

# Misinformation





1. Partner has described your agreement correctly, but you don't have that hand

## Correct response

1. You have no responsibility to say anything





2. Partner has misdescribed your agreement and you become declarer or dummy

## Correct response

2. At the end of the auction, call the director and explain that there has been an incorrect explanation



3. Partner has misdescribed your agreement and you become a defender

## Correct response

3. At the end of play, call the director and explain that there has been an incorrect explanation



4. You are not sure whether partner is right (and you have made the wrong bid) or you are right (and partner has misdescribed your agreement)

## Correct response

4. Assume that partner is right and proceed as in 2. or 3. as appropriate

# A basic example

North opens 1NT and East overcalls 2C  
with:

♠ A 9 7 6 3

♥ Q J 9 7

♦ A 8

♣ 10 7

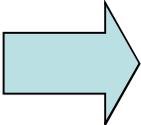
♠ A 9 7 6 3  
 ♥ Q J 9 7  
 ♦ A 8  
 ♣ 10 7

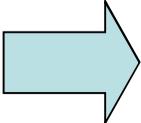
North: 1NT  
 East: 2C

	North	East	South	West
1.	1NT	2C	3NT	All pass
2.	1NT	2C	All pass	
3.	1NT	2C	Pass	4H
	All pass			
4.	1NT	2C (alert*)	3NT	All pass
		* explained as clubs and another suit		
5.	1NT	2C (alert*)	Pass	2D
	Pass	?		
		* explained as clubs and another suit		

# Why it matters who is right

The Laws require that the opponents be given a correct explanation of a partnership's agreements.

Incorrect explanation  possible adjusted score

Correct explanation  tough luck!

However.....

# Why it matters who is right

.....An agreement can arise through:

- partnership experience, or
  - customary partnership practice
- 
- \* The Director should be quite certain that there has not been an incorrect explanation given.
  - \* In the absence of satisfactory evidence, assume an incorrect explanation

# Remedies before play starts

If a misexplanation has been given:

- \* non-offenders may change last call;
- \* non-offenders protected for earlier calls.

It may be prudent for the director to take a player away from the table to ask what they would have done with the accurate information

*Remedies*

# Remedies before play starts

- |    | North  | East | South    | West |
|----|--|------|----------|------|
| 1. | 1NT  | 2C   | 3NT      |      |
|    | - at this point, West realises that he should have alerted 2C (showing the majors)               |      |          |      |
| 2. | 1NT  | 2C   | All pass |      |
|    | - at this point, East tells the opponents that 2C should have been alerted as showing the majors |      |          |      |

*Remedies*

# Remedies at the end of play

- Establish whether misbid or misexplanation
- If misexplanation, consider possible likely auctions with correct information
- Award adjusted score if non-offenders damaged

*Remedies*

	♠ 8 5		
	♥ A 6 4		
	♦ K Q 10 4 3		
	♣ A Q 5		
♠ K 4 2		♠ A 9 7 6 3	
♥ 10 8 2		♥ Q J 9 7	
♦ 5		♦ A 8	
♣ 9 8 6 4 3 2		♣ 10 7	
	♠ Q J 10		
	♥ K 5 3		
	♦ J 9 7 5 2		
	♣ K J		

North  
1NT

East  
2C

South  
3NT

West  
All pass

# Particularly at club level

- Problems with misinformation may be easier to deal with than UI as the offenders are more willing to accept that they have done something wrong
- \* “I forget” or “I don’t know” are acceptable explanations



# At club level

- \* “No agreement” is perfectly acceptable. The opponents do not have the right to ask how the player is going to take the bid.
- \* Director’s reponse to “I forget” or “no agreement?” – get the bidder to give the explanation



# At club level

- \* Do not allow experienced partnerships to get away with saying, “No agreement” in common situations.
- \* Similarly, look out for experienced partnerships who are regularly claiming wrong bid, rather than wrong explanation. In the absence of evidence to the contrary, the laws require the Director to assume mistaken explanation, rather than mistaken bid.



# At club level

- \* Be on the lookout for pairs who are constantly making wrong bids, especially if they are playing a complex system. The Director has the right to require them to play a more natural system.

