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Volume 12

Issue 1

Winter 2010

John's thoughts

I'm pleased to send out the latest Ruffian to all current Bridge for All students. To the many students just coming to the end of their first term – I hope you have had a good time and enjoyed what you have done so far. I'm sure you are beginning to realise just how great a game bridge is. Once you can play you need never be on your own and you have a skill that will last a lifetime.



Those of you in your second year will already know this! You will also know just how much time you can spend playing. In Aylesbury we have a number of clubs which have grown out of groups of students who started in classes. Some of the members play every day and sometimes even twice a day – they play in different clubs in the afternoon and then move on to play in another club in the evening.

Once again we have some adverts for events coming up. I'm sorry that some of you were disappointed and not get into our popular weekend at Wroxton in January. We are offering another weekend there next year. As with all EBU arranged events the tariff is split between the cost of the bridge fees and the hotel accommodation. **You have to book each item separately** – the EBU is not a holiday company so we cannot offer an inclusive package.

There are two websites which you should visit – the main EBU website www.ebu.co.uk and also the Really Easy website which is an offshoot of the main EBU site specifically geared towards novice and newer players.

Contact Us

If you need to get in touch with us at the Aylesbury office then Lisa deals with *Bridge for All*, membership, general queries about classes and teachers.

Lisa Miller – lisa@ebu.co.uk 01296 317217

John Pain – john@ebu.co.uk 01296 317218



You can discover all things Really Easy
by visiting the Really Easy website.

<http://www.reallyeasybridge.com/>

News, tips, details of events run by the EBU and other
bridge teachers.

Anyone for Whisk and Swabbers?



Bridge can trace its ancestry back at least to the early 16th century in England (first reference 1529 in a published sermon by Bishop Latimer) and through succeeding centuries when prototype forms of whist were played under such names as triumph, trump, ruff, slam, ruff and honours, whisk and swabbers, whisk and whist. 'Whist' may have referred to the rapid action of sweeping up the cards after winning a trick or 'whist' to a call for silence.

The game was popular under its modern name of whist by the middle of the 17th century but it was not until 1742 that the first book devoted to whist appeared: Edmund Hoyle's *Short Treatise on Whist*. This rapidly became a best seller and many pirated editions appeared immediately afterwards. Duplicate whist was first played in London in 1857 but it was in America that duplicate whist took off in the 1880s.

Bridge began to take hold in the 1890s in both USA and UK with the first laws being printed in 1892 but it wasn't until 1904 that the idea of an auction was introduced. This led to the fore-runner of modern bridge – Auction Bridge. Auction Bridge grew in popularity with many books published on the subject. Its popularity continued until 1927 though only towards the end of this time were Auction Bridge tournaments held.

The big change occurred in 1925 when Harry S Vanderbilt perfected a new form of the game which included the element of vulnerability and a new scoring system which corrected earlier imperfections. It also introduced bonuses for bidding slams. Vanderbilt called his new game Contract Bridge.

This developed into *the* game and Auction Bridge died very quickly. There were Anglo-American matches in the '30s which made Contract Bridge a household word.

The first European Championships took place in Holland in 1932. They have been held in England on several occasions – the last time in Brighton in 1987.

There have been few changes to the basic game since 1925. The scoring table has been slightly changed in 1948 and 1977. However, the level of skill has increased out of all recognition and the idea of a structured bidding system which you learn through *Bridge for All* would have been quite alien to the developers of the game. If they felt a hand should be opened 1NT then they did it with 12, 16 or even 20 points. In England the structured bidding system was first developed in a bridge club in North London in 1934 by Harrison-Gray, Macleod, Reese, Marx and Simon. The bridge club was in Acol Road and they called their system Acol.

BRIDGE COACH

Bridge Coach is a computer-based, e-learning program that enables individuals to enhance their knowledge, skills and overall competence in playing bridge. It accelerates the learning that can be achieved by attending classes or simply by playing the game on a regular basis. There are two programs available for people who want to use the Standard English bidding system.

