# Split Scores

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# Split scores' Introduction

In general, when we award an adjusted score, be it assigned or artificial, that score is balanced, meaning that the score of one line is the opposite of the score of the opposing line (NS +620, EW -620).

This reflects the fact that what we take from the offending side we give to the non-offenders: so the damage is balanced by the redress.

A split score is an artificial or assigned adjustment that does not balance: we award such scores when required: sometimes as specifically dictated by the Laws, at other times by complicated situations.

The principle of a split score ruling is to treat the two sides as separate entities, looking at each side's outcome independently of the other. This happens when:

# Split scores' Introduction

- Here is where the Laws specifically call for a split score to be awarded:
- One pair is damaged by an infraction committed by the opponents, but also contributed to its own damage in a way unrelated to the opponents' infraction. LAW 12C1e:
- e) If, subsequent to the irregularity, the non-offending side has contributed to its own damage by an extremely serious error (unrelated to the infraction) or by a gambling action, which if unsuccessful it might have hoped to recover through rectification, then:
- The offending side is awarded the score it would have been allotted as the consequence of rectifying its infraction.
- The non-offending side does not receive relief for such part of its damage as is self-inflicted.

Translating from bridge law jargon:

If, after the irregularity (**subsequent**), the non-offending side does something very silly that is not actually related to the infraction or give themselves a double shot for example hoping that the ruling will save them if it fails:

The offending side is awarded the score awarded by TD ruling

The non-offending side receives the TD ruling less the what they did to themselves!

# Split scores' Introduction

- And not quite so explicitly:
- Both pairs are at fault. In such cases, a pair may not have been damaged the opponents, but did commit an infraction which calls for the final score to be adjusted. The simplest example is a disciplinary adjustment.
- **Both pairs are innocent.** The easiest case is a loud comment made at a nearby table which leads to a board to be cancelled.
- Another example is a TD error.

# 'Score Adjustment' Basic principle

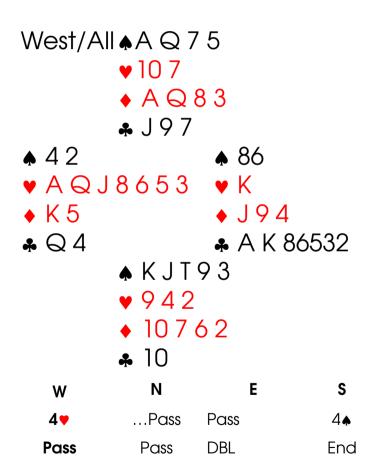
The objective of score adjustment is to redress damage to a non-offending side and to take away any advantage gained by an offending side through its infraction.

- Is this a single objective or two objectives?
- If there are two objectives, can the different criteria sometimes lead to different adjustments?

# Removal of an Offender's Advantage Pertinent Laws

- Law 11A "...taking away any accrued advantage"
- Law 16B3 "...has resulted in an advantage for the offender"
- Law 21B3 "...the Director judges that the offending side gained an advantage"
- Law 43B3 "...taking away that advantage"
- Law 72C "...has obtained an advantage through the irregularity"
- Also Law 75A

# A classic consequent-subsequent case



North hesitates and the TD ruling process discovers PASS by South to be a logical alternative.

At the other table 4 was played for minus one. NS -100.

Let's consider the impact of a few scenarios:

- a) East revokes at trick 1 by discarding
- b) East revokes at trick 1 & 2 (ruffs)
- c) East follows but discards a ◆ at trick 2

# To split or not to split considerations

```
▲ A Q 7 5
        v 10 7
        ◆ A Q 8 3
        ♣ J 9 7
4 4 2
                 ♦ 86
♥ A Q J 8 6 5 3 ♥ K
♦ K 5

♦ J 9 4

. Q 4
                 ♣ A K 86532
        ▲ KJT93
        • 942
        10762
        . 10
       W
            ...Pass Pass
                 DBL
      Pass
             Pass
                         End
```

ALWAYS start with the question Was the action related to the infraction?

Scenario a) & b)

A revoke in the play cannot b

A revoke in the play cannot be related to a calling tempo infraction.

Scenario c)

In itself a ◆ discard is not related to the calling tempo infraction. But also consider, Was it an extremely serious error by the defender? POLL

NB Your benchmark of serious error is a revoke and a bad discard in general should not be a "serious error".

