

Sportsmanship Trophy

Participants in the 2010 Youth North American Bridge Championships will vote for the recipient of the Youth Sportsmanship Trophy. Good sportsmanship refers to fairness, self control, respect and courtesy.

Every time you play from Thursday through Sunday morning you will be given an opportunity to nominate a player for this award. Put the first and last name of the person you would like to nominate on the colored slip you received with your entry and place it in the nomination box.

Sunday morning we will accumulate and count all the nominations and prepare a ballot with the three names who received the largest amount of nominations. Between sessions on Sunday you will vote for one of those three players (or a write-in vote is acceptable). We will collect and count the votes and the winner will be announced before the last round of the Sunday Swiss Team Event.

When voting for the recipient of the Sportsmanship Trophy, players should consider the following five questions:

1. Are they pleasant and polite whether they win or lose?
2. Do they have respect and concern for the rules and the director?
3. Do they have respect and concern for their partner and their opponents?
4. Do they help me to feel comfortable and at ease so that I can play my best?
5. Are they concerned that I have a good time also?

We all play to win. We like to win. We hope to win. The winner of the Sportsmanship Trophy, however, should be a person who also plays so that he, his partner and his opponents enjoy the game and the experience of playing and meeting other students who share his passion for bridge.

A \$1,000 college scholarship will be provided to the winner of this award.

This year's Sportsmanship Trophy is being donated by Phil Gordon. Gordon, a 1991 Georgia Tech graduate, is a bridge enthusiast and a former winner of the Red Ribbon Pairs and many regional Flight A knockout events.

Gordon is a founder of the "Bad Beat on Cancer" charity (www.preventcancer.org) that has raised more than \$3 million for this worthwhile cause.

Gordon a two-time World Poker Tour champion, has hosted many episodes of Bravo's Celebrity Poker Showdown, written three best-selling poker books, and is a founding member of FullTiltPoker.com, a popular online poker site. While not playing bridge or poker, Phil works in San Francisco and Las Vegas as a technology entrepreneur.