# Introduction to Bridge Base Online

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## Introduction and some cautionary notes

These notes are offered as an introduction to playing Bridge on Bridge Base Online(BBO).

A great way to play bridge and keep in touch with friends during this time of club closure and restricted entertaining.

BBO has done much work to meet the current demands. However, its very popularity has led to some problems during extremely busy times eg. weekend afternoons when players in the us comes online.
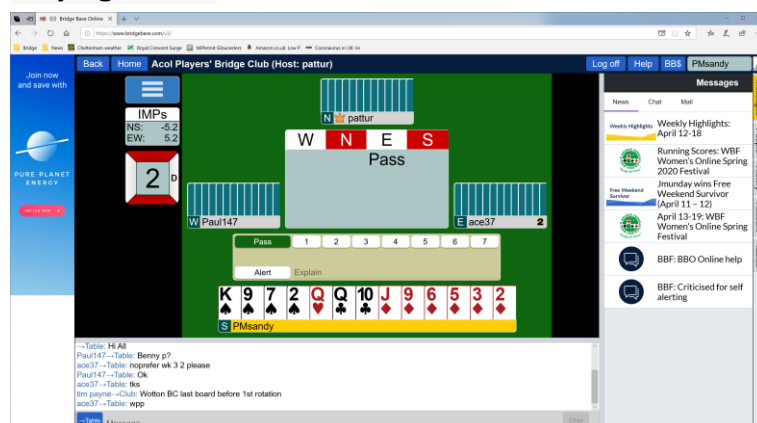
Screen freezing, players being dropped from games without warning try – logging out and in again – if that fails to fix the problem log out and try again at a less busy time.

Slow play can lead to boards being taken away by the director – you have to just accept this.

This short guide will be updated in response to feedback from players.

ENJOY!!!

## Playing screen



1. The player who is due to bid or play is identified by the yellow bar.
2. You will always appear at the bottom of the playing screen, no matter what your position is.
3. Unlike playing at the club the person making a bid alerts the bid if it is conventional.
a. Click Alert or Explain and then enter bid.
4. Vulnerability is indicated by the red stripes around the number of the game being played.
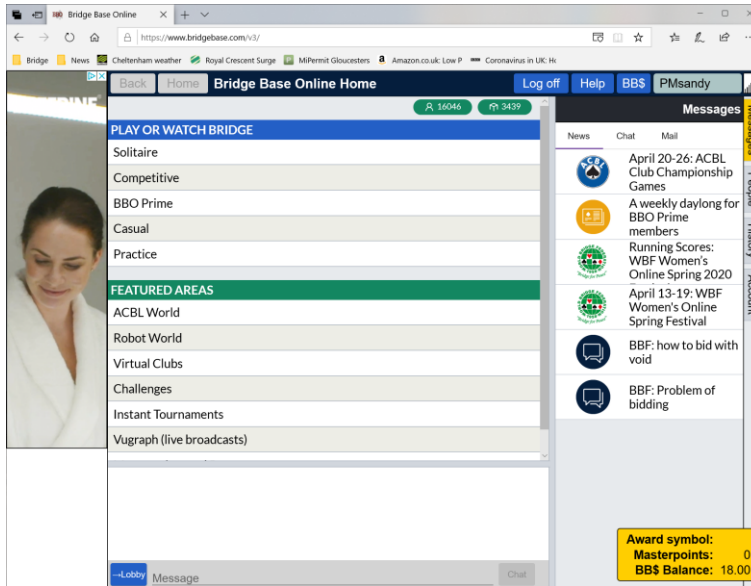5. Scoring is shown just above.

6. The white bar above the score indicates the system being used, generally IMPs or Match Points, if you click on it you will be able to view the current state of the traveller.

