



**EUROPEAN BRIDGE LEAGUE  
4<sup>th</sup> EBL TOURNAMENT DIRECTORS COURSE  
Tabiano (Italy) 2001**

**THE BRIDGE CLOCK**

**Session:** an extended period of play during which a number of boards, specified by the sponsoring organisation, is scheduled to be played.

**Round:** a part of a session played without progression of players.

**Start of Auction Period:** the auction period on a deal begins for a side when either partner looks at the face of his cards.

**Auction Period:** the period of time from the start to the end of the auction.

**Call Turn:** the correct time when it is a player's turn to bid (either if he is dealer or if the opponent to his right has bid regularly).

**Simultaneous Calls:** a call made simultaneously with one made by the player whose turn it was to call is deemed to be a subsequent call.

**Reserve the Right to Summon the Director:** information given to opponents after a presumed violation of article 16 (Unauthorised Information) has been committed.

**Immediate Summoning of the Director During the Auction:** must occur when there has been an irregularity in the bidding by one's opponent.

**End of Auction Period:** the auction period ends when all four players pass or when after three passes in rotation have followed any call the opening lead is faced.

**Screens:** when screens are used times are specified from the passage of the board trolley from the other side of the screen and from the opening of the screen itself.

**Start of Play:** when the lead card is played.

**Immediate Summoning of the Director During Play:** must occur when there has been an irregularity in the play by one's opponent or, when the dummy's cards are spread on the table, it is supposed that the dummy has used unauthorised information given to him by his partner.

**Turn of Play:** the correct time at which a player may play (either it is his turn to play or his RHO has already played).

**Simultaneous Plays:** a play made simultaneously with another player's play is deemed to be subsequent to it.

**Start of Play of Trick Taking:** when the first card of a trick is played.

**End of Trick Play:** when all four cards of the trick have been covered.

**Card Play by an Offending Side in the Successive Trick:** when a player of one side who has committed an irregularity in a previous trick plays or expresses a desire to play a card in a successive trick (irrespective of the fact that a player in the opposing side has played a card in the successive trick).

**Play by Both Sides in the Successive Trick:** when at least one player of each side has played a card in the successive trick.

**First Legal Opportunity:** the first legal opportunity to play a card occurs when in playing this card the player does not commit a revoke and therefore follows suit, discards or attacks in a trick after having won the previous trick.

**End of Play:** when all cards have been played, including the last trick, or when a player makes a special request or concedes.

**Immediate Summoning of the Director at the end of Play:** must occur when there has been an irregularity in play by one's opponent and this only becomes evident or is confirmed at the end of play, or when it is supposed that the declarer has used unauthorised information supplied by his partner during the auction.

**Opening of the Score and Recording of Score:** in no part of the Code does this element appear as a limit between the possibility to claim one's rights and to lose them.

**Agreement on Tricks Won:** the number of tricks won shall be agreed upon before all four hands have been returned to the board.

**Start of Auction of Successive Board:** begins for a side when one of its components looks at his cards.

**End of Round:** in general, a round ends when the Director gives the signal for the start of the following round; but if any table has not completed play by that time, the round continues for that table until there has been a progression of players.

**End of last Round and End of Session:** the last round of a session, and the session itself, ends for each table when play of all boards scheduled at that table has been completed, and when all scores have been entered on the proper scoring forms without objection.

**Request for Director's Opinion and/or Appeal Against Director's Decision:** unless otherwise specified, must take place within 30 minutes from the end of the session.