Standard English Acol: Foundation Level: this program has been developed for individuals to learn the fundamentals of contract bridge. It is particularly useful for those people who are very inexperienced at the game of bridge and who have started to take bridge lessons that are based on the Standard English (Foundation) system. Many learners use it as a support system or homework for those subject areas covered in their bridge classes.

Standard English: Modern Acol: this program has been developed for individuals who can play bridge and who want a more in-depth understanding of the game and who want to improve their results at the bridge table. Again, this program can be used to support the learning undertaken at bridge classes. Alternatively, experienced players may simply use the program on their home computers to practice the various bidding and play techniques that are available within the game of bridge.

Action Learning within Bridge Coach

Bridge Coach incorporates the concept of 'action learning' where individuals learn by actively playing the game, rather than simply being a passive recipient of knowledge. You are supported and encouraged to bid and play each of the 250 hands included within each program. Bridge Coach allows you to set the pace of learning and to move on within the program when you are satisfied that the concepts are understood.

Bridge Coach is also being used by bridge teachers who utilise a computer and projector as teaching aids during their lessons. Some bridge teachers also make the program available on a laptop in the classroom for those individuals who are sat out for a round of bridge during the lesson.

Features of Bridge Coach

- Bridge Coach is **structured into manageable sections** such as 'no trump openers', 'competitive bidding' or 'practice hands', so that you can choose those aspect of the game on which you would like to focus. Alternatively, you can play the available deals at random.
- You are supported within the program by an extensive **glossary** and an easy-to-access range of **articles** that explain the concepts of bidding and declarer play.
- **Optional bidding directions** are available during the auction. These provide help in calculating the point count of the hand and in choosing the correct bids to make within an auction.
- A range of different types of **card play assistance** is also available throughout the program.

A **free demonstration** of the program can be downloaded from the Bridge Coach web site at <http://www.bridgecoach.co.uk>. The full program is downloadable from within the demonstration program at a cost of £32.50 including VAT.

Recent Feedback on Bridge Coach

Carol Ritzen is a UK bridge teacher who has allowed, at each round, the sit-out pair in her bridge classes to use Bridge Coach on her laptop whilst the rest are playing the bridge hands. Fourteen out of sixteen students in her summer class bought the program. With the new term starting she has been impressed by the improvement of those who have been using the programme regularly. They have shown particular improvement in the play of the cards and general confidence in their approach to the game.

Other comments by users of the program are:

"The program has helped improve my bridge playing abilities and knowledge. I have been successful in two duplicate competitions recently and so I feel that I am making good progress."

"I found the program to be excellent as it has taught me how to look for extra tricks."

"I have enjoyed using this program - it was especially useful for no trump bidding."



Learn to Play Bridge (Acol edition)

You wait for ages then two excellent programs come along together.

Based on the popular Learn to Play Bridge written by Fred Gitelman for the American Contract Bridge League (ACBL) the EBU is pleased to introduce an Acol version of the software. Most of the sections remain unchanged from the ACBL version but the sections on 'Introduction to Bidding' and 'More on Bidding' have been modified for the Acol market – allowing for 12-14 No Trump and 4-card majors. Opening 2-bids are introduced as 'strong' bids in line with traditional Acol. There is a new section entitled 'About the EBU'.

This is not an interactive program, but pages are uncovered point-by-point. Each section has a quiz section at the end allowing the user to test themselves as they go along.

