E U R O P E AN B R I D G E L E A G U E

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MAIN TEST

Introduction

As usual, all the hands used in the test come from real life (with just one exception). Sometimes, a few cards were changed just to underline the theme, or to propose different issue on the same subject.
Differently than in previous years, we have taken off calculations (they were too much time consuming), and reduced to a minimum the bridge judgement required. You'll find only basic ones.
The test is based on understanding what is your knowledge of the principles that are behind the more complex rulings, and for this reason you are required to extensively explain the reasons of your decisions.

Good luck,

Maurizio Di Sacco

M 1) **Pairs**

		♠	K 7 6 5 3	Board /	
		♥	Q		
		♦	A K 5		
		♣	J 8 5 3		
♠	A Q 10 9	N		♠	8
♥	J 10 9 7	W	E	♥	6 3
♦	9 3 2			♦	Q J 10 8 7 4
♣	4 2	S		♣	A 10 9 7
		♠	J 4 2		
		♥	A K 8 5 4 2		
		♦	6		
		♣	K Q 6		

East-West remain silent throughout, and NS reach 4♠ from North.

East leads the ♣A (West follows with the ♣4) then plays the ♦Q, taken by North's ♦A. North plays a small ♠ toward the J, taken by West's ♠Q. West plays ♥J and declarer wins in dummy, overtaking the ♥Q with his ♥A. Then he plays ♠ from dummy, West plays the ♠9 and North's K♠ wins the trick (small♦ from East).
At this point, North, without adding any comment, claims all the tricks but two trumps (♠A and ♠10) for a final result of 4♠-1.
West immediately requires North to continue play until the end.
Play then proceeds as follows: North reaches dummy with the ♣K (West ditches the ♣2) and plays a third round of ♠. West wins the ♠10 and plays a ♦. North wins the ♦K and plays ♣ to dummy's Q. West ruffs with the ♠A and plays ♦. East wins (dummy is out of trumps) and scores defense's fifth trick.

North calls the TD and complains that he had claimed 4♠-1 and that he got embarrassed by West's request to continue play. Being nervous, he had lost concentration and lost an extra trick.

The TD:

a) Since play continued, ratifies the final result and scores 4♠-2.
b) Deems it is possible for North to go two down, regardless West's request, and awards 4♠-2.
c) Deems it is impossible for North to go two down and awards 4♠-1.
d) Deems it is barely possible for North to go down two, thus considers that North's mistake is West's responsibility and awards 4♠-1.
e) Awards a split score: 4♠-2 NS, 4♠-1 EW
f) Awards a weighted score: 1/2 4♠-1, 1/2 4♠-2.

Please list the possible answers from the best to the worst.

M 2) **Pairs**

		♠	Q 9 8	Board 4 W / all	
		♥	7 4		
		♦	9 6		
		♣	10 9 8 7 3 2		
♠	K 5 2	N		♠	A 4
♥	10 3	W	E	♥	J 8 5
♦	A K J 4			♦	Q 10 7 5 3 2
♣	A K Q 6	S		♣	J 5
		♠	J 10 7 6 3		
		♥	A K Q 9 6 2		
		♦	8		
		♣	4		

W	N	E	S
2NT	pass	3♣	… pass
3♥	pass	3NT	All pass

West opens 2NT (20-21), East bids 3♣ (modified Puppet Stayman) and South, after some thought, passes. West bids 3♥ (neither five nor four card major), and East's 3NT ends the auction.
North leads the ♥7. Table result: -2.

EW call the TD claiming that South's pause could have helped North's lead.

North states:

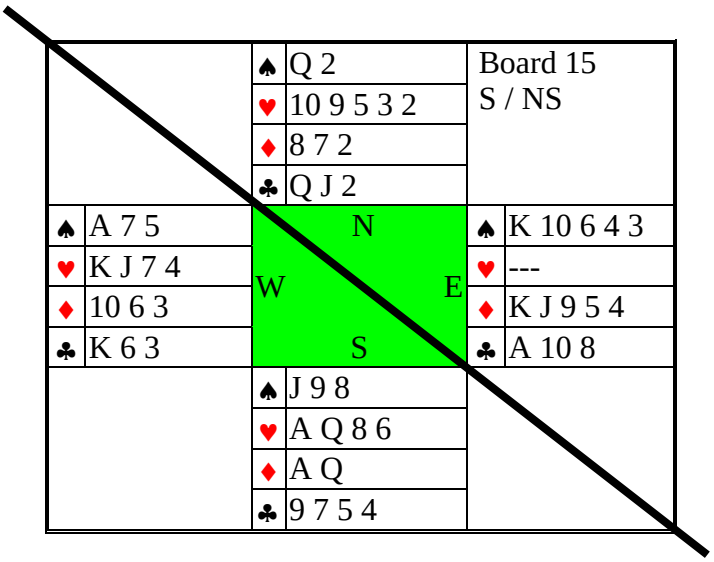
- To lead a major was already almost mandatory, since West didn't have anyone.
- His cards were hopeless: he had to find some good ones in his partner's hand.

