



Hello Josee ,

Here we are the last week in November, and I am just managing now to get this newsletter out to you. Just in time first to wish all our American Friends a Happy Thanksgiving!

Since my last newsletter a month ago, my in person lessons (all sold out !) took over a good chunk of my life, and add to this my responsibilities as a grandmother of 3 and soon 4! JoJo has been in much demand in the past few weeks to help out with babysitting! Just when I thought I had some newfound “me time” I decided to learn to curl, and promptly injured myself after just a few sessions. Perhaps my body’s message to SLOW DOWN ? My friend and yoga teacher Allie recently wrote the following which I found so profound and oh so very timely. “ life as a to-do list is a life devoid of soul and therefore quickly becomes soul-crushing” So it is in that spirit that I have purposely allowed myself some Josée time (more reading, more breathing and more yoga time), and why this newsletter is a bit late coming and without the promise of the online recorded lessons announced last month.

But do not fear! I am pleased to tell you that the pre recorded lesson titled *Bidding and Playing Shapely Hands* will be available for purchase next Thursday November 30th! Some details below but you will receive a short notice next week.

Despite my previous approach to teaching only in the spring and fall, I have decided to offer 2 courses this winter. There is a Beginners course starting on January 3rd which I intend to keep relatively small, and is intended only for true beginners - those who haven’t dabbled with this game before!

Then there is one of my favourite courses to teach, and it is the 4 week course *Introduction to Defense* based on Eddie Kantar’s book, which was revised and updated by Barbara Seagram in 2019. If you have done even just a beginners course with me, you can handle this course. I promise to triple your fun factor at the bridge table even when you are not holding a lot of points in your hand. So make sure you register soon, and don’t get left behind.

Barbara Seagram has some details below on the annual Barbados tournament. Don't delay signing up. There is everything right about this tournament : Great location, fabulous tournament and can't beat the price ! Don't think about this for too long, it usually goes very quickly ! Then there is her 2024 Transatlantic Cruise which only has 4 to 6 spots left, so you a very short window left if this is something you are interested in. Do it NOW!

From January 5 to 7, there is a bridge tournament held at the Downtown Sheraton Hotel . If you have taken beginners or Intermediate I with me, I would like to invite you to join me on the morning of Saturday January 6 and invite you to attend the supervised game for 0 to 20 MP (just like Cindy's Monday Gentle Bridge Game). We would meet in the lobby, and I will help you maneuver attending a tournament for the first time. Please email me directly if you are interested but do see below for the whole schedule.

For those with fewer than 50 MP, think of coming to play on Friday morning too !

Enjoy all the other news below and please keep sending your emails with questions on hands, or anything thought provoking. I welcome it all !

Be prepared to hear from me again next week with "Bidding and Playing Shapely hands!"

Josée



NEED A PARTNER?



Did you recently take my 2/1 course in Toronto? Now need a partner to apply all your new tools?

If that is the case, email me at mjhammill@rogers.com and I will help you.

MY UPCOMING IN-PERSON WINTER SCHEDULE

2024 Winter - In Person Courses

*Location: Armour Heights Presbyterian Church,
105 Wilson Avenue*



Basics Beginners Bridge Series

Enroll in this 8-Week Beginners Course taught in person this Winter

Notice how everyone seems to be learning to play bridge? Well, don't be left behind! Sign up for a gentle introduction to the best card game in the world. Get ready to play bridge during your very first lesson!

Picture this: you, sitting with friendly faces, cards in hand, and the excitement of learning something new. That's what this 8-week course is all about. Let me take you by the hand, and lead you through the fascinating journey of bridge.

Over the course of the 8 weeks, you will learn all the basic elements of the game of bridge: how to take tricks, how to work with a partner, how to open the bidding in a suit and in No Trump, how to respond, how to compete, and much, much more. During each lesson you can put theory into practice by playing bridge hands, right from the very first lesson!

