



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2024-25



While waiting for 10am – Week 4

♠ 9

♥ T42

♦ 74

♣ KQJ8532

How many tricks is **this** hand likely to make in

a) Hearts?

b) Clubs?

c) No Trumps?

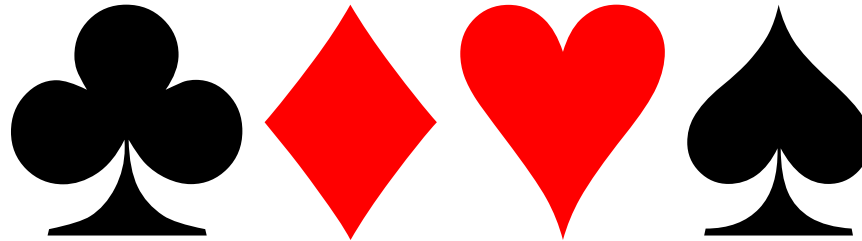
How does that affect what you bid?



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2024-25



Week 4 Welcome



Steve Bailey



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2024-25



While waiting for 10am – Week 4

♠ 9

♥ T42

♦ 74

♣ KQJ8532

How many tricks is **this** hand likely to make in

a) Hearts?

b) Clubs?

c) No Trumps?

How does that affect what you bid?



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2024-25



While waiting for 10am – Week 4

♠ 9

♥ T42

♦ 74

♣ KQJ8532

a) Hearts?

b) Clubs?

c) No Trumps?

The L7C mean 6*C are split between the other 3 players.

The most likely distribution is 3:2:1

If H are trumps, expect to lose KC>AC. Then the C:QJ are likely to be ruffed. On a good day, you may make 1 trick. You may also manage to ruff 1 spade trick with your L3H for a second trick ~ not guaranteed.

If Clubs are trumps, expect to lose KC>AC leaving 3*C out. C:QJ could win and draw those 3 cards, Leaving C:8532 as 4 master tricks. So expect to make 6 tricks from the 7 clubs.

In NT, expect AC to duck and win 3rd C trick after maybe making C:QJ. So 2 tricks is possible. *NT is much harder to predict.*



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2024-25



Week 4 This week

Last time we looked at **balanced bids**.

This time the topic is generally **responding**.

In part this is a review of material covered last year over several sessions, though whether we covered it all...

For summaries of previous summaries, see last time's presentation for

- Hand evaluation;

- Details of Opening bids;

- Responses to Opening 1NT (including Stayman).

I am, however, repeating the list of Opening bids and the NT ladder for opening with a balanced hand.



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2024-25



Week 4 Opening bids

To open	You need to hold	
1NT	12..14 Pts Balanced	4333, 4432, 5332
	(With an L5Major 5332 hand consider 1Major rather than 1NT.)	
1Suit	12..19 Pts L4+Suit	4441 ~ 13..19 Pts
	(1C shows 12..19..22 Pts as superstrong 2C is unavailable.)	
2NT	20..22 Pts Balanced (or perhaps semi-balanced)	
2Suit (not C)	Basic Acol: Strong. 8..9½ tricks in your hand	
	Often crudely summarised as 20..22 Pts.	
2C	The superstrong Acol bid	
	Suited 10+ tricks (Game) in your own hand	
	or 23+ Pts any shape	
3NT	9..12hcp L7Minor headed by AKQJ	Gambling 3NT
3Suit	5..9 hcp Good L7Suit (2+ of AKQ)	Pre-emptive
4Suit	5..9 hcp Good L8Suit (2+ of AKQ)	Pre-emptive



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2024-25



Week 4 Opening with a balanced hand

The NT opening ladder for balanced hands [4333](#), [4432](#), [5332](#)

Pass	0..11 Pts.
1NT!	12..14 Pts. (Announce "Twelve to Fourteen") <i>Weak NT</i>
1LongestSuit	15..17 Pts, rebid with a raise to Partner's bid eg: 1D - 1H - 1NT or: 1D - 2C - 2NT Do not bid higher over interventions.
1LongestSuit	18..19 Pts, rebid with a raise or jump to 2NT eg: 1D - 1H - #2NT or: 1D - 2C - 2NT Do not bid higher over interventions. So a 2NT rebid means 15..19 Pts.
#2NT	20..22 Pts. (Don't Alert.) May be semi-balanced.
#2C!	23..24 Pts, rebid 2NT.
#2C!	25+ Pts, rebid 3NT.



