

## ETIQUETTE & PROTOCOL @ THE BRIDGE TABLE

Above all, avoid any behavior that would make anyone (especially beginners) feel uncomfortable.

### TABLE MANNERS

Cards should not be taken out of the board before all players are at the table.

Before you look at your cards count your hand and ensure that you have exactly thirteen cards.

Do greet your opponents at the table and treat them with respect and courtesy.

Do not indulge in post-mortems with your partner directly after a hand is finished. (Save it for after the game.) Not only could a post-mortem undermine partnership confidence, but it may communicate information to other players who have not played the hand at other tables.

Do not criticize partner. (Keep it to yourself until after the game. You will have cooled down by then.)...And you may also have figured out that you share some of the blame.

Do compliment your opponents for fine bidding or play. (Especially beginners)

Do not gloat! (It is ugly.) Be modest.

**Do say 'Director Please' in a pleasant tone.** Keep your hand up so that the Director can quickly determine who called. The **PLEASE** makes such a difference to the atmosphere in the room.

Do support your partner at all times. She/he is the only player in the room that is on your side!

### THE AUCTION

Bidding boxes are designed to reduce the possibility of information being communicated between partners by voice intonation or other mannerisms such as eye contact. When using a bidding box, decide what your bid is going to be before reaching for or touching cards in the bidding box. An extreme example of this impropriety is when you touch a 2H card and then pull out a pass card.

Do not ask for information from your opponents unless it is your turn to bid.

Do not ask what a bid means unless you are intending to bid. Asking for explanation without bidding could in certain circumstances be construed as passing unauthorized information to one's partner. If one doesn't intend to bid, questions of the opponents, should be made after the auction has concluded.

### PLAY OF THE HAND

Do say 'Thank you' to your partner when he/she puts the Dummy on the table. (Even though you may be disappointed!)

**Do, when you are on opening lead, lead first and then write the contract on your score sheet.**

Do not SNAP your cards down on the table.

Do not detach a card from the hand before it is your turn to play. Do not pull up a card, push it back into your hand, and then pull up another card. Nor should you detach a card and then replace it to play another card. Also do not detach your card before it is your turn to play and never rearrange your hand when you are out of a suit. All of these maneuvers provide additional valuable information to the declarer.

You have the right to inspect the cards that have been played on the current trick as long as your card remains face up. Once all cards have been turned over (face down) no one can ask to see the cards that were played.

At the end of a hand ensure that you do not mix up your cards until the result is agreed with the opponents.

North, when scoring the traveler, must present it to East West for their acceptance prior to folding and returning it to the board. The same applies when entering the result into Bridgmates.

Do not look at your opponent's or partner's cards after the hand has been played. In order to look, you **MUST** ask permission first.

