



The European Bridge League

Appeals Booklet 2007

**Including the Appeals from:
The Open European Championships,
Antalya**

Statistics from the Appeals Committee

20 cases were brought before the Appeals Committee in Antalya. That is exactly the same number as in Tenerife, but this tournament was quite a bit larger. The Board Appeal Ratio is 0.22 appeals per 1,000 boards, which confirms the downward trend (0.32 in Menton, 0.26 in Tenerife).

7 appeals were from the Teams' tournaments and 13 from the Pairs, which is a perfect match for the number of boards played in each.

The Women and the Seniors had only one case each (BAR: 0.10). There were 5 appeals in the Mixed (0.18) and 13 in the Open (0.30).

In 9 cases some change was brought to the Director's ruling. This is slightly more than in previous tournaments; the Committee believes this is because players are more reluctant to appeal frivolously.

The deposit was kept 4 times.

The Appeals Committee heard all cases from within a group of seven members, with a visiting member once to fill up the numbers. An average of 4.51 members served on the Committees. Only once, a Committee had to be convened composed of the minimum number of 3 members.

All the Appeals have been written up and will be published on the Web (<http://www.eurobridge.org> - follow links to departments - appeals)

Board-Appeal Ratio's (BARs)

In order to compare the rates of appeals, the EBL Appeal Committee have developed the notion of a Board-Appeal Ratio. In essence, this is the number of appeals that are heard in relation to the number of boards played. It is expressed as the number of appeals per 1,000 boards played. Over the past few years, the BARs have steadily gone down.

BARs throughout the years:

Team championships:

Malta	1999	0.70
Tenerife	2001	0.81
Salsomaggiore	2002	0.56
Malmö	2004	0.33
Warszawa	2006	0.36

Open championships:

Menton	2003	0.32
Tenerife	2005	0.26
Antalya	2007	0.22

Total number of boards:

89,882 boards have been played during these championships (Menton 123,647; Tenerife 77,393). In order to compare the championships to those in the ACBL, we have also counted the number of "tables", which is the way the Americans usually measure tournaments. The counter stopped at 3,698, which makes this event of the same order of size as the largest regionals.

1,298 players attended the championships.

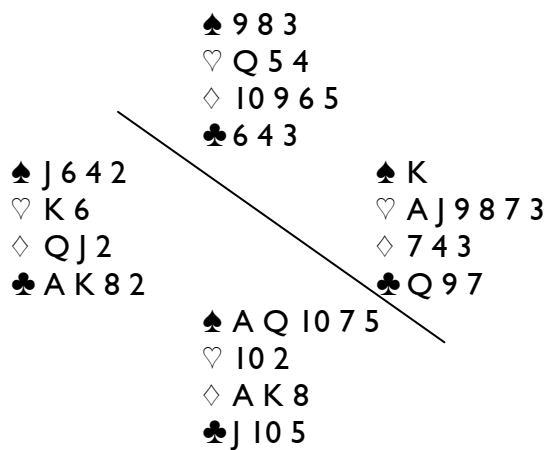
Appeal No. 1
Netherlands v France

Appeals Committee:

Bill Pencharz (Chairman, England), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Jens Auken (Denmark), Grattan Endicott (England), PO Sundelin (Sweden)

Mixed Teams Swiss A Round 3

Board 23. Dealer South. All Vul.



West	North	East	South
<i>Bessis M</i>	<i>Maas</i>	<i>Frey</i>	<i>Vriend</i>
Pass	Pass	2♥	1♠
2NT	Pass	3♥	Pass
3♠	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Contract: Three No-Trump, played by West

Lead: small spade

Result: 11 tricks, NS -660

The Facts:

South called the Director when West had bid 3♠, in order to establish that the tray had stayed away for some time. The break in tempo was established and play continued. South then called the Director again after 3NT had been made.

The Director:

Noted that West did not contest that a break in tempo had taken place. He considered it extremely likely that the break was attributable to East, so he ruled that there had been Unauthorized Information.

The Director then consulted some six players, about half of whom would have passed over 3♥, and so he ruled that going on had not been allowed.

Ruling:

Score adjusted to 3♥ by East, making 10 tricks, NS -170

Relevant Laws:

Law 16A, Law 12C2

East/West appealed.

Present: All players

The Players:

West explained that he had bid 2NT rather than 2♠ or 3♥ in order to learn if partner held six hearts. 3♥ showed a six-card suit, and so he could almost count 9 tricks. When asked how long the break in tempo was, West said 15 to 20 seconds. South agreed that it was around 20 seconds, certainly not a minute or so. East confirmed that she had been thinking about passing and that this had taken about that amount of time. North/South did not wish to comment on the bridge reasons for passing or bidding on.

The Committee:

Found that the length of the break in tempo, which was no more than 20 seconds, was quite close to the limit under which no break in tempo shall be considered (15 seconds). West's reasons for bidding 2NT and then going to game when East showed a six-card suit were considered consistent. This led the Committee to rule that West was authorized in going on past 3♥.

The Committee's decision:

Original table result restored

Deposit: Returned

Appeal No. 2 Turkey v Norway

Appeals Committee:

Bill Pencharz (Chairman, England), Jens Auken (Denmark), David Birman (Israel), Grattan Endicott (England), PO Sundelin (Sweden)

Herman De Wael sat in on the meeting to act as Scribe

Mixed Pairs Qualification Session 4

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

(this is the same hand as appeal 3)

West	North	East	South
<i>Hauge</i>	<i>Aksay</i>	<i>Harding</i>	<i>Tezesen</i>
Pass	2NT	Pass	Pass
Pass	3♠	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♦	Pass	4♣
Pass	6NT	All Pass	4♠

Contract: Six No-Trump, played by North

Result: 13 tricks, NS +1440

The Facts:

East called the Director at the end of the hand, complaining that 4♣ had been explained differently at both sides of the table. South had explained it to West as "short cue", while North explained it as natural. East had now stayed away from the club lead, choosing diamonds instead. North now made 13 tricks.

The Director:

Checked the Convention Card, which was quite completely filled out, sadly only in Turkish. It was of standard format though, and the Turkish director helped reading it. It turned out that North's explanation conformed to the Convention Card.

The Director therefore ruled that East had not been misinformed. However, West had received the wrong explanation, so the Director asked West if he would have doubled if

4♣ had been explained to him as natural. He would not have doubled, and so the Director ruled there had been no damage resulting from the misinformation.

Ruling:

Result Stands

Relevant Laws:

Law 75A, 40C

East/West appealed.

Present: All players

The Players:

East explained that with the information that South held spades and clubs, she could not lead either of those suits. But if she had known 4♣ was a cue-bid (or if partner had doubled) she would have led clubs.

West explained that twice he had asked if 4♣ showed a short suit (singleton or void) and twice South had confirmed this. A discussion then ensued about the words that South had used. South explained that she had intended to show a control, but she had not found the right words. She confirmed having used the words "cue" and "short" but she did not remember precisely what she had said.

When asked if she thought she had given the correct bid in their system, South said she thought she had, but when faced with the evidence of the Convention Card, she said "I forgot". East/West were not a regular partnership.

The Committee:

Found that the Director had correctly ruled. North had given a correct explanation, and West was not damaged by the misinformation. East/West should not have brought this case to Committee.

The Committee's decision:

Director's ruling upheld.

