

<b>Subject of Appeal:</b>	Disputed Claim	<b>Case:</b>	N7
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<b>Event</b>	NABC Fast Pairs	<b>Event DIC</b>	Charlie MacCracken
<b>Date</b>	08/08/2013	<b>Session</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Qualifying

### Auction

West	North	East	South
	1♣	Pass	1♦
Pass	1♠	Pass	3NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

### Explanation of Special Calls and Points of Contention


### Hand Record

<b>Board</b>	<b>25</b>	N	Rajan Iyer		
<b>Dealer</b>	<b>N</b>	♠	A1084		
		♥	Q		
<b>Vul</b>	<b>E/W</b>	♦	Q54		
		♣	KQ1032		
W	Barbara Shnier			E	Barry Senensky
♠	QJ			♠	K97632
♥	J872			♥	10954
♦	K63			♦	8
♣	J954			♣	76
		S	Ben Yang		
		♠	5		
		♥	AK63		
		♦	AJ10972		
		♣	A8		

Final Contract	Result of Play	Score	Opening Lead
3NT by S			♦ 3

### Facts Determined at the Table

The director was summoned by East/West at trick five. Declarer had faced his hand, stating he would lead the ♥Q, the ♠A was good, and that he would run the diamonds. Play had gone diamond to the Jack, the ♠A, the low club to the King, and then the ♣Q, East discarding the ♠7 and South pitching the ♥3. The ♥6 and ♠5 had been detached from the rest of South's hand.

The remaining cards at this point were:

	♠ A 10 8 4	
	♥ Q	
	♦ Q 5	
	♣ 10 3	
♠ Q J		♠ K 9 6 3 2
♥ J 8 7 2		♥ 10 9 5 4
♦ K 6		♦ —
♣ J		♣ —
	♠ 5	
	♥ A K 6	
	♦ A 10 9 7 2	
	♣ —	

Despite the detached cards, the director viewed only the heart as a stated played card to the fifth trick. He believed the remainder of Declarer's statement did not constitute an order of play but rather a statement of what tricks Declarer expected to take on the hand.

## Additional Factors Determined Away from the Table

The director initially ruled that the defense would take three tricks, requiring that the ♠A be led before attacking diamonds, but felt more investigation was needed. He polled three players, describing the situation generically. All three felt the ♠A would not be cashed until after the long suit was played. This appeared to eliminate the question as to the order of play.

### Director Ruling

The player poll showed that players of South's caliber would not cash the ♠A prior to establishing the diamond suit. Accordingly, the director changed his preliminary ruling to 3NT by South, making 5, N/S +460

<b>Director's Ruling</b>	<b>3NT by S, Made 5, N/S +460</b>
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### The Appeal

East/West appealed the ruling, and all of the players attended the committee. E/W believed that a line of play was established by South's claiming statement. If he played the ♠A after cashing the ♥Q, the defense would come to three tricks after West won the ♦K either on trick seven or eight (a diamond, a club and a spade).

### Committee Findings

Although declarer forgot that the ♦K was outstanding, he was clearly focused on his own hand as a source of tricks. After taking the ♥Q, he would undoubtedly have played the ♦Q, expecting it to win, followed by another diamond to the Ace. He would have been shocked by West's King on trick six, but would have taken the remainder of the tricks after West cashed the ♣J. Therefore, the AC upheld the director's ruling of 3NT by South, making 5, N/S +460.

<b>Committee Decision</b>	<b>3NT by S, Made 5, N/S +460</b>
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### Committee Members

<b>Chair</b>	Douglas Doub
<b>Member</b>	Barry Harper
<b>Member</b>	Richard Straus