



American Contract Bridge League
2990 Airways Blvd. • Memphis TN 38116-3847

One-, Two-, and Three-Star Clubs 2005 Application Form

ACBL clubs can apply for One-, Two-, or Three-Star Status using this application. Select the category for which your club qualifies on the following pages, complete the requested information, have the application approved by an official in your unit, and submit to the ACBL Club and Member Services Department no later than **December 31, 2004**. Please note that if you are applying for two-star status, you would fill out the application for the two-star club and also provide the information requested for a one star-status. If you are applying for three-star status, you would need to provide the information requested on the one, two, and three-star applications.

In an effort to provide greater consistency at ACBL clubs and to reward clubs which offer preferred services, programs, and games, this incentive plan was approved by the ACBL Board of Directors.

Clubs approved for Star Status will receive certificates and will be promoted on ACBL's web site and in the *ACBL Bridge Bulletin*.

_____ club is applying for _____ (1, 2, 3) Star Status.
I have examined the criteria included in this application and have determined that my club is eligible for _____ (1, 2, 3) Star Status by offering all of the services in this category.
(Note: If applying for the Two-Star Status, you must complete the application for One- and Two-Star Status; if applying for the Three-Star Status, you must complete the applications for the One-, Two-, and Three-Star Status.)

_____ Club # _____ Club Manager

_____ Date

The signature of a local unit official or the unit board will be required as the method of verifying that the information supplied is accurate. Disputes will be handled locally. ACBL will *only* process applications that have local approval and received *no later* than December 31, 2004.

Approved by: _____ Unit # _____
(Please print name and unit position held)

(Signature)

APPLICATION FOR ONE-STAR CLUB STATUS

Please use the space provided to summarize how your club meets the requirement.

Uses ACBLscore. – All sanctioned sessions are scored with ACBLscore. *If yes, please check*

Has a Zero Tolerance Policy. — The goal of every club is to promote a friendly atmosphere at the table. As a means of achieving this, the club posts an announcement that unacceptable behavior will not be tolerated. Unacceptable behavior includes but is not limited to rudeness, intimidation, gloating, and profanity. The club manager/director takes action (automatic penalties, disbarment, *etc.*) when an infraction occurs and the club director is notified. _____

Is affiliated with a teaching program. — Bridge lessons are offered by the club manager or a teacher known to be associated with the club. The lessons are advertised at the club site. If the manager is not the teacher, the club manager will assist all interested parties in contacting the teacher and providing information on lessons.

Participates in at least two (2) ACBL special events per year. — The club will have participated in at least two of these events during the year prior to application: *Any of the Eight Annual ACBL-wide Games, The North American Open Pairs qualifying sessions, The Grand National Teams, Membership Games, or the Junior Fund Games.*

Recruits at least one (1) new ACBL member through the club during the year. — One (1) new ACBL member must join the ACBL with the club listed as the recruiting sponsor. *List the amount of new member(s) recruited during the current year.*

Has a New Player Services Program. — New Player Services is a public relations program designed to welcome new players to club games by helping to create a fun, friendly, and comfortable atmosphere within the duplicate environment. *For example, local volunteers (or an appointed game Host or Hostess) wear “New Player Services” badges and work together to provide information and direction to newcomers.*

Guarantees partners. — Any player who arrives prior to game time will be able to play. In a small club, this may mean that the director will play when there is an odd number of players without partners. In cases where the director is not available to play, the club will provide a standby player who will fill in as needed.

APPLICATION FOR TWO-STAR CLUB STATUS

Please use the space provided to summarize how your club meets the requirement.

All of the requirements for one-star status. — A club must fulfill all of the requirements to be a one-star club in addition to the following requirements. *Please fill in the application for the one-star status in addition to this page.*

Offers a game for limited masterpoint players. — Any three (3) tables of 0 to 5 players are allowed to play in a game of their own. When an insufficient number of new players are available to participate, games will be stratified to accommodate the new-to-duplicate players. The bottom level of the game will be 0–5, 0–20, or 0–50, depending on the number of eligible players available to make a strat.

Recruits six (6) or more new ACBL members through the club during the year. — The club must be listed as the recruiter on the new member's application form. *List the amount of new member(s) recruited during the current year.*

Has a bridge tip and/or handouts for limited MP games. — Prior to each limited MP game or stratified game, a local teacher or experienced player will offer a short (generally 20 minutes) lesson or bridge tip appropriate for newer duplicate players. *Please state when and who presents lesson.*

Offers an Easybridge!, Bridge Plus+, 0–5, or equivalent game(s). — Any game which caters exclusively to the interests of new duplicate players will qualify, including an appendix table set up for the benefit of four (4) people. It is important for a club to recognize the importance of easing new players into the regular games and to be willing to provide a variety of suitable opportunities on an ongoing basis. *Please list the type of the new member game(s) you are running and the frequency with which it is scheduled.*

Has a non-playing director for the majority of games. — The only legitimate time that a director would play in the game would be if it was necessary at the last minute to accommodate a player without a partner.

APPLICATION FOR THREE-STAR CLUB STATUS

Please use the space provided to summarize how your club meets the requirement.

All of the requirements for two-star status — A club must fulfill all of the requirements to be a two-star club in addition to the following requirements. *Please fill in the applications for the one- and two-star status in addition to this page.*

Recruits 10 or more new ACBL members through the club during the year — The club is actively promoting ACBL membership annually and sets as its goal a minimum of 10 new members — the number necessary to earn an upgraded club championship. *List the amount of new member(s) recruited during the current year.*

Has a mentoring program — Mentoring programs provide an opportunity for both newcomers and mentors to meet and get to know each other on a basis other than as opponents at the table. Pro-Am games can be used to launch a mentoring program, partnerships are made by a program coordinator, and assigned pairs (a newcomer and a more experienced player) are encouraged to play together a minimum number of times during the month. *Tell us if your program is on-going or the months during which it is ran. Attach details and promotional materials used.*

Has a club newsletter (or club web site) — The club publication can be a one-page flyer. It does not have to be fancy but it does have to be generated at least once a month. The newsletter provides an opportunity to share both bridge and personal information and gives the members a chance to get to know each other better. *Please attach a sample copy of your newsletter indicating the frequency of the publications or list your club's website address.*

Hosts a special Intermediate Newcomer activity at least once a year — Hosting an Intermediate Newcomer Sectional (when the unit grants this opportunity) or a festive activity exclusively for 0 to 100 players qualifies (*e.g.*, parties for students who have just completed a course). *Please provide full details and include any promotional brochure or flyer used to advertise this event.*

Offers a social activity once a month — Any activity that helps the members of the club get to know each other better qualifies. Check the booklet *Club Managers* "Tips for Running a Successful Club" for ideas (*e.g.*, monthly birthday parties where the birthday people are honored; monthly food and bridge combo parties — bring a dish, pot luck, dessert and coffee; Bridge Bingo parties before or after a club championship). *Please explain which activities are offered and the frequency with which they are offered. Provide promotional materials when applicable.*