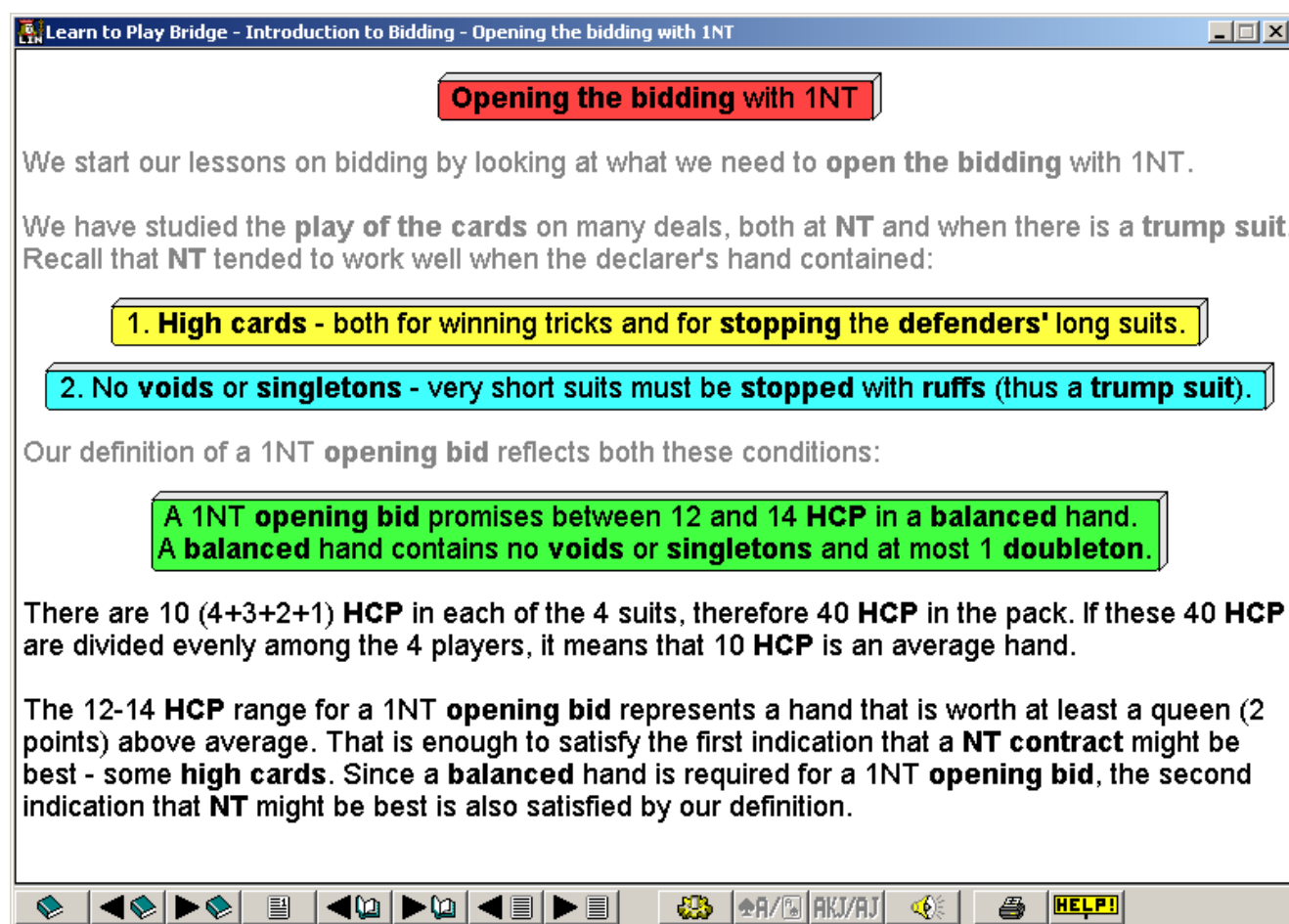
This release is a 'beta' version which allows for comments and suggestions and will be available until February 28th 2010. All suggestions for improvement will be considered, after which a final version will be produced and made available from the EBU website.

You can download the program by visiting
<http://www.ebu.co.uk/ltpb/default.htm>

Although designed to run on a PC it can run on an Apple Mac providing you have the windows emulator loaded.

Comments and suggestions should be sent to john@ebu.co.uk with the subject LTPB (Acol) in the subject line.

Here are a few 'screen-shots' from the section on opening 1NT and one of a suit:



So a 1NT **opening bid** promises 12-14 **HCP** and a **balanced** hand. It will occur surprisingly often when you are playing.

Our rule about when to **open the bidding** with 1NT is very important.

