

**THE MALENY  
CONTRACT BRIDGE  
CLUB INC.**

**Player's Guide**

Please read this and keep for future reference.

This edition revised on 29 July 2025

In connection with this publication please refer any errors, amendments or suggestions to the Committee.

## CONDUCT AND ETIQUETTE

Bridge Law 74 – Conduct and Etiquette per the World Bridge Federation 2017 Laws of Duplicate Bridge is the recognised code for our Bridge Club.

The full law is copied below.

### A. Proper Attitude

- 1 A player should maintain a courteous attitude at all times.
- 2 A player should carefully avoid any remark or action that might cause annoyance or embarrassment to another player or might interfere with the enjoyment of the game.
- 3 Every player should follow uniform and correct procedure in calling and playing.

### B. Etiquette

As a matter of courtesy a player should refrain from:

- 1 paying insufficient attention to the game.
- 2 making gratuitous comments during the auction and play.
- 3 detaching a card before it is his turn to play.
- 4 prolonging play unnecessarily (as in playing on although he knows that all the tricks are surely his) for the purpose of disconcerting an opponent.
- 5 summoning and addressing the Director in a manner discourteous to him or to other contestants.

### C. Violations of Procedure

The following are examples of violations of procedure:

- 1 using different designations for the same call.
- 2 indicating approval or disapproval of a call or play.
- 3 indicating the expectation or intention of winning or losing a trick that has not been completed.

- 4 commenting or acting during the auction or play so as to call attention to a significant occurrence, or to the number of tricks still required for success.
- 5 looking intently at any other player during the auction and play, or at another player's hand as for the purpose of seeing his cards or of observing the place from which he draws a card (but it is appropriate to act on information acquired by unintentionally seeing an opponent's card).
- 6 showing an obvious lack of further interest in a deal (as by folding one's cards).
- 7 varying the normal tempo of bidding or play for the purpose of disconcerting an opponent.
- 8 leaving the table needlessly before the round is called.

## POLICY ON UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOUR

This is covered by By-law #2 of The Maleny Contract Bridge Club Inc.

Unacceptable behaviour at the Maleny Contract Bridge Club is:

1. Any action which contravenes Bridge Law 74 – Conduct and Etiquette per the World Bridge Federation 2017 Laws of Duplicate Bridge copied below.
2. Any other action which, in the opinion of the Management Committee, a reasonable person would consider to be unacceptable.

# LOCAL RULES

## ALERTING PROCEDURES

**Announcements** – Partner of the bidder makes the announcement as soon as the bid is made.

For a 1C opening:

- For natural systems (mostly in our club), partner announces the minimum club length guaranteed, saying “4 plus clubs” or “3 plus clubs”, etc.
- For strong club systems, you announce the point range. In Precision you would say “strong at least 16 points”.
- For other systems, for example Polish Club, which has multiple meanings for the 1C opening, partner simply announces “unusual”.

For a natural 1NT opening:

- This announcement is the strength range. So partner says: “15 to 17” or “12 to 14” or whatever the range is.

**Alerting** - Partner of the bidder is to say “alert” and table an “alert” card.

Alert all of the following

- 1D (if it may contain fewer than 3 cards)
- Strong artificial 2C opening and its answer 2D
- Strong artificial 2D opening and its answer 2H
- Answers to CRO-Gerber and key-card Blackwood.
- Responses to 2C Stayman.

The opposition should ask about announcements and alerted or self-alerted bids only on a “need to know basis” and only when it is your turn to bid.

## **CARD PLAYED**

You may need to remind some players that once a card has touched the table it is played. The one exception is the first lead (which should always be played face down), which can be withdrawn if it is seen that the lead is coming from the wrong hand. If this wrong card has been exposed the Director must be called as there are 5 options open to declarer.

## **DOUBLING**

Experienced players may not penalty double the new-to-bridge players that have joined the club through the teaching program. This rule is effective until 3 months after play in the main sessions.

However, new-to-bridge players are free to double experienced players at any time.

## **PSYCH BIDS**

A psych bid is a call that varies by at least 2 points in strength or 2 cards in length from your partnership agreement.

While at times it can be allowed (provided partner has no knowledge of the meaning and takes no advantage from it) frivolous and unsportsmanlike psychs are not acceptable and are to be reported to the director who will record the event in a psych register. Persistent offenders will be penalised.

## **DUTIES AT THE TABLE**

NORTH:- is alone responsible for the boards at the table. North should check that they are in order and all oriented the same way so that the hands are in the correct position when the board

is placed on the table. As a matter of courtesy, North should make sure that the boards are in playing order and correctly oriented before they are passed to the next table.

SOUTH:- is responsible for checking the board number, entering player numbers, contract and declarer, lead, and result into the table machines. Any reporting of results to players at the table must be done as quietly as possible. At the end of each round rank order should be made available to those who want to know their position.

EAST:- is responsible to check that the right contract, declarer and result have been entered correctly.

WEST:- is responsible, with help from East if necessary, to see that the table and its surroundings are tidy at the end of play, that the boards and machines are left in the allocated area.

SIT OUT:- for the first round, enter your player numbers into the machine. If you wish to look at hands make certain they are replaced in the correct slots. If you are tempted to talk above a very quiet whisper please consider going outside, as it can be very distracting to other players.

## THE MALENY CONTRACT BRIDGE CLUB

While home social bridge had been played for many years in Maleny it was only in 1994 that Peg Burnett asked Lynton Bourke to help start a club in the Maleny R.S.L. with Lynton giving lessons for duplicate contract bridge and directing.

A meeting was held on the third Monday in September when it was decided to start Tuesday evening sessions. Helen Gilmour-Walsh was our Treasurer and Providedore.

The R.S.L. asked for no rent and only as membership grew did the club make a contribution, never having been asked to pay commercial rates.

Founding members up to the end of 1994 included Doris Berkley, Lynton Bourke, Anne Brooker, Bert Brooker, Peg Burnett, Pat Darwell, Bonnie Davidson, Noel Davidson, Reg Durrant, Marilyn Gilbert, Helen Gilmour-Walsh, Paul Gilmour-Walsh, Mary Gould, Hazel Heading, Iris Jeffries, Keith Long, Margaret Long, Dulcie Musk, Lorna Petersen.

The Club Incorporated on 7<sup>th</sup> February 2006 as "The Maleny Contract Bridge Club Inc." with President Brian Molloy, Past President Lynton Bourke, Secretary Pauline Robinson, and Treasurer Jeff Margetts. The club continued to occupy the lower rooms beneath the RSL main hall.

The Club signed a new three year Commercial Tenancy agreement with the RSL on 28<sup>th</sup> May 2015 and moved all operations upstairs to the main hall. This provided more space and improved the disability access for members.

A Sublease agreement was signed with Maleny District Sport and Recreation Club Inc. on 10<sup>th</sup> July 2017 and work started on the design for a new standalone Clubhouse to be built on the Precinct.

All approvals for the building were in place by 21<sup>st</sup> February 2018 and Sayer Civil started on the earthworks 16<sup>th</sup> April 2018.

The Club held its first operational Bridge Session at the new premises on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> October 2018.

Ninety two percent of the funding for the Clubhouse was provided by Club members via generous donation and debenture loans.