### **HOWEVER**

```
♠ A Q 7 5
      v 10 7
      ♦AKQ8
      ♣ J 97
4 4 2
             $ 86
♥AQJ8653 ♥K
             ♦ 5
♣ Q 4 2
             ♣ A K 8 653
      ♠ KJT93
      9 9 4 2
      ♦ 10762
      . 10
             Ε
  W
      ...Pass Pass
  4 🕶
           DBL
  Pass
       Pass
                 End
```

#### **EVEN THOUGH**

...a bad discard in general should not be a "serious error".

Pitching a diamond holding J 9 4 3 and

looking at AKQ8 Would be!

## All scenarios - NS

```
▲ A Q 7 5
        • 10 7
        ◆ A Q 8 3
        4 J 9 7
4 4 2
                 № 86
♥ A Q J 8 6 5 3
♦ K 5
                 → J 9 4
* Q 4
                 ♣ A K 86532
        ▲ KJT93
        9 9 4 2
        10762
        . 10
            ...Pass Pass
             Pass
                 DBL
                         End
      Pass
```

NS score only what would have happened without the infraction. Without the infraction (South's  $4 \clubsuit$ ) EW would have played  $4 \heartsuit$ , a contract which makes on all leads except a spade. Specifically, when South gets in after the first or the second round of spades, he must switch to a diamond.

TD must then poll to weight the outcome based on North's lead. If two out of ten would lead a spade.

By giving some benefit of the doubt to the non offenders The outcome tends to: NS lose 9/10 of 11 IMPs, and win 1/10 of 5 IMPs = -9 IMPs.

# Scenario a) - EW

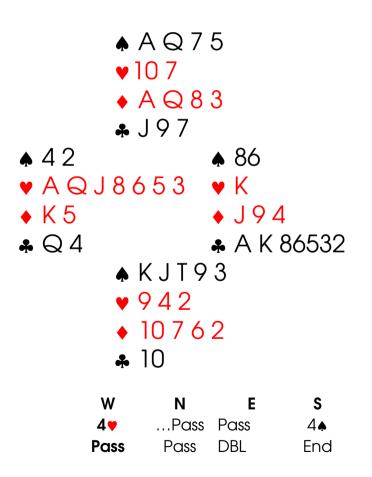
```
▲ A Q 7 5
        v 10 7
        ◆ A Q 8 3
        ♣ J 9 7
4 4 2
                 № 86
♥ A Q J 8 6 5 3 ♥ K
♦ K 5
                 → J 9 4
♣ Q 4
                ♣ A K 86532
        ▲ KJT93
        9 4 2
        • 10762
        . 10
            ...Pass Pass
            Pass
                 DBL
                         End
      Pass
```

Without the infraction, EW would gave gained 9 IMPs

East's revoke cost a penalty trick, which led to 4 being made: EW lost 13 IMPs, that is 4 IMPs more than the damage from the infraction.

EW receive +5 IMPs (the redress from to the opponent's infraction, less the self-inflicted damage).

# Scenario b) - EW



#### **B.** No Automatic Trick Adjustment

There is no automatic trick adjustment following ar established revoke (but see Law 64C) if:

it is a subsequent revoke in the same suit by the same player, the first revoke having been established.

#### C. Redress of Damage

- When, after any established revoke, including those not subject to trick adjustment, the Director deems that the nonoffending side is insufficiently compensated by this Law for the damage caused, he shall assign an adjusted score.
- (1) After repeated revokes by the same player in the same suit (see B2 above), the Director adjusts the score if the non-offending side would likely have made more tricks had one or more of the subsequent revokes not occurred.

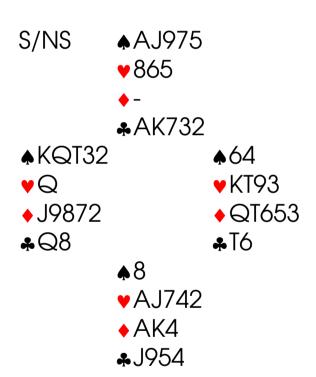
In this specific case, the second revoke did not cause any extra damage to NS, thus there is no score adjustment further than the penalty trick. Same calculation as in a).

