



The European Bridge League

Appeals Booklet 2002

**Including the appeals from:
The European Mixed Teams & Pairs
Championships, Oostende
and
The European Teams
Championships, Salsomaggiore**

Appeals 2002 - Oostende and Salsomaggiore

In this booklet, the Appeals Committee of the EBL presents the Appeals that were dealt with during the European Championships in 2002.

There were two Championships in this year:

-The Mixed Teams and Pairs, held in Oostende, Belgium, in March

-The Open, Women's and Senior Teams, held in Salsomaggiore, Italy, in June

This would be the last time there were two major European Championships during one year, as from 2003 a new biennial event in June would replace the yearly events in March.

In total, there were 49 appeals, 23 from Oostende and 26 from Salsomaggiore.

That meant the Board-Appeal-Ratio was 0.51 (appeals per 1,000 boards played) in Oostende and 0.56 in Salsomaggiore.

The average size of the Appeal Committees hearing the appeals was 3.65 persons in Oostende, and 4.04 in Salsomaggiore.

Only in 8 out of 22, and 9 out of 26 cases did the AC decide not to go with the Director. The deposit was forfeited in 4 cases at both venues.

The titles for all these appeals mention the nationalities of the players. The NS Pair are always mentioned first.

Part one: Oostende

During this week in March 2002, first a pairs and then a teams championship was held.

Appeals 1 to 11 deal with Pairs' play, 12 to 23 are from Teams' matches.

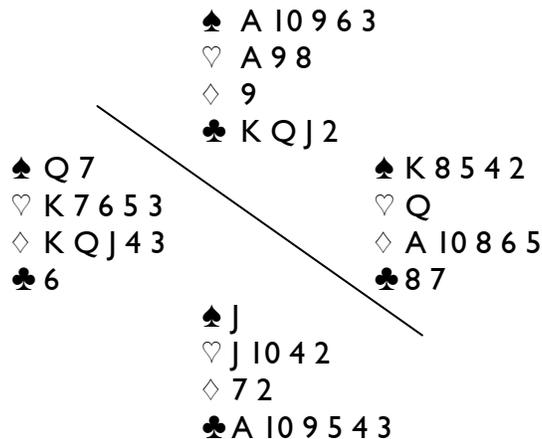
Appeal No. 1
Italy v Austria

Appeals Committee:

Bill Pencharz (Chairman, England), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Philippe Coenraets (Belgium), Grattan Endicott (England), Steen Møller (Denmark)

Mixed Pairs Qualification Session I

Board 8. Dealer West. Nobody Vulnerable.



West	North	East	South
<i>Schifko</i>	<i>Zenari</i>	<i>Fischer</i>	<i>Fransos</i>
1♥	1♠	Pass	Pass
2♦	Dble	4♦	5♣
5♦	...Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

Comments: North's Double showed a maximum 1♠ overcall.

Contract: Five Diamonds doubled, played by West

Result: 9 tricks, NS +300

The Facts:

North had thought quite some time before passing over 5♦, and West called the Director after South's double. South agreed that the tray had stayed away for a long time and that she realized North had been thinking.

The Director:

Considered the double to be sufficiently clear-cut and ruled East-West had not been damaged.

Ruling:

Result Stands

Relevant Laws:

Law 16A2, 73C

East/West appealed.

Present: All players

The Players:

East felt South did not have a clear double. She had bid at the five-level already.

West added that North had shown a maximum spade overcall, but not that he held 2 Aces.

North stated that South was justified to bid, since she had a singleton Spade and an Ace.

North explained why he had been thinking, saying that he was trying to picture South's hand.

In the end, he had realized that he had already shown his full hand and so he passed. He admitted that this had taken him around one minute. North was not certain if his pass was forcing, it probably was not. The double had shown a maximum for a spade overcall, but no extreme distribution, since he would have bid clubs if he held 5 of them - they do not play two-suited overcalls.

The Committee:

Felt that the double was quite normal, but not sufficiently clear-cut so to be allowed after the unauthorized information. The hesitation had helped remove any doubt. Pass was a Logical Alternative

The Committee's decision:

Score adjusted to

Both sides receive:

5♦-2 by West (NS +100)

Deposit: Returned

Appeal No. 2
Germany v Italy

Appeals Committee:

Bill Pencharz (Chairman, England), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Philippe Coenraets (Belgium), Grattan Endicott (England), Steen Møller (Denmark)

Mixed Pairs Qualification Session I

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vulnerable.

	♠ Q J 5		
	♥ 8 5 4 2		
	♦ K 10		
	♣ 8 4 3 2		
♠ K 8 4 3		♠ A 6 2	
♥ Q 9 3		♥ K J	
♦ A Q 9 4		♦ J 6 5 3	
♣ K 6		♣ A J 10 7	
	♠ 10 9 7		
	♥ A 10 7 6		
	♦ 8 7 2		
	♣ Q 9 5		
West	North	East	South
<i>Mesiano</i>	<i>Kasimir</i>	<i>Venini</i>	<i>Von Malchus</i>
INT	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♠	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Comments: INT showed 15-17

Contract: Three No trumps, played by West

Lead: Clubs

Result: 11 tricks, NS -660

The Facts:

2♣ and 3NT had not been alerted (2♠ had been). North called the Director when he saw the dummy, complaining that he had not been alerted to the fact that East had not promised four Hearts by his bidding.

The Director:

Ruled that East had, by not alerting 2♣ and 3NT, misinformed North.

With a correct information, North might well have lead Hearts, and nine tricks might be the result.

Ruling:

Score adjusted to

Both sides receive:

3NT= by West (NS -600)

Relevant Laws:

Law 40B,C Law 12C2

East/West appealed.

Present: All players except East

The Players:

North stated that he had asked "for majors?" and that East had agreed, without adding that it could also be made with hands without the Majors. He stated he would have lead Hearts if he had known that East could also make the auction without any majors.

West admitted that they had misexplained because 2♣ showed at least the values for 2NT and otherwise was Game Forcing. He raised three points:

the Heart lead is not automatic, even with a correct explanation;

the Club finesse can be taken either way;

and even now, a club lead only leads to 10 tricks, he won the eleventh when opponents failed to discard accurately.

The Committee:

Fully agreed with the Director that North/South had been misinformed. East/West have only the word "Stayman" on their Convention Card and in this case that is clearly defective.

The Committee also saw East's point and felt that the chances of reaching 10 tricks were very good as the hand is difficult to defend because of the pressure on both North and South on the run of the diamonds. Equity might be better served by awarding a score based on that total.

The Committee's decision:

Score adjusted to

Both sides receive:

3NT+1 by West (NS -630)

Relevant Laws:

Law 40B,C Law 12C3

Deposit: Returned

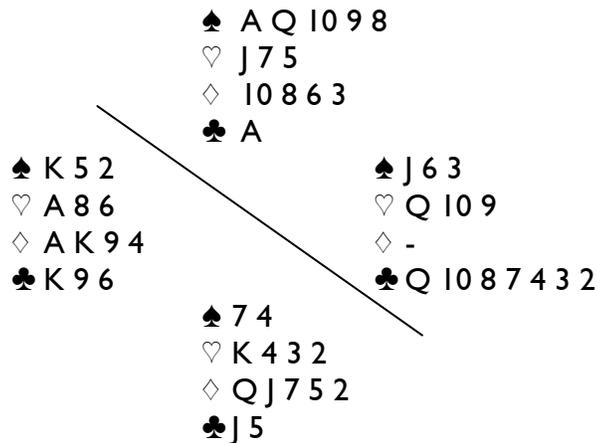
Appeal No. 3
Appeal Committee Hearing

Appeals Committee:

Bill Pencharz (Chairman, England), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Jean-Claude Beineix (France), Grattan Endicott (England), Steen Møller (Denmark)

Mixed Pairs Qualification Session 2

Board 24. Dealer West. None Vulnerable.



West	North	East	South
1NT	Pass	2♠	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♣	Pass
Pass	3♦	4♣	All Pass

Comments: 2♠ transfer to clubs, 2NT accepting.

Contract: Four Clubs, played by East

Lead: Seven of Spades

Play: Queen, Ace, Ruff.

Result: 9 tricks, NS +50

The Facts:

East/West called the Director after the board, asking to investigate North/South's bidding and play. The Director asked for an explanation and called in the Chief Tournament Director

The Chief Tournament Director:

Found the matter sufficiently interesting to ask the Appeal Committee to investigate further.

Present: North and South

The Players:

Confirmed that the Auction had indeed proceeded as given above.

North explained that he had no systemic bid available to describe his hand over INT.

2♣ would show both Majors, 2♦ shows one six-card in either Major, 2♥ and 2♠ would be canapé, showing 4 cards and a longer Minor. When the auction returned to him, he wanted to balance. Double would show a more balanced hand, so he chose 3♦, intending to pass whatever partner did over this.

South explained why she did not raise. West had a good hand, with a club fit. The raise to 4♣ by East meant she probably had a void in Diamonds. That is also why she did not lead their side's diamond suit, but tried the Spades instead.

Committee's Jurisdiction:

Under the Rules and Regulations for the Championship the Appeals Committee is the "National Authority" under Law 93C and consequently has the power to investigate any matter either on its own initiative or if asked to do so by the Chief Tournament Director.

The Committee:

Commented that there might be more to North/South's system than what was explained at the table. The fact that 3♦ did not exclude a 5-card Spade suit is probably a consequence of the system and would probably be disclosable. However, East/West were not damaged by this, nor did they claim damage.

The Committee's decision:

The Committee notes the facts and on this occasion will take no further action.

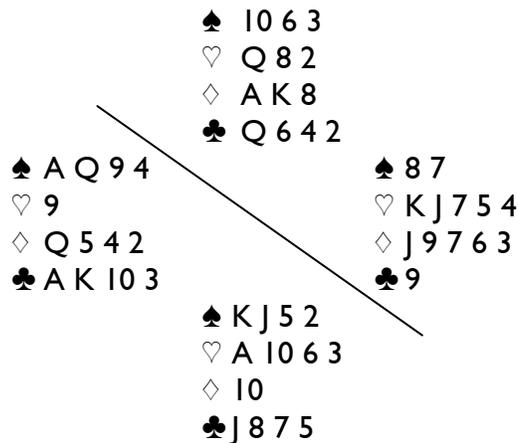
Appeal No. 4
Netherlands v France

Appeals Committee:

Bill Pencharz (Chairman, England), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Grattan Endicott (England), Steen Møller (Denmark)

Mixed Pairs Qualification Session 2

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vulnerable.



West	North	East	South
<i>Renoulau</i>	<i>Ter Laare</i>	<i>Krasteva</i>	<i>Willemse</i>
	Pass	Pass	2♣
Dble	2♦	Pass	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

Comments: 2♣ shows either a strong hand or weak with 4-4 in the Majors

Contract: Three No trumps doubled, played by West

Lead: Two of Hearts

Play: Heart to the Ace, Spade to the Ten, Spade to King and Ace, Diamond to the Nine

Result: 7 tricks, NS +300

The Facts:

2♦ was intended as "choose a major" and was explained like this by North to East. South explained it to West as "natural" and passed.

The Director:

Was not able to determine if North or South had given the correct explanation and was forced to rule that West had been misinformed. The Director ruled that West would have passed if he had received the same explanation as East.

Ruling:

Score adjusted to

Both sides receive:

2♦-4 by North (NS -200)

Relevant Laws:

Law 40B

North/South appealed.

Present: All players

The Players:

South did not remember whether she had expressed doubt or not, but remembered that she had explained that she thought North would have redoubled to ask for preference in the Majors.

North explained that he remembered they had agreed that a Pass would show Clubs, a Redouble would ask to bid Diamonds, either to pass or to show an invitational hand, and 2♦ would indicate no preference.

North further suggested that West had taken a risk by bidding 2NT. East had accepted the invitation, and North/South had almost presented West with the contract. If West would have made the contract, there would not have been a call for the Director.

West reiterated that he would have passed had he received North's explanation.

He defended his line of play saying that he knew there had been a misexplanation and played diamonds to be 4-0 or 3-1.

The Committee:

Saw no reason to overrule the Director.

West's actions had not been sufficiently inferior to break the link between the infraction and the damage.

The Committee's decision:

Director's ruling upheld.

Deposit: Returned

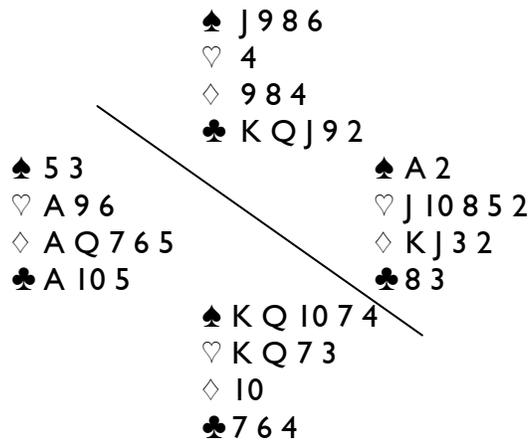
Appeal No. 5
Poland v Denmark

Appeals Committee:

Bill Pencharz (Chairman, England), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Grattan Endicott (England), Jean-Paul Meyer (France)

Mixed Pairs Qualification Session 3

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vulnerable.



West	North	East	South
<i>Schaltz P</i>	<i>Winciorek</i>	<i>Schaltz D</i>	<i>Sarwiak</i>
		Pass	Pass
INT	Dble	2♥	2♠
3♥	Pass	Pass	Dble
Pass	3♠	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

Comments: INT : 12-14

Contract: Three Spades doubled, played by South

Result: 9 tricks, NS +730

The Facts:

North doubled and explained his double as either both Majors, or one Major and one Minor. This is in fact their system over a strong No trump. East bid 2♥ and alerted. Now North realized that East/West were playing weak No trump, and over this system the Double showed 13 points or more. North explained this to East, but at this point the stories differ. According to North, this explanation was given while the tray was still at their side, whereas East maintains the tray had already passed through. Anyway, North now calls the Director, asking if the weak NT has to be alerted. It hasn't. This first Director could contribute that, at the time he was at the table, the tray was already at the other side.

The bidding continues, and at the end, West calls the Director to complain about the wrong explanation he has received. Another Director arrives, who investigates and realizes that South has given the correct explanation (13+, according to the system) about the Double. Since West has received correct information, the attention then shifts to North/East. On that side of the screen there has been misinformation, if only for a short while. North had initially explained his double according to his hand, later correcting it to the correct systemic explanation.

The second Director learns about the first Director call and finds out that East had never indicated that she might have had a problem with the explanations.

The Director:

Ruled that Players are expected to call the Director at the first sight of trouble. Not doing so can cause a loss of rights. If East had asked to change her call, she could have been allowed to do so (provided her partner had not yet called). Since this possibility had now disappeared, there was no reason to change the result now.

Ruling:

Result Stands

Relevant Laws:

Law 9B, 11A, 21B

East/West appealed.

Present: All players

The Players:

North did not insist, during the hearing, that the tray was still on his side while he explained to East about his mistake.

West explained his penalty Double. He believed his partner, who had bid constructively over a penalty double. They had more points than opponents, so a penalty double was right. If the Double had been explained correctly however, East could have passed, showing a willingness to play INTX. South would also have passed, and West would have played that contract.

West further explained that his partner never calls the Director, relying on her husband to do so. She did not ask to change her bid, believing that she could not, once the tray had passed to the other side.

The Committee:

Read Laws 9 and 11 (extracts:)

Law 9B. After Attention Is Called to an Irregularity

1. Summoning the Director

(a) When to Summon

The Director must be summoned at once when attention is drawn to an irregularity.

(...)

2. Further Bids or Plays

No player shall take any action until the Director has explained all matters in regard to rectification and to the assessment of a penalty.

Law 11A. Action by Non-Offending Side

The right to penalise an irregularity may be forfeited if either member of the non-offending side takes any action before summoning the Director. (...)

By not asking the Director, who was after all at the table, if she could have changed her bid after the correction of explanation by North, East had in fact forfeited the rights she might have had. Law 21 says :

Law 21B. Call Based on Misinformation from an Opponent

1. Change of Call

Until the end of the auction period (see Law 17E), a player may, without penalty, change a call when it is probable that he made the call as a result of misinformation given to him by an opponent (...), provided that his partner has not subsequently called.

The (first) Director never had a chance to establish whether or not West had already called at the moment he was there, and so the (second) Director took a correct view when deciding that East had forfeited the rights she might have had.

The Committee's decision:

Director's ruling upheld.

Deposit: Returned

Note by the Chairman:

Law 9B is in the imperative. After an irregularity the Director **must** be called. If he is not it is likely that the non-offending side will lose its right to redress. If in this case East had called the Director at the appropriate time (when North changed his explanation), East/West would undoubtedly have received a ruling in their favour. As it was they got no protection and a bottom. Learn from their mistake and **call the Director**.

Appeal No. 6
Italy v Sweden

Appeals Committee:

Bill Pencharz (Chairman, England), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Grattan Endicott (England), Jean-Paul Meyer (France), Steen Møller (Denmark)

Mixed Pairs Qualification Session 2

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vulnerable.

	♠ J 7 ♥ A J 10 8 7 4 ♦ Q 8 ♣ Q 5 2		
♠ A ♥ K 3 ♦ A K J 10 7 5 ♣ K 8 6 3		♠ K 8 5 4 3 ♥ Q 6 5 ♦ 6 ♣ J 10 9 4	
	♠ Q 10 9 6 2 ♥ 9 2 ♦ 9 4 3 2 ♣ A 7		
West	North	East	South
<i>Wiik</i>	<i>Mortarotti</i>	<i>Tenga</i>	<i>Russo</i>
1♦	1♥	1♠	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Comments: 1♠ shows 5 cards

Contract: Three No trumps, played by West

Lead: Jack of Hearts

Result: 10 tricks, NS -630

The Facts:

East had explained 2NT as showing a balanced hand and 17-18 HCP.
 After the play, North called the Director to complain about the West hand not being balanced.

The Director:

Saw no reason to believe North had been misinformed.

Ruling:

Result Stands

Relevant Laws:

Law 40A

North/South appealed.

Present: All players except South

The Players:

North explained that he had asked if West could have three cards spades, and the response had been negative. But East had not said there might be such an unbalanced hand with partner.