The TD:

a) Awards a split score (EW +690, NS +200).
b) Awards a weighted score: ♥ lead one time out of three and any other lead two times out of three (you can propose a different weight).
c) Leaves the table's result.
d) Awards 40% / 60%.
e) Awards 50% / 50%.
f) Awards 3NT+3.

Please list the possible answers from the best to the worst.

M 3)



W	N	E	S
			1NT
pass	pass	2NT [1)]	pass
3♣	pass	3♦	pass
3NT	All pass		

1) Good 2-Suiter

W	N	E	S
♥J	♥2	♦5	♥6
♠A	♠2	♠3	♠8
♠5	♠Q	♠4	♠9
	… ♣Q		

Having been allowed to hold trick three with the ♠Q, North sat back and considered his options. After a further couple of minutes had elapsed East impatiently commented that, 'one, two, three off, who cares …', whereupon North led the ♣Q. This was taken in dummy and now East could not be denied nine tricks.

Result: E/W +430

North objects to East's comment and says that it led him to believe that declarer had no play for the contract. East apologizes for the gratuitous comment, however West suggests it made little difference since North obviously did not appreciate the need for a heart return.

M 4) **Bermuda Bowl Final**

Consider three different scenarios:

a)

		♠	10 7 6 4	Board 37 N / NS	
		♥	10 6 5 3		
		♦	Q J 9 6 4		
		♣	---		
♠	K 2		N	♠	A Q 9 8
♥	A K 7 2	W	E	♥	Q J 9 8 4
♦	K			♦	A 7
♣	A K 7 4 3 2		S	♣	J 9
		♠	J 5 3		
		♥	---		
		♦	10 8 5 3 2		
		♣	Q 10 8 6 5		

b)

		♠	7 6 5 4	Board 37 N / NS	
		♥	10 6 5 3		
		♦	Q J 9 6 4		
		♣	---		
♠	K 2		N	♠	A Q 9 8
♥	A K 7 2	W	E	♥	Q J 9 8 4
♦	K			♦	A 7
♣	A K 7 4 3 2		S	♣	J 9
		♠	J 10 3		
		♥	---		
		♦	10 8 5 3 2		
		♣	Q 10 8 6 5		

c)

		♠	10 7 6 4	Board 37 N / NS	
		♥	10 6 5 3		
		♦	Q 6 5 4 3		
		♣	---		
♠	K 2		N	♠	A Q 9 8
♥	A K 7 2	W	E	♥	Q J 9 8 4
♦	K			♦	A 7
♣	A K 7 4 3 2		S	♣	J 9
		♠	J 5 3		
		♥	---		
		♦	J 10 9 8 2		
		♣	Q 10 8 6 5		

In all cases the auction is the same:

W	N	E	S
	pass	1♥	pass
2NT [1]	pass	3♠ [2]	pass
4NT	pass	5♠	pass
7♥	… pass [3]	All pass	

1) GF, heart support
2) Natural, good hand
3) All players agreed that up to 5♠ the tempo of the tray had been very fast, less than 10 seconds on average. However, after 7♥ North paused for a little while before his final pass. All players agreed that the tempo was around 12/15 seconds. South led the ♣5. Contract is down 1.

The result at the other table was 7NT -1 (after a similar auction North doubled 7♥ for the club lead, and eventually West removed to 7NT).

Now:

1. Do you consider taking any action?

2. If so, explain in details which one and why in each of the three cases, underlining the differences, if any.

M 5)

	♠ J 10 8 7 2 ♥ 2 ♦ 8 2 ♣ K Q 6 5 4	Board 8 W / none
♠ Q 5 3 ♥ K Q 10 8 5 ♦ A Q J 3 ♣ 3	N W E S	♠ A 9 6 4 ♥ A 6 ♦ 10 7 6 4 ♣ 10 8 2
	♠ K ♥ J 9 7 4 3 ♦ K 9 5 ♣ A J 9 7	

W	N	E	S
1♥	2♠ [A]	pass	4♠
All pass			

2♠ Explained by South to West as 'Intermediate', whereas systemically (according to the convention card) it is a 'Roman' jump (showing the black suits).