# Scenario c) - EW

```
▲ A Q 7 5
        v 10 7
        ♦ A Q 8 3
        ♣ J 9 7
4 4 2
                 $ 86
♥ A Q J 8 6 5 3 ♥ K
♦ K 5
                 → J 9 4
♣ Q 4
                 ♣ A K 86532
        ▲ KJT93
        9 9 4 2
        ♦ 10762
        . 10
       W
              Ν
       4 🕶
            ...Pass Pass
      Pass
             Pass
                 DBL
                         End
```

In case you consider pitching a diamond a serious error, you work out the calculation as in a) and b), otherwise you assign a balanced adjusted score according to the poll's result: NS +9 IMPs, EW -9 IMPs.

# Removal of Advantage – Case 1



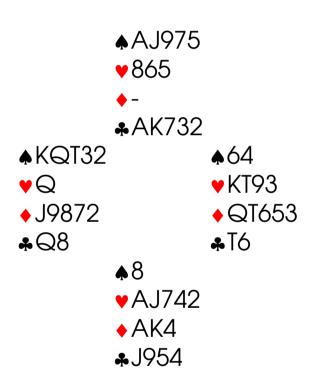
West	North	East	South
-	-	-	1♥
<b>2</b> ♥¹	<del>1♠</del> ²		
	<b>2</b> ♠³	Pass	Pass
Pass			

- 1. Explained by East as any weak 2-suiter.
- 2. North did not see West's 2♥ bid and bid before any explanation was given.
- 3. TD ruled replacement call specified the same denomination and play continued.

Result: N/S +140

The TD was then called by NS for the non-alert

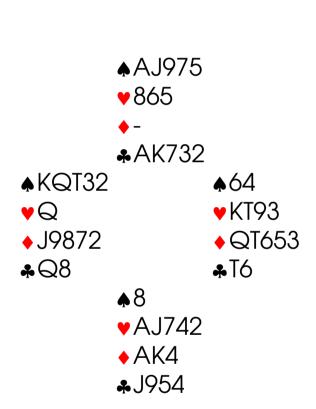
# Removal of Advantage - Case 1 General considerations



West	North	East	South
- O - 1	-	-	] ♥
<b>2</b> ♥¹	<del>1♠</del> ² 2♠³	Pass	Pass
Pass	_ <i>r</i>	. 5.00	. 3.00

There are two separate infractions: East's misexplanation and North's insufficient 1S bid.

# Removal of Advantage – Case 1 NS



West	North	East	South
-	-	-	]♥
<b>2</b> ♥¹	<del>1•</del> 2		
	<b>2</b> ♠³	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Remove any advantage EW gained from the misinformation, but DO NOT give redress to NS for their self-inflicted mistakes. NS did not bid game - South was confused about North's 2S replacement call and took the chance to pass.

# Removal of Advantage – Case 1 EW

<ul><li>★KQT32</li><li>♥Q</li><li>◆J9872</li><li>♣Q8</li></ul>	<ul><li>AJ975</li><li>▼865</li><li>←-</li><li>AK732</li><li>AB</li><li>▼AJ742</li><li>AK4</li></ul>	<ul><li>♠64</li><li>♥KT93</li><li>◆QT653</li><li>♣T6</li></ul>
	-	
	◆AK4 ♣J954	

West	North	East	South
-	-	-	1♥
<b>2</b> ♥¹	<b>1</b> ♠²		
	<b>2</b> ♠³	Pass	Pass
Pass			

However, the reason North initially bid spades was due solely to the misinformation. Without the misexplanation, there are various possible scores and most are worse than -140 to EW.

Even after the misexplanation, NS would still reach game had North's not made an insufficient bid.

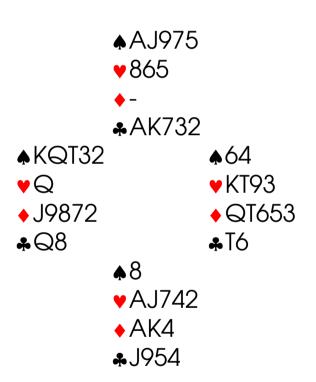
# This case is not a "consequent-subsequent" situation

# General principle

The «consequent-subsequent» does not apply, yet you award a split score.

