

WBCC Learning and Development programme 2018-19



**Watford
and
Bushey
Bridge
Club**

The full programme has continued as a very successful and popular route into bridge and a process for developing skills and confidence. The programme is thriving as was noted in the Treasurer's Report. We aim to provide a full scheme to enable progression from absolute beginner to club player following the EBU two year Red Book and Green Book Programme providing students at the end with their standard Year 2 Convention card.

The club, with the very generous help of many, provides lessons at beginner and improver level, supervised play to develop skills in a natural but supportive environment and 'gentle' duplicate to introduce players to club sessions. We also ran some revision lessons in the Summer for both Beginners and Improvers to try to keep their skills current. An additional set of lessons for regular club players was also introduced last year and was very popular.

The club's duplication machine is now held at the club and has greatly helped tutors prepare their hands for the lessons.

Beginners ~ Tutors: Jim Blair and Tony Osborne

2018 has been another successful year for Beginners' lessons at the club. In the first term we had 24 new students – some absolute beginners and some with limited experience and with one or two drop outs; the remainder have been joined by an additional 10 students for the second term in 2019. Many of our last year's students are continuing their learning on the Improver's course.

Improvers ~ Tutors: Ros Campbell and Chris Pratt

34 students signed up in October 2018. This course aims to build and develop skills and we have a mixture of those who have graduated from the beginners' course, some from outside of the club with varying levels of knowledge and also a few retakes. The aim at the end of the lessons is try to move graduates into the playing environment on Mondays and Thursdays initially.

Beginners' Summer revision ~ Tutors Ros Campbell and Jim Blair

2018 saw the third year of this popular series of lessons with increased numbers from 2017 with around 24 attendees per session. The lessons are essential revision for our beginners to reinforce the knowledge and a useful stepping stone for those intending to advance to the Improvers Lessons. The lessons were very well received and it is intended these will run again in 2019.

Improvers Play of the Hand Course ~ Peter Lewy

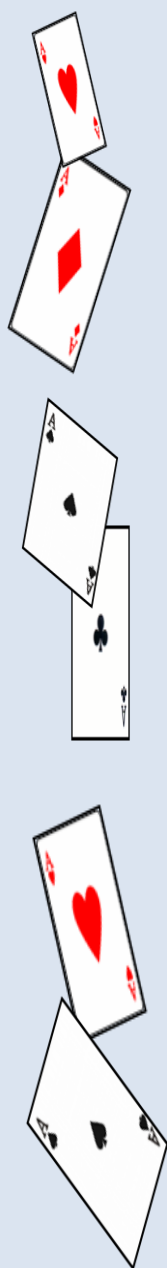
This course ran for the second year and was kindly designed by Peter Lewy. This course was again well received and Peter has kindly agreed to repeat these again in 2019. The aim of these classes is to help improvers work on card play skills.

Supervised play ~ Coordinator: David Arrighi, Leaders Roger Edmonds, Peter Lewy and David Mail and support assistants Linda Gallow, Judith Meredith, Susan Mount, Tony Osborne, Ros Campbell Chris Pratt, David Landes and Howard Sheldon

The Wednesday afternoon Supervised Play sessions go from strength to strength. Numbers continue to rise and often there are 9 or 10 tables.

The main focus remains on developing members of the club's own education programme, using hands from the previous evening's club duplicate. However we have a number of external players, some who have learnt elsewhere and some for whom it is very much an afternoon of social bridge.

All of the tutors work very hard to make this an enjoyable and useful session and it is a vital part of our learning programme providing the first place that Beginners can start to play outside of the lesson environment. We were delighted that David Landes and Howard Sheldon were willing to join the team in 2018.



Advanced Lessons – Peter Clark HBA Team Captain

This was a reintroduction of this course to the club which had been run a few years earlier. This proved enormously popular and was attended by around 24 people on average. A repeat was requested and organisation is underway with the arrangements for this summer.

Gentle Duplicate ~ Organisers: Ros Campbell and Joe Coulson

This session is now growing in popularity and provides the first session of duplicate that is suitable for post beginners. Around 14 boards are played in a relaxed environment. It is a vital part again of the learning development programme and provides the missing link from lessons and supervised play to the general duplicate sessions. There is a host system, a slower pace and support for using Bridgemes. .

In summary huge thanks go to all of those who directly organise and deliver the education programme and to you all for promoting it in the community. The feedback from students about our club and programme is extremely positive and the benefit to the club is that it helps to ensure the club continues to thrive.



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