

Law 51

TWO OR MORE PENALTY CARDS

A. Offender to Play

If it is a defender's turn to play and that defender has two or more penalty cards that can legally be played, declarer designates which is to be played at that turn.

B. Offender's Partner to Lead

1. a. When a defender has two or more penalty cards in one suit, and declarer requires* the defender's partner to lead that suit, the cards of that suit are no longer penalty cards and are picked up; the defender may make any legal play to the trick.
b. When a defender has two or more penalty cards in one suit, and declarer prohibits* the defender's partner from leading that suit, the defender picks up every penalty card in that suit and may make any legal play to the trick. The prohibition continues until the player loses the lead.
2. a. When a defender has penalty cards in more than one suit (see Law [50D2\(a\)](#)) and his partner is to lead, declarer may require* the defender's partner to lead any suit in which the defender has a penalty card (but [B1\(a\)](#) preceding then applies).
b. When a defender has penalty cards in more than one suit and his partner is to lead, declarer may prohibit* the defender's partner from leading one or more of such suits; the defender then picks up every penalty card in every suit prohibited by declarer and makes any legal play to the trick. The prohibition continues until the player loses the lead.

* If the player is unable to lead as required see [Law 59](#).