

Volume 19, Issue 1 1  
 April 22, 2026

# Results:

Table		Σ	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	IMP Corr.
1	Shourie	253	18	16	35	23	17	49	45	50	0
	Fleisher	209	36	51	29	15	56	15	3	4	0

## Congrats Team Shourie, USA1 Bermuda Bowl



Runners Up: K Rosenberg, Grue, Fleisher, Moss, Martel, Platnick



USA1: Demuy, Hurd, Shourie, Kranyak, Bathurst, Wolpert

Photo Credit Jan Martel

UNITED STATES BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

“Trials” and Tribulations—USBC/MUSBC

Welcome Mixed Teams!

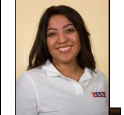
- USBF President**  
Geoff Hampson
- USBF Vice President**  
Christal Henner
- USBF COO & Secretary**  
Jan Martel
- USBF CFO & Treasurer**  
Max Schireson
- USBF Recorder**  
Jack Oest  
jost@rcn.com  
773-387-9378
- USBF Chief  
Communications Officer**  
Suzi Subeck
- Directors**  
McKenzie Myers, DIC  
Ken Horwedel  
Chris Wiegand
- Tournament Organizer**  
Jan Martel
- Software Expert**  
Al Hollander
- VuGraph Organizers**  
Rob Barrington  
Jan Martel  
Chris Wiegand
- Appeals  
Administrator**  
Suzi Subeck, Chairman
- Appeals Panel:**  
Wafik Abdou  
David Berkowitz  
Cheri Bjerkan  
Tommy Carmichael  
Rich DeMartino  
Marty Fleisher  
Ron Gerard  
Geoff Hampson  
Marty Hirschman  
George Jacobs  
Ralph Katz  
Chip Martel  
Jeff Meckstroth  
Kerri Sanborn  
Danny Sprung  
Adam Wildavsky
- Bulletin Editor**  
Suzi Subeck
- Hospitality**  
Marie-France Benoit  
Marge Morgan

# Open Teams: Mixed Teams:

\* = KO'd in the 10 team online RR

Bailey	Bill Bailey, Capt Daniel Korbel Joel Wooldridge	Josh Donn Roger Lee David Grainger
Baseggio	Franco Baseggio, Capt Ai-Tai Lo	Jeff Ferro Josh Sher
Bramley	Bart Bramley, Capt Greg Hinze Owen Lien	Adam Kaplan Venkatrao Koneru Aaron Jones
Davinci	Chris Compton Eddie Wold Finn Kolesnik Donna Compton, NPC	Richard Leonardon Adam Grossack Harrison Luba
Fleisher	Marty Fleisher, Capt Brad Moss Kevin Rosenberg	Chip Martel Joe Grue Brian Platnick
Goodman	Mike Passell Eric Rodwell Kevin Dwyer-Rimstedt	Doug Simson Andy Goodman Shan Huang
Han	Yanong Han, Capt Wanfeng Mou	Ming Sheng Jeff Fang
Henner	Christal Henner, Capt Debbie Rosenberg Jeff Wolfson	Uday Ivatury Max Schireson Steve Garner
Jacobs	George Jacobs, Capt Gary Cohler Larry Robbins	Claude Vogel Billy Cohen Alan Sontag
* Kolesnik	Alex Kolesnik, Capt Jiang Gu	Ron Smith Walter Lee
Kovachev	Val Kovachev, Capt Jacob Morgan	Charlie Wilkins Alex Hudson
Nickell	Nick Nickell Bobby Levin Eric Greco Jill Levin, NPC	Ralph Katz Steve Weinstein Geoff Hampson
Parrish	Adam Parrish, Capt Phil Clayton	Greg Humphreys Danny Sprung
Rathi	Anant Rathi, Capt Amber Lin Brent Xiao	Drew Hoskins Will Watson Cornelius Duffie
Rosenthal	Andrew Rosenthal, Capt Chris Willenken Zach Grossack	Aaron Silverstein Eldad Ginossar Michael Rosenberg
Shourie	Rajath Shourie, Capt John Kranyak John Hurd	Gavin Wolpert Vince Demuy Kevin Bathurst
Wildavsky	Adam Wildavsky, Capt Ron Gerard Neil Chambers	Doug Doub Mark Lair John Schermer
* Woolsey	Kit Woolsey Steve Beatty Mark Feldman	James Holzhauer Fred Stewart Jeff Aker
* Zheng	Vinny Zheng, Capt Ava Donnellan	Nicole Qian David Long

