Bridge Director Tips
by Bob Gruber

Make your rulings with confidence, in a “confident” voice. Act like you have command of the laws, but it’s OK to consult the law book for details … “let me check something,” “I better double check something.”

Develop an “announcement” voice. Yes, that means on the loud side, but without yelling. Be ready to ask for attention more than once before making your announcement. Move near the group most engaged in a private conversation and repeat your request for attention.

At a minimum, master/memorize the five (5) most common director calls.

5 Most Common Director Calls

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Call</th>
<th>Law(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Insufficient Bid</td>
<td>Law 27, p 35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bid out of turn</td>
<td>Laws 28-32, p 37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lead out of turn</td>
<td>Laws 53-56, p 62; also Laws 24, p 32; Laws 47-48, p 55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exposed Card</td>
<td>During Play [Law 48-49, p 57]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revoke</td>
<td>Laws 61-64, p 68</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

established when either player of offending side plays to next trick

Some Directing Specifics

The Laws of Duplicate bridge are meant to restore equity, not be punitive.

Lead Out of Turn . . . requirement to lead suit is one-time only
Opening Lead Out of Turn . . . prohibition on leading suit lasts until lead is relinquished

Minor Penalty Card (non-honor exposed unintentionally)
  1. May play higher card if it’s an honor (10 and up)
  2. No lead restrictions on partner

Dummy’s Rights
  Full rights at end of play
    During play, only call Director if another player pointed out a possible irregularity

Everyone is responsible for dummy—Not True, only the declaring side is responsible

If a defender has two or more penalty cards that can be legally played, declarer designates which is to be played!

During a call, if facing a tower of babel, request only 1 player at a time speak

Miscellaneous Items

2 boards/round: 15 minutes, else: (# bds) x 7 minutes

Bid is a # and a denomination/strain, i.e. a suit or NT
Call: bid, pass, Dbl, ReDbl

Fouled Bd: Bridge Director’s Companion (BDC): II-88

May call move (early) as long as < ¼ tables still playing

Clean up starts in penultimate round or earlier

- **Insufficient Bid**

  [Law 27, p 35]

- **Bid Out of Turn**

  [Laws 28-32, p 37]

- **Lead Out of Turn**

  [Laws 53-56, p 62]

- **Exposed Card During Play**

  [Laws 48-49, p 57]

  An exposed playing card during the auction (Law 24, p32) is fairly rare and is covered well in the “Laws …” book. The more frequent director call is for a card exposed during the play.

- **Revoke**

  [Laws 61-64, p 68]

  The Laws of Duplicate bridge are meant to restore equity, not be punitive.

  A revoke is established when either player of the offending side “plays” to next trick.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Majority of Revoke Rectification Actions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Revoke Trick Winner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revoker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revoker’s Partner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Offender</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

  A trick won in dummy is not won by declarer for the purposes of the revoke laws

  There are situations where the non-offenders are denied more than 2 tricks by the revoke and the Director is authorized to and should assign an adjusted score to restore equity.

  No revoke at trick 12: a revoke at trick 12 must be corrected if discovered before all 4 hands have been returned to the board. If later than that, typically, the result stands.
The table that follows summarizes the director’s primary rectification considerations.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th># tricks x-ferred</th>
<th>Circumstances</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 0                 | 1. The offenders didn’t win the revoke trick or any subsequent tricks.  
|                   | 2. The revoke occurred on trick 12. If at least 1 hand has \textit{not} been returned to the board, the revoke is corrected. Otherwise, the result typically stands. |
| 1                 | 1. The \textit{revoker} won the revoke trick, but his \textit{side} won no subsequent tricks.  
|                   | 2. The revoker’s \textit{partner} won the revoke trick. The number of subsequent tricks won by the revoking side is immaterial.  
|                   | 3. The revoking \textit{side} did not win the trick, but did win 1 or more subsequent tricks. |
| 2                 | The \textit{revoker} won the revoke trick, and his \textit{side} won 1 or more subsequent tricks. |
| 3 or more         | The prescribed rectification does not restore equity in the Director’s view. The Director then assigns an adjusted score. |
Skip Movement (Mitchell w even # of tables)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tbls (Rnd)</th>
<th>8 (7)</th>
<th>10 (9)</th>
<th>12 (9)</th>
<th>14 (13)</th>
<th>16 (13)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Earliest to skip: # rounds – (# tables/2)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latest to skip: # tables/2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Bye Stand and Relay

Even # of full tables
Most odd # half tables (7½, 9½, 11½, 13½)
If Phantom Pair is N-S at table 1 or table “last” the Relay is a Phantom Relay

Point awards
ACBL Handbook, Chapter 4, Section 4

Cross Referencing the Laws
index of Laws of Duplicate Bridge book

Director’s Kit

Law book
Bridge Director’s Companion— Sec II, Movements
most sites have a copy
Bridge Director’s Companion
most sites have a copy of small BDC
Laptop with ACBLscore and Bridgemate Control Software (BCS) software
Portable printer and paper except for Unit 547 & Pleasant Valley (PV) club
Power strip
Seed money (mostly $1 bills & some $5 bills)
(~ 30) travelers & pick-up slips for last round (in case Bridgemates fail)
Pen & Pencil, scotch tape, paper clips, rubber bands, tiny stapler
Timer

Internet Sites

ACBL home page:
http://www.acbl.org

ACBL web page specifically for Directors:
http://www.acbl.org/clubs_page/club-administration/club-directors/become-a-club-director/

ACBLscore for Beginners – Online course is available for $20 at (1st char below is “L”)
lms.discoverlink.com/acbl

Bridge Supplies
http://www.baronbarclay.com/

Bridge Buddy http://www.bridgebuddy.net/Default.asp


Tourntables.com https://tourntables.com/

Aluminium boards carrying case, 12 x 8 x 4, $40.00

Vince Oddy http://vinceoddy.com/