



Appeals Focus

This annual document is intended for Tournament Directors at all levels, and referees. It covers news from the Laws and Ethics Committee, the Tournament Directors Development Group and any other items of interest from the past twelve months.

New videos

The Laws of Duplicate Bridge were updated by the World Bridge Federation in 2017. This has affected a number of the videos in our original series How Can I Help You and so we have produced a new range of updated videos in conjunction with the EBL and the WBF. A link is available on the EBU website – www.ebu.co.uk/laws-and-ethics/td-videos.

There are seven videos in this new series:

- ❖ [00 Introduction](#)
- ❖ [01 Unintended Calls](#)
- ❖ [02 Insufficient Bids](#)
- ❖ [03 Calls Out of Rotation](#)
- ❖ [04 Comparable Calls](#)
- ❖ [05 Lead Restrictions](#)
- ❖ [06 Claims](#)

In addition, the following three from the original series are still available:

- ❖ [The revoke](#)
 - ❖ [Opening lead out of turn](#)
 - ❖ [Misinformation](#)
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Best Behaviour at Bridge (BB@B)

The EBU Board has made updates to Best Behaviour at Bridge (BB@B). The link is here www.ebu.co.uk/documents/laws-and-ethics/articles/best-behaviour-at-bridge.pdf and clubs are encouraged to put this on their websites.

One key addition is in the opening paragraph, which requires that

"...anyone wishing to participate in duplicate bridge, whether as player, official or in any other capacity, should be able to do so in a safe and welcoming environment, and not be subject to less favourable treatment on the grounds of gender, age, race, disability, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, religious or political belief or social class than any other person".

Announcements

The Laws and Ethics Committee invited players to write in with their suggestions for changes to the announcing regulations, however they voted in favour of retaining the current regulations for the time-being.

Appeals

There were two appeals with a similar theme concerning misinformation. On both occasions, the non-offending side had received misinformation, but had made very poor decisions in the auction which, in the opinion of the TDs they should not have made even given the incorrect explanations. The TDs therefore made no adjustment.

The Appeals Committees on both occasions overturned the TD's ruling. The L&E confirmed this position, that the TD should not be examining whether or not the players 'ought to have got it right' given the incorrect explanation, but should ask 'would they have got it right' with the correct explanation. If there is no doubt that they would get it right, then the TD should adjust, regardless of how poor their decisions were given the wrong explanation.

These were the two appeals in question:

<p>♠8643 ♥54 ♦J1062 ♣A96</p> <p>♠J2 ♠KQ1075 ♥AQ9 ♥87 ♦A94 ♦KQ8 ♣QJ853 ♣K74</p> <p>♠A9 ♥KJ10632 ♦753 ♣102</p>	<p>Board 11 : Dealer South : Love all</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">West</th> <th style="text-align: left;">North</th> <th style="text-align: left;">East</th> <th style="text-align: left;">South</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>2♥¹</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>2NT²</td> <td>3♠</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass³</td> <td>Pass</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>¹ Weak ² Alerted, described as 15-18 ³ Agreed time to think</p> <p>After opening lead made, with South away from table, East asked North if correct explanation given. "Just shows a feature, no guarantee of HCPs"</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Table Result: 3♠+1 by East Lead: ?</p>	West	North	East	South				2♥ ¹	Pass	2NT ²	3♠	Pass	Pass ³	Pass		
West	North	East	South														
			2♥ ¹														
Pass	2NT ²	3♠	Pass														
Pass ³	Pass																
<p>Directors Ruling: No adjustment. West should know that North cannot hold 15-18 HCP A/C Decision: E/W damaged; weighted ruling given (of different game contracts and results).</p>																	

<p>♠94 ♥KJ2 ♦KJ1052 ♣964</p> <p>♠AQJ83 ♠K652 ♥A83 ♥10 ♦43 ♦AQ986 ♣A53 ♣Q72</p> <p>♠107 ♥Q97654 ♦7 ♣KJ108</p>	<p>Board 19 : Dealer South : EW vulnerable</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">West</th> <th style="text-align: left;">North</th> <th style="text-align: left;">East</th> <th style="text-align: left;">South</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>2♥</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2♠</td> <td>3♦*</td> <td>All Pass</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>*non-forcing, but not alerted. Before opening lead, North observed that 3D should have been alerted. East asked if auction could be unwound to her.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Table Result: 3♦-4 by North Lead: ♥10</p>	West	North	East	South				2♥	2♠	3♦*	All Pass	
West	North	East	South										
			2♥										
2♠	3♦*	All Pass											
<p>Directors Ruling: No adjustment. (On consultation with other players) MI made no difference to East's decision. A/C Decision: Result amended to 4♠+1 by West. Poll unhelpful, since it involved nobody that would have passed given the MI.</p>													

Another appeal gave rise to the question of the numbers of players to poll and how they are counted. There was an apparent discrepancy between the TD's statement of figures in the poll and those quoted by the AC. Part of this discrepancy was based on the TD consulting four players sitting at a table together. Because it was judged that their views were more likely to conform, the TD did not give full weighting to their views. The committee pointed out that this is not recommended practice.

Around the Website

Both the Blue and White 2018 editions are nearly out. Watch out for the latest issues on the website.

Blue Book

The 2017 version of the book (effective from 1st August 2017) is available on the website. www.ebu.co.uk/laws-and-ethics/blue-book

There is also a summary 'poster' covering the significant changes in the Blue Book for 2017. This is available for clubs to print off and make available on their noticeboard, or to distribute to interested members.

www.ebu.co.uk/documents/laws-and-ethics/blue-book/2017-poster.pdf

White Book

The 2017 version is available here www.ebu.co.uk/laws-and-ethics/white-book

Forums

There is a group of forums on the website for various English Bridge Union interests. www.ebu.co.uk/forum

1. Scoring and other IT questions
This is for club and county scorers looking for help with scoring software and other IT questions
2. EBU TDs
This is a forum for club, county and panel TDs.
3. County to county Discussion Group.
This is a place for county officials to discuss and share ideas.

Heather Dhondy
4th July 2018