



# Asia Pacific Bridge Federation

## Zone 6 TD Newsletter

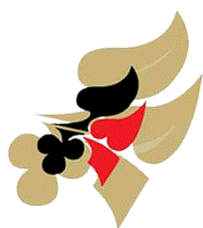
Newsletter No. 9

January 2017

**51st APBF Championships & 21st APBF Youth Championships**



# Happy New Year



**Amazing Bridge  
Festival Thailand  
2017**

2016 has come and gone with a lot of international events but with few incidents. I must apologise for not being able to produce a Newsletter for the entire year.

Turning the page to 2017, we can expect many exciting events to come. As we mark the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the APBF, the 51<sup>st</sup> APBF and 21<sup>st</sup> APBF Youth Championships will be held 28 May to 7 June in Seoul. We are expecting record attendance from Zones 4, 6 and 7.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> APBF Directors Seminar will be hosted in Bangkok from 1 - 4 April. Starting with this, the seminar will be for both tournament directors and operation directors. We look forward to your participation.

My special thanks to Mr. Tang Yunjian, our Assistant Chief TD from China, who had contributed most of the cases for this Newsletter.

## **Upcoming Major Confirmed International Events in Our Zone**

21st NEC Bridge Festival Yokohama City, Japan	7 - 12 February 2017
Amazing Bridge Festival Bangkok, Thailand	5 - 9 April 2017
51 <sup>st</sup> APBF Championships 21 <sup>st</sup> APBF Youth Championships Seoul, Korea	28 May - 7 June 2017
Hong Kong Inter-city Bridge Championships Hong Kong, China	26 - 30 July 2017



### **3<sup>rd</sup> APBF (Zone 6) Directors Seminar**

This will be held at the Montien Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand from 1 - 4 April 2017. The seminar is aimed at helping Zone 6 NBOs upgrade the skills of their tournament and operation directors. It is also intended to offer experienced directors the chance to qualify as APBF TDs and Operation Directors and get listed on the APBF Official Directors Register (Zone 6).

The invitation has already been sent to all Zone 6 NBOs. Please remember to register on or before 10 March 2017 through your NBO to the Contract Bridge League of Thailand at [vallapa@xcon.co.th](mailto:vallapa@xcon.co.th).

The following cases came from recent international events.

Board 22  
 Dealer: E, Vul: EW  
 (Break in Tempo)

♠ A4	♠ KQJ62	♠ -
♥ A65	♥ J7	♥ Q9842
♦ J852	♦ QT6	♦ AK7
♣ KT82	♣ J65	♣ AQ743

N
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♠ T98753
♥ KT3
♦ 943
♣ 9

W	N	E	S
		1 ♥	P
4 ♥	P...	P...	4 ♠
x	P	4NT	P
5 ♣	P	6 ♣	AP

(World Open Team)

Result: 6 ♣ by W-I NS +100

Facts:

The TD was called by West after the bidding has ended. He claimed that the tray stayed on the NE side for about 2 minutes after the 4 ♥ bid before it was returned. The TD told them to complete the play. The TD returned after the play has ended. It was confirmed by all that there was a break in tempo on the NE side. Both N and E admitted that they have been thinking, about 1 minute each. EW played Precision.

Ruling:

The TD consulted 5 different experts with South's hand, asking them what they would do after 4 ♥-Pass-Pass. All of them would have passed. The TD then asked them if there had been a break in tempo on the NE side, who would have been thinking. All of them said that since EW was playing Precision, it must have been North who was thinking.

The TD ruled according to Laws 12B1 and 73C, that NS had an infraction and EW had been damaged as a result. The score was adjusted to

4 ♥ by E+I NS-650

Post Mortem:

This seems to be a simple case, but would it be different if it was a pair event?

The break in tempo is by both North and East. What if it was confirmed that it was East alone who broke the tempo?



