Overview of Supervised Play

Supervised play is a place for players who have learned how to play bridge and now want to continue but who are not yet comfortable with competitive, open play. It is a place to develop your skills in bidding, cardplay and defence in a competitive but friendly environment. You can come as regularly or irregularly as you like.

- An experienced bridge teacher will be on hand to run the movement and to give advice, comments and guidance during the bidding and play.
- The cost for a supervised session is the same as regular play

- You can attend with a partner or on your own, the teacher will organise the movement in such a way that everyone will get a game.
- The rate of play is generally slower than that in open play (we aim to get through 15-16 boards in a session compared to 24 in the open sections).

Pre-game Lectures (30 minutes prior)

There is a short lecture commencing thirty minutes before session time and occasionally the hands during the session will be "seeded" with a few example hands to reinforce the theory. In the vast majority of cases though, the hands are randomly generated. The lectures are entirely optional and the notes are available for download from the website for those unable to attend in person.

The lectures are available to anyone who is interested, so if you wish to move up to open play (either permanently or for just a trial week) you are welcome to continue attending the lectures for as long as you find them useful.

Assistance during the bidding and play

The teacher will be available throughout the session to answer questions or to provide advice as to the bidding, the play or defence on each hand. Feel free to utilise this as much or as little as you like. Some people prefer to ask for advice regularly, others to 'sink or swim' and to debrief afterwards. There is no wrong approach and we will tailor the teaching and advice provided to suit you.

We would encourage you to not grow too dependent on the supervised element. One of the uncomfortable realities of bridge is that one is *never quite sure* what the 'correct' play is. Getting used to that uncertainty is part of the challenge and indeed the fun of bridge! It can be tempting as a beginning player to think "I'm going to keep asking questions and checking myself until I'm not making any mistakes" and sadly this approach is doomed. The writer has been playing bridge for thirty years and *still* makes several errors every session.

Congratulations, you have gotten to the Fun part of the Bridge Learning Journey!