



The European Bridge League

Appeals Booklet 2011

**Including the Appeals from:
The European Open Championships,
Poznan**

Statistics from the Appeals Committee

20 cases were brought before the Appeals Committee in Poznan.

That brings the Board Appeal Ratio to 0.20 appeals per 1,000 boards, which continues the downward trend (0.22 in Antalya, 0.28 in Sanremo, 0.19 in Oostende).

7 appeals were from the Teams' tournaments and 13 from the Pairs, which is a reasonable match for the number of boards played in each.

The Seniors had two cases (BAR: 0.24), the Women none. There were 5 appeals in the Mixed (0.16) and 13 in the Open (0.22).

In only 2 cases the Director's ruling was changed, significantly less than in previous tournaments.

Two deposits were kept.

9 different members served on the Appeals Committee. An average of 4.65 members served on the Committees. Only one Committee had to be convened composed of the minimum number of 3 members.

All the Appeals have been written up and will be published on the Web (<http://www.eurobridge.org> - follow links to departments - appeals)

Board-Appeal Ratio's (BARs)

In order to compare the rates of appeals, the EBL Appeal Committee have developed the notion of a Board-Appeal Ratio. In essence, this is the number of appeals that are heard in relation to the number of boards played. It is expressed as the number of appeals per 1,000 boards played.

BARs throughout the years:

Team championships:	
Tenerife 2001	0.81
Salsomaggiore 2002	0.56
Malmö 2004	0.33
Warszawa 2006	0.36
Pau 2008	0.36
Oostende 2010	0.19
Open championships:	
Menton 2003	0.32
Tenerife 2005	0.26
Antalya 2007	0.22
Sanremo 2009	0.28
Poznan 2011	0.20

Total number of boards:

109,804 boards have been played during these championships (Menton 123,647; Tenerife 77,393, Antalya 89,882, Sanremo 102,826).

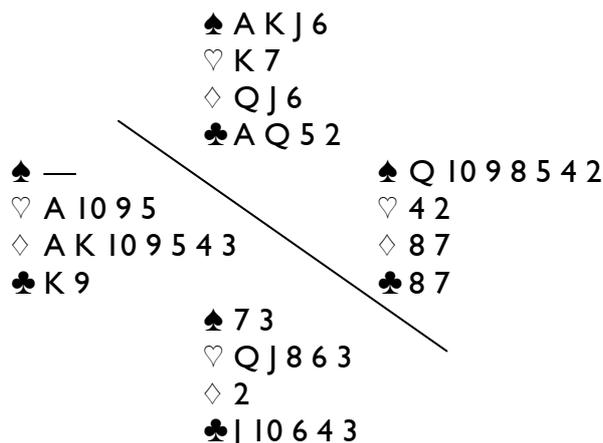
Appeal No. 1
Turkey v England

Appeals Committee:

Jens Auken (Chairman, Denmark), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Jan Kamras (Sweden), PO Sundelin (Sweden), Jan van Cleeff (the Netherlands)

Mixed Teams Qualifying Round 5

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.



West	North	East	South
<i>Tapster</i>	<i>Kokten</i>	<i>Lane</i>	<i>Aluf</i>
1♦	Dble	2♠	3♥
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♣
Pass	4NT	All Pass	

Contract: Four no-trump, played by North

Lead: ♦8

Result: 5 tricks, NS -500

The Facts:

East explained 2♠ to North as “weak”. West explained it to South as “strong”. When the tray came back to South containing North’s 3NT and East’s Pass, South suspected that something had gone wrong and she called the Director. She asked West to confirm that 2♠ was strong, which he did. North/South called again at the end of the board, complaining about the misinformation.

The Director:

The Director checked the system card which confirmed that 2♠ was weak. Asked three (female) players what they would do with the South hand after both explanations. Whatever they chose to bid, no-one would change their choice with a different explanation. One player stated that she would rather bid over the strong hand than over the weak one, but she would have bid 3♥ regardless, fearing that 2♠ might be the end of the bidding.

The Director decided that although South had been misinformed, she had not been damaged, since she probably would have bid the same after receiving the correct explanation.

Ruling:

Result Stands

Relevant Laws:

Law 40B4

North/South appealed.

Present: North and South

The Players:

North stated that East had told him 2♠ was “trying to shut up partner”. 4♣ must be forcing so he bid 4NT. South explained that she suspected that something was wrong and called the Director immediately. She told the Director she would have passed over 2♠ if it had been explained as weak. When asked why she suspected the explanation had been wrong, she stated that East would have doubled 3NT.

The Committee:

Asked the Director why East/West were not attending the hearing. The Director had tried to find them to inform them of the hearing, but he could not. This had been the last board of the day, and the players were expected at the opening ceremony later that evening. Still, East/West were aware that a ruling was asked, had heard the result of that ruling, and should have been aware that an appeal might follow. The Committee decided to rule on the appeal even without hearing East/West.

The Committee thought the Director had asked the correct question of the polled players and agreed that the result of the poll was conclusive.

It was deemed unlikely that South would have chosen a different call with the correct explanation.

The Committee’s decision:

Director’s ruling upheld.

Deposit: Returned

Note: The same board featured in Appeal No. 2.

Appeal No. 2
Poland v Bulgaria

Appeals Committee:

David Harris (Chairman, England), Maurizio Di Sacco (Italy), Grattan Endicott (England)
Grattan Endicott acted as scribe for the appeal.

Mixed Teams Qualifying Round 5

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Ivanov</i>	<i>Majcher</i>	<i>Ivanova</i>	<i>Kowalska</i>
1♦	Dble	2♥	Pass
3♦	All Pass		

Contract: Three Diamonds, played by West

Lead: ♠A

Result: 8 tricks, NS +100

The Facts:

2♥ was alerted on the North/East side and explained as transfer to spades.

West alerted it by putting his hand over the 2♥ bid.

South stated that when she saw the hand over the bid, she gave West an “asking look”, and he said “5-card”.

West claims that when they had eye contact he only confirmed that he was alerting, but he did not say anything.

The Director:

Established that West had used the same method of alerting (hand over the alerted call) throughout the match, and ruled that South had failed to protect herself by not clearly asking about the meaning of the call.

Ruling:

Result Stands

Relevant Laws:

Law 40

North/South appealed.

Present: South, West and the Captain of North/South

The Players:

South, with the aid of her Captain as interpreter, repeated the events as described to the Director. She had understood that the bid was natural in hearts with 5+ cards. West said that he had alerted the bid by pointing to it; South had not asked and he had given no explanation. The Director informed the Committee that this differed from his understanding of the player's statement at the table.

Throughout the match these two players had allowed pointing to the bid on the tray, and South had requested explanations with an enquiring look, according to South. East asserted that South had previously asked him for an explanation "in English". Her knowledge of the language appears to be minimal. On this occasion he had not seen her look at him.

The Committee:

Was of the opinion that in judging the matter they could not rely on the statements made to the Committee by West. The Committee considered that the balance of probability was that South had seen West's hand gesture, whether it was as an alert or perhaps some effort at helpful explanation, and that South had looked at West enquiringly. It was agreed that West had not extended to his screen-mate the courtesy of a mention of spades. The player might usefully reconsider the generosity of his helpfulness to opponents behind screens.

South had made the case for an adjustment and the Committee decided to set the Director's ruling aside. If adequate information had been provided by West, there were numerous potential outcomes. The Committee could not set a contract and a result. Equity would be served by awarding a zero swing on the board (see Law 12C1a, also L20F, 21, 40B4, 40B6b), both players being partly at fault.

The Committee's decision:

Director's ruling adjusted:

Score adjusted to NS +150 (the other room played 4♣+1)

Deposit: Returned

Note: The same board featured in Appeal No. 1.

Appeal No. 3
Bulgaria v Poland

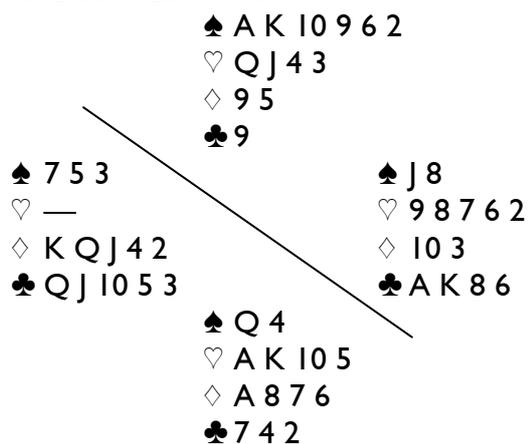
Appeals Committee:

Jens Auken (Chairman, Denmark), David Harris (England), Jan Kamras (Sweden), PO Sundelin (Sweden), Jan van Cleeff (the Netherlands)

Herman De Wael sat in on the meeting to act as Scribe.

