

CHEATING

Message to all those playing online on NIBU BBO platform to be communicated to all players and published on club websites

Because of the prevalence of unethical and dishonest behaviour by a small minority of online bridge players, the NIBU has asked the club to remind you about requirements for ethical behaviour at all times. There are daily reports of people perceived to be deliberately **CHEATING** when playing online. All members should be in no doubt that the NIBU is taking this issue extremely seriously and there will be consequences for anyone found to be cheating.

Club TDs or Online Managers should endeavour to ensure that all players are aware of what actions are acceptable and which are definitely not – e.g. providing explanations in the chat area for partner to see as well as opponents is **NOT** acceptable, the alert area only should be used

Clubs playing on the NIBU platform are required to note the following:

	All players must enter their real names in their user profile. Preferably enter both names but a First name only is acceptable
	If visitors are playing in a club the club must have the visitors' NIBU Membership number
	No unaffiliated players may play on the NIBU BBO platform
	Local Master Points will be awarded in accordance with the NIBU Master Point Scheme for all events.

The following instructions to be issued to all people playing on the BBO NIBU platform -

Whether you are playing in your local friendly club or you are representing your country you must adhere to the international rules of bridge.

**CHEATING IS CHEATING WHETHER ONLINE OR IN A FACE-TO-FACE GAME,
AND IT WILL BE SUBJECT TO THE SAME DISCIPLINARY PROCESSES, THE SAME
SANCTIONS
AND THE SAME POSSIBILITY OF BEING NAMED PUBLICLY IF CONVICTED.**

All those wishing to play on the NIBU BBO platform must

- a) Confirm to their club that they have read this document.
- b) Ensure that the club has their NIBU Membership number
- c) Enter their REAL NAME in their bridge profile on BBO – First name is acceptable if you don't want to give your full name.
- d) Ensure that they always play according to the rules of our game

Those who have concerns about the actions of another NIBU member should raise them with your TD or Online Club Manager and should not make public accusations or insinuations on social media.

A.	Self-Kibitzing	THIS IS CHEATING
B.	Having another person kibitz and pass on information to you	THIS IS CHEATING
C.	Phoning/contacting partner during play	THIS IS CHEATING
D.	Communicating with partner when playing in the same house/room. Showing your hand, asking for a lead, suggesting bids	THIS IS CHEATING

Consequences

The Tournament Director or BBO Online Club Manager is required to forward details of any unethical behaviour to the NIBU Hon Secretary, who will undertake a full investigation of any alleged wrongdoing.

If Unethical behaviour is proven, the players will face suspension or expulsion from NIBU and notification of same to International Bridge Organisations