

Marvelous Monday: Jan – Mar 2025

Here is our Marvelous Monday lineup for First Quarter 2025. These lessons are intended for players at all skill levels, including the best player in our club to beginners wanting advanced lessons. The start promptly at 11:30 and run approximately one hour. In order to offset the expense of materials and printing, a voluntary donation of any amount is accepted but not required.

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| 1 | Jan 6 | T/O Doubles | Barbara S |
| 2 | Jan 13 | Balancing | Jack W |
| 3 | Jan 20 | Responding to a Take Out Double | Bob H |
| 4 | Jan 27 | Declare (and do it Better) | Steven D |
| 5 | Feb 3 | Fourth Suit Forcing I- 2/1 essential! | Gayle C |
| 6 | Feb 10 | Fourth Suit Forcing II - 2/1 essential! | Gayle C |
| 7 | Feb 17 | Overcalls | Joe O |
| 8 | Feb 24 | IMPs | Steven D |
| 9 | Mar 3 | Rabbi's Rules I - Things you gotta know! | Kay A |
| 10 | Mar 10 | What Double is This? | Bob H |
| 11 | Mar 17 | Rabbi's Rules II - Things you gotta know! | Kay A |
| 12 | Mar 24 | Hands from the Trenches (Memphis!) | Steven D |
| 13 | Mar 31 | Let's discuss: Drury and New Minor Forcing | Gayle C |

See next page.

More about your teacher and their lesson topic:

- 1 Barbara Sullenger, new to our list, has taught on cruise ships and bridge clubs for years....and always a fave! Now NWTBC gets her! Just because Rightie opens and you have an opening bid, you don't necessarily have a bid. What should a T/O Double look like? What are you telling partner when you pull out that red card?
- 2 Jack Wholey, our own National Champ, will tackle the topic of Overcalls. Mike Lawrence is THE expert. Jack, who knows Mike, will work from Mike's words of wisdom. Bad overcalls guarantee you'll lose; good overcalls give you the chance to win!
- 3 Bob Hertzog, NWTBC teacher extradonaire, will pick up where Barbara left off, expanding on the topic in 'Responding to Overcalls.' You ask yourself: What do I do now? Bob will tell you!
- 4 Steven DeVico, just short of 10,000 points, is playing great bridge and giving great lessons. We really focused on Defense in the last months of 2024; Steven kicks off talking about improving your Declarer play. You MUST take all of your tricks to win!
- 5/6 Gayle Covey has threatened to teach FSF for a year; now she does. You simply cannot play modern bridge – 2/1 – if you don't know how to force. And you can't force without FSF. These are the most fun auctions in bridge. AND....After 4SF, what next? Two classes can actually turn you into a MUCH better bidder.
- 7 Joe Olivier will talk about Overcalls. What are you saying to pard when you overcall? What should you have....and what should partner count on? What are you inviting pard to do? Bidding is a conversation. Again: what are YOU saying?
- 8 Steven on IMPs. The Tucson Regional starts tomorrow. Playing teams? You can't miss this one! IMP Strategy....designed for winning bridge THIS week!
- 9/11 Kay Afdahl (our Director in Charge, heartbeat of our club, longtime club owner in Va Beach, 10,000+ master points) kicks off March. She's put together the Rabbi's Rules! Just like Eddie Kantar, Kay knows – and shares – basic tenets for better bridge. (And, she says, you and pard should agree on these!)
- 10 Bob said this 'vague' topic is not vague at all. That red card comes out all the time in all sorts of auctions. What double IS this?????
- 12 Steven brings back "Hands from the Trenches"—things that actually happened at the bridge table that we can laugh at, criticize, praise....and LEARN FROM!! He'll just be back from 10 days at the Nationals and will bring us the best hands he played, defended, witnessed.
- 13 Gayle ends the first quarter talking about a couple of conventions that many/most play – Drury and New Minor Forcing. There are different ways to play both conventions; nothing is really 'standard.' She'll talk about why these are pretty essential tools for modern bidding – and how you can examine what these tools might look like in YOUR tool chest.