

<b>Subject of Appeal:</b>	Misinformation	<b>Case:</b>	R4
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<b>Event</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Saturday Daylight Pairs	<b>Event DIC</b>	Susan Doe
<b>Date</b>	12/07/2013	<b>Session</b>	First Session

### Auction

West	North	East	South
		Pass	1♣ <sup>1</sup>
2♣ <sup>2</sup>	3♣ <sup>3</sup>	3♥	4♦
Pass	(5♣) <sup>4</sup> Pass	Pass	

### Explanation of Special Calls and Points of Contention

1: Strong, Artificial, Forcing
2: Explained as Majors
3: Transfer to ♦
4: Retracted bid

### Hand Record

<b>Board</b>	<b>10</b>	N	4630 MPS		
<b>Dealer</b>	<b>E</b>	♠	J10		
		♥	J8		
<b>Vul</b>	<b>Both</b>	♦	974		
		♣	AJ10432		
W	3960 MPS			E	2300 MPS
♠	84			♠	975
♥	K765			♥	Q10432
♦	AK			♦	10862
♣	KQ765	♣	8		
		S	5970 MPS		
		♠	AKQ632		
		♥	A9		
		♦	QQJ53		
		♣	9		

<b>Final Contract</b>	<b>Result of Play</b>	<b>Score</b>	<b>Opening Lead</b>
4♦ by S	Down 1	E/W +100	♣ K

### Facts Determined at the Table

North inquired about 2♣ before he bid and was told it showed both majors. Originally, North bid 5♣ in response to South's 4♦ bid. At that point, East stated to the table that she had explained her partner's bid incorrectly, and that it was natural. The table director took North away from the table, and he said that he would not have bid either 3♣ or 5♣ if he had received the correct explanation. The table director allowed North to retract his 5♣ call (Law 75B), and a pass was substituted, for a contract of 4♦.

### Director Ruling

In the follow-up of the ruling, the explanation of Michaels was deemed to constitute a mistaken explanation, and appeared to directly damage N/S. The board was adjusted to 4♣ by South, making 4, for N/S +620, the most likely favorable result (Law 12C).

<b>Director's Ruling</b>	<b>4♣ by S, Made 4, N/S +620</b>
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### The Appeal

East/West appealed the table ruling. During the review, there was disagreement as to whether North used the alert strip, or any other physical action in conjunction with a verbal alert of 1♣. North inquired as to the meaning of 2♣, and was told that it was Michaels. North then bid 3♣. This was alerted and explained as a positive response showing diamonds. North bid 5♣ in response to the 4♦ call. East then announced that she had given the wrong explanation of 2♣; that it actually is natural over an artificial 1♣ bid, and she missed the alert of 1♣. Her explanation of Michaels was correct over a natural 1♣.

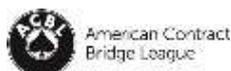
### Panel Findings

The panel determined that North had failed to follow regulation in ensuring that his opponents were properly alerted to South's opening, which caused this situation. The panel overturned the director's ruling, and reverted to the table result of 4♦ by South, down 1, E/W +100.

<b>Panel Decision</b>	<b>4♦ by S, Down 1, E/W +100</b>
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### Panel Members

<b>Reviewer</b>	Bill Michaels
<b>Member</b>	Matt Smith
<b>Member</b>	Gary Zeiger



<b>Subject of Appeal:</b>	Tempo/Unauthorized Information	<b>Case:</b>	R5
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<b>Event</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday Open Pairs	<b>Event DIC</b>	Donna Coker
<b>Date</b>	12/08/2013	<b>Session</b>	First Session

### Auction

West	North	East	South
		1♣	1♠
Pass	3♣	5♣	Pass <sup>1</sup>
Pass	Dbl	Pass	Pass
Pass			

### Explanation of Special Calls and Points of Contention

1: Alleged Break in Tempo

### Hand Record

<b>Board</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>N</b>	1300 MPS		
<b>Dealer</b>	<b>E</b>	♠	8643		
		♥	QJ632		
<b>Vul</b>	<b>N/S</b>	♦	A832		
		♣	(void)		
<b>W</b>	3600 MPS			<b>E</b>	
				120 MPS	
♠	K1052			♠	(void)
♥	875			♥	K104
♦	J974			♦	K5
♣	82			♣	AKQJ10543
		<b>S</b>	350 MPS		
		♠	AQJ97		
		♥	A9		
		♦	Q106		
		♣	976		

<b>Final Contract</b>	<b>Result of Play</b>	<b>Score</b>	<b>Opening Lead</b>
5♣X by E	Down 1	N/S +100	♥ A

### Facts Determined at the Table

West called the director after North's double to say that South had hesitated before passing 5♣. East/West both told the director that South took more than 10 seconds to pass. North/South did not agree. The stop card was not used by East before the 5♣ bid.

### Director Ruling

The director noted that South is entitled to 10 seconds after the skip bid whether or not the stop card was used. The director decided that there was insufficient evidence to determine that there was an "unmistakable hesitation" (Law 16B1a) before South's pass, so the table result was ruled to stand.

<b>Director's Ruling</b>	<b>5♣X by E, Down 1, N/S +100</b>
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### The Appeal

E/W appealed the director's ruling. All four players attended the review during the next session of the event. The reviewer confirmed that the stop card was not used before the 5♣ bid (and also learned it was not used before North's 3♣ bid). 3♣ was a limit raise of spades. N/S did not claim to be in a forcing auction. West stated that he thought that the hesitation suggested North's double, and that pass was a normal action.

West told the reviewer that South paused thirty seconds after 5♣. North/South denied any hesitation beyond what was expected after a skip bid. The reviewer used his watch to time each player's estimation of the time elapsed between the 5♣ bid and South's pass. North spoke up after eight seconds; South after 10 seconds; West after 15 seconds; East after 18 seconds.

## Panel Findings

Before considering whether double by North was “demonstrably suggested” and/or whether pass was a “logical alternative”, the panel first needed to decide if there was an “unmistakable hesitation” by South that transmitted unauthorized information. Factors such as how rapidly the auction had escalated, the absence of the use of the stop card (that may have made any time taken by South seem longer to E/W), and the divergence of time stated by West compared to what he demonstrated to the reviewer, swayed the panel that an “unmistakable hesitation” had not occurred in context. The panel upheld the director’s ruling and maintained the table result.

<b>Panel Decision</b>	<b>5♣X by E, Down 1, N/S +100</b>
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## Panel Members

<b>Reviewer</b>	Matt Smith
<b>Member</b>	Ken Van Cleve
<b>Member</b>	Geoff Greene