

# Bridge Etiquette

(Friday Mini-Lesson - 14 June 2019)

- Do you count your cards before you look at them?  
*Each player counts his/her cards face down to be sure he/she has exactly thirteen cards.*
- Do you alert your bids?  
*You should warn the opponents, by saying "alert" when your partner has made a bid that requires alerting. You do not give any other information at this stage. An opponent may ask, at his/her turn to bid, the meaning of the alerted call. You are then bound to give a full explanation.*
- Do you call the director whenever something goes wrong?  
*It's the proper procedure, and the director will advise you of relevant rulings. The director is there to keep things equitable.*
- Do you agree on the number of tricks before packing up your cards at the end of the play of the hand?  
*A player should not disturb the order of his/her played cards until agreement has been reached on the number of tricks won by all players at the table. A player who fails to comply with the provisions of this can jeopardize their right to claim ownership of doubtful tricks or to claim (or deny) a revoke.*
- Do you keep to the time limit?  
*There is a certain amount of time per hand, and it's not fair to constantly be slow. Don't take too much time. At the Brisbane Bridge Centre, on average, 6 minutes is allowed per board plus 1 minute for moving between tables.*
- Do you leave the discussion of a hand to the end of the session?  
*Discussing a hand played earlier might be a hand your opponents may not have played. You may be giving them an insight into what they should do.*
- When entering or verifying the Bridgmate, do you check that the data (i.e. contract, declarer and tricks) was entered correctly for each board?  
*Incorrect scores may not be 'caught' until after the session when it may be too late to correct. It is best to check carefully at the time of entering/verifying the result for each board.*

- Do you make appropriate comments when looking at the results in the Bridgemate from the other tables on a particular board?  
*You are welcome to praise your opponents when they receive a good score. However, it's best not to comment on your successes, which are also the opponents' failures. Saying things like: "Oh that's a top partner" is very bad manners.*

Lesson prepared by Chris Larter. Based on material from the ABF Website ([www.abf.com.au/education/tactics/](http://www.abf.com.au/education/tactics/)). For personal use only - not for duplication or dissemination.