

Scoring following applying Law 15B2

In the 2017 Laws of Bridge if the wrong players start bidding on a board then Law 15 B 2 says that they should complete the board and the score obtained should count in the final results. Law 15 B 3 says that any pair deprived of an opportunity to play the board shall be given an artificial adjusted score. As they will not normally be responsible for the problem they will normally be awarded average plus.

Over 90% of the time when this occurs there will be two pairs in this position and it is easy to award these scores in the scoring software. Occasionally there is only one pair which requires the artificial adjusted score and this is more difficult. We will look at the easy case first. We will use EBUScore in this example, any differences using Scorebridge will be noted at the time. It is assumed that Bridgemates are being used. Other electronic scoring devices should produce the same results. If the scores are being entered manually essentially the steps set out here are done at the same time as the scores are entered.

For this example we will assume we have 6 tables playing 27 boards in a 3/4 Howell. Here are the table cards.

6 Tables: 3/4 Howell (Saffron EBU24B T 6)

Table 1				Table 2				Table 3				Table 4				Table 5				Table 6							
Rd	NS	EW	Set	Rd	NS	EW	Set	Rd	NS	EW	Set	Rd	NS	EW	Set	Rd	NS	EW	Set	Rd	NS	EW	Set	Rd	NS	EW	Set
1	5	8	1~3	1	3	2	7~9	1	9	7	10~12	1	10	6	13~15	1	11	4	19~21	1	12	1	22~24				
2	6	9	4~6	2	4	3	10~12	2	1	8	13~15	2	10	7	16~18	2	11	5	22~24	2	12	2	25~27				
3	7	1	7~9	3	5	4	13~15	3	2	9	16~18	3	10	8	19~21	3	11	6	25~27	3	3	12	1~3				
4	8	2	10~12	4	6	5	16~18	4	3	1	19~21	4	10	9	22~24	4	11	7	1~3	4	12	4	4~6				
5	9	3	13~15	5	7	6	19~21	5	4	2	22~24	5	10	1	25~27	5	11	8	4~6	5	12	5	7~9				
6	1	4	16~18	6	8	7	22~24	6	5	3	25~27	6	10	2	1~3	6	11	9	7~9	6	6	12	10~12				
7	2	5	19~21	7	9	8	25~27	7	6	4	1~3	7	10	3	4~6	7	11	1	10~12	7	12	7	13~15				
8	3	6	22~24	8	1	9	1~3	8	7	5	4~6	8	10	4	7~9	8	11	2	13~15	8	12	8	16~18				
9	4	7	25~27	9	2	1	4~6	9	8	6	7~9	9	10	5	10~12	9	11	3	16~18	9	9	12	19~21				
NS to 5EW				NS to 2EW				NS to 1EW				NS remain				NS remain											
EW to 3EW				EW to 6				EW to 4EW				EW to 1NS				EW to 2NS											
																Sitter stay/switch											
																Mover to 3NS											

In Round 3 Pair 9 go to Table 4 instead of Table 3 and start bidding on Board 19. Pair 8 then arrive and say that they should be playing here. You determine what has happened, allow Pairs 10 and 9 to complete Board 19 then send Pair 9 to play Boards 16-18 at Table 3 against Pair 2. Any uncompleted boards are scored AV+ to Pair 2 AV- to Pair 9. Here I have assumed that they played them in time and that Pair 8 completed Boards 20 and 21 against Pair 10 at Table 4. Although Pair 9 played EW on Board 19 the Bridgemate will think it was Pair 8 but we do nothing with the Bridgemate.

On Round 9 Pair 9 arrive at Table 6 to play Boards 19-21 against Pair 12. Obviously they cannot play Board 19 so you get them to play 20 and 21. You then need to enter something in the Bridgemate to get through the movement. I recommend 'No Play' i.e. Button 0 which should require TD authorisation but you can enter some kind of average and fix it in the scoring program. Having done this if you produced the results now they would look like the print out overleaf:

Law 15 B 2 Bridge Club Easy Example 29/09/2017
 Session 1 Section A
 6 Table 27 Board Howell Movement
 Director: Paul Scorer: Paul Received 161 of 162 scores.