## BRIDGE TIMES

Article	Reference to Times
Definition	<b>Session: <i>the extended period of play during which a number of boards, specified by the sponsoring organisation, is scheduled to be played.</i></b>
Definition	<b>Round: <i>A part of a session played without progression of players.</i></b>
5A	Having once selected a compass direction, a player may change it <u>within a session only</u> upon instruction or with permission of the Director.
6A	<u>Before</u> play starts each pack is thoroughly shuffled.
6D1	There must be a new shuffle and a re-deal if it is ascertained <u>before the auction begins for both sides</u> (see Law 17A) that the cards have been incorrectly dealt or that a player could have seen the face of a card belonging to another hand.
6E1	The Director may instruct that the shuffle and deal be performed at each table <u>immediately before play starts.</u>
7A	When a board is to be played it is placed at the centre of the table <u>until play is completed.</u>
7B1	Each player counts his cards face down to be sure he has exactly 13; <u>after that, and before making a call,</u> he must inspect the face of his cards.
7B2	<u>During</u> play each player retains possession of his own cards, not permitting them to be mixed with those of any other player. No player shall touch any cards other than his own (but declarer may play dummy's cards in accordance with law 45) <u>during or after</u> play except by permission of the Director.
7C	Each player shall restore his original thirteen cards to the pocket corresponding to his compass position. <u>Thereafter</u> no hand shall be removed from the board unless a member of each side, or the Director, is present.
8B	<b>End of Round. <i>In general a round ends when the Director gives the signal for the start of the following round; but if any table has not completed play by that time, the round continues for that table until there has been a progression of players.</i></b>
8C	<b>End of Last Round and End of Session. <i>The last round of a session, and the session itself, ends for each table when play of all boards scheduled at that table has been completed, and when all scores have been entered on the proper scoring forms without objection.</i></b>
9A1	Unless prohibited by Law, any player may call attention to an irregularity <u>during the auction</u> , whether or not it is his turn to call.
9B1a	The Director must be summoned <u>at once</u> when attention is drawn to an irregularity.
9B2	No player shall take any action <u>until</u> the Director has explained all matters in regard to rectification and to the assessment of a penalty.
9C	Any <u>premature</u> correction of an irregularity by the offender may subject him to a further penalty.
11A	The right to penalise an irregularity may be forfeited if either member of the non-offending side takes action <u>before</u> summoning the Director. The Director so rules when the non-offending side may have gained through subsequent action taken by an opponent in ignorance of the penalty.

11B1	The right to penalise an irregularity may be forfeited if attention is <u>first drawn</u> to the irregularity by a spectator for whose presence at the table the non-offending side is responsible.
11B2	The right to correct an irregularity may be forfeited if attention is <u>first drawn</u> to the irregularity by a spectator for whose presence at the table the offending side is responsible.
13	When the Director determines that one or more pockets of the board contained an incorrect number of cards, and a <u>player with an incorrect hand has made a call</u> ...(adjust the hands or award an artificial adjusted score)
13A	If <u>no call has been made</u> and no player has seen another's cards
13B	If <u>no call has been made</u> and a player has seen another player's card(s)
13C	<b>Play completed</b>
14A	When three hands are correct and the fourth is <u>found to be deficient before the play period begins</u> , the Director
14B	When three hands are correct and the fourth is <u>found to be deficient after the play period begins</u> , the Director
16A	Extraneous information from partner:....., <u>unmistakable hesitation, unwanted speed</u> , .....
16A1	When a player considers that an opponent has made extraneous information available and that damage could well result, <u>he may</u> , unless the regulations of the sponsoring organisation prohibit, immediately <u>announce that he reserves the right to summon the Director later</u> (the opponents should <u>summon the Director immediately if they dispute</u> the fact that unauthorised information might have been conveyed).
16A2	When a player has substantial reason to believe that an opponent who had a logical alternative has chosen an action that could have been suggested by extraneous information, he should summon the Director <u>forthwith</u> .....
16B	Extraneous information from other sources: ..... the Director should be notified <u>forthwith</u> .....
17A	<b>The auction period on a deal begins for a side when either partner looks at the face of his cards.</b>
17E	<b>The auction period ends when all four players pass or when after three passes in rotation have followed any call the opening lead is faced</b> (when a pass out of rotation has been accepted, see Law 34).
20A	A player who does not hear a call distinctly may <u>forthwith</u> require that it be repeated.
20B	<u>During the auction period</u> , a player is entitled to have all previous calls restated <u>when it is his turn to call</u> , unless he is required by law to pass; Alerts should be included in the restatement.
20C1	<u>After the final pass</u> either defender has the right to ask if it is his opening lead.
20C2	Declarer or either defender may, <u>at his first turn to play</u> , require all previous calls to be restated (see Law 41B and 41C).
20F1	<u>During the auction and before the final pass</u> , any player, at his own turn to call, may request a full explanation of the opponents' auction....
20F2	<u>After the final pass and throughout the play period</u> , either defender <u>at his own turn to play</u> may request an explanation of opposing auction. <u>At his or dummy's turn to play</u> , the declarer may request an explanation of a defender's call or card play conventions.

