



EUROPEAN BRIDGE LEAGUE

9th EBL Main Tournament Directors Course
30th January to 3rd February 2013
Bad Honnef – Germany

SIMULATIONS AT THE TABLE

S 1)

	♠ 9 6 5	Board 10 E/all
	♥ Q J 10 9 7	
	♦ K 7	
	♣ A K 5	
♠ A 8	N	♠ 10 7 3
♥ A 5 4 3	W E	♥ 8
♦ 2		♦ J 10 6 5 4 3
♣ 10 8 7 4 3 2	S	♣ Q J 9
	♠ K Q J 4 2	
	♥ K 6 2	
	♦ A Q 9 8	
	♣ 6	

W	N	E	S
		P	1♠
P	3NT	P	4♠
All pass			

a) East leads out of turn and doing so he produces the ♣Q and the ♥8. TD!

b) East leads out of turn and doing so he produces the ♣Q and drops the ♥8. TD!

If given the choice East wants to play the ♣Q. If South gets the choice he does not accept the LOOT and forbids a club and a heart lead.

For a) and b): West starts ♦2 for the K; spade for the ace and West plays ♥A and a heart for a ruff by his partner. A diamond- and a further heart-ruff lead to two off. South calls the TD once more telling him that the heart switch is not that obvious without the strange LOOT.

In a) the TD needs to find out which card East wanted to play (L58B2)

Both: Declarer gets the option to accept the card led OOT. If declarer does so the other card becomes a PC (minor if it is the ♥8). If not East has 2 major PCs and L 51B applies. The TD needs to tell that information from seeing these cards is UI. Normally there is no UI from seeing an accidentally dropped card. Winning trick 2 West does not have a logical alternative but to play the ♥A and small. The TD is very clever if he notices that with a certain format of arranging the cards in a hand the lowest heart is next to the highest club!!! Then even a dropped card produces UI.

S 2)

N/none

a)

W	N	E	S
			P
	1♠		

South passes OOT and before anything can be done North bids 1♠. TD!

If asked, opponents do not accept these calls.

b)

W	N	E	S
			1♣
	1♠		

South opens OOT and before anything can be done North bids 1♠. TD!

If asked, opponents do not accept these bids.

- a) The TD puts the 1♠-bid in the waiting room, asks West if he wants to accept the POOT and tells South that he has to pass at his first legal turn if West does not accept. He tells North to repeat his 1♠-bid (this is not so clear, it would be nice to be able to say that the 1♠-bid is OOT as a variation of L31A1).
- b) This is easier. We start the same and tell that if West does not accept the 1♣-bid, North has to pass continuously. Important to say that the withdrawn 1♠ is UI for South, otherwise he will bid a game.

Discussion

This is by far not obvious. Assume that West accepts the 1♣ OOT and calls himself. What to do with the 1♠ in that case? Don't say too fast that North has to repeat it. If South bids 1♠ and North thinking to open then bids 1♣ and once again West accepts the 1♠, maintaining the 1♣ now creates an insufficient bid!

S 3)

	♠ 8	
	♥ 10 8	
	♦ 7	
	♣ 7	
♠ 5	N	♠ 7
♥ ---	W	♥ J 5
♦ 8 5	E	♦ 10
♣ 10 9	S	♣ 6
	♠ 10 6	
	♥ Q	
	♦ ---	
	♣ 8 5	

- a) South is declarer and has made 6 tricks in a spade contract. He leads from his own hand the ♣5 for the 10 in West. He says something like ‘yes’ to dummy but the ♣7 stays where it was, East plays ♣6 and the others put the cards face down. West now plays ♣9 and when declarer says ‘seven’ he immediately adds: ‘that cannot be’ and says that he played that card in the previous trick. West says that with the ♣7 removed he plays a spade of course. TD!
- b) It starts in the same way but when West plays the ♣9 dummy picks up the 7 and play continues. West ‘wins’ and switches to a diamond. Now declarer sees that dummy has an extra card left. TD!

The laws do not cover this specific problem. It is clear that dummy/declarer did not follow the right procedure, which is removing a played card.

- a) It seems reasonable to use L67A, in time to add the ♣7 to the quitted trick, but what with the ♣9. That seems to be a card which cannot be withdrawn. Don’t hesitate to use L12A1 aiming for a normal result on the board.
- b) Now L67B1 gives the solution. The infraction causes a revoke and a trick is transferred. But there is no penalty for dummy! Even better, use L64C to reach a fair result.

