

2012
APPENDIX G

SPECIAL CONDITIONS PERTAINING TO THE USE OF BIDDING BOXES AND SCREENS

These Conditions of Contest may not be changed at any level of play during the course of this event. Lack of knowledge does not constitute cause for exemption.

I. BIDDING BOXES (no screens)

1. Players must choose a call before touching any card in the box. A call is considered made when a bidding card is removed from the bidding box and held touching or nearly touching the table or maintained in such a position to indicate that the call has been made.
2. A call may be changed without penalty under the provisions of Law 25A only if a player has inadvertently taken out the wrong bidding card, and the player corrects, or attempts to correct without pause for thought, **and** the player's partner has not made a call.
3. The skip-bid warning is given using bidding boxes by displaying the stop card, making a call and then replacing the stop card in the bidding box. LHO is obligated to wait 10 seconds (while giving the appearance of studying his hand) before making a call.

II. SCREEN PROCEDURES

The screen is placed diagonally across the table in such fashion that North and East, South and West are screenmates. 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 law 25 may apply). North and South pass the tray under the screen after their screenmate 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. At this point, the declaring side may exchange information about their own explanations.

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.

The opening lead shall be made face-down. Opening leader's screenmate 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. The International Code of Duplicate laws is in effect 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.

LAW 13:

The artificial adjusted score and penalty prescribed in the first paragraph apply only if the call has been transmitted to the other side of 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 screenmate.

Explanation of Calls:

1. During the Auction:

At any time a player may request, in writing, of his screenmate a full explanation of an opponent's call. The reply, also, is in writing.

2. Prior to the Opening Lead:

- a. The opening leader is permitted to ask for clarification in writing from his or her opponent on the other side of the screen.
- b. The declaring side may, on their own initiative, confirm explanations given on the other side of the screen and is encouraged to do so for complex and potentially ambiguous auctions.

3. After the Screen is Raised:

Third hand (opening leader's partner) is permitted to ask for clarification in writing after the screen is raised.

4. 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.

LAWS 26 THROUGH 32; LAW 34; LAWS 36 THROUGH 39:

For the infractions covered by these laws, the following procedures are used:

A. Tray not Passed:

Before the tray is passed, the offender's screenmate shall call attention to the infraction and summon the director. The director shall see that the infraction is rectified without penalty. These calls may not be accepted.

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 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: Information from withdrawn calls is unauthorized for any partnerships at

fault but authorized for a player or partnership that has committed no irregularity.

LAW 33:

The subsequent call is canceled without penalty.

LAW 40:

Alerts:

When an Alertable call is made, the player alerts his screenmate. When the tray is passed, both players should immediately alert partner's Alertable call. There are no delayed alerts when playing behind screens.

LAW 41A:

Opening Lead out of turn:

The offender's screenmate should attempt to prevent any opening lead out of turn. A faced 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 73 D:

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. It is considered that there can be no implications if a tray returns after 25 seconds or less. This period may be extended in the later stages of a complicated or competitive auction without necessarily creating implications.

LAW 76:

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