Rank	Pair	Names [OVERALL RANKS]	Bds	Total	Max	%Score	LPs
1	8	An Elimination & A Ruff	27	169.40	270	62.74	24
2	2	A Defender & A Declarer	27	154.00	270	57.04	18
3	9	A Squeeze & A Pass	26	146.00	260	56.15	12
4	3	A Trick & A Dummy	27	146.00	270	54.07	6
5	11	A Suit & A Lead	27	139.40	270	51.63	
6	10	A Revoke & A Call	27	135.20	270	50.07	
7	7	A Slam & A Game	27	135.00	270	50.00	
8	12	An Overcal & A Deal	26	127.00	260	48.85	
9	5	A Finesse & A Trump	27	125.40	270	46.44	
10	6	A Bid & A Denomination	27	122.40	270	45.33	
11	4	An Overtrick & An Undertrick	27	109.80	270	40.67	
12	1	A Discard & A Reverse	27	102.40	270	37.93	

(printed 15:54:52 29/09/2017 EBUScorePairs1.1.6 (c) 2015 English Bridge Union)

But we know our results on Board 19 are incorrect so we go to 'Enter Scores' (Scoresheets in Scorebridge) and select Board 19 which should look like this:

Event 33: Law 15 B 2 Bridge Club Easy Example 29/09/2017 Session 1 Section A Pairs Neuberg MPs Scoring

Session Section 1 A **Board** 19 **Neuberg**
Vul EW Game **Top = 10**

NS	EW	Contract	D	Lead	NS+	NS-	NS Mps	EW Mps	Score
2	5	5H-5	W	H10	500		9.8	0.2	
3	1	3Cx+3	E	DK		1270	0.2	9.8	
7	6	7D-6	N	H5		300	2.6	7.4	
9	12						0	0	
10	8	1D+4	E	HA		150	5	5	
11	4	PASS	W		Pass	Out	7.4	2.6	

Options

- Auto Next Board
- + Prompt
- Omit Last Zero
- Omit Vulny Check
- NS Pair Order
- US Style

Weighted Scores

%	NS Score	Assign

Board

1	3	5	7	9	11	13	15	17	19	21	23	25	27
2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24	26	

Missing Scores

1

Print Board Score Entry Help
 Print Ranks Clear Scores Return

If you entered an average on Table 6 rather than 'No Play' then that will show on the line for Pairs 9 and 12. We need to make several changes here:

1. It was Pair 9 (not Pair 8) who played this Board against Pair 10 so we replace Pair 8 with Pair 9 on that line.
2. We need to award AV+ to Pairs 8 and 12 on this board as they were prevented from playing it. Therefore on the line on which 12 were playing it which has no score we change their opponents to Pair 8
3. Then we award AV+ to both pairs.

Board 19 should now look like this:

Event 33: Law 15 B 2 Bridge Club Easy Example 29/09/2017 Session 1 Section A Pairs Neuberger MPs Scoring

Session Section						Board	19	Neuberger	
1	A					Vul	EW Game	Top = 10	
NS	EW	Contract	D	Lead	NS+	NS-	NS Mps	EW Mps	Score
2	5	5H-5	W	H10	500		9.8	0.2	
3	1	3Cx+3	E	DK		1270	0.2	9.8	
7	6	7D-6	N	H5		300	2.6	7.4	
8	12				60%	60%	6	6	
10	9	1D+4	E	HA		150	5	5	
11	4	PASS	W		Pass	Out	7.4	2.6	

Pairs listed in NS Order

Options

- Auto Next Board
- + Prompt
- Omit Last Zero
- Omit Vulny Check
- NS Pair Order
- US Style

Weighted Scores

%	NS Score	Assign

Board

1	3	5	7	9	11	13	15	17	19	21	23	25	27
2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24	26	

Missing Scores

Print Board Score Entry Help

Print Ranks Clear Scores Return

and our final correct results look like this:

