



# **The European Bridge League**

## **Appeals Booklet 2005**

**Including the appeals from:  
The European  
Championships, Tenerife**

## **Statistics from the Appeals Committee by Herman De Wael**

During these championships, 20 cases were brought before the Appeals Committee. Compared to the total number of boards (see below), this means the Board Appeal Ratio is 0.26 appeals per 1,000 boards, which compares favourably to the 0.32 from Menton.

10 appeals were from the Teams' tournaments (BAR:0.36) and 10 from the Pairs (0.20). The Women had less appeals than at Menton, with only one case (0.10) against 10 for the Open (0.31) and 7 for the mixed (0.25). The seniors, who had no appeals at all in Menton, now had two (0.27).

Only in 7 cases was some change was brought to the Director's ruling.

The deposit was kept 2 times.

The Appeals Committee heard all cases from within a group of seven members, with a visiting member twice to fill up the numbers, especially when members had to abstain when players of their own country were involved. An average of 4.65 members served on the Committees. No Committee had to be convened composed of the minimum number of 3 members.

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

### **Board-Appeal Ratio's (BARs)**

In order to compare the rates of appeals, we have developed the notion of a Board-Appeal Ratio. In essence, this is the number of appeals that are heard in relation to the number of boards played. It is expressed as the number of appeals per 1,000 boards played. Over the past few years, the BARs have steadily gone down.

### **BARs throughout the years:**

Warszawa 1999	0.58
Malta 1999	0.70
Bellaria 2000	0.22
Sorrento 2001	0.21
Tenerife 2001	0.81
Oostende 2002	0.51
Salsomaggiore 2002	0.56
Menton 2003	0.32
Malmö 2004	0.33
Tenerife 2005	0.26

**BARs per type of competition (in EBL competitions of the past six years)**

Mixed Pairs	0.27
Senior Pairs	0.27
Women's Pairs	0.27
Open Pairs	0.39
All Pairs	0.32

Mixed Teams	0.35
Senior Teams	0.37
Women's Teams	0.45
Open Teams	0.70
All Teams	0.54

Mixed	0.30
Seniors	0.33
Women	0.38
Open	0.54
All Appeals	0.43

(statistics based upon 247 appeals, 574844 boards played, over the period 1999-2005)

**Total number of boards:**

77,393 boards have been played during these championships (that's 37% down from Menton). This excludes boards not played in sit-outs.

In order to compare the championships to those in the ACBL, we have also counted the number of "tables", which is the way the Americans usually measure tournaments. The counter stopped at 3,458, which makes this event of the same order of size as the largest regionals.

1,111 players attended the championships.

## Disciplinary Hearing No. 01

### Appeals Committee:

Bill Pencharz (Chairman, England), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Jens Auken (Denmark), Grattan Endicott (England)

### Mixed Teams Round Robin Round 5

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vulnerable.

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

**Comments:** Bidding immaterial

**Contract:** Two No trumps, played by North

**Lead:** clubs

**Play:** four rounds of clubs, ♠J to the King, diamond to the King, and then either the ♥5 or the ♦6.

**Result:** 8 tricks, NS +120

**The Facts:** North had shown/played the ♥5 and wanted to play a diamond instead. The Director was called, who heard both versions. According to East/West, the ♥5 had been played, according to North the two cards had stuck together. After getting the facts, the Director ruled that the ♥5 was the played card. Play proceeded, and declarer made his contract. After the play, West turned to North (under the screen) and asked "Why did you lie?". North demanded an apology, which West refused to give. North then refused to continue to play.

**The Director:** First asked West to apologise, which he did not do. Then the Director asked North to continue to play, which he too refused. Finally the Chief Tournament Director gave the table two options, either to stop play and face the Appeal Committee immediately, or to continue and meet the Appeal Committee later in the day. North accepted to play on, still demanding the apology he believed was his due.

**Ruling:** matter to be referred to the Appeal Committee.

**Relevant Laws:**

Law 74A1, 74A2

**Present:** All players

**The Players:**

West confirmed that he had asked North "Why did you lie?". West believed North would need to have played the heart at some point, so there was no reason not to play it at this time.

West told the Committee he had known North for thirty years. The Chairman reminded him that since that fact was quite well known, there was no use in uttering such a phrase. West refused to apologise because he thought he was right.

East confirmed that North had told the Director that the cards had stuck together.

North wondered why there was any talk about bridge, but he still explained why he had wanted to play the diamonds first: so as not to go four down. He had explained the facts to the Director, who had made his ruling. North had accepted the ruling, but he had not lied. He considered West's behaviour to be the worst possible.

**The Committee:**

Reminded the players that this is a very serious matter. The Committee could understand harsh words being spoken in the heat of the moment, but not several hours after the facts. The Chairman asked West once again to apologise. West continued to maintain that he knew what had happened, and finally said "I apologise, but ...".

**The Committee's decision:**

West receives an Official warning.

The team of East/West are fined 4VP.

Verdict to be published (anonymously) in the Daily Bulletin.

**Official Warning to player West:**

West has said to North, at the very least, "Why did you lie?".

This is a serious breach of Law 74A of the Laws of Duplicate Contract Bridge:

*LAW 74 - CONDUCT AND ETIQUETTE*

*A. Proper Attitude*

*1. Courtesy*

*A player should maintain a courteous attitude at all times.*

*2. Etiquette of Word and Action*

*A player should carefully avoid any remark or action that might cause annoyance or embarrassment to another player or might interfere with the enjoyment of the game.*

Player West, at the request of the Chairman of the Appeals Committee, eventually apologised to his opponent. The apology has been taken into account in the Appeals Committee's decision. Without it the sanction would have been more severe.

Under Law 90 the Appeals Committee imposes a 4VP procedural penalty on player West's team.

In addition player West is:

1) reprimanded

2) warned that a recurrence of such a breach of the Laws will result in a more severe sanction.

**Deposit:** not applicable

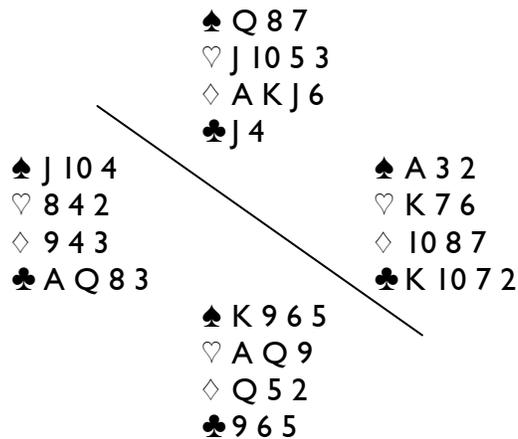
**Appeal No. 02**  
**Italy v Sweden**

**Appeals Committee:**

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

**Mixed Teams Round Robin Round 5**

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vulnerable.



<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Efrainsson</i>	<i>Duboin</i>	<i>Svedlund</i>	<i>Lavazza</i>
	1♣	Pass	1♠
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♠	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♣	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

**Comments:** Italian style, 2♣ check-back, 2♠ shows 3. Further bidding see below.

**Contract:** Three No trumps, played by North

**Lead:** ♥6

**Play:** ♥Q, ♠5 to Q and A, ♣7 to A, ♥7.

**Result:** 9 tricks, NS +600

**The Facts:**

2NT was explained by North to East as forcing, and then 3♣ showed a minor, while South explained 2NT as invitational and 3♣ as natural. West asked the Director for a ruling since he had returned hearts rather than clubs, because he had been told North held clubs.

**The Director:**

Considered that West had indeed been misinformed, but consulted a number of players to see whether they would also have returned a heart with the wrong information. All three consulted players would have returned a diamond or a club.

**Ruling:**

Score adjusted to

**Both sides receive:**

40% of 3NT= by North (NS +600)  
plus 60% of 3NT-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

**The Players:**

North explained there had not been perfect understanding. South had obviously believed 2NT to be non-forcing and invitational, but he had considered it as forcing and asking. In that case he believed 3♣ to show a four card minor, with 3♦ showing a five-card minor.

North explained however that West should have realised that returning a heart was not correct. He had played ♥Q from dummy, so West should realise that North should have ♥J10 or ♥K. West had seen that North held nothing in spades, yet he had played spades, not clubs, in round two. West should have realised that North held nothing in clubs, so when East plays the 7 (third/fifth), West should realise partner has 4 clubs and declarer has 2.

West explained he had not understood there was any doubt in South's mind as to the natural nature of the 3♣ bid. He had thought North had 3334 and he wanted to make certain of the heart trick to defeat the contract. West did not agree his line of play made no sense.

East/West were asked to explain their carding methods: 1st/3rd/5th throughout, without attitude.

**The Committee:**

Agreed with the Director that there had been misinformation from South to East. East had been damaged, and this damage should be corrected.

The Committee reminds the players of a sentence in the Code of Practice:

*If the damaged side has wholly or partly caused its own damage by irrational, wild or gambling action, it does not receive relief in the adjustment for such part of the damage as is self-inflicted.*

The Committee felt that West's actions, although inferior, did not amount to irrational actions and agreed with the Director that in the weighing of the adjustment, some part of the heart return ought to be maintained.

**The Committee's decision:**

Director's ruling upheld.

**Deposit:** Returned

**Note:** the result at the other table was +120 so the final result on the board was:

40% of (600-120)= +10 IMPs

plus 60% of (-100-120)=-6 IMPs

which equates to +0.4 IMPs, rounded to 0 IMPs to the team of North/South.

**Appeal No. 3**  
**Italy v Norway**

**Appeals Committee:**

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

**Mixed Teams Swiss "A" Round 2**

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vulnerable.

