

Director Calls

Q: How do I call the director?

A: To call the director, click on the blue box with the 3 white lines. Convention cards are available there, too.

Q: When I call a director to the table, what does he/she see?

A: When a director is at the table, they can see all the cards that have not been played; they can see the bidding, if it is not complete, or the final contract, if the bidding is complete. We can see chat from the time we arrive at the table, but not what has gone on before.

Q: My opponent didn't alert her bid. What do I do?

A: If you suspect that a bid is not natural, you may ask the opponent the meaning of her bid. Simply click on the bid that you want explained, and a box will pop up on your opponent's screen saying "please explain bid". You and your partner will see the explanation, but the bidder's partner will not. In addition, the opponent whose bid you questioned will not be allowed to bid again until she has provided an explanation.

As at the "real" club, please call the director if you have been damaged by the lack of alert. Be prepared to explain HOW you were damaged - what you would have done differently if you had had correct information. There is no automatic penalty for a failure to alert.

Q: My partner didn't alert his bid. What do I do?

A: Nothing! You will not know when your partner alerts a bid; the opponents will see it, but you will not. Trust your partner - don't assume he didn't do

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right. You will make things worse if you try to explain your partner's bid, because your opponents will think you are explaining your own bid.

Q: My opponent psyched against me. What can I do?

A: You should call the director. What they will do will depend on the situation, but, in any case, BCON policy requires that psychic bids be reported to and recorded by the director.

Here is a further explanation of psychic bids; what they are and how we regulate them.

A "psych" (or "psychic bid/call") is defined by ACBL as: "any call that deliberately and grossly misstates either honor strength or suit length".

To further clarify, they define "grossly" generally as being two cards fewer, or an ace weaker (or stronger), than expected for the range.

Psychs are legal, but because they are so difficult to compete against, most clubs place some restrictions on their use. In the case of BCON, we do not allow players to psych against lower-strat opponents.

Note the word "expected". By the rules of organized bridge, your opponents are entitled to know any agreements you have with your partner. So a psych must be as much a surprise to your partner as it is to the opponents; if not it's an agreement that must be disclosed via your convention card, and an alert.