

Bridge Traveler Analyzer

See exactly where your matchpoints went — and how to win more of them next time.

An introduction, and a quick-start guide

What this App does for you: provides YOU with a MENTOR !!

Bridge players take lesson after lesson to sharpen their game — but a lesson teaches general principles, not what happened in your own game. What's almost always missing is a mentor: someone who sits down with your actual results and shows you, specifically, where the matchpoints slipped away and what to do differently next time. That kind of personal attention is rare, and expensive to arrange session after session. Bridge Traveler Analyzer exists to close that gap — turning every session you already play into the mentoring conversation most players never get.

Every club game already produces a traveler — a board-by-board record of every pair's contract, result, and matchpoint score. Bridge Traveler Analyzer takes that same traveler and turns it into something a scoresheet never gives you: a plain-English explanation of what happened at your table on every board, how it compares to the pairs who scored best, and what pattern of decisions cost you matchpoints across the session.

Built around one goal: showing you what to improve

The report isn't a generic list of “common bidding mistakes.” Every observation in it is tied to a board your partnership actually played that day — your result with an illustrative auction, set beside the result and illustrative auction that produced the top score on that board, in a side-by-side table. Where you and the field agree, the report says so. Where the boards show a recurring pattern — a class of hand your side keeps misjudging, a phase of the auction where matchpoints keep leaking away — it collects that pattern into a short, specific checklist at the end of the session, with practical notes on how to watch for it and correct it next time you're at the table.

A typical report includes:

- An Overview of how the session went, with real credit given where the pair scored well
- Board-by-board analysis — your auction and result vs. the top score, explained
- A Bottom line summarizing the session, stated in exact matchpoints and percentage
- A Checklist (3–6 items) of the recurring mistake patterns actually found this session
- Questions & Answers that go deeper on how to work each checklist item into your game

It's built to be read by the players themselves, not just a director or a statistician — the language is plain and practical, aimed at helping you play better next session, not at scoring you.

Why it's worth using

- It's your own results, not a textbook. Every point made in the report traces back to a board you actually played.
- It finds the pattern, not just the boards. A single bad result is a data point; the checklist is what those data points add up to.
- It's fast and inexpensive to run. A full session is analyzed in a couple of minutes, and — other than the initial cost of purchasing the App itself — the AI usage behind it typically costs about \$2 per session: you bring your own API key and pay Anthropic directly, with no subscription or markup from this App.
- It's yours to keep. Every report exports as a polished Word document you can save, print, or share with your partner.
- It's the mentor most players never get. Lessons teach general principles to a room; this sits down with your own results and tells you, specifically, what to work on next.

Whether you're working toward your next masterpoint level or you just want to stop making the same mistake two boards in a row, Bridge Traveler Analyzer turns every session you already play into a coaching session.

Getting started: install and run the App

These steps take about ten minutes the first time, and under a minute every time after that. No programming or technical background is needed.

What you'll need

- A Windows PC or a Mac — a desktop or laptop computer. Not a phone or tablet (see the note below).
- An internet connection.
- A free Anthropic account with a small payment balance, to run the analysis (Step 2 below) — typically about \$2 per session.
- Access to your club's ACBL results page for the session, or a saved copy of it (PDF, or a results file).

Before you download: three things to get right

1. Use a computer, not a phone or tablet. Download and install the App on the same Windows PC or Mac — a desktop or laptop — that you'll actually run it on. Don't start the download on an iPhone, iPad, Android phone or tablet, or Chromebook: Bridge Traveler Analyzer is a desktop program, and the installer files won't run on those devices at all, even if the download itself seems to succeed.
2. On a Mac, pick the installer that matches your Mac's chip. You'll be offered two Mac installers — Apple Silicon and Intel — and only one will work on your Mac. Not sure which you have? Click the Apple menu (top-left corner) → “About This Mac”: if it says “Chip: Apple M1/M2/M3...” use the Apple Silicon installer; if it says “Processor: Intel...” use the Intel installer. (Step 3 below has the same instructions again when you get to installing.)
3. Downloaded the wrong one? No harm done. Delete that file (on a phone: open your Files app — or Downloads on Android — find the file, and delete it; on a computer: find it in your Downloads folder

and delete it the normal way). Then, from a Windows PC or Mac, go to app.lemonsqueezy.com/my-orders, enter the email address you used when you bought the App, and click the sign-in link Lemon Squeezy emails you. Your order page there lets you download the correct installer again — any time, at no extra cost, as many times as you need.