Deposit: Forfeited

Appeal No. 3
Poland/Lithuania v Italy

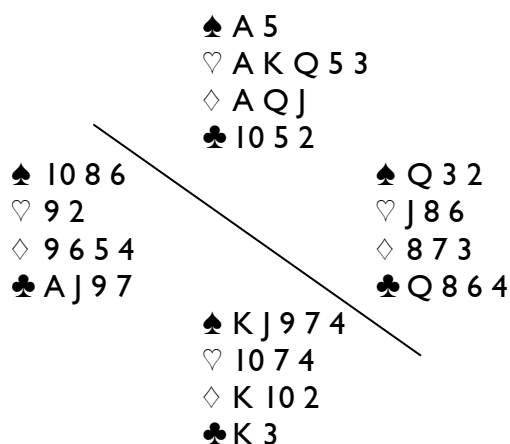
Appeals Committee:

Bill Pencharz (Chairman, England), Jens Auken (Denmark), David Birman (Israel), Grattan Endicott (England), PO Sundelin (Sweden)

Herman De Wael sat in on the meeting to act as Scribe

Mixed Pairs Qualification Session 4

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.



(this is the same hand as appeal 2)

West	North	East	South
<i>Totaro C</i>	<i>Vainikonis</i>	<i>Totaro MP</i>	<i>Sobolewska</i>
Pass	1♥	Pass	Pass
Pass	2NT	Pass	2♣
Pass	3NT	Pass	3♠
All Pass		Pass	4♥

Contract: Four Hearts, played by North

Lead: diamond

Result: 12 tricks, NS +680

The Facts:

East called the Director after seeing the dummy. She had asked about the meaning of 2♣ and had been told it was natural. She would have led a club if she had been told 2♣ was Drury.

The Director:

Checked the Convention Card, which confirmed South's intention as Drury was in the system. East had been misinformed and was damaged through that misinformation.

Ruling:

Score adjusted to 4♥ by North, making 11 tricks, NS +650

Relevant Laws:

Law 75A, 40C

North/South appealed.

Present: North and South (East/West providing a written statement)

The Players:

North explained that he had told East "in third hand we play Drury, but I don't believe that applies to fourth hand, now it looks more like natural".

South explained that they were a new partnership and had not yet discussed this. She also explained that 1♥ could be bid on as much as 21 points.

East/West provided a written explanation: "Before the lead East looked at opponent's Convention Card, where Drury is mentioned) and asked twice if it was Drury, but North twice said that it was natural.

The Committee:

Found that the Director was right in principle. A weighted score was considered, but the Committee decided to allow the adjustment to stand.

The Committee's decision:

Director's ruling upheld.

Deposit: Returned

Appeal No. 4
Belarus v Turkey

Appeals Committee:

Bill Pencharz (Chairman, England), Grattan Endicott (England), Ton Kooijman (Netherlands)

Mixed Pairs Semi-Final B Session 2

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Bankoglu E</i>	<i>Timakhovich</i>	<i>Bankoglu L</i>	<i>Kuznetsova</i>
Pass	2♦	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♥	Dble	5♣
All Pass			

Comments: 2♦ Multi; 3♥ short in diamonds.

Contract: Five Clubs, played by South

Result: 11 tricks, NS +600

The Facts:

North alerted the 3♥ bid to East and explained it as a singleton diamond. There was no alert or explanation by South to West. West called the Director at the end of the play and protested that he had been deprived of any opportunity to sacrifice in Hearts.

The Director:

Established that North's explanation was a correct statement of the partnership agreement. West was misinformed but the Director did not consider there was damage.

Ruling:

Result Stands

Relevant Laws:

Law 75A, 40C

East/West appealed.

Present: East and West

The Players:

West told the Committee that if he had known his partner's double showed Hearts, as was the partnership agreement when North's bid was conventional, he would have sacrificed in 5♥.

He pointed to the favourable vulnerability.

The Committee:

considered that the probability of a 5♥ bid by West was low. The Committee briefly referred to the possibility of a 12C3 weighted score but concluded that any potential for a 5♥ bid was too insignificant to justify such a decision.

The Committee's decision:

Director's ruling upheld.

Deposit: Returned

Appeal No. 5
Russia v England

Appeals Committee:

Jens Auken (Chairman, Denmark), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Jean-Claude Beineix (France), PO Sundelin (Sweden)

Mixed Teams Final Round 2

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Dhondy J</i>	<i>Gromov</i>	<i>Dhondy H</i>	<i>Gromova</i>
2♠	Pass	INT	Pass
3♠	Pass	2NT	Pass
		3NT	All Pass

Comments: INT 12-14; 2♠ transfer ♣; 2NT see below

Contract: Three No-Trump, played by East

Lead: Seven of Hearts

Play:	West	North	East	South
	♥3	♥A	♥2	♥7
	♥4	♥Q	♥K	♥5
	♠Q	♠4	♠6	♠2

Result: 9 tricks, NS -400

The Facts:

South called the Director after the end of the next board, complaining that something was wrong about the explanations. 2NT had been explained to her as "denying a club honour", while East did in fact hold K7. She had ducked the spade at trick three, but if she had known that East had 7 tricks in clubs, she would have taken the ace.

The Director:

Checked the agreements of East/West. The Convention Card shows that over 2♠ (transfer to clubs) and 2NT (transfer to diamonds), the first step is weak and the completion shows at least QJx. Since this meant that Qx was not enough, the explanation "denies honour" is wrong.

The Director then took a look at South's defence. That had not been very careful, but the non-offending side deserve full protection and South should not be obliged to work it out for herself.

Ruling:

Score adjusted to 3NT by East, making 8 tricks, NS +50

Relevant Laws:

Law 75A, 40C

East/West appealed.

Present: All players

The Players:

West told the Committee he thought they had given accurate information. 2NT denied a club fit. He would expect Kx to be enough. East stated that she had broken with the style because she did not want to be in 3NT opposite AJxxxx, with this otherwise weak hand. West pointed out that South could see 11 clubs, and she should therefore very much expect East to have the two remaining. At the table during the ruling, South had already addressed this, stating that East had bid 1NT with singleton King earlier in the match. That had been as an overcall, however. The Director confirmed that this point had been raised at the table.

East then proposed that if she had had the singleton King, she would have played it.

North thought this was invalid however, since such a play would clarify too much for defenders and surely lead to them cashing their winners.

South stated she had carefully asked, during the bidding, if 2NT denied Ace or King, and West confirmed that he had replied it did.

North and East told the Committee how the explaining had been at their side of the screen. North had asked by giving a thumbs-up signal. East had replied with a thumbs-down one. North explained that he thought this exchange was about the points range, while East believed it showed the club support.

The Committee:

First decided that it was clear East/West knew their system. The thumbs-down signal by East shows that she intended to show minimum support in clubs.

Next they asked if there had been misinformation. The Committee ruled that if East decided that Kx was inferior to QJx, that must be assumed to be their system. Therefore West's explanation to South that it could not have been Kx has to be considered misinformation.

The Committee then tackled South's apparent misplay. South should have realized that it is impossible that East does not have the ♣K, having opened 1NT. The moment she sees dummy she should have protected herself by asking (after closing the screen) if East/West ever open 1NT on a singleton. The Committee found that South had not been damaged by the misinformation.

The Committee's decision:

Original table result restored

Deposit: Returned

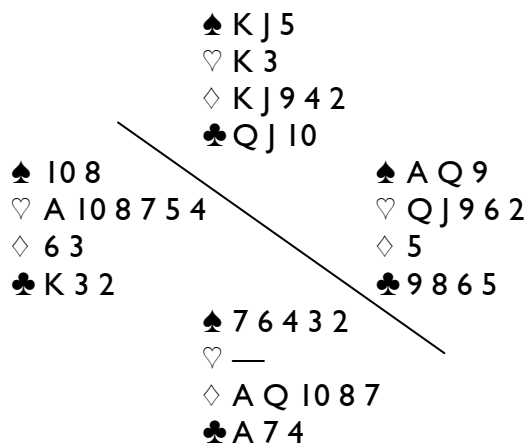
Appeal No. 6
Switzerland v Turkey

Appeals Committee:

Jens Auken (Chairman, Denmark), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Jean-Claude Beineix (France), PO Sundelin (Sweden)

Open Teams Qualification Round 6

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.



