

Laws 45, 46 and 47 |

| Maurizio DI SACCO

European Bridge League

TOURNAMENT DIRECTORS COMMITTEE – EUROPEAN TDS
SCHOOL

TDs Workshop
Örebro (SWE)
1/4 December
2011



Introduction

This lecture has the purpose to clarify an otherwise obscure matter, despite the high frequency of such problems at all levels of competition.

The Laws are explained always starting with an example that comes from real life.

I have to thank Carlo Galardini, a Senior Italian TD, for having collected some of the cases.

Maurizio Di Sacco

LAW 45 CARD PLAYED

1

E/--

	♠ KJ852	
	♥ QT864	
	♦ Q	
	♣ 32	
♠ 93		♠ A764
♥ KJ72		♥ A93
♦ 8762		♦ KJ5
♣ K96		♣ JT4
	♠ QT	
	♥ 5	
	♦ AT943	
	♣ AQ875	

South is playing 2♠.

The opening lead is a diamond to the Q, K and A.

Second trick a heart to the 10; A by East.

East leads ♠A and ♠4, Q, 9; now declarer calls "Jack" from dummy, immediately followed by "oops, the King!".

The TD is called.

Does the TD allow him to play the K instead of the J ?

NO! 45C4a; we do not use 45C4b.

LAW 45 - CARD PLAYED

[. . .]

C. Compulsory Play of Card

[. . .]

4. (a) A card must be played if a player names or otherwise designates it as the card he proposes to play.

(b) Until his partner has played a card a player may change an unintended designation if he does so without pause for thought. If an opponent has, in turn, played a card that was legal before the change in designation, that opponent may withdraw the card so played, return it to his hand, and substitute another (see Laws 47D and 16D1).

2

	♠ J854	
	♥ 10963	
	♦ 52	
	♣ A32	
♠ K93		♠ AQ76
♥ KJ72		♥ Q84
♦ 6		♦ 873
♣ KQJ64		♣ T98
	♠ T2	
	♥ A5	
	♦ AKQJT94	
	♣ 75	

South is playing 3NT and the lead is the ♣K. He wins in dummy with the A and next he says "Club", immediately corrected by "oh, no, Diamond!".

What should the TD do when called upon?

Years ago, this was presented as a typical (and very rare) situation of immediate change of unintended designation (Law **45C4b**). The reason being that it is evident that clubs, the suit in which he has no defence, must be a “lapsus linguae” and therefore the change should be allowed.

However, South could have been thinking about ducking the lead, and when he said clubs he really meant to play one of those, even though not to the trick in progress. But this is also an argument in favour of allowing the change, not only it is the decisive one!

The TD then allows South to play diamonds from dummy. If East has played on North’s club, he may withdraw his card without rectification, and Law 16D may apply to South.

LAW 45 - CARD PLAYED

[. . .]

C. Compulsory Play of Card

[. . .]

- 4. (a) A card must be played if a player names or otherwise designates it as the card he proposes to play.**
- (b) Until his partner has played a card a player may change an unintended designation if he does so without pause for thought. If an opponent has, in turn, played a card that was legal before the change in designation, that opponent may withdraw the card so played, return it to his hand, and substitute another (see Laws 47D and 16D1).

3

♠ 854		
♥ KJ109		
♦ 752		
♣ A32		
♠ K96		♠ QJ107
♥ 763		♥ Q84
♦ QJ1086		♦ A43
♣ 96		♣ Q84
	♠ A32	
	♥ A52	
	♦ K9	
	♣ KJ1075	

South plays 3NT. The first trick is the ♦Q, ♦2, ♦A, ♦9. Then ♦4, ♦K, ♦8, ♦5. Now South plays the ♥A followed by ♥3, ♥9, ♥4. Then the ♥2, ♥6. At this point he pauses for thought, picks up the ♥J with the intention to arrange it among K and 10, but this action is not interpreted correctly by East, who thinks that the ♥J is the card played from dummy in that trick and plays the ♥Q. TD.

First of all, what should we say about South's behaviour ?

Next, should the TD let South change his ♥J?