Step 1 — Where to find the App online

Bridge Traveler Analyzer's home online is bridgetraveleranalyzer.com. Visit it for the latest Windows and Mac installers, release notes when the App is updated, and other help resources — worth a check if you ever need to reinstall the App or want to confirm you're running the newest version.

Step 2 — Get a Claude API key (one-time)

- Go to console.anthropic.com in your browser and create a free account.
- Add a payment method under Billing — this is what covers the small per-session usage cost; there is no separate subscription.
- Create an API key and copy it. It's a long string of letters and numbers starting with “sk-ant-”.
- Save that key somewhere safe on your own computer before you close the page — for example, a password manager, or a note you keep with your other important account information. Anthropic's console shows you the complete key only once, at the moment you create it, so if you ever need it again later — reinstalling the App, or setting it up on a second computer — you'll want your own copy rather than having to create a brand-new key.

This key belongs to you, not to this App. Bridge Traveler Analyzer never sees your Anthropic billing, never bills you itself, and stores the key only on your own computer, encrypted. That also means if you ever reinstall the App or move to a new computer, you'll need to paste this key in again — which is exactly why it's worth keeping your own saved copy of it, as noted above.

Step 3 — Install the App (one-time)

- On Windows: run the “Bridge Traveler Analyzer - PC” installer you downloaded (its file name includes “PC” and the version number), and follow the prompts.
- Windows may show a blue “Windows protected your PC” warning, because the installer isn't yet digitally signed. Click “More info,” then “Run anyway.” This is expected for now and will go away once official code signing is finished.
- Once installed, launch “Bridge Traveler Analyzer” from the Start menu or desktop shortcut.
- On a Mac: you'll be given two installers — pick the one that matches your Mac's chip. Not sure which you have? Click the Apple menu → About This Mac: if it says “Chip: Apple M1/M2/M3...” use the Apple Silicon installer; if it says “Processor: Intel...” use the Intel installer.
- Open the .dmg file you downloaded, then drag “Bridge Traveler Analyzer” into the Applications folder.
- The first time you open it, macOS may say the App “cannot be opened because it is from an unidentified developer” (or “is damaged and can't be opened”), because it isn't yet notarized. Right-click (or Control-

click) the App in Applications and choose “Open,” then click “Open” again in the dialog that appears. This is expected for now and only needs to be done once.

- Once installed, launch “Bridge Traveler Analyzer” from Applications or Launchpad.

Step 4 — Add your license key to the App (one-time)

- After completing your purchase, Lemon Squeezy emails you a license key — a string of letters and numbers in groups (for example, XXXXXXXX-XXXX-XXXX-XXXX-XXXXXXXXXXXXX). Open that email and copy the key.
- Save that key somewhere safe on your own computer before you move on — ideally the same place (folder or password manager) where you're keeping your Claude API key from Step 2, so all your Bridge Traveler Analyzer credentials live together. If you ever reinstall the App or set it up on a different computer, you'll need this same key again, and a confirmation email from months ago can be easy to track back down.
- In the App, paste the key into the “License key” box and click “Activate.” The App confirms once it's active, and you won't need to enter it again on this computer.
- Moving to a different computer later? Click “Deactivate” here on the old one first, then activate the same key on the new computer.

Analysis won't run until a license key is activated — if you click “Analyze session” first, the App will remind you and scroll you back to this box. Lost track of your key? Go to app.lemonsqueezy.com/my-orders, enter the email you used at checkout, and your order page will show it again — the same place you'd go to re-download the installer (see “Before you download” above).

Step 5 — Add your API key to the App (one-time)

- At the top of the App window, paste your API key into the “Claude API key” box.
- Click “Save key.” Note where this key is saved on your computer — ideally the same place (folder or password manager) where you saved your Claude API key in Step 2, so both are easy to find together later. That's it — you won't need to enter it again on this computer. (If you ever switch computers or reinstall, you'll paste it in again here — using the copy you saved safely in Step 2.)

Step 6 — Bring in a session: Club games

Your club typically emails you the results within a day or two of playing, from “ACBL Live for Clubs.” The steps below save that emailed results page as a file on your computer, which the App can then open directly.

