



Beginning Bridge I Course - Lesson 1.5

Feb 10, 2025



Course Objectives:

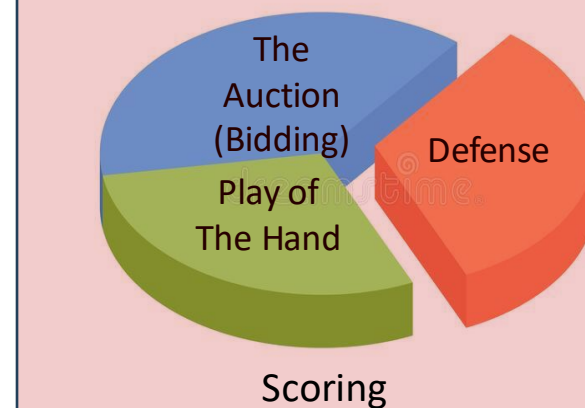
- Play several hands of bridge each lesson
- Have some fun
- Generate interest to learn more about the game of bridge
- Encourage students to meet others and find some new friends
- Begin learning the fundamentals, mechanics & language of Bridge
- Prepare students for Beginning Bridge II & to play games at the club

The Home Stretch

Reviewing many of the concepts that we are learning.

Preparing to play our first game!

The Four Elements of Bridge



Lesson 5 – Warm up Hand

You are East what would you bid with the holding Below?

The auction:

S.	W.	N.	E.
P	1D	1H	1S
P	3S	P	4S

Hand # 19
 Fri 2.7.25
 Vul: E/W
 Dlr: South



The Play of the Hand:

How would you play out the hand in 4 Spades ?

Lead: The Heart Queen?

Here is the full deal. It should make 4 Spades East!

Take Away 1:

You will make 4 Spades if you immediately clear the Trump. If you don't, you will go down 2 tricks for a -200 and a bottom board

Remember: Your Declarer Plan must always include how you are going to handle trump. (Pull all, pull some, or wait to pull trump)

If there isn't a compelling reason to wait to pull trump, you are usually wise to pull it immediately..

Take Away 2:

Even good players make mistakes. Try to learn from your mistakes, so you don't repeat them!

Dlr: South
Vul: E/W

♠ 9 4
♥ K J 10 6 3 2
♦ Q 9 6 3
♣ 4

Optimum
EW 620

♠ J 10 2
♥ A
♦ A K J 10 7 5
♣ Q J 10

NORTH
WEST
19
SOUTH
EAST

♠ A Q 7 5 3
♥ 9 8 5 4
♦ 2
♣ K 9 2

6	
16	9
9	

♠ K 8 6
♥ Q 7
♦ 8 4
♣ A 8 7 6 5 3

♣♦♥♠N				
N	-	-	1	-
S	-	-	1	-
E	2	3	-	4
W	2	3	-	4

[View Larger](#) [Play it again](#)

Board No 19 E/W Vul Dealer South									
NS	EW	Bid	By	Ld	Tks	+Sc	-Sc	+	-
2	8	3♦	W	♣4	3		110	3.00	2.00
5	1	4♠	E	♥7	-2	200		5.00	0.00
6	4	4♠	E	♥A	4		620	1.50	3.50
10	3	4♠	E	♦4	4		620	1.50	3.50
11	9	3NT	W	♠9	5		660	0.00	5.00
12	7	4♠	E	♥7	-1	100		4.00	1.00

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1. Stayman and Jacoby Transfers –

- To respond to Pards 1NT opener, you need at least one 4-card Major, **AND** 8 HCPs.
- To respond to Pards 1NT opener you need a 5 card Major and **ZERO HCPs, REALLY!**

2. Defensive Strategies, including the Defender's plan

- Preemptive openings, Why we preempt! Weak 2, 3, and 4 bids
- Responding to Pard's preempt. **Further the preempt with support!**
- Interference – What should responder bid when openers bid was overcalled?

3. More Play of the hand

- **No Trump:** The Great Race for both the declarer and the defenders (**Handout**)
- **Suit Contracts:** Count expected losers first, played differently than No Trump
 - **Four ways to eliminate losers:** Ruff with the short trump suit, discard losers in declarer's hand on winners in dummy, Create winners with long suits, finesse

4. **Overcalls**..... And Responding to Overcalls. **Need a good 5 card suit and 7 HCPS to overcall at the 1 level, and you need 10+ HCPs to overcall at the 2 level. If Vul you need better suit.**

- Takeout Doubles. Opponent opens and you have **SOS!** **S**hortness in bid suit, An **O**pening hand, and **S**upport for the 3 unbid suits.

