

What to expect at your first Club game



Tel: (08) 9284 4144

www.wabridgeclub.com.au

Thank you Partner

Bridge is only as friendly as the players and it is important to be a good partner as well as a good opponent. Introduce yourself and your partner to the opponents at the start of each round. Always say "Thank you partner" when they put dummy on the table and wish everyone good luck before you start the game. Don't get upset about a bad result and never criticize your partner at the table. Good partnerships of long standing will discuss difficult hands and situations in private after the game.



Playing Venue
7 Odem Crescent
SWANBOURNE
WESTERN AUSTRALIA 6010

Email :
OFFICE: bridge@wabridgeclub.com.au
LESSONS:
lessons@wabridgeclub.com.au

Masterpoints

Play well and you will be awarded Masterpoints. This allows you to track your progress in bridge through a ranking system. Masterpoints are awarded to players who are a member of an affiliated bridge club. Although you may not yet be a member of the club, and are certainly welcome to play as a visitor, if you catch the "bridge bug" you may find it worthwhile to join. Applications forms are available in the hallway or please ask the Director to get one for you.

"Director Please"

Duplicate Bridge does have Rules. The rules ensure the game is fair for everyone. Along your bridge journey you will learn about certain rules which will help you with the game but this does not qualify you to make rulings at the table. Please act in the best interests of all concerned and politely call the Director to your table if you think there has been an irregularity. Never be intimidated when the Director is called for something you may have done. It has happened to all of us. A good Director will assess the situation and present a solution in a manner that doesn't embarrass or offend anyone. As in other sports, players do not always agree with rulings. Accept the ruling with grace and move on. Remember, the Director is there to protect your interests as well as those of your opponents.



After Your Beginner Lessons

What next?

The idea is to get you playing as quickly as possible. The Club holds Supervised Bridge sessions designed for that purpose. These are a good introduction to club bridge for newer players who are keen to practice and improve their skills. We will provide a partner for you if you do not have one at the moment. There is no need to book in to play.

At these sessions you may use any notes or books you may have to help you work out what to bid. The Director is also available for advice at any time.

You will also get used to using the Bridge equipment such as bidding boxes and the electronic scorer which is called a BridgeMate.

Arriving at the game

We do make every effort to ensure all newcomers feel welcome. Don't hesitate to introduce yourself to other players and tell them you are new and may need some help. You'll find many players willing to show you the ropes.

The Bridge Director

Introduce yourself to the Director. This is the person who will be supervising your session and will help you with any queries about procedures etc. Let them know if you have arrived without a partner. They will tell you where to be seated and find a partner for you. Newer players tend to sit East-West, leaving North to look after the scoring.

The Game

The session usually lasts about 3 hours.

You and your partner will stay together during the session and play two or three boards at the table then go on to do the same at successive tables.

All boards are dealt in advance. Which means you can pick up a copy of the session's hands after the game. It is therefore worthwhile keeping a record of your results during the session using a personal scorer.

After taking your cards from the board make sure to count them before looking at them. Let the Director know if you do not have 13 as this can then be rectified.

You will display your bids using the bidding box, which is simply a substitute for talking out loud. Only select a bid once you have made up your mind and are ready to stick to it.

The bidding stays on the table until the opening lead has been made so the person on lead may review the auction if necessary. The opening lead should always be made **face down**. This helps to avoid a lead out of turn.

After playing a hand leave your cards on the table until the number of tricks is agreed. You can then gather up your cards and shuffle them before putting them back into the correct slot.

The score will then be entered into the BridgeMate by North. East-West are asked to check and press "Accept" to confirm the result. Call the Director if you are not sure of anything.

After the First Round

Once everyone finishes their boards a move will be called by the Director, with East-West moving the boards. You will play as many rounds as can fit in the session time. There will be a 15 minute tea/coffee break half-way through the session.

After the Game

At the end of the session close your Bidding Box and remove any rubbish from the table. Please remember to take your personal items with you. Hand Records of the boards you have played are available for you to take home or sit and chat about in our social area. The club has a fully licensed bar which is always open at the end of a session.

How Did You Do?

Your scores are compared with other pairs' scores on the same hands. Matchpoints are allocated according to how you rated in relation to the other scores.

You will find a printout of results on the noticeboard soon after the final scores are entered. These are also published on our website, where there is a full record of everyone's scores on every hand along with a record of the deals.

Your score is shown as a percentage of the maximum matchpoints possible. 50% will usually land you in the middle and with 60%+ you will generally finish around the top. Where you finish isn't as important as simply gaining more experience, understanding and enjoyment of bridge. Duplicate Bridge is a great way of meeting new people.