For example, with:



This hand is a perfect 1NT **opening bid**. There are 14 **HCP** in this hand, enough for 1NT, and the hand is certainly **balanced**, having just 1 **doubleton**. It is good that there are **stoppers** in all 4 suits, but this is not a requirement for a 1NT **opening bid**. Do not open 1NT with the 2 hands below, use the other rules instead:



Do not open 1NT, despite the 14 **HCP**.
2 **doubletons** make this hand **unbalanced**.



Do not open 1NT, despite the hand being **balanced**. 15 **HCP** is too much for 1NT.

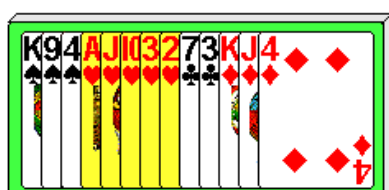
Opening the bidding with 1 of a suit

A reminder about **opening bids** at the 1-level in the **Acol** bidding system:

A 1♥ or 1♠ **opening bid** promises *at least 4 cards* in the suit named.

A 1♣, 1♦, 1♥, or 1♠ **opening bid** usually shows *at least 12 points*.

Here are some examples of **major suit opening bids** (1♠ or 1♥):



12 **high card points**
but 3 top honours.

Open 1♥, a 5-card major. This is a minimum **opening bid**.



14 **high card points**
also 3 top honours

Open 1♠ with 2 5-card majors. This hand is a sound **opening bid**.

If your hand contains 2 5-card suits and enough **points** to **open the bidding**, you always should **open the bidding** with the **higher-ranking** of your 2 long suits.

Students Simultaneous Pairs results

The results of the Autumn 2009 Sim Pairs have now been finalised. Altogether we ran four competitions – two were held especially for schools and two for other learners. In both cases one was a Minibridge competition and one a normal bridge one.

Events for Adults

1) Minibridge.

125 pairs in 15 classes took part this year. In a number of cases teachers and helpers sit in to make the number viable, so after removing those from the ranking list the leading pairs were

	%
1 Paul Coombes & Joy Beaumont (<i>Worthing Bridge Club</i>)	70.3
2 Regina Gilbert & Jeannie Pigott (<i>Bridge and Games - Bath</i>)	69.4
3 Margaret Dawson & George Van den Burgh (<i>South Bucks bridge Club</i>)	68.7
4 Roger Heppleston & Louise Dance (<i>SBBC Wednesday Section</i>)	68.0
5 Hella Thorning-Lund & Richard Vowells (<i>Bridge and Games – Bath</i>)	65.5
6 Janet Martin & Martin Goodwill (<i>SBBC Wednesday Section</i>))	64.2
7 David Bramham & Sandra Wallace (<i>Sutton Coldfield</i>)	63.8
8 Audrey Parkinson & Kath Hill (<i>Ilkley</i>)	63.1

Congratulations to Paul and Joy winning with over 70%.

2) Bridge

212 pairs played in 25 heats. Congratulations to David and Fiona Martland winning with nearly 76%. Scores over 70% are rare so congratulations to the other pairs scoring over 70%.

1 David Martland & Fiona Martland (<i>Richard Wheen Leatherhead</i>)	75.6
2 Catherine King & Patricia Shawwa (<i>Croydon</i>)	73.2
3 Ruth Rutter & Gail Smith (<i>Olicana Bridge Club</i>)	70.6
4 Roy Thornhill & PS (teacher) (<i>Lach Dennis</i>)	68.5
5 Peter Pendry & Patrick O Sullivan (<i>Practice Duplicate</i>)	68.0
6 Anna Marriott & Linda Snell (<i>Bridge and Games - Bath</i>)	67.6
7 Jane Stewart & John Stewart (<i>sulis bridge club</i>)	67.3
8 Stephen Fanshawe & Louise Fanshawe (<i>Sue_s Tuesday Grp Derbyshire</i>)	67.1

In the schools events 40 pairs from 6 schools took part in the Minibridge and 113 pairs from 12 schools took part in the bridge. Altogether 980 people took part in the four competitions.

