

# EGCC Bridge Lessons

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## Notes from Week 6

### Scoring

You practised calculating the score using the sheet I provided. Remember the difference between Trick Points (those in the contract) and Overtricks (those in addition to the contract). Also remember you get a game bonus if your trick score is 100 points or more. Next time I will produce travellers. These are similar to what you've seen but go with the board, so you can compare how you did to what other people did with the same cards.

### Vulnerability

So far you have only been shown a simplified scoring system. There is something called vulnerability which also affects the score. On any particular board, your side may be vulnerable or non-vulnerable. To tell, look at the colours of the compass point letters on the board. If yours are orange (or red) you are vulnerable, if white then you are non-vulnerable.

If you are vulnerable then the scoring changes like this:

- The game bonus is 500 (instead of 300)
- The penalty (negative score) for not making your contract is 100 points per undertrick (instead of 50)

I have updated the scoring schedule to reflect this, which I have attached. Bear in mind it's still not complete!

### Board on table

I emphasised the need to keep the board on the table during the hand. This is for a number of reasons. One of the most important is that it ensures the cards go back into the correct slots, so the next people to play the board will be playing the same cards in the same places.

Another reason is that the board gives you information, such as whether you (or your opposition) are vulnerable and who is dealer.

### Dealer starts

When we come onto the actual bidding, the dealer starts the process. The board tells you who the dealer is.

### Trumps: Rule No 1.

Don't forget: **draw trumps as soon as you can!**

### Bidding

We have talked about how the current process of deciding the contract (how many points have we got between us? Do we have 8 cards in any suit between us?) would be replicated in the bidding. I

will shortly send you out a bidding “primer” which contains a few rules. They won’t make sense on their own but try to learn them as they will come in handy for the next lesson.

### **Next Lesson**

The next lesson is on Friday January 4<sup>th</sup>, where we will start to look at bidding the hands. Please don’t turn up this Friday – you’ll be very lonely!

### **Practice**

Try to get some practice in between now and the new year. Don’t want to be rusty when we start again!

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