S 4)

	♠ Q 10 8	
	♥ K 6 5	
	♦ Q 10 5 3	
	♣ Q 10 8	
♠ 9 7 4	N	♠ 6 5 2
♥ Q J 9 8	W	♥ 10 7 2
♦ 9 8 4	E	♦ A 7 6
♣ A 9 6	S	♣ K J 7 4
	♠ A K J 3	
	♥ A 4 3	
	♦ K J 2	
	♣ 5 3 2	

Declarer (South) has played a card (♠3) in trick 3 which he also ‘plays’ in trick 10 (he took the card back in his hand).

3NT. First lead ♥Q, ducked; ♥J for A and then ♠3 for the 10, small diamond from the table for ♦J and then ♦K for the ace. East plays ♥7 for ♥K in dummy, then ♠Q, ♠8 for the A. Then ♠K and thereafter South produces the ♠3 ...

- a) ... and is somewhat surprised to have one more card than dummy. TD!
- b) ..., discards everywhere and pointing to the dummy declarer allows the defenders to take the last trick (claim). But West discovers that declarer has a surplus card. TD!

Nobody discovers immediately that ♠3 is played twice but after a while West thinks that something strange has happened in the spade suit, everyone followed three times and still declarer made five tricks in that suit.

It seems that declarer has too many cards but not because he forgot to play a card in a previous trick. This is not a L67 case. He played an impossible card in trick 10.

- a) The solution is easy, the TD takes away this impossible card and play continues.
- b) Disputed claim solved in a similar way.

In both cases declarer gets 9 tricks.

S 5)

W	N	E	S
P	1♣	1♠	1NT
2♠		P	

At his turn to make a call North starts tipping on the table (near to his 1♣-card he produced earlier in this auction). His LHO understands this as a pass and passes himself. Now North tells that it is his turn to call. TD!

North has ♠J6 ♥KQ105 ♦AK10 ♣KQ75

- a) North agrees that he did tip but that he never does so to mark a pass.
- b) North agrees that he did so and he understands it to be confusing. 'Could you make it a nice ruling please' he asks the TD.

- a) It is a pity but there seems to be no other solution than to make the pass OOT.
- b) This is a rare case where L81C5 could be applied. And looking back to a) it looks possible to suggest to North there to cope with (to request) a nice ruling.

S 6)

	♠ 9	
	♥ 7 4 2	
	♦ ---	
	♣ Q 4	
♠ 7 5	N	♠ 2
♥ 10 5	W	♥ J 9
♦ J	E	♦ 6
♣ 9	S	♣ 8 3
	♠ 10 8 3	
	♥ 8	
	♦ ---	
	♣ J 7	

Declarer plays a spade contract.

- a) RHO leads ♥J, declarer revokes by ruffing low and LHO overruffs revoking too. LHO leads to the next trick (♥10) and now declarer discovers his mistake and calls the TD.
- b) Declarer plays ♠3, wins in dummy and East revokes (♦6). Declarer calls for a card in dummy (♣4) but dummy plays ♣Q and East follows suit. Now declarer discovers this misplay and calls the TD. In the meantime East has discovered that he revoked in the previous trick. He wants to replace the card he revoked with because withdrawing his club card means that he didn't play to the following trick yet.
- c) Declarer leads (♣7), dummy high and RHO revokes (♦6). Declarer thinks RHO ruffed and after a while says 'your lead'. Before anybody can react RHO plays the ♥J but at the same time LHO tells that dummy is on lead. Now RHO discovers his revoke.

- a) The formal approach is that the revoke by West is established and not the revoke by South. This means that South replaces the ♠3 with the ♥8. And applying the 2007 laws this means that West is offered the possibility to change his card too. But his revoke remains established. This is terrible and we need to change it in the laws.
- b) L45D tells that the ♣Q goes back after which East may change the card he played. But L63A1 tells us that the revoke stays established.
- c) How brave will the TD be? L63A1: 'Any such play makes the revoke established'. But that ruling is simply impossible if declarer invites you to lead. RHO takes his ♥J back, which creates UI for declarer, and restores his revoke the ♦6 becoming a major PC.