And if yes, should the TD, in turn, let East change his ♥Q?

South has not acted correctly under several points of view, for instance:

- 1) Playing on ♥ instead of ♣ is stupid, as even guessing the position of the ♥Q there are only 8 tricks;
- 2) His pause after the play of the ♥2 makes clear that he has not a clear view of the situation.
- 3) Arranging the ♥J is absolutely to be avoided; as a consequence, this action may provoke some unwilling reaction by the opponents (exactly what happened)*.

All this considered, the ♥J is a played card (Law **45C3**).

LAW 45 - CARD PLAYED

[. . .]

C. Compulsory Play of Card

[. . .]

- 3. A card in the dummy must be played if it has been deliberately touched by declarer except for the purpose either of arranging dummy's cards, or of reaching a card above or below the card or cards touched.**

*South should have arranged immediately dummy's cards, or instruct dummy to do so. Note: Law 45B underlines that, in playing dummy's card, declarer "may", if "necessary", "pick up desired card himself", namely when dummy is out or he can't play cards on the table.

LAW 45 - CARD PLAYED

A. Play of Card from a Hand

[. . .]

B. Play of Card from Dummy

Declarer plays a card from dummy by naming the card, after which dummy picks up the card and faces it on the table. In playing from dummy's hand declarer may, if necessary, pick up the desired card himself.

4

	♠ -	
	♥ -	
	♦ J9	
	♣ -	
♠ K7		♠ -
♥ -		♥ Q
♦ -		♦ 10
♣ -		♣ -
	♠ -	
	♥ 2	
	♦ 6	
	♣ -	

Event: Lille 1998 World pairs championship
Players: N/S Castellani – Catarsi from Italy

East plays 3NT. At this point he has 8 scored tricks.
South is on lead and plays the ♦6, North faces the ♦9 before facing the ♦J too.

TD.

What should be his ruling ?

The TD determined that the ♦9, according to Law **45C1**, was in a position such that was possible for his partner (South) to see its face, making it a played one. Two tricks for EW.

LAW 45 - CARD PLAYED

[. . .]

C. Compulsory Play of Card

- 1. A defender's card held so that it is possible for his partner to see its face must be played to the current trick (if the defender has already made a legal play to the current trick, see Law 45E).**

N/S appealed.

North (Catarsi) asked for the two tricks to be given to his side, arguing that he had showed the two cards for the purpose of claiming. He said that, from the bidding and play to that point, he knew the distribution of all four hands (that was probably true).

LAW 68 - CLAIM OR CONCESSION OF TRICKS

For a statement or action to constitute a claim or concession of tricks under these Laws, it must refer to tricks other than one currently in progress*. If it does refer to subsequent tricks:

A. Claim Defined

Any statement to the effect that a contestant will win a specific number of tricks is a claim of those tricks. A contestant also claims when he suggests that play be curtailed, or when he shows his cards (unless he demonstrably did not intend to claim - for example, if declarer faces his cards after an opening lead out of turn Law 54, not this Law, will apply).

The Appeal Committee ruled that if North meant to claim the two tricks he must have shown his cards together. In this case it seems that North unduly played the wrong card and immediately he tried to repair, showing the ♦J, and pretending to have made a claim.

TD decision upheld

5

	♠ A942	
	♥ 97	
	♦ KJ98	
	♣ Q96	
♠ QJ53		♠ 106
♥ 864		♥ J1053
♦ Q105		♦ A63
♣ J84		♣ K1052
	♠ K87	
	♥ AKQ2	
	♦ 742	
	♣ A73	

South plays 3NT and has won the first trick (♠3, ♠2, ♠10 and ♠K)

- He pulls a card from his hand and when it is in a horizontal position 30 cm over the table he restores it, but West calls the TD and declares to have seen the ♥2; the two other players agree on the facts.
- He wants to play ♦7, but the ♥2 drops accidentally on the table.
- He pulls a card from his hand (♥2), places it on the table and immediately says "That's a mistake. I intended to play the ♦2".

TD!

- a) *Law 45C2 is clear: that is not a played card. The fact that it was faced is not relevant.*

LAW 45 - CARD PLAYED

[. . .]