Ready to join the fun? Enroll now to secure your spot, and let the bridge adventure begin. Here are more in-depth details:

- **DATES:** Starts Wednesday, January 3rd (for 8 weeks), 1 to 3 pm.
- **LOCATION:** Armour Heights Presbyterian Church, 105 Wilson Avenue
- **PRICE:** \$240. Includes taxes, Barbara Seagram Basic Bridge textbook, PDF of PowerPoint presentations and online recordings.

Introduction To Defence

A 4-Week Course to Sharpen your Defensive Skills!

Did you know that when you play bridge, you're defending half the time? That's true! But here's the thing: being a good defender can be the most exciting part of the game, even if you don't have the best cards.

This is the moment when you get to use clever strategies to change the course of the game, earn respect from your fellow players, and have a great time at the bridge table. Even without any good cards in your hand!

In this course, you'll discover that being a smart defender is your ticket to more fun at the bridge table! It's not just about the cards you're dealt; it's about the moves you make. What you will learn in this 4-week course:

- **Opening Leads:** Discover how to pick the right card to lead, whether you're playing against No Trump or Suit contracts.
- **2nd Hand Play:** Understand how to play when you're the second person to play to a trick and how your choices can make a big difference.
- **3rd Hand Play:** Get the hang of playing in third seat, and how to make things tricky for declarer.
- **Signaling:** Find out how to send legal signals to your partner to let them know what cards you are holding - and it's not cheating!

.. And Much More!

DATES: Wednesdays - Jan 31st till Feb 21st - from 10-12 pm
PRICE: \$155 (includes Eddie Kantar's Book *Introduction to Defence* - new edition revised by Barbara Seagram).

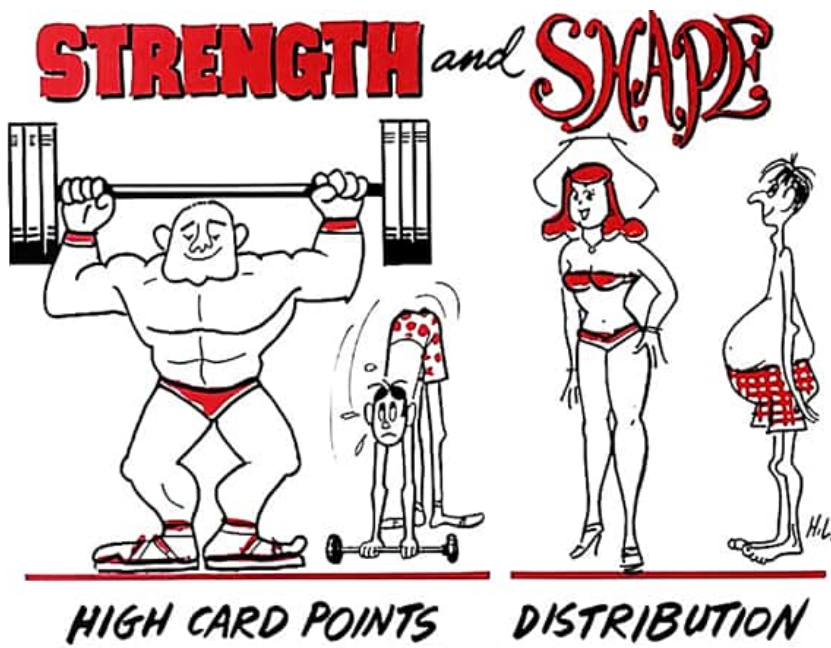
PRE-REGISTRATION FOR ALL CLASSES IS REQUIRED

To register, please contact Josée at mjhammill@rogers.com, or just reply to this email.

For any questions, feel free to reach out via email or call 416-300-9140.

Payment: Send by etransfer after I have confirmed your registration, to mjhammill@rogers.com or by cheque mailed to 1717 Avenue Road, Suite 418, Toronto, Ontario, M5M0A2.

