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I hope everyone read our CEO Robert Hartman's article in this month's Bridge Bulletin.  It was devoted to the topic of cheating.  He cited a tournament director finding notes from a 99er event with a pair documenting their illegal signals.  Remember that full system disclosure is a bridge principle.  The laws define what it acceptable and ethical.  Any deviation is cheating!  **I'm interested in your feedback, so please send your comments to** [paulcuneo@sbcglobal.net](mailto:paulcuneo@sbcglobal.net)**.**  **Paul Cuneo**  **District 16 Education Chair** |  | |  | | | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | |  | | | |  | **In this Issue**  Better Bridge Habits:  Habits to break  Eddie Kantar's Tip:     Competitive Bidding  Declarer Play:     Card Combinations  Demon Defense:    Signaling Against Suit Contracts  Better Bidding  Responder's call with game going hands  It's the Law:   Change of call by declarer |  | |  | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | |  | | | |  |  |  | |  | | | |  |  | | --- | | https://d2zhgehghqjuwb.cloudfront.net/accounts/8512/original/1440775799519-5p1hnccukncul3di-1c2e3f9c252ebd4ccbf478130024b967.png?1440775748?1441805809965?1441805843353 |  |  | | --- | | https://d2zhgehghqjuwb.cloudfront.net/accounts/105/original/1439320573341-g4ukrcyv20y919k9-8d13e68f5b77036a692ac63a979ee45c.png?1439999767 |  |  | | --- | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | |  | | | |  | Better Bridge Habits |  | |  | | |  |  | | --- | | https://d2zhgehghqjuwb.cloudfront.net/accounts/8512/original/1441806828136-i2qupjhxctqhbyb9-b4d562c013d76a47fdcb272b810d8307.png |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | |  | | | |  | **Habits to break**  Developing good habits at the table is an important part of learning bridge.  This month I want to focus on a couple of habits some players have that should be broken.  First is “card snapping.”  Players from the party bridge world are frequently card snappers.  Some do it every time they bid or play a card.  Others snap some cards, but not others.  Bridge requires concentration and if everyone snapped their cards, no one could concentrate and do their best with all the noise.  Second is talking once the cards are removed from the Board.  Once you take your cards out of the Board, it is time to focus on the new hand and cease all conversation until that hand is complete.  By breaking these two bad habits, you’ll find your ability to focus will improve and you’ll make fewer mistakes. |  | |  | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | |  | | | |  | Eddie Kantar's Tip |  | |  | | |  |  | | --- | | https://d2zhgehghqjuwb.cloudfront.net/accounts/8512/original/1441739443308-l3sjtfafldte29-8975f653214fcb92d040ee8c0556c5b1.png |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | |  | | | |  | **Hand Evaluation**  When the opponents bid and support each other, and you have the jack or queen of their suit and are considering bidding, don’t count points for those honors. They are usually worthless.  [www.kantarbridge.com](http://www.kantarbridge.com) |  | |  | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | |  | | | |  | Improved Declarer Play |  | |  | | |  |  | | --- | | https://d2zhgehghqjuwb.cloudfront.net/accounts/8512/original/1441739443308-l3sjtfafldte29-8975f653214fcb92d040ee8c0556c5b1.png |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | |  | | | |  | **Card Combinations**  As declarer, many times the ability to make our contract depends on playing one of the suits in a way that maximizes our chance to take tricks.  