C. Compulsory Play of Card

1. **A defender's card held so that it is possible for his partner to see its face must be played to the current trick (if the defender has already made a legal play to the current trick, see Law 45E).**
 2. **Declarer must play a card from his hand if it is**
 - (a) **held face up, touching or nearly touching the table; or**
 - (b) **maintained in such a position as to indicate that it has been played.**
- b) *Law 48A tells us that the ♥2 is not a played card; obviously it can't become a penalty card.*

LAW 48 - EXPOSURE OF DECLARER'S CARDS

A. Declarer Exposes a Card

Declarer is not subject to restriction for exposing a card (but see Law 45C2), and no card of declarer's or dummy's hand ever becomes a penalty card. Declarer is not required to play any card dropped accidentally.

- c) *Law 45C2 tells us that the ♥2 is a played card. Law 45C4b says something about an unintended designation, not about an unintended play. The correct interpretation is that thus may happen only when the card in question is named, pointed at and so on, but not when we are in cases covered by 45C1, 45C2, 45C3.*

LAW 45 - CARD PLAYED

[. . .]

- (b) *Until his partner has played a card a player may change an unintended designation if he does so without pause for thought. If an opponent has, in turn, played a card that was legal before the change in designation, that opponent may withdraw the card so played, return it to his hand, and substitute another (see Laws 47D and 16D1).*

6

	♠ J85	
	♥ J83	
	♦ K872	
	♣ A43	
♠ K1094		♠ 63
♥ A74		♥ K9652
♦ 653		♦ J10
♣ K106		♣ J752
	♠ AQ72	
	♥ Q10	
	♦ AQ94	
	♣ Q98	

South is playing 3NT.
The previous tricks were:

♠ 10,5,6,Q;
♦ A,5,2,10;
♦ Q,3,7,J;
♠ 2,K,8,6.

- a) On the 5th trick West plays ♣6, ♣3, ♣J and ♣Q. He faces down ♣6 and now plays the ♣K, thinking to have still to follow suit.
- b) As above, but the card played by West is the ♥A.

TD.

- a) *The TD needs to determine what West thought. If he says that he was playing on trick n° 5 then Law **45E applies**: the ♣K is a penalty card.*

LAW 45 - CARD PLAYED

[. . .]

E. Fifth Card Played to Trick

1. **A fifth card contributed to a trick by a defender becomes a penalty card, subject to Law 50, unless the Director deems that it was led, in which case Law 53 or 56 applies.**

- b) *If West had played the ♥A instead of the ♣K he had led on the sixth trick thinking that he had won the fifth; in this case we apply Law 53 or 56.*

LAW 53 - LEAD OUT OF TURN ACCEPTED

A. Lead Out of Turn Treated as Correct Lead

Any lead faced out of turn may be treated as a correct lead (but see Law 47E1). It becomes a correct lead if declarer or either defender, as the case may be, accepts it by making a statement to that effect, or if a play is made from the hand next in rotation to the irregular lead (but see C). If there is no such acceptance or play, the Director will require that the lead be made from the correct hand (and see Law 47B).

LAW 56 - DEFENDER'S LEAD OUT OF TURN

See Law 54D.

LAW 54 - FACED OPENING LEAD OUT OF TURN

When an opening lead out of turn is faced and offender's partner leads face down, the director requires the face down lead to be retracted. Also:

[. . .]

D. Declarer Refuses Opening Lead

Declarer may require a defender to retract his faced opening lead out of turn. The withdrawn card becomes a major penalty card and Law 50D applies.

7

	♠ ---	
	♥ 64	
	♦ Q96	
	♣ ---	
♠ ---		♠ ---
♥ 85		♥ Q3
♦ 75		♦ K
♣ J		♣ 109
	♠ ---	
	♥ 109	
	♦ AJ	
	♣ 5	

South is at the helm of 3NT; at this point he has won 7 tricks. He must lead from dummy. He calls for the ♦6 but dummy plays the ♥6.

