



Policies for Club Play

Final Draft: 15th February 2014

Etiquette

Be polite and civil to opponents, partners, and directors at all times.

Play to time. Do not hold post mortems during the round. Anticipate your turn to bid or play and be prepared.

Do not discuss boards played in a way that your conversation might be overheard by players yet to play the board.

Do not chatter during the auction or play of a board about subjects not directly related to the current board.

Do not add unnecessary commentary to your bids or play. Use correct Bridge terminology. When the change is called, move quickly and quietly. Do not hold up following pairs by continuing your conversation.

Keep conversations quiet, whether related to specific boards or not. It is discourteous to players still playing at other tables to distract them by shouts or laughter, or by generally high ambient noise.

Players must never use the threat of Director call to intimidate opponents. If there is a dispute, or irregularity, or questionable situation, the Director must be called.

Concerns about matters of etiquette should be raised with the President or a committee member

Sessions

Times

Sessions will normally be about 3 to 3.5 hours duration, and comprise between 26 & 30 boards.

Players should be seated at the table 10 minutes before the scheduled start of play.

Tea breaks, where taken, will normally be 10-15 minutes, and will be taken after about 1 hour 15 minutes of play. This will often be arranged to be before the half way round, for director's convenience.

Housekeeping

Players are expected to tidy the room at the conclusion of play. Push chairs neatly under tables, empty rubbish bins, return Bridgemates and boards, take cups & glasses to the kitchen, put your systems cards in the box or take them with you.

Kitchen duty is rostered, taking into account the sessions that members normally play in. Please be aware of your rostered session, and arrange a substitute if necessary. The duties to be performed by the rostered member are posted in the kitchen area. Familiarise yourself with them before your duty session.

The boom gate at the side of the building is normally closed and locked after night time sessions. Players should clear the car park area quickly, or expect to shut the gate if they are last to leave.

Bridgemates

Bridgemate and scoring program options will be set as follows.

- Players will be identified by their ABF numbers, which will normally be entered at the table
- Rankings will not be available on Bridgemates until after the last round.
- Results entered as number of tricks.
- Section & table number entered at the table.
- Review of % achieved & results from other tables will be enabled. Players must not waste time between boards discussing these results.
- Entry the opening lead

Contract details should be entered by South and verified by East. Easts should carefully check the board number, contract, declarer, and result before "Accepting".

Timing of Rounds

The time for each round will be determined by the number of boards per round.

- 2 boards 14 minutes
- 3 boards 20 minutes
- 4 boards 27 minutes
- more than 4 27 minutes + 6 minutes per board above 4

The director may alter the timing as necessary.

The warning bell is normally set for 3 minutes before the end of the round

Players must have commenced bidding before the 3-minute warning. If there has been no bidding the Director will award an average score. This may be varied if one partnership has been slow to play and the Director has been forewarned. See below

Change of Round

Directors are expected to call the change on time (or earlier if all play ceased), unless there are a prohibitive number of tables still in play.

Players, and boards, should remain at the current table until the change is called, then move promptly to the next table.

If the auction has not commenced before the warning bell, the board must not be played without the permission of the Director.

Tables still in play when the change is called, should pass on played boards immediately.

This is normally Dummy's responsibility.

Systems

Green & Blue systems are permitted at all sessions, except Novice/Supervised sessions, where only Green systems may be played.

Red systems, and Brown Sticker conventions, will be allowed at the discretion of the tournament committee, in appropriate sessions.

Each pair should have at least 1 ABF Systems Card on the table and available to the opponents. This requirement may be relaxed for normal sessions, but will be enforced for championship sessions.

Movements

Movements should be chosen to minimise the length of any sit out (maximum 3 boards), and to provide rounds of at least 3 boards rounds (if possible), for normal Pairs sessions.

General

Cards are to be played face up on the table and not held in the hand.

Quitted tricks should be neatly arranged, so they can be clearly seen.

A result should be agreed before the trick layout is disturbed. If there is dispute as to the result, call the director rather than disturb the trick arrangement by examining cards from tricks other than the last trick.

The director should be called to resolve any breach of the Laws, or unusual situation. It is not a discourtesy to the opponents to call the director. On the contrary, it may be unfair to the rest of the field to make a ruling at the table, which advantages one side or the other improperly.

Scoring

Where events are scored by Bridgemates (most sessions) the event will normally be scored immediately after the end of the session. Results will then be posted on the board, and on the web site.

In the case of events scored on travellers, the director will score as soon as practical, which may be up to 1 week.

Pairs events will be scored by match points, except special events (such as Swiss Pairs) where IMP scoring is more appropriate.

Teams events will be scored by IMPs, converted to Vps by the appropriate ABF approved scale. Very short matches may be scored by IMPs alone. The annual Point-a-Board championship is an obvious exception.

Scoring errors which are detected after scores are posted may be corrected if the director deems it appropriate. The time limit for such corrections will be the start of the corresponding session the following week. The director will normally permit such corrections unless there is doubt as to the validity.