

### World Bridge Federation

**WBF** 



Fédération Africaine de Bridge

1<sup>st</sup> WBF/ABF NBO Officers' Seminar Cape Town, South Africa

# Online Bridge

- Current state of online bridge
- Robot development
- Robot online play
- ✓ NEW! WBF new championship category, e-robot Play for world ranking and titles

## Online Bridge

- Practice with a partner
- Teach individuals or groups
- Practice by yourself with Robot solitaire games
- Set up team matches
- For fun, practice and competition
- Play anytime of the day, stay on as long as you want
- Greater player experience
- Inexpensive to players, much of it is free

# Online Competition: individual, Pairs, Teams

- Flexibility to hold all types of formats and movements:
   Swiss Pairs and Individual; barometer scoring
- Speed of play increases:
   scores are entered automatically; no physical movement;
   slow play is easily monitored and corrected
- Eliminates Director issues: self alerting removes many infractions (MI); no scoring errors; timing is recorded
- Niceties: play is recorded and archived

# **Robot Play**

- Robot play: Solitaire don't need a partner or opponents!
- Tournaments humans all have same 'bot partner & opponents
- Robot play is becoming a favorite pastime of online players

## Online Bridge Play

The language of Online Bridge

WBF Women's Online Club; (soon to come) Robot tournaments

**International Online Clubs:** 

BridgeBase Online USA (American Contract Bridge League)

Okbridge USA (ACBL)

**BridgeClubLive** UK

Swan Games Sweden

OurGame.com China

StepBridge The Netherlands (Netherland Bridge Bond)

StepBridge Australia (Australian Bridge Federation)

## Online Bridge Play

- NBO sanctioned play;
   Special Events (College, Women's Festival, Exhibition)
- Robot Play: Solitaire Games on Computer/Tablet/iPhone
- Youth Online Activities: Youth games on BBO
- Interclub: SABF Interclub Teams Season 13, 2017
   Schedule Results

### SABF BBO INTERCLUB LEAGUE

### **FIXTURE LIST - SEASON 13**

Commencement date: 16 Mar 2017

NB: If you cannot play on the scheduled Match Date, please arrange a mutually suitable date with the opposition's captain!

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Match	Day	Match	Tab	ole 1	Tab	<u>le 2</u>	Tab	ole 3	Tab	<u>le 4</u>	Tab	ole <u>5</u>	<u>T</u>	able 6		Table 7
Match	Day	Date	Home	Away	Home	Away	Home	Away	Home	Away	Home	Away	Home	Away	Home	Away
1	Thu	16 Mar 2017	HBW	WAND	IMP	TRUM	JBC	PE	KRBT	BBC	KNY	PE7	LNK	PECBC	KRBM	
2	Thu	30 Mar 2017	IMP	HBW		JBC	WAND	KBRT	TRUM	KNY	PE	LNK	BBC	KRBM	PE7	PECBC
3	Thu	06 Apr 2017	HBW	KNY	KRBT	IMP	LNK	JBC	KRBM	WAND	PECBC	TRUM	PE7	PE	BBC	
4	Thu	20 Apr 2017	PECBC	HBW	IMP	KRBM	JBC	PE7	KRBT	KNY	TRUM	PE	LNK		WAND	BBC
5	Thu	04 May 2017	HBW	PE	BBC	IMP	TRUM	JBC	PECBC	KRBT	KRBM	KNY		WAND	PE7	LNK
6	Thu	25 May 2017	JBC	HBW	IMP	WAND	KRBT	PE	KNY	BBC	LNK	TRUM	KRBM	PECBC		PE7
7	Thu	08 Jun 2017	HBW	LNK		IMP	JBC	KRBT	WAND	KNY	PE	KRBM	BBC	PECBC	TRUM	PE7
8	Thu	22 Jun 2017	HBW	PE7	IMP	KNY	JBC	KRBM	KRBT	LNK	PECBC	WAND	BBC	PE	TRUM	
9	Thu	13 Jul 2017	TRUM	HBW	PECBC	IMP	BBC	JBC	PE7	KRBT		KNY	KRBM	LNK	WAND	PE
10	Thu	27 Jul 2017	HBW		IMP	PE	JBC	WAND	KRBT	TRUM	KNY	PECBC	LNK	BBC	KRBM	PE7
11	Thu	10 Aug 2017	KRBM	HBW	JBC	IMP	PE	KNY	WAND	LNK	TRUM	KRBM		PECBC	BBC	PE7
12	Thu	24 Aug 2017	HBW	KRBM	IMP	LNK	JBC	KNY	KRBT		PECBC	PE	PE7	WAND	TRUM	BBC
13	Thu	14 Sep 2017	BBC	HBW	PE7	IMP	PECBC	JBC	KRBM	KRBT	LNK	KNY		PE	WAND	TRUM