Result: N/S –250

At the conclusion of the hand West calls the Director and says that if he had known that North held a weak 2-suiter then he would have doubled for take-out, which his partner would most likely have converted.

M 6)

		♠	4 2	Board 14 E / none	
		♥	7 6 4 2		
		♦	A 9 3 2		
		♣	Q J 6		
♠	K J 10 9 8	N		♠	A Q 6 3
♥	K Q 10 9 3	W	E	♥	A J 8 5
♦	6			♦	K 8 5
♣	10 7	S		♣	A K
		♠	7 5		
		♥	---		
		♦	Q J 10 7 4		
		♣	9 8 5 4 3 2		

W	N	E	S
		2NT [1]	pass
3♥ [2]	pass	3♠	pass
4♥	pass	4♠	pass
4NT [3]	pass	5♣ [4]	pass
6♠	pass	pass	X
All pass			

1) 20-22 HCP Balanced
2) Transfer to spades
3) RKCB
4) 0 or 3 Keycards

Upon enquiry North explained that there was no special agreement about the double and that since South was the one on lead, 'it should be just penalties'. At this point South expressed surprise by saying, 'Oh – am I on lead?'.

W	N	E	S
♦6	♦A	♦5	♦Q
♥3	♥2	♥5	♠5

Result: E/W -100

West now suggested that South's gratuitous comment had served to highlight the true nature of South's intended Lightner double, which in turn had assisted North in finding the heart switch.

North argued that the auction had marked East with all the outstanding high-card values and that consequently the only legitimate remaining chance was to try for a heart ruff.

M 7) **Teams**

		♠	10 8	Board 2 E / NS	
		♥	A 8 4 2		
		♦	Q		
		♣	J 10 9 8 6 5		
♠	K 9 5 2	N		♠	J 7 6 4 3
♥	K 5 3	W	E	♥	10 9 6
♦	A 9 7 5 4	S		♦	K J
♣	2			♣	A K 7
		♠	A Q		
		♥	Q J 7		
		♦	10 8 6 3 2		
		♣	Q 4 3		

W	N	E	S
		1♠	pass
2♦	pass	2NT	pass
4♠	All pass		

W	N	E	S
♦4	♦Q	♦K	♦8
♠2	♠8	♠3	♠A
♦5	♠10	… ♦J *	♦6
	♥A		

Result: 4♠E +420

* East did not play this card immediately. There was about a 9-second break-in-tempo. North then drew the inference that East had unblocked from ♦KJx and thus elected to cash the ♥A, before East could enjoy dummy's diamonds.

East says she was surprised by the second round ruff and admits she 'took a few moments to collect her thoughts', ultimately surmising that the contract was doomed, even if South held the ♥A.

N/S lead 2nd highest from four or more small and lowest from three small.

M 8)

		♠	4	Board 30 E / none	
		♥	A 10 8 4		
		♦	---		
		♣	K Q 10 8 6 4 3 2		
♠	Q 5 2	N		♠	A 8 3
♥	J 6	W	E	♥	9 7 5
♦	K 10 9 7 6 2			♦	A Q 8 5 4
♣	A 9	S		♣	J 5
		♠	K J 10 9 7 6		
		♥	K Q 3 2		
		♦	J 3		
		♣	7		

The contract is 3NT played by West.

W	N	E	S
♣9	♣K	♣5	♣7
♣A	♣Q	♣J	♥2
♦K	♥4	♦4	♦3
♦2	♥8	♦A	♠6
♦6	♥10	♦Q	♠7
♦7	♠4	♦5	♦J
			♥K

Result: 3NTW –5

TD decision please.

M 9)

		♠	A K J	Board 5 N / NS	
		♥	J 10 4 2		
		♦	Q 9		
		♣	Q 10 8 3		
♠	Q 6 5 4 2	N		♠	10 7
♥	Q	W	E	♥	K 7 6 3
♦	10 2			♦	K J 8 7 4
♣	J 9 7 6 2	S		♣	5 4
		♠	9 8 3		
		♥	A 9 8 5		
		♦	A 6 5 3		
		♣	A K		

W	N	E	S
	1♣		1NT

Both these calls occur simultaneously.

Case 1

East, who hasn't seen the 1NT bid now passes. West calls the TD and the auction proceeds as follows:

W	N	E	S
	1♣	pass	1♦
pass	1♥	pass	4♥
All pass			

Result: 4♥N +650

TD decision?

