



# Bridge Scene

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## Ruth Scott Youth Tournament

Ruth Scott, owner of the Omaha Bridge Studio, sponsored the Second Annual Omaha Youth Tournament for elementary, middle and high school students. The event was held at the Omaha Bridge Studio on Saturday April 10th, 2010. Sixty four kids played together for an afternoon of bridge, pizza, pop, and cookies.

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Participants were greeted at the door and directed to their game area where they were given a sheet of paper with a list of questions. They had to ask other students in the room answers to simple bridge questions. "How



many suits?" "What are their ranks?" "How many points do you need to open one of a suit?" They had to write the name of the person who gave them the answer on the sheet. This allowed them to experience the social aspect of bridge. All those who completed the sheet had a dollar stapled to it in the goody bag they received at the end of the session.

Play began shortly after 10:00 a.m. It was an eleven table game with two-board rounds. It became apparent that the play was a little slower than an adult game so only nine rounds were played. There was also a five table mini-bridge game directed by Elise Parish. The mini-bridgers kept pace and managed to get in 8 rounds.

Half way through the event, the kids were given a choice of either playing through the 5th round or eating pizza and then playing. It was amazing to see over half give up food to continue playing bridge.

After all hands were finished, the directors announced the winning pairs. First through third place finishers received cash prizes. Each player also received a free goody bag prepared by Dee Miller which had been donated by her husband.

One of the interesting things overheard at a table was a simple comment by a partner who said "You really played that well." This after they just went down three. I guess the adults can still learn something from the kids after all. The tournament was a raving success. There are high hopes that this will become an annual tradition.

