



NOVICE NEWS #5 FEBRUARY 2019

Although this is the February edition it has been published earlier as there is quite a lot happening.

Thursday 31st January is the start of the Cecily Critchley Memorial Novice Teams event over three Thursdays and hopefully you have all entered teams for this event in memory of our wonderful teacher. Eva Berger has written a great article about playing in teams - see separate handout.

For events coming up around the region please check out the following website - <http://www.qldbridge.com.au/players/qldNovice.php>. Our diary contains a wealth of information and should be by your side always. And don't forget the signature bridge event of the year, the QBA Gold Coast Congress from 16th to 23rd February. We would encourage everyone to enter at least one event at the Congress - it is a memorable experience. You will find a handout at the club outlining the program for Rookies and Novices.

The Role of the Director

Some bridge players, new or experienced, appear to be reluctant to call a Director. While others have the Director at their table at every opportunity.

The Director is there to see that a smooth, on-time game is played. S/he selects the movement most likely to provide the maximum opportunity to play as many opponents and boards as possible. The Director is also there to enforce the Laws of Duplicate Contract Bridge and to ensure that equity is restored when an irregularity occurs.

Here is the protocol when calling the Director:

- Whenever an irregularity occurs, call the Director and hold up a hand for a visual guide.
- If you aren't sure if an irregularity has occurred, call the Director.
- Yes, the dummy may call the Director, but only after another player has called attention to an irregularity or after play ceases. Remember that every player has an obligation to prevent irregularities. (See Rule below).
- When the Director arrives, the person who called should explain why the Director was called.

All details must be included for an accurate ruling to be made. As soon as the Director arrives, s/he will be in charge of the discussion. S/he will ask for an

explanation of the problem, then will listen to both pairs in order. S/he will often ask the other players if the circumstances as recounted are correct. Waiting your turn, rather than interrupting, will usually speed up the process. Once the Director determines all facts to the best of her/his ability, s/he will make the ruling required by law. Players may not like the ruling, but they need to remember that the law must be enforced. Players will be advised of their right to appeal. Just because you call the Director does not mean you are entitled to an adjustment.

Great Names of Bridge. As you learn bridge you also learn about conventions and these are usually named after the person who invented them.

Sam Stayman (1909-1993). Sam was a successful businessman who was regarded as one of the finest bridge players in the world. He played bridge with enthusiasm until only a few days before he died. In his prime he was a three-time winner of the Bermuda Bowl, the world championship of bridge. The one thing he did not do, however, was invent the convention that immortalises his name! Stayman was devised independently by Sam's regular partner George Rapee, and by Jack Marx, a British champion who was instrumental in developing the ACOL system. The convention acquired Sam's name after he published an article in Bridge World in June 1945.

Rule (Eva Berger)

42A(1). Dummy is entitled to give information in the Director's presence as to fact or law.

Tip (Lynley Jenkins)

To land in the right contract, partner needs to know two things about your hand: your **strength** and your **shape**.

Bylaw

Slow play is subject to penalisation (see QBA Regulations). A timing clock is usually set after the first round. Bidding on a new board must not be started after the warning bell has sounded.

Etiquette

Even though you are a Novice (less than 100 mps) you may have been playing for a few years. Please remember what your first few weeks and months were like when you started to play sessions straight from lessons. Be patient and courteous at all times.

Most bridge players prefer consistency in their partners rather than brilliance.

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