

**Who you gonna call
when:**

- there is an insufficient bid at your table
- there is a lead out of turn and you are declarer
- there is a bid out of turn and you are the dealer
- there is a penalty card on the table
- there is a revoke

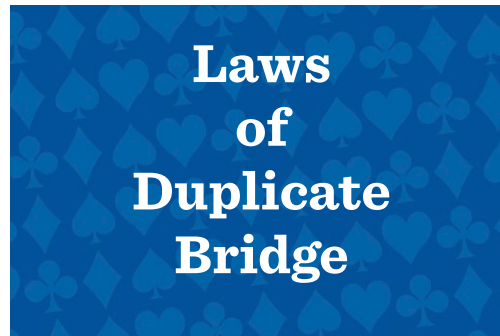
Always call the director

We want to help you not look like this





American Contract
Bridge League



2017 Revised Authorized Edition

<http://web2.acbl.org/documentlibrary/play/Laws-of-Duplicate-Bridge.pdf>

Insufficient Bid

**Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,
And sorry I could not travel both**

“The Road Not Taken”, Robert Frost

N Deals
Both Vul

Insufficient Bid

P 1C 1H 1S
2H 1NT

♠ Q 10 9

♥ 8 6 4 3

♦ J 7 5 4

♣ 9 6

♠ A K 7 4

♥ 2

♦ K Q 10 2

♣ 10 8 3 2

♠ 6 5

♥ K 10 9

♦ 9 8 6

♣ A K Q 7 4

♠ J 8 3 2

♥ A Q J 7 5

♦ A 3

♣ J 5

The Insufficient Bid

What are my options????

(The insufficient bid is covered in Law 27 in the Laws of Duplicate.)

1. You accept the insufficient bid and you continue to bid. Bidding then proceeds as normal.

If you make a bid before calling the director the director will tell you that you have accepted the insufficient bid.

Sometimes deciding to accept an insufficient bid can work to your advantage. It keeps the progress of the bidding at a lower level.

2. You reject the insufficient bid. The illegal bid must be corrected by the substitution of a legal bid.

The opponent is now faced with three basic options:

a. The insufficient bid is corrected to the lowest sufficient bid in the same denomination. This is the most common solution.

(both the insufficient bid and the correction must be natural)

b. The insufficient bid is corrected by a legal bid that has the same meaning or a more precise meaning than the insufficient bid.

c. Insufficient bid is corrected by either a sufficient bid not covered in number **a** or **b**, or by a pass. His or her partner would then be required to pass for the remainder of the auction.

Lead out of Turn

There are five options.

Lead Out of Turn

How to Decide

The Five Options for a Faced Opening Lead Out of Turn (Law 54):

1. You may accept the lead from the wrong hand and see dummy before playing in proper sequence from your own hand.
2. You may accept the lead and become the dummy. (If declarer exposes one or more cards, he must spread his hand, becoming dummy).

3. You may require the lead – one time only from the proper opening leader – of the suit that was improperly led, and the penalty card is returned to the offender's hand.

4. You may prohibit the lead – from the proper leader for as long as he holds the lead – of the suit that was improperly led, and the penalty card is returned to the offender's hand.

5. You may leave the improperly led card on the table to remain a penalty card. The opening leader can lead as he chooses. If the correct opening leader retains or regains the lead, however, and his partner still has the penalty card, you will, each time before the defender leads, have the choice of exercising option 3, option 4 or option 5.

N Deals
None Vul

Lead Out of Turn

Contract 6N or 6C

♠ 2
♥ Q 8 7 6 5
♦ 9 8 6 4
♣ J 9 7

♠ -
♥ K 9 3 2
♦ Q J 5 3
♣ A K 10 8 6

♠ A K 10 9 7 4 3
♥ 10
♦ A K
♣ Q 3 2

♠ Q J 8 6 5
♥ A J 4
♦ 10 7 2
♣ 5 4

Declarer's Lead Out of Turn (Law 55):

The Laws state that either opponent may accept or require retraction of a lead out of turn by the declarer.

Occasionally someone will point out declarer's lead from the wrong hand. That is merely calling attention to the irregularity. Both defenders still have all their rights. Either of defenders may accept or reject the lead. They are not allowed to consult and the first to speak will speak for the partnership.

If a defender rejects the lead, declarer must lead from the correct hand but is not required to lead the same suit. The card incorrectly led will be restored to its proper hand with no further penalty, and declarer will make any legal play from the correct hand.

What is the Dummy allowed to do?

