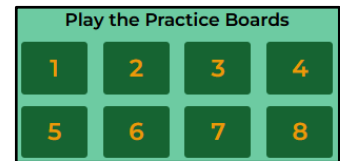


## Playing the Practice Boards Online

You can practise online on your own after each lesson, bidding and playing any or all of the boards again and reading my notes about them.



The links to them are on your Student Resources page of the BridgeWithNick website. To play a board, just click on its link.



Clicking on a board's link will take you to **BridgeTraining**, a French website (with an English-language version!). It is free and you do not have to register. You can play each board as often as you like.

## BIDDING

BT's home page soon gives way to a screen like this (plus some adverts).

The screenshot shows the Bridge Training app interface. At the top, the word "BRIDGING" is partially visible. The main interface is dark green. On the left, there's a section for "No vulnerability" and a table for bids (EAST, S, W, N). In the center, there's a circular "Table" with a compass rose indicating North (N), South (S), East (E), and West (W). Below the table, there's a row of cards representing the player's hand. On the right, there's a grid of buttons for bidding (1 NT to 7 NT) and a "PASS" button. At the bottom right, there's a button for "14 HCP".

Callouts and their descriptions:

- Top Left:** The dealer is the first player on the left of the **Auction Box**, whose name is spelt out. *East is the dealer.*
- Top Center:** The pointer on the **Table** shows whose turn it is to bid. *It is East's turn.*
- Top Right:** View information about the website.
- Top Right (Small):** Switch to a full-screen view.
- Center Left:** The **Auction Box** shows all the bids that have been made. *None yet*
- Bottom Center:** Your cards.
- Bottom Right:** Bridge Training counts your points for you.
- Bottom Right (Large):** The **Table** shows the initials of each position. You are always at the bottom of the table, so yours is the bottom position. *You are South.*

After a few seconds, BT will quickly make the other players' bids. Then it will be your turn to bid.

Powered by an artificial intelligence engine, Bridge Training offers interactive deals designed to help you learn while having fun. Each exercise, created by a teacher, sets a clear objective: bid, play, then view your evaluation before reading the detailed explanations. You can replay each deal as many times as you wish to reinforce your learning.

No vulnerability

| EAST | S | W | N |
|------|---|---|---|
| 1♣   |   |   |   |

East has bid 1♣.

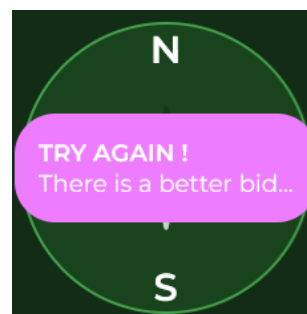
The pointer tells you that it is your turn to bid.

14 HCP

Use the **Bidding Box** to select your bid.  
1♠ is the best bid here.

If your bid does not match the one that I have set for BT, it will tell you so and let you try again. If there's still no match, it will just make the set bid for you. So you can never end up in the wrong contract.

*BT is programmed to work only with the bids that I have set for it. It may be that your bid is just as good as or even better than mine, but it will not allow you to make it. I'm afraid that you'll just have to accept this.*



BT will then show you the other players' bids. If they don't all pass, it will be your turn to bid again.

Powered by an artificial intelligence engine, Bridge Training offers interactive deals designed to help you learn while having fun. Each exercise, created by a teacher, sets a clear objective: bid, play, then view your evaluation before reading the detailed explanations. You can replay each deal as many times as you wish to reinforce your learning.

