



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2021-22



While waiting for 10am – Week 1

Scoring

What is the score for **1NTx+1** when declarer is vulnerable?

Please do not look it up.

Please work it out -

you will find a clipboard and a pen and paper on each chair, to let you do sums.

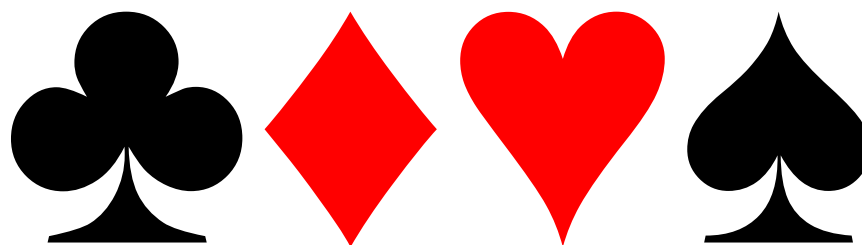
In a "live game", you would have to do the whole thing in your head, not easy.



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2021-22



Week 1 Welcome



Steve Bailey

Note that this presentation is indexed as "2021-22 week1", even though it is the second session. That session didn't have a formal presentation in the end.



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2021-22



Week 1 Introduction

Covid

Determining how to manage face to face meetings has been tricky. Last year's group members were consulted to try to determine what might work, and changes may be made throughout the year. The conclusion endeavours to also match Intermediate Bridge to the methodology of other U3A Bridge groups.

- Everyone **must** be double vaccinated, although no covid pass is required, just an honourable statement that that is so.
- Masks must be worn whilst standing but can be taken off when seated. It is recommended that you wear masks while seated, but you do not have to.
- The room will be ventilated so dress warmly.
- You are welcome to bring your own sanitiser and/or gloves, though there should be sanitiser in the hall.
- There will be a break half way through the session during which time you may consume your own refreshments away from the main hall.
- Bring your own bidding boxes if you wish.



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2021-22



Week 1 Introduction

Introduction (1)

We have had, either a year off or a year of self-study. So I am assuming that while some folk here will be continuing from previous years, there will be several new faces.

This introduction is going to be shorter than in previous years - more condensed. I will happily answer questions about things after the session, but I would like to get the presentation done in a timely fashion. [Much of what I am saying is available on the week 1 presentations from previous years - you may wish to read them.](#)

I am [Steve Bailey](#), I have been playing bridge for 13 years and this is the 9th year I have lead Intermediate Bridge. I am **not an expert**, I present information I have gleaned from expert sources. I may be unable to answer some bridge questions without research.

Originally this presentation was made for the academic year 2020-21. However, due to the pandemic, it has been delayed one year. My references used year "8" for year 2019..20. **Year "9" will now be 2021-22.**



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2021-22



Week 1 Introduction

Introduction (2)

The basic system we study is Acol - normally Benjaminised Acol with a weak 1NT and Transfers.

However, experts have differing interpretations of some of the details. Experts I refer to include Andrew Robson, Bernard Magee, Paul Mendelson and several others.

In the past we have used

The Right Way to Play Bridge by **Paul Mendelson**

(available from Amazon for £5.99, and from Waterstones) as 'the' course book, and it is a very valuable resource, but it was first published in 1994 and bridge has evolved since then.

This book will be less frequently used this year and more use will be made of videos.



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2021-22



Week 1 Introduction

Introduction (3)

Please fill in the forms on your clipboards **legibly** with your name, phone number, email address and U3A membership number. Please list any bridge clubs you regularly attend on the back. I will keep that information for U3A and Bridge use effectively in perpetuity - if you do not wish this *only fill in your membership number*.

Please hand it in when we move to the tables to play - preferably with a £2 contribution to the stationery costs. This is double last year's because I have ended up spending a lot to prepare for this year. It is optional but requested. Thank you.

All normal communication will be by email to a distribution list email address.

(Address listed with your clipboards.)

Any email sent to that address will go to all members of this group.

I will use it to send group announcements.

You can use it find and coordinate pairs for tournaments etc.

Each presentation is uploaded to my website. See

www.stocton.org/bridge.htm

There is **no K** in stocton.



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2021-22



Week 1 Introduction

Introduction (4)

The purpose of the group is to learn various aspects of bridge to improve our play (I include myself here). It is aimed at **Duplicate PAIRs**, and occasionally at **Duplicate TEAMS**. It specifically **excludes Rubber Bridge**, a completely different game.