North called the 3NT call "courageous" on a singleton and did not believe he had received a full and exact description of East/West's system.

The Committee:

Saw no reason to change the Director's ruling and found the appeal lacked merit.

The Committee's decision:

Director's ruling upheld.

Deposit: Forfeited

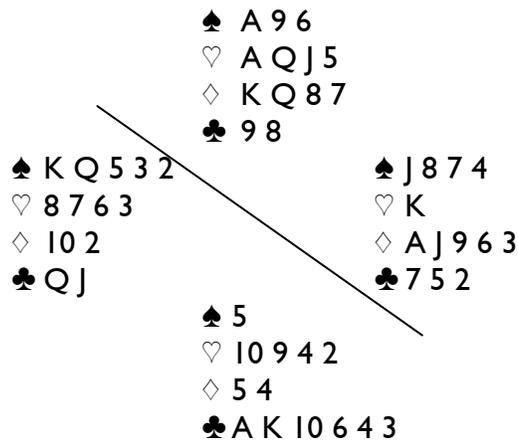
Appeal No. 7
France/England v Germany

Appeals Committee:

Steen Møller (Chairman, Denmark), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Jan Jansma (Netherlands)

Mixed Pairs Consolation Session I

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vulnerable.



West	North	East	South
<i>Schneider</i>	<i>Hackett</i>	<i>P. Smykalla</i>	<i>Cronier B.</i>
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♥	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

Contract: Four Hearts, played by North

Lead: Four of Spades

Play: Spade taken in hand, Club nine to the King, Heart to the King, Club return, for the ten and Queen.

Result: 8 tricks, NS -200

The Facts:

East had contributed the ♣5 to the second trick, and returned the ♣2 in trick four.

North had consulted East/West's Convention Card, which only stated "Count".

North had inserted the ten and went two off.

After the play, South discovered that East/West played reverse count and North now called the Director.

The Director:

Found that North could have enquired about the simple word "count", not relying on it simply meaning that high-low shows even.

Ruling:

Result Stands

Relevant Laws:

Law 40B

North/South appealed.

Present: All players

The Players:

North stated that he had consulted the Convention Card and found no mention of "reverse count" there. In his experience, when you ask about carding methods, opponents tend to false card afterwards, so he prefers not to ask.

He had a decision to make in clubs and decided to trust East's signals. He preferred to trust that East was showing four cards rather than believing West had false carded from QJx. If he had known opponents used reverse count, he would have played West for QJ bare and consequently have made 11 tricks. When asked why he ran the ♠10 he stated he was playing pairs and wanted to make as many tricks as possible.

North stated that his screen-mate had told him, after the play, that she was not giving count, and he thought she had been false carding, which was all right to him. It had been West who had revealed that they played reverse count.

East stated she had begun with the 5 in order to be able to decide later what signal to give, but that when she later played the 2, this was consistent with their usual methods.

East/West revealed that they believed it was more important to reveal, on the Convention Card, what signals they give, rather than the precise method they used for this. They realized this was wrong, and had changed their Convention Card since then.

The Committee:

Noticed that the Convention Card was of the German model, not the European one. On the European model, there is room to indicate that a high card shows an even number. On the German model, there is simply a place to indicate what the first signal is.

However, an experienced player should know that there are two ways of showing "count", usually described as "normal" and "reverse". When seeing simply "count", one might enquire more fully.

As to North's argument that he prefers not to ask lest opponents start false carding, that is no longer the case here. East had already contributed the 5 and the 2, and if this was a false card, it had already happened.

The Committee concluded that North had not done enough to protect himself.

The Committee's decision:

Director's ruling upheld.

East/West again reminded to fill out the Convention Card correctly.

Deposit: Returned

Appeal No. 8
Belgium v Italy

Appeals Committee:

Grattan Endicott (Chairman, England), Mark Horton (England), Jean-Paul Meyer (France)

Mixed Pairs Consolation Session 2

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vulnerable.

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

Comments: 2♦ Multi

Contract: Five Diamonds, played by East

Result: 6 tricks, NS +500

The Facts:

There was a language problem. The South and West players did not share a common language. In her explanation of 3♦ South mentioned possibilities of either showing Diamonds or of a Relay. The bid was not alerted by North. West understood that the bid was perhaps a relay, when the double would show diamonds, whilst East was making a take-out double of a natural bid in the suit.

The Director:

Could not see a relationship between the explanation and the subsequent actions of the East-West pair.

Ruling:

Result Stands

Relevant Laws:

Law 75A, 40C

East/West appealed.

Present: only the West and South players attended the committee.

The Players:

Confirmed the facts. West felt that he had not received a clear explanation and that North and South had given different explanations. He was prepared to play in diamonds at the 5 or 6 level if, as he believed, his partner had diamonds. South said that she had tried to say that her partner was initially showing diamonds but the bid could subsequently prove to be a relay bid.

The Committee:

Made some enquiries as to whether South could pass if East did not double. It seemed that the answer is 'yes' - but with no certainty then that they would be in a playable denomination. However, both sides are vulnerable. The committee recognized the language problems and that West was confused by what he understood of South's explanations. The committee noted that, even in the situation, there would perhaps have been a more secure route of advance for West via a bid of 4♦, but that the player sensibly should have sought help.

The Committee's decision:

Director's ruling upheld, but on a different basis from the one expressed by the Director. The West player knew that he had a difficulty in being certain what South was telling him in her explanation and that possibly he had two different explanations from her. It would have been both appropriate and wise to seek the Director's help before venturing on a quest for a diamond contract. As it was there was no clear evidence that South had misexplained.

Deposit: Returned

Comment by the Chairman of the Appeals Committee of the EBL:

If it is rightly understood by me that the players are talking to each other and not writing as they should, then they should realise that the rulings will tend to go against the person who does not get the reply in writing. I agree with the Committee's decision, but the Committee seems to have accepted that the players had been talking to each other. The committee should have made it clear to the players that talking during explanations behind screen is not correct.

Appeal No. 9
France v France

Appeals Committee:

Bill Pencharz (Chairman, England), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Grattan Endicott (England), Steen Møller (Denmark)

Mixed Pairs Final Session 2

Board 15. Dealer South. North/South Vulnerable.

	♠ 10 7 5 4 3 ♥ 7 5 4 2 ♦ 9 4 ♣ 5 4		
♠ A 6 2 ♥ A J ♦ 8 5 3 ♣ A K 9 6 3		♠ K Q J ♥ 8 6 ♦ K J 10 2 ♣ J 10 8 2	
	♠ 9 8 ♥ K Q 10 9 3 ♦ A Q 7 6 ♣ Q 7		
West	North	East	South
<i>Sebbane</i>	<i>Multon</i>	<i>Thuillez</i>	<i>Varenne</i>
INT	Pass	3NT	1♥ All Pass

Contract: Three No trumps, played by West

Lead: Four of Hearts

Result: 10 tricks, NS -430

The Facts:

After the lead, and while declarer was writing down the contract, North put his head under the screen. West said "c'est un coup sans importance, dépend des trèfles" (it's a hand of no importance, depends on clubs). South played the nine to the first trick, so declarer made 10 tricks.

North now called the Director, claiming that South had been confused by the remark, and asking if this was not in fact a claim.

The Director:

Ruled that it was not a claim, and that the confusion did not matter.

Ruling:

Result Stands

Relevant Laws:

Law 68

North/South West appealed.

Present: All players except East

The Players:

North stated that his partner had been "déconcentrée", that she had lost concentration.

North explained their leads. If he had supported Hearts, he would have led the seven, but now he was showing count 3rd/5th.

Asked why she had played the nine and not the Queen, South stated that she knew declarer had two of them, but that she had lost concentration.

The Committee:

Saw no reason to reverse the Director's decision, and felt that North/South had presented no case.

The Committee's decision:

Director's ruling upheld.

Deposit: Forfeited

Appeal No. 10
France v France

Appeals Committee:

Bill Pencharz (Chairman, England), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Grattan Endicott (England), Steen Møller (Denmark)

Mixed Pairs Final Session 3

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vulnerable.

	♠ A K 6 5 ♥ 10 9 ♦ K J 5 2 ♣ K 5 2		
♠ J 4 2 ♥ A Q 7 4 3 ♦ 10 8 7 ♣ J 4		♠ 10 7 3 ♥ 5 2 ♦ A Q 6 3 ♣ 10 9 7 6	
	♠ Q 9 8 ♥ K J 8 6 ♦ 9 4 ♣ A Q 8 3		
West	North	East	South
<i>Romanowski</i>		<i>Bitran</i>	<i>Rossa Benhadou</i>
1♥	Dble	Pass	1♣
Pass	3NT	Pass	INT

Comments: The Double denies four cards in Spades.

Contract: One or Three No trumps, played by South

Lead: small Heart

Play: Declarer lost 2 Hearts and 3 Diamonds

Result: 8 tricks, NS +120 or -50

The Facts:

North's bid of 3NT never made it to the other side of the screen. South and West thought the bidding was over, and returned an empty tray. Thereupon North and East assumed there had been two more passes. After making 8 tricks, South and West assumed the score to be +120, but North and East scored it as -50. The Director was called.

The Director:

Initially declared the score to be +120, but then consulted with the Chief Tournament Director, who was of a different opinion. The Director then applied L82C and awarded Average Plus to both sides.

Ruling:

Score adjusted to

Both sides receive: Average Plus

Relevant Laws:

Law 82C

East/West appealed.

Present: West and East

The Players:

Confirmed the story as outlined above.

South was unable to attend the meeting but asked the Director to represent her, saying that she would have played the contract differently if she had known she was playing 3NT.

East and West stated that they would make 5 tricks in whatever contract and asked the score to be set at -50.

The Committee:

Read Law 82C:

If the Director has given a ruling that he or the Chief Director subsequently determines to be incorrect, and if no rectification will allow the board to be scored normally, he shall award an adjusted score, considering both sides as non-offending for that purpose.

Since the ruling was given after the end of the play, the Director could simply have substituted a wrong ruling with a correct one.

From the facts presented, it was clear that the contract was 3NT.

The Committee did not think the play would have gone any differently. After all, it is pairs and the object of the game is to win as many tricks as possible, regardless (almost) of the contract.

The Committee's decision:

Score adjusted to 3NT-I, NS -50

Deposit: Returned

Appeal No. 11
France v France

Appeals Committee:

Bill Pencharz (Chairman, England), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Grattan Endicott (England), Steen Møller (Denmark)

Mixed Pairs Final Session 3

Board 22. Dealer East. East/West Vulnerable.

	♠ Q 10 ♥ K Q J ♦ A K J 8 6 2 ♣ A 5		
♠ A J 5 4 ♥ 4 ♦ 10 9 3 ♣ J 9 7 3 2		♠ 6 2 ♥ 9 8 6 3 2 ♦ Q 4 ♣ K 8 6 4	
	♠ K 9 8 7 3 ♥ A 10 7 5 ♦ 7 5 ♣ Q 10		
West	North	East	South
<i>Multon</i>	<i>Toffier</i>	<i>Varenne</i>	<i>Van Poperinghe</i>
		Pass	Pass
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♣
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♦
Pass	4NT	All Pass	

Contract: Four No trumps, played by North

Lead: Heart

Result: 12 tricks, NS +690

The Facts:

South explained the bid of 3NT as showing 5 Spades and 4 Hearts, and then bid 4♦, intended as a transfer to Spades. East called the Director, stating that she would not have led a Heart if she had known there were Hearts and Spades in South. West then claimed that South had taken a long while in bidding 4♦, and that this had influenced North in bidding 4NT rather than pressing on to slam.

The Director:

Ruled that East had received correct explanations, and that North had not taken advantage of any unauthorized information.

Ruling:

Result Stands

Relevant Laws:

Law 16, 40B

East/West appealed.

Present: All players except West

The Players:

Told the full story.

South had been confused. In stead of bidding 3NT herself, showing 5 spades and 4 hearts, she explained her partner's 3NT thus. The players agreed that it may have taken something like 30 seconds for the tray to come back with 4♦, but North had no idea what went on in South's mind.

The Committee:

Concluded that the Director had given a correct ruling.

The Committee's decision:

Director's ruling upheld.

Deposit: Returned, primarily because of the confusion.

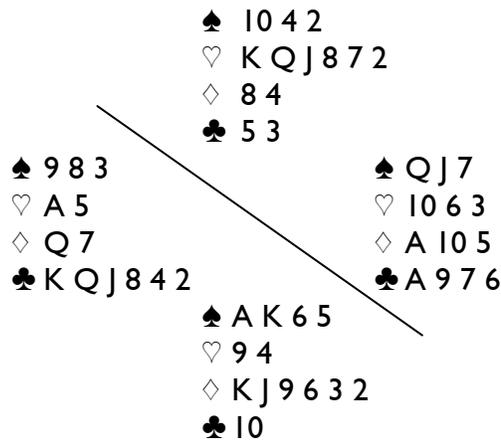
Appeal No. 12
England v Italy

Appeals Committee:

Steen Møller (Chairman, Denmark), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Sabine Auken (Germany)

Mixed Teams Round 3

Board 12. Dealer West. North/South Vulnerable.



West	North	East	South
<i>Fornaciari</i>	<i>Jones</i>	<i>Gigliotti</i>	<i>Tobias</i>
2♣	Pass	2♦	Dble
3♣	4♥	5♣	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

Comments: 2♣ 11-15, 2♦ relay, 3♣ weak

Contract: Five Clubs Doubled, played by West

Result: 9 tricks, NS +300

The Facts:

South explained her Double as showing diamonds, but North told East that it showed points. East/West called the Director, claiming that East would not have sacrificed if she had known South held Diamonds, not points.

The Director:

Saw no connection between the misinformation and the decision by East to sacrifice.

Ruling:

Result Stands

Relevant Laws:

Law 75A, 40C

East/West appealed.

Present: All players except South

The Players:

East/West explained that if the Double showed points, 3♣ was weak, but if it showed diamonds, 3♣ was stronger and showed a six-card suit. They could not prove this from their Convention Card.

North/South explained that they had not played together much, and that they had never encountered the situation before.

The Committee:

Considered that there was much more reason to bid 5♣ if the Double showed points. In that sense, East was damaged by the misinformation.

The Committee's decision:

Score adjusted to 4♥-2, NS -200

Deposit: Returned

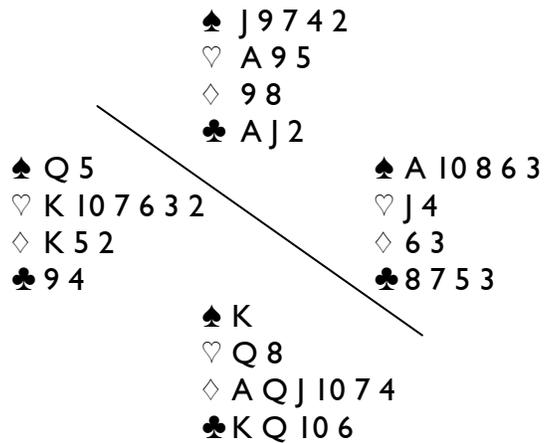
Appeal No. 13
Turkey v Sweden

Appeals Committee:

Jens Auken (Chairman, Denmark), Grattan Endicott (Scribe, England), Jean-Paul Meyer (France)

Mixed Teams Round 2

Board 6. Dealer East. East/West Vulnerable.



West	North	East	South
<i>Nohrén</i>	<i>Özdil</i>	<i>Evelius-Nohrén</i>	<i>Kandolu</i>
		Pass	1♦
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♠	Pass	...3♦
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Comments: All bids are non-forcing

Contract: Three No trumps, played by North

Lead: Jack of Hearts

Result: 9 tricks, NS +400

The Facts:

After the bid of 3♦ the tray was noticeably slow returning under the screen.

The Director:

Was summoned by East/West after the play, they suggested to him that the bid of 3NT was influenced by the evident hesitation of South in the auction. The Director found that none of North/South's bids was forcing. He considered that with his holding North's final bid was not based on unauthorized information from South.

Ruling:

Result Stands

Relevant Laws:

Law 16A, Law 12C3

East/West appealed.

Present: All players

The Players:

East/West did not think that the 3NT bid was evident after the South hand had only made non-forcing bids. North and South argued that, although non-forcing, both the choice of 2♠ by North (by-passing 2♦ and Pass) and the sequence of bids by South do suggest some added values (South could have rebid 2♦ not 2♣ if weak). South explained that her time spent thinking had to do with an alternative possibility of 2NT rather than 3♦.

The Committee:

Agreed that the slow return of the tray gave unauthorized information, derived from South, to North. If the movement of the tray had maintained approximately even progress, the Committee considered that 3NT would have been bid at least half the time (perhaps more). It was decided to award a weighted score under Law 12C3.

The Committee's decision:

Score adjusted to

50% of 3NT= by North (NS +400)

plus 50% of 3♦+1 by South (NS +130)

Deposit: Returned

Note:

As the score at the other table was +460, this translated to 50% of -8 and 50% of -2, a net result of -5 IMPs to the North/South team.

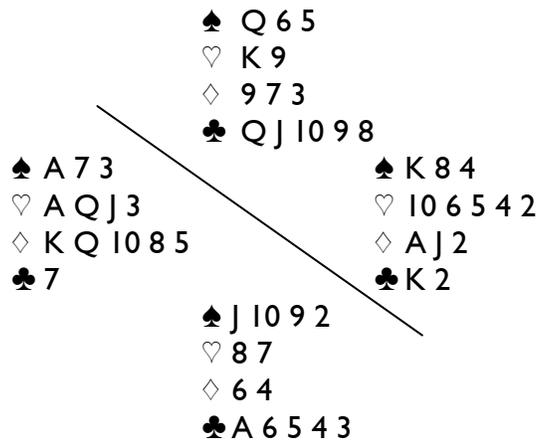
Appeal No. 14
Italy v Russia

Appeals Committee:

Steen Møller (Chairman, Denmark), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Grattan Endicott (England)

Mixed Teams Round 2

Board 9. Dealer North. East/West Vulnerable.