- East plays the ♥Q, and the Declarer calls the TD.
- East plays the ♥Q, South the ♦J and West asks what is happening. TD.
- East plays the ♥Q, South the ♦J and West the ♥5; East now leads the ♣10 to the next trick. South, believing in a lead out of turn, calls the TD.

Law 45D

- a) *The ♠6 is the played card; East may change his played card without rectification. The placement of the ♥Q is an UI for the declarer but an AI for EW.*
- b) *The same. The ♠6 is the card played from dummy, East may withdraw his card; if he does, South may in turn change his own card. An AI for EW, an UI for declarer.*
- c) *We are still in time to arrange things. The ♣10, the ♥Q and the ♥5 may be withdrawn, (the ♠J too depending on East). Information arising from the ♣10, the ♥Q, the ♥5 and the ♠J are authorized for EW and unauthorized for South.*

If South had played after the ♣10 a rectification would not have been immediately possible. South revoked (♠J) and that revoke was established (playing after ♣10).

LAW 45 - CARD PLAYED

[. . .]

D. Card Misplayed by Dummy

If dummy places in the played position a card that declarer did not name, the card must be withdrawn if attention is drawn to it before each side has played to the next trick, and a defender may withdraw and return to his hand a card played after the error but before attention was drawn to it; if declarer's RHO changes his play, declarer may withdraw a card he had subsequently played to that trick. (See Law 16D.)

8

	♠ Q754	
	♥ A85	
	♦ J8	
	♣ AQ85	
♠ K63		♠ 102
♥ K1074		♥ J96
♦ 10942		♦ Q6
♣ 103		♣ K97642
	♠ AJ98	
	♥ Q32	
	♦ AK753	
	♣ J	

South plays 4♠ and wins the first trick: ♦10-J-Q-A. He plays the ♣J to East's K, which is not faced down, while the other players face down their own cards. While East is thinking, South throws the ♥3 thinking to be playing on the third trick. TD.

Law 45E2. ♥3 is a lead out of turn by South (Law **55A**); West or East can accept the lead and play continues normally; if they choose differently, choice of West will prevail. If none of the opponents accepts the lead, South can withdraw his card without rectification.

LAW 45 - CARD PLAYED

[. . .]

E. Fifth Card Played to Trick

- 1. A fifth card contributed to a trick by a defender becomes a penalty card, subject to Law 50, unless the Director deems that it was led, in which case Law 53 or 56 applies.**
- 2. When declarer contributes a fifth card to a trick from his own hand or dummy, it is returned to the hand without further rectification unless the Director deems that it was led, in which case Law 55 applies.**

LAW 55 - DECLARER'S LEAD OUT OF TURN

A. Declarer's Lead Accepted

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.

9

- a) A defender picks up the ♦7 and moves it out of his hand in a position almost horizontal. Then restores it in his hand and tries to play another card. The Declarer calls the TD. The TD determines that declarer and dummy have seen the card, but the defender's partner claims that he didn't see it.
- b) The declarer picks up the ♦7 and moves it out of his hand in a position almost horizontal; all others players see the card. Then he restores it in his hand and tries to play another card. TD.
- c) Same as b), but when he restores the card to his hand the card drops accidentally.



- a) It's very hard to think that the partner of the defender could not have seen the card, so it's a played card, **Law 45C2b**. It is sufficient that he could have seen it to apply **Law 49**.

LAW 45 - CARD PLAYED

[. . .]

C. Compulsory Play of Card

1. A defender's card held so that it is possible for his partner to see its face must be played to the current trick (if the defender has already made a legal play to the current trick, see Law 45E).

LAW 49 - EXPOSURE OF A DEFENDER'S CARDS

Except in the normal course of play or application of law (see for example Law 47E), when a defender's card is in a position in which his partner could possibly see its face, or when a defender names a card as being in his hand, each such card becomes a penalty card (Law 50); but see the footnote to Law 68 when a defender has made a statement concerning an uncompleted trick currently in progress, and see Law 68B2 when partner objects to a defender's concession.

- b) According to **Law 45C2** this is not a played card.

LAW 45 - CARD PLAYED

[. . .]