Mixed Pairs Qualifying Round 2

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.



West	North	East	South
Zembrzuski	Georgiev	Bobko	Nenova
			1♦
2NT	4♠	4NT	Pass
5♣	Pass	5♥	Dble
5NT	Dble	6♣	Dble
All Pass			

Comments: 1♦ Precision

Contract: Six Clubs Doubled, played by West

Lead: ♠A

Result: 10 tricks, NS +300

The Facts:

1♦ was not alerted by North to East, and consequently East misinterpreted her partner's 2NT. Over a natural 1♦, that would show hearts and clubs, while over a conventional 1♦, the bid shows diamonds and clubs. That was also how West had explained it to South.

The Director:

Ruled that East would not have continued past 5♣ had she known the correct meaning of her partner's bid, and that North's failure to alert had caused this. East had been misinformed and was damaged as a result.

Ruling:

Score adjusted to 5♣X by West, making 10 tricks, NS +100

Relevant Laws:

Law 40B4, 12B1

North/South appealed.

Present: North and East

The Players:

North explained to the Committee, as he had previously also done to the Director, that this was the second board and that 1♦ had also been opened on the first board. He said that he had not alerted and should have.

North believed East had simply bid too high, and this was not the fault of any misexplanation on his part.

East explained that over conventional minor openings, 2NT shows both minors, while over natural openings, 2NT shows the two lowest unbid suits.

When asked for the meaning of 4NT, East explained that she wanted partner to choose which contract to play. When then asked why she still bid 5♥ over 5♣, she replied “I play it that way; I’m not a very good player”.

The Committee:

Checked the System Card of East/West and found enough evidence on there to accept the existence of two different meanings of 2NT.

The Committee reiterated that the alert requirements are not altered when a same call occurs again. North should have alerted and East was misinformed.

The Committee then focused on East’s apparent misbidding. Although it was deemed not optimal bidding, the error was not sufficient to warrant denying redress to East/West. If North had alerted, East would correctly have interpreted West’s holding and would not have ventured past 5♣.

The Committee finally considered whether North/South would actually double 5♣, but decided that South could picture 2½ tricks and should expect something with partner.

The Committee’s decision:

Director’s ruling upheld.

Deposit: Returned

Appeal No. 4
England/Croatia v Italy/Monaco

Appeals Committee:

Jens Auken (Chairman, Denmark), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), PO Sundelin (Sweden), Jan van Cleeff (the Netherlands)

Grattan Endicott sat in on the meeting in his capacity of secretary of the WBF Laws Committee

Mixed Pairs Qualifying Round 2

Board 11. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Catellani</i>	<i>Handley- Pritchard</i>	<i>Bianchi</i>	<i>Ruso</i>
1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♦	Pass	3♣	Pass
3NT	Pass	4♠	All Pass

Contract: Four Spades, played by East

Lead: ♣J

Play:	West	North	East	South
	♣A	♣2	♣3	♣J
	♣K	♣4	♦J	♣10
	♣Q	♣8	♥4	♠6
	♦5	...		♦A

Result: 12 tricks

The Facts:

East revoked twice, on the ♣K and ♣Q. After the ♦5, North called the Director.

The Director:

Ordered play to continue, saw that 12 tricks were made, and applied a one-trick penalty.

Ruling:

11 tricks, NS -450

Relevant Laws:

Law 64.A.2, 64.B.2, 64C

North/South appealed.

Present: All players except South

The Players:

North believed that if play is stopped after the ♣Q is played, equity dictates that 10 tricks be awarded.

West stated that North had waited 15 seconds after the ♦5, before calling the Director.

The Committee:

Read the relevant laws:

Law 64A. Rectification following a Revoke

When a revoke is established:

(...)

and the trick on which the revoke occurred was not won by the offending player then, if the offending side won that or any subsequent trick, after play ends one trick is transferred to the non-offending side.

Law 64B. No Rectification

There is no rectification as in A following an established revoke:

(...)

2. if it is a subsequent revoke in the same suit by the same player. Law 64C may apply.

(...)

Law 64C. Director Responsible for Equity

When, after any established revoke, including those not subject to rectification, the Director deems that the non-offending side is insufficiently compensated by this Law for the damage caused, he shall assign an adjusted score.

The Committee also read an extract of the minutes of the WBF Laws Committee meeting of 10th October 2008:

Law 64C – If there are two revokes on the same board the equity in the case of the second revoke is determined by reference to the position after the first revoke.

It was clear that there had been two revokes, both established, and that the penalty after applying Laws 64A and 64B amounted to 1 trick, subtracted from the 12 tricks that had been made at the table.

There are several possible interpretations of Law 64C:

- 1) The normal result of the board is 11 tricks. This is equitable.
- 2) After the second trick (but before the ♣Q is played), the normal result is 12 tricks, to which one penalty trick is applied, so equity is 11 tricks.
- 3) After the ♣Q is played, to which East should follow suit, the normal result is 11 tricks (losing the ruff and a heart trick), with one penalty trick, so equity is 10 tricks.

A few further considerations were made:

- 1) The first revoke is only established after the ♣Q is played, so it does not really make sense to consider a position before this. However, the WBFLC minute only applies to the equity position, not the establishment or any other matter.
- 2) The second revoke is established when the ♦5 is played. North would have made certain of receiving the score of 10 tricks by calling attention to the revoke (which he is allowed to do) before this card is played.
- 3) The revoke penalties are soft in certain places (a second revoke by the same player in the same suit is not penalised), and have turned softer in certain other places since 2007 (fewer cases are penalised with 2 penalty tricks) and the aim of the laws is to rectify, not punish.
- 4) The question was put whether 11 was indeed the equity position at the start of the board. Declarer might run the ♠10.

In the end, the Committee found that this situation so closely resembled the one described in Law 64B2, that 11 tricks was deemed the equitable result as per Law 64C.

The Committee's decision:

Director's ruling upheld.

Deposit: Returned

Appeal No. 5
Germany v Russia

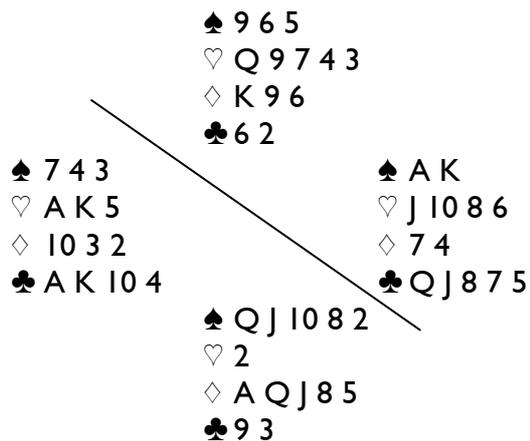
Appeals Committee:

Jens Auken (Chairman, Denmark), Grattan Endicott (England), Jan Kamras (Sweden), PO Sundelin (Sweden), Jan van Cleeff (the Netherlands)

Herman De Wael sat in on the meeting to act as Scribe.

Mixed Teams Round of 16

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.



West	North	East	South
<i>Khven</i>	<i>Gotard Th.</i>	<i>Gulevich</i>	<i>Eggeling</i>
1♣	Pass	1♥	2♣
Dble	Pass	Pass	2♦
All Pass			

Comments: 1♣ Polish style
 Dble Support

Contract: Two Diamonds, played by South

Lead: ♣A

Play:	West	North	East	South
	♣A		♣8	
	♥A		♥J	
	♣K		♣5	
	♣x			

Result: 8 tricks, NS +90

The Facts:

The Director was called after play had finished. South had alerted her 2♣ to West and explained it as showing spades and diamonds. North had not alerted it. East had not been able to bid anything, believing South to have clubs. There was some talk about North

correcting his explanation before East's second pass, but the Director could not establish precisely when and what was actually said.

The Director:

Found that North/South could not prove which explanation is correct and ruled that East had been misinformed and damaged. The Director found too many possible outcomes for the bidding, and decided to award an adjusted score directly in IMPs, considering the result at the other table, +100 for 4♥-1 (original table result therefore a flat board). North/South had complained about their opponents being late for the start of the match, allowing them no time to prepare an adequate defence, but the Director told them they should have called him at the beginning and asked for some extra time to prepare.

Ruling:

Result adjusted to +3 IMPs to the team of East/West

Relevant Laws:

Law 40B4, 12B1, 12C1(d)

North/South appealed.

