**DIRECTOR GUIDE FOR INSUFFICIENT BIDS, CALLS OUT OF ROTATION,**

**LEAD PENALTIES, AND COMPARABLE CALLS**

**INSUFFICIENT BID (NOT ACCEPTED BY LHO)**

**Offender’s replacement bid, to prevent partner from passing (rest of the auction) must be:**

**● lowest sufficient bid (could be a transfer bid) specifying the same denomination(s), or**

**● a comparable call.**

***(After one of the two options above is used, if you judge assistance gained through the infraction affected the outcome ,and in consequence the opponents were damaged, award an adjusted score, seeking to recover the probable outcome of the board had the insufficient bid not occurred.)***

**If one of the two options above is NOT used, offender passes or makes a sufficient bid (double and redouble not allowed) and offender’s partner must pass for the rest of the auction. Lead penalties apply the first time offender’s partner is on lead if he becomes a defender.**

**CALL OUT OF ROTATION (NOT ACCEPTED BY LHO)**

**● Offender passes at RHO’s turn. Offender must pass over RHO’s call. End of ruling.**

**● Offender bids at RHO’s turn. If RHO passes, offender repeats his bid. End of ruling.**

**● All of the remaining possibilities are treated similarly:**

**▪ Offender bids at RHO’s turn and then RHO bids.**

**▪ Offender calls at his partner’s turn**

**▪ Offender calls when LHO is dealer**

**1. IF offender’s partner will call before offender, THEN warn him to not use UI from the withdrawn call. (A choice indicated by the UI must not be used on a close decision.)**

**2. At offender’s turn, privately determine if a comparable call is available. If a comparable call will not be used, inform offender his partner will be required to pass (once) on his next call and if they become defenders, lead penalties apply the first time offender’s partner is on lead. (If a comparable call is used, auction proceeds normally.)**

**LEAD PENALTIES**

**After an insufficient bid or a call out of rotation, if offender’s replacement call prevents his partner from being required to pass, there are no lead penalties. Otherwise, if offender’s partner becomes a defender, the first time he is on lead declarer may prohibit the lead of any one suit offender did not legally show in the auction, such prohibition continuing for as long as offender’s partner retains the lead.**

**COMPARABLE CALL**

**● has the same or similar meaning, or**

**● defines a subset of the possible meanings, or**

**● has the same purpose (such as an asking bid, answering bid to an asking bid, or relay).**

**(Private conversation with offender is recommended so he’ll know if his next call will be ruled comparable or not.)**

***Following substitution of a comparable call, if you judge assistance gained through the infraction affected the outcome, and in consequence the opponents were damaged, award an adjusted score.***

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**Insufficient Bid Example 1: 1♦-(1♠)-1♥, insufficient.**

**2♥ is lowest sufficient bid and a negative double (if it shows 4+ hearts) is comparable. Either can be used to prevent offender’s partner from being required to pass for the rest of the auction.**

**Insufficient Bid Example 2: 1NT-(2♠)-2♦ (intended as transfer to hearts), insufficient.**

**Lowest sufficient bid is 3♥ (unless 3♦ is a transfer). Comparable calls are 3♥ (a second reason 3♥ is allowed), a natural 4♥, and any transfer bid such as Texas 4♦ (subset of all hands with 5+ heart hands). 3♥, 4♥, and a 4♦ Texas transfer prevent offender’s partner from being required to pass whenever it is his turn to call.**

**Call Out Of Turn Example 1: 1♥ opening bid, but partner is dealer. Dealer warned about UI from withdrawn 1♥ bid.**

**(a) 1♠-(Pass)-? [2♥ is comparable, both if game forcing or almost game forcing]**

**(b) 1♠-(2♦)-? [2♥ (if forcing) is comparable, similar enough to a game force]**

**(c) Pass-(1♠)-? [2♥ is comparable, minimum 2-level overcall and 1♥ opening similar]**

**(d) 1♦-(Pass)-? [1♥ NOT comparable, 6+ HCP and unlimited; 1♥ opening 11+ HCP]**

**(e) Pass-(1♦)-? [1♥ NOT comparable, lower limit difference 7 HCP vs. 11 HCP too big]**

**Call Out of Turn Example 2: Pass out of turn when LHO or partner is dealer. Dealer warned about UI from withdrawn 1♥ bid.**

**Offender’s next call to be a comparable call needs to be a call that would never be made by an opening bid, such as single, invitational, or weak raises of partner, 1NT or 2NT bids, or (very) weak jump shifts. A call that might be made with game forcing values would not be a comparable call.**

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