



Workshops with Meagan Powell *Basic Trump Play of the Hand*

Winter
2020 / 2021

Winter Workshops with Meagan Powell

Meagan Powell is offering two series of Trump Play of the Hand workshops during the Winter season.

Series I will cover the very basics of Trump Play of the Hand and will run on Thursdays from December 10, 2020 through January 21, 2021

Series II will cover the next level in Trump Play of the Hand and will take place on Thursdays from January 28 through February 25.

The 5 classes in Series I will cover

- * Basic Opening Leads by Opponents Against a Trump Contract
- * Declarer's First Thoughts in the Plan, moving into Counting Losers
- * Winning an Early Reasonable Trick and High Card from the Short Side
- * Pulling the Opponents' Trump as Declarer's First Job even without all the honors
- * Developing Side Suits by Identifying and Planning to Set Up Long Suits, to Promote Suits for Middle-Honor Winners, and to Execute Simple Finesses.

When: Thursdays

10:00am - 11:30am Session I

7:00pm - 8:30pm Session II

These are identical sessions.

Cost: \$15 per person per session

Cost covers Lecture and Student Fee for the Shark Software package for our online playing / practice.

Players may pay each week for individual classes or for the entire series up front.

How Does this Work?

We are not using BBO for our Play of the Hand (POH) workshops.

We are using a newer Bridge software package called Shark Bridge.

Advantages:

- * *You don't need a partner.*
- * *You may be able to play hands based on your speed of play.*

Format: 90-Minute Class

Approximately ½ lecture and ½ playing application of lecture concepts

We will first meet in a Zoom room for a lecture. The lecture will last about 40 minutes.

Then I take you into Shark Bridge where you will be seated at a table to play/practice hands based on the lecture.

Each week you will receive a pre-class PDF lesson with content and exercises.

The weekly lectures will be taped, but there is no way to replicate the playing scenario if you cannot attend the Shark session.

Players will receive their Zoom link and Lecture PDF by Noon on Monday each week.

SCHEDULE:

Week 1: Basic Opening Leads, Pulling Trump, and Establishing a Long Suit

This first week will provide content and practice on making a general Declarer Plan and on identifying long, winning suits that need to be developed and played for extra tricks

Thursday, December 10, 2020

Session I: 10am – 11:30am

Session II: 7:00pm – 8:30pm

This session covers Basic Opening Leads against Trump Contracts, Making a Declarer Plan, First Thoughts by Declarer, Winning an Early Reasonable Trick, Pulling the Opponents' Trump (including High Card from the Short Side), Developing Side Suits - Establishing a Long Suit.

Week 2: Pulling Trump and Promoting a Suit

This second week of the series will then move into the concept of Promotion.

Players will learn to recognize and practice how to promote middle honors as winners to gain extra tricks.

Thursday, December 17, 2020

Session I: 10am – 11:30am

Session II: 7:00pm – 8:30pm

This session will review the information from Week 1 through exercises and practice.

Additional topics in this lesson will include identifying a Promotable suit and bravely sacrificing one of your high honors to the Opponents' higher honor to create extra winners with your middle honors.

**We will not hold our Thursday classes
on Thursday, December 24 or Thursday, December 31.**

Week 3: Pulling Trump and the Simple Finesse

This third week of the series will move into the concept of Simple Finesse.

Players will learn to recognize gaps in honor groupings and learn how to play for the 50-50 chance of success in winning a trick with a lower honor card.

Thursday, January 7, 2021

Session I: 10am – 11:30am

Session II: 7pm - 8:30pm

This session will review the information from Weeks 1-2 through exercises and practice.

Additional topics in this lesson will include identifying honor groupings and specifically look for honor gaps. Learning the process to play toward the honor gap in a Simple Finesse, hoping to turn a lower honor into a winner.

Week 4: Counting Losers and Pulling Trump

This fourth week of the series reinforces the basic steps Declarer must take just after the Opening Lead is made by the Opponent. Players will then continue to the next step in Planning to actively consider how to play out all 13 cards on one side of the table before calling a single card from Dummy.

Thursday, January 14, 2021

Session I: 10am – 11:30am

Session II: pm - 8:30pm

This session will review the information from Weeks 1-3 through exercises and practice.

Additional topics in this lesson will expand the steps in Declarer's First Thoughts.

Declarer will work on the process of identifying Losers to determine how to solve problems when there are not enough tricks to make the contract.

We will continue with this specific topic as we move into Series II on Trump Play of the Hand to learn additional ways to deal with Losers once they are identified.

Week 5: Supervised Play on Length, Promotion and Finesse, Counting Losers and Pulling Trump

Thursday, January 21, 2021

Session I: 10am – 11:30am

Session II: 7pm - 8:30pm

This week will include a short lesson that will highlight the topics of Weeks 1-4.

We will spend extra time in Shark, playing a variety of hands that reinforce Weeks 1-4.