

New Laws Of Contract Bridge Playing

BY RICHARD L. FREY

Reprinted from September Good Housekeeping

Third: You may pass. (This privilege the laws never before accorded). If you pass, though, you commit your partner to thereafter. You may, if you wish, re-enter the bidding later. If an opponent plays the hand, he may call the opening lead. The privilege of passing prevents harsh penalties in cases of an opponent says something about spades, and you think you have opened the bidding with one spade. You overcall two two and to your horror he bid four spades. You don't want to be in the clubs; heaven only knows how many you might be set. If you made an insufficient bid, you had to make it good. This once went so far that, if the opponents wanted to, they could make you bid eight! Now you may pass.

Why the penalty when you pass? Because you have told your partner that you have, for example, a club suit; he wouldn't have bid this if you hadn't made the insufficient bid, and the information may be worth a trick or more to your defensive play. The declarer is allowed to call a lead, to restore the trick to his side.

LEAD OUT OF TURN. A defender's lead out of turn may cause considerable damage; but the former law (the declarer could not lead the suit to be led or not led) was not widely enforced. Players automatically enforce the "mandatory" penalties, such as the two-trick penalty, hesitate to use the "optional" penalties. The former lead-out-of-turn law permitted declarer to call a lead but didn't have to—and so he didn't. Sometimes he suffered from his generosity.

The New Law is that the card led out of turn is a penalty. Declarer may forbid the lead of that suit, but he may not forbid the suit to be led. The correct leader may lead any other suit. However, if declarer wishes, he may treat the lead out of turn as correct and play to it.

This is a tremendous moderation of penalty. Under certain circumstances it will not adequately recompense the declarer; for that matter, the old penalty usually worked a hardship on the defenders, for the privilege of calling a lead frequently put declarer more of an advantage than the offense had cost him. As you might imagine, this radical change was not adopted without considerable discussion. The committees finally made the decision on three grounds. First: The laws are not designed to prevent dishonorable practices or intentional violations. No consideration was given to the possibility that under the new law a player might deliberately lead out of turn to gain an advantage. For this kind of player, the only remedy suggested is ostracism. Second: If a defender carelessly drops a card, its exposure does as much damage as if he had led it; yet in the former law there was no lead penalty. The new law was designed to make the penalties uniform. Third: It was felt that everyone would be willing to follow mandatory penalty (the incorrect lead becomes a penalty card).

The lawmakers remind bridge players that it is "reprehensible" to lead from an irregularity of your side that is adequately penalized. If your partner, out of turn, leads an ace against a slam, it is your duty to lead the card you would have led if he had led it.

The New Law makes no change about declarer's leading from the wrong hand. At the request of either defender, declarer must, if possible, lead a card of the same suit from the proper hand. If he cannot, he may lead a card of the same suit from the wrong hand, and in proper turn he may play any legal card. If he leads from the wrong hand, declarer is never subject to penalty for exposing a card.

DUMMY'S RIGHTS. Tim was when the dummy's principal duty was going to warm up the coffee. But now even he gets a say. The new law gives the dummy the right to warn his partner if he is about to lead from the wrong hand. (He wasn't permitted to do this before). In fact, the dummy may, and should, warn any player against infringing a law. Even to a defender he may say, "It's not your lead."

However, the dummy still loses all his rights if he looks at his partner's cards (breach of bridge etiquette). Then, if he leads from the wrong hand, the defenders may decide which hand declarer should lead from. If the dummy draws attention to a defender's irregularity, declarer may not revoke it. And if he warns declarer in time for a revoke to be made, the opponents may require correction with declarer's best or lowest proper card.

IMPROPER DOUBLE OR RE-DOUBLE. It is never proper to make a suit when doubling. Do not say, "I double a spade"; say, "Double."

The New Law has eliminated the severe penalty for naming a bid incorrectly when doubling it. The offender is merely required to have doubled the actual bid. This makes it safer to name a bid, but not more proper.

There are illegal doubles and re-doubles (for instance, a player doubling his partner's bid, or doubling a bid his partner already has doubled). The new laws still penalize these offenses. The offender's partner is barred from bidding, and an opponent may cancel the previous double or re-double; but the offender may not that the formerly penalty barring both members of the offending side has been materially softened.

These, of course, are not all the changes in the new book of bridge laws; but most of the others cover cases that seldom occur except in the strictest club or tournament play. For example:

CONCESSION OF TRICKS. A new law makes clear that a player can't be bound to a concession of a trick he has won unless he possibly lose. If a player, miscounting his tricks, says,

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HUNTING SEASON HAZARDS CLAIM MANY HUNTERS

Ten Commandments Offered To Public By State Official

By C. A. LOCKWOOD, Oregon State Game Super.