Board 9

Dealer: N, Vul: EW  
(Misinformation)

♠ A94	♠ K732	♠ 85
♥ 4	♥ KJ73	♥ Q9862
♦ Q8732	♦ AKJ9	♦ 5
♣ AJ96	♣ K	♣ Q8732

♠ QJT6	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 100px; height: 100px; margin: auto;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; height: 50%;"></td> <td style="width: 50%; height: 50%; text-align: center; vertical-align: middle;">N</td> </tr> </table>		N	♠ 85
	N			
♥ AT5		♥ Q9862		
♦ T64		♦ 5		
♣ T54		♣ Q8732		

W	N	E	S
	1 ♣ <sup>(1)</sup>	P	1 ♦ <sup>(1)</sup>
INT <sup>(2)</sup>	P	2 ♥	x
2 ♠	3 ♦	P	3NT
AP			

(Pairs Final)

- (1) Precision
- (2) W -> S = 2m  
E -> N = 2M

Lead: ♣ A  
Result: 3NT by S -1 NS -50

Facts:

South called the TD when the play was over. He claimed that the explanations given on INT were different on either side of the screen. He said that if they were given the same information, they would never have been playing in 3NT, but would be penalising the opponents instead.

Ruling:

The TD checked EW's convention card but there was nothing that supported either West's or East's explanation. EW had an infraction according to Law 75B. The TD then consulted 5 experts and asked them what they would have done with North's hand after 2 ♠ if they were told that INT=2m. All of them would either pass or double. The final EW contract would be doubled. The TD hence ruled according to Law 12B1 that the damage was a direct result of the infraction and that the table score would be adjusted.

Assessing the adjustment: with East thinking INT = 2M and West = 2m, EW would only be able to recover at the 4 ♣ level. The TD hence adjusted the score to

4 ♣ x by E -2 NS+500

Post-mortem:

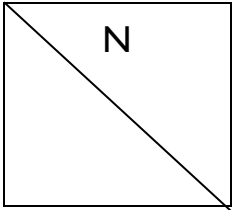
It appeared that North has taken advantage after the 2 ♠ bid, since by that time he must have known something's wrong. However, he must based his bidding on the explanation given. Otherwise he might not be protected.



Board 16

Dealer: W, Vul: EW

(Break in Tempo)

♠ KJT95 ♥ A8 ♦ A65 ♣ A98	N 	♠ AQ87 ♥ 753 ♦ Q9 ♣ 6532	♠ 2 ♥ J642 ♦ KJ8732 ♣ T4
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W	N	E	S
1 ♠	x <sup>(1)</sup>	3 ♠	P
P	x	P	4 ♦
P	4 ♥	P	P
x	AP		

(World Pairs)

(1) Normal take-out or 44 any suit

Result: 4 ♥ x by N-I NS -100

Facts:

The TD was called by West at the end of the play. He claimed that the tray stayed on the NE side for over a minute before coming back after 3 ♠ - Pass - Pass . This was confirmed by South. The TD went to the NE side and asked what had happened. It was confirmed by both North and East that there was a language problem and a long time was spent in written questions and answers after the second double. Neither North nor East broke the tempo.

Ruling:

The TD ruled that there was in fact no infraction and the table score would stand. EW requested a Review. The Reviewer upheld the TD's ruling but returned the deposit.

Post-mortem:

This looks like a simple case but let's consider some interesting points:

1. Why didn't West call after the bidding was completed?
2. If East had no intention of bidding after the second double, why didn't he pass and let the tray through before asking the questions? Did East use the time of the Q & A to determine whether he should bid 4 ♠ or pass, without having a break in tempo?
3. Did East deliberately create a possible break in tempo situation to trap South into making the wrong decision?
4. Did South use the "would be" UI when he bid 4 ♦?
5. Why would North pull to 4 ♥?



Board 4

Dealer: W, Vul: All  
(Misinformation)

♠ KQ742 ♥ 64 ♦ T6 ♣ T984	N 	♠ T953 ♥ A92 ♦ Q8 ♣ K763	♠ 6 ♥ J8753 ♦ K9543 ♣ Q2
♠ AJ8 ♥ KQT ♦ AJ72 ♣ AJ5			

W	N	E	S
P	P	P	2NT
P	3 ♣	P	3 ♦
P	3 ♥ <sup>(1)</sup>	P	3NT
AP			

(World Mixed Pairs)

(1) S -> W ♥ suit  
N -> E ♠ suit

Lead ♠ 4  
Result: 3NT by S +3 NS +690

Facts:

The TD was called by West when dummy came down. He said that if South had told him that 3 ♥ showed ♠ suit, he would have led ♥ 6 and not ♠ 4. The TD told him to continue. At the end of the play, the TD was called back. The TD examined NS's CC. North was correct in the explanation.

