



Intermediate + Players & Partnerships – Progressing the Auction

A series of 10 seminars on progressing the auction (or how to find the right contract). Bidding involves determining not only the denomination you wish to play in, but also the level you should be playing at. Each seminar will be based on a 45-minute presentation and followed by 45 minutes of practice. Along with notes in advance and following the presentation. Also included is a file of hands (including notes), which you can upload to BBO to practice on together in the Partnership Bidding section.

No	Topic	Description
1	Understanding the Forcing Auction – a)	In order to progress the bidding, when you think a game should or might be possible, you need an appreciation of what constitutes a forcing bid and as a result, what does not. This seminar outlines forcing responses, rebids and continuations. It will also highlight what are shut-out bids, sign off bids, invitational bids and constructive bids.
2	Understanding the Forcing Auction – b)	A continuation of the previous session on the forcing auction.
3	Understanding the Forcing Auction – c)	A continuation of the previous 2 sessions, and in particular focusing on when is an auction Forcing to Game and when is it not. Sometimes a bid direct to game can be less strong than a raise to below game level.

4	Useful tools a) - 4 th Suit Forcing	A highly useful tool, which is forcing for 1 round and is usually used to find a 3NT contract or investigate slam possibilities.
5	Useful tools b) – Responders Reverses	A natural but little understood or used bid. Is often essential when responder has an invitational of GF hand.
6	Useful tools c) – Cue bids	Cue bids are commonly used, and their meaning can be varied, but if understood, they form a vital part of finding the right contract during a competitive auction.
7	Useful tools d) – Trial bids in major suits	These are commonly used to progress the auction after 1h – 2h or 1s – 2s when opener has extra values. Provides much more information than a simple progression to 3h or 3s
8	Useful tools e) – Trial bids in minor suits	Different purpose now and can be used after 1d-2d or 1d-3d and 1c-2c or 1c-3c. These are used to discover whether your partnership has the right stoppers for NT.
9	Practice Session 1	A full 90-minute practice play session on all seminars and tools used.
10	Practice Session 2	Another full 90-minute practice play session on all seminars and tools used

The cost of these 10 sessions is £85 per person. For Tudor Bridge Club Members or Wadswick Green Members in a group of 4, a discount is applied, reducing the price to £70.

Nigel Mortimer

Ash-Bridge

Notes are provided in advance of all seminars, and it is recommended that participants read these though beforehand as they will be better prepared and better able to raise relevant questions.