



Technology available for Teaching Bridge Online

A guideline from the
New South Wales Bridge Association

The pandemic has interrupted our players' learning. Developing players learn not only via courses run by certified teachers but also, in a club setting, via interaction with the director or with club officials who give assistance. We sincerely thank all those who have been teaching our players in various ways during this difficult time.

This NSWBA document summarises developments in technology for online teaching and learning over the past two years. We hope it will point you in the direction of a platform that matches your teaching style, to support you in helping your players to continue to learn.



SHARK BRIDGE TEACHERS CONSOLE (SBTC)

<https://www.thesharkbridgecompany.com/blogs/teachers-manuals/sb-teacher-console-demo>

The Shark Bridge Teachers Console (SBTC) is a platform that is specially designed for bridge teachers to run an interactive class. The Teacher's Table allows a teacher to control and make changes on all students' tables simultaneously. This platform has proved very successful in North America. Some benefits are:

- You are not constrained by the need for 4 students per table; a teaching session can run with 2 students vs robots or even 1 student at a table, plus you can change this setting during a session.
- You can arrange for a student to kibitz other students' table.
- During a session, you can swap cards around in a pre-loaded hand, to show the effect of different layouts.
- SBTC integrates with Zoom, with built-in controls for the breakout function.
- For more information about features of the program, please refer to their [Teachers' Manual](#).

NSWBA has liaised with Shark Bridge, who have agreed to organise live demonstrations and step-by-step training sessions for NSW affiliated clubs, on demand. SBTC will also offer a Club Account as a way for a group of teachers to share the usage and the SBTC credits. Please email office@nswba.com.au with your names and email addresses for a group presentation. NSWBA is investigating ways of supporting the cost of use of this platform by teachers.



REALBRIDGE

<https://realbridge.online/>

RealBridge has rapidly gained a strong following because of its built-in video and audio capabilities, allowing sessions that closely resemble "face-to-face" bridge. Tournament directors applaud its sophisticated control of movement and scoring. It also has support for teaching, in particular for introductory and [supervised play](#) sessions:

- Teachers can broadcast to all tables similar to a pilot making inflight announcement.
- Teachers can speak to one student privately while the other 3 students continue to chat to one another.
- Notes and important messages can be placed in a Table Notice.
- View switching gives you the option to view more tables in limited screen space.

To learn more about the platform you can attend one of their [regular presentations](#).



Bridge Base
O N L I N E

BRIDGE BASE ONLINE (BBO)

www.bridgebase.com

The [BBO Teaching Table](#) is free to use. Although it offers fewer interactive features than the other platforms mentioned above, it can still be a good tool for a teacher to offer a presentation, with no limit on the number of students (as kibitzers). The recent addition of voice chat to BBO teaching tables makes it easier to have a live presentation and some interactive Q&A with your students. Of course it is also possible to have a concurrent Zoom or Google Meet session.

The NSWBA is currently updating its list of those involved with teaching our players. We would be grateful if clubs would send us names and email addresses of those currently involved in teaching, so that we can help our teachers to exchange resources, knowledge and experience.

Please fill in and return the following form for the NSW Teaching List to office@nswba.com.au:

Full Name	Club(s) you teach in	Email address



New South Wales Bridge Association

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