

Purpose

The purpose of this document is to assist you to alert bids in Bridge Base Online (BBO).

BBO has a different alerting procedure to normal duplicate bridge.

At first it will be frustrating, but then it actually makes sense. Partner has no idea, and opponents have full information.

Why Should I Alert

Alerting is for the benefit of the opponents. Your partnership will not have secret conventions.

In BBO, a player is expected to self alert, and is required to provide any further explanation as requested.

As in real bridge, it is vital that opponents have as much knowledge of your bid as your opponent has. If your partner knows that your 2Hs means 6 Hs, 6-9pts, two honours, it is your obligation to provide this information to them as best you can.

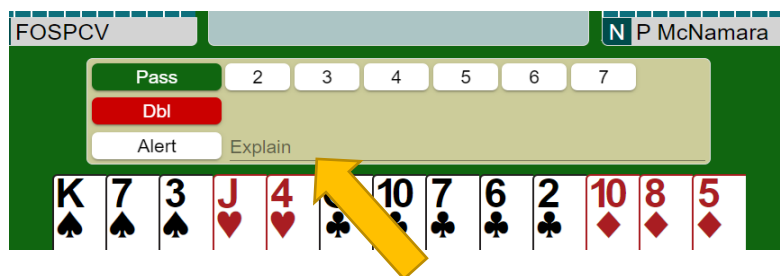
If you alert as weak, expect to provide more information as required.

Alert messages go to the opponents and are not seen by your partner.

How Do I Alert

If you are playing with Robots, alerting is different. I do not know enough to elaborate. (NB. Any advice would be welcome.).

When it is your turn to bid, the following screen will appear.



Firstly, but strangely, ignore the Alert button. (**Don't Touch It**).

Type your explanation into the explain area, then make your bid.

Eg 1. Type in 15-17 in explain area, then bid 1NT

Eg 2. Type in 2+ then bid 1C

Eg 3. Type in 22+ or 4 loser, then bid 2C

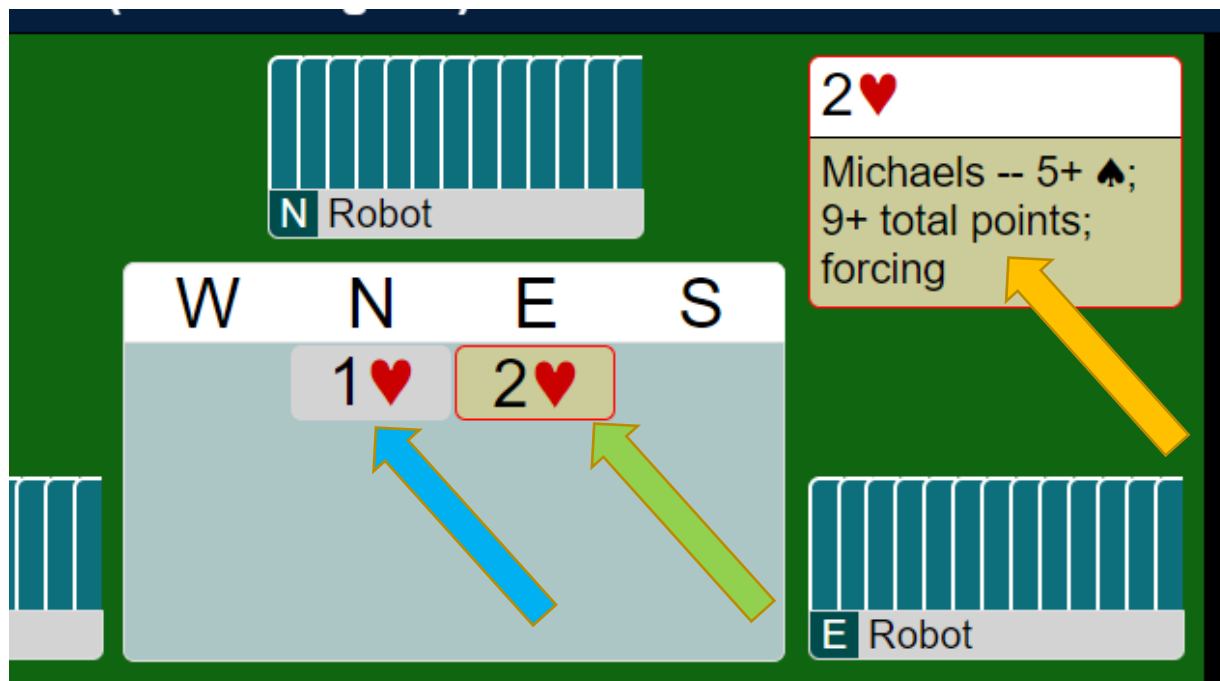
Your explanation will appear on opponents' screens. Opponents can accept the alert explanation by clicking the alert message title. There are further options to ask for more information. (Coming Soon).

Alert messages will appear on opponent's Screens

The bid is coloured *Green Arrow) in the bidding box. The message (Gold Arrow) will disappear in time, or click the heading to remove it.

