

Making and Storing a Convention Card

It is important to complete a Convention Card, especially with a partner with whom you play regularly. It is also a good practice to fill out a 'personal' card, one that you can present to a new partner to let them know what methods you prefer.

Your Convention Card, ready for personalization, is found under the Account tab at the far right of the BBO home page. Click on the Account tab and find the Convention cards indicator at the top of the page. Click on that and select a standard card as a starting point.

There are several 'stock' Convention Cards in BBO. It is best to start with one that is closest to what you play (SAYC, 2/1, etc). The closer the card is to what you play, the less editing and revising you will have to do to make the card reflect your partnership agreements. If you do not formulate a CC, it will default to SAYC (Standard American Yellow Card), a very basic system. If this occurs, the responsibility is solely yours to announce and alert all of your bids in order to not present the opponents with missing, or incorrect, or delayed information. In that event, the Director will tend to be very strict in ruling against you if there is any damage due to misinformation.

Unfortunately, the stock cards are almost impossible to decipher. The text runs together, there is virtually no punctuation, and the contents are a jumbled mess of many incompatible treatments all thrown together.

And the 'CC Editor' is an obsolete text editor; it is very primitive.

To erase something that doesn't fit what you play, just highlight that field and hit the Delete key or position the cursor in the field you wish to remove and delete characters until you have purged the unwanted text.

To change something, highlight the field you want to change and type in the new contents; or you can just delete the old contents and subsequently type in the replacement text.

If you want to add something (and there is a lot that is absent from these stock cards), click on where you wish to add it, and type in the new material.

One hint: if you're making a few changes, save your work (“Save Changes”) frequently. Nothing is more annoying than making a bunch of complex changes, messing up somewhere, losing the work you did, and having to start over...

When filling out your Convention Card, don't forget to fill out all of the categories, including information that is on the back of the card. Expand the screen so that you can observe the additional material that comprises the card's back, and make sure you complete everything. Particularly important is the information at the bottom on the back that describes your leads, carding, and discards.

When you have finished filling out the card, you should save your completed card. When you eventually save your work, you can specify the BBO user with whom you play this card, and it will automatically load that card when you play together. This is accomplished by clicking the “Use with Partner” tab and specifying the BBO Username of the partner with whom you use this card. If you have other partners with whom you play a similar set of conventions, you might want to start with this card each time, and save the revised card with a link to another partner's BBO username.