Two sides have made separate, independent infractions (NS's covered by Law 75B and EW's by Law 16B).

# Scoring up - MPs



#### Here is the frequency table

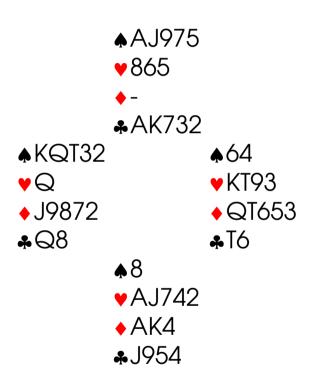
<u>Score</u>	Frequency	MPs
1370	5	194
650	23	166
620	41	102
600	7	54
140	1	46
-100	12	33
-200	11	10

# Scoring up - MPs

NS keep their score: 46 MPs

EW - Poll to determine the possible outcomes and their relative weightings.

Say EW scores to be» -1370 2/10, -650 5/10, -600 2/10 and +100 1/10.



<u>Score</u>	Frequency	MPs
1370	<mark>5.2</mark>	193.8
<mark>650</mark>	<mark>23.5</mark>	165.1
620	41	100.6
<mark>600</mark>	<mark>7.2</mark>	52.4
<mark>-100</mark>	<mark>12.1</mark>	33.1
-200	11	10

EW would get 62.9 MPs

# Scoring up - IMPs

The result at the other table is NS (Team A) -100 (6  $\checkmark$  -1).

NS keep their score of + 6 IMPs

EW The poll determined: EW would be -1370 2/10, -650 5/10, -600 2/10 and +100 1/10.

	<ul><li>AJ975</li><li>▼865</li><li>◆-</li><li>AK732</li></ul>	
<ul><li>★KQT32</li><li>♥Q</li><li>◆J9872</li><li>♣Q8</li></ul>		<ul><li>♠64</li><li>♥KT93</li><li>◆QT653</li><li>♣T6</li></ul>
	<ul><li>♠8</li><li>♥AJ742</li><li>♠AK4</li><li>♣J954</li></ul>	

EW score	Frequency	IMPs
-1370	2	-16
- 650	5	-13
- 600	2	-12
+ 100	1	0

**EW would get -12 IMPs** 

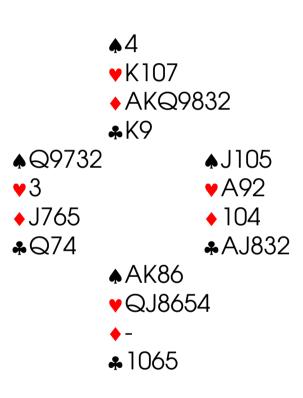
# Removal of Advantage – Case 2

			West	North	East	South
			-	-	Pass	1♥
	<b>4</b> 4		Pass	2♦	Pass	2♠
	<b>v</b> K107		Pass	3♣	Pass	3♥
	♦AKQ9	832	Pass	4NT	Pass	5 <b>.</b>
	<b>.</b> ⊀9		Pass	5♥	All Pass	
<b>♦</b> Q9732		<b>♦</b> J105				
<b>v</b> 3		<b>♥</b> A92	Lead: 🐣	4		
♦J765		♦ 104	Result:	5 <b>♥</b> S -1		
<b>♣</b> Q74		♣AJ832	Result a	it the othe	er table: 4 🔻	made four
	♠AK86					
	<b>♥</b> QJ865	54	2♦ was	not game	forcing	
	<b>•</b> -		3♣ was	artificial a	and game f	orcing by agr
						. –

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e forcing by agreement (not alerted) North spoke up before the lead. East called the Director to explain that if 3. had been alerted, East would have doubled it.

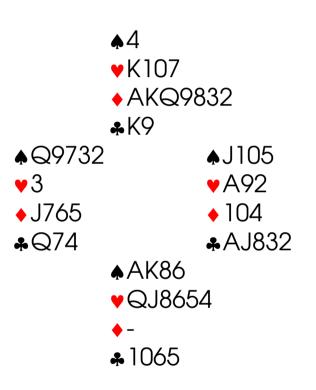
# Removal of Advantage – Case 2 NS



There are three points to consider:

- a) Would East double 3. if it had been alerted?
- b) Would NS drive to the five level if 3. had been doubled?
- c) What lead would EW receive without the double?
- a) Five polled players found it reasonable to assume without an alert that 3. was natural or naturalish and said it was more attractive to double with an alert (some doubled in either case). One of them did not double.
- b) Three polled players were definite they would not drive to the five-level had 3. been doubled.
- c) Without the double, three led a club anyhow, one led a trump and one led a spade.