Present: All players and the Captain of East/West

The Players:

North submitted three arguments:

- 1) The opponents had arrived late at the table, allowing them no time to prepare a defence. The system is not truly Polish, because the 1♣ opening includes a 16+ option rather than an 18+ one. Previously they had encountered an Italian team that played the 1♣ as 15+ and they had decided not to regard that as strong. Here, they had not made an agreement. North had tried to tell East that during the third round of bidding.
- 2) West must know he can bid over 2♦. He had correct information and knew about their double fit
- 3) East/West misdefended the hand. After cashing the clubs and heart, the spade lead should not be too difficult to find.

East pointed out that her partner did not know that she had received a different explanation, which is why he would not expect 11 points in East. After 2♦ came round to her she had had a problem. The clubs had been bid on her left, and partner had shown just 3 hearts. There were insufficient values for 3NT and she did not see a heart game. Since they had the majority of points, she believed they could defeat 2♦ and arrive at a positive score that way. She had been curious about the run from 2♣X to 2♦, but her thoughts had taken some 15 seconds, which is a long time for her. All that time, North could have explained his doubts, but he did not. East explained, when asked, a couple of points about their system: the double showed heart support and was compulsory.

North explained that he too had had his doubts about 2♣ being natural after the 2♦ bid. He had shrugged but had not really said anything. South contributed that she had asked what East's pass on 2♣X meant, and West had replied that his partner had wanted to play there. South thought this should have indicated that West should have known about the club fit.

The Committee:

Considered that this was a difficult case, and decided to tackle all the different points separately.

1) Had there been misinformation? No evidence for a misbid had been presented to either the Director or the Committee. North/South had not asked for this possibility to be taken into consideration. North had tried to convey his doubts to East after the bid of 2♦, but he had not succeeded in getting that message across. North/South's assertion that they had not been able to form a solid agreement after their opponents late arrival is of no importance either. As the Director had already pointed out, North/South could have asked (and would have received) additional time in which to reach more firm agreements. The Committee decided to rule that East had been misinformed.

2) Are East/West damaged? East is uncertain about what to bid, and this is caused by her being misinformed. If she has a correct description of South's holdings, she is in a better position to judge. The Committee ruled that East/West had been damaged.

3) Have East/West committed a Serious Error by not bidding anyway? East had contributed to the bad score by passing, but this was not serious enough an error to warrant denying her a rectification.

4) Have East/West committed a Serious Error by misdefending? The contract was difficult to defend, so this error should also be considered not serious enough. The Committee ruled that Law 12C1(b) did not apply.

5) What adjusted score should be given? The Committee considered that the conditions of Law 12C1(d) were not met. There are a number of possible bidding sequences, but they all arrive in a score of -130. The Committee decided to award a score based on just one possibility. This meant the non-appealing side gained, but the Committee felt that the correct result should be achieved no matter what the circumstances.

The Committee's decision:

Director's ruling adjusted:

Score adjusted to 3♣ by West, making 10 tricks, NS -130

Deposit: Returned

Appeal No. 6 Norway v Greece

Appeals Committee:

David Harris (Chairman, England), Grattan Endicott (England), Jan Kamras (Sweden), PO Sundelin (Sweden), Jan van Cleeff (the Netherlands)

Herman De Wael sat in on the meeting to act as Scribe.

Open Teams Qualifying Round 3

Board 29. Dealer North. All Vul.

	♠ A J 8 4 ♥ Q 9 ♦ A K 10 9 5 ♣ 9 8		
♠ K Q 10 7 6 ♥ A 6 ♦ Q 8 ♣ A K 6 3	♠ 9 5 2 ♥ J 10 8 5 4 2 ♦ 6 ♣ 10 4 2	♠ 3 ♥ K 7 3 ♦ J 7 4 3 2 ♣ Q J 7 5	
West	North	East	South
<i>Eidi</i>	<i>Skov</i>	<i>Vroustis</i>	<i>Engebretsen</i>
	1♦	Pass	2♥
Dble	3♥	4♣	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

Contract: Four Hearts, played by West

Result: 5 tricks, NS +500

The Facts:

East called the Director after the bid of 4♥. North had explained to him that 2♥ was natural and strong, game-forcing. Something was wrong. North showed the System Card, which confirmed that this explanation was correct. The Director told East that the only thing he was entitled to know was the systemic meaning of the bidding. East passed and after the hand was played it was revealed that South had misbid.

The Director:

Ruled that East had received correct information, but that West had been misinformed. 2♥ was in fact strong by partnership agreement but South had told West that it was (very) weak. The Director considered that whatever West bid on his first turn, he would certainly not bid 4♥ on his second turn. The normal final contract would be 3♥ by North. There was no need to split the score for the gambling pass (according to Law 12C1b) because the only other option for East at this turn (5♣X-2) will also yield +500.

Ruling:

Score adjusted to 3♥ by North, making 7 tricks, NS -200

Relevant Laws:

Law 40B4, 12B1, 12C1b

North/South appealed.

Present: All players except East

The Players:

North believed East/West had not been damaged. 4♣ was stretched and the Pass very special.

South confirmed that he had misbid; he plays it this way with other partners, but their System Card is very clear.

North explained why he had bid only 3♥. In his system, 2♥ is Game-forcing. He would not have bid 2♠ over a Pass by West, but also 3♥. He pointed to his ♦AK to support this decision.

West explained why his partner was not present. They had been informed of the appeal only the same morning, and West had not played the first match. Anyway, East's English was only limited. West explained why East had passed. The contract had not been doubled yet, so a pass was normal. East had thought about this, but not very long. North told the Committee that East had thought for about 30".

The Committee:

Saw no flaws in the Director's ruling. Maybe a weighted score should have included some part of North/South arriving in 4♥. If West decides to double even over the explanation that 2♥ is strong (not entirely impossible), he will certainly pass over 4♣ and North will bid 4♥. But the Committee decided that the ruling was adequate. The appeal had little merit, but the Committee agreed that the ruling on the "gambling" pass had seemed odd to North.

The Committee's decision:

Director's ruling upheld.

Deposit: Returned

Appeal No. 7
Norway v Bulgaria

Appeals Committee:

Jens Auken (Chairman, Denmark), Grattan Endicott (England), Jan Kamras (Sweden), PO Sundelin (Sweden), Jan van Cleeff (the Netherlands)

Herman De Wael sat in on the meeting to act as Scribe.

Open Teams Qualifying Round 7

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Danailov</i>	<i>Kvangraven</i>	<i>Stamatov</i>	<i>Brekka</i>
		1♦	1♥
1♠	4♦	4♠	Dble
Pass	4NT	5♦	5♥
Pass	Pass	5♠	6♥
Dble	All Pass		

Comments: 1♦ Precision

Contract: Six Hearts Doubled, played by South

Lead: ♠A

Play:	West	North	East	South
	♠A	♠8	♠6	♠4
	♦7	♦2	♦10	♦Q

Result: 12 tricks, NS +1210

The Facts:

4♦ was explained as shortness.

East called the Director after the 4NT bid, wanting to reserve his rights over a perceived break in tempo. North and East agreed that the tray had taken some time to return to the North/East side after the double over 4♠. The bidding was allowed to continue.

Then 4NT was explained differently on either side of the screen. North explained it as simple RKCB, which meant that 5♥ showed two key-cards without the ♥Q. South additionally explained that the ♦A would not be counted among the key-cards. After the end of play, North/South would agree that it was North who had given the correct explanation.

Now came the defence. On the lead of the ♠A, East contributed the ♠6, which East/West would later confirm to be a Lavinthal suit preference signal. Nevertheless, West switched to diamonds. South then proceeded to make the contract.

East/West now complained to the Director about two points. They wondered if North was allowed to bid on after the break-in-tempo, and they insisted that it was the different explanation that had caused their misdefence.

The Director:

Checked all these facts, over which there seemed to be little dispute.

The Director believed that passing over 4♠X was not a Logical Alternative.

The Director ruled that West had been misinformed, but believed that there was no causal link between this misinformation and the misdefence.

Ruling:

Result Stands

Relevant Laws:

Law 40B4

Law 16A

East/West appealed.

Present: East, West and their Captain. The Director had been unable to find North/South and the appeal had to be held because the next phase had to start later that afternoon.

The Players:

During his presentation of the case, the Director had told the Committee that East had apologised to his partner after the play. West told the Committee that East spoke very little English and that he hadn't apologised, not in Bulgarian nor in any other language.

West told the Committee, with East's translation, that he knew his partner held the Ace of Diamonds, and that partner might not have trumps to ruff the club with.