Already the first report of a hunting fatality has come in from our neighboring state, California. The unfortunate hunter, who was a veteran twice wounded in the Pacific, was killed by a hunter who stated that he had mistaken him for a deer. Reports such as this one from California have become far too numerous in recent years here in Oregon.

In Oregon during the 1946 hunting season there were 13 hunting accidents, five of them being fatal. Last year during the regular hunting season we had 22 hunting accidents, seven of which resulted in fatalities.

Looking over this list, it is impossible to find one that could not have been prevented if the simple rules of caution and care had been followed. The list gives causes such as the following: accidental discharge of gun, gun discharged while victim crossed a fence, mistaken for deer, mistaken for bear, discharge of gun while victim was removing it from car, gun discharged after dropping.

As we go into the hunting seasons of 1948, we know that there will be more hunters taking the field than ever before in Oregon. Extra caution will be imperative. The rules are simple and easy to follow: look before you shoot; make certain of your target; always make certain, someone might be in your line of fire; don't carry a loaded gun in your car; never point the muzzle

of your gun at anyone. Above all remember that a loaded gun is dangerous, handle it with care.

If we all take just a few seconds to make sure, if we all are just a bit more careful when we climb through a fence, we can prevent this useless loss of life.

It is my sincere hope that every hunter will follow the ten commandments of safety:

1. Treat every gun with respect due a loaded gun. This is the cardinal rule of gun safety.
2. Carry only empty guns, taken down or with the action open, into your automobiles, camp or home.
3. Always be sure that the barrel and action are clear of obstructions.
4. Always carry your gun so that you can control the direction of the muzzle even if you stumble.
5. Be sure of your target before you pull the trigger.
6. Never point a gun at anything you do not want to shoot.
7. Never leave your gun unattended unless you unload it first.
8. Never climb a tree or fence with a loaded gun.
9. Never shoot at a flat, hard surface or the surface of water.
10. Do not mix gunpowder and alcohol.

Let's make the 1948 hunting season a safe hunting season.

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Local News Items

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Z. Smith have just received word that they have a new grandson, Johnny Z. Witherery, who has gladdened the home of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Witherery of Pendleton. Mrs. Witherery is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Smith. This is the second son of the Withererys.

Mrs. Hester Goodman of Burns is visiting her daughter, Mrs. Harry Z. Smith, having spent much of the summer in this area. Mrs. Wesley Kindel was returned from Seaside hospital last Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Frazier have had their home painted solid white, by Dodson Painters.

Baptist Sunday school held a picnic at Bruce Hole, Sunday afternoon with about 40 present. Food in generous portions was enjoyed by those present. Enough was brought home to feed a like number.

Weather Report

For the past week, ending on Sunday:

	Max.	Min.	Rain
August 30	69	57	.01
August 31	67	51	---
Sept. 1	64	54	---
Sept. 2	72	53	---
Sept. 3	74	55	T
Sept. 4	80	57	---
Sept. 5	85	56	---
Rain for week			.01
Rain for August			1.37

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BROOKINGS OREGON

Call For Bids

Sealed bids will be received by Dora Beaulieu, clerk at Brookings, Oregon, until September 23, 1948, 8:00 o'clock P. M., for the additions and alterations to Brookings High School Building for School District No. 17, Curry County, Brookings, Oregon, and will then and there be opened and publicly read aloud. Bids received after the time fixed for openings will not be considered.

Plans, specifications and form of contract documents may be examined at the office of Freeman and Hayslip, Assoc. Archts., 304 Postal Buildings, Portland, and set of said plans, specifications and forms may be obtained at office of Dora Beaulieu, Clerk, Brookings, Oregon, or at the office of Freeman and Hayslip, Assoc. Archts., 304 Postal Building, Portland, Oregon, upon a deposit of \$25.00 which will be refunded upon return of the plans and specifications within a reasonable time.

Each bid shall be accompanied by a certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond (with authorized surety company as surety) made payable to the owner in an amount of not less than 5% of the amount of the bid. Surety bond (or bonds) will be required in accordance with the terms of the contract documents.

The school district No. 17 Curry County, Oregon, reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive formalities.

No bidder may withdraw his bid after the hour set for the openings thereof or before award of contract, unless said award is delayed for a period exceeding 30 days.

DORA BEAULIEU, Clerk.
First publication, Sept. 2, 1948.
Second publication, Sept. 9, 1948.