

Online Play and Learn is here, beginning this Saturday, May 9!

The game will be 12 boards, is limited to players under 500 MPs, will start at 9:50 am Saturday, May 9, and subsequent Saturdays if all goes well. It is a sanctioned game, with masterpoints awarded. The fee is \$5, which includes the bridge and the discussion.

The timer will be set at 11 minutes per board with either two or three boards per round.. This 11 minutes will include time for play (target = 7 minutes) and discussion of each hand. Discussion will take place at the end of each round. I will lead the discussion, focusing on whatever happens to be most interesting about each hand, and of course I will take questions from all players.

To participate in the discussion all players **MUST** be logged into Zoom. Those who play on BBO and use Zoom on the same device will switch from BBO to Zoom at the end of every round; there will be no need to keep BBO on screen at that point. All players should be signed up for Zoom accounts well before game time, should download the Zoom application, and should make sure they can sign into it. (It is possible to use a browser, for example Internet Explorer, instead of the Zoom application, but it is not best.) We will all stay logged into Zoom throughout the session, switching to discussion at the end of every round and going silent during play. During the discussion phase I will display a screenshot of the hand under discussion, so players can have Zoom up, not BBO, at that point.

For this first attempt I'd appreciate it if people could get signed into Zoom well before game time, so we can make sure everything is working properly. Sign up for the BBO game, too, and be sure to be active on BBO within ten minutes of game time so their system doesn't kick you off. Anyone having difficulty can email me at doug@dougcoachman.com or text me at 512-934-1566.

Players can click this link to join the meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5129341566>. You sign into Zoom, click "join", and enter my phone number (512-934-1566, numbers only) as the meeting ID. Anyone who has trouble with any of this or is concerned about it should contact me well before we begin, including during the week beforehand. (The above link will work for every P&L that I run, not just this Saturday's game.) If anyone will need to join the discussion by phone, you can; get in touch with me separately for instructions.

I know this is a lot of information, but I think if everyone is a little bit patient we will have tons of fun and learn some stuff along the way.

Doug Couchman