

## WHY WE SHOULD NOT REMOVE THE BOARD IN PLAY FROM ITS PLACE ON THE TABLE

**The laws of bridge 7a** : When a board is to be played it is placed in the centre of the table until play is completed.

When being played by Division Two of Barnstaple Bridge Club League in December 2011 one copy of each of the two boards 3 and 12 were mis-boarded. The hands were both arrow switched as shown.

Board #3			
N (E)		S (W)	
#3	♠96	♠KT832	
S/EW	♥A5	♥QJ7	
Opt. res.	♦T962	♦AJ7	
400	♣AJ863	♣75	
♠75		♠AQJ4	
♥6432		♥KT98	
♦KQ84		♦53	
♣K42		♣QT9	
9			
8			
11			
12			
W(N)		E(S)	
N S		E W	
N 9 9		N 2 2	
S 9 9		S 4 4	
H 9 9		H 4 4	
D 9 9		D 4 4	
C 11 11		C 2 2	
400			

  

Board #12			
N (E)		S (W)	
#12	♠T	♠8763	
W/NS	♥AK96532	♥87	
Opt. res.	♦J	♦Q87654	
1400	♣A984	♣J	
♠K2		♠AQJ954	
♥T4		♥QJ	
♦AK2		♦T93	
♣KQT632		♣75	
12			
15			
3			
10			
W(N)		E(S)	
N S		E W	
N 7 7		N 4 4	
S 8 8		S 4 4	
H 12 12		H 0 0	
D 4 4		D 7 7	
C 6 6		C 6 6	
1430		70	

The club plays with two identically duplicated sets of boards using the standard long rectangular boards. Probably when N or S was playing these hands, in order to make space, dummy took the board from the centre of the table and placed it behind their cards, rotating the board parallel to the edge of the table in the process. It was then returned to the centre and the hands replaced in this rotated orientation. Barnstaple Bridge Club does not at present use curtain cards which would have meant this error might have been detected before either board was replayed. However just a few days later a board was lost in the Taw Vale Club Teams because curtain cards had been swapped over.

With 2 copies of each board being played on 10 tables each board is played about 5 times in all and may have been played two or three times after being switched. If the two halves of a team played different versions of the board they may gain or lose heavily. For each board this may occur 2 or 3 times, and is likely to effect about half the teams playing. The incorrect boards may of course be played on any table.

**Board 3:** The likely correct NS scores are +150 for 1NT+2 or +400 for 3NT= or 2S-4 by E  
On a switched table EW will get these scores and that team will benefit by gaining plus scores on both tables, adding up to between +300 and +800 giving a gain of 7 to 13 IMPS

**Board 12:** The likely correct NS scores are +650 for 4H+1, +300 for 5D\*-2 or +1400 for 6H  
On a switched table EW will get these scores and that team will benefit with two plus scores. probably adding to +1300 but the total could be between 600 and 2800 giving a gain of 12 to 21 IMPS.

It is possible for a team to be lucky and gain 34 IMPS from the 2 boards and win the 26 board match 17-3.

Do be aware when scoring of the possibility that your NS & EW pair could have played the same HANDS and of the possible consequences if the board in play is removed from its position in the centre of the table.