



# NEC Bridge Festival

Sunday, February 15, 1998  
Bulletin Number 8

Editors: Eric Kokish  
Richard Colker

## 1998 NEC Cup: Final Results

### (1) GREAT BRITAIN

Paul, Jason, Justin Hackett, John Armstrong, Brigitte Mavromichalis

### (2) POLAND-USA

Piotr Gawrys, Marcin Lesniewski, Sam Lev, Michael Polowan

### (3) JAPAN (HISATOMI)

Hiroshi Hisatomi, Tadashi Teramoto, Tadashi Imakura, Masayuki Ino, Seiya Shimizu, Takahiko Hirata

### (4) ICELAND

Bjorn Eysteinnsson, Karl Sigurhjartarson, Thorlakur Jonsson, Saevar Thorbjornsson

## 1998 OUCHI Cup: Final Results

### Flight A:

- (1) CHINESE TAIPEI: NJ Shen, WM Chang, DM Yen, JF Lee, YM Yen, MH Wu
- (2) H Hisatomi, T Teramoto, M Ino, T Imakura, T Hirata, S Shimizu
- (3) POLAND-USA: S Lev, M Polowan, P Gawrys, M Lesniewski

### Flight B:

- (1) K Izaki, T Kamiyo, H Sekiyami, Y Nenohi
- (2) S Nagasaka, M Mizuta, M Ohno, Y Oosako
- (3) R Bruno, J Schuett, H Weinstein, R Katz, Y Nakamura, K Miyakuni

### Flight C:

- (1) R Illingworth, A Yanagisawa, Y Katano, S Yamada
- (2) R Watanabe, S Kimura, K Okada, H Takeuchi
- (3) K Sato, Y Toriumi, T Nishiwaki, N Ishikawa

The two-session final of the **Foreign Minister's Cup**, the two-session **Asuka Cup** and **JCBL Cup** (one session) start today at 10am, with the afternoon session to begin at 2:00 pm. The **Victory Banquet** will follow tonight at 6pm.

## DOMO ARIGATO

On behalf of all the participants, we would like to take this opportunity to congratulate **NEC** for having the vision to join with **JCBL** to sponsor a bridge event of this quality. With a fantastic new venue here in Yokohama and the continued inclusion of some very significant prizes, the NEC FESTIVAL has become an important event on the bridge calendar and has grown in prestige each year.

We compliment JCBL on a tournament that surpassed the high standard of previous years, if that were possible. As we said last year, the players were made to feel very special and everything was taken care of long before anyone could think of asking.

From the Bulletin Editors: we are grateful to those of you who helped us with deals and stories and information, and to Oomasa-san, who gave us all the computer backup we needed to examine the events at all the tables in some detail. We hope that when we had to guess, we sometimes guessed right, and that when we guessed wrong, we made you look like heroes rather than bums. But we suspect that we may have failed on a few occasions, and we apologize if we did. Thank you too to Nobu-san, Natsuko-san, Makiko-san, who acted as our spies at the table while we were otherwise occupied. Thanks also to the players, whose efforts produced an unusually large number of interesting stories this year.

We owe also a special thank you to those who remembered us on St Valentine's Day. We always love chocolate, but on a day where we are far away from our families, your thoughtfulness has made a big difference for us.



### Foreign Minister's Cup: Top Ten Qualifiers

- (1) Kenji Miyakuni - Howard Weinstein
- (2) Yu Zhengchong - Chen Xuebin
- (3) Setsuko Ogiwara - Robert Geller
- (4) Denny Sacul - Yoshiko Koshi
- (5) N. J. Shen - W. M Chang
- (6) Brigitte Mavromichalis - Paul Hackett
- (7) Minoru Mizuta - Tadashi Teramoto
- (8) Ayako Kawasaki - Yoshiyuki Nakamura
- (9) Fan Guangshen - Zhuang Zejun
- (10) Hiroya Abe - Kumiko Umehara

# TODAY'S (FINAL) PARTNERSHIP QUIZLET

The subject is "Forcing pass" situations:

(A) In each of the following cases, decide whether the pass preceding the question mark should be forcing at each of the following vulnerabilities: UNFAV NONE BOTH FAV

(B) Decide what this pass would mean . . .

(C) Decide what a double would mean by both partners at their final turn to speak . . .

(1) 

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
-	-	-	1♥
P	2NT*	3♠	Pass?

