

**NOOSA BRIDGE  
CLUB Inc.**

**MEMBERS'  
GUIDE**

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**INTRODUCTION**

We are proud of our Club and our facility here in Noosa. To have an organisation with more than 350 members operating six days a week without paid staff (cleaner excepted) is truly remarkable. This achievement is only realised by the willingness of many people to contribute their various skills on a voluntary basis, and by the inclination of all members to assist in the day-to-day activities. Please do what you can to help in this way.

Our Management Committee is elected by members annually and is responsible for all decisions regarding the Club's management and policy formation.

Our directors are delegated the responsibility for the smooth running of each session, and to ensure the adherence to the Laws of Bridge and the rules and regulations set by the state body, QBA.

Our club has a zero tolerance policy regarding unacceptable behaviour. This includes rudeness, profanity, threats of violence or anything that is detrimental to the enjoyment of the game by you, your partner or the opposition. Bridge is competitive but is also for fun and penalties may be severe if this code is breached.

*The following information may be helpful:*

#### ON ARRIVAL

At least one of your partnership should be seated at the table 15 minutes before play commences. If you are delayed please phone the Club so that a place can be reserved. If you are seated North/South please check that the pencils are sharpened and there are sufficient bidding pads on the table.

#### AT START OF PLAY

Each person must have a legible system card on the table. Explain to your opposition the basis of your system and pre-alert any unusual bids. Always count your cards on taking them from the board and check who is the dealer before making a bid.

#### HESITATION

Hesitation is not an infraction in itself. An infraction occurs when the partner is influenced in the action taken. Hesitation generally reduces the options available to partner.

#### ASKING FOR EXPLANATIONS

Each player is entitled to ask, at their turn to bid, for an explanation of particular bids by the opposition. However, checking a system card or asking might give information to your partner, or alert the bidder's partner. Unless you intend to take some action don't ask the meaning of a bid until the end of the auction if you are on lead or, if not, only when the opening lead has been made by your partner.

#### IF ASKED FOR AN EXPLANATION

When offering an explanation do not simply answer with the name of the convention, e.g. Michael's, or Multi-twos. You should describe the convention. If you are asked the meaning of a bid for which you do not have a partnership agreement, do not guess! Just reply, "not discussed".

#### CALLING THE DIRECTOR

The director should be called whenever a problem arises. Raise your hand and call "director please". Do not disturb your cards.

#### MOBILE PHONES

The use of mobile phones when a session is in progress is not allowed without special permission from the director.

#### SLOW PLAY

Slow play can be a problem. The clock is set at a prescribed time and slow play impacts on the time available for the following match. Please be aware of the amount of time left in a round and play accordingly. Wait for the 'change bell' before moving to the next table. North/South should not pass the boards until then.

#### AT THE END OF PLAY

North/South are responsible for the return of the boards. East/West are responsible for emptying the wastepaper bin and tidying the table. Please return cups and glasses to the kitchen during breaks in play, or at the end of the session.

#### VOLUNTEERS

Throughout the year we hold some special events such as congresses or zone events. At these times volunteers are asked to help for an hour or two. Not only is your help truly appreciated but to a new player it provides an insight into how these tournaments work, maybe with a view to future participation.

## BRIDGEMATES & PERSONAL SCORERS

Electronic scoring provides big dividends to club members but we must be more careful than ever about the way we behave at the bridge table.

The BridgeMate is usually operated by the N/S pair. If the N/S pair is not comfortable with operating the device they may ask the E/W pair to do it or sit East/West.

Once the session has been launched, the operator of the BridgeMate needs to input data regarding the players at the table. Once each contract has been established, that detail needs to be entered as and when time permits. After the play of the hand the result must be entered into the BridgeMate and one member of the opposition pair must confirm the information and "OK" if correct.

As each new E/W pair arrives it is the responsibility of N/S to confirm from the BridgeMate the pair and board numbers.

At the end of each session N/S should confirm that the BridgeMate reads "End of Session".

In order to understand "how we did" and "how we could have done better", most players complete a 'personal scorer'. Players need to remember that this is a 'personal' scorer and is therefore off limits to others in the room. It must be secured at all times by the owner and must never be exposed or left at a table at the tea break. So that there is no delay in playing, details should not be entered before the start of play by the person who is on lead. Be discreet when doing this.

Because talking can be heard at adjacent tables, it is important that any necessary discussion is kept at whisper level. Ideally, there should be no talking at all. Under no circumstances should hands be discussed with anyone during the course of the session, except with your partner at the tea break, quietly and when alone.

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