Bramley	Bart Bramley, Capt Kit Woolsey	Kitty Cooper JoAnna Stansby
Compton	Chris Compton, Capt Gigi Simpson Jeff Meckstroth	Donna Compton Gary Cohler Candyce Pfluger
Ding	Hong Ding, Capt Lin-huan Chen	Ming Sheng Ding-hwa Hsieh
Dinkin	Sam Dinkin, Capt Cenk Tuncok Adam Grossack	Avery Silverstein Lynn Baker Emma Kolesnik
Ge	Xin Ge, Capt Michael Rosenberg Kevin Rosenberg	Disa Eythorsdottir Debbie Rosenberg Amber Lin
Hamman	Kristen Onsgard, Capt Bob Hamman Kerri Sanborn	Mike Passell Jill Meyers Steve Sanborn
Henner	Christal Henner, Capt Steve Garner Adam Wildavsky	Uday Ivatury Shawn Quinn Pam Wittes
Kaplan	Adam Kaplan, Capt Harrison Luba Garth Yettick	Jenni Carmichael Allison Howard
Lewis	Linda Lewis, Capt Raluca Nistor Max Rotaru	Finn Kolesnik Radu Nistor Ljudmila Kamenova
Li	Music Li, Capt Genie Thai-May	Qinqin Zhang Leyi Chen
Millens	Shan Huang, Capt Sandra Rimstedt Kevin Dwyer-Rimstedt	Joan Millens Cecilia Dwyer-Rimstedt
Rosenthal	Andrew Rosenthal, Capt Chris Willenken Eldad Ginossar	Migry Campanile Olivia Schireson Dana Berkowitz
Rubenstein	Stewart Rubenstein, Capt Joe Grue Zach Grossack	Anam Tebha Jenny Wolpert Giorgia Botta
Smid_Sarnow	Ariel Smid-Sarnow, Capt Philip Wang	Julie Arbit Nicole Qian
Zhang	Sylvia Shi, Capt Susan Zhang Janice Molson	Daniel Korbel Eddie Wold Geoff Hampson



Lovebridge practice sessions IN ROOM 1321			
Day	Date	Time (CDT)	
Sunday	April 12	5:00 PM - 7:00 PM	
Tuesday	April 21	7:00 PM - 9:00 PM	

PRE-TOURNAMENT CAPTAINS & PLAYERS MEETINGS Live in Room 1321 & On Zoom			
Event	Day	Date	Time (CDT)
Open	Sunday	April 12	9:00 PM
Mixed	Tuesday	April 21	9:00 PM