  
 \*(strong) raise with hearts

(2) 

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
1♣	1♦	1♥	P
3♣	3♦	3♥	4♦
Pass?			

(3) 

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
2NT	3♥	Pass?	

(4) 

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
-	-	-	4♥
4♠	5♥	Pass?	

(5) 

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
-	-	-	1♣
3♠	4♥	4♠	Pass?

(6) 

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
-	-	-	1♣
2♠	4♥	4♠	Pass?

(7) 

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
-	-	-	1♥
2♠	4♥	4♠	Pass?

(8) 

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
-	-	-	4♥
4NT	5♥	Pass?	

(9) 

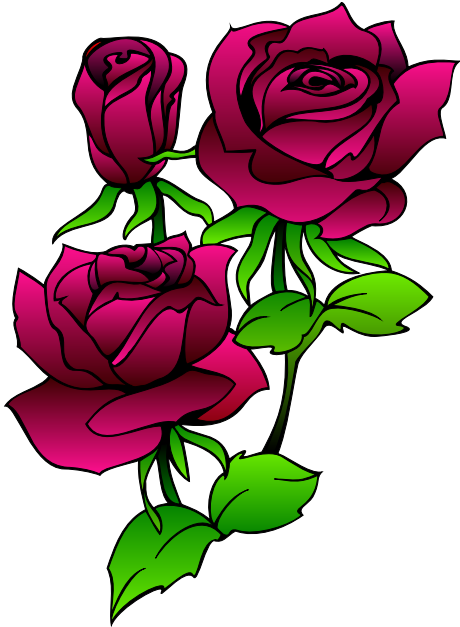
WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
2♥	4♠	5♥	Pass?

(10) 

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
3♠	4♥	5♣	Pass?

## A SPECIAL THANK YOU

To the treasured patrons of the 1998 NEC BRIDGE FESTIVAL (with apologies for any spelling errors in the translation).



Tokyo Bay Hilton

Estee Lauder

Franklin Avenue

Fujiya Hotel

Ms. Toshiko Ishii

Kihachi and Es Company

Dr. Masaru Naniwada

Ne Quittez Pas Restaurant

Otsuka Bridge Center

Parfum Nina Ricci Japon

Roppongi Prince Hotel

Senzoku Bridge Center

Sumisho Otto

Yotsuya Bridge Center

Young Flower

Yusen Cruise Company

# TODAY'S SCHEDULE

Play in the FOREIGN MINISTER'S CUP final and consolation will be held today on the fifth floor of the Pacifico, Rooms 501 and 502. There will be two three-hour sessions, with a one-hour break in between.

## Times

10:00-13:00 1st Qualifying  
 13:00-14:00 BREAK  
 14:00-17:00 2nd Qualifying

## PAPA'S GOT A BRAND NEW BAG

It was Round 10 of the NEC CUP round robin. **Paul "Papa" Hackett** was sitting in the East seat and his partner (read that "victim") **John Armstrong** was seated West. They were playing against the strong USA team. South, Ralph Katz, chose 2♣ to begin the description of his one-suited powerhouse and his partner, Howard Weinstein's, 2♥ response showed two controls. "Papa" couldn't stand idly by and give the opponents a free run to their best spot, so he "popped in" with a sporting 3♥ bid. Ralph's "**DOUBLE**" must have rocked the table. Apparently Howard didn't take this expression of doubt quite as seriously as it was intended, and extracted to slam in his own suit. South offered an opinion that he knew of a better spot in which to play, and "Papa" was back in the "hot" seat. What to do, what to do? Had his little deception worked, or was there still gold to be mined in "them thar hills"? In the end he talked himself out of the excellent 6♠ sacrifice (minus 100 if East guesses the clubs correctly; minus 300 if he doesn't).

NEC-X-27	North		
Dlr: South	♠ ---		
Vul: None	♥ 84		
	♦ AQJ109432		
	♣ 1075		
West		East	
♠ AK1042		♠ J87653	
♥ Q32		♥ ---	
♦ 865		♦ K7	
♣ 94		♣ KJ832	
	South		
	♠ Q9		
	♥ AKJ109765		
	♦ ---		
	♣ AQ6		
WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
John	Howard	"Papa"	Ralph
Pass	2♥(2)	3♥(!)	2♣(1)
Pass	6♦	Pass	Double(!)
Pass	Pass	Pass(?!)	6♥
(1) STR, ART, F; (2) 2 CTRLs			

An opportunity is a terrible thing to waste. 6♥ was bid and made at the other table for a push result. Minus 100 or 300 would have been



## A TALE OF TWO TABLES

It was the best of times; it was the worst of times. It was Board 47 of the NEC CUP Final between GREAT BRITAIN and POLAND-USA. Eagle-eyed readers may have noted that the hand diagram was omitted from yesterday's bulletin, so today you get the whole *megilah* (pardon our yiddish). This was an amazing deal for everyone (except the **Hackett twins**).