7. The three bars above the score give you context relevant options – I suggest you click on the three bars while playing just to have a look at what is available to you. Two important buttons : UNDO lets you ask the opponents to accept a change and should be used whenever you mis-click on either a card or a bid, and the opponents are asked to be understanding about this and to accept : DIRECTOR lets you ask for help and is the best way to get attention from the TD

8. Below the playing table is a message panel – you can type messages to the other players where it says "Message* and then click enter on your keyboard. The blue button to the left of the message entry field – is usually set to Table during a game , but you can  opt to contact the Tournament, the Lobby or Private to any other member logged in to BBO.

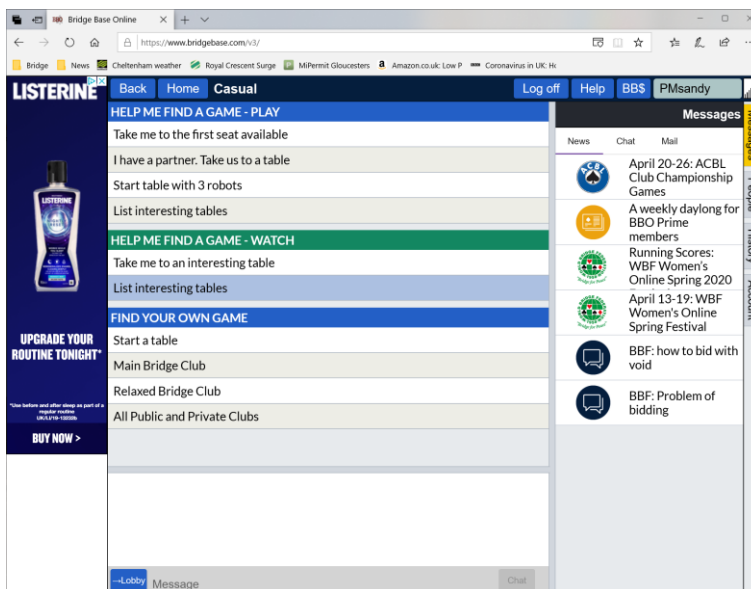   Below are some recognised abbreviations

   a. gl = good luck
      glp = good luck partner
      ty = thank you
      typ = thank you partner
      wdp = well done partner
      wdo = well done opponents
      wpp: Well played partner

9. At the end of a board the player may make a claim is which case a yellow notice will come up and the opposition pair both have to accept or reject.

10. To finish, send a message thanking the other players, click into the box below your name and leave the table.
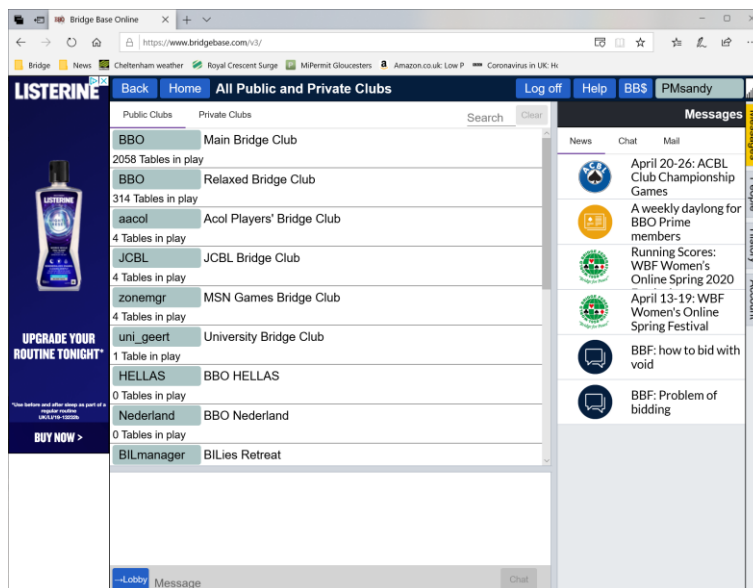
# Finding a game

