

## PLAYER COMMENTS

Bridge is a fascinating game that connects you to like-minded people and exercises the brain constantly. My club is sociable with great atmosphere.



I started bridge to allow my wife and me to share a common interest. It's a game with constant challenges and opportunities to learn and meet interesting people.



My brother urged me to play. I don't regard myself as a card player but thought I'd try.



I'm hooked!

## BRIDGE IN NEW SOUTH WALES

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Bridge tuition is available at almost all NSW Bridge Clubs. Your nearest club is:



## NSW Bridge Association



## WHAT IS THIS GAME CALLED BRIDGE?



Bridge is a game a little like Five Hundred, and is derived from a card game called Whist. It involves two partnerships playing against each other to win tricks and gain points.

There are two parts to each hand of Bridge - the bidding and the play. During the bidding each pair decides if they would like to have a trump suit or if they would like to play the hand without a trump suit (no-trumps). There are four suits:

♣ Clubs   ♦ Diamonds   ♥ Hearts   ♠ Spades

Once a pair have nominated a contract, they will try to take the required number of tricks. The other side, known as the defenders, will attempt to defeat the contract.

Points are either given to the pair that chose trumps if they make the contract, or to the defenders should they defeat the contract.

The language of Bridge is rich in colloquialisms, including terms such as The Beer Card, Duck, Hook, Laydown, Overboard, Pianola, Save, Shoot, Squeeze, Stiff.

## HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

### Clubs

There are over 160 clubs throughout NSW, in the city, suburbs and in country towns. Some clubs play every day, some once a week, the rest in between. They would love to see you and help you to play Bridge. You can find your nearest club at [www.nswba.com.au/clubs](http://www.nswba.com.au/clubs).

Sessions are usually about three and half hours long. If you do not have a partner, one can be arranged for you if you ring and say that you are coming.

### Bridge Lessons

While Bridge can be challenging to play at higher levels, it is easy to learn the basics. In fact you can learn in approximately 6 two hour lessons. You can come by yourself or with a partner.

If you would like to learn to play Bridge go to [www.nswba.com.au/lessons](http://www.nswba.com.au/lessons) where you can find the nearest Bridge Lesson schedule in your area.

### Supervised Play

If you have been playing Bridge socially and would like to play in a Club, there are many clubs that have supervised play sessions to ease you into the world of club Bridge.

### Newspapers

Most national newspapers have a Bridge column where you can follow happenings in National and World events. They will also tell you about upcoming events.

## MEET NEW FRIENDS



Bridge lets you sit down with people that you have never met and have a wonderful time. You can play Bridge on cruise ships, in tourist resorts, on organised tours of other lands, on holiday here or overseas or even on a business trip. Worldwide Bridge players love to see new people and talk about where you come from.

Keith McDonald, President of the Australian Bridge Federation says:

*"You can sit down with acquaintances or strangers and immediately be able to talk a common language. It transcends social barriers. Your opponents at the next table could be a cab driver, a millionaire, a small business person or a professional. For young people it helps to develop their social skills."*

*"What's more Bridge is booming. The World Bridge Federation claims 1.5 million club members in 110 countries. Add those who play it socially at home or in social clubs and the figures is 50 million."*

Australian Web Sites:  
NSWBA: [www.nswba.com.au](http://www.nswba.com.au)  
ABF: [www.abf.com.au](http://www.abf.com.au)