**Marcin Lesniewski** hit a home run in the fashion of Sadaharu Oh when he started with the strong version of his Polish 1♣ rather than 1♦ (from which he had no way to extricate himself in this partnership). He forced to game with an artificial 2♦ over **Piotr Gawrys's** 2♥, then raised hearts when Gawrys confirmed at least five-card length. Note that diamonds had not yet been mentioned in a natural sense. When Gawrys splintered in spades, Lesniewski saw the magic situation

developing. After RKCB for hearts revealed that the ♥Q was missing, he could count thirteen tricks in diamonds but not in hearts, as long as Gawrys produced nothing more than the ♥K, the ♣A, and three small diamonds, and nothing bad happened. So there he was, plus 1440. Lovely, really.

Poor **Jason**. Unwilling to start with a strong two-bid equivalent, he was stuck for a rebid over 1♥. He invented 1♠, then found he was stuck for a rebid once more over 1NT. Since 3♥ would have been strong, but not forcing, he invented a 2♣ rebid, thinking this was "fourth suit forcing" in a brand new costume. Alas, **Justin** read this as natural and weak and passed it.

Tomorrow, perhaps, in an undiscussed situation of this ilk, he will raise clubs and ask questions later. Two clubs produced an overtrick, plus 110. Well played, Justin.

That triumph in the play resulted in 16 IMPs to POLAND-USA, who were rallying at the time to move closer to GREAT BRITAIN at 67-113.

As you all know by now, GREAT BRITAIN won the 1998 NEC CUP by over 40 IMPs.

Bd: 47	North		
Dlr: South	♠ QJ1093		
Vul: N/S	♥ Q752		
	♦ 109		
	♣ 104		
West		East	
♠ A65		♠ 8	
♥ A93		♥ KJ1086	
♦ AKQJ82		♦ 654	
♣ K		♣ AJ86	
	South		
	♠ K742		
	♥ 4		
	♦ 73		
	♣ Q97532		
OPEN ROOM			
WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Lesniewski	Paul H	Gawrys	Armstrong
			Pass
1♣(Polish)	Pass	1♥	Pass
2♦(FG)	Pass	2♥(5+)	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♠(SPL)	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♥(2 no Q)	Pass
7♦	All Pass		
CLOSED ROOM			
WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Jason	Lev	Justin	Polowan
			Pass
1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♣!	All Pass		



## THE LORD GIVETH AND THE FOREIGN MINISTER TAKETH AWAY

As I walked into the playing area during the second session of the **Foreign Minister's Cup**, my eyes happened upon my friend, Howard Weinstein, from the United States and his partner, the fierce Japanese competitor Kenji Miyakuni. After passing some time chatting with some of the other people in the room, I pulled up a chair behind Howard and began to watch a few hands.

Bd: 12	North		
Dlr: West	♠ AK53		
Vul: N/S	♥ A		
	♦ Q97		
	♣ AQ865		
West		East	
♠ 108		♠ 974	
♥ K107653		♥ J842	
♦ J		♦ AK10543	
♣ K432		♣ ---	
	South		
	♠ QJ62		
	♥ Q9		
	♦ 862		
	♣ J1097		
WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Howard		Kenji	
2♥(WK)	Double	4♣(?)	Pass
4♥	Double	All Pass	

On the third hand (Board 12) Howard picked up the West hand in the diagram at the left and opened 2♥. While Kokish-san is, at this very moment, cringing at the very thought of this bid, my style is much akin to Howard's. After Kenji's jump to 4♣ South asked, "What is 4♣?" Howard shrugged his shoulders and said that it would have been ace-asking without the double — with the double, it was anyone's guess. (This was their first time playing together.) When Howard bid 4♥ and North doubled, I wondered whether Kenji could have intended 4♣ as natural. Howard passed comfortably (at least he appeared so from my vantage point) and the opening lead was the ♠A, 2, Q, 10, followed by a spade to the jack. Howard ruffed the third round of spades, ruffed a club to dummy, and played the ♥J. South ducked smoothly, and after a moment's thought so did Howard. North won the ace and returned a diamond. Howard cashed dummy's ♦AK and ruffed the third round. When they split three-three, the hand was over; plus 590.

