

DNR TD Course
Afternoon Session
Behaviour, Etiquette & Law

Scope

- Concepts
 - Illegal Plays
 - Not Following Suit
 - Playing 2 Cards to a Trick
 - Authorised Information
 - Logical Alternatives
 - Penalty Cards
 - Comparable Calls
 - Book Ruling & Judgements
- Role play a (very) eventful night at the Bridge Club

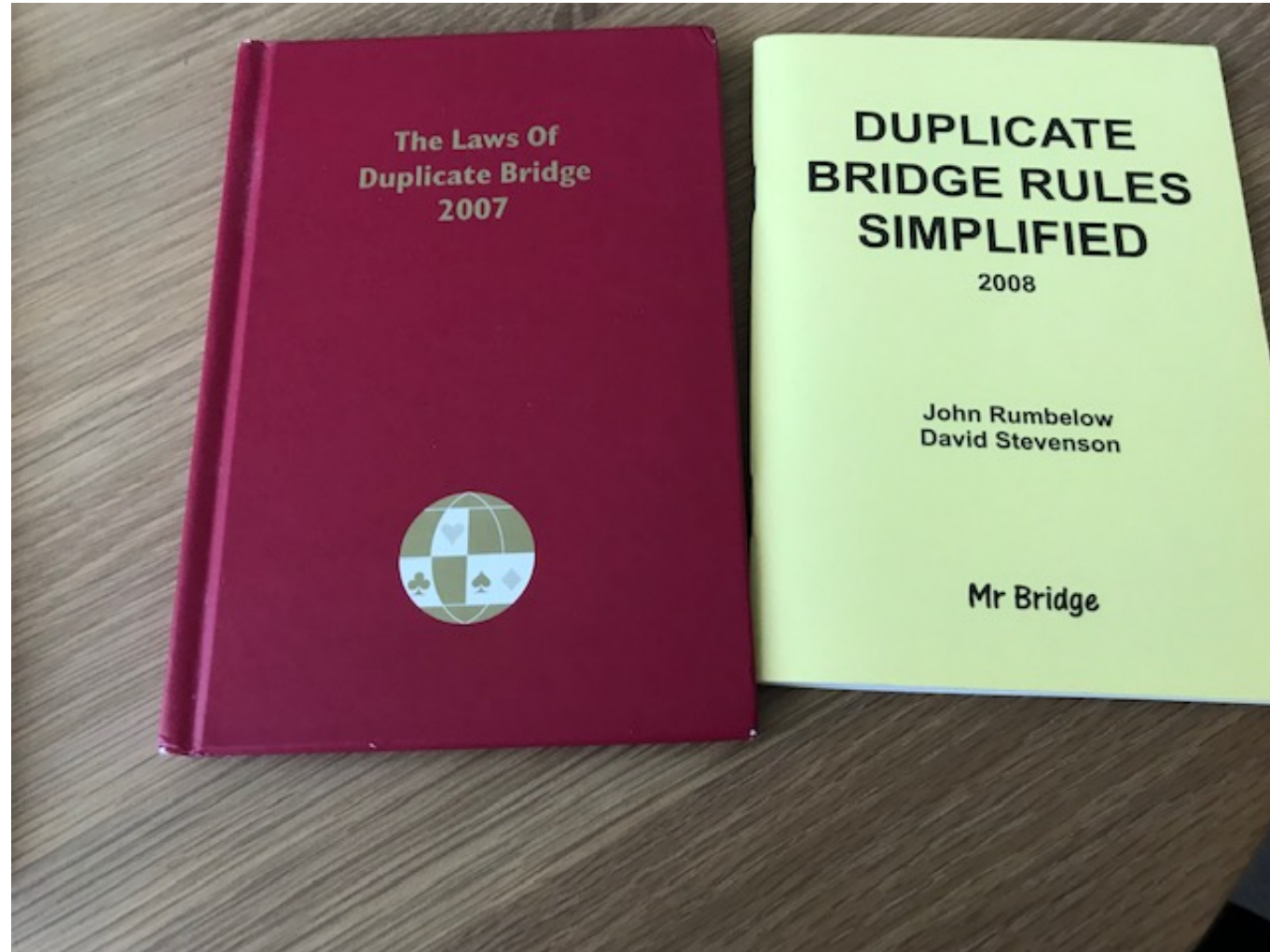
Background

- World Bridge Federation Law Book (2017)
- Irish Bridge Union Version
- Contract Bridge Association of Ireland (CBAI) Regulations
- Local Club Regulations

