



Subject of Appeal: Unauthorized Information	Case: N9
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Event	Blue Ribbon Pairs	Event DIC	Bernie Gorkin
Date	12/05/2013	Session	First Final

Auction

West	North	East	South
	(1♣) ¹	(Pass) ¹	Pass
2♠	Pass	Pass	3♣
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Hand Record

Board	11	N	Robb Gordon		
Dealer	S	♠	K87		
		♥	AJ74		
		♦	Q86		
Vul	None	♣	A102		
W	John Solodar			E	Paul Swanson
♠	AJ10962			♠	543
♥	1052			♥	K83
♦	K542			♦	A107
♣	(void)			♣	J754
		S	Linda Gordon		
		♠	Q		
		♥	Q96		
		♦	J93		
		♣	KQ9863		

Explanation of Special Calls and Points of Contention

1: Cancelled Call

Final Contract	Result of Play	Score	Opening Lead
3♣ by S	Made 4	N/S +130	♥ 2

Facts Determined at the Table

The director was summoned when the bidding tray was passed to the South/West side for the first time. North had bid 1♣ and East passed out of turn. Per the Bidding Box and Screen Regulations (Appendix G of the Conditions of Contest), the director removed both calls, instructed everyone that the calls were unauthorized information for both sides, and started the auction with South. At South's second turn to call, she asked the director what rights did she have at this point and was informed that she should make the call she would normally make without the UI. After the play completed, East/West asked for a ruling, as they felt South acted on the UI that her partner had an opening hand.

Additional Factors Determined Away from the Table

The director gave the South hand and the authorized part of the auction to seven top level players from other events. Five bid 3♣ and two passed. Three of the five bidders were hesitant about bidding, and when told of the UI, said they would have passed.

Director Ruling

Based upon the player poll, pass was a logical alternative to bidding, and the UI did suggest that bidding was more likely to be successful than passing. Therefore, per Laws 16D and 73C, the director adjusted the results to 2♠ by West, making 3, E/W +140.

Director's Ruling	2♠ by W, Made 3, E/W +140
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The Appeal

N/S appealed the ruling and attended the hearing. South stated that she asked the director about her options before bidding 3♣ in order to confirm the correct procedures in this situation. She elected to bid, as she felt Pass was not a logical alternative and that double would be taking advantage of the UI.

Committee Findings

The AC was instructed by the directors that Screen procedures require that the original North and East bids be cancelled and that the respective sides are subject to the restrictions under Law 16 concerning unauthorized information. Upon deliberation, the Committee agreed with South that pass was not a logical alternative and that bidding 3♣ was preferable to double based upon the burden of the UI. The AC gave less credence to the player poll than usual as South's peers, playing in the finals of a major national matchpoint event, would very rarely pass. Therefore, the original table result was restored: 3♣ by South, making 4, N/S +130.

Committee Decision	3♣ by S, Made 4, N/S +130
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Committee Members

Chairman	Gail Greenberg
Member	Ed Lazarus
Member	Scott Stearns
Member	Dick Budd
Scribe	Chris Moll