



## EUROPEAN BRIDGE LEAGUE

### 4<sup>th</sup> EBL TOURNAMENT DIRECTORS COURSE

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#### Laws 61 – 64

1. A revoke occurs when a player does play another card than he should according to the laws. Not following suit or not complying with a lead or play penalty when this had been possible, creates a revoke.
2. In the EBL (and NBOs thereof) defenders are not allowed to ask each other about a revoke. 'Ask' should not be taken literally here: a defender may not intentionally draw attention to a revoke from his partner's side. Examples are: gestures ('the slightest movement of an eyelid'), not continuing play with the card left faced up on the table.
3. Dummy may ask declarer (if his rights are not reduced; L 43) but not defenders. Otherwise players may ask each other. This creates a problem when a defender asks declarer about as possible revoke when there is one outstanding card not played. Such a question might awake his partner. When it is clearly the intention to do so, it should be dealt with as asking partner, but this cannot be an automatic presumption (difficult so).
4. If such a question from partner is not allowed and a revoke occurred a legal card has to be played (L 62 applies) – in case of a defender the withdrawn card becomes a (major) penalty card – and the penalty provisions for an established revoke apply, for which the trick in which the revoke occurred is supposed to contain the first played card from the revoking player.
5. No player is required to call attention to a revoke made by another player. But as soon as attention is drawn the TD should be called. As long as it can be corrected a player needs to draw attention to a revoke he made himself if he becomes aware of it.
6. There is no penalty for a second revoke in the same suit by the same player. But a player should not intentionally revoke a second time.
7. A revoke becomes established when the offending side plays to the next trick, even when such play is illegal and has to be withdrawn.
8. When attention is drawn to a non-established revoke it has to be corrected. Cards played after the revoke by the non-offending side may be retracted. If this happens and the offending side did play as well, that card may be retracted also, but it becomes a (major) penalty card if the offender is defender.
9. A revoke in the 12<sup>th</sup> trick has to be corrected (doesn't become established) if discovered before all the cards are back in the board. There is UI for the partner if

- the revoke was made by a defender playing the second card to the trick. This results in a restriction: if he has a choice he should play the most unfavorable card unless such play would be irrational.
10. The penalty for an established revoke can't be higher than the number of tricks won from the moment of the revoke on. When the offender won the trick in which he revoked or won a trick with a card he could legally have played when he revoked the penalty is 2 tricks. Otherwise there is a 1-trick penalty.
  11. Read L 64 B, dealing with established revokes which are not penalized. It appears that the phrase: 'dummy cannot revoke' is wrong (see the definition in 1). One should say that such a revoke is not punishable. If there is a card missing in dummy that should have been played in order to follow suit that creates a revoke as well.
  12. A side should never gain by revoking itself. That is why 64C exists. If the penalty for a revoke offers not enough compensation for the non-offending side or if there is no penalty for a revoke when the revoker did win one or more extra tricks the TD needs to give an adjusted score. I do not know of a case in which this had to be an artificial score.
  13. Combined with L 81 C6 this implies that even if the non-offending side doesn't become aware of the revoke but the TD does, an assigned adjusted score has to be given.
  14. This adjusted score needs to be based on the number of tricks the non-offending side would have won had the revoke not occurred. So the adjusted score is equity oriented without applying penalty tricks anymore.

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