



Sheffield Bridge Club

Best Behaviour at Bridge

Bridge is an extremely enjoyable game. Courteous behaviour is an exceptionally important part of that enjoyment. Sheffield BC is committed to the principle of equality of opportunity. It considers it a fundamental principle that anyone wishing to participate in duplicate bridge, whether as a player, official or in any other capacity, should be able to do so in a safe and welcoming environment, and not to be subject to less favourable treatment on the grounds of gender, age, race, disability, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, religious or political belief or social class than any other person.

This guide serves as a brief reminder of how to behave at the bridge table. We are sure that all players naturally follow this code of conduct, but there are times when concentration and pressure can take their toll and it is for these situations that we issue this as a reminder.

A coin is to be tossed at the start of each session at each table to determine which pair has choice of seats, unless instructed otherwise by the TD or there is a player with an allocated stationary or moving seat.

- Greet others in a friendly manner prior to start of play on each round.
- Regular partnerships should have System Cards, which should be readily available to your opponents.
- Make bridge enjoyable for yourself, partner and opponents.
- Give credit when opponents make a good bid or play.
- Take care of your personal grooming.
- Ensure that your mobile phone is turned off.
- Enjoy the company as well as the game.

Remember that it is rude to criticise or patronise your partner or opponents at the table or in public, to be less than polite at the table, to gloat over good results or object to a call for the tournament director.

In a club catering for a wide range of abilities, please be supportive of inexperienced players.

Please call the TD if you think you may have been affected by bad behaviour. You will be helping others as well as yourselves.

The role of the TD is to ensure that the game runs smoothly and to provide help to that end. All reasonable requests from the TD must be complied with and the TD's decisions respected.

As in all games that are governed by rules and regulations, bad behaviour will be penalized

If a player at the table behaves in an unacceptable manner the TD should be called immediately. Annoying behaviour, embarrassing remarks, or any other conduct which might interfere with the enjoyment of the game is specifically prohibited by Law 74A. Law 91A gives the director the authority to assess disciplinary penalties. This can include immediate disciplinary board penalties, and disqualification from the event.

If you are unclear about a bridge ruling, you may ask the director for clarification, and on bridge judgment rulings, the TD will advise the right to appeal. However, players must be courteous with the TD at all times and there is no right of appeal against disqualification from an event. TDs will report incidents of

bad behaviour to the Chief TD or the Club Chairman and further disciplinary action may be initiated. Meanwhile, you have the right to expect reciprocal courteous behaviour from the TDs.

It is not the desire of Sheffield Bridge Club to impose penalties. It is the desire of the club that there should be no cause to impose penalties in the first place.

**Make a difference every time you play.
Be welcoming and understanding to newer or less experienced players.**