	♠ J 10 ♥ 4 3 ♦ A J 10 7 5 ♣ 7 4 3 2		
♠ K 9 5 4 ♥ J 6 2 ♦ K Q 6 4 3 ♣ K		♠ A 8 2 ♥ K 9 8 ♦ 8 2 ♣ A J 10 9 6	
	♠ Q 7 6 3 ♥ A Q 10 7 5 ♦ 9 ♣ Q 8 5		
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Brogeland B</i>	<i>Buratti</i>	<i>Brogeland T</i>	<i>Paoluzzi</i>
	Pass	1♣	1♥
1♠	Pass	2♠	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

**Contract:** Three No trumps, played by West

**Lead:** ♦10

**Play:** ♦Q, three rounds of spades, South returning a spade, ♣K overtaken and ♣J from the table. South is endplayed.

**Result:** 9 tricks, NS -600

**The Facts:**

2NT was not alerted on either side of the screen, but both opponents asked questions about it. West told South that it was at least invitational, and that it was asking for a fourth spade (1♠ not promising 5, 2♠ possible on 3). East told North it was not forcing. North called the Director, explaining that he had thought West had shown a heart stopper, so he had not led a heart.

**The Director:**

Ruled that there had been misinformation, but that this had not been the cause of the damage to North/South.

**Ruling:**

Result Stands

**Relevant Laws:**

Law 75A, 40C

**North/South appealed.**

**Present:** All players and the Captain of North/South

**The Players:**

North explained that he thought West had shown a heart stopper, which is why he had not led a heart. When asked whether he would have led a heart with another explanation, North stated honestly "I could have".

West explained that he had tried to be helpful in explaining that 2NT was asking for the fourth spade. He was uncertain about the system. In theory, he plays the same in this partnership than in his regular one. East told the Committee she had not understood it in that manner and believed 2NT to be natural, and she had accepted the invitation on the general strength of her hand.

East explained that although he had played the hand well, it was not yet fully optimal, as South could have prevented the endplay by returning a heart in trick 5. West analysed that he should have overtaken the ♣K immediately, in which case there is no defence. Of course, all this is theoretical since a heart lead easily defeats the contract

**The Committee:**

Decided that since West clearly meant 2NT to be artificial, North had been misinformed. With correct information, North would choose the heart lead some of the time. A weight of 50% was suggested and acceptable to all members.

**The Committee's decision:**

Score adjusted to

**Both sides receive:**

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

**Deposit:** Returned

**Note:** the result at the other table was +200 so the final result on the board was:

50% of 0 IMPs  
plus 50% of -13 IMPs  
or -6.5 IMPs to the team of North/South, rounded to -6 in favour of the non-offending side.

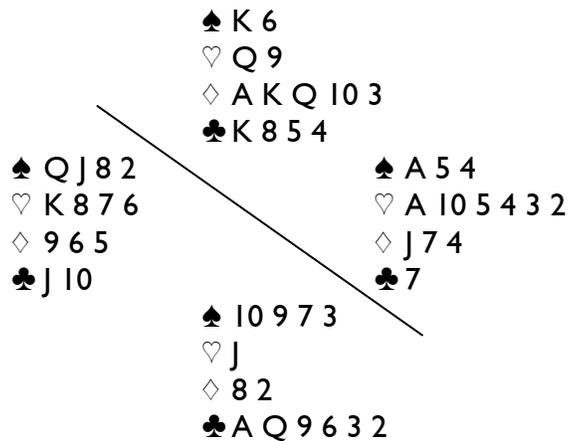
**Appeal No. 4  
Norway v Bulgaria**

**Appeals Committee:**

Jean-Claude Beineix (Chairman, France), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), David Birman (Israel), Grattan Endicott (England), Jean-Paul Meyer (France)

**Mixed Pairs Qualifying Round 3**

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vulnerable.



<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Shokov</i>	<i>Juvik</i>	<i>Kovacheva</i>	<i>Mirkovic</i>
Pass	1NT	2♣	3♣
Dble	3NT	All Pass	

**Contract:** Three No trumps, played by North

**Lead:** ♣7

**Result:** 11 tricks, NS +660

**The Facts:**

2♣ showed a single suit, but North understood it as meaning a Club suit. Consequently, North interpreted 3♣ as asking for a club stopper, and he bid 3NT to show that stopper. East thought the Double asked for a club lead, so she lead the ♣7. Afterwards, she called the Director complaining about a missing explanation from North.

**The Director:**

Noticed that the explanations had been given orally, not written, and decided both pairs were responsible for their own actions. East is not entitled to redress, but North has received a good score after an infraction and his score should be adjusted as well.

**Ruling:**

Score adjusted to

**North/South receive:**

3NT-3 by North (NS -300)

**East/West receive:**

3NT+2 by North (NS +660)

**Relevant Laws:**

Law 21, 12C

Conditions of Contest 10.2.2

**North/South appealed.**

**Present:** North

**The Players:**

North explained that his partner would not be needed at the hearing, since everything happened on the North/East side of the table. The Director explained that although East/West had been informed of the hearing, they had told him they had nothing to win or lose and chose not to attend.

North then explained that he had correctly informed East. He had told her that he had shown, with 3NT, that he held a club stopper. Although he had misinterpreted 2♣ and consequently 3♣, this misunderstanding had been cleared before the lead.

The Committee asked the Director if he could confirm this version of facts. He stated that North had told him this after he gave his ruling, and that he had been unable to get East to confirm or deny this.

**The Committee:**

Considered that East was not there to challenge North's version of facts, and that the Director was unable to confirm or deny this version. There was nothing else to do than to believe North.

**The Committee's decision:**

Original table result restored

**Deposit:** Returned

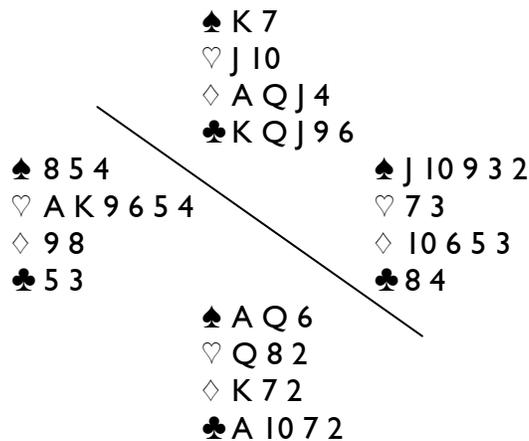
**Appeal No. 5**  
**Sweden v Norway**

**Appeals Committee:**

Bill Pencharz (Chairman, England), Jens Auken (Denmark), Jean-Claude Beineix (France),  
 Grattan Endicott (England), Jean-Paul Meyer (France)  
 Herman De Wael sat in on the meeting to act as Scribe

**Mixed Teams Final Session 3**

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vulnerable.



West	North	East	South
<i>Brogeland B</i>	<i>Goldberg L</i>	<i>Brogeland T</i>	<i>Goldberg U-B</i>
2♦	Dble	Pass	INT
Pass	4NT	Pass	2NT
Dble	All Pass		6NT

**Comments:** INT 14-16

**Contract:** Six No trumps doubled, played by South

**Lead:** ♥A

**Result:** 11 tricks, NS -100

**The Facts:**

2♦ showed one major, and was explained like that by West to South. East explained it to North however as four of a major and a longer minor. North called the Director at the end of play to complain about this misinformation.

**The Director:**

Established that the Convention Card clearly showed that West's explanation (one major suit) was the correct one, and that North had been misinformed. When asked how the bidding would have gone with correct information, North stated that he would have doubled 2♦ anyhow, but he was unclear how the bidding would go on after that. After some time he came up with a bid of 4♣, after which South could show controls (or rather not show the missing heart control). When the Director then asked why North had not bid 4♣ in the actual auction, it again took some time for him to come up with the answer that this was because West (according to what he had been told) had shown a minor suit, and bidding clubs might have caused confusion. North also told the Director that when West shows four of a major, the chances of him having ♥AK are smaller than when he shows six in a single major.

Although these answers had come quite slowly, the Director accepted that North was trying to concentrate on playing the rest of the boards, and he gave North/South some benefit of the doubt.

**Ruling:**

Score adjusted to

**Both sides receive:**

50% of 5♣= by South (NS +400)

plus 50% of 6NT\*-1 by South (NS -100)

(The Director immediately converted this to +5.5 IMP in favour of the team of North/South, after comparing with the other table, which had also scored 6NT\*-1.)

**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

### **The Players:**

North started by explaining that he had tried to focus on the remainder of the boards (this was board 11 of the last set of 16 in a closely fought final). He had not wanted to analyse this board, which was why he was not quick to come up with the alternative auctions. The Director confirmed that he had asked his questions while play was still going on, in order to get "fresh" information from North.

North explained that with his double he had shown diamonds, so if he would have bid clubs later on (with the explanation that West had shown a minor), this should indicate a club stopper rather than a suit. With the correct information however, he could have doubled to show the diamonds and then bid 4♣ to complete showing his hand.

After bidding 4♣ it would be impossible to reach 6NT, since the missing heart control would have been noticed. But with this explanation North could not come up with any other way than to bid 4NT quantitative.

North was asked what other methods they played over the 2♦ multi overcall. Double shows 8+ points and 4+ diamonds. With more balanced hands, only Pass, 2NT and 3NT are available. South explained that with 2NT she had shown a minimum, so when North asked again, she accepted the invitation on her 15 points.

West apologised for the misinformation given by his partner and the need for a ruling and an appeal. He pointed the Committee to the bidding at the other table. There, South had opened a 15-17 NT, and West had also overcalled with a Multi. Tor Helness had jumped to 6NT.

### **The Committee:**

Started by confirming the Director's decision that there had been misinformation.

