

WBF LC Commentary

Law 58 – Simultaneous Plays

Assume that LHO being on lead ‘produces’ 2 cards on the table, both small. The TD asks him what his intention was (away from table if it seems appropriate):

1. If the defender in fact intended to play a third card (not one of the two he dropped), then both cards become major penalty cards. Declarer chooses one of them to be led.
2. If the defender intended to play one of the two dropped cards, then the Director lets him play the card he wanted to play and the other becomes a minor penalty card.

Practically speaking the TD should not get into position 1) by assuming that the player wanted to play one of the cards when this happens. This also avoids the possibility of creating UI. It is safer to ask rather than assume.

Compare what happens with an honour and a small card. Now the TD should tell the player that by playing the honour the remaining card becomes a minor penalty card, while playing the small card leaves him with a major penalty card. The Director should explain what that means for subsequent tricks