Case 2

West immediately calls the TD and then declines to accept 1NT. East now passes and the auction proceeds as follows:

W	N	E	S
	1♣	pass	1NT
pass	2♥	pass	4♥
All pass			

Result: 4♥N +650

Are there other issues for the TD to consider?

Case 3

This time the two initial calls are non-simultaneous, with the 1NT bid occurring about 5 seconds after North's 1♣ opening. West again declines to accept the BOOT and the auction then proceeds via the same path as in Case 2.

Result: 4♥N +650

TD decison?

Case 4

The sequence of events is identical to Case 3, except that when the TD arrives, South says that he did not see the 1♣ bid.

Result: 4♥N +650

TD decision?

M 10) **Open Pairs** **Very high level of competition**

		♠	Q J 10 4	Board 30 E / none	
		♥	K 10 6 5		
		♦	4 3		
		♣	10 4 2		
♠	6 3 2	N W E S		♠	9 7
♥	Q J			♥	9 7 4 3 2
♦	A 9 5 2			♦	Q 10 8 7 6
♣	K 9 5 3			♣	J
		♠	A K 8 5		
		♥	A 8		
		♦	K J		
		♣	A Q 8 7 6		

W	N	E	S
pass [1]		2♥ [2]	X
pass	2♠	pass	4♣ [3]
pass	5♣	pass	6♠
All pass			

1) Out-of-Turn (not accepted)
2) Natural Weak Two (normally 6-10 HCP)
3) Intended as a cue bid agreeing spades

Result: 6♠N -50

At the end of the hand South calls the TD and complains about East's decision to open 2♥ following his partner's Pass-out-of-rotation. South maintains that without the 2♥ bid he would open 2NT and his side would finish in 4♠.

Discuss the issues that the TD should consider, and then give your final decision.

M 11) **European Open Mixed Teams**

		♠	J 9 2	Board 13 N / all	
		♥	J 6 4		
		♦	9		
		♣	K Q J 5 4 2		
♠	7 3	N		♠	A K
♥	Q 10 7 5	W	E	♥	K 2
♦	J 6 5 2			♦	A K Q 7 4 3
♣	10 7 3	S		♣	9 8 6
		♠	Q 10 8 6 5 4		
		♥	A 9 8 3		
		♦	10 8		
		♣	A		

a) This is the auction in one room (Table 1):

W (B)	N (A)	E (B)	S (A)
	3♣	X	3♠
pass	pass	4♦	pass
5♦	All pass		

South led the ♣A, then – fatally – cashed the ♥A. Just made.

In the other room (Table 2):

W (A)	N (B)	E (A)	S (B)
	pass	1♦	2♦ [A]
pass	3♥	X	3♠
pass	4♠	5♦	All pass

2♦: Multi

The contract goes down 3 (after the ♣A lead South switched to a ♠, and declarer eventually finessed the ♥10 for his contract). However, the TD is called, and EW point out that South's 2♦ should not be allowed (it is a Brown Sticker) and ask for the board to be canceled, and 3 IMP to be awarded to their team.
If you are interested in the results at other tables, have a look at the frequency tables at the end.

a1) It is a KO (Round of 16), and the final result without this board is A 132 - B 126. What result should the TD award on the match?

a2) It is a Swiss match (10 boards per round), and the final result without this board is A 33 - B 41. What result should the TD award on the match?

b) This is the auction in one room (Table 1):

W (B)	N (A)	E (B)	S (A)
	3♣	X	3♠
pass	pass	4♦	pass
5♦	All pass		

South led the ♣A, then – fatally – cashed the ♥A. Just made.

In the other room (Table 2):

W (A)	N (B)	E (A)	S (B)
	pass	1♦	2♠
pass	3♣	X	3♠
pass	4♠	5♦	All pass

The contract is down 3 (after the ♣A lead South switched to a ♠, and declarer eventually finessed the ♥10 for his contract). At the end, EW discover that East had 14 cards and West 12. The cards had been distributed by the organization.
If you are interested in the results at other tables, have a look at the frequency tables at the end.

b1) It is a KO (Round of 16), and the final result without this board is A 132 - B 126. What result should the TD award on the match?

b2) It is a Swiss match (10 boards per round), and the final result without this board is A 33 - B 41. What result should the TD award on the match?

c) This is the auction in one room (Table 1):

W (B)	N (A)	E (B)	S (A)
	3♣	X	3♠
pass	pass	4♦	pass
5♦	All pass		

South led the ♣A, then – fatally – cashed the ♥A. Just made.