It was noted that it was not altogether clear that North would have bid 4♣ with the correct information. That might result in North becoming declarer in 6♣ and that would not be so great a position when a heart is lead through dummy. If West's suit was hearts it would only be in a small minority of cases that he would hold the Ace King. The Committee felt that North had valued his hand well, and that he had run into an unfortunate holding.

The Committee felt that the Director had been correct in giving North some benefit of the doubt, but certainly not more than the 50% awarded. One member suggested adjusting the ruling downwards, but since East/West were not appealing, this suggestion was not carried.

### **The Committee's decision:**

Director's ruling upheld.

**Deposit:** Returned

**Note:** the result at the other table was -100 so the final result on the board was:

50% of +11 IMPs

plus 50% of 0 IMPs

which equates to +5.5 IMPs to the team of North/South, not rounded as this was a Knock-Out match (actually the final).

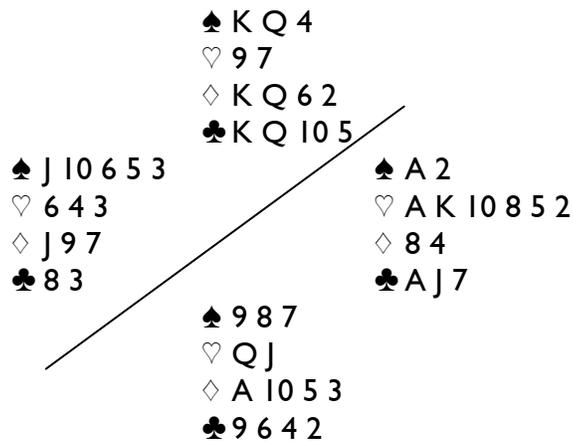
**Appeal No. 6**  
**Norway v Israel**

**Appeals Committee:**

Bill Pencharz (Chairman, England), Jens Auken (Denmark), Jean-Claude Beineix (France),  
 Grattan Endicott (England), Jean-Paul Meyer (France)  
 Herman De Wael sat in on the meeting to act as Scribe

**Mixed Pairs Semi-Final "B" Session 2**

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vulnerable.



The play was in a "Howell" type movement and the players were seated wrongly around the table, which explains why the screen is in an irregular place. Also, the woman player was seated West, not East as is usual.

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Birman Dan</i>	<i>Rynning</i>	<i>Birman Dav</i>	<i>Thoren</i>
Pass	INT	2♦	Pass
2♥	Pass	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♦	Dble	Pass
3♥	All Pass		

**Comments:** 2♦ Multi: one major suit

**Contract:** Three Hearts, played by West

**Lead:** ♠K

**Play:** ♠A, ♥A, ♠2, ♦2

**Result:** 8 tricks, NS +50

**The Facts:**

West called the Director at the end of the play. She complained about having had incorrect explanation as to the nature of South's hand. Consequently, after the ♡J fell, she had tried to get to hand in order to finesse the trump Queen.

**The Director:**

Tried to establish the facts about what had been the explanations on the North/West side of the screen. As nothing had been written down, and the statements were inconclusive, the Director decided to let the result stand.

**Ruling:**

Result Stands

**Relevant Laws:**

Law 75A, 40C

**East/West appealed.**

**Present:** All players

**The Players:**

West stated she had asked what 2NT had been, and it was explained to her as Take-Out. That is why she decided to play South for the singleton.

North told the Committee what had happened: when the tray appeared with 2NT, he had hesitated for a moment, and then had said "I think I should alert that". North vehemently denied he had spoken the words "Take-Out". North stated further that West had said "OK" and had not asked further in that round. On the next round, she had though for some 15-20" and had then asked what 3♦ was. North stated he had said "I have diamonds". There had been no further questions.

When asked by the Committee, North could provide no better explanation about the bid of 2NT than "unclear" and "we want to compete more".

Again upon question by the Committee, North could not recall what made him choose diamonds instead of clubs. Actually, East volunteered some bridge reasons why bidding diamonds at this stage is better (South is unlikely to have clubs and spades for her bidding). North/South had no clear methods over a 2♦ Multi overcall, as they had never yet encountered it.

West further added that the double over 3♦ shows strength.

**The Committee:**

Agreed with the Director that there is no evidence to support West had been misinformed. When there is no written explanation, it is hard to rule on disputed facts. Furthermore, to play for the finesse after the Jack drops is completely correct bridge (restricted choice), especially with a INT opening to the left. The Committee felt that the appeal ought not to have been brought.

**The Committee's decision:**

Director's ruling upheld.

**Deposit:** Forfeited

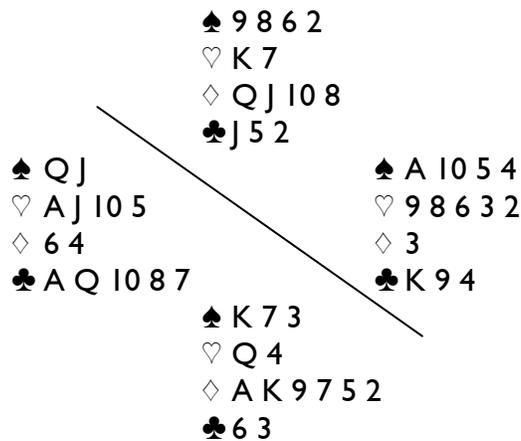
**Appeal No. 7**  
**USA v Germany**

**Appeals Committee:**

Bill Pencharz (Chairman, England), Jens Auken (Denmark), Jean-Claude Beineix (France),  
 Grattan Endicott (England), Jean-Paul Meyer (France)  
 Herman De Wael sat in on the meeting to act as Scribe

**Mixed Pairs Final "A" Session 2**

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vulnerable.



<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Schilhart</i>	<i>Meckstroth</i>	<i>Gramberg</i>	<i>Radin</i>
		Pass	1♦
2♣	2♦	Pass	3♦
Pass	Pass	3♥	All Pass

**Contract:** Three Hearts, played by East

**Result:** 10 tricks, NS -170

**The Facts:**

The Tournament Director was summoned first by South, while her screenmate West was thinking over 2♦. After the play was over, South called again, now to complain about East's 3♥ call. The Director ruled that a pass in this turn was no Logical Alternative for East, and allowed the result to stand. However, this was not the Ruling that was appealed, because when the Director returned to inform East/West that the result could stand, East asked for a ruling herself. She said that 3♦ was explained to her as strong. If she had received the "right" information, she would have bid 4♦, leading to a 4♥ contract.

**The Director:**

Asked North how he had explained the bid of 3♦, and he denied having said "strong". The Director had no evidence of misinformation and ruled (as a second separate ruling) that the result should stand. It was this second ruling that would be appealed.

**Ruling:**

Result Stands

**Relevant Laws:**

Law 75A, 40C

**East/West appealed.**

**Present:** All players

**The Players:**

East explained that a Double over 2♦ would have been for penalties, which was why she had passed.

West explained what had happened after 3♦. He had waited for an alert, which did not come. He had then taken the Convention Card, which was of an American model. He had then asked a question, and all this had taken the time that was noticed.

East next explained her decision: she had wanted to know what 3♦ was, which was not alerted. She did not remember the exact word used, but it was either "strong" or "good". She had then decided to bid 3♥. If she had known 3♦ was based on a diamond suit, she would have bid on.

North told the Committee that the tray had taken a full minute to come back. He thought bidding 3♥ was questionable, but he had accepted the Director's decision. He then explained what had happened. East had asked about 2♦, which he had explained as natural, weak, and she had then asked about 3♦. North had told East that they had not discussed it, but that it was not strong. He produced a written statement by a kibitzer, Philippe Cronier, who used the word "proposition".

The Director then repeated what he had heard from three players who he had consulted. None of them would have passed over 2♦, but if they had, none would have passed over 3♦, which is why he ruled that passing 3♦ was not a logical alternative.

**The Committee:**

Commented on the first Director's call, which was from the South side, and asked the Director to remind South that this should not be done.

The Committee saw no merit whatsoever in appealing the second ruling.

**The Committee's decision:**

Director's ruling upheld.

**Deposit:** Forfeited

Text to be published in the Daily Bulletin:

The players are reminded of regulation 10.2.4 of the Conditions of Contest (amending Law 73D):

*If attention is first drawn to a player's breach of tempo by his screenmate, the Director may rule that up to that time the players on the other side of the screen were not conscious of such breach.*

Players should not call the Director to draw attention to hesitations on their own side of the screen. Only when a hesitation is noticed on the other side of the screen, can it be considered Unauthorized Information.

**Appeal No. 8**  
**Poland v Denmark**

**Appeals Committee:**

Bill Pencharz (Chairman, England) , Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Jean-Claude Beineix (France), David Birman (Israel), Grattan Endicott (England)

**Open Teams Round 2**

Board 16. Dealer West. East/West Vulnerable.

	♠ A Q 7 5		
	♥ K 4 3		
	♦ A Q J 10		
	♣ 8 7		
♠ K J		♠ 9 8 3 2	
♥ 9 7 2		♥ J 10 8 6 5	
♦ 5 4 3 2		♦ 7	
♣ K 10 6 2		♣ J 9 4	
	♠ 10 6 4		
	♥ A Q		
	♦ K 9 8 6		
	♣ A Q 5 3		
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Marquardsen</i>	<i>Romanski</i>	<i>Blakset</i>	<i>Stepinsky</i>

**Comments:** Bidding not recorded

**Contract:** Six Diamonds, played by North

**Result:** 12 tricks, NS +920

**The Facts:**

Declarer having already lost the Club finesse, he played spades to his hand. North had already taken the ♠Q in hand so when West put in the ♠K he had to change this to the ♠A. A dispute arose as to whether the ♠Q had been played, and the Director was called.