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2024-25



Week 4 Responding

Responding to an opening **1Suit**.

Choose between:

- **Pass**
- Change the suit.
- Support Opener's suit.
- Make a NT response.
- Make a "strong" response.



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2024-25



Week 4 Responding

Responding to an opening **1Suit**.

Choose between:

- **Pass:**
with a very weak hand. Usually 5-Pts.
- Change the suit.
- Support Opener's suit.
- Make a NT response.
- Make a "strong" response.



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2024-25



Week 4 Responding

Responding to an opening **1Suit**.

Choose between:

- Pass
- Change the suit:
 - 1Newsuit**: A rebid at the 1:level promises 6+Pts and L4+Suit.
Opener **MUST** rebid. (Opener thought about this before making his opening bid.)
 - 2Newsuit**: A rebid at the 2:level promises 10+Pts and L4+Suit.
There is one exception to this: **1S** - **2H** promises L5+H because the bidding has got so high so fast.
Again Opener **MUST** rebid.
- Support Opener's suit.
- Make a NT response.
- Make a "strong" response.



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2024-25



Week 4 Responding

Responding to an opening **1Suit**.

Choose between:

- Pass
- Change the suit.
- Support Opener's suit:
6..9Pts, L4+Suit

Bid **2Suit**.

Also bid **2Major** with L3Major if **only** alternative is **1NT**.

10..12Pts, L4+Suit

Jump bid **#3Suit**.

13+Pts, 9-hcp, L4+Suit

Needs to be a very shapely hand

Double jump bid **#4Suit**.

This shows a WEAK hand.

Also 3NT Pudding Raises and Delayed Game Raises.

- Make a NT response.
- Make a "strong" response.



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2024-25



Week 4 Responding

Responding to an opening **1Suit**.

Choose between:

- Pass
- Change the suit.
- Support Opener's suit.
- Make a NT response.

6..9Pts, any shape.

The "Rubbish bin bid". Use when no better bid is possible. Bid **1NT**. This keeps bidding open in case Opener has 18..19Pts.

10..12, balanced, L3-Suit.

Bid **2NT**.

Will become Jacoby convention...

13..15, balanced, L3-Suit

Bid **3NT**.

Some play 3NT as a Pudding Raise but requirements differ.

- Make a "strong" response.



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2024-25



Week 4 Responding

Responding to an opening **1Suit**.

Choose between:

- Pass
- Change the suit.
- Support Opener's suit.
- Make a NT response.
- Make a "strong" response.

With 16+Pts, make a strong response by jumping to a new suit.

This is forcing to game and is a slam try.

Eg **1D** - **2H** or **1H** - **3D**

Also a new suit at the 3:level is generally forcing to game.

Eg **1H** - **3D** (same as above)

This also applies further into the bidding.

There are other methods of showing strength, for later weeks.



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2024-25



Week 4 Responding Follow-ons

Beyond the simplicity of the direct responses, the bidding is hard to categorise.

However there are some are ease follow-ons.

Opener's rebid:

A new suit promises L5+Firstsuit and L4+Newsuit;

Supporting Partner's Major suit:

1OSuit - 1RSuit - / 2RSuit 12..15Pts L4+RSuit

1OSuit - 1RSuit - / #3RSuit 16..18Pts L4+RSuit

1OSuit - 1RSuit - / #4RSuit 19..20Pts L4+RSuit

A major suit contract is preferred to a NT one.

A NT bid promises a balanced hand:

1OSuit - 1RSuit - / 1NT 15..17Pts Balanced

1OSuit - 1RSuit - / 2NT 18..19Pts Balanced

1OSuit - 2RSuit - / 2NT 15..19Pts Balanced

A 3NT rebid is rarely used in this context.