In the other room (Table 2):

W (A)	N (B)	E (A)	S (B)
	pass	1♦	2♠
pass	3♣	X	3♠
pass	4♠	5♦	All pass

The contract goes down 3 (after the ♣A lead South switched to a ♠, and declarer eventually finessed the ♥10 for his contract). At the end, the players discover that East played with 14 cards and South with 12, the card swapped being the ♦8. The cards had been distributed by the organization.
If you are interested in the results at other tables, have a look at the frequency tables at the end.

c1) It is a KO (Round of 16), and the final result without this board is A 132 - B 126. What result should the TD award on the match?

c2) It is a Swiss match (10 boards per round), and the final result without this board is A 33 - B 41. What result should the TD award on the match?

d) **PAIRS**

W	N	E	S
	pass	1♦	2♦ [A]
pass	3♥	X	3♠
pass	4♠	5♦	All pass

2♦: Multi

South led the ♣A, then – fatally – cashed the ♥A. Just made.

Award a score.

Frequencies			
Cases a1 / b1 / c1		**Cases a2 / b2 / c2**	
5♦x-3	1	5♦x-3	5
5♦-3	8	5♦-3	51
5♦-1	4	5♦-1	17
3NT	1	3NT	8
4♠x-1	1	4♠x-1	11

M 12) **Pairs**

		♠	Q	Board 8 W / none	
		♥	K Q 9 8 7 6 5		
		♦	5 4 2		
		♣	10 6		
♠	J 9 5 3 2		N	♠	K 4
♥	---	W	E	♥	10 4 3
♦	Q 9 8 3			♦	A 10 7 6
♣	K 8 7 3		S	♣	Q J 5 2
		♠	A 10 8 7 6		
		♥	A J 2		
		♦	K J		
		♣	A 9 4		

W	N	E	S
pass	3♥	pass	4♥
All pass			

W	N	E	S
♠5	♠Q	♠K	♠A
♣3	♥K	♥4	♥2
♦Q	♦2	♦6	♦J
♣7	… ♣10 *	♣J	♣A
♦8	♦4	♦A	♦K
♠2	♥5	♥3	♥J
♣K	♣6	♣2	♣4

* 15 seconds delay

Result: N/S +420

At the conclusion of play West objected to North's break-in-tempo at trick four, which he said created an illusion of ♣Q10 in the declarer's hand. West explained that this was the reason why he later rose with the ♣K. North replied that he simply paused in order to plan the subsequent play of the hand. West countered that for such considerations declarer could just as easily have paused before taking the Ace in dummy, which would have avoided any potential problem. He further suggested that once North had broken tempo he should have just contributed the small club and not the deceptive ♣10.

M 13)

You are given the following organizing problem:

Pairs.

a) You have 42 Pairs and three sessions of approximately 210 minutes each. What movement do you suggest (sorry, no Barometer) in order to maximize the balance?

b) Same question, but now you have 26 Pairs and two sessions.

You don't need to write down the full schedule, but just to explain the general principle you apply.

M 14)

After the following start of an auction:

W	N	E	S
	1♠	pass	1NT [A]

1NT: forcing one round

Please tag the questions by West that North must answer:

Question	YES	NO
Does 1NT promise a balanced hand?		
What would be the meaning of 2♠?		
How do you ask for Aces?		
What is the upper limit of the 1♠ opening bid?		
How strong is your 1NT opening bid?		
What are your agreements on a 2♦ opening bid?		
Can you hold a five card suit when you open 1NT?		
If I pass, what are your options?		
If I bid, let's say 2♣, would you still be obliged to bid?		
If I double, are you still obliged to bid?		

What is the Law reference?

M 15)

		♠	10 4 3 2	Board 2 E / NS			
		♥	A 2				
		♦	A 2				
		♣	A K Q 10 2				
♠	A 9 8	N			♠	K J 7 6	
♥	J 4 3	W		E	♥	10 9 7 6	
♦	J 5 4 3				♦	K 10 9	
♣	8 6 5	S			♣	4 3	
		♠	Q 5				
		♥	K Q 8 5				
		♦	Q 8 7 6				
		♣	J 9 7				

W	N	E	S
		pass	pass
pass	1♣	1♠	X
2♠	3♠	pass	4♥
pass	5♣	All pass	

Lead ♠6 to West's Ace, and a diamond switch. Declarer wins the ♦A and ♥AKQ follow, throwing his diamond loser. Now the ♠Q to East's K. Here's the position:

		♠	10 4	Board 2 E / NS			
		♥	---				
		♦	---				
		♣	A K Q 10 2				
♠	9	N			♠	J 7	
♥	---	W		E	♥	10	
♦	J 5 4				♦	K 10	
♣	8 6 5	S			♣	4 3	
		♠	---				
		♥	8				
		♦	Q 8 7				
		♣	J 9 7				

East plays the ♥10, and after the ♥8 West starts thinking. At some point, declarer spreads his cards stating: 'I've all the high trumps; eleven tricks.'