BIDDING AND PLAYING SHAPELY HANDS



My new pre-recorded lesson titled "*Bidding and Playing Shapely Hands*", is set to launch next week. Get ready for a thrilling journey through 12 meticulously crafted, shapely hands boasting big shapes and distribution that will redefine your approach to the game.

What to Expect:

- Let's bid and play 12 hands with unique shapes and distribution that will challenge and elevate your bridge skills. Think 6-5 hands, 6-4 hands and such!

- Uncover strategic insights on bidding and playing these shapely hands to enhance your overall gameplay.

- Learn from the comfort of your own space with this pre-recorded lesson, allowing you to master the material at your own pace.

Mark Your Calendar:

Stay tuned for a short notice next week with all the details you need to embark on this bridge adventure!

The cost is only \$20 (Thanksgiving Special!), payable by etransfer to my email address, or a cheque mailed to 1717 Avenue Road, Suite 418, Toronto, ON, M5M0A2. Or, by PayPal here: <https://bit.ly/JoseePaypal>. If paying using PayPal, please include your email address in the notes so that I can send you the lesson upon release.

Or email me at mjhammill@rogers.com (also by replying to this email) to be added to the list.

DID YOU KNOW THAT? BRIDGE FUN FACTS



Ever wondered how 007 outsmarted the cunning Sir Hugo Drax in a high-stakes game of bridge?

In Ian Fleming's novel "Moonraker", 007 engages in a game of bridge with the notorious multi-millionaire Sir Hugo Drax. The tale unfolds when M tasks Bond with the mission of delving into Sir Hugo's considerable triumphs at M's cherished bridge club (this is from the James Bond book, although I think it was changed to a Canasta game for the film).

It is during this investigation that Bond uncovers Drax's deceitful tactics. Drax cunningly gazes at the mirrored surface of his glossy cigarette case while dealing the cards, thus gaining an unfair advantage.

Playing with M as his partner, Bond fixes the deck against Drax in the final deal of the session:

		N	M	W				N	E	S
		♠	10987							7♣
		♥	6543					P	P	X
		♦						P	P	P
		♣	76532							
W		Meyer		E				Drax		
♠		65432		♠				AKQJ		
♥		109872		♥				AKQJ		
♦		J109		♦				AK		
♣				♣				KJ9		
		S	JamesBond							
		♠								
		♥								
		♦	Q8765432							
		♣	AQ1084							
				7♣xx S				NS: 0 EW: 0		

Bond, South, deals and opens 7 clubs! When the bidding gets to Drax he obviously doubles. Bond, as you might expect, redoubles.

The Jack of Diamonds is led. Bond ruffs the diamond lead in dummy and then finesses the clubs having gathered much information from the double by Drax. Following that, he ruffs another diamond in dummy and finesses clubs again. Every card in Bond's hand is now a winner and Drax is apoplectic.

On any other lead (hearts or spades), Bond would ruff in his own hand and then cross to Dummy with a diamond ruff where he would finesse the clubs as before.

NON-LIFE MASTER REGIONAL AND SECTIONAL

Join me for a bridge tournament at the Downtown Sheraton Hotel from January 5 to 7, 2024!

If you've been part of my beginners or Intermediate I classes, I extend a special invitation to you on Saturday, January 6. This may very well be your first tournament, and I want to show you that there is nothing scary about this! In fact it is so addictive you will want to come back over and over again. You can play in the FREE supervised game designed for 0 to 20 Master Points (similar to Cindy's Monday Gentle Bridge Game). If you don't need supervision, then you can play in the 199ers game. I can explain all this to you when we meet.

Let's gather in the lobby, and I'll guide you through the experience if it's your first tournament. Shoot me an email if you're interested, and check out the complete schedule below. Looking

forward to a fantastic bridge time together! See you on the morning of the 6th! Any question on this, email me.



