

APPEAL	NABC+ TWO
Subject	Unauthorized Information (UI)
DIC	Henry Cukoff
Event	Von Zedtwitz Life Master Pairs
Session	First Qualifying
Date	July 18, 2008

BD#	19
VUL	E/W
DLR	South

Eric Greco	
♠	A T 3
♥	A 8
♦	A T 8 4
♣	J T 9 6

Jon Bartlett		Summer 2008 Las Vegas, NV	Hank Gagnon	
♠	8 4		♠	K Q J 7 5 2
♥	J 7 5 4 3		♥	Q T 9
♦	K Q		♦	9 5 3
♣	K 5 4 2		♣	Q

Geoff Hampson	
♠	9 6
♥	K 6 2
♦	J 7 6 2
♣	A 8 7 3

West	North	East	South
			Pass
Pass	1NT ¹	2♣ ²	Pass
3♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

Final Contract	3♥ West
Opening Lead	♣J
Table Result	Down 1, E/W -100
Director Ruling	3♠ by E, down 2, E/W -200
Committee Ruling	3♠ by E, down 2, E/W -200

(1)	13+ to 16.
(2)	Explained as two-suited for majors.

The Facts: Before the opening lead, East explained that 2♣ showed one or two majors. This was determined to be the actual agreement.

The Ruling: The UI from the misexplanation demonstrably suggested pass. 3♠ was judged to be a logical alternative. Therefore, in accordance with Law 16A2 and Law 12C2, the result was adjusted to 3♠ by East down two, E/W minus 200.

The Appeal: E/W, the appealing side, stated that in their system, 2♦ shows a preference for hearts and 2♥ prefers spades, 2♠ and 3♥ are at least five-card suits with tolerance for partner to correct. Therefore, 3♥ had to be a decent contract. Also, the opponents misdefended 3♥. If they had switched to trumps this would be minus 300.

The Decision: There clearly was UI. The appealing pair had no documentation of their agreement and without such an agreement West could have been expecting partner to pass or correct. Were the agreement in effect, 3♠ would also have been a decent contract. The UI demonstrably suggested passing and 3♠ was a logical alternative in either case, so the committee chose to adjust the score. What were the likely and at all probable results had East bid 3♠? If West continued to believe that 2♣ shows both majors then 3♠ would be forcing and the auction would continue. The committee judged that the unusual 3♠ bid would almost certainly wake West up enough that he would recall the actual agreement and pass. As far as the result in 3♠, down one, two, or three were all possible. The committee judged that down two was both the most favorable result likely for N/S and the most unfavorable result at all probable for E/W.

As for the defense to 3♥, the committee found that a trump switch was far from clear. The defense was not close to being so egregiously poor as to deny N/S their right to redress. The committee adjusted the score for both sides to 3♠ by West down two, E/W minus 200, as the director had.

The committee found that the appeal had substantial merit.

The Committee: Aaron Silverstein (Chair), Dick Budd, Fred King, Ed Lazarus and Michael Rosenberg.