21B1	<u>Until the end of the auction period</u> a player may, without penalty, change a call when it is probable that he made the call as a result of misinformation given to him by an opponent ..... provided that his partner has not subsequently called.
21B3	<u>When it is too late</u> to change a call, the Director may award an adjusted score.
24	When the Director determines, <u>during the auction</u> , that because of a player's action one or more cards of that player's hand were in a position for the face to be seen by his partner, the Director shall require that every such card be left face up on the table <u>until the auction closes</u> and (penalty)....
25A	<u>Until his partner makes a call</u> , a player may substitute his intended call for an inadvertent call but only if he does so, or attempts to do so, <u>without pause for thought</u> .....
30A, 30B	When a player has passed out of rotation <u>before</u> any player has bid ..... <u>after</u> any player has bid.....
33	A call made <u>simultaneously</u> with one made by the player whose turn it was to call is deemed to be a subsequent call.
34	When a call has been followed by three passes, <u>the auction does not end</u> when one of those passes was out of rotation, thereby depriving a player of his right to call at that turn.....
39	A call <u>made after the final pass of the auction</u> is cancelled and ....
40E2	<u>During the auction and play</u> , any player except dummy may refer to his opponents' convention card at his own turn to call or play ....
41B	<u>Before the opening lead is faced</u> , the leader's partner and the presumed declarer each may require a review of the auction, or request explanation of an opponent's call (see Law 20). Declarer or either defender may, <u>at his first turn to play a card</u> , require a review of the auction; this right <u>expires when he plays a card</u> . The defenders (subject to Law 16) and the declarer retain the right to request explanations <u>throughout the play period, each at his own turn to play</u> .
41C	.... the opening lead is faced and dummy's hand is spread. <u>After it is too late to have previous calls restated</u> , declarer or either defender, <u>at his own turn to play</u> , is entitled to be informed as to what the contract is and whether, but not by whom, it was doubled or redoubled.
41D	<u>After the opening lead is faced</u> , dummy spreads his hand.
42B1, B2	Dummy may ask declarer (but not a defender) <u>when he has failed to follow suit to a trick</u> whether he has a card of the suit led. Dummy may try to prevent any irregularity by declarer.
42B3	<i>Except in above-mentioned cases:</i> Dummy may draw attention to any irregularity but only <u>after play of the hand is concluded</u> .
43A1a	Dummy should not initiate a call for the Director <u>during play</u> .
43A1b	Dummy may not call attention to an irregularity <u>during play</u> .
47E2a,b	A player may retract the card he has played because of a mistaken explanation of an opponent's call or play and before a corrected explanation, but only if <u>no card was subsequently played to that trick</u> . An opening lead may not be retracted <u>after dummy has faced any card</u> . <u>When it is too late</u> to correct a play, in the above-mentioned circumstances, Law 40C applies.

Note on Art. 47	Opening lead <u>simultaneously</u> : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- correct card face down + incorrect card face up = <i>lead out of turn</i></li> <li>- correct card face up + incorrect card face down = <i>penalised card</i></li> </ul>
48B1	When declarer faces his cards <u>after an opening lead out of turn</u> , Law 54 applies.
48B2	When declarer faces his cards <u>at any time other than immediately after an opening lead out of turn</u> , he may be deemed to have made a claim or concession of tricks.....
50C	When a defender has a minor penalty card, he may not play any other card of the same suit below the rank of an honour <u>until</u> he has played the penalty card (however, he is entitled to play an honour card instead).
50D1	A major penalty card must be played <u>at the first legal opportunity</u> .
57A	When a defender leads to the next trick <u>before his partner has played to the current trick, or plays out of turn before his partner has played</u> , (penalty) the card so led or played becomes a penalty card, and declarer selects one of the following options: ....highest card.....lowest card ..... card of another suit.
58A	A lead or play made <u>simultaneously</u> with another player's legal lead or play is deemed to be subsequent to it.
60A1	A play by a member of the non-offending side <u>after his RHO has led or played out of turn or prematurely, and before a penalty has been assessed</u> , forfeits the right to penalise that offence.
60B	When a defender plays a card <u>after</u> declarer has been required to <u>retract</u> his lead out of turn from either hand, <u>but before declarer has led from the correct hand</u> , the defender's card becomes a penalty card.
60C	A play by a member of the offending side <u>before a penalty has been assessed</u> does not affect the rights of the opponents, and may itself be subject to penalty.
62A	A player must correct his revoke if he becomes aware of the irregularity <u>before it becomes established</u> .
63A1,2,3,B	A revoke becomes established: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- when the offender or his partner leads or plays <u>to the following trick</u></li> <li>- when the offender or his partner names or otherwise designates a card to be played <u>to the following trick</u></li> <li>- when a member of the offending side <u>makes or acquiesces in a claim or concession of tricks...</u></li> <li>- when there has been a violation of Law 61B.</li> </ul>
64B	The penalty for an established revoke does not apply: .... if attention was drawn to the revoke <u>after a member of the non-offending side has made a call on the subsequent deal</u> . If attention was drawn to the revoke <u>after the round has ended</u> .
66A	<u>So long as his side has not led or played to the next trick</u> , declarer or either defender may, until he has turned his own card face down on the table, require that all cards <u>just played to the trick</u> be faced.
66B	<u>Until a card is led to the next trick</u> , declarer or either defender may inspect, but not expose, his own last card played.
66D	<u>After play ceases</u> , the played and unplayed cards may be inspected .....
67A	When a player has omitted to play a trick, or has played too many cards to a trick, the error must be rectified if attention is drawn to the irregularity <u>before a player on each side has played to the following trick</u> .

