

APPEAL	Non-NABC+ Ten
Subject	Played Card
DIC	Chris Patrias
Event	0-5000 Mini-Spangold
Session	First Day - Afternoon
Date	July 23, 2007

BD#	12
VUL	None
DLR	W

4,124 Masterpoints	
♠	Q T 6 3 2
♥	Q 8 7 6 3
♦	Void
♣	A Q 4

340 Masterpoints		Summer 2007 Nashville, Tennessee	1,640 Masterpoints	
♠	5		♠	K J 8 7
♥	5 4		♥	A
♦	A K T 6 5		♦	Q J 9 8 7 4
♣	J T 7 6 2		♣	8 5

3,647 Masterpoints	
♠	A 9 4
♥	K J T 9 3
♦	2 3
♣	K 9 3

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

Final Contract	5 ♥ by South
Opening Lead	♦ Ace
Table Result	5♥ S, down 1, N/S -100
Director Ruling	5♥ S, down 1, N/S -100
Panel Ruling	5♥ S, down 1, N/S -100

(1)	2 NT for Both Minors
-----	----------------------

The Facts: Declarer stripped hand to spades and hearts – Dummy ♠QT632 and ♥xx. Declarer led ♠Q from dummy followed by ♠K-ace-5. From hand, declarer now lead ♠4. West played ♦5 and then declarer called "low spade." (Declarer said she said ♠10 in same breath. Opponents said she saw dummy reach for a low spade and then said ten.)

The Ruling: Declarer called for small spade – the director ruled that a small spade had to be played. (Law 46B1) This resulted in 5♥ going down one, N/S minus 100.

The Appeal: E/W said there was a pause after declarer called “small.”

The declarer said that she changed her designation from a small spade to the ♠10 “in the same breath.” North said he clearly heard small and moved his hand toward the ♠2 without hesitation. East had started to pull a card.

The Decision: The panel felt that after declarer played the ♠Q from dummy, covered by the ♠K and winning her ♠A there was some concern about whether she thought she had led the ♠9 from her hand making the call of a low spade correct. The panel upheld the table ruling of a small spade resulting in 5 ♥ down one for N/S minus 100.

The Panel: Candy Kushner (Reviewer), Jean Molnar, Matt Smith and Gary Zeiger.

Players Consulted: None.

Commentary:

Polisner Strictly a fact based case. Easy decision.

Rigal I find the played card concept and the phrase ‘in the same breath’ very difficult. On the surface of it, E/W were not disputing the N/S claim that declarer corrected her play at once. The committee argument that declarer did not know which card she had led is totally without foundation (if she thought she had led the nine she would not have corrected dummy’s card). I’d be inclined to allow declarer to change the card --and as E/W I might not have called the director!

Wildavsky Oy vey! Call small? Play small. Nicely played 'till that point though!

Wolff The only mistake declarer really made, was after she called for a small spade from dummy and East won the trick cheaply, was to not proclaim, "Oh, Shit." Those magic words have been known to move mountains!