"Did you have a good first session?" I asked Howard. "Quite good," he replied. I dragged my chair to their next table to watch another round.

On Board 2 the auction took three rounds — the play much less. Against 5♣ doubled Kenji led the ♦K. Declarer ruffed and faced his hand, claiming eleven tricks (he was cold for twelve). Howard and Kenji were minus 750.

I figured, at that point, that I had probably overstayed my welcome.

Bd: 2	North		
Dlr: East	♠ A732		
Vul: N/S	♥ AQJ6		
	♦ ---		
	♣ KQJ42		
West		East	
♠ QJ10984		♠ 65	
♥ K		♥ 109873	
♦ J8743		♦ AK65	
♣ 5		♣ A6	
	South		
	♠ K		
	♥ 542		
	♦ Q1092		
	♣ 109873		
WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Howard		Kenji	
1♠	2♣	1♥	Pass
3♠	5♣	Pass	3♣
		Double	All Pass

## NEC PLAYERS IN KING ARTHUR'S COURT

This deal was played in the 1998 Macallan World Invitational Pairs in London in January. It features some of the bridge stars you've met this week in Yokohama, not always at their best, we fear. We thank Patrick Jourdain and Su Burn, the Bulletin Editors, for this report.

Dir: East	North		
Vul: N/S	♠ 953		
	♥ AJ973		
	♦ QJ		
	♣ Q98		
West		East	
♠ AKQJ64		♠ 10872	
♥ K654		♥ 102	
♦ 1032		♦ K6	
♣ ---		♣ J10652	
	South		
	♠ ---		
	♥ Q8		
	♦ A98754		
	♣ AK743		
WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Justin	Blakset	Jason	Auken
		Pass	1♦
1♠	2♥(NF)	3♠(PRE)	4♣
4♠	4NT	Pass	5♣
5♠	6♣	Double	All Pass

2♥ was non-forcing and 4NT asked partner to choose which minor should be trumps. 6♣ is a reasonable contract single-dummy, but the 5-0 club break dooms it.

Justin Hackett led a spade and Jens Auken ruffed, then played a club to the queen, getting the bad news. The ♦Q held and ♦J was covered by the king and ace. Auken ruffed a diamond, over-ruffed, and Jason forced him with spade. He played a diamond, pitching dummy's last spade, and Jason ruffed. Now he gave a ruff and discard. Auken ruffed in hand and played another winning diamond. Again Jason ruffed and gave a second ruff and discard, Auken this time ruffing in the dummy. Alas, he now had to concede a trick to the HK for three down; minus 800.

At another table it was North/South who were plus 800. Forrester led a trump

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Imakura	Forrester	Ino	Meckstroth
		Pass	1♦
1♠	Double	3♠	5♣
5♠	Double	All Pass	

and Imakura won in hand. Hoping to keep Forrester off lead to prevent further trump plays, he tried the ♦10, intending to run it. That was covered all round and Meckstroth returned a heart to Forrester. Back came a second trump. Imakura ruffed a diamond and played a heart to the king and ace. A third trump left him with three more heart losers; four down, 800 the hard way.

## THE NEC BRIDGE FESTIVAL IS ON THE INTERNET

We are happy to announce that our Daily Bulletins are available on the Internet. Call your family and friends and tell them to follow the adventures of some of the best players in the world (including yourself) by surfing the net to the following address:

<http://bridge.cplaza.ne.jp/necfest.html>



## TODAY'S (FINAL) PARTNERSHIP QUIZLET

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(B) Decide what this pass would mean . . .

(C) Decide what a double would mean by both partners at their final turn to speak . . .

(1) 

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
-	-	-	1♥
P	2NT*	3♠	Pass?

  
 \*(strong) raise with hearts

(2) 

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
1♣	1♦	1♥	P
3♣	3♦	3♥	4♦
Pass?			

(3) 

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
2NT	3♥	Pass?	

(4) 

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
-	-	-	4♥
4♠	5♥	Pass?	

