

APPEAL	NABC+ TEN
Subject	Unauthorized Information (UI)
DIC	Steve Bates
Event	Mixed BAM Teams
Session	Second Final
Date	July 25, 2008

BD#	12
VUL	N/S
DLR	West

Ron Smith	
♠	A 8 2
♥	A J 4 2
♦	Q 8 6 5 4
♣	5

Michael Mikyska		Summer 2008 Las Vegas, NV	Adrienne Green	
♠	J 7 3		♠	Q T 9
♥	7 6 5		♥	K T 8
♦	A J 9		♦	T 2
♣	J 8 4 2		♣	A T 9 6 3

Linda Smith	
♠	K 6 5 4
♥	Q 9 3
♦	K 7 3
♣	K Q 7

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

Final Contract	3NT by South
Opening Lead	♣2
Table Result	Down 1, N/S -100
Director Ruling	3NT S, made 3, N/S +600
Committee Ruling	3NT S, down 1, N/S -100 3NT S, made 3, E/W -600

(1)	Asks for more information.
(2)	Artificial showing minimum with three spades.
(3)	Asked opponents to explain auction singling out the 3♣ bid.

The Facts: The director was called at the end of the session and found the facts as noted above.

The Ruling: The questioning at East's final turn to call made UI available to West. The director determined that a club lead was demonstrably suggested by the UI and that a heart lead was a logical alternative (LA). It was judged both likely and at all probable that 3NT would make with a heart lead. Therefore, in accordance with Laws 16, 20F1 and 12C2, the table result was changed to 3NT by South making three, N/S plus 600 and E/W minus 600.

The Appeal: All four players were present at the hearing.
The testimony confirmed the facts found and presented by the director.

The Decision: The committee found that:

- UI was present.
- The UI demonstrably suggested a club lead over a heart lead (Law 16).
- A heart lead was a LA (Law 16).

The committee then had to determine the likely and at all probable results after a heart lead (Law 12C2).

The committee discussed the play after the ♥7 lead. Declarer would duck in dummy and most Wests would play the king and switch to clubs, beating the contract absent subsequent misdefense. Some Wests would put in the ♥T, after which the contract would surely make. It came to a decision that, while 3NT making nine tricks was “at all probable,” it was not likely. Therefore, the committee adjusted the table result to 3NT making three, E/W minus 600 for the offending side and allowed the table result of 3NT down one, N/S minus 100 to stand for the offenders.

The appeal was determined to have merit.

The committee seriously considered an additional procedural penalty (PP) against West, who asked the worst kind of question at the least appropriate time. In the end, it decided against imposing a PP.

The Committee: Gail Greenberg (Chair), Peter Boyd, Gary Cohler, Chris Compton and Sam Lev.