

Improve Your Bridge

Thursday mornings at 10.30 starting 19th January



The course aims to improve your bridge in each of the three key areas, Bidding, Defence and Declarer play. The course assumes Standard English Acol (*This means that what you learn will enable you to play with anyone from recent learners to very experienced players*) and that you understand the basics of:

- Opening bids of 1 or 2 or 3 of something
- The first response
- Opener's rebid

Nothing new will be introduced for these bids but the hands used will help you to revise and become more proficient in using these bids, and to get it right on some of the more difficult hands where the best bid is often counter intuitive.

Whilst the main emphasis will be on playing the cards as either defender or declarer, some attention will be given to bidding methods that will help you to get to better contracts including:

- Game tries in a major suit contract
- Game tries for 3NT after finding a fit in a minor suit (why play in 4♦ when 3NT rates to make?)
- Fourth suit forcing
- Cue bids
- The principle of fast arrival

Competitive auctions will also feature on many of the hands. This will give you the opportunity to improve your takeout doubles and overcalls, and to adapt your response when the opponents intervene after partner's opening bid.

Defence and Declarer play will include:

- Choosing the opening lead and using little cards to send signals and messages to your partner.
- Planning the hand before playing to the first trick
- A variety of ways that declarer can play the cards to improve the certain/probable number of tricks

Your Teacher & The Format

The course will be given by Phil Cooke, an experienced tutor and lecturer, and a Full Member of The English Bridge Union Teachers Association.

Each session there will be a talk and difficult ideas will be explained with the help of carefully prepared illustrations. There are also handouts that summarise the information. There is a midpoint break for tea/coffee and biscuits.

Is It Suitable?

Those attending previous courses have included.

- Social players wanting to improve
- Recent beginners wanting to consolidate and extend their bidding and play in a learning environment

If you want to know more, or particularly if you are returning to bridge after a gap or wanting to adapt to the Acol system please call Phil Cooke on 01225 310232, to discuss the best way forward.

When & Where

The course will be held on Thursday mornings, 10.30 am to 1.00 pm, at The Museum of Bath at Work in Julian Rd. Limited car parking is available subject to arranging in advance.

To Book a Place

No need to pay upfront. The cost is £10 per session, payable on the day so no payment due on days that you cannot attend, However I do need to know numbers in advance, so please let me know if you intend coming, by sending an email

The full course is 9 weeks, starting on the 19th January with the last session on the 15th March

www.bathbridgeschool.com

To discuss or make a booking call Phil Cooke on **01225 310232** or email phil@bathbridgeschool.com