East calls the TD and objects that after that statement declarer can go down after: ♣5, ♣10, ♠ ruff high, ♦ ruff high, ♠ ruff high, ♦ ruff high, promoting a trump to the defense.

Your ruling?

Answers to the Main Test

1. The way to go down is almost impossible to be found even double dummy (!), thus we can be sure that without having been disturbed by West's request, North would have made nine tricks, thus (d) is the solution. The second best is (c). Then come (a)&(b) (the order is not important, but my preference goes to (b) then (a): the TD had the wrong view in (b), but still legal, and applied 70D3 in (a), a Law that we have said several times should not be used). Finally come (e&f). For the sake of the mark, they are also interchangeable, because both are illegal, however, if a weighted might have some (perverse) logic, a split doesn't have any. The list is thus: (d), (c), (a, b), (e, f)

2. This is hand from the European Teams Championships held in Tenerife 2001. It should be obvious that the hesitation suggests South's preference for a specific lead, thus, reading the Law it has to be established if the heart lead could have been suggested over another by the UI. The answer is "yes": it has been suggested over clubs, which is the natural lead. It must be noted what are the questions the TD has to ask upon interviewing experts: i) what would you lead? ii) Do you consider any alternative? iii) What does the hesitation suggest? iv) Do you think that the hesitation helped to pick heart over another logical alternative?
   Thus, (f) is the right answer, followed by (c). This is a wrong view, clearly (if you have chosen it as the best solution this led to a bad mark), but still lawful. Then comes (b), because we have said that after all, the WBFLC minute says that such scores "should be avoided", thus it looks like in exceptional circumstances they are allowed (they are not, as all EBL and WBF TDs are clearly instructed). Finally come (a), (d) and (e): they are all illegal, and I don't have a preference for the order.

3. The first issue to be addressed here is whether East's comment should be considered a claim. Since he never mentioned any specific number of tricks, nor showed any card, nor suggested to stop playing, he didn't claim.
   However, his comment was clearly deceiving for North, who therefore could never think that the contract could make, thus did not realize that the ♣10 in declarer's hand would have made the contract makeable. Thus, 73F should be applied here.
   Still we have to decide how: it is not certain that North would not lead the ♣Q anyhow: if you give East the ♦A instead of K, and not the ♣10, playing a club is essential to doom the contract, since continuing a heart would present declarer with the ninth trick. However, as some candidate pointed out, technically spoken the situation where it's essential to lead a club is unlikely, even though still possible.
   This makes awarding 3NT-1 all the times not so wrong as described in the original answer, even though a weighted still looks preferable.

4. The new WBF (and now EBL) regulation says that the TD must consider an adjusted score (it was clearly specified in my lectures on the subject). However, in case (a) leading a spade is just impossible or, in other words, NOT a logical alternative, and the UI does not suggest leading clubs over diamonds. No adjustment.
   In case (b) leading a spade is fairly possible: 7♥ made.

In case c), the candidate should not fall into the trap of considering the diamond lead more attractive than the club lead, thus a logical alternative. The point remains: the UI does not suggest clubs over diamonds.

5. Here some bridge judgment is required, but a basic one.
You should immediately realize that with the wrong explanation (Spades) West didn't have any chance of finding a T/O double over 4♠, since he risked his partner bidding 5♣, with disastrous consequences. However, with North holding the black suits a double becomes much more attractive: partner is known to be short in spades, and he's favourite to hold some support in the reds. Still not an automatic action, but one that the TD should at least explore asking players.

6. If you limit the problem to wondering whether North had or had not a logical alternative to the heart switch, from the purely technical point of view the answer is easy: "no", he didn't. With the opponents marked with all the remaining high cards, a ruff is the only possible way to defeat the contract, and heart is the only suit that offers a reasonable chance for it.
However, there is a further issue: was it South's comment which rang a bell? We know that in many situations a player in the same position as North will lazily play back a diamond, or a club. However, we have a hint: South doubled, and this should be considered enough for North to wonder what was going on, and to stay focused.
Result stands, and no procedural penalty: South's comment was totally naive.