East put forward three reasons for appealing:

- 1) Pass could well be a Logical Alternative for North. He had already splintered so South knows about the superfit. East had only bid 4♥, so East/West might well be in an 8-card fit, vulnerable.
- 2) East/West had been misinformed about the meaning of 4NT, making them believe that 6♥ was not on. Therefore, 5♠ was a good save, not fearing to push them into the making slam.
- 3) Opponents had told them they were missing two aces. Maybe East/West could have done better, but cashing the ♦A looked like a 100% play.

The Committee:

Confirmed that it had been West who had been misinformed.

The Committee dealt with the three reasons for the appeal separately.

1) Pass is not a Logical Alternative. The 6/5 hand is enormous.

2) 5♠ was a no-risk save, but it was East who made it, and he had received the correct explanation. It was the bidding, not the explanation, which made East think North/South were off two aces in their heart slam.

3) Had East/West been damaged by the misexplanation or by their own misdefence?

It was pointed out that the correct explanation would make the actual defence more

attractive than the one that West had received. With a correct explanation (and a misbid), West knows for certain that the ♠A is not with South, and the chosen defence makes sense. In actual fact, South has told West that he may or may not have the ♠A. In

that case, it is far more important to trust your partner's signal.

The Committee decided that the misinformation had not been the cause of the damage.

The Committee's decision:

Director's ruling upheld.

Deposit: Returned

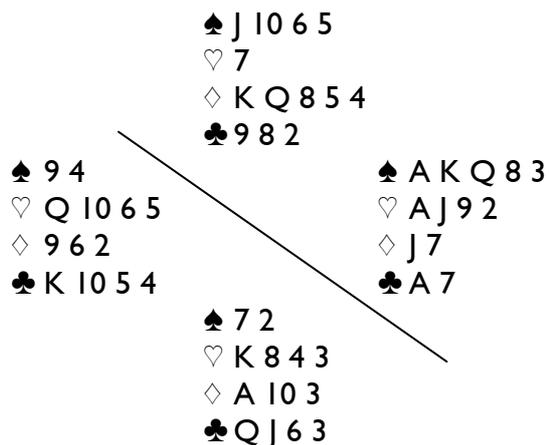
Appeal No. 8
Norway v the Netherlands

Appeals Committee:

David Harris (Chairman, England), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Grattan Endicott (England), Jan Kamras (Sweden), PO Sundelin (Sweden)

Open Teams Swiss "A" Round 5

Board 26. Dealer East. All Vul.



West	North	East	South
<i>Wackwitz</i>	<i>Bakke</i>	<i>Stuurman</i>	<i>Høyland</i>
INT	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♠	Pass	2♣	Pass
4♥	All Pass	3♥	Pass

Comments: 3♥ GF, exactly 5♠ and 4♥

Contract: Four Hearts, played by East

Lead: ♣J

Play:	West	North	East	South
	<u>♣K</u>	♣2	♣7	♣J
	♥10	♥7	♥2	♥3
	♥5	♦4	♥J	♥K
	♦2	♦4	♦7	♦A
	♦6	♦Q	♦J	♦3
	♦9	♦K	♥9	♦10
			<u>♠A</u>	

Result: 9 tricks, NS +100

The Facts:

After the opening lead, East consulted the System Card of North/South. Under leads from the jack was mentioned:

HJT(x)/JT

East interpreted this as meaning that the lead of the ♣J denied the ♣Q, so he played the ♣K. East called the Director when he discovered that South did hold the Queen.

The Director:

Showed the System Card to a number of players. Only one player found the card clearly showed that the jack was led from QJxx. A colleague meanwhile showed the single mention of the line to some players, who all understood the H in HJT to mean either the Ace or the King, but never the Queen.

The Director ruled that Declarer had been misinformed.

The Director then checked the results around the room. 57 tables had played 4♥ on a lead of the ♣J or ♣Q. 33 had of them had made their contract, 17 went one down (5 made an overtrick and 2 went 2 down).

The Director decided to weight the adjustment according to those frequencies.

Ruling:**Both sides receive:**

1/3 of 4♥-1 by East (NS +100)
plus 2/3 of 4♥= by East (NS -620)

Relevant Laws:

Law 40B4, 12C1(c)

North/South appealed.

Present: All players

The Players:

North told the Committee they had been using the same system card for 10 years, without any problems. The lead of the jack promises either a doubleton or a higher honour. The queen is a higher honour. East could have asked about the leads, but he had not. Declarer sees the ace and king, so he should realize the higher honour could only have been the queen.

South told the Committee that it was convenient to be in dummy in order to take the heart finesse. He believed this was actual the best line of defence.

East explained that he believed it was quite clear from the system card that the jack denied the queen, and that South therefore held short diamonds. That meant that spades were likely to divide badly as well, so he relied on the heart finesse, falling back on the spades dropping if that failed.

When asked whether it had occurred to him to ask about the ♣Q, East said it had not occurred to him, since he trusted the system card. He added that the system card mentioned the lead of the queen from QJ somewhat higher. He realized later that this meant the doubleton, but at the time, it aided in the confusion.

The Director added that in his survey, all players who gave a quick answer said the jack denied the queen.

The Committee:

Ruled that the system card, in this respect, was faulty. HJT does not include the queen. Declarer is entitled to rely on this information, and we should not blame him for not investigating further.

Declarer was misled. With the correct information, he has the opportunity of choosing a different line.

The Director had ruled perfectly and there was no reason to alter anything to the ruling.

The Committee's decision:

Director's ruling upheld.

Deposit: Returned

Note: the result at the other table was $3\heartsuit=$, NS -140 so the final result on the board was:

$$1/3 \text{ of } +100+140 = +6$$

$$\text{plus } 2/3 \text{ of } -620+140 = -10$$

equating to -5 IMPs to the team of North/South

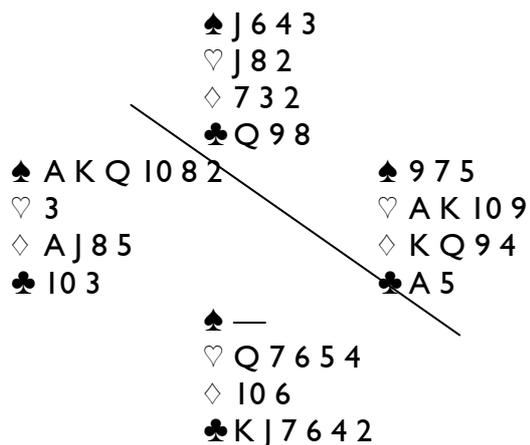
Appeal No. 9
Italy/Poland v France

Appeals Committee:

David Harris (Chairman, England), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Grattan Endicott (England), Jan Kamras (Sweden), Jan van Cleeff (the Netherlands)

Senior Teams Quarter Final Session I

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.



West	North	East	South
<i>Grenthe</i>	<i>Kowalski</i>	<i>Vanhoutte</i>	<i>Bongiovanni</i>
1♠	Pass	2♦	Pass
3♦	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♥	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♥	Pass	...6♦	Pass
7♦	All Pass		

Contract: Seven Diamonds, played by East

Lead: ♥6

Result: 13 tricks, NS -1440

The Facts:

South called the Director after play had finished. The tray had taken some time to return with the 6♦ call. West agreed that the tray had returned after some delay. North and East confirmed that East had taken some time in selecting 6♦.

The Director:

Asked West why he had raised to 7♦ and ruled that this may have been based on the Unauthorized Information.

Ruling:

Score adjusted to 7♦ by East, making 13 tricks, NS -940

Relevant Laws:

Law 40B4, 12B1

East/West appealed.

Present: All players

The Players:

West explained the bidding.

They play that 3♦ over 1♠ shows 3-card support, a diamond suit, and 10-14 points. East was too strong for that call. 2♦ was simple forcing, but the 3♠ bid now showed the stronger hand. 4♥ showed the second round control, and 4NT was RKCB.

West told the Committee that he thought his 3♦ bid had been wrong – he was too strong for that.

West explained his reasons for bidding 7♦. He knew partner had three spades, and he had not shown his ♠KQ. He deduced from this that partner must hold all the other first round controls, namely the ♥A, ♣A and ♦KQ. 13 tricks should be a good bet.

East told the Committee that he thought he had been asking for key-cards in spades rather than diamonds, and that he had been thinking about bidding 5♠ or 6♦.

When asked, East/West confirmed that after 5♥, East could have enquired further with 5NT. West would have replied 7♦ to that one.

North had only one thing to add: he had asked East what 3♦ had meant and received the answer “constructif”.

The Committee:

Confirmed that there had been a break in tempo and Unauthorized Information, but was not certain what that information suggested. It was clear that it suggested some uncertainty over the final contract and West should not try to resolve that uncertainty.

The Committee decided that passing was a logical alternative, since West could have worked out that East could have known that West held extra values, and these should have been the ♠KQ. After all, West is almost certainly known to have zero points in hearts and clubs, and only five in diamonds.

