

## The Director is Your Friend

The first Laws of Duplicate Bridge were published in 1928, and have been revised 9 times since then, the latest dated the 2008 revision. There is a Law Committee of the World Bridge Federation, an ACBL Laws Commission, and a world-wide hierarchy for Duplicate Bridge.

The Laws of Duplicate Bridge are incorporated in an approximately 145 page book that is available for purchase by anyone. “The Laws are designated to define correct procedures and to provide an adequate remedy when there is a departure from “correct” procedures. An offending player should be ready to pay any penalty or rectification graciously or to accept an adjusted score awarded by the Tournament Director. The Laws are primarily designed not as punishment for irregularities, but rather as redress for damage.”

A person becomes a Director after passing a written exam administered by the American Contract Bridge League and is charged with responsibility for the on-site technical management of the tournament. The Director applies and is bound by these Laws.

DIRECTORS DUTIES AND POWERS - The Director has the responsibility for rectifying irregularities and redressing damage. The Director’s duties and powers normally include the following:

1. To maintain discipline and to ensure the orderly progress of the game (*Late Play*), (*Rudeness*), (*Inappropriate actions or language*), (*Discussion of results*)
2. To administer and interpret the Laws and to advise the players of their rights and responsibilities (*Revokes*), (*Bids out of turn*), (*Leads out of turn*)
3. To rectify an error or irregularity of which he becomes aware in any manner
4. To assess rectification when applicable, and to waive rectification upon the request of the non-offending side
5. To adjust disputes (*Hesitations*), (*Touching the Bidding Box and not placing a bid card*), (*Not alerting conventional bids properly*)
6. To refer any matter to an appropriate committee (*Ethics Committee*)
7. To deal with any other matters delegated to him by the Tournament Organizer

DIRECTORS COMPENSATION - At our club the Directors are volunteers, saving us between \$12,000. and \$15,000 per year. When they come to your table for a ruling, please be respectful, say thank you, and appreciate the time and effort they are giving you to make your game more enjoyable.