

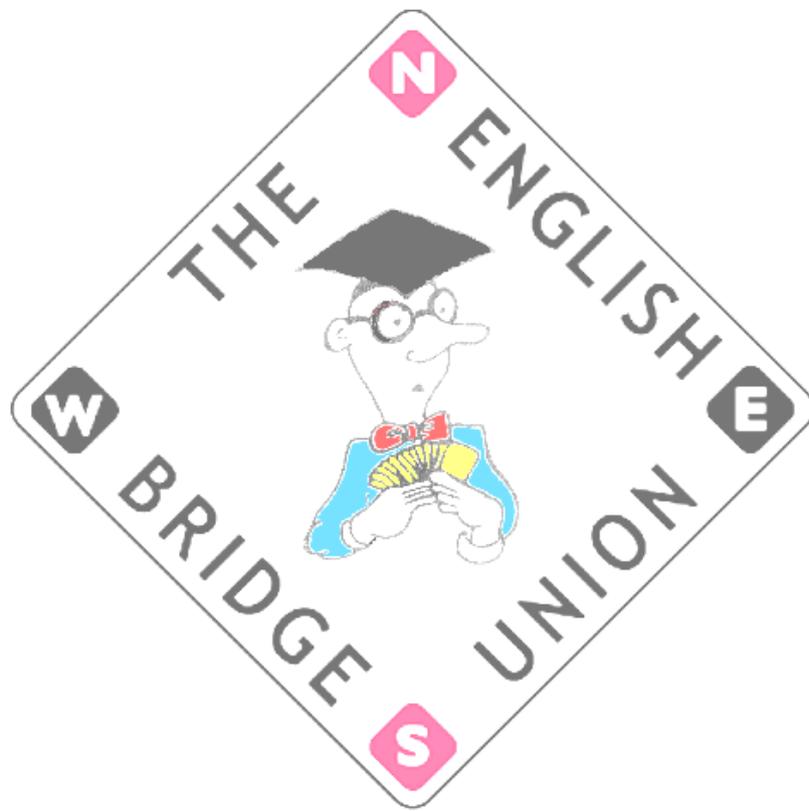
Club Director Training Course

ONLINE CLUB REFRESHER COURSE

(2017 Update)

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

For whom

Qualified Club Tournament Directors who wish to improve their knowledge of the Laws and Directives governing duplicate bridge, and maintain or raise their level of performance as Club Directors. It provides suitable training for Club TDs wishing to progress to the County Course.

Objectives

On completion of the course, participants will:

have a clearer and deeper understanding of the Laws and Directives governing duplicate bridge and how they should be applied when giving rulings;

be aware of and understand the reason for any changes in the Laws and Directives, or their interpretation, made during the preceding year;

be up to date in respect of available literature, manuals, software etc., relevant to movements and scoring appropriate at club level.

Prerequisites

Participants must be members of English Bridge Union and must have attained the *EBU Club Director's Certificate of Competence* through successful attendance on an assessment course. You should have a personal copy of *The Laws of Duplicate Contract Bridge 2017*, a copy of the *Handbook of EBU Permitted Understandings* (the 2017 Blue Book') and the 'White Book' – the EBU TD guide (also updated 2017).

The booklets are available from the EBU Website:

<http://www.ebu.co.uk/documents/laws-and-ethics/blue-book/blue-book-2017.pdf>

<http://www.ebu.co.uk/documents/laws-and-ethics/white-book/white-book-2017.pdf>

Content

The course consists of directing situations. Some are just book rulings whilst others are judgment rulings. One or two require practical solutions of real directing problems. Most of the situations are genuine or based on genuine cases. The course will be conducted through the EBU website.

Duration

As with an online course, you can spend as long as you like.

Cost

The course is provided free of charge. The answers are supplied at the end.

EBU BIDDING BOX REGULATIONS

Instructions for use

Starting with the dealer, players place their calls on the table in front of them, from the left and neatly overlapping, so that all calls are visible and faced towards partner. Players should refrain from touching any cards in the box until they have determined their call. A call is considered to have been made when it has been removed from the bidding box with apparent intent (but the director may apply Law 25). Note that some left-handed bidding boxes are available, where the calls are placed in a row from right to left.

Alerts

Alerts should be made by use of the Alert card. It is the responsibility of the alerting player to ensure that **both** his opponents are aware of the alert.

The Stop card

Before making a jump bid (i.e. a bid at a higher level than the minimum required) a player must place the Stop card in front of him, then place his call as usual, and eventually remove the Stop card. His left-hand opponent should not call until the Stop card has been removed. The Stop card should be left on the table for about ten seconds, to give the next player time to reflect. It should not be removed prematurely.

After a jump bid, the next player **must** pause for about ten seconds before calling. It is an offence either not to pause or to show indifference when pausing. If the Stop card has been removed prematurely or has not been used, an opponent should pause as though the Stop card had been used correctly.

End of the auction

At the end of the auction the calls should remain in place until the opening lead has been faced and all explanations have been obtained, after which they should be returned to their boxes.

Change of call

Calls made using cards are treated under the Laws in the same way as spoken calls. For example, a call may be changed without penalty under Law 25A only if:

- the change is solely due to the player having taken the wrong card in error, and
- he changes, or attempts to change when he realises that he has removed the wrong card by mistake, provided his partner has not subsequently called. NB this applies however he becomes aware of his error – even if is by partner's alert or announcement.

TABLE SITUATIONS

The following are different situations, which you, as the TD, may meet. They are in no particular order. Sometimes you need to find a Law Book reference, sometimes a Blue Book. Occasionally, good old commonsense is what is required. If you get about 65% correct, you are well on the way to obtaining the standard required on the County Course.

Situation 1

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
1NT	2♦	2♠(a)	3♦

(a) Late alert of 2♦

After bidding 3♦ South remembers that he should have alerted 2♦, "It's Spades and another." The TD is called to the table. What do you tell the players?

If you allow a change of call East will bid 2NT (Transfer to Clubs) South now passes and West bids 3♣, which is the final contract.

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
1NT	2♦	2NT(b)	pass
3♣	All Pass		

(b) 2♠ changed to 2NT, which is a transfer to clubs

What do you tell the players about the withdrawn calls?

[Click here for answer](#)

Situation 2

<i>North</i>	<i>South</i>
1♥	1♠
1NT	2♣
2♦	2NT

After East has selected his opening lead, West asks how 2NT direct over 1NT would be different from 2NT in this sequence. North doesn't want to answer. West calls the TD. Can North be made to answer?