Ruling:

The TD concluded that there had been an infraction by South according to Law 75B and West might have been damaged as a result. 6 experts were consulted given West's hand, the bidding sequence and the correct explanation. 3 of them would have led a ♥ and 3 a ♣. The TD hence adjusted the score according to Law 12B1 to

3NT by S +1 NS+630

Post-mortem:

There is something strange about this hand. It appeared that NS was not playing Stayman after 2NT. The sequence appeared to be ROMEX, otherwise the bid after 3 ♦ should have been 3NT. I think the TD should ask more. May be there is some useful information to help the ruling.

It may also be important for the TD to find out whether the 3 ♣ and 3 ♦ bids were alerted. And if so, were there any questions asked?

Would you have proceed differently if West called the TD at the end of the play?





Board 16

Dealer: W, Vul: EW  
(Misinformation)

<p>♠ 84 ♥ Q943 ♦ AQJ3 ♣ A97</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 100px; margin: 0 auto; position: relative;"> <div style="position: absolute; top: 50%; left: 50%; transform: translate(-50%, -50%); font-weight: bold; font-size: 2em;">N</div> </div>	<p>♠ J6 ♥ KT86 ♦ K7 ♣ Q8632</p>	<p>♠ T72 ♥ A75 ♦ T98652 ♣ 4</p>
<p>♠ AKQ953 ♥ J2 ♦ 4 ♣ KJT5</p>			

W	N	E	S
1 ♦	INT <sup>(1)</sup>	3 ♦	4 ♦ <sup>(2)</sup>
P	4 ♥	P	4 ♠ <sup>(3)</sup>
AP			

(World Open Team)

- (1) S -> W 4+M and 5+♣
- (2) S -> W pick a major
- (3) S -> W to play

Lead: ♦ A

Result: 4 ♠ by S= NS +420

Facts:

The TD was called by West when the play was completed. He complained that South's explanation could not be correct and he must have been misinformed. The TD went over to the NE side and found that the bids were alerted but there was no question asked. The TD also found that on the ♦ A East played the ♦ 2 and West returned a small ♣ at trick 2.

Ruling:

The TD asked South why he bid 4 ♦ for North to pick a major if he intends to play 4 ♠ anyway. He said that if he bids 3 ♥/♠ or 4 ♥/♠, these bids are all pass or correct in the majors. The TD determined that there was an infraction by South as he did not fully disclose their system agreements to EW. However, West could have protected himself by asking South to clarify after dummy came down, or by calling the TD at that point. The TD further determined that the damage could be caused by West playing a small ♣ instead of the A at trick 2. 5 experts were consulted given the bidding and West hand. All of them would have asked why South converted 4 ♥ to 4 ♠ if he asked North to pick the major. All of them would have led the ♦ A. All of them would have played the ♣ A at trick 2 after seeing the ♦ 2, as none of them believed that East would have signalled with ♣ Kx looking at dummy.

The TD concluded that EW's damage was self inflicted and ruled according to Law 12C that the table score would stand.

Post-mortem:

It was clear that the explanation given by South was incomplete. Do you then agree that West should have asked for further clarification, especially after seeing dummy?



Board 2

Dealer: E, Vul: NS  
(Misinformation)

♠ A743 ♥ KJ8532 ♦ 4 ♣ 74	♠ 862 ♥ AQ ♦ AQ73 ♣ JT96	♠ KQT95 ♥ 96 ♦ J82 ♣ K53	
<table border="1" style="margin: auto; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50px; height: 50px; text-align: center; vertical-align: middle;">N</td> </tr> </table>			N
N			
♠ J ♥ T7 ♦ KT965 ♣ AQ82			

W	N	E	S
		P	P
1 ♥	P	1 ♠	2 ♦
2 ♠	3 ♠ <sup>(1)</sup>	4 ♠	P
P	5 ♦	x	P
P	xx	AP	

(World Mixed Team)

- (1) N -> E ♦ support
- S -> W ♦ support
- Weak after W further inquire

Lead ♠ A  
Result: 5 ♦ xx by S+I NS+1,400

Facts:

The TD was called by West after the play has ended and complained that he was given the wrong explanation. If he had known that 3 ♠ was strong, he could have bid 5 ♠ after the redouble instead of passing.