# Play, Practice, Captains' Meetings Open & Mixed Schedules

OPEN SCHEDULE			
Day	Date	Time (CDT)	Boards
<b>Round ROBIN (Based on 16 TEAMS)</b> (Click Here for Playing Room Assignments WHEN AVAILABLE)			
Monday	April 13	10:00 - 11:25	Round 1 Boards 1-11
		11:45 - 1:10	Round 2 Boards 12-22
		2:30 - 3:55	80 minute Lunch Break
		4:15 - 5:40	Round 3 Boards 23-33
		6:00 - 7:25	Round 4 Boards 34-44
Tuesday	April 14	10:00 - 11:25	Round 5, Boards 45-55
		11:45 - 1:10	Round 6 Boards 1-11
		2:30 - 3:55	Round 7 Boards 12-22
		4:15 - 5:40	80 minute Lunch Break
		6:00 - 7:25	Round 8 Boards 23-33
Wednesday	April 15	10:00 - 11:25	Round 9 Boards 34-44
		11:45 - 1:10	Round 10, Boards 45-55
		2:30 - 3:55	Round 11 Boards 1-11
		4:15 - 5:40	Round 12 Boards 12-22
		6:00 - 7:25	80 minute Lunch Break
Thursday	April 16	10:00 - 12:00	Round 13 Boards 23-33
		12:15 - 2:15	Round 14 Boards 34-44
		3:30 - 5:30	75 minute Lunch Break
		5:45 - 7:45	Round 15, Boards 45-55
			Round 16, Boards 56-66
Friday	April 17	10:00 - 12:00	Segment 1 Boards 1-15
		12:15 - 2:15	Segment 2 Boards 16-30
		3:30 - 5:30	75 minute Lunch Break
		5:45 - 7:45	Segment 3 Boards 31-45
			Segment 4 Boards 46-60
Saturday	April 18	10:00 - 12:00	Segment 5 Boards 1-15
		12:15 - 2:15	Segment 6 Boards 16-30
		3:30 - 5:30	75 minute Lunch Break
		5:45 - 7:45	Segment 7 Boards 31-45
			Segment 8 Boards 46-60
Sunday	April 19	10:00 - 12:00	Segment 9 Boards 1-15
		12:15 - 2:15	Segment 10 Boards 16-30
		3:30 - 5:30	75 minute Lunch Break
		5:45 - 7:45	Segment 11 Boards 31-45
			Segment 12 Boards 46-60
<b>Quarterfinal</b>			
Monday	April 20	10:00 - 12:00	Segment 13 Boards 1-15
		12:15 - 2:15	Segment 14 Boards 16-30
		3:30 - 5:30	75 minute Lunch Break
		5:45 - 7:45	Segment 15 Boards 31-45
			Segment 16 Boards 46-60
Tuesday	April 21	10:00 - 12:00	Segment 17 Boards 1-15
		12:15 - 2:15	Segment 18 Boards 16-30
		3:15 - 5:15	60 minute Break
		5:30 - 7:30	Segment 19 Boards 31-45
			Segment 20 Boards 46-60
<b>Semifinal</b>			
Wednesday	April 22	10:00 - 12:00	Segment 21 Boards 1-15
		12:15 - 2:15	Segment 22 Boards 16-30
		3:30 - 5:30	75 minute Lunch Break
		5:45 - 7:45	Segment 23 Boards 31-45
			Segment 24 Boards 46-60
Thursday	April 23	10:00 - 12:00	Segment 25 Boards 1-15
		12:15 - 2:15	Segment 26 Boards 16-30
		3:30 - 5:30	75 minute Lunch Break
		5:45 - 7:45	Segment 27 Boards 31-45
			Segment 28 Boards 46-60
Friday	April 24	10:00 - 12:00	Segment 29 Boards 1-15
		12:15 - 2:15	Segment 30 Boards 16-30
		3:30 - 5:30	75 minute Lunch Break
		5:45 - 7:45	Segment 31 Boards 31-45
			Segment 32 Boards 46-60
Saturday	April 25	10:00 - 12:00	Segment 33 Boards 1-15
		12:15 - 2:15	Segment 34 Boards 16-30
		3:30 - 5:30	75 minute Lunch Break
		5:45 - 7:45	Segment 35 Boards 31-45
			Segment 36 Boards 46-60
Sunday	April 26	10:00 - 12:00	Segment 37 Boards 1-15
		12:15 - 2:15	Segment 38 Boards 16-30
		3:30 - 5:30	75 minute Lunch Break
		5:45 - 7:45	Segment 39 Boards 31-45
			Segment 40 Boards 46-60
<b>Final</b>			
Monday	April 27	10:00 - 12:00	Segment 41 Boards 1-15
		12:15 - 2:15	Segment 42 Boards 16-30
		3:30 - 5:30	75 minute Lunch Break
		5:45 - 7:45	Segment 43 Boards 31-45
			Segment 44 Boards 46-60
Tuesday	April 28	10:00 - 12:00	Segment 45 Boards 1-15
		12:15 - 2:15	Segment 46 Boards 16-30
		3:30 - 5:30	75 minute Lunch Break
		5:45 - 7:45	Segment 47 Boards 31-45
			Segment 48 Boards 46-60
Wednesday	April 29	10:00 - 12:00	Segment 49 Boards 1-15
		12:15 - 2:15	Segment 50 Boards 16-30
		3:30 - 5:30	75 minute Lunch Break
		5:45 - 7:45	Segment 51 Boards 31-45
			Segment 52 Boards 46-60
Thursday	April 30	10:00 - 12:00	Segment 53 Boards 1-15
		12:15 - 2:15	Segment 54 Boards 16-30
		3:15 - 5:15	60 minute Break
		5:30 - 7:30	Segment 55 Boards 31-45
			Segment 56 Boards 46-60

