

Law 22 **PROCEDURE AFTER THE BIDDING HAS ENDED**

A. End of Auction

The auction ends when:

1. all four players pass (but see [Law 25](#)). The hands are returned to the board without play. There shall not be a redeal.
2. one or more players having bid, there are three consecutive passes in rotation subsequent to the last bid. The last bid becomes the contract (but see [Law 19D](#)).

B. End of Auction Period

1. The auction period ends when, subsequent to the end of the auction as in A2, either defender faces an opening lead. (If the lead is out of turn then see [Law 54](#)). The interval between the end of the auction and the end of the auction period is designated the Clarification Period.
2. If no player bids (see [A1](#)) the auction period ends when all four hands have been returned to the board.

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