Current Sources



Outdated Sources – Don't Use!



Authorised Information

- Your Own Cards
- Dummy's Cards
- Your Opponents' Bids
- Your Partner's Bids
- Legal Signals & Discards
- Carding
- Your Opponents' Demeanour
- Your Opponents' Actions

Unauthorised Information (UI) Law 16

- Extraneous – Overheard Post-Mortems
- Arising from Mis-Boarding
- Partner's Demeanour
- Partner's Hesitation
- Partner's Call Out of Turn
- Partner's Insufficient Call
- Partner's Improperly Exposed Card
- Psychs (fielding of)
- Creating

Consequences of Acquisition of UI

- TD will endeavour to **RECTIFY** the situation
- Assignment of Artificial Score
- Adjust the Actual Score
- Impose Procedural or Disciplinary Penalty
- There may be Lead Restrictions
- Logical Alternatives

Logical Alternatives

- You Open a Weak (12-14) 1NT
- LHO Overcalls 2♥
- Partner wriggles and squirms and after a clear hesitation, bids 2NT
- You have 13 HCPs, a 5-card club suit, two Ts and Qx in hearts
- What's going on?
- If partner had bid 2NT in Tempo, you would bid 3NT wouldn't you?
- Why did partner hesitate? Maybe he is worried about his heart stopper. Maybe he is a minimum (11). Something is bothering him
- So you Pass. They call the TD

Logical Alternative

- If UI is possible (e.g. after a hesitation), you can't make a call or play that is demonstrably suggested over another call or play by the UI, if the other call or play is a logical alternative.
- A Logical Alternative is a call or play which a significant proportion of players of like grade would consider and might select.
- The platitude that if partner hesitates, you must pass is quite wrong. It is frequently the case but not always.
- Logical Alternative Cases lead to Judgements as Opposed to Book Rulings

Penalty Cards

- Any Card Exposed During the Auction
- Any Card Exposed or Potentially Exposed by Defenders
 - The test is: Could offender's Partner possibly have seen it.
- May be Exposed Accidentally
- May be Exposed Because it was played Illegally e.g. an Unestablished Revoke
- May be Exposed because it was Lead by a player who is not on lead

Minor Penalty Cards Law 50 b & c

- A card exposed accidentally during auction or play below the rank of an honour
- A T or higher can't be a minor penalty card
- You can't have more than one minor penalty cards
- Disposition
 - Play at first legal opportunity but only mandatory if you have no honour
- Lead Penalties/Restrictions on Partner?
 - No
- UI? Maybe

Major Penalty Cards – Law 50

- Any honour card
- Any card purposely exposed
- Only Defenders can have Penalty Cards
- Must be played at the first legal opportunity
- If penalty card holder's partner gets on lead, declarer may
 - Forbid the lead of that suit (penalty card picked up) while he retains the lead
 - Require the lead of the suit (penalty card picked up)
 - Tell him to do as he wants (penalty card remains on the table)
- Info from penalty card on table is authorised to the offending pair but once played or replaced, becomes unauthorised

Arrive At The Table

- TD may Assign you a Table (Law 5)
- Decide NS and EW by mutual agreement
- Shuffle and Deal (6A & 6B). No Goulash dealing.
- LAW 74 - CONDUCT AND ETIQUETTE. A - Proper Attitude
 - 1. A player should maintain a courteous attitude at all times.
 - 2. A player should carefully avoid any remark or extraneous action that might cause annoyance or embarrassment to another player or might interfere with the enjoyment of the game.

