

STARTING TO PLAY

On the first page you come to you can choose to play Solitaire. This is a useful place to get used to the layout and how it all works out. If you want to play with others, click on **Casual**, (which is the practice area where no fees are payable). Be warned that most people including robots will be playing an American system. (If you want to play the same system and you don't know what your bid means, choose your bid, say 2D: press the 2 and hover over the Diamond and up will pop an explanation of the bid. If that's what you want to bid click on it; otherwise start again with the bidding. A bit fiddly, but it is still a good place to practice.)

The next stage of practising is to ask three friends to play with you, and you will need to know each other's user name. You all need to be logged on to BBO, and you all need to choose *Casual*. One of you is host:

1. Choose **Start a table** under FIND YOUR OWN GAME.
2. In the box that comes up - disallow all kibitzer choices, but allow *permission required to play*. This is in case one of you disappears unintentionally while you are playing and you don't want an outsider to join you.
3. Click each polarity, and in the box offered insert the user name and click OK.
4. When all names are in place, choose Start Table – Relaxed game. An invitation to each player is forthcoming and each has to accept the invitation. Up will come the table, and on with the game.

N.B. If your bid is alertable **You have to ALERT your own bid** and this information goes only to the opponents.

There is more about playing in the **Attachment called Guidelines for Play**.