

## System Card (SC) and Announcement Advice

To assist members with the current *EBU Laws/Blue Book*, a brief guide to some of the more important considerations is provided below.

However, members are recommended to refer to EBU web site for a full explanation of the laws.

- Both players in a partnership must have identically completed SCs, which they should make available to their opponents on each round.
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- Some bids need to be *Announced* and some need to be *Alerted*. The EBU have produced a guide to this and a copy is on the club notice board and it can also be downloaded/viewed on the club website.
- In particular, unless opponents specifically ask for explanation of an *Alerted* bid, it should not be *Announced*. The current practice of some players to automatically verbally explain *Alerted* bids must cease.
- Generally speaking, if a player is going to *Pass* after the opponents have *Alerted* a bid, they should not ask for an explanation of the *Alerted* bid during the auction. This is because they could possibly be facilitating unauthorised information between their opponents and correcting a possible misunderstanding, which might not be to their advantage. Also, players should not ask for an explanation if the sole purpose of doing so is to make their partner aware of the *Alerted* bid.
- For the same reasons, if a player intends to bid after their opponents have *Alerted* a bid it is usually advantageous to only ask for explanation at end of bidding, unless of course the explanation impacts what they were going to bid. However, an explanation of the bidding can always be requested by the player who is *Leading*, before they have selected a card or by their partner, once the lead card has been selected and faced down.
- If there has been any bidding misunderstanding between *Declarer* and their partner, then this must be explained to their opponents before the *Lead* card is selected. However, if there has been any bidding misunderstanding between the *Defenders*, then this should not be explained as it is giving unauthorised information. In this latter case it should be mentioned when play is finished and the *Director* should be called to make a ruling, if it is thought necessary.
- Players may inspect their opponents SC at any time, though they cannot inspect their own SC. When it is their turn to play a card, players may also ask the opponents about their carding systems. If any issues arise, players should either reserve their rights or call the *Director*. They may even ask *Director* for permission to change their final bid.