67B	<u>After both sides have played to the following trick</u> , when attention is drawn to a defective trick or when the Director determines that there had been a defective trick .....To rectify the number of cards, the Director should proceed as follows ....
68	When a statement or action constitutes a claim or concession of tricks, <u>it must refer to subsequent tricks</u> .
68B	.... if a defender attempts to concede one or more tricks and his partner <u>immediately objects</u> , no concession has occurred ....
68D	After any claim or concession, play ceases. All play subsequent to a claim or concession shall be voided by the Director....
69A	Acquiescence occurs when a contestant assents to an opponent's claim or concession, and raises no objection to it <u>before his side makes a call on a subsequent board, or before the round ends</u> ....
69B	<u>Within the correction period established in accordance with Law 79C</u> , a contestant may withdraw acquiescence in an opponent's claim, but only if ....
75D1	If a player <u>subsequently</u> realises that his own explanation was erroneous or incomplete, he must immediately call the Director (who will apply Law 21 or Law 40C).
75D2	A player whose partner has given a mistaken explanation <u>may not correct the error before the final pass</u> , nor may he indicate in any manner that a mistake has been made; <u>a defender may not correct the error until play ends</u> .
76A3	<u>During the round</u> , a spectator must refrain from mannerisms or remarks of any kind (including conversation with a player).
78D	<u>In advance of any contest</u> the sponsoring organisation should publish conditions of contest detailing conditions of entry, methods of scoring, determination of winners, breaking of ties, and the like.
79A	The number of tricks won shall be agreed upon <u>before all hands have been returned to the board</u> .
79B	If a <u>subsequent</u> disagreement arises, the Director must be called. No increase in score need be granted unless <u>the Director is called before the round ends</u> as specified in Law 8 (but Law 69 or Law 71 may supersede this provision when there has been an acquiescence or a concession).
79C	An error in computing or tabulating the agreed-upon score, whether made by a player or scorer, <u>may be corrected until the expiration of the period specified by the sponsoring organisation. Unless the sponsoring organisation specifies a later time (an earlier time may be specified when required by the special nature of a contest), this correction period expires 30 minutes after the official score has been made available for inspection.</u>
81C6	The Director should rectify an error or irregularity of which he becomes aware <u>within the correction period established in accordance with Law 79C</u> .
92B	The right to request or appeal a Director's ruling <u>expires 30 minutes after the official score has been made available for inspection, unless the sponsoring organisation has specified a different time period</u> .

<p>SCREENS</p>	<p>Procedure for violations covered in Laws 26-32; 34; 36-39</p> <p style="text-align: center;">A. Trolley not passed</p> <p><u>Before the trolley is passed from the other side</u> the opponent on the same side of the screen as the player who has committed the violation must draw attention to this and summon the Director. The Director must inform that this is unacceptable and must therefore permit that this can be rectified without a penalty.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">B. Both sides offending</p> <p><u>When the trolley is passed from the other side</u> and both sides are offending.....</p> <p style="text-align: center;">C. One side offending</p> <p><u>When the trolley is passed from the other side of the screen</u> and only one side is offending.....</p> <p style="text-align: center;">D. Irregularity not noticed</p> <p>Law 41A – opening lead out of turn  The opponent on the same side of the screen as the player who has made the opening lead out of turn must try to prevent the irregularity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- if the screen was not opened.....</li> <li>- if the screen was opened.....</li> </ul> <p>Law 70 – during the auction period, after an opponent has acted quickly, the time that the trolley remains in place should be adjusted either by delaying one’s own call (placing the bidding card in front of oneself but not on the trolley) or by waiting before passing the trolley.</p>
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## EXERCISE

