

APPEAL	Non-NABC+ Three
Subject	Claim
DIC	Harry Falk
Event	Daylight Open Pairs
Session	Second Session
Date	November 22, 2008

BD#	17
VUL	None
DLR	North

1730 Masterpoints	
♠	8
♥	K Q 9 3 2
♦	Q 8
♣	K J 9 8 7

6320 Masterpoints	
♠	J 9 4
♥	A 8 5
♦	A 3
♣	Q 6 5 4 3

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689 Masterpoints	
♠	K Q T 7 6 3 2
♥	T 7 6
♦	K
♣	T 2

1730 Masterpoints	
♠	A 5
♥	J 4
♦	J T 9 7 6 5 4 2
♣	A

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

Final Contract	4♠ doubled by E
Opening Lead	♣A
Table Result	4♠ doubled E, down 3, E/W -500
Director Ruling	4♠ doubled E, down 3, E/W -500
Panel Ruling	4♠ doubled E, down 3, E/W -300

The Facts: The director was called at the time of the claim.

The play up to the claim was:

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

At this point declarer put his hand down and said: "The rest are mine."

The Ruling: No mention was made of the outstanding spade in the defender's hand. Declarer must ruff with the ♠3 and defender over ruffs with ♠5, therefore the result is: 4♠ by East down three, E/W minus 500. (Law 70C)

The Appeal: Statements made by the appealing side: Declarer said when dummy went down he noted he had ten trump. He led one round with all following, which left one outstanding. When asked why he did not mention it, he said it was so obvious it didn't merit a mention.

The Decision: Law 70C gives the steps required before a trump trick should be awarded to an opponent. All must be met.

1. claimer made no statement about that trump, and
2. it is at all likely that claimer at the time of his claim was unaware that a trump remained in an opponent's hand, and
3. a trick could be lost by any normal* play.

*Normal includes play that would be careless or inferior for the class of player involved.

When the solons created this law, they would have left out #2 had they wanted directors to always rule that an opponent gets a trick(s) if conditions 1 and 3 are met. Ergo #2 must have meaning. In general, if declarer has adopted a reasonable line of play and has attempted to draw trump at every opportunity unless there is a valid bridge reason for not doing so, he is allowed to accurately count trump.

Conditions 1 and 3 have been met. When declarer got in he unblocked the diamond suit and led trump. Therefore the conditions of #2 were not met and the claim was upheld..

The result was changed to 4♠ by East down two, E/W minus 300.

The Panel: Charles MacCracken (Reviewer), Jay Albright, Bernie Gorkin.