

Sarangapani Club *Family Support*

<https://bridgepathshala.com>

Sarangapani Club is a weekend hangout of 4 budding youngsters just out management school and trying to build careers in Information Technology Mumbai. Read link for details https://drive.google.com/file/d/1eXKsYJw7BDX-pegg53Acy4k8BVb_xzK7/view?usp=sharing

Padma's parents were visiting to spend some time with her and see how she is making out in city which never sleeps, Mumbai. Prabha also got her parents for the meeting as she was local person. The weekly quartet meeting thus had some senior guests.

After the introductions by Padma and Prabha, Kaushik, wanted to ensure that Bridge was the discussion topic even with parents around and spoke quickly before anyone could butt in asking 'Uncles and Aunts, what do you think of your daughters playing Bridge? Do you encourage them or discourage them?'

It was Padma's mother who spoke first saying, "Where is the question of discouraging her? Padma has grown in a family with modern values, and we always allowed her to do what she wanted to do as long as it was something good for her. Bridge is a great intellectual pastime, and I am delighted to meet all of you and I am happy she is playing with friends as a team. We understand that it is a sport that she can play with no age limit."

Prabha's mother was next to comment saying, "When Prabha learnt the game, we were not sure if she was on the right path. She sat with us on a weekend and explained how it is an international mental sport like chess and has no connection with gambling of any sort. After her explanation, we supported her fully and she balanced academics and bridge very well and we are pleased that she is doing well on both fronts"

Prabha and Padma were teary eyed and were trying to hold back the tears of joy. It was Padma's father who observed this and said, "I can see both are getting emotional on our unconditional support to play Bridge. I have many friends who play Bridge and they told me how it helped them in developing some management skills like communication, decision making and mental alertness. I told her to play and enjoy it as much as possible but I sometimes find her lost in thoughts and I find that she is thinking about some errors made at the table. I want her to play as much Bridge as possible but not brood over it"

Prabha's father added saying, "I understand one of the reasons that this game is not very popular is because of parental resistance. We have spoken to many parents and told them to allow their children to learn this fascinating game. There is lack of awareness of the game and that is the main reason why parents resisted it"

Kaushik thanked them for their support and spoke. "If there was resistance from the family, they would not be able to perform well as it will be worrying them at the back of their mind. We hope you will find good groomers who will allow them to continue playing Bridge. I also wanted to know why you don't play the game". All four of them looked at each other and it was Padma who smiled and said, "they know the basics of the game and don't play tournaments but play social bridge all the time. In fact, they want to have a team match with us tonight". With that, everyone was happy, and they all left to Kaushik's residence for a team game of bridge.

Tailpiece , Goofy was also very happy as everyone around was happy. He let out a bark of happiness and cuddled up with the seniors for a group photograph as he was remembering his parents who passed away long back. A very emotional moment for Goofy

