

Dún Laoghaire Bridge Club

SOME DOS & DON'TS TO HELP AVOID INCIDENTS WHICH MAY SPOIL A BRIDGE GAME

1. Look at your hand and sort it into suits. Don't shift it from one hand to the other or shift suits around after sorting.

Keep it fanned and don't shut it up or put it down on the table.

2. Don't touch the bidding box, or hover your hand near it, until it's your turn to bid. Remember: To hesitate between calls when touching the bidding cards could constitute a violation of Law 16 - Unauthorised information.

3. Pause a moment before making any call (which includes a Pass). If the opponent on your right has opened with more than one of any denomination or has made a jump bid, do not make any bid until 10 seconds have elapsed.

4. Remember if you pause for an unduly long time in normal circumstances, you may silence your partner if you then pass.

5. Don't bid after partner has made a pause before passing which was of significant length, unless the bid you make is clearly permissible on your own hand without anything but the minimum your opponents' bidding would suggest may be in your partner's hand. The onus will be on you to show that partner's pause could not influence your bid.

6. Bid and play without emphasis. Don't vary the tone of your bidding – it should always be flat and unemphatic.

7. Don't make faces, or twist about, or sigh, or otherwise indicate difficulty or distress either because of partner's or opponents' bids or plays. Remain always impassive.

8. Don't look at your partner during bidding or play.

9. Remember to alert your opponents to any bid which is conventional below the level of 3NT.

10. (a) When Dummy, don't play any card, however obvious, until asked by partner.

(b) When Dummy, don't look at opponent's or partner's hands.

11. Don't take the cards from the board when they have been returned to it after play. Penalties will be incurred if cards are misboarded.

12. Be courteous to opponents and to your partner.