APPEAL	NABC+ TWELVE
Subject	Misinformation (MI) – Failure to Alert
DIC	Gary Zeiger
Event	NABC Swiss Teams
Session	First Qualifying
Date	July 26, 2008

BD#	**26**
VUL	**Both**
DLR	**East**

David Siebert	
♠	T 7
♥	J 9 5 2
♦	K 4 2
♣	A 8 5 3

Dan Morse	
♠	A 5 4
♥	A 8 6 4
♦	A Q 6
♣	K 9 6

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Las Vegas, NV

John Solodar	
♠	K Q 6
♥	3
♦	J T 9 8 7 3
♣	J T 2

Larry Sealy	
♠	J 9 8 3 2
♥	K Q T 7
♦	5
♣	Q 7 4

West	North	East	South
		Pass	Pass
1NT[1]	Pass	2NT[2]	Pass
3♦[3]	Pass	3♥[4]	Pass
3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

Final Contract	**3NT by West**
Opening Lead	**♣3**
Table Result	**Made 5, E/W +660**
Director Ruling	**3NT W, down 1, E/W -100**
Committee Ruling	**3NT W making 5, E/W +660**

(1)	15-17 points.
(2)	Alerted - transfer to diamonds.
(3)	Alerted – good diamonds..
(4)	Not Alerted.

The Facts: The director was called after the comparison. 3♥ was neither Alerted nor, after questioning, explained properly. The only response was that E/W had no agreement of what the 3♥ bid showed.

The Ruling: The director judged misexplanation with no evidence to the contrary and damage to N/S. Therefore, in accordance with Laws 75, 40C and 12C2 the table result was changed to 3NT by West down one, E/W minus 100.

The Appeal: Only West did not attend the hearing. East and West (from different parts of the country) were playing together for the first time and had completed a convention card that day. They agreed that a 2NT response to 1NT would show diamonds and that opener's 3♦ bid would be forward going. They did not discuss the sequence any further. East judged that the chance that West would interpret a 3♥ bid as shortness was good enough to make it worth bidding. East noted that had West and South's heart holdings been reversed, a club lead would have defeated 3NT, while a heart lead would likely allow it to make.

South said he would have doubled 3♥ had it been Alerted as showing shortness. Additionally, since East had indeed intended his 3♥ bid conventionally showing shortness, he should have explained it at the end of the auction. North claimed that he nearly led a heart as it was, and he certainly would have done so with a correct explanation of the 3♥ bid.

The committee learned that at the end of the auction, North asked about the 3♥ bid. West said that they had no agreement. With some of his partners he played that it showed hearts and with others not.

The Decision: Players are required to Alert their conventional calls and accurately explain their partnership agreements. They are not obliged to describe their hands to their opponents. E/W fully disclosed all of their partnership agreements and history. Thus, there is no basis for adjusting the table result. Since E/W had no agreement about 3♥, "We have no agreement" was not only a proper response it was the only proper response. The committee restored the table result of 3NT by West, making five, E/W plus 660.

The Committee: Doug Doub (Chair), Abby Heitner, Jacob Morgan, Blair Seidler and Aaron Silverstein.