



NOVICE NEWS #15 OCTOBER 2020

Our new Rookies session has started well with nine tables at each of the two sessions held so far, with great direction from Mary Ditton. Our other new session on Fridays for Novices with less than 100 master points has had a slow start but it is early days yet. We know some of our less experienced players are missing their Section B and Section C. However, with limited tables and players, we cannot guarantee a restricted section at each session. Apart from the two sessions mentioned above, we also cannot define an upper master point limit for any of the other sessions. The room is divided accordingly on the day at the discretion of the Director.

Previously I would list the upcoming Novice events around the region as it is great fun to get a group together and travel to other towns or cities and play in competitions. Unfortunately, like so many things at the moment due to Covid-19, most if not all of these events have been cancelled. We hope 2021 will be different. In the meantime, to further your bridge education in general, I recommend you make use of our well-stocked library at the club. And if you want to learn more about the bridge world in general I recommend you visit the Queensland Bridge Association (QBA) website. From the Home page go to the Index tab where there is a wealth of information.

Under the link Laws/Ethics are Bridge Topics of the Week. A few samples are:

OPENING LEAD

- The player on lead (Declarer's LHO) should select their opening lead, and place it face down on the table in front of them. Their partner should then acknowledge that it can be faced. This minimises the possibility of making an opening lead from the wrong hand.
- Once placed on the table, the card cannot be changed without the Director's consent, even though it may not have been faced.

CLAIM BY DECLARER

- When a claim is made by Declarer, they must state their proposed line of play. This should make mention of any outstanding trumps (e.g. "drawing trumps"), and how they plan to travel between hands if relevant.
- A careless or incomplete claim may cost you tricks that you would otherwise make.

- Claims should be made where possible - it is discourteous to continue play when the outcome is certain.

REMOVING AND REPLACING CARDS

- Cards should not be removed from the board until at least one player from each side is present.
- This also applies to a sit-out pair – they must not remove the cards from boards on the sit-out table.
- Cards must be shuffled before being returned to the board.

Director's Announcements. You should have noticed by now that each session starts with the Director making announcements. It is important to listen to these announcements. Talking while the Director is talking is not only rude, but it means you may miss out on important information in the announcements.

Bridge Rule

A player makes a ruling for an infraction. May dummy call the Director?

Yes. Law 9B1(b): Any player, including dummy, may summon the Director after attention has been drawn to an irregularity.

Education Tip

- Count your losers.
- Double check by counting your winners.
- If your **plan** calls for trumping one or more of your losers in the short-trump hand (usually dummy), do that before you lead trumps, even if you have to give up tricks to set up the trumping position.

GCBC By-Law

Each pair must have at least one ABF system card on the table during play. One system card per player is required during all competitions.

Etiquette

Learn not to get offended when a director is called on you. This is part of the game. The director is there to protect everyone and especially the integrity of the game.

*One advantage of bad bidding is that you get practice at playing atrocious contracts.
Alfred Sheinworld*

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