(You probably first learnt: NT raise 15..16; NT jump 17..18; 3NT 19.)



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2024-25



Week 4 Responding Follow-ons

Mostly the bidding objective is to find if there is a major fit and then choose between game or a part-score. If there isn't, it is a misfit or a minor fit) NT is preferred. Again Choose between game and part-score.

So you have to find out what you partner holds: Point-count-wise and suit-shape.

Next week we will look at **some** of the basic conventions that are useful:

Suited:

- Showing Preference
- Fourth Suit Forcing
- Major Suit Trial bids
- Minor Suit Trial bids
- Reverses



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2024-25



Week 4 Responding Follow-ons

Topics for later weeks:

Slam bidding,

Keycard Blackwood and "plain" Blackwood,

Italian Cue bids, Cue bids,

Splinters,

Pre-emptive responses,

Opening leads,

Play planning in suits, Play planning in NT,

Gerber ~ when (if ever) can you use it?

Transfers.



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2024-25



Week 4 Autumn tournament

Autumn Tournament: November 15

I plan to make the second November session a little different and run a tournament with freely dealt boards.

In the 2 hours we have available, it will probably be around 10 boards played. Everything will be organised as a normal Duplicate Pairs event.

So {N} will manage the tables and score the results on a single traveller, which {E} will check. And pairs and boards will move tables.

I will do the scoring before we leave the hall (it takes around 15 minutes to do), and I'll have a couple of small kid's party trophies for the winning pair.

Please find a partner. Then find a second pair to form a "table".

Please let me know as soon as possible who is with whom.

If necessary, I will seek extra players to make up the numbers.

So start organising yourselves now - maybe over coffee.



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2024-25



Week 4 Play

Play

Play as if "Duplicate Pairs".

{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.

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

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

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

Don't forget to describe partner's bids and plays to the table.

Any questions?

Tea / coffee & biscuit. (25p)

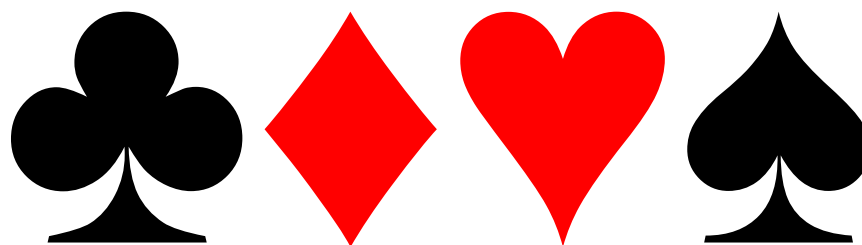
PLAY



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2024-25



Week 4



The end

Week 4 set hand
references follow.



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2024-25



Week 4 Set hands

Set hand abbreviations

Dlr	Dealer	(NESW).
Vul	Vulnerability	(None NS EW All).
Rotn	Rotation	Defined by one card, usually A♠. Mostly different to source publication.
Dcl	Declarer	(NESW)
OL	Opening Lead	
Trk	Tricks	(0..13)
NS# EW#		Score for NS or EW
NS% EW%		Percentage of NS and EW
Ref	Reference result	(Sometimes there may be more than one)

Blue results as played.

Red results are reference results.



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2024-25



Week 4 Set hands

Set hand sources

AR:CMHAT	Andrew Robson: Common Mistakes and How to Avoid Them
AR:NL	Andrew Robson: the Next Level
BM:PQ	Bernard Magee: Play Quiz
BMOS	Bernard Magee Online (covid free) Seminars
PM:121Tips	Paul Mendelson: 121 Tips
PCB	EBU: Practice Continuing Bridge



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2024-25



Week 4 Set hands

1 N None BM:PQ#188

A♠=N

NSEW	Contract	Dcl	OL	Trk	NS#	EW#	NS%	EW%
1 9	2C+1	N	?S	9	110	-	0%	100%
2 10	3NT+1	N	?H	10	430	-	63%	37%
3 11	3NT+3	N	2D	12	490	-	100%	0%
Ref1	3NT+1	N	JS	10	430	-	63%	37%
Ref2	3NT=	N	JS	9	400	-	25%	75%

Which of Ref1 or Ref2 applies depends upon defenders' discards.