**The Director:**

Asked East to show how the ♠Q had been held, and determined that it had not been played. No-one complained or added more facts, so when East/West came back 15 minutes after the end of play, the Directors were surprised about the appeal.

**Ruling:**

♠Q not played, which resulted in 12 tricks

**Relevant Laws:**

Law 45C2

**East/West appealed.**

**Present:** All players, two kibitzers and the Captain of North/South

**The Players:**

East stated that the Director had explained the facts correctly. He had agreed that the card had not been left on the table, but he had never said that it had not touched the table. East told the Committee that he "played it like that" (hand and card touching the table). East explained why he had not complained at the table. He had told his story, had got a ruling and saw no reason not to believe the Director knew the Law. It was not his time to say anything. West told the Committee that it was he who had called the Director. He had seen the Queen, after which declarer had said "oops" and changed it to the Ace.

East/West asked a few witnesses to give their statement.

The first witness (Danish) had been sitting between South and West. He showed how the card was played, thereby dropping the card.

The second witness (Swedish) had been sitting between the first witness and West. He told the Committee that declarer had held the card face up, almost touching the table. The witness could not remember whether the card had touched the table or not. Both witnesses had seen the ♠Q.

North told the Committee he had held all his cards nearly open. Play was almost finished. If the Spade finesse worked, the contract was made, if it failed, the contract was down. He had the ♠Q ready to play, but when he saw the ♠K, he had to change it into the ♠A. When asked if he agreed that his opponents had seen the ♠Q, he agreed to this. It was almost like a claim, he said, my left hand opponent could see all my cards.

**The Committee:**

Read Law 45C2 again:

*Declarer must play a card from his hand held face up, touching or nearly touching the table, or maintained in such a position as to indicate that it has been played.*

Intent is totally unimportant for this decision, and so is it that the card has been seen.

The Director had ruled that the card had not been "maintained" in such a position, and the Committee decided to agree with that judgment.

**The Committee's decision:**

Director's ruling upheld.

**Deposit:** Returned

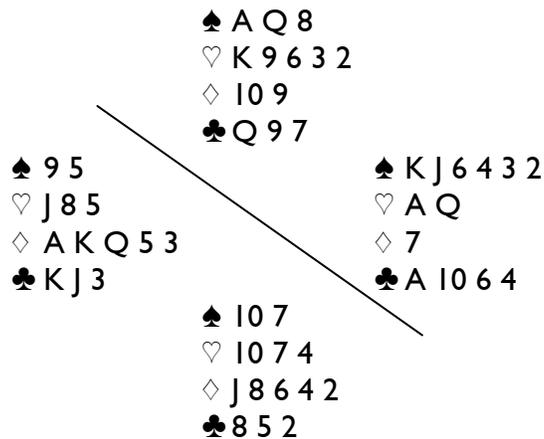
**Appeal No. 9**  
**Italy v Poland**

**Appeals Committee:**

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

**Senior Teams Round 4**

Board 5. Dealer North. North/South Vulnerable.



West	North	East	South
<i>Markowicz</i>	<i>Resta</i>	<i>Zaremba</i>	<i>de Falco</i>
	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♣	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♠	Pass	5♥	Pass
5♠	Pass	6♠	All Pass

**Comments:**

Polish club bidding, 2♦ FG, 3♣ either natural or a stopper

**Contract:** Six Spades, played by East

**Result:** 12 tricks, NS -980

**The Facts:**

South called the Tournament Director when the tray came back with 6♠, stating that West had hesitated before bidding 5♠. The Director told South off for calling from the wrong side of the screen, but he did go to the North/West side and asked if anything had been noticed over there. North said that "4♠ en 5♠ came slowly". East confirmed this but added that his partner always bid slowly. The Director concluded that there had been a break in tempo, and let play continue. When the slam was made, the Director was called back.

**The Director:**

Applied Law 16:

- there was Unauthorized Information from partner;
- 6♠ could have been suggested by the Unauthorized Information;
- there was a Logical Alternative: Pass;
- there was damage.

**Ruling:**

Score adjusted to

**Both sides receive:**

5♠+1 by East (NS -480)

**Relevant Laws:**

Law 16A, 12C2

**East/West appealed.**

**Present:** All players except South. The Captain of North/South also attended.

**The Players:**

North gave apologies for South, who was ill in bed.

West explained that he always played very slowly. During the match, South had called the Director several times, complaining about his thinking. West told the Committee that there had been one other ruling where he had thought for a while, and the Director had ruled another slam back to game. They were not appealing that one. In fact, the match had run over time, but the Directors had taken the rulings into account.

North stated that they had called the Director only twice, not more. When the Director was called on this issue, there had been no problem about the hesitation. 4♠ had taken a long time, and 5♠ had taken 3 to 5 minutes.

The Director was asked if he had an indication as to the length of the pause. He had not, but he had understood it so clearly that he did not ask how long it was.

West was asked if he had shown his diamond control. He had not, because he had not had the opportunity. He could not have bid 4♦ over 4♣ since that would mean the club suit, which he had shown on the previous round, would have been a natural one.

**The Committee:**

Considered that East/West had reached a lucky slam, but they should not have done it with the Unauthorized Information. The Ruling had been totally correct and the only thing that needed consideration was whether or not South ought to have called the Director.

Considering that North had had a previous opportunity to call the Director (before pushing through the tray), the fact that it was South who calls becomes important. If it had been a borderline hesitation, the Director should not have accepted the claim that there had been a break-in-tempo. As the hesitation was in the minutes range, the Director is right to accept the break-in-tempo as proven.

**The Committee's decision:**

Director's ruling upheld.

**Deposit:** Returned

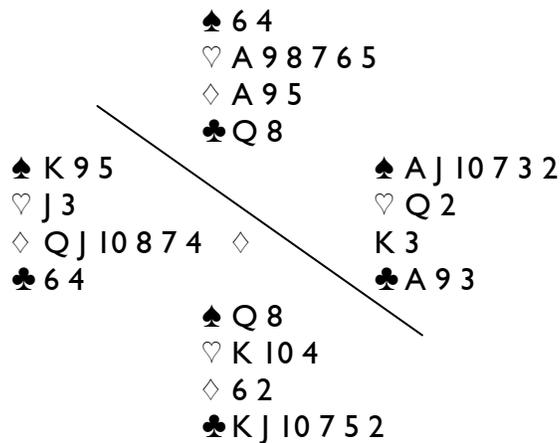
**Appeal No. 10**  
**Poland v Netherlands**

**Appeals Committee:**

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

**Senior Teams Round 6**

Board 12. Dealer West. North/South Vulnerable.



West	North	East	South
<i>Boegem</i>	<i>Antas</i>	<i>Janssens</i>	<i>Kaczanowski</i>
2♣	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

**Contract:** Four Spades, played by East

**Lead:** ♦6

**Result:** 10 tricks, NS -420

**The Facts:**

2♣ showed either weak in Diamonds or a strong hand, but South complained he had not seen an alert on it, which is why he led a Diamond.

**The Director:**

Established that West could not confirm that he had seen South acknowledge the alert, and ruled that there had been no alert.

The Director ruled however that South had failed to protect himself by not enquiring about 2♣ or checking the Convention Card. South could not tell the Director why he thought 2♣ was weak in clubs.

**Ruling:**

Result Stands

**Relevant Laws:**

Law 75A, 40C

**North/South appealed.**

**Present:** All players and the Captain of North/South

**The Players:**

South explained, through his Captain, that he had not seen an alert. Not alerting a conventional opening is an infraction. It is not evident that 2♣ means Diamonds. South confirmed not having asked what 2♣ meant. The Convention Card was on the table, this was the 12th board of a match of 16 boards.

When asked why he had thought it was weak rather than strong, South explained once again that it had not been alerted, and that he had not needed to know the strength.

West explained what he had done. He had tapped the 2♣ bid when he had made it, and he had taken out the Alert card and placed it on the table. He had not had eye contact with his opponent because he was unable to. His head is frozen and he cannot move his head. In order to look at his screenmate, West would have to turn his entire body, so he could not confirm whether South had noticed his alert or not.

West explained that South had asked for the meaning of 2♠, and he had replied "mildly invitational; because I can pass 2♦". That was why he had assumed that South had understood the meaning of 2♣. South denied having heard anything about passing 2♦ in the explanation of 2♠. These explanations had not been written down.

North/South once again told the Committee that South would never have led a Diamond if the correct explanation had been understood.

**The Committee:**

Agreed fully with the Director. West had not alerted correctly, but South had not done enough to protect himself.

**The Committee's decision:**

Director's ruling upheld.

**Deposit:** Returned

**Note:** It is remarkable that no-one ever mentioned that South ought to have realised from his own holdings that 2♣ might well have been conventional

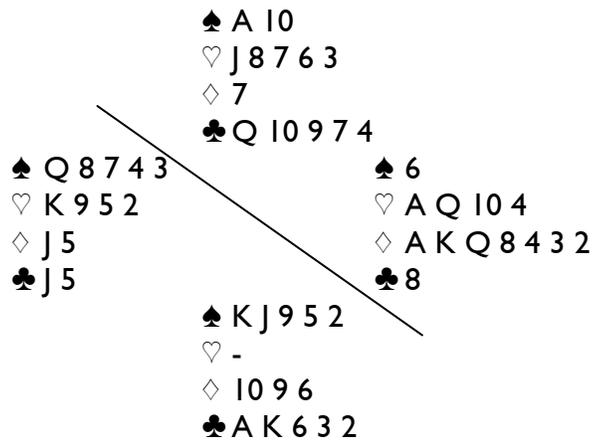
**Appeal No. 11**  
**Italy v Israel**

**Appeals Committee:**

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

**Open Teams Swiss "A" Round 5**

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vulnerable.



