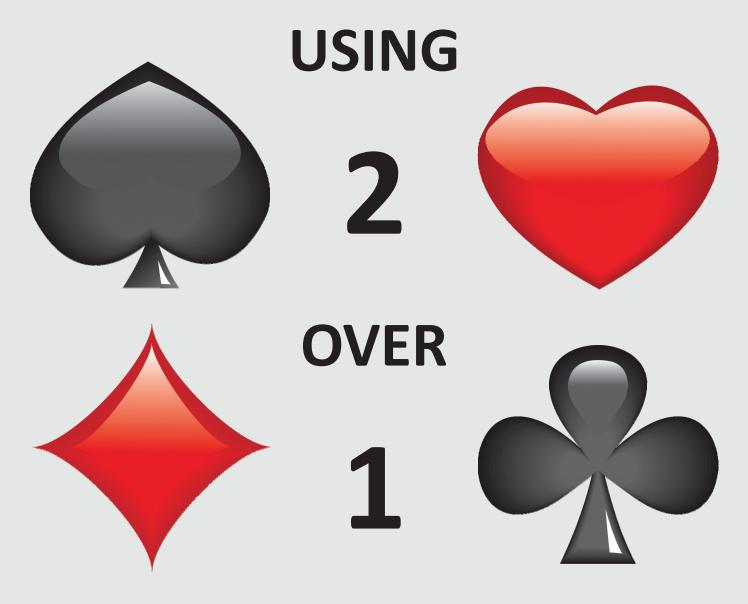
# **BEGINNING BRIDGE**



The Next Generation (2 over 1) of Bridge Instruction for Beginning Players

By Jim Ricker

Edited By Jo Anne Newby

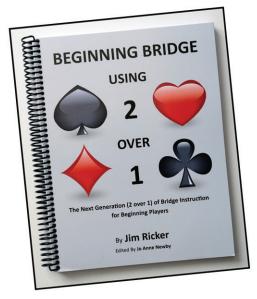
# Finally, an Instructional Book for Beginners that includes 2 over 1.

## Beginning Bridge Using 2 Over 1

By Jim Ricker \$25, Softcover, 202 pages (Instructor's Guide is 194 pages and free to verified teachers)

### Looking to the Future

"We already had students complain that shortly after graduating from the [newcomer Standard American] class, everyone encouraged them to learn 2 over 1," writes Jim Ricker, a club manager, director and teacher from Knoxville, TN. "They asked, 'Why didn't you teach us that in the first place?' A reasonable question."



### LOVE IT, LOVE IT, LOVE IT!

Thought I wouldn't like the idea of not opening 1NT with a 5-card major but love how you've made it simple. LOVE the full auction approach. Not just chapters on opening followed by a chapter of responding. LOVE the analogies...they relax the reader. I'm super impressed.

In case I didn't make myself clear - I LOVE IT. Solid material.

Carol Mathews 30 yr teacher, ABTA member and TAP trainer

Ricker attempts to provide a solution in "Beginning Bridge Using 2 Over 1." It is a solid effort, broken up into 17 lessons, including sections on basic opening bids, 1NT forcing, competitive bidding, defensive bidding and opening big hands. There are various 2/1 styles, and Ricker makes it clear that in his version, 1NT forcing denies a game-forcing hand.

The author communicates with a pleasant, conversational style. Indeed, according to Ricker, "This book is written as if the author were standing in front of a class of students." He provides several practice hands to illustrate his points in each lesson. Readers may also be amused by stories of auctions gone awry or the perils of planning a spaghetti supper for up to 100 bridge players.

One of the most useful features in the book is a mock-up of a 2/1 convention card. Ricker completes the card with descriptions of several common bidding sequences and notes the page numbers so readers can refer to the relevant sections for greater detail.

Although most of the manual is about bidding, the discussion of defensive carding is where Ricker hits his stride. He teaches attitude carding and presents four acronyms that players can easily remember as a guide: LLL Leading Low Like), LHH (Leading High Hate), FHL (Following High Like) and (Following Low Hate).

