

8.1. Bidding Boxes – Avoiding Unauthorized Information

Law 16 covers unauthorized information (UI). UI may come inadvertently, as by hearing a conversation from another table or by accidentally sighting a card. But more frequently it comes from partner.

Today we are going to discuss how to avoid providing UI in using the bidding boxes. In essence it's very simple – but many players don't follow the following rules:

Do not touch the bidding box until you have decided on your call.

Breaks in normal tempo may of themselves provide UI, but if you must pause for thought don't do it with your hand anywhere near the bidding box.

Do not partially withdraw a call (especially pass, X or XX) from the bidding box and then replace it for another call.

Under Bridge NSW regulations, if a call is removed from the bidding box – that call is made!

If you inadvertently remove an incorrect call from the bidding box, call the director and explain what has happened.

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