C. Compulsory Play of Card

[. . .]

2. Declarer must play a card from his hand if it is
 - (a) held face up, touching or nearly touching the table; or
 - (b) maintained in such a position as to indicate that it has been played.

- c) A card dropped accidentally does not change the situation: Law 48. This is not a played card.

LAW 48 - EXPOSURE OF DECLARER'S CARDS

A. Declarer Exposes a Card

Declarer is not subject to restriction for exposing a card (but see Law 45C2), and no card of declarer's or dummy's hand ever becomes a penalty card. Declarer is not required to play any card dropped accidentally.



10

A brief summary:

1. Declarer pulls a card out of his hand, holds it near the table (not nearly touching it), then suddenly restores the card in his hand saying "Oops, I'm sorry". All players have seen the card.
2. A defender pulls a card out of his hand, holds it near the table (not nearly touching it) then suddenly restores the card in his hand saying "Oops, I'm sorry". All players have seen the card.
3. Declarer pulls a card out of his hand, holds it near the table, then stops, thinks a few seconds, puts the card near the table again, looks at his hand, takes his hand with the card in front of his face and finally restores the card in his hand and plays another. All players have seen the card.
4. A defender pulls a card out of his hand, puts it in a horizontal position near him without detaching it from his hand. The opponents have seen it, but his partner says no.
5. Declarer calls for the ♠6 from dummy; there isn't any ♠6 but there is the ♣6. Must he play that card?

- | | | |
|----|------|--------------------|
| 1) | 45C2 | Not played. |
| 2) | 45C1 | Played. |
| 3) | 45C2 | Not Played. |
| 4) | 45C1 | Played. |
| 5) | 46B4 | NO see also later. |

LAW 46 – INCOMPLETE OR ERRONEOUS CALL OF A CARD FROM DUMMY

[. . .]

4. If declarer calls a card that is not in dummy the call is void and declarer may designate any legal card.

Law 46 – INCOMPLETE OR ERRONEOUS CALL OF A CARD FROM DUMMY

1

BOARD 9

Deal N, Vuln : EW

AUCTION

N	E	S	W
p	p	1NT	p
3NT	all pass		

♠ K109
♥ Q2
♦ QJ1065
♣ QJ7

	N		
♠ QJ32			♠ 84
♥ 74	W	E	♥ A10983
♦ 4			♦ A932
♣ K98653			♣ 102
	S		
	♠ A765		
	♥ KJ65		
	♦ K87		
	♣ A4		

Play

West	North	East	South	West	North	East
♣5	<u>♣J</u>	♣2	♣4			
	<u>♦Q</u>	♦2	♦7	♦4		
	♦5	♦3	<u>♦K</u>	♥4		
			♦8	♣3	♦J	<u>♦A</u>
		♣10	<u>♣A</u>	♣6	♣7	
			♥5	♥7	♥Q	<u>♥A</u>
		♥10	<u>♥K</u>	♠2	♥2	
			♠5	♠J	<u>♠K</u>	♠4

Now the Declarer calls "Diamond!". Dummy has a slight hesitation and the Declarer says "Diamond" again. Dummy plays the ♦6 and East plays the ♦9. South objects that it is clear that he intended to cash diamonds. The TD is called.

The Director determined what happened and he ruled that the intention to play the ♦10 by South is not “incontrovertible”. South could have forgotten that West had not followed suit at trick three and thinks that all diamonds were good. His ruling was 9 tricks for NS.

LAW 46 – INCOMPLETE OR ERRONEOUS CALL OF A CARD FROM DUMMY

[. . .]

B. Incomplete or Erroneous Call

In case of an incomplete or erroneous call by declarer of the card to be played from dummy, the following restrictions apply (except when declarer's different intention is incontrovertible):

1. (a) If declarer in playing from dummy calls 'high', or words of like meaning, he is deemed to have called the highest card.
(b) If he directs dummy to 'win' the trick he is deemed to have called the lowest card that it is known will win the trick.
(c) If he calls 'low', or words of like meaning, he is deemed to have called the lowest card.
2. **If declarer designates a suit but not a rank he is deemed to have called the lowest card of the suit indicated.**



2

	♠ Q9	
	♥ -	
	♦ -	
	♣ J109	
♠ -		♠ J76
♥ -		♥ J
♦ Q7		♦ 3
♣ Q76		♣ -
	♠ -	
	♥ Q1094	
	♦ J	
	♣ -	

South is playing 6♥.

