

## Best Behaviour at Bridge Policy

### Management Committee Vision:

**We will promote a climate which harnesses everyone's commitment to, and involvement with, improving attitudes and behaviour at Bridge.**

Bridge is an extremely enjoyable game. Courteous behaviour is an exceptionally important part of that enjoyment. All players naturally follow this code of conduct but there are times when concentration and pressure may take their toll.

Good behaviour should be based on civility, politeness and consideration towards others.

Director's instructions and/or rulings are to be accepted. If you consider a ruling to be wrong you may appeal (see appeals policy). Do not argue the case at the table nor at subsequent tables. Law 90B.8 Failure to comply promptly with tournament regulations or with instructions of the Director is subject to a Procedural Penalty.

Slow play disrupts the flow of the session for everyone. Consideration will be given to beginning players. When you start to fall behind take measures to catch up. Claim early, but always explain your intended line of play clearly. Do not discuss the hands or check the Bridgemate to compare results from other tables. Law 90A the Director may assess Procedural Penalties for any offence that unduly delays or obstructs the game.

If a player at the table behaves in an unacceptable manner the Director should be called immediately. Annoying behaviour, embarrassing remarks, inappropriate language 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. Directors are expected to deal carefully and firmly with bad behaviour. While a quiet word will deal with minor problems, Directors will apply penalties for significant and/or repeated bad behaviour. Immediate Disciplinary Board Penalties of 25% of a top board for pairs and 3 IMPs for team events will apply. Disqualification from further competition in that event may occur after a second violation. An offender removed from an event shall be deemed to have not played in that event, no Master Points will be awarded, no refunds will be made and all previously-obtained results shall be deleted.

In the case of a serious offense, the Management Committee shall be convened to determine whether the offender(s) should be allowed to play in other events and/or whether additional sanctions may be appropriate.

In accordance with the Laws of Duplicate Bridge, a Director's decision to impose a Disciplinary Penalty is final; however, all such decisions may be appealed. An Appeals Committee may not overturn the Director's decision, but could recommend that the Director reconsider the imposition of a penalty. It should be noted that the committee may feel that the penalty assessed was not severe enough and may refer the matter to the Management Committee.

The Director MUST complete the report form for all incidents of Behavioural Penalties and then forward on to the Secretary.

**Let's do everything we can to make this a fun, friendly, pleasant environment where anyone can come and have a good time. We all know it's more fun when we win. Let's keep it possible to have fun even when we don't.**

The Committee endorses the 'Best Behaviour at Bridge' Policy