefited from being able to make day trips to attend sectional and regional tournaments. If he had to travel to all of these tournaments the expense to obtain Life Master status might have been prohibitive.

Through playing online and at the club Cory has developed many lasting friendships and feels blessed to have played with many wonderful partners. Cory would like to thank all his partners, mentors and teachers who have helped him obtain his Life Masters status; he couldn't have done it without you.