

Entitled to enjoy your bridge

In the 1987 Year Book of The Laws and Ethics Committee of the English Bridge Union it states:

“You are entitled to enjoy your Bridge whatever your standard. (And) those who put social enjoyment before technical complexity must be assured that Tournament Directors are instructed to allow for the standard of individual players and not to act insensitively in the case of some inadvertent procedural breach on the part of a player who should not be expected to be aware of every technicality.”

I believe that speaks volumes. However, the statement goes on:

“In return every player should recognize that the game is ruined if players do not realize the crucial importance of the key aspects of its ethics, and every player has the responsibility to acquaint himself with these.”

So you see, the English Bridge Union is not anti those who have little experience and simply want to enjoy social duplicate bridge. The problem lies with those players who seek to intimidate. And that intimidation can be through their attitude and behaviour, by their insistence on all the finest points of the Laws - which they often do not properly understand anyway - and by insisting on playing complex systems in every situation.

But then, I appreciate that's just my opinion.

© K J Latty