Leading from dummy South said "Spade". Dummy, who told afterwards not to have paid attention to the play, asked "Which one ?", and Declarer instructed him to play the ♠Q. East called for the TD, objecting that the first designation was clear.

Director, considering the level of the player, that have already lost a trick, was of the opinion that the intention to play the ♠Q was “incontrovertible”, being the only way to fulfil the contract by discarding the losing ♦, and awarded the score of 6♥ made.

EW appealed.

The AC decided that the declarer’s intention was not necessarily “incontrovertible”, and changed the score to 6♥-1.

Comment: When declarer is cashing a suit and he begins to do it from the top, normally it is sure that he will continue to do so. In this case the Committee asked several questions to the declarer. The answers were not so convincing and demonstrated that the declarer was not fully aware of the situation (for instance, he was not certain whether the ♦J was good or not, and he wasn’t quite clear about the movement of the ♠ suit. So it was ruled that the declarer’s play of the ♠Q was not “incontrovertible”.



3

- A)** South is the declarer. Dummy has AKQ10652 of diamonds and South the bare J. South is in Dummy, that has no communication with the hand, and says "Diamond". North hesitates and South adds "A top diamond, obviously!".
- B)** Same as A) but South holds the bare $\spadesuit 4$.
- C)** South is the declarer. Dummy holds KJ65 in spades and South Q4. East plays the $\spadesuit 8$, South the $\spadesuit 4$, West the $\spadesuit 9$ and at that point South says "spade"; dummy hesitates and South adds "obviously the J".
- D)** Same as before but spades are KQJ5 in dummy and 64 in hand.
- E)** As in C) but South is in dummy, calls for the $\spadesuit 5$, $\spadesuit 8$ by East; South plays the $\spadesuit 4$ from his hand returning it immediately and showing the $\spadesuit Q$.

- A) The correction must be immediately and, above all, the intention must be incontrovertible. Any doubt implies that the declarer has to play a small diamond. In this case, declarer could have not realized that he was in lack of communications with dummy, or could have thought that his J was doubleton. He must play small a diamond (Law 46B and 46B2).
- B) In this case declarer's intention is incontrovertible.
- C) As in A. Declarer could have thought to have played the Q.
- D) As in B. No alternative.
- E) In this case this is not problem of declarer's intention. This is a card from hand. Declarer must play the 4 (Law 45C2).

LAW 45 - CARD PLAYED

[. . .]

C. Compulsory Play of Card

1. A defender's card held so that it is possible for his partner to see its face must be played to the current trick (if the defender has already made a legal play to the current trick, see Law 45E).
2. Declarer must play a card from his hand if it is
 - (a) held face up, touching or nearly touching the table; or
 - (b) maintained in such a position as to indicate that it has been played.



4

Let's make a tour on incomplete or erroneous designations.

Assume a partial dummy (North) of this kind:

♠	♥	♦	♣
A	K	Q	Q
7	Q	J	10
3	5		2

46 B1 INCOMPLETE DESIGNATION OF RANK

- a) Last trick has been won in dummy. Declarer says "High Heart".

He wants to play ♥K

- b) Last trick has been won by East who plays ♣3, ♣5 from South, ♣7 by West.

Now declarer says "High"

He wants to play ♣Q

He says "Win" or "Take"

He plays the lowest card that will win the trick, in this case ♣10

He says "small" or "low"

He has intended to play the lowest card in the suit, now ♣2

LAW 46 – INCOMPLETE OR ERRONEOUS CALL OF A CARD FROM DUMMY

[. . .]