(5) 

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
-	-	-	1♣
3♠	4♥	4♠	Pass?

(6) 

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
-	-	-	1♣
2♠	4♥	4♠	Pass?

(7) 

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
-	-	-	1♥
2♠	4♥	4♠	Pass?

(8) 

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
-	-	-	4♥
4NT	5♥	Pass?	

(9) 

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
2♥	4♠	5♥	Pass?

(10) 

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
3♠	4♥	5♣	Pass?

## HAMMAMET: APPEAL CASE SIX

Bermuda Bowl, Round 7: Denmark v Canada

**Appeal Committee:** Joan Gerard (USA), Ernesto d'Orsi (BRA), Barbara Nudelman (USA), Dan Morse (USA), Bill Pencharz (GB).

Bd: 2 Dir: East Vul: N/S  Fraser ♠ K8 ♥ 865 ♦ 109 ♣ K108753	Schaffer ♠ AQ4 ♥ KQJ9732 ♦ J83 ♣ ---  Hanna ♠ J97653 ♥ 4 ♦ 64 ♣ AJ96  Andersen ♠ 102 ♥ A10 ♦ AKQ752 ♣ Q42
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WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
		2♦(1)	3♦
Pass	3♥(2)	Pass	3♠
DBL	6♥	6♠	Pass
Pass	DBL	All Pass	

(1) Multi  
 (2) Natural (or maybe a stopper for NT)

**Result:** Down six; N/S +1400.

**Facts:** The TD was called to the table at the end of play and informed that different explanations had been given on the two sides of the screen, resulting in a problem. South had earlier told West that 3♠ denied a stopper; North had told East that it could still be a try for 3NT but was ambiguous. Later East asked North the meaning of South's pass of 6♠.

North said something like "Normal bridge would be that it shows first-round control." East said that North just shrugged his shoulders and said "First-round control."

**TD's Ruling:** The TD allowed the table result to stand, since he felt that North had given an accurate description of his understanding.

**Appeal:** E/W appealed the ruling. East complained that he had not been given the same explanation that was given on the other side of the screen; if he had, he would not have played South for the ♠A and instead would have played low to the eight on the first round, hoping for ten-doubleton of trumps with South. East also questioned the TD's decision on the basis that he could find no evidence on N/S's convention card from which one could conclude that the 3♠ bid had been accurately described. South said that in explaining his 3♠ bid he had first said "Treading water," then "stepping," and then "probing." When West understood none of these he then said "denies a spade stopper." North said that his partner had judged that he had the ♠A and invited seven, but that he had no reason to bid it. He also could not understand how declarer, who had already seen him play the ♦AK and the ♥A, could judge that he could also have the ♠A. This would require North to have bid a hand containing only ♥KQJxxx and a minor honor in diamonds as he had. A "normal" interpretation of South's pass of 6♠ would be that it showed first-round control, but this is potentially modified by the explanation of the 3♠ bid.

**Committee's Decision:** The Committee believed that declarer, having seen him play the three top red-suit honors, could hardly play South for the ♠A as well when he followed low in the suit. The appeal was judged to be substantially without merit and the deposit was retained.

**Analysis:** North's response to East's question about the 3♠ bid was improper. Players should not answer questions about the meanings of their bids from their general bridge knowledge (as the response "Normal bridge would be. . ." indicates North did). Rather, they should confine their answers to disclosing their partnership agreements (either explicit or implicit). A reply such as "We have no special agreement about the bid," or "It is forcing and could be made on a variety of

hands, depending on what he does next,” would be more appropriate. However, the phrase “Normal bridge. . .” suggests that East should have realized that North was just “fishing” for an answer.

However, North’s initial response to East that 3♠ “could still be a try for 3NT but was ambiguous” clearly should have helped him work out the spade position. If South could bid 3♠ with no spade values or control, then North could not leap to slam without having spades controlled himself. If North’s spade control was based on shortness, that would leave South with a rather strange 3♠ bid (four or five spades to the ace-queen) with which he would probably have just bid 3NT himself. So East really had all of the information he needed to know that North held the ♠A. (Looking at it another way, if South held the ace he must also have length, so East’s play from dummy would hardly matter in that case.)

So the Committee’s decision was entirely correct. East was looking to get something from the Committee which he couldn’t win at the table due to his own failings. Committee’s view attempts like this with great displeasure, referring to them as “double-shots” (meaning that the player is trying to get two chances to win, when he is only entitled to one). Thus, the appeal was completely lacking in merit and deserved to forfeit the deposit. Nice catch!

