



West Midlands Bridge Club

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BEGINNING BRIDGE

Why Learn Bridge?

Bridge is a great game, a social pastime enjoyed by millions of people around the world. Whether aged 8 or 98, bridge is one of the best ways to keep your brain agile, whilst making new like-minded friends.

Why Learn at West Midlands?

Being one of the largest clubs in the country, West Midlands offers unrivalled facilities:

- Centrally located in Solihull and just 5 minutes from the M42
- Bridge is played 6 days a week (and sometimes even 7).
- In-house catering with a steward, Jayne, who makes fantastic cakes!
- A licensed bar
- Large character building
- Ample parking

From September 2016 we are introducing an extended programme of progression for players through our six level course following the Bridge for All Index (BfA) recommended by the English Bridge Union (EBU) and starting with **MiniBridge**.

We specialises in teaching **Beginners** from absolute scratch, taking things slowly enough for everyone to get the hang, but keeping things moving, as you will be dying to get to the next stage. Our teachers, Penny Dawson and Prue Knight, make the game practical and know exactly how to make the game as easy as possible to learn and, most importantly, how to make it fun!

You will be recommended to buy Book One – Beginning Bridge – The Complete Learn and Play Programme from the English Bridge Union and you will become student members of the EBU.

For students who are eager to learn more quickly and who like the opportunity to play more often we have run a **No Fear** session with Alan Bailey on Friday mornings. Alan has taught bridge for many years using BfA and has a gentle, patient manner motivating his students and giving them confidence to progress.

The bidding system used in BfA is Standard English Acol, which is based on the Acol system and is recommended for all beginners. Wherever you go, you will be able to play bridge – in clubs, on bridge holidays or with friends.

After the first 12 weeks you will say a confident “Yes!” when asked if you can play the game. After Christmas you can move onto **Level 2** and continue **No Fear** with Alan – more later!

From Easter students will moved to **Level 3**. You will also be encouraged to take part in competitions against students at other clubs across the County (Warwickshire) who also started this year.

You will then be ready to play in our **Practice Play (Level 4)** sessions over the summer and prepared to move into **Level 5** and **Level 6** in September 2017 and January 2018 whilst also playing in our gentle duplicate sessions.

Bridge is an endlessly stimulating game and great to learn. Seize the moment – start now!

Christine Killeen
Club Secretary
August 2016