3) Schools Minibridge

1	Wesley Staveley & Josh Woods (<i>Blatchington Mill School</i>)	72.69
2	Alison Squire Thomas Harvey & Fraser Morrison (<i>Fairfield School</i>)	68.10
3	Catherine Barrett & Mairi Anderson (<i>Aberdeen Bridge Club</i>)	66.73

4) Schools bridge

1	Chris Parsons-Gibes & Nicholas Forbes (<i>Loughborough</i>)	84.16
2	Alison Squire & Charlotte Harvey (<i>Fairfield School</i>)	71.97
3	James Dobson & Edward Longman (<i>Loughborough</i>)	69.57

Many congratulations to Wesley and Josh in the Minibridge and to Chris and Nicholas in the bridge. It was nice to see some players from Scotland this time and also a good performance from Alex Plumb running the bridge at Fairfield School for being runner up in both competitions.

Here's a hand from the adult bridge competition where careful play is needed to bring home the ten tricks.

<p>♠ A ♥ K 5 4 ♦ 9 8 6 2 ♣ Q J 10 5 2</p> <p>♠ 8 7 3 2 ♠ J 10 6 5 ♥ 7 3 ♥ 9 8 2 ♦ K 10 7 5 ♦ J 4 3 ♣ 9 7 4 ♣ A K 8</p> <p>♠ K Q 9 4 ♥ A Q J 10 6 ♦ A Q ♣ 6 3</p>		<p>Board 11 : Dealer South : Love all</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1 ♥</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>2 ♣</td><td>Pass</td><td>2 ♠</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>4 ♥</td><td>All Pass</td><td></td></tr></table> <p>South is strong enough to make a reverse bid after partner's 2 ♣ response. So 2 ♠ not only shows strength but also promises five hearts and four spades. With that information North can bid the game in hearts.</p>				West	North	East	South				1 ♥	Pass	2 ♣	Pass	2 ♠	Pass	4 ♥	All Pass	
West	North	East	South																		
			1 ♥																		
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	2 ♠																		
Pass	4 ♥	All Pass																			

Assuming a non-diamond lead, South can count three top tricks in spades, five tricks in hearts and the ace of diamonds making nine. He can make a tenth trick by ruffing a small spade in dummy. Note that ruffing with the long trumps in declarer's hand does not yield any extra tricks. Those are the five trump tricks already counted. It makes no difference to the tally of tricks won whether declarer leads a trump and discards a diamond (or club) or leads a diamond (or club) and trumps it. However, ruffing with the trumps in the shorter holding, in this case dummy, does make extra tricks because if they are not used in this way, they will just be played under the winning trumps. It is important that declarer plays the ♠A then takes this spade ruff straight away. He cannot afford to draw trumps first because he will then have no trumps left in dummy. A diamond lead gives the 10th trick immediately so this line will give you 11 tricks.

Use classroom equipment at home

Available from the Bridge Shop

Pellisier tables - folding wood tables

798mm square; Mahogany coloured frame; folding for easy stacking

Club tables - folding plastic tables

Black with metal legs; top 34 inches square

Corded velvet table covers - Green, wine or blue

Bidding boxes, set of four - Red or green

Bidding buddies, set of four - Red, green or dark blue

Card holder (semi-circular, sits on the table)

Plastic card holder (circular, hand held, set of 4: red, green, yellow, blue)

Carta Mundi Superluxe playing cards (supplied per dozen)

Black Jack cards Large figures for easy reading (Min. order 2 packs)

Presentation Packs of Cards (2 packs)

Plastic wallets (set of 16)



Books in the *Really Easy Series*

Really Easy Bidding

Really Easy Play in No Trumps

Really Easy Play with Trumps

Really Easy Mistakes

Really Easy Competitive Bidding

Really Easy Modern Acol

Really Easy Slams

Practice Beginning Bridge

Practice Continuing Bridge

Little Book of Bridge tips

Standard English System Summary Card

Useful Conventions Summary Card

Carriage costs will be added to orders.

