



## Improvers Course Outline - Seminars 1-20

Topic	Description of Seminar
1. The Uncontested Auction - Balanced Hands	Overview of 1NT, 2NT and other balanced hands, review of Stayman & including the introduction of Red Suit Transfers
2. The Uncontested Auction - Unbalanced Hands	Suit openings and rebids from basic 12-15 pt hands, stronger 16-20 point hands, and those hands worth a Game forcing 2c opening.
3. Competitive bidding	From Overcalls, Weak Jump overcalls, takeout doubles, 1NT overcalls and stronger hands. Also includes Negative doubles by responder.
4. Opening Leads and defensive strategy	How to get the defence off to a good start, understanding the bidding. The good, the bad and the ugly of opening leads, Includes an interactive quiz
5. Defenders Play	Defenders play & common defensive errors, how not to give declarer cheap tricks. Includes an interactive quiz

6. Declarer Play Techniques	Review of Techniques available to Declarer, from Finessing, Suit Management & Establishment and Ducking
7. Declarer Play Techniques continued	Continuing the theme of the previous seminar and including Trump Management, Ruffing, Discards and Hold up plays.
8. Difficult hands to open	The principle of Preparedness, how to open and rebid with 4-4-4-1 hands, big 2 suited hands and other awkward hands to bid.
9. Hand Evaluation	How to adjust your hand for shape, the power of 5-5 hands and 6 card suits. How to adjust for voids and singletons and other aspects of evaluation
10. Doubles of all sorts	When is a double for Penalties, when is it for takeout. All kinds of doubles. The impact of vulnerability on the auction and doubling in particular
11. Action after your opponents open 1NT	Penalty doubles, Overcalls, Conventional Overcalls such as Landy. How to compete or penalise when opponents use the weak No Trump
12. Bidding with Weak hands	Weak bids designed to obstruct your opponents bidding, including 2, 3 & 4 level preemptive openings, Weak Jump Overcalls, Raising to the level of your fit.

13. Bidding with Strong hands - Slam bidding	Review of Strong Openings 2c and 2NT and other strong hands. How to recognise potential slam hands, along with Blackwood and Quantitative bidding
14. Declarer Play planning and counting.	Planning a contract, Top tricks, Identifying losers, Developing tricks, Entries and spotting dangers.
15. Card Combinations 1	How to play a range of card combinations from both declarers and defenders viewpoints.
16. Card Combinations 2	How to play a range of card combinations from both declarers and defenders viewpoints another set of different combinations examined
17. No trump revisited	A complete review of all No Trump bidding, 1NT, 2NT, 2c, and suit openings at the 1 level with balanced hands. This will also include a review of Stayman & Transfers
18. No trump revisited continued	Continuing the review of all No Trump bidding, 1NT, 2NT, 2c, and suit openings at the 1 level with balanced hands. This will also include a review of Stayman & Transfers
19. Competitive bidding revisited	A complete review of all competitive bidding, from Overcalls, Weak Jump Overcalls, Takeout doubles, Penalty doubles, Landy, Negative doubles & 1NT Overcalls.
20. Competitive bidding revisited continued	Continuing the review of all competitive bidding, from Overcalls, Weak Jump Overcalls, Takeout doubles, Penalty doubles, Landy, Negative doubles & 1NT Overcalls.