Ruling:

The TDs concluded that East had misjudged West's strength in the competitive situation. Although South's explanation was not totally correct, she had no obligation to tell West what she had in her hand. The TD ruled that the damage was not a result of South's explanation, the table score would stand according to Law 12B1 and 12C.

Post-mortem:

This looks like a very simple case, but I find something very strange. With 2 passes and opening light (on 8 HCP), West must have known that North could not have a weak hand. He should have at least 10 HCP. Why did West, at the World Championship level, ask about North's strength? He should be able to work this out very easily!





Board 6

Dealer: E, Vul: EW  
(Disputed claim)

♠ -	♠ T964	♠ AJ87
♥ JT3	♥ K9864	♥ Q52
♦ JT763	♦ A5	♦ 42
♣ A9862	♣ K7	♣ JT54

N
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♠ KQ532
♥ A7
♦ KQ98
♣ Q3

W	N	E	S
♦ J	♦ A	♦ 4	♦ 8
♣ 2	♠ 4	♠ 7	♠ K
♥ 3	♥ K	♥ 2	♥ 7
♦ 7	♠ 6	♠ 8	♠ Q
Claim			
♣ 6	♣ K	♣ 4	♣ 3

(World Senior Team)

Contract: 4 ♠ by S

Facts:

The TD was called by West after trick 5. South had made a claim after trick 4, saying “I’ll give you a ♠ and a ♣”, at which point EW asked her to continue and she played a ♣ to the K. West decided to call the TD at this point. West claimed that if South played a trump now she would have to lose another ♦ at the end for 1 down. South claimed that she would never play another trump.

Ruling:

The TD voided trick 5 according to Law 68D. After further discussion, the TDs concluded that South had forgotten that there were 2 outstanding winning trumps. The play of the ♣ to the K at trick 5 also supported this view. If East had the ♣ A, she would be able to draw all dummy’s trumps. The TD considered that under the situation, it was not irrational for South to play a trump. The TD ruled according to Laws 70C, 70D and 12B1, and adjusted to score to:

4 ♠ by S -1 NS -50

NS requested a review. The Reviewer upheld the TD’s ruling and kept the deposit.

Post-mortem:

It appeared that West wasn’t that friendly. Could he not just accept 3 tricks instead of 2?

No! Law 10C3 explicitly tells players that it is appropriate for the innocent side to select the most advantageous choice.





Board 2

Dealer: E, Vul: NS  
(Misinformation)

♠ T76	♠ KQ4	♠ A9832
♥ Q98	♥ -	♥ AJT2
♦ QJ4	♦ KT953	♦ 86
♣ KQT9	♣ J7632	♣ A8

♠ J5	N	♠ A9832
♥ K76543	/	♥ AJT2
♦ A72	/	♦ 86
♣ 54	/	♣ A8

W	N	E	S
		1 ♠	P
2 ♠ <sup>(1)</sup>	2NT	3 ♠	4 ♥
x	4NT	x	5 ♦
x	AP		

(World Women Team)

<sup>(1)</sup> E -> N 8-10  
W -> S 6-10

Result: 5 ♦ x by S -4 NS-I,100

Facts:

The TD was called by South at the end of play. South claimed that she was given the incorrect information. She claimed that 2NT was natural when 2 ♠ can be less than 8 HCP, but showing 2 minors when it was 8 or above. EW had no proof anywhere whether 2 ♠ = 6-10 or 8-10. The TD could not find any proof to support South's argument either.

Ruling:

The TD found out after investigation that North asked for the explanation of 2 ♠ only after 4 ♥ had been doubled. If the meaning of the 2NT bid depended so much on the 2 ♠ range, why wasn't the question posed before she bid? The TD hence ruled, according to Law 12C, that the table score stood.

