

APPEAL	NABC+ SIXTEEN
Subject	Misinformation (MI)
DIC	Steve Bates
Event	Reisinger BAM Teams
Session	Second Qualifying
Date	November 30, 2007

BD#	<b>9</b>
VUL	<b>E/W</b>
DLR	<b>North</b>

<b>Sam Lev</b>	
♠	Q J T
♥	T 9
♦	K J 8 4
♣	K J 5 3

<b>Marcelo Branco</b>		<b>Fall 2007 San Francisco, CA</b>	<b>Pinhas Romik</b>	
♠	K 8 7 6 3		♠	9 2
♥	J 5 2		♥	K 7 3
♦	A 6 3		♦	Q 7
♣	A 7		♣	Q T 9 8 6 4

<b>Jacek Pszczola</b>	
♠	A 5 4
♥	A Q 8 6 4
♦	T 9 5 2
♣	2

West	North	East	South
	Pass	Pass	1♥
1♠	Dbl	2♣ <sup>1</sup>	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Final Contract	<b>2♠ by W</b>
Opening Lead	<b>♠Q</b>
Table Result	<b>Down 1, N/S +100</b>
Director Ruling	<b>2♦, dbld by S, +3, N/S +280</b>
Committee Ruling	<b>2♠ W or 3♣ E, down 2, N/S +200</b>

(1)	Alerted. Asked and explained as transfer to diamonds.
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**The Facts:** The director was called initially after dummy was tabled and again after the play of the hand. South said he might have bid 2♦ over 2♣ with the correct information. Later, South said his partner might not have led a trump with the correct information. East did not correct the explanation prior to the opening lead.

**The Ruling:** Players who were polled with respect to the lead did not find a different lead with the correct information. However, if South bid 2♦, West might have doubled ending the auction. Therefore, the score was adjusted to 2♦ doubled by South, making three N/S plus 280.

**The Appeal:** North was the only player who did not attend the hearing. E/W stated that on this auction, if South had bid 2♦, double would be card showing, and East would always pull the double. E/W agreed that their agreement was that 2♣ showed clubs and that there was MI.

South asserted that North might have led a heart if furnished with the correct information before the opening lead.

**The Decision:** The committee found there was MI. The committee did not consider the auction suggested by the director in his ruling as likely. The actual auction as explained by E/W suggested East was raising spades and showing diamonds. This made a spade lead more likely than with a correct explanation of the auction. Hence, the MI contributed to N/S's choice of opening leads when an alternative heart lead would assure defeating the contract by two tricks.

While down two was possible with ♠Q lead, N/S did nothing egregious in the actual defense resulting in down one. The committee thought that if South had bid 2♦, after a correct explanation, 3♣ would be a possible E/W contract, which would also be defeated by two tricks.

In accordance, with law 12C2, the committee adjusted the score to N/S plus 200 and E/W minus 200 resulting from a contract of 2♠ by West or 3♣ by East.

The committee admonished E/W about its responsibility to correct MI before the opening lead when their side is declaring the hand.

**The Committee:** Richard Popper (Chair), Mike Kovacich, John Solodar, Riggs Thayer and Bob White.

### **Commentary:**

**Goldsmith** If East had corrected the MI before the opening lead, it is probable there would have been no appeal. Therefore, E/W ought to be assigned a procedural penalty (PP) of 1/4 board.

The appeals committee (AC) did a good job overall, but should have mentioned that the unauthorized information (UI) arising from the MI didn't cause a problem.

**Polisner** An adjusted score seems to be in order and the plus 200 for N/S appears to be the most likely.

**Rigal** I like the AC ruling which seems to have covered all of the bases, while the tournament director ruling was incomplete and inaccurate. Regardless of the minutiae of the decision the approach the AC took was far more appropriate -- including the admonishment to East, who should know a lot better here. Indeed, close to PP territory.

**Smith** I think that both the directors' ruling and the committee ruling were thorough and well done in this case even though different adjustments were made. The committee had more time and opportunity to interview the players about methods (such as the meaning of a possible double by West of a 2♦ bid by South), and that understandably led to a different adjustment.

**Wildavsky** Good work all around. The AC's adjustment may have been a small improvement over the tournament director's.

**Wolf** Good ruling. South would have bid 2♦ without the convention disruption and then what? Plus 200 is appropriate for N/S.