To see the message, click the bid in the bidding box.

Click the title bar for the message to disappear.



Forgot to Alert

If you forgot to alert, and this can sometimes happen, click your bid (Blue Arrow) in the bidding box for a second chance to alert.

Sending Messages

There are several areas of screen (Lots of Arrows here) involved at the bottom of the screen



The Red Arrow shows where all the discussion will occur. Ensure this area is big enough to see messages.

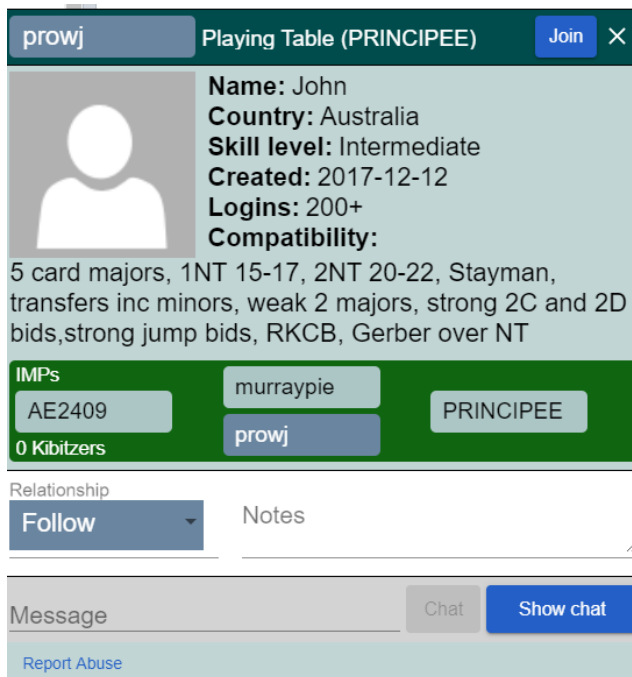
The Blue Arrow is where you choose who the message is for.

The Yellow Arrow shows where you do your typing.

The Orange Arrow will send your message to others.

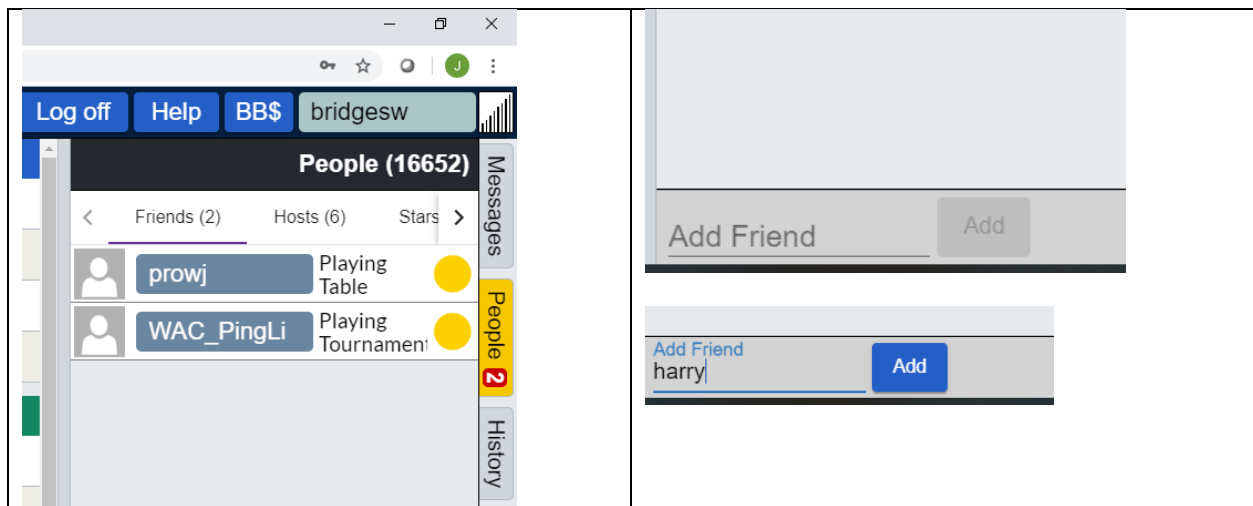
Sending Messages to Anyone

Wherever you see a person's name, click the name and send a message.



Adding Friends

It is easy to make friends in BBO. Click the People tab on the right to see if any are online.