The Director had therefore ruled correctly.

The Committee's decision:

Director's ruling upheld.

Deposit: Returned

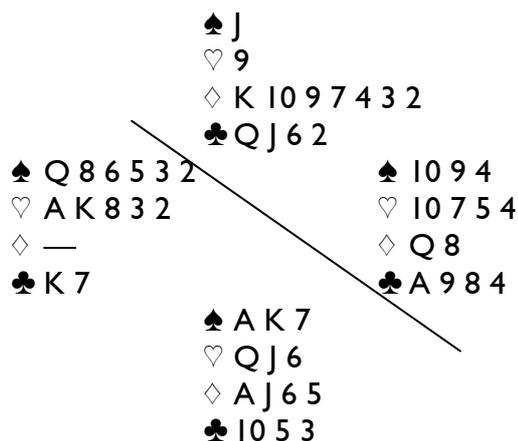
Appeal No. 10
Poland v South Africa

Appeals Committee:

David Harris (Chairman, England), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Grattan Endicott (England), PO Sundelin (Sweden)

Senior Pairs Qualifying Round I

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.



West	North	East	South
<i>Driver</i>	<i>Kunc</i>	<i>Driver</i>	<i>Laniewski</i>
	3♦	Pass	3NT
4♦	Pass	4♥	...Pass
Pass	5♣	Dble	5♦
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

Contract: Five Diamonds Doubled, played by North

Lead: ♠10

Result: 11 tricks, NS +550

The Facts:

East called the Director after North had bid 5♣. He had noticed that the tray had taken some time to get back with two passes over 4♥. North agreed to this and play was allowed to continue. East/West called the Director again after play had ended, complaining that North's bid of 5♣ may have been suggested by the hesitation by South.

The Director:

First polled four players, three of whom would have bid. While consulting, he noticed that the players that he polled did not agree on what, if anything, the hesitation suggested. The Director ruled therefore that the conditions of Law 16B1a had not been met. The Unauthorized Hesitation did not suggest one course of action over another and North was free to select whatever bid he wanted.

Ruling:
Result Stands

Relevant Laws:
Law 16B1a

East/West appealed.

Present: All players except South and a translator for North

The Players:

East pointed out that South had thought for a long time, when he really had nothing to think about. Perhaps this way he conveyed the thought to North that his bid of 3NT was a serious one and his hand held substantial values.

North explained that he knew 3NT had some play, even though it could have been somewhat weaker than actually here. He had not doubled 4♦ since he did not have the ♦A. He did not know who was thinking, and he bid 5♣ because partner had not doubled 4♥, so he thought it would not be beaten.

The Director told the Committee that there had been another ruling, in the Open Pairs, where the bidding had been exactly the same (except for North bidding 5♦ directly rather than passing by 5♣). The ruling there too had been that the hesitation did not suggest any of the alternatives.

The Committee:

Agreed with the Director. The hesitation had not suggested one course of action over another.

The Committee's decision:

Director's ruling upheld.

Deposit: Returned

Appeal No. 11
Luxembourg v Poland

Appeals Committee:

David Harris (Chairman, England), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Grattan Endicott (England), Jan Kamras (Sweden), PO Sundelin (Sweden)

Open Pairs Qualifying Round 2

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

	♠ J 10 7		
	♥ 6 3		
	♦ A 7 6 4		
	♣ A J 6 5		
♠ A Q 8 3	/	♠ K 6 5 4 2	
♥ K 7 4 2		♥ A	
♦ 10 8 5 3		♦ K J 9	
♣ 9		♣ K 10 7 4	
	♠ 9		
	♥ Q J 10 9 8 5		
	♦ Q 2		
	♣ Q 8 3 2		
West	North	East	South
<i>Andruk</i>	<i>Loefgren</i>	<i>Radziak</i>	<i>Bausback</i>
Pass	2♥	2♠	2♦
3♣	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♠	Dble	All Pass	

Comments: 2♦ Multi

Contract: Four Spades Doubled, played by East

Lead: ♥Q

Result: 11 tricks, NS -690

The Facts:

West alerted his 3♣ bid to South and explained it more or less easily (South does not speak English) as “forcing with fit”. East understood 3♣ as natural, did not alert it, and raised it to 4. After the hand, North called the Director and stated that he would not have doubled if he had known 3♣ was not natural.

The Director:

Judged that East/West did not have a special agreement about the meaning of 3♣ and ruled that North had not been misinformed.

Ruling:

Result Stands

Relevant Laws:

Law 40A

North/South appealed.

Present: All players

The Players:

North explained that when 3♣ was raised to 4♣, 4♠ from West did not look like a great fit but rather a preferential bid. He had doubled on that basis but sadly found South without any defensive values. Moreover, the double enabled East to locate the ♠A. North believed he could beat 4♠ after a club lead and club ruff, diamond Ace and another club ruff.

South said he might agree with the Director if West had just “bid something” or even called it a psyche, but West had alerted it and clearly believed he had made a conventional call. South also told the Committee that West had looked “a bit upset” when the tray came back with 4♣.

West spoke little English and a Polish Director translated for him; Upon questioning by the Committee, West explained that he had had nothing to bid over 2♦, but that after 2♠ every new suit is forcing. He bid 3♣ intending to pass over 3♠ but bid 4♠ over everything else. With a 1327 distribution he would also have bid 3♣, but then passed over 4♣. 3♠ by West would not have been invitational.

The Committee:

Was uncertain if the Director had not ruled wrongly in deciding that North had not been misinformed, but focused rather on North’s double. In order for 4♠ to be beaten, South needs not only a singleton club, but also two spades. North’s double was judged speculative and there was no link between the possible misinformation and the damage.

The Committee’s decision:

Director’s ruling upheld.

Deposit: Returned

Appeal No. 12
Poland v Germany

Appeals Committee:

David Harris (Chairman, England), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Grattan Endicott (England), Barry Rigal (USA), Jan van Cleeff (the Netherlands)

Open Pairs Qualifying Round 7

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

	♠ A Q 5		
	♥ K		
	♦ A K Q 8 7 6		
	♣ J 8 5		
♠ 10 9 6 4	/	♠ 8 3	
♥ 9 8 3 2		♥ A Q J 7 5	
♦ 9 4		♦ 10 5 2	
♣ 4 3 2		♣ K 9 6	
	♠ K J 7 2		
	♥ 10 6 4		
	♦ J 3		
	♣ A Q 10 7		
West	North	East	South
<i>Kasimir</i>	<i>Pawszak</i>	<i>Jokisch</i>	<i>Chindelewicz</i>
		Pass	Pass
1♠	Dble	Redble	INT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Contract: Three no-trump, played by South

Lead: ♣4

Result: 13 tricks, NS +520

The Facts:

East called the Director at the end of play. North had explained the bid of INT to him as “minors”, while South had not alerted the bid to West. West said that if the INT had been explained as showing the minors he would not have lead a minor, or a spade, and the contract would be defeated.

The Director:

Enquired as to the meaning of the bid of INT. South finally admitted that it did indeed “in principle” show the minors. The Director ruled that with this explanation, West would not lead a minor. Nor would he lead a spade (the redouble denied 3 cards in spades), so it would be a heart. East/West play 1/3/5 with attitude so the lead would be the ♥9, thus avoiding the possible blockage.

Ruling:

Score adjusted to 3NT by South, making 8 tricks, NS -50

Relevant Laws:

Law 40B4, 12B1

North/South appealed.

Present: All players except South

The Players:

South explained his system: the double shows either a two-suiter with hearts, or a stronger distributional hand or any 18+. INT could have been done without a spade stopper, and it denied four hearts, so indeed there would be at least six cards in the minors.

South also, after being asked about some alternative sequences, explained that passing the redouble would be "to play", with a 5-card in spades, while 2NT would indicate the minors, but with better shape. 2♣ would probably show 5 cards, but 2♣ and 2♦ would not show points, while INT was usually with some points. His INT did not show any particular shape. If partner had bid 2♦, in his two-card suit, he would have bid 2♥ on a 3-card.

The Committee checked these statements on the System Card which confirmed them. South called the lead problem for West a lottery.

West apologized for his psyche, and confirmed that he would never lead a spade, since the redouble denied three cards there. If INT showed the minors, only the heart lead remained.

When asked about their system, East/West told the Committee that they play a lot of support raises, and that 2♦ would show hearts; the redouble showed 9 points denying three spades.

The players confirmed that South had alerted the double, but not the INT bid, while North had not alerted the double, but he had alerted the INT.