While we will study 'Benjaminised Acol with a weak 1NT and Transfers', other systems will be reviewed "for information" and in case you prefer them.

When we play set hands, find a partner and a table and normally stay where you sit for the rest of the session.

If the number of players is wrong, some tables may have 5 players.
The sitout should swap with the previous deals declarer.

Twice a year we endeavour to run a proper bridge tournament. Usually up to a dozen boards. There are prizes (normally 2 kids' party trophies).

Please arrive early to help setup. Please help tidy up at the end.

COVID: If you use the hall kitchen, please manage anything you do - I will not.



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2021-22



Week 1 Introduction

Introduction (5)

Most sessions will start with a presentation that lasts about 40 minutes. After that we have a break then move to the tables and play set hands until the end of the session.

The set hands are to illustrate the topic of the day and are there to be studied and learnt from. If you don't analyse them as you go and just "play socially", then this is the wrong group for you.

At the table, please explain to the table EVERY bid **your partner** makes. This is in ADDITION to any alerting or announcing required by Bridge regulations.

Usually set hands have small cards with comments or instructions. The relevant people should read them at the time it specifies. "All read after bidding" is common.

At the end of the hand, everyone (four people) record the result on (four) travellers. It is essential that these are checked and that they are all IDENTICAL. For some reason group members find this very hard to do.

Only ever touch YOUR cards. Declarer asks dummy to play the desired card for trick. (*Say 'king of clubs' or 'top club', do not poke the card or move it.*)



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2021-22



Week 1 Introduction

Introduction (6)

Nomenclature

In the commentaries and presentations, I use many abbreviations to reduce the amount of text:

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

+ means "or more" eg 12+ *twelve or more*

- means "or fewer" eg 5- *five or fewer*

C D H S are suits ♣ ♦ ♥ ♠

h is short for honour, so 2+Hh is "2 or more Heart honours"

T is used for Ten (10) – occasionally it may be "Trump" as well

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

L4+S means "Length 4 or more spades"

! means announce or alert (*partner shows the blue alert card to the opposition*)

means a jump bid (*use the red stop card*)



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2021-22



While waiting for 10am – Week 1

Scoring

What is the score for **1NTx+1** when declarer is vulnerable?

What did you all get?



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2021-22



While waiting for 10am – Week 1

Scoring

What is the score for **1NTx+1** when declarer is vulnerable?

1 Contract trick	(40) * 2(dbl)	80
1 Overtrick (doubled vulnerable)	200(vul)	200
Part score bonus	50	50
Making doubled bonus	50	50

Total		380



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2021-22



Week 1 Quiz

Quiz

There is a sheet on your clipboards to write your answers on. The questions are taken from the **EBU's magazine "English Bridge", April 2020** issue.

Please answer all the questions. There are 10 of them, and if you manage one every 30 seconds, you will be done in 5 minutes. Then we'll look at the answers.

The answers assume Benjaminised Acol with a weak 1NT and Transfers.

If you don't know any of these schemes, answer as you would do it and we can discuss at "answer time".

Where the question is "what is your opening bid", you should also answer what your planned rebid would be.

Just because the question is "what is your bid", does not preclude "Pass" as an answer with a planned rebid of also "Pass".



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2021-22



Week 1 Quiz

Five minute pause...



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2021-22



Week 1 Quiz

Q1a)

(h1)

♠ KQJ954

♥ 7

♦ 532

♣ J87

Opening bid _____

Planned rebid _____



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2021-22



Week 1 Quiz

Q1b)

(h1)

♠ KQJ954

♥ 7

♦ 532

♣ J87

7 HCP 6331

9 Pts (+2 for L6S)

Opening bid _____

Planned rebid _____



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2021-22



Week 1 Quiz

Q1c)

(h1)

♠ KQJ954

♥ 7

♦ 532

♣ J87

Opening bid **#2S!**

Planned rebid **Pass**

7 HCP 6331

9 Pts (+2 for L6S)

Opening bid

All of you should, and most of you will play some form of "opening weak two". If you play Benji Acol you play weak two majors. Some play three weak twos (S,H,D).

If you don't play a weak two system, **Pass**.

If you do, open **#2S!** showing 6..10 points, a good L6S suit and not L4H. (It will have 2 of top 4*S or 3 of top 6*S.)

The opening 2 alternatives are why such a 2 bid must be announced.

Planned rebid **Pass** unless forced by partner.