[Click here for answer](#)

Situation 3

Would the following replacements for insufficient bids be permitted without further rectification?

a)

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>
1♣	1♠	1♥

East missed the 1♠ and thought he was replying to 1♣. 1♣ pass 1♥ shows 4+ hearts and 6+ points. Can East change his call to

- i) 2♥?
- ii) Double which shows exactly 4 hearts?
- iii) Double which shows hearts and diamonds?

b)

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>
2NT	pass	2♣

East thought he was replying to 1NT. 3♣ to 2NT and 2♣ to 1NT are both Stayman in their system. Can East change his call to 3♣ without further rectification?

c)

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>
.....		
4NT	5♦	5♣

In an uncontested auction West bids 4NT asking for aces. East doesn't see the 5♦ and replies 5♣ showing 0 or 4 aces. East/West play DOPI over interference so double shows no aces and pass shows one ace. Can East replace his 5♣ with double?

d)

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>
2NT	pass	2♠

Once again East thought he was replying to 1NT
 2♠ over 1NT promises five spades and an unknown 4-card minor.
 3♠ over 2NT just promises a 5-card spade suit.
 Can East replace his 2♠ with 3♠?

[Click here for answers](#)

Situation 4

	♠ —	
	♥ 3	
	♦ 2	
	♣ —	
♠ 2		♠ 3
♥ 2		♥ —
♦ —		♦ —
♣ —		♣ 3
	♠ —	
	♥ A	
	♦ —	
	♣ 2	

At trick 12, playing in a NT contract, South leads:

	<i>South</i>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>
Trick 12	♥A	♠2	♥3	♠3
Trick 13	♣2	♥2	♦2	♣3

The TD is called, West has revoked.

If asked, East should say South has already showed out three times in spades.

[Click here for answer](#)

Situation 5

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
pass	pass	pass	2NT

East leads the ♠A out of turn. The TD is called.

The TD explains all five options. South forbids a spade, so ♠A is picked up.

West now leads ♦J won by queen in dummy, followed by a small ♣ to the king (won by West).

West now leads a spade.

Result 2NT -1. The TD is called back again, because of the spade lead.

How do you sort this out?

[Click here for answer](#)

Situation 6

With the lead in dummy, the play goes:

West (Dummy)	North	East	South
♣4	♣5	♠7 (ruff)	♠8 (overruff)

North asks, 'Having NONE, partner?' at this stage, and South turns out to have one club — ♣3 in his hand. Call the TD.

[Click here for answer](#)

Situation 7

Bidding box mishaps. In each case, East pulls one card out of the box only to discover it is not the one he thought he had his fingers on.

Scenario 1

West	North	East	South
	pass	1♠ 1NT intended	2♣

Scenario 2

West	North	East	South
	pass	1NT	

West announces '12-14' and East says what are you doing, I opened 1♠. He then looks down and sees 1NT on the table.

Scenario 3

West	North	East	South
	2♣		South alerts

South alerts the 2♣ which surprises North. He thought he had opened 1NT and was expecting South to announce '12 to 14'. He looks down to see 2♣ on the table.

Scenario 4

West	North	East	South
2♥		1NT	pass

West's hand:

♠ 97
♥ AQJ986
♦ J5
♣ 975

East alerts, West looks down and says, 'Oh, I didn't mean to say that.'

Scenario 5

East opens and puts down what he thinks is 1♠. West announces '12 to 14' and East looks down to see that 1NT is on the table. The TD is summoned. Is East allowed to change his call to his intended 1♠?

[Click here for answers](#)

Situation 8

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
1♠	1NT	2♦	2NT
2♠			

West makes an insufficient bid of 2♠, and the TD is called. Give the ruling.

2nd part

Suppose 2♠ is not accepted, the call is withdrawn and a pass is substituted. North and East pass. Final contract 2NT by North. East is on lead. Are there lead penalties?

[Click here for answers](#)

Situation 9

♠ J10 ♥ AJ10973 ♦ AJ542 ♣ - ♠ 63 ♥ Q6 ♦ - ♣ AKQJ97643 ♠ K9854 ♥ K842 ♦ Q7 ♣ 105	Board 1 : Dealer North : Love all ♠ AQ72 ♥ 5 ♦ K109863 ♣ 82
------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------

As he takes his hand from the board, West drops his cards face up on the table. The hand falls in such a way that two cards are visible – ♥Q and a black ace. East has already sorted his hand. West quickly recovers his hand. How should the TD proceed?

[Click here for answer](#)

Situation 10

With West the dealer the auction starts

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
1NT		2♥	

East bids 2♥ without waiting for North to call.

East holds

♠ AJ7642
 ♥ 3
 ♦ 543
 ♣ 1084.

East/West are playing transfers. The TD is summoned. The TD gives South the option to accept 2♥ which he declines. The 2♥ is replaced in the box and the auction reverts to North who bids 2♥ natural which is passed out. East leads ♠A, followed by ♠2. West wins ♠K. West is on lead. Explain the lead penalties that now apply to West.

[Click here for answer](#)

Situation 11

The auction goes **West** **North** **East** **South**
 pass pass pass pass

Now the TD is called. East wants to have a bid. Can he?

[Click here for answer](#)

Situation 12

West has a minor penalty card, the $\heartsuit 3$. A diamond is led and he plays the $\heartsuit 5$. Time to call the TD.

[Click here for answer](#)

Situation 13

Declarer is in $4\heartsuit$ and has won eight tricks, the last in his hand. We have the following 3-card ending.

Dummy

\clubsuit K J 6

Declarer

\heartsuit 6

\clubsuit 7 3

The \heartsuit A Q have not yet been played and there are still 5 clubs remaining in the defenders hand. Declarer leads a low club towards dummy; West plays $\clubsuit 8$. Declarer now starts to think, shrugs his shoulders and says 'I don't know, play one'. The defenders call the TD and want him to play the $\heartsuit 6$. How do you rule?

[Click here for answer](#)

Situation 14

Declarer (South) ruffs a heart in dummy with a spade. He then says, 'Ace,' and points at the ace of clubs, which North plays. East follows to the ace of spades in dummy because he just heard 'Ace.' He did not see South point to a card (he was not looking) and so he assumed the same suit was played as had just been played from dummy and he only realised when West said 'Having no clubs'.

[Click here for answer](#)

Situation 15

West's hand is:

\heartsuit K Q J 9 6 5 3
 \heartsuit 6
 \heartsuit Q 9 6 5 4
 \heartsuit —

West opens $2\heartsuit$, which is Benjamin, showing eight playing tricks in an unspecified suit. North/South claim this is a psyche of a strong opening bid. When asked, West (a fairly inexperienced player) says he bid $2\heartsuit$ 'because he has lots of playing tricks.' He clearly has no idea what all the fuss is about.