Discussion

	♠ 8	
	♥ A K 5	
	♦ ---	
	♣ ---	
♠ 10	N	♠ ---
♥ 8	W E	♥ Q 7 3
♦ 6 4	S	♦ J
♣ ---		♣ ---
	♠ 9	
	♥ 6 4	
	♦ 10	
	♣ ---	

Declarer South plays 3NT and won the last trick in dummy. He asks for ♥A but dummy plays the 5; East the queen. South thinking to have won this trick asks for ♥K but East also won the trick and plays the ♦J. Now declarer notices that something went wrong.

Comes anybody up with a reasonable solution?

The diehards will say that L45D tells that the previous trick stands. But is that reasonable?

Discussion.

If declarer asks for a card this action is considered to create the play of a card. What if dummy plays a different one? Is this a revoke? Are two cards played simultaneously (A and 5)? And if the answer is 'yes' what then if RHO follows suit of the card played by dummy (assume the two cards played in dummy are of different suits), is that then also a revoke? What if RHO doesn't follow the suit played by dummy but plays a card of the suit declarer asked for. Is that a revoke?

And in a) and c): Should it be possible that an irregularity/infraction by declarer/dummy can create an established revoke by a defender?

Should we add something to the laws?

S 7)

	♠ K J 6	Board 12 W/NS
	♥ K 6 4	
	♦ Q 10 7 5	
	♣ K J 8	
♠ A 7 4 3	N	♠ Q 2
♥ Q J 7	W E	♥ 9 8 3 2
♦ A J 8		♦ K 9 4 2
♣ Q 9 7	S	♣ A 6 4
	♠ 10 9 8 5	
	♥ A 10 5	
	♦ 6 3	
	♣ 10 5 3 2	

W	N	E	S
1NT	P	2NT	P
3NT			

- a) At this moment East interrupts the bidding and tells that he should have alerted the 1NT opening: they play it 12-14 not vulnerable. TD!
North will ask whether he is free to bid what he wants. If 'yes' he will double.
- b) After 3NT North passes and now East discovers his mistake and calls the TD.
- c) The auction is closed with three passes and North leads face down. Declarer interrupts telling that his partner should have alerted his 1NT.

In all three cases we have to deal with the last pass from the opponents (L21B1a) and the TD decides that with the right information no other call would have been made. Therefore he has to inspect the relevant hand. So in a) South' pass stands. In a) and b) the opponents of course can double the final contract in their legal turn to call after the 3NT bid.

There is an alternative way to deal with it in which the TD explains that the call only may be changed if the player would have made the substituted call having just the right information. Then South gets the option to change his call and the TD may be called back later to judge whether he allows that change.

S 8)

	♠ J 9 6 3	Board 4 W/all
	♥ 8 6 4	
	♦ 10 8	
	♣ K 9 5 4	
♠ A K 8	N	♠ Q 4 2
♥ Q 10 7	W E	♥ K 5 3
♦ 9 6 5 3	S	♦ A Q J
♣ A 3 2	S	♣ Q 10 8 6
	♠ 10 7 5	
	♥ A J 9 2	
	♦ K 7 4 2	
	♣ J 7	

West plays 3NT and has made 7 tricks with three cards remaining:

	♠ J	Board 4 W/all
	♥ ---	
	♦ 10	
	♣ 9	
♠ ---	N	♠ ---
♥ ---	W E	♥ ---
♦ 9 5 3	S	♦ A Q
♣ ---	S	♣ Q
	♠ ---	
	♥ J	
	♦ K 7	
	♣ ---	

Earlier in the play he finessed successfully in diamonds. He now plays ♦5, on which South takes out the ♦7 being clearly visible for declarer and dummy but not for North. Declarer has 9 tricks by taking the ace but now decides to finesse once more after which South produces the king. TD!

The TD establishes that South did not have any reason to show this card, was not claiming/conceding for example.

A case from Australia where the TD allowed the score to stand and the Appeal Committee changed the score in 3NT made. It based its decision on L73D2 and L73F.

S 9)

	♠ A 6	
	♥ ---	
	♦ Q 9 3	
	♣ ---	
♠ 9 3	N	♠ 8
♥ J	W E	♥ ---
♦ 10 5	S	♦ K 6 4 2
♣ ---		♣ 10
	♠ 4	
	♥ ---	
	♦ A J 8 7	
	♣ ---	

NT contract. Last trick won in dummy. Declarer calls for ♦ Q, covered and won with the Ace. Now the J, on which the LHO plays the 10.

