



Young Chelsea Bridge Club
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Bridge Lessons at the Young Chelsea

We currently run two courses of lessons at Young Chelsea Bridge Club on a regular basis. Each consists of eight two-hour lessons, taking place once a week.

Beginning Bridge is for those with no previous knowledge of bridge. Bidding and card play are the two main elements of bridge and we cover the basics of both, providing a firm foundation on which to build bridge expertise.

Continuing Bridge is for those who have completed the first course or who have the equivalent basic knowledge of the game. It covers a range of declarer play and defensive play techniques for the improving player, and explores competitive bidding and some of the less frequent higher level opening bids.

Courses consist of eight weeks of lessons, held once a week from 8.00 pm to 10.00 pm. The next **Beginning Bridge** course is scheduled to start on **Tuesday 19th January 2010** and the next **Continuing Bridge** course is scheduled to start on **Thursday 14th January 2010**.

Both courses are based on *Bridge For All*, the recommended teaching programme produced by the English Bridge Union, the national governing body for the game of bridge in this country. The cost of each course is £140 (or £120 for YCBC club members), which includes:

- ♦ expert tuition throughout the series of eight lessons, always provided by trained bridge teachers
- ♦ professionally-produced and very comprehensive student notes, bound into a book covering the material of both courses
- ♦ membership of the Young Chelsea Bridge Club
- ♦ membership of the English Bridge Union
- ♦ two additional free sessions of supervised play to be taken after the end of the course
- ♦ plenty of opportunity to ask questions of the tutor outside the formal lesson time, enabling you to catch up on any sessions you might find difficult or be obliged to miss.

Supervised play is our strongly-recommended next step after learning the basics of bridge. In a supervised play session you play at a social level under the watchful eye of one of our expert tutors or players, who is available to help and advise where needed. Supervised play is an enjoyable learning experience aimed at helping you to consolidate what you have learned and to improve your bridge and is not competitive. Supervised play sessions take place every Monday evening (excluding bank holidays) from 7.30 pm till around 10.00 pm. After your free sessions you can come as often as you like, paying just £7.00 per session (or £9.00 for non-members of the club, who are also welcome) and there is no need to come with a partner or to book in advance.

All tutors at the Young Chelsea BC are experienced players and accredited EBU *Bridge For All* teachers. At present tuition is provided by Chris Duckworth, Mike Eden and Jon Green. Chris and Mike are both qualified to the highest level offered by the English Bridge Union. Chris was formerly Education Manager at the EBU, where she managed the EBU Teachers' Association and was responsible for training many of the bridge teachers across the country. She has also been coach to the English Ladies bridge team and has been a member of Young Chelsea BC for more years than she cares to count! Mike is a former successful head teacher who has played bridge for 30 years and who also runs bridge courses on the QE2 when he can fit them in. Jon is a former English junior international player and is an excellent teacher.

In addition to the regular courses, we occasionally run advanced courses and seminars. Please get in touch if you might be interested in these.

If you have any questions at all about the courses, please do not hesitate to contact Chris directly. She is not based at the club, but can be emailed there or (for a faster response) at chris.duckworth@lineone.net, her personal email address. Alternatively you can call her at any time on 020 7385 3534.



By the way, in case you were wondering, the "Young" in the club name dates back to the time when the club was founded 40 years ago, when it was established to cater particularly for young players. Several of the original club members are still playing, however – but we do like to think of ourselves as young at heart. The club still provides a particularly warm welcome for young players, but our membership now spans all ages. Our typical students are young working professionals, but there is no age limit for learners (in either direction!).