The Official Encyclopedia of Bridge by ACBL has a section on playing card combinations. Here is a combination from the Encyclopedia:              K 9 x x x              Q x x x  Lead low to the Queen; if an honor appears, then finesse the 9.  53% chance of 4 tricks  95% chance of 3 tricks. |  | |  | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | |  | | | |  | Demon Defense |  | |  | | |  |  | | --- | | https://d2zhgehghqjuwb.cloudfront.net/accounts/8512/original/1441739443308-l3sjtfafldte29-8975f653214fcb92d040ee8c0556c5b1.png |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | |  | | | |  | **Signaling against Suit Contracts  –** Eddie Kantar writes in his book “Modern Bridge Defense” that defensive signals come in 3 packages:  1.       Attitude: how you feel about the suit partner has led  2.      Count: how many cards you have in a particular suit  3.      Suit Preference: which suit you want partner to lead  You can only give one of these signals at a time and partner needs to know which one you are giving.  Attitude signals are far and away the most common.  If you play Standard signals, a relative high card encourages and a relative low card discourages.  Here is an example:                          N – 432    W – KQ96 (you)                       E – 7                            S – 5  You’ve led the King of the suit and your partner plays the 7.  Since you can see all of the spot cards lower than the 7, it is a discouraging signal.  You need to switch to another suit as Declarer (South) holds A J 5 and has cleverly played the 5 hoping you’ll continue the suit and that he’ll score the Jack.    [www.kantarbridge.com](http://www.kantarbridge.com) |  | |  | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | |  | | | |  | Bidding Tips |  | |  | | |  |  | | --- | | https://d2zhgehghqjuwb.cloudfront.net/accounts/8512/original/1441739443308-l3sjtfafldte29-8975f653214fcb92d040ee8c0556c5b1.png |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | |  | | | |  | A book worth owning and reading is **“A Treasury of Bridge Tips” by Eddie Kantar.** In it he offers the following advice:  “As responder, when you have a game going hand respond to your partner’s opening bid in your longer suit first!  Re-read this!”  Partner opens the bidding 1C and you hold:  S - AK32 H – 42 D – AQ765 C – 32  Respond 1D intending to rebid 2S after partner’s next bid if it is not 1 Spade.  [www.kantarbridge.com](http://www.kantarbridge.com) |  | |  | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | |  | | | |  | Its the Law |  | |  | | |  |  | | --- | | https://d2zhgehghqjuwb.cloudfront.net/accounts/8512/original/1441739443308-l3sjtfafldte29-8975f653214fcb92d040ee8c0556c5b1.png |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | |  | | | |  | **Law 45 addresses the issue of played cards.** Here is a situation that is not uncommon:  N - Dummy – A Q    **W - K**    Declarer leads the 5, West plays the King and Declarer says: “Queen uh King; play the Ace.  The Director is called.  Partner of the person who played the King tells the Director what happened.  Declarer agrees, but says the statement was all in one breath without pause for thought, so the Ace should be the card played from Dummy.  The following is from Duplicate Decisions:  “A player may correct the call of a card if it is inadvertent (i.e., a slip of the tongue) and if there was no pause for thought in indicating a desire to change the card called. An opponent, however, may change a legal play made in turn prior to the correction.  