

Using Both Zoom and Your Internet Browser (Shark Bridge) in Bridge Class

I strongly encourage you to review and practice this before your classes start, if you have never used Zoom and another program at the same time.

What is an Internet Browser?

This is the program, or app on your device which allows you to access the Internet. The most common browsers are **Chrome** and **Safari**. (Other examples are Microsoft Edge & Firefox.) You should have the symbol for one of these on your home screen or "tray" at the bottom of your desktop. In class, we play bridge hands on "Shark Bridge" (SB) which you access through your Internet Browser.



Chrome



Safari



Edge

Some players find it easiest to run Zoom on one device, and Shark Bridge on another. For example, you could have Zoom on your iPad and Shark Bridge on your computer. Just make sure you have the volume muted or turned all the way down on your Shark Bridge device so it doesn't cause feedback to Zoom.

But, you do not need this. You can do it all on one device!

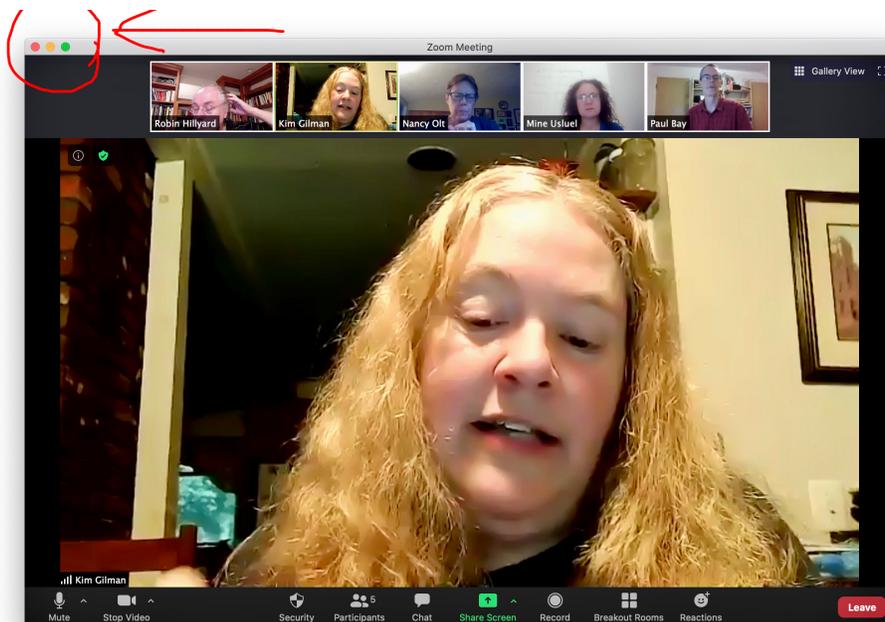
We start our class in Zoom — easy enough! During class you will receive a link in the Zoom chat. You will simply click on this and your computer will whisk you to your Internet Browser and into Shark Bridge! But later, you might want to go back to Zoom, and then back to your SB classroom again. To return to Zoom, just click on the Zoom icon in your tray, task bar, or home screen.



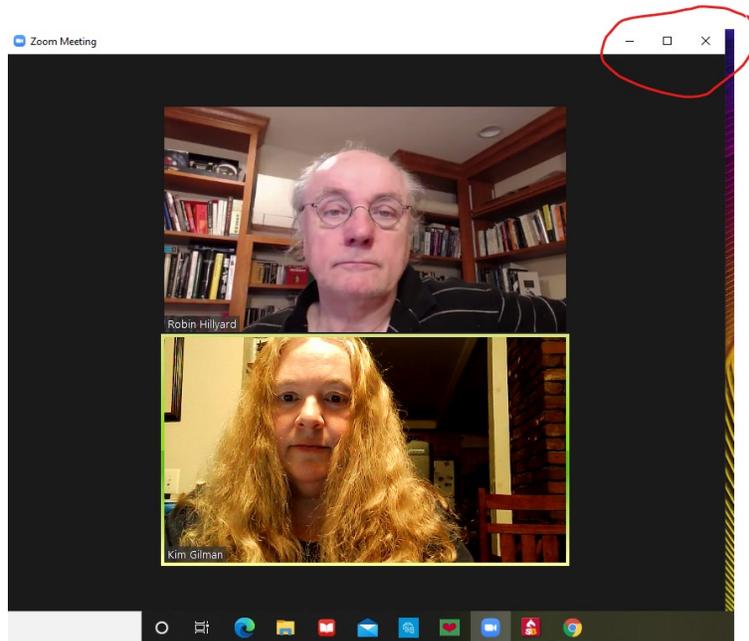
This will take you back to Zoom and everyone's video.

