1 Introduction

The EBU online one-day Green-Point (OODGP) events will be with screens. Players will be announcing, alerting and explaining their own bids and carding agreements, orally, to their screenmates. This means they will not be communicating by typing, which players have told us they find off-putting.

2 RealBridge

2.1 Instructions

RealBridge uses computer video and audio for communication between players. Players can and should verify their video and audio facilities and permissions by logging into the system in advance of the game's start time. At least 15 minutes earlier is recommended.

Players are required to use video and audio during play. If you have problems with audio or video, you should continue to play (using written text if necessary) until you have time to try to sort it out, rather than delaying play.

If you have video connection and it deteriorates or seems to behave the appearance of freezing, please use the redial button on the grey name-band. You will remain in your seat, but the audio-video connection is re-established.

2.2 Good Behaviour

Please remember that your opponent will have sight of you whenever you are logged in at a table and always act accordingly – opponents can hear and see what is going on in the room around you.

If a player at the table, [online,] behaves in an unacceptable manner, the director should be called immediately. Annoying behaviour, embarrassing remarks, or any other conduct which might interfere with the enjoyment of the game is specifically prohibited by Law 74A.

2.3 Alerting, Announcing & Explaining – more details

The screens are put in place once the cards are visible and you will then only be able to see one of your opponents and not your partner. Each member of the pair should give a short verbal explanation of any alertable or announceable call to their screen mate. North and East are on the same side of the screen, South and West are on the other side.

Follow-up questions should be made verbally to the player who originally explained the call (or via private chat if you have hearing limitations). Alerts, explanations and questions occur independently on either side of the screen.

Exceptionally, bids and passes above 3NT should be alerted and explained if they are artificial or unexpected. Doubles and Redoubles are alerted if required by the face-to-face rules.

2.4 Calling the TD

When the TD is called during the auction and play, the TD will be on just one side of the screen, listening and talking to just the two players on that side.

When the TD is called only the player who called the TD should speak. The TD can then ask questions of the different players on either side of the screen, but will normally communicate only with North and East together or South and West together. They may instruct the players how to proceed.

If the TD appears at the table and you did not call the TD, please wait to be asked to speak – so that the table does not all speak at once.

The TD can isolate players and choose to communicate with only one or two players at a time.

When the play is over (either because a claim or concession is made, or trick 13 is complete), the screens are withdrawn, and all players can see and hear each other until the cards for the next deal arrive. It is advised that dummy does not talk during the claim or concession until it has reached a conclusion.

3 General Regulations

3.1 System Cards

For the convenience of opponents, you should have an online system card (EBU20B) and should load this card via the button on RealBridge. This card will remain with you for the entirety of the event, unless one of you changes partner – if the new partnership is playing a different system they will need to load a new system card.

You can upload your PDF system card to My EBU > Utilities > System Cards to obtain the link for this.

OODGP events are Level 4 – so WBF system cards are not permitted.

3.2 Online Regulations in OODGP events

The EBU Blue Book (section 9) applies. In particular:

- Players may consult their own system card and other notes at any stage (9A1)
- UNDOs are permitted in the auction but not in the play (9C1), except for cases where there is misinformation, in which case the TD should be called.

If there is a request for an UNDO in the auction, the TD should be called by the opponent on the same side of the screen, if there is any doubt. The TD will advise the players (if asked by the TD, the opponent on the other side of the screen should accept the UNDO.)

The TD will rule whether Law 25A applies and if so, will instruct both opponents to accept the request.

If the opponents accept the request for an UNDO, without calling the TD, they will usually be deemed to have accepted the replacement call (Law 25B1 – 'the second call stands and the auction continues').