



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2018-19



While waiting for 10am – Week 1

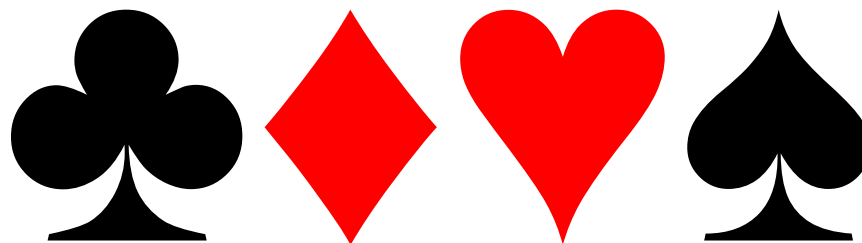
I was late - this didn't happen!



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Week 1 Introduction



Steve Bailey

This week the presentation will have a lot of admin and then a small amount of bridge bits and pieces – there is no theme.



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Week 1 Introduction

Introduction

- I am Steve Bailey. I have been playing bridge for 10 years now. I am NOT an expert. I can however present information from expert sources.
- Presentations and set hand results will be published on my website at www.stocton.org/bridge.htm
There is no "K" in stocton. You don't need to "search" for this, just type it into the address box of your web browser.
Normally the presentation will be uploaded by the end of the weekend after the Friday session.
- The purpose of the group is to improve your play at duplicate bridge – most notably at duplicate pairs.
Rubber bridge is actively not covered – it is a different game.
Therefore realise that the set hands are to learn various techniques and are not expected to be "social" or "fun". However I hope you enjoy the learning.



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Week 1 Introduction

Administration

- Please fill out a card with your Surname, Given name and Preferred name
Eg Smith, Anthony, Tony or Jones, Mary, Jane
Also include phone number in case of emergencies and email address for normal communications as well as your U3A membership number.
Filling out this form gives permission for me to use it to communicate with you about Bridge and U3A related matters, to add your email address to the "blind" group email list, and to keep this data for a long period of time.
If you do not provide an email address, then you won't get group information.
- Write **LEGIBLY** please.
- Please contribute £1 towards the stationery costs. *It doesn't cover all of the costs, but it helps.*
- Today and for the next couple of weeks, please make a label with your Preferred name on and wear it so everyone can know who you are.
- When you have refreshments, please put 20p in the pot. Also wash, dry and put away your own cups and spoons etc.



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Week 1 Introduction

Bridge admin (1)

- North has his back to the stage.
- **Unlike normal bridge**, we use FOUR travellers so that everyone gets practice completing them. Fill them in with the information by the **head of the column**. The **first** column is the number of the pair sitting **NS** – that may be YOU or it may be THEM – use that row. Do NOT stray into another row – even by a tiny bit. If you make a mess, strike the entire row out and write it again at the bottom in a spare row.

The **second** column is the **EW** pair. This may be YOU or it may be THEM. THINK.

In the Contract column put the contract **and the result**. Plan ahead to get it all in the space available. EG "3NT✓" "4Sx-2" "6H+1". **Do NOT look** at the traveller until AFTER the hand is played.

Fill in who was declarer (N E S W). Do not bother with the opening lead. Fill in the number of tricks made by declarer (zero to thirteen).

Fill in the score – if NS got the points put it in the left column. If EW the right.

Pass your traveller to the player on your left to have it checked. You check the traveller of the player to your right. **ALL FOUR TO BE IDENTICAL.**



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Week 1 Introduction

Bridge admin (2)

- The presentation is desired to be limited to 20 minutes – but it never is, it is always 30 to 40 minutes. There is just too much information to convey.
Therefore you HAVE to study between sessions. If you don't, this group is a waste of time for you.
- New members will need to review previous years' presentations to gather what you are assumed to know. Feel free to ask questions, but some answers will be "we covered that in a previous year".
- Do not put cups directly on the table cloths. Use the CD coasters or a saucer.
- When writing on thin paper, put a card (such as your pair number) under the paper to make your writing easier and more LEGIBLE.
- In this learning group, ALWAYS explain the meaning of **your partner's bids** to the table. *Pass: "under 12 points and not a preemptive hand". 1H: "12 to 19 points and at least 4 hearts or 9 to 11 points meeting rule of 20". Discuss if not right. And you are explaining the bid card, not the bidder's hand.*
- During play also explain key plays by partner. "QS, denies KS, shows JS."



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Week 1 Introduction

Bridge admin (3)

- Agree your system with your partner. Ideally write it down on your record card. *Otherwise I assume the new (2017) No Fear Bridge Crib Sheet: High encouraging, Low discouraging and Weak opening twos.*
- Set hands may have "notes" in them. They will have instructions on the visible side about when and by whom they should be read.
- Sometimes it may be appropriate to play a set hand twice – once with YOUR TABLE's bidding and once with the recommended bidding. Record BOTH on the traveller, adding 10 to each pair number (eg 2 v 10 becomes 12 v 20).
- Read the commentary on the hand after you have played it to find out what should have happened. Discuss it. Understand it. Do not rush each board.
- Once played, **pass the completed board to the next lower table** (table 1 to top table. Do NOT just put it on your chair.
- Under normal circumstances, the board should stay in middle of table. BVH's tables are too small. NORTH should remove it and replace it the **right way round** after play.