Also available EBU Diary and handbook, covering 18 months from August 2009 to January 2011, All members get a free diary, additional copies available

Prices on application from the Bridge Shop – they often have special deals

How to order: Telephone 01296 397851 between 9am and 5pm and ask for the Bridge Shop, or send an email to bridge.shop@ebu.co.uk.
Alternatively, an order can be faxed (01296 317220)

You can pay by credit card or we can send you an invoice with your goods.

How many points do you need for a slam?

We usually say that to bid a small slam (i.e. contract of 6 of anything) you need at least 33 HCPs between the two hands providing they are balanced. Of course you can't be missing two aces with 33 points but if in doubt you can check on aces by using Blackwood.

When you have unbalanced hands you often need fewer points to bid the slam and when you have a void in one suit that can take care of a missing ace. There is the famous hand in *Moonraker* by Ian Fleming where James Bond makes a grand slam on only eight points but that is a rigged hand designed to make Bond a lot of money.



Here is a hand which came up a few years ago where East/West have only 16 points between them but nevertheless they can make all thirteen tricks in both the black suits.

<p> ♠ 9 3 ♥ K Q 10 5 4 ♦ K 8 7 6 5 ♣ K </p>		<p>Dealer North : Love all</p>																					
<p> ♠ Q 10 ♥ 8 7 2 ♦ - ♣ A Q 10 8 7 6 5 2 </p>		<p>How might the bidding go?</p>																					
<p> ♠ A K J 8 7 6 2 ♥ - ♦ 9 4 2 ♣ 9 4 3 </p>		<table> <tr> <th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr> <tr> <td></td><td>1♥</td><td>3♠</td><td>4♥</td></tr> <tr> <td>5♣</td><td>Pass</td><td>Pass</td><td>5♦</td></tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td><td>5♥</td><td>6♣</td><td>Dbl?</td></tr> <tr> <td>All Pass</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>		West	North	East	South		1♥	3♠	4♥	5♣	Pass	Pass	5♦	Pass	5♥	6♣	Dbl?	All Pass			
West	North	East	South																				
	1♥	3♠	4♥																				
5♣	Pass	Pass	5♦																				
Pass	5♥	6♣	Dbl?																				
All Pass																							
<p> ♠ 5 4 ♥ A J 9 6 3 ♦ A Q J 10 3 ♣ J </p>																							

Since East is void in hearts and West is void in diamonds it doesn't matter that there are no high cards in either suit in the other hand. The trumps will take care of them. When you are in this situation there are no longer 40 points in the pack – you are only interested in the 20 working points and you have 16 of them.

The auction is completely unpredictable! North/South may play in hearts or diamonds but can only make 10 tricks. Imagine you do play in clubs then your only decision is whether to finesse the club or play for the drop. You should win the opening lead, trumping if a red card is led and play a club straightaway. You don't want to mess about in case you can't get back to dummy so put the ace on the table. It drops the king and you have 13 tricks.

What fun you can have working out the score for 6♣ doubled + 1. Perhaps you cheekily used the blue redouble card giving you an enormous score.



Introduction to Transfers (2)

Last time I looked at simple transfers 2♦ and 2♥ after a 1NT opening, but said I would look at the 2♠ response this time. By using the 2♠ response as described it also frees up 2NT to be used for a different meaning.

The response of 2♠ can be used in a number of different ways. This method is a '2-way' bid (sometimes called Baron) and shows either

A raise to 2NT (11-12 HCP) with no 4-card major

OR 18+ HCP with slam ambitions and looking for a 4-4 fit in any suit (not just a major). Although we don't go looking for a contract of 5♣ or 5♦ when 3NT will probably play better, we might have a play for 6♣ or 6♦.

The opening 1NT bidder replies 2NT with a minimum hand but bids his lowest 4-card suit with a maximum.