1. remind the declarer of being on the board or in their hand
2. ask if the declarer is out of a suit (not any of the defenders)
3. see every card played
4. prevent an irregularity by the declarer
5. draw attention to any irregularity, but only after play is concluded

- There is a pass out of turn

- Before Any Player Has Bid
 - When a player has passed out of rotation before any player has bid, the offender must pass when next it is his turn to call

- After any player has bid, offender must pass at next opportunity; in addition, if offender passes at his partner's turn to call, offender's partner may not double or redouble.

Bid out of turn

- If offender bids on RHO's turn, and RHO passes, offender must make the same bid, but there is no other penalty.
- If offender bids on RHO's turn, and RHO does not pass, offender may make any call. If the call is a comparable call (the same denomination as the original call; same suit or NT), there is no restriction on offender's partner. If the call is any other denomination, offender's partner must pass when next it is his turn to call.

Law 31 states that if partner will bid before the offender he may make any bid he wants subject to law 16C2 (unauthorized information). If offender then makes a comparable call there are no restrictions on his partner. If offender does anything else partner must pass when next it is his turn to call.

Penalty Cards

Major Penalty Cards

Minor Penalty Cards

A **minor penalty card** is a single card nine or lower and exposed by accident (as in playing two cards to a trick or dropping one accidentally). It is not an “accident,” however, if a player accidentally plays a club instead of a spade.

The following facts are true about a minor penalty card:

1. It must be left face up on the table.
2. It does not have to be played at its first legal opportunity.
3. It must be played before any other card, nine or lower, of the same suit is played.
4. It is permissible to lead or play a card, 10 or above, in the same suit before playing the minor penalty card.
5. It is permissible to play another suit.
6. The offender’s partner is not subject to lead penalties, but Law 16 A., Unauthorized Information, may apply.

A **major penalty card** is a single card, 10 or above, exposed accidentally, or any card exposed through deliberate play (as in leading out of turn or correcting a revoke), or two or more penalty cards.

The following facts are true about a major penalty card:

1. It must be left face up on the table immediately in front of the player to whom it belongs until it is played or until an alternative option has been exercised.
2. It must be played at the first legal opportunity (leading, following suit, discarding, ruffing). Declarer has no options when the player with the major penalty card is on lead, it must be led.
3. The obligation to follow suit or to comply with a lead or play penalty takes precedence over the obligation to play a penalty card.

4. When a player has a major penalty card, the player's partner may not lead to a new trick until declarer states which, if any, of three options he/she is selecting.
 - a. The declarer may require the lead of the suit of the penalty card, just once, and all penalty cards in the suit are returned to the player's hand.
 - b. The declarer may prohibit the lead of the suit of the penalty card for as long as the partner retains the lead, and all penalty cards in the suit are returned to the player's hand.

- c. Declarer may choose to allow the offender's partner to lead any suit, in which case the penalty card(s) stays on the table and the partner leads anything. The Director should make sure that the opening leader understands that the penalty card will be played at partner's first legal opportunity, including the current trick if the suit of the penalty card is led. If the partner again has the lead, even at the very next trick, while the same penalty card is on the table, declarer may still exercise option a, b or c.
5. Except for the fact that the offender must play the penalty card, other information arising from exposing the card is unauthorized to the offender's partner. An example is that the partner may not use the knowledge to help place other cards unless he/she has that knowledge from the auction or the play up to that point.

A Revoke

- **Is the revoke established?**

- When you or your partner play to the next trick the revoke is established, and adjustments come into force. Also, a revoke is established if you or your partner claim, or accept an opponent's claim.

- If you realize you have revoked before it is established, you must correct it. You replace the revoking card with a legal card. Any cards played by the other side after the revoke may be changed. If the next player does withdraw his card, and your partner played after him, then he may withdraw his card, too.
- While there is no adjustment for an unestablished revoke, if you are defending then any cards withdrawn by you or your partner become major penalty cards. They must be left on the table and played at the earliest legal opportunity (there are also lead restrictions, as associated with any major penalty card).

- When play of the hand is complete an adjustment will be applied to the score to establish equity.
- If the revoking side won none of the tricks there is no adjustment. If the revoking side won one of the tricks the penalty is one trick transferred to the other side at the end of the hand.

Top 10 Worst Bridge Player Habits

10. Arriving late to a table and going off to get coffee making everyone wait
9. Making faces, sighing, etc. during play
8. Discussing results and reviewing the scores
7. Not playing at tempo, using long hesitations to make decisions
6. Writing down the contract before making your lead

5. Hesitating before actually placing a card or a bid on the table
4. Pulling card out of your hand before it's your turn to play
3. Ruffling the bidding box, moving as if you are going to bid, pulling a card out and putting it back
2. Playing a card from the dummy before declarer calls, not keeping your hands in your lap until a card is called
1. Criticizing your partner or your opponents

Remember it is always about maintaining equity