[Click here for answer](#)

Situation 16

East/West are defending $4\heartsuit$. East asks 'How many tricks have we won?' West answers 'Three.' Declarer (South) calls the director and complains.

[Click here for answer](#)

Situation 17

South	West	North	East	South
♠ Q		1♠	pass	2♥
♥ A Q J 7 5 3	pass	2NT(1)	pass	3♥
♦ 8 5 4	pass	4♥(2)	pass	5♣
♣ A 9 5	pass	6NT	pass	pass
	pass			

- (1) 2NT shows 15 to 19 points.
 (2) North thought for some time before bidding 4♥.

North South's basic system is Acol.

TD called by West after dummy was faced

♦Q was led.

South will argue that his hand was strong enough to make a slam try opposite a 15-19 rebid, he has good trumps, two Aces and a singleton. East West will argue that 3♥ was already a slam try and North had refused it. 5♥ could be in jeopardy opposite an unsuitable dummy. What ruling will you give?

[Click here for answer](#)

Situation 18

South	West	North	East	South
♠ 10 8 6 4	1♣	pass	2♦	pass
♥ 10 8 6	3♣	pass	3NT	pass
♦ J 10 9	4♣	pass	4♦	pass
♣ J 10 9	4NT	pass	6NT	pass
	pass	pass*		

* Before passing, North says 'Is it my lead?'

South led ♥6 and found partner with ♥AK. Thirteen tricks make if any other suit is led.

[Click here for answer](#)

Situation 19

North drops the ♦2 out of his hand when following to a trick. The declarer, East, then leads his singleton ♦K and tells North he has to play the penalty card. He meekly complies and then has a change of heart just as East leads to the next trick. You are called because North feels he should have been allowed to play his ♦A. What do you do?

[Click here for answer](#)

Situation 20

Dummy contains the ♥A, but it is at the top of the diamond suit. The defenders misdefend as a result and only realise when declarer turns up with the ♦A and call the TD and complain.

[Click here for answer](#)

Situation 21

At trick 12 in 3NT, LHO leads a heart, dummy now containing ♣3 and ♦A. Declarer says play anything. Dummy tries to play the ♦A but RHO objects and wants the ♣3 to be played. He is about to win the trick and his last card is ♣2. You are called how do you sort it out?

[Click here for answer](#)

Situation 22

Declarer wins the trick. As he is turning his card over, dummy warns him that he is putting it in the wrong direction, as though he had lost it. Can he do this?

[Click here for answer](#)

Situation 23

This question is about alerting calls. There are two auctions.

(i) Which calls in the following auction should be alerted?

	West	North	East	South
	1♣(a)	Dbl	1♠(b)	X(c)
	XX(d)	3♦(e)	pass	3NT
	pass	pass	X(f)	pass
	pass	pass		
(a)	<i>May be three cards</i>		(d)	<i>Support - Shows three spades</i>
(b)	<i>Forcing</i>		(e)	<i>Forcing</i>
(c)	<i>Shows general values</i>		(f)	<i>Demands a spade lead</i>

[Click here for answer](#)

(ii) Which calls in the following auction should be alerted?

	West	North	East	South
	2♦(a)	pass	2♥(b)	dbl(c)
	2♠(d)	X(e)	end	
(a)	<i>Multi</i>		(d)	<i>Shows spades</i>
(b)	<i>pass or correct to 2♠</i>		(e)	<i>penalty</i>
(c)	<i>take out</i>			

[Click here for answer](#)

Situation 24

The lead is in dummy (North) but declarer leads from hand (South). His right-hand opponent (East) says 'I want to accept that lead' but then his left-hand opponent (west) says, 'I don't.' How do you sort this out?

[Click here for answer](#)

Situation 25

West	North	East	South
1♠	2NT	pass	3♣
pass	3♥	pass	4♥
pass	pass	pass	

2NT is described as showing the minors. After the 3♥ bid, the opponents ask again and are told that this means that he presumably had hearts and one of the minors.

- (a) Do you allow this if the event is played at Level 2 conventions?
 (b) Do you allow this if the event is played at Level 4 conventions?

[Click here for answer](#)

Situation 26

Must the following cards be played?

- (a) Declarer takes a card out of his hand, puts it nearly on the table, then jerks it back immediately (saying 'Whoops'). Everyone sees it.
 (b) A defender takes a card out of his hand, puts it nearly on the table, then jerks it back immediately (saying 'Whoops'). Everyone sees it.
 (c) Declarer calls for the ♠6 from dummy. There is no ♠6 there, but there is a ♣6. Must this be played?

[Click here for answer](#)

Situation 27

(i) Your club uses travellers. When you arrive home and start to do the scoring, you find two mistakes on the travelling score slips. Do you change them?

- (a) Board 4 (all vulnerable): Every N/S pair played in 3NT and they all scored 630 or 600 except one who scored 400.
- (b) Board 18 (N/S vulnerable): N/S scored -100 for 2♠-2.

[Click here for answer](#)

(ii) Your club uses an electronic table top scorer (e.g. BridgeMates). You are checking the scores and see the following possible errors. Do you change them

- (a) On Board 2 there are seven scores of 4♠ + 1 by North and one of 4♠ + 1 by East.
- (b) On Board 5 there are various NT contracts. Most are 1NT= or 1NT + 1 by North or South but one is 1NT - 3 by West.
- (c) On Board 12 there are four scores of 4♥ making 10 or 11 tricks by North and for scores of 4♥ making 10 or 11 tricks by East.

[Click here for answer](#)

Situation 28

<p style="text-align: center;">♠ K8643 ♥ K96 ♦ 2 ♣ AJ73</p> <p>♠ QJ102 ♠ 97 ♥ 10742 ♥ AJ8 ♦ 108 ♦ A973 ♣ K54 ♣ 10862</p> <p style="text-align: center;">♠ A5 ♥ Q53 ♦ KQJ654 ♣ Q9</p>	<p>Board 2 : Dealer East : NS vulnerable</p> <p>North is declarer in 3♠. The play went as follows:</p> <p>Trick</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 1. ♣2 to Q, K and A ▪ 2. small ♦ to the ♦ K ducked ▪ 3. ♦ Q to ♥ discard to ♦ A ▪ 4. ♣10 round to ♣J ▪ 5. ♣ ruffed in dummy and overruffed (revoke)
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Declarer finished down 2, NS-200.

No one noticed until the completion of Board 3 (the end of the round) when North asked West about a possible revoke. What should the TD rule?

[Click here for answer](#)

Situation 29

West	North	East	South
1♠	4♥	Dbl	pass
4♠	pass	pass	pass

East thought for some time before his double. Do you allow the 4♠ bid with these West hands?

- | | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| (a) ♠ A J 9 7 6 4 | (b) ♠ K J 10 8 7 5 4 | (c) ♠ A K 5 4 3 |
| ♥ A 3 | ♥ - | ♥ J 6 2 |
| ♦ Q 8 | ♦ A K 5 | ♦ A Q 9 |
| ♣ 10 8 3 | ♣ Q 6 2 | ♣ J 9 |

[Click here for answer](#)

Situation 30

East bids 3♣ over North's opening 1♠. West says it shows clubs and hearts but East actually has diamonds and hearts. West says he is definitely correct. East agrees with him and says he made a mistake with his bid. Both convention cards say 3♣ over 1♠ is *Ghestem*. Do you consider that North/South were misinformed? And what about the unauthorised information between east and West?

[Click here for answer](#)

Situation 31

♠ A9874 ♥ AQ653 ♦ 65 ♣ 10 ♠ 6 ♥ KJ10 ♦ AQJ1098 ♣ K83 ♠ KJ10 ♥ 8 ♦ K432 ♣ AQ765	Board 11 : Dealer South : Love all <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>West</i></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>North</i></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>East</i></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>South</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1♦ (1)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2♦ (2)</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>2♥</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3♦</td> <td>All Pass</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>(1) Precision: may be a doubleton (2) Alerted: North asks and is told that it shows hearts and spades 3♦ went three off</p>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>				1♦ (1)	2♦ (2)	Pass	2♥	Pass	3♦	All Pass		
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>														
			1♦ (1)														
2♦ (2)	Pass	2♥	Pass														
3♦	All Pass																

have bid 4♠ (which probably makes) had they known what West had. Neither East nor West is quite sure what they had agreed but both believe that North should not have passed throughout with his good hand, so they believe it is his own fault. Assume that East/West will make six tricks if they play in diamonds and four tricks if they play in hearts, and assume that North/South will make ten tricks if they play in spades.

- (a) Is there misinformation?
- (b) Is there unauthorised information?
- (c) To what do you adjust the score?
- (d) Do you fine East/West?

[Click here for answer](#)

Situation 32

♠ K10986 ♥ K10852 ♦ K3 ♣ 8 ♠ Q ♥ AQ3 ♦ A6542 ♣ KQ104 ♠ A753 ♥ J964 ♦ Q8 ♣ 976	Board 1 : Dealer North : Love all <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>West</i></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>North</i></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>East</i></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>South</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td>1♠</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>3♠</td> </tr> <tr> <td>All Pass</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>North/South play Benji Acol + five-card majors East/West play natural 2/1 game force</p>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>		1♠	Pass	3♠	All Pass			
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>										
	1♠	Pass	3♠										
All Pass													

The TD is first called by West when dummy is displayed. South explains that 3♠ is pre-emptive. West said he might have taken action over 3♠ had he known. The TD asks and discovers that there

were no alerts or questions during the auction. He allows play to proceed. Result 3♠ = +140. The TD is called back and asked for a ruling.

[Click here for answer](#)

Situation 33

<p>♠ QJ65 ♥ AJ42 ♦ 85 ♣ 1064</p> <p>♠ 1094 ♠ AK ♥ K1096 ♥ Q83 ♦ J732 ♦ AKQ106 ♣ J2 ♣ AK7</p> <p>♠ 8732 ♥ 75 ♦ 94 ♣ Q9853</p>	<p>Board 1 : Dealer North : Love All</p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th><i>WEST</i></th> <th><i>NORTH</i></th> <th><i>EAST</i></th> <th><i>SOUTH</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td>pass</td> <td>2♦ (a)</td> <td>pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2♥ (b)</td> <td>pass</td> <td>3NT</td> <td>pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4NT</td> <td>pass</td> <td>5♠ (c)</td> <td>pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5NT (d)</td> <td>all pass</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>(a) Benjamin (same as an Acol 2♣) (b) Negative (c) slow (d) even slower and agitated</p>	<i>WEST</i>	<i>NORTH</i>	<i>EAST</i>	<i>SOUTH</i>		pass	2♦ (a)	pass	2♥ (b)	pass	3NT	pass	4NT	pass	5♠ (c)	pass	5NT (d)	all pass		
<i>WEST</i>	<i>NORTH</i>	<i>EAST</i>	<i>SOUTH</i>																		
	pass	2♦ (a)	pass																		
2♥ (b)	pass	3NT	pass																		
4NT	pass	5♠ (c)	pass																		
5NT (d)	all pass																				

North/South call the TD at the end of the auction to reserve their rights. EW agreed that the 5♠ and 5NT bids were slow: TD is called back at the end of the hand. NS want to know why East did not show his number of kings over 5NT, and whether it had anything to do with West's demeanour when he bid 5♠. East will argue that 5NT cannot be for kings because of the original negative response. 5NT made exactly.

[Click here for answer](#)

Situation 34

<p>♠ J62 ♥ 1092 ♦ 108 ♣ J8654</p> <p>♠ 1084 ♠ A73 ♥ AKQ3 ♥ 85 ♦ 7632 ♦ AKQ9 ♣ 103 ♣ KQ97</p> <p>♠ KQ95 ♥ J764 ♦ J54 ♣ A2</p>	<p>Board 3 : Dealer South : EW vulnerable</p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th><i>West</i></th> <th><i>North</i></th> <th><i>East</i></th> <th><i>South</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>1♥</td> <td>Dbl</td> <td>2NT (1)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3♦</td> <td>3♥</td> <td>4♦</td> <td>All Pass</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>(1) Alerted: good raise to 3♥ 3♥ would go down four</p>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>				Pass	Pass	1♥	Dbl	2NT (1)	3♦	3♥	4♦	All Pass
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>														
			Pass														
Pass	1♥	Dbl	2NT (1)														
3♦	3♥	4♦	All Pass														

West calls the TD at the end of the hand to report the psyche: what colour is it?

[Click here for answer](#)

Situation 35

<p>♠ Q2 ♥ AK109863 ♦ 10 ♣ 1085</p> <p>♠ 10876 ♠ AJ4 ♥ J4 ♥ Q ♦ J64 ♦ 98752 ♣ J972 ♣ AKQ4</p> <p>♠ K953 ♥ 752 ♦ AKQ3 ♣ 63</p>	<p>Board 5 : Dealer North : NS 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>3♥</td> <td>3♠</td> <td>All Pass</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	West	North	East	South		3♥	3♠	All Pass
West	North	East	South						
	3♥	3♠	All Pass						

3♠ was *Fishbein* (i.e. for takeout) but West forgot to alert. South calls the TD at the end of the hand: he could not believe that North had a trump so he misdefended. 3♠ went one down. South claims (quite reasonably) that it should have been two down.