West	North	East	South
<i>Gur</i>	<i>Zivkovic</i>	<i>Sen</i>	<i>Mossop</i>
2♦	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♣	Pass	4♥	Dble
Pass	4♠	5♥	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

Comments: 2♦ Multi, 3♣ weak weak two in hearts

Contract: Five Hearts Doubled, played by East

Result: 10 tricks, NS +100

The Facts:

East called the Director after the bid of 4♠, complaining about a break in tempo. North agreed that there had been a delay in the return of the tray with the double over 4♥. East thought that the bid of 4♠ had been influenced by the "slow" double. North/South tried to explain that they had agreements over this sequence, but they could not provide any system notes.

The Director:

Consulted a number of players, who all thought the double should be for Take-Out, but who also considered passing. The Director ruled therefore that North ought not have bid on.

Ruling:

Score adjusted to 4♥X by East, making 10 tricks, NS -590

Relevant Laws:

Law 16A

North/South appealed.

Present: All players and both Captains

The Players:

South explained that he had missorted his hand, and that that had been the reason why he had needed some extra time. South admitted that he had taken about 5 seconds more than normal time. West told the Committee that South had taken out a pass card, but not put it on the tray, and that he had even passed when South reconsidered and doubled. He thought it had taken about 50 seconds. North said he had admitted to the Director that the tray had returned with a delay, but that it was no more than 30 seconds, while East said it had been 2 minutes.

North then explained that he thought the not ethical action would have been to pass. If the double is for take-out, then the slow double should be more for penalties. South explained that he did not like the choice his partner had made. North/South, through their captain, explained that everyone needs some thought before deciding to enter the bidding at the four-level, so that the hesitation doesn't suggest anything.

The Committee:

Found that there had been a break in tempo, and that this was attributable to South, and thus constituted Unauthorized Information to North.

The Committee also found that the double should be considered to be for Take-Out.

The Committee read Law 16:

After a player makes available to his partner extraneous information that may suggest a call or play, ..., the partner may not choose from among logical alternative actions one that could demonstrably have been suggested over another by the extraneous information.

The Committee found that the bid of 4♠ was not suggested by the break in tempo, therefore North was not barred from bidding it.

The Committee's decision:

Original table result restored

Deposit: Returned

Appeal No. 7
Austria v Turkey

Appeals Committee:

Bill Pencharz (Chairman, England), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Grattan Endicott (England), PO Sundelin (Sweden)

Senior Teams Qualification Round 5

Board 23. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Yalman</i>	<i>Kubak</i>	<i>Bigat</i>	<i>Milavec</i>
1♣	1♦	Dble	2♦
2♥	2♠	3♥	Pass
Pass	4♦	All Pass	

Contract: Four Diamonds, played by North

Result: 12 tricks, NS +170

The Facts:

North called the Director to complain about two different explanations of the double. East had explained it to North as showing 4 cards in hearts, while West had explained it to South as negative, showing both majors. South now claimed that if he had known that East did not have 4 spades, he would have bid 5♦. With the wrong explanation he was too afraid of two spade losers.

The Director:

Checked the Convention Card, which showed that East/West play negative doubles throughout over 1♣. East told the Director that he had made a mistake, that he plays that the double shows hearts with some other partners, but not with this one. The Director then ruled that South had received correct information about the system of East/West. North had been misinformed, but the Director did not find that he'd been damaged.

Ruling:
Result Stands

Relevant Laws:
Law 75A, 40C

North/South appealed.

Present: All players

The Players:

South explained that if East had 4 spades then they had 2 spade losers, and so 5♦ was not an alternative.

West told the Committee that at the table, South had said to North "Why did you keep on bidding? I had a double over 3♥".

South was asked if he had understood that the system of East/West had been negative doubles, and that he had therefore not been misinformed. South confirmed this.

The Committee:

Found the ruling to be correct.

The Committee's decision:

Director's ruling upheld.

Deposit: Forfeited

Appeal No. 8
Israel v Turkey

Appeals Committee:

Bill Pencharz (Chairman, England), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Jean-Claude Beineix (France), Grattan Endicott (England), PO Sundelin (Sweden)

Open Teams Swiss B Round 2

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Haliyaoglu</i>	<i>Liran</i>	<i>Sepetcioglu</i>	<i>Hertz</i>
			1♣
Pass	3♥	Dble	Pass
3♠	6♣	All Pass	

Contract: Six Clubs, played by South

Lead: ♥5

Play: South cashed three clubs, then played a spade to the Jack and Queen.

Result: (see below) 11 tricks, NS -50

The Facts:

After making the ♠Q, East returned the ♠10. Before South had played, West showed his ♠A. When South stated she would ruff that Ace, West called the Director.

The Director:

Allowed South to explain what had happened. West did not speak enough English, so he explained it in Turkish to the (Turkish) Director. West had intended to speed up play by insisting he still makes the ♠A. The Director established that the ♠A had been seen by the whole table, but he ruled that it had not been the intention of West to play it in this trick but rather to claim the contract for one down.

Ruling:

East/West receive one more trick. The contract is one down.

Relevant Laws:

Law 68

North/South appealed.

Present: All players and the Captain of North/South

The Players:

South retold the story. When East had played the ♠10, she had done nothing, and West had put his ♠A on the table and was pointing to it.

West said that his opponents had been talking after he showed his ♠A, so he had called the Director. He stated he had said "One trick for us" in Turkish at the time.

When asked how he knew there would always be one trick for the defence, West replied that his partner had doubled 3♥, and that declarer had ruffed his opening lead in dummy.

The Committee:

Asked the Director about the level of the pair in question. The Director knew them well, as they played in all Turkish national events, but they were not an international pair.

The Committee found that West had wanted to claim.

The Committee's decision:

Director's ruling upheld.

Deposit: Returned

Disciplinary Hearing I

Appeals Committee:

Bill Pencharz (Chairman, England), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Jean-Claude Beineix (France), Grattan Endicott (England), PO Sundelin (Sweden)

Open Teams Swiss B Round 2

The Facts:

The facts leading up to this matter are described in Appeal 8.

After the Director ruled in favour of East/West, North said "You are a Turkish Director, they are Turkish players, that's why you rule this way, I want another Tournament Director from another country."

The Director:

Reported this to the Appeals Committee, who asked the player to appear for a special hearing, which was held a few days after Appeal 8 had been dealt with.

Present: The player, his representative, the Chief Tournament Director, the table Director, and a representative from the NBO of the player.

The Player:

The player's representative, who introduced himself as a frequent captain of national Junior and Open teams in which the player had appeared, spoke of the player's case. As to the facts of the case, they were slightly misrepresented. The Director had been the second one to reach the table, but the opponents had asked for a Turkish Director to make their case understood. The player believed that the Turkish Director should only translate, and let a neutral director handle the case. The player meant to politely ask for a neutral judge.

The player added that he did not doubt that the Director's knowledge of the laws was excellent, and that he had not intended to insult him.

The Committee:

Stated that the EBL uses TD's who are above their nationality, who never give a ruling without consultation. Every ruling is the result of the combined pool of knowledge of a terrific team.

