

WBF LC Commentary

Law 79 – Disagreement of Tricks Won and Score Correction

If there is a disagreement about the number of tricks won by each side, the players must call the TD. Law 79B deals with two different situations. In the first, he is called before there is agreement on the result. In the second, there is an agreement about the result, but a disagreement arises later. In the first case, the TD collects the facts, and subject to various laws (such as Law 69 if there was a claim or concession), he has the players record a single result, not a weighted or split score. In the second case, he should change the recorded result of the board only when he is convinced that was the outcome of the board. In this case he is permitted to award a split score, specifically by reducing the score of the side losing a trick or tricks without necessarily rescoring the result for the side who might gain those tricks. In all cases, the TD is bound by the correction period (see below).

A scoring error is defined as a registered result which is not in accordance with the agreed-upon result [normally related to the number of tricks won and lost, (re)doubled or not]. Examples are: score entered in the wrong direction, wrong vulnerability, wrong contract, or a mistaken correction of an adjusted score.

The correction period for both scoring errors and miscounted number of tricks won or lost normally is the same: 30 minutes unless decided otherwise. Law 79 allows the Tournament Organizer to make a distinction and to increase the period for correction of a scoring error. Regulations need to explain how to handle this possibility. Organizers should be encouraged to be liberal in getting the score recorded which accurately represents what took place at the table, particularly when the only reason it is not recorded that way was an error reporting the result. On the other hand, when qualifying phases or prize distribution are complete, it can be awkward to make late changes to scores.