

1997 original texts	2007 final Law 40 (with tracked changes)
<p>[Deletions highlighted in yellow]</p> <p>Law 75B - habitual violations within a partnership may create implicit agreements, which must be disclosed</p> <p>Law 75A - Special partnership agreements, whether explicit or implicit, must be fully and freely available to the opponents</p> <p>Law 40B - his side discloses the use of such call or play in accordance with the regulations of the sponsoring organisation.</p> <p>Law 75A - Information conveyed to partner through such agreements must arise from the calls, plays and conditions of the current deal.</p> <p>Law 16 - Players are authorised to base their calls and plays on information from legal calls and or plays, and from mannerisms of opponents. To base a call or play on other extraneous information may be an infraction of law.</p> <p>Law 40A - A player may make any call or play (including an intentionally misleading call - such as a psychic bid - or a call or play that departs from commonly accepted, or previously announced, use of a convention), without prior announcement, provided that such call or play is not based on a partnership understanding.</p> <p>Law 40B - A player may not make a call or play based on a special partnership understanding unless an opposing pair may reasonably be expected to understand its meaning, or unless his side discloses the use of such call or play in</p>	<p>[Additions and changes highlighted in yellow]</p> <p>LAW 40 - PARTNERSHIP UNDERSTANDINGS</p> <p>A. Players' Systemic Agreements</p> <p>1. (a) Partnership understandings as to the methods adopted by a partnership may be reached explicitly in discussion or implicitly through mutual experience or awareness of the players.</p> <p>(b) Each partnership has a duty to make available its partnership understandings to opponents before commencing play against them. The Regulating Authority specifies the manner in which this shall be done.</p> <p>2. Information conveyed to partner through such understandings must arise from the calls, plays and conditions of the current deal. Each player is entitled to take into account the legal auction and, subject to any exclusions in these laws, the cards he has seen. He is entitled to use information specified elsewhere in these laws to be authorized. (See Law 73C.)</p> <p>3. A player may make any call or play without prior announcement provided that such call or play is not based on an undisclosed partnership understanding (see Law 40C1).</p> <p>B. Special Partnership Understandings</p> <p>1. (a) In its discretion the Regulating Authority may designate certain partnership understandings as "special partnership understandings". A special partnership understanding is one whose meaning, in the opinion of the</p>

accordance with the regulations of the sponsoring organisation.

Law 75A - Special partnership agreements, whether explicit or implicit, must be fully and freely available to the opponents

Law 75B - habitual violations within a partnership may create implicit agreements, which must be disclosed

Law 40D - The sponsoring organisation may regulate the use of bidding or play conventions.

Law 40E1 - The sponsoring organisation may prescribe a convention card on which partners are to list their conventions and other agreements and may establish regulations for its use, including a requirement that both members of a partnership employ the same system (such a regulation must not restrict style and judgement, only method).

Chapter 1 Definitions - Alert - A notification, whose form may be specified by a sponsoring organisation, to the effect that opponents may be in need of an explanation.

Law 40E2 - During the auction and play, any player except dummy may refer to his opponents' convention card at his own turn to call or play, but not to his own.

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Regulating Authority, may not be readily understood and anticipated by a significant number of players in the tournament.

(b) Whether explicit or implicit an agreement between partners is a partnership understanding. A convention is included, unless the Regulating Authority decides otherwise, among the agreements and treatments that constitute special partnership understandings as is the case with any call that has an artificial meaning.

2. (a) The Regulating Authority is empowered without restriction to allow, disallow, or allow conditionally, any special partnership understanding. It may prescribe a System Card with or without supplementary sheets, for the prior listing of a partnership's understandings, and regulate its use. The Regulating Authority may prescribe alerting procedures and/or other methods of disclosure of a partnership's methods. It may vary the general requirement that the meaning of a call or play shall not alter by reference to the member of the partnership by whom it is made (such a regulation must not restrict style and judgement, only method).

(b) Unless the Regulating Authority provides otherwise a player may not consult his own system card after the Auction Period commences until the end of play, except that players of the declaring side (only) may consult their own system card during the Clarification Period.

(c) Unless the Regulating Authority provides otherwise a player may consult his opponent's system card

- (i) prior to the commencement of the auction,
- (ii) during the Clarification Period, and
- (iii) during the auction and during the play but only at his turn to call or play.

(d) The Regulating Authority may restrict the use of psychic artificial calls.

use of bidding or play conventions.

Law 40D - The sponsoring organisation may regulate the use of bidding or play conventions.

Law 40C - If the Director decides that a side has been damaged through its opponents' failure to explain the full meaning of a call or play, he may award an adjusted score.

Law 40D - The sponsoring organisation may regulate the use of bidding or play conventions.

Law 90B8 - Offences subject to penalty include but are not limited to: failure to comply promptly with tournament regulations

Law 75C - When explaining the significance of partner's call or play in reply to an opponent's inquiry (see Law 20), a player shall disclose all special information conveyed to him through partnership agreement or partnership experience, but he need not disclose inferences drawn from his general knowledge and experience.

Law 21B1 - when it is probable that he made the call as a result of misinformation given to him by an opponent

Law 40A - without prior announcement, provided that such call or play is not based on a partnership understanding.

Law 75B - A player may violate an announced partnership agreement, so long as his partner is unaware of the violation (but habitual violations within a partnership may create implicit agreements, which must be disclosed).

Law 75 footnote - This explanation is an infraction of Law, since East-West are entitled to an accurate description of the North-South agreement (when this

3. The Regulating Authority may disallow prior agreement by a partnership to vary its understandings during the auction or play following a question asked, a response to a question, or any irregularity.

4. A side that is damaged as a consequence of its opponents' failure to provide disclosure of the meaning of a call or play as these laws require, is entitled to rectification through the award of an adjusted score.

5. When a side is damaged by an opponent's use of a special partnership understanding that does not comply with the regulations governing the tournament the score shall be adjusted. A side in breach of those regulations may be subject to a procedural penalty.

6. (a) When explaining the significance of partner's call or play in reply to opponent's enquiry (see Law 20) a player shall disclose all special information conveyed to him through partnership agreement or partnership experience but he need not disclose inferences drawn from his knowledge and experience of matters generally known to bridge players.

(b) The Director adjusts the scores if information not given in an explanation is crucial for opponent's choice of action and opponent is thereby damaged.

#### C. Deviation from System and Psychic Action

1. A player may deviate from his side's announced understandings always provided that his partner has no more reason to be aware of the deviation than have the opponents. Repeated deviations lead to implicit understandings which then form part of the partnership's methods and must be disclosed in accordance with the regulations governing disclosure of system. If the Director judges there is undisclosed knowledge that has damaged the opponents he shall adjust the score and may

infraction results in damage to East-West, the Director shall award an adjusted score).

Law 75B - No player has the obligation to disclose to the opponents that he has violated an announced agreement and if the opponents are subsequently damaged, as through drawing a false inference from such violation, they are not entitled to redress.

Law 40 footnote - A player is not entitled, during the auction and play periods, to any aids to his memory, calculation or technique. However, **sponsoring organisations** may designate unusual methods and allow written defences against opponents' unusual methods to be referred to at the table.

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. A guilty partnership risks expulsion.

**award a procedural penalty.**

**2. Other than the above** no player has **any** obligation to disclose to opponents that he has **deviated from his announced methods.**

**3. (a) Unless permitted by the Regulating Authority** a player is not entitled during the auction and play periods to any aids to his memory, calculation or technique.

**(b) Repeated violations of requirements to disclose partnership understandings may be penalized.**