

For March 2025: Reviewing Your Results

The best way to improve your bidding and play is for you and your partner to look at what worked and what didn't after the results of a game have been posted. Too tired after 27 hands to spend more time going over each hand? Our website makes it easy to focus on your best and worst outcomes! Just follow these steps:

1. Under Results on the right side of the home page or the Results List on the left navigation bar, click on the listing for the game you just played.
2. A screen opens up that shows every pair who played, divided between North/South and East/West and ranked from first to last place. It also shows the percentage score achieved and any points won.
3. Now click on either your name or your partner's name. The screen that appears has your personalized results on the left side and a grid of each hand played on the left side.

The colorful display on the left makes it easy to focus on just your worst hands (bright red) and your best victories (bright green). For each hand, you can see whom you played against, what the contract was and how the outcome compared to others playing the same hand (green good, yellow average, red poor).

For our example, we are using the Feb. 26 Carson game and we are selecting Kathy Beasley (webmasters don't mind being embarrassed about their poor performance!).

Bad Result: Let's focus on one of Kathy's red hands first, hand 8. Played in 3N in the West, her outcome was down 2. Go to the right side of the screen and click on hand number 8 in the top grid. The green square will now show all of the hands, total number of points in each hand, and maximum number of tricks expected to be made. As the small chart shows, the best result will be either East or West playing 3N and making 4.

Now look at the grid below the green box. You can see all of the different contracts and outcomes for this particular hand. In this case, everyone plays the hand in NT and is expected to make 4. Three people, including Kathy, go down, sharing a bottom 15%, while two people outperform and make 6 for a 92% shared top board.

What Kathy can learn from this is that she and her partner bid correctly to arrive at the right contract, but something was wrong with her strategy during play of the hand. If she has noted the lead on her score card, she can look at how the play unfolded and try to figure out a better strategy.

Good Result: Now let's focus on a green hand. Click on hand 20, played in 4C* in the West. Although the green box says West should only make 3, we can see that three pairs made 4. East/West had only 19 points, but West's void makes their combined hands more powerful.

What Kathy confirms from looking at this hand is that sometimes betting on her shape (a void) will pay off with a higher score than if she instead tried to set North/South! Players who let North/South play a heart contract only set them one trick, a poor result compared to the positive East/West scores.

In conclusion, the best way to improve your results is to consult with your partner about what went wrong and what worked on every hand you played every time you play. But if that doesn't interest you, our website allows you to focus on a fewer set of hands and gradually improve your skills.