Reviewed by Rob Clark Associate Editor, The Bridge Bulletin (ACBL)

### Modern Approach to Learning Bridge

Our club, Duplicate Lite in Surrey was looking for a text book for our beginning students with a 2/1 approach. We reviewed Beginning Bridge Using 2/1 and ordered 25 copies with the Teachers Manual. The books sold out within a week and we had a waiting list. We sold over a 110 copies in a month. Our students like the excellent explanation of concepts and flow of the material. The teacher's manual saves us time in lesson preparation and our students love the review PDFs document from the teaching materials that we send electronically after the lesson. The book and the teaching materials help us to offer a comprehensive and modern approach to learning bridge!

Jane Youngberg

An Instructor's Guide is available, including dealing machine files, hand records with analysis, and weekly handouts.

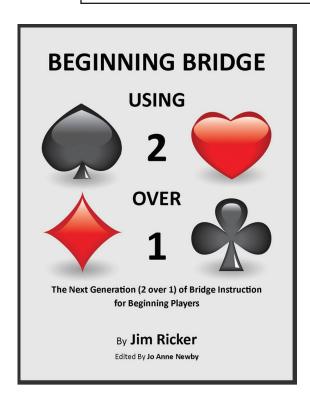
Available on Amazon. www.diamondbookspublishing.com

# On July 20th, at the 2017 Toronto NABC, the ACBL Board of Governors voted to allow Masterpoint awards for Student games that have prepared content-related hands.

Board of Governors Item 172-09: Club Game Lesson Hands for Teaching

Regular Club games with a masterpoint limit of 20 or less (0-5, 0-10, 0-20) are allowed to use prepared lesson hands for teaching purposes. A prepared hand is set up to allow students to practice a specific skill. The game must consist of at least six but no more than 12 boards and be held in conjunction with lessons. A minimum of at least eight players is required. If there are only two tables, the game must be run as a team event, individual event or Swiss pair game. Masterpoint awards are based on the club masterpoint games award chart.

Students NEED content-related hands during the classroom experience to help internalize the learning process. Awarding Masterpoints during the learning process helps engage the students in the joys of Masterpoint accumulation and also immediately turns most of the students into ACBL Members.



### STUDENTS LOVE IT

"My students find this the best book on learning bridge that they have ever used. No slight to other great bridge authors, this is the finest beginning bridge book ever! I learned 2/1 from the Max Hardy Book, and Wow! that was difficult. My life partner is learning faster than she believed possible from Jim's book, and improving by leaps and bounds.

I find the book to be laid out in a very logical manner; the quizzes are excellent. The hand selection for barometer work in class is straightforward and has real application to duplicate bridge. I am sold on this being the best of the best, and look forward to future books."

Al Spaet

### STUDENTS ARE BETTER PREPARED

"The book is a godsend. Students love it because they can understand the concepts. I've now used the book twice and the students are better prepared and do turn into paying customers at our regular games. Jim wrote the book with the learner in mind. He gives appropriate exercises and they are wonderful. I require students to do them all. I'm lucky enough to have my own dealing machine so every lesson has course appropriate examples."

Dr. Dixie Sue Allsbrook

## **Beginning Bridge Using 2 Over 1**

By Jim Ricker

\$25, Softcover, 202 pages (Instructor's guide is 194 pages and free to verified teachers)

This beginner's course curriculum includes 2 Over 1 as a core element of the lesson series.

### **Content Specific Prepared Hands**

The Instructor's Guide includes hands designed to provide reinforcement to the lesson content. Included with the Instructor's Guide is a CD with lesson handouts (PDF), dealing machine files (DUP), dealing sheets (PDF) and hand records with commentary (PDF).

Starting with Lesson 4 it is recommended to award Masterpoints as part of the classroom experience.

Lessons 4-17 include two additional sets of hands per lesson to allow variance of hands presented if students repeat the class or if the class is offered at more than one time each week.