West	North	East	South
<i>Gromov</i>	<i>Guerra</i>	<i>Gromova</i>	<i>Paoluzzi</i>
	Pass	Pass	Pass
1♣	INT	Dble	2♣
2♦	Pass	3♦	3♠
Pass	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Contract: Three No trumps, played by East

Lead: Jack of Spades

Result: 7 tricks, NS +200

The Facts:

North intended his INT to show a Club one-suiter, but South explained it as a two-suiter (not both Majors). Over a two-suiter, a Double by West over 2♣ would be for penalties, but on a one-suiter it would be Take-Out. East/West called the Director, claiming that the different explanations had prevented them from reaching Four Hearts

The Director:

Ruled that East/West had been misinformed and that they had been damaged as a result.

Ruling:

Score adjusted to 4♥+1, NS -650

Relevant Laws:

Law 75A, 40C, 12C2

North/South appealed.

Present: All players

The Players:

North explained his mistake. He had not noticed that the opponents were playing Polish Club, and thought it was Strong Club. Over a Strong Club, his INT does indeed show a Club suit. South did realize that 1♣ was Polish, and her explanation was correct. North/South were able to show the first meaning on their Convention Card, the second one was explained as a logical consequence of an unusual NT in a position protected by an initial Pass (they had a method to show Majors).

East/West explained their methods, the gist of which is explained in the Committee's reasoning below.

North/South explained why they appealed. In their opinion, East/West had had ample opportunity to introduce the Heart suit, and the fact that they did not was a consequence of North/South's busy bidding, not of the misexplanation.

The Committee:

Considered that North had indeed made a bidding mistake. Consequently, West had received a correct explanation and no redress could be made on that side of the screen. East had not received a correct explanation though, and her actions could be considered in the light of misinformation.

The Committee summarized what they had learnt of East/West's system.

East's double showed points under both explanations. Two Hearts would not have been forcing.

In West's point of view, where INT had been explained as a two-suiter, 2♣ was a run-off, and a Double would be for penalties. Needing to bid something to show his extra point strength, 2♦ was a normal forcing bid, not necessarily showing a very unbalanced hand. When the bidding came back to him, he made a forcing pass and when partner decided to play 3NT that was OK to him.

In East's point of view, 2♣ was a natural acceptance of the suit North had shown. Since West then had a Take-Out Double available, 2♦ had to show an unbalanced hand. East then took the choice of not introducing the bad Heart suit and preferred to support partner's diamonds. On the next round, 3NT seemed a good choice. East may have expected six diamond tricks and a few aces and stoppers.

If East had received the same information as West had, she would have realized that West was not necessarily unbalanced, and she might have introduced her Heart suit.

The Committee concluded that the misinformation had indeed influenced East's choice of bid.

The Committee's decision:

Director's ruling upheld.

Deposit: Returned

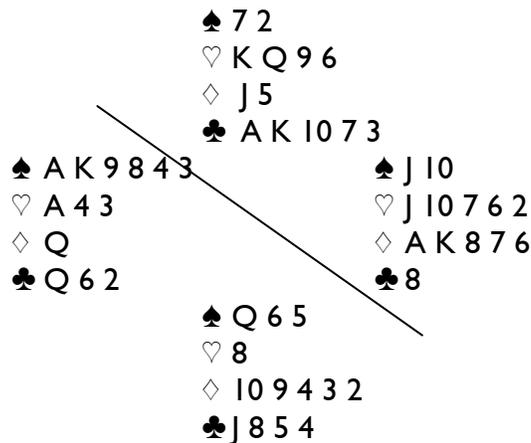
Appeal No. 15
Poland v Italy

Appeals Committee:

Steen Møller (Chairman, Denmark), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Grattan Endicott (England)

Mixed Teams Round 5

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vulnerable.



West	North	East	South
<i>Moritsch</i>	<i>Witek</i>	<i>Golin</i>	<i>Mierzejewska</i>
		Pass	Pass
1♠	INT	Dble	2♣
Dble	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♠	3♣	Pass	Pass
Dble	Pass	3♥	Pass
3♠	All Pass		

Contract: Three Spades, played by West

Result: 10 tricks, NS -170

The Facts:

INT was explained by North as showing four Hearts and five of a minor, but by South as any 54. After the hand West called the Director, complaining about this differing explanation. Since he was unable to use a cue-bid in Hearts, his partner could not imagine him as strong as he was.

The Director:

Found that North/South's Convention Card had not been properly filled and fined them IVP for this offense. The Director could not determine which of the two explanations was the correct one but ruled that, while there had certainly been misinformation, East/West had not been damaged by this. West should know enough about the East hand to be able to bid Game.

Ruling:

Result Stands

Relevant Laws:

Law 75A, 40C

East/West appealed.

Present: All players

The Players:

North explained that he plays the INT defence this way, his partner another way. They have since decided to play it as North described it (Hearts and another).

West explained that he could not bid Hearts at any turn, since it would be deemed natural.

But if he knows North has shown Hearts, he can use the cue-bid to better describe his hand.

East explained that she could not see that partner had shown a sixth spade and/or extra points, since he did not use the cue-bid that was available.

The Committee:

Came to the conclusion that it did not really matter which was the correct explanation. The difference of explanations meant that East thought he was bidding as strong as he could, while West thought East had a stronger option in the form of a Heart cue-bid.

However, the choice of bids that East and West actually made meant that they both undervalued their hand. The Committee was not certain that, even with a cue-bid available, East/West would reach the Game all of the time. They decided that 4♠ would be bid one time out of three.

The Committee's decision:

Score adjusted to

Both sides receive:

33% of 3♠+1 by North (NS -170)

plus 67% of 4♠= by North (NS -420)

Deposit: Returned

Note: as the result at the other table was -170, this turned out to +2 IMPs to the team of East/West.

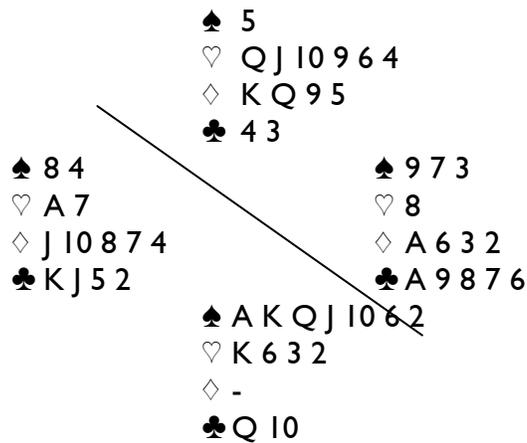
Appeal No. 16
France v Finland

Appeals Committee:

Steen Møller (Chairman, Denmark), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Grattan Endicott (England)

Mixed Teams Round 6

Board 25. Dealer North. East/West Vulnerable.



West	North	East	South
<i>Juuri-Oja</i>	<i>Mari</i>	<i>Juuri-Oja</i>	<i>Renoux</i>
	3♥	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♥	Pass	5♦
Pass	6♦	Pass	6♥
All Pass			

Contract: Six Hearts, played by North

Lead: Ace of Diamonds

Result: 12 tricks, NS +980

The Facts:

5♦ had not been alerted by North. It had been alerted by South.

The Director:

Considered it obvious that 5♦ had shown a control (and denied a Club control) and found that East should have protected herself.

Ruling:

Result Stands

Relevant Laws:

Law 75A, 40C

East/West appealed.

Present: All players and the Captain of the Finnish team

The Players:

North stated that he had simply wanted to play 4♥, and when South bid 5♦, he considered that to be natural. He raised it to Six on the basis of his 2 honours in the suit.

Only when the tray returned with 6♥, did he know that South had support in that suit.

East thought that North/South had shown a double fit, and found it too obvious to ask about this. She wanted to give her partner a ruff in diamonds (or even two).

The Committee:

Noted that South had alerted her bid, indicating that there was an agreement that involved more than a natural bid in the suit.

The Committee found that both North and East were in error.

North's mistake had been in not alerting 5♦. Maybe he was uncertain about this at first, but after 6♥ he should have realized that 5♦ may not have been natural. He should have made this known and not have assumed that opponents had readily understood this. In that sense, North had misinformed opponents and this had caused them damage.

East's mistake had been in not realizing that something was wrong when 6♦ was transferred to 6♥. It costs nothing to ask at this point, and not leading the ♣A was another mistake.

There was some doubt in the Committee as to whether these bridge mistakes were severe enough to break the link between the misinformation and the damage, but in the end the Committee decided that the failure to protect herself was severe enough.

The Committee's decision:

Score adjusted to

North/South receive:

6♥-2 by North, NS -100

East/West receive:

6♥= by North, NS +980.

Deposit: Returned

Note: the Split-Score meant that the match ended in 14-10 VP

Comment by the President of the WBF Laws Committee

Decisions in appeals are going around the world nowadays. We publish them and hope to learn from these decisions. I am not sure this one fits in that purpose.

How often in your partnership did the auction start with 3♥ - 3♠ - 4♥ - 5♦? What partnership agreement is involved in such a sequence? It is not true that alerting a bid at one side and not at the other automatically means that the wrong explanation is given at the non-alerting side. It more than once happens that an explanation doesn't do more than describing the actual holding. Very nice but far from an obligation. So it might well be that South was at fault here, alerting a call that was not a special agreement.

To me the situation after 6♥ from South and an investigation by East, as the AC suggests, would have put North in an awkward position, with only one possible answer: 'We try to play bridge' and thinking: 'Can they force me to tell him to lead a club?'. The AC apparently thought the answer on this question to be 'yes'. I am still trying to find that answer in my law book.

Ton Kooijman

Reply

I think one must try here not to be too much conditioned by one's personal experience and understanding of the game. A player who makes a bid that, at the moment when it was made, has two potential meanings (natural bid of a suit or a cue-bid, to be cleared up by later auction) has made a bid which is, by Law book definition, a "convention". It is a bid which has a "special or artificial meaning" and is, therefore, alertable.

Grattan Endicott

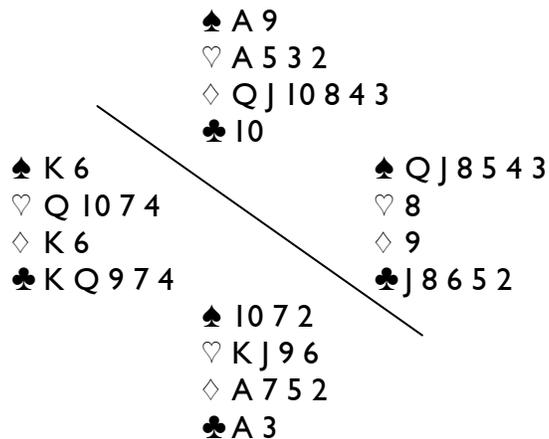
Appeal No. 17
Italy v Germany

Appeals Committee:

Steen Møller (Chairman, Denmark), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Grattan Endicott (England)

Mixed Teams Round 6

Board 21. Dealer North. North/South Vulnerable.



West	North	East	South
<i>Mavridis</i>	<i>Guerra</i>	<i>Bruchhauser</i>	<i>Paoluzzi</i>
	1♦	2♠	Dble ⁽¹⁾
Redble	3♥	Pass	4♣ ⁽²⁾
Pass	4♦ ⁽³⁾	4♠	Pass ⁽⁴⁾
Pass	4NT ⁽⁵⁾	Pass	5♣ ⁽⁶⁾
Pass	5♥	All Pass	

Comments: 2♠ was weak, and the Redouble showed a Spade honour, while the other bids were explained by North and South as:

- (1) Negative
- (2) control (mixed) and an odd number of key-cards (but see below)
- (3) Spade control
- (4) Forcing
- (5) 2 key-cards
- (6) First Round Control

Contract: Five Hearts, played by North

Lead: Nine of Diamonds

Play: Ace of Diamonds, Ace of Hearts, King of Hearts, Diamonds to the King, King of Clubs to the Ace, Diamond ruffed by West, Clubs.

Result: 10 tricks, NS -100

The Facts:

Whereas all bids were explained in the same manner on both sides of the screen, North failed to mention that 4♣ also showed an odd number of key-cards. East called the Director, saying she would not have led diamonds if she had known this.

The Director:

Found that East had indeed been misinformed, but decided this was not the main reason for the damage to East/West.

Ruling:

Result Stands

Relevant Laws:

Law 40C

East/West appealed.

Present: All players

The Players:

North/South confirmed the meaning of their bids, and admitted that North had forgotten to explain part of the meaning of 4♣.

East explained that she had tried to cash two quick tricks if her partner had the Ace of Diamonds, which from her point of view was not impossible. Of course, if she had known all five key-cards were covered, she would have led a black suit, after which they cannot fail to cash a second undertrick.

West admitted he had misdefended. He could not be certain of the number of spades his partner held. She could have held 7114. He did not recall which clubs East had thrown, nor was he certain count would be given in this situation.

The Committee:

Agreed with the Director. The misinformation had influenced the lead, but East/West should have been easily able to recover. East had had three occasions on which to give count.

The Committee's decision:

Director's ruling upheld.

Deposit: Returned, but only just.

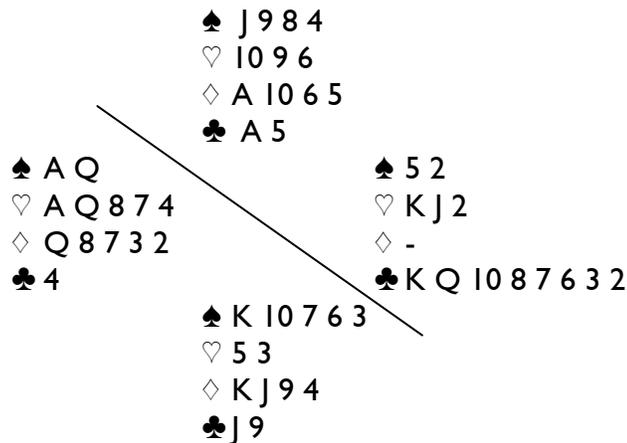
Appeal No. 18
France v France/Netherlands

Appeals Committee:

Steen Møller (Chairman, Denmark), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Grattan Endicott (England)

Mixed Teams Round 7

Board 6. Dealer East. East/West Vulnerable.



West	North	East	South
<i>Van der Neut</i>	<i>Leenhardt</i>	<i>Bello</i>	<i>Leenhardt</i>
		4♣	Pass
4♦	Pass	4♥	Pass
5♣	Dble	Pass	Pass
5♦	Dble	6♣	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

Contract: Six Clubs Doubled, played by East

Lead: Hearts

Result: 12 tricks, NS -1540

The Facts:

East made a bidding mistake. 4♣ showed a good pre-empt in Hearts. She realized this before the tray had come back with the response and told North about the mistake. Both players then explained all bids according to the system in actual use. 4♦ showed a Heart fit with slam potential, 4♥ was a negative reply, 5♣ and 5♦ were cue-bids. All these explanations were written on both sides of the screen. After the contract had been made, North/South called the Director, primarily to complain about West's strange bidding.

The Director:

Saw nothing wrong with the bidding sequence and found that North/South had received a correct explanation of the systemic meaning of the bidding.

Ruling:

Result Stands

Relevant Laws:

Law 40A

North/South appealed.**Present:** North and South

West had asked the Appeal Committee to be excused. He had told all relevant information to the Director.

The Players:

North confirmed that East had provided him with the correct explanation of the bidding. North had questions however with West's choice of bids. He had given two cue-bids in diamonds, and one in clubs, but had never mentioned his Ace of Spades.

The Committee:

Agreed with the Director that there were no infractions and that North/South had no reason to complain about anything but extremely bad luck.

North/South ought not to have appealed the decision but in the absence of West, the Committee felt that it was fair to return the deposit since it had not been possible to conduct a full investigation into the reasons for West's choice of bids.

It should be stressed however that regardless of the reasons West had for bidding 5♣ rather than 4♠, no redress is possible for North/South, since there is no indication of any unauthorized information.

The Committee's decision:

Director's ruling upheld.

Deposit: Returned

Appeal No. 19
Italy v Italy

Appeals Committee:

Steen Møller (Chairman, Denmark), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Grattan Endicott (England), Jean-Paul Meyer (France)

Mixed Teams Round 11

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vulnerable.

	♠ Q J 6 ♥ K 4 3 ♦ 10 8 6 ♣ Q 9 6 4		
♠ K 9 ♥ 8 7 ♦ K J 7 5 ♣ A 10 8 7 2		♠ 7 2 ♥ A 5 ♦ A Q 9 4 3 ♣ K J 5 3	
	♠ A 10 8 5 4 3 ♥ Q J 10 9 6 2 ♦ 2 ♣ -		
West	North	East	South
<i>Caiti</i>	<i>Versace</i>	<i>Pierce</i>	<i>Cuzzi</i>
1♣	Pass	1♦	2NT
3♦	3♥	4♥	5♥
Pass	Pass	Dble	Pass
6♦	Pass	Pass	6♥
Dble	All Pass		

Comments: 2NT showed the Majors

Contract: Six Hearts doubled, played by North

Result: 10 tricks, NS -500

The Facts:

The tray had taken a long time before coming back with the Double over 5♥. South called the Director when West bid 6♦, and West agreed that he had noticed the hesitation. North/South called the Director again after the board.

The Director:

Consulted with experts, who found no bridge reason for the bid of 6♦.

Ruling:

Score adjusted to 5♥X-I, NS -200

Relevant Laws:

Law 16A, 12C2

East/West appealed.

Present: All players

The Players:

West explained that in his opinion the bid of 4♥ does not show extra strength but might have been made on a short Heart suit and long Diamonds. Also 3♦ was not strong, and the pass over 5♥ was not forcing, so the Double told him for the first time that his side had the values for slam.

East stated that she had been thinking about the forcing nature of the pass over 5♥. She even told North that that was what she was thinking of, and she claimed to have made the decision to double within 3 seconds of arriving at the conclusion that the pass should have been forcing. In her opinion, 4♥ had shown the Ace of Hearts.

North/South had nothing to add except to say that if the pass over 5♥ is forcing, it should indicate a Spade control and East should have bid 6♦ herself.

The Committee:

Found that the Director had ruled correctly. Furthermore, it did not seem as if East/West had presented any new case to the Committee. The Table Director was Italian, so East/West must certainly have been able to put their case across. It was felt the appeal lacked all merit.

The Committee's decision:

Director's ruling upheld.

