

Newsletter

September 2025

Learning Bridge

Tony Russ warned some years ago that clubs could not rely upon the newly relocated, retired and experienced players to keep local clubs going—a good quality accessible teaching programme was essential—and it's pleasing to see that Winscombe, Minehead and Frome clubs are running beginners courses this autumn. Details are below and on their websites. If you have friends or family interested in learning bridge please refer them to these locations.

Winscombe Bridge Club regularly offer a range of lessons and supported play sessions that cater for players of all abilities. They introduce students to the game of duplicate bridge, which can be played in clubs or at home with friends.

1. *Year 1 Beginning Bridge* course starts in the autumn. No previous experience of bridge or even playing cards is expected. There are 30 lessons spread over three terms throughout the year. Each lesson of 2hrs 30 mins consists of a teaching element with supporting notes and playing cards. The course is run by English Bridge Union (EBU) affiliated teachers and follows the EBU 'Learning to Play Programme'.
2. *Year 2 Continuing Bridge* course also starts in the autumn and follows the same format as the year 1 course.
3. Tuesday afternoon social bridge sessions (1.30–4pm) begin with a 30 minute teaching element and are followed by supported play. They use computer-dealt boards with tablet scoring.

Cost: £70 for 10 lessons

For more information on any of the above sessions please contact:

Janet O'Brien: Email winbridgeclubjo@gmail.com

www.bridgewebs.com/winscombe/



Frome Bridge Club

Learn to Play Bridge

Friendly lessons for beginners,
improvers & intermediates

Tuesday evenings 7pm
Thursday mornings 9.30am

Starting the first week of October
at:
Wesley Methodist Church
Wesley Slope BA11 1HA

£3 per session

Contact: John 01373 467508
Elaine 07809 163705

www.bridgewebs.com/frome

Minehead Bridge Club

Minehead Bridge Club are running lessons for the second year running. These are for both beginners and improvers. They are held at Minehead Methodist Church Hall on a Tuesday morning at a cost of £3.00 per session. Further information can be obtained from Corinne Rees at corinnerees125@gmail.com

Kingston Seymour

For those wishing to improve their Bridge and gain confidence, Kingston Seymour also run Gentle Bridge sessions on Monday afternoons, which are more sociable.

www.bridgewebs.com/kingstonseymour/

Anniversary

Interestingly and definitely worthy of a mention, whilst browsing Frome's website this snippet was discovered:–

“It emerged, earlier this year, that a bridge club was set up in Frome in 1925. The club closed in 1937 and then reopened in the mid 1970s. Hence, in effect, this is our centenary year.

To celebrate our 100th anniversary, we are having a Bridge Day on Saturday 27th September, 2pm start, to include a break for tea/coffee with cake and biscuits. There will be no charge for members and guests – you will need a partner with whom to take part.

RSVP to John Perry jp007g9418@blueyonder.co.uk”

West of England Congress 2025



We are creeping ever closer to the Congress. Bookings overall are healthy but we would like to give a big shout-out to the **9 High competition**. Bookings for this have been scant and it would be a real shame if we didn't continue to reach out and attract less experienced players and maybe the less self-assured to give this try.

Entries can be made here:

https://www.bridgewebs.com/cgi-bin/bwx/bw.cgi?club=somerset&pid=display_page85

9 High Competition – Ilminster, 30th November EBU National Corwen Cup

SCBA would like to enter several pairs in the 9 High Corwen Cup. The first round was successfully held at Cossington in August and attracted 17 pairs. It would be really satisfying to repeat this success on the 30th November in Ilminster.

Entries can be made here:

https://www.bridgewebs.com/cgi-bin/bwx/bw.cgi?club=somerset&pid=display_page56

Please check the SCBA website for the following other 9 High dates:

- 25th January 2026 @ **Kingston Seymour**, hosted by Kingston Seymour Bridge Club.
- 14th March 2026 @ **Frome**, hosted by Frome Bridge Club.

At each event we will play 32 boards with a tea break part way through.

Paul Jones Teams (pivot), 24th August

A terrific afternoon, many congratulations to the winners:
Sheena Lanham, David Willis, Andy Ridgers and Graham Heal.

And finally...

The Committee are always open to suggestions, and if you or your club wish to raise anything, again no matter how small or large, we would certainly consider this. SCBA exists to represent Somerset bridge players.

Don't Forget...

Calendar

The regularly updated Calendar of Somerset events is on our website at www.bridgewebs.com/cgi-bin/bwor/bw.cgi?club=somerset&pid=display_future

EBU Master Point Promotions

These are published monthly in the second week after month-end, so about 9th September for August promotions, and those for Somerset members will appear on our homepage.

www.bridgewebs.com/somerset/