



## STOP CARDS

### Stop Cards are no longer to be used at Bridge Tournaments

The board met today and has agreed that stop cards are no longer to be used in NZ Bridge Tournaments.

**This does not prevent clubs from continuing to require their use during club sessions.**

This decision was taken after considering their use internationally, their inconsistent and inappropriate use nationally, and comments and increasing concerns from players.

#### International

Stop cards are no longer used at World Bridge Federation, European Bridge League and American Contract Bridge League tournaments. They are mandated for use at English Bridge Union tournaments.

#### Use of Stop Cards in NZ

Stop cards were introduced to reduce the likelihood of players receiving unauthorised information from their partner if they hesitated after a jump bid by the opponents. Their inconsistent use, inconsistent pauses after their use and their use by some players to alert their partner to the fact that they have made a skip board means that using Stop Cards often creates unauthorised information. This latter point is often reported by players.

Murray Wiggins  
Chief Director

10<sup>th</sup> September 2024