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Law 15 B 2 Bridge Club    Easy Example 29/09/2017
Session 1 Section A
6 Table 27 Board Howell Movement
Director: Paul Scorer: Paul    Received 162 of 162 scores.
=====
Rank Pair Names [OVERALL RANKS]                                Bds    Total    Max %Score    LPs
=====
 1   8 An Elimination & A Ruff                                  27    170.72    270    63.23    24
 2   2 A Defender & A Declarer                                  27    154.00    270    57.04    18
 3   9 A Squeeze & A Pass                                        27    151.00    270    55.93    12
 4   3 A Trick & A Dummy                                        27    146.00    270    54.07     6
 5  11 A Suit & A Lead                                          27    139.40    270    51.63
 6  10 A Revoke & A Call                                        27    135.20    270    50.07
 7   7 A Slam & A Game                                          27    135.00    270    50.00
 8  12 An Overcal & A Deal                                      27    133.00    270    49.26
 9   5 A Finesse & A Trump                                      27    125.40    270    46.44
10   6 A Bid & A Denomination                                    27    122.40    270    45.33
11   4 An Overtrick & An Undertrick                            27    109.80    270    40.67
12   1 A Discard & A Reverse                                    27    102.40    270    37.93
=====
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We now move on to the more complicated situation. In this case we have 5½ tables. We are playing the same movement but Pair 12 is the missing pair so the moving pair sits out at Table 6. N.B. This is a different set of scores.

The same thing happens in Round 3, Pair 9 go to Table 4 instead of Table 3 and start bidding on Board 19. As before you allow Pairs 10 and 9 to complete Board 19 then send Pair 9 to play Boards 16-18 at Table 3 against Pair 2 while Pairs 8 and 10 play boards 20 and 21. However this time as Pair 9 were not due to play Board 19 because they would have played it against Pair 12 – the

missing pair it is only Pair 8 who have been denied the chance to play Board 19. The scoresheet for Board 19 currently looks like this:

Event 33: Law 15 B 2 Bridge Club Hard Example 29/09/2017 Session 1 Section A Pairs Neuberg MPs Scoring

Session Section 1 A **Board** 19 **Neuberg**
Vul EW Game **Top = 8**

NS	EW	Contract	D	Lead	NS+	NS-	NS Mps	EW Mps	Score
2	5	5D-3	S	S9		150	4	4	
3	1	7C-6	N	C6		300	2	6	
7	6	7NT-2	E	D10	200		6	2	
10	8	5H=	W	DA		650	0	8	
11	4	7S-4	E	S4	400		8	0	

Pairs listed in NS Order

Options

- Auto Next Board
- + Prompt
- Omit Last Zero
- Omit Vulny Check
- NS Pair Order
- US Style

Weighted Scores

%	NS	Score	Assign

Board

1	3	5	7	9	11	13	15	17	19	21	23	25	27
2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24	26	

Missing Scores

Print Board Score Entry Help
 Print Ranks Clear Scores Return

The only change we need to make is Pair 10's opponents who were Pair 9. So we get this:

Event 33: Law 15 B 2 Bridge Club Hard Example 29/09/2017 Session 1 Section A Pairs Neuberg MPs Scoring

Session Section 1 A **Board** 19 **Neuberg**
Vul EW Game **Top = 8**

NS	EW	Contract	D	Lead	NS+	NS-	NS Mps	EW Mps	Score
2	5	5D-3	S	S9		150	4	4	
3	1	7C-6	N	C6		300	2	6	
7	6	7NT-2	E	D10	200		6	2	
10	9	5H=	W	DA		650	0	8	
11	4	7S-4	E	S4	400		8	0	

Pairs listed in NS Order

Options

- Auto Next Board
- + Prompt
- Omit Last Zero
- Omit Vulny Check
- NS Pair Order
- US Style

Weighted Scores

%	NS	Score	Assign

Board

1	3	5	7	9	11	13	15	17	19	21	23	25	27
2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24	26	

Missing Scores

Print Board Score Entry Help
 Print Ranks Clear Scores Return

Our results look like this:

Law 15 B 2 Bridge Club Hard Example 29/09/2017
Session 1 Section A
5½ Table 27 Board Howell Movement
Director: Paul Scorer: Paul Received 135 of 135 scores.

