

Stage I Graduate Seminars

The Three Stages of the Graduate Seminars are in essence a 'Refresher Course' re-introducing you to the Structure of Bidding and how it all works. Having taught similar programs by other people and bridge organization for many years, I have created what I believe to be the most comprehensive program on Bidding Structure available. Each Stage is comprised of 6 sessions. Consider that Bridge is an 18 piece jig saw puzzle. In the first stage we will place the first 6 pieces of the puzzle. Consider that each piece represents a basic premise of Bridge. We will explore each piece, examining the merits and usage and then carefully place it back into the puzzle in full view of the student creating a clear, concise perspective on how the whole structure fits together. This is a great way to kick off 2010. Make this commitment to unravel the mysteries of bidding. You have a choice of two time slots. Tuesday morning or Thursday evening. This is an open invitation to all players who can readily admit that they are struggling with grasping the 'Structure of Bidding'.

Stage I

Class I Responding to Suit Bids

1. Which suit to bid
2. When to by-pass a 4-card suit.
3. When to jump
4. When to respond in no trump.

Class II Rebids by Opener

1. Consistently choose the best bid.
2. Understanding Reverse Bidding.

Class III Rebids by Responder

1. Ground rules for successful bidding.
2. Which bids are forcing.
3. Which bids are invitational
4. Which bids are weak.

Class IV Opener's Third Bid

1. Master the secrets of "Bidding Flow"
2. How to reach the best contract.
3. How to describe shape and strength.

Class V Bidding After a Raise

1. After a Minor Suit Raise
2. After a major Suit Raise
3. Finding No Trump

Class VI Over Calls

1. One-level overcalls
2. Two-level overcalls
3. Jump overcalls.
4. No trump overcalls

Details for 'Stage I' of the Graduate Seminars

Where: Brown Bridge Studio (20 Spink St. Brighton)

When: Tuesday (Feb. 9 - March 16) **9.30am**
or Thursday (Feb. 11 - March 18) **7.30pm**

Costs: \$120/\$108 members. To register: Call 9530 6622 or see Gary

Bidding - A Life Line

If you have been playing bridge for 6 months or 2 years or 10 years it does not matter. You may still find that you are struggling with the bidding, Graduate Seminars are for you and your partner. Step back, take a breath and make this commitment to work this out once and for all. You have a choice between Tuesday morning or Thursday Evening. I promise you that you will come out of this program a much better player than when you went in. A well earned sense of confidence comes from understanding 'Bidding Structure'. Get your partner and make this your 2010 resolution.

You *will* not regret it.

Stage II

Class I Takeout Doubles

(Not just the usual stuff)!

1. Learn my definitive rules so you will know *with confidence* when a double is for take-out.

Class II Weak Two Bids

1. Getting the most out of 'Weak Twos'.
2. Responding to Weak Twos
3. Rebid Structure

Class III Pre-emptive Bids

1. Play Trick Evaluation
2. Responding to Pre-empt
3. Keep the Opponents Guessing.

Class IV Strong Two Clubs

1. When to open 2♣.
2. The 2♦ response as negative or waiting.
3. Bidding the 'Second Negative'.

Class V Slam Bidding in Suits

1. Blackwood - 'When To' and 'When not to'.
2. Cue-Bidding Control.

Class VI Defensive Bidding Judgement

1. When to 'Butt In'.
2. When to 'Butt Out'.
3. Practical Tips.

To be held in July 2010

Stage III

Class I Slam Bidding in No Trump

1. After your side has bid no trump.
2. Quantitative bidding
3. Gerber - Why it is a Must

Class II Negative Doubles

1. Most Know Them
2. Few Use them correctly
2. We will clear up your problems now!

Class III Penalty Doubles

1. When to Double for Blood.
2. Trap pass
3. Forcing Pass
4. Lead Directing Doubles

Class IV Coping with Interference

1. When RHO overcalls
 2. When RHO doubles.
- This is crucial to partnership harmony!

Class V Balancing Bids & Doubles

1. Learn when and how to balance.
2. When to take chances.
3. To 'Double' or to 'Bid'?

Class VI Bidding Judgement

1. Positional values.
2. Choosing the best suit of no trump.
3. A Great Bidding Secret

To be held in October 2010

One advantage of bad bidding is you get to practice
your card play in atrocious contracts!

- Alfred Sheinwold