



## EUROPEAN BRIDGE LEAGUE

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

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Tabiano di Salsomaggiore Terme, Italy

### SCREEN PROCEDURES

The screen is placed diagonally across the table in such fashion that North and East, South and West are screen-mates. The board is placed in the middle of a moveable tray. The screen is closed so that the bidding tray can just pass under it. The players now remove their cards from the board.

Starting with the dealer, players place bidding cards silently on their section of the tray, from the extreme left-hand edge, neatly overlapping so that all calls are visible and faced towards partner. A call is considered to have been made when a player releases it onto the tray (but, subject to provisions elsewhere in these regulations, Law 25 may apply).

North and South pass the tray under the screen after their screen-mate has called, and the tray should be placed so that all calls are visible on the other side. There shall be no oral communication at the table during the auction period. After the final pass, players remove their bidding cards.

The opening lead shall be made face-down. Opening leader's screen-mate announces that the lead has been made; a defender raises the screen, and play proceeds. The screen is raised only to a level that permits all players to see all the cards.

1.1 The Laws of Duplicate Contract Bridge 1997 apply except as specified below:

LAW 9A2(b)(1); LAW 42b(3); LAW 43A(1)(b):

Dummy may call attention to a defender's card prematurely exposed by his screen-mate. But he should try to avoid exposure of a premature opening lead and to delay opening the screen.

LAW 20:

Review of the Auction:

Until the bidding cards are removed from the tray, a player obtains a review of the auction by inspecting them. At trick one, when a player is still entitled to obtain a review and an inspection of the bidding cards is no longer feasible, a player obtains a written review of the auction from his screen-mate (see 2 below).

Explanation of calls:

1. During the Auction: At any time a player may request, in writing, of his screen-mate a full explanation of an opponent's call. The reply, also, is in writing.
2. During the Play Period: Questions during the play period should be in writing with the aperture closed. The screen is raised after the response has been made in writing.
3. At no time prior to completion of the hand is there communication between a player on one side of the screen and a player on the other side of the screen concerning the auction or explanations given and received.

LAWS 25 THROUGH 32; LAWS 36 THROUGH 39:

The principle in the WBF Code of Practice applies. When it is possible to pass only the calls in the legal auction through the screen (after any rectification) there are no penalties and players on the other side of the screen are not informed of any occurrence. For infractions covered by these laws, the following procedures are used:

A. Tray not Passed:

Before the tray is passed, the offender's screen-mate, or the offender himself, shall call attention to the infraction and summon the Director. The Director shall see that the infraction is rectified without penalty. Infringing calls shall not be accepted and any irregularity is also to be rectified.

B. Both Sides at Fault:

When the infringing call is nonetheless passed across the screen, both sides being at fault (as when either player commits a bidding infraction and the proper player - North or South - moves the tray before rectification), both players on the other side of the screen are responsible for calling attention to the infraction and summoning the Director. The Director shall return the tray to the offending players for rectification of the irregularity without penalty. These infringing calls may not be accepted.

C. Only One Side at Fault:

When the infringing call is passed across the screen with only one side at fault (the player who committed the bidding infraction - East or West - also moved the tray improperly), both players on the other side of the screen are responsible for calling attention to the infraction and summoning the Director. The Director shall return the tray to the offending player for rectification of the irregularity and the appropriate penalty is applied. These calls may not be accepted.

D. Irregularity not Noticed:

When the infringing call is passed across the screen, and neither player there draws attention to it, the tray eventually being returned to the side of the screen where the bidding irregularity was committed, the auction stands without penalty or rectification. However, in the case of an inadmissible call, Law 35 applies.

E. Information - Authorized or not:

(i) Information from withdrawn calls is unauthorized for any partnerships at fault but authorized for a player or partnership that has committed no irregularity. If the Director determines that the unauthorized information from withdrawn calls precludes normal bidding, he shall award an artificial adjusted score.

(ii) If a player sees a call on the tray that he has not previously observed because the tray did not pass fully under the screen, the information is authorized and may be used until LHO has called.

LAW 33:

The subsequent call is cancelled without penalty.

LAW 40:

Alerts:

When an alertable call is made the player alerts his screen-mate. When the tray is passed, both players should immediately alert partner's alertable call.

LAW 41A:

Opening Lead out of Turn:

The offender's screen-mate should attempt to prevent any opening lead out of turn. A face down lead out of turn is retracted without penalty. A faced opening lead out of turn is retracted without penalty if the screen has not been raised. When the screen has been raised after a faced opening lead out of turn - through no fault of the declaring side:

a) and the other side has not yet led face up, the lead is considered to be out of turn and Law 54 applies.

b) and, the other side has also led face up, the card becomes a major penalty card.

When the declaring side has incorrectly opened the screen, the lead is accepted. The Director shall award an adjusted score if he considers that the player who opened the screen could have known that it would be to his advantage to accept the lead.

LAW 73D:

During the auction period, after an opponent has acted quickly, it is proper to adjust the tempo back to normal by either delaying one's own call (place the bidding card faced, in front of, but not on the tray) or by waiting before passing the tray.

A delay of the bidding tray on one side of the screen of up to 15 seconds (at any time during the auction and whether or not out of tempo) shall not give rise to any inference of unauthorized information. Players are advised to vary the time the tray is passed so that pauses up to 15 seconds (or perhaps longer in unexpected situations) may be considered not to convey information.

LAW 76:

Spectators:

Spectators may not sit so they can see both sides of the screen.