

APPEAL	Non-NABC+ Four
Subject	Unauthorized Information (UI)
DIC	Chris Patrias
Event	Mini Blue Ribbon Pairs
Session	Second Qualifying Session
Date	November 25, 2008

BD#	18
VUL	N/S
DLR	East

3001 Masterpoints	
♠	Q
♥	A Q T 7 6 3
♦	K 6 5
♣	A 7 4

3259 Masterpoints	
♠	8 7 4 3
♥	J 5
♦	Q J 9 2
♣	J 6 3

Fall 2008 Boston, MA	
4661 Masterpoints	
♠	A K J
♥	K 9 2
♦	A 7 4 3
♣	Q 8 5

3715 Masterpoints	
♠	T 9 6 5 2
♥	8 4
♦	T 8
♣	K T 9 2

West	North	East	South
		Pass	1NT
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥
Pass	4♥ ¹	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♥ ²	Pass	6♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Final Contract	6♥ by S
Opening Lead	♦Q
Table Result	Made 6, N/S +1430
Director Ruling	6♥ by S, made 6, +1430
Panel Ruling	6♥ by S, made 6, +1430

(1)	Mild slam try in hearts
(2)	North made an audible gasp, agreed upon at the table

The Facts: The director was called after the 6♥ call. North made a mild slam try by transferring at the two-level then raising to game. South then chose to bid Roman Keycard Blackwood,, and South gasped after (mistakenly) responding 5♥.North raised to 6♥.

The Ruling: Even though Law 16B concerning unauthorized information might suggest that North had the ♥Q and demonstrably suggest that South bid on, pass was not considered to be a logical alternative, since South knew the partnership had all five controls. Therefore, the table result of 6♥ by South, making 6, N/S plus 1430 was allowed to stand.

The Appeal: Since there is no source of tricks, bidding 6♥ is not clear and the unauthorized information could have influenced South.

The Decision: Two players were polled. Both disagreed with the 4NT bid. However, both felt that once bidding 4NT, they would never pass 5♥ when holding five key cards. Also, since the “gasp” could have meant something else than the ♥Q (one ace for instance), the unauthorized misinformation did not demonstrably indicate bidding rather than passing. While Law 16B may have been violated, the panel felt that neither was pass a logical alternative, nor did the UI demonstrably indicate bidding over passing. Therefore, the table result of 6♥ by South, making 6, N/S plus 1430 was allowed to stand.

The Panel: Bernie Gorkin (Reviewer), John Ashton and Su Doe.