West	North	East	South
<i>Kalish</i>	<i>Fantoni</i>	<i>Podgur</i>	<i>Nunes</i>
		1♣ <sup>1</sup>	Dble <sup>2</sup>
Redble <sup>3</sup>	3♥ <sup>4</sup>	4♦ <sup>5</sup>	4♠
Dble	5♣	Pass <sup>6</sup>	Pass
Dble <sup>7</sup>	Pass	5♦ <sup>8</sup>	All Pass

**Comments:**

- 1 Strong
- 2 4-4 in the reds or in the blacks
- 3 5-8 pts
- 4 Pass or Correct
- 5 FG
- 6 Stronger than 5♦
- 7 bad hand
- 8 to play

**Contract:** Five Diamonds, played by East

**Result:** 9 tricks, NS +200

**The Facts:**

The meaning of the bids 1-5 above are undisputed, 6-8 are according to East/West. The Director was called by North, who complained over a slow return of the tray with the double over 5♣.

**The Director:**

Ruled that there had been Unauthorized Information and consulted with a number of colleagues and players, about half of whom would have passed 5♣X. The Director ruled therefore that passing was a Logical Alternative.

**Ruling:**

Score adjusted to

**Both sides receive:**

5♣X+1 by North (NS+950)

**Relevant Laws:**

Law 16A2, 12C2

**East/West appealed.**

**Present:** All players

**The Players:**

West explained that he had to bid, either 5♦ or Double, as the Pass was forcing. West told the Committee that South had passed quickly, that he had asked about the two-suiters being 5-5 (confirmed) and that he had thought for some 15 seconds.

East explained that since 4♦ was forcing to game, the Pass over 5♣ showed a better hand than 5♦.

North was asked how long had been the break in tempo. He had felt it as a long hesitation.

South confirmed that West had thought "at least 15 seconds" after asking questions.

North explained that he thought East/West had their logic wrong. According to him, when West doubles 4♠ and 5♣, he shows points in the black suits, not the reds. East should realise that there is no slam anymore, and his pass over 5♣ gives West only two options: defending or playing in 5♦. East should therefore pass out the double over 5♣.

**The Committee:**

Considered from the different statements that the "hesitation" had been no more than 15 seconds. According to the Conditions of Contest, such a hesitation, at a high level such as this, is not to be considered a break in tempo.

*A delay of the bidding tray on one side of the screen of up to 15 seconds (at any time during the auction and whether or not out of tempo) shall not give rise to any inference of unauthorized information. Players are advised to vary the time the tray is passed so that pauses up to 15 seconds can be considered normal.*

Therefore, the Director had been mistaken in treating it as Unauthorized Information.

**The Committee's decision:**

Original table result restored

**Deposit:** Returned

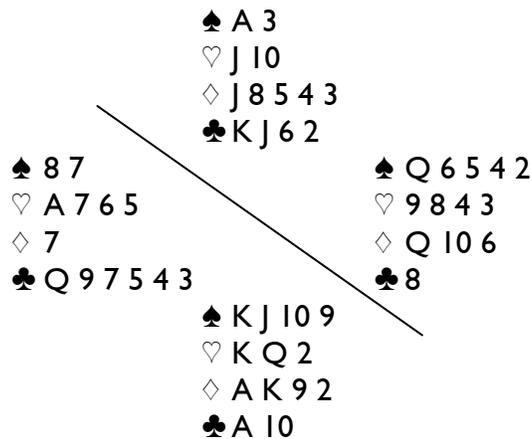
**Disciplinary Hearing No. 2**  
**Italy v Israel**

**Appeals Committee:**

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

**Open Teams Swiss "A" Round 6**

Board 23. Dealer South. All Vulnerable.



<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Roll</i>	<i>Lanzarotti</i>	<i>Bareket</i>	<i>Buratti</i>
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♦
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♦
Pass	4♠	Pass	5♣
Pass	6♦	All Pass	

**Contract:** Six Diamonds, played by South

**Lead:** ♥A

**Play:** ♣9, taken by the King, ♦J-6-2-7, claim

**Result:** 12 tricks, NS +1370

**The Facts:**

At the end of the play, East called the Director to explain what he had seen.

**The Director:**

Told the facts to the Chief Tournament Director, who decided to call upon the Appeal Committee to hold a Disciplinary Hearing.

**Present:** All players, the Captain of East/West, and the Coach of North/South

**The Players:**

The Chief Tournament Director explained to the Committee what the East player had told him. Dummy, North, had leaned across to take a look into East's cards. East had then noticed that North had held his arms crossed, and had signalled with three fingers on his arm. East had seen a signal with three fingers three times. Declarer had then played the  $\diamond J$  at trick three, and had let it run, thus making his contract.

East then told the same story in his own words. He had not shown his cards, but North had taken a look into them anyway. East had seen three fingers on three occasions, and he had called the Director after Declarer had successfully finessed in diamonds.

East complained that he had been so shaken about the whole thing, that he could no longer play to his full capacity. They had lost the match 2-25.

West related the play to the first three tricks:

- West led the  $\heartsuit A$ , East contributing the  $\heartsuit 8$ ;
- West then asked a number of questions, particularly about the  $\heartsuit K$ , which South confirmed having shown in the auction;
- West switched to the  $\clubsuit 9$ , taken by the King
- After some thought, South called for the  $\diamond J$ , East contributing the  $\diamond 6$  in tempo;
- South thought for some more time and let the  $\diamond J$  run.

East once more showed what he had seen North do: the left arm lay before him on the table, the right hand lay across it, with the middle three fingers pointing downwards. East showed that he had seen the three fingers once across the wrist, once across the forearm and once free on the table in front of the arm.

South was asked to confirm the play as described above, which he did.

South was then asked to explain why he played the diamonds in the manner he did. He gave the following responses:

- The lead of the  $\heartsuit A$  was curious because dummy had not made a cue-bid in hearts;
- After all the questions he decided to play diamonds 1-3;
- The first two boards were bad for him and he needed 20VP to qualify for the next round;
- Diamonds are always badly divided in this tournament. He had also found the  $\diamond Q$  on board 24 (West commented that he had made lots of bids on that board, so finding that Queen was clear-cut).

North explained that all through the day, when dummy, he had laid both arms on the table and rested his head on them. This could not be confirmed by East/West since this was the third board of the match and he had not been dummy on the first two.

North told the Committee he had only 20% vision in his left eye, and the red honours were all the same to him from that side.

When confronted with East's statement, North denied that he had looked at East's cards.

The Coach of North/South, in name of their Captain (who was absent), explained that he had told his team to win the match by at least 19 or 20VP. He had never heard allegations of this kind in 30 years' work for the federation and this particular team.

West finally added that South had also put his head on his arms while thinking about running the  $\diamond$ J.

### **The Committee's Deliberation:**

The Committee addressed the issue of their jurisdiction under the Laws of Duplicate Contract Bridge. Under law 91B: *Right to Disqualify, The Director* (and on a reference, the Committee) *is specifically empowered to disqualify a contestant for cause.*

The Committee also addressed certain technical issues raised by North/South:

- The Committee rejected the argument that "Diamonds are always badly divided in this Tournament".

- The Committee noted that bidding and making Six Diamonds by normal play was quite likely to win the board as the slam was not straightforward to bid.

- The Committee noted that tackling diamonds (trumps) by leading the Jack was singularly against the odds; except in the specific circumstances when declarer knows that East has exactly three diamonds. In this case the odds are 3-1 in favour of leading the Jack.

- The Committee noted that East's duck of the Jack of Diamonds was correct technique. South could have had five diamonds, in which case it is a normal gambit to lead the Jack to induce a cover with Q10x.

### **The Committee's reasons:**

In the play of the hand, East/West believed that Declarer had acted upon improper information conveyed from dummy. They suggested how this information was possibly passed.

When asked to explain his reasons for playing the hand in such a fashion declarer gave a number of reasons which the Committee found unconvincing. It was adjudged that the nature of these explanations by a competent player was self-incriminating.

### **The Committee's decision:**

Lanzarotti-Buratti to be disqualified from the teams event - Law 91B.

Match Score adjusted to 18-0 in favour of the team of East/West.

Matter to be referred to the Credentials' Committee with reference to the Pairs' event in these Championships.

### **Statistics on board 23:**

The Scoring department has provided the Appeal Committee with the following information concerning the board that was the subject of the Disciplinary Hearing No. 2

This board was played in 41 matches, at 82 tables.

2 tables played unconventional contracts (6♣-4; 2♥X-5 by West).

49 tables played No-Trump contracts (43 in 3NT, 1 in 4NT, 4 in 6NT).

31 tables played in Diamonds (4 in 5♦, 27 in 6♦).

Of these 80 (49+31) contracts, 2 declarers made only 10 tricks, 74 made 11 tricks, and 4 made 12 tricks.

Those four declarers were:

-The South players for teams:

-Goded, 6NT= on the lead of the  $\diamond 7$

-Sazonov, 6 $\diamond$ = on the lead of the  $\spadesuit 8$

-Queran, 6 $\diamond$ = on the lead of the  $\diamond 7$

-and Mr Buratti, 6 $\diamond$ = on the lead of the  $\heartsuit A$

After the decision the Appeals Committee has established the following additional facts:

In Disciplinary Hearing No. 2, Mssrs Lantarotti and Buratti (LB) stated during the Appeals Committee meeting that they had had two bad boards starting the match. The two boards 21 and 22 were played just before board 23.

There were 44 results on board 21 and the same number on board 22. These results are all from the Swiss Qualifying A.

On board 21 LB were minus 400. The average was minus 460, which meant LB won 2 IMPs against the field. Their teammates were plus 800 which meant that the LB team won 9 IMPs in the match.