TmNo	Club	Code		
1	HILLBROW	HBW		
2	IMPALA	IMP		
3	JBC	JBC		
4	KEURBOOM TH	KRBM		
5	KNYSNA	KNY		

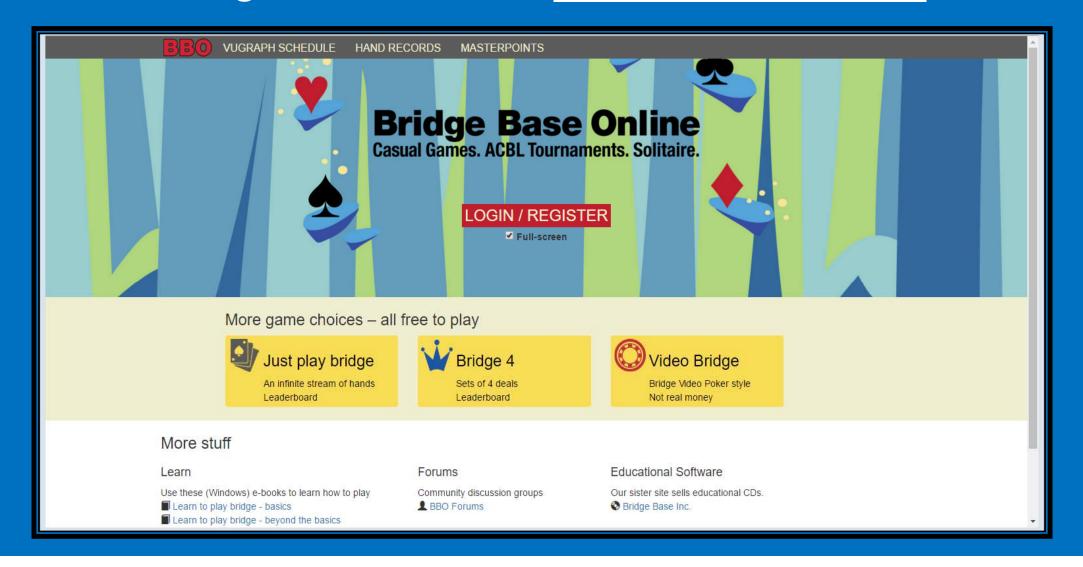
TmNo	Club	Code	
6	THE LINKS	LINK	
7	KEURBOOM MON	KRBM	
8	PE CONTRACT BC	PECBC	
9	PE007	PE7	
10	BEREA BC	BBC	

TmNo	Club	Code
11	PORT ELIZABETH	PE
12	TRUMPS	TRUM
13	WAMDERERS	WAND
14		

# Robot Online Play Recreational robot games

- BridgeBase Online
- FunBridge
- BridgeNow
- others

### Bridge Base Online www.BridgeBase.com





### BridgeBase Online

Arrange team matches Live broadcast on BBO

### Bridge-Now.com

### Wbridge5 robot

♠ Bridge Now!

▶ Play ▼

My Results

Rankings



# **Bridge Now!**

Play **duplicate bridge** on the web, anytime, anywhere, on a friendly and modern interface. **Learn, improve and have fun** by comparing your results with your friends and other members.

No partner necessary: you play with a **world champion** robot.

▶ Play a Game Now!

#### **About Us**

Bridge Now! was created by Christophe Levesque, Noëlle Delahaye and Camellia Pham, in partnership with Yves Costel. We are bridge players with a passion for the internet and technology, who decided to take matters in their own hands and build the best site to play bridge online.

