

## **Logging On to a Kiama Tournament Using a Windows Computer.**

Go to [bridgebase.com](http://bridgebase.com)

Log in using your username and password. (You may need to click on 'Play Bridge' first.)

For our Kiama tournament go to virtual clubs

Choose ABF Australia

Choose Kiama

Either you or your partner enters the other's username and issues an invitation.

If the other person is already logged on they should receive the invitation, accept it and then you are registered as a pair for the tournament.

You then do nothing but wait for the tournament to start and the first hand to be dealt.

## **ABF and Our Club**

Make sure our club, through John Hetherington, knows your BBO username.

You also need to have registered your BBO username with the ABF, in order to get any Masterpoints you earn. This is done online, <http://www.abfevents.com.au/forms/signup/>

## **The Play on a Windows Computer**

Whether you are N, S, E or W, you will appear at the bottom of the screen. This can be a little off putting as there can be a tendency to think N is your partner when you look at the bidding.

As usual, the dealer will have first call. The bidding will be shown in a box in the upper half of the screen.

On the left of the screen you will see the number of the board being played, inside a square. This square will either be outlined in white, red, or red and white. If the top and bottom borders are red, your pair is vulnerable. If the left and right borders are red, your opponents are vulnerable. The same with white meaning not vulnerable.

When it is your turn to call, a bidding box appears in the bottom half of the screen.

You can pass or make a bid. To make a bid, click on 1 or 2 or ... 6 or 7 and then click on the suit of your choice or the NT symbol. If applicable, double and redouble will also be available.

Inside this bidding box you will see one more option, "Alert".

In BBO, you don't alert your partner's bid, you alert your own and write an explanation. Your opponents see your alert and explanation, your partner does not.

For example, if I want to open 1NT at my turn to call, I will click on "1", then "Alert", then on the line next to the "Alert" button, I will write 15-18 because that is the range I use, and then click the NT button.

If I open 1 club I will click "1" then "Alert" then write the explanation, 2 or more clubs and then click on the club button.

In the top left hand corner of your screen is what we call the blue and white hamburger. By clicking on the hamburger, you will reveal some other options like "Call a Director" and "Undo". If you click on the wrong button you can request an undo from your opponents. It is accepted courtesy on BBO to allow an undo.

When your opponents come to the table, each seat will have the player's username listed underneath.

In the bottom left hand corner of the screen you will see a blue box and it will usually show the word Kibbitzers. If you click on this button it will reveal other options such as Table, Tournament, Private.

This is how you communicate with other players. To welcome a new pair, you would change the Kibbitzers to Table, write your message and click on Chat. To personalise your welcome, you can welcome them by name. If you click on their username, 90% of the time, it will show you their real name. (If they have put it into their profile, most players have.)

If you want to talk to a particular player, change it to Private, enter their username, write your message and click on Chat. You should use this option to answer a question by an opponent about an alerted bid so your partner doesn't see the answer.

There are common abbreviations which are used in chat to save time. wpp – well played partner; vwpp – very well played partner; glp – good luck partner; gtp – good try partner; wpo – well played opponents; ty – thank you; tx – thanks.

During a tournament, if you want to see how you are going, you can click on the History tab on the right. It will display your percentage as We against They.

Green and Red Masterpoints are awarded. BBO may award you 0.60 Masterpoints but the ABF will change this to 0.25 or similar before adding them to your Masterpoints.

Good luck, it is nowhere near as complicated as this all makes it sound.

### **Buying BB\$**

It costs BB\$ to play. Each BB\$ will cost you US\$1, about \$1.35. Each game costs BB\$3.

When you login, you will see a BB\$ button in the top right hand corner.

When you click on that, another box will open. Choose Purchase BB\$.

You then have the option of paying with a credit card or with paypal.

After payment, it will confirm your purchase.

Every time after that, that you log in, it will briefly display your BB\$ balance and BBO Masterpoints in the bottom right corner.

If you try and join a tournament and it won't let you, check that you have sufficient BB\$.

### **How to Start Your Own Game** – There is no cost for this.

Go to [bridgebase.com](http://bridgebase.com) and login.

Under Play or Watch Bridge, choose Casual.

Under Find Your Own Table, click on Start a Table.

Then click on Permission required to play. Padlocks should appear at each seat.

Go to the Reserve seats section and enter BBO usernames for N, S, E and W. One of these will be your own and the other three players whom you have previously organized.

Then click on start table – Relaxed game.

The table will now appear. Your username will have a crown as your are hosting the table.

Other usernames will be red, they will change to grey when they login and join the table.

Players using ipads sometimes experience problems trying to join the table so it is best to get them to set up the table.