

So you *might* want to be a BRIDGE CRUISE HOST...

Many experienced bridge teachers and directors dream of the adventure of transferring their bridge expertise and skills to the high seas.

It sounds great to travel the high seas and do it in a bridge atmosphere. But do you really know what's involved?

Being a successful Bridge Cruise Host involves lecturing and directing games and is a lot of work. Cruise lines, cruise agents and ACBL set extremely high standards for onboard bridge enrichment programs as they strive for excellence in passenger satisfaction.

You will be expected to run games whenever the ship is not in port and to give daily bridge lectures. On some ships you may be asked to conduct bridge even when the ship is in port. You might be encouraged to help with other customer activities. Sometimes you are asked to host a table at dinner.

In today's world of bridge, getting an assignment on a cruise ship as a Bridge Lecturer and Director (host) has everything to do with your credentials, experience and winning personality. Success in being selected to represent cruise line bridge enrichment programs is usually defined by your professionalism, preparedness, experience, cooperation and attitude.

Here are important prerequisites to consider before applying:

- **Cruise agents and cruise lines require that you have ACBL or professional teacher accreditation and ACBL director certification.** ACBL recommends that you take the TAP (Teacher Accreditation Program) to get yourself up to date on current bridge resources and techniques.
- **ACBL's Bridge Teachers and Bridge Cruises seminar** provides present-day tips for becoming a successful Bridge Cruise Lecturer and Director. Look for this as part of the NABC Education Program.
- **ACBL's Club Director Course** will provide the information necessary for you to run a duplicate game (a correspondence course is available in addition to the NABC offering).

If you have all of the qualifications you need, proceed to the Find a Club site at ACBL's web site (www.acbl.org, look under "Play") and scroll down for a list of Cruise Clubs and bridge agents.