- Open your email and find the message from “ACBL Live for Clubs” with the results for the game you want analyzed.
- Click the results link in that email. It will open in your web browser and take a few seconds to load — wait until the page has fully finished loading before continuing.

- Save that page as a file: hold down the Ctrl key and press S (Ctrl+S). A “Save As” box will pop up. (If nothing happens, look in your browser’s menu, usually three dots or lines in the top corner, for “Save page as...”.)
- Wait until the board-by-board score table is actually visible on screen before saving — the scores load in a moment after the page itself appears, and saving too soon produces a file with no results in it.
- In that Save As box, find the box that says “Save as type” (or “File type”) and choose “Webpage, Complete” rather than “Webpage, HTML Only” — this has been more reliable at avoiding blank captures. Leave the save location as your Downloads folder (that’s usually already selected), then click Save. (This creates both a file and a same-named folder next to it — that’s normal; keep them together.)
- Back in Bridge Traveler Analyzer, click “Open file...”, look in your Downloads folder, and select that same file.

If any of this feels unfamiliar, it’s a perfectly reasonable thing to ask a family member or a friend for two minutes of help with the first time. Once that file is saved, everything from here on is just a few clicks inside the App itself.

Use the file-saving steps above rather than copying and pasting the results page’s text — the saved file gives the App the full contract and declarer for every board, which a plain text copy leaves out.

Step 7 — Bring in a session: Tournament results

Sectional, regional, and national tournaments (as opposed to your regular club game) post results on a different ACBL website — live.acbl.org, ACBL’s “ACBL Live” system — with a different page layout. The App handles both automatically, but you save the file a little differently here.

- Go to live.acbl.org in your browser and open your results page (“My Results”).
- Find the row for the event and session you want to analyze. Its “Links” column lists four options — Summary, Overalls (or Leaderboards), Recaps, and Hands. Click “Summary.”
- Wait for that Summary page to fully finish loading, then save it the same way as before: press Ctrl+S, set “Save as type” to “Webpage, Complete,” leave the save location as your Downloads folder, and click Save.
- Back in Bridge Traveler Analyzer, click “Open file...”, look in your Downloads folder, and select that same file — exactly as with a club game. The App recognizes on its own that this is a tournament result, so there’s nothing extra to select.

Click “Summary” specifically, not one of the other three links. Summary is the only one of the four that includes both the hand records and the complete board-by-board results the App needs — Overalls/Leaderboards and Recaps only show final standings, and Hands has no results at all.

Step 8 — Tell it which pair to analyze

- Type both partners' last names into the “Target pair” box, separated by “&” (for example, “Smith & Jones”). Either name can come first, and you don't need to match ACBL's exact spelling or spacing — but both last names are required.

Step 9 — Analyze and review

- Click “Analyze session.” The report typically appears within a couple of minutes.
- Read it right in the App — every board, then the Overview, Bottom line, Checklist, and Q&A.

Step 10 — Save your report

- Click “Export Word (.docx)” to save a polished copy you can keep, print, or share with your partner.
- Want a PDF instead? Open the exported Word file and use Word's own File → Save As → PDF (or your PDF software's “Print to PDF” option).

Step 11 — Updating the App

When a new version is released, you keep your license and your settings. Update in the order below. The yellow banner at the top of the App is your prompt to update. It appears only in version 0.1.10 and later, and it can take a few minutes to show up after a release. If you are on an older version, download the new installer manually from My Orders.

Windows

1. Close Bridge Traveler Analyzer completely, including its icon in the system tray.
2. Uninstall the old version: Settings → Apps → Installed apps (or Control Panel → Programs and Features), select Bridge Traveler Analyzer, and choose Uninstall.
3. Open My Orders on the Lemon Squeezy website and download the newest “PC” installer.
4. Run the new installer. Your license and settings stay in place.

Mac

1. Quit the App with Cmd+Q.
2. In the Applications folder, right-click the old App and choose “Move to Trash.”
3. Open My Orders on the Lemon Squeezy website and download the new DMG that matches your Mac: Apple Silicon or Intel.
4. Drag the new App into the Applications folder, then open it. Your license and settings stay in place.

Note: the same first-launch security warning described in Step 3 may appear again after an update. Handle it the same way you did the first time.

That's the whole workflow: open the saved results file, name your pair, click Analyze — and walk away with a coaching report built entirely from the boards you actually played.