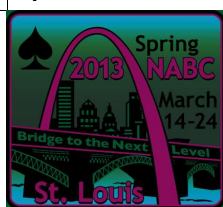


APPEAL	Regional Five
Subject	Misinformation
DIC	Brian Russell
Event	Golder NAP Flight B
Session	First Qualifying
Date	March 23, 2013

BD#	15
VUL	N/S
DLR	S

1621 masterpoints	
♠	J96542
♥	AQ
♦	Q985
♣	4

1644 masterpoints	
♠	Q103
♥	9876
♦	K52
♣	AK7



751 masterpoints	
♠	8
♥	KJ
♦	AJ1043
♣	QJ432

2022 masterpoints	
♠	AK7
♥	105432
♦	7
♣	10965

West	North	East	South
			P
1♣	1♠	3♠⁽¹⁾	X
P	P	5♣	X
P	P	P	

Final Contract	5♣X by West
Opening Lead	♠5
Table Result	Making 5, E/W +550
Director Ruling	5♣ by West, Making 5, E/W +400
Committee Ruling	5♣ by West, Making 5, E/W +400

(1) Explained as asking for a stopper

The Facts: South called the director when dummy was put down and East remarked that 3♠ should be a splinter. South claimed that he would not have doubled 5♣ if he had known that it was not a stopper ask. South thought forcing dealer with a ruff was the best defense, so he won the ♠K and continued with the ♠A. Declarer ruffed in dummy and played a club to the ace. He then played a diamond to the jack and drew the rest of the trumps. He returned to the king of diamonds, pitched a heart from dummy on the ♠Q, and finessed in diamonds. He conceded a heart at the end.

The Ruling: East/West had no agreement to the jump cuebid, and each had a different idea as to what it should mean. South isn't entitled to what East meant, but is entitled to know that the pair does not have an agreement, so that the possibility of shortness is present, and a double is less attractive. Per Law 21, an adjusted score of 5♣ by West, making 5, EW +400 was assigned.

The Appeal: East/West appealed the decision, claiming South only wanted to retract the double on the information that East was splintering, not on the much vaguer information of no

agreement. East had made no attempt to correct the information that they had no agreement before the opening lead, giving South a chance to claim damage and a desire not to double before seeing dummy.

The Decision: The reviewer attempted to conduct a poll, first giving the South hand and correct information, that there is no agreement by the opponents about the 3♠ bid. All players polled were concerned that the bid was a splinter and did not double 5♣ and thought it was very dangerous to do so. The players also maintained, that given the alternative explanation of stopper ask, they still thought the double to be unwise.

Trying to approach from the other side and find peers, the reviewer told those polled that the 3♠ bid was stopper asking. None chose to double, but most thought a double was not unreasonable, just too aggressive for them. When told about the possibility that the bid was instead undiscussed, the potential for it being a splinter was agreed to be a concern, and the double was thought to have much less merit.

With this information, the panel upheld the director's ruling of adjusting the score to 5♣ by West, making 5, E/W +400. East/West were reminded to correct misinformation at the earliest legal chance (Law 20F5), avoiding the situation of the non-offending side getting to make protests with more information than they would have otherwise.

The panel decided the appeal had merit due to the subtlety of the argument put forth by South and the difficulty in finding peers.

Players polled by the panel: 3 players of approx. 1700 – 2100 for each poll

The Panel: Kevin Perkins (reviewer), Matt Koltnow, Su Doe