

MARCH MADNESS AT THE BRIDGE TABLE

2026 Winter: March 19 - April 16 — Thursdays 7:15pm - 9:30pm
Location: Palo Alto Bridge Center
Instructor: Frank Smoot
Register: paloaltobridge.org → Education tab → Classes — fee: \$170

Combine your chances to win. Remember: You can't succeed without an entry.

In this five-week mostly-play course, we will combine structured learning with table practice. The deals provide many opportunities to apply what you have learned. You will improve play technique in a fun, supportive environment.

What you will learn

- Choose the best response to partner's suit opening bids.
- Manage trumps effectively, drawing them at the right time.
- Identify and combine your chances. Try them in the best order.
- Use timing and endplays to bring home tough contracts.

How the class works

Lots of bidding and play of the hand (and a little bit of homework)

We will do exercises in class (homework outside of class) and conclude each evening by playing deals related to the topic. In-class deals are available in downloadable format so you can play the hands at home and receive commentary on the bidding and play (requires Bridge Baron Software).

Topics of Five-Week Course Include

Responding

Which new suit to bid
Various ways to raise
When to bid notrump

Using Trumps

Draw immediately
Why to postpone
Endplay (what fun!)

Maximize your Options

Preserve entries
Find hidden chances
Combine multiple chances

Mar 19: Responding to a Suit
Mar 26: Entries
Apr 2: Suit Tactics
Apr 9: Combine
Apr 16: Endplay

Contact: Frank Smoot at franklinsalias-bridge@yahoo.com