- a) Dummy takes the 3, trick is closed, but South discovers that the suit is blocked. He calls the TD telling that dummy did not give him the time to play the 9 from dummy.
- b) Dummy takes the 9 and when they close the trick, East calls the TD and tells him what happened, explaining that he doesn't like this behaviour. North tells the TD somewhat angry that the play of the 9 is elementary in such case.

- a) It seems that we do not have a choice but to allow declarer to change the card played by dummy (L45D). But I feel sympathy with the TD who decides that by not interfering immediately declarer has agreed in the play of the ♦ 3.
- b) Now we are in 45F, which seems poorly worded. It is not just the suggestion given by dummy but declarer needs to have a logical alternative to make it an infraction to follow that suggestion. Anyway the TD should decide that in this case playing the ♦ 3 is such alternative. And what if declarer tells the TD that he always was going to play the 9 of course? Apparently dummy wasn't so sure about it. The TD should tell North that East has the right to complain about his behaviour, North not following the procedure as prescribed, and that showing anger now is bad behaviour once more.

S 10)

	♠ ---	Board 13 N/all
	♥ 9 6 4 3 2	
	♦ Q 5 3	
	♣ 9 8 7 5 4	
♠ Q J 6 2	N	♠ A K 8 7 5 3
♥ A 5	W E	♥ Q 7
♦ A K 9 4 2		♦ J 8 6
♣ A Q	S	♣ K 10
	♠ 10 9 4	
	♥ K J 10 8	
	♦ 10 7	
	♣ J 6 3 2	

South started the proceedings with a pass out of turn! The Director was called, and after ascertaining that West will not accept the pass out of turn, he ruled that the bidding would return to North and that South had to pass at his next turn. North now chose to open 2♥, a weak two-suiter with ♥ and a lower suit in their methods, and the bidding proceeded as follows:

W	N	E	S
	2♥	2♠	P
4NT	P	5♥	P
6♠	All pass		

The Play:

On the lead of the ♥8, East went up with the Ace, placing ♥K with North and planned to end-play North after eliminating ♣ and ♠, to force him to lead either diamonds or to give a ruff & sluff.

The result is one down.

EW are rather unhappy with this result and call the TD once more. What should his decision be?

The POOT is withdrawn and creates UI. North may not etc.... But he did and in a very unethical way. 99 if not 100 peer players out of 100 would pass with the north hand. He deserves a red card and an educational quarter of an hour. Reason to adjust the score based on not leading a heart by South. 6♠ made.

S 11)

East calls the TD!

- a) The player walks away from the table and tells the TD "I have 14 cards".
- b) The player who calls the TD says at the table "I have 14 cards".
- c) same as a) but "I have 15 cards".

The extra card is the ♠A. In c) there are two ♠A on the players hand. One is lacking somewhere and one is a 54th card.

The trick here is to see if the TD tries to avoid somebody saying "I have 12 cards", thus saving the board.

Proper procedure would be to let the players put back their cards in the board and to take the board away from the table, correct it, return it, ask the player with 14 away from the table if anybody had said anything about having 12 and avoid that this information creeps up during the bidding and play.

S 12)

Screens are in use.

OLOOT from North, East declaring.

- a) East opens the aperture.
- b) East opens and puts his cards on the table.
- c) North knocks on the screen, West opens.
- d) East knocks, South opens.
- e) East knocks, West opens.

We have to use the screen regulations.

- a) East has accepted the OLOOT and becomes declarer. L23 might apply.
- b) L54 does not apply here. East has accepted the OLOOT and does not have the option to become dummy. He has to take the cards back in his hand and plays the board as declarer.
- c) No fault from the declaring side. L54 applies.
- d) See a). Instructed by the other side South may open the screen.
- e) See a).

S 13)

Screens are in use.

Proper lead by North (West declarer), East exposes his hand, and while they knock at the same time South leads face up and

- a) opens the screen.
- b) West opens the screen.

- a) The legal lead is from North and South has a major PC.
- b) If West and South really act at exactly the same time West couldn't avoid the infraction by South and we are in a). If South leads somewhat before West opens the screen it is West who should have avoided opening the screen. South takes back his LOOT and seeing this card is UI for both sides.