The Committee:

Noted that South had, at the table, only agreed that INT showed the minors after some pushing. The only thing it really meant was "I don't have heart support". Combine that with there not being 5 cards in spades, and there must be minors. South had alerted the double, and West had not asked about it.

The Committee felt South had not fallen short in his efforts to explain everything there was to know about his system to West.

The Committee's decision:

Original table result restored

Deposit: Returned

Appeal No. 13
Poland v Bulgaria

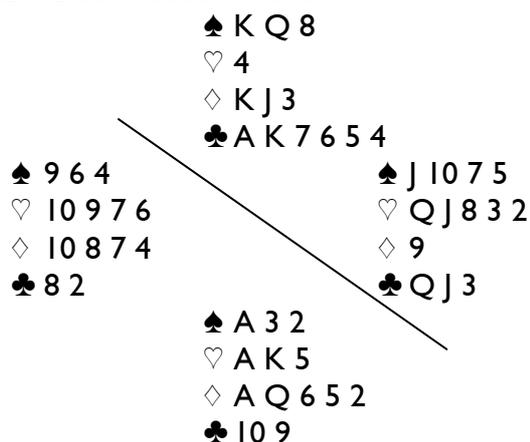
Appeals Committee:

David Harris (Chairman, England), Grattan Endicott (England), Barry Rigal (England), PO Sundelin (Sweden), Jan van Cleeff (the Netherlands)

Herman De Wael sat in on the meeting to act as Scribe.

Open Teams Semi-final A Round 2

Board 27. Dealer South. None Vul.



West	North	East	South
Zahariev	Palasz	Karakolev	Golygowski
Pass	3♥	Dbf	3NT
Pass	6♣	Pass	7♦
All Pass			

Contract: Seven Diamonds, played by South

Lead: immaterial

Result: 13 tricks, NS +1440

The Facts:

North called the Director when the tray came back with 3NT. He wanted to explain that he had misbid. He had told East that his 3♥ showed shortness in heart, but he now remembered that in his system, it showed a six-card with two top honours. East told the Director he would not have doubled with a correct explanation, but the Director told them to continue the board. After play was over, West called the Director again, complaining that South had explained him the meaning of 3♥, in a loud voice. Maybe North had heard this and this is why he realized his error.

The Director:

Checked with East, who said he had heard nothing of the explanation given by South.

Ruling:
Result Stands

Relevant Laws:
Law 16A

East/West appealed.

Present: All players

The Players:

West explained what happened on the South/West side of the screen. South asked about the meaning of East's double, and West needed to know what 3♥ meant in order to be able to tell him. South started to tell this, but West insisted South write it down, which he did. South explained the meaning (6-card with two top honours) and West told South the double was take-out. South bid 3NT and the tray went to the other side. Then they heard the Director being called, and South laughingly told West "my partner has misbid, he has a 31(54)". The bidding and play were concluded.

East told the Committee what had happened on his side. North had explained his 3♥ to him as shortness, but when the tray came back with 3NT, North had called the Director and explained his mistake.

North/South told the Committee that they had changed their system just prior to the Championship. They used to play that 3♥ showed specifically a singleton heart and 5-4 (or longer) in the minors. South knew partner must have misbid (he had ♥AK himself) and when he saw the 6♣ rebid, he realized North must have been bidding under his previous system. When asked, South explained that in that previous system, 3NT was simply natural.

The Committee:

Started by confirming that a player is allowed to use the knowledge of his previous system, provided he learns from an authorized source that the misbidder (either his partner or himself) has been using that previous system.

The Committee then checked the stream of information.

South realizes that North does not have two top honours because he holds two of those himself. The 6♣ bid is also a clear indication that there is not a 6-card suit in hearts. So is the double, although that piece of information might be considered unavailable to South since East would not have doubled with the correct information. On the other hand, South also learns that something is wrong when the Director is called. The Committee found that South has enough authorized information to be allowed to bid 7♦.

North would not be allowed to wake up to his own misbid if he had heard his partner's explanation. However, there is no evidence that any information was passed through the screen.

The Committee's decision:

Director's ruling upheld.

Deposit: Returned

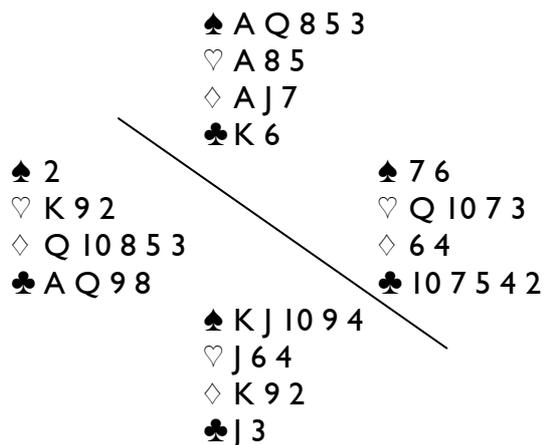
Appeal No. 14
Scotland v Sweden

Appeals Committee:

David Harris (Chairman, England), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Grattan Endicott (England), Barry Rigal (USA), Jan van Cleeff (the Netherlands)

Open Pairs Semi-Final A Round I

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.



West	North	East	South
<i>Hayes</i>	<i>Peterkin</i>	<i>Mattson</i>	<i>Punch</i>
			Pass
1♦	1♠	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♥	Pass	3♠
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

Contract: Four Spades, played by North

Lead: ♦6

Play:	West	North	East	South
	<u>♦Q</u>	♦J	♦6	♦9
	♠2	<u>♠A</u>	♠6	♠4
	♦3	♠3	♠7	<u>♠K</u>
	♦5	<u>♦A</u>	♦4	♦2
	♦8	♦7	??	<u>♦K</u>
	♣8	<u>♣K</u>	♣7	♣3
	<u>♣Q</u>	♣6	♣2	♣J
	♣A			

Result: 11 tricks, NS +450

The Facts:

There had been different explanations on both sides of the screen. On the South/West side, South's 2NT had been described as showing support for spades. 3♣ was, according to South, a long suit trial, and the rest were cue-bids. North explained 2NT as support, but with a singleton. North intended 3♣ as asking for the singleton and of course explained it that way. 3♦ showed the supposed singleton and he interpreted 4♠ as "giving up".

After the play, East/West called the Director, pointed out the different explanations and claimed they had been misinformed, which was why they allowed the overtrick to be scored.

The Director:

Checked With North/South and their system card and established that South had been explaining according to the actual system. The Director accepted that East/West had been misled, but ruled that it was not completely certain that they would defend better with correct information, so the Director decided to weight the scores.

Ruling:

Both sides receive:

40% of 4♠+1 by North (NS +450)
plus 60% of 4♠= by North (NS +420)

Relevant Laws:

Law 40B4, 12B1, 12C1(c)

North/South appealed.

Present: All players except East

The Players:

South explained that she had given the correct explanation, and that West had misdefended. He had received a count of the clubs and should have worked out that the ♣A was not a good card to play.

West confirmed that East had contributed the 7 and the 2 to the club tricks and that they play hi-lo as showing an odd number. West could not remember which card East had played to the third diamond trick.

West added that the bidding had taken a long time and they had been under time pressure.

The Committee:

Considered there might be some doubts as to the explanations given, but believed West had made a very sloppy defence. He could not remember the discard on the diamonds but did have a correct count of the clubs.

The Committee's decision:

Original table result restored

Deposit: Returned

Appeal No. 15
Poland v Argentina/Sweden

Appeals Committee:

David Harris (Chairman, England), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Grattan Endicott (England), Barry Rigal (USA), Jan van Cleeff (the Netherlands)

Open Pairs Semi-Final A Round 2

Board 23. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Wrang</i>	<i>Zelenievski</i>	<i>Ventin</i>	<i>Wachnowski</i>
INT	2♥	Dble	2NT
Pass	3♣	Dble	All Pass

Contract: Three Clubs Doubled, played by North

Result: 9 tricks, NS +670

The Facts:

North explained the 2♥ bid as “natural”, 2NT as “minors” and 3♣ as “natural”, but his System Card showed that 2♥ actually showed hearts and a minor.

The Director:

Ruled that East had been misinformed. With a correct explanation, it was not clear what would happen, but at least some of the time East/West would re-enter the bidding and reach 3NT.

Ruling:

Both sides receive:

50% of 3♣X= by North (NS +670)
 plus 50% of 3NT= by East (NS –600)

Relevant Laws:

Law 40B4, 12B1, 12C1(c)

North/South appealed.

Present: All players except West

The Players:

North told the Committee, via an interpreter, that he had tried to give the explanation of 2♥ by offering his system card to East.

