

Sam Katz
Trader

Team Testimonial



I started learning bridge when I was 10 years old. It was in the family, both my parents and grandparents played. My dad (Ralph Katz), a Hall of Fame bridge player, would travel all around the world playing, and I figured if I was going to go all these places, I might as well learn to play too! I instantly loved the game and would play at every tournament my family went to. I loved all games, but bridge was different. It was a mental workout. You had to keep

and maintain focus for hours at a time while working with a partner to try to figure out the puzzle on every hand. Even on the most basic hand the amount of different possible outcomes is amazing!

I ended up being named ACBL's King of Bridge in 2006 and represented the United States on multiple teams in different places such as Thailand and China. When I graduated college, I knew exactly what I wanted to do: Become a trader!

What got me so interested in wanting to become a trader (specifically options)? Well, my dad –who I followed around the world playing bridge – was also an options trader for 30 years. Not only my dad, but many other world class bridge players have been options traders at one point in their lives. This is because the skills and mindset that makes someone thrive in bridge are the same skills that make someone a successful trader. I knew I would love being a trader because it would be like being able to play a game for my job.

I joined CTC almost five years ago. I work on the CBOE floor as a SPX options market maker. Joining CTC was the greatest thing that could have happened to me. I had been at two different trading firms before, but I knew CTC was different from the start. The things that stood out immediately were the teamwork atmosphere and the education/training they put into their employees to make them the best traders possible.

In trading, just like in bridge, there is no end to how much you can improve. At CTC, you have a whole team trying to help you get there. I do not think I could have found a more perfect fit in not only trading, but also in being a member of CTC.