## Using the Alert Button in BBO

On BBO, unlike Bridge at the table, the playing making an artificial bid, or a bid where a range of points should be announced by partner, is responsible for self-alerting or self-announcing. You do this at your turn to bid when the bidding box is visible on your screen see picture below:



Here, North is about to bid 1NT (demo purposes only -1 know it is not a 1NT hand). Before bidding, North has typed '12 -14' on the faint line alongside the alert button. Clicking on the line with the mouse (or finger on a tablet) should enable the cursor. When North competes the bid by clicking '1' and 'NT', the opponents (but not partner) will see a little window appear containing '12 to 14'.

Sometimes, you forget to self-alert and only realise it after you have bid. You can still alert the bid by clicking where the bid is shown in the middle of the table. In the screen below, North has Bid 1S and then decided he wanted to alert the bid so he has clicked on 1S, the background to which has now turned yellow, and a yellow box has appeared in the top right of the window where he can enter the explanation.



Finally, if you want to ask about a bid the opponents have made, you can just click on the bid, where it is shown in the middle of the table. The person who made the bid will have a similar box pop up asking them for an explanation of the bid.