Student Manuals are Available on Amazon (or in bulk from Diamond Books Publishing)
Contact DiamondBooksPublishing@gmail.com to request your Instructor's Guide or to place bulk orders

### SAMPLE LESSON HANDOUT

### **LEADS AND ATTITUDE**

- Leading Honors promises the next lowest card
  - When leading an Ace you are promising the King AND asking partner's permission to play the King
  - Partner gives permission if they think they can take the third trick in that suit by using Attitude (Following HIGH says "go ahead and play the King Partner")
- Leading Attitude High Hates, low likes
  - o Leading high (non-honor) shows you do not want partner to lead in that suit
  - Leading low shows you do want partner to lead in that suit (promises an honor)
- Following Attitude High likes, low hates
  - o Following high shows you want another lead in that suit
  - Following low shows you do not want another lead in that suit

### **2 OVER 1**

There are two companion conventions that complement each other in the 2 over 1 system:

- 2 over 1 Game Force Responder's 1<sup>st</sup> bid cannot be at the 2-level unless Responder has an opening hand (2 opening hands = game) and is forcing to game (meaning you can bid all you want but neither partner can pass until a game contract bid is reached). For example: 1H > 2D is Game Forcing.
- 1NT Forcing ONLY after a Major opening, shows partner that Responder does NOT have an opening hand. Unless Opener shows extra HCP on their 2<sup>nd</sup> bid, the partnership is looking for a safe contract to attain a positive score.

In the past, we have always taught students 2 over 1 after they have completed the initial course. We have often received suggestions that we should make it easier and teach 2 over 1 in the beginning – so here we are.

Over the next two weeks we will be going over 1NT Forcing. Before we start, let's review two bids we have already covered that are used rather than 1NT Forcing.

- 1 Major 2 Major (same Major): Responder has specifically 6-9 HCP and 3-card support
- 1 Major 3 Major (same Major): Responder has specifically 10-11 HCP and 4-card support

One other caveat: You cannot bypass a 1♠ bid if Opener's bid is 1♥ and you (as Responder) have a 4-card Spade suit.

# Beginning Bridge with 2 over 1 – Lesson 7: 1NT Forcing Chapters 13-14, pages 73-86 in student book

### 1NT FORCING CONVENTION

The first bid by both Opener and Responder are assumed – 1 Major – 1NT

## Opener has 3 possible bids (2<sup>nd</sup> bid by Opener – <u>assuming 12-15 HCP by Opener</u>)

- 1 Major 1NT: 2 Major (same Major): shows a 6-card suit
- 1♠ 1NT 2♥: MUST have 4 Hearts to make this bid
- 1♠ 1NT 2 Minor: promises only a 3-card suit

## Opener has 5 possible bids (2<sup>nd</sup> bid by Opener – <u>assuming 16-19 HCP by Opener</u>)

- 1 Major 1NT 3 Major (same Major): shows a 6-card suit and 16+ HCP
- 1H 1NT 2♠: (This is called a reverse) Opener has 5 Hearts, 4 Spades and 16+ HCP
- 1 Major 1NT 2NT: Opener had a 1NT opening hand but had a 5-card Major (16-17 HCP)
- 1 Major 1NT 3NT: Opener had an 18-19 HCP hand
- 1 Major 1NT 3-Level bid in 2<sup>nd</sup> suit: Opener has 18-19 HCP and at least a 4-card 2<sup>nd</sup> suit

## Responder's 2<sup>nd</sup> bid (completes the description of their hand):

### If Responder has 6-9 HCP (you are looking for the safest place to pass)

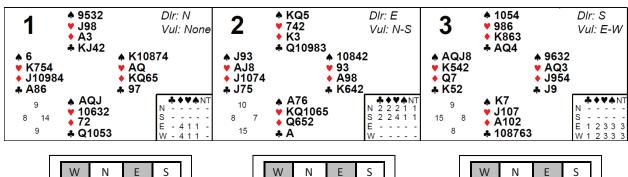
(If you are looking for the safest place to pass, why not pass the opening bid? What is the UPPER range of a 1-level bid – typically 19 HCP. If you have 6+ HCP and your partner had 19 HCP, you would have enough HCP for game).