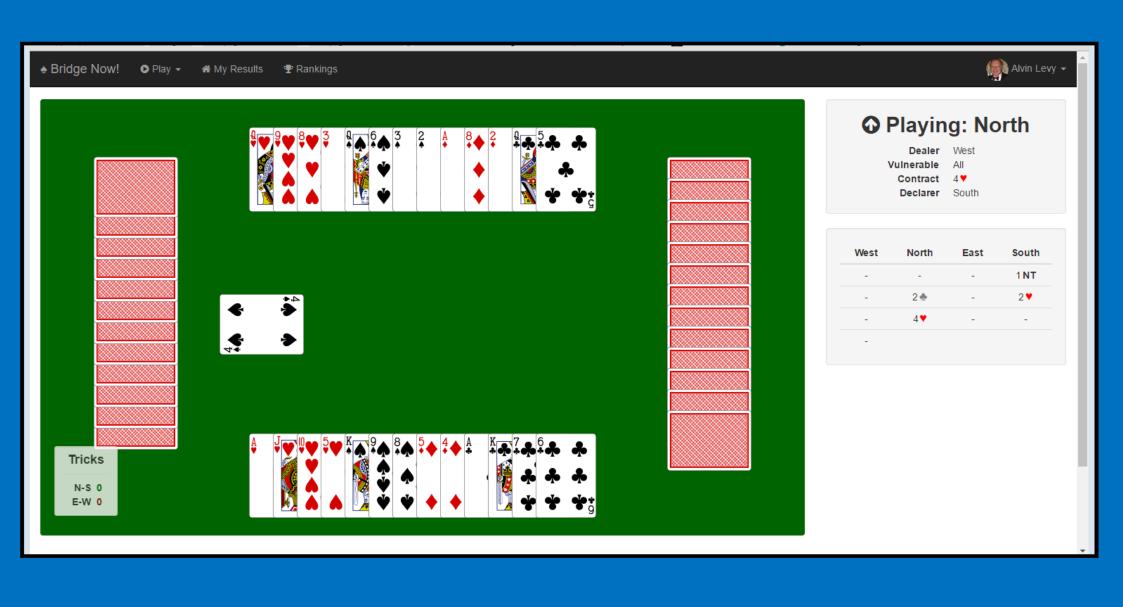
#### **Features**

Play with WBridge5, a bridge robot that won the computer bridge world championship many times. During the bidding phase, hints help you interpret bids. After a game is over, you can compare yourself to the other players and see your ranking.

### **Participate**

Bridge Now! is being actively developed and improved with new features rolling out every week. We welcome any feedback and if you want participate and help us make this site the best one to play bridge online, contact us!

Contact Us »



### Fun Bridge: Play on Computer, Tablet, and Smartphone



Home page

Download -

Help ▼

Tournaments -

Blog

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### Funbridge in a few words

Funbridge allows you to play bridge deals on smartphones, tablets (iPhone, iPad, Android) and computers (Mac and Windows PC), and compare yourself with hundreds of other players on the same deals. Compare your bids and card play with many other players, rank yourself and make rapid progress.

Find out more



#### **EVERYONE TO HIS PACE**

You play wherever and whenever you like You can interrupt a game to resume it later Available 24/24



#### **EVERYONE TO HIS TOURNAMENT**

Daily tournaments (more than 1,000 players every day) Practice tournaments Series tournaments allowing you to compare yourself with players of your level



#### AND MUCH MORE ...

Series ranking Watch again/replay a deal Access to bidding and card play details

## **NEW** WBF e-Robot Category

Robot play is becoming a favorite pastime of online players

WBF championship categories:

Open, Senior, Women, Mixed

and e-Robot

- Master Point system, rankings, titles to be awarded
- Online promotional activities to follow

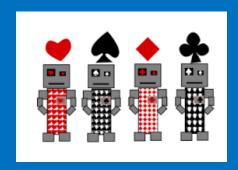
### WBF Robot tournaments

- Daylong tournaments, Imps and Matchpoints games
- Play 18-boards over a 24-hour period
- Play against a large field
- 'cheat' proof
- Inexpensive
- Revenue sharing with zonal organizations and NBOs

## Suggested Future Internet Activities

- ✓ The ABF might considering online zonal team matches
- ✓ Youngsters and newcomers can be encouraged to play bridge with online play, supervised play, and robot games
- ✓ Play in Robot World Competition

# Bridge Robot Development



Wikipedia – Computer Bridge

# Robot Development

- Chess (board games): Complete information
- Bridge: Incomplete information
   based on probability and game theory
   No AI...yet. Double dummy simulations, plus much more
- Development: 1990s; 1<sup>st</sup> World Robot Championship, 1997;
   21<sup>st</sup> annual championship at 2017 World Championships, Lyon



### World Computer-Bridge Championship

21st World Computer-Bridge Championship, August 19-24, 2017 at the WBF 43rd World Bridge Teams Championship, Lyon, France

Wbridge5 wins 2016 gold medal

Some slam deals from semifinals

2016 World robot title goes down to the last byte

Daily Bulletin Issues 6, 8, 10, 12 and 14

2016 Entries Contact me

World Computer-Bridge Championship History

### World Computer-Bridge Championship History

#### HISTORY

In 1996 the American Contract Bridge League established an official World Computer-Bridge Championship, to be run annually at an international bridge event. The first annual championship was held in 1997, at the ACBL's Albuquerque summer NABC. Following championships have been held at ACBL NABCs, World Bridge Federation World Championships, and the first European Bridge Federation Open Championship.