S 14)

Screens are in use.

After a few rounds of bidding East bids 3NT (he would be the declarer in NT). The tray is pushed to the other side and returns without the bidding cards of South and West who had removed their bidding cards. It was not clear whether they believed that there had been three passes or they assumed that North would pass. Neither North nor East called for the TD but North then doubled. While East considered what he would do, the aperture was opened with the faced up opening lead and the 'dummy' exposed on the table. TD!

W	N	E	S
	2♦ ^A	X	3♥
P	P	3NT	P
P	X	?	

- 2♦: Minimulti, only weak two with one major
- ?: East starts to think

- a) Now South makes a face-up lead (♥J) and opens the aperture without any warning.
- b) Now South makes a face up opening lead and West opens the aperture.

South and West are at fault, the auction not being closed yet. All cards on the table are shown cards during the auction. L24 tells that East has to pass. Thereafter South and West are free in their calls but then North, if still on turn, has to pass too. Either the ♥J or all cards from West become penalty cards.

If the TD decides that the board has become unplayable that doesn't look strange.

S 15)

Screens are in use.

S/EW

South and West take their cards out of the board and push it through the screen. The tray comes back with 1 ♠ by North and a pass by East.

- a) North did push the tray.
- b) East did push the tray.

a) and b) Both North and East are at fault. This leads to the conclusion that the auction has started with North bidding 1 ♠ and continues with South to call now.

S 16)

Screens are in use

Pairs		♠ Q 4	Board 8 W/none
		♥ A K J 3	
		♦ A 6 3	
		♣ A Q 9 5	
♠ J 6	N W E S	♠ 10 5 2	
♥ Q 10 9 8		♥ 7 6 4 2	
♦ 10 8 4 2		♦ Q J 5	
♣ J 10 6		♣ 8 3 2	
		♠ A K 9 8 7 3	
		♥ 5	
		♦ K 9 7	
		♣ K 7 4	

W	N	E	S
P	1♣	P	1♠
P	1NT	P	2♠
P	3♣	P	4NT
P	5♦	P	5♥
P	6♥	P	... 6NT
P	7NT	All pass	

- 1♣: 16+
- 1♠: 5+ and 8+ hcp
- 1NT: no spade support
- 2♠: 6+
- 3♣: control
- 4NT: RKCB
- 5♦: 0 or 3
- 5♥: asks for ♠Q
- 6♥: ♠Q and ♥K

East informs North about his opinion that South did hesitate long before bidding 6NT. North does not deny it. North makes all tricks and East calls the TD and explains that in his opinion the 7NT-bid is questionable.

This is an exercise in collecting the facts and consulting peer players

S 17)

W	N	E	S
1♦	P	???	1♥
P		1♠	

East was considering his response to 1♦. While thinking, South bid 1♥ and West passed. East finally decided what to do and put the 1♠ card down. TD!

It is too late for East to claim his turn in the first round of bidding once West has accepted the 1♥ OOT. The 1♠ bid is now OOT too and L31A applies.

S 18)

W	N	E	S
2NT	All pass		

- a) North has still the cards of the previous board and discovers it before he leads to the first trick.
- b) South has still the cards of the previous board and discovers it before the opening lead is faced up.
- c) South has still the cards of the previous board and discovers it after the opening lead is faced up.

- a) We are still in the auction and L17D2 applies. Partner has made a call after the irregularity, so the board has to be cancelled.
- b) We are still in the auction and there has not been a call after the irregularity so South takes the right cards and makes a new call. If he passes and that choice is reasonable the board can be played normally.
- c) L41C tells us that we cannot go back into the auction. Artificial AS.

S 19)

	♠ J 8	Board 11 S/none
	♥ 5 4	
	♦ J 9 8 2	
	♣ K J 9 8 2	
♠ 9 7 6	N W E S	♠ K Q 4 2
♥ A 10 7 6		♥ J 8 3
♦ 5 4		♦ K 10 6 3
♣ 10 6 5 3		♣ 7 4
	♠ A 10 5 3	
	♥ K Q 9 2	
	♦ A Q 7	
	♣ A Q	

South plays 3NT (1♦ – 3♦ – 3NT), and West leads the ♣3 (4th best) for the 2, the 7 and A. Next comes the ♦Q for the 5, the 2 and the K, followed by a ♥ switch: 3, K, A, 4. Another ♥ goes to the 5, J and Q. Now South cashes the ♣Q and the ♦A, and on this latter trick, East revokes throwing the ♠2.