No vulnerability

| EAST | S  | W  | N  |
|------|----|----|----|
| 1♣   | 1♠ | 2♣ | 3♣ |

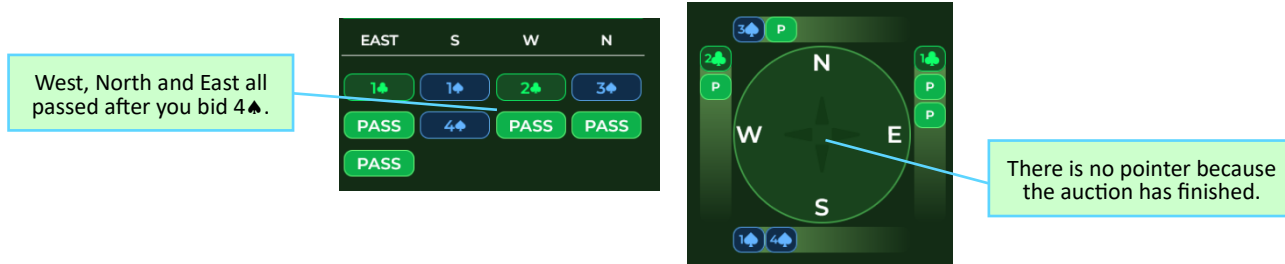
West and North have both bid and East has passed.

It's your turn again.

14 HCP

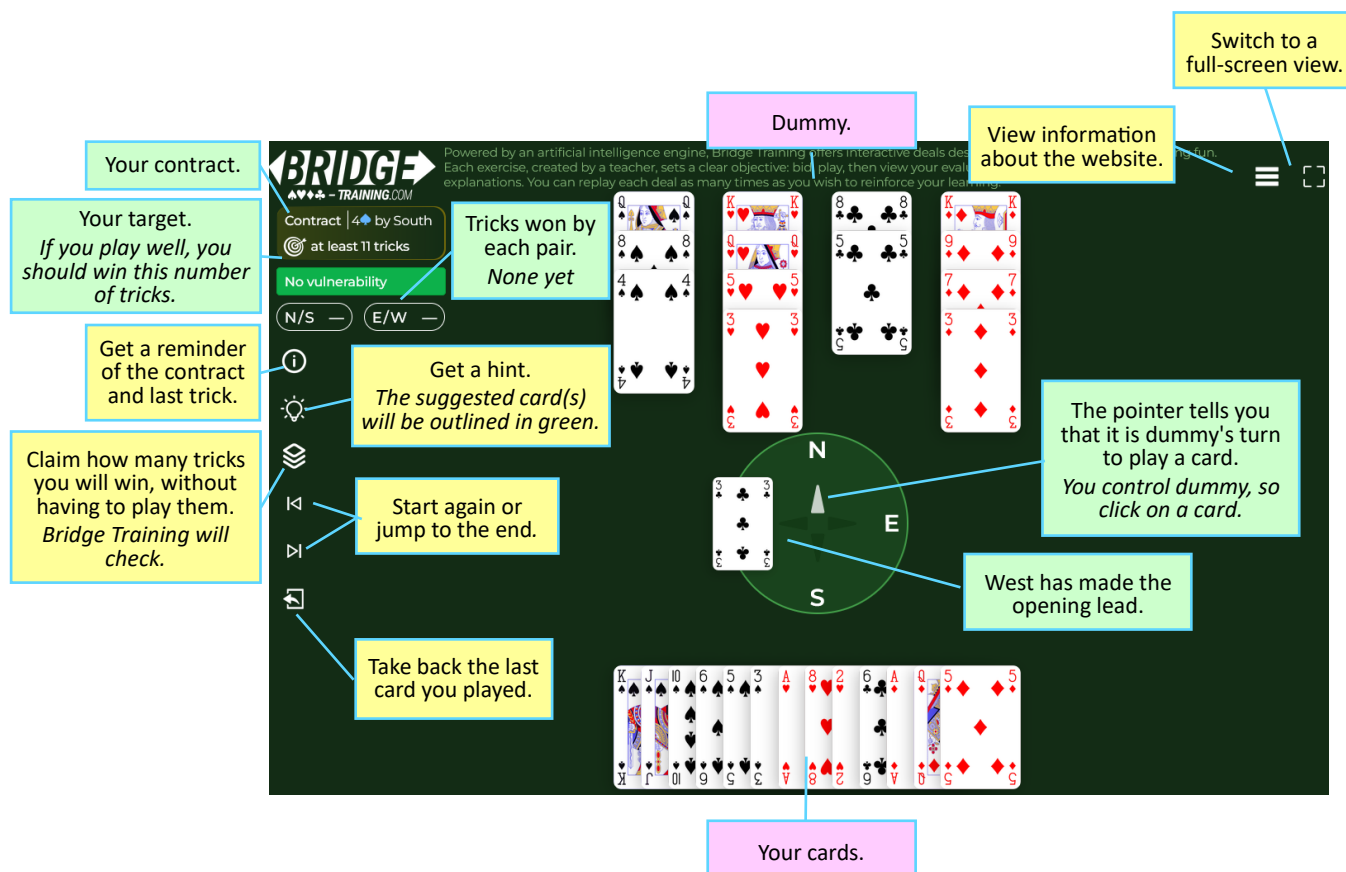
Select your bid.  
The **Bidding Box** shows only the ones that you can still make.  
4♠ is the best bid here.

