

Hand Entry & Analysis

Our Bridge Center of Buffalo website has a powerful new feature designed to supercharge your duplicate bridge education...our Hand Entry application. It allows you to efficiently enter, analyze, print and save any bridge hand.

It should be obvious that the Bridge Center is dedicated to:

- Attracting thoughtful game players from our community to share our wonderful passion.
- Promoting the highest standard of Duplicate Bridge play.

Our website is a vital component of these missions. Detailed results of every session played at our club are immediately posted to the internet so players can study and analyze their performance. This includes not only Hand Records of every deal and display of results at each table, but also Double Dummy Analyses.

It will not be clear just what this entails until you try it. Get online after any of our games and “relive” your performance on interesting hands. See how others did rated against your play and the optimal standard. It may take a little practice to become comfortable with the operation but the rewards are worth it. It will make you a better bridge player.

Click on “Results” on the Navigator Bar of our Home Page. Select any game of interest. Clicking the Double Dummy column will transport to a page where every hand can be analyzed in detail.

Now we are expanding that powerful capability to hands played outside our club. This capability can be easily accessed by clicking Hand Analysis on the website Navigator Bar. You will be presented with a screen allowing you to efficiently enter any hand. Once entered, you may submit to the Double Dummy analyzer or print it out or save it in a standard bridge format.

If you adhere to my basic principle of computer operation, “Real men don’t read manuals.”, then you can intuitively enter your hand without instructions. A little trial-and-error with the different buttons should suffice. Read the following if you are interested in the fine points.

Upon entering the Hand Entry application, you will note a “Hand Name” entry box at the top. Naming your hand is not required but will facilitate many of the useful features.

The screen contains several areas surrounded by red or green borders. Regions within red borders hold information about your hand. The contents will change as your hand is entered but may not be modified directly by you. Regions within green borders are valid entry areas where you may interact with the app. A line of control buttons along the bottom of the screen complete our display.

The most prominent feature is the array of 52 push buttons in the “Deck” box. Initially all buttons are green in color. This is our “deck” with 13 cards in each suit. A “Direction” control box holding 4 radio buttons is immediately to the right with the “North” option checked. Green buttons signify a card in the deck; red buttons show cards allocated to a hand.

The line of control buttons along the bottom access special operations.

Analysis – This button is deactivated until all 4 hands are complete. Pressing it will invoke the Double Dummy Hand Analysis Tool

Rotate – Rotates all hands one step in the clockwise direction, i.e. the North Hand will become East, East will become South, etc. The Dealer and Vulnerability displayed will also rotate with the hands.

Print – Displays the hand in a simple printable format. Hit the “Print” Button on the page to access all Windows Print functions.

Save – Allows you to create a file in a PBN (Portable Bridge Notation) suitable to interface with many bridge programs. For example, this is a format supported by our Dealer 4 machine. Please contact the Club Manager for assistance. This feature is not for Luddites.

Clear – Brings us back to the original state with all cards back in the deck.

Auto/Edit – Toggles between Auto Fill Mode where the fourth hand is automatically completed, and Edit Mode where hands can be edited.

Close – Closes the page.