Since the player is still quite young, the Committee decided to give guidance, not sanction. The Committee takes the facts very seriously and will remember them, and such things should never happen again, but there will be no formal report to the national federation.

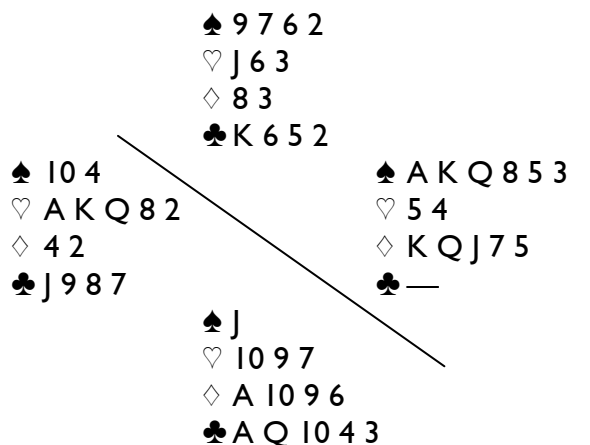
Appeal No. 9
Israel v Bulgaria

Appeals Committee:

Bill Pencharz (Chairman, England), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Jean-Claude Beineix (France), Grattan Endicott (England), PO Sundelin (Sweden)

Open Teams Swiss A Round 4

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.



West	North	East	South
<i>Vasilev</i>	<i>Yadlin D</i>	<i>Nanev</i>	<i>Yadlin I</i>
	Pass	1♣	1♥
2♥	Pass	4♠	All Pass

Comments: 1♣ Precision, 1♥ see below

Contract: Four Spades, played by East

Result: 12 tricks, NS -480

The Facts:

1♥ was explained differently on both sides of the screen. South explained it to West as "either spades or both minors", while North explained it to East as natural. West now intended his 2♥ as being natural, game forcing, but to East it looked like a cue bid, so he explained it as "game-forcing, balanced, no heart-stopper". East now saw 2 likely heart losers, so he lost all interest in slam and bid 4♠.

The Director:

Checked the Convention Card in order to find which was the correct explanation. He found the overcalls of 1NT and 2♣, but nothing about 1♥. The Director concluded therefore that it had been North's explanation which had been the correct one. The Director then asked West what he would bid over a natural 1♥, and he said that 1NT would have been his bid, which showed a game forcing hand with a heart stopper. The Director found that East/West would easily find slam after that start.

Ruling:

Score adjusted to 6♠ by East/West, making 12 tricks, NS -980

Relevant Laws:

Law 75A, 40C

North/South appealed.

Present: All players and the Captain of North/South

The Players:

South confirmed that the facts were completely correct, but asked the Committee to check if it was so clear that her opponents would have found slam without her infraction. Less than half of the field found the slam, and at least one pair went down after a heart lead. Her teammates had only bid 4♠. North/South, through their captain, thought West might even pass over 1♥. The captain played Precision himself and he did not play INT as gameforcing in this situation.

West simply confirmed that there was no reason to bid anything else than 4♠ with the explanations he had received.

The Committee:

Started by reaffirming that East/West had been misinformed and damaged. The only question that remained was whether East/West would find 6♠ all of the time or not. It was clear that if West had received the correct explanation East/West would have got off to a good start, with West showing a positive with heart values. However, that did not mean slam would always be reached. The possibility was greater than the 50% that the field suggested, and the Committee settled on 80%.

The Committee's decision:

Director's ruling adjusted:

Both sides receive:

20% of 4♠+2 by East (NS -480)
plus 80% of 6♠= by East (NS -980)

Deposit: Returned

Note: the result at the other table was -450 so the final result on the board was:

20% of -1 IMP
plus 80% of -11 IMP
equating to 9 IMPs to the team of East/West.

Appeal No. 10
Austria v Spain

Appeals Committee:

Jean-Claude Beineix (Chairman, France), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), David Birman (Israel), PO Sundelin (Sweden)

Open Teams Knock-out Round of 32

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

	♠ 6 2		
	♥ A K Q 7 5		
	♦ K 8 6		
	♣ Q 7 4		
♠ A K J 10 9	/	♠ Q 4 3	
♥ 9		♥ J 10 6 4 2	
♦ Q 10 5 3		♦ 7 4	
♣ 9 6 2		♣ A K 10	
	♠ 8 7 5		
	♥ 8 3		
	♦ A J 9 2		
	♣ J 8 5 3		
West	North	East	South
<i>Ventin</i>	<i>Fucik</i>	<i>Pont</i>	<i>Purkarthofer</i>
Pass	1♥	Pass	1♠
Dble	2♥	All Pass	

Comments: 1♥ and 1♠ possibly canapé

Contract: Two Hearts, played by North

Result: 7 tricks, NS -50

The Facts:

East called the Director because he felt damaged about a missing alert. South had alerted his bid of 1♠ and explained it as possibly short (3-cards). Over that system, East/West play that a double shows spades. On the other side of the screen, North did not alert and so West interpreted his partner's double as negative, showing the minors. If North had alerted correctly, East would have bid 2♠.

The Director:

Established these facts and ruled that East would bid 2♠. North/South might push them higher, and 3♠ might make or not (North/South need to find the trump switch immediately) but the Director decided to adjust to only one result, 2♠ making.

Ruling:

Score adjusted to 2♠ by West, making 8 tricks, NS -110

Relevant Laws:

Law 75A, 40C

North/South appealed.

Present: All players except West

The Players:

South explained that most of the time 1♥-1♠ showed a four card suit. Only with stronger hands are canapé sequences used. North explained that he had not alerted because he had played against the same opponents three times already, and 1♠ is basically natural after all.

South explained that he had no good bid. He did not want to bid 1NT with three small spades.

East explained that if North had alerted, the meaning of his partner's double would have changed.

The Committee:

Found that North's failure to alert had caused East/West damage. Since the appellants had not brought up any case for a change on the adjustment, the Committee did not have to consider changing it.

The Committee's decision:

Director's ruling upheld.

Deposit: Returned

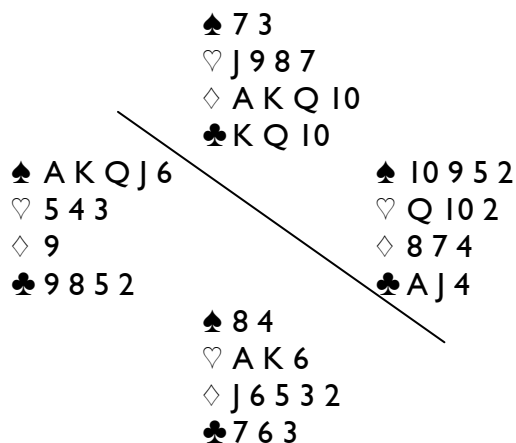
Appeal No. 11
Norway v Turkey

Appeals Committee:

Jens Auken (Chairman, Denmark), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Jean-Claude Beineix (France), PO Sundelin (Sweden)

Open Pairs Qualifying Round I

Board 21. Dealer North. N/S Vul.



West	North	East	South
<i>Kanar</i>	<i>Brandsnes</i>	<i>Seçer</i>	<i>Hoyland</i>
	INT	Pass	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♦	Dble
2♠	3♦	All Pass	

Comments: 2♣ either diamonds or hearts and spades

Contract: Three Diamonds, played by North

Lead: Spade

Play: spade to West, club for king and ace, spade to West, club to the queen, 3 rounds of trumps, heart ace and king and a club to try and endplay East.

