

## Answers to the Easter Quiz

1. A It will remain one of life's mysteries as to why some players find that fiddling with their bidding box at any stage of the auction helps them think.
2. C Partner's fiddling has left you with no alternative but to Pass. You can only lose by bidding as the director will let your result stand if you get a bad result or he will adjust it to whatever would have happened if you'd passed. Without partner's actions you might have ventured a bid.
3. C Both b and c lead you to bid but only c is based on the correct reason for bidding. REMINDER: If your RH opponent puts down his Stop card then you should stop for 10 seconds. I know you want to "get on with it" and you've nothing to say but your partner might! He'll probably now have to take far longer trying to work out what he can do ethically.
4. C This should be fairly obvious from the phrasing of the possible answers. I've seen situations where, at the end of the play of the hand, the player who doubled asks his partner quite aggressively "Why did you take out my double?!"
5. C Better to be respected by your opponents for being ethical. You can always find an excuse not to partner your partner again.
6. A Without partner's pause for thought, bidding 2 spades at Pairs could be a good bet. However, bidding cannot gain for the same reasons as question 2.
7. B Easy to say, not necessarily quite so easy to accomplish for the duration of the hand, especially if partner's displeasure escalates.
8. C The ethical answer. Some, perhaps most players might simply keep quiet and be only too keen to get on with the next hand.
9. C Partner's inattention puts you under pressure. Any overbid by you should be penalised by the director.
10. C A player can bid what he likes. This could be because he's forgotten the system or for a deliberate reason only known to him. The reason is irrelevant as far as you are concerned. You must be prepared to answer questions from your opponents on the basis of the convention you are playing as set out on your convention card. Further, you MUST bid on the assumption that partner has remembered the system. Hence, in this case you have to bid 4♥.
11. A Strictly speaking all three answers are possible. However, the instructions to directors are such that he should stand by his decision. Any player who wishes to waste £20 is entitled to appeal. However, this appeal will get nowhere.
12. A Here, East has been too clever for his own good if he was hoping to get the director to rule against N/S. The key point is that North has kept quiet. It is East who has alerted South to the fact that 3♥ is a transfer so this counts as authorised information.
13. B Here, North has effectively said "I've bid 3♥ which, don't forget partner, is a transfer to spades". Put this way, you immediately see there's unauthorised information.
14. B From the answers to previous questions you should be able to realise that South has to bid on. Once South treats 3♥ as natural, North's bid of 4♠ can only be a cue bid so it cannot be passed. (It might reasonably be argued that if N subsequently bids 5♠ then S can be justified in passing.)