As we can now show a raise to 2NT by bidding 2♠ it means the regular meaning of the 2NT raise is redundant. Bridge players are always on the look out to use redundant bids and we can now use the 2NT response as a weakness take out into a minor. A response of 2NT to a 1NT opening tells partner to bid 3♣.

Responder will now either pass or bid 3♦.

Here are some examples of how both 2♠ and 2NT work

Your hand	Auction goes		
♠ K 9 7 ♥ J 10 2 ♦ K Q 9 7 ♣ K 9 8	You 2♠ pass	Partner 1NT 2NT	When partner rebids 2NT he is showing a minimum 12 HCP. So you pass.
♠ K 9 7 ♥ J 10 2 ♦ K Q 9 7 ♣ K 9 8	You 2♠ 3NT	Partner 1NT 3♦	It's the same hand but this time partner shows a better hand with four diamonds. Don't be tempted to try 5♦ - 3NT is probably better. I know the hearts aren't that good but partner must have his points somewhere.
♠ K Q 9 5 ♥ A 8 ♦ K Q 10 7 ♣ A 5 2	You 2♠ 3♠	Partner 1NT 2NT	With 18 points you start with 2♠. When partner can only bid 2NT you know slam is unlikely. By bidding 3♠ you offer partner a choice of games. With four spades he will bid 4♠. With only two or three spades 3NT.

<p>♠ 9</p> <p>♥ 3 2</p> <p>♦ J 9 8 6 5 3 2</p> <p>♣ Q J 2</p>	<p>You</p> <p>2NT</p> <p>3♦</p>	<p>Partner</p> <p>1NT</p> <p>3♣</p>	<p>Playing transfers you lose the natural meaning of 2♦ as a weakness take out. But you bid 2NT. Opening bids 3♣ and you 'correct' to 3♦. If the opponents double 1NT then you can just bid 2♦. It is customary to go back to natural responses after the double.</p>
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Here's an example of how the 2♠ bid helps you get to the minor suit slam.

West	East	
♠ A 7	♠ K Q J 10	(1) With 20 HCP a slam is on the cards
♥ Q 10 9	♥ A 8 4	(2) Maximum with four clubs
♦ A 9 3 2	♦ K Q J 10	(3) Four diamonds and slam interest
♣ K J 6 2	♣ A 3	(4) Confirms the 4-4 fit
1NT	2♠ (1)	(5) Blackwood checking on the aces
3♣ (2)	3♦ (3)	(6) Two aces
4♦ (4)	4NT (5)	(7) That will do.
5♥ (6)	6♦ (7)	

You can also use transfers in response to a 2NT opening.

3♣ is still Stayman

3♦ is a transfer to hearts

3♥ is a transfer to spades

3♠ is used as above to show a strong hand of 10+ HCP. Opener rebids 3NT with 20 HCP or shows his lowest 4-card suit.

3NT – to play. There is no mileage in taking out to four of a minor.

Don't forget to agree with your partner what form of transfers you are playing. Other methods are available and not everyone plays the 2♠ bid in the way described above.



You can discover all things Really Easy
by visiting the Really Easy website.

<http://www.reallyeasybridge.com/>

News, tips, details of events run by the EBU and other
bridge teachers.

Unique Bridge Weekends

ReallyEasy Bridge Weekend

Branksome Place, Haslemere, Surrey

Friday 16th to Sunday 18th April 2010

(and another on 26th to 28th November 2010)



This event is in two sections. An Open Section and an EasyBridge section for Beginners, Improvers and Novices. EasyBridge participants will play Standard English Acol (weak no trump and limited conventions).

Those who have been learning through the EBU Bridge-for-All scheme or with other teaching programmes will be most welcome. Also welcome are players with a few years experience. The emphasis is on having an enjoyable time in a relaxed and friendly environment with players of a similar standard.

Bridge Directors are Trevor Livesey and Douglas Wright, both of whom are qualified Bridge-for-All tutors with a wealth of experience.

The event is EBU licensed with small prizes and Master Points.

Bridge sessions are held in the comfort of an airy, well-lit and spacious bridge room. Tea, coffee, soft drinks and biscuits are available continuously.