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2021-22



Week 1 Quiz

Q2a)

(h5)

♠ AQJ

♥ KQT96

♦ AJ

♣ KT9

Opening bid _____

Planned rebid _____



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2021-22



Week 1 Quiz

Q2b)

(h5)

♠ AQJ

♥ KQT96

♦ AJ

♣ KT9

20 HCP 5332 (balanced)

Opening bid _____

Planned rebid _____



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2021-22



Week 1 Quiz

Q2c)

(h5)

♠ AQJ

♥ KQT96

♦ AJ

♣ KT9

Opening bid #2NT!

Planned rebid ?H

20 HCP 5332 (balanced)

Opening bid

With 20..22 HCP and a balanced hand, open #2NT!.

It doesn't have 8..9½ PT (Playing Tricks), so don't open it a strong 2H (*Benji 2C - 2D - 2H*). Yet it is too strong to happily open 1H.

Planned rebid

Depends very much on Partner's response. A H bid is the obvious target.



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2021-22



Week 1 Quiz

Q3a)

(h9)

♠ 6

♥ 86

♦ KQJT643

♣ 982

Opening bid _____

Planned rebid _____



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2021-22



Week 1 Quiz

Q3b)

(h9)

♠ 6

♥ 86

♦ KQJT643

♣ 982

6 HCP 7321

9 Pts (+3 for L7D)

Opening bid _____

Planned rebid _____



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2021-22



Week 1 Quiz

Q3c)

(h9)

♠ 6

♥ 86

♦ KQJT643

♣ 982

Opening bid **#3D**

Planned rebid **Pass**

6 HCP 7321

9 Pts (+3 for L7D)

Opening bid

With D as trumps, this hand will take many tricks but in any other suit, zero or, just possibly, 1 trick.

Pre-empt with **#3D**. Showing 5..9 HCP and a good L7D: 3+ of top 5*D, (*actually 4*).

Planned rebid

Pass unless forced by Partner.



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2021-22



Week 1 Quiz

Q4a)

(h10)

♠ KQT43

♥ Q7

♦ 7532

♣ 87

Partner opens an uncontested 1♥

Response _____



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2021-22



Week 1 Quiz

Q4b)

(h10)

♠ KQT43

♥ Q7

♦ 7532

♣ 87

7 HCP 5422

8 Pts (+1 for L5S)

Partner opens an uncontested 1♥

Response _____



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2021-22



Week 1 Quiz

Q4c)

(h10)

♠ KQT43

♥ Q7

♦ 7532

♣ 87

Partner opens an uncontested 1♥

Response **1S**

7 HCP 5422

8 Pts (+1 for L5S)

Response

With 6+ Pts, you should not Pass.

Bid Longer suits rather than shorter suits, but if there is a choice between L4Major and L5Minor, go for the Major.

Here, the next rank up is S which is biddable.

1S promises L4+S.

If Opener rebids **2C**, showing L5H and L4+C and denying L4+S, show preference for H with 2H for a 7*H fit.



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2021-22



Week 1 Quiz

Q5a)

(h13)

♠ Q864

♥ KJ32

♦ A5

♣ JT9

Partner opens an uncontested 1♥

Response _____



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2021-22



Week 1 Quiz

Q5b)

(h13)

♠ Q864

♥ KJ32

♦ A5

♣ JT9

11 HCP 4432

11 Pts

Partner opens an uncontested 1♥

Response _____



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2021-22



Week 1 Quiz

Q5c)

(h13)

♠ Q864

♥ KJ32

♦ A5

♣ JT9

11 HCP 4432

11 Pts

Partner opens an uncontested 1♥

Response #3H

Response

Partner has opened showing 12+ Pts.

You have a joint L4H + L4+H = (8+)*H fit.

You have a joint 11 + 12+ = 23+ Pts. You will have enough for game if Opener has 14+ Pts.

Therefore invite with #3H.



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2021-22



Week 1 Quiz

Q6a)

(h16)

♠ AJ2

♥ KQ76

♦ KJ92

♣ QT

Your RHO opens 1♦

Response _____



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2021-22



Week 1 Quiz

Q6b)

(h16)

♠ AJ2

♥ KQ76

♦ KJ92

♣ QT

16 HCP 4432

16 Pts

Your RHO opens 1♦

Response _____



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2021-22



Week 1 Quiz

Q6c)

(h16)

♠ AJ2

♥ KQ76

♦ KJ92

♣ QT

16 HCP 4432

16 Pts

Your RHO opens 1♦

Response **1NT**

Response

You have a balanced hand and are thinking NT thoughts.
You have a good D stop _K_J_9.
You have 15..17 HCP.
Therefore overcall with **1NT**.



