

# Opinions count - player speak

Board 10

Sitting South you hold:

♠ K 9 4

♥ 3

♦ A J 9 8 6 4 3

♣ 8 3

The bidding goes:

| W  | N   | E | S  |
|----|-----|---|----|
| -  | -   | P | 3♦ |
| 3♥ | 3NT | P | P  |
| 4♥ | P   | P | ?  |

? Your turn to bid. What call do you choose?






# Unauthorised Information

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European events bring players from<sup>3</sup> different countries, lifestyles and cultures together. In this melting pot, language and customs can have a great influence on perceptions. Our role is to create and maintain a level playing field for every player.

In this lecture we focus on the how we define information, and who may do what with it, when.

**Use of information**





Laws 16 & 73,75

Define

Legal (authorised)

and

Illegal (unauthorised)

The laws define extraneous information and state that players may use information during the bidding and play but only when it is obtained through legal means.

This we call authorised information (AI)

All other information is unauthorised (UI) and cannot contribute to bidding or play.

**The Lawbook**



A close-up photograph of a man with glasses and a white shirt, looking intently at a fan of playing cards he is holding. The background is slightly blurred, showing what appears to be a window and some wooden structures. A colorful, abstract graphic element is visible in the top left corner.

## The TD's job is two-fold

### 1. Players rights & duties

- Determine AI & UI
- Gather facts

BEFORE/DURING AUCTION or PLAY

### 2. Adjudicate for damage

- Poll
- Consult
- Assess

AFTER PLAY IS COMPLETED



♠ 8653

♠ K

♠ 9742

♠ AQJ10

## Authorised or Unauthorised?

Withdrawn play

South plays a ♥ contract. He calls for the ♠3 from dummy, East ruffs, South follows with the ♠10 and West with ♠K. East realizes he has revoked and after being instructed by the TD, replaces the trump with a ♠ and South plays the ♠A.

Answer:

The information coming from the early play of the card is authorised for South who then has every right to play the Ace.



♠ 8653

♠ K

♠ 9742

♠ AQJ10

## Authorised or Unauthorised?

Withdrawn play

Same hand but this time South revokes:

East follows suit, South revokes throwing a ♦ and West plays his ♠ K.

South realises and changes the ♦ to the ♠ A.

Answer:

West's ♠ K is UI to South. One trick to the ♠ K.



## Withdrawn Call

|           |         |        |
|-----------|---------|--------|
| ♠ K87     | ♠ 1062  | ♠ AJ94 |
| ♥ J7      | ♥ KQ986 | ♥ 42   |
| ♦ Q2      | ♦ 1098  | ♦ 7643 |
| ♣ AQ10864 | ♣ J2    | ♣ 975  |
|           | ♠ Q53   |        |
|           | ♥ A1053 |        |
|           | ♦ AKJ5  |        |
|           | ♣ K3    |        |

TD. Then:

|          |         |    |          |
|----------|---------|----|----------|
| W        | N       | E  | S        |
|          |         |    | 1♠ (25A) |
| 2♣       |         |    |          |
| W        | N       | E  | S        |
| P        | 2♦ (♥s) | 3♣ | 1NT      |
| All pass |         |    | 3♥       |

West leads a spade, won by East's A, who plays a ♣.  
 West cashes the A and the Q and plays back a trump.  
 Later South cashes ♦AK and makes 3♥.

## Authorised or Unauthorised?



## Withdrawn Call

♠ 1062  
 ♥ KQ986  
 ♦ 1098  
 ♣ J2

♠ K87  
 ♥ J7  
 ♦ Q2  
 ♣ AQ10864

♠ Q53  
 ♥ A1053  
 ♦ AKJ5  
 ♣ K3

♠ AJ94  
 ♥ 42  
 ♦ 7643  
 ♣ 975

## Authorised or Unauthorised?

|    |   |   |          |
|----|---|---|----------|
| W  | N | E | S        |
|    |   |   | 1♠ (25A) |
| 2♣ |   |   |          |

TD. Then:

|          |         |    |     |
|----------|---------|----|-----|
| W        | N       | E  | S   |
|          |         |    | 1NT |
| P        | 2♦ (♥s) | 3♣ | 3♥  |
| All pass |         |    |     |

West leads a spade, won by East's A, who plays a ♣.  
 West cashes the A and the Q and plays back a trump.  
 Later South cashes ♦AK and makes 3♥.