At this point declarer plays a further ♦, and when West throws a ♠ puts up the 9. East wins with the 10, plays ♥8 which wins and in trick 9 the ♠K after which declarer is one off. TD! When the TD asks why declarer did not play the ♦J in dummy he answers:

- a) “because I got confused by the discards in diamonds by both defenders”.
- b) “because I supposed that West was revoking”.
- c) “because I thought that all ♦ were high”.

Discussion for the group: Another example: declarer leads a heart and nobody follows suit though according to his count there should be two more of those. He now claims the remainder of the tricks (true without any heart left). What should the TD do?

It is not the job of the declarer to find out what is going on in diamonds. Assume South plays the ♦J and it appears that West indeed did revoke. Do we give declarer an extra trick? We can be sure that declarer will play the ♦J if both defenders have followed suit till that moment. Reason to apply L64C if necessary whatever South thought, said, did. But here the two penalty tricks, one for each revoke, solve the case: 3NT plus one.

S 20)

	♠ ---	
	♥ K J	
	♦ 4	
	♣ ---	
♠ ---	N	♠ ---
♥ 6	W	♥ Q 5
♦ 9 6	E	♦ 8
♣ ---	S	♣ ---
	♠ ---	
	♥ 7	
	♦ 7 3	
	♣ ---	

South on lead in 3NT, having made 7 tricks, leads ♦3. East thinks he will be thrown in, and says so: "Good play, I am thrown in". Nobody does anything. West now plays the high diamond (9) and the contract is one off. TD !

If the TD starts investigating South will say that he is quite sure that the diamonds are split and that he has the idea that ♥Q is in East. West will say that South cannot have the ♥Q, because he wouldn't risk to lose his contract. In that case of course he has to play a high diamond and lead a heart.

This is not the common case, in which the remark 'let us continue' wakes up the claiming defender and creates UI. It is the claim itself that could have woken up partner. Having the ♦6 as a potential winner West sees two winners in his own hand. This is not a case, in which asking peer players what they would do helps at all. Of course everybody will play the 9 then. But not in the decision of the TD: award an adjusted score of 3NT made.

S 21)

		♠ 10 8 5	Board 14 E/none
		♥ 9 8 5 4	
		♦ A Q 7	
		♣ Q 5 2	
♠	Q 9 6	N W E S	♠ A 4
♥	Q 10 3		♥ K J 6 2
♦	10 8 6 3		♦ J 9 5
♣	K 10 6		♣ A 8 7 3
		♠ K J 7 3 2	
		♥ A 7	
		♦ K 4 2	
		♣ J 9 4	

South opens 1♠ OOT. TD!

West does not accept and the auction restarts:

W	N	E	S
			1♠
		1♣	1♠

a)

1NT	2♠		
-----	----	--	--

North did not understand that he has to pass once. TD!

b)

1NT	2♠	P	
-----	----	---	--

Only now the players discover that North should have passed as explained by the TD.
TD!

- a) L37B applies, the 2♠ bid is cancelled and UI for South. Both players of the NS side have to pass further on. Very likely a lead penalty will be imposed.
- b) L37A tells that the inadmissible 2♠ is accepted now. The auction and play continues normally from here.

S 22)

	♠ J 10	Board 7 S/all
	♥ 9 8 7 6	
	♦ K 7	
	♣ A K 10 4 3	
♠ 9 6 4 3 2	N	♠ 5
♥ ---	W E	♥ J 10 3 2
♦ A 9 6 3	S	♦ Q J 8 5 4
♣ J 8 5 2		♣ 9 7 6
	♠ A K Q 8 7	
	♥ A K Q 5 4	
	♦ 10 2	
	♣ Q	

W	N	E	S
			1♠
P	2♣	P	3♥
P	4♦	P	6♥
All pass			

- a) West leads ♦ A and then ♦ 3 after which declarer claims.
- b) As soon as West leads the ♦ A to the first trick declarer claims.
- c) West leads ♦ A and then plays the ♠ 6 after which declarer claims.