On board 22 LB were minus 110. The average was plus 23, which meant LB lost about 4 IMPs against the field. Their teammates were plus 110 and the board was therefore a push.

The data of the match and of the two boards in question have been transmitted to the NCBO of Italy.

**Appeal No. 13**  
**USA v Netherlands**

**Appeals Committee:**

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

**Women's Teams Quarter Final**

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vulnerable.

	♠ 8 6 3		
	♥ K 10 8 3		
	♦ J 10 4		
	♣ A 9 4		
♠ K J 10 4		♠ A Q 9	
♥ 9 5		♥ Q 7 6 2	
♦ A 9 8 6		♦ K Q 3	
♣ J 7 6		♣ K Q 3	
	♠ 7 5 2		
	♥ A J 4		
	♦ 7 5 2		
	♣ 10 8 6 5		
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Verbeek</i>	<i>Molson</i>	<i>Michielsen</i>	<i>Sokolow</i>
	Pass	1♣	Pass
1♠	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

**Comments:**

2NT shows 18-19 without 5 in a Major or 5 good Clubs

**Contract:** Three No trumps, played by East

**Lead:** ♦7

**Play:** diamond taken with the Queen, Spade 9 overtaken, ♣J, three more spade tricks, ♦6 to the King, and ♦ finessing and losing to the Jack.

**Result:** 8 tricks, NS +50

**The Facts:**

Declarer asked about the leads. There was no Convention Card on the table, since the one copy that was available at the beginning of the match (this was the third board) was being photocopied by the Directors. North explained that the leads were fourth highest and second from bad suits. East believed the lead was from J752 and finessed.

**The Director:**

Read the Convention Card, which clearly states fourth from A, K or Q (so not from Jack) and top from three small, and asked North to confirm that she had omitted to tell about the possibility of three small. The Director considered that East had been misinformed.

**Ruling:**

Score adjusted to

**Both sides receive:**

3NT= by East (NS-400)

**Relevant Laws:**

Law 20F2, 75C, 12C2

**North/South appealed.**

**Present:** All players except West. The Captain and Coach of East/West also attended.

**The Players:**

North explained that they had started the first half of the match with two convention cards, and she assumed that one of her opponents had kept one (to remember her by?). At the start of the second half, they had only one copy left and they had asked the Director to make a photocopy of that one. At the time of the third board, the copies were not already available.

Both sides agreed as to the diamonds played in tricks 1, 7 and 8: 7-8-10-Q; 6-4-K-2; 3-5-9-J. North confirmed that she had explained the leads as fourth best, except from a bad hand, and second highest otherwise. She had forgotten about the possibility of top from three small.

North estimated that her opponent would have more chances of getting the position right with this lesser information, as she would not normally conclude that Jack-fourth is a bad suit. North regretted not having false-carded with the jack at trick one, because that would make the choice even harder.

East explained that she had not needed the Convention Card to consider that Jack-fourth would be a bad suit. She had thought nothing strange about leading second from 752 and calling this second from a bad suit. East considered that North ought to have seen that the seven was a high card from a short suit, and she should have included that.

When asked if anything had been written down, both sides explained it had not been, but that there was no misunderstandings as to what was being said.

**The Committee:**

Considered that the Convention Card was sufficiently clear. It mentions fourth from AKQ (so not from the Jack), and top from three small.

Some members believed that Declarer could have done more to protect herself, specifically asking what the lead would have been from Jxxx and xxx (on paper, asking to circle the card led), but other members believed that she had not asked this since she thought she had the answer (second from a bad suit).

The Committee wondered why the Director had not applied Law 12C3 and weight the outcome. After all, with correct information, Declarer is still left with two possibilities, as the seven would have been the partnership lead both from J752 and from 752. In deciding upon the weights to be applied, it was suggested to come down a little from half, in order to compensate for Declarer not having asked a possible follow-up question.

**The Committee's decision:**

Score adjusted to

**Both sides receive:**

60% of 3NT-1 by East (NS +50)  
plus 40% of 3NT= by East (NS -400)

**Deposit:** Returned

**Note:** the result at the other table was -430 so the final result on the board was:

60% of +1 IMP  
plus 40% of +10 IMPs  
equating to +6.4 IMPs to the team of North/South

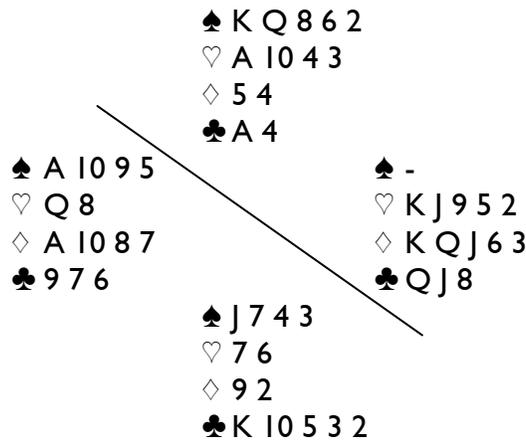
**Appeal No. 14**  
**Italy v France**

**Appeals Committee:**

Jens Auken (Chairman, Denmark), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), David Birman (Israel), Grattan Endicott (England)

**Open Pairs Qualification Round I**

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vulnerable.



	<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
	<i>Beauvillain</i>	<i>D'Apice</i>	<i>Duguet</i>	<i>Rizzuti</i>
Version 1		1♥	2♦	Pass
	2♥	2♠	3♥	Pass
	3NT	All Pass		
Version 2		1♥	2♦	Pass
	2♥	2♠	Pass	Pass
	2NT	Pass	3♥	Pass
	3NT	All Pass		

**Comments:**

Throughout the hearing, East/West maintained that Version 2 was the true bidding sequence, North/South (and the Director) believing that Version 1 was the correct one.

**Contract:** Three No trumps, played by West

**Lead:** ♠K

**Play:** ♥Q in trick two, North/South cashing spades

**Result:** 7 tricks, NS +100

**The Facts:**

The Director related to the Committee the facts as he had noted them. That was with bidding Version 1. East/West contested these facts, citing bidding sequence 2. The Committee tried to reconcile the facts, but both sides continued to stick to the facts as they saw them.

Most facts were not in contention though, in particular that South had failed to alert the 1♥ and 2♠ bids of his partner. These were "canapé" style and showed 4 hearts and 5 spades. West complained after the play that he would not have bid 3NT if he had known that North held 5 spades, not 4 as he was led to believe.

**The Director:**

Ruled that both bids are alertable, and that West had been misinformed. The Director considered however that the missing alerts did not have any impact on West's bidding decision, and that there had been therefore no damage.

**Ruling:**

Result Stands

**Relevant Laws:**

Law 75A, 40C

**East/West appealed.**

**Present:** All players

**The Players:**

West explained that they had already been late in the round, which is why the misunderstanding about the bidding sequence started. She once again stated that she had passed in round two of the bidding, showing her heart suit only later.

West explained that he believed North to have 5 or 6 Hearts and 4 Spades. He had thought he had a good hand, but if North has 5 Spades, his hand is not so good. West explained that he thought 3♥ had shown strength, not hearts.

North/South, through a translator, confirmed yet again that Version 1 was the correct bidding sequence. South told the Committee that he had explained to West that North had shown four hearts and five spades. He had done so in English, and although he said he did not speak that language, it was clear to the Committee that his knowledge extended to these few words. West denied however that any such statement had been uttered.

**The Committee:**

Remarked that whatever the actual auction had been, and whether the bids are alerted or not, there is no damage. Even with the bidding of Version 2, 3♥ shows hearts, so it asks for a spade stopper, which West has.

The Committee found however, that South had failed to alert and that that was more damaging than most such infractions, and thought there should have been a penalty applied for this case.

**The Committee's decision:**

North/South receive a Procedural Penalty of 10%

Director's ruling upheld otherwise

**Deposit:** Returned

**Appeal No. 15**  
**Italy v England**

**Appeals Committee:**

Jens Auken (Chairman, Denmark), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), David Birman (Israel), Jan van Cleeff (the Netherlands)

**Open Pairs Qualification Round 2**

Board 15. Dealer South. North/South Vulnerable.

	♠ 7 6 ♥ 10 8 5 2 ♦ A J 4 2 ♣ Q 4 2		
♠ 9 8 2 ♥ K 9 7 ♦ Q 9 6 5 ♣ A J 8	♠ K 10 4 ♥ A Q J 6 ♦ K 10 8 ♣ 10 9 6	♠ A Q J 5 3 ♥ 4 3 ♦ 7 3 ♣ K 7 5 3	
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Wolfarth</i>	<i>Tomassini</i>	<i>Senior</i>	<i>Cacciapuoti</i>
Pass	Pass	2♠	INT All Pass

**Comments:**

INT 12-15

**Contract:** Two Spades, played by East

**Lead:** ♣10

**Play:** club taken by the ace, ♠A and ♠Q taken by the King, ♣6. Declarer played the Jack on this.

**Result:** 8 tricks, NS -110

**The Facts:**

On the return of the ♣6, East needed to know the agreements concerning opening leads. North pointed to the convention card. East misinterpreted the writings on this, which is why he did not finesse the ♣9.

**The Director:**

Read the Convention Card and ruled that it lacked clarity. The Director found however that East had not done enough to protect himself so he decided to award a weighted score. At first, East misunderstood the weights (he thought he had received 2/3 of the overtrick) and agreed with that ruling, but when he learned afterwards that he had only received 1/3 of the overtrick, he decided to appeal.