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2024-25



Week 4 Set hands

2 E NS AR:CMHAT#1 A♠=E

NSEW	Contract	Dcl	OL	Trk	NS#	EW#	NS%	EW%
2 10	2H+1	W	KD	9	-	140	33%	67%
3 11	4H-2	E	KC	8	100	-	100%	0%
4 12	4H-1	E	AC	9	50	-	67%	33%
Ref	4H=	E	AC	10	-	420	0%	100%



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2024-25



Week 4 Set hands

3 S EW NL~ Weak Stayman A♠=S

NSEW	Contract	Dcl	OL	Trk	NS#	EW#	NS%	EW%
1 9	2H-1	N	2C	7	-	50	60%	40%
3 11	2S=	S	KC	8	110	-	80%	20%
4 12	2D+2	W	7C	10	-	130	0%	100%
Ref1	2S+1	S	KC	9	140	-	100%	0%
Misc2	1NT-2	S	?	5	-	100	30%	70%
Misc3	2H-2	N	?	6	-	100	30%	70%

Misc2 & Misc3 show what might happen if Weak Stayman is NOT used. The difference between a top (Ref1) and a poor result (Misc2&3).



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2024-25



Week 4 Set hands

4 W All BMOS:37#4+Deal A♠=N

NSEW	Contract	Dcl	OL	Trk	NS#	EW#	NS%	EW%
1 9	4H+1	W	4D	11	-	650	17%	83%
2 10	2H=	W	??	8	-	110	100%	0%
4 12	3NT=	W	7S	9	-	600	67%	33%
Ref	4H+1	W	7S	11	-	650	17%	83%

Deal: {N} S:AT87 H:T42 D:42 C:A872

{S} S:QJ93 H:J8 D:K985 C:T96



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2024-25



Week 4 Set hands

5 N NS AR:CMHAT#19 A♠=N

NSEW	Contract	Dcl	OL	Trk	NS#	EW#	NS%	EW%
1 9	2NT-3	N	3C	5	-	300	0%	100%
2 10	1NT=	S	??	7	90	-	83%	17%
4 12	2H-2	N	2S	6	-	200	33%	67%
Ref	2D=	S	JS	8	90	-	83%	17%



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2024-25



Week 4 Set hands

6 E EW PM:121Tips#29c+Deal A♠=N

NSEW	Contract	Dcl	OL	Trk	NS#	EW#	NS%	EW%
4 12	6C+1	E	10H	13	-	1390	0%	100%
Ref	6C=	W	AS	12	-	1370	100%	0%

Deal: {N} S:AJT742 H:J7 D:87 C:965

{S} S:Q96 H:T982 D:JT53 C:74



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2024-25



Week 4 Set hands

7 S All AR:CMHAT#30 A♠=N

NSEW Contract Dcl OL Trk NS# EW# NS% EW%

Unplayed



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2024-25



Week 4 Set hands

8 W None PCB:S2H1

A♠=N

NSEW	Contract	Dcl	OL	Trk	NS#	EW#	NS%	EW%
-------------	-----------------	------------	-----------	------------	------------	------------	------------	------------

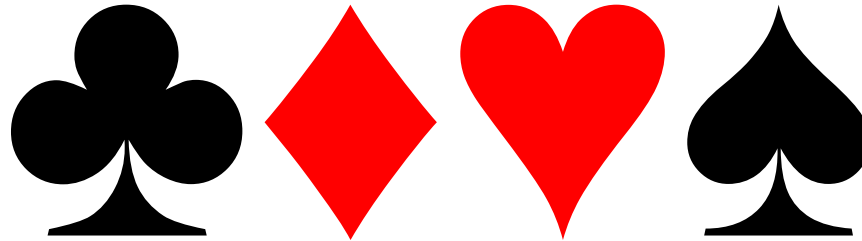
Unplayed



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2024-25



Week 4



The very end