Rank	Pair	Names [OVERALL RANKS]	Bds	Total	Max	%Score	LPs
1	1	A Discard & A Reverse	24	116.00	192	60.42	24
2	4	An Overtrick & An Undertrick	24	111.00	192	57.81	18
3	2	A Defender & A Declarer	24	110.00	192	57.29	12
4	6	A Bid & A Denomination	24	102.00	192	53.13	6
5	5	A Finesse & A Trump	24	101.00	192	52.60	
6	9	A Squeeze & A Pass	25	102.00	200	51.00	
7	11	A Suit & A Lead	27	110.00	216	50.93	
8	10	A Revoke & A Call	27	102.00	216	47.22	
9	3	A Trick & A Dummy	24	81.00	192	42.19	
10	8	An Elimination & A Ruff	23	77.00	184	41.85	
11	7	A Slam & A Game	24	68.00	192	35.42	

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The first thing to note is that pairs have played different numbers of boards, highlighted in pink. Partly this is caused by not all pairs having to sit out. However Pair 9 should only have played 24 boards but they have played 25 because they played Board 19 which they were not down to play. The new laws say that the extra board good or bad counts in their score. Pair 10, although they correctly played 27 boards, actually played 4 boards against Pair 9 and only 2 against Pair 8. Once again the new laws say that these scores count. The only bit of the new laws which we have not satisfied relates to Pair 8 who have only got 23 scores counting and Law 15 B 3 says they should get AV+ for the board they did not play. However you will find there is no line available on the scoresheet where we can enter this.

The first thing to note is that if the pair concerned have scored 60% or more on the boards they did play then you need to do nothing as AV+ will leave their score unaltered and you can use the result as is. Sadly that is not the case here. If algebra is not your strong suit you can ignore the next paragraph and just take the formula at the end on trust.

We need to give Pair 8 an adjustment (We will call it X for now) so that they end up with the same percentage that they would have done if they had played another board and got 60% on it. The percentage they have at the moment is the result of dividing the matchpoints they have scored highlighted in yellow (we will call this A) by the maximum they could have scored highlighted in green (we will call this B). The other figure we need is the maximum matchpoints they could have scored on the board they did not play. If you look back to the screenshots of the scoresheets for Board 19 for this event you will see that near the top it says 'Top = 8'. This is the figure we need we will call it T. Scoring 60% on the board means that they would get 60% of T or 0.6T matchpoints. Therefore the percentage with which we want to end up is found by adding 0.6T to A then T to B and dividing the first result by the second. However we can only end up with this result by adding an adjustment to A, we have no way in the scoring program to alter B. Therefore we need an adjustment X such that:

$$\frac{A+X}{B} = \frac{A+0.6T}{B+T}$$

We use this equation to calculate a formula for X

$$(A+X)(B+T) = (A+0.6T)B$$

$$AB+XB+AT+XT = AB+0.6TB$$

$$XB+XT = AB+0.6TB-AB-AT$$

$$X(B+T) = T(0.6B-A)$$

$$X = \frac{T(0.6B-A)}{(B+T)}$$

The formula highlighted here is the one we use to calculate the adjustment required. Applying it to our results A was 77, B was 184 and T was 8.

$$\text{Therefore we get } X = \frac{8((0.6 \times 184) - 77)}{(184 + 8)}$$

$$X = \frac{8(110.4 - 77)}{192}$$

$$X = \frac{267.2}{192}$$

$$X = 1.39 \text{ (to 2 decimal places)}$$

This is the adjustment we need to add to Pair 8's score to compensate them for the board they could not play through no fault of their own.

In EBUScore we do this using the 'Properties' button:



We then get this screen:

Event 33 Law 15 B 2 Bridge Club Hard Example 29/09/2017 Section A Session 1 Pairs NeubergMP

Properties

Session: 1 Section: A

Adj: Adjust - Rounded down to 2 dps Miss: Missing competitor
 Cat: Category - Up to 4 characters. NGx: Exclude from NGS Rating
 C/F: Carry Forward Str: Strat Level A,B,C or D

Pair	Name1	Name2	Miss	Adj	Cat	Str	NGx	C/F
1	A Discard	A Reverse	<input type="checkbox"/>			A	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2	A Defender	A Declarer	<input type="checkbox"/>			A	<input type="checkbox"/>	
3	A Trick	A Dummy	<input type="checkbox"/>			A	<input type="checkbox"/>	
4	An Overtrick	An Undertrick	<input type="checkbox"/>			A	<input type="checkbox"/>	
5	A Finesse	A Trump	<input type="checkbox"/>			A	<input type="checkbox"/>	
6	A Bid	A Denomination	<input type="checkbox"/>			A	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7	A Slam	A Game	<input type="checkbox"/>			A	<input type="checkbox"/>	
8	An Elimination	A Ruff	<input type="checkbox"/>			A	<input type="checkbox"/>	
9	A Squeeze	A Pass	<input type="checkbox"/>			A	<input type="checkbox"/>	
10	A Revoke	A Call	<input type="checkbox"/>			A	<input type="checkbox"/>	
11	A Suit	A Lead	<input type="checkbox"/>			A	<input type="checkbox"/>	
12	An Overcal	A Deal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			A	<input type="checkbox"/>	

+ Masterpoint Rank
 + Player Strat Levels

Print Properties Set Carry-Forward (from XML File) Set Default Strat Levels Cancel OK

and we enter the adjustment of 1.39 against Pair 8 and click OK.