## HAMMAMET: APPEAL CASE SEVEN

World Transnational Teams, Round 3

**Appeal Committee:** Joan Gerard (USA); Ernesto d'Orsi (BRA); Naki Bruni (ITA); Dan Morse (USA); Barbara Nudelman (USA).

<p>Bd: 10      Hanna          Dir: East    ♠ KQJ1092          Vul: Both    ♥ K106                            ♦ 1073                            ♣ 2</p> <p>Andersen                      Schafer          ♠ 7                                ♠ A83          ♥ J975                         ♥ 3          ♦ KJ954                      ♦ AQ86          ♣ A53                         ♣ K10984</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Fraser          ♠ 654          ♥ AQ842          ♦ 2          ♣ QJ76</p>	
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WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
		1♦	1♥
1NT	3♠	Pass	4♥
Pass	4♠	DBL	All Pass

**Result:** Made four; N/S +790.

**Facts:** The TD was called to the table after the match, this having been the last board. East complained that there had been different explanations of the 3♠ bid. North had not Alerted it and described the bid to East as natural and non-forcing. South described the bid to West as a limited, fit-showing jump. East complained that the failure to give him this latter explanation had caused him not to lead a heart, a lead which would have beaten the contract. North pointed out that 3♠ could

not be a limited fit-showing bid as then it would be game-forcing, which makes no sense; they used fit-showing jumps only in limit situations.

**TD's Ruling:** The TD ruled that there had been no infraction, and that the table result would stand.

**Appeal:** E/W appealed the ruling. East said that he had expected, based on North’s explanation, to find six or seven hearts in dummy with little fit in the North hand, and that leading his singleton might kill any holding in his partner's hand. He believed that it was not material whether the 3♠ bid was a limit bid or not; he had been talked out of a natural heart lead and the damage was not related to the question of which was the correct explanation. He also questioned the TD for ruling against the non-offending side when the facts were not clearly established. At the invitation of the

Chairman, the TD repeated that he believed that North had given the correct explanation, since this was the logic of the hand. He also noted the late stage at which he had been called. North did not think that the opening lead was a relevant issue on this hand. After East's club lead and a spade switch, East should have ducked, after which there was no way to make the contract. East had won the spade and returned a small trump, allowing a small spot card to hold in dummy and the heart finesse to be taken, giving declarer ten tricks. South commented that their fit-showing jumps showed four-card support and North added to this that they were limit bids; to force they would begin with a double.

**Committee's Decision:** The Committee agreed that the difference between the two explanations, which was trivial, had not affected the hand. The actual bidding sequence could well have indicated little about the suit holdings except that North was determined to play in spades. East had simply defended badly. There was no damage and no possibility of damage and the explanation that the 3♠ bid could not be a limit bid had an obvious logic which the defenders could have worked out at the table. The TD had not been called when East saw the dummy. The Committee decided that the slight discrepancy in South's explanation had not contributed to any confusion and should not be penalized. The table result of N/S +790 was allowed to stand. There was discussion of retaining the deposit, but it was decided that it would be returned. The Committee commended the TD for his procedure and decision, which they did not consider to be open to question.

**Analysis:** Another good decision. East was grasping at straws. This appeal was as lacking in merit as the previous one — another attempted “double-shot” — and E/W's deposit should have been kept. One key to this was East's statement that “the damage was not related to the question of which was the correct explanation.” The question of damage is completely related to which was the correct explanation. Players are not entitled to know what their opponents hold in their hands; they are only entitled to know what their bids mean. So if North's explanation accurately describes his partnership agreements, then that is all East is entitled to know. The fact that South's explanation to West was different is irrelevant (unless South's incorrect explanation resulted in damage to West, in which case E/W would be entitled to redress because West had not been informed properly of the 3♠ bid's meaning). East believed that he was entitled to know anything that would have helped him, which is clearly not the case. Suppose South had confused two different auctions and given some random explanation such as “North's bid shows a solid suit.” If this would have helped East (in spite of the fact that it neither describes North's hand nor N/S's agreement), should he have a right to it. Should his score be adjusted because of it? Of course not. And neither is he be entitled to know what South told West on the present hand, unless South's explanation is a more accurate description of N/S's agreement — that is what East (and West) are entitled to.