**How should these hands be bid?****West is the dealer on # 1-12**

1. KQ876 3  
 AK943 J52  
 J3 AK97  
 2 AJ643

2. A2 KQ864  
 Q92 J10865  
 76 AJ4  
 AK9873 Void

3. J2 A9765  
 98 AK732  
 AQ8 J  
 AK9873 42

4. J32 KQ974  
 K6 A9542  
 AQ7632 8  
 K2 A3

5. 32 QJ8765  
 2 KQ3  
 AK843 5  
 KQ987 432

6. Void Q98654  
 J32 A87  
 AK843 6  
 KQ962 J54

**How should these hands be bid?****West is the dealer on # 1-12**

7. KQ943 A52  
 8 KJ976  
 AQJ642 73  
 3 AJ6

8. 832 AK754  
 AKJ853 4  
 872 5  
 A KQ7643

9. AQJ62 5  
 KQ9843 A2  
 Void J876  
 J2 KQ8542

10. 64 AK832  
 32 KQ7654  
 AQ2 5  
 AK8742 3

11. 43 AQ965  
 J2 73  
 K87 AQ9542  
 AKQ1042 Void

12. AQ864 732  
 3 KQ98  
 7 Q432  
 AQ9652 43

**ANSWERS**

1. 1S 2C  
 2H 3D \* FSF  
 3H 4H

2. 1C 1S  
 2C 2H  
 3C 3H  
 4H P

3. 1C 1S  
 2C 2H  
 2N 3H  
 3N P

4. 1D 1S  
 1N 3H  
 4S P

5. 1D 1S  
 2C 2S  
 3C P

6. 1D 1S  
 2C 2S  
 3C P

7. 1D 1H  
 1S 2C  
 2S 4S

8. 1H 2C  
 2H 2S  
 3H 3S  
 4S

9. 1H 2C  
 2S 2N  
 3S 4H

10. 1C 1H  
 2C 2S  
 2N 3S  
 3N or 4H

11. 1C 1D  
 2C 2S  
 3D 5D

12. 1C 1H  
 1S 1N  
 2S P

## SUIT PREFERENCE SIGNAL AGAINST NOTRUMP

S J 9  
H KJ10  
D 642  
C KQJ106

S Q10874  
H A54  
D 10 3  
C 432

S K52  
H 98732  
D 9875  
C A

S A63  
H Q6  
D AKQJ  
C 9875

S N  
1N 3N

Declarer should try the S Jack in case West has underled his S KQ. Too bad. It doesn't work. South should duck till round three when he wins Ace Spades. On the third round of suit, however, West knows she is knocking out declarer's stopper. It is imperative that West now show partner where his entry is. It is in Hearts. On third round of Spades, West should lead the QUEEN of Spades to knock out the Spade Ace.

This says: "I am knocking out declarer's last stopper. Now my Spades are good. In order to get me in later, my entry is in Hearts. The HIGHER ranking of the two remaining suits."

If West's stopper was in Diamonds, he would lead back the 4 to drive out last stopper. This is specifically when you are defending No Trumps.

West leads his fourth best spade against 3NT.

## REBIDS BY THE OPENER WITH FOUR CARD SUPPORT

Axxx  
x  
AQxxx  
Jxx

### DUMMY POINTS

When you have support for partner's suit & know you will become dummy: With 3 card support, use the 3-2-1 method: 3 for a void, 2 for a singleton and 1 for a doubleton.  
With 4 card support, use the 5-3-1 method: 5 for a void, 3 for a singleton and 1 for a doubleton.

You open with 1D (this hand fulfills the Rule of 20) and Partner responds 1S. You must raise to 2S only. You have a minimum hand. You are going to be dummy though so count your singleton (dummy points) as 3 points because you have 4 card support.

With  
Axxx  
x  
AKxxx  
Qxx

You open 1D. Partner responds 1S.  
Counting dummy points, you now have 16. You should raise partner to 3S.

Axxx  
----  
AKxxx  
KJxx

You open 1D. Partner responds 1S.  
Counting dummy points, you now have 20. You should raise partner to 4S.

## RESPONSIVE DOUBLES

You hold these cards and you are sitting South: KQ852 Q10864 83 7

W	N	E	S
1C	1D	2C	?

What will you bid? If you bid a new suit in response to partner's overcall, it promises a decent quality 5 card suit of your own and 10 or more points, including distribution.

If you are not a passed hand, that should be forcing, in my opinion, but that is a partnership agreement. In any case, you do not have the right hand for bidding a new suit...not enough points and besides, if you choose to bid Spades, partner will have some Hearts but not Spades and if you bid Hearts, partner will have Spades but not Hearts.

**Enter the Responsive Double.** When you would like to enter the auction but do not have a clear cut course of action, make a Responsive Double when opponents have opened and raised that suit and your partner has either overcalled or doubled.

With above hand, bid "Double" and partner will know that you are showing both unbid suits and approximately 8 or more points including distribution.

W	N	E	S
1C	Dbl	2C	?

And if instead the auction had gone:

Double will also say..."Pick a major, partner." You only need to be 4-4 in the majors to use this double in this scenario.

If the auction has gone: You are South on all hands.

W	N	E	S
1D	Dbl	2D	?

and you have this hand: J743 KJ98 83 Q92

Make a Responsive Double. You don't care which suit partner chooses to bid and this way, you say it all in one bid.

But if you have: K6 QJ982 84 95

and the auction is the same:

W	N	E	S
1D	Dbl	2D	?

Bid 2H as you do not wish to tell partner to choose. You have a clear cut choice. Double would say you have support for both majors.

If the suit bid and raised is to the 2 level, you can use the Responsive Double with 8 points (incl distribution) but if it is at the 3 level, you should have 10 or more points. If you have:

Q6 7 AQ865 KJ762

W	N	E	S
2H	2S	3H	?

If the auction goes

Double. This is a Responsive Double. Once again, you want to get into the act but you don't know which suit to pick. Partner must pick his better minor or go back to his suit if he hates both minors.

NOTE:

W N E S

1D Dbl 1S ? This is NOT an opening bid and a RAISE so Double here would NOT be a Responsive Double. It will be a Penalty Double.

You and partner must agree on how high you play Responsive Doubles. We suggest that you play this through 3S.

W N E S

1S Dbl 3S ? Bid 4H if you have four Hearts. If you make a Responsive Double here, you will be at least 4-4 in the minors and because of the level to which you are driving partner (to the 4 level), you will now need to have at least 11-12 points or more.