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Bridge: 25 Ways To Compete In The Bidding (Bridge (Master Point Press))



Synopsis

A follow-up book from the author team that produced the award-winning and best-selling 25 Bridge Conventions You Should Know. Aimed at the same novice/social player audience as their first book, this new title deals with competitive auctions in which the opponents have opened the bidding. This is the most complex area of bridge bidding, and has never up to now been dealt with comprehensively in a book that is understandable for non-experts.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Barbara Seagram is one of North America's top bridge teachers, and is a popular speaker on cruise ships and at bridge events throughout the world. Marc Smith (UK) is probably best-known as the co-author of the bestselling "25 Bridge Conventions You Should Know." However, he has many other books to his credit, and contributed regularly to BRIDGE magazine in the UK.

As a newer bridge player, this has reduced the times I am frozen in fear not knowing what to bid, with everyone staring at me! You know the feeling, right? This answers a lot of the questions you have when you have absolutely no idea what to bid. Everything is written in clear, concise language with a bit of humor thrown in. I am grateful that Barbara Seagram has written all the "25" books - I would have given up ages ago without them.

It takes situations in which you would normally abstain from participating in the hand and provides a strategy for getting involved and possibly winning the hand. A very clever and well-conceived

book. Phillip Rohlin

Very clear and well written.

Well organized and very readable.

Clear writing. Has hand examples. Summery questions and answers. Good thoughtful ideas.

This is another great bridge book from these authors. My partner and I have used their earlier books ("25 Bridge Conventions You Should Know" and "25 More Conventions ...") as the basis of our partnership agreements on bidding. I am an experienced duplicate bridge player and did not expect to learn much from this book. Looking through the contents, I thought I knew most of the topics that were covered. But once again, the book brings a clarity of thinking and discipline to the important area of competitive bidding. This is not just a book for novice bridge players or even solid intermediates. Any student of the game will benefit from reading it. Read it and I guarantee your game will improve.

One of the best-selling books on bridge, and an essential for novice / intermediate players, is Barbara Seagram's (with Marc Smith) popular text "25 Bridge Conventions You Should Know." We picked up a copy of this follow-on -- "25 Ways to Compete..." -- guessing that it would be the same quality as the earlier book and hopefully just as interesting and useful. We were not to be disappointed! Like "25 Conventions", "25 Ways" has 25 chapters, each covering different methods for getting into the auction once the opponents have opened the bidding. Rather than organize these topics somewhat at random by difficulty, this book organizes the topics by broad competitive area, dividing the discussions into six groups: Suit Overcalls (5 chapters); Takeout Doubles (4); Notrump Overcalls (2); 1NT Defenses (3); Bidding over Preempts (5); and General Competitive Issues (6). While some of the chapters are as short as 5 or 6 pages, others go into more detail by presenting more alternatives. For example, the chapter on conventional defenses over a 1NT opening describes Landy, Cappelletti, and DONT, while mentioning that plenty of others exist. As Eddie Kantar points out in his forward, there are even chapters (his favorites) introducing the subjects of the Law of Total Tricks and Hand Evaluation. While some of this material can be handled by advanced beginners, we suspect most of the techniques will appeal to intermediate players. Sometimes it takes frustration with current bidding limitations to see the real motivation behind many

of the methods disclosed herein. But the chapter summaries, sample problems, and explanatory answers echo the quality we discovered in the author's other work. To become a nastier opponent, get yourself a copy of "25 Ways"!

I have a huge bridge library. This book and its companion book make a great set of "BEST SOURCE" books for intermediate players - "25 Bridge Conventions You Should Know" and "25 Ways to Compete." Very readable, well illustrated with clear examples, it's a breezy way to get in-depth knowledge. Not since Bill Root (world's best bridge instructor) passed away, have I read something so straight forward, and clear, on what could be a very complex topic. The authors make it seem easy, not intimidating. I loved it.

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