5. Forcing, Non-forcing, Invitational bids, Drop Dead bids. **We will cover this next time.**



1. What is a Finesse, and how do we do a finesse? –Examples

2. Where to get more bridge information?

- ACBL.org website – Many great learning aids, including a glossary
- Beginning Bridge books available
- Keep adding handouts to your binders.

3. More on Bidding

- Telling your story!
- Types of bids: forcing, non-forcing, invitational & drop dead

4. What to expect during our game next week?

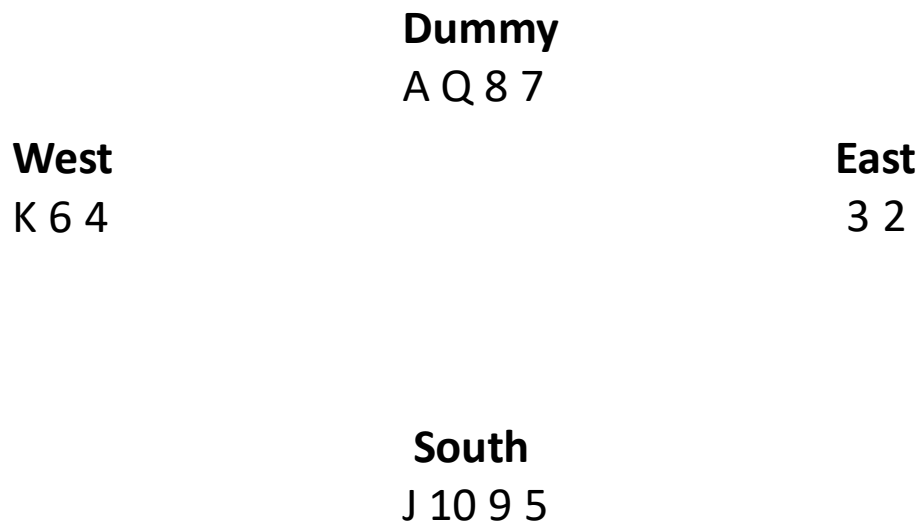
- Player numbers are needed.
- Partners always provided during AM games
- Remember your Pair Number
- Pick up a score sheet and try to keep score,
- Scoring is officially done on the Bridgemates
- A Game Clock is used. Bridge is a timed event.
- Different Movements are used. Follow your guide cards
- Hand records are given out after to review your results
- Post game analysis is done to help you see what you did well, and what needs work.

5. Week 6 potluck, you may bring something, food provided by club members

Lesson 5 – Finesses Revisited

Finesses Defined: From Barbara Seagram..... It is a fact that the Bridge Gods do not deal us as many high cards (Aces and Kings) as we would like. So very often, we are dealt lesser cards.

We have to make do with these ,and our challenge is to try to make these smaller cards take tricks.



Always try to leave yourself in the correct hand to repeat a finesse, if needed

With touching honors, play the high cards toward the finesse, and then duck the finessed card to stay in correct hand



Lesson 5 – Types of Bids

Forcing, Non-Forcing, Invitational and Drop-Dead Bids, A First Look!



Background: When you and your partner are in an auction, sometimes partner wants you to keep bidding, sometimes he wants to stop. There are different types of bids during the auction, some are:

- **Non-Forcing:** Pard may Pass if he chooses. auction, Pard opens & you have >6 points, Pass!
- **Invitational:** You and Pard are in an auction, and you have 11 or 12 points, so you make an invitational bid like 3 Hearts, asking your partner to go to game if he is on the high end of his range, and to Pass if on the low end of his point range.
- **Forcing:** Pard opens, and you have 6 or more points. You must bid, something! Because Pard may have opened with 19 and needs very little to get to a game.
- **Drop Dead:** When one player has completely described her point count and has bid to game, they are saying I don't want to go any higher. i.e. 1NT – P 3NT by you (shows 10+ points, but not enough to try for a slam).

During the auction always ask yourself, **Have I told my whole story?**
If not, then you should probably bid again.