Deposit: Forfeited

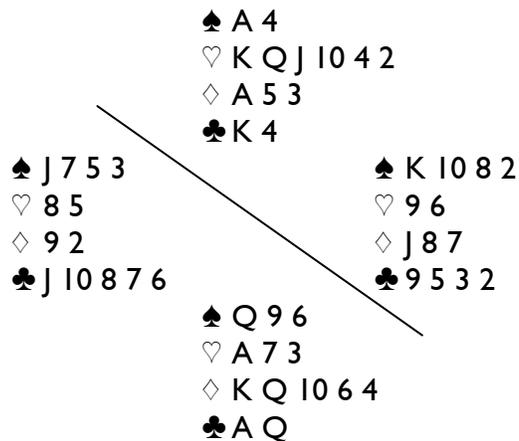
Appeal No. 20
Italy v Belgium

Appeals Committee:

Steen Møller (Chairman, Denmark), Grattan Endicott (Scribe, England), Jean-Paul Meyer (France)

Mixed Teams Round 12

Board 30. Dealer East. None Vulnerable.



West	North	East	South
<i>Jeunen</i>	<i>Fornaciari</i>	<i>Driessens</i>	<i>Gigliotti</i>
		Pass	1♦
Pass	1♥	Pass	1NT ⁽¹⁾
Pass	2♦ ⁽²⁾	Pass	2♥ ⁽³⁾
Pass	4NT ⁽⁴⁾	Pass	5♥ ⁽⁵⁾
Pass	5NT ⁽⁶⁾	Pass	6♦ ⁽⁷⁾
Pass	...6♥	Pass	7♥
All Pass			

Comments:

- (1) 15/17
- (2) 5 cards ♥
- (3) Fit
- (4) RKCB
- (5) 2 key-cards
- (6) Kings?
- (7) I

Contract: Seven Hearts, played by North

Result: 13 tricks, NS +1510

The Facts:

The tray took some time in coming back after the bid of 6♥.

The Director:

Considered Pass a logical alternative to 7♥.

Ruling:

Score adjusted to 6♥+1 by North, NS +1010

Relevant Laws:

Law 16A. Law 12C3

North/South appealed.

Present: All players

The Players:

Agreed that the tray had returned slowly. North said he had bid 6♥ promptly and East then asked a number of questions which had delayed the return of the tray. East said North had not bid promptly and that she had asked only two questions. When South bid 5♥ it denied the ♥Q; at the time she forgot this. North's 5NT cannot be bid unless holding the ♥Q, so that the hand is an open book for South after 5NT and she can bid a direct 7♥ but had failed to do so.

The Committee:

Judged that the bid of 7♥ was slightly assisted by the delay in passing the tray. The Committee agreed that it is a close decision whether, with the tray passing smoothly in tempo, South would wake up to the knowledge she actually had. The Committee agreed that Pass is a logical alternative to 6♥, so that South's 7♥ must be cancelled. In adjudicating what adjusted score should be entered the Committee had recourse to Law 12C3, under which it has plenary powers to restore equity as it thinks fit, and estimated that reasonable equity would expect South to recognize the position (and so bid 7♥) one third of the time when not having unauthorized information.

The Committee's decision:

Score adjusted to

33% of 7♥= by North, NS +1510

plus 67% of 6♥+1 by North, NS +1010

Deposit : Returned.

Appeal No. 21
Iceland v France

Appeals Committee:

Steen Møller (Chairman, Denmark), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Grattan Endicott (England)

Mixed Teams Round 13

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vulnerable.

	♠ -		
	♥ A K 9 8 6 3		
	♦ Q 3 2		
	♣ 9 5 3 2		
♠ A Q J 10 6 4 3		♠ K 9	
♥ Q 5		♥ 10 7	
♦ A K		♦ J 10 9 8 7 4	
♣ Q 4		♣ J 8 7	
	♠ 8 7 5 2		
	♥ J 4 2		
	♦ 6 5		
	♣ A K 10 6		
West	North	East	South
<i>Azoulay</i>	<i>Thordarson</i>	<i>Grand</i>	<i>Skuladottir</i>
		Pass	Pass
2♣	2♥	Pass	3♥
3♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

Contract: Four Spades, played by West

Result: 9 tricks, NS +100

The Facts:

After the bid of 4♠, South passed and West passed. South then took the bidding cards off the tray, and so did West. The Director was called, who asked if North wanted to bid. He didn't, and the contract was played. East/West then called the Director again after the end of the hand, claiming that North had used the information that South wanted to defend in his decision not to bid over 4♠.

The Director:

Found that, even if there was unauthorized information, it did not really suggest anything, and anyway, North did not have a Logical alternative to passing.

Ruling:

Result Stands

Relevant Laws:

Law 16A

East/West appealed.

Present: All players and the Captain of the French team

The Players:

Repeated the facts.

The Committee:

Saw no reason to change the Director's ruling and did not understand why East/West had appealed.

The Committee's decision:

Director's ruling upheld.

Deposit: Forfeited

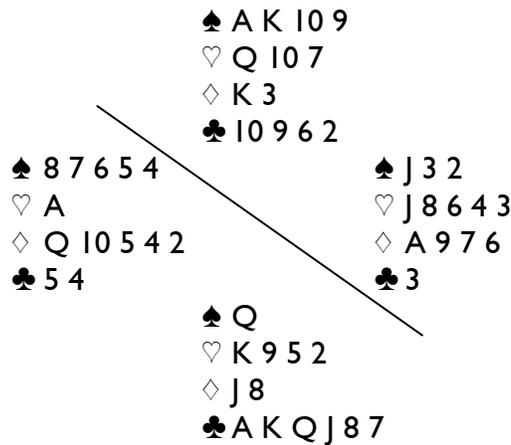
Appeal No. 22
Iceland v Italy

Appeals Committee:

Steen Møller (Chairman, Denmark), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Grattan Endicott (England), Jean-Paul Meyer (France)

Mixed Teams Round 13

Board 5. Dealer North. North/South Vulnerable.



West	North	East	South
<i>De Falco</i>	<i>Jonsson</i>	<i>Olivieri</i>	<i>Ivarsdottir</i>
	1♣	Pass	2♣
2♦	Pass	4♦	4♥
Pass	4♠	Pass	5♣
All Pass			

Comments: 2♣ was inverted minor.

Contract: Five Clubs, played by North

Lead: Ace of Diamonds

Result: 11 tricks, NS +600

The Facts:

South intended her bid of 4♥ to be natural, and did not alert it. North considered it was a cue-bid. After the hand, East/West called the Director. If West had known 4♥ had been a cue-bid, he could have doubled that for the lead, and North would not have made the contract.

The Director:

Found that there had been misinformation and that East/West had been damaged as a result.

Ruling:

Score adjusted to 5♣-1 by North, NS -100

Relevant Laws:

Law 75A, 40C, 12C2

North/South appealed.

Present: All players

The Players:

North explained that he had not been playing very long with this particular partner and they had not yet established whether or not an inverted minor can be done with a four card major. South thought it could, but in North's opinion it was impossible. Since then, they have agreed to play it the way North is used to it.

South explained that even as she was bidding 2♣, she intended to rebid Hearts later. She would have done the same if she had held just Queen-fourth of hearts.

West explained that he would certainly have doubled 4♥ if it had been alerted to him. After all, he had overcalled on a quite weak suit so he would certainly ask a different lead if possible.

The Committee:

Agreed with the Director. In the absence of evidence, the benefit of the doubt should go to the non-offenders.

The Committee's decision:

Director's ruling upheld.

Deposit: Returned

The Director:

Ruled that North and South had both received a correct explanation about the systemic meaning of East/West's bidding.

Ruling:

Result Stands

Relevant Laws:

Law 40A, 40B

North/South appealed.

Present: All players and the Captain of the Dutch team

The Players:

Confirmed the facts of the case. West told the Committee he did not doubt that South had alerted both bids, but said he had not realized it.

North/South, through their captain, raised some issues. North/South always alert correctly, and the opponent had had a look at the convention card before the start. If the double has a different meaning, West should have taken a bit more care in asking about the meaning of 1♦. But perhaps West's first explanation had been right all along.

West repeated that it is normal in France to play that a double of a conventional bid shows that suit. They could not prove this by their Convention Card in this particular case, but offered the defence against a 2♦ Multi as a piece of evidence. There too, a Double shows either diamonds or a very strong hand.

North explained his bidding. His first pass shows "something in diamonds", but could still be made on the 10-12 version of his 1♣ opener. 3♥ confirmed the stronger version, and was made because opponents had told him they had a diamond fit. If partner is short in diamonds, North/South must have a fit in either major.

South explained that she thought 4♣ might be a better spot. North thought it had been a cue-bid.

The Committee:

Agreed with the Director that there is no reason for redress if the Double indeed showed diamonds. North and South are the in the possession of all the information to which they are entitled and they are just unlucky in assuming that opponents have a fit.

The Committee remarked that it is not enough to consider that both partners gave the same explanation in order to conclude that this must per force be a correct one. After all, West could easily deduce from his partner's bidding that she had taken the Double to show diamonds, and his telling so is no longer an independent confirmation.

However, the Committee chose to conclude from the evidence presented that East/West really had the partnership understanding that the Double showed diamonds.

The Committee's decision:

Director's ruling upheld.

Deposit: Returned

Part two: Salsomaggiore

All these appeals deal with Team's matches.

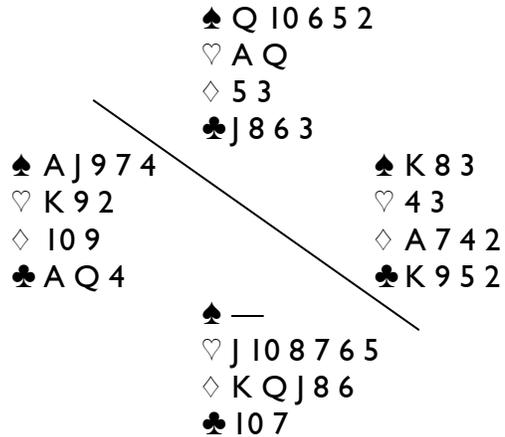
Appeal No. 1
Croatia v Ireland

Appeals Committee:

Bill Pencharz (Chairman, England), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Grattan Endicott (England), Maria Erhart (Austria), Anton Maas (the Netherlands)

Open Teams Round I

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.



West	North	East	South
<i>FitzGibbon</i>	<i>Raše</i>	<i>Mesbur</i>	<i>Marinković</i>
	Pass	Pass	2♥ ⁽¹⁾
2♠	Pass	3♥ ⁽²⁾	Pass ⁽³⁾
3NT	Pass	4♠	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

Comments:

- ⁽¹⁾ 5-5 ♥ and another
- ⁽²⁾ forcing - asking about strength of the overcall
- ⁽³⁾ asks for ♥ lead

Contract: Four Spades doubled, played by West

Lead: Five of Diamonds

Play: Heart to King and Ace

Result: 8 tricks, NS +300

The Facts:

After West had bid 3NT, South started to push the bidding tray through the screen so that (at least) East saw West's call of 3NT. Then South tried to recover the bidding tray and asked that he be allowed to change his last call (Pass). Although South spoke quietly the players on the other side of the screen knew what was going on and it was East who said that South could not change his call. The Director was not called. East/West did call the Director at the end of the hand however, complaining that North had used the unauthorised information contained in South's intention to change his call. If North leads the Ace of Hearts, the contract is easily made (and was made at several other tables).

The Director:

Established that North was indeed in possession of unauthorised information, which had suggested another lead than the ♥A. Considered that the lead of the ♥A was a logical alternative, and awarded an assigned adjusted score based on that lead.

Ruling:

Score adjusted to

Both sides receive:

4♠X= by West (NS -590)

Relevant Laws:

Law 16A, 12C2

East/West appealed.

Present: All players and both Captains

The Players:

South told the Committee that he had tried to ask to change his call in a low voice, and that he had not yet fully passed the tray to the other side.

East, who was on the other side of the screen, said that not only had he heard the question, he had in the meantime already seen the 3NT bid by his partner. It was he who had told South that the call could no longer be changed.

North said that he had not heard the question, but he had heard that East had replied in the negative.

East/West pointed to the Convention Card of North/South, which contained that "when opponents bid our suit, a pass indicates that we would like that lead, and double asks for another lead".

Asked why he did not lead the Ace of Hearts, as apparently his partner had asked, North stated that Pass indicated a suggestion, while a double would be a command. Since West had bid 3NT, the Heart lead away from AQ could not be correct.

South further added that without the ♦K, he would have a clear pass.

The Committee:

Considered that this was a clear case of unauthorised information. North knew that South wished to change his call and that accordingly he did not have the strong heart suit shown by his Pass. When in the possession of unauthorised information, a player cannot choose from among logical alternatives the one which is suggested by the information.

The Committee found that on the auction the indicated lead was the ♡A. The unauthorised information suggested the diamond lead.

The Committee decided that leading the ♡A was a logical alternative.

Under Law 16A, that meant that the diamond lead was prohibited.

The Committee's decision:

Director's ruling upheld.

Deposit: Returned

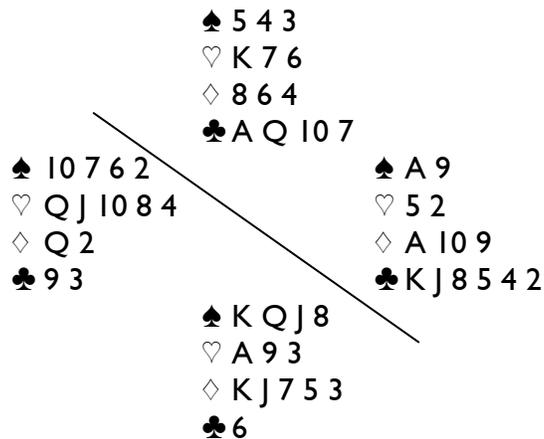
Appeal No. 2
Turkey v Israel

Appeals Committee:

Bill Pencharz (Chairman, England), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium),
 Grattan Endicott (England), Maria Erhart (Austria), Guido Ferraro (Italy), Anton Maas (the
 Netherlands), Jean-Paul Meyer (France), Steen Møller (Denmark)

Open Teams Round 4

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.



West	North	East	South
<i>Barel</i>	<i>Arigün</i>	<i>Aviram</i>	<i>Cengiz</i>
		1♣	Dble
1♥	1NT	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Contract: Three No trumps, played by North

Lead: Five of Clubs

Play: tricks won by the ♣10, ♦Q, ♥K, ♦K, ♦A, ♥A, ♦7, ♦5 and ♠A (6 to NS, 3 to EW), at which point the remaining cards are: (East on play)

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

The Facts:

East played the nine of spades, taken on the table by the Queen. West said "2 and 2" and showed his cards. North played on however, and played the Jack of Spades next. This led to East/West indeed scoring the 2 tricks that West had claimed. Dummy then called the Director and suggested playing a heart at trick 11 to endplay West and score 9 tricks. South told the Director that his partner may have been unaware of the claim but North admitted that he had been aware of it.

The Director:

Ruled that there had been a claim, and declared all subsequent play void, as per Law 68D. In consultation with the Chief Tournament Director it was decided that equity was best served by awarding a split score.

Ruling:

North/South receive:

3NT-1 by North (NS -100)

East/West receive:

3NT= by North (NS +600)

Relevant Laws:

Law 68A, 68D, 70A

The Chief Tournament Director also cited Law 12C3 and the Code of Practice enabling the Tournament Director to award Adjusted Scores under Law 12C3.

North/South appealed.

Present: All players and the Captain of North/South

The Players:

West stated he had said "2 and 2". East confirmed that he had heard this. South said the claim was not clear but he had understood it, because he had seen the actions of his screen-mate. North stated he had heard something like "I trick".

All players confirmed that West had shown his cards, although no one was certain how far. East told the Committee that he had not seen his partner's cards, but that they may well have been visible.

West stated it was fair to say that he had claimed.

When asked why he played on, North stated that he had not clearly understood there had been a claim, and that play had been very slow up until then.

The Committee:

Realised that this was a legal problem and asked the Chief Tournament Director to attend the meeting.

The Committee agreed that there had in fact been a claim. The Committee believed that West should not benefit from his faulty claim.

The Committee agreed with the Director's conclusion that North had shown that he was not aware of the endplay.

The Committee asked the Chief Tournament Director to explain why he thought the ruling he gave was possible. He replied that, although the play of the ♠J was voided, this had shown to him, beyond any doubt, that North was unaware of the situation.

The Chief Tournament Director cited Law 12C3 and recounted that he had taken notice of a decision of the EBL Appeals Committee of Tenerife in 2001, which stated that Law 12C3 was not applicable. Otherwise, he would have awarded a weighted score.

The Committee considered that:

- Law 12C3 speaks of varying an assigned adjusted score;
- the Law defines an assigned adjusted score as one awarded in place of one actually obtained after an irregularity;
- a claim cannot be considered an irregularity (playing on after the claim is an irregularity, but that has no relevance to this situation).

The Committee reaffirmed the decision of 2001 that Law 12C3 does not apply after a claim.

The Committee then turned its attention to Law 70A:

In ruling on a contested claim, the Director adjudicates the result of the board as equitably as possible to both sides, but any doubtful points shall be resolved against the claimer.

The Committee considered that this sentence did not explicitly exclude a split decision.

The Committee then confirmed the following reasoning:

With regards to West, there is doubt as to what line declarer might take, and so to East/West the equitable result is 9 tricks to North/South.

With regards to North, there is no doubt as to which line he would take (considering among other things that he actually took it), and so there are no doubtful points to be ruled on, and so the equitable result for North/South is 8 tricks.

The Committee's decision:

Director's ruling upheld.

Deposit: Returned

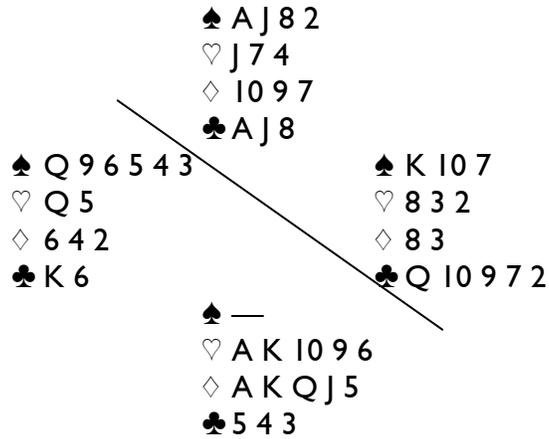
Appeal No. 3
Denmark v Israel

Appeals Committee:

Bill Pencharz (Chairman, England), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Maria Erhart (Austria), Guido Ferraro (Italy)

Open Teams Round 10

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.



