



EBU – RealBridge with screens

1 Introduction

These EBU teams events on RealBridge use screens: National Point-a-Board, Tollemache Cup Qualifier, and National Teams League – not Pachabo Trophy, nor teams events at congresses which include pairs events.

2 RealBridge

2.1 Instructions

RealBridge uses computer video and audio for communication between players. Player can and should test their video/audio by logging into the system in advance.

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

It may be necessary to refresh the video feed every hour or so: this can be done (without logging out) by clicking the refresh button on your name bar.

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

The screens apply to audio and video communication, but alerts and written announcements (from the player making the call) pass through the screen.

Follow-up questions should be made verbally to the screenmate. Note: the partner of the player who made the call will not have seen the written explanation.

Calls are alerted by the player making the call: calls are alerted by providing a short explanation of the call before making the call – it is not necessary to click the Alert strip. Alternatively, players can click the Alert strip, make the call, and then click on the call and add the short explanation.

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

2.4 Calling the TD

When the TD is called, the TD can hear and speak to both sides of the screen – but the players cannot hear the players on the other side of the screen. It is difficult for the TD if both sides of the screen are talking.

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, before instructing the table 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.

3 General Regulations

3.1 System Cards

You are required to have an online system card (EBU20B or WBF) and you should upload a link to each RealBridge session or exchange a link to your system with your opponents at the start of each round.

When pairs do not provide an online system card, the pair will be warned by the tournament director. The next time the pair do not have an online system card, in a later session (of the same competition), there will be a procedural penalty.

You can upload your PDF system card to My EBU > Utilities > System Cards – and obtain a link to provide to opponents.

WBF convention cards are permitted in EBU Level 5 events: National Point-a-Board and Tollemache Cup, not the National Teams League.

3.2 Online Regulations

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)

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 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’).