7. Did East have a bridge reason to think before following with the ♦J? No. Could he have known that it could have resulted in an advantage? Yes. Was North damaged? Yes. Differently than in case 12, the scoring here is IMP, and no player would ever consider cashing the ♥A giving away the chance of defeating the contract.
The result should then be adjusted to 4♠-1 all the times, whereas a weighted score would have been appropriate in a Pairs (mp) event.

8. This should be a very well known solution: without the second revoke the declarer would have made eight tricks, and the penalty for the first revoke would have resulted in the contract making. This is what the WBFLC said in Veldhoven 2011: 64C applies to the second revoke only, and not to the whole hand (otherwise, you will draw the conclusion that is convenient to revoke twice, or even more times!), or, in other words, to the situation as created after the first revoke. 3NT just made.
Here's the WBFLC minute:

The committee redirected its attention to its minute of 10 October 2008 concerning Law64C. The interpretation of the committee is re-expressed in the case of one or more repeated revokes by the same player in the same suit. The penalty provisions are applied according to Law 64A for the first revoke. For the subsequent revoke(s) the Director applies Law 64C. He adjusts the score if the non-offending side would have gained more tricks had the repeated revoke(s) not occurred. (see example below).
Example

	♠ 10 ♡ Q J 6 5 3 ♢ K 6 5 2 ♣ A K Q	
♠ J 7 6 ♡ 9 8 7 ♢ A 10 9 8 7 ♣ J 10		♠ 5 4 2 ♡ A K 10 2 ♢ Q 4 3 ♣ 8 4 2
	♠ A K Q 9 8 3 ♡ 4 ♢ J ♣ 9 7 6 5 3	

South is declarer in 4♠. West leads ♣J

Play:

West	North	East	South
♣J	♣A	♣2	♣3
♣10	♣K	♣4	♢J !!
♠6	♣Q	♣8	♡4 !!
♢A	ruffed by declarer who wins all remaining tricks.		

Result: 12 tricks

The Facts:

South revoked twice, on the ♣K and ♣Q.

Decision:
The TD applies L64A2 for the first revoke: one trick transferred. There is no penalty for the second revoke but L64C applies. If South gained advantage while committing the second revoke it needs to be removed. Had South followed suit in trick 3 West could have ruffed and South would have lost another trick. The adjusted score is 4♠ just made.

9.

Case 1: This is a simple application of Law 28B:

LAW 28 - CALLS CONSIDERED TO BE IN ROTATION
[...]
B. Call by Correct Player Cancelling Call Out of Rotation
A call is considered to be in rotation when made by a player whose turn it was to call before rectification has been assessed for a call out of rotation by an opponent.

Making such a call forfeits the right to rectification for the call out of rotation. The auction proceeds as though the opponent had not called at that turn, but Law 16D2 applies.

Since EW's right to a rectification was forfeited by East's pass, South withdrew his 1NT without any penalty. At the time he bid 1♥ North didn't use any UI, thus result stands.

Case 2: Since West called immediately, then EW kept the right to a rectification, here for the bid out of turn. Now East's pass forced South to repeat 1NT, creating an important UI: now North knows that his partner has 15/17 balanced. When he bid 2♥ North did use the UI, and not only, he did it blatantly. To start with, the TD should then adjust the score to 1NT+3, but Law 73C calls here for a procedural penalty too (provided that the TD has clearly informed North about his restrictions due to the UI), and if North is an expert, I suggest a full top.
It is interesting to note that the Laws do not specifically cover this situation: there is nothing about this subject in the "simultaneous calls" sections. However, first of all the solution is analogous to others and, in any case, the original 1NT has, at some point, been withdrawn (and then obligatory put back on the table!), thus 16D applies. The case was created by a clever West, who realized the effects of his decisions.

Case 3: Interesting. Here the tempo of 1NT does not make it clear whether was an opening bid or a response, however, when he bid 2♥ North made it clear that he received the message (or did he gamble? and if so, does it mean that he used the UI?) We think that Law 16 should still apply, but an answer explaining why not would be acceptable.

Case 4: This is the easiest: the comment created UI, and North blatantly used it. Same as in 2.

