

Change of Compass Direction

Question

Playing at a club game, I started off sitting West with partner sitting East. We had a sit-out. At the next table we inadvertently swapped positions, I sat East and partner West. At this table we played against the director. Someone questioned whether we should be penalised. The director was not sure. Could you please advise on the ruling for this situation, and if there is a penalty, can it be applied the next day?

Answer

The requirement to maintain the same compass position during the session is described in Law 5. An inadvertent breach would not normally attract a penalty. Repeated breaches should probably be accompanied first by a warning with penalties as a last resort. Of all the things we do wrong at bridge, it is probably one of the more minor ones!

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