West	North	East	South
<i>Kalish</i>	<i>Schäffer</i>	<i>Podgur</i>	<i>Auken</i>
Pass	2♥	Pass	1♥
Pass	4♣	Pass	3♠
All Pass			6♥

Comments:

2♥: 8-11

Contract: Six Hearts, played by South

Lead: Three of Spades

Play: South played Ace and King of Hearts

Result: 12 tricks, NS +980

The Facts:

South intended his 3♠ bid to show shortness and explained it like that. North explained it as "strong, 6♥ and 5♠".

East called the Director at the end of the play, stating that he would have doubled 4♣ if he had not been told that South had long spades. If West leads clubs, South is forced to finesse in Hearts and the contract will fail.

North/South provided their system notes, which state that 1M-2M-4m shows a strong two-suiter, and told they expected this sequence to follow the same philosophy.

The Director:

Ruled that the explanation given by North had been the correct one and allowed the result to stand.

Ruling:

Result Stands

Relevant Laws:

Law 40A

East/West appealed.

Present: All players, both Captains and an Israeli interpreter.

The Players:

North/South showed their system notes. They include a line "1M-2M-4m stærk 5-5 (mindst)" (strong 5-5 at least). South told the Committee he had misbid, and should have bid 4♦.

When asked why he did not correct 6♥ to 6♠, North told the Committee that he never even contemplated it. They have many gadgets, so when partner jumps to 6♥, that is his responsibility.

East explained why he did not double 4♣. He did not see the point of this, since South had shown short clubs. If he had been told that 3♠ showed shortness there, he would have doubled because now a minor lead is advisable and diamonds cannot be right.

The Committee:

Was not certain that the same principle applied to 3♠ as to 4m. There are many reasons why 3♠ could be needed to show shortness, and North/South had obviously not discussed it or they would have added it to the system notes.

The Committee did not feel however that doubling 4♣ is obvious. The Committee thought it would be done half of the time but gave some benefit of the doubt to the non-offending side.

The Committee's decision:

Score adjusted to

Both sides receive:

40% of 6♥ = by North (NS +980)
plus 60% of 6♥-1 by North (NS -50)

Deposit: Returned

Note:

As the result on the other table was +450, this translated into 40% of +11 IMPs + 60% of -11 IMPs = -2.2, rounded to -2 IMPs to the team of North/South.

The final result of the match was 45-28 to NS (+17=19/11).

Without the rounding the result should be 44.8-28 to NS (+16.8=18.5/11.5 ???)

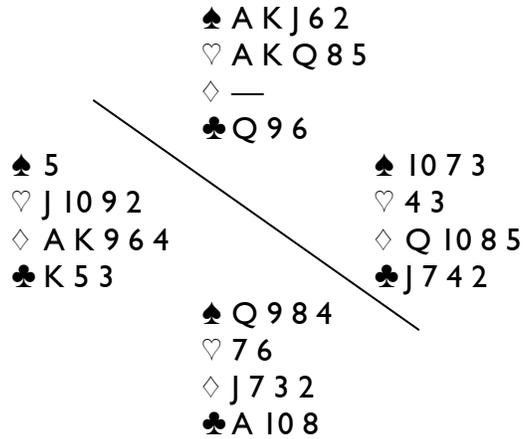
Appeal No. 4
Switzerland v Greece

Appeals Committee:

Steen Møller (Chairman, Denmark), Grattan Endicott (England), Anton Maas (the Netherlands)

Open Teams Round II

Board II. Dealer South. None Vul.



West	North	East	South
<i>Sapounakis</i>	<i>Abouchanab</i>	<i>Hatzidakis</i>	<i>Sasselli</i>
			Pass
1♦	2♦ ⁽¹⁾	Pass	3♠ ⁽²⁾
Pass	4♦ ⁽³⁾	Dble	Pass ⁽⁴⁾
Pass	Redble ⁽⁵⁾	Pass	4♠
Pass	5♥	Pass	6♠
All Pass			

Comments:

- (1) Majors weak or strong
- (2) Game invite if strong
- (3) Cue
- (4) No control ♦ - not alerted (any side)
- (5) 1st round control

Contract: Six Spades, played by South

Result: 12 tricks, NS +980

The Facts:

West called the Director after the play saying that South had hesitated before bidding 4♠. South agreed the hesitation.

On the other side of the screen it was agreed that the tray had been slow in returning. North suggested this could have been because West was considering 5♦.

The Director:

Ruled that Pass was not a logical alternative for North.

Ruling:

Result Stands

Relevant Laws:

Law 16A

East/West appealed.

Present: All players and both Captains

The Players:

There was discussion as to when the Director had been called. Finally it seemed clear this was after the 6♠ bid. It was West who had called the Director. There was also discussion about the length of the hesitation by South over his 4♠ bid; this was estimated variously between 10 seconds and one minute, depending upon which player was asked. The Director's view was that it was somewhere in between the two extremes, but sufficiently long to be capable of conveying unauthorized information. West did not deny that some of the delay may have been caused by a question asked about the redouble.

East/West questioned whether it could certainly be known what was the meaning of South's pass of 4♦x, they felt it was not clear this denied values in diamonds. North suggested that the delay in returning the tray had not been very noticeable on the North/East side of the screen, and repeated also that South's pass showed he held nothing of value in the suit.

The Committee:

Drew attention to the fact that, with screens, it should not be a player on the side of the screen where a hesitation occurs who calls attention to it. What is important is whether a significant delay in returning the tray is noticed by the players on the other side of the screen. Further, the player who may have unauthorized information in this case is North and it is his bid of 5♥ that may be in question; so the desirable time to call the Director is when the 5♥ bid is made and it should be East, not West, who calls the Director.

The Committee considered that if South has Diamond values, wasted opposite the cue, he will bid 4♠ rather than pass over 4♦x. The implication of this is that any additional values beyond the ♠Q are in Clubs. In the North/South system North has not denied a second round Club control if he has a first round control in Diamonds, and if South is still slam interested he will pass the double allowing North to show if he has first round control or only second round control (and therefore no Club control). It follows that North, because of the invitational jump to 3♠ and the pass over the double, has a clear case not to pass 4♠ and his 5♥ bid is entirely justified.

The Committee's decision:

Director's ruling upheld.

Deposit: Returned

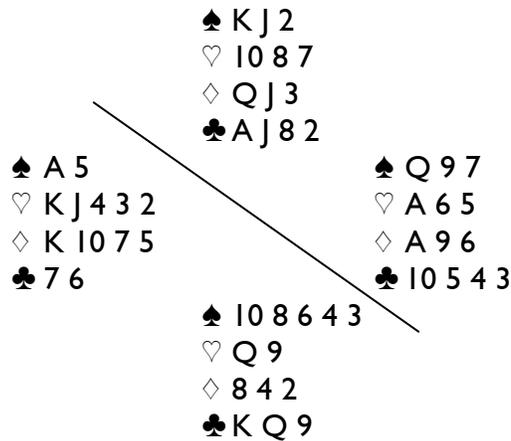
Appeal No. 5
England v San Marino

Appeals Committee:

Steen Møller (Chairman, Denmark), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Maria Erhart (Austria), Anton Maas (the Netherlands)

Open Teams Round 11

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.



West	North	East	South
<i>Gazzardi</i>	<i>P.Hackett</i>	<i>Simoncini</i>	<i>Waterlow</i>
		Pass	Pass
1♥	Pass	2NT ⁽¹⁾	Pass
3♦	Pass	4♥	All Pass

Comments:

⁽¹⁾ 9+ HCP, 3+♥

Contract: Four Hearts, played by West

Lead: Seven of Hearts

Play: Three rounds of hearts (♠8 from South) and a small spade to North's King. North returned a Spade.

Result: 10 tricks, NS -620

The Facts:

East had explained West's 3♦ as "looking for support", whereas West had explained it as natural, 4 cards or more.

At the end of the play, North called the Director. He had had a problem in deciding whether West had 3/3 in the minors or 4/2. If he had known that West had promised 4 diamonds, he would have returned a club in trick 5, and defeated the contract.

The Director:

Asked about the meaning of 3♦. West was adamant it showed 4 cards, or even more.

The Director ruled that there had been misinformation, and that North had been damaged as a result.

Ruling:

Score adjusted to

Both sides receive:

4♥-1 by West (NS +100)

Relevant Laws:

Law 75A, 40C

East/West appealed.

Present: All players, both Captains and an Italian interpreter

The Players:

North explained his reasoning. South had first discouraged the spades (♠8), and then shown an odd number (♠3), but South had not been able to show distribution of the minors. He might have signalled for clubs in the trump suit (♥9Q in stead of Q9) but North realized that he could not rely on this.

If West has 3 diamonds and the ♣K, cashing the ♣A at this point might give the contract away. But when West has 4 diamonds, cashing the ♣A is correct, even if West has the ♣K, as he can throw a club on the ♠Q.

North and East confirmed the explanation that was given on their side of the screen.

South told the Committee that West had written 4+ on a piece of paper, but this piece of paper was nowhere to be found. West said he could not remember whether he had written or not, but repeated that he had explained "4, 5 or 6 diamonds". As to why he had not said that it might be 3, West stated that this question had not been asked.

The Director confirmed that West had told him 3 times that 3♦ promised 4 cards.

The Committee:

Confirmed that if there had been misinformation, North was indeed damaged. If North knows that West has 4 diamonds, switching to clubs is the correct action, and one down would be the outcome of the board after adjudication, considering the benefit of the doubt to the non-offending side.

The Committee had trouble believing that 3♦ showed 4 diamonds. West was limited to 14 points, East to 11. East/West play a strong club system in which 2♥ shows 5 hearts, 4 of a minor, 15-17. But when asked what he would open with 5332 and 15 HCP, West replied "1♥, maybe 2♥".

On the other hand, West had stated no less than 6 times (once at the table, three times to the Director and twice before the Appeal Committee) that 3♦ showed 4 of them.

The Committee could not conclude with confidence what the real agreement between East and West actually was and decided that the most equitable solution would be to weight the outcome equally between the rulings based on either system.

The Committee's decision:

Score adjusted to

Both sides receive:

50% of 4♥-1 by West (NS +100)

plus 50% of 4♥= by West (NS -620)

Deposit: Returned

Note: The result at the other table was -170, so the result was 50% of +7 and 50% of -10 or -1.5, rounded (in favour of the non-offending side) to -1 IMP to the team of North/South.

Appeal No. 6
Netherlands v France

Appeals Committee:

Bill Pencharz (Chairman, England), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Maria Erhart (Austria), Guido Ferraro (Italy)

Open Teams Round 13

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Toffier</i>	<i>Van Eijck</i>	<i>Duguet</i>	<i>Westra</i>
	1♦	Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♣
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Comments:

2♣ is fourth suit forcing, but not forcing to game

Contract: Three No trumps, played by North

Lead: Jack of Clubs

Play:

West took the ace and returned a heart.

Result: 9 tricks, NS +400

The Facts:

West asked some questions after the club lead:

(W) 18-19?

(S) no! less! 15-17

(W) why not INT opening ?

(S) 5-4-2-2 or 5-4-3-1 15-17

West explained that he had taken the Ace and would have continued clubs is an honour had dropped (expecting the distribution to be 5422), but when the 8 fell, he expected North to be 5431 so he played back hearts to make three tricks there.

The Director:

Ruled that apparently 14HCP and a 4432 distribution was also possible within the system of North/South and concluded that West had been misinformed. The Director checked the other tables and noticed that 3NT was made about half the time.

Ruling:

Score adjusted to

Both sides receive:

40% of 3NT= by North (NS +400)

plus 60% of 3NT-1 by North (NS -50)

Relevant Laws:

Law 75A, 40C

Law 12C3, Code of Practice enabling Tournament Director to award Adjusted Scores under Law 12C3.

North/South appealed.

Present: All players except North and both Captains

The Players:

South told the Committee that he did not consider having given misinformation. He would not have bid 3NT on the North hand. North, who was not present at the hearing, had told South that he did not want South to pass 2NT, and wanted to play the game. The Director confirmed that North had said the same thing at the table.

East told the Committee that the lead of the ♣J could have been made on KJ10, but that it did not promise a higher honour.

The Committee:

Agreed with the Director that the possibility of a normal distribution and I4HCP must be considered part of North/South's system and that East had been misinformed.

The contract is made once East takes the ♣A, and this decision was the direct consequence of the information received.

The Committee felt the Director had made a correct decision and saw no reason to alter the weights he chose to give.

The Committee's decision:

Director's ruling upheld.

Deposit: Returned

Appeal No. 7
Croatia v Cyprus

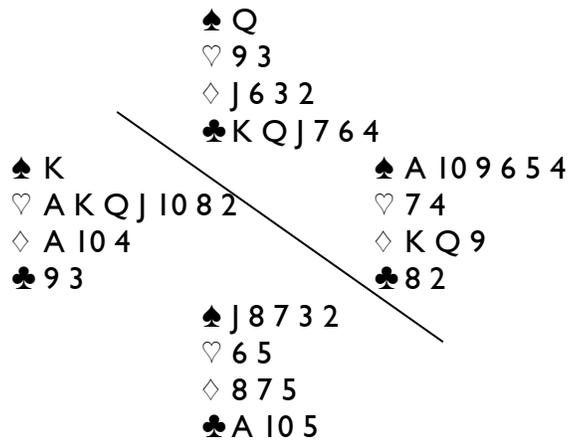
Appeals Committee:

Steen Møller (Chairman, Denmark), Grattan Endicott (England)*, Anton Maas (the Netherlands)

(* acted as scribe)

Open Teams Round 14

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.



West	North	East	South
<i>Christophides</i>	<i>Borevković</i>	<i>Politis</i>	<i>Tesla</i>
2♣	3♣	3♠	Pass
6♥	All Pass		Pass

Contract: Six Hearts, played by West

Lead: Queen of Spades

Result: 12 tricks, NS -1430

The Facts:

2} asked for aces, and according to the Convention Card, 3[showed two black aces. East had forgotten this and had told North he had shown just spades. North called the Director after the play, saying that he would have led the King of clubs if he had received the correct explanation.

The Director:

Considered that North had not been damaged by the misinformation and allowed the result to stand.

Ruling:

Result Stands

Relevant Laws:

Law 75A, 40C

North/South appealed.

Present: All players, both Captains, and Counsel to the Cyprus team.

The Players:

There had been difficulty in understanding what East said when explaining the 3[bid: he appeared to say 'spades' and the North player understood by this a spade suit. His actual intention was to say it showed the [A, although neither meaning was in fact a correct statement of his system. North stated that if he had known the bid showed two black aces he would not have led the Q.

The Committee:

Noted that whichever of the two meanings attributed to East's explanation North had understood, owing to the communication difficulty, he had nevertheless received an incorrect explanation of the bid. Because of this the Director's decision allowing the score to stand was not fully understood. The Committee did not consider the lead of [Q to be "irrational, wild or gambling" and did not see any reason to refuse North the benefit of the margin of any doubt.

The Committee's decision:

Score adjusted to

Both sides receive:

6]-1 by West (NS +100)

Deposit: Returned

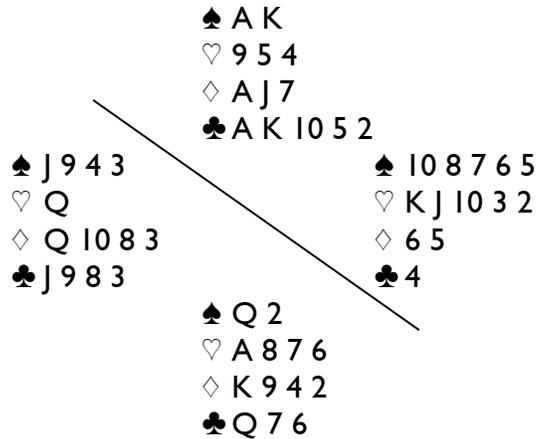
Appeal No. 8
Spain v Portugal

Appeals Committee:

Jean-Paul Meyer (Chairman, France), Grattan Endicott (England),
 Anton Maas (the Netherlands)

Open Teams Round 15

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.



West	North	East	South
<i>Lopes</i>	<i>Frances</i>	<i>Sa</i>	<i>Torres</i>
	1♣ ⁽¹⁾	INT ⁽²⁾	Dble ⁽³⁾
2♠ ⁽⁴⁾	Dble ⁽⁵⁾	Pass ⁽⁶⁾	3♦
Pass	3NT	Pass	4NT ⁽⁷⁾
Pass	5♣	Pass	6♥
Pass	6♠	Pass	6NT
Pass	7NT	All Pass	

Comments:

- (1) Strong
- (2) Majors or Minors
- (3) positive, tends to be balanced
- (4) Pass or Correct, but see below
- (5) and (6) not alerted
- (7) general slam try

Contract: Seven No trumps, played by North

Result: 11 tricks, NS -100

The Facts:

Concerning the bid of 2♠, West made a gesture to South which could be misunderstood. South claims that West also said "spades", and the Spanish scorer confirms this, but West denies it. North's double indicates 19+ HCP.

The Director:

Considered that any confusion resulting from the explanation of the 2♠ bid did not affect the choice of the level of contract.

Ruling:

Result Stands

Relevant Laws:

Law 40C

North/South appealed.

Present: All players and both Captains

The Players:

South complained that the difficulty in understanding the explanation of West's bid had deprived him of the opportunity of making his correct bid. He thought it possible that West's bid showed only spades and was not 'Pass or correct'. Had he understood that it selected spades if East had majors but wished East to remove the bid if he had minors, he would have been able to cue bid Hearts showing a flat hand with values. As it was his 3♦ bid suggested to North (who knew his LHO had majors) a diamond suit of at least five cards.