Ideally, you would be able to see your teacher through a small Zoom window AND Shark Bridge at the same time. (This doesn't work with an iPad, but is great for computer users.) For this, the first step is to "minimize" Zoom.

Mac users click the yellow circle at top left of Zoom screen:



To minimize Zoom on a Windows computer, click the dash at top right:



Now your teacher should be just a tiny square on your screen. If you don't see your bridge hand, look at the icons, or symbols, in your Tray or Task Bar at the bottom of your screen, or on your desktop. Click your Internet Browser and you'll be back in the classroom. You should still have that tiny Zoom video floating somewhere on your screen too — you can click on it and drag it around to a convenient location.

To switch from Shark Bridge back to full-size Zoom, just hover your mouse over the small Zoom window, and click the green arrow.

Another way you can go back and forth is:

MacBook or other Apple Device:

To switch back to the application you were using previously:

- Command + tab. Use this over and over to go back and forth.

Windows Computer:

To switch back to the application you were using previously:

- Alt + tab. Use this over and over to go back and forth.

What if I “lose my cards” or somehow am no longer in the bridge classroom during class?

Try the commands above (Command+Tab or Alt+Tab). If that doesn't work, try these:

Step 1: Go to your Task Bar or Tray showing the icons, or symbols, for all your computer programs. Minimize Zoom if necessary to see them. Find the icon for your Internet Browser, and click on it. You should now see your cards.

iPad users: Press your home button, touch your Internet Browser (most likely the Safari symbol), and you should now see your cards.

Step 2: If this isn't working, return to Zoom and click on Chat. Find the link you clicked on at first, and click on it again. You may have to log in again but this will get you back to the classroom.

Playing in the Shark Bridge Classroom

You will arrive at the log-in screen for the Shark Bridge Classroom by clicking on a link. The link is provided to you either through the Zoom chat, or in the e-mail you receive before each lesson. (This e-mail always contains your Zoom link first, then the “Classroom Link.”)

When you click this link, you will be taken to a log-in screen that looks like this:



Login to 'Kim Gilman' classroom

Nickname*

Matt G

Partner's Nickname

Pam G

Remember inputs

Continue

* mandatory field

You will enter your own “nickname” and then, if you are taking the class with a partner (NOT a Declarer Play class), enter your partner’s nickname. Then hit Continue and you will soon be taken to your table.

All nicknames must follow the same format:

First name capitalized, space, Last initial capitalized: **Kim G**

No small letters, punctuation, or leaving out the space. You must spell each other's nicknames exactly the same way. So if you put your partner's nickname as Susan F but she puts her own nickname as Sue F, the computer will not recognize your partnership and you will be stuck playing with the wrong person or a robot! Discuss this with your partner beforehand.

If you get disconnected from your card table during the class:

First, make sure you are looking at your Internet. If you go back to Zoom you might lose the classroom. To get back, simply click on your Internet symbol (Safari, Chrome, etc.)

But if you truly got disconnected or your cards froze and you had to log out, no problem!! Just go back to the Zoom chat and click on the link gain, OR go to your e-mail and click on the link from there.

Internet disruptions do happen, so be prepared for this. If you DO find that your cards are frozen or something isn't working at your table, you can disconnect and try logging in again, following the instructions above. It's simple!

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