

# OPEN BOOK TEST 2009

## Open Book Test answers

This year saw a mix of questions. Some were aimed at ensuring that rule changes were seen by all but others were designed to highlight the many situations where there are tricky decisions to be made by all of us as officials. There are times when you have to be there and make a judgement based on your experience and a feeling of what is fair given the circumstances.

We hope the questions provoked lots of discussions and got you all talking about the rules. There was certainly plenty of talk about the questions (and occasional difference of opinion on the answers!) when they were set by representatives from the ATP, WTA and ITF. Question 3 in particular saw much debate and the replies put the panel in the minority! We hope you will agree with the reasons given.

The answers are as follows and as you will see there are two questions where we felt that more than one answer should be allowed!

To those of you who got them all correct well done. Some were pretty difficult. If you missed any I'm sure you will have had good reasons for answering as you did. I hope you will appreciate the logic we have tried to apply in the answers we have given.

At the very least I hope you've been challenged by them and can maybe use some of them as examples to those who think our job on court is an easy one!

Best of luck to you all and enjoy your officiating!

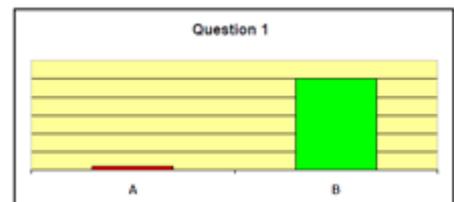
### Question 1

You are the Chair Umpire and realise at 3-2 30-0 that the players did not change ends at 3-2. You tell them to change ends immediately, but can they have a 90 second break as they pass the chair?

- **A:** Yes
- **B:** No

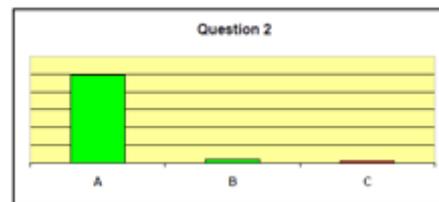
**The correct answer is B.** You are now in the middle of a game and both players also had the opportunity to point out the error at 3-2, but failed to do so. From a practical point of view it would be seen as similar to an end change at 1-0 or in the middle of a tiebreak where the players stop, towel down for a few seconds and then move to the correct end. A formal 90 seconds where players sit down is wrong under these circumstances.

***The graphs below show the distribution of answers of each question (web replies only)***  
*Green: Correct answer*



## Question 2

In Davis or Fed Cup play one of the captains shouts out loudly as the opposing player is about to hit the ball causing them to miss. Should you?

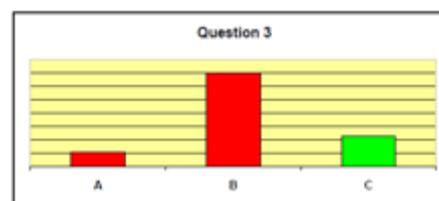


- **A:** Call it as hindrance, award the point to the opposing team, and issue a captain's warning.
- **B:** Call it as inadvertent hindrance and replay the point
- **C:** Let the point stand and soft warn the captain.

**Both A and B are accepted as correct.** This is one of those where you have to judge the situation. A seems the most likely as the captain shouted loudly, and possibly deliberately, causing the player to miss. However there could be a different case where an excited captain mistakenly believed his player had won the point and was then embarrassed by what he had done with everyone on court seeing it as amusing! In that situation you might argue that B could be correct.

## Question 3

After losing a point a player rips his shirt in anger causing it to be unwearable. You issue a code violation for Unsportsmanlike conduct. He goes to his chair and finds he does not have another. Should you?

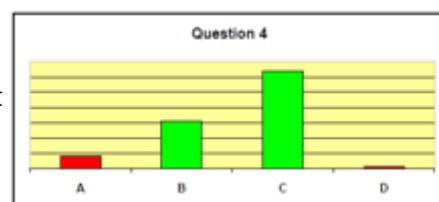


- **A:** Allow him reasonable time to fetch another shirt under equipment out of adjustment.
- **B:** Allow him to go on his own time and issue Codes for Delay of Game as required.
- **C:** Tell him to wear a warm up top and arrange for another shirt to be brought to the court

**C is the correct answer here.** Because he ripped his shirt in anger it seems wrong to then give him reasonable time to fetch another since he caused the problem. But B seems harsh as he will then likely receive an overly severe punishment (he has already been coded for the initial action). For example, if this were a match deciding tiebreak then the player may end up losing because of Codes for Delay of Game. C is felt to be the compromise solution here and perhaps the best available under difficult circumstances. This situation has many variables and you would need to consider all possible solutions before making a judgement.

## Question 4

In a WTA match a player has used one of her two toilet breaks. At 2-4 in the final set she asks to go to the toilet before her opponent's serve. Should you?