Result: 8 tricks, NS -100

The Facts:

West had explained his call of 2♣ correctly (diamonds or majors), but had added that it could be 5-3. East had also explained it in the same way, but he had not added the possibility that the distribution could start at 5-3. North called the Director at the end of the match, claiming that if he had known that hearts could be divided 3-3, he would have played the double finesse in hearts, and actually score 10 tricks.

The Director:

Tried to establish the system of East/West. The Convention Card shows that every bid shows either 6 cards in the suit above, or a two-suiter in the other 2. The Director

concluded that it would be quite common to use the bid with a 5-3 distribution. So North had been misinformed.

The Director then asked if this had affected the play. Even if the true explanation is that the distribution could be 5-3, that does not guarantee that this is the true holding. He thought the declarer would play in the same manner most of the time, also since the double finesse in hearts is very unlikely to succeed.

Ruling:

Both sides receive:

33% of 3♦+1 by North (NS +130)
plus 67% of 3♦-1 by North (NS -100)

Relevant Laws:

Law 75A, 40C

Law 12C3, Code of Practice enabling Tournament Director to award Adjusted Scores under Law 12C3.

North/South appealed.

Present: All players and a translator for East/West

The Players:

North explained that after the first three tricks he knew that West held far better spades than hearts. He also knew West had 4 hearts, and so the finesse could not work. But the endplay would certainly work.

East/West, through their translator, explained that in their system, the two-suiter always promises 5-4, but that West merely added what he had, trying to be helpful.

South told that he had the feeling, at the table, that after the board finished, East and West had both agreed that a 5-3 was possible.

The Committee:

Found that it was not clear that there was misinformation, but since West did have a 5-3 distribution, the explanation that it is possible may well be part of their system.

It was not clear either that North would play differently with better information, but the Committee was willing to go along with the Director in finding that 1/3 of the time declarer would play on a different line.

It was, however, not obvious that North, if he would play for the hearts to be 3-3, would play on the double finesse. Far more likely, North would endplay either defender in clubs, leading to 9 tricks.

The Committee found that North/South should not have appealed the ruling, which had been quite favourable to them.

The Committee's decision:

Director's ruling adjusted:

Both sides receive:

33% of 3♦= by North (NS +110)
plus 67% of 3♦-1 by North (NS -100)

Deposit: Forfeited

Appeal No. 12
France v Norway

Appeals Committee:

Grattan Endicott (Chairman, England), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), David Birman (Israel), PO Sundelin (Sweden)

Open Pairs Qualification Round 2

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Kopstad</i>	<i>Soulet</i>	<i>Ovesen</i>	<i>Payen</i>
Pass	1♠	Pass	Pass
Dble	Redble	All Pass	

Contract: One Spade Redoubled, played by North

Result: 5 tricks, NS -600

The Facts:

North called the Director after the opening lead. He thought East's pass after the redouble should have been alerted. Neither East nor West had alerted it, although they agreed they had an agreement that it was "to play". North had asked at the table, and East had told North that it was, but South had not asked.

The Director:

Since the opening lead had been made, the Director could no longer allow South to change his call. The Director consulted with the Chief Tournament Director, who ruled that the pass was not alertable. Therefore, the Director ruled that South had not been misinformed.

Ruling:

Result Stands

Relevant Laws:

Law 75A, Conditions of Contest 11.

North/South appealed.

Present: All players

The Players:

North told the Committee that he did not believe that "to play" was the classical meaning of the pass over the redouble. For most players, that pass meant "I have nothing to say". East stated that if the pass were to mean anything else than "OK for me", how could they ever punish the opening side?

The Committee:

Asked for clarification by the Director. He explained that the Chief Tournament Director had made a difference between the bidding sequences:

1♠ X XX pass, which meant "I have nothing to say"; and

1♠ pass pass X XX pass, which meant "I want to defend 1♠" as their natural, unalerted meaning.

The Committee read the relevant pieces of the regulations (Art. 11)

11.1 Any call which:

(i) has a special or artificial meaning, or

(ii) whose partnership meaning may not be understood by the opponents is an "alertable call"

The Pass, with meaning "I want to play this", is certainly not artificial, but is it a meaning which "may not be understood"?

Some members of the Committee believed that the majority of players would understand this "natural" meaning, other members believed that a proportion of players would not. The Committee therefore decided that it had no elements available to advise the Chief Tournament Director to change his interpretation. The Committee did ask the Director to review his interpretation, without indicating what the final decision should be.

That left of course the appeal itself. The Committee was of the opinion that, whatever the alerting obligations were on West, South had failed to protect himself. If he chooses to believe that the non-alerted pass will be taken out by West, he can call the Director after West passes (and before passing the tray or indicating that the auction has finished) and ask to have his call changed on the basis of misinformation. South never asked any questions, and it is only after he sees dummy that North learns that South has been "misinformed".

Even if there were misinformation, North/South are not entitled to redress.

The Committee's decision:

Director's ruling upheld.

Deposit: Returned

Note by the Chairman of the above Committee:

Since this was a four man Committee with an ad hoc chairman I did not think it appropriate that the Committee should consider whether to exercise its powers as the national authority for the tournament.

Appeal No. 13
Czech Republic v South Africa

Appeals Committee:

Bill Pencharz (Chairman, England), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Jens Auken (Denmark), Grattan Endicott (England), PO Sundelin (Sweden)

Open Pairs Qualifying Round 4

Board 22. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

	♠ —		
	♥ A J 10 7 5 2		
	♦ 10 9 4 3 2		
	♣ 6 5		
♠ K 7		♠ A 9 8 6 4	
♥ K 6 4 3		♥ 8	
♦ K J 5		♦ A Q 7	
♣ A Q 10 3		♣ K J 9 4	
	♠ Q J 10 5 3 2		
	♥ Q 9		
	♦ 8 6		
	♣ 8 7 2		
West	North	East	South
<i>Chemaly</i>	<i>Kopecky</i>	<i>Zindel</i>	<i>Volhejn</i>
		1♠	Pass
3NT	4♥	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

Contract: Four Hearts Doubled, played by North

Result: 6 tricks, NS -800

The Facts:

North called the Director after the opening lead. West had explained the bid of 3NT to him as "good hand, spade support". That was the reason for him bidding 4♥.

The Director:

Checked East/West's Convention Card and found nothing there. West had not alerted his 3NT bid, and when South had asked about it anyway, he had replied "balanced, good hand". The Director ruled that North had been misinformed. He consulted a number of players and gave them the bidding, with the alternative meanings of 3NT. 4 out of 5 players would have bid 4♥ if 3NT showed support, but no-one would have bid it if 3NT was explained as natural. The Director therefore ruled that North/South had been damaged. The Director found that East would revert to spades, and awarded an adjustment based on a contract of 4♠.

Ruling:

Score adjusted to 4♠ by East, making 9 tricks, NS +100

Relevant Laws:

Law 75A, 40C, 12C2

East/West appealed.

Present: All players

The Players:

East thought the decision was unfair. He told the Committee that he would leave 3NT in, since his spade suit was fairly anaemic. He even said he would leave the decision to partner (apparently not realising that partner would have no more say in the matter). He believed partner had shown a heart stopper.

West explained that he had used fast arrival. If his opponents thought they could save over that, they should stay there. He called being minus on this board very unfair.

East/West further explained that they had put together the partnership for this event, and that they had not discussed the sequence.

The Committee:

Found that the explanations by East did not make sense. There is nothing unfair in ending up negative if you misinform your opponents whilst having a partnership misunderstanding.

The Committee's decision:

Director's ruling upheld.