[Click here for answer](#)

Situation 36

<p>♠ Q84 ♥ AQ2 ♦ A107 ♣ A876</p> <p>♠ KJ1072 ♠ 963 ♥ 764 ♥ K8 ♦ J4 ♦ KQ8653 ♣ 1095 ♣ Q3</p> <p>♠ A5 ♥ J10953 ♦ 92 ♣ KJ42</p>	<p>Board 8 : Dealer West : 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>Pass</td> <td>1♣</td> <td>1♦</td> <td>1♥</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1♠</td> <td>1NT</td> <td>2♦</td> <td>Dbl (a)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>2♥</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>3♥</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>4♥</td> <td>All Pass</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>(a) Slow: not alerted 4♥ made</p>	West	North	East	South	Pass	1♣	1♦	1♥	1♠	1NT	2♦	Dbl (a)	Pass	2♥	Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥	All Pass	
West	North	East	South																		
Pass	1♣	1♦	1♥																		
1♠	1NT	2♦	Dbl (a)																		
Pass	2♥	Pass	3♥																		
Pass	4♥	All Pass																			

East calls the TD after the 2♥ bid and claims that the double was made 'slowly': all four players agree. East recalls the TD at the end of the hand. North describes South's double as 'penalties'. If asked why he took it out, he says it seemed right with three hearts. North/South are very inexperienced.

[Click here for answer](#)

Situation 39

<p>♠ Q ♥ AJ965 ♦ K10432 ♣ 32</p> <p>♠ KJ976 ♠ 108 ♥ Q1087 ♥ K2 ♦ QJ8 ♦ 975 ♣ 5 ♣ QJ10864</p> <p>♠ A5432 ♥ 43 ♦ A6 ♣ AK97</p>	<p>Board 8 : Dealer West : Love all South plays in 3NT. West leads ♦ Q.</p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th>West</th> <th>North</th> <th>East</th> <th>South</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>♦ Q</td> <td>♦ 2</td> <td>♦ 5</td> <td><u>♦ A</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>♣ 5</td> <td>♣ 2</td> <td>♣ 6</td> <td><u>♣ A</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>♦ 8</td> <td><u>♦ 10</u></td> <td>♦ 7</td> <td>♦ 6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>♦ J</td> <td><u>♦ K</u></td> <td>♦ 9</td> <td>♠ 2</td> </tr> <tr> <td><u>♠ K</u></td> <td>♠ Q</td> <td>♠ 10</td> <td>♠ 3</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Underlined cards have won the trick</p>	West	North	East	South	♦ Q	♦ 2	♦ 5	<u>♦ A</u>	♣ 5	♣ 2	♣ 6	<u>♣ A</u>	♦ 8	<u>♦ 10</u>	♦ 7	♦ 6	♦ J	<u>♦ K</u>	♦ 9	♠ 2	<u>♠ K</u>	♠ Q	♠ 10	♠ 3
West	North	East	South																						
♦ Q	♦ 2	♦ 5	<u>♦ A</u>																						
♣ 5	♣ 2	♣ 6	<u>♣ A</u>																						
♦ 8	<u>♦ 10</u>	♦ 7	♦ 6																						
♦ J	<u>♦ K</u>	♦ 9	♠ 2																						
<u>♠ K</u>	♠ Q	♠ 10	♠ 3																						

(i) While West is considering what to play, East accidentally drops the ♠ 8 and ♥ 2 face up on the table. The director is called.

(a) Can declarer prohibit both a spade and a heart lead?

(b) Can declarer prohibit just a spade lead?

If he prohibits both, does this prohibition last for as long as West retains the lead?

(ii) Now he prohibits both. Unfortunately, West only has major cards left! Declarer would now like to ban a spade lead.

[Click here for answer](#)

Situation 40

<p>♠ AJ952 ♥ K9 ♦ 64 ♣ 10432</p> <p>♠ Q3 ♠ K874 ♥ AQ852 ♥ 1064 ♦ AKQ10 ♦ J93 ♣ 85 ♣ Q97</p> <p>♠ 106 ♥ J73 ♦ 8752 ♣ AKJ6</p>	<p>Board 17 : Dealer North : Love all</p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th>West</th> <th>North</th> <th>East</th> <th>South</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td>2♠ (a)</td> <td>Pass (b)</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dbl</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>3♣</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3♥</td> <td>All Pass</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>(a) Alerted (b) Asks about 2♠</p>	West	North	East	South		2♠ (a)	Pass (b)	Pass	Dbl	Pass	3♣	Pass	3♥	All Pass		
West	North	East	South														
	2♠ (a)	Pass (b)	Pass														
Dbl	Pass	3♣	Pass														
3♥	All Pass																

2♠ is Lucas, showing a weak hand with spades and another suit. North calls the TD at the end of the hand because East asked the meaning of 2♠ before passing and North suggests this has affected West's bid. If East is asked why he asked, he says, 'I just wanted to know.'

[Click here for answer](#)

Answers

Situation 1

Law 21B1 The question of late alerts is dealt with in this Law, which says that a player can change his call when the TD judges that the decision to make the call could have been influenced by misinformation given by an opponent. The Law also says, 'provided his partner has not subsequently called.' In this case, although South has called, West has not. This means the TD can take the auction back to East. The 2♠ and 3♦ bids are cancelled and East can have another go. Since East changes his call to 2NT, South can also change his call without penalty (Law 21B2).

Law 16C Even though there are no auction penalties, the withdrawn call of 3♦ is unauthorised information to North, who may not select a lead from among logical alternatives one which might have been indicated by the withdrawn call. Before leaving the table you should warn North that he must not base his play on the knowledge that East bid 2♠ and South bid 3♦. However both the 2♠ and 3♦ bids are authorised information to East/West.

If North was to lead a diamond then you might well adjust the score. As to the actual score adjustment – under 12C1a the TD should give an assigned adjusted score if possible – so he would have to look at the effect of non-diamond leads and give that number of tricks. Different leads might lead to different number of tricks so a weighted ruling might be necessary.

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Situation 2

Law 20F1 Yes. Questions may be asked about calls actually made or about relevant calls available but not made. The questioning, however, must not amount to harassment.

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Situation 3

Law 27A In each case the insufficient bid (IB) can be accepted. If accepted the auction proceeds and there is nothing else for the TD to do. The remaining answers all assume that the next player has not accepted the IB.

Law 27B if the insufficient bid is not accepted it must be corrected by the substitution of a sufficient bid or a pass. If the IB is replaced by the lowest sufficient bid which specifies the same denomination then the auction continues without any further rectification.

