

# Lawson Bridge Studio News November 2024

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## Club Games – Rates are for each player

*Games: 6:20 pm at Ann Sather’s Restaurant, 909 West Belmont Ave, Chicago, IL*

Nov 4	Club Game—\$13	Dec 2	<b>Quarterly Club Championship</b> —\$13
Nov 6	Club Game—\$13	Dec 4	<b>Quarterly Club Championship</b> —\$13
Nov 11	<b>No Game Subeck Regional</b>	Dec 9	<b>Grass Roots FUNd</b> —\$14
Nov 13	<b>District 13 STaC</b> —\$15	Dec 11	<b>Grass Roots FUNd</b> —\$14
Nov 18	<b>Grass Roots FUNd</b> —\$14	Dec 16	<b>District 13 STaC</b> —\$15
Nov 20	<b>Grass Roots FUNd</b> —\$14	Dec 18	<b>District 13 STaC</b> —\$15
Nov 25	Club Game—\$13	Dec 23	Club Game—\$13
Nov 27	<b>No Game Restaurant Unavailable</b>	Dec 25	<b>No Game Christmas</b>
		Dec 30	Club Game—\$13

## **Law 7 - Control of Boards and Cards Duplicate Decisions, revised September 2020**

**[A. Placement of Board:** *When a board is to be played it is placed in the center of the table where it shall remain, correctly oriented, until play is completed.]* To prevent fouled boards, the board must not be moved after the players have taken their cards out of the pockets until the end of play.

**[B. Removal of Cards from the Board:** *1. Each player takes a hand from the pocket corresponding to his compass position; 2. Each player counts his cards face down to be sure he has exactly thirteen; after that, and before making a call, he must inspect the faces of his cards; 3. During play each player retains possession of his own cards, not permitting them to be mixed with those of any other player. No player shall touch any cards other than his own (but declarer may play dummy’s cards in accordance with Law 45) during or after play except by permission of an opponent or the Director.]*

Although Law 7B1 does not mention this explicitly, no player should remove their cards from the board before at least one member of the opposing pair arrives. Each player shall count their cards face down to make sure that they have thirteen. Before making a call, each player must inspect the faces of their cards (bidding “sight unseen” or “without looking at one’s cards” is not allowed).

Contrary to some widespread convictions, there is no rigid rule regarding whether, at a slow table, a board has to be completed once it is started, or whether it should be removed if not started at all. The director should use their judgment, taking into account the players involved, the movement, the conditions of play, etc. After a board is played, a player may look at a hand if either opponent agrees or if the Director allows it. When there is an objection, the Director may choose to answer the opponent’s questions concerning the hand rather than allow the opponent to “see” it.

**[C. Returning Cards to Board:** *After play has finished, each player should shuffle his original thirteen cards, after which he restores them to the pocket corresponding to his compass position. Thereafter no hand shall be removed from the board unless a member of each side, or the Director, is present.]* When removing and restoring cards, contestants are equally responsible for seeing that they have 13 cards.

**Note:** The players should shuffle their cards even if the hand is passed out, so as not to give the next table any unauthorized information from the order in which the cards were played or placed in the pocket.

When an irregularity occurs at a table (e.g., a person removed an incorrect hand), the Director should ascertain who was at fault and issue a procedural penalty. If a board is played with the compass points pointing in the wrong direction (e.g., the North player plays the South hand), the result is valid, and the board should be scored as it is played. If a board is played pointed 90° from the correct position in a Howell or Mitchell movement (North-South play the East-West hands), the result should be scored as it is played. The comparison groups change, but this does not invalidate the results. If this occurs on an early board of a set, the Director should permit that board to be completed and then turn the remaining board(s) to the correct position for the remainder of that round. In both cases, the Director should be watchful that the players return the cards to the board in the correct positions.

**[D. Responsibility for Procedures:** *Any contestant remaining at a table throughout a session is primarily responsible for maintaining proper conditions of play at the table.]* This means, among other things, avoiding the mixing of cards from two hands, removing extraneous items from the table, etc. In a Howell, it might be North-South, East-West, or nobody.

This provision does not mean that non-stationary players are not responsible; it just means that stationary players are more responsible than the others.

**Example:** The board is put on the table in the wrong position, and East takes out South’s cards. All players are deemed responsible.