



Improver Group FAQs

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GENERAL

[Bridge system used?](#)

We teach Modern Acol, i.e. 4 card majors and Weak No Trump 12-14

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[Supervised practice session times?](#)

Sessions start at 2pm every Monday afternoon supervised play ends at 4pm, but players can carry on playing.

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[Is there a fixed programme of lessons?](#)

The programme is fluid and responsive to our students' requests/feedback. Attendance at lessons is free to members. There is a table money charge of £1 per seat in the RealBridge practice session that follows.

On the first Monday of each month we run a seminar workshop on an Improver Level topic.

On other Mondays we run short refresher lessons followed by a mix of prepared and random deals.

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[Watcher facility in Real Bridge?](#)

RealBridge has a great 'watcher' facility where up to four guests can see, hear, chat and watch the play of the current deal. You can replay 'movies' of previous boards played by any foursome at any table. Players and watchers can swap seats at any point in

time. Some of our group find 'watching' more instructive than playing!

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Preparation time needed?

Although it is not compulsory, it is advised that you plan to spend 1-2 hours prepping before each practice session by working through the Study Pack (video, handout and exercises).

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Can I catch up if I miss a lesson?

All our self-study lesson resources can be found in our On Line Bridge School website and are permanently accessible. You can access all our historic RealBridge play sessions, play recordings of all cards played, and read a commentary on the recommended play.

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Can I practise playing in between sessions?

We have our own RealBridge lounge. Members regularly arrange spontaneous sessions via WhatsApp. Sunday evenings and Tuesday evenings are popular. You can also play Solitaire on No Fear without requiring a No Fear subscription– 80 instructive deals covering all aspects of play, with expert commentary.

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JOINING

How do I apply for membership

Contact the membership secretary:

https://theonlinebridgeschool.org/get_started_today/

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How much does it cost to join?

An annual membership fee of £20 is payable on 1st January. If you join midway through the first year then a pro rata rate is used.

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How do I access the 'members' area of the website

Once you have joined the Next Steps group you will need to register for access to all areas of our website. Here is a downloadable guide: <https://tinyurl.com/4p7ze9x8>

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What does it cost to play on RealBridge?

For supervised or unsupervised RealBridge sessions there is a charge of £1 per seat. For Seminar/Workshop sessions the charge is £2 per seat.

You buy ten 'Play' tokens in advance. When your pot gets low the treasurer will let you know

Note that there is no charge for attending a session as a watcher (i.e. without taking a playing seat).

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How do I pay my membership fee and/or purchase RealBridge 'Play' tokens?

You pay by BACS. Our account details are as follows:

The Online Bridge School
Sort code 23-05-80
Number 54439474

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Do I need to subscribe to No Fear Bridge?

No, although we strongly recommend that you do so.

If you are not currently a member you can get a 12 week free trial. You will need a special code - contact the membership secretary at **membership@theonlinebridgeschool.org**

Some of our study resources (e.g. Instant Feedback quizzes and Solitaire play) link to the No Fear website and can only be accessed by No Fear subscribers. As a subscriber you can play relaxed duplicate bridge FREE on Friday afternoons, and FREE social/relaxed 'play and learn' sessions on other days. [Click here for more information.](#)

NOTE!!!: If you do not use the special code you will only get a 2 week free trial !

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TECHNICAL

Which devices (PC/ Laptop/tablet etc.) are suitable?

You can use practically all modern devices that have a microphone and camera – such as a PC with webcam, laptop, iPad, android tablet or Apple Mac. Smartphones are not suitable due to their small screen size.

We will provide technical support if needed.

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How do I join a Zoom or RealBridge session?

For every lesson/practice session our website has a dedicated web page that has clickable links to all the lesson resources and to Zoom (and RealBridge).

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How do I join the WhatsApp group (TOBS)?

Your mobile number will be used to add you to the WhatsApp group. Please advise if you DO NOT want your details shared with the TOBS group at **membership@theonlinebridgeschool.org**

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