TORONTO NON-LIFE MASTER REGIONAL
January 5 - 7, 2024
Intermediate / Novice Schedule

Sheraton Centre Toronto Hotel
123 Queen St. West, Toronto ON M5H 2M9

Rooms - Call 1-888-627-7175 Ask for ACBL Convention Jan 2024 to get group rates
\$165 if booked by December 7, 2023

Click here>> [Book your group rate for ACBL Convention Jan 2024](#)

OR if link doesn't work, copy and paste:

<https://www.marriott.com/events/start.mi?id=1693589662154&key=GRP>

Friday January 5, 2024

Lesson 9:00 - 9:40

49er Pairs	10:00
199er Pairs	10:00
Hand Analysis	1:15
49er/199er Hospitality after 10:00 game	
Gold Rush Pairs (750/300/100)	10:00 & 2:30
Gold Rush Hospitality after 2:30 game	

Saturday January 6, 2024

Lesson 9:00 - 9:40

0-20 Pairs Supervised - FREE	10:00
199er Pairs	10:00
Gold Rush Pairs (750/300/100)	10:00 & 2:30

Sunday January 7, 2024

199er Pairs	10:00
Bracketed Gold Rush Swiss Teams	10:00 & TBA

Supervised games means players can ask bidding questions during the game.
Questions? Need a partner? Call Steve

Session fees: \$20 CAD (members) +\$4 for non-current members

All events under 100 Master Points pay only \$10 per session

Players must have an ACBL number. Guest memberships are currently free. **Contact Darlene if you require one.**

Intermediate/Novice Program

Supervisor & Partnerships:

Steve Overholt 647-897-6179
soverholt1@gmail.com

Tournament Chair:

Darlene Scott
DarleneScott@me.com

ZERO TOLERANCE for unacceptable behaviour!

If someone negatively affects your enjoyment at this tournament, please contact a Director IMMEDIATELY. A fun time is guaranteed for all!

TORONTO JANUARY SECTIONAL
JANUARY 5 - 7, 2024
Sheraton Centre Toronto Hotel
123 Queen St. West, Toronto ON M5H 2M9

Rooms - Call 1-888-627-7175 Ask for ACBL Convention Jan 2024 to secure group rates
\$165 if booked by December 7, 2023

Click here>> [Book your group rate for ACBL Convention Jan 2024](#)

OR if link doesn't work, copy and paste:
<https://www.marriott.com/events/start.mi?id=1693589662154&key=GRP>

Friday January 5, 2024

Open pairs (Open/4000/2000)	10:00 & 2:30
B,C,D Pairs (1500/1000/750)	10:00 & 2:30

Saturday January 6, 2024

Open Pairs (Open/5000)	10:00 & 2:30
B,C,D Pairs (4000/2000/1000)	10:00 & 2:30
Bracketed Round Robin Teams	10:00 & 2:30

Sunday January 7, 2024

Bracketed Round Robin Teams	10:00 & TBA
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Session fees: \$20 CAD (members) +\$4 for non-current members
Players must have an ACBL number. Guest memberships are currently free.
Contact Darlene if you require one.

Single sessions entries are available to all pair events

Tournament Chair: Darlene Scott DarleneScott@me.com

Partnership: Elizabeth Williams elizwilliams12345@gmail.com

BARBARA SEAGRAM - BARBADOS & CRUISE 2024

Our upcoming Transatlantic Cruise in 2024 is almost full, but we still have room for 4-6 more passengers. But you need to run to have secured your spot for this incredible journey.

For Barbados: **ONLY 1,120 USD** for 7 nights with accommodation, including all meals and drinks.

If you're interested in joining, please reach out soon. It's a fantastic opportunity for a 2-week-long escape.

For booking and inquiries, visit **[Barbara Seagram - Bridge Cruises](#)**



TRANSATLANTIC BRIDGE CRUISE – OCEANIA

April 5-19, 2024 – Miami, Nassau (Bahamas), Bermuda, Azores, Cadiz (Spain), Grenada (Spain), Alicante (Spain), Barcelona (Spain)

Linda Tuff will be your bridge instructor, director and tour leader.
Barbara Seagram & Alex Kornel will be along as passengers & will play
bridge & visit with everyone!