10. There are a few issues here that we wanted the candidate to address:
    - Does the TD have to accept South's statement about the 2NT Opening bid? Well, nowadays it is quite classical, but the point is that even opening otherwise it is unlikely for NS to have a misunderstanding.
    - Did East use the UI? Possibly, which is enough to use Law 16.
    - Was there a LA to 2♥? Obviously yes (hope you do not need to interview players to know it).
    - Did South, or North, make a serious error? And if so, is it related to the infraction? I'm open to discussion on whether it is a serious error or not, but certainly is not related to the infraction, since NS had all the chances to end up in the right contract. Since the level is very high, North's 5♣ bid looks dreadful, but fully adjusting (no consequent-subsequent here) is acceptable if the possibility of a serious error has been addressed.

11. The way we look at 86D, the different teams' cases should start from the same point: the frequencies are telling us that it is basically impossible for the other room's result to be replicated. However, there are differences:
    (a) We'll never know what would have happened without the infraction, but the frequencies are telling us that some better result for the non offenders was possible. A weighted score looks appropriate.
    (b) We have a result favorable to non offenders, and the auction in the room of the infraction is telling us what would have likely been the outcome -3 (finessing the ♥10 would result in the loss of a trick more than in the played hand, where West held only two clubs). Team B +14.
    (c) Both sides are at fault thus a split score is the right solution, and we know from the previous cases what the solution should be: -14 for Team A, and a weighted for Team B (e.g. +11)
    (d) The non-offenders were not damaged!

12. The first issue here should be solved quickly: North did not have any bridge reason to think before playing the ♣10, and further than that, playing the ♣10 instead of the ♣6 gave to the defenders, and particularly to West, the impression that he had to make a choice.
    The second issue is not as easy as the first one. To award an adjusted score in a case of illegal deception, three conditions must be fulfilled: there should be no bridge reason (and we have seen that this condition is indeed fulfilled); at the time of the deceiving action the offender could have known that his behavior could have resulted in an advantage; there must be a direct link between the damage and the infraction or, in other words, the damage must be a consequence of the infraction.
    We will see the third point later: we now have to focus on the second one.
    You can argue whether North could have know, but there are reasons to say "yes": a) the card played by North in itself; b) the fact that North knew that was essential to cut the communications between the defenders in order to avoid a third round of trumps from East.
    The third requirement is rather easy to be answered if the event is scored at IMP (Teams): the only way for West to defeat the contract relies on East being able to take the lead and play a third round of hearts, and we know from experience that in a team match, whenever there is the chance, players tend to focus on defeating the contract, and not on overtricks. However, here matchpoints are involved, thus the situation is much trickier.
    It is fairly possible that once the ♣10 is played in tempo, West would think that it may come from Q10, thus making it more attractive to win the ♣K in order not to concede 4♥+1.
    A weighted score should be the solution, not necessarily generous with EW (you may even interview players before coming to the final decision), whereas a straight 4♥-1 would be recommended in a team (IMP) match.

13.

a) A combined Scrambled Mitchell-Reduced Howell Movement. Pairs divided in four groups: three of 13 each, and one of 3. The group of three is stationary in the Howell, the groups of 13 play twice in the Mitchell and once in the Howell. 26 boards per session, two per round. At the end, every pair has met all the others but two.

b) The most elegant solution is a scrambled Mitchell followed by an Interwoven Howell (or vice versa), but a Scrambled Mitchell followed by two groups of Howell with a bye is acceptable. 26 boards per session, two boards per round.

The above are the least acceptable answers: if you want to suggest cleverer ones, you are welcome (if you are right!).

14. The principle to be understood is that according to 20F a question is still legal even though it risks passing UI (as specifically said in 20F). However, there is no right to receive an answer to all questions: if the information is not relevant a player does not have the right to receive it.
There is a controversy here, because Law 20F speaks about "opponents' prior actions", however, Law 40 says that a player has the right to know all the opponents' partnership agreements at any time.
The suggested answer is then a combination of the two principles.

Question	YES	NO
Does 1NT promise a balanced hand?	**X**	
What would be the meaning of 2♠?	**X**	
How do you ask for Aces?		**X**
What is the upper limit of the 1♠ opening bid?	**X**	
How strong is your 1NT opening bid?	**X**	
What are your agreements on a 2♦ opening bid?		**X**
Can you hold a five card suit when you open 1NT?	**X**	
If I pass, what are your options?	**X**	
If I bid, let's say 2♣, would you still be obliged to bid?	**X**	
If I double, are you still obliged to bid?	**X**	

15. This is a gift: in the given ending, it would be irrational to ruff a diamond instead of simply drawing trumps.