The Committee:

Reminded the players that it is especially important to ask for, and to give, a written explanation when there is a communication difficulty or any uncertainty about the meaning of a call. Written explanations are called for because of language difficulties and at times a language difficulty is unsuspected and does not come to light until later. Considered that if the situation had been clear to South and he had bid 3♥, his judgement of his own hand opposite North's action would not have altered and he would still have raised 3NT to 4NT, following which the same path to 6NT appears inevitable. As for North's lift of 6NT to 7NT, this kind of misjudgement in the bidding has no connection with explanations received and calls for no redress.

The Committee's decision:

Director's ruling upheld.

Deposit: Returned

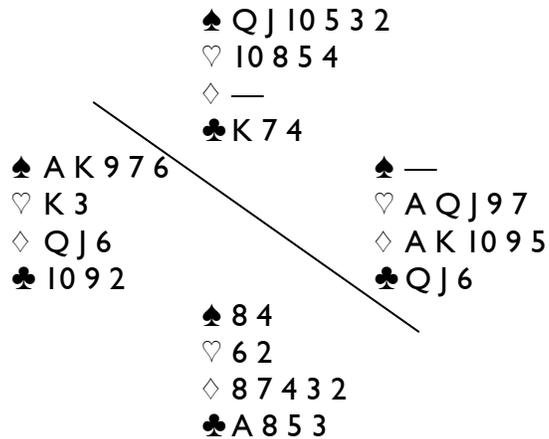
Appeal No. 9
Denmark v Russia

Appeals Committee:

Bill Pencharz (Chairman, England), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Maria Erhart (Austria), Guido Ferraro (Italy)

Open Teams Round 15

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.



West <i>Matushko Bruun</i>	North <i>Bruun</i>	East <i>Khven</i>	South <i>Blakset</i>
1♠	Pass	2♣ ⁽¹⁾	Pass
2NT ⁽²⁾	Pass	3♥ ⁽³⁾	Pass
3♠ ⁽⁴⁾	Pass	4♦ ⁽⁵⁾	Pass
4♥	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♥	All Pass		

Comments:

- (1) relay, invitational or better
- (2) 5332
- (3) usually 6 card ♥
- (4) cue-bid agreeing hearts
- (5) see below

Contract: Five Hearts, played by East

Lead: Five of Clubs

Play: club to the King, ♣4 back, club.

Result: 11 tricks, NS -650

The Facts:

4♦ was explained by West to South as being a cue-bid, but East apparently explained it as being natural. South called the Director after the play, stating he would have returned a diamond at trick three if he had received the same information that North had.

The Director:

Questioned East/West and firmly believed that 4♦ was indeed a cue-bid, and that South had therefore not been misinformed.

Ruling:

Result Stands

Relevant Laws:

Law 75B, 40C

North/South appealed.

Present: All players except North and both Captains

The Players:

East/West explained their system, which confirmed the facts above. East/West had forgotten to bring their convention card or system notes to the Committee however, and the Chairman expressed his concern about this.

North had fallen ill during the last match and did not attend the meeting. South spoke in his place. The Chairman commented on this as well, stating that perhaps North/South should have requested to postpone the hearing rather than go on with it.

South told the Committee that they had had great difficulty in getting the explanations about the system. He had needed to ask several questions before getting the written explanations that indeed confirmed the system as outlined above. But his partner (North) had received only summary, spoken, explanations. North had not known about the 5332 distribution, and apparently East had explained 4♦ with just the one word "natural".

South told the Committee that it does not matter which of the explanations is correct, as long as North and South are told the same thing. If the explanation "natural" is true, then North can rely on South to count the hand and give the ruff. If the correct explanation is "cue-bid", and North is told this, then he can give a clear Lightner double for an even better score.

The Committee wanted to know why North had returned the ♣4, suggesting a doubleton clubs, and not the ♣7. South responded that North had told him he had wanted to give a suit preference signal.

The Committee also wanted to know why North had not doubled 5♥ anyway, but in his absence there was no reason to pursue the matter.

As a matter of principle, the Committee asked which cards East had contributed to the first two club tricks: the Queen and Jack.

North/South had brought this appeal despite having won the match 25-5. The Director had offered to allow North/South to drop the case, but they had refused this. The Committee wanted to know why, and East/West pointed to the qualification at the end of the Championships. Maybe some team would be disadvantaged by their non-pursuit of this appeal.

The Committee:

It was clear that East spoke virtually no English. This made his (unwritten) replies to North's questions difficult to interpret.

The Committee found that North appeared to have made two serious technical errors in not doubling 5♥ and not returning the ♣7.

The Committee felt that North's absence had not helped the presentation of North/South's case.

The Committee found that North/South were duty bound to obtain a Tournament Director's ruling but having done so and having already scored 25VP it was not in the best interest of the Championship to appeal (use of valuable Appeal Committee time and requesting the opposing players to take up valuable leisure time).

The Committee's decision:

Director's ruling upheld.

Deposit: Forfeited

Appeal No. 10
Israel v Romania

Appeals Committee:

Steen Møller (Chairman, Denmark), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Maria Erhart (Austria), Anton Maas (the Netherlands), Jean-Paul Meyer (France)

Open Teams Round I 8

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

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

West <i>Serpoi</i>	North <i>Barel</i>	East <i>Stirbel</i>	South <i>Aviram</i>
1♣ ⁽¹⁾	Pass	1♠ ⁽²⁾	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♦	Pass
3♥	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♣ ⁽³⁾	Pass	4♦ ⁽³⁾	Pass
...4♠	Pass	5♣	Dble
Redble ⁽⁴⁾	Pass	6♠	All Pass

Comments:

- (1) 17+, 18+ if balanced
- (2) 3 controls
- (3) cue, 1st or 2nd control
- (4) 1st control ♣

Contract: Six Spades, played by East

Result: 12 tricks, NS -980

The Facts:

The Director was called by South when the tray came back with 5♣, complaining that West had hesitated before bidding 4♠. North and East had meanwhile already agreed between them that they had noticed the hesitation.

The Director:

Consulted with expert players, many of whom would have passed.

That meant that passing was a logical alternative, and that East was not allowed to bid on.

Ruling:

Score adjusted to

Both sides receive:

4♠+2 by East (NS -480)

Relevant Laws:

Law 16A

Code of Practice advising Directors to consult with players

East/West appealed.

Present: All players and both Captains

The Players:

East explained that their blue club bidding sequence went easily and quickly up till 4♦, but that it was normal for West to have to think then. He did not consider that the hesitation was long enough to draw conclusions from, and East bid 5♣ without having to consider. East knew from the bidding so far that he would not be in danger in 5♠, and he wanted to press on. In their system, bypassing 4♥ did not exclude a control there, but it was hard to imagine how West could get the points needed for his 1♣ opening without some top heart. West was asked why he did not consider what to do before embarking on the cue-bidding sequence. After all, 4♦ was the expected next control and maybe he should have thought about this a bit earlier, rather than think before bypassing the next control. West did not really have an answer to this question.

The Committee:

Had asked the Director whether or not the players they had consulted included blue club bidders. The Director denied this, but of course he had told what the bidding sequence meant. One member of the Committee, well versed in blue club bidding, thought that bidding on was a normal action. Other members did agree however with the consulted players who would have passed.

According to Law 16A, a player is not allowed to take an action that was suggested by some piece of unauthorized information, when there are logical alternatives to that action. A logical alternative is defined as an action that a significant number of players in the same situation would actually take.

Dura Lex sed Lex.

The Committee's decision:

Director's ruling upheld.

Deposit: Returned

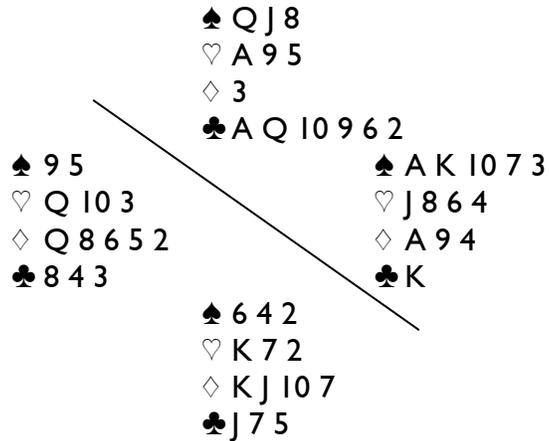
Appeal No. 11
Netherlands v Poland

Appeals Committee:

Bill Pencharz (Chairman, England), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Maria Erhart (Austria), Guido Ferraro (Italy)

Open Teams Round I 8

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.



West	North	East	South
<i>Zmudzinski</i>	<i>Verhees</i>	<i>Balicki</i>	<i>Jansma</i>
Pass	1♣	INT ⁽¹⁾	Pass
2♦ ⁽²⁾	Pass	2♥	Pass
Pass	3♣	Dble	Pass
3♥	All Pass		

Comments:

- ⁽¹⁾ Majors or Minors
- ⁽²⁾ Pass or Correct

Contract: Three Hearts, played by East

Lead: Five of Clubs

Play:

♣A; ♣Q (showing no interest in ♦), ruffed, South not unblocking ♣J; ♥6 to the king; ♣J ruffed; ♠A; ♠K; ♠ ruffed; ♦ to the ace; ♠ ruffed, not overruffed; ♦ ruffed by North; ♣ ruffed.

Result: 8 tricks, NS +100

The Facts:

West explained that 2♥ showed 5 Hearts or more (and at least 4 Spades). East had just stated that it showed Majors. South called the Director at the end of the hand, saying that he would have returned a heart at trick four if he had known East could have only 4 hearts.

The Director:

Found that there had been some defensive errors and ruled that North/South, although misinformed, had not been damaged.

Ruling:

Result Stands

Relevant Laws:

Law 75A, 40C

North/South appealed.

Present: All players except East, both Captains and the co-Captain of the Netherlands

The Players:

West stated that in his opinion, his partner had made the wrong bid. 2♦ asks to pass or to bid the longer Major, and his explanation had been the correct one.

North/South, through their captain, said that a partnership of East/West's standing ought not to get such a simple auction wrong.

South stated that he had not unblocked the ♣J because it was going to get ruffed anyway, but that he would certainly have done so if he had know East could have only four hearts.

South further stated that if he plays hearts at trick four, the contract goes four off.

North explained why he ruffed the diamond return of trick ten. He thought East could still have the ♦K. West responded that a simple point control would have shown this was very unlikely.

The Committee:

Could find no compelling reason for changing the Director's ruling. A more detailed analysis is as follows.

East/West had provided no evidence for the correctness of West's explanation of 2♦ and the Director had been right in ruling misinformation.

South might have unblocked the ♣J with better information but failure to do so was an error (and why didn't North return the 10 rather than the Q?).

However, the correct information is not that East had shown four hearts, but rather four or more. More than half the time this actually means a five card suit. At trick three Declarer attacks trumps himself, and South has to make a choice.

If East does have five hearts, playing trumps at trick four might well give the contract, whereas continuing clubs is the certain way to defeat the contract.

So in the eyes of the Committee (who spent a long time analysing the hand), the final result was unaffected by the misinformation.

The subsequent error by North was also not influenced by the information.

The Committee's decision:

Director's ruling upheld.

Deposit: Returned

Appeal No. 12
Russia v Belgium

Appeals Committee:

Steen Møller (Chairman, Denmark), Grattan Endicott (England), Anton Maas (the Netherlands)

Open Teams Round 20

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

	♠ Q 9 8 5		
	♥ A K 9 7 4		
	♦ A 2		
	♣ Q 9		
♠ A K 10 2		♠ 6	
♥ Q 10 8		♥ 5 3 2	
♦ K 7 6		♦ Q 10 9 5 4	
♣ K J 3		♣ A 10 5 2	
	♠ J 7 4 3		
	♥ J 6		
	♦ J 8 3		
	♣ 8 7 6 4		
West	North	East	South
<i>Labaere</i>	<i>Dubin</i>	<i>Carcassonne</i>	<i>Krasnosselski</i>
INT	2♥	2NT	3♠
Pass	4♠	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

Comments:

2♥ shows Majors

Contract: Four Spades doubled, played by South

Result: 8 tricks, NS -300

The Facts:

2NT was explained by East to North as showing the Minors. West explained it to South as natural, to play. East stated that West's explanation was in fact right.

The Director:

Was satisfied that the explanation by West correctly stated the system agreement.

Ruling:

North has been misinformed and the result should be adjusted.

Both sides receive:

3♠-1 by South (NS -50)

Relevant Laws:

Law 75A, 40C

East/West appealed.

Present: All players and both Captains

The Players:

East/West said they believed North should be aware that his partner had only a very weak hand. East had told him about her actual shape, but had added that she could hold points; North said he had not understood her to say anything about points, and he had thought that her hand might be a minor two-suiter with very little point count, especially if one of the suits was six cards long. East said it is not her method to bid in this situation without some points. Both North and South argued that it is crucial for their method to know here whether East is bidding on point count; it defines for North whether South is trying for game or simply competing (and possibly lead directing for 3NT). Asked how many points he thought his partner could hold, North suggested 7 – 9.

The Committee:

Judged that East had failed to explain her bid sufficiently to North. In particular there was no written statement about the strength of the 2NT bid. The Committee was sceptical of any suggestion that 9 HCP could be envisaged in South's hand, and regarded 7 HCP as about the most reasonably to be expected. Both South and North had stretched their values aggressively, squeezing all the pips from the cards; however, the Committee was not of the opinion that North's 4♠ bid should be termed 'wild', so they supported the Director in his decision.

The Committee's decision:

Director's ruling upheld.

Deposit: Returned

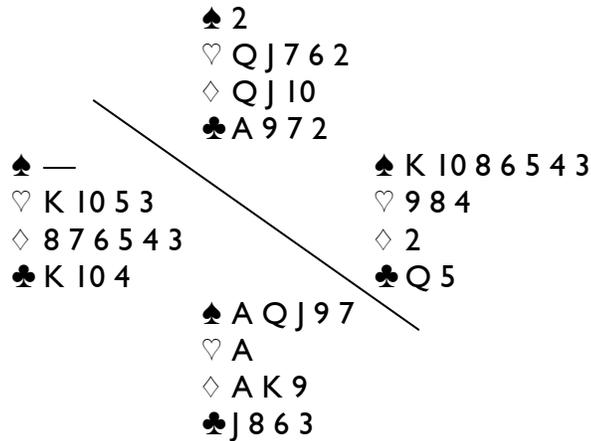
Appeal No. 13
Norway v Belgium

Appeals Committee:

Jean-Paul Meyer (Chairman, France), Grattan Endicott (England), Anton Maas (the Netherlands)

Open Teams Round 23

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.



West	North	East	South
<i>Polet</i>	<i>Sælensminde</i>	<i>Kaplan</i>	<i>Brogeland</i>
Pass	1♥	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♦
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♣
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♣
Pass	4NT	All Pass	

Comments:

2♦ Game Forcing
 4♣ Slam try

Contract: Four No trumps, played by North

Lead: Two of Diamonds

Play:

1: ♦2-9-3-10; 2: ♠2-3-9-♦4; 3: ♣ J-4-2-Q; 4: ♥9-A-3-2; 5: ♣3-10-9-♠4

Result: 9 tricks, NS -100

The Facts:

East revoked at trick 5. After winning the trick West paused for a considerable time. During this time East noticed that he had revoked and North then called the Director.

The Director:

Ruled that the revoke had not been established, and required that it be corrected, ruling that the ♠4 was a major penalty card. Diamonds were led to the sixth trick and the penalty card was discarded. After the play was over, the Director was again called by North to protest that the hesitation may have drawn East's attention to his revoke. The Director considered that the long hesitation had drawn East's attention to the revoke, and ruled according to Law 63B that the revoke be penalized as if it had been established.

Ruling:

A one trick penalty for the revoke meant that the board was scored as 4NT= by North (NS +630)

Relevant Laws:

Law 61B, 63B, 64, 50D, 73A, 73C.
Code of Practice.

East/West appealed.

Present: All players and both Captains

The Players:

West complained that he had not been asked about the duration of his pause. East stated that he also had not been asked about the length of the time taken by his partner. Both players thought that it was no more than the time normally required to think about the hand in the situation. Thus it appeared the committee was faced with the improbable suggestion that an experienced Tournament Director, when called to the table by an opponent who protested the action of West, invited neither that player nor his partner to express a view as to what had happened. The Director informed the Committee that he had asked both players about the pause and the West player in particular had agreed that a pause of some duration had occurred – without offering an estimation of the exact amount of time. He had heard also the opinions of North and South and the (Norwegian) scorer. He then stood over the screen and informed all the players that it appeared the pause had lasted around sixty seconds. No player had contested this view.

The Committee:

Noted that, given North's play of the ♣9, it would be evident to West after only a few seconds that something was wrong – and that his partner must have revoked. The Committee referred to the Code of Practice in operation at these Championships; this states that an Appeals Committee will presume that the Director's ruling is correct in the absence of evidence to the contrary. Since the Committee remained entirely unconvinced by what East and West had said in evidence, the Director's ruling accordingly remained unaffected.

The Committee's decision:

Director's ruling upheld.

Deposit: Returned

Appeal No. 14
Yugoslavia v Greece

Appeals Committee:

Steen Møller (Chairman, Denmark), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Jan van Cleeff (the Netherlands), Klaus Reps (Germany)

Open Teams Round 23

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Sapounakis</i>	<i>Vučić</i>	<i>Hatzidakis</i>	<i>Nikolić</i>
			1♣
4♠	4NT	Pass	5♣
Pass	5♥	Pass	5♠
Pass	6♣	All Pass	

Contract: Six Clubs, played by South

Result: 12 tricks, NS +920

The Facts:

North had intended his bid of 4NT as Blackwood, and interpreted 5♣ as showing no aces, so he tried stopping in 5♥. South thought 4NT was for take-out.

East called the Director after the end of play to complain about a break in tempo before 5♥.

The Director:

Ruled that there had been misinformation.

Ruling:

Score adjusted to

Both sides receive:

5♥+1 by North (NS +480)

Relevant Laws:

Law 16A, 12C2

North/South appealed.

