

July 26, 2020



Newsletter

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Virtual Club Games

August Schedule

Monday	6:45	Open
Tuesday	9:45	Open
Wednesday	9:45	0 – 500 NEW!
Thursday	9:45	Open
Friday	9:45	0 - 500



Play in your usual Virtual Club game Monday, July 27th – Sunday, August 2nd

You will earn **DOUBLE** regular club points, which will be **SILVER** instead of black. Learn more at acbl.org/virtual.

In addition to our regularly scheduled games we have added two games for this event:

 **Wednesday @ 9:45 a.m. 0-500**

 **Saturday @ 9:45 a.m. Open**

NOTE: We will be continuing the **Wednesday @ 9:45 a.m. 0 - 500** masterpoints game as part of our regular schedule for at least the month of August.



Stay safe; be well.

Learning Opportunities

Although our current course offerings are limited, please continue to check our web site and future newsletters for developing opportunities.



Mary Howe
Instructor

Advancing Your Game

This is an eight-week course designed for players who play duplicate bridge on a regular basis. Bidding and play topics will be examined. Standard conventions will be reviewed and extended to develop effective strategies for handling the opponents' interference. The use of good judgement will be emphasized.

NOTE: For a detailed course description and online registration, please check the LBC web site or click [here](#).

The course will be taught online during September and October 2020.

Duration: 8 weeks

Time: Wednesdays, 1:00 p.m. to 3:15 p.m.

Dates: September 9, 16, 23, 30,
October 7, 14, 21, 28

Fee: \$100 plus the Student Handbook cost (to be determined)

NOTE: Registration closes on August 25th.



Following the completion of this course, players will be more comfortable and successful competing against London's better bridge players in the open games.



The course will be taught virtually using the Zoom platform.

Students will receive an email before each lesson with the hotlink to the online Zoom classroom.

Note: You do not need to load the Zoom software ahead of time since it will automatically load onto your computer when you click the hotlink in your weekly email message.

Note: This course was previously taught in 2 parts. If you have already taken Part 1 and are hoping to take only Part 2, please contact the teacher by email at maryhowe@comcast.net

Learning Opportunities



Bidding Information: 2/1

Many of our members, who are used to playing in limited games, are now playing in open games. Consequently, some queries have been made about advanced bidding systems. An LBC member has asked for a brief overview of **two over one (2/1)** to provide a basic understanding of opponents' bids when they are using this system.

It is a challenge to condense this system into a few sentences.

Here are a few central features that may help when playing opponents who use 2/1:

- a 2-level response to a partner's opening bid of a major indicates a full opening bid (as opposed to 11+HCP in Standard American, **SA**). Now the partnership knows they should end up in a game contract.
- A 1 NT response to a partner's opening bid of a major shows less than 13 HCP (as opposed to up to 11HCP in SA). A 1 NT response is forcing for one round.
- 2/1 does not apply to a passed hand, nor after a take-out double, nor after an overcall.
- Responses to 1 club opening bids are same as SA.
- Responses to 1 diamond opening bids are same as SA except a bid of 2 clubs requires 13 or more HCP (as opposed to 11HCP in SA).
- Other conventions such as Stayman, Jacoby 2 NT, splinters, Bergen raises, inverted minors can be used as in SA, although there are some subtle adaptations some 2/1 players will adopt.

There are also several good references online for a more comprehensive explanation:

- <http://www.acblunit390.org/Simon/2over1.htm>
- https://www.bridgebum.com/1nt_forcing.php

There are nuances regarding hand evaluating, as well as other features to explore. We hope this helps you understand your opponents. However, if you find the information intriguing, watch our web site and the newsletter for future fall course listings on the topic.



Dwight Bender

Ask Dwight

Why make the same bridge mistakes again? If you are wondering how to defend better or bid to the best game or slam, there is help available. Click on [Ask Dwight](#) and submit your question.

Hi Dwight,
I have a question about defense signals.

N/S were in 2NT this morning.

- West led a low spade to the J
- East played Ace spades then 9 spades to the K
- West then played Q spades
- East discarded 3 of hearts

What does the discard mean?

I don't like the suit; I do like the suit; or is it a *Suit Preference Signal* for diamonds?

Can you only do a *Suit Preference Signal* when you are following suit?

Thanks, A.

6		N		S	
		♠65432		♠10	
		♥Q42		♥K987	
		♦5		♦AKJ106	
		♣J865		♣AK3	
W		W	N	E	S
♠KQ87		Pass	1♦	Pass	1♦
♥J65		Pass	1♠	Pass	2NT
♦Q982		Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass
♣104					
		E			
		♠AJ9		♠AJ9	
		♥A103		♥A103	
		♦743		♦743	
		♣Q972		♣Q972	
				2NT South	
				0 0	

Think about your approach to defense signals.

Then, click [here](#) to view Dwight's response.

