**Ruling Phenix 4 – Chaver 4 number 2 (3 Nat A) of 7 November 2015**

Board 7 Z/All

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | ♠ Q 9 8<br>♥ A K Q 9 6<br>♦ 8 5 2<br>♣ 6 3 | |
| ♠ K J 7 6 3<br>♥ 10<br>♦ A 10 6<br>♣ Q J 9 2 | | ♠ -<br>♥ 8 5 2<br>♦ K J 9 7<br>♣ A K 10 8 7 5 |
| | ♠ A 10 5 4 2<br>♥ J 7 4 3<br>♦ Q 4 3<br>♣ 4 | |

**Bidding**

| N | E | S | W |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | P | 1♠ |
| 2♥ | Dbl | 4♥ | P |
| P | Dbl | all pass | |

**Facts**
Screens are in use.

East's double after North's 2♥ is explained by West to South as fit in Spades (three cards in Spades). Because of that explanation South bids 4♥.
Team B agrees with the statement, but points out that East had a bidding problem: EW play Bergen, as a result of which East could not bid 3♣ as this would mean support with a 4 card in Spades. Therefore, East decides to double, thus deviating from a partnership agreement, bearing in mind that 5♣ is a winning alternative if a possible 4♥ is not doubled.

**Ruling**
Law 40C1 says that a player may deviate from his side's announced understandings always provided that his partner has no more reason to be aware of the deviation than have the opponents.

EW's convention card states that they play Bergen raises, in which case East could not show his length in clubs by bidding 3♣. Though the convention card is not airtight as it does not mention whether or not – and if so how - the convention changes after an opponent's overcall, there is no reason to doubt East's explanation of his bidding.

NS are entitled to receive the right information on EW's system. That is what they got, so there is no infraction of the law.

**Decision**
The result reached at the table stands.
Bearing in mind that repeated deviations lead to implicit understandings (Law 40C1) EW's deviation is recorded and may be taken into account in future rulings.

EW is advised to complete their convention card as to Bergen Raises after an overcall.

Paul Meerbergen