

New Plymouth Contract Bridge Club

Code of Conduct

Policy

The New Plymouth Bridge Club (NPBC) aims to promote the enjoyment and development of bridge for players of all levels. In order to achieve this outcome we expect members to be courteous and respectful to their partner, opponents, the director, contractors, service providers and volunteers at all times.

This Code outlines the standards of behaviour that the NPBC expects from all members, contractors and visitors. It confirms our commitment to building a club environment free of any form of inappropriate or unacceptable behaviour.

A breach of this Code of Conduct may lead to disciplinary action, up to and including the cancellation of club membership, termination of your contract or engagement with us, or if a visitor, exclusion from the club facility. If we consider the breach to be of a criminal nature, we may report the matter to the police.

Our Requirements

All members, contractors and visitors are expected to abide by the following conduct:

- Members, contractors and visitors shall not engage in inappropriate or unacceptable behaviour
- The rules and etiquette of bridge as outlined by the World Bridge Federation and NZBridge form the basis for this code. This includes prohibition of comments or gestures that may convey information to your partner or disturb the opponents during the bidding or play, and unfair or unethical methods to gain an advantage over the opponents, such as cheating, colluding, or using unauthorised signals or conventions
- The director is called promptly and politely whenever there is an irregularity or a dispute at the table. Do not argue with the director or question their ruling. Should a player disagree with a Director's decision the player has the right to appeal but play at the table must continue according to the Director's decision.
- Unjustified criticisms or comments on matters of bridge bidding & play shall not be made to your partner or opponents

	<p>Inappropriate or Unacceptable Behaviour</p> <p>Examples of such behaviour include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harassment: Unwelcome behaviour that intimidates, offends or humiliates a person. Such behaviour is unsolicited, and may be repeated. • Badgering: To question, criticise or pester someone repeatedly, whether the matter is of importance or not, and irrespective of the purpose of the action. • Bullying: Repeated abusive and offensive behaviour, which in some circumstances may involve inappropriate physical behaviour. • Aggression and violence directed at others • Inappropriate behaviour arising from the consumption of alcohol or illicit drugs • Unjustified criticism or complaints, including petty complaints • Abusive, insulting or offensive language or comments • Making gratuitous comments during the auction and play. • Vilification of a club member, such as by repeated and serious verbal remarks about their sexuality, race or religion, or spreading malicious rumours or gossip about a club member • Unwelcome or offensive behaviour through words or physical behaviour • Disturbance of the peace • Any behaviour that brings the NPCBC into disrepute <p>What happens if there is an apparent breach of this code</p> <p>We expect everyone to play an active role in ensuring the club environment is safe and welcoming. We encourage people to speak up if they experience or see behaviour that breaches or is inconsistent with this Code of Conduct and we will support people who do that.</p> <p>If members have a concern with an apparent breach of this code they may raise it with a Player Advocate or a formal complaint may be made directly to the President.</p> <p>The committee on its own motion may investigate an apparent breach of this Code of Conduct as it sees fit.</p> <p>Any investigation by the committee of an apparent breach of this Code of Conduct shall be addressed via the Complaints Procedure.</p>
Responsibility	NPCBC Committee
Date	2025