

APPEAL	NABC+ TEN
Subject	Unauthorized Information (UI) - Tempo
DIC	Steve Bates
Event	Jacoby Open Swiss Teams
Session	First Qualifying
Date	March 21, 2009

BD#	23
VUL	Both
DLR	South

Marty Fleisher	
♠	A Q J 7 6
♥	Q J T 8 5 3
♦	
♣	8 3

Kitty Cooper		Spring 2009 Houston, TX	Steve Cooper	
♠	8 5 4		♠	K T 9 3
♥			♥	K 9 6 2
♦	K J 6 5 3 2		♦	A 4
♣	A K J T		♣	Q 5 2

Mike Kamil	
♠	2
♥	A 7 2
♦	Q T 9 8 7
♣	9 7 6 3

West	North	East	South
			Pass
1♦	2♦	2NT ¹	Pass ²
3♣	3♥	Dbl	Pass
4♦	Pass	4NT	Dbl
5♣	Pass	5♦	Dbl
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Final Contract	5♦ doubled by West
Opening Lead	♠A
Table Result	Down 2, E/W -500
Table Director Ruling	3NT W down 1, E/W -100
Screeener Ruling	5♦ dbld W down 2, E/W -500
Committee Ruling	5♦ dbld W down 2, E/W -500

(1)	Alerted – Lebensohl (relay to 3♣)
(2)	Break in Tempo (BIT) 15 seconds.

The Facts: The director was called after the play of the hand. At that time, East stated that he would have bid 3NT over 3♣ if North had not bid.

The Ruling: The director determined that the BIT demonstrably suggested the 3♥ call and that pass was a logical alternative. Therefore, the result was adjusted to 3NT by West down one, E/W minus 100 for both sides. (Law 16B1).

The Appeal: N/S appealed the table director's decision. The screening director polled ten players – nine of whom bid 3♥ over 3♣ as North did, the one who passed freely mentioned the 3♥ option. Therefore, the screening director changed the table director's ruling back to the table result of 5♦ by West down two, N/S minus 200. Then E/W appealed. North and East attended the hearing.

The two players spoke briefly and courteously. East testified that bidding 3NT directly would have given different information about major suit stoppers.

North had nothing to add to the facts already known

The Decision: Since both players confirmed the BIT as approximately 15 seconds, the committee affirmed the existence of an unmistakable hesitation.

The committee determined that the BIT demonstrably suggested taking action over passing; however, the committee considered that there was no logical alternative to the 3♥ bid.

Therefore, the committee allowed the table result of 5♦ doubled by West down two, N/S minus 500 to stand for both sides.

The committee decided that the appeal had merit.

The Committee: Chris Moll (Chair), Tom Carmichael, Ed Lazarus, Jim Thurtell and Patty Tucker.