B. Incomplete or Erroneous Call

In case of an incomplete or erroneous call by declarer of the card to be played from dummy, the following restrictions apply (except when declarer's different intention is incontrovertible):

- (a) If declarer in playing from dummy calls 'high', or words of like meaning, he is deemed to have called the highest card.**
- (b) If he directs dummy to 'win' the trick he is deemed to have called the lowest card that it is known will win the trick.**
- (c) If he calls 'low', or words of like meaning, he is deemed to have called the lowest card.**

46 B2 DESIGNATING SUIT BUT NOT RANK

Last trick has been won in dummy. Declarer says "Spade"
He wants to play ♠3, namely the lowest card in the suit.

LAW 46 – INCOMPLETE OR ERRONEOUS CALL OF A CARD FROM DUMMY

[. . .]

B. Incomplete or Erroneous Call

In case of an incomplete or erroneous call by declarer of the card to be played from dummy, the following restrictions apply (except when declarer's different intention is incontrovertible):

[. . .]

2. If declarer designates a suit but not a rank he is deemed to have called the lowest card of the suit indicated.

46 B3 DESIGNATION RANK BUT NOT SUIT

- a) In leading: Last trick has been won in dummy with ♥K (♥A has been played in a previous trick). Declarer says "Queen".
He wants to play ♥Q (last suit played).
- b) In all other cases: Last trick has been won in dummy with ♠K.

If now South says "King"
He wants to play ♥K (the one left);

If he says "Queen"
He must choose between ♥Q and ♣Q that may legally be played.

LAW 46 – INCOMPLETE OR ERRONEOUS CALL OF A CARD FROM DUMMY

[. . .]

B. Incomplete or Erroneous Call

In case of an incomplete or erroneous call by declarer of the card to be played from dummy, the following restrictions apply (except when declarer's different intention is incontrovertible):

[. . .]

3. If declarer designates a rank but not a suit

- (a) In leading, declarer is deemed to have continued the suit in which dummy won the preceding trick provided there is a card of the designated rank in that suit.
- (b) In all other cases declarer must play a card from dummy of the designated rank if he can legally do so; but if there are two or more such cards that can be legally played declarer must designate which is intended.

46 B4 DESIGNATION OF A CARD THAT IS NOT IN DUMMY

Last trick has been won in dummy. Declarer says "♥A".
That designation is void and declarer may designate any card in dummy.

LAW 46 – INCOMPLETE OR ERRONEOUS CALL OF A CARD FROM DUMMY

[. . .]

B. Incomplete or Erroneous Call

In case of an incomplete or erroneous call by declarer of the card to be played from dummy, the following restrictions apply (except when declarer's different intention is incontrovertible):

[. . .]

4. If declarer calls a card that is not in dummy the call is void and declarer may designate any legal card.

46 B5 NEITHER RANK NOR SUIT

	♠	
	♥	
	♦	
	♣ KJ7	
♠		♠
♥		♥
♦		♦
♣ AQ4		♣ 1098
	♠	
	♥ 10	
	♦	
	♣ 62	

South is declarer in a 4♥ contract and has won 8 tricks so far. He leads from hand ♣6, West playing ♣4. He thinks for almost a minute and says “I don’t know, play one club”. His opponents call TD claiming for ♣7 to be played. Declarer objects that his doubt was between ♣J and ♣K.

It is absolutely certain that declarer intended to play as he had explained. TD applies **46B** first (intention of declarer was incontrovertible), next **46B5**. Either defender may designate whether ♣J or ♣K is to be played.

Note: defenders cannot consult each other (**Law 10C2**). The first statement has to be considered.

LAW 46 – INCOMPLETE OR ERRONEOUS CALL OF A CARD FROM DUMMY

[. . .]

B. Incomplete or Erroneous Call

In case of an incomplete or erroneous call by declarer of the card to be played from dummy, the following restrictions apply (except when declarer’s different intention is incontrovertible):

[. . .]

5. If declarer indicates a play without designating either a suit or a rank (as by saying ‘play anything’ or words of like meaning) either defender may designate the play from dummy.

LAW 47 RETRACTION OF A CARD PLAYED

47A IN COURSE OF RECTIFICATION

For instance, a defender has a penalty card but plays another card from his hand instead of the penalty card. TD is called. One of the options for declarer is to require play of the penalty card. In this case, the card played is retracted from this trick and becomes itself a major penalty card.

