

3. The fact that the contested score was the result of a claim (concession) somewhat changes the situation.
Law 71 of the International Code says
"A concession must stand, once made, except that within the Correction Period established under Law 79C the Director shall cancel a concession:
A. if a player conceded a trick his side had, in fact, won; or
B. if a player has conceded a trick that could not be lost by any normal play of the remaining cards.
The board is rescored with such trick awarded to his side."
4. Law 79C1 says that *"Unless the Tournament Organizer specifies a later time, the Correction Period expires 30 minutes after the official score has been made available for inspection."*
5. In Law 79C2 we read that *"Subject to approval by the Tournament Organizer, a scoring error may be corrected after expiry of the Correction Period if the Director is satisfied beyond reasonable doubt that the record is wrong."*
6. Section 43.03 of the National Teams Regulations implicitly lengthens the period of 30 minutes for possible corrections of errors.
7. As it is not clear in the regulations if the possibility to extend the period for correcting scoring errors also applies for the cancellation of a concession, I contacted an EBL Assistant Chief TD (from the Netherlands). After reflection he confirmed that the possibility to extend the period also applies to law 71 because of the sentence *"The board is rescored ..."*.
8. Taking into account that:
 - a. both pairs agreed that a trick was conceded that could not be lost by any normal play of the remaining cards;
 - b. it is impossible with any normal plan to make less than 9 tricks (confirmed by the double dummy solver)
 I am convinced beyond reasonable doubt that the record is wrong.

Decision

The board 14 is rescored. The new score is 500 for NS (6♦ X by West -3). The balance on board 14 becomes +440 for B.C.O.B. 3 = + 10 IMP (closed room : 6♣ by South +1). The result of the match B.C.O.B. 1 – B.C.O.B. 3 becomes 64 – 25 in IMP or 17,97 – 2,03 in VP (instead of 64 – 19 in IMP and 18,66 – 1,34 in VP).

Done at Ruisbroek (Puurs) on 19 October 2018

Robert Ketels
Tournament Director