SLOBC Online Bridge Guidelines: February 2021

Key message: Be Nice and play fairly

These have been extracted from the BBO "Rules of the Site" document. They supplement the Club's "Bridge Etiquette" and EBU's "Best Behaviour at Bridge" documents which all of us have agreed to abide by when signing our membership application forms. These documents can be found on our website (http://site.pianola.net/south-london-oshwal/useful-documents).

Bridge is an extremely enjoyable game. Courteous behaviour is an exceptionally important part of that enjoyment.

Make bridge enjoyable for yourself, partner and opponents.

Cheating in any form is a serious offence to all other members and the Club will take stern action against confirmed cheaters. This includes barring of the member from future games, reporting the offender to the EBU and more.

The following are considered serious offences. Offenders will be expelled from our Club:
- Exchanging information with your partner during the game using phone, text, chat, sign language or any other means
- Intentionally getting ridiculous results - this is not fair to our other members

The following are examples of bad manners:
- Give unsolicited bridge lessons or criticise the bidding/play of other players
- Gloat when you get a good result or complain when you get a bad result
- Intimidating opponents by telling them to bid or play faster

Courtesies when playing online bridge:
- If you are taking a long time to make a bid or play, send a "thinking" chat to let the other players know that you are not having connection problems. Playing slowly is not an offence.
- If you get disconnected during the game, please log back as quickly as you can
- If you have to stop playing temporarily (to answer the door for example), send a "be right back" chat to let the other players know that you are not having connection problems

Remember to follow the game registration process (document is on our website) and be at the correct place on the BBO site before the start time. Anyone not adhering to this will result in your pair being left out of the game.

The BBO software is designed so that players alert their own bids. This is called "self-alerting" and it is opposite to the approach that is used in live bridge clubs and tournaments. You need to alert all opening No Trump, 2 level and any other unusual bids. If you have any doubt as to whether one of your bids should be alerted or not, it is appropriate to alert.

Where possible, claim any remaining tricks and BOTH opponents should accept a valid claim or decline if the claim is not valid.