

IT'S THE LAW
THE REVOKE

Many of you still want to use the old laws governing the REVOKE and I shall provide the following to help you be more knowledgeable at the table and better able to deal with this infraction of the law. The law provides equity for the infraction in all cases except where the revoke stops a running suit and more than two tricks are lost due to the revoke. Sometimes a simple question allowed by the law makes life easier for you and the director.

LAW 61

FAILURE TO FOLLOW SUIT—INQUIRIES CONCERNING A REVOKE

- A. Definition of a Revoke: Failure to follow suit in accordance with Law 44 or failure to lead or play, when able, a card or suit required by law or specified by an opponent when exercising an option in rectification of an irregularity constitutes a revoke. (When unable to comply, see Law 59)
- B. Right to Inquire about a Possible Revoke:
 - 1. **Declarer may ask a defender who has failed to follow suit whether he has a card of the suit led.** (You may well save your running suit and your contract if three players discard and the blocking card was not played)
 - 2. (a) Dummy may ask declarer (but see Law 43B2(b))
(b) Dummy may not ask a defender and Law 16B may apply
 - 3. Defenders may ask declarer and unless prohibited by the Regulating Authority, may ask one another (at the risk of creating unauthorized information).

LAW 62
CORRECTION OF A REVOKE

- A. Revoke Must Be Corrected if a player becomes aware of the irregularity before it becomes established.
- B. To correct a revoke, the offender withdraws the card he played and substitutes a legal card.
 - 1. A card so withdrawn becomes a major penalty card (Law 50) if it was played from a defender's unfaced hand.
 - 2. The card may be replaced without further rectification if it was played from declarer's (subject to Law 43B2(b)) or dummy's hand, or if it was a defender's faced card.
- C. Subsequent Cards Played
 - 1. Each member of the non-offending side may withdraw and return to his hand any card he may have played after the revoke but before attention was drawn to it (see Law 16D)
 - 2. After a non-offender so withdraws a card, the player of the offending side next in rotation may withdraw his played card, which becomes a penalty card if the player is a defender, and see Law 16D.
 - 3. A claim of a revoke does not automatically warrant inspection of quitted tricks (see Law 66C)
- D. Revoke on trick 12
 - 1. On the twelfth trick, a revoke, even if established, must be corrected if discovered before all four hands have been returned to the board.
 - 2. If a revoke by a defender occurs on the twelfth trick and before it was the turn of his partner to play to the trick, when offender's partner has cards of two suits he may not choose the play that could possibly have been suggested by seeing the revoke card.

LAW 63

ESTABLISHMENT OF A REVOKE

- A. A revoke becomes established:
 - 1. When the offender or his partner leads or plays to the following trick (any such play, legal or illegal, establishes the revoke)
 - 2. When the offender or his partner names or otherwise designates a card to be played to the following trick.
 - 3. When a member of the offending side makes or agrees to a claim or concession of tricks orally or by facing his hand or in any other way.
- B. Once a revoke is established, it may no longer be corrected (except as provided in Law 62D for a revoke on the twelfth trick), and the trick on which the revoke occurred stands as played.

LAW 64

PROCEDURES AFTER ESTABLISHMENT OF A REVOKE

- A. When a revoke is established
 - 1. And the trick on which the revoke occurred was won by the **offending player***, at the end of the play the trick on which the revoke occurred is transferred to the non-offending side together with one of any subsequent tricks won by the **offending side**. (Thus 2 tricks in rectification)
 - 2. And the trick on which the revoke occurred was not won by the **offending player***, then, if the **offending side** won that or any subsequent trick, after play ends one trick is transferred to the non-offending side. (Thus only 1 trick in rectification)
- B. There is no rectification as in A above following an established revoke:
 - 1. If the offending side did not win either the revoke trick or any subsequent trick.

2. If it is a subsequent revoke in the same suit by the same player.
LAW 64C may apply.
3. If the revoke was made in failing to play any card faced on the table or belonging to a hand faced on the table, including a card from dummy's hand.
4. If attention was first drawn to the revoke after a member of the non-offending side has made a call on the subsequent deal.
5. If attention was first drawn to the revoke after the round has ended.
6. If it is a revoke on the twelfth trick.
7. When both sides have revoked on the same board.

***A trick won in dummy is not won by declarer for the purpose of this law.**

C. When, after any established revoke, including those not subject to rectification, the Director deems that the non-offending side is insufficiently compensated by this law for the damage caused, he shall assign an adjusted score.