Present: All players except South and both Captains

The Players:

North told the Committee that all bids took a long time, not just the 5♥ one. North explained that a Double over 4♠ would be negative, and proved this by his Convention Card. 5♥ would not be as strong as his hand was worth, so he tried to solve his problem by using Blackwood. When partner showed no aces, he was surprised so he considered for a little while before signing off in 5♥. North/South explained through their captain that South understood 5♥ as a cue-bid, and that he showed a spade control by bidding 5♠.

East told the Committee that the bidding had been so slow that he had looked at his watch.

The tray had come back to him with 5♣ after 3 minutes and 10 seconds, and North then took 30 seconds to bid 5♥. 5♠ had come rather more quickly, which is why they had told the Director that the hesitation before 5♥ was considerably longer than that.

West also stated that the bidding had been very slow. Although the first 2 boards had gone quickly, after this board (nr. 3) they asked the Director to note the time.

The Committee:

Noted West's explanation on the timing and concluded that the Director had probably misinterpreted the request for a ruling. The real recipient of Unauthorized Information is North, who might well have realized that South's 5♣ did not in fact show zero aces. However, he took the ethical action in settling for 5♥. North's pause was relatively insignificant, and South's actions over 5♥ cannot be attributed to any Unauthorized Information.

The Committee's decision:

Original table result restored

Deposit: Returned

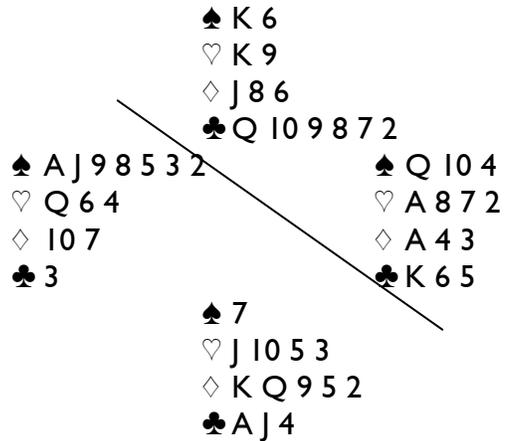
Appeal No. 15
Poland v Wales

Appeals Committee:

Steen Møller (Chairman, Denmark), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Grattan Endicott (England), Anton Maas (the Netherlands)

Open Teams Round 24

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.



West	North	East	South
<i>Ratcliff</i>	<i>Kowalski</i>	<i>Jourdain</i>	<i>Bizon</i>
		INT	Dble
3♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

Comments:

INT: 12-14

Contract: Four Spades, played by West

Lead: King of Hearts

Result: 9 tricks, NS +100

The Facts:

Both North and South had failed to realize that East/West were playing a weak NT. South intended his Double to show a major and a minor, which is in fact their defence to a strong NT. North made the same error and explained accordingly. South had alerted, but West, who had read North/South's Convention Card, had not asked and assumed (correctly according to the actual system) that the double was for penalties. North called the Tournament Director at the end of play, to complain about not receiving an alert on the weak NT. The Director told North that this needed not to be alerted. Now North told East that in that case, he had misexplained the Double. East now recalled the Director, explaining that West's bid of 3♠ is pre-emptive over a penalty double. If he had known this, East would not have raised to 4♠.

The Director:

Ruled that East had indeed been misinformed, and that East/West had been damaged as a result.

Ruling:

Score adjusted to

Both sides receive:

3♠= by West (NS -140)

Relevant Laws:

Law 40C

North/South appealed.

Present: All players except North, and both Captains

The Players:

South explained that he had not realized that INT was weak, and that he had misbid as a result. South said that he had alerted. West told the Committee that he had not noticed the alert, but that he did not dispute that it had been made. He knew North/South's defensive methods and bid according to what he knew. He intended 3♠ to be pre-emptive, alerted it, and even wrote the word "pre-empt" on paper.

East told the Committee that North had told him about the wrong explanation immediately after realizing that he had misinterpreted the strength of INT. East had relied on North's explanation that the Double was artificial and thus 3♠ was game forcing.

South told the Committee he did not believe that East/West have a different meaning of 3♠ depending on the meaning of the Double.

East showed their system notes, which included:

"over penalty double ... 2♠ invitational to 3♠, ... 3any natural, pre-empt"

East said they had not discussed a defence over this meaning of the double, but cited

"Lebensohl" as reference, stating that 2NT followed by 3♠ would have been forcing.

South told the Committee that he had explained the meaning of his double after the opening lead. The Committee asked West why he had not called the Director at that time, and West had no answer to that question. South replied that probably West was at that time still thinking he would make 4♠. As it was, there were 3 cards badly placed. East/West were in a good contract, that sadly failed.

The Committee:

Found that North/South had not presented a sufficient case. The Director had ruled correctly. East had been misinformed about the true conventional meaning of the double and had been damaged as a result. The Committee confirmed that in the Code of Practice, damage is defined as a poorer result. It is not important that the contract is actually better (a priori) when it does fail.

The Committee did find it a pity that West had not called the Director sooner.

The Committee's decision:

Director's ruling upheld.

Deposit: Forfeited

Appeal No. 16
Appeals Committee Special Hearing No. 1
Italy

Appeals Committee:

Bill Pencharz (Chairman, England), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Grattan Endicott (England), Maria Erhart (Austria), Anton Maas (the Netherlands), Jean-Paul Meyer (France), Steen Møller (Denmark)

Women's Teams Round 14

The Facts:

When the Italian team sat down to play, it turned out that a different pair was present than the one that was written on the line-up form.

Apparently the Italian captain had made a mistake in the line-up since the pair that was present was supposed to play and had even received the convention cards of their opponents. The pair that was actually on the line-up was asleep in their hotel.

The Director:

Tried unsuccessfully to find the other pair, and then ordered the pair that was actually present to play. The Director awarded the opponents as much time as they needed to prepare against the new system (which was a natural one). The match was played without further incident. The Director referred the matter to the Appeals Committee for further consideration.

The Committee:

Asked the Captain to explain. He just wrote down the wrong pair - a mistake.

The Committee noted that Italy were the home team, so they had to put their line-up in second. That meant that the opponents were not damaged to any further extent than having had to prepare for two systems for the one match. The Committee asked the representative of the opponents if they felt they were damaged any further and they stated they were not. Nevertheless, the Committee felt that the mistake could not go unpunished.

The regulations had no provision for this infraction.

The Committee decided to give a small penalty.

The Committee's decision:

Italy Women receive a fine of 0.5 VP and an Official Line-up warning

Note:

If Italy had been the Away team the penalty would have been greater.

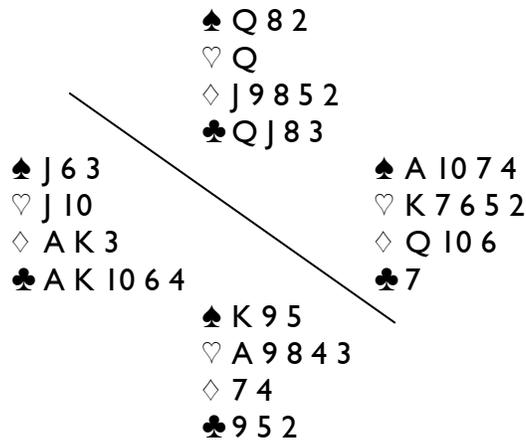
Appeal No. 17
Latvia v Switzerland

Appeals Committee:

Jean-Paul Meyer (France), Grattan Endicott (England), Anton Maas (the Netherlands)

Open Teams Round 26

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.



West	North	East	South
<i>Terretaz</i>	<i>Jansons</i>	<i>Kutner</i>	<i>Gerdanis</i>
INT	2♦	3♦	Pass
Pass	4♣	Dble	3♥
			All Pass

Comments:

2♦ shows Majors or Minors

Contract: Four Clubs, played by North

Result: 5 tricks, NS -1100

The Facts:

3♦ was explained by East to North as Stayman, and by West to South as natural and forcing. South called the Director saying that he had bid 3♥ based on the explanation that 3♦ was natural.

The Director:

Found that East/West had no real agreement over this auction and ruled that South had been misinformed. The Director decided to weight the scores.

Ruling:

Score adjusted to

Both sides receive:

25% of 3NT-2 by West (NS +200)
plus 25% of 3NT-1 by West (NS +100)
plus 50% of 3NT= by West (NS -600)

Relevant Laws:

Law 75A, 40C,

Law 12C3; Code of Practice enabling Tournament Director to award adjusted scores under Law 12C3.

North/South appealed.

Present: All players and both Captains

The Players:

North/South appealed for a revision of the score adjustment.

They suggested that West would find it difficult to bid 3NT with his weaknesses in both major suits. East/West said that the meaning of East's 3♦ bid depended on whether North had majors or minors, he had taken him to have minors whilst West, weak in the majors, had assumed North had major suits. Each had explained the bid on the basis of what he believed North held.

The Committee:

Noted that East's 3♦ bid is ambiguous since East/West do not know at this stage which two suits North will have. The need was for East/West to explain their method more fully on both sides of the screen, stating the alternative possibilities; with this full explanation North/South could have envisaged the possibility that East/West might be confused as to the meaning of their own auction. As to the score, North/South had been given a favourable adjustment and nothing more was required.

The Committee's decision:

Director's ruling upheld.

Deposit: Returned (reluctantly).

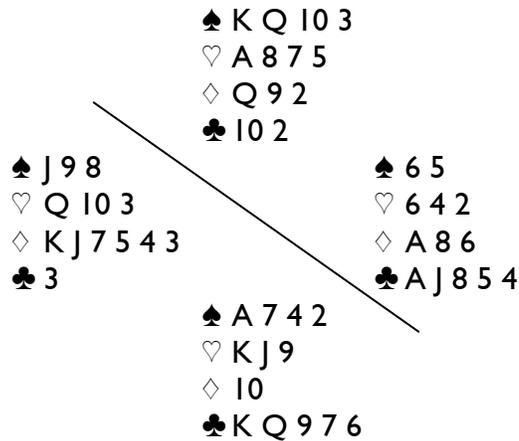
Appeal No. 18
Romania v Croatia

Appeals Committee:

Bill Pencharz (Chairman, England), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Maria Erhart (Austria), Guido Ferraro (Italy)

Open Teams Round 25

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.



West <i>Diklić</i>	North <i>Ghighecio</i>	East <i>Cakić</i>	South <i>Briciu</i>
		Pass	1♣
2♦	Pass	2♥	Pass
Pass	Dble	pass	2♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Contract: Three No trumps, played by North

Result: 8 tricks, NS -100

The Facts:

East explained 2♦ to North as showing both majors, but West had intended and explained it as natural. South called the Director claiming that he would have passed 2♥X if he had known that 2♦ showed the majors.

The Director:

Consulted East/West's Convention Card which confirmed that 2♦ showed the majors. West had misbid but South had been misinformed.

Ruling:

Score adjusted to

Both sides receive:

2♥*-4 by East (NS +800)

Relevant Laws:

Law 75A, 40C, 12C2

East/West appealed.

Present: All players except East and both Captains

The Players:

West told the Committee that 1♣ had not been alerted and that he therefore had intended 2♦ to be natural.

North explained that doubling twice would have been a clear penalty double, but his double now was co-operative.

East/West made several points:

First of all, 3NT could have been made. But more important, West would not have simply let 2♥X stand. This is a very strange continuation, and West would probably realize that his partner had interpreted 2♦ as asking for the majors.

The Committee:

Agreed with the Director in deciding that South had been misinformed. The Committee did not believe however that 2♥X was the only possible final contract.

Some part of the time, South would not pass out the co-operative double, and 3NT-1 would still be the outcome.

Some part of the remaining time, West would not wake up, and then 2♥*-4 is again the outcome.

The remainder of the time, West will bid 3♦ and play 3♦*, judged by the Committee to go one off.

After some deliberation the Committee settled on the weights mentioned below.

The Committee ruled that failing to make 3NT was not a grave error so North/South should not lose the benefit of the adjustment of the score.

The Committee's decision:

Score adjusted to

Both sides receive:

20% of $2\heartsuit^*-4$ by East (NS +800)
plus 40% of $3\diamond^*-1$ by West (NS +100)
plus 40% of $3NT-1$ by North (NS -100)

Deposit: Returned

Note: the result at the other table was NS -300 so the final result on the board was:

20% of +14 IMP
plus 40% of +9 IMP
plus 40% of +5 IMP
or +8.4 IMP to the team of North/South, rounded to +8 IMP

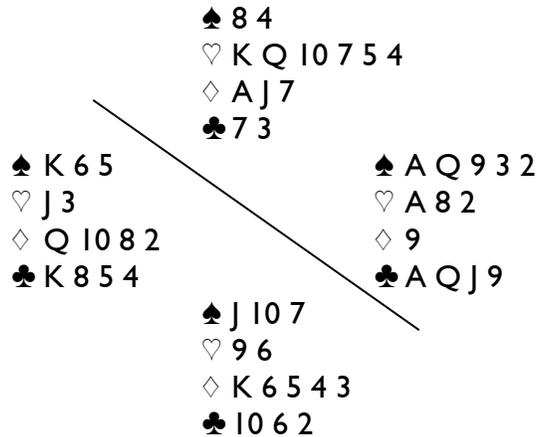
Appeal No. 19
Liechtenstein v Denmark

Appeals Committee:

Bill Pencharz (Chairman, England), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Grattan Endicott (England), Maria Erhart (Austria), Anton Maas (the Netherlands)

Open Teams Round 19

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.



West	North	East	South
<i>Auken</i>	<i>Baghetti</i>	<i>Schäffer</i>	<i>Guaraldi</i>
Pass	2♦ ⁽¹⁾	Dble ⁽²⁾	Pass
Pass	2♥	Dble	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♣	All Pass

Comments:

- ⁽¹⁾ Multi
- ⁽²⁾ 13-15 balanced or Strong

Contract: Three Clubs, played by East

Result: 11 tricks, NS -150

The Facts:

West called the Director after the next board. He had asked about the meaning of South's first pass and received as explanation "no meaning". North had told East that the pass showed diamonds. West complained that this had interfered with their bidding, and that this had caused them to miss the contract of 4♠. A more detailed explanation of their reasoning is given below.

The Director:

Ruled that there had been misinformation, and that East/West had been damaged by this.

Ruling:

Score adjusted to

Both sides receive:

4♠+1 by East (NS -650)

Relevant Laws:

Law 75A, 40C, 12C2

North/South West appealed.

Present: All players and both Captains

The Players:

East/West said the bidding, with correct information, would quite likely continue 3♣-3♠-4♠.

West told the Committee that he had received the information that South's Pass did not show anything. In that case West's (second) Pass showed values, and East's Double was co-operative. West then bid 2NT, and passed over 3♣ thinking he had shown his hand.

East had been told that South's Pass showed diamonds, so from his point of view partner did not have much values and 2NT was the start of a Lebensohl sequence, which he duly completed. East had doubled, showing the balanced version of the defence, rather than bid 2♠, showing the stronger version, because the situation had changed - partner had nothing to contribute and defending seemed the best option.

Both East and West stated that they would have bid differently with a different explanation. West explained why he had called the Director so late. He had not been aware of the differing explanations and only asked partner what the explanation had been on the other side of the screen after the end of the next hand.

South stated he had responded to the question about his "Pass" with a shrug and "normal, no meaning", intending that to mean that he showed diamonds. North had explained "some diamonds" without adding how many. That is also why he had bid 2♥, since he was not even certain of a five card suit in diamonds.

North/South believe they had not really misinformed.

East/West said that when one chooses to play the Multi, which is not a Brown Sticker convention only by virtue of a special exception, one should be able to inform the opponents of the correct meaning of the bidding sequences.

North/South pointed to East's second Double. The first Double can have two meanings, and the second Double clarifies that it is the weaker of the two options. East has underbid, and North/South believe that this is more the reason for the bad score than their possible misinformation.

The Committee:

Noted North/South's position in the competition (36th). The very experienced East/West pair ought not to expect that their opponents have complete agreements over every sequence. East/West were at least partly to blame for their bad result because of East's choice of underbidding.

In the end, there were three opinions within the Committee.

One part of the Committee felt East/West was damaged.

One part of the Committee felt East/West was not damaged.

One part of the Committee felt East/West was not misinformed.

The majority view that the table result should be restored was therefore followed.

The Committee's decision:

Original table result restored

Deposit: Returned

Appeal No. 20
England v Croatia

Appeals Committee:

Steen Møller (Chairman, Denmark), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Jan van Cleeff (the Netherlands), Jean-Paul Meyer (France)

Women's Teams Round 15

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

	♠ A K 5 4 2		
	♥ J 8 5		
	♦ A 10		
	♣ Q 8 7		
♠ Q 10 6		♠ 8	
♥ Q 10		♥ A K 9 4 3 2	
♦ K Q 9 8 7 3		♦ 4 2	
♣ A 10		♣ 9 5 4 3	
	♠ J 9 7 3		
	♥ 7 6		
	♦ J 6 5		
	♣ K J 6 2		
West	North	East	South
<i>Ruso</i>	<i>Brunner</i>	<i>Matijević</i>	<i>Goldenfield</i>
1♦	1♠	Dble	3♠
4♦	Pass	4♥	All Pass

Contract: Four Hearts, played by East

Lead: Three of Spades

Play:

1: ♠3-10-K-8; 2: ♣7-4-J-A; 3: ♠6-5-♥2-7; 4: ♣3-K ...

Result: 10 tricks, NS -420

The Facts:

East had thought some considerable while before playing to the second trick. South deduced that East held the ♣Q, which is why she played the king in trick four.

The Director:

Established that North could have held ♣Q87 as well as ♣87x in her return of the 7, and that East had hesitated only inadvertently. The Director ruled that there had been no damage.

Ruling:

Result Stands

Relevant Laws:

Law 73D1

North/South appealed.

Present: All players, both Captains and the English Coach

The Players:

East admitted she had thought in trick two. South stated it was two and a half minutes, and East did not contradict this.

South said that unfortunately for them, the position had been unreadable, with North returning the 7 both from Q87 and 87x.

North/South stated that it did matter. There were positions in which it was correct to take the ♣K immediately, and there were others in which ducking was correct. South chose to believe that East would not be thinking without the ♣Q.

East stated she was sure to be going one down and was thinking about ways to avoid the opponents playing hearts. She had analyzed the hand until trick 8. She realized that she had made a mistake in thinking at this point in time and ought to have said she was sorry.