Laws Governing Position of Boards & Auction

- Greet Opponents, Describe System (CBAI)
- Board in centre of table, correctly orientated (Law 7A)
- Count cards, face down (Law 7B2)
- Sitting Players are primarily responsible for proper procedure(Law 7D)
- If a hand is passed out “there shall be no redeal” (Law 22B)
- Don’t play with bidding boxes. A bid is made when the card is placed on the table (CBAI)
- Tempo

Announcements & Alerts

- Announce
 - Range of 1NT opening (e.g. 12-14)
 - Transfer to Hearts or Transfer to Spades
 - Could be 2 (or whatever) on partner opening a prepared minor
- Alert Conventional Bids
 - Including forcing 1♣ opening
- Don't Alert
 - 5 card majors
 - Stayman (but alert puppet)
 - Acol 2♣ opening (but is it really?)

Alerts of Doubles and of bids above 3NT

- During the first two rounds of bidding, all doubles of natural suit bids at the 1 or 2 level are assumed to be for take-out. All other doubles are assumed to be for penalty. Any variations from this must be alerted.
- No bid above 3NT, made in the second or subsequent rounds, should be alerted until the end of the auction. Instead, declaring side alerts such bids after the last pass and before the opening lead is selected. Defenders alert such bids after the opening lead is selected but before it is faced.

The Stop Card

- Used before ANY (and all) skip bids
- Purpose is to impose a pause in Tempo
- Put it on the table and immediately make your bid
- Count to 10 in your head and lift the stop card from the table
- It's nothing to do with the alert card, partner must still alert if the jump bid was conventional
- Widely mis-used e.g. never lifted from table
- It's not used to wake up partner (even if it often has that effect!)

What Can Go Wrong During Auction?

- Pass out of Turn
- Bid out of Turn
- Unintended Bid
- Insufficient Bid
- Misinformation

Pass out of Rotation

- May be Accepted – Consciously or Inadvertently!
- If not accepted, and it was offender's RHOs turn to call, RHO calls and offender must pass again.
- If it was offender's LHOs turn to call, he does so. Now offender's partner may make any legal call. When offender is next due to call, he may
 - Make a comparable call, in which case all is forgiven.
 - If he makes any other call, partner is silenced for 1 round and there may be lead penalties
- If it was offender's partner's turn to call, he may make any legal call. When offender is next due to call, he may
 - Make a comparable call, in which case all is forgiven.
 - If he makes any other call, partner is silenced for 1 round and there may be lead penalties

Comparable Calls – Law 23

- A call is comparable to the call it is replacing if it has;
 - The same or similar meaning as that attributable to the withdrawn call OR
 - Defines a subset of the possible meanings attributable to the withdrawn call OR
 - Has the same purpose (e.g. an asking bid or relay bid) as that attributable to the withdrawn call.
- In making a judgement, the TD may need to enquire the meaning of the calls in question in the offending pairs system.
- Where an illegal call is replaced by a comparable call, there is no further rectification (BUT see Law 23 C)

Revisiting the Pass out of Rotation

- What does pass mean (in normal systems)
 - Lack of opening values, says nothing about suits held.
 - Any call with that meaning or a subset of that meaning is a Comparable Call
- Say partner of offender opens 1♥
 - Offender can obviously pass
 - Can offender can make a constructive raise i.e. 2♥?
 - What about a pre-emptive raise e.g. 4♥?
 - A limit raise i.e. 3♥?
 - Can offender can bid a natural 1NT or 2NT or a new suit?
 - Offender cannot make a game forcing raise e.g. Jacoby 2NT or Splinter

Bid out of Rotation – Law 31

- You make an Opening Bid out of Rotation
- If your LHO or LHO's Partner was dealer, LHO may accept. If not bidding reverts to the proper dealer and partner may make any legal bid.
- At your next turn, you may make a comparable call
- If your RHO was dealer, your LHO may accept. If not, call reverts to RHO.
- If RHO passes, you must repeat your bid out of turn.
- If RHO bids, you must find a comparable call or partner is silenced for 1 round
- As usual; lead penalties, UI and possibility of adjusted score are on.