Deposit: Returned

Appeal No. 14
Italy v Norway/England

Appeals Committee:

Bill Pencharz (Chairman, England), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Jens Auken (Denmark), Grattan Endicott (England), PO Sundelin (Sweden)

Open Pairs Qualification Round 4

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Gillis</i>	<i>Fabbrini</i>	<i>Brogeland</i>	<i>Fossi</i>
	1♣	1♠	Dble
Pass	INT	Pass	2NT
All Pass			

Contract: Two No-Trump, played by North

Lead: small diamond

Result: 10 tricks, NS +180

The Facts:

East/West called the Director at the end of the hand, complaining that South had not alerted the double. If the double had been alerted and explained as "points", West would have bid 2♥ and East would have led a heart against 2NT.

The Director:

Found that although the double should have been alerted, West should have asked about its meaning.

Ruling:

Result Stands

Relevant Laws:

Law 75A, 40C

East/West appealed.

Present: All players

The Players:

East stated that he believed a double without an alert to be a normal negative double. He had asked North "negative?" and received the reply "Yes". When he had led diamonds and seen the dummy, he had asked again, and South had said "just shows points".

West explained that he did not want to ask, for fear of damaging his own situation, revealing that he had hearts as well, in case South ended up declaring. He did not ask, because 99% of players do have hearts when they double in this position.

South told the Committee that Italian alert regulations say one should alert the double if it shows a particular number of cards, which is why he hadn't alerted. To him, the word "negative" equates to "not penalty", and it does not show anything else.

The Committee:

Dismissed West's reasoning that asking would reveal anything. He should have asked. By passing he's hoping for a miracle, and so he does not deserve redress.

No player is entitled to assume that the field plays negative doubles in a particular way - what is usual in one part of Europe is not usual in another part.

If he had asked however, he would have received the reply "negative", which is not a full explanation.

Without a full explanation after diligent enquiry East/West would have been entitled to redress.

The Committee decided to award a procedural penalty against North/South in order to emphasise the absolute need to alert and give full explanations when asked.

The Committee's decision:

Director's ruling upheld.

North/South receive a Procedural Penalty of 10% of a Top.

Deposit: Returned

Appeal No. 15
Israel v England

Appeals Committee:

Jens Auken (Chairman, Denmark), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Jean-Claude Beineix (France), PO Sundelin (Sweden)

Open Pairs Qualification Round 4

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

	♠ 8 5 2		
	♥ A Q J 5 2		
	♦ K 9 6		
	♣ Q 9		
♠ K Q 7 6		♠ A 10 4 3	
♥ 7 4		♥ K 10 6 3	
♦ J 4 3		♦ 10 5	
♣ A 7 5 3		♣ K 10 4	
	♠ J 9		
	♥ 9 8		
	♦ A Q 8 7 2		
	♣ J 8 6 2		
West	North	East	South
<i>Holland</i>	<i>Levinger</i>	<i>Brunner</i>	<i>Hetz</i>
Pass	1♥	Pass	INT
All Pass			

Contract: One No-Trump, played by South

Result: 7 tricks, NS +90

The Facts:

West called the Director before leading. South had told him that INT was forcing, and so he had waited one round before balancing. He was surprised to see it being passed out.

The Director:

Checked the Convention Card and found the words "semi-forcing" there. That had also been what North had told East. The Director decided that West had been misinformed, and that with correct information he would have doubled (being a passed hand). East/West would then get to 2♠.

Ruling:

Score adjusted to 2♠ by East/West, making 9 tricks, NS -140

Relevant Laws:

Law 75A, 40C, 12C2

North/South appealed.

Present: All players

The Players:

North explained that they play 2-over-1 Gameforcing, so INT is forcing and can go until 12 points with 3 hearts. This was clear from the Convention Card at the table. He had decided to pass anyway, as it was matchpoints. He thought it was the first time he had done this.

North then said that it was not clear that West would double, the majority of the field had not done so. Also East/West had misdefended and allowed the contract to make. As a third argument, North put forward that if West had wanted to double, why not do it anyway, since in the next round North/South would know more about each other's holdings.

South told the Committee that he thought the explanation was enough, since the 2-over-1 system should be well-known and it was clearly noted on the first page of their Convention Card.

South believed "forcing" to be a good description of the bid. North had put "semi-forcing" on their Convention Cards because it was not strong, being limited to 12 points.

West explained that he had not doubled over the forcing bid, since he knew that he'd get a second round. If North was weak, he could balance on the next round.

East explained that she could not double, since that would show hearts. She told the Committee that it was alerted and explained as "semi-forcing" by North.

The Committee:

Found that East/West had been misinformed and damaged. Nine tricks in spades and a score of -140 are very likely.

The Committee's decision:

Director's ruling upheld.

Deposit: Returned

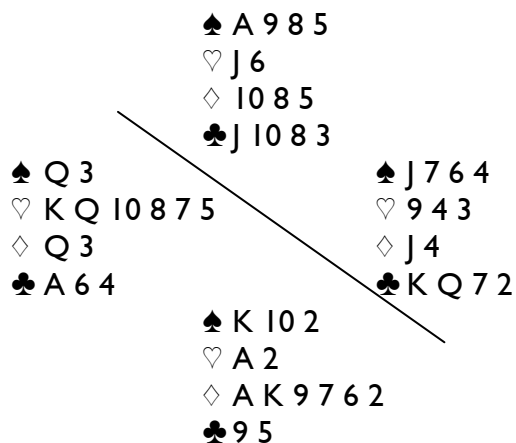
Appeal No. 16
Turkey v Israel

Appeals Committee:

Bill Pencharz (Chairman, England), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Jens Auken (Denmark), Jean-Claude Beineix (France), Grattan Endicott (England)

Open Pairs Semi-Final A Round I

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.



West	North	East	South
<i>Limor</i>	<i>Eucimen</i>	<i>Mintz</i>	<i>Kasirca</i>
1♥	Dble	2♥	1♦
3♥	Pass	Pass	3♦
All Pass			3NT

Contract: Three No-Trump, played by South

Result: 9 tricks, NS +400

The Facts:

West called the Director after the bid of 3NT. He said there had been a hesitation on the other side of the screen. He estimated it had come back after 15-20 seconds. The Director checked with North, who told him that he had asked about the meaning of 3♥, thought a small time, but that the total time had been 15 seconds or a little more. 3♦ had shown a good hand, non forcing, but South said she would have gone to 4♦ anyway and she bid 3NT on the way.

The Director:

Applied Regulation 10 which states that a delay of the tray of 15 seconds is not to be considered Unauthorized Information. South is therefore not restricted in any way.

Ruling:

Result Stands

Relevant Laws:

Law 73D, 16C, Regulation 10 (page 18)

East/West appealed.

Present: All players

The Players:

West told the Committee that there had been a significant hesitation, which he estimated at 20 seconds. He thought that at this stage 3♥ should flow very fast. If North thinks, it can only be about 4♦. West thought 4♦ by South was not automatic, and it was not even always made.

East told what had happened on his side of the screen. North had asked about 3♥, and he had said "competitive". North had then hesitated for some 10 seconds more, and passed. West added that even the asking of the question shows diamond support.

When asked about the rhythm of the bidding, East/West described it as "very fast".

North told the Committee that the bidding had not been so fast as his opponents were telling. Since this is an international tournament, he takes his time before every bid and looks at his hand. In this round, he had opened his hand, asked about 3♥, and bid, all in about 5 seconds. The tempo did not change.

South described the delay as 10-15 seconds.

The Director was asked if he had told East/West about the regulation that 15 seconds was not a hesitation, and he replied that he had offered to read it out to them twice, once even over the lunch break that had preceded the holding of the appeal.

The Committee:

Found that the Director had ruled correctly and that North/South ought not to have appealed the ruling.

