

The Wonderful World of Cribbage



Have you ever played cribbage? Do you remember it fondly as a family game played around the dinner table? In fact cribbage is one of England's oldest games, invented in the early 17th Century by the alleged scoundrel, Sir John Suckling and is derived from an earlier game called Noddy. It features extensively in the Old Curiosity Shop by the Victorian novelist, Charles Dickens, helping to extend its popularity within the UK.

It is a fairly simple game to master with relatively few rules yet yields endless subtleties during play, which accounts for its ongoing appeal and popularity throughout the English speaking world, notably Canada, United States and Australia as well as the UK. Whilst you may not play the game currently, you will almost certainly have heard of the many terms which are used in everyday life such as "streets ahead", "level pegging", "a turn-up" all of which originate from cribbage!

One unique feature of the game is the board and its pegs, used for counting the score up to the target of 121. Boards come in a variety of shapes and materials and rare boards are much sought after by collectors.



We are lucky that we have a local cribbage league providing competitive crib for pubs and clubs around the Potters Bar and Barnet areas. We have been active now since 1983 – almost 40 years!

11 teams currently compete in a variety of League, Cup knock-out with separate competitions for both pairs & singles. We play on Monday nights and our season lasts from around late September to May. Details of the teams that compete in the league can be found on the league website, or contact the league via email or telephone the chairman. Newcomers, including beginners are always welcome and will be given patient instructions and friendly games.

If you would like to play, contact us at the Potters Bar and District Crib League (see below). We can put you in touch with your local team who will welcome you and offer a few friendly games to get you started. For beginners there is a guide to Cribbage (Cribbage.doc) on the website. To learn the game there are some good cribbage games you can download to your mobile phone or tablet. Cribbage Pro (by Fuller systems) is recommended.

CONTACTING THE POTTERS BAR AND DISTRICT CRIB LEAGUE

Website: www.pbcrib.co.uk Email: admin@pbcrib.co.uk

Phone the Chairman, Les Berry, on 07711 019313 for a chat about cribbage, the League, and how you can get involved in this wonderful game.