



Hello and WELCOME to The 13 Top Tricks Bridge Club. My name is **Joe Grill** and I am so happy to welcome you to Bellevue's newest bridge club. A little about myself. I moved to Seattle from New Jersey in August of 2020. I have been a certified ACBL Club Director since 2013 and an ACBL Tournament Director since 2015. I have been running bridge games full-time for 7 years now. You may have seen me directing at the recent sectionals and regionals here in Washington. Before I moved to Washington, I ran one of the largest clubs in New England. I founded The Seven No-Trump Bridge Club of Stamford, Connecticut in 2016. Over 4 years, I built it to about 3500 tables per year. We were on track to hit 4000 live tables in 2020. When the global pandemic hit, I, like many other club owners was forced to close my physical club and operate online. I run one of the largest online virtual clubs. However, it has saddened me to see so many area clubs, including The Eastside Bridge Center close. I feel the time to return to face-to-face bridge has finally come which is why I am choosing to start running games in January of 2023.

So, what is our new club going to offer? Initially we are going to start out running just two days a week (Wednesday and Thursday at 11 am). We will be operating out of the Summit Club House. If things go well, we will expand to a third day. If the table count justifies it, I will consider leasing a commercial space and restoring a full-time bridge club to the Bellevue/Kirkland/Redmond area. One step at a time though! Once we get going, I may add a weekly online game to supplement our schedule. My real long-term goal, however, is to get YOU a commercial space so that the bridge community has a full-time place to play.

The 13 Top Tricks Bridge Club is going to be 100% focused on the player experience. I will strive to promote a friendly atmosphere, the best technology and equipment in a comfortable spacious facility. There will be many opportunities for classes and games in the coming months, so please check the website and read your emails. I can't wait to meet you all in person! If you have any questions, please reach out to me!

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