East did not agree to this. He had asked what it meant and North had simply said “natural”. He had never been offered the system card. In fact, when the Director had tried to find out what 2♥ meant, they had to look for the system card. By hand gestures, East made clear that the system card had been on a side table, at the far end of North (not between them). The Director could not remember where the system card had been, but he told the Committee that North had not told him, at the table at the time, about offering the system card to East. The Director related one more fact: when North had explained his 2♥ bid to him, he had done so by showing his hand. In that hand, he had clearly showed the six hearts, but somehow muddled the five clubs in with the rest of the cards.

The Committee:

Did not believe that the system card had been offered at the table. North may have had language difficulties in explaining his system to East, and it might have indeed been better simply to offer the system card, but the Committee ruled that East had been misinformed. Maybe East ought to have asked a bit further, but the explanations that were given him (natural – minors – natural) were not that strange that they needed to be mistrusted.

If anything needed to be changed to the Director’s ruling, it was the generosity given to the offending side in the choice of the weight of the table result, but the Committee decided not to change this either.

Considering that the appeal was brought on the basis of doubtful statements, it was judged to be without merit.

The Committee’s decision:

Director’s ruling upheld.

Deposit: Forfeited

Appeal No. 16
the Netherlands v Norway

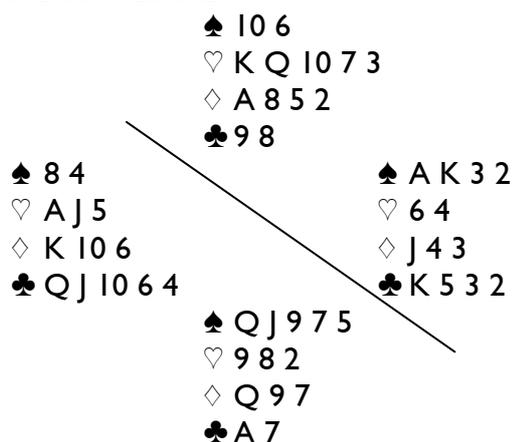
Appeals Committee:

Jens Auken (Chairman, Denmark), Grattan Endicott (England), Jan Kamras (Sweden),
 Barry Rigal (USA), PO Sundelin (Sweden)

Herman De Wael sat in on the meeting to act as Scribe.

Open Pairs Semi-Final A Round 6

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.



West	North	East	South
<i>Ueland</i>	<i>Bertens</i>	<i>Herland</i>	<i>Westra</i>
1♣	2♥	Pass	Pass
Pass	Pass	Dble	3♥
3NT	Pass	4♣	All Pass

Comments: 1♣ natural, 5-card majors, min. 3-card ♣; strong NT

Contract: Four Clubs, played by West

Result: 9 tricks, NS +100

The Facts:

North called the Director when dummy came down. He had noticed a hesitation when the tray came back with 3NT and he did not believe East should have taken it out on the cards now shown.

The Director:

Asked East to agree that the tray had taken some time in returning, which East did. After play ended, the Director also asked confirmation of a hesitation from the other side of the screen, and West admitted that he had thought for some time.

The Director found that it should have been clear to East that it had been West who had caused the delay, and he found that East had a logical alternative in passing. He decided to rule the contract back to 3NT. It was not absolutely clear that North/South could set this by two tricks, but the frequency table confirmed that most pairs who had played 3NT had

gone two down. The Director decided to base the adjusted score on this, and not to include any other weights.

Ruling:

Score adjusted to 3NT by West, making 7 tricks, NS +200

Relevant Laws:

Law 40B4, 12B1, 12C1(c)

East/West appealed.

Present: North and South

The Players:

West explained that it was impossible to want to play 3NT when taking out three hearts doubled.

East told the Committee that many people would have opened his hand, but he did not. He knew partner did not have spades, and opponents have 8 hearts between them. He had doubled to ask for a heart stopper and partner, who had such a stopper, made the mistake of not leaving the double in. East could see no source for tricks in 3NT.

When asked what his second double meant, East stated it was optional. He wanted partner to make the last decision.

West told the Committee that he had chosen 3NT rather than 4♣ because he wanted to show a stopper, but not many points.

The Committee:

Confirmed that there had been a break in tempo; but was not certain if this piece of unauthorized information suggested any alternative over another. East stated that he doubled to have his partner decide, and then when partner does, he overrules him anyway. It was remarked that if 3NT comes back fast, there is a clear indication that West wants to play there, so the hesitation must suggest taking it out. As passing was a Logical Alternative, that is what East should have done.

Some thought was given as to whether it was so clear that North/South would beat 3NT by two tricks. The Committee decided that it was sufficiently likely to allow the Director's assessment to stand.

The Committee's decision:

Director's ruling upheld.

Deposit: Returned

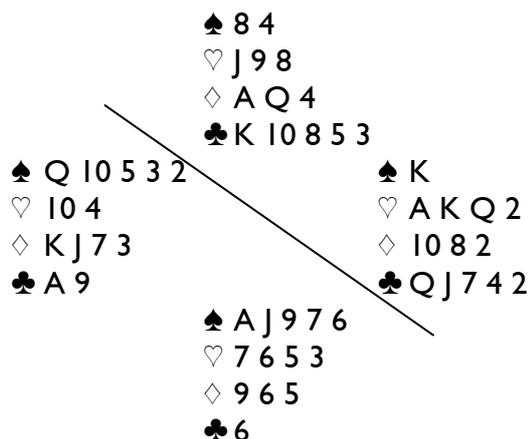
Appeal No. 17
Poland v Germany/Poland

Appeals Committee:

David Harris (Chairman, England), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Grattan Endicott (England), Jan van Cleeff (the Netherlands)

Open Pairs Semi-Final A Round 8

Board 23. Dealer South. All Vul.



West	North	East	South
<i>Lesniczak</i>	<i>Jeleniewski</i>	<i>Buchlev</i>	<i>Ilczak</i>
Pass	Pass	1♣	Pass
Pass	INT	Dble	1♠
Pass	Pass	2♣	Redble
3NT	All Pass		Pass

Comments: Dble good opening

Contract: Three No-trump, played by West

Result: 8 tricks, NS +100

The Facts:

East called the Director when the tray came back with his partner's 3NT, suspecting that there had been a different explanation with regards to the redouble. East had asked North "is it strong?", and North had replied "I hope so". East had feared the contract of INTXX was making and retreated to clubs. When West raised that, East realized West must have received a different explanation of the redouble. It turned out that South had indeed explained the redouble as "SOS" to West.

The Director:

Concluded that South had invented the SOS and that North had basically given the information that there was no agreement. East/West did not have firm agreements concerning a pass over a redouble and had to guess. They had not been damaged by any misinformation.

Ruling:
Result Stands

Relevant Laws:
Law 40B4

East/West appealed.

Present: All players

The Players:

East started by commenting that the Director had taken a long time to come back with the ruling, meaning it must have been close.

East then explained his reasons for bidding 2♣. If North and South both have 9-11 points, then he knows his partner has spades, but not enough to bid alone. By showing three suits, he could reach a better contract than INT.

East was asked when and how he had asked about the meaning of the redouble: it had been after North had passed and before he had bid 2♣. East told the Committee he had understood it was limited by the non-opening, and he had asked “maximum?”. North helped him remember that the answer was “I hope so”.

North explained that they did not have a special agreement with both of them having passed. If South had not been a passed hand, then the redouble would be strong.

South explained that he had overcalled very lightly. He now wanted to reach 2♥, but if North had five diamonds maybe 2♦ was better. The redouble could not have been to play and he hoped North would understand it that way. He explained it with a shrug to his screen-mate, who understood it.

South was asked if the redouble could also have been interpreted as showing a maximum passed hand, and South denied that this could be the case. North and South were both passed hands so INT can never be a certainty and the redouble can never convey this. That is “just bridge”.

The Committee:

Agreed with the Director. “I hope so” does not equate to “it is strong”, but rather to – “we have no agreement”. North and South had both been playing bridge.

The fact that the Director had taken a long time to arrive with a ruling could well be attributed to him being very careful or very busy, and it had no bearing on the case. Since no other arguments had been brought, the appeal was judged to be without merit.

The Committee’s decision:

Director’s ruling upheld.

Deposit: Forfeited

Appeal No. 18
Austria v Poland

Appeals Committee:

Jens Auken (Chairman, Denmark), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Grattan Endicott (England), PO Sundelin (Sweden)

Open Pairs Semi-Final B Round 9

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Pawczak</i>	<i>Franzel</i>	<i>Chindelewicz</i>	<i>Kriftner</i>
2♣	Dble	Pass	Pass
2NT	Pass	Pass	2♥
Dble	3♥	Dble	3♦
			All Pass

Comments: 2♣ natural

Contract: Three Hearts Doubled, played by North

Lead: ♣A

Play: ♣K, ♠5

Result: 7 tricks, NS -300

The Facts:

The Director was called during the bidding, by North, when the tray had come back with 3♦X. North wanted to know from East whether 2NT had shown a heart stopper. East had said "good clubs" a few times, and the Director extracted from him that there had been a diamond and heart stopper shown as well. The deal was played and South took the heart finesse. He went two down, and called the Director again. South had also asked about the meaning of 2NT and had been told it contained a heart stopper.

