

Subject of Appeal:	Tempo/Unauthorized Information	Case:	N8
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Event	Spingold Knockout Teams	Event DIC	Olin Hubert
Date	08/08/2013	Session	Round of 16, 2 nd Session

Auction

West	North	East	South
			2♥
Pass	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♥	Dbl	Pass	Pass
3♠ ¹	Pass	4♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Explanation of Special Calls and Points of Contention

1: Break in Tempo (1 minute)

Hand Record

Board	3	N	Steve Weinstein		
Dealer	S	♠	AK4		
		♥	K62		
Vul	E/W	♦	QJ84		
		♣	J93		
W	Okay Gur			E	Mustafa Cem Tokay
♠	J86			♠	Q7532
♥	AQ43			♥	(void)
♦	A965			♦	K7
♣	Q2			♣	K108654
		S	Bobby Levin		
		♠	109		
		♥	J109875		
		♦	1032		
		♣	A7		

Final Contract	Result of Play	Score	Opening Lead
4♠ by E	Made 4	E/W +620	♥ J

Facts Determined at the Table

North/South summoned the director after play concluded. The players were behind screens, but all of the players agreed to prolonged break in tempo while the bidding tray had been on the South/West side prior to the 3♠ bid. East/West had the agreement that East's pass over North's double showed a stronger hand than bidding 3♠ himself.

Additional Factors Determined Away from the Table

The director polled eight experts concerning the East hand, the auction and explanations of the E/W system. Following 3♠, three bid something (either 4♣ or 4♠) and five chose to pass. This established that passing 3♠ was a logical alternative. The BIT suggested that bidding would be more successful than passing.

Director Ruling

The player poll showed that pass was a logical alternative, and the UI from the BIT suggested bidding. Accordingly, per Laws 16B and 12C, the score was adjusted to 3♠, making 4, E/W +170.

Director's Ruling	3♠ by E, Made 4, E/W +170
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The Appeal

East/West appealed the ruling, and all of the players, as well as the N/S team captain, attended the committee. East said that he chose to pass with his hand over the double because he still had some slam aspirations, but that he always intended to bid game at a minimum. East thought that cue bidding 4♥ was too strong a bid for his hand and

bidding 4♣ would have shown more slam interest than his hand justified. E/W did not have an agreement about the meaning of redouble at that point. When West did not continue to game (3♥ had shown at least three Spades and at least a strong invitation to game), East canceled his aspirations to try for slam and settled on game.

Committee Findings

According to Law 16, if there is UI which demonstrably suggests a line of action, then successfully choosing that line of action is an infraction if there existed a logical alternative which would have been less successful. In this case, there was such information available to East (the hesitation before bidding 3♣ suggested that West was considering bidding on himself) and the issue was whether there was a logical alternative to bidding 4♣. The directors polled a group of eight experts, giving them the bidding agreements up to that time. Five of those polled said that they would have passed, instead of bidding on to game and three would have bid (two of them 4♠, and one of them 4♣). All three of those who chose to bid believed that doing so was "automatic."

While most or all of the AC would have chosen to bid 4♣ in this position, the AC believed from their own experience as well as from the poll conducted by the directors that passing was a logical alternative. Accordingly, the AC determined that adjusting the result on the board to 3♣ by East, making 4, E/W +170 was correct.

Committee Decision	3♣ by E, Made 4, E/W +170
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Committee Members

Chair	Michael Huston
Member	Douglas Doub
Member	Joel Wooldridge
Member	Ishmael Del'Monte
Member	Giorgio Duboin
Member	Chris Moll