LAW 47 - RETRACTION OF CARD PLAYED

A. In Course of Rectification

A card once played may be withdrawn when required by rectification following an irregularity (but a defender's withdrawn card may become a penalty card, see Law 49).

47B TO CORRECT AN ILLEGAL PLAY

EW are defenders. East, who has to lead, plays ♥4. Simultaneously West plays ♣7. Law 58 applies. ♣7 is withdrawn and becomes a major penalty card (see Law 49).

LAW 58 - SIMULTANEOUS LEADS OR PLAYS

A. Simultaneous Plays by Two Players

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

LAW 47 - RETRACTION OF CARD PLAYED

[. . .]

B. To Correct an Illegal Play

A played card may be withdrawn to correct an illegal play (for defenders, except as this Law provides, see Law 49 - penalty card). For simultaneous play see Law 58.

47C TO CHANGE AN INADVERTENT DESIGNATION

A played card must be retracted and returned to the hand without further rectification after a change of designation permitted by Law 45C4b. See examples in the respective chapter upon Law 45.

		♠ J1043	
		♥ 32	
		♦ A32	
		♣ K432	
♠ K5	W	N	
♥ J10987			E
♦ QJ109			
♣ A6		S	
		♠ AQ76	
		♥ A	
		♦ K87	
		♣ J10987	

South is declarer in a 4♠ contract.

Opening lead is ♦Q won in dummy with ♦A. South plays ♠J from dummy, East discards ♥4, declarer plays ♠A and West ♠5. At this point East realizes to have revoked and stops play.

The Revoke has not been established, East substitutes the ♠2, ♥4 is a major penalty card and South may withdraw ♠A and play ♠Q. If South so acts, West may substitute the ♠K and ♠5 will be a major penalty card. **Law 47D.**

Important: if South doesn't change his card West has to leave ♠5 as played.

Director must explain to the players that the information declarer has ♠A is unauthorized for the EW side and Law 16D2 may apply.

LAW 47 - RETRACTION OF CARD PLAYED

[. . .]

D. Following Opponent's Change of Play

After an opponent's change of play a played card may be withdrawn and returned to the hand without further rectification and another card may be substituted. (Laws 16D and 62C2 may apply.)

47E CHANGE OF PLAY FOLLOWING A MISTAKEN EXPLANATION

1) LEAD OUT OF TURN

The TD is called to the table for a lead out of turn and finds out – as he should, despite the fact that it is done quite rarely – that the leader was misinformed by an opponent about who should be on lead.

In such case, the card should be withdrawn and Law 16D may be applied.

2) WITHDRAWAL OF A PLAYED CARD

a) Nobody has played afterwards

Example: South plays 3NT. West leads the ♥Q. South asks about the carding agreement, and East replies “normal ones”. Here is the ♥ suit:

	North
	♥ A53
West	
♥ Q	
	South
	♥ J76

South wins the Ace. East at this point says that he was mistaken, and that they play Reginow leads (the Q shows the K).

South may withdraw his ♥A.

The same thing may happen to a defender when the mistaken information comes from the auction, given by either declarer or dummy.

b) One or more cards have been played afterwards:

In such cases the card cannot be withdrawn and Law 47E2b applies.

In the example given above, if East would have corrected after having followed suit, the TD should have let the hand be finished and adjust the score possibly on the basis of South ducking the lead.

A further example:

♠ A2
♥ KJ983
♦ A4
♣ Q1074

♠ K53
♥ Q10
♦ KJ8765
♣ A2

♠ 1084
♥ 76542
♦ Q2
♣ J96

♠ QJ976
♥ A
♦ 1093
♣ K853

W	N	E	S
1♦	1♥	pass	1♠
2♦	X	pass	2♠
pass	pass	pass	

Before his last pass East asks about the meaning of the double, and South explains it as a penalty one.

West leads face up, and North corrects the explanation.

Answer:

No Law 21B, because the lead has not been face down. West may change his lead (Law 47E2).