Mixed Schedule			
Day	Date	Time	Boards
<b>Round Robin (Assumes 13 or 14 teams; with 15 or 16 will be same as open)</b> (Click Here for Playing Room Assignments WHEN AVAILABLE)			
Wednesday	April 22	10:00 - 11:30	Round 1 Boards 1-12
		11:50 - 1:20	Round 2 Boards 13-24
		3:00 - 4:30	100 minute Break
		4:50 - 6:20	Round 3 Boards 25-36
			Round 4 Boards 37-48
Thursday	April 23	10:00 - 11:30	Segment 5 Boards 1-12
		11:50 - 1:20	Segment 6 Boards 13-24
		2:30 - 4:00	70 minute Break
		4:20 - 5:40	Segment 7 Boards 25-36
		6:00 - 7:30	Segment 8 Boards 37-48
Friday	April 24	10:00 - 11:30	Segment 9 Boards 49-61
		11:50 - 1:20	Round 10 Boards 1-12
		3:00 - 4:30	Round 11 Boards 13-24
		4:50 - 6:20	100 minute Break
			Round 12 Boards 25-36
Saturday	April 25	10:00 - 12:00	Round 13 Boards 37-48
		12:15 - 2:15	Round 14 Boards 49-61
		3:30 - 5:30	75 minute Lunch Break
		5:45 - 7:45	Round 15 Boards 1-12
			Round 16 Boards 13-24
Sunday	April 26	10:00 - 12:00	Round 17 Boards 25-36
		12:15 - 2:15	Round 18 Boards 37-48
		3:30 - 5:30	75 minute Lunch Break
		5:45 - 7:45	Round 19 Boards 49-61
			Round 20 Boards 1-12
<b>Quarterfinal</b>			
Monday	April 27	10:00 - 12:00	Round 21 Boards 13-24
		12:15 - 2:15	Round 22 Boards 25-36
		3:30 - 5:30	75 minute Lunch Break
		5:45 - 7:45	Round 23 Boards 37-48
			Round 24 Boards 49-61
Tuesday	April 28	10:00 - 12:00	Round 25 Boards 1-12
		12:15 - 2:15	Round 26 Boards 13-24
		3:30 - 5:30	75 minute Lunch Break
		5:45 - 7:45	Round 27 Boards 25-36
			Round 28 Boards 37-48
Wednesday	April 29	10:00 - 12:00	Round 29 Boards 49-61
		12:15 - 2:15	Round 30 Boards 1-12
		3:30 - 5:30	75 minute Lunch Break
		5:45 - 7:45	Round 31 Boards 13-24
			Round 32 Boards 25-36
Thursday	April 30	10:00 - 12:00	Round 33 Boards 37-48
		12:15 - 2:15	Round 34 Boards 49-61
		3:15 - 5:15	60 minute Break
		5:30 - 7:30	Round 35 Boards 1-12
			Round 36 Boards 13-24

# Delayed Kibitzing Throughout the USBCs on the LoveBridge site!

There will be delayed kibitzing for both of the 2026 USBCs on the LoveBridge website. Live Vugraph is delayed 30 minutes or until all tables have completed play on a board, whichever is later.