The ship is **MS MARINA. OCEANIA CRUISE LINE.**

Included: Ship gratuities – Taxes – Economy Air (*We recommend that you take the air credit and let us book your air*). Shipboard credit: \$100.00 USD per cabin.

And choose **one** of these "O-Life" packages **free**.

You and your share-person must choose same package:

Up to 8 free shore excursions per cabin (reg. not specialty ones) i.e. If dbl: 4 excursions each
or \$800.00 USD shipboard credit per cabin **or** Special house beverage package.

Prices from:

\$5799.00 CAD or \$4499.00 USD – Verandah cabin (B4) per person double occupancy.

To book, call Carolyn Kremer (Vision Travel/Direct Travel): 705-435-5533 or toll-free 1-800-363-5533 # 1435. Email: carolyn.kremer@visiontravel.ca



Linda Tuff won the 2022 *Teacher of the Year Award* for all of North America. She manages Halifax Bridge World club in Halifax, Nova Scotia

DAY	PORT	ARRIVE	DEPART
Apr 5 Fri	Miami, Florida, US	Embark 1 PM	7 PM
Apr 6 Sat	Nassau, Bahamas	8 AM	3 PM
Apr 7 Sun	Cruising the Atlantic Ocean		
Apr 8 Mon	Bermuda	10 AM	6 PM
Apr 9 Tue	Cruising the Atlantic Ocean		
Apr 10 Wed	Cruising the Atlantic Ocean		
Apr 11 Thu	Cruising the Atlantic Ocean		
Apr 12 Fri	Cruising the Atlantic Ocean		
Apr 13 Sat	Ponta Delgada (Azores), Portugal	9 AM	6 PM
Apr 14 Sun	Cruising the Atlantic Ocean		
Apr 15 Mon	Cruising the Atlantic Ocean		
Apr 16 Tue	Cadiz, Spain	7 AM	7 PM
Apr 17 Wed	Granada (Motril), Spain	8 AM	6 PM
Apr 18 Thu	Alicante, Spain	8 AM	4 PM
Apr 19 Fri	Barcelona, Spain	Disembark 8 AM	



ABOUT MARINA

Refurbished: 2023 | Guests: 1238
Length: 785' | Tonnage: 66,084
Finest cuisine at sea:
French, Italian, Asian & Steakhouse
specialty dining rooms

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VISION TRAVEL: TICO # 50023504

**BARBADOS SUN SEA & SLAMS: SUN. FEBRUARY 11 – SUN. FEB 18, 2024
OR SAT. FEB 10-FEB 18, 2024 with BRIDGE WORKSHOPS ON SUN FEB 11, 2024**

ACBL SECTIONAL BRIDGE TOURNAMENT with SILVER MASTER POINTS

at SUNBAY HOTEL in BARBADOS

SEVEN NIGHTS ACCOMMODATION INCLUDING ALL YOUR MEALS & DRINKS
USD \$1,120.00 PER PERSON (DBL. OCC.) \$1,785.00 SINGLE OCCUPANCY
OR EIGHT NIGHTS ACCOMMODATION INCLUDING ALL YOUR MEALS & DRINKS
USD \$1,280.00 PER PERSON (DBL. OCC.) \$2,040.00 SINGLE OCCUPANCY
EXTRA NIGHTS: \$160.00 USD per person DBL OCC. or \$255.00 per person SGL OCC.
Come early or stayover to tour this lovely island.

HOST HOTEL: BARBADOS BEACH CLUB MAXWELL COAST ROAD, CHRIST CHURCH
This hotel is already sold out.

