



Learning to play Bridge with the York Bridge Club



YEAR 1: Absolute Beginners/From first principles

FAST TRACK COURSE
with Chris Irvin

Tuesday 2pm - 4pm

ABSOLUTE BEGINNERS
with Ray Lyall

Tuesday 10am - 12pm

YEAR 2/3: Revise and consolidate ACOL

CONSOLIDATE AND EXPAND STANDARD ACOL

Wednesday 10am - 12pm
with Simon Kennedy

Thursday 10am - 12pm
with John Guest

These sessions follow the same programme each week and students are able to switch between days during the year as they wish.

1st YEAR IMPROVERS
with Ray Lyall

Thursday 10am - 12pm

LEARN THROUGH PLAY
with Ruth Roberts

Monday 10am - 12pm

YEAR 3+ : Intermediate/Advancers

INTERMEDIATE/ADVANCERS
with Iain Crockatt

Monday 10am - 12pm

Assuming a reasonable level of prior knowledge, these sessions concentrate on aspects of the game that will develop your understanding of the card play.

LEARN THROUGH PLAY
with Ruth Roberts

Monday 10am - 12pm

The Syllabus for each session is attached on page 2.

Students are free to choose any session they like and to repeat any year any number of times if they wish.

Some sessions assume a level of prior knowledge or experience.



Learning to play Bridge with the York Bridge Club



Fast Track Course

with Chris Irvin

This is a 12 week course following the EBU 'Bridge for all' course. Full details of this are available on the EBU website: <https://www.ebu.co.uk/education/bridge-for-all/programme>

Topics include:

What suits, tricks, trumps and scoring are, how the game is played, how to take the tricks in a simple no trump contract, drawing trumps and playing a simple suit contract. Defending a hand.
Open the bidding with a 1NT bid and make appropriate responses. Open the bidding with a suit (e.g. 1♣) and respond to the opening bid, Recognise whether this is a game or part score hand, Play a social game with friends or in a small friendly game in class

Absolute Beginners

with Ray Lyall

The course introduces bridge from scratch. No prior knowledge is assumed or required.

Topics include

Bridge terms and rules explained.
Mini-bridge (learn to play bridge in 15 minutes!)
Play of the cards by declarer and defenders.
Bidding balanced and unbalanced hands.
Introduction to some bridge systems.

Consolidate & expand standard ACOL

With John Guest/Simon Kennedy

Topics include

Acol NT opening, Stayman & Transfers, NT responses & rebids, Weak 2s, Leading, Playing NT contracts, Opening strong hands, Overcalls, Doubles for takeout & responses, Losing trick count, Finessing and unblocking, Signals and discards, Slam bidding. Jacoby 2NT, Defence signals & discards, Unassuming Cue bid, Opening leads, 2 suited overcalls - Michaels & Unusual 2NT, RKCB, Splinters and cue bids, Doubling for penalty & takeout.

General:

Use of stop card, Announcing bids, responding to requests for clarification from opponents, what to do if you don't understand a bid and calling the Director

Intermediate/Advancers

With Iain Crockatt

Topics include

Competitive bidding
Better defence
Leads
Trump control
Developing tricks
Safety plays
Unblocking
End-plays
Signalling and counting

1st Year improvers

With Ray Lyall

The aim is to consolidate the basics and to introduce new topics at a speed that is commensurate with the abilities and demand of the group. The pace is leisurely and jokes are a free bonus!

Topics include

Play of the cards: No Trump and suit contracts. Opening leads and signals. Bidding: responder bidding, opener's and responder's rebid, invitational, limit and forcing bids. Competitive bidding inc. overcalls, negative and take out doubles. Response to 1NT/2NT inc. Stayman and transfers. Pre-emptive bidding, Slam bidding inc Gerber, Blackwood and cue bids.

Learn Through Play

With Ruth Roberts

Active learning while playing for fun. Ideally suited to those who want to move from social to duplicate bridge, returners to the game, people who prefer an active learning style by doing, or those who wish to practise and consolidate what they learn from other classes.

The emphasis is on analysis, understanding and development of play and bidding which arise from hands randomly dealt. Topics are dealt with by request and can be discussed but are not the key focus of the sessions. The input of participants helps shape this course to their own requirements.

Learn Through Play

with Ruth Roberts

From Classes to Club at the York Bridge Club



FROM ANY CLASS ANY TIME TO ANY SESSION

Increasing level of experience →

ASSISTED PLAY
with David Moore

Thursday Eve 7pm-9pm upstairs

Ask any question, any time during the bidding and/or play. Play is relaxed with plenty of opportunity to discuss. Ideal session to practise what you've been learning.

- Crib Sheets permitted
- No computer scoring
- Results not published or sent to EBU*
- Table money per session £4
- Usually between 2-4 tables

FIRST STEPS IN DUPLICATE
with Simon Kennedy

Wednesday Eve 7pm-10pm

Ask any question, any time during the bidding and/or play. Play is at a relaxed pace.

- Simple Systems only **
- Tip of the week from the TD*
- Bridgemates introduced
- Max 18 boards played
- Results available on York Bridge site and may also be on Pianola*
- Table money per session £4 member, £5 otherwise
- Usually between 3-4 tables

SIMPLE SYSTEMS
with Piers Percival

Friday Morning 10am - 1pm

- Simple Systems only **
- Tip of the week from the TD*
- Bridgemates used
- Max 22 boards played
- Results available on York Bridge site, Pianola and EBU.
- Table money per session £4 member, £5 otherwise
- Usually between 3-7 tables

INTERMEDIATE/TRANSITIONAL
with John Guest

Monday Evening 7pm-10pm

- No Crib Sheets
- Any system permitted
- Bridgemates used
- Max 22 boards played
- Results available on York Bridge site, Pianola and EBU.
- Table money per session £4 member, £5 otherwise
- Usually between 6-9 tables

*EBU - English Bridge Union - <https://www.ebu.co.uk/>

*NGS - National Grading System - operated by EBU. See their website for details

*Pianola - on line application that enables you to review and replay hands and bidding

*TD - Tournament Director - responsible for the smooth running of the session and resolving any issues

** A list of the permitted systems is available on the club website:

<https://www.bridgewebs.com/york/Friday%20Mornings.pdf>