

RUBBER BRIDGE SCORING

We	They
860	210
500 150	30
40 70	60
	120
100	

The traditional method of scoring at bridge is as follows.

A scoresheet is used like the one shown here. The left hand side of the sheet is used to enter the scores for the “We” side (the one doing the scoring) and all scores for the “They” side are entered on the right hand side. Your goal in rubber bridge is to make two games before the opponents do. The dark horizontal line is important because it is used to separate overtricks, bonuses and penalties from points that count towards making game.

The only points that go “below the line” are the trick scores for contracts bid and made. All other points are scored above the line. The same values are used for trick scores and penalties as in all bridge scoring. Thus if you bid 2♠ and make nine tricks you score 60 below the line (for 2♠) and 30 above the line (for the overtrick). And if you defeat a contract of 4♠ three tricks not vulnerable you get 150 above the line.

There is one bonus score peculiar to rubber bridge: **honors**. In a suit contract, any player holding four of the top five honors in trumps is given 100 points; holding all five top honors (ace through ten) is worth 150 points. In notrump, any player holding all four aces is

awarded 150 for honors.

The first side to accumulate 100 points below the line has won the first game and become vulnerable. This can be done in one deal or a series of deals. A line is drawn on the sheet as shown to indicate that a new game is starting at nil-nil and any new trick scores are entered below the new line.

The first side to score up two games has won the rubber and gets a bonus: 500 for winning the rubber 2-1, and 700 for winning it 2-0. This replaces the game and partscore bonuses that you receive in other forms of scoring. For example, you do not get an extra 50 points for making a partscore. However, the usual bonus is still awarded if you bid and make a slam.

At the end of the rubber, all the points for each side are added together, both above and below the line, and the winner is the side with the higher total – which may not be the side which won the rubber!

BARBARA SEAGRAM'S

Beginning Bridge

MASTER POINT PRESS

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