

. Carrying on from last month

Are You a Good Dummy ?

In a casual bridge game, being dummy is your chance to get some snacks, take a peek at partner's cards, or chat with another player. I'm sure you realise by now that the same is not true of a duplicate game. The dummy has rights and responsibilities, and of course, should be aware of regulations governing dummy's behaviour.

Cardinal Rule Number One:

"Dummy must not participate in the play, nor may they communicate anything about the play to declarer; dummy may not call attention to an irregularity during the play; unless attention has been drawn to an irregularity by another player; dummy should not initiate a call for the Director during play." Let's see if you pass the 'Beginners Dummy' test.

1. The opening lead is made. It happens to be a club, and you have a singleton club. When you are laying down dummy, do you take the that club and lay it in the played position ? If so, you flunked the first test. Dummy plays the cards only as directed by declarer – even if declarer has only one option.

2. You are watching the play and realise that one of the opponents revoked. You immediately tell you partner and call the director. Uh-oh! Wrong again ! Dummy must wait until the play of the hand is over before pointing out the irregularity and calling the Director

Let's move on to the 'Intermediate Dummy' test. The Dummy is declares agent and must play the card designated by the declarer. Proper designation of a card includes the statement of both suit and rank, but just in ase a declarer fails to provide this complete designation, there are rules to be followed. Do you know them ? Here's your hand, as play progresses:

· **S AJT73 Opening lead is H4 and partner says "play". What do you
H QJ2 do?. If you ask "Which one?" you are incorrect. When
D A8 declarer designates a suit but not a rank, the card played
C Q53 is lowest in suit. You should play the H2**

· **S J973 Partner wins trick with SA. He now says, "Jack". Did you
H QJ ask , "Which one?". Wrong again. When declarer names
D A8 rank but not a suit, he is deemed to have continued that
C Q53 suit, which won preceding trick. You should play SJ**

· **S T73 Partner wins in dummy with DA. He now says "Queen".
H QJ Did you ask "which one?". Correct. There is no DQ but
D 8 two others. Declarer must designate the one to play
S Q53**

If there are other items you might like to see on a monthly / periodic newsletter then please email me with your thoughts barrybutler45@gmail.com