Example: It frequently occurs that declarer leads and his play from dummy is intended to be conditional on the play of LHO. He then prematurely calls a card from dummy and, observing that LHO’s card makes his choice unpalatable, endeavors to change it. The change must not be allowed regardless of the tempo, for his first designation was not inadvertent.  Declarer leads a club, intending to ruff in dummy. As he says “ruff,” he notices that LHO has ruffed with a trump higher than any in dummy. Regardless of how quickly he says “pitch a diamond,” such a change may not be allowed, because “ruff ” was not inadvertent.”  ​  The Director ruled that the Queen was played as Declarer had intended to finesse and changed his mind after calling for the Queen and noticing that the King hand been played by the defender. |  | |  | | |  |  | | --- | | https://d2zhgehghqjuwb.cloudfront.net/accounts/8512/original/1440775799519-5p1hnccukncul3di-1c2e3f9c252ebd4ccbf478130024b967.png?1440775748?1441805809965?1441805843353 |  |  | | --- | | https://d2zhgehghqjuwb.cloudfront.net/accounts/105/original/1439320573341-g4ukrcyv20y919k9-8d13e68f5b77036a692ac63a979ee45c.png?1439999767 |  |  | | --- | | https://d2zhgehghqjuwb.cloudfront.net/accounts/105/original/1439320573341-g4ukrcyv20y919k9-8d13e68f5b77036a692ac63a979ee45c.png?1439999767 |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | |  | | | |  | **Website:**[www.d16acbl.org](http://email.robly.com/wf/click?upn=tegQ8TSilgq-2Fpv8V3RUA2fDzeE57Vce-2Fb78E8mHZD-2Fk-3D_PllJDkHxmunDc86sTrhoApIUf7GeDvQ6pnkcIHLWuhUinIsDfv7-2BkYS0vY-2BLSLdJktw571jCwv1N0D9TtUvrCf7clv8TPYbuDqiK5WdjbW1HHNdFNoLUI3hTpEPd-2FRiqVOJJxJAuWoZJeTVoaownWQyGWvB-2BjjD24xuUBTPDf-2F6mHC-2BCuIvL7fKerOyKsHSVOt-2Fv03PUAAAqbuUFz2-2FHExenN4vujqVFQJ-2FV3h3nDABOxLzY1tWHd0deCQCo0rF1CTiznIX7CIfmeXLOGJn0Fq5-2BwAjoDboZ6HgDEoedGmazNRmiv4U-2F8v3Yeqiks1tB-2FwTH0Pam-2BRyhDcKZ2Mngq-2BGqK8aIbnhvJp1LoApPzIFiwvXzOAVst5rrKIGNR86Kcn1NvT4NPhxlz6oPk4OEW-2B57GZYhQMdV9ShR1UGYlSvK-2FYKhKCoy3WALgJw4YHoO) |  | |  | | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | [https://d2zhgehghqjuwb.cloudfront.net/accounts/8512/original/1441738488080-mtwdfbg4o0s02j4i-bd97358460cd27364ad317312a39dfc5.png](http://email.robly.com/wf/click?upn=V2zMmA2hVfJrisuwjwM4IGNNJXzocR5VidZgojLGADQXK6OCPjY5by7zAYqLCRANzP9nbI3Ni1nsEV41FUNZAKT5diVH0XAaR4rK-2F-2BQWyJUXYRmgG-2FTrkdr5DWdqJXzDWDRztytR-2B3B10p4P1uCg-2FDdgNAqlRiGIzmDfTK6izOw-3D_PllJDkHxmunDc86sTrhoApIUf7GeDvQ6pnkcIHLWuhUinIsDfv7-2BkYS0vY-2BLSLdJktw571jCwv1N0D9TtUvrCf7clv8TPYbuDqiK5WdjbW1HHNdFNoLUI3hTpEPd-2FRiqVOJJxJAuWoZJeTVoaownWQyGWvB-2BjjD24xuUBTPDf-2F6mHC-2BCuIvL7fKerOyKsHSVOt-2Fv03PUAAAqbuUFz2-2FHExenN4vujqVFQJ-2FV3h3nDABOxLzY1tWHd0deCQCo0rF1CTiznIX7CIfmeXLOGJn0Fhe4EJxOaapfMG2SicJew-2BIn-2BArsM4yznF3x0T4gCGlGvFqRb4At2dmo-2FCL7woNs1ldnNmoIRzG1RCjfomvb486DJF0x8zv2NG0hpC2ZcRdeJkhv4LggmCrn0j4fSbb2o71RcCGa0vVTBwFdiqPEU3olG5lQZ3Vt1NN9cOTR08hr) | | |  | | --- | | [https://d2zhgehghqjuwb.cloudfront.net/accounts/8512/original/1441738488131-ber6opyma5q4zpvi-bd97358460cd27364ad317312a39dfc5.png](http://email.robly.com/wf/click?upn=V2zMmA2hVfJrisuwjwM4IKJ-2Fe4gkhhWNUjp4ApIXlwL7MzkIHjLsNTZMMxCiKtQlgeVY5xThmBcBdM3-2F-2BfoWWupQir3lz2y33Inn6fwTENU-3D_PllJDkHxmunDc86sTrhoApIUf7GeDvQ6pnkcIHLWuhUinIsDfv7-2BkYS0vY-2BLSLdJktw571jCwv1N0D9TtUvrCf7clv8TPYbuDqiK5WdjbW1HHNdFNoLUI3hTpEPd-2FRiqVOJJxJAuWoZJeTVoaownWQyGWvB-2BjjD24xuUBTPDf-2F6mHC-2BCuIvL7fKerOyKsHSVOt-2Fv03PUAAAqbuUFz2-2FHExenN4vujqVFQJ-2FV3h3nDABOxLzY1tWHd0deCQCo0rF1CTiznIX7CIfmeXLOGJn0Fsdm8sItIqSAHG1izHEaZvMkTTLvl6SIHVfN1dpdadP3uTE7NY-2BBrFAECy-2FSGY7-2B5JVBJ5jMEpczDIvNQce8YIA6ZPv-2FAxXNK9W1fzXXXTYTyy368z9iIxEALfZMJD7VGwOkghYiRIF4QZ9Zw8F7xzmE-2B9oS6fi2qDG3xOQln9jK) | | | |