

Great Lakes Bridge Club

Club Etiquette and Ethics Guidelines

- Be seated at your table 15 mins before the game is due to start – allowing for announcements and Director's planning;
- After COVID Registration, turn your phone to Silent/Vibrate mode or any other preference to disable the ringtone;
- Give total attention to all Director's instructions and announcements;
- Greet opponents as they arrive at the table and thank them as they leave;

Bridgemates:

- North player is responsible for tabling the next board for play, checking orientation of the board and providing a clear page on the bidding pad. South should check new players to the table are those listed on the Bridgemate and the board # is the same as the one on the table;
- South player is responsible for contract entry into the Bridgemate. At the end of play, East is responsible for checking the board #, contract and tricks made before they ACCEPT. East should announce the percentage result and then return the Bridgemate to South immediately to allow South to quietly give any summary of the game as available;
- South should make a lead or place cards on table for Dummy before they complete the Bridgemate entry;

Table Movements - Timing:

- Remain at your table until directed to move for the next round. The clock is a guide for the Director, not a sign for action by the players;
- At the "4 minutes remaining in a round" clock signal (Gong).no table should begin a new board unless permitted by the Director – this can be reviewed due to delay when the Director has been called resulting in disruption to the requesting table and/or the table the Director is playing at;

- Play on Monday and Wednesday will be closely guided by the Clock;
- Upon arrival at a new table, settle quickly — conversation should cease once cards have been removed from the board and counted. Begin the auction without fuss;

The Auction and Play:

- Have your System Card on the table, particularly for Monday and Wednesday games. (Players who need assistance in completing their cards please ask.) The card should be available for the opponents' perusal at any time throughout the game.
- During bidding and play, maintain a steady tempo, avoiding special emphasis, mannerism or inflexion and without undue hesitation or haste;
- During the auction, pass the bidding pad as appropriate for all players;
- Dummy should only touch the tabled hand after instruction by the Declarer;
- Once a card has been played and turned face down it cannot be reviewed. However any player has the right to leave their card face up during a trick to inspect the other cards (especially important at our current large tables) for a small amount of time — all players are obliged to turn/leave their card face up in this instance;
- There should be no discussions during play, with one exception: when a player plays a card that does not follow suit, it is appropriate for their partner or the Declarer to ask "*Having no spades? etc*";
- At the end of play, ensure all players agree on the number of tricks made before cards are collected, shuffled and replaced in the board. Do not remove cards from the board once they have been replaced;
- Do not discuss the cards just played if there is another board to be played, all discussions should be left until the end of the round or the session;
- Be understanding of an inadvertent breach of etiquette by an inexperienced player;
- Do not try to "teach" anyone at the table unless advice is requested;
- In the instance of a non-natural bid, the partner should say "Alert" and circle the alerted call immediately;
- If a lead out of turn takes place, the next player may accept the lead and play on, otherwise call the Director;

Call for Director:

- If a breach of the Rules takes place, one person at the table should call the Director and conversation regarding the breach must cease;
- Never argue with the Director at your table, any player may place an appeal against a ruling within 30 minutes of end of the day's play;
- Your table may be inconvenienced timewise by a call for the Director. Keep in mind that the table the Director is playing at also has to stop play and lose continuity of their game;