### 1. Players rights & duties

**Determine AI & UI** – withdrawn call - 2♣ AI to EW, UI to NS

**Gather facts** – bidding changed, declarer & defensive play may have a decision  
**BEFORE/DURING AUCTION or PLAY**

### 2. Adjudicate for damage

**Assess** – Might South have taken the finesse in diamonds without the 2♣ bid

**Consult/Rule** – LA may factor

**AFTER PLAY IS COMPLETED**

## Withdrawn Call

♠ 1062  
 ♥ KQ986  
 ♦ 1098  
 ♣ J2

♠ K87  
 ♥ J7  
 ♦ Q2  
 ♣ AQ10864

♠ Q53  
 ♥ A1053  
 ♦ AKJ5  
 ♣ K3

TD. Then:

|          |         |    |          |
|----------|---------|----|----------|
| W        | N       | E  | S        |
|          |         |    | 1♠ (25A) |
| 2♣       |         |    |          |
| W        | N       | E  | S        |
| P        | 2♦ (♥s) | 3♣ | 1NT      |
| All pass |         |    | 3♥       |

West leads a spade, won by East's A, who plays a ♣.  
 West cashes the A and the Q and plays back a trump.  
 Later South cashes ♦AK and makes 3♥.

The canceled call is authorized information (AI) for East.

East's 3♣ is perfectly legal.

But unauthorized (UI) for South

South's ♦ play could have been influenced by the knowledge of high card strength and club length in West. Further South must play the whole hand assuming that the length in ♣s are in East!

16C1 and 16C2. The result should be adjusted to 3♥-1.

## Authorised or Unauthorised?



# Logical alternative

## 16B1(a)

A player

- ...must carefully avoid taking any advantage (73C)
- when in possession of unauthorised information

(b) A player may not choose a call or play that is demonstrably suggested over another by unauthorised information if the other call or play is a logical alternative.

## 16B1(b)

- Definition

(b) A logical alternative is an action that a significant proportion of the class of players in question, using the methods of the partnership, would seriously consider, and some might select.



# TD role

## ESSENTIALS

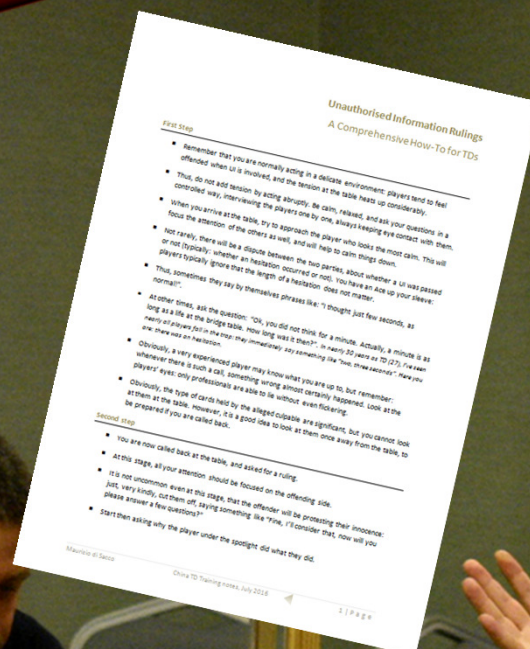
Communicate

Establish

Establishing

Linking

Reasoning



- Take your best self back to the table to
- Gather information then
- Consider and
- Consult before Ruling



## TD role

When called to the table before play is completed you should:

- Find out whether UI was made available or not.
- For no reason should a TD look at any card, nor give any ruling.
- Simply request that the bidding and play continue, and advise you may award an adjusted score at the end.
- Be ready to return to the table IF YOU ARE RECALLED.

