

The Top 10 Reasons You Should Play in the Flying Buckeye Regional!

There's something for everyone at the Dayton – Columbus Flying Buckeye regional, but there's even more for newer players! Aside from the excitement of hundreds of bridge players all gathered in one place, there are parties, giveaways and more! Read on for my top 10 reasons to play:

- 10. Hand records for all pair games.** After every session (except team games) you can get a printout showing what cards everyone held for each deal that you played in that session. The hand records are a great learning tool for discussing with partner how you might have bid or played the cards differently.
- 9. Play bridge three times a day.** With sessions at 10 a.m., 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. every day (except Sunday) you can find time to play whatever your schedule. Play once, twice or three times a day! Start early or sleep late; be home for dinner or burn the midnight oil: it's your choice.
- 8. Look at all the colors.** As you begin accumulating masterpoints, you'll need a certain number of silver, red and gold points to achieve the ranks of Sectional Master, Regional Master, NABC Master and Life Master. With a few exceptions, these colored points are awarded only at tournaments: silver points at sectionals, red points at regionals and nationals, and gold points for the top winners of certain multi-session events at regionals and nationals. This is your chance to try for those fall colors!
- 7. Free hospitality.** All players can enjoy free coffee at 9 a.m. in the Hospitality Room, and free snacks every day after the evening session. And don't miss the free 199'er mixer on Wednesday after the morning session, open to all players with fewer than 200 masterpoints.
- 6. Free lectures.** Local teachers and top players will be sharing their tips every day between the 10 a.m. session and the 2 p.m. session.
- 5. Bragging rights!** Impress your friends with tales of your exploits at the bridge table. "Have I told you about the slam I made when I played at the Flying Buckeye regional?" you'll say. And gentlemen in England now-a-bed will think themselves accursed they were not there! Then you'll show them your name in the list of winners in the tournament Daily Bulletin and you'll say, "This recognition I got on Crispin's Day." (With apologies to William Shakespeare...don't tell me you didn't recognize the quote from Henry V!)
- 4. Non-Life Master games.** Play with your peers! There'll be a separate, stratified game for players with less than 200 or less than 300 points for every session, every day except Sunday. You don't have to get beat up by Life Masters! (Unless you want to.) No one with more than the stated upper limit of masterpoints may play in these games, but most ACBL events have no lower limit. You can always play "up" if you want to.
- 3. Free matchmaking!** Not *that* kind of matchmaking (though I do know of more than one couple who met at the partnership desk and went on to make beautiful music together, both at the bridge table and elsewhere). Romance is not guaranteed, but don't let lack of a partner keep you from playing. Call or email Rosie Sizemore in advance, 937-434-6124 or rosiesizemore531@cs.com. Or show up at the partnership desk at least half an hour before game time and our dedicated partnership chairs will fix you up!
- 2. Free plays!** ACBL members with fewer than 5 masterpoints can play for free in all sessions. Not a member yet? Do the math: with entry fees running about \$10/session, you might want to sign up

now! Your first year of ACBL membership will cost just \$26. Pick up a membership application at any bridge club, or join online at the ACBL website, acbl.org.

...and the number one reason to play in the Flying Buckeye regional:

- 1. It's in Dayton!** No long drive or plane fare, no hotel bill; just free food, free parking and more bridge than you can shake a stick at! It's the best party in town and it only happens once a year...so plan now to play, and I'll see you there!