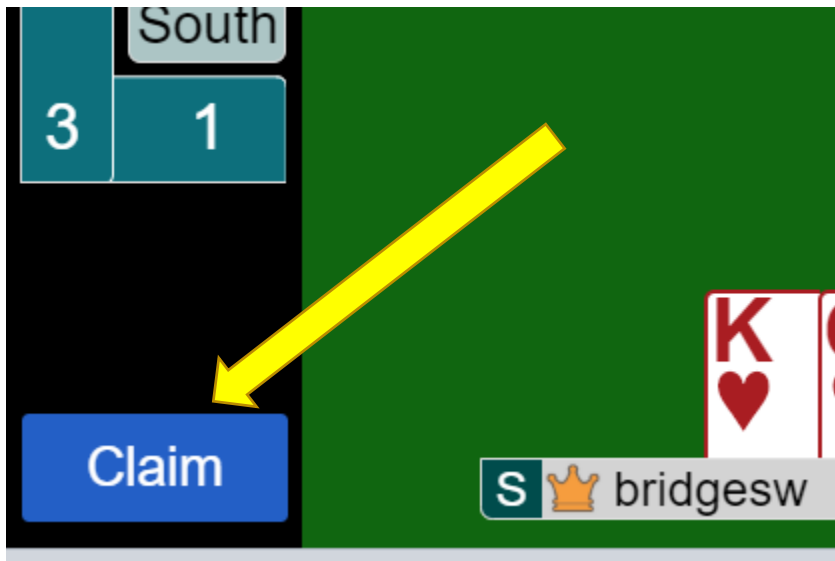
On the bottom of the screen click the Add Friend area.

Type the name of your partner into the Add Friend area.

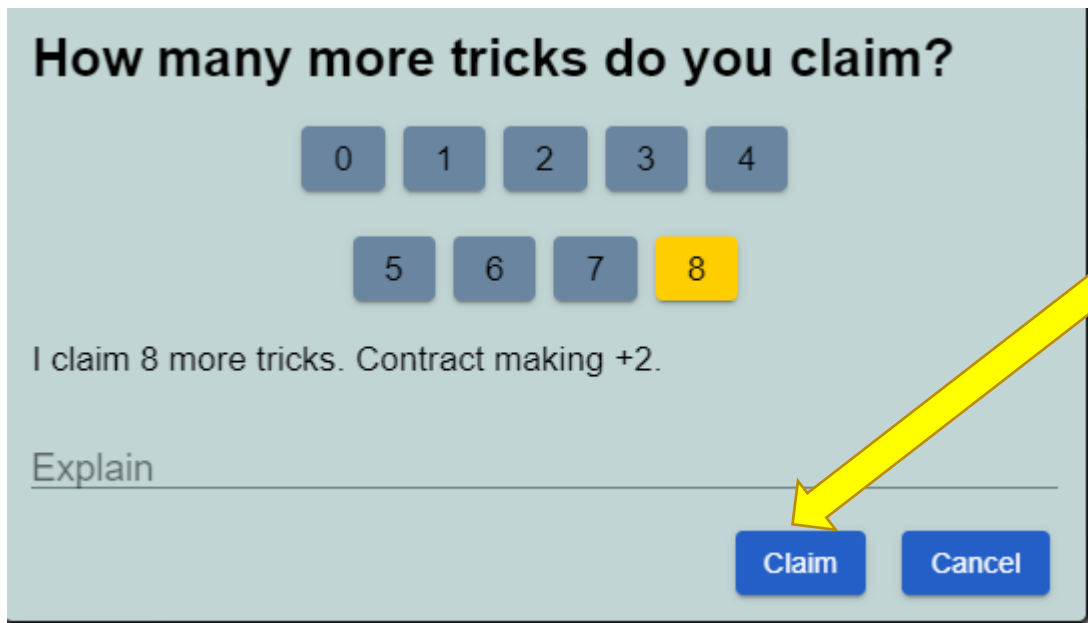
When you log in, you can now tell what your friends are doing by looking at the People TAB.

Claiming

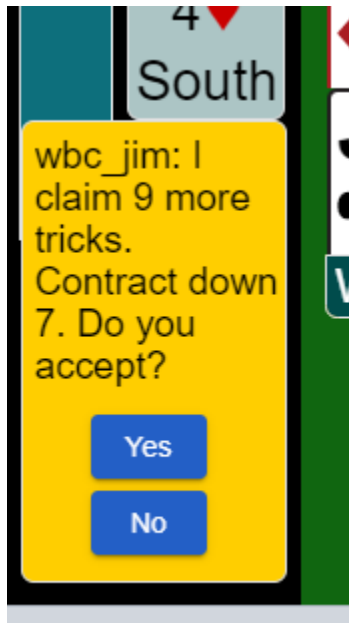
During play, the following button will often be available



Click the claim, select no of tricks claimed, enter a reason, and press the second Claim button.



All the cards will become visible to the opponents, the opponents will see the following message.



The opponents can accept or deny the claim. All four hands remain visible to the opponents.

If the claim is accepted, the focus moves to the next board.

If the claim is rejected, declarer continues with visibility of two hands, opponents continue with visibility of all four hands.

Background

BBO is a world-renowned website offering free bridge to members from all around the world. BBO has been operational for about 20 years and is constantly being developed with new and exciting functions.

Document Version

Action	By	Date	Version	Changes
Create	Jim Naughtin	12 th Apr 2020	1.0	First Version
Modified	Jim Naughtin	14 th Apr 2020		

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