

|         |                                       |
|---------|---------------------------------------|
| APPEAL  | NABC+ FOUR                            |
| Subject | Unauthorized Information (UI) - Tempo |
| DIC     | Henry Cukoff                          |
| Event   | Von Zedtwitz Life Master Pairs        |
| Session | First Final                           |
| Date    | July 20, 2008                         |

|     |              |
|-----|--------------|
| BD# | <b>1</b>     |
| VUL | <b>None</b>  |
| DLR | <b>North</b> |

|                   |           |
|-------------------|-----------|
| <b>Jerry Gaer</b> |           |
| ♠                 | Q 7       |
| ♥                 | A K 9 7 6 |
| ♦                 | Q T 5     |
| ♣                 | A J 7     |

|                      |             |                                      |                        |         |
|----------------------|-------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------|---------|
| <b>George Jacobs</b> |             | <b>Summer 2008<br/>Las Vegas, NV</b> | <b>Norberto Bocchi</b> |         |
| ♠                    | A J 9 5 4 2 |                                      | ♠                      | K 8 6 3 |
| ♥                    | Q T 2       |                                      | ♥                      | J 2     |
| ♦                    | J 7         |                                      | ♦                      | 9 8 2   |
| ♣                    | 8 2         |                                      | ♣                      | T 9 6 5 |

|                     |           |
|---------------------|-----------|
| <b>Harvey Brody</b> |           |
| ♠                   | T         |
| ♥                   | 8 5 3     |
| ♦                   | A K 6 4 3 |
| ♣                   | K Q 4 3   |

| West | North            | East | South           |
|------|------------------|------|-----------------|
|      | 1♥               | Pass | 2♦              |
| Pass | 3♦               | Pass | 3♥              |
| 3♠   | 4♣               | Pass | 4♦              |
| Pass | 4♥               | Pass | 4♠              |
| Pass | 4NT <sup>1</sup> | Pass | 5♥ <sup>2</sup> |
| Pass | Pass             | Pass |                 |

|                  |                              |
|------------------|------------------------------|
| Final Contract   | <b>5♥ by North</b>           |
| Opening Lead     | <b>♠3</b>                    |
| Table Result     | <b>Making 5, N/S +450</b>    |
| Director Ruling  | <b>6♥ N, down 1, N/S -50</b> |
| Committee Ruling | <b>6♦ N, down 1, N/S -50</b> |

|     |   |
|-----|---|
| (1) | Roman Keycard Blackwood (RKCB).   |
| (2) | Break in tempo (BIT) – both sides agree it was short – E/W say 6-7 seconds. |

**The Facts:** The director was called after the play of the hand. Both sides agreed to a short BIT after the 4NT bid and before making the 5♥ bid.

**The Ruling:** The director judged that the BIT before bidding 5♥ demonstrably suggested passing over a logical alternative of bidding slam when N/S held all the key cards (except the trump queen). Therefore, in accordance with Laws 16 and 12C2, the score was changed to 6♥ by N/S minus 50.

**The Appeal:** Only the North player attended the hearing. He said he passed the 5♥ response because he was worried that the opponents would lead a spade and, with the loss to the ♥Q, he would lose a spade and a trump. South's auction showed exactly three-card heart support since with four or more hearts South would use other methods.

**The Decision:** The committee discussed South's showing a better hand than he actually held by having continued beyond 4♥, and North's skidding to a stop after apparently finding the spade and diamond aces in South's hand. Playing South to have the doubleton ace of spades would present a problem in 6♥ if the trump queen scored. The spade lead should not present a problem in 6♦, however, due to the spade queen in the North hand. Give South a typical holding such as, Ax/Jxx/AKJxx/Qxx, with which he would proceed past 4♥. Were the ♣K favorably placed 6♦ would be a good contract, perhaps better than 5♥.

The committee determined that the pause, short though it was, was a BIT and provided UI to North, that the UI suggested doubt about the RKCB response, and that such doubt demonstrably suggested Pass over 6♦.

In accordance with Laws 16 and 12C2 the committee adjusted the result for both sides to 6♦ by South, down one, N/S minus 50.

The appeal was deemed to have merit.

**The Committee:** Bob Schwartz (Chair), Dick Budd, Gail Greenberg, Ed Lazarus, and Jeff Roman.