



## Playing in a Live, Bridge Club Near You

### Playing in a LIVE, Bridge Club

One of the things we have discovered recently is that not many Live, In-Person Bridge Clubs provide helpful transition for newer players.

Not many Bridge Clubs at the moment have a lower-level Beginner structure.  
You are generally expected to play against more experienced players in a live Club.

Such a pity.

We relished the time we spent in the lowest levels of Bridge play, helping Beginners get used to the pace, the rules, the etiquette of the Game.

We have been hearing reports from 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year players that they have not found real Beginner play in many Clubs.

#### **If You Have Played In A Live, In-Person Bridge Club:**

*That means you've sat at a Bridge Table in a live, in-person Club.*

*You've used a physical, plastic Bidding Box.*

*You've seen how a Dummy is placed on the table.*

*You've seen that there are NO notes used during the bidding.*

*You've seen that there is no talking during the bidding.*

*You should consider researching Live Bridge Clubs in your area.*

#### **If You Have NEVER Played In A Live, In-Person Bridge Club:**

*You may need to ask a local Club just want help they provide Beginners.*

*If they answer, "Don't worry, we'll just feed you into the group,"*

*then they don't have a plan to help newer players to transition!*

*It can be really upsetting if you are not given what you need to understand how live play works.*

*Our suggestion is to either play online or play in your living room with friends*

*unless you can find a live Bridge Club that will promise you to slowly transition you into the Club.*

If you do want to play in a live Bridge Club, we have suggestions on the next page for you.

If you want to play online or in your living room, review those options at our website.



# Playing in a Live, Bridge Club Near You

## Playing Live Bridge Near You

You need to research Live Bridge Clubs in your area (see below)  
You will need to contact them and ask them

- \* What level of play (Beginners, Intermediate, Opener [all levels including very experienced])
- \* Dates and Times
- \* How many Boards do they play, and therefore, how long is a session?  
*You may NOT leave in the middle of a Game just because you are tired or have an appointment.  
You will not be allowed back.*

*If you leave in a Game in progress, you might make it difficult for others to finish their Game.*

- \* Cost
- \* Do they provide Partners?

## Where To Find Bridge Lessons and Bridge Games Near You?

Begin searching for Lessons and Games in your Area.

### 1. ACBL.org

*The national Bridge organization – ACBL – has a link at their site for Bridge Clubs by State / Town.  
Find a Bridge Club near you at the ACBL.org website.  
However, many of the ACBL listings are not current!  
If you find a Club, you must use the phone number listed and verify.*

### 2. Community Centers Near You

*Many towns have community centers.  
Contact those centers in your area and ask if there are regular Bridge Lessons and/or Bridge Games.  
Ask the questions from the top of this page. Find out if the offerings meet your experience level.*

### 3. Senior Centers Near You

*Many towns have Senior centers.  
Contact those centers in your area and ask if there are regular Bridge Lessons and/or Bridge Games.  
Ask the questions from the top of this page. Find out if the offerings meet your experience level.*

### 4. Community Centers If You Live In A Planned Community

*Many towns have Community Centers.  
Contact those centers in your area and ask if there are regular Bridge Lessons and/or Bridge Games.  
Ask the questions from the top of this page. Find out if the offerings meet your experience level.*

### 5. Adult Education Programs

*Many local School Districts offer non-credit public enrichment programs.  
Contact high schools in your area and find out if the school district has an Adult Education program.  
Then you can find out if there are Bridge programs near you through Adult Education offerings.*



## Playing in a Live, Bridge Club Near You

### Playing Live Bridge Near You

#### Options for Playing in Northern NJ

Here are Bridge Clubs that are operating Live in northern NJ. Contact them for more specific information.

#### Chatham Senior Center

##### Chatham, NJ

*You do not need to be a Senior. You do not need to live in Chatham*

**Rick Hartley** provides Lessons and Runs Games

#### Lessons

Wednesdays 10am – 12: 30pm	Beginner and Advanced Beginner	\$7 per person
Thursdays 10am – 12:30pm	Higher Level	\$7 per person
3 Thursdays a Month		

*Lesson followed with Play on the day's topic*

*No Partner needed*

#### Games

First Thursday every Month	10am – 12:30pm	12 hands	No Notes or TableTalk
No Partner needed	No Masterpoints awarded, but Game is scored		

Contact Rick directly at [rickjack.h@gmail.com](mailto:rickjack.h@gmail.com)

*He will be happy to explain more about the lessons and games he runs*



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#### Options for Playing in Northern NJ

Here are Bridge Clubs that are operating Live in northern NJ. Contact them for more specific information.

##### **Summit Area Bridge Club** **New Providence, NJ**

Contact Beth Carlson

[SummitAreaBridge@gmail.com](mailto:SummitAreaBridge@gmail.com)

##### **Games, Not Lessons**

**Not for Beginners. All players at all levels play together.**

**No separation of Beginners from Experienced.**

##### **Montclair Bridge Club** (no masterpoints awarded) **Tuesday Evenings 6:30pm – 9:30pm**

Held at

Synagogue Bnai Keshet  
99 S Fullerton Ave  
Montclair, NJ

Contact David Harris

[davidhamiltonharris@yahoo.com](mailto:davidhamiltonharris@yahoo.com)

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