## Live video commentary of Finals

In addition to your opportunity to watch the 2026 USBC play on LoveBridge Vugraph, Rob Barrington, Ewan McNay, and Adam Parrish will be hosting full day video commentary of the 2nd day of both Finals on the USBF YouTube channel at 11:30 AM and 5:00 PM EDT, on the following dates:

- April 21, Open Final, April 30, Mixed Final.

## Highlights after each stage of each event

Teams of experts, including some of the players in the USBCs, will join Rob, Ewan, and Adam for round ups of each stage of play. These BridgeCasts will be posted on the USBF YouTube channel the morning after each segment airs:

- 4/16 - Open Round Robin;
- 4/18 - Open Quarterfinal;
- 4/20 - Open Semifinal;
- 4/25 - Mixed Round Robin;
- 4/27 - Mixed Quarterfinal;
- 4/29 - Mixed Semifinal.



**Kibitzing Schedule (EDT) For all KO days** of the 2026 USBCs, kibitzing times will be :

Segment 1: 11:30 am EDT

Segment 2: 1:45 pm EDT

Segment 3: 5:00 pm EDT

Segment 4: 7:15 pm EDT

**For Round Robin days**, each kibitzing segment will start 30 minutes after play starts.

**To view a Single Table**, click on the blue arrow on the scores page. It provides the largest view of one table, with buttons to get to other information.

**Match View** will show the two tables of a match side by side on your screen;

**Split View** will give you 4 panes of your window and you can put whatever you want in each of them to watch 2 side-by-side matches at once, or one match and the scores of others.

**Click on Buttons to get interesting information:**

- The image of the sticker with the number of the board (upper right) takes you to the results of the board;
- the arrow in the bottom right corner takes you to the scoresheet
- the DDS shows the double dummy analyses. Besides that there is a button for the other table of the same match,
- at the top left corner you can see the bidding with alerts and the explanations (mouse over), the tricks already played, and the double dummy analysis for the available number of tricks with the par score.
- **NEW THIS YEAR:** Written commentary will show in a large area on the left of the screen in Single Table view and at the top of the screen in Match View. If you are interesting in providing written commentary, please email Jan and she will get you authorized.

## Navigation icons:

While surfing here and there in the vugraph, or amongst the archive sessions, there are icons to help you. You can always go back to the main page with the “house” or to the standings with the “scores”. There is also a built-in back button because the back button of your browser will always take you to the starting page. If this is not what you wanted, push next in your browser and you can continue where you were.

Wonder what he's gonna do...  
Oh Look! He played for the 2-2!

# Helpful Information for Players On Site!

**No Electronic Devices are Permitted in the Playing Area.**

**This applies to players AND kibitzers.**

**Severe penalties will be assessed for violation of this rule.**

**Please turn off all cell phones and check them at the door.**

**The USBF reserves the right to wand anyone entering the playing field.**



## MASSAGES

Our wonderful massage therapist, Ela, will come to the hotel whenever there are enough people who want a massage. Hopefully, she will be coming on Sunday, April 12.

Please let Jan Martel (on site) know if you want a massage that Sunday or on any other day and Jan will arrange it.

---

## HOSPITALITY

The hospitality suite (room 2321) will be open most of the day. You may watch Vugraph or get a snack when there. We are providing breakfast and lunch each day of play. **Marie France Benoit** will be our lead hostess, with help from **Jacob** and **Marge Morgan**. If you can volunteer to help with hospitality (mainly picking up last-minute things at Costco and other local stores) please let Jan Martel or Marie France know and they will put you to work!!

**Breakfast:** From 8:00-10:00 am. There will be the usual breakfast food: cereal, bagels, toast, salmon, fruit, juice, coffee and tea. Keurig coffee will be available in the hospitality suite. So long as the suite doesn't become too crowded, you are welcome to eat there.

**Lunch:** On the first three days of the Open and Mixed USBCs we will be serving a buffet lunch in the hotel restaurant. The hotel is unwilling to have people take food out of the restaurant to eat someplace else. Lunch will be served from 12:30-2:30. The second Round Robin match each day is scheduled to end at 1:10 and the third match starts at 2:30.

