



# The BBO Sessions

For the Exciting Game of Bridge

As Taught to My Students on Bridge Base Online

Warren Watson

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## Preface

Bridge Base Online (BBO)<sup>1</sup> is a good place to find a game of bridge, but it is also a good place to teach students how to improve. In each lesson, I review basic bidding sequences in BBO's partnership bidding room, and then a few hands are played at a teaching table in BBO's relaxed bridge room. The resulting examples certainly help a player's skill at bridge.

This book, with similar and additional examples, is an overview of my lessons on BBO. Often bridge students are quick to fill up a convention card without having built a strong foundation. The examples given complement my other books and provide the practice an advancing player needs. These examples are relevant for various bridge bidding systems.

I recommend reading a few pages of this book before every session of bridge. Once the basics in this book are learned by rote, attention can be given to more advanced aspects of bridge such as squeezes, endplays, reversals, en passant, table presence and counting cards, just to name a few. The book ends with such examples as the reader should be ready for them.

I am WT\_Watson on BBO, and I am happy to conduct lessons over the phone and on BBO (bridgebase.com) simultaneously. This may satisfy the desire for more after reading this book.

Please enjoy.

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<sup>1</sup> Bridge Base Online (BBO) is an excellent bridge playing site with teaching and learning resources found at <https://www.bridgebase.com/>.





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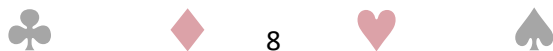




# Part I

## Partnership

## Bidding





## Chapter One

### Partner Opens 1NT

Write the answers down, and then check with the answers following each question.

#### Example 1.1: The Pigeon Holes

When a player opens 1NT, 15 to 17, the partner puts his hand into what pigeon holes?





## Answers:

0 to 4

### **The Dead Zone**

If vulnerable and the opponents overcall, A player is ecstatic.  
Trash Stayman and the MST<sup>2</sup> are used only with 0 to 4.

5 to 7

### **The Partscore Zone**

Find the best contract below game.

8 to 9

### **The Invitational Zone**

2NT directly or indirectly after Stayman or a transfer.  
New suit at the two-level is also invitational not drop dead.

10 to 15

### **The Game Zone**

Get partner to game.  
New suits at the three-level are game forcing after Stayman or a transfer.

16+

### **The Slam Investigation Zone**

This could be less when holding a long suit.  
4NT with a flat or semi-flat<sup>3</sup> hand is quantitative directly and usually indirectly.  
Discuss with partner the meanings of 4♣ and 4NT after Stayman or a transfer.

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<sup>2</sup> Minor Suit Transfer. 2♠ is a transfer to 3♣ which is either passed or corrected to 3♦.

<sup>3</sup> 4333 is flat, and 4432 is semi-flat.





Trail, BC, Pencil on Paper, 24.5cm x 17.5cm, 2016

Warren Watson is a former Aerospace Engineer and is currently an artist, with a diploma in Fine Arts from Okanagan University College in Kelowna, BC, and an avid bridge player. He is an ACBL Diamond Life Master, an ACBL accredited bridge teacher, a writer of 347 columns in the Trail Times, a published author, an ACBL director, an accredited ACBL tournament assistant and the Kootenay Jewel Bridge Club manager (9½ years). He currently resides in Trail, BC, and in winter, likes to ski Grey Mountain of Red Mountain Resort.



Self Portrait, Pencil on Paper  
25cm x 20cm, 2015