North/South stated that in their opinion the Director ought to have ruled according to Law 73F2.

The Committee:

Agreed with North/South that East had no bridge reason for her thinking at this point in time. Law 73F2 states:

if the Director determines that an innocent player has drawn a false inference from a remark, manner, tempo, or the like, of an opponent who has no demonstrable bridge reason for the action, and who could have known, at the time of the action, that the action could work to his benefit, the Director shall award an adjusted score.

The Committee noted that perhaps South could have drawn a more complete inference from East's pause. After all, even when East does have the ♣Q, she has no good reason to put it in, and so she cannot be thinking for 2 minutes merely about this trick. The Committee tried to construct hands for East, containing the ♣Q, in which there might be a problem (e.g. Q4 is impossible because North would not have lead the 7 from a five card holding - Queen third is also impossible after some further thought). But in the end the Committee decided one should not blame South for drawing a simple conclusion from a simple fact and not consider further.

The Committee decided that Law 73F2 was applicable but that South should not get the full benefit. Without the hesitation, the position is difficult to read and South will get it right only part of the time. With no further clues to go on, it was decided to give both alternatives the same weight.

The Committee further considered if East had been aware of the implications of her actions, in which case a more severe adjustment to East/West might be in order. The Committee ruled there had been no such awareness, and that East/West should receive the same adjustment as North/South.

The Committee's decision:

Score adjusted to

Both sides receive:

50% of 4♥-1 by East (NS +50)
plus 50% of 4♥= by East (NS -420)

Deposit: Returned

Note: the result at the other table was +50 so the final result on the board was:

50% of 0 IMP
plus 50% of -10 IMP
or -5 IMP to the team of North/South

Appeal No. 21
Yugoslavia v Romania

Appeals Committee:

Bill Pencharz (Chairman, England), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Grattan Endicott (England), Guido Ferraro (Italy)

Open Teams Round 28

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Savin</i>	<i>Vučić</i>	<i>Matei</i>	<i>Nikolić</i>
	Pass	1♥	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♥	Pass	2♠	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♦	Pass	5♣	Pass
6♥	Dble	All Pass	

Contract: Six Hearts doubled, played by East

Lead: small Club

Result: 11 tricks, NS +200

The Facts:

West called the Director because the Double had not been alerted to him. It had been alerted by North to East. If West had known the Double showed a void in clubs, he would have bid 6NT

The Director:

Considered the meaning of a lead-directing double so common that no alert is necessary. The conventional meaning was on the Convention Card and there was no reason why West could not have asked.

Ruling:

Result Stands

Relevant Laws:

Law 40C

East/West appealed.

Present: All players except East and both Captains

The Players:

West told the Committee that, had the Double been alerted to him, he would have had two options. Either he could have believed North held the ♣K, in which case there was no reason to run, since partner had shown a singleton club, or he could have believed it was a void, in which case he would have run to 6NT.

When asked whether or not he would have doubled with the North hand, West replied that he would have.

The Committee:

Considered that there were many precedents (Turku 1989 and Montecatini 1997 were cited) that confirmed the Director's ruling.

The Committee's decision:

Director's ruling upheld.

Deposit: Forfeited

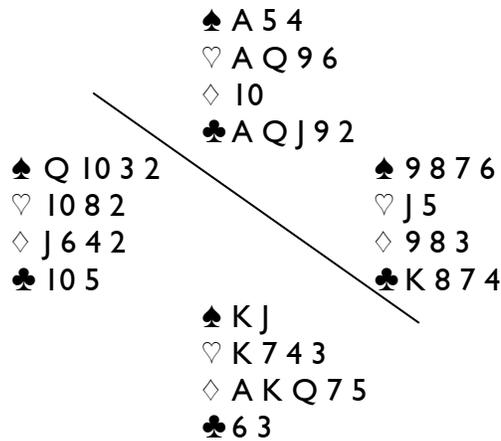
Appeal No. 22
Monaco v Norway

Appeals Committee:

Steen Møller (Chairman, Denmark), Grattan Endicott (England), Jean-Paul Meyer (France)

Open Teams Round 30

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.



West <i>Grøtheim</i>	North <i>Tardy</i>	East <i>Aa</i>	South <i>Michaud-Lariviere</i>
Pass	1♦ ⁽²⁾	Pass	1♣ ⁽¹⁾
Pass	4NT ⁽⁴⁾	Pass	2♥ ⁽³⁾
Pass	6♣ ⁽⁶⁾	Pass	5♥ ⁽⁵⁾
All Pass			7♥

Comments:

- (1) Natural or Preparation
- (2) transfer for ♥
- (3) balanced 15-17, 4 cards ♥
- (4) RKCB
- (5) 2 of 5 Key-cards, no trump Queen
- (6) interest in clubs for third control

Contract: Seven Hearts, played by South

Lead: Two of Diamonds

Result: 13 tricks, NS +1510

The Facts:

West called the Director after the next board, complaining that he had received wrong information about South's distribution. South had told him he was balanced with four hearts.

The Director:

Consulted the Convention Card, which confirmed South's explanation.
The Director ruled that there had been no misinformation.

Ruling:

Result Stands

Relevant Laws:

Law 40A

East/West appealed.

Present: All players, both Captains and the Monegasque scorer

The Players:

West said that when asked about the 6♣ bid South had been unsure, suggesting it could perhaps ask for third round control in the suit. Thinking that, in view of the uncertainty, the ♥Q could be missing from the North/South hands he had chosen not to lead a trump. He felt damaged by the uncertainty of South's explanation. North/South told the Committee that one of the possible meanings of the 1♣ opening was a strong INT opener; the convention card showed this and that the minimum number of clubs was two.

The Committee:

Noted that after the response to 1♣, opener had identified a heart fit in which the contract could be played. There had been no further description of the nature of South's hand; the shape and strength were consistent with a strong INT opening which was one of the possibilities. It was not relevant that South was unsure of the meaning of 6♣ except for the fact that North, knowing his partner did not have ♥Q was investigating a Grand Slam – evidently having ♥Q himself.

So West should know a trump lead would be safe and had taken a risk in leading ♦2, which had proved a bad choice. The Committee was not at all impressed with the request for a Director's ruling and had no difficulty in quickly reaching agreement with the Director when this was appealed.

The Committee's decision:

Director's ruling upheld.

Deposit: Forfeited

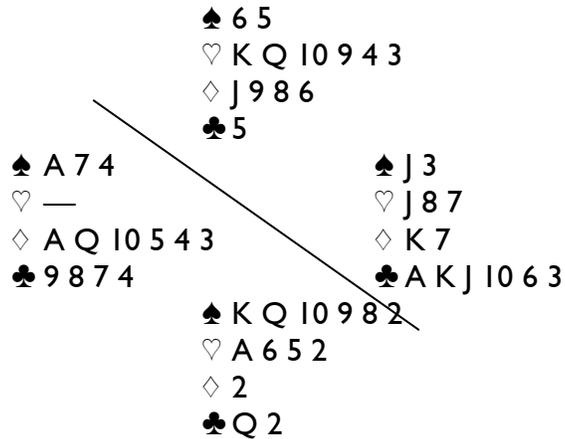
Appeal No. 23
Denmark v France

Appeals Committee:

Bill Pencharz (Chairman, England), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Jan van Cleeff (the Netherlands), Anton Maas (the Netherlands)

Senior Teams Round 17

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.



West	North	East	South
<i>Adad</i>	<i>Dahl</i>	<i>Aujaleu</i>	<i>Norris</i>
	2♦	3♣	4♥
6♣	Pass	Pass	6♥
Pass	Pass	7♣	All Pass

Comments:

2♦ Multi

Contract: Seven Clubs, played by East

Result: 13 tricks, NS -1440

The Facts:

Before his final pass, South asked West if his Pass over 6♥ showed a first round control there. West replied "I don't know". South called the Director after the board, stating that he would have bid 7♥ if he had known that West was indeed void.

The Director:

Asked East if there was an agreement. East stated that there was no real agreement but that it was common sense bridge that West would have doubled with a heart loser.

Ruling:

Result Stands

Relevant Laws:

Law 75C

North/South appealed.

Present: All players, the Captain of France, and a French translator

The Players:

South told the Committee that he had asked if the Pass showed first round control, and that East had responded "I don't know". East confirmed this and together with the Director they even retraced a written record of this.

West told the Committee that at the moment South bids 6♥, he still does not know what North's suit is, so he cannot know for certain if his Pass shows a first Heart control or not.

South asked how East could bid 7♣ without the knowledge that West has a first round control. East's reply indicated that he did realize that West had this first round control.

When asked what he would have bid over 6♥ with a singleton heart, West replied he would probably have doubled.

Finally East stated that he thought South had been betting on two horses - first play the board and then ask for a ruling when the contract was made.

The Committee:

Read Law 40B:

A player may not make a call or play based on a special partnership understanding unless an opposing pair may reasonably be expected to understand its meaning, or unless his side discloses the use of such call or play in accordance with the regulations of the sponsoring organisation and Law 75C:

When explaining the significance of partner's call or play in reply to an opponent's inquiry (see Law 20), a player shall disclose all special information conveyed to him through partnership agreement or partnership experience, but he need not disclose inferences drawn from his general knowledge and experience.

In the opinion of the Committee this meant that when an opponent asks a direct question, it is not admissible to hide behind "general bridge knowledge" in not giving a correct answer. It was clear that there was an agreement. West admitted that he would not have passed without the heart void, and East bid 7♣ in full confidence that there was a heart void with partner.

The Committee ruled that there had been misinformation.

The Committee was not confident however that South would always sacrifice into 7♥.

The Committee's decision:

Score adjusted to

Both sides receive:

50% of $7\heartsuit^*-3$ by South (NS -500)
plus 50% of $7\clubsuit=$ by East (NS -1440)

Deposit: Returned

Note: the result at the other table was -940 so the final result on the board was:

50% of +10 IMPs
plus 50% of -11 IMPs
or -0.5 IMP to the team of North/South, rounded to 0 IMP

Appeal No. 24
Italy v Germany

Appeals Committee:

Steen Møller (Chairman, Denmark), Grattan Endicott (England), Jean-Paul Meyer (France)

Open Teams Round 32

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

West <i>Gotard</i>	North <i>Bocchi</i>	East <i>Piekarek</i>	South <i>Duboin</i>
			Pass
1♣	Pass	1♥	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♥	Pass
5♣	All Pass		

Comments:

1♣ Polish Club

2♦ forcing one round

Contract: Five Clubs, played by West

Result: 11 tricks, NS -600

The Facts:

On the South/West side of the screen, 3♠ was explained as showing 3 spades and 6 clubs, but on the North/East side it was explained as 1-3-3-6, 1-2-4-6, or 1-2-3-7.

The tray had returned with the bid of 4♥ after a delay, which was confirmed by all players except East, and by the e-bridge computer scorer, as being over 60 seconds.

The Director:

Ruled that there had been unauthorized information.

The Director consulted with expert players, none of whom would bid over 4♥.

Ruling:

Score adjusted to 4♥-2 by East (NS +200)

Relevant Laws:

Law 16A

East/West appealed.

Present: All players and both Captains

The Players:

West said that he thought he had bid 2♠ on the hand and his subsequent bidding was on this basis. He could see a possibility that he might play in 6♣ if over 5♣ East had a suitable hand. North and East agreed that there had been some time taken in enquiry about the 3♠ bid; North said that following this the East player had still taken about a minute at least before making his bid. East's tempo was disturbed by the surprising 3♠ bid.

The Committee:

There was no doubt in the Committee's mind about the long delay in returning the tray. Also it seemed West suspected that there was some kind of problem in the bidding, in which case 5♣ is a "safe haven". However, there is unauthorized information and "pass" is a logical alternative to 5♣.

The Committee's decision:

Director's ruling upheld.

Deposit: Returned

Appeal No. 25
Denmark v Sweden

Appeals Committee:

Bill Pencharz (Chairman, England), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Grattan Endicott (England), Anton Maas (the Netherlands)

Women's Teams Round 23

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

West <i>Karlsson- Koch</i> <i>Uisk</i>	North	East <i>Evelius- Nohrèn</i>	South <i>Klemmensen</i>
	1♣	Pass	2♣ ⁽¹⁾
Pass	2♠ ⁽²⁾	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♦ ⁽³⁾	Pass	3♠ ⁽³⁾
Pass	4♣ ⁽³⁾	Pass	4♥ ⁽⁴⁾
Pass	4♠ ⁽³⁾	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♥	Pass	6♣
All Pass			

Comments:

- ⁽¹⁾ Game Forcing with clubs
- ⁽²⁾ extra values (most often 15-17), no singleton or void
- ⁽³⁾ cue-bid
- ⁽⁴⁾ see below

Contract: Six Clubs, played by North

Lead: Diamond

Result: 12 tricks, NS +1370

The Facts:

East called the Director after the end of play, stating she would have led a heart if she had received a better explanation of the bid of 4♥. North had explained this a cue-bid. South had alerted the bid but East had not asked. South explained to the Director that she had intended 4♥ as "values" since she had already denied the heart control by cue-bidding 3♠.

The Director:

Established that North/South used mixed controls, so South had indeed provided the correct explanation and North had misinformed East. The Director did not believe however that East would always lead hearts and awarded a weighted score.

Ruling:

Score adjusted to

Both sides receive:

66.7% of 6♣= by North (NS +1370)
plus 33.3% of 6♣-1 by North (NS -100)

Relevant Laws:

Law 75A, 40C

Law 12C3, Code of Practice enabling Tournament Director to award Adjusted Scores under Law 12C3.

North/South appealed.

Present: All players, both Captains and a Swedish advisor

The Players:

North explained that she thought 4♥ was a cue-bid. She could imagine a few reasons why South would first show the spade control and only later the heart one, such as a void in spades, or not enough aces. That is after all why she did press on to slam.

South explained that in her opinion she had denied the heart control and 4♥ showed something like the holding she actually held, queen-third. South stated that she would have explained it that way if she had been asked. She had alerted it.

North/South, by way of their captain, added that South thought North had the heart control that South lacked, because she had pressed on after 3♠.

North/South expressed that they were wondering why East had not asked what 4♥ meant, and why she had not doubled it for a lead.

West explained that they did not double singletons (such as splinter bids) for a lead in that suit, but rather for a lead in the higher suit.

East explained why she had led a diamond. Clubs and spades were out of the question, and her normal intuition was hearts. However, North had implied a control there, and West had had no way of asking for a diamond lead, so she chose diamonds.

East and West, when asked, stated that they did realize that North/South were playing mixed control bids. East also explained she knew North did not have a singleton.

East/West summed up by saying that they had been misled by North giving the impression that both hands held a heart control.

The Committee:

Considered that even in the Committee, North and South could not agree on the actual agreement concerning 4♥. In that case, the Committee has to presume misexplanation rather than misbid. The Committee ruled that East had been misinformed.

There were a few other points though.

West's explanation that she did not double 4♥ because that might ask for a spade lead was not to be considered. If she had asked for the meaning of 4♥, she would have known it was a longer suit, and a double would have asked for hearts. In that sense, East/West had failed to protect themselves.

Also, two of West's reasons for leading diamonds were independent of the misexplanation. East could always have the ♦A, and North had indeed implied a heart control that she never had.

So it was clear that a weighted score was the right solution, and only the percentages were left to be determined. Although the opinions in the Committee originally varied substantially, the weights awarded by the Director were acceptable to all.

The Committee's decision:

Director's ruling upheld.

Deposit: Returned

Appeal No. 26
Lebanon v England

Appeals Committee:

Steen Møller (Chairman, Denmark), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Anton Maas (the Netherlands), Jean-Paul Meyer (France)

Open Teams Round 37

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Jason H</i>	<i>Eidi</i>	<i>Justin H</i>	<i>Harfouche</i>
1♠	2♥	3♥	4♥
Pass	Pass	4♠	Pass
Pass	5♥	All Pass	

Contract: Five Hearts, played by North

Result: 11 tricks, NS +650

The Facts:

The Director was called from the North/East side before the bid of 5♥. There had apparently been some hesitation. A neutral scorer said the delay amounted to 15-17 seconds. North bid his 5♥ and the play continued. East/West called the Director back after the hand.

The Director:

Considered that the delay was not considerable, and that there was no logical alternative to 5♥, since North knew South to have short spades, long hearts and values in the minors. The Director admitted however to having consulted only among themselves, not having enough time to consult with players.

Ruling:

Result Stands

Relevant Laws:

Law 16A

Regulation C.1.3, comment on Law 73D.

East/West appealed.

Present: West, East and the Captain of England

The Players:

East told the Committee that it was North himself who had called the Director. The Director had been unaware of this.

West told the Committee that the Director had asked South how long he had thought, and that when South had said "10 seconds", he had added "longer than that" and that South had not disagreed.

West told the Committee that he thought pass was a logical alternative, and that the hesitation suggested bidding 5♥. West thought the Director's argument that South held values in minors to be invalid since South could have a stiff spade honour.

East told the Committee that there had certainly been a break in tempo. North had agreed to this at the table and had even called the Director himself.

The Committee:

Considered the different pieces of evidence concerning the duration of the delay. On the one hand there is the information from the (unbiased) scorer that it was only 15 seconds, on the other the admittance of North to noticing the break in tempo. The regulations state that a delay of 15 seconds does not convey information, and that this period becomes longer in unexpected situations. The Committee felt that there were no unexpected situations here. Taking into account that North clearly had noticed something, the Committee ruled that there was unauthorized information.

Next came the question as to whether or not there were logical alternatives to bidding 5♥. North certainly had no doubt that there was no alternative, but what would his peers actually do?

North should know South has a singleton spade, since with a void he would probably have bid 3♠. North cannot be certain that either 4♠ or 5♥ are making. The Committee members would all seriously consider bidding 5♥, but none of the members could state with certainty that they would always bid it. That meant there were logical alternatives and therefore, North ought not to have bid 5♥.

The Committee considered however that in that case North would almost always double, and considered carefully the play, giving the benefit of the doubt to East/West.

The Committee's decision:

Score adjusted to

Both sides receive:

4♠*-1 by West (NS +100)

Deposit: Returned