# Removal of Advantage – Case 2 NS



This leads to a weighted score being awarded to NS, in response to the question:

**«What would have happened without EW's infraction».** 

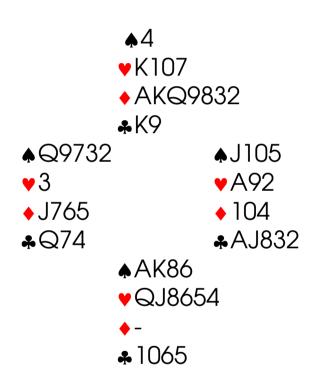
# Removal of Advantage – Case 2 NS

```
♣4
★K107
♠AKQ9832
♣K9
♠Q9732
♣J105
◆3
◆A92
◆J765
◆104
♣AJ832
♣AK86
♥QJ8654
◆-
♣1065
```

Giving the non-offenders benefit of the doubt, it seems reasonable to assume NS would bid to the five level 6/10 of the times, receiving the club lead 4/5 of the times, which translates into:

- 20% +650
- 48% -100 (round to 50%)
- 32% +620 (round to 30%)

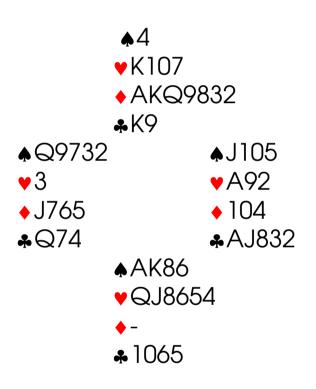
# Scoring up NS - MPs



#### Frequency table including table result

<u>Score</u>	Frequency	MPs
650	21	178
620	68	89
-100	11	10

# Scoring up NS - MPs



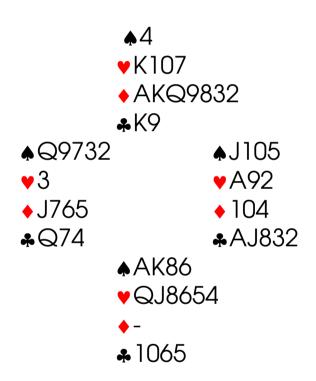
#### Here is the frequency table after the weighting

<u>Score</u>	Frequency	MPs
650	20.2	178.8
620	68.3	90.3
-100	11.5	10.5

NS get 68.1 MPs

# Scoring up NS - IMPs

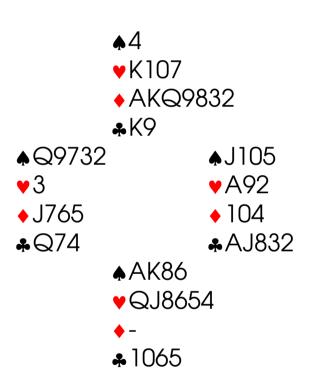
Teams – at the other table NS played 4♥ making 10 tricks after the club lead



<u>Score</u>	Frequency	NS IMPs
650	2	+1
620	3	0
-100	5	-12

NS get -6 IMPs

# Removal of Advantage – Case 2 EW

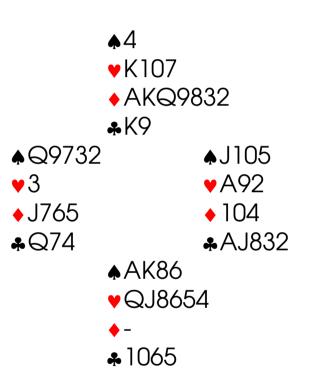


East's comments are unauthorised to West, so approach the problem differently. Is there a Logical Alternative (LA) to leading a club?

The poll: Five players were asked - three led a club, one led a trump, and one led a spade.