Post-mortem:

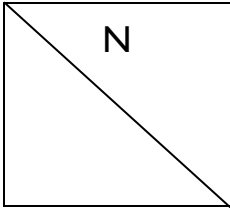
Would you rule differently if North had asked the question before bidding 2NT?

This case actually poses a very common problem; in filling out convention cards and answering questions. If a partnership tends to deviate from HCP when supported by distributional points, it will be better to write or say NF, maximum how many HCP.



Board 24

Dealer: W, Vul: None  
(Misinformation?)

♠ AT942 ♥ AT53 ♦ K ♣ 653	N 	♠ 87653 ♥ Q986 ♦ T4 ♣ T4	♠ KQ ♥ K7 ♦ AQ863 ♣ KJ87
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W	N	E	S
1 ♠	P	3 ♠ <sup>(1)</sup>	AP

(World Women Team)

- (1) E -> N mixed raise, less than 8
- W -> S mixed raise, 4-7

Result: 3 ♠ by W -1 NS+50

Facts:

The TD was called by South at the end of play. South claimed that she was given the incorrect information. She claimed that she did not know what a mixed raise was. If she knew that E could have so few HCP, she could have bid over 3 ♠. When asked why she did not call the TD when the explanation received was unclear, she did not provide an answer.

Ruling:

The TD gave NS the benefit of the doubt. 5 experts were polled given South's hand and East's and West's explanations. All players would either pass in all cases or bid 4NT in all cases. In this case, 4NT would have pushed NS overboard. The TD hence ruled, according to Law 12B1, that the table score stood.

Post-mortem:

If 5 ♣ or 5 ♦ could be made, would you adjusted the score? And how?

This case has the similar problem as the previous one. East explanation is better. However, terms like "mixed raise" may not be clear to all players - as in this case. Players should try to use more common terms that is readily understood.



## Questions & Answers

(Email to: [awching@hkbn.net](mailto:awching@hkbn.net))

**Q :** The following hand was from a provincial tournament. Screens were used.

Board 9  
Dealer: N, Vul: EW

♠ AK9864 ♥ 98 ♦ J983 ♣ 5	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 100px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <span style="font-size: 2em;">N</span> </div>	♠ Q ♥ Q654 ♦ K542 ♣ 8732
♠ T2 ♥ J ♦ AQT76 ♣ KQT96		
	♠ J753 ♥ AKT732 ♦ - ♣ AJ4	

W	N	E	S
	2 ♦ <sup>(1)</sup>	P	2NT <sup>(2)</sup>
3NT	4 ♠	x	xx
P	P	5 ♦	5 ♠
AP			

<sup>(1)</sup> Weak-2 in a major

<sup>(2)</sup> Relay with 9+HCP

Result: 5 ♠ by N+2 NS +510

Neither side had a convention card. NS called the TD and said EW never alerted the 3NT bid. West agreed that he forgot to alert. East said he never knew of any 3NT=minors agreement and thought that 4 ♠ by N was a sacrifice and that was why he doubled. After the redouble, he had some doubts and decided to bid 5 ♦ just in case. The TD consulted 3 expert players. All of them did not believe 3NT could be strong and would have bid 6 ♠ directly after the double. The TD ruled that the table result stood and warned EW to alert properly. NS appealed and the Appeals Committee upheld the TD's ruling. My questions are: (1) When I consult, do I give the experts 3NT=m? (2) Do I give the experts 3NT=strong as well? (3) If so, which question first? (4) What else should I watch for?

**A :** First of all, there is an infraction as EW cannot prove what 3NT means. If this directly results in damage to NS, you will have to adjust the score. But how? I felt that South's action is suspicious. If 3NT=strong, East is doubling with a singleton ♠ or there must be more than 40 HCP around! If during the consultation, experts asked you what 3NT means, then you can be sure that it was NS's fault in not protecting themselves by asking for the meaning: score stands! You should take both meanings to consult, in whatever order. I prefer mixing the order. If the experts would do the same in both cases, then table score should stand. Otherwise you should consider a weighted adjustment using the answer from 3NT=minors.

***I would be glad to hear comments from the readers.***