The Director:

Considered that the explanation was apparently the same on both sides of the screen and ruled that North/South had not been misinformed

Ruling:

Result Stands

Relevant Laws:

Law 40B4

North/South appealed.

Present: North and South. East/West had been found by the Director, but they refused to attend the meeting since they had not qualified and were no longer interested.

The Players:

South told the Committee that they had heard the commotion on the other side of the screen, and that West had told him that he had shown a heart stopper only afterwards. South suspected that West had intended his 2NT merely to be showing the minors, and that the discussion on the other side had made him add the reference to the (non-existing) heart stopper.

South gave two reasons why the score ought to be changed: if the minors are shown, he won't try bidding 3♦, they will also end up in 3♥, but probably undoubled; and if the heart stopper is not shown, he will not take the finesse and go only one down.

The Committee:

Commented that South ought to have called the Director if he thought West had heard something. It feels as if West had heard, but there was no evidence for this. The Committee felt there was not enough reason to overrule the Director.

The Committee's decision:

Director's ruling upheld.

Deposit: Returned

Appeal No. 19
Poland v Poland

Appeals Committee:

David Harris (Chairman, England), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Maurizio Di Sacco (Italy), PO Sundelin (Sweden)

Open Pairs Semi-Final B Round 9

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

	♠ K ♥ 10 8 3 2 ♦ A 9 5 4 ♣ 8 6 5 3		
♠ J 9 7 6 4 ♥ K J 7 ♦ 7 3 2 ♣ A Q	♠ A 5 ♥ 6 4 ♦ K Q J 8 6 ♣ K 10 7 2	♠ Q 10 8 3 2 ♥ A Q 9 5 ♦ 10 ♣ J 9 4	♠ Q 10 8 3 2 ♥ A Q 9 5 ♦ 10 ♣ J 9 4
West	North	East	South
<i>Ostrowski</i>	<i>Blajda</i>	<i>Wittenbeck</i>	<i>Superson</i>
3♦	All Pass	2♣	2♠

Comments: 2♣ both Majors

Contract: Three Diamonds, played by West

Result: 5 tricks, NS +500

The Facts:

South intended 2♠ to show the minors, with better diamonds than clubs, but North did not alert it as such and even answered “natural” when asked about it. The Director was called at the end of the play and he gave a ruling based on misinformation and a final contract of 4♠. The Director told the players he would award a weighted score based on 10 or 11 tricks, but he needed to wait for the frequencies to decide on the actual weights given.

At the end of the session, the score was entered into the scoring system as simply -620. It was not known, at the time of the appeal, what the reason was for this “change”, as the Director who made the ruling was off duty, and there was no way of reaching him before the final should start.

East/West therefore went to the Chief Tournament Director, who reviewed the case.

The Director:

The Chief Tournament Director overruled the Director (regardless of what the original ruling had been), and decided that the adjustment would be to 4♠ making, NS -620, as

was entered in the scoring system. He gave East/West the opportunity of appealing that decision, which they did.

Ruling:

Score adjusted to 4♠ by East/West, making 10 tricks, NS -620

Relevant Laws:

Law 40B4, 12B1, 12C1(c)

East/West appealed.

Present: East and West

The Players:

East/West explained that they had been told they would get some weight of a score of -650, and they believed that was what would be entered into the scoring system, but it wasn't. The Director must have changed his decision without telling them.

They pointed out that 20% of the field had made 11 tricks.

The Chief Tournament Director gave the reason for his ruling. He believed the ruling of 4♠= was already generous to East/West, since a weight ought to be given for East/West not actually reaching 4♠.

The different scores were named (corrected for accuracy): -620 scores 70.85%; -650 is 89,51%. -170 yields 23,11%.

In this tournament, 36 EW-pairs scored 620, 9 made 650.

The Committee:

Agreed that East/West should have received a weighted score, but considered that one should be certain that East/West would always reach the game contract.

During the explanation of the bidding sequence, it had been revealed that 3♦ showed four spades and an invitational hand. It was not considered completely certain, at Matchpoints, that East would accept that invitation.

The Committee decided that the Chief Tournament Director was correct in calling the Adjusted Score of -620 generous towards East/West and that his ruling should not be changed.

The Committee's decision:

Director's ruling upheld.

Deposit: None taken

Note:

Later in the day, the original Director returned from his half day off. He explained why he had finally ruled as he did. He felt North/South ought not to suffer, even partly, from a mistake at other tables (crashing AK of trumps).

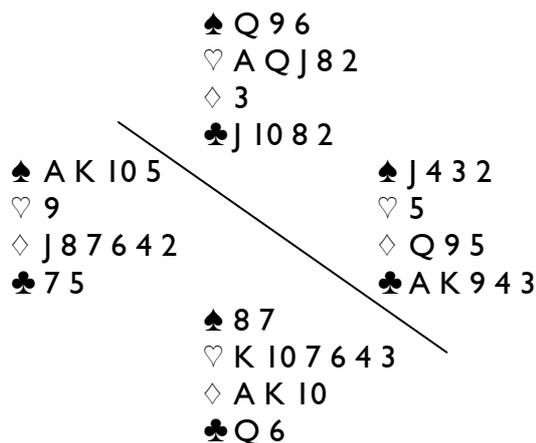
Appeal No. 20
France v France

Appeals Committee:

David Harris (Chairman, England), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Grattan Endicott (England), PO Sundelin (Sweden), Jan van Cleeff (the Netherlands)

Open Pairs Final A Round I

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.



West	North	East	South
<i>Schmidt</i>	<i>Cronier Ph.</i>	<i>Rombaut</i>	<i>de Tessières</i>
Pass	Pass	1♣	1♥
Dble	4♥	4♠	... Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

Contract: Four Spades Doubled, played by East

Result: 9 tricks, NS +200

The Facts:

East called the Director when play had already started in the next round. He had reserved his rights when the tray had returned with 2 passes, and North had agreed that there had been a hesitation.

The Director:

Had the four players confirm the timing. North had put the delay at 10 seconds, South at "less than 25", while East had put it at 1 minute and West even at 2 minutes. The Director ruled that the break in tempo had been established. The Director then polled a number of players. Out of the first four consulted, two would pass, one would double, and one would bid 5♥. The Director interpreted this as meaning that pass was a logical alternative. Since bidding on was demonstrably suggested by the break in tempo, the Director decided to adjust the score.

Ruling:

Score adjusted to 4♠ by East, making 9 tricks, NS +100

Relevant Laws:

Law 40B4, 12B1

North/South appealed.

Present: All players

The Players:

West started by adding to the facts: South had also thought some time before selecting his final pass.

North had two points of defence. Firstly, the hesitation, which he agreed to, had not been very long. His partner had a flat 12-count, and bid a normal 1♥, so it would be impossible to think for such a long time. 4♥ was certainly pre-emptive, and South had nothing to think about. Secondly, it was impossible, in his opinion, that East/West would have an easy make in 4♠. North knew that East was a wild bidder and he was sure 4♠ would be going down.

North explained further that he had no other bid than 4♥. 3♦ and 4♦ would show diamonds and hearts, and 2NT and 3NT would show moderate and good raises.

The meaning of the negative double was asked and explained as showing spades, possibly even more than four.

West remembered that he had had a lot of time in which to ask himself “what am I going to bid over 5♥?”, twice actually, since South thought once more over 4♠X. So the hesitation was definitely more than 30”.

East told the Committee why he had called the Director so late. North had accepted that there had been a hesitation, and he had shown his hand after the board was over, stating his double was clear. East had too much respect for North and his reputation, and did not wish to question it in front of a Director at that time. He asked a few other players, who told him it was not as clear as North made it seem, and then called the Director.

The Committee:

Understood why the Director was called after the round was over.

There had clearly been a hesitation.

It was noted that:

- North held too many hearts for a double. The contract needed a 1-1 split to go down.
- Also, South needs two tricks
- The negative doubler could have 5 spades, making the contract safer.

The Committee decided that although North made a good case for his double, it was still somewhat of a gamble. North should not do that after the hesitation.

Pass was a Logical Alternative, and the Director had ruled correctly.

The Committee’s decision:

Director’s ruling upheld.

Deposit: Returned