YES there is an alternative to leading a club

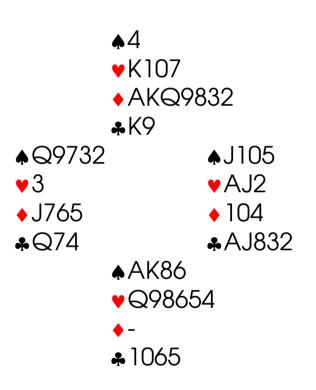
# Removal of Advantage – Case 2 EW



In use of unathorised information cases, you must not weight the logical alternatives to include the action you are removing (ie the lead of a club), so the score assigned to EW is 5♥ making.

If you look back at the frequency, you'll see that EW would get 20 MPs or lose 1 IMP.

# Removal of Advantage – Case 2a EW



Change the layout - say we switch the ♥9 & ♥J

Even without a club lead, South must avoid losing two trumps tricks to bring home the contract.

When a play line is not related to the UI, the assigned score may be weighted.

This should lead the TD to conduct another poll to determine the calculation % chance of getting it right.

You now know the principle: you can exercise at home, calculation included in both MPs and IMPs cases.

## **BOTH SIDES NOT AT FAULT – Law 16D**

#### D. Extraneous Information from Other Sources

- When a player accidentally receives extraneous information about a board he is playing or has yet to play, as by looking at the wrong hand; by overhearing calls, results or remarks; by seeing cards at another table; or by seeing a card belonging to another player at his own table before the auction begins (see also Law 13A), the Director should be notified forthwith, preferably by the recipient of the information.
- 2. If the Director considers that the information would likely interfere with normal play he may, before any call has been made:
- (b) adjust the players' positions at the table, if the type of contest and scoring permit, so that the player with information about one hand will hold that hand;
- (c) if the form of competition allows of it order the board redealt for those contestants;
- (d) allow completion of the play of the board standing ready to award an adjusted score if he judges that the extraneous information affected the result;
- (e) award an adjusted score (for team play see Law 86B).
- 1. If such extraneous information is received after the first call in the auction has been made and before completion of the play of the board the Director proceeds as in 2(c) or 2(d) above.

# BOTH SIDES NOT AT FAULT – Law 16D

West	North	East	South
		Pass	1♥
3♠	4	5♠	6*
Pass	<mark>???</mark>		

While North is thinking, at a nearby table someone shouts: "Why the hell didn't you bid seven hearts? It was obvious thirteen tricks were there for the taking". The TD is called, tells the players finish the hand and eventually EW sacrificed in 7♠ going down four; NS +1100. At the other table EW had sacrificed in 5♠x, NS +500.

# **GENERAL CONSIDERATION**

**•** 5

West	North	East	South
		Pass	1♥
3♠	4.	5♠	6 <b>.</b>
Pass	???		

♣ A K J 10 8

NS had already won IMPs by bidding to 6♥, even if they stopped there and EW eventually sacrificed in 6♠.

The TD must lead a poll asking players :

## TD WORK - 1

E/All	♠ void	
	A K 9	8 5
	♦ A Q 8	3 2
	<b>♣</b> Q 7 4	
♠ A Q J	984	♠ K 6 5 3 2
<b>y</b> 4		<b>v</b> 3 2
♦ K J 10	76	<ul><li>9 4</li></ul>
<b>♣</b> Q 4		<b>♣</b> 6532
	<b>▲</b> 10 7	
	• Q J 10	76
	<b>♦</b> 5	
	♣ A K J	10 8

West	North	East	South
		Pass	1♥
3♠	4	5♠	6*
Pass	???		

- a) What would you bid over 6.
- b) Say North bids 6♥, do you think either East or West would save over it (I'm simplifying: in reality, you should go to two different groups of experts giving them either East's or West's cards, and this principle applies to all following points)?
- c) Say either East or West sacrifice over 6♥, how likely is for NS to bid 7♥?
- d) Say North bids 7♥, do you think either East or West would save over it?
- e) Say North bids 6 ♦ , how do you see the possible developments?

## TD WORK - 2

West	North	East	South
		Pass	1♥
3♠	4.	5♠	6 <b>.</b>
Pass	???		

For argument's sake, I'll make it simple, assuming all "North" would bid 7♥, but I'm pretty sure that in real life you would not be that lucky.

So our first data is: 10 out of 10 would bid 7♥ over 6♣.

The second data would be: 7 out ten, be it either East or West, would save over 7.