Insufficient Bid – Law 27

- Insufficient Bidders LHO may accept the bid (purposely or not)
- If bid not accepted, the insufficient bidder may make the lowest sufficient bid or make a comparable call. In either case, all is forgiven
- If insufficient bidder can't or won't do either of the above, he may make any other call (including pass). In such cases, partner is silenced for the rest of the auction. There may be lead penalties.
- Another platitude – “If you make an insufficient bid, you must make it good”. NOT TRUE. It's often the best thing to do but you have options.
- 27D allows rectification if the infracting pair benefited.

Unintended Calls & Misinformation

- Unintended calls (due to mechanical error) may be fixed up to the point that your partner makes a call (Law 24A 1) regardless of how you discovered the error (Law 24 A 3)
- BUT UI and LAs rear their ugly heads
- If you realise you have given an erroneous explanation of one of your partner's bids, call the director before end of Clarification Period
- If partner misinformed, call director after final pass if declarer or dummy; at end of game if defender.

When is a Card Played?

- Make Opening Lead Face Down.
- A Defender is deemed to have played a card to the current trick if he holds the card in a way such that his partner could have seen its face.
- Declarer has played a card when he turns it face up, touching or nearly touching the table.
- A card is played from Dummy when declarer purposely touches it except for arranging or reaching an adjacent card.
- Don't indulge in dramatic gesturing!
- Consider calling for cards from Dummy.

Opening Lead out of Rotation

- East Declarer, North leads out of rotation
- E has 5 options which must be chosen without consulting partner.
- E may Accept the lead & put his hand down as dummy. W plays it.
- E may accept the lead but opt to play it himself. W puts down his dummy. Having seen dummy, E plays and then S plays third to the trick followed by dummy.
- E may reject the lead which now becomes a major penalty card. The lead reverts to S. E may now require the lead of suit of the penalty card, forbid it or tell S to do as he pleases.

The Revoke – Laws 61-64

- Established when offending side plays to the next trick
- If the revoke card won the trick, one transferred
- If the offending partnership win a subsequent trick, one transferred
- A revoke of the 12th trick must be corrected
- The director may award an adjusted score

Two Cards Played – Law 67

- If spotted
 - If only one is visible then that card is deemed played and the other is replaced without rectification
 - If both are visible, offender nominates which card to play and the other becomes a major penalty card if he is a defender
- If not spotted until both sides have played to the next trick or later, the director “rewinds” the play, rectifying any problems which arise e.g. revokes

Claims & Concessions – Law 68

- If a claim/concession is disputed and everyone agrees to play the hand out, the hand is played out and the director is not called
- If there is failure to reach such an agreement, the director is called and he assigns an adjusted score. The hand is **not** played out.
- The latter course is often to the advantage of the disputing side as the dispute may have drawn Declarer's attention to a flaw in his proposed line of play which he may now be able to fix.

Wrong Board Played – Law 15

- Provided neither partnerships have seen the board before, it is played out and the score stands
- The director may require both pairs to subsequently play the correct board.
- This law change can cause problems for computer scoring systems.

Inspection of Tricks – Law 66

- It is now lawful for either players in a partnership to inspect a quitted trick, provided neither have played to the subsequent trick.
- In doing so, they must NOT expose the quitted trick.

Mistaken Explanation – Law 75

- It is now an infraction to state that a partnership agreement may exist when it doesn't
- If you are asked to explain partner's call and you can't, just say so. You are allowed to be confused about your system. That's not unlawful unless UI or mis-information arises out of it.
- You are NOT allowed speculate e.g. don't say something like "I'm taking that to be a forcing bid"

