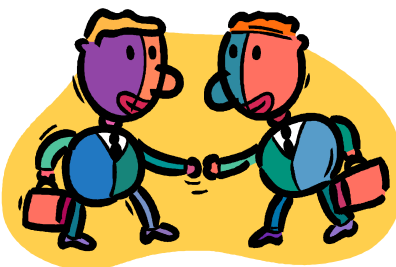


Lesson 5 - Introduction to Partnership Bridge

(Student pages)

In PBJ, each player worked independently of the other players. From this point forward, we will be playing Partnership Bridge. In this type of Bridge, the person sitting across from you, called your partner, will work with you as a team to take as many tricks as possible.



If you and your partner can determine that you have most of the HCP, then you should ordinarily be able to take more tricks than the opponents (why?). Furthermore, if you and your partner can find a suit in which you hold a strong majority - 8 or more cards - then you can probably take additional tricks if you name this suit as trumps.

Your partner is your friend, your ally, your confidant. LHO and RHO are your friendly and respectful opponents (they aren't your enemies, as eventually you will play with everyone at the table). Your opponents are trying to do exactly what you and your partner are trying to do: take tricks! It's their job to take tricks just as much as it is for your partnership.



To be successful and popular at bridge, always remember and practice the Golden Rules. If you don't follow the Rules, your partnership can even get penalized...who needs that?

1. My partner and I always try our best. It is okay if we make mistakes, because then we can learn from them.
2. I will not boast or brag about taking a trick, because the opponents will win tricks, too.
3. I will always thank my partner when he puts down the dummy and after we finish the game. I will not tell my partner what to play if I am dummy or point to a card or make any other suggestions.
4. If the opponents do something well, I will congratulate them, as they have taught me something. (Such as, "NICE PLAY!")
5. I will always greet players arriving at my table so that they feel welcome.



Let's play Partnership Bridge!! To get started in Partnership Bridge, we will use cross talk to verbally communicate to our partner the HCP and the distribution of our hands. Later we will learn a whole new system of symbols and a language which will replace cross talk, but for now we will use cross talk to describe our hands.

North will deal the first hand, and each player will sort their hands and count their HCP. Then beginning with North and moving clockwise, each player announces their HCP and distribution and completes the following table.

Deal 1- North	HCP	Spades	Hearts	Diamonds	Clubs
North					
South					
-- NS Total					
East					
West					
-- EW Total					
Total for NS and EW					
Estimated number of tricks _____					
Actual tricks taken _____					

Use the total column to verify results. What should the total be for HCP and for each suit?

Which partnership has the majority of HCP? We will call that partnership the declaring side and they get to name trump or no trump. If the partnership has 8 or more cards in a suit, circle it so you know what to play as trumps. If they have more than one choice, pick the suit with more cards. If there's a tie, pick the first suit.

Estimate how many tricks this side should take. First estimate based on combined HCP. If a suit is named trump, then add 1 trick for every trump the partnership has in excess of 7 trumps.

Estimated HCP tricks

Extra tricks for trump suit _____ (Hint: total trumps - 7 = _____)

Total estimated tricks _____

The declarer will be the player in the partnership with the majority of HCP that holds the greater number of trumps. If no trump is being played, then the player with more points will be declarer. If the same student was already the declarer of a previous deal and his partner did not have a chance to be one, the partner will become the declarer. The declarer's LHO makes the opening lead.

Deal 2 - East	HCP	Spades	Hearts	Diamonds	Clubs
North					
South					
-- NS Total					
East					
West					
-- EW Total					
Total for NS and EW					
Estimated number of tricks _____					
Actual tricks taken _____					

Remember to verify the column totals first, then find the declaring side, then the trump suit or no trump, then estimate the number of tricks they should take, and play.

Deal 3 - South	HCP	Spades	Hearts	Diamonds	Clubs
North					
South					
-- NS Total					
East					
West					
-- EW Total					
Total for NS and EW					
Estimated number of tricks _____					
Actual tricks taken _____					

Deal 4 - West	HCP	Spades	Hearts	Diamonds	Clubs
North					
South					
-- NS Total					
East					
West					
-- EW Total					
Total for NS and EW					
Estimated number of tricks _____					
Actual tricks taken _____					

Questions:

What did you like or dislike about playing with a partner?

<u>Liked</u>	<u>Disliked</u>

Did you take as many tricks as you predicted? What would have helped you take more tricks?