This is the case in 3(a)(i). The correction from 1♥ to 2♥ can be made.

A change in the 2017 laws allows the person who made the IB to make a comparable call. That is a call which:

- has the same or similar meaning to the IB.
- or defines a subset of the IB – all hands which make the replacement call would have made the IB
- or has the same purpose

If he makes such a call the auction proceeds and partner can bid.

3(a)(ii) All hands that double to show hearts would have responded with 1♥ so this Double would be allowed.

3(a)(iii) All hands that would make a double showing hearts and diamonds would have responded with 1♥ so this would be comparable call.

3(b) Whilst there are some much weaker hands where you might bid 3♣ Stayman to 2NT than you would bid 2♣ Stayman to 1NT, the World Bridge Federation has recommended that Regulating

Authorities (i.e. Clubs) interpret this law liberally, so if both 2♣ and 3♣ are just considered asking bids the change is allowed without further rectification. (27B1b)

3(c) The change to double is allowed without further rectification. (27B1b)

3(d) It might seem that you could allow the correction under 27B1(a) but the 2♠ bid specifies more than one denomination. The 3♠ bid is not a comparable call because it only promises spades, so this change is allowed but whatever East says West will have to pass throughout. (27B2) If there was a bid available that showed Spades and a minor over 2NT that would be a comparable call. (27B1b)

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Situation 4

Law 62D1 Trick 12 and 13 must be replayed. The revoke is not established.

Law 62D2 East is not required to throw the ♣3 if he can satisfy the TD that he knows what is going on. It is important to know that East is aware of the situation regarding the spade suit. (Law 16C)

[Return to the question](#)

Situation 5

The TD should have warned West at the time that the knowledge that Partner has the ♠A is UI (Law 16C) so he needs a demonstrable bridge reason to switch to a spade. Assuming that any other lead gives the contract then Law 82C allows the TD to treat both sides as non-offenders in this case so +120 to NS and +50 to EW.

[Return to the question](#)

Situation 6

Law 61B3 Defenders are allowed to ask each other.

Law 62B The revoke is not established because neither the offender nor his partner has played to the next trick, so the revoke must be corrected. The ♠8 is withdrawn and left on the table and South plays his ♣3.

Law 50D South now has a major penalty card. Even though it is only the ♠8 it was played. South must play it at the first legal opportunity whether leading, following suit, trumping or discarding. If North gets the lead before the ♠8 has been played Declarer can ask North to lead a spade, not lead a spade or to lead whatever he likes. If he chooses to require or forbid a spade the ♠8 is picked up; it goes back into South's hand and is no longer a penalty card.

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Situation 7

Law 25 These are all situations where something happens between the hand going to the box and the card appearing on the table. Remember that a call is considered made 'as soon as it is removed from the bidding box with apparent intent,' so you have to decide which of those called is inadvertent and which is deliberate.

Scenarios 1 and 2 are straightforward. The first call is inadvertent and can be corrected under Law 25A. In Scenario 1, South's 2♣ is also withdrawn and the information about it is authorised to North but not to East/West (Law 16C).

Scenario 3 is more difficult. Do you believe that the player pulled 2♣ from the box inadvertently? 2♣ is a long way from 1NT. If you are persuaded, then apply Law 25A (see Scenario 5), otherwise go to 25B. The way this scenario is written makes it clear that it was inadvertent.

Scenario 4 is almost certainly a change of mind. It surely is if East/West are playing transfers. West forgot, bid 2♥, then remembered and wanted to change his mind to 2♦. You have to apply Law 25B. Under 25B1 North might accept the change to 2♦. If he does the auction continues normally. Under 25B2, if North does not accept the change the 2♥ bid stands and the auction continues. Remember to warn East about the UI – he is not allowed to know that West wanted to change his call.

Scenario 5 The announcement is an example of where partner is allowed to wake the player up.

Law 25A3

'A player is allowed to replace an unintended call if the conditions described in A1 are met, no matter how he may have become aware of his error'.

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Situation 8

Law 27A The call can be accepted.

Law 27B1 If the bid is not accepted, West must substitute a legal call. 3♠ would repeat the denomination of the IB, so West can bid 3♠ without penalty. There might be other rectification calls available but if not East has to pass throughout.

Situation 8 – 2nd part

Law 26B Since West did not replace the IB with a comparable call then Declarer may prohibit offender's partner from leading any one suit which has not been specified in the legal auction by the offender. Such prohibition continues for as long as the offender's partner retains the lead.

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Situation 9

Law 17A The auction period has begun for West because he has taken his cards from the board.

Law 24 The mishap is of West's own making so the two exposed cards are left face up on the table and (Law 24C), because two cards are exposed, East must pass when next it is his turn to call. The exposed cards are unauthorised information to East.

If West becomes declarer the cards are turned to the hand at the start of play.

If South becomes declarer the two cards remain as penalty cards and South designates which one is to be led (Law 51A)

If North becomes declarer the two cards remain as penalty cards and North can use Law 51B2 to demand or forbid the lead of the suits.

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Situation 10

Law 29C East's 2♥ out of rotation is artificial. Any auction and play restrictions apply to the denomination specified rather than the suit named. So in this case everything relates to spades.

Law 31A applies and section 31A2(a) applies to spades.

Law 26B East did not bid in the legal auction so Declarer can prohibit the lead of any one suit. Such prohibition continues for as long as the offender's partner retains the lead

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Situation 11

Law 17D3. The TD should first offer West the chance to accept South's pass out of turn. If he accepts and passes, then South and West put their pass cards away and the auction goes back to

East. If West does not pass but bids, say, 1♦ the auction continues and East gets a chance to respond to 1♦ but has lost his chance to open.

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Situation 12

Law 52A Both cards stay on the table for the moment.

Law 52B1(a) Declarer may accept the second card and the first changes to a major penalty card.

Law 52B2 Declarer requires the first card to be played. The second becomes a major penalty card.

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Situation 13

Under **Law 46** this is an incomplete or erroneous call by declarer and at first sight **46B5** appears to apply – the defenders may designate the play from dummy. This is unreasonable and is a rare example of the phrase in brackets in the introduction (except where declarer's different intention is incontrovertible). It is completely obvious that declarer was going to play either the king or the jack to fulfil his contract. So that is the choice the TD is offering the defenders. Of course the remark by declarer is rather silly, reducing the chance to make his contract from 50% to 25%.

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Situation 14

Since the call of the card from dummy is incomplete, there's a case for saying 46B3a applies – in leading declarer is deemed to have continued the suit in which dummy won the preceding trick, so ♠A was deemed led. **But 46B** (different intention was incontrovertible) so in this case I would just restore the cards and allow the ♣A to be led and East's spade goes back in the hand. **Law 50** the TD can designate that an exposed card is not a penalty card.

