



Victorian Congress Director Charter

This charter lays out expectations, responsibilities and duties of a congress director in Victoria. Directors are important representatives of the game and have a significant impact on player enjoyment. Congresses are more complex to organise and direct than club games. Technical directing skills are necessary but organisational and personal skills are equally important.

A congress director:

- must be an accredited congress director in Victoria, and is therefore expected to have a strong understanding of bridge law, movements, and room management
- is required in a timely and efficient manner to: manage the movement, make rulings, coordinate appeals, produce and publish scores, and calculate and submit the masterpoints
- should be conversant with all relevant regulations and policies of the organising club and other relevant bridge bodies, and should endeavour to comply with those at all times
- is expected to behave in a professional and courteous manner at all times, both as a “face of bridge” and as an official representative of the organising club
- is expected to maintain their technical and professional standards (e.g. by ensuring they remain up to date with bridge law)

A congress director may, by agreement with the congress convenor, be engaged to do other things before, during or after the congress (e.g. provide items like bridgemates, boards, hand records, score books, and tables)

The congress director is employed as the representative of the organising club. A congress director may be asked for advice or may offer advice on some aspects of running a congress but it is important to remember that the overall responsibility is the convenor’s and ultimately the director should acquiesce to the convenor’s wishes. In particular:

- It is unprofessional to withdraw, or threaten to withdraw, service without very good reason
- A director may indicate their belief that a player has been properly suspended (e.g. by a state or club disciplinary body with jurisdiction) but nevertheless is required to direct the field as accepted by the convenor. This does not abrogate a director’s right and responsibility to eject a player for cause during play under bridge law.
- The right to direct congresses within Victoria may be withdrawn by the VBA for repeated or serious failure to meet the expected standard (a warning and opportunity to address any issues will normally be provided)