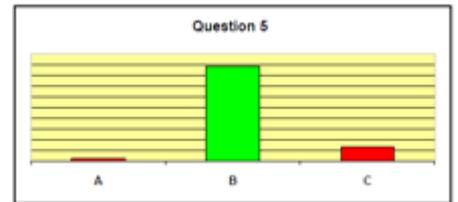


- **A:** Allow the toilet break after asking for and gaining assurances from her that it is indeed necessary.
- **B:** Allow the toilet break but only after one more game before her own serve.
- **C:** Allow her to go but on her own time and issue Code Violations for Delay of Game as necessary.
- **D:** Do not allow the toilet break

**B and C are accepted.** A lot of pushing would be expected here as the toilet break "should" not occur at all. Depending on the urgency of the player both B and C could be possible outcomes.

### Question 5

During a medical time out you suddenly notice that the trainer is now treating a different part of the body to that he started on. Do you?

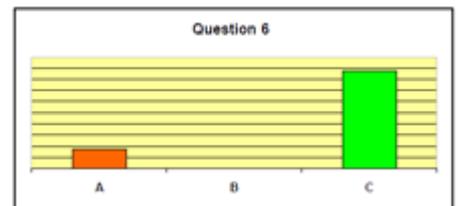


- **A:** Advise the trainer that he must stop immediately and announce "Treatment complete"
- **B:** Ask the trainer what is happening and tell him to either treat the original injury or to stop treatment.
- **C:** Allow the treatment to continue and countdown the time in the usual way.

**B is correct.** The trainer is responsible for the treatment given. If you see something strange ask, because there may be a logical explanation (blood or perhaps the need to manipulate another part of the body etc) before ordering the treatment to stop.

### Question 6

You are the Chair Umpire in a doubles match with no Line Umpires. During a rally a ball lands close to the baseline and you are blocked by the partner of the player hitting the ball (Team A). The player half heartedly plays the ball and looks to you to make a call. You "feel" it may have been out. What is your decision?

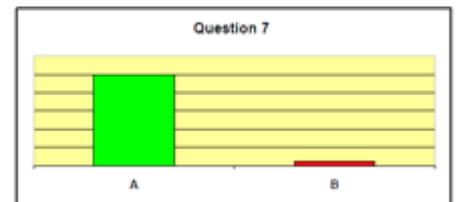


- **A:** Do nothing, the rally continues.
- **B:** Call out and award the point to Team A
- **C:** Call a let and replay the point as you were unsighted.

**C is correct.** The clues are in the question – the player is half hearted with his shot, looks to you and you "feel" it may have been out. There are many other potential variances of this situation that could change the answer to A, but in this case we want C.

### Question 7

At a Grand Slam Men's match the two commercial identifications permitted on the sleeves of a shirt, neither exceeding 3 square inches (19.5 sq.cm), may be placed on the front of the garment if it is sleeveless.

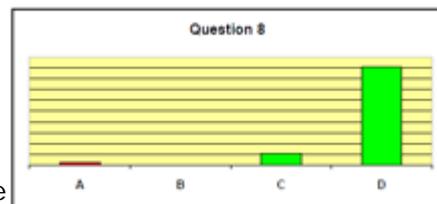


- **A:** True
- **B:** False

**A is correct** following the recent rule change that applies at all events.

### Question 8

In a match with no ball-boys, player A serves a first serve into the net, after which the ball rolls back 2 metres and stops in the centre of the court. The player decides not to remove it and serves a second serve. During the rally the ball starts to roll towards the base line because of the wind. Player A stops play, claiming that the ball hinders him. What is your decision?

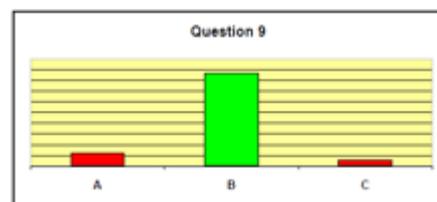


- **A:** Let- replay the point
- **B:** Let- second service
- **C:** Let- replay the point. Advise the player that he is responsible for the balls on his side of the net and he will lose the point if it happens again
- **D:** Player A loses the point

**D is correct.** The server had the opportunity to move the ball before hitting a 2nd serve.

### Question 9

There is a disagreement regarding the number of challenges remaining in a set for a player. Who has the final authority in this situation?

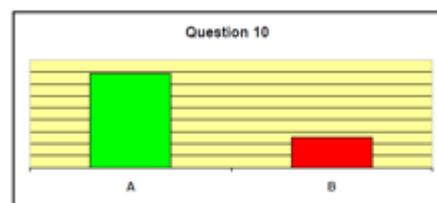


- **A:** The Chair Umpire
- **B:** The Review Official
- **C:** The Supervisor

**B is correct.** This was agreed with all organisations at the end of 2008. It is felt that the Review Official's only role is with Electronic Lines Calling, without the Chair Umpire's other distractions, and so is better able to keep the record.

### Question 10

At a WTA event coaching is allowed during matches at certain designated times. When the coach comes on to court are they allowed to have oversized logos on their clothing?



- **A:** Yes
- **B:** No

**A is correct.** It was covered in the January 2009 issue of WTA's Officiating News explaining the procedures connected with the WTA's new On Court Coaching.