**Haven’t tried RealBridge yet? It is pretty straight forward.**

It is intuitive, so you don’t really need a training session – just dive in to one of the four sessions being run weekly by your Cambridge Bridge Club.

**What you need:** Ideally, a computer with a camera and microphone. Most laptops have these features.

**To get started:** on the day of the session you want, and about 15 minutes before the stated starting time, click the link in the weekly email you have been getting for that session. The links are also on the club web page <https://www.cambridge.bridge-club.org/index.php/> in a message on the home page, titled something like “Links for week 47 sessions for Real Bridge”.

**Next:** You will get a login screen. Type your name (use capitals for the first letter of your first and last names), and your NZBridge ID number (something like 22129).

**Next:** You are in! You are now in what is called the lobby. On the left you will see a number of table icons, some with names in the boxes, some blank. If you have prearranged a partner, click on the empty box opposite their name, and you will be seated at that table, and partnered with that person. If you haven’t prearranged a partner, either click on an empty box where the opposite box is also empty, and you will eventually be assigned a partner. Or be brave, and click on the empty box opposite a name, and ask if they need a partner. Or type a message in the chat box in the lobby to ask if anyone needs a partner and send – then join your new partner at an agreed table. You’ll find it’s just like being at the club as you can see and talk to everyone at your table

The director will try to get everyone matched up with a partner before the start of play – be patient, they will get to you before play starts!

**When play starts**, you will see the cards you have been dealt. When it is your turn to bid, a yellow bar will come on your screen for your position, and a set of bidding cards will appear. The yellow bar moves around to indicate who’s turn it is to do something. Click the bid you want to make, others will do the same, and carry on when the yellow bar comes around to you again, until bidding is complete.

**Now the play of the cards starts**. A yellow bar will come on your screen for your position when it is your turn to play a card. Click on the card you wish to play, and the play will move on as usual. You only have something to do when the yellow bar is on your screen for your position.

At the end of the board, the result will be displayed for a few seconds, then the next board will be dealt. Wait for the yellow bar in your position to bid and play.

**Chatting:** Real bridge allows you to chat to the people at your table. You can also click to call the director, and click to claim the remaining last few tricks in a board if you feel that is appropriate.

**Locked up:** Sometimes, your computer may get overloaded and lock up. It is recommended you don’t have a bunch of other applications running on your computer while you are playing RealBridge. If your computer does freeze, we suggest you click the refresh symbol on the tab on your browser (with the circular arrow symbol) or if that doesn’t work, close your browser, and log in again using the link to the session.