SUNBAY HOTEL is almost across the street from BARBADOS BEACH CLUB

You will have access to beach at Barbados Beach Club (as these are sister properties) & 5 drink tickets

INCLUDED: BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER & LOCAL DRINKS ARE ALL INCLUDED. HOUSE WINE WITH LUNCH & DINNER. MANAGER'S COCKTAIL PARTY. CLOSING BANQUET SAT EVE. TAXES & HOTEL GOVERNMENT LEVY INCLUDED. WIFI IS FREE. BRIDGE WORKSHOPS ARE FREE. **GRATUITIES ARE NOT INCLUDED.**

TRANSFERS TO & FROM AIRPORT INCLUDED **ONLY** ON SAT FEB 10 & SUN FEB 11 AND ON SUN FEB 18.
BRIDGE COMMITTEE TAKES YOU TO & FROM AIRPORT ON THOSE DATES ONLY

BOOK YOUR OWN AIRFARE (NOT INCLUDED). NOTIFY ROGLYN HINDS OF YOUR FLIGHT PLANS.

Contact Roglyn Hinds roglynhinds@gmail.com so she can arrange transportation to and from airport

BRIDGE EVENTS ARE NOT INCLUDED. Cost: \$15.00 USD per session. All bridge is optional.

This is a smaller tournament. Very friendly and fabulous. It will be sold out so book now.

Highly recommended by Barbara Seagram & Alex Kornel.
Barbados is Barbara's homeland for MANY generations (almost 4 centuries!)

Barbara Seagram & Alex Kornel will be attending the tournament in 2024. There will be TWO free seminars given by Barbara while there (Sun am & Sun aft: 11 FEB) FLY IN ON SAT 10 FEB to attend

TO BOOK: Contact Reservations Department at Barbados Beach Club 1-246-428-9900
or email reservations@barbadosbeachclub.com BOOKING CODE: **BRIDGE 2024**

DEPOSIT @ SUNBAY: \$560.00 USD per person (dbl occ) or \$765.00 USD (sgl occ)

Deposit is fully refundable if you cancel prior to November 30, 2023

Think of this as a packaged vacation and not just a hotel room. Hence this cancellation policy.

Contact Roglyn Hinds: Tournament chair roglynhinds@gmail.com or 246-231-0149

11 Feb: 9.30-11.30 am & 2.30-4.30 pm: Bridge lessons
12 Feb: 9.30 am: Pairs Game
12 Feb: 7.00 pm: Pelau Pairs # 1 session
13 Feb: 9.30 am: Pairs Game
13 Feb: 7.00 pm: Pelau Pairs # 2 session
14 Feb: 9.30 am: Pairs Game
14 Feb: 2.30 pm: Rum Pairs
15 Feb: 9.30 am: Team Game # 1 session
15 Feb: 2.30 pm: Team Game # 2 session
16 Feb: 9.30 am: Pairs Game
16 Feb: 2.30 pm: Lady Burton Pairs # 1 session
17 Feb: 9.30 am & 2.00 pm: Lady Burton Pairs # 2 & 3

My name is Barbara Seagram & I am a bridge player, author and teacher. I was born and raised on this beautiful island in the Caribbean. The Barbados Bridge Committee do a wonderful job running this delightful bridge tournament in February each year. Imagine \$1,120.USD per person to spend a week at a hotel in Barbados in February, including all meals and drinks. They even pick you up at the airport! The players are friendly, the sun shines forever and the island beckons. You cannot afford to not go! It is a very special island and I invite you to visit and enjoy all its magic.
barbaraseagram@gmail.com

There is no significance to the names Pelau Pairs, Rum Pairs, Lady Burton Pairs etc: It is just a designation to distinguish one event from another. Cost per session is \$15.00 USD

GENTLE BRIDGE & Limited Game with Cyndy Winkler

GENTLE BRIDGE (Supervised)
**Mondays @ 12:30 (0-20 master points) &
Limited Game (0-399)**
Tuesdays @ 12 noon



Armour Heights Presbyterian Church
105 Wilson Ave.