Event 33 Law 15 B 2 Bridge Club Hard Example 29/09/2017 Section A Session 1 Pairs NeubergMP

Properties

Session: 1 Section: A

Adj: Adjust - Rounded down to 2 dps Miss: Missing competitor
 Cat: Category - Up to 4 characters. NGx: Exclude from NGS Rating
 C/F: Carry Forward Str: Strat Level A,B,C or D

Pair	Name1	Name2	Miss	Adj	Cat	Str	NGx	C/F
1	A Discard	A Reverse	<input type="checkbox"/>			A	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2	A Defender	A Declarer	<input type="checkbox"/>			A	<input type="checkbox"/>	
3	A Trick	A Dummy	<input type="checkbox"/>			A	<input type="checkbox"/>	
4	An Overtrick	An Undertrick	<input type="checkbox"/>			A	<input type="checkbox"/>	
5	A Finesse	A Trump	<input type="checkbox"/>			A	<input type="checkbox"/>	
6	A Bid	A Denomination	<input type="checkbox"/>			A	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7	A Slam	A Game	<input type="checkbox"/>			A	<input type="checkbox"/>	
8	An Elimination	A Ruff	<input type="checkbox"/>	1.39		A	<input type="checkbox"/>	
9	A Squeeze	A Pass	<input type="checkbox"/>			A	<input type="checkbox"/>	
10	A Revoke	A Call	<input type="checkbox"/>			A	<input type="checkbox"/>	
11	A Suit	A Lead	<input type="checkbox"/>			A	<input type="checkbox"/>	
12	An Overcal	A Deal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			A	<input type="checkbox"/>	

+ Masterpoint Rank
 + Player Strat Levels

Print Properties Set Carry-Forward (from XML File) Set Default Strat Levels Cancel OK

Our results now look like this:

Law 15 B 2 Bridge Club Hard Example 29/09/2017

Session 1 Section A

5½ Table 27 Board Howell Movement

Director: Paul Scorer: Paul Received 135 of 135 scores.

Rank	Pair	Names [OVERALL RANKS]	Adj	Bds	Total	Max	%Score	LPs
1	1	A Discard & A Reverse		24	116.00	192	60.42	24
2	4	An Overtrick & An Undertrick		24	111.00	192	57.81	18
3	2	A Defender & A Declarer		24	110.00	192	57.29	12
4	6	A Bid & A Denomination		24	102.00	192	53.13	6
5	5	A Finesse & A Trump		24	101.00	192	52.60	
6	9	A Squeeze & A Pass		25	102.00	200	51.00	
7	11	A Suit & A Lead		27	110.00	216	50.93	
8	10	A Revoke & A Call		27	102.00	216	47.22	
9	8	An Elimination & A Ruff	1.39	23	78.39	184	42.60	
10	3	A Trick & A Dummy		24	81.00	192	42.19	
11	7	A Slam & A Game		24	68.00	192	35.42	

(printed 00:32:39 30/09/2017 EBUScorePairs1.1.6 (c) 2015 English Bridge Union)

Adding the adjustment in Scorebridge is rather more tricky. We need to find any line in any scoresheet where Pair 8 played and in the 'Fine' column for them enter -1.39, note the minus sign and this will achieve the desired result.

This seems very complicated but most times you have the two pairs to whom to give average plus and the solution almost drops into your lap.

If you are ever unlucky enough to have the one-pair problem if you have the formula

$$X = \frac{T(0.6B-A)}{(B+T)}$$

in the back of your law book with:

A = actual match points

B = maximum match points

T = top on the board concerned

plug in the numbers and give the pair the adjustment that comes out. If the change in their percentage is more than 1% check your calculations.

Paul Gibbons

Sept 2017