

GUIDE TO COMPLETION OF WBF CONVENTION CARD

GUIDE TO COMPLETION OF THE WBF CONVENTION CARD AND SUPPLEMENTARY SHEETS (incorporating the WBF CONVENTIONS BOOKLET)

BEFORE YOU BEGIN:

This booklet has been prepared to assist you in filling out the WBF convention card with the on-line Convention Card Editor (CCE). The task of adequately disclosing partnership agreements can be a difficult one; we hope to make it easier for you.

Also see WBF System Policy.

Please read the introductory material in each section as you go along. You will need to look closely at particular conventions only if you actually use them.

FULL AND ADEQUATE DISCLOSURE:

You are aiming for FULL DISCLOSURE, which is not the same as presenting your complete system. You want your opponents to know everything about your methods and approach that you would want to know about theirs. Your obligation to disclose encompasses not only straight SYSTEM BIDS and CONVENTIONS, but also partnership STYLE and UNDERSTANDINGS based on experience. The early rounds of potentially contestable auctions are FAR more important to your opponents than later rounds of strictly constructive auctions.

Full disclosure is a combination of what you reveal in your Convention Card and Supplementary Sheets and what you add at the table WITHOUT YOUR OPPONENTS HAVING TO ASK QUESTIONS. Please beware that asking a question can have an adverse effect not only on the partnership asking the question but also, perhaps inadvertently, on the other side. If an opponent refrains from asking a question to which you should have provided the answer without prompting, and damage ensues, there is an a priori assumption that you have not achieved full disclosure. Each case will be heard on its merits.

The GUIDE TO COMPLETION has been designed with CATEGORY 1 and CATEGORY 2 EVENTS in mind, where advance preparation is both possible and practical. (See WBF SYSTEMS POLICY). ADEQUATE DISCLOSURE for such events (please note that the Knockout phase of the Rosenblum and McConnell Teams is CATEGORY 2) requires the full depth in system presentation that is detailed in this GUIDE.

Since it is impractical to produce different versions of this GUIDE, however, it must be stated clearly that ADEQUATE DISCLOSURE for CATEGORY 3 EVENTS (Pairs and short Teams matches) requires less "written" detail and more "verbal" support than ADEQUATE DISCLOSURE for CATEGORY 1 and 2 EVENTS. You are ALWAYS responsible for revealing your agreements, although you cannot realistically get everything on your Card/Supp Sheets. Indeed, for CATEGORY 3 EVENTS, you do not want to give your opponents more than they need. You do not want to waste precious playing time on at-the-table queries and frantic searches through the system material. At the same time, you do not want to make a career out of completing the card when no one will want to read it in great depth. You are expected to use good judgment in preparing your Card/Supp Sheets for these events.

In all cases, however the sum of the two (written and verbal) types of disclosure must amount to a complete explanation of the partnership's agreements, i.e. FULL DISCLOSURE.

In cases where there is damage due to possible failure to disclose, the side that was not informed will be given the benefit of the doubt.

If you don't achieve adequate disclosure in your system presentation, the Conditions of Contest provide for penalties.

SUPPLEMENTARY SHEETS:

In order to achieve adequate disclosure, you will almost certainly have to make proper use of the SUPPLEMENTARY SHEETS. An entry (NOTE) on the Convention Card that requires expansion should be numbered in square brackets, e.g. [26], and that number must correspond with a numbered entry on the SUPPLEMENTARY SHEET. The SUPPLEMENTARY SHEET entries should be organized so that they are user-friendly. The individual numbered entries should be separated by heavy lines and should not be crowded together to save space. The order of priority is:

- (1) BIDS THAT MAY REQUIRE A DEFENCE
- (2) TWO-SUITED ACTIONS
- (3) DOUBLES
- (4) LEADS AND SIGNALS ... "CARDS"
- (5) OTHERS
- (6) PREPARED DEFENCES (a special case)

With this in mind, you should leave space [] for your convention card NOTES in the appropriate places, but you should not assign final numbers to these NOTES or start on your final detailed SUPPLEMENTARY SHEETS until you complete the card.

