

## Convention Card Requirements and Resources

NVBA I/N Lecture

March 03, 2016

Kevin O'Brien

### Convention Card Reminder

- Each player is required to have a convention card filled out legibly and on the table throughout a session. The convention card must include the first and last name of each member of the partnership, and the cards must be identical.
- If a director determines that neither player has a substantially completed card, **the partnership may play only the Standard American Yellow Card and may use only standard carding**. This restriction may be lifted only at the beginning of a subsequent round after convention cards have been properly prepared and approved by the director.
- Further, **the partnership will receive a 1/6-board matchpoint penalty for each board played**, commencing with the next round and continuing until the restriction is lifted. In IMP team games, penalties shall be at the discretion of the director.
- If the director determines the partnership has at least one substantially completed convention card but has not fully complied with ACBL regulations, the director may give warnings or assign such penalties as he deems to be appropriate under the circumstances.
- The objective of these warnings and penalties is the encouragement of full compliance with ACBL regulations.
- Actually, *the objective of these warnings and penalties is the encouragement and enforcement of the **full disclosure of each pair's methods to all opponents***.

### Convention Card

Maybe you don't play a lot of conventions; in that case the **ACBL fat-free Convention Card**, at <http://web2.acbl.org/documentlibrary/play/ss4.pdf>, may be for you.

The **Standard American Yellow Card** (SAYC) mentioned above is at [http://web2.acbl.org/documentlibrary/play/sayc\\_card.pdf](http://web2.acbl.org/documentlibrary/play/sayc_card.pdf), and the SAYC 8-page booklet explaining what's on this Convention Card is at [http://web2.acbl.org/documentlibrary/play/sayc\\_book.pdf](http://web2.acbl.org/documentlibrary/play/sayc_book.pdf).

As for the card you normally see at the Unit Game and Sectionals, ACBL has a single document on how to fill out the Convention Card, at <http://web2.acbl.org/documentlibrary/play/howtofilloutcc2.htm>. Even better, ACBL has a twenty-four-part series from the ACBL Bulletin on the same topic, and it's been assembled in a single searchable document at <http://lajollabridge.com/LJUnit/Education/ConventionalWisdom.pdf>.

### Convention Card Editor

Want a fancy computer-generated Convention Card? Head for [http://www.acbl.org/tournaments\\_page/general-information/convention-cards/](http://www.acbl.org/tournaments_page/general-information/convention-cards/), where you can find links to the ACBL Convention Card Editor and four other CC Editors.

### Conventions

What are all these conventions, anyway? ACBL ran a twenty-four part series on the Bidding Toolkit in the ACBL Bulletin, and there are links to each article in the series at [http://www.acbl.org/learn\\_page/how-to-play-bridge/introduction-to-duplicate/convention-cards/commonly-used-conventions/](http://www.acbl.org/learn_page/how-to-play-bridge/introduction-to-duplicate/convention-cards/commonly-used-conventions/). There are hundreds of other conventions, but these are an excellent start, and may be all – or more than – that you'll ever want or need.