Some of our TDs simply photograph the auction at this time, noting the irregularity in some way for the photo. Certainly they do their best to avoid delaying play or disturbing the table.





**Play finishes**

You have been recalled.

**Now your work begins...**



# You hold:

|   |   |   |             |
|---|---|---|-------------|
|   | N |   | ♠ Q 8       |
| W |   | E | ♥ A 9 8 7 5 |
|   | S |   | ♦ 10 8 3    |
|   |   |   | ♣ Q 6 4     |

♠ 7 5 4  
 ♥ 4  
 ♦ A 9 7 6  
 ♣ A K 9 8 5

*West*

1 ♠

2 ♥

*North*

Pass

Pass

*East*

1 NT

4 ♥

*South*

2 ♣

All pass

West called the TD at the end of the hand to say that North had played a very slow three of clubs at trick two, and South had then played the AD before playing a third club.

|              |             |             |          |
|--------------|-------------|-------------|----------|
|              | ♠ 10 6 2    |             |          |
|              | ♥ J 2       |             |          |
|              | ♦ K Q 5 4 2 |             |          |
|              | ♣ 10 7 3    |             |          |
| ♠ A K J 9 3  | N           | ♠ Q 8       |          |
| ♥ K Q 10 6 3 | W           | ♥ A 9 8 7 5 |          |
| ♦ J          | E           | ♦ 10 8 3    |          |
| ♣ J 2        | S           | ♣ Q 6 4     |          |
|              | ♠ 7 5 4     |             |          |
|              | ♥ 4         |             |          |
|              | ♦ A 9 7 6   |             |          |
|              | ♣ A K 9 8 5 |             |          |
| West         | North       | East        | South    |
| 1 ♠          | Pass        | 1 NT        | 2 ♣      |
| 2 ♥          | Pass        | 4 ♥         | All pass |

## TD assessment:

1. Was UI available?  
YES – all agreed North had thought
2. Was there a link between?  
YES – slow ♣3 suggested a choice of two cards ergo declarer had only two
3. Was there an LA to the action chosen?  
YES – another club
4. Did the offending side gain from UI?  
YES – on a third club declarer would have been able to discard J♦ on Q♣

TD RULING:

Give EW their trick.



## TD also later ruled:

|  |              |             |   |
|--|--------------|-------------|---|
| ♠ 10 6 2<br>♥ J 2<br>♦ K Q 5 4 2<br>♣ 10 7 3 |              |             |   |
| ♠ A K J 9 3<br>♥ K Q 10 6 3<br>♦ J<br>♣ J 2  | N<br>W<br>S  | E<br>S      | ♠ Q 8<br>♥ A 9 8 7 5<br>♦ 10 8 3<br>♣ Q 6 4 |
| ♠ 7 5 4<br>♥ 4<br>♦ A 9 7 6<br>♣ A K 9 8 5   |              |             |   |
| <i>West</i>                                  | <i>North</i> | <i>East</i> | <i>South</i>                                |
| 1 ♠  | Pass         | 1 NT        | 2 ♣   |
| 2 ♥  | Pass         | 4 ♥         | All pass                                    |

NS were fined for use of UI after an expert consult led to a second poll to judge the severity of NS actions\*

Great TDs adopt a strategy whereby an expert advisor assists with wider aspects of behaviour, play and bidding actions.

# Opinions count - player speak

Board 10

Sitting South you hold:

♠ K 9 4

♥ 3

♦ A J 9 8 6 4 3

♣ 8 3

The bidding goes:

| W  | N   | E | S  |
|----|-----|---|----|
| -  | -   | P | 3♦ |
| 3♥ | 3NT | P | P  |
| 4♥ | P   | P | ?  |

Your turn to bid.