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2021-22



Week 1 Quiz

Q7a)

(h19)

♠ A652

♥ AJ64

♦ 7

♣ K753

Your RHO opens 1♦

Response _____



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2021-22



Week 1 Quiz

Q7b)

(h19)

♠ A652

♥ AJ64

♦ 7

♣ K753

12 HCP 4441

12 Pts

Your RHO opens 1♦

Response _____



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2021-22



Week 1 Quiz

Q7c)

(h19)

♠ A652

♥ AJ64

♦ 7

♣ K753

12 HCP 4441

12 Pts

Your RHO opens 1♦

Response **Db1**

Response

With a shortage in the opposition suit (L1D) and L4 in all other suits with honours in each, this is ideal for a take-out double. You have 12 Points, so bid a **double** (for Take-out).



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2021-22



Week 1 Quiz

Q8a)

(h22)

♠ QJ7

♥ 54

♦ KQ43

♣ KT94

In 4th seat after 1♥ (1♠) 1NT.

Response _____



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2021-22



Week 1 Quiz

Q8b)

(h22)

♠ QJ7

♥ 54

♦ KQ43

♣ KT94

11 HCP 4432

11 Pts

In 4th seat after 1♥ (1♠) 1NT.

Response _____



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2021-22



Week 1 Quiz

Q8c)

(h22)

♠ QJ7

♥ 54

♦ KQ43

♣ KT94

11 HCP 4432

11 Pts

In 4th seat after 1♥ (1♠) 1NT.

Response **2H**

Response

A bid of 2S is a weak bid (0..9 Pts) 'to the level of the fit' which shows exactly L3S. This hand is stronger than that. You should make an Unassuming Cue Bid (I prefer Bernard Magee's name "a bid of the opponent's suit") to show support of / a fit with Partner's suit and 10+ Points.

Here Partner overcalled 1S, so has at least L5S. You have L3S for the fit. You have over 10 HCP. Bid **2H**.

Partner must not leave you in 2H.



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2021-22



Week 1 Quiz

Q9a)

(h26)

♠ AQJ63

♥ 652

♦ Q74

♣ 87

In 4th seat after 1♥ (Dbl) P.

Response _____



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2021-22



Week 1 Quiz

Q9b)

(h26)

♠ AQJ63

♥ 652

♦ Q74

♣ 87

9 HCP 5332

10 Pts (+1 for L5S)

In 4th seat after 1♥ (Dbl) P.

Response _____



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2021-22



Week 1 Quiz

Q9c)

(h26)

♠ AQJ63

♥ 652

♦ Q74

♣ 87

In 4th seat after 1♥ (Dbl) P.

Response #2S

9 HCP 5332

10 Pts (+1 for L5S)

Response

The double here is a Take-Out Double, asking you to bid your best (longest) suit. Your partner has promised to be happy with any of the unbid suits (♠, ♦, ♣), having L3+ in each, ideally L4 in each.

You are **required** to respond even with zero points, which would be 1S. Here you have far more than that, so reply with a jump bid, #2S.



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2021-22



Week 1 Quiz

Q10a)

(h29)

♠ A43

♥ AQT8

♦ K7

♣ J854

In 4th seat after 1♥ (Dbl) P.

Response _____



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2021-22



Week 1 Quiz

Q10b)

(h29)

♠ A43

♥ AQT8

♦ K7

♣ J854

14 HCP 4432

In 4th seat after 1♥ (Dbl) P.

Response _____



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2021-22



Week 1 Quiz

Q10c)

(h29)

♠ A43

♥ AQT8

♦ K7

♣ J854

14 HCP 4432

In 4th seat after 1♥ (Dbl) P.

Response #3NT

Response

The double here is a Take-Out Double, asking you to bid your best (longest) suit. Your partner has promised to be happy with any of the unbid suits (♠, ♦, ♣), having L3+ in each, ideally L4 in each.

With 14 HCP, opposite 11+ HCP, you have enough for game. With 2 stops in H (their suit) and some strength in all suits but only L3OtherMajor (S), NT is the obvious game. Just bid it: #3NT.



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2021-22



Week 1 Play

Duplicate Pairs et al.

Do you all understand what a [Duplicate Pairs](#) event is and how it differs from other bridge playing: such as a [Teams of Four](#) event, [Rubber bridge](#), [Chicago](#)?

I want you all to play board #1 at the same time - so I have several sets of it.

Please play with **{N} as dealer** and **None vulnerable**.

During the bidding, would each {N} keep a record of the bidding on the slips provided.

