



# FALL 2026 LESSONS

## Beginning Bridge

Starting with the basics of bridge, teaching bidding, play, and defense. Each lesson includes guided instruction and plenty of practice with prepared hands.

**Wednesdays 9:30am - 11:30am    Oct 14, Oct 21, Oct 28, Nov 4, Nov 11, & Nov 18**

**Instructor: Ellen Gabriel**  
*Beginners Level*

6 classes for \$180  
Available for Online Sign-up

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## Play of the Hand – Part 1

Tools you need to accomplish your trick taking potential. Lessons will include skills and practice needed to assess the situation, how to develop extra tricks, and options to maximize your results.

**Tuesdays 9:00am - 11:30am    Oct 27, Nov 3, Nov 10, & Nov 17**

**Instructor: Tony Cipolla**  
*Advanced Beginners – Intermediate Level*

4 classes for \$120  
Available for Online Sign-up

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## The Art of Balancing

Learn when to make a balancing bid after your opponents enter the auction—and when it's better to pass. We'll cover common situations, sound judgment, and practical examples. *\*\*More Detailed Information Below\*\**

**Thursdays 10:00am - 11:30am    Oct 29, Nov 5, Nov 12, & Nov 19**

**Instructor: Melanie Schaengold**  
*Advanced Level*

4 classes for \$120  
Available for Online Sign-up



**Sign-up for classes today!**

**Online: [naplesbridge.com](https://naplesbridge.com)**

**In-person: Coupon Desk (regular hours)**

5865 Golden Gate Pkwy Naples, FL 34116  
[naplesbridge@gmail.com](mailto:naplesbridge@gmail.com)

# FALL LESSONS CONTINUED



## Play of the Hand – Part 2

Dive into the intricacies of conserving, creating, and establishing entries. You will also learn to identify the safe and dangerous opponents. Lots of practice hands!

**Tuesdays 9:00am - 11:30am**      **Dec 1, Dec 8, & Dec 15**

**Instructor: Tony Cipolla**

3 classes for \$90

**Advanced Beginners – Intermediate Level** Available for Online Sign-up

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## Major Suit Raise

Covering simple raises, limit raises, and forcing raises with and without interference. This will help you learn how to evaluate your hand in each scenario.

**Wednesdays 10:00am - 11:30am**      **Dec 2, Dec 9, & Dec 16**

**Instructor: Ellen Gabriel**

3 classes for \$90

**Intermediate Level** Available for Online Sign-up

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## Conventional Wisdom

Helps partners complete their ACBL convention card for the 2027 bridge season. We'll explain each section, answer questions, and ensure your card is complete. While all convention card entries will be explained, the course **will not include** in-depth discussions or instruction on individual conventions. **\*\*More Detailed Information Below\*\***

**Saturdays 10:00am - 11:30am**      **Dec 5 & Dec 12**

**Instructor: Melanie Schaengold**

2 classes for \$60

**All Levels** Available for Online Sign-up



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# FALL 2026 LESSON DETAILS

## The Art of Balancing When and Why to Reopen the Bidding

**4-Week Intermediate Bridge Class**

**Thursdays 10:00am - 11:30am**

**Oct 29, Nov 5, Nov 12, & Nov 19**

**Instructor: Melanie Schaengold**

Balancing in duplicate bridge is vital. Failing to balance can be costly. When the opponents stop in a part score, don't assume they have found the right contract. Often, they have simply taken advantage of your silence. Suppose they play 2♥ and make it for 110 points, while your side could have made 2♠ for 110. By passing, you turn a potential +110 into - 110 & a 220-point swing. Balancing gives your partnership the opportunity to compete for a contract that may belong to you instead of allowing the opponents to score uncontested.

If you routinely allow the opponents to play in contracts they are comfortable making, your results will suffer. In a match point game, where a top score on a board is 12, you may find yourself scoring only one to three match points on many deals. Even defeating the opponents by one trick is not necessarily a good result if your side could have made a contract of its own. Every balancing decision involves weighing two risks: the cost of passing and allowing the opponents to score, versus the cost of bidding and possibly reaching a poor contract. Successful balancing is about judging which risk is smaller.

**Covering Balancing Situations:**

- Balancing after 1 of a suit is passed around
- Reopening when the opponents have found a fit
- Reopening when the opponents have not found a fit
- Responding to a reopening bid by partner
- Reopening after the opponents open with a preemptive bid



**Course Fee: \$120 per registration**



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**In-person: Coupon Desk (regular hours)**

# FALL 2026 LESSON DETAILS

## Conventional Wisdom ACBL Convention Card Guide

**2-Week Bridge Class for All Levels**

**Saturdays 10:00am - 11:30am**

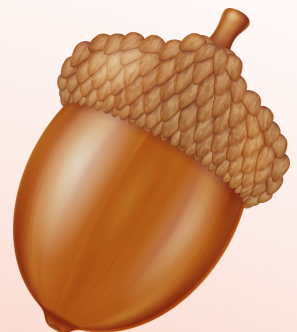
**December 5<sup>th</sup> & December 12th**

**Instructor: Melanie Schaengold**

This two-session course will guide students through completing a basic convention card. The course will explore each section of the convention card, explain how to record partnership agreements, and review the proper procedures for **Alerts** and **Announcements** during play. This class focuses on how to complete the card accurately to reflect your partnership agreements. Specific bidding conventions will not be taught.

Kick off the new year by making sure your partnership is ready for duplicate bridge at Naples Bridge Center! The ACBL Laws of Duplicate Bridge require every partnership to have two identical, fully completed convention cards—one for each partner. This class will help you accurately complete your convention card so it clearly reflects your partnership agreements and ensures you're prepared for your next game.

**Course Fee: \$60 per registration**



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