



AFFILIATED CLUB

# South London Oshwal Bridge Club

## Bridge Etiquette



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### General

- Please arrive and be seated at least 5 minutes before the start time. For our regular playing day this would mean to be seated by 7:55 pm for play to start at 8:00 pm.
- Turn off your mobile phone. (If it is absolutely vital you have it on, leave it on “vibrate”.)
- It is necessary to play quite quickly. The aim is to be able to play at least 24 boards in a session and to finish play by 11:00 pm for the regular playing day.

### Each New Round

- Greet your opponents as they arrive at your table.
- Explain your system clearly and simply, if asked. Answer any questions clearly.
- Sort and count your cards quickly, so that you can bid promptly when it is your turn to bid.
- Do not ask what a bid means unless you are intending to bid. Ask any questions when auction is over.

### The Play

- Do not put your bidding cards away until the initial lead has been made.
- When you are making the initial lead, play your card before you write down the contract or enter the details in the Bridgemate. (Three people are waiting!)
- Place the card face down on the table first to check whether partner has any questions about the auction.
- As dummy, lay out the cards before you write down the contract or enter the details in the Bridgemate. And lay out the cards as quickly as possible. (Three people are waiting!)
- As a declarer, plan your campaign before you select a card from dummy.
- As dummy, do not play the first card (even if it is a singleton) until declarer has worked out his plan and called for it.
- As declarer, always call for the card you wish dummy to play (unless dummy is away from the table or has a disability, making the play of cards difficult).
- As declarer, when you lead to a trick, wait for LHO to play his card before calling a card from dummy.
- When making the claim, explain your intended line of play clearly.
- Number of tricks made must be confirmed by all before putting the hand away in the board.
- When the hand has been completed, North should fill in the score on the traveller or Bridgemate quickly. East confirms it is correct.

### On Completion of the Play

- Do not hold long post-mortems unless you are clearly well ahead of the other tables.
- Do not touch other players' cards. Ask them to show you.
- North handles new boards.
- Thank your opponents at the end of the round and move quickly to your new table.