The Committee's decision:

Director's ruling upheld.

Deposit: Forfeited

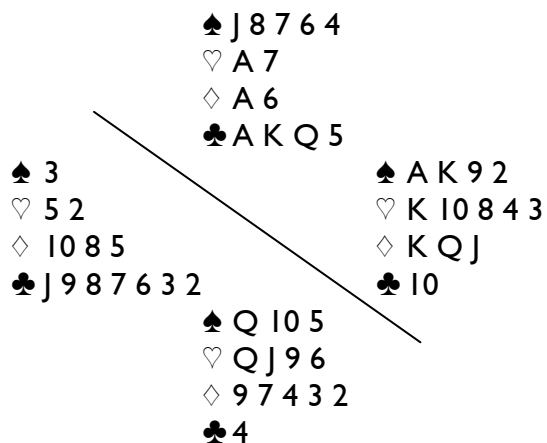
Appeal No. 17
Israel v Hungary

Appeals Committee:

Bill Pencharz (Chairman, England), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Jean-Claude Beineix (France), Grattan Endicott (England), PO Sundelin (Sweden)

Open Pairs Semi-Final B Round I

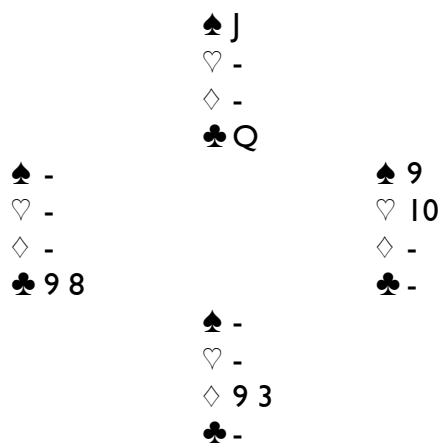
Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.



West	North	East	South
<i>Dumbovich lossef</i>	<i>Gotthard</i>	<i>Ilan</i>	<i>Ilan</i>
Pass	Dble	1♥	Pass
2♣	2♠	Redble	Pass
		All Pass	

Contract: Two Spades, played by North

Play: Declarer made 7 out of 11 tricks, these are the final two cards, with dummy on play:



Result: 9 tricks, NS +140 (after the Director's ruling)

The Facts:

The ♠3 and ♣8 were played, North and East still having to play to trick 12. North called the Director, claiming that East had played the ♥10 after he had played the ♣Q.

The Director:

Asked all four players (with the screen down) what they had seen: East said that North had hesitated, and he had not seen which card he had played. He had then shown both his cards.

North said that he had put the ♣Q on the table, and that East had put the ♥10 on the table.

South said that East had put the ♥10 on the table and then taken it back.

West said that both North and East had been waving their two cards in the air.

Based on these versions, the Director decided that the ♣Q and ♥10 had been played.

Ruling:

9 tricks to North/South

Relevant Laws:

Law 45C1

East/West appealed.

Present: All players

The Players:

East explained that declarer had played slowly, and that they were already one or two minutes over time. North played the diamond from the table and hesitated with the two cards in his hand. East then showed both cards and pointed to his ♠9. He said North had never put a card on the table, but showing both cards. East found that a player trying to take tricks like that destroys bridge.

North said East's story was fiction. He had put the ♣Q on the table, and East had put the ♥10 on the table. East did not point to anything, nor did he say anything. North thought East had made a mistake and was trying to get out of it.

South confirmed North's version of events.

The Committee:

Had great difficulty in deciding which of the two versions, totally contradictory, to believe. The Director was recalled and asked why he had ruled in favour of North/South. Basically this was because North's and South's stories coincided, whereas East's and West's stories were slightly different. West had not mentioned his partner pointing at the ♠J. In the end, the Committee decided to award the score that best resembled the bridge result, not least because all four players at the table knew that East had to make his ♠9.

The Committee's decision:

Director's ruling adjusted:

8 tricks to North/South

Deposit: Returned

Appeal No. 18
Austria v Netherlands

Appeals Committee:

Bill Pencharz (Chairman, England), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Jens Auken (Denmark), Grattan Endicott (England), PO Sundelin (Sweden)

Open Pairs Semi-Final A Round 3

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Hop</i>	<i>Fischer</i>	<i>De Pagter</i>	<i>Saurer</i>
Pass	1♦	1♠	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♠	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Comments: 1♦ Precision

Contract: Three No-Trump, played by East

Lead: ♦3

Play:	West	North	East	South
	♦2	♦Q	♦A	♦3
	♣3	♣2	♣A	♣8
	♦J	♦K	♦6	♦7
	♥6	♥Q	♥K	♥3
	♥8	♥10	♥4	♥5
		♦9	♦10	♦4

South still made the ♠K and 2 diamonds

Result: 7 tricks, NS +100

The Facts:

East called the Director at the end of the hand, complaining about the explanation about the leads. He had asked North, who had replied "attitude". Consequently, he had played South for the $\diamond K$.

The Director:

First checked the Convention Card, which showed fourth best. North/South explained that this was an old Convention Card, and that they played attitude instead. However, in partner's suit, 3rd/5th leads were used, and North admitted not having added this. The director ruled that East had been misinformed, but that he had not been damaged by that misinformation. After all, some people do lead attitude from a five-card, and after the $\diamond K$ it was clear South did not have a diamond honour.

Ruling:

Result Stands

Relevant Laws:

Law 75A, 40C

East/West appealed.

Present: All players

The Players:

East explained to the Committee that he had to make the choice at trick 2 (or 3, after unblocking the $\clubsuit K$).

There had been no Convention Card on his side of the table, so he asked North, who had explained that the leads were "attitude". He concluded that South must have the $\diamond K$. That meant North had to have the $\spadesuit K$, or she would not have opening values. He decided to play diamonds. If South ducks, the contract would be safe, and if South takes he has to lead into a tenace. When North took the $\diamond K$ however, East still had no idea of how the diamonds were divided, and who held the $\spadesuit K$.

If on the other hand East had known that the leads were 3rd/5th, he could have played on South having the $\spadesuit K$.

North apologised for the problems with the Convention Card. Just prior to the championship, South had had computer problems, so they could not print off their current card. Instead, they had used an old copy, and manually adjusted it. They had copied that, but North had lost three already, which explained why there was no copy available at her side of the table. East had asked about the leads before the screen had opened, and she had truthfully answered "attitude". When she saw that partner had led in her suit, she had forgotten to add "but 3rd/5th in my suit". She realised this was misinformation. She did add that in their system, "attitude" leads mean that the suit can be returned, and that South's five-card would suffice for that. But she accepted that she would be ruled to have misinformed East.

North pointed out that East had misdeclared. Her return of the $\heartsuit Q$ was not optimal, and East could now make his contract.

East/West finally stated that this was not just a question of making the contract, but that 10 tricks (and even 11) are possible.

The Committee:

Found that it was clear that East had been misinformed, and that East's conclusion that South held the \diamond K was warranted.

East had played badly at the end of the hand, but that was subsequent to the damage that was caused by the misinformation. The Committee then analysed the hand further.