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Week 1 Introduction

Bridge admin (4)

- Understand Alerting and Announcing. ALWAYS do it – even when playing social bridge with friends at home. **Understand the difference between making an announcement and explaining your partner's bid.** EG

Partner opens "1NT"

You **announce** "Twelve to Fourteen" and then

You **explain** "A balanced hand with 12 to 14 HCP".

Ask if unsure.

- My nomenclature:

Letters in curly brackets are players {N} {E} {S} {W} {Dc} {Dy}

C D H S are suits ♣♦♥♠

+ means "or more" eg 12+

- means "or fewer" eg 5-

L means Length. Thus L2 is doubleton, L1 singleton, L0 void

L4+S means "Length 4 or more spades"

! means announce or alert

means a jump bid – use the stop card.



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Week 1 Introduction

Much of the group studies are based on a Bridge book.

Please get yourself a copy of

The Right Way to Play Bridge

Paul Mendelson

It is available from Amazon for £5.99.

Other sources are also used, both to expand on topics in "RWPB", also known as the "green book" and to cover extra topics.

These include (non-exhaustive):

Bridge magazine from Mr. Bridge

Bernard Magee DVDs (Available to borrow from me, £30 deposit)

Bridge Lesson books (20 off) by Andrew Robson

Other books by Paul Mendelson

The No Fear Bridge Crib Sheet



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Week 1 Introduction

No Fear Bridge Crib Sheet

A new version was issued in 2017, (the old one was 2006).

The main differences are that:

A couple of adverts have been changed in to "Leads" and "Signals".

Opening 2s are now weak

Generally an excellent tool.

Note its description of Gerber – which means it is very rarely used.

RWPB disagrees with "suit leads (d)". I suggest you strike that out.



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Week 1 Introduction

No Fear Bridge Crib Sheet

You may wish to write (in small legible lettering) along the bottom edge of the new version, a Strong Two summary:

16-22 2D, 2H, 2S: 8PT & good L6+suit or 2 L5+/L4+. 2+honours.

0-7 2NT negative

8+ L3+ & Ace: Raise. L3+ no ace: Game. Or good L5+suit or 3NT.

After raise, investigate slam.

After new suit: rebid L6suit, bid 2nd suit, raise P's suit, 3NT.

Or print off an old one and glue it at the bottom.



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Week 1 Introduction

A random bit of Bridge knowledge (1)

A **10** is an **honour** if you also hold any of A K Q J 9 in the same suit.

(A picture card or the 9.)



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Week 1 Introduction

A random bit of Bridge knowledge (2)

Generally:

Use HCP if bidding with a hand being treated as balanced.

Use Points if bidding with a hand being treated as unbalanced

5332 and 4441 could be either.

Points are

HCP

+ Length points (cards over L4 per suit)

+ Shortage points **once a fit with partner has been found.**

YOUR fit suit	L2=1	L1=2	L0=3
HIS fit suit	L2=1	L1=3	L0=5



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Week 1 Introduction

A random bit of Bridge knowledge (3)

Sacrifices can be a great score. -50 is often a top.

In a competitive auction, it is ALWAYS right to bid to the 3 level over a 2 level bid.

It is often wrong to bid 3 over 3.



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Week 1 Introduction

A random bit of Bridge knowledge (4)

To overcall with a suit, you need

L5+Suit

2+Suit_honours

Enough Points (not HCP, include length points)

Usually this means 8+ at the 1 level and 11+ at the 2 level.

By overcalling you are telling partner you WANT this suit lead to you.

To overcall with NT you need a strong hand (16+ HCP) and **stoppers** in all **their** suits.



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Week 1 Introduction

A random bit of Bridge knowledge (5)

With an opening #2NT (USE STOP CARD) the HCP probabilities are very uneven.

20 HCP :	52%	Remember HALF
21 HCP :	31%	Remember THIRD
22 HCP :	17%	Remember SIXTH



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Week 1 Introduction

A random bit of Bridge knowledge (6)

Place the bidding cards on the same bit of table you use to score your tricks. Once the auction is complete, LEAVE THEM ALONE. Only after the opening card is fully played (**ALWAYS INITIALLY FACE DOWN**) and dummy is displayed should the bidding cards be put away.

THEN DECLARER MAKES A PLAN.

At these sessions, it would be good if declarer vocalised his plan to the table.

" Top Tricks ~ 1 spade, 2 hearts, no diamonds, 4 clubs which is 7.
Contract is 3NT so I need at least 2 more, 3 or 4 would be good.

eXtra Tricks ~ I can finesse the JH

I can make QD and JD after losing KD to AD

I may be able to make a length S in dummy – must keep entries.

That is 3½ tricks with 1½ losers.

Small hearts are losers unless I can throw them.

"



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Week 1 Introduction

Any Questions?

...

Play

Since we haven't covered a topic today, the set hands are a wide ranging mixture from "nothing special" thru to "wild".



