Over/Under Game

**Purpose:** to match beginning bridge players with experienced players to partner in a unit game in order for the experienced players to help beginning players learn more about bridge concepts. The Over/Under game will be run in the same way that a unit game is held.

1. Novice (Under) participants sign up for the game. (Due date: June 30, 2023) Under participants should not have obtained their Life Masters rank and have no more than 499 master points. Participants will indicate their preference for a N/S pairing. (Note: depending on the number of players who request a N/S pairing, we reserve the right to alter the direction of the pairing assignment.)
2. Based on the number of Under participants, the Over/Under Game Coordinator and members of the Board will compile a list of willing and experienced (Over) players to be matched with Under players.
3. After the two lists are created, the Over/Under Coordinator will randomly match a player from the Under list with one from the Over list. (Note: requests from participants for specific pairings will not be granted – the matching process will be entirely random.)
4. After the Over/Under Coordinator establishes the pairings, he will assign each pair to a specific table/direction. These assignments will be announced the day of the Over/Under game.
5. On the day of the Over/Under game, all partnerships should arrive at 12:30 and fill out a convention card describing agreements to be used during the game. This is one of the opportunities for bridge learning/teaching to take place. The Over/Under game will begin at 1:00.
6. The cost/benefits of this Over/Under unit game are as follows:
	* Under players pay $10 and will receive a voucher for a free future unit game (in other words two unit games for the $10 entry fee).
	* Over players will play for free.

Questions:

1. Is the “definition” of an Under player appropriate – should we allow Life Master players to play as an Under? Should we limit the number of master points to 499 or should it be lower/higher? Perhaps we should start with a ceiling of 499 points and go higher if we need more players? We also need to check out the eligibility of the Under players to ensure they satisfy the criteria we use (i.e., <= 499 MP and non Life Master).
2. Note that by the nature of the above, the Over/Under game limits the number of people who can participate in the game: Not all experienced players will be able to participate in the game and we may be disqualifying novice players who don’t satisfy the definition of an “Under” player. So this would result in not so many players participating which I think is fine since the purpose of this game is to help Under players learn the game. Also, this is definitely a money loser since Unders get two games for their $10 and Overs don’t pay to play – again fine by me since the purpose is to spend Unit money on bridge learning events.
3. I believe we should invite participation of Under players from the Arcadia Bridge Center, the Pasadena Bridge Center, the Glendale Unit, and La Fevra (Glendora). Are there any others we should consider?
4. As you can see, I am counting on all members of the Board to assist in identifying Over players to participate. Note that the Over/Under Coordinator needs to maintain the official Over list so that we can exactly match the number of players participating in the game. We should create the list and identify willing Over players before making any formal invitations to the Over players.
5. I plan on sending guidelines to the Over players so that they are providing the “appropriate” amount of guidance to the Under players without overwhelming them. (I will not tell them what to help them with – just to use judgment in what to teach them.)