If East gets the correct information (3rd/5th) then he still has a choice of how to play:

- if he plays South for the \diamond K, he will score the same 7 tricks as he did on the table;
- if he plays South for the \spadesuit K, then a lot depends on what South does in trick 3:
 - if South ducks, East will get 9 tricks;
 - if South takes and returns diamonds, East will get 10 tricks
 - if South returns spades, East will also only get 9 tricks

The Committee decided to take only two results into account, and saw no reason to weight the two alternatives at anything else than half each

The Committee's decision:

Director's ruling adjusted:

Both sides receive:

50% of 3NT-2 by East (NS +100)
plus 50% of 3NT= by East (NS -400)

Deposit: Returned

Appeal No. 19
Egypt v Turkey

Appeals Committee:

Bill Pencharz (Chairman, England), Jens Auken (Denmark), Jean-Claude Beineix (France),
 Grattan Endicott (England), PO Sundelin (Sweden)

Herman De Wael sat in on the meeting to act as Scribe

Open Pairs Final A Round I

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Erbil</i>	<i>el-Ahmadi</i>	<i>Uysal</i>	<i>Sadek</i>
2♦	Pass	2♠	3NT
4♥	5♥	Pass	5♠
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

Comments: 2♦ Multi

Contract: Six Spades, played by South

Lead: ♦A

Result: 12 tricks, NS +980

The Facts:

This hand was played on BBO Vu Graph, so the times for each of the returns of the tray are recorded by the computer. They are as follows:

2♦	Pass & 2♠: 32 seconds
3NT & 4♥: 60 seconds	5♥ & Pass: 110 seconds
5♠ & Pass: 183 seconds	6♠ & Pass: 41 seconds
Pass & Pass: 2 seconds	

East/West called the Director after play to point out that the 5♠ bid was slow and they disputed the 6♠ bid.

The Director:

Consulted several players, a significant portion of which decided to pass.
The Director ruled that pass was a logical alternative, and disallowed the 6♠ bid.

Ruling:

Score adjusted to 5♠ by South, making 12 tricks, NS +480

Relevant Laws:

Law 16A

North/South appealed.

Present: All players

The Players:

North told the Committee that when he bid 5♥ he was committed to slam. The raise from 5♠ to 6♠ was automatic.

South explained that he had asked about the meaning of 2♠ and was told that it showed more hearts than spades. That meant that either North had 5 spades, or they were divided 3-3. That is why he had no qualms in bidding his 3-card suit.

North stated that this is an auction you have never seen before, and that it is normal that South would be thinking over 5♥. North also said that if he had bid 6♦, that would have been taking advantage of some unauthorized information, but raising 5♠ to 6♠ should be allowed.

The Committee:

Found that it was a very unusual high auction, and South must have the time to think. North/South's arguments that 5♥ meant North would be going to slam, and that 2♠ implied that spades would be 3-3, were compelling.

The Committee's decision:

Original table result restored

Deposit: Returned

Disciplinary Hearing No. 2

Appeals Committee:

Bill Pencharz (Chairman, England), Jens Auken (Denmark), Jean-Claude Beineix (France), Grattan Endicott (England), PO Sundelin (Sweden)
Herman De Wael sat in on the meeting to act as Scribe

Women Pairs Final A Round I

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Paoluzzi</i>	<i>Grossi</i>	<i>Saccavini</i>	<i>Pignatti</i>
1♣	1♦	2♣	Pass
Pass	Pass	3♥	3♦
4♥	All Pass		Pass

Contract: Four Hearts, played by South

Lead: ♦3

Play:	West	North	East	South
	♦4	♦J	♦A	♦9
	♠9	♠5	♠2	♠K
	♥3	♥A	♥5	♥2
	♥8	♥K	♥J	♥6
	♣4	♣K	♣2	♣6
	♣7	♣5	♣3	♣A
	♣9	♥4	♣Q	♣8
	♦5	♦7	♦8	♥7
	♦10	♠6	♦2	♣J
	♠10	♠7	♦3	♣10

♠9 encouraging

These cards are left:

♠8 ♥9 ♦Q	
♠Q ♥Q ♦K	♠A ♠J ♦6
♠4 ♠3 ♥10	

South played the ♠3, and West claimed three tricks.

Result: 9 tricks, NS -100 (after the ruling)

The Facts:

When West claimed, South asked if East could not overtake the ♠Q with the ♠A, and wanted to call the Director. East disputed and a heated discussion began.

The Director:

Ruled that the claim was valid, but the discussion went on and the Director made a report of what was said to the Appeals Committee.

Ruling:

Claim valid, contract one down

Present: All players and the Director and Chief Tournament Director

The Players:

South stated that she had said "you are not allowed to show your cards". West had replied "you are not playing against old ladies". When South had tried to call the Director, they had said to her "who do you think you are?". When the Director had left, they had said maybe 10 times "deficiente" and "cretina". South had then gone out and was later told that her opponents had apologised to her partner and to the Director. When asked if she thought she could get another trick, she replied that East/West might be distracted and overtake the ♠Q with ♠A.

East admitted that they had had a loud discussion. She had said "do you think I'm an idiot?", and "do you think this is the ladies' club?". She had also said "it's always the same with you, you're always trying to get tricks from the Director". It was not true they had called their opponents "deficiente" and "cretina", not even once. East told the Committee that West had said to her a set phrase in Italian which translates as "don't bother with morons".

West said she had apologised to North and had asked the Director to convey her apologies to South.

The Committee:

Asked the Director why she had ruled this way, and she replied that East knew that West still had a high trump and a high diamond.

The Chief Tournament Director (also Italian) could not give insight into the personal relations between the players, as they are from Rome and he is from the north of Italy. He told the Committee that East/West are currently the premier women's pair of Italy. The Committee found that happenings like these are unacceptable, especially for players who are wearing their country's uniform. The matter was not deemed severe enough to warrant an official referral to the Italian federation, but a procedural penalty for the event was necessary.

The Committee's decision:

East/West receive a Procedural Penalty of 100% of a top.

Appeal No. 20
Austria/Switzerland v Norway

Appeals Committee:

Bill Pencharz (Chairman, England), Jens Auken (Denmark), Jean-Claude Beineix (France),
 Grattan Endicott (England), PO Sundelin (Sweden)

Herman De Wael sat in on the meeting to act as Scribe

Women Pairs Final A Round I

Board 23. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Helness</i>	<i>Erhart</i>	<i>Thoresen</i>	<i>Hämmerli</i>
INT	2♣	Dble	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	2♦
			All Pass

Comments: 2♣: majors, Double: points

Contract: Three No-Trump, played by North

Result: 8 tricks, NS -100

The Facts:

West explained her 2♦ bid to South as showing diamonds, while East explained it to North as showing equal length in majors. North called the Director after play had ended, explaining that if she had a correct description of West's hand, she would have doubled 2♦.

The Director:

Could not find any evidence to support either meaning of the bid of 2♦, and ruled that North had been misinformed. The Director gave an adjustment based on East/West playing in hearts, doubled, but he could not give one single result.

Ruling:

50% of some hearts contract, doubled, -2 by East/West (NS +500)
 plus 50% of some hearts contract, doubled, -3 by East/West (NS +800)

Relevant Laws:

Law 75A, 40C

Law 12C3, Code of Practice enabling Tournament Director to award Adjusted Scores under Law 12C3.

East/West appealed.

Present: All players except South

The Players:

East/West explained they were a new partnership and they had no agreement about this auction.

East said she felt the adjustment very severe. Only 2 pairs in the room played in hearts and were doubled, and that presumably with the right information. She also felt she would not go three down. She found it special that she was judged to play badly.

North explained that she was also damaged in the play of 3NT. She did not have the information that West had long diamonds, so she took a line she would not otherwise take: ducking a diamond towards the bare queen.

East did not find it obvious to win 3NT.

The Committee:

Did not understand why North bid 2NT, regardless of the explanation, or why she misplayed the hand. She was not damaged by the infraction; rather, her own action (bidding 2NT) was the cause of her bad score.

The Committee's decision:

Original table result restored

Deposit: Returned