

## Bidding Boxes

Bidding boxes are often used in many major competitions and even as a normal part of play in many clubs.

Bidding boxes can be a great aid for players who have problems with eyesight and handwritten bids. For other players they can be simply a preferred method of bidding.

The club has purchased three sets for use during sessions so that our members have the opportunity to use them as players wish. They are currently kept in the Director's cupboard in the office. Feel free to collect a set to use at your table (North South pairs).

### How to Use Bidding Boxes

- Players should not touch any bidding cards before they have determined their bid. (This could be construed as unauthorised information.)
- When a bidding card is lifted from the box, players should lift all the cards behind it as well. The group of cards is then placed on the table in front of the bidder with bid facing the centre of the table so partner can read it the correct way up. Each subsequent call should be placed overlapping neatly so that all calls are visible.
- ALERT cards are made by saying "Alert" audibly and placing the card across the bid that is alerted. The alerted player (next player) must acknowledge the alert before calling.
- All bidding cards should remain on the table until the third person has played to the first trick.
- Once this has occurred all cards are returned to the boxes by simply picking up the whole group as one and placing back in the box. Any alert or X cards will be placed back in the front of the box.
- Players at their turn to play may ask to be reminded as to what the contract is.

If you would like to see what a bidding box looks like and how they are used, please feel free to ask any committee member.