Or you might say that it's East's own fault in which case it will be this

Law 61B3 It is okay to ask whether he has no clubs.

Law 62A East has revoked, but it must be corrected. East's spade becomes a major penalty card.

I prefer the first answer.

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Situation 15

BB5 C 3. Under the conditions laid down in the Blue Book this hand does not meet any of the criteria for opening a strong artificial 2-level opening. It does not have 8 clear-cut tricks (it has 5, possibly 6); it does not meet the rule of 25 (HCP + length of 2 longest suits = 20) and it does not have at least 16 HCPs. So by agreement it cannot be opened a Benji 2♣. The player can get away with it as a psyche once but after that there is evidence of a hidden partnership agreement, which is not permitted. Pairs playing an illegal system will have the board scored as 40% / 60% unless the non-offending pair gets more than 60% in normal play. For this reason the board must be completed before the ruling is given. The TD has a responsibility to educate less experienced players and you should take the time to explain the situation.

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Situation 16

Law 65B3 allows for dummy and defenders to point out that a trick is pointing the wrong way, but that expires when a card is led to the next trick. So this is too late to use that law.

The TD could issue a procedural penalty under Law 90B but I think it unlikely he would do anything other than a rap over the knuckles.

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Situation 17

The hesitation before 4♥ is Unauthorised Information to South and under Law 16B1a, South should not choose from among logical alternatives one that could have been suggested over another by the extraneous information.

Under Law 16B1b, the TD must decide what a logical alternative is. It is described in the following way as:

‘an action that a significant proportion of the class of players in question, using the methods of the partnership, would seriously consider and some might select.’

So the TD has to decide whether passing over 4♥ is a logical alternative for players of the calibre of South. To conduct a poll of players, write the South hand out and give it to a suitable player along with the auction without any indication of the hesitation. Ask what calls they consider and what call they make. If you find any players who would choose to pass over 4♥ then pass is a logical alternative. Even if some of those players were thinking of going on then would they *actually bid on*. It seems likely that pass is a logical alternative on this hand.(16B1B). If this is your finding you should adjust the result to 4♥+2.

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Situation 18

Law 73C Players have to be extremely careful about making comments. On this occasion it is possible that the question helped South find the correct lead. South has logical alternatives to the lead of the heart. Without the comment, South might indeed have led a heart, but now that avenue is closed to him. Either ♣J or ♦J are logical alternatives. Thirteen tricks to East/West. Don't forget to tell North/South that they can appeal your ruling.

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Situation 19

Law 9B1(a) Beware of players who think they know the Law and make rulings at the table, particularly in front of newer players who do not know what is going on. The TD **should** be summoned **at once**. Both sides are really at fault but you may have sympathy with North/South if they are new players.

Law 10B Adjust the score to give North/South their trick.

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Situation 20

This is in breach of Law 41D, as dummy has failed to follow correct procedure. The onus is on dummy to display his hand correctly and if the defenders genuinely go wrong then they are entitled to redress. There is no specific penalty set down so the TD can use Law 12A1 which is a general catch-all for this type of error.

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Situation 21

Law 46B5 if declarer indicates a play without designating a suit or a rank (as in saying ‘play anything’) either defender may designate the play from Dummy.

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Situation 22

Law 42B2 Dummy may try to prevent any irregularity by declarer. As the irregularity has not taken place, dummy may intervene. It is also allowed under 65B3, since the next trick has not started.

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Situation 23 (i)

- (a) No (BB 4C1(a) or 4H3(c))
- (b) No
- (c) No. This is another name for take out. (BB 4B2 (a))
- (d) Yes (BB 3H3)
- (e) No
- (f) Yes (BB 4B2(c)). The auction is at the level of 3NT – not above 3NT so BB 4B4 does not apply.

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Situation 23 (ii)

- (a) Yes. Artificial 2-level openings are alertable. (BB 4F4)
- (b) Yes. All pass or correct bids are artificial (BB 4B1a)
- (c) No. This is a specific exception. See BB 4H5(c)
- (d) No. It is a natural bid. (BB 4C1(a))
- (e) Yes. 2♠ was a natural bid, so non-alerted doubles are for take-out. (BB 4B2a)

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Situation 24

Law 55A Either hand may accept the lead or require its retraction. If the defenders choose differently the opinion expressed by the player next in turn prevails.

This means the player next after the irregular lead – in this case West’s choice wins the argument.

(55B2) The lead is replaced in declarer’s hand and he must lead from dummy. He can lead any card.

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Situation 25

- (a) **BB 6F2(a)**. 2NT showing the minors is now allowed at L2. (from Aug 2014)

2NT can be used to show any 2 suiter, any suits, any range so long as one of the suits is specified, so the agreement to show both minors is allowed, you can also agree to play 2NT to show hearts and a minor but not either minors or Hearts and a minor.

- (b) **BB7E4(a)** 2NT showing any ER25 2 suiter with no specified suit is allowed. In addition to agreements allowed at level 2.

Both these situations are matters of proper disclosure. TD needs to establish what the partnership agreement actually is. If it is that 2NT shows both minors then EW have not been misinformed but you should always consider if the UI has had an influence on the auction.

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Situation 26

- (a) Law 45C2. This is not a played card.
- (b) Law 45C1. Since partner could have seen its face, it is a played card.
- (c) Law 46B4. No. Declarer must nominate a card that is in dummy.

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Situation 27 – part (i)

- (a) Yes, you can change an impossible score.
- (b) No, –100 is a valid score, so even though it says 2♠–2 custom and practice says you go with the numerical score. It would have been better had the TD been called during the session, when you could have done something about it.

Your scorer may not even be a bridge player – just good at sums! Most computer scoring software will flag impossible scores; some more sophisticated software will highlight unlikely scores as well (e.g. 650 on a non-vulnerable board – is it really $4\spadesuit+1 = 450$ or is it genuinely $5\spadesuit\times = 650$?)

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Situation 27 – part (ii)

More and more clubs now have BridgeMates, Bridge Pads or Bridge Scorers. They are nothing more than electronic travellers so the conditions relating to travellers also apply here. Just because East or West has pressed ‘accept’ doesn’t mean that errors cannot be corrected.

- (a) $4\spadesuit + 1$ by East is likely to be a mis-punched declarer, so should be changed. But it is worth checking they didn’t arrow switch the board.
- (b) It is quite usual for low level NT contracts to be played by either side, so this probably alright.
- (c) Where you get two distinct groups of scores it is likely there has been a misboarding creating a fouled board. Under Law 87B you have to divide the scores into the two groups and matchpoint accordingly. Fortunately most scoring programs have a routine for doing this.