FILING SYSTEMS:

Please file your Convention Card and Supplementary Sheets as required by the Conditions of Contest. Retain copies for use by your opponents at the table, and for emergencies.

When specified in the Conditions of Contest, you must file a copy of your COMPLETE SYSTEM in (preferably) English at the Convention Card/Systems Desk at the start of the Tournament (or event). It is a good idea to do so even if not required. If your complete system is fully described on your convention card (highly unlikely), you need not file it separately.

WBF THE GUIDE ITSELF

The conventions included in this document have been grouped to correlate with the appropriate sections of the convention card. In the CCE, they will appear by name only in the "SELECT" (F2) under each section heading or bid (inside of card). The "INFO" (F9) of the CCE will provide detailed information about the conventions and spell out what you need to include if you wish to add them to your card.

When using a convention in full uniformity with this document, you need only enter the name (however, in many cases the "name" includes or consists of a one-line description of the bid) in LARGE BLOCK CAPITALS; ranges (strengths) have usually been omitted. Please fill in the () with a point range. Most conventions described here will list additional requirements for "name only" inclusion.

When using a convention included in this document, but in a MATERIALLY DIFFERENT version, you may either describe how your version differs or give your own full description. In such a case, enter the name of the convention in LARGE BLOCK CAPITALS in QUOTES, as per:

e.g. ``DRURY-FIT''

Refer to the place on your card (if not obvious) or add a cross-reference NOTE to a SUPPLEMENTARY SHEET [] entry where further details can be found.

When using a convention NOT INCLUDED in this document, a full description, must be given, EVEN IF you consider the name alone to be sufficient. This is not a case calling for your "good judgment." These conventions may be named in this form:

e.g. ``MUNCHKIN 2" (6@/6-10; or 25+ BAL)"

... LARGE BLOCK CAPITALS plus essential short description, all within QUOTES. There is no need to use the name MUNCHKIN at all, but if space permits, it is harmless enough to publicize a new convention.

If this entry is not in the place on the card where you are providing details about the convention or treatment, add a reference to the appropriate place (if not obvious; for MUNCHKIN 2", an opponent would turn to 2" on the INSIDE OF THE CARD as a matter of course), or add a cross-reference NOTE to a SUPPLEMENTARY SHEET [] entry where further details can be found. The idea is to first PRE- ALERT your opponents that you are using a particular action in an attention-worthy manner. Then you point them to the part of your system submission that provides further details.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Failure to present a convention or treatment accurately and fully may result in procedural penalties and/or its removal from your system; this is particularly true in cases where the opponents might wish to prepare a defence. Each case will be decided on its merits.

In selecting conventions for inclusion in this document, we have considered not only popularity but also practical usefulness. Some conventions have been included in an effort to define terms that tend to surface on cards without explanation, or that may enjoy great "regional" popularity while remaining unknown elsewhere. We have tried to cover a broad spectrum in order to alleviate the burden of explanation, particularly in late rounds of strictly constructive auctions. We make no claim to completeness. In the main body of the text, we have deliberately omitted "Red Sticker" conventions and treatments. Under the current WBF Systems Policy, "Red Sticker" conventions may be played only in the Bermuda Bowl/Venice Cup, the Teams Olympiad, and in the Rosenblum/McConnell Teams late stages (where it is possible to prepare overnight for a long match).

We make no special claim to authoritativeness (although considerable effort was made to research the material); nor do we claim that these versions are necessarily approved by the majority of experts or by the authors of the conventions themselves. We are aiming for a basic presentation that leaves room for customizing. That is the purpose of the distinction between simple BLOCK CAPITALS and the addition of QUOTES.

This document may be taken to the table and consulted in respect of a call made by an opponent, but not in respect of a call made by your partner, nor one made or contemplated by you yourself.

In case of inconsistency between this document and the Conditions of Contest, the latter shall apply. Indeed, variations are to be expected over the life of this document.

Suit symbols **MUST** be used. **ABBREVIATIONS** may be used. See the F1 (HELP) in each section for a list of these. The F1 will also give information on the functions of the other keys.

This guide will be continued in the F9 (INFO) of each section on the CCE.

Please be sure to add strength ranges or other required information in places where you find () or, in the F2 (SELECT) " : "