What call did you choose?

PASS

DOUBLE

5♦

Something else



|  |                 |                |     |       |        |      |   |   |     |   |         |   |          |   |        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--|-----------------|----------------|-----|-------|--------|------|---|---|-----|---|---------|---|----------|---|--------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| <table><tr><td>Bd</td><td>10</td></tr><tr><td>Vul</td><td>ALL</td></tr><tr><td>Dlr</td><td>E</td></tr></table> | Bd              | 10             | Vul | ALL   | Dlr    | E    | <table><tr><td>♠</td><td>Q J</td></tr><tr><td>♥</td><td>A K 8 2</td></tr><tr><td>♦</td><td>K 10 5 2</td></tr><tr><td>♣</td><td>J 10 7</td></tr></table> | ♠ | Q J | ♥ | A K 8 2 | ♦ | K 10 5 2 | ♣ | J 10 7 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Bd   | 10              |                |     |       |        |      |   |   |     |   |         |   |          |   |        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Vul  | ALL             |                |     |       |        |      |   |   |     |   |         |   |          |   |        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dlr  | E               |                |     |       |        |      |   |   |     |   |         |   |          |   |        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ♠  | Q J             |                |     |       |        |      |   |   |     |   |         |   |          |   |        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ♥  | A K 8 2         |                |     |       |        |      |   |   |     |   |         |   |          |   |        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ♦  | K 10 5 2        |                |     |       |        |      |   |   |     |   |         |   |          |   |        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ♣  | J 10 7          |                |     |       |        |      |   |   |     |   |         |   |          |   |        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ♠ A 3  |                 | ♠ 10 8 7 6 5 2 |     |       |        |      |   |   |     |   |         |   |          |   |        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ♥ Q 10 9 7 6 5 4   |                 | ♥ J            |     |       |        |      |   |   |     |   |         |   |          |   |        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ♦ —  |                 | ♦ Q 7          |     |       |        |      |   |   |     |   |         |   |          |   |        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ♣ A 9 4 2  |                 | ♣ K Q 6 5      |     |       |        |      |   |   |     |   |         |   |          |   |        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | ♠ K 9 4         |                |     |       |        |      |   |   |     |   |         |   |          |   |        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | ♥ 3             |                |     |       |        |      |   |   |     |   |         |   |          |   |        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | ♦ A J 9 8 6 4 3 |                |     |       |        |      |   |   |     |   |         |   |          |   |        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | ♣ 8 3           |                |     |       |        |      |   |   |     |   |         |   |          |   |        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |                 |                |     | West  | North  | East | South   |   |     |   |         |   |          |   |        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |                 |                |     | -     | -      | Pass | 3 ♦ 1   |   |     |   |         |   |          |   |        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |                 |                |     | 3 ♥ 2 | 3 NT 3 | Pass | Pass  |   |     |   |         |   |          |   |        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |                 |                |     | 4 ♥ 4 | Pass 5 | Pass | Dbl 6   |   |     |   |         |   |          |   |        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |                 |                |     | Pass  | Pass   | Pass |   |   |     |   |         |   |          |   |        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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|  |                 |                |     |       |        |      |   |   |     |   |         |   |          |   |        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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### *The Ruling:*

Cause: West claims that the final double by South was based on UI, pointing out tempo before X. If pass forcing, no reason for a BIT.

