

BRIDGE HUMOUR AND SAYINGS

Acceptable excuses for not leading the suit your partner had opened: having no cards in the suit, and sudden death....Alfred Sheinwold

It is not the handling of difficult hands that makes the winning player. There aren't enough of them. It is the ability to avoid messing up the easy ones....Alan Sontag

It's not enough to win the tricks that belong to you. Try also for some that belong to the opponents....Alfred Sheinwold

The real test of a bridge player isn't in keeping out of trouble, but in escaping once he's in....Alfred Sheinwold

The trouble with women is that they treat bridge as a game. They do not realize it is a war.

If you have the slightest touch of masochism, you'll love this game.

It's not the skill that drops off with age, it's the drive, the killer instinct...and when a man isn't primed to kill he makes mistakes.

Bridge is a great comfort in your old age. It also helps you get there faster.Rueful Rabbit

Since the average person's small supply of politeness must last him all his life, he can't afford to waste it on bridge partners....Alfred Sheinwold

Bridge is essentially a social game, but unfortunately it attracts a substantial number of antisocial people.

One advantage of bad bidding is that you get practice at playing atrocious contracts...Alfred Sheinwold

"Where's the hand you held during the auction?" a comment Jan Janitschke has made when dummy hits.

South: Alert! East: Yes? South: I'm requested to further mis-describe my hand.

Most bridge players prefer consistency in their partners rather than brilliance...Matthew Granovetter

The sum of all technical knowledge cannot make a master contract player...Ely Culbertson

The difference between genius and stupidity is that genius has its limits.

Card sense is when it's technically right to do something, the little man that sits on my shoulder or anyone else's shoulder says, "Don't do that." And you say to yourself, "Well, wait a minute, that's the right way to play." And he says, "Yeah, but you don't wanna play that way." That instinct is card sense. It's almost an ability to feel where the cards are. It's something that you can't buy, you can't find; you're born with it. The ability to do the right thing at the wrong time or really to do the wrong thing at the right time....Barry Crane

I'm not sure whether glory or masterpoints is first on the list, but I know learning to play better is definitely last...Eddie Kantar

I'd like a review of the bidding with all the original inflections...George S Kaufman

The average defender operates in a fog of uncertainty...H.W. Kelsey

Regardless of what sadistic impulses we may harbor, winning bridge means helping partner avoid mistakes...Frank Stewart

A player who can't defend accurately should try to be declarer...Alfred Sheinwold

The real secret of the expert is to make logic seem like flair....Hugh Kelsey

If you play bridge with your wife as partner, you need at least 20 points to open, and it wouldn't hurt to have 25...Joe James

Learn from the mistakes of others. You won't live long enough to make them all yourself... Alfred Sheinwold

I favour light opening bids. When you're my age, you're never sure they're going to get back to you in time....Oswald Jacoby at 77

I think we're all a little masochistic. Otherwise, why would we continue to play bridge?

We had a partnership misunderstanding. My partner assumed I knew what I was doing.

Your play was much better tonight, and so were your excuses.

We play forcing hesitations.

A fellow had made a bad bid and gone down for 1400. "I'm sorry," he said to his partner, "I had a card misplaced." Asked his partner innocently, "Only one card?"... Charles Goren

If I did everything right, I wouldn't be playing with you!

When I take a 50-50 chance I expect it to come off 8 or 9 times out of 10Hideous Hog

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