

Guidelines for Playing in a CBC Tournament on Bridge Base Online

No Partner?

- If you have no partner, there may be a Partnership Desk, where you can find others seeking a partner.
- Alternatively, you may have the option (depending on the tournament rules) of playing with a BBO Robot. These will need to be purchased.

Convention Cards

- Before the tournament, you may set up a convention card for your partnership. You can set up different convention cards for different partners and BBO will automatically select the correct card when you register for a tournament.
- You can [watch a great explanation here](#).
- During the game, if your opponents have set up a convention card, you can see this by selecting it from the 3 white bars menus button. If your opponents have not set up a convention card, then the option will be missing.

Chatting

- Click on the box at the bottom left to change who you send your chat message to.
- Before and after the game you can chat to your partner in the message box. It is polite to thank your partner when dummy is laid down or when your partner plays well.
- During the game you can chat to the table.
- Be careful about chat to Tournament. Talking to Tournament broadcasts to everyone - so if you say "we should have bid 7H" it can be seen by all players. If you are going to comment on a board, make sure first that you are only talking to your own table.
- At the beginning of each round, it is polite to chat to the Table to greet your opposition, and give a brief summary of your system. For example:
"Hi opponents, we're playing Acol, Weak NT, 3 Weak 2's, McKinney"
- You can see the details of your opponents by clicking on their names.

Alerting

- On BBO you alert your own bids. Full disclosure is as important online as it is for face-to-face bridge, and the best way is to type out any useful description of your bid (eg NT range) in the box provided before completing your bid. There is further [guidance on how to do that is here](#), and a [useful video here](#).
- If you forget to alert your own bid in advance you can click on your bid and it gives you a second chance to alert.
- At any time during the bidding, you may request an explanation of any opponent's bid by clicking it. This will send a popup request to your opponent requesting them to explain their bid.
- Similarly, during the play, you may be requested to explain your own bids.

Speed of Play

- To the left of the playing area, you will see a 'clock' – this will be counting down in minutes from the start of the round. There is a time limit for each round, so play quickly – the board may be taken away should you fail to finish the play, so WATCH THE CLOCK!

Calling the Director

- If anything goes wrong during the game, you can always send a message to the Director by clicking the 3 white bars menu button near the top of the screen.

Mis-clicks

- If you accidentally make the wrong bid, or play the wrong card by mis-clicking, you may ask your opponents to accept an UNDO. To do this, click the 3 white bars menu button. You should only use this if for a genuine mis-click, not because you change your mind on a bid or card! You should be understanding if you are asked to approve a mis-click.
- If you find that you are frequently mis-clicking, there is an option in your Account settings to require a second confirmatory click to action a bid or card. You may find this useful.

Losing Connection during the Game

- If you lose connection during the game i.e. you find that you have been logged off from BBO, just log back in again as quickly as you can, and you should be taken straight back to your table. If you've been dis-connected for a long period, you may find that the Director has put in a substitute – it's then a matter of chatting with the Director to agree on how to re-instate you or otherwise.

History

- If the Director has enabled the 'barometer' scoring method, then you might find it interesting to bring up the History tab. This will show you all of the boards that you have played so far, together with your scores. By clicking on the 'Other Tables' menu near the top, for any board, you can see the travellers for other tables.

The Results

- At the completion of the tournament, (which may be a few minutes after you finish playing), the results will be displayed automatically.
- At any time in the future, you may re-visit the play by logging in to BBO and clicking the History tab, and then selecting the tournament from the Recent Tournaments menu.