- 2 of original Major: Responder has 6-9 HCP and ONLY 2-card support (to play meaning the intent is to have Opener pass)
- Pass Opener's 2<sup>nd</sup> suit: Responder has 6-9 HCP and the partnership has a shared 8-card suit (in Opener's 2<sup>nd</sup> suit)
- New suit by Responder: shows a lack of support for either of Opener's suits, Responder's new suit is to play. (REQUIRES A 6-CARD SUIT)

### If responder has 10-11 HCP (you are looking for someplace to invite to game)

- 3 of original Major: Responder has a 3-card limit raise (10-11 HCP)
- Raise Opener's 2<sup>nd</sup> suit: Responder has 10-11 HCP and partnership has a shared 8-card suit (in Opener's 2<sup>nd</sup> suit)
- 2NT: Responder has 10-11 HCP and support for neither suit Opener bid

### SAMPLE HAND RECORD/ANALYSIS



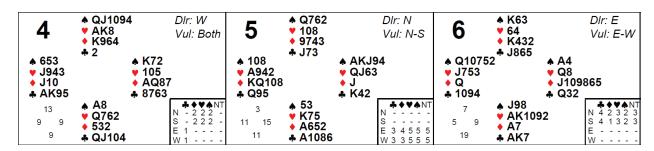
V	٧	Ν	Е	S	
			1♠		
11	TV		2♦		
	Р				

W	N	Е	S
			1♥
	1NT		2♦
	3♥		4♥

W	N	Е	S
1NT		2*	
2♥		2NT	
3♠			

When Opener names Diamonds as their best Minor, Responder should be relieved to pass. Responder's singleton Spade was definitely not going to solve any fit problems. South leads the 3 of Clubs. Responder's first bid cannot be 2 ♥ because that shows only 6-9 HCP and it cannot be 3 ♥ because that requires 4-card support. 1NT then a jump to 3 ♥ shows a 3-card limit raise (10-11 HCP). West leads the Jack of Diamonds.

We cannot forget 1NT bidding. This time it is Stayman. The partnership finds out they do not have game and Opener must deduce they have the fit in Spades. North leads the 3 of Diamonds (shouldn't lead Hearts). South should return the 10 of Diamonds.



W	N	Е	S
	1♠		1NT
	2♦		2♠
	Р		

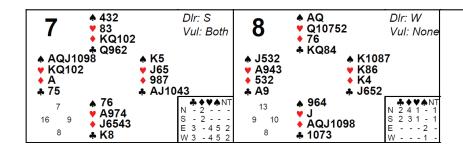
W	N	Е	S
		1	
1NT		2♥	
3♥		4♥	

W N E S
1 v
1 NT 3 NT

The 2 • 2<sup>nd</sup> bid by Responder means they only have 2-card support and 6-9 HCP. Responder would bid 2NT with 10-11 HCP and a 2-card Spade suit (which is not the case here). East leads the 8 of Clubs.

Opener's 2<sup>nd</sup> suit bid shows a 4-card Heart suit (must have a 4-card suit to bid Hearts) which is a fit with Responder. Responder would pass with 6-9 HCP. The raise to 3 ♥ promises 10-11 HCP. South is going to have to lead a bare Ace.

Opener's jump to 3NT shows an 18-19 HCP hand. If Responder had 3-card support for Hearts they would correct to 4♥ (which is not the case here). East will lead the Jack of Diamond (don't lead 4<sup>th</sup> best from a sequence).



W	N	Е	S
			Р
1.	Р	1NT	Р
3♠	Р	4♠	Р

W	Ν	Е	S
Р	1♠	Р	1NT
Р	2♣	Р	2♦
Р	Р	Р	

Opener's jump raise in Spades promises 16-17 HCP and a 6-card Spade suit. North leads the King of Diamonds.

Anytime Responder bids a new suit on their 2<sup>nd</sup> bid (denying support for either suit bid by Opener) it is to play (meaning STOP HERE please partner). Responder is promising a 6+card suit. Spades is the only unbid suit and West leads the Jack of Spades.

