

1997 original texts	2007 final Law 16
<p>[Deletions highlighted in yellow]</p> <p>Law 16 - Players are authorized to base their calls and plays on information from legal calls and or plays</p> <p>Law 16C1 - For the non-offending side, all information arising from a withdrawn action is authorized, whether the action be its own or its opponents'.</p> <p>Law 40D - The sponsoring organization may regulate the use of bidding or play conventions.</p> <p>Law 73A1 - Communication between partners during the auction and play shall be effected only by means of the calls and plays themselves.</p> <p>Law 73B2 - The gravest possible offence is for a partnership to exchange information through prearranged methods of communication other than those sanctioned by these Laws.</p> <p>Law 16 - Players are authorised to base their calls and plays on information ... from mannerisms of opponents.</p> <p>Law 16 - To base a call or play on other extraneous information may be an infraction of law.</p>	<p>[Additions and changes highlighted in yellow]</p> <p>LAW 16 AUTHORIZED AND UNAUTHORIZED INFORMATION</p> <p>A. Players' use of Information</p> <p>1. A player may use information in the auction or play if:</p> <p>(a) it derives from the legal calls and plays of the current board (including illegal calls and plays that are accepted) and is unaffected by unauthorized information from another source; or</p> <p>(b) it is authorized information from a withdrawn action (see D); or</p> <p>(c) it is information specified in any law or regulation to be authorized or, when not otherwise specified, arising from the legal procedures authorized in these laws and in regulations (but see B1 following); or</p> <p>(d) it is information that the player possessed before he took his hand from the board (Law 7B) and the Laws do not preclude his use of this information.</p> <p>2. Players may also take account of their estimate of their own score, of the traits of their opponents, and any requirement of the tournament regulations.</p> <p>3. No player may base a call or play on other information (such information being designated extraneous).</p>

Law 16A2 - assign an adjusted score if he considers that an infraction of law has resulted in damage.

Law 16B3 - **forthwith** award an artificial adjusted score.

Law 16A - After a player makes available to his partner extraneous information that may suggest a call or play, as by means of a remark, a question, a reply to a question, or by unmistakable hesitation, unwonted speed, special emphasis, tone, gesture, movement, mannerism **or the like**, the partner may not choose from among logical alternative **actions** one that could demonstrably have been suggested over another by the extraneous information.

Law 16A1 - When a player considers that an opponent has made such information available and that damage could well result, he may, unless the regulations of the sponsoring organisation prohibit, **immediately** announce that he reserves the right to summon the Director later (the opponents should summon the Director immediately if they dispute the fact that unauthorized information might have been conveyed).

Law 16A2 - When a player has substantial reason to **believe\*** that an opponent who had a logical alternative has chosen an action that could have been suggested by such information, he should summon the Director **forthwith**. The Director shall require the auction and **play to continue, standing ready to** assign an adjusted score if he considers that an infraction of law has resulted in damage.

Law 16 footnote - When play ends; **or, as to dummy's hand, when dummy is exposed.**

**4. If there is a violation of this law causing damage the Director adjusts the score in accordance with Law 12C.**

#### B. Extraneous Information from Partner

1. (a) After a player makes available to his partner extraneous information that may suggest a call or play, as **for example** by a remark, a question, a reply to a question, **an unexpected\* alert or failure to alert**, or by unmistakable hesitation, unwonted speed, special emphasis, tone, gesture, movement, or mannerism, the partner may not choose from among logical **alternatives** one that could demonstrably have been suggested over another by the extraneous information.

(b) A logical alternative action is one that, among the class of players in question and using the methods of the partnership, would be given serious consideration by a significant proportion of such players, of whom it is judged some might select it.

2. When a player considers that an opponent has made such information available and that damage could well result he may announce, **unless prohibited by the Regulating Authority (which may require that the Director be called)**, that he reserves the right to summon the Director later (the opponents should summon the Director immediately if they dispute the fact that unauthorized information might have been conveyed).

3. When a player has substantial reason to believe that an opponent who had a logical alternative has chosen an action that could have been suggested by such information, he should summon the Director **when play ends\*\***. The Director shall assign an adjusted score **(see Law 12C)** if he considers that an infraction of law has resulted in **an advantage for the offender**.

Law 16B - When a player accidentally receives unauthorised information about a board he is playing or has yet to play, as by looking at the wrong hand; by overhearing calls, results or remarks; by seeing cards at another table; or by seeing a card belonging to another player at his own table before the auction begins, the Director should be notified forthwith, preferably by the recipient of the information.

Law 16B - If the Director considers that the information could interfere with normal play, he may:

Law 16B1 - if the type of contest and scoring permit, adjust the players' positions at the table, so that the player with information about one hand will hold that hand; or,

Law 16B2 - with the concurrence of all four players, appoint a temporary substitute to replace the player who received the unauthorised information; or,

Law 16B3 - forthwith award an artificial adjusted score.

Law 16C - A call or play may be withdrawn, and another substituted, either by a non-offending side after an opponent's infraction or by an offending side to rectify an infraction.

### C. Extraneous Information from Other Sources

1. When a player accidentally receives unauthorized information about a board he is playing or has yet to play, as by looking at the wrong hand; by overhearing calls, results or remarks; by seeing cards at another table; or by seeing a card belonging to another player at his own table before the auction begins, the Director should be notified forthwith, preferably by the recipient of the information.

2. If the Director considers that the information could interfere with normal play he may, before any call has been made:

(a) adjust the players' positions at the table, if the type of contest and scoring permit, so that the player with information about one hand will hold that hand; or

(b) if the form of competition allows of it order the board redealt for those contestants; or

(c) allow completion of the play of the board standing ready to award an adjusted score if he judges that unauthorized information may have affected the result; or

(d) award an artificial adjusted score.

3. If such unauthorized information is received after the first call in the auction has been made and before completion of the play of the board the Director proceeds as in 2(c).

### D. Information from Withdrawn Calls and Plays

When a call or play has been withdrawn as these laws provide:

Law 16C1 - For the non-offending side, all information arising from a withdrawn action is authorized, whether the action be its own or its opponents'.

Law 16C2 - For the offending side, information arising from its own withdrawn action and from withdrawn actions of the non-offending side is unauthorized. A player of the offending side may not choose from among logical alternative actions one that could demonstrably have been suggested over another by the unauthorized information.

1. For a non-offending side, all information arising from a withdrawn action is authorized, whether the action be its own or its opponents'.

2. For an offending side, information arising from its own withdrawn action and from withdrawn actions of the non-offending side is unauthorized. A player of an offending side may not choose from among logical alternative actions one that could demonstrably have been suggested over another by the unauthorized information.

\* i.e. unexpected in relation to the basis of his action.

\*\* it is not an infraction to call the Director earlier or later.