- A)** In a team event, following the Director's instruction, all the hands have been prepared in advance but the first player while extracting the cards from the board drops one card face up on the table ? new shuffle and re-deal (Law 6D1)
- B)** In a team event, following the Director's instruction, all the hands have been prepared in advance but the first player who extracts the cards from the board drops one card face up on the table while looking at his cards (Law 24). Auction period has started
- C)** In a pairs tournament, while extracting the cards from the board received from the previous table, the players notice that one of East's cards is exposed (Law 16B).
- D)** East makes an insufficient bid and North draws the Director's attention to this (Law 9A1).
- E)** After EW have found a fit in ♠, North bids 4♠ after which East hesitates at length before doubling; South immediately announces that he intends to reserve the right to summon the Director and passes, **West** bids 4♠ after which all pass and he wins 10 tricks. After play South summons the Director confirming his reservation, EW deny that there was any hesitation. Should the Director make his decision on the basis that there was hesitation or not? (YES) (Law 16A1)
- F)** After EW have found a fit in ♠, North bids 4♠ after which East hesitates at length before doubling; South immediately announces that he intends to reserve the right to summon the Director and passes, **West** bids 4♠ after which all pass. This time the declarer is **East** so after South-West's opening lead, dummy's hand is spread; after the hand has been played (10 tricks won) South summons the Director to complain that in his opinion West's bidding was influenced by East's hesitation. (Law 16A2)
- G)** In board 1 N and E simultaneously bid 1♠ and 1♣ respectively; when the Director is summoned should he treat the bid of 1♠ as an insufficient bid or as a bid out of turn? (Law 33)
- H)** How should the following cases of simultaneous opening leads be dealt with?
- correct card face down + incorrect card face up      *lead out of turn*
  - correct card face up + incorrect card face up      *penalised card*
- I)** Revoke (trick cards face down) and one of the non-offending side has played to the following trick (Law 63A1).
- J)** East revokes (defender and second to play), South plays and West showing the K with which he won the trick (all other cards are still face up) claims the remaining tricks. (Established) (Law 63A3)
- K)** A player summons the Director claiming that in the previous hand his opponent made a revoke. Having established that there was in fact a revoke and seeing that the player concerned has already passed, should the Director consider the hypothesis of giving a

penalty for the revoke or **re-establishing equity** or should he say that nothing can now be done? (64B4)

- L)** A player summons the Director claiming that in the previous hand his opponent made a revoke.  
Having established that there was in fact a revoke and seeing that the player concerned has extracted and looked at his cards but has not yet bid, should the Director consider the hypothesis of **giving a penalty** for the revoke or re-establishing equity or should he say that nothing can now be done? (Penalty 64B4).
- M)** South still has the card he played in the fourth trick (won by West) face up in front of him when West plays the first card of the subsequent trick; South however still wants to see the cards of the previous trick. (YES) (66A9)
- N)** A defender concedes the remaining tricks but his partner immediately protests.  
Does play continue or not? (YES Law 68B but Law 16)
- O)** Declarer has claimed the remaining tricks; defender has accepted, the score has been recorded, but (a moment before changing boards) he decides to withdraw his acceptance. What T.D. has to do? (to give the “normal” play to the declarer or to the defender?)  
(Law 69A + 70)
- P)** Declarer claimed the remaining tricks; defender has accepted, the score has been recorded and the sides prepare to play the second board.  
A player from the side which acquiesced extracts his cards from the subsequent board, looks at them but now summons T.D. contesting the claim.  
What T.D. has to do? (to give the “normal” play to the declarer or to the defender?)  
(Law 69A + 70)
- Q)** A team match has been over for 18 minutes; while the Director gets ready to prepare the score cards for the following match a player approaches him asking for his acceptance of an opponent’s request to be withdrawn. Can he do so? YES (Law 69C)
- R)** In a pairs tournament N has recorded  $3? + 1 = 140$  copying the score written above; he realises this two rounds later (during the last round of play). Is it still possible to ask the Director to rectify this? YES (Law 79C)