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THE BRIDGE REPORT

by Bob Sutton

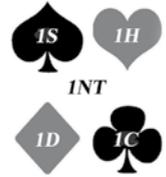
Over time, I have pointed out the basics of Bridge; however, all that has been said does not apply to every hand you pick-up. You may not be too concerned when your hand has less than six points only, but please pay attention to the bidding and, when you have an opening, you bid it. How is it then, when all the 'bells and whistles' start to kick in that you know what to do?

You know what to bid because you *read it somewhere* and stored the information in your *memory bank*. Next, it is your turn to bid, and you have already passed once, what do you do? To respond to your partner, access your *memory bank*: the correct bid is waiting to come out. This is why the medical profession states that playing Bridge helps to keep our brain's memory in order.

However, you do not need to use all you have learned with every hand you are dealt, just make sure your memory bank is accessed when you come across each new situation.

That is as I see it.

For additional information, contact Bob at 705-656-9401. See you **Fridays** from **1 to 4 p.m.** at the NKCC.



Editor's Note: This is a great example of the psychological principle described as *context-dependent memory* – which is the improved ability to recall specific information or episodes when the *context* of the memory encoding and retrieval are the same. When you re-trace your steps, or re-enact a previous experience, the context of the situation helps you to recall information from your memory bank!

Another example is recalling lyrics. You can't remember the words, to a song, but when you start singing, somehow all the words come out!



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