After each table has played the board, we will stop and have a discussion about it.

...

Note that board #1 is highly artificial and I am interested in seeing what contracts are bid.



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2021-22



Week 1 Play

Today's Set Hands

We haven't had a topic today to be the theme for the set hands.

Each day, Andrew Robson writes a Bridge column in the Times. Monday to Friday are generally instructional and Saturday tends to be "wacky deals".

So to see how we get on, today's set hands are all Saturday's Times deals - though in some cases the vulnerability is not as was published. Some are slams, some are not. In some the interest is the bidding, in others the play - how to make or how to defeat?

Often with set hands, the contract is specified. Here, do your own thing - but remember you are competing with the other pairs in this room and with the published pairs from the Times.

Good luck.



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2021-22



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?



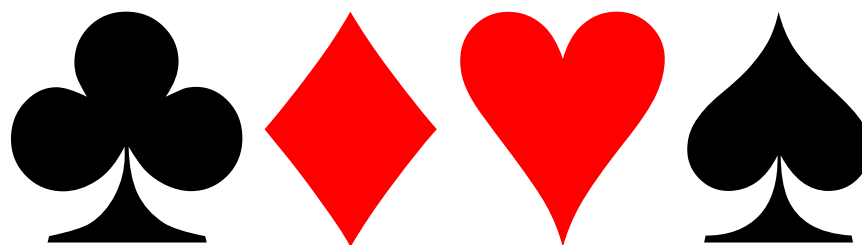
PLAY



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2021-22



Week 1



The end

Week 1 set hand
references follow.



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2021-22



Week 1 Set hands

Set hand sources

Times A Robson's Times newspaper bridge column.
(All from Saturday editions which are "interesting" deals.)

===

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

Only 3 set hands were played, but much discussion was had about each.



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2021-22



Week 1 Set hands

Dlr Vul Source Dlr = Dealer, Vul = Vulnerability.

1 N None Times 2020-05-30 #a A♠=W

This is a highly artificial hand designed to make players think of how opposition might react.

{N} S:- H:- D:- C:AKQJT98765432

{W} S:AT8642 H:J9753 D:32 C:- {E} S:KQ H:KQ D:QJT987654 C:-

{S} S:J9753 H:AT8642 D:AK C:-

Obviously {N} can make 7C for {NS}1440, but in 7NT will make zero tricks.

{E} can expect to make 1*S and 1*H but probably no D if playing in C.

So a sacrificial bid of 7D-4 (say) for {NS}200 over a 7C opener is a good bid.

{S} has reason to think 7D will go down (D:AK) and no reason to think either 7S or 7H would make, so {S} should pass.

Therefore Terence Reece (who prepared this deal) suggests a 4C opening.

Actual bidding at Table #1: 5C (5D) 5H (P) // P (P)

I didn't record the result, but believe 5H went down, so 5H-2 would have been better for {EW}.



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2021-22



Week 1 Set hands

Dlr Vul Source Dlr = Dealer, Vul = Vulnerability.

2 E NS *Times 2020-08-01 (different vulnerability)* A♠=E

{N} S:4 H:54 D:KT87653 C:974

{W} S:Q863 H:A976 D:J C:AT86 {E} S:AK2 H:KQJT832 D:9 C:53

{S} S:JT975 H:- D:AQ42 C:KQJ2



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2021-22



Week 1 Set hands

Dlr Vul Source Dlr = Dealer, Vul = Vulnerability.

3 S EW *Times 2020-08-15*

A♠=S

{N} S:T H:T865 D:8 C:9876432

{W} S:KJ75 H:42 D:KJ95 C:KT5 {E} S:9643 H:K7 D:QT732 C:AQ

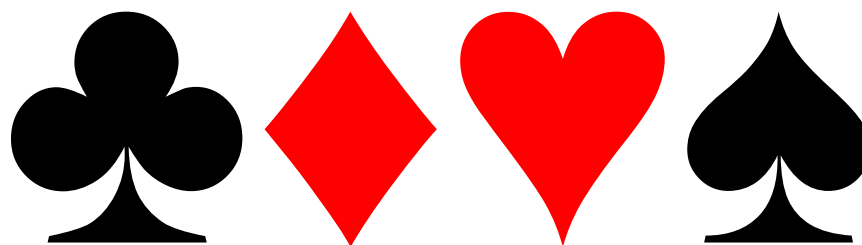
{S} S:AQ82 H:AQJ93 D:A64 C:J



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2021-22



Week 1



The very end