

5 Suit Bridge and Broken Bridge

4 Players

An unusual twist to a classic game

Summary:

Bridge gets weird when you add a new suit!

The Story:

According to rumors, long ago there was an attempt to publish a deck of cards with five suits: Spades, Hearts, Diamonds, Clubs, and a Green Eagle. Rules for a game of Bridge using five suits was published in the Hoyle's official rule book for card games. The game was decided to be too difficult and confusing for normal Bridge players so the 5 suit deck with green eagles didn't catch on.

Now that we have a new deck with five suits, maybe people will want to try the variation on Bridge. As of this writing I have not found the official rules that Hoyle's published so many years ago. (if you find them, let me know!) However, I did come up with a five suit version of Bridge that I invite you to try, called "Broken Bridge".

First, let me confess that I am not a Bridge player (although my grandparents were quite the card sharks when it came to Bridge). So I am depending on you to already be familiar with the standard rules and strategies of Bridge.

The Deck:

Remove the Jokers

The Deal:

Deal the cards to four players plus a fifth "Ghost Player". All players will have 13 cards just like a normal Bridge game. The cards in the Ghost hand are unseen and out of play for the rest of the deal.

The Play:

Continue bidding and playing just like a standard Bridge game, except that no one gets to see which 13 cards are in the Ghost hand until the round is over.

Give it a try and let me know what you think!