Parking on side streets and on both
sides of Wilson

DO COME 15 mins EARLY for a “play of
the hand tip”.
Games start promptly at posted times.
with Cyndy Winkler

Duplicate bridge is like going on an
airplane: you cannot arrive late and
you cannot leave early.

Pre-register with Cyndy at cyndywinkler@gmail.com
647-723-3006

If you need a partner, let her know.
ALWAYS show up if you say you are coming. You cannot imagine
the complexity of running a duplicate bridge game.

FIRST TIMER ATTENDEES: GET A SPECIAL DISCOUNT.
Mention Josée's discount

<https://www.bridgewebs.com/steppingstones>



TORONTO NABC SUMMER 2024

Are you looking for an exciting event to attend in the summer of 2024? Look no further than the Toronto NABC Summer 2024!

This event, organized by the American Contract Bridge League, will take place from July 18-28, 2024 at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre (MTCC) in Toronto, Canada.

I'm thrilled to announce that I'll be chairing one of the committees for this event (the Intermediate/Newcomer Program Chair) and we are in need of volunteers.

If you're interested in volunteering, please contact Glenna Richardson at glennarichardson@bell.net and if you would like your volunteer efforts to be within the Intermediate/Novice tournament, just let Glenna know.

You can also visit our website at torontonabc.org for more details. Email me at joseehammill@torontonabc.org.

This is an incredible opportunity to be a part of a world-renowned bridge event and to work and play alongside passionate individuals in the bridge community. I hope to see you there! It will be a great event and super fun!



ACBL 0-50 Online Community Games are Back!



The ACBL has launched a new event for players with fewer than 50 masterpoints! ACBL Online Community Games are a friendly way to play with others at your skill level and win points. Plus, each game is followed by a mini-lesson on Zoom! [Click here for details.](#)

JOSÉE'S PRE-RECORDED LESSONS

Available for instant delivery! Learn on your own time!

Competitive Bidding - Feb 2023

In this lesson you'll learn how to use takeout doubles, overcalls, jump overcalls, and improve your competitive bidding arsenal.

That means, after you learn the techniques we'll cover, you can open the door to think like a much better player, in just mere hours! It's an incredible valuable skill that anyone can learn and use during all future games.

The hands demonstrated work on the fundamentals of competitive bidding: what you need to interfere, how partner responds to your interference, planning the play after a competitive auction and more!

Avoidance Plays (Dec 2022)

Imagine playing your next hand, and instead of taking a play which gives a 50-percent chance to win, you can correctly guess the play giving you almost 100% chance to make your contract! That's what an expert does every time, in every game, often by using avoidance plays!

Avoidance means just preventing (or avoiding) a particular defender from gaining the lead. And identifying who is the danger and safe opponent.

That means, after you learn this simple technique, you can open the door to think like an expert, in just mere hours! It's an incredible valuable skill that anyone can learn and use during all future games.

No Trump Defence (Sep 2022)

During this lesson, we will play together 12 specially selected hands from prolific writer and accomplished bridge player Eddie Kantar.

Here's just a small sample of the 12 deals that we'll cover in this live lesson:

- Which thinking habits you, as third hand, must have after the opening lead is made?
 - What is a negative discard, and why they are so important at No Trump?
 - Before returning partner's suit, why and how to count declarer's tricks?
 - Holding 4 small cards, when you should lead the top one, and when lead the second highest?
 - When declarer leads a suit, why we give count to partner.
- And sooooo MUCH more...

Ducking by Declarer in Suit Contracts (Jun 2022)

You know that, most of the time, the fate of the hand is determined by how you play to the first trick. That's why many contracts can be won or lost because of that first trick.

Some of the things that you will learn in this lesson:

- There's one outstanding difference with ducking plays in suit contracts, you need to know exactly when trumps must be drawn (and what happens if you don't do it!).
- What are the 3 main reasons for making a ducking play in a suit contract.
- Why some hands can be made if you duck the first trick and win the second, while strangely enough the contract cannot be made if you win the first trick.