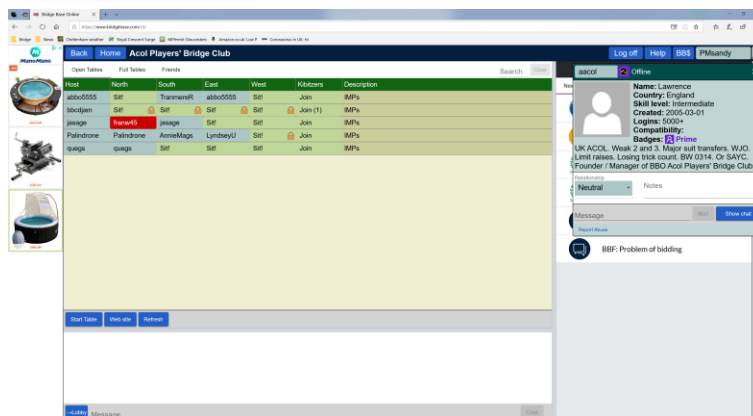After logging in and registering you will land on the following page



1. I suggest you start by clicking on casual



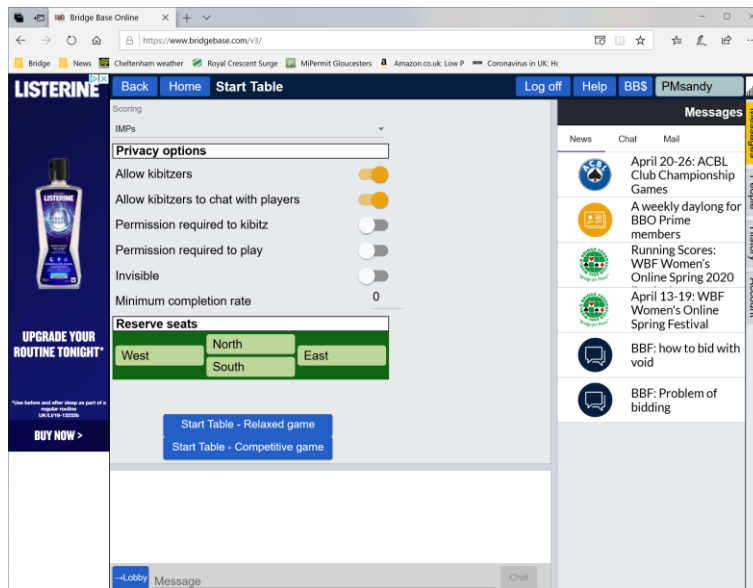2. Click on All Public and Private Clubs

3. Suggest you click on Acol Players' Bridge Club as the bidding system will be similar to that played at the club
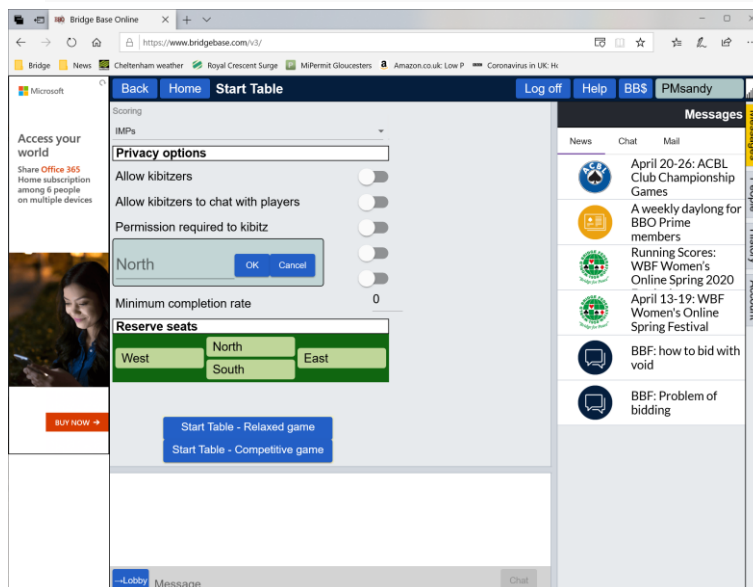


