

1997 original texts	2007 final Laws 55 - 60
<p>[Deletions highlighted in yellow]</p> <p>Law 55A - If declarer has led out of turn from his or dummy's hand, either defender may accept the lead as provided in Law 53, or require its retraction (after misinformation, see Law 47E1).</p> <p>Law 55B1 - If declarer has led from his or dummy's hand when it was a defender's turn to lead, and if either defender requires him to retract such lead, declarer restores the card led in error to the proper hand without penalty.</p> <p>Law 55B2 - If declarer has led from the wrong hand when it was his turn to lead from his hand or dummy's, and if either defender requires him to retract the lead, he withdraws the card led in error. He must lead from the correct hand.</p> <p>Law 55C - When declarer adopts a line of play that could have been based on information obtained through the infraction, the Director may award an adjusted score.</p>	<p>[Additions and changes highlighted in yellow]</p> <p>LAW 55 - DECLARER'S LEAD OUT OF TURN</p> <p>A. Declarer's Lead Accepted</p> <p>If declarer has led out of turn from his or dummy's hand, either defender may accept the lead as provided in Law 53, or require its retraction (after misinformation, see Law 47E1). If the defenders choose differently the option expressed by the player next in turn shall prevail.</p> <p>B. Declarer Required to Retract Lead</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. If declarer has led from his or dummy's hand when it was a defender's turn to lead, and if either defender requires him to retract such lead, declarer restores the card led in error to the proper hand. No further rectification applies. 2. If declarer has led from the wrong hand when it was his turn to lead from his hand or dummy's, and if either defender requires him to retract the lead, he withdraws the card led in error. He must lead from the correct hand. <p>C. Declarer Might Obtain Information</p> <p>When declarer adopts a line of play that could have been based on information obtained through the infraction, the Director may award an adjusted score.</p> <p>LAW 56 - DEFENDER'S LEAD OUT OF TURN</p> <p>See Law 54D.</p> <p>LAW 57 - PREMATURE LEAD OR PLAY</p>

Law 57A - When a defender leads to the next trick before his partner has played to the current trick, or plays out of turn before his partner has played, (penalty) the card so led or played becomes a penalty card, and declarer selects one of the following options. He may:

Law 57A1 - require offender's partner to play the highest card he holds of the suit led, or

Law 57A2 - require offender's partner to play the lowest card he holds of the suit led, or

Law 57A3 - forbid offender's partner to play a card of another suit specified by declarer.

Law 57B - When offender's partner is unable to comply with the penalty selected by declarer, he may play any card, as provided in Law 59.

Law 57C - A defender is not subject to penalty for playing before his partner if declarer has played from both hands, or if dummy has played a card or has illegally suggested that it be played. A singleton in dummy, or one of cards adjacent in rank of the same suit, is not considered to be automatically played.

A. Premature Play or Lead to Next Trick

When a defender leads to the next trick before his partner has played to the current trick, or plays out of turn before his partner has played, the card so led or played becomes a major penalty card, and declarer selects one of the following options. He may:

1. require offender's partner to play the highest card he holds of the suit led, or

2. require offender's partner to play the lowest card he holds of the suit led, or

3. forbid offender's partner to play a card of another suit specified by declarer.

B. Offender's Partner Cannot Comply with Rectification

When offender's partner is unable to comply with the rectification selected by declarer he may play any card, as provided in Law 59.

C. Declarer or Dummy Has Played

1. A defender is not subject to rectification for playing before his partner if declarer has played from both hands, nor if dummy has played a card or has illegally suggested that it be played. A singleton in dummy, or one of cards adjacent in rank of the same suit, is not considered to be played until declarer has instructed (or indicated*) the play.

2. A premature play (not a lead) by declarer from either hand is a played card and may not be withdrawn.

* as by a gesture or nod

LAW 58 - SIMULTANEOUS LEADS OR PLAYS

A. Simultaneous Plays by Two Players

Law 58A - A lead or play made simultaneously with another player's legal lead or play is deemed to be subsequent to it.

Law 58B - If a player leads or plays two or more cards simultaneously:

Law 58B1 - If only one card is visible, that card is played; all other cards are picked up **without penalty**.

Law 58B2 - If more than one card is visible, the player designates the card he proposes to play; when he is a defender, each other card exposed becomes a penalty card (see Law 50).

Law 58B3 - After a player withdraws a visible card, an opponent who subsequently played to that card may withdraw his play and substitute another without **penalty** (see Law 16C).

Law 58B4 - If the simultaneous play remains undiscovered until both sides have played to the next trick, Law 67 applies.

Law 59 - A player may play any otherwise legal card if he is unable to lead or play as required to comply with a **penalty**, whether because he holds no card of the required suit, or because he has only cards of a suit he is prohibited from leading, or because he is obliged to follow suit.

Law 60A1 - A play by a member of the non-offending side after his RHO has led or played out of turn or

A lead or play made simultaneously with another player's legal lead or play is deemed to be subsequent to it.

B. Simultaneous Cards from One Hand

If a player leads or plays two or more cards simultaneously:

1. If only one card is visible, that card is played; all other cards are picked up **and there is no further rectification** (see Law 47F).

2. If more than one card is visible, the player designates the card he proposes to play; when he is a defender, each other card exposed becomes a penalty card (see Law 50).

3. After a player withdraws a visible card, an opponent who subsequently played to that card may withdraw his play and substitute another without **further rectification** (but see Law 16D).

4. If the simultaneous play remains undiscovered until both sides have played to the next trick, Law 67 applies.

LAW 59 - INABILITY TO LEAD OR PLAY AS REQUIRED

A player may play any otherwise legal card if he is unable to lead or play as required to comply with a **rectification**, whether because he holds no card of the required suit, or because he has only cards of a suit he is prohibited from leading, or because he is obliged to follow suit.

LAW 60 - PLAY AFTER AN ILLEGAL PLAY

A. Play of Card after Irregularity

1. A play by a member of the non-offending side after his RHO has led or played out of turn or prematurely, and

prematurely, and before a penalty has been assessed, forfeits the right to penalise that offence.

Law 60A2 - Once the right to penalise has been forfeited, the illegal play is treated as though it were in turn (but Law 53C applies to the player whose turn it was).

Law 60A3 - If the offending side has a previous obligation to play a penalty card, or to comply with a lead or play penalty, the obligation remains at future turns.

Law 60B - When a defender plays a card after declarer has been required to retract his lead out of turn from either hand, but before declarer has led from the correct hand, the defender's card becomes a penalty card (Law 50).

Law 60C - A play by a member of the offending side before a penalty has been assessed does not affect the rights of the opponents, and may itself be subject to penalty.

before rectification has been assessed, forfeits the right to rectification of that offence.

2. Once the right to rectification has been forfeited, the illegal play is treated as though it were in turn (except when Law 53C applies).

3. If the offending side has a previous obligation to play a penalty card, or to comply with a lead or play restriction, the obligation remains at future turns.

B. Defender Plays before Required Lead by Declarer

When a defender plays a card after declarer has been required to retract his lead out of turn from either hand, but before declarer has led from the correct hand, the defender's card becomes a major penalty card (Law 50).

C. Play by Offending Side before Assessment of Rectification

A play by a member of the offending side before rectification has been assessed does not affect the rights of the opponents, and may itself be subject to rectification.