## TD WORK - 3

West	North	East	South
		Pass	1♥
3♠	4	5♠	6 <b>.</b>
Pass	???		

When you have a large field playing duplicated boards, look at the frequencies but be sure to also get information about how the auction went at other tables, because to be truly comparable, other results must have obtained under similar circumstances.

You do it, and get a third data, which confirms what you achieved from the polls.

# **Conclusion - NS**

West	North	East	South
		Pass	1♥
3♠	4.	5♠	6 <b>.</b>
Pass	???		

Whenever you apply the result of a poll to an assigned score, give some benefit of the doubt to the non offenders

NS receive 4/10 of +17 IMPs and 6/10 of +12 = NS + 14 IMPs

# **Conclusion - EW**

West	North	East	South
		Pass	1♥
3♠	4	5♠	6 <b>♣</b>
Pass	???		

Award giving some benefit of the doubt to EW too.

EW receive 2/10 of -17 IMPs and 8/10 of -12 = EW - 13 IMPs

# Both pairs at fault

West	North	East	South
	1NT	Pass	3NT
End			

Teams.

East led the ◆J, and declarer made ten tricks.

NS (Team A) + 430.

In the other room, thinking they were inspecting the previous board, North pulled out West's cards and viceversa, and so did South and East. The board was cancelled.

# First scenario

West	North	East	South
	1NT	Pass	3NT
End			

Team B would also open 1NT, so the result is decided by the spade guess. Without clues declarer will guess correctly 50%.

Both pairs are at fault, so award some benefit of the doubt against both teams.

Team A would score as Team B would guess 60% of the times, and team B would score as it would guess 40% of the times.

Team A + 4 IMPs Team B – 6 IMPs

# Second scenario

West	North	East	South
	1*	Pass	1NT
Pass	2 <b>.</b> (Relay)	Pass	2 <b>♦</b> (8/10 no majors)
Pass	3NT	End	

Team B play Precision, you learn the bidding would have been as the diagram.

West would lead a high heart and the defenders to cash the first five tricks. One down.

This is NOT a case for a split score, Team A would have won 10 IMPs, but a penalty to both sides may lead to a split score in effect (always see the Conditions of Contest for penalty amounts).

# A classic: Law 11

West	North	East	South
		1 (OOT)	
	2♦	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♥	Pass	4*
Pass	4•	Pass	5♥
Pass	6♥	End	

North had not seen East's bid out of turn, and the players agreed to the call being taken back.

You are only called at the end of the auction.

Unable to do anything about the initial infraction at the moment, you offer South the option to prohibit the lead of a specified suit and South chose to forbid a ♠ lead. After a ♦ lead, South conceded the ♣A and made the contract.

Is it the end of the story?

## Law 11A and 9B1a & 9B1b

#### LAW 11 - FORFEITURE OF THE RIGHT TO RECTIFICATION

#### A. Action by Non-Offending Side

• The right to rectification of an irregularity may be forfeited if either member of the nonoffending side takes any action before summoning the Director. If a side has gained through subsequent action taken by an opponent in ignorance of the relevant provisions of the law, the Director adjusts only that side's score by taking away any accrued advantage. The other side retains the score achieved at the table.

#### **B.** After Attention Is Drawn to an Irregularity

- 1. (a) The Director should be summoned at once when attention is drawn to an irregularity.
- (b) Any player, including dummy, may summon the Director after attention has been drawn to an irregularity.

# A classic: Law 11

West	North	East	South
		1 (OOT)	
	2♦	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♥	Pass	4*
Pass	4•	Pass	5♥
Pass	6♥	End	

Had the TD been summoned at the time of the infraction, East might have elected to bid 2S legally.

Declarer only decided to call the Director after the auction ended.

The non-offending side became an offender under Law 9A, and under 11A the advantage should be taken away.

# A classic: Law 11

West	North	East	South
		1 (OOT)	
	2♦	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♥	Pass	4.
Pass	4•	Pass	5♥
Pass	6♥	End	

EW keep the table result (Law 11 and 9A were violated)

NS are awarded a score which takes into account the probability of West bidding 2♠.

That score is not straightforward: you should poll:

- a) Would you have bid 2♠ here?
- b) If W bids NS 2♠, how might the auction proceed?

I leave it to you: enjoy!