Please note that you can also view past problems and Dwight's solutions on the [LBC](#) web site.

Learn to Play Bridge ▲

- Welcome New Bridge Players
- Bridge Courses
- Games for Newer Players
- Lost and Found
- Ask Dwight
- Teacher Bios



*Hello Tuesday
bunch!*

Peter Tuttle

Hand Evaluation throughout the Bidding Sequence Lesson 2

Count your points when you pick up your cards and don't count them again. BUT, re-evaluate as the bidding progresses.

Last time we looked at decisions regarding your response to partner's opening bid. This lesson considers your re-evaluation after your partner's rebid.

Your partner opens 1 diamond and you respond 1 heart. Partner next rebids:

♠	A 10 7 6
♥	A 9 5 4 2
♦	K
♣	8 4 3

2 Hearts

You likely have a 9-card fit, a king in your partner's 1st suit and ruffing value. Bid 4 hearts.

1 Spade

You have an 8-card fit, a king in partner's suit and ruffing value. Raise to 3 spades, inviting to game.

2 Clubs

There is no clear fit. A bid of 2 no trump should slow your partner down and says I have 10 – 12 points.

2 Diamonds

Partner is promising 6 diamonds and nothing extra. Pass seems prudent.

1 No Trump

Finding a suit fit and getting to game is unlikely. This bid denies 4 spades. Simply pass.

Joke of the Day

Ernie Harwell, legendary announcer for the Detroit Tigers, was asked how he would like to be remembered.

He replied, *"In the will of a rich relative."*



FYI

2 or 3 Boards per Round?

You may have wondered how directors choose a specific number of boards, why that number varies, or why you sometimes face the same opponents more than once. Here is an explanation of the decision-making process directors go through to help make our Virtual Club run as smoothly as possible.

BBO allows directors to choose to play two or three boards per round. Most online clubs play 18 boards, 3 boards per round. We moved to two boards per round several weeks ago. This is our preferred movement as it allows each pair to play against more of the other pairs in the section, giving a fairer competitive comparison. It also shortens the waiting time between rounds for faster pairs.

Now that we have moved to 20 or 21 boards per game, you will see 3 board rounds in some games. BBO splits the field into two sections if there are more than 15 tables. With 8 or 9 tables in a section, playing 10 rounds of 2 boards requires one or two revenge rounds. If a pair happens to start with a particularly strong or weak pair, 4 boards with that pair can distort the competitive comparisons. The consequence of three board rounds is that there will be fewer, longer waits between rounds for faster pairs. However, there should be fewer boards not finished within the time limit.

Generally, for 10 to 15 tables we will play 2 boards per round. For 16 to 19 tables, we will play 3 boards per round. For 20 to 30 tables, 2 boards per round. If the number of entries changes just before game time, we may need to delay the start for two minutes to adjust the movement or stay with the original setup.

Al Edwards

New Scam Alert BBO: Request to Purchase Gift Card



This scam is often directed at unit/district officers, but anyone could be targeted. In this scam, a request appears to come from someone you trust, like a fellow officer. The scammer asks you to purchase a gift card (often for the benefit of a charity) and then transmit the card number and pin number over the phone or via email. Do not share any payment information, including gift cards, over the phone or internet.

For more information on scams and measures to report them, visit acbl.org/scamalert.

Ode to Bridge

I'm giving up bridge - tonight's my last night,
It's Amen to Staymen, I give up the fight.
The insults and muddles are giving me troubles;
I can't sleep at night for remembering doubles.

What to bid, what to lead, and which cards have been played?
Did my partner's discard mean she wanted a spade?
So for now it's all over - I'm off to the backwood,
I'm bidding good riddance to Gerber and Blackwood.

I can't stand the hassle, I can't stand the pain,
I'm getting those bad cards again and again.
I'm giving up bridge - tonight's a bad night,
Declarer is horrid and nothing's gone right.

My partner's quite hopeless but tends to blame me,
When we go down in four and we should be in three.
And I sit there in dread when I hear her say "double",
She does it a lot and it always means trouble.

My points are not high, and I'm wondering why,
She keeps on and on bidding right up to the sky;
We're in seven hearts and my nerves are all frayed,
When wonder of wonders - the contract is made!

We've got all the tricks, the defenders look grey,
And I have to admit that my partner's okay.
But ... I'm giving up bridge - tonight's my last night,
Farewell to conventions, I give up the fight!

So I end with some words that I know to be true,
Bridge is a game, not for me but for you.
So be kind to your partners, and don't mind their cheek,
For it's only a game - oh! and see you next week!

Author Unknown

Contributed by Deb Arts & Marion Austin

If you have questions or comments regarding the newsletter, please contact [Adele Woolfe](#).

**Keep up to date on everything that's happening
at the London Bridge Centre.**

Visit the website: www.londonbridgecentre.ca