

Insufficient Bids

•Law 27

West (Dir)	North	East	South
(1H)	1S	(2H)	2D!

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LAW 27 – INSUFFICIENT BID

Acceptance of Insufficient Bid

1. Any insufficient bid may be accepted (treated as legal) at the option of offender's LHO. It is accepted if that player calls.

Take Time to
Absorb the Facts

Do not
offer 25A

Very Important
LHO may Accept IB

Informed Choice
Law 10C1

Entitled to Know
the Laws

Not Entitled to
Meaning Attributed

May ask Meaning in
Relevant Situations

Deemed
Sufficient

3H 2S 3H 4S
All Pass

(3H) 2S 2S opening?
3S overcall ?

2. If a player makes an insufficient bid out of rotation Law 31 applies.

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B. Insufficient Bid not Accepted

If an insufficient bid in rotation is not accepted (see A) it must be corrected by the substitution of a legal call (but see 3 following). Then:

1. (a) if the insufficient bid is corrected by the lowest sufficient bid which specifies the same denomination(s) as that specified by the withdrawn call, the auction proceeds without further rectification. Laws 26B and 16C do not apply but see D following.

Comparable Call
not Required

Points and Length
may be Different

1S 2H

1S 2C 2NT

STOPPER?

Either or Both
may be Artificial

1NT 2S 3H

POINTS?

Sensible
Auctions

26B

No

16C

No

27D

Yes

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- (b) except as in (a), if the insufficient bid is corrected with a comparable call (see Law 23A) the auction proceeds without further rectification. Law 16C does not apply but see D following.

Law 23: Comparable Call

Why IB?

Did not see RHO's Call

Saw the call but thought it was at a level lower

Responded to or asked a question at wrong level:

Stayman after 2NT

4NT Blackwood

King Ask

Transfer after 2NT

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2. except as provided in B1 above, if the insufficient bid is corrected by a sufficient bid or by a pass, the offender's partner must pass whenever it is his turn to call. The lead restrictions in Law 26B may apply, and see Law 72C.

Even if a 27B1
Correction Available

72C

1S	2H	3H	4H
4NT	Pass	5S	Pass
Pass	Pass		

3. except as provided in B1(b) above, if the offender attempts to substitute a double or a redouble for his insufficient bid the attempted call is cancelled. The offender must replace it as the foregoing allows and his partner must then pass whenever it is his turn to call. The lead restrictions in Law 26B may apply, and see Law 72C.

Suppose the X or XX
Is not Comparable

Two Withdrawn Calls to Consider
for Possible Lead Restrictions.

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4. if the offender attempts to replace the one insufficient bid with another insufficient bid the Director rules as in 3 if the LHO does not accept the substituted insufficient bid as A1 allows.

LHO May Accept
First IB

Second IB
Withdrawn

Possibly Subject to
Lead Restrictions

LHO May Accept
Second IB

First IB
Withdrawn

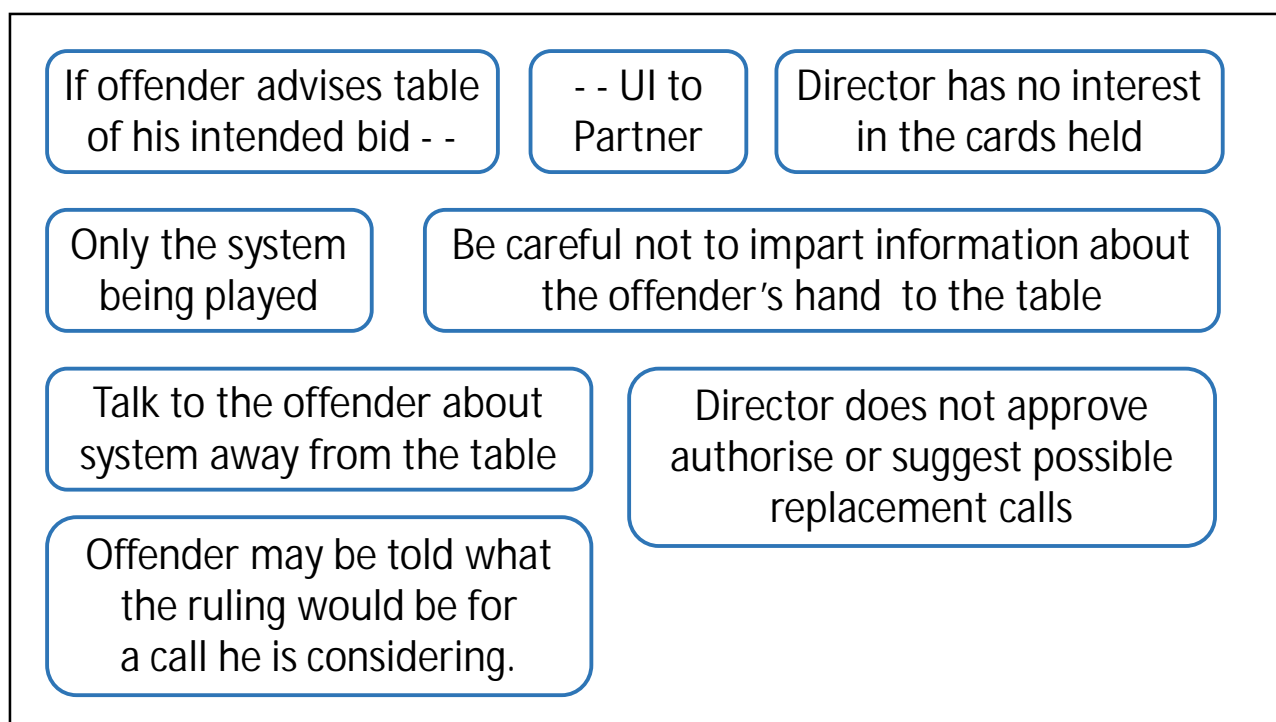
Possibly Subject to
Lead Restrictions

Neither
Accepted

Back to 27B3

Partner Must Pass
Whenever 26B 72C

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1S 2C 2NT What may opener deduce?

Responder could have 6-9 not 10-12

Responder might not have a club stopper

If Opener has 15 hcp. May he pass 2NT? **YES**

Partner may correctly deduce that the insufficient bidder has a weaker hand however a good score must be one that was possible without assistance from the insufficient bid or the score may be adjusted. Likewise, he may bid on and find a lucky good score not found at other tables.

May need to consider 27D "Non-offending side damaged".

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Insufficient Bid in a Nutshell

When an insufficient bid has not been accepted, offender has three options:

1. Replace with a bid of the lowest sufficient level that specifies the same denomination(s) and the auction continues with no rectification; or
2. Replace with a comparable call (of same/similar meaning) and auction continues with no rectification; or
3. Replace with any other bid or pass, but then partner must pass **whenever it is their turn to call**, and lead restrictions may apply.