Sherry Reception Friday evening at 6:00 pm. Five sessions of bridge and a Saturday morning Seminar. Finishing on Sunday at 4:30 pm.

All bedrooms are ensuite with TV, hospitality tray and high-speed Internet Access.

Price includes breakfast and dinner taken in the restaurant. Players may make their own arrangements for Saturday and Sunday lunch.

Residential half-board tariff: £150.00, no single supplement.

Non-residential tariff for players living locally: £50.00 for five bridge sessions. Free Saturday morning Seminar. Pro rata for fewer sessions. Dinner, if required, Friday and/or Saturday £20.00 each.

For Brochure and Booking Form, contact:

Trevor Livesey

Unique Bridge Weekends

50a South View Road

Benfleet, Essex, SS7 5ND

Phone: 01268 569615

On-line request at:

www.unique-bridge-weekends.co.uk

Events for novice players organised by the EBU

Really Easy Spring Break at the Hallmark Midland Hotel Derby

The Hallmark Midland Hotel, Midland Road, Derby DE1 2SQ ☎01332 345894

April 16th to 18th 2010 (and another April 8th to 10th 2011!)

This will be our 5th visit to the Midland Hotel.

The event, will be divided, where appropriate, into two sections according to ability — so first-year students will play in one section and more advanced students in the other. There will be an instructional session on Saturday morning.



An attractive package has been arranged at **The Hallmark Midland Hotel, Derby** offering a welcome sherry reception, two nights' dinner, bed and breakfast and sandwich lunch on Sunday. **The hotel package is £126 per person**, with no single person supplement. Please book the hotel accommodation directly with the Midland Hotel quoting 'April Bridge Weekend 2010'. A £20 deposit per person will be required to secure your reservation. **The Bridge fee is £34 payable to the EBU – see below.** Limited to 56 people

Suitable for 1st and 2nd year students and novice players with up to about 3 years experience.

Really Easy Winter Break at Wroxton House Hotel,

Wroxton St Mary, Banbury, Oxfordshire OX15 6QB

☎ 01295 730777

January 28th to 30th 2011

The hotel package is approx £145 per person (£121 per person sharing) – 2010 prices

4 sessions of bridge plus two days half board at this charming country house hotel. **The bridge fee is £36 payable to the EBU – see details at the end. Limited to 32 people.**



The event starts with dinner on Friday evening at 6.15pm followed by the first session of bridge. A bridge lesson on Saturday morning followed by bridge in the afternoon and evening with dinner. Finally on Sunday a Swiss Pairs event with a break for a light lunch. The event finishes around 3.30pm.

Entries limited to 32 people.

Suitable for the more experienced novice with up to about 5 years experience.

Really Easy Summer Congress

Brighton Metropole Hotel: August 9th to 11th 2010

£24 per person (accommodation not included)

Now firmly part of the **EBU Summer Congress** the *Really Easy* allows players the chance to experience the atmosphere of the biggest and best tournament in the EBU's calendar.

4 sessions of bridge are played over the 3 days starting at 7.30pm on Monday and finishing about 4pm on Wednesday. In addition there are two instruction sessions.

Suitable for 1st years finishing their 1st year plus 2nd/3rd year students and novice players up to about 3 years or even slightly better. With sufficient numbers we start by splitting into 3 groups with some merging as the event progresses.

For further details contact Peter Jordan at peter@ebu.co.uk or ring 01296 317203

I'm pleased to say that Titch Glenday (experienced teacher from Devon) will be assisting as Tournament Director and host at next year's event

For further details on any event contact Education on 01296 317218 or email john@ebu.co.uk

How to book the bridge:



You can book the bridge for any of these events by calling Peter or Dawn on EBU Competitions – 01296 317203/219 or email peter@ebu.co.uk.

Really Easy Autumn Break

We're looking at the possibility of organising another weekend break possibly in the Autumn and possibly in the Lake District. Watch for details which will appear in English Bridge and on the EBU website. The target audience will be people just starting their second year.

