

To all bridge players in Norfolk, Suffolk, Lincolnshire, Cambridgeshire and Huntingdonshire

Alerting of Doubles - Your views wanted

When the alerting rules were changed and announcements introduced the EBU was criticised for not consulting its members in advance.

Part of the remit of the new Club Committee is to consider any rule changes suggested by the Laws & Ethics Committee, to canvass member's opinions on their proposals and to discuss your views before any change is made.

You now have your first opportunity to tell us what you think of a proposed change to the alerting of doubles.

When, and when not to alert a double seems to have caused a lot of confusion.

The new proposal aims to simplify and is:-

Doubles do not require an alert unless they have a highly unusual or unexpected meaning. Such doubles remain alertable above the level of 3NT.

A couple of examples of what is 'highly unusual'

a double of a natural 1 level opening bid (or of an non-forcing opening bid of one of a minor which may be short) which is not for takeout.

A double of a natural 1NT opening bid which is not for penalties.

The new proposal puts the onus on players who play unusual methods to know that their opponents will be surprised by a particular meaning of a double and to alert accordingly.

What do **you** think? Is this a desirable change? Do you want to keep things as they are at present? Please email me your views or questions on the proposal

Suzanne Gill 01692 631456 suegill@btinternet.com

Please when replying at any time identify, [a] your club and [b] your county of affiliation