2016 Championship: Entries, Complete Results, articles, photos

Articles (2000-2015) in the International Computer Games Association Journal

The 1st Championship, sponsored by Baron Barclay Bridge Supplies, was held in Albuquerque, New Mexico, at the ACBL's 1997 summer North American Bridge Championship. The inaugural World Computer-Bridge Championship was won by Bridge Baron, with Q-Plus Bridge second. <a href="Information and results">Information and results</a>.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Championship, sponsored by Baron Barclay Bridge Supplies and OKbridge, was held in Chicago, IL, at the ACBL's 1998 summer NABC. The champion was won by GIB, with Q-Plus Bridge second. Information and results

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Championship, sponsored by Orbis Investments, was held in Bermuda at the WBF's 1999

Bermuda Bowl/Venice Cup (January 2000). GIB repeated as champion, with Wbridge5 second.

Information and results

Search ...

### Send your comments along

Write to allevy@aol.com See my webpages at allevybridge.com and bridge-robots.com

#### robots at play



# Robots, developers, websites

- Jack Hans Kuijf, The Netherlands www.jackbridge.com
- Wbridge5 Yves Costel, France www.wbridge5.com
- Shark Bridge John Norris,
   Denmark <u>www.sharkbridge.dk</u>
- Micro Bridge Tomio Uchida,
   Japan
   www.osk.3web.ne.jp/~mcbridge/
- Synrey Bridge Yuzhang Liu,
   China <u>www.xinruibridge.com</u>

- Q-Plus Bridge Hans Leber,
   Germany www.q-plus.com
- Bridge Baron, USA www.bridgebaron.com
- RoboBridge Job Scheffers, The Netherlands www.robobridge.com
- Goto Bridge Jérôme Rombaut, France, www.gotobridge.com/en
- GIB BridgeBase Online, USA www.bridgebase.com

Board 4 Dlr: W

North

**532** 

Vul: None AQJ4

**♦** Q3

♣ A653

West

AQ6

**K8732** 

**♦** T

**QJ84** 

East

**◆** JT984

**T**5

**♦** J74

**♣** KT7

South

**♠** K7

**9**96

**AK98652** 

**9**92

West

North

Shark Bridge Wbridge5

1

2

Pass

Pass

Pass Dbl <sup>1</sup>

4NT

6

East

South

Shark Bridge Wbridge5

10

2

Pass

3 **9** 2

Pass

**5** ♦ <sup>3</sup>

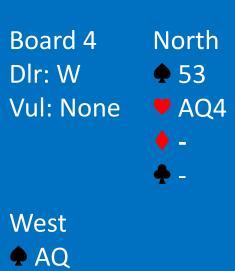
All Pass

### Opening lead &Q

<sup>1</sup> strength with 4+ clubs

<sup>2</sup> spade stopper, looking for heart stopper for NT

<sup>3</sup> 1 ace



**K87** 

East	
<b>♠</b> JT	
<b>♥</b> T	
<b>♦</b> -	
<b>♣</b> KT	

West	North
Shark Bridge	Wbridge5
<b>1</b> ••	Pass
2♠	Dbl <sup>1</sup>
Pass	4NT
Pass	<b>6</b> ♦

East	South
Shark Bridge	e Wbridge5
10	2 🍑
Pass	3 <sup>©</sup> <sup>2</sup>
Pass	5 <b>♦</b> <sup>3</sup>
All Pass	

South

♠ K7

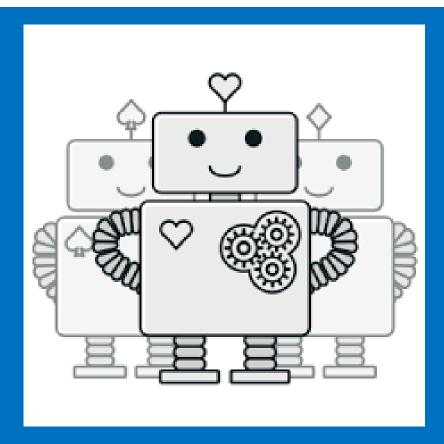
♥ 9

♠ 2

♠ 9

South lead • 2

Bridge Robots have developed feelings







# World Bridge Federation



Fédération Africaine de Bridge

✓ A Partnership in Bridge

### Robots take over