When there have been three consecutive passes, the auction will be over. Bridge Training shows this just for a moment before the card play begins.



## PLAYING THE CARDS

You will usually be the declarer so that you can practise declarer play. You will see something like this.



Click on the cards that you want to play from dummy and from your hand.

If you make a mistake, click on the *take back* button.

After each trick, all four cards will stay on the table until you click once anywhere on the screen to signal that you are ready for the next trick.

## REVIEWING THE PLAY

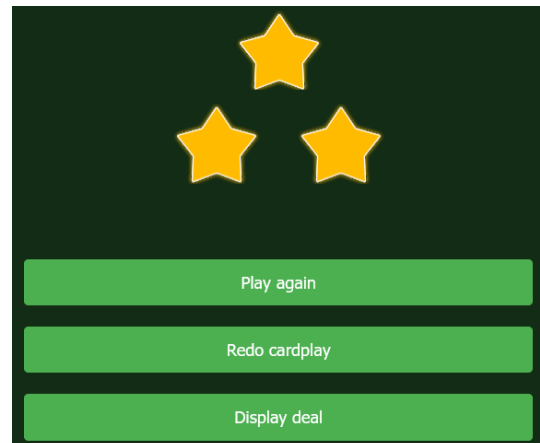
After the last trick, Bridge Training will award you up to three stars if it thinks you have done well, and will show you these options:

**Play again** returns to the start of the bidding.

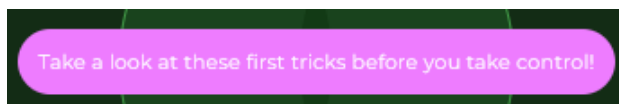
**Redo cardplay** returns to the start of the cardplay.

**Display deal** shows all four hands and my notes on how I think the bidding and play should go.

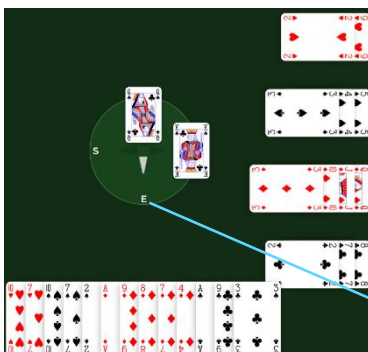
**If you want to play another board**, then exit the Bridge Training website and select a new board on your BridgeWithNick resources page.



## OCCASIONAL VARIATIONS



Sometimes, Bridge Training will play your cards for the first few tricks, so that you reach a position that gives you something useful to practise.



Sometimes, you will be a defender, not the declarer, so that you can practise defender play. Your cards will still be at the bottom of the screen and dummy will be on your left or right.

You are always at the bottom of the screen/table.  
So you are East here.