**Ruling:**

Score adjusted to

**Both sides receive:**

66.7% of 2♠= by East (NS -110)  
plus 33.3% of 2♠+1 by East (NS -140)

**Relevant Laws:**

Law 75A, 40C

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

**East/West appealed.**

**Present:** All players except West

**The Players:**

East explained that he had not been able to understand North, who did not have enough English. He had looked at the Convention Card and found it not clear. He had asked again and received the response "Journalist leads". East was not certain what that meant. East showed the Convention Card. Next to the leads "10" it says "xx or 10J...AK", next to "9" it says "xx or 910...QKA". East had interpreted this as saying they lead the 9 from 109x. East continued to relate what had happened when the 9 had finally appeared in South. After the hand, in order to ascertain whether he had been misinformed or whether South had falsecarded, he had written 109x and asked South what the lead would have been. South circled the 10. That is when East had called the Director.

East told the Committee that he realised there was a danger South had only a doubleton (and the third trump). East did not agree with the Director who had told him that South had only one possible lead: clubs. East said he could not see from his hand that this was the case, and he considered that 109x is a more attractive lead than 10x. East had checked the frequencies, and there were 37 140's and only 25 110's. This meant that most declarers would have finessed on the second club round, and he would have done so too with correct information.

South explained that he was the one who had written the Convention Card. He had intended the xx to show that the ten was led when accompanied by two small cards. The other phrases were there to show that the 10 was lead when accompanied by the Jack and a higher honour (not the Queen), and the similar for the Nine.

South also explained that he had played the ♣6 especially quickly, trying to induce East into putting on the Ace out of fear for a ruff.

**The Committee:**

Considered that the Convention Card was very badly filled in. xx would more naturally refer to 10x than to 10xx.

There was some disagreement in the Committee. Should East have asked further (i.e. write down 109x and ask North to circle the appropriate lead)? Some members felt that he should have, others were more lenient in the case of a two-board pairs tournament.

The Committee considered that the figure of 2/3 in favour of the overtrick, such as East had at first agreed with, would have been the normal weight in a ruling, and that the Director's decision of bringing this down to 1/3 was overly harsh. The Committee settled on a weight of 1/2.

**The Committee's decision:**

Score adjusted to

**Both sides receive:**

50% of 2♠= by East (NS -110)  
plus 50% of 2♠+1 by East (NS -140)

**Deposit:** Returned

**Appeal No. 16**  
**England v Poland**

**Appeals Committee:**

Jean-Claude Beineix (Chairman, France), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), David Birman (Israel), Jean-Paul Meyer (France), Dilip Gidwani (India)

**Open Pairs Qualification Round 3**

Board 2. Dealer East. North/South Vulnerable.

	♠ J 10 4 ♥ 9 6 5 3 ♦ A K 10 5 ♣ A 10		
♠ Q ♥ A Q J 4 ♦ 4 2 ♣ J 6 5 4 3 2	♠ 8 7 2 ♥ 10 8 2 ♦ J 6 3 ♣ K Q 8 7	♠ A K 9 6 5 3 ♥ K 7 ♦ Q 9 8 7 ♣ 9	♠ 8 7 2 ♥ 10 8 2 ♦ J 6 3 ♣ K Q 8 7
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Balicki</i>	<i>Forrester</i>	<i>Sielicki</i>	<i>Mizel</i>
Pass	2♦	Pass	1♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	3♦

**Contract:** Four Spades, played by South

**Lead:** ♣4

**Play:** lead taken with the Ace, ♠J, letting it run to the bare Queen

**Result:** 10 tricks, NS +620

**The Facts:**

On the play of the ♠J, East hesitated for a few seconds before contributing the ♠2. South decided to let the Jack run, and it lost to the ♠Q. East told the Director he had indeed huddled for 2 or 3 seconds, because he had to decide to play the ♠2 to show clubs by Lavinthal signals.

**The Director:**

Ruled that there had been illegal deception, and decided to weight the scores because South still needed to decide whether to let the Jack run or cash the Ace.

**Ruling:**

Score adjusted to

**Both sides receive:**

50% of 4♠+1 by North (NS +650)  
plus 50% of 4♠= by North (NS +620)

**Relevant Laws:**

Law 73F2

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

**East/West appealed.**

**Present:** All players except North

**The Players:**

East explained it was the first time he played in an international event. It had taken him 2 seconds to remember they were using Lavinthal signals. East showed their Convention Card, which indicated "S" (that is Suit Preference) under Signals in Trump suit.

East explained that he had not been certain if the Club suit was already obvious or not.

South explained that the first two tricks had been played in normal tempo, and that he had played the Jack in order to discover whether they were "coverers" or not. He had not realised that East was inexperienced. He knew West, of course. East thought the club suit was already obvious. Asked whether he could not have held ♣32 himself, South answered that was very unlikely considering the bidding.

West finally added that no-one really expects anyone to cover from Q872.

**The Committee:**

Read Law 73F2:

*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 (see Law 12C).*

Although these conditions are met, South is not damaged. The technical line is to play small to the ♠A, since even a 0-4 distribution can be picked up. South tried to induce a signal from East (or a cover), but he did that at his own risk.

**The Committee's decision:**

Original table result restored

**Deposit:** Returned

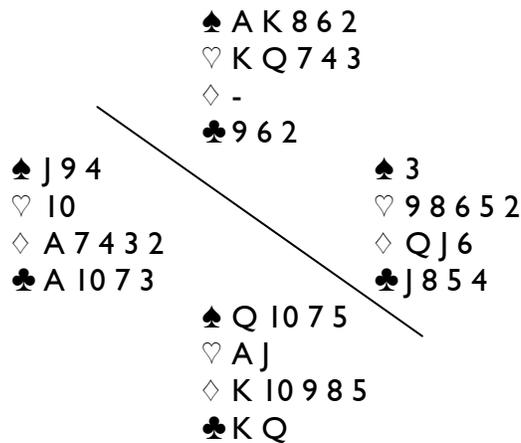
**Appeal No. 17**  
**Finland v Norway**

**Appeals Committee:**

Bill Pencharz (Chairman, England), Jean-Claude Beineix (France), David Birman (Israel), Grattan Endicott (England), Jean-Paul Meyer (France)  
 Herman De Wael sat in on the meeting to act as Scribe.

**Open Pairs Qualification Round 3**

Board 12. Dealer West. North/South Vulnerable.



West	North	East	South
<i>Hoiland</i>	<i>Backstrom</i>	<i>Kvangraven</i>	<i>Saarikoski</i>
Pass	1♠	Pass	2NT
Pass	4♦	Pass	4♥
Pass	4♠	Pass	4NT
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

**Comments:**

2NT FG, 4♦ void in Diamonds

**Contract:** Six Spades, played by North

**Lead:** ♣5

**Play:** ♣A, while West was thinking, North claimed. East acquiesced, and West accepted East's acquiescence without looking at the cards.

**Result:** 12 tricks, NS +1430

**The Facts:**

This was the last board for these two pairs. After leaving the room, East/West discovered that the slam could not be made. East would always make a Heart trick. They called the Director, who ruled that they were in time to lodge a complaint, but that he had to rule according to Law 69B.

**The Director:**

Ruled that there was a line of play (East discarding a small heart on one of the Spades) which was careless but not inferior, and therefore "normal".

**Ruling:**

Result Stands

**Relevant Laws:**

Law 69B & footnote

**East/West appealed.**

**Present:** East and West

**The Players:**

North/South could not be located. This was the final session of the qualification, and North/South had not made the cut. A decision had to be taken before the semi-final could start, so everything was dealt with in the absence of North/South.

East explained why he had agreed with the claim. He had thought the Hearts were running. West explained that he had not looked at North's hand, and that he was relying on partner. East agreed that it had been stupid of him to accept the claim, and he stated that he knew North and that North would not accept a score that he had not earned.

**The Committee:**

Read Law 69B

*Within the correction period established in accordance with Law 79C, a contestant may withdraw acquiescence in an opponent's claim, but only if he has acquiesced in the loss of a trick his side has actually won, or in the loss of trick that could not, in the Director's judgement, be lost by any normal play of the remaining cards. The board is rescored with such trick awarded to the acquiescing side.*

The word "normal" is defined in the footnote:

*For the purposes of Laws 69, 70, and 71, "normal" includes play that would be careless or inferior for the class of player involved, but not irrational*

This means that if one can find even one normal line which leads to 12 tricks, the acquiescence should stand.

One such line is: club return, three spades ending in hand, club ruff, ♥A, ♥J noting that one cannot overtake, diamond ruff, and running the hearts. This leads to 12 tricks if East has meanwhile thrown a heart on the trumps.

The Committee decided that throwing a small heart on the second or third round of trumps is careless, but not irrational.

**The Committee's decision:**

Director's ruling upheld.

**Deposit:** Returned

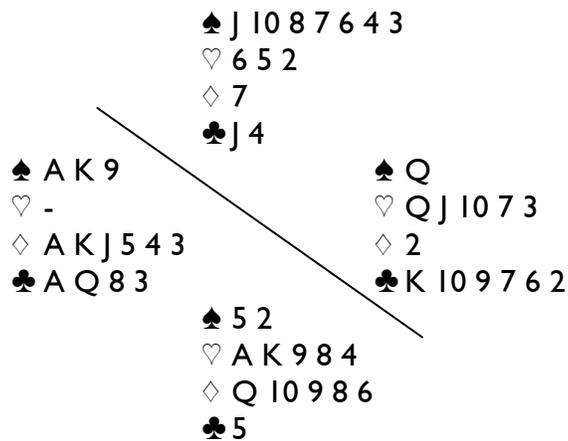
**Appeal No. 18**  
**England v Italy**

**Appeals Committee:**

Jens Auken (Chairman, Denmark), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium) , Jean-Claude Beineix (France), David Birman (Israel), Jean-Paul Meyer (France)

**Open Pairs Semi-Final "A" Round 2**

Board 23. Dealer South. All Vulnerable.