And much, much more! We'll play each hand twice. One without ducking, and again, the same hand ducking. Then you can easily see what happens in each case.

The 90-minute lesson includes a handout of all the hands (with commentary from Eddie Kantar).

This is an awesome opportunity to get moving towards better declarer play!

Introduction To Defence

Have you noticed that you are defending at bridge 50% of the time? That is right! Did you know that being on Defence is the most fun you can ever have at the bridge table even when you do not have any points in your hand? Let me teach you how to have more fun and to gain respect from all players when you show them you know how to defend!

- *Opening Leads against No Trump and Suit contracts*
- *2nd hand play*
- *3rd hand play*
- *Signaling against No Trump and Suit contracts*
- *And much, much more!!*

Introduction To Declarer Play

Bidding is great and winning the contract even better. But if you do not know how to make a plan to make your contract then what good is that! In this 4 week course you will learn :

- *Counting Losers*
- *Counting Winners*
- *Ruffing losers in the Dummy*
- *Extra Winners in the Dummy or in Declarer's Hand*
- *Long Suit Establishment (aka Taking Tricks with Tiny Cards)*
- *When and How to take a Finesse and much more!*

Thinking Bridge - Plan Your Moves!

Whatever seat you are in, you have to be planning your moves. Let's spend these sessions where we explore what it feels like to sit in any and all 4 seats, and think like an expert. Only time you

will be allowed to relax will be when in the dummy's seat. **Complete set of different hands for each of the dates. You will love them!** (3 sessions so far)

Basics Beginners Bridge Series

Learn the basic elements of the game of bridge: how to take tricks, how to work with a partner, how to open the bidding in a suit and in No Trump, how to respond, how to compete and more. An 8 week course includes all recordings, PDF of presentations and practice hands for each week.

Intermediate I Bridge Series

For those who feel rusty and need a refresher and for those moving up from Basic lessons. Opportunities to play and practice online will be provided. Lessons are recorded and can be watched on your own time.

A 7 week course includes all recordings, PDF of presentations and practice hands for each week.

Intermediate 2

Weak Two Bids, Strong 2 Club Bids, Slam Bidding, Cue-Bidding First Round Controls, Preempts, Unusual NT, Michaels Cuebids, Opening Light in 3rd seat, Balancing, End Plays, Cross-Ruff, Loser-on-loser play, Introduction to defence, ...and MUCH more!!

An 8 week course includes all recordings, PDF of presentations and practice hands for each week.

Intermediate 3

Intermediate III is a full course on Defence and Conventions!

DEFENCE: Third Hand Play, Second Hand Play, Suit Preference Signalling, Strategy on Defence, Lead Directing Doubles, Discarding.

CONVENTIONS: Negative Doubles, Jacoby 2 NT as a forcing raise, Jacoby Transfers, Texas Transfers, Splinters, Roman Key Card Blackwood, Cue Bids, Slam Bidding and lots more!

Learn To Play Two Over One

Learn the system that most of North America now plays. It makes it much easier to get to a better contract, easier to find slams on fewer values and easier to know when to stop in a part score. Learn the forcing No Trump bid.

A two day course + one additional hour of practice hands.

Bid And Play - The Convention Series

Lesson 1 - DONT over 1NT Opening Bid

Lesson 2 - Reverse Drury

Lesson 3 - Jacoby 2NT and Splinters

Lesson 4 - Reverse Bergen/Bergen Raises

Lesson 5 - New Minor Forcing/Checkback Stayman

Lesson 6 - Fourth Suit Forcing

Lesson 7 - Four Way Transfers

All lessons come with recordings and PDF of practice hands.

- Purchase each lesson individually \$20 or
- Buy all 7 lessons for the price of 6 - \$120

Please email me at mjhammill@rogers.com, indicating the course or lesson, and I'll send you all details. If you wish to pay using PayPal I can provide the PayPal link at the time.