

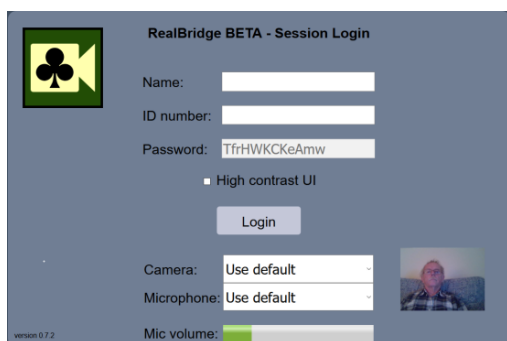
Playing at Oakingham using RealBridge.

No special software is required. You just need a PC, laptop or large-screen tablet (a phone is too small). To get the full benefit, your device should have a camera and microphone. You will then be able to see, talk to other members at your table, and be seen & heard by them. It is possible to play without either, but if you have no microphone you will have to rely on the chat feature in Realbridge and that is far from ideal. If you don't have one, webcams can be purchased on Amazon for less than £20. I would strongly recommend you buy one if your computer doesn't have one already. Failing that, a microphone is better than nothing. If using a battery device, please ensure you have a full battery or, better still, use connected to your charger.

Before you play for the first time, it's worth testing that your camera and/or microphone work with RealBridge by going to their test page at <https://play.realbridge.online/camera.html> (it says camera, but there's a microphone test too). There are suggestions on this page should you have any difficulties.

When you come to play, you will need to have your EBU number to hand.

Make sure you follow the supplied link for the Realbridge session and log in 10 minutes before the start time so the director has time to make any necessary adjustments. You should see the following form:

The image shows the 'RealBridge BETA - Session Login' form. It has a dark blue background. At the top left is a logo with a green club symbol. The form contains fields for 'Name:', 'ID number:', and 'Password:'. The password field is pre-filled with 'TfrHWKCKeAmw'. Below the password field is a checkbox for 'High contrast UI'. There is a 'Login' button. Below the login button are dropdown menus for 'Camera:' (set to 'Use default') and 'Microphone:' (set to 'Use default'). At the bottom left is a 'Mic volume:' slider. On the right side of the form is a small video window showing a person's face. The version number 'version 0.7.2' is at the bottom left.

Type your first name **and** surname in the **Name** box. Full name is required to avoid ambiguity and should be the name you registered with the club.

Type your EBU number in the **ID number** box.

The **Password** box should be pre-filled. Don't change this.

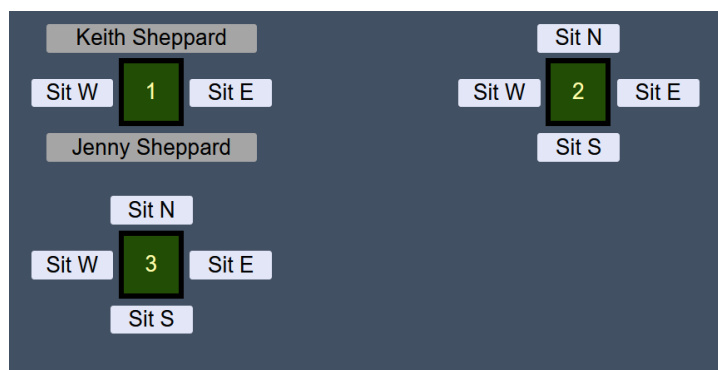
If you have a webcam, you should see your video picture in the bottom right corner.

If you have a microphone, the green microphone level meter at the bottom should move when you make a noise.

RealBridge is designed to work like live bridge, you communicate with partner and opponents by actually speaking. If you don't have a working microphone you will instead have to use the text-based chat facility (to the right of the playing area when seated at a table).

Once you have logged in, you will see this display:

If you are playing with a prearranged partner, please fill the tables from the lowest numbered table upwards, but leave Table 1 N/S for the director. If your partner is already seated, click the **Sit** button opposite your partner, otherwise take a free seat on the lowest numbered table that has a pair of free seats.



If you don't have a prearranged partner, please fill the tables from the *highest* numbered table downwards. Sit at the highest numbered table that has free seats. Currently, there are no robots on RealBridge (feature coming soon). We will try to match up players without partners if possible but, unfortunately, if there are an odd number of players then the last to arrive will not get a game.

If there are an odd number of pairs, there will be a half table, meaning a short sit-out for most pairs.

If you want to move to a different table (eg. you accidentally sat opposite the wrong partner), click the **Leave** button bottom right. You can then choose a different seat. The **Leave** button must also be used at the end of the session (do not just close the browser window).

Once you have chosen a table, you will see the playing screen. This looks like an aerial view of a bridge table surrounded by image boxes where you can see your partner & opponents. You will always be at the bottom of the screen. Cards will appear when the session starts. If it's your turn to bid you will see a bidding box. Click on the bid you want to make. It will appear on the table in front of you. Opponent's & partner's bids will appear in front of their table positions when they bid. If you mistakenly select the wrong bid (or the wrong card when playing), there is an "undo" button in the bottom right part of the screen. If someone asks for an undo, please be lenient and allow it. You can call the director if you think it's contentious.

Please remember that RealBridge is intended to be like the 'live' game. You alert your partner's bids, not your own, using the **Alert** button near the bottom right. If you want to know the meaning of an opponent's bid, just ask out loud in the traditional manner. Similarly, announceable bids are announced by speaking aloud.

If you don't have a microphone you will have to use the text-based chat facility (right of screen) for announcements, questions and answers.

If you need help, click the **Director** button (just above the **Leave** button). Director should appear, like a magic genie, in the top left corner.

And finally a word of warning about Apple devices:

Mac users: The latest version of MacOS ("Big Sur") has created issues with using the Safari browser. So, if you have MacBook and iMac users who have upgraded to "Big Sur", please do not use Safari. Any other browser like Chrome will work fine.

iPad users must continue to use Safari.

The results will be posted to the club's web site in the traditional manner.

For more information and help, go to <https://realbridge.online/> and click on the **How To/Player Guide** tab.

Enjoy your bridge.

(If you need to print off these instructions they will fit onto a single sheet, printed on both sides).