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Week 1 Play

Play

NS have the pair number of their table, N has his back to the stage.
EW have the pair number of their table plus 8.

Play boards in sequence. Have an incoming pile and an outgoing pile. Pass outgoing to next lower numbered table – Table 1 to highest table.

Many boards have instructions on coloured card. **The appropriate people should read each card at the time it says and follow its instructions.**

If you play a board twice, record second play on traveller with pair numbers PLUS TEN (eg 1 v 9 becomes 11 v 19)

As part of the learning process – I would like the partner of whoever has just bid to take whatever action is **standardly required** (eg announcing 1NT to be 12-14 points, ALERTing a conventional bid, ...) – **AND ALSO** to give a brief **description** to the other three players on what the bid means.

If you wish to fill in a personal results card, they are available here. They are commonly used at duplicate clubs.

Any questions?

Tea / coffee & biscuit. (20p)

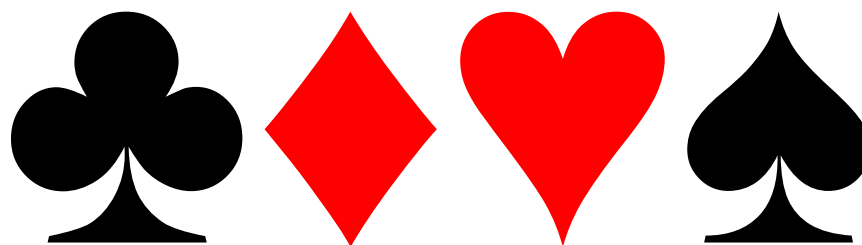
PLAY



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Week 1



The end

Week 1 set hand
references follow.



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Week 1 Set hands

No board was played by more than 2 tables. I intend to reuse these boards next week.

Set hand sources

EB	EBU's magazine "English Bridge"
Times	Andrew Robson's Bridge column in "The Times"

===

Blue results as played.

Red results are reference results.

Boards as played are rotated compared to the book presentation (which mostly make South dealer). Rotation defined by position of A♠.



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Week 1 Set hands

#	Dir	Vul	Source	Dir = Dealer, Vul = Vulnerability.			
1	N	None	<i>EB:Apr2018 pg10</i>				A♠=N
1	9	3NT-3	N	6	-	150	Poor
4	12	4S-2	N	8	-	100	Poor
11	19	4S=	N	10	420	-	Excellent
Ref a		4S=	N	10	420	-	The "reference" result
Ref b		3NT+1	N	10	430	-	Better than the reference!



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Week 1 Set hands

#	Dir	Vul	Source	Dir = Dealer, Vul = Vulnerability.		
2	E	NS	<i>EB:Apr2018 pg48a</i>			A♠=E
1	9	4S-3	E	7	150	-
2	10	4S-3	E	7	150	-
Ref		4S=	E	10	-	420



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Week 1 Set hands

#	Dir	Vul	Source	Dir = Dealer, Vul = Vulnerability.		
3	S	EW	<i>EB:Apr2018 pg49b</i>			A♠=E
2	10	3NT=	E 9	-	400	Underbid, a losing strategy
3	11	6NT-2	W 10	200	-	
Ref		6NT=	W 12	-	1440	



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Week 1 Set hands

#	Dir	Vul	Source	Dir = Dealer, Vul = Vulnerability.		
4	W	All	<i>EB:Apr2018 pg 48b</i>			A♠=S
3	11	5D-2	N 9	-	200	
4	12	3NT-2	S 7	-	200	
14	22	4D=	N 10	130	-	You want to be in & make game.
Ref		3NT=	S 9	600	-	



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Week 1 Set hands

Dlr Vul Source

Dlr = Dealer, Vul = Vulnerability.

Board 5 not played



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Week 1 Set hands

Dlr Vul Source

Dlr = Dealer, Vul = Vulnerability.

Board 6 not played



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Week 1 Set hands

#	Dir	Vul	Source	Dir = Dealer, Vul = Vulnerability.			
7	S	All	<i>EB:Feb2018 pg28a</i>				A♠=S
4	12	4H+3	E	13	-	710	Well played, underbid though.
Ref		6H+1	W	13	-	1460	



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Week 1 Set hands

Dlr Vul Source Dlr = Dealer, Vul = Vulnerability.

8 W None Times:2018-06-13

A♠=W

2 10 2S-3 W 5 150 -

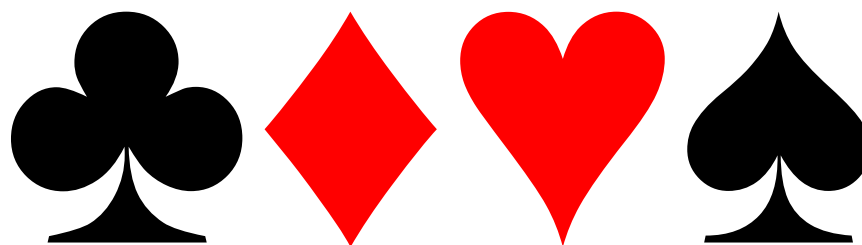
Ref unknown – a particularly wild hand – I am curious.



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Week 1



The very end