

500 – RULES OF THE GAME

1. THE GAME

- a) Games are ten minutes or four deals, whichever comes first.
- b) If a team attains 500 plus or minus points, the game ends.
- c) No more 10 point tricks can be taken beyond 490. You must make and win the bid to go out, unless awarded 100 penalty points under new Clauses f) or g) of Rule 3, in which case players need not have made a winning bid.
- d) Winners move to their right after score cards are clipped.
- e) Losers separate and play with new incoming players. Score cards to be dabbled or marked.
- f) Onus is on all players to check that the correct score is kept.

2. THE DEAL

- a) Scorer to deal first (from left to right).
- b) Cards to be shuffled and cut by opponent.
- c) Cards to be dealt (either) 3-4-3 or 3-2-3.2.
- d) Single cards to be dealt to the kitty (3). Last card goes to the dealer.
- e) Cards to be dealt so that play may commence as soon as the start bell/whistle sounds.
- f) Cards to remain on the table until the deal is completed.
- g) Dealer may correct hands or kitty before picked up by players.
- h) Providing all four hands have been dealt when time is signaled, that hand is deemed to have started.

Misdeal

- a) If any card is exposed during the deal.
- b) If the cards are not cut prior to the deal.
- c) A player, on picking up their cards, finds they have an incorrect number of cards.
- d) If a misdeal by the same dealer occurs, the deal passes to the next player.

3. BIDDING / PLAY

- a) Players to announce their bid in sequence (an acceptable call for no bid is "away").
- b) Providing two or more players bid, changing suit or increasing bid is allowed.
- c) If only one bid is made, the bidder may increase but not change the bid.
- d) Any cards exposed by players shall remain face up on the table and played at the first legal opportunity.
- e) Any indication from a player that they have a particular card, shall be deemed an exposed card.
- f) During play, cards must be played out one at a time.

- i) If the maker declares that they have won the game by laying down or showing the balance of their hand, the game ends immediately. The maker's bid **will not** be added to their score, but 100 penalty points **will be added** to the opposition's score.
 - ii) If the opposition lays down or shows the balance of their hand, the makers automatically **add their bid** to the score and 100 points **will be deducted** from the opposition's score.
- g) **Responsibility on players to check they have the correct number of cards before and during play.**
- i) If the maker or their partner finds they have an incorrect number of cards in their hand during play, that game ends immediately and the maker's bid **is to be deducted** from their score. Tricks taken by the opposition **can be added** to their score.
 - ii) If the opposition find they have an incorrect number of cards in their hand during play, that game ends immediately and the maker's bid **is to be added** to the maker's score. A penalty of 100 points **will be deducted** from the opposition's score.

4. NO BID

- a) If no-one bids, play as NO TRUMPS (kitty is **NOT** picked up). Player to left of dealer leads. Ten points are awarded for each trick taken.
- b) If players find they have an incorrect number of cards in their hand during play, that game ends immediately. No tricks/points are to be taken by either side and cards are passed to the next dealer.

Joker

- a) When No Trumps is the bid, the player holding the Joker may use it to call a suit at any time; and
- b) Can use it to trump in on any suit, providing they do not hold any of the suit led.

Renegé

Failure to follow suit to a lead when able is a renege.

- a) If corrected before the next card is led: **No penalty**
- b) If not corrected before the next card is led: **Penalty imposed**

Penalties

- a) If the makers were the renege offenders, the bid is to be deducted from their score.
- b) If the opponents were the renege offenders, the makers have the bid added to their score.

ANY DISPUTES TO BE DECIDED BY THE DESIGNATED UMPIRES/ADJUDICATORS

Amended 4 May 201