

<b>Subject of Appeal:</b>	Misinformation	<b>Case:</b>	N6
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<b>Event</b>	Leventritt Silver Ribbon Pairs	<b>Event DIC</b>	Harry Falk
<b>Date</b>	03/12/2017	<b>Session</b>	First Qualifying


### Auction

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

### Explanation of Special Calls and Points of Contention

1: 15-17 HCP
2: Puppet Stayman
3: Alerted, no five-card major
4: "Something in hearts"

### Hand Record

Board	6	N	Bob Feller
<b>Dealer</b>	<b>E</b>	♠	AJ10862
		♥	74
<b>Vul</b>	<b>E/W</b>	♦	10542
		♣	K
<b>W</b>	Barry Bragin		<b>E</b> Fred King
♠	54		
♥	652		
♦	K63		
♣	AQJ92		
		<b>S</b>	Mark Bennett
		♠	97
		♥	AQ1093
		♦	97
		♣	8753
			♠ KQ3
			♥ KJ8
			♦ AQJ8
			♣ 1064

Final Contract	Result of Play	Score	Opening Lead
3NT by E	Made 4	E/W +630	♥ Q

### Facts Determined at the Table

The director was called at the end of the play. Before making the opening lead, South asked about 3♦. West described 3♦ as no five-card major and concern about one of the majors. South asked about 3♥, and West described his hand as having "something in hearts." Declarer won the opening lead with the ♥K and took a losing club finesse. North returned the ♠J.

South said he would have led the ♥10 had he known that "something in hearts" could be as little as three small. North said he would have known to return a heart had partner led the 10. He said he returned a spade because East's hand was described as being "concerned" about one major suit.

### Director Ruling

Staff concluded that North/South had received a correct explanation of the E/W agreements. They felt East's 3♦ call was mistaken (he said he forgot that 3♦ expressed concern about a major), and that West's explanation was also a correct description of their agreement. As such, there was no legal justification to adjust the score.

<b>Director's Ruling</b>	<b>3NT by E, Made 4, E/W +630</b>
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### The Review

N/S requested a review of the ruling. They felt that they had been misinformed and that with the right information, they would have defeated 3NT. The reviewer spoke with both sides together. E/W brought system notes which supported West's description of the East hand; they described the 3♥ bid as showing a "helpful fragment" in hearts.

## Panel Findings

The reviewer spoke first to seven national champion level players. None felt that 6-5-2 was a combination they would regard as a “helpful fragment” or “something,” terms which they considered to be equivalent. One of the six did indicate that he did not take “something” literally – he felt that the sequence simply suggested that West was not concerned by hearts. He wanted East to bid 3NT if he could stop spades.

The reviewer spoke next to three additional national champions, giving the North hand as a single dummy defense problem. The first player returned a heart. When asked if he thought he would still work out the problem had partner led the ♥10 to declarer’s jack, he said he thought that increased the likelihood from very likely to certain. The second player returned the ♠J; he felt that he was no better off with the lead of the ♥10. He felt it was still just as reasonable to return a spade instead of heart. The third player returned a heart, saying that it was not at all clear, but that it was more attractive. He felt that the lead of the ♥10 would have made it more challenging to return a heart; after the lead of the queen, partner just needs one higher card in the suit for hearts to be right. After the lead of the 10, partner needs two higher cards.

The reviewer concluded that N/S had indeed been given misinformation about the West hand. As it was far from certain that N/S would choose a defense that would lead to down two, the reviewer assigned a score of one-third of 3NT, down two, N/S +200, and two-thirds of 3NT, making four, E/W +630, by Laws 40B4 and 12C1c.

Experts consulted: Paul Lewis, Jason Feldman, Gary Cohler, Aaron Silverstein, Will Ehlers, Kevin Dwyer, Jacek Kalita, Michal Nowosadzki, Zack Grossack and Adam Grossack.

<b>Panel Decision</b>	<b>1/3 - 3NT by E, Down 2, N/S +200</b> <b>2/3 - 3NT by E, Made 4, E/W +630</b>
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## Panel Members

<b>Reviewer</b>	Matt Koltnow
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