After the first 3 days of each event, lunch will be available in the hospitality suite from 1:45-3:45. There will be a main dish (sandwiches, chicken, main dish salads, pizza) as well as tuna salad, green salad, cheese, fruit, berries, cookies or other desserts.

There is a water dispenser in the hospitality suite. Please bring a water bottle to use. Soft drinks will be available in refrigerators. As with breakfast, you are welcome to eat in the hospitality suite unless it is too crowded.

**Let us know if you have specific needs:** please make our hosts aware of your needs and they will do their best to accommodate you.

## Playing Rooms & Player's Break Room

We have a water dispenser in the Office/Player's Break Room (1321), as well as soft drinks, Nespresso, some packaged snacks, and some fruit. We ask that you recognize that we are working in that room, and others are playing in the rooms next door and across the hall, so please try to keep voices low.

**NEW:** The hotel has requested we use coupons for the in restaurant lunches we are providing. Please see your team captain to get a coupon on days when meals are being provided in the hotel dining room.

# Puzzle Page ...

## Beatles Songs

Find and circle all of the songs by The Beatles that are hidden in the grid.  
The remaining letters spell the name of an additional Beatles song.

W D H E Y B U L L D O G E T B A C K A  
A R E T T E B G N I T T E G S H E P S  
I E Y A D H T R I B B N O R E P L Y K  
T C D A R W O P O L Y T H E N E P A M  
S A M I O P D H A S Y N O P A G I D E  
E E T O R N R C D R U L I S N F T H W  
X G F I E O K U C A A N E R E I O U H  
Y U N E R B T Y D D R P K Y G X Y R Y  
S E H I I Y B T Y E L L B I S I B E Y  
A T F R H A L M E E N D I E N N G P H  
D H D I B T A E A K O C U N L G I P W  
I H E Y L D E S V O C L E L G A R I E  
E T R Y O Y E M G O B I E H E H R R M  
T C B N J M M O O R L F T A T O O T L  
A H N U E U L N E S I I W I L L N Y L  
X A L R O L D Y I F L Y I N G E A A E  
M I C H E L L E I P Y E N O H O E D T  
A M W H I N Y A D R E T S E Y D L O W  
N L R I G R E H T O N A E N I M E M I

ANOTHER GIRL  
ASK ME WHY  
BIRTHDAY  
BLACKBIRD  
CRY BABY CRY  
DAY TRIPPER  
DEAR PRUDENCE  
DIG A PONY  
ELEANOR RIGBY  
FIXING A HOLE

FLYING  
GET BACK  
GETTING BETTER  
HELLO GOODBYE  
HEY BULLDOG  
HEY JUDE  
HONEY PIE  
I ME MINE  
I WILL  
IF I FELL

IN MY LIFE  
JULIA  
LADY MADONNA  
LOVELY RITA  
MICHELLE  
NO REPLY  
OH DARLING  
PLEASE PLEASE ME  
POLYTHENE PAM  
SEXY SADIE

SOMETHING  
SUN KING  
TAXMAN  
TELL ME WHY  
THE END  
TICKET TO RIDE  
TWO OF US  
WAIT  
YER BLUES  
YESTERDAY



Kings are  
made to take  
Queens!

	5	2		6				1
					8			3
1	8		9			4		
							3	
2		4				5		7
5								2
	9			4		3		
				8				
7			3	1			6	9

Sudoku 1

**Tom Swiftie:** "I bought a parakeet yesterday," Tom chirped.

**Tom Swiftie:** "Stand still so that I can take the picture," Tom snapped.

**Tom Swiftie:** "Three plus three equals six," Tom added.

**Tom Swiftie:** "I can't think of anything to write," Tom said blankly.

**Tom Swiftie:** "A magician just cut me in half," Tom said half-heartedly.

**Tom Swiftie:** "Turn up the stereo," Tom said amply.

**Tom Swiftie:** "I didn't see that steamroller coming," Tom said flatly.

**Tom Swiftie:** "