Sources for Becoming a Better Player

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1 Bidding
   1.1   2/1: Michael Lawrence's DVD
   1.2   Competitive Bidding: Larry Cohen's *To Bid or Not to Bid*
   1.3   Conventions:
      1.3.1 Root & Pavlicek: *Modern Bridge Conventions*
      1.3.2 Dr. Google
      1.3.3 Bridge Baron
      1.3.4 *Eric Rodwell's Bidding Topics* (if you can persuade your partner to learn and play these sophisticated extensions))
   1.4   Slams:
      1.4.1 Marty Bergen's *Slam Bidding Made Easier*
      1.4.2 Marty Bergen's columns in the *Bridge Bulletin*
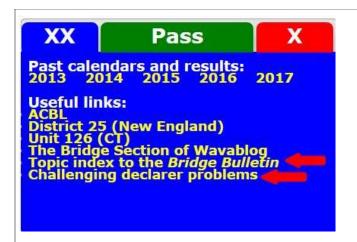
2 Play of the hand:
   2.1   Root's *How to Play a Bridge Hand*
   2.2   My collection of hands on the Simsbury website
   2.3   A book of squeeze techniques
   2.4   Eddie Kantar's columns in the *Bridge Bulletin*

3 Defense:
   3.1   Eddie Kantar Teaches Modern Bridge Defense
   3.2   Leads: David Byrd and Taf Anthias: *Winning Notrump Leads* and *Winning Suit Contract Leads*
   3.3   August Boehm's columns in the *Bridge Bulletin*

4 Miscellaneous
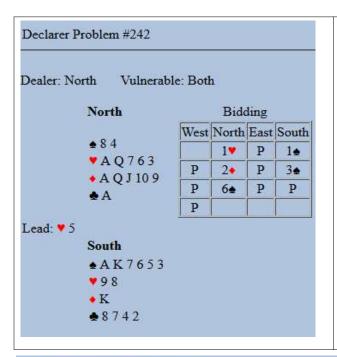   4.1   Hundreds of great articles in the *Bridge Bulletin*
   4.2   Mel Colchamiro's *How to Play Like an Expert* has many useful "rules."
   4.3   Larry Cohen's website, www.larryco.com is amazing.
   4.4   The two series in the *Bridge Bulletin* concerning filling out the convention card are essential reading.
   4.5   *The Bridge Encyclopedia* has a few topics that are not on Google.

The club's website is wavada.org/SimsburyBC. Click on the XX tab for useful links.

The *Bridge Bulletins* for the last 13 years are online. I made a topic index, which anyone can use to find articles. A sample is on the next page.

The "Challenging declarer problems" links to a program that I wrote after collecting hundreds of problems from diverse sources. They are displayed in random order. One is shown below.

Declarer Problem #242

Dealer: North   Vulnerable: Both

North
♠ 8 4
♥ A Q 7 6 3
♦ A Q J 10 9
♣ A

Bidding

West	North	East	South
	1♥	P	1♠
P	2♦	P	3♠
P	6♠	P	P
P			

Lead: ♥ 5

South
♠ A K 7 6 5 3
♥ 9 8
♦ K
♣ 8 7 4 2

The program shows you the dealer, the vulnerability, the auction, and both hands. South is always the declarer. On the left is the opening lead, and at the bottom is any additional information you need about the first two tricks, if any.

When you click on the "Solve" button at the bottom of the screen, the best method of playing the hand (as specified by the source) appears to the right of the auction, as displayed below.

Dealer: North   Vulnerable: Both

North
♠ 8 4
♥ A Q 7 6 3
♦ A Q J 10 9
♣ A

Bidding

West	North	East	South
	1♥	P	1♠
P	2♦	P	3♠
P	6♠	P	P
P			

Lead: ♥ 5

South
♠ A K 7 6 5 3
♥ 9 8
♦ K
♣ 8 7 4 2

Solution: Win and cash the ace and king of spades. Then lead diamonds. Drop the losing heart first.

Remark:

Source: How to Play a Hand at Bridge