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Situation 28

Late revokes are identified in 64B4/5 and dealt with through 64C Redress of Damage. TD should therefore go back to trick 5 and work out how the play would have gone.

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Situation 29

Law 73A2, 73D1 East has made a slow penalty double. For West to remove it, there has to be a demonstrable bridge reason, this is another situation where you should conduct a poll (see Situation 17) The likely outcomes are: a) No; b) Yes; c) No, but you might come up with different results in your club.

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Situation 30

Law 75B The first observation is that the convention card should explain what $3\clubsuit$ means. To simply say ‘Ghestem’ is wrong. It may well be the case that they play it as clubs and hearts, but the incomplete card means that you cannot prove it. In this situation you treat it as a mistaken explanation, and you adjust for North/South if they convince you that they were damaged.

Law 75A & Law 16B1 There is unauthorised information here. The answer to the question was unexpected to East, who becomes aware of his error through the answer to a question. Players will tell you that they realised their error before the alert but they are not allowed to be woken up and must bid on as if they had not heard the explanation.

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Situation 31

This is one of the finest examples of a ‘fielded misbid’. When West bid $2\diamond$ over $1\diamond$ he intended to show a strong hand with diamonds. Imagine, for a moment, a world with no alerts. East bids $2♥$. Opposite West’s strong hand with diamonds, East has freely bid $2♥$. This must show a pretty good heart suit. West therefore should raise $2♥$ to $4♥$, which North, presumably, will double.

When East alerts the $2\diamond$, West sees this and, maybe, hears the explanation if it is requested. But West must not use this information to try to get out of the situation by rebidding $3\diamond$. Remember that the alert procedure is for the benefit of your opponents, not for your side to get out of a hole.

The other way to look at it is to consider what happens at senior and international level when screens are used. Imagine a screen across the table from northwest to southeast. So North and East can see each other, also South and West. In this case, West would have been unaware of the alert from East. It often helps to consider how you would react with screens in place.

So to the answers:

- (a) Yes
- (b) Yes.
- (c) $4 \heartsuit \times -6 = 1400$ is the score you should award.
- (d) Maybe

It is customary to award a 10% fine for a fielded misbid, but the 1400 is probably penalty enough. Many inexperienced players will have great difficulty understanding this ruling (and perhaps many club TDs). If you got this correct you are the sort of person we want on the County Course.

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Situation 32

BB 4H2(c)(2) A pre-emptive raise to $3 \spadesuit$ is alertable, so there is misinformation. The TD has to decide the effect of the misinformation on West.

Law 12C1c You can give a weighted ruling to reflect different possible outcomes.

The TD judged that it was not clear-cut for West to take action with 17HCPs but not four hearts. If West doubles, North might bid $4 \spadesuit$ and make only nine tricks on a $\heartsuit J$ lead. If West doubles and North passes, East/West might play in $4 \clubsuit$ or $5 \clubsuit$, making 11 tricks.

The TD assigned probabilities to each of these outcomes accordingly. In this case the TD assigned:

50% of $3 \spadesuit$ = by North/South	=	+140
20% of $4 \spadesuit -1$ by North/South	=	-100
20% of $4 \clubsuit +1$ by East/West	=	-150
10% of $5 \clubsuit \checkmark$ by East/West	=	-400

East/West then appealed on the grounds that 'double is automatic.' The appeal was rejected and the TD ruling confirmed.

Now the appeals committee was broadly in agreement with the TD's weightings. But they would not have tampered with them unless they considered them to be wildly wrong. They would not, for example change them to 55%, 25%, 10%, 10%, but they might change them to 75%, 15%, 10%, 0% if they felt East/West would never get to $5 \clubsuit$. This is amending the TD's ruling not just tinkering with the weightings.

Here is an example of how to do the calculation at match-pointed pairs.

First of all, change the actual score on the board to Average and calculate the match points for the rest of the results on the board. Let's suppose that 140 is worth 12 match points (MP), -100 is worth 7MP, -150 is worth 4MP and -400 is worth 1MP. Now do the percentage calculations based on the match points so 50% of 12, 20% of 7, 20% of 4 and 10% of 1 = $6 + 1.4 + 0.8 + 0.1 = 8.3$. The weighted score for North/South is therefore 8.3 (retain the one decimal place), East/West get 11.7 (the top on the board was 20MP).

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Situation 33

Law 73B1 The unauthorised information suggests that West is trying to bail out. Adjust to 6NT -1.

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Situation 34

White Book 1.4 South has taken appropriate action by bidding 2NT to show a good raise. This is a green psyche (WB 1.4.2.3). Any of the players may ask you to record the psyche but if they do not then you are not obliged to do so.

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Situation 35

As the declaring side East should own up at the end of the auction and the TD should be called (**Law 75B**). Under **Law 21B1a** North could have his final pass back (but not South). That could have sorted it out – although if it was South who would have taken action then the TD would still have to adjudicate.

As that didn't happen the TD still has to adjudicate. South claims it should be two down, which is true, but the TD should also look at the possibility of North/South bidding on to 4♥ and awarding a weighted score under Law 12C1c. Perhaps 75% of 3♠-2, 25% of 4♥✓.

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Situation 36

One of the skills a TD possesses or acquires is the way to deal with inexperienced players who fall foul of the laws. South's hesitation gives North UI and means that he must not choose an action which might be indicated by the hesitation. Again TD might conduct a poll here to determine logical alternatives. You have to educate North/South in the ways of the world, without being patronising. The score might be adjusted to 2♦x-2.

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Situation 37

The diamond lead is speculative. The misinformation doesn't make the diamond lead anymore likely than it was before. Result stands.

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Situation 38

Another one to poll – but I don't believe you will find anyone who wants to pass out 4♣X with the West hand. I think you will find that there is no logical alternative to 4♥, therefore the result stands.

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Situation 39 (i)

Law 50B Although both are small cards dropped accidentally they are both major penalty cards.

Law 51B2 Declarer can ban both suits or just one so the answer to both (a) and (b) is yes. Yes, the prohibition lasts for as long as West retains the lead.

Situation 39 (ii)

Law 59 Declarer has chosen his option. He doesn't get another go at it. This Law says that the offender can now play any otherwise legal card.

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Situation 40

BB 2E. If you ask and then pass, you put partner under pressure. In this case it is all right as pass by West is not a logical alternative. Result stands. You should explain to East the perils of asking when he has no intention to bid. It is good advice to say 'It's better to wait until the end if you have no intention of bidding. If you don't ask they might get into a mess.'

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