<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Guarino</i>	<i>Holland</i>	<i>Carpentieri</i>	<i>Nelson</i>
2♣	Pass	3♣	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♦	Pass
7♣	All Pass		

**Comments:**

North/South believed the bidding to have been different (including a bid of 5NT), but that was not important.

**Contract:** Seven Clubs, played by West

**Lead:** ♠J

**Play:** ♣2 to the Queen, and see below:

**Result:** 12 tricks, NS +100

**The Facts:**

When the Director came to the table, trick three was being played. The ♦A and the ♦7 were on the table, but South told the Director that West had played the ♦3, rapidly changing this to the ♦A.

**The Director:**

Had the players tell him what happened. North and South both explained that the  $\diamond 3$  had clearly been played and that North had even followed suit before the  $\diamond 3$  was replaced by the  $\diamond A$ . West first stated that the  $\diamond 3$  had not touched the table and that he had replaced it immediately, and then that the cards had stuck together. East insisted that the play of the  $\diamond 3$  was illogical. A neutral kibitzer (a staff member from Belgium) confirmed that the  $\diamond 3$  had been held in the played position.

**Ruling:**

$\diamond 3$  played

**Relevant Laws:**

Law 45C2

**East/West appealed.**

**Present:** All players and an Italian translator

**The Players:**

West repeated the story he had already told the Director. The cards had been dirty and damp, which is why they stuck together. When asked, West confirmed that he does sort all diamonds together in his hand, but not in any particular order, which is why the 3 had been next to the Ace.

**The Committee:**

Considered that the rules are clear and that the facts had been established.

**The Committee's decision:**

Director's ruling upheld.

**Deposit:** Returned

**Appeal No. 19**  
**England v Portugal**

**Appeals Committee:**

Jens Auken (Chairman, Denmark), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Jean-Claude Beineix (France), David Birman (Israel), Jean-Paul Meyer (France)

**Open Pairs Semi-Final "A" Round 2**

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vulnerable.

	♠ 4 2		
	♥ J 10 9 3 2		
	♦ 10 6		
	♣ K J 5 3		
♠ K Q 3		♠ J 7 6	
♥ K 8 4		♥ A 7 5	
♦ 9 8 7 3 2		♦ K 5 4	
♣ 7 2		♣ Q 9 8 4	
	♠ A 10 9 8 5		
	♥ Q 6		
	♦ A Q J		
	♣ A 10 6		
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Capucho</i>	<i>Holland</i>	<i>Lara</i>	<i>Nelson</i>
Pass	INT	Pass	1♠
All Pass			2NT

**Contract:** Two No trumps, played by North

**Lead:** ♣9

**Play:** lead taken with the Ace, ♥Q to the King, ♣2 to the Queen, ♣4

**Result:** 7 tricks, NS -50

**The Facts:**

North called the Director, during the play, to complain about East having the ♣Q when his Convention Card suggested that the ♣9 was only led with nothing higher. That was why he had put the Ace in the first trick.

**The Director:**

Found that the Convention Card had indeed been badly filled in, but considered that there is only a small amount of space there and North should have asked more clarification.

**Ruling:**

Result Stands

**Relevant Laws:**

Law 75A, 40C

**North/South appealed.**

**Present:** All players

**The Players:**

North showed the Convention Card of East/West to the Committee. Under "leads against NT" was written : "idem". He did not know Latin, so he asked what this meant. East had explained to him that the leads against No-Trump are the same as against Suit contracts. In the appropriate space had been written: 9 from "9x 98x". North told the Committee that where he came from, it is very rare to lead the nine from Q98x. he himself played the same system, but his Convention Card contained "H98x" among the possible sequences. He did not agree that the Convention Card was not big enough to hold all combinations. This one single addition would not clutter the card.

North explained why he had put on the Ace in trick one. That way, he would have two club entries to his hand, which he might well need in order to reach the heart suit.

When asked what tricks he had managed to lose, North explained that he had needed to find a discard on the clubs and hearts.

East explained that he had told North that "idem" meant that leads against No-Trump were the same as against Suit contracts. He thought it was normal to also lead the 9 from Q98x. He confirmed that they systematically lead this way.

East told the Committee he saw no justification in North's play. He should simply have thrown the ♥Q under the Ace. The Committee told East that this would not work if the first Heart is ducked.

**The Committee:**

Confirmed the Director's part of the ruling that the Convention Card was badly filled in. However, North had committed two subsequent errors: he had not asked a follow-up question, and he had misplayed the hand. It was felt that the misinformation had not been the cause of the damage.

**The Committee's decision:**

Director's ruling upheld.

**Deposit:** Returned

**Appeal No. 20**  
**Egypt v Netherlands**

**Appeals Committee:**

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

**Open Pairs Final "A" Round 2**

Board 19. Dealer South. East/West Vulnerable.

	♠ 10 8 7 6 2 ♥ 10 ♦ J 9 3 ♣ A J 4 2		
♠ A K ♥ K Q J ♦ A 8 7 4 2 ♣ Q 9 5		♠ J 9 5 3 ♥ A 7 6 5 4 ♦ Q 6 5 ♣ 6	
	♠ Q 4 ♥ 9 8 3 2 ♦ K 10 ♣ K 10 8 7 3		
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>De Wijs</i>	<i>El Ahmady</i>	<i>Muller</i>	<i>Sadek</i>
1♣ <sup>1</sup>	1♠	Pass <sup>2</sup>	Pass
Dble <sup>3</sup>	Pass	INT <sup>4</sup>	Pass
2♣ <sup>5</sup>	Dble	Pass <sup>6</sup>	Pass
Rdble	2♦	Dble	2♠
4♥	All Pass		

**Comments:**

- <sup>1</sup> Strong
- <sup>2</sup> 6-8 pts
- <sup>3</sup> FG relay
- <sup>4</sup> 4+ hearts
- <sup>5</sup> relay
- <sup>6</sup> 4+ spades

**Contract:** Four Hearts, played by West

**Lead:** ♦3

**Play:** ♠3-Q-K-A; ♣5-4-6-7; ♦10-2-J-5; ♠9-6-♠4-4; ♠

**Result:** 10 tricks, NS -620

**The Facts:**

The Redouble was explained by West to South as yet another relay, but East explained it as wanting to play 2♣. The Director would later establish that both players actually believed they were right. North called the Director after the play, to complain about this difference. North said he would have returned a club rather than a spade at trick 5 with correct explanations.

**The Director:**

Established that there had been misinformation, but that he could not determine where it occurred. The Director thought that North should have realised that there was something wrong, and decided to award an average score to both pairs.

**Ruling:**

**Both sides receive:**

Average

**Relevant Laws:**

Law 75A, 40C, 12

**North/South appealed.**

**Present:** All players

**The Players:**

South explained that it was he who had misdefended. When the Redouble was explained to him as a relay, he interpreted his partner's 2♦ bid as natural, presumably four cards. However, North had just wanted to escape from a potential 2♣XX (explained as "to play" to him), and had bid it on a three-card suit. South asked the Committee to visualise the hand with the ♥10 and ♦4 exchanged. From South's point of view, this is the hand as it was explained to him. Then, the diamond return in trick three is the correct one. North would cash his 2 diamond tricks and play a fourth diamond. This leads to a trick for South (see analysis below).

South was asked if he had told this to the Director at the table. He hadn't, but there had been only 2 minutes remaining on the clock and another board to play. North/South had gone to the Director at the end of the session, where they had learnt of the ruling. They had decided to appeal almost immediately afterwards.

West began his defence by saying that the board would always be made if Declarer held 4-4 in the reds. North/South contradicted this, and in an amusing exchange (tolerated by the Chairman because it was along friendly lines) North/South explained why:

The  $\diamond 10$  is overtaken and the  $\diamond 9$  played, South discarding a spade. On the fourth diamond, East must ruff with the ace, and South sheds his last spade. Declarer can't cross to hand in Spades, so he must do so in trumps. After two club ruffs, he's on the table again, and South scores a spade ruff.

West then pointed out that North has a correct view of the hand, and that he has misdefended by playing a spade. Since it was North who had called the Director, they did not feel South should be allowed to claim misinformation at this stage.

East/West admitted that they could not tell what the system was exactly. They had brought their system notes, but there was only a small mention of this situation, rather obscure, and they did not want to offer this in defence.

East further added that North had made a very aggressive Double, and that South could have helped North by supporting clubs. To this, South answered that he knew from the auction to date that the contract was going to be  $4\heartsuit$ , and that he did not want to bid clubs and tell declarer any more about his hand.

#### **The Committee:**

Found that it was unfair on North/South to have to deal with an unfamiliar system, and then to ask them to prepare a case towards the Director in a limited amount of time. South's analysis had to be accepted, even with this appeal hearing being held the next morning.

The Committee remarked that an artificial adjusted score was not appropriate.

The Committee found that North/South should have received more than they did. At least some percentage of  $4\heartsuit$  going down. When a majority of the Committee expressed a wish to give the full 100% of this, the remainder went along with that figure.

#### **The Committee's decision:**

Score adjusted to  $4\heartsuit-1$  by West (NS+100)

**Deposit:** Returned

**Note:** Deep Finesse tells us that the hand is always a win for East/West. However, putting on the Queen at trick one turns it into an always losing one. South can return what he wants at trick 3, but if he chooses the diamond, North must play a club at trick 5. If South returns a club at trick 3, there are no winning lines.

If the  $\heartsuit 10$  and  $\diamond 4$  are exchanged (as South thinks they are), then the  $\diamond 10$  is the only good return for South at trick 3, although playing trumps first would then have been a winning line for East.