# Introduction of Duplicate Bridge Mechanics

Lesson 1 – The Bridge Table

Lesson 2 – The Bidding Box

Lesson 3 – Movement

Lesson 4 – ACBL Game with Scoring

Regarding the introduction of Scoring: Starting with Lesson 4, we award Masterpoints via an under 20 game setup in ACBL Score. We SPECIFICALLY run this game as a **Barometer game** in ACBL Score which allows everyone to be playing Board 1 at the same time (same for Boards 2-8). We set up a Barometer game with a Mitchell movement with 4 rounds, 2 boards a round. Therefore, after each round, we review what should have happened.

We do NOT stand over student's shoulder and tell them what to do. If they ask, I make them try first and I describe what their bid means and ask if that was what they were trying to describe.

The Masterpoint game is important from an ACBL perspective, once they start accumulating Masterpoints MOST OF THEM JOIN ACBL.

Please recognize the Barometer game has NOTHING to do with the material you are using for your classes but it is a VERY effective method of teaching.

Jim Ricker

# Course Schedule

Part 1 – Bridge basics Lesson 1 – Bridge Basics

Part 2 – Basic Opening bids Lesson 2 – Opening a Major

Lesson 3 – Opening a Minor

Lesson 4 – Opening in NT and Stayman Lesson 5 – Opening in NT and Transfers

Lesson 6 – Review plus Opening Leads, Attitude

and Carding

Part 3 – 2 over 1 and 1NT Forcing Lesson 7 – 1NT Forcing and Jump bids by Opener

Lesson 8 – 1NT Forcing Review Lesson 9 – 2 over 1 Game Force Lesson 10 – 2 over 1 Review

Part 4 – Competitive Bidding Lesson 11 – Overcalls

Lesson 12 – Takeout Doubles Lesson 13 – Negative Doubles

Lesson 14 - Competitive Bidding Review

Part 5 – Defensive Bidding Lesson 15 – Weak 2's and Preempts

Part 6 – Opening Big Hands Lesson 16 – 2 Club Openings and Blackwood (A

Asking)

Final Review Lesson 17 – Review the Course's Four Core

Learning Objectives:

• 1NT Bidding with Stayman and Transfers

• 1NT Forcing and 2 over 1

Takeout and Negative Doubles

Attitude

- BBU201 Lesson Files >
- Lesson 1 Bridge Basics
- Lesson 2 Major Suit Openings
- Lesson 3 Minor Suit Openings
- Lesson 4 NT Openings and Stayman
- Lesson 5 NT Openings and Transfers
- Lesson 6 Basic Bidding Review and Attitude
- Lesson 7 1NT Forcing Introduction
- 📙 Lesson 8 1NT Forcing Review
- 🖟 Lesson 9 2 Over 1 Introduction
- Lesson 10 2 Over 1 Review
- Lesson 11 Overcalls
- Lesson 12 Takeout Doubles
- Lesson 13 Negative Doubles
- Lesson 14 Competitive Bidding Review
- Lesson 15 Weak 2s and Preempts
- Lesson 16 2 Club Openings and 1430
- Lesson 16 2 Club Openings and Blackwood
- Lesson 17 Final Review

# Name

€

⋖

- 🚣 1NT Forcing cheat sheet.pdf
- 📐 BB Lesson 7 Handout.pdf
- 📩 BB Lesson 7A Dealing Sheets.pdf
- > BB Lesson 7A Hand Record.pdf
- BB Lesson 7A Hands.pdf
- **BB LESSON 7A.DUP**
- BB Lesson 7B Dealing Sheets.pdf
- BB Lesson 7B Hand Record.pdf
- BB Lesson 7B Hands.pdf
- **BB LESSON 78.DUP**
- BB Lesson 7C Dealing Sheets.pdf
- BB Lesson 7C Hand Record.pdf
- BB Lesson 7C Hands.pdf
- **BB LESSON 7C.DUP**
- BB Workshop 7 Dealing Sheets.pdf
- BB Workshop 7 Hand Record.pdf
- BB Workshop 7 Hands.pdf
- **BB WORKSHOP 7.DUP**

# Contact:

Jim Ricker
Diamond Books Publishing
www.DiamondBooksPublishing.com
DiamondBooksPublishing@gmail.com
865-805-0420