



CODE OF CONDUCT

London Bridge Centre is dedicated to providing a welcoming, enjoyable and conflict-free environment with games conducted in a spirit of friendly competition. Players and directors will treat each other with respect. They will refrain from comments or behaviours that are disrespectful, offensive, abusive, racist or sexist.

LBC games are conducted under the Laws of Duplicate Bridge. Players are expected to follow the lawful procedures and ethical standards set out in the Laws and to practise Active Ethics. An actively ethical player contributes to the enjoyment of all players by continuously striving to maintain a courteous attitude toward both the opponents and partner and by avoiding any behaviour that would make any player uncomfortable. The ACBL program attempts to eradicate unacceptable behaviour in order to make the game of bridge more enjoyable for all.

As described in the ACBL Zero Tolerance Policy and Play Nice initiative, you should:

- greet others in a friendly manner and introduce yourself as appropriate prior to start of play on each round.
- be a good “host” or “guest” at the table.
- help those with less experience with the “process” of the game.
- acknowledge good play by the opponents or partner while refraining from negative comments.
- only give advice – to partner or opponents – if asked to do so, and save analysis and lessons for after the session.
- accept good and bad results gracefully and look forward to the next hand.

Remember that it is rude to criticize your partner or opponents in public, to be impolite at the table, to gloat over good results, to object to a call for the director, or to dispute a director’s ruling. Annoying behaviour, embarrassing remarks, or any other conduct which might interfere with the enjoyment of the game is specifically prohibited by Law 74A. In particular, behaviour that constitutes harassment, intimidation, threats, violence or abuse will not be tolerated at London Bridge Centre.

If a player behaves in an unacceptable manner at the table, the director should be called immediately. If you observe or experience unacceptable behaviour in other circumstances at the club, please inform the director or another LBC official as soon as possible.

Law 91A gives the director the authority to assess penalties. The London Bridge Centre Code of Conduct Regulations outline the process for addressing breaches of this Code of Conduct and the potential consequences.

Law 40 requires that partnership understandings be available to opponents. This may be satisfied by verbal explanations during club play, but it is better to have convention cards completed. Both partners are required to have identical convention cards in tournament play.

While infrequent psych bids are permitted by the Laws as long as they are not subject to partnership agreement, deliberate psych bids are not permitted in limited-point games at London Bridge Centre. In Open games, players should not employ psych bids when playing against opponents in a lower stratification.

Bridge is a timed event. Regardless of the cause, when a table has fallen behind both pairs should strive to catch up to the field as quickly as possible. If you are unable to catch up by playing quickly, call the Director to arrange a Late Play.

While we all enjoy our bridge and the company of our fellow members, we also need relative quiet to concentrate. Please keep loud talking and laughter to a minimum while others are playing. We are serious about our bridge – but not grumpy.

Cell phones should be silenced during play. If a call must be taken during play, you should excuse yourself, step away from the playing tables, keep the call as short as possible, and then apologize again on your return. If you are expecting a call that must be taken, please inform the director before start of play.

Many people are very sensitive to scents so players should avoid wearing scented perfumes, colognes or lotions at the club. Players also should dress appropriately and take care of their personal grooming.

Smoking inside the club is prohibited by provincial law. To smoke outside, smokers must move away from the entrance and are requested to use the ash receptacle at the corner of the building. Brief smoke breaks may be taken only when they will not delay the game.

London Bridge Centre has developed a booklet of Etiquette and Procedure Tips. It is available for reference at the directors table or it can be borrowed from the library.

LBC members who volunteer as Officers, members of the Board or any committee or discipline panel should carry out those duties with no personal gain. Such volunteers will disclose any potential conflict of interest and take steps to deal with any such conflict. If, in the course of their duties, they become privy to confidential information about LBC or any of its members, suppliers or employees, they will respect and maintain the confidentiality of such information.

APPROVED BY LBC MEMBERSHIP AT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING SEPT. 17, 2016