4. You will then be presented with a list of the tables with available seats – Sit seats are available and those with a lock beside them are already reserved
5. Click on any vacant Sit seat to join the table.
6. Or start a new table
a. Click Start Table
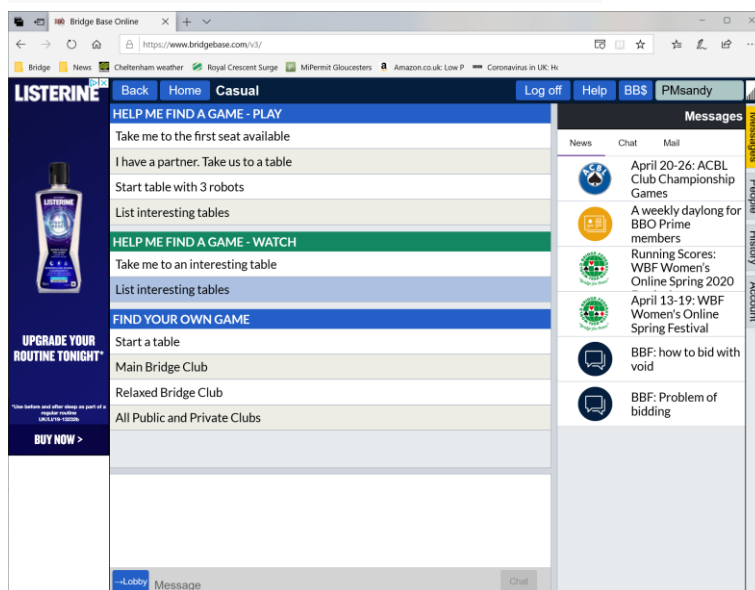
## Setting up a table of your own within chosen game



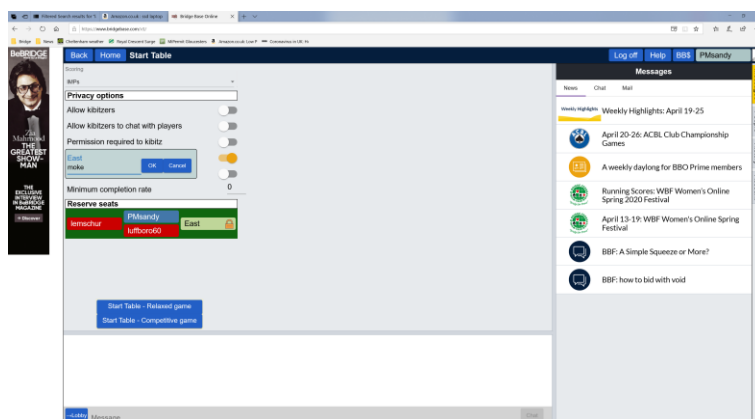1. Deselect Allow Kibitzers and Allow kibitzers to chat with players or leave as is.



Players

1. Click on Player position enter player/players username/usernames the click OK
e.g.
   a. Pauline Sanderson – PMsandy
      Angela Hawley – Luffboro60
      Moya Jackson – mokejmoke
      Lesley Martin – lemschur

2. Click on Start Table- Relaxed game or Start table – Competitive game which ever is appropriate.

## Setting up a private table for four players



1. Under FIND YOUR OWN GAME click Start a table



2. Click on down arrow to right of IMPs to change table scoring if needed
3. Deselect Allow Kibitzers and Allow kibitzers to chat with players or leave as is.
4. Do select "Permission required to play" (this ensures another player cannot jump into a seat at your table if one of the original members of your table has to log out and in again.
   a. The player logging in again will be able to find the table they were playing at by clicking on the People tab on the RH side of the table and searching for the user name of one of the players at the table
5. Click on Player position enter player/players username/usernames then click OK e.g.
   a. Pauline Sanderson – PMsandy
      Angela Hawley – Luffboro60
      Moya Jackson – mokejmoke
      Lesley Martin – lemschur
6. Click on Start Table- Relaxed game or Start table – Competitive game which ever is appropriate.

## Joining a CBC club game

Instructions are given on the club's website, just follow this link:

https://www.bridgewebs.com/cgi-bin/bwon/bw.cgi?club=cheltenham&pid=display_page34

See heading CBC Members games on BBO