|                  |                 |            |   |       |      |       |
|------------------|-----------------|------------|---|-------|------|-------|
| Bd               | 10              | ♠ Q J      | West                                      | North | East | South |
| Vul              | ALL             | ♥ A K 8 2  | -   | -     | Pass | 3 ♦ 1 |
| Dlr              | E               | ♦ K 10 5 2 | 3 ♥ 2                                     | 3 NT3 | Pass | Pass  |
|                  |                 | ♣ J 10 7   | 4 ♥ 4                                     | Pass5 | Pass | Dbl6  |
|                  |                 |            | Pass                                      | Pass  | Pass |       |
| ♠ A 3            | ♠ 10 8 7 6 5 2  |            | 1. 7 seconds, 2. 8 seconds, 3. 34         |       |      |       |
| ♥ Q 10 9 7 6 5 4 | ♥ J             |            | seconds, 4. 30 seconds, 5. 52 seconds, 6. |       |      |       |
| ♦ —              | ♦ Q 7           |            | 98 seconds                                |       |      |       |
| ♣ A 9 4 2        | ♣ K Q 6 5       |            |   |       |      |       |
|                  | ♠ K 9 4         |            |   |       |      |       |
|                  | ♥ 3             |            |   |       |      |       |
|                  | ♦ A J 9 8 6 4 3 |            |   |       |      |       |
|                  | ♣ 8 3           |            |   |       |      |       |

### The Ruling:

Cause: West claims that the final double by South was based on UI, pointing out tempo before X. If pass forcing, no reason for a BIT.

### TD RULING:

Score stands no UI due to partnerships methods.

## TD assessment:

1. Was UI available?  
NO – Pass by North is forcing
2. Was there a link between?  
NO (see 1 above)
3. Was there an LA to the action chosen?  
NO (see 1 above)
4. Did the offending side gain from UI? YES



**Look again**

**Asking the right  
questions is the key to  
good judgement rulings**



|                  |     |                 |  |       |        |      |       |
|------------------|-----|-----------------|--|-------|--------|------|-------|
| Bd               | 10  | ♠ Q J           |  | West  | North  | East | South |
| Vul              | ALL | ♥ A K 8 2       |  | -     | -      | Pass | 3 ♦ 1 |
| Dir              | E   | ♦ K 10 5 2      |  | 3 ♥ 2 | 3 NT 3 | Pass | Pass  |
|                  |     | ♣ J 10 7        |  | 4 ♥ 4 | Pass 5 | Pass | Dbl 6 |
|                  |     |                 |  | Pass  | Pass   | Pass |       |
| ♠ A 3            |     | ♠ 10 8 7 6 5 2  |  |       |        |      |       |
| ♥ Q 10 9 7 6 5 4 |     | ♥ J             |  |       |        |      |       |
| ♦ —              |     | ♦ Q 7           |  |       |        |      |       |
| ♣ A 9 4 2        |     | ♣ K Q 6 5       |  |       |        |      |       |
|                  |     |                 |  |       |        |      |       |
|                  |     | ♠ K 9 4         |  |       |        |      |       |
|                  |     | ♥ 3             |  |       |        |      |       |
|                  |     | ♦ A J 9 8 6 4 3 |  |       |        |      |       |
|                  |     | ♣ 8 3           |  |       |        |      |       |

1. 7 seconds, 2. 8 seconds, 3. 34 seconds, 4. 30 seconds, 5. 52 seconds, 6. 98 seconds

### The Ruling:

Cause: West claims that the final double by South was based on UI, pointing out tempo before X. If pass forcing, no reason for a BIT.

## TD reassessment:

### RULING:

The TD conducted further polls about the likelihood of North's pass being forcing & action without it being forcing and determined there was an alternative to the action taken.

Score adjusted to 4h-1 W

1. Was UI available?

YES In the absence of evidence to the contrary a TD assumes ME over misbid, and MI goes hand in hand with UI.

2. Was there a link between?

YES If pass is not forcing then there is a suggestion of doubt

3. Was there an LA to the action chosen?

YES - Pass

4. Did the offending side gain from UI? YES





It is not an infraction to create unauthorised information through BIT. It is an infraction to use it.

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As TDs be ready to consider how UI has affected the outcome whenever you are faced with cases where extraneous information has occurred.

Our great TDs assume nothing and ask good questions.



**Summary & questions**