

APPEAL	Non NABC+ Eleven
Subject	Unauthorized Information
DIC	Kenneth Van Cleve
Event	A/X Swiss
Session	Sunday Afternoon
Date	July 25, 2010

BD#	<b>15</b>
VUL	<b>NS</b>
DLR	<b>S</b>

<b>Debbie Gailfus</b>	
♠	AK7
♥	T9x
♦	J9x
♣	AKJx

<b>Jack Spear</b>		<b>Summer 2010 New Orleans, LA</b>	<b>Tom Kniest</b>	
♠	Q62		♠	JT
♥	KJxxx		♥	8x
♦	8		♦	AQTxxx
♣	T8xx		♣	9xx

<b>Alan Gailfus</b>	
♠	98543
♥	AQx
♦	K7x
♣	Q7

West	North	East	South
			P
P	1♣	2♦	2N <sup>1</sup>
P	3♣	P	3N
P	P	P	

Final Contract	<b>3NT by South</b>
Opening Lead	<b>Not provided</b>
Table Result	<b>Made 5, NS +660</b>
Director Ruling	<b>3♣ N made 4, NS +130</b>
Panel Ruling	<b>3♣ N made 4, NS +130</b>

(1)	Alerted by North, no explanation requested by East-West
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**The Facts:** East-West called the Director at the conclusion of the auction and then called again after the conclusion of play. 2NT was intended as natural and this represents their actual agreement. North alerted the 2NT under the mistaken impression that it was Lebensohl.

**The Ruling:** The Director determined that there was unauthorized information available from the alert of 2NT that demonstrably suggested bidding 3NT. The Director determined that passing 3♣ was a logical alternative to bidding 3NT that would be less successful for the offenders. Three players were polled and all three passed 3♣. The Director ruled that the 3NT call was not allowed under Law 16B because of the unauthorized information.

**The Appeal:** North-South appealed the Director's ruling and all four players attended the hearing.

**The Decision:** The Panel polled three Flight A players and all three passed with the South hand. The Panel determined that there was unauthorized information available from North's alert of the 2N bid. South intended the 2N bid as natural but North's alert provided unauthorized information to South that it had been interpreted by North as Lebensohl. The unauthorized information suggested to South that North's 3♣ may not have been weak. The unauthorized information demonstrably suggested that South should bid 3N. The Panel also determined that pass was a logical alternative to 3N with the South hand. Therefore, the Panel determined that the auction should be rolled back to 3♣ making 4 by North-South for +130.

**The Panel:** John Gram (Chairman), Charles McCracken, Bernie Gorkin.

**Commentary:**

**Bramley:** Pray tell, what arguments did N/S advance for their cause? No merit.

**Goldsmith:** No Merit.

**Rigal:** I repeat my comments from case four (and indirectly case two). A slam-dunk AWM apparently not even considered by the Panel.

**Wildavsky:** I see no shred of merit here. I wish I understood why the Panel disagreed.

**Wolff:** I agree with the ruling since CD was vigorously penalized.