Discuss with the same variations what decision to make if ♥ 5 and ♥ 10 are switched between South and East.

There is no escape but to decide that declarer is 1 down in all three cases. If LHO does not play a diamond in trick 2 it is reasonable to allow declarer to enter dummy with the ♦ K but he needs to get there twice. There is a good reason to allow him the slam if LHO continues with a club in trick 2.

Discussion

With the two cards switched he only needs one entry. And if we agree with appointing ♦ K as the first entry to be used declarer makes his contract even if West plays a spade in trick 2.

S 23)

		♠ J 9	Board 5 N/NS
		♥ 6	
		♦ K 8 6 5 3	
		♣ Q J 10 9 3	
♠ K 10 7 6 5 4 3	W	N	♠ A Q
♥ 10 4			♥ K 9 8 3 2
♦ 2			♦ A J 10 9
♣ A 7 2			♣ 8 6
		♠ 8 2	
		♥ A Q J 7 5	
		♦ Q 7 4	
		♣ K 5 4	

W	N	E	S
	P	1♥	P
1♠	1NT	2♦	P
2♠	P	P	3♣
All pass			

East leads the ♠A OOT. South does not want to become dummy nor does he accept the lead. He forbids a spade lead from West.

- West leads ♦2 for South's queen. South leads ♣4 for the ace. South now calls the TD back and asks him whether West is allowed to play spades?
- West leads ♦2 for South's queen. South leads ♣4 for the ace and West plays a small spade. South now calls the TD back and asks him whether West is allowed to play spades?

Hopefully the TD has explained clearly the status of the ♠A, West is not allowed to know that this card is with his partner. Playing a spade at this moment is not allowed if West has a logical alternative. And shouldn't we consider a heart back complying with the definition of a LA?

Of course the answer by the TD is that West decides for himself what to play and that South has to call him back at the end of play if he considers the play of a spade not to be right.

S 24)

	♠ J 6 4	
	♥ J 8 5	
	♦ 10 9 4 2	
	♣ J 10 8	
♠ A 9 3	N	♠ K Q 2
♥ 10	W	♥ 7 6 4 3 2
♦ A Q J 8 7 5	E	♦ K 6 3
♣ A Q 3	S	♣ 9 4
	♠ 10 8 7 5	
	♥ A K Q 9	
	♦ ---	
	♣ K 7 6 5 2	

West is declarer in 3NT and gets the ♣J lead. He wins the ♣Q and plays a small diamond to the K. When South shows out he claims for 9 tricks: three in spades, four diamonds and two clubs. When entering the result he suddenly realises that he has 6 diamond tricks and calls the TD.

- a) During the investigation by the TD he will tell that noticing the 10 and 9 played by North of course he sees the 87 being high.
- b) Switch the ♦8 and 6 between West and East. Now West will say that seeing the 10 and 9 being played he for sure will count the suit again and understand that only 4 diamonds were missing.

- a) A good enough argument, allow West 11 tricks.
- b) Not good enough; ‘of course’ North still has the ♦8 left (though I have to admit that playing a further diamond after collecting 9 tricks can’t harm).

S 25)

Screens are in use

		♠ 3	Board 1 N/none
		♥ Q 10 9 8 2	
		♦ J 10 9	
		♣ A J 10 2	
♠ 9 7 6 4	N W E S	♠ K Q J 8	
♥ A 7 5 4		♥ K	
♦ Q 3		♦ A 8 7 4	
♣ 8 7 3		♣ K Q 5 4	
		♠ A 10 5 2	
		♥ J 6 3	
		♦ K 6 5 2	
		♣ 9 6	

W	N	E	S
	P	1♣	

The TD is called by West; he tells the following: “South took out the pass card and it was almost free on the tray. In the meantime I myself took out the 1♥ card, also visible. South then replaced the pass for 1NT. Can he do that?”.

If asked, South will admit it and when asked about the meaning of 1NT he will say that it is weak showing both majors, which is also shown on the convention card. West then passes.

South did not make a call yet, regulations say that the bidding card needs to be released on the tray. But unless the mistake in the bidding is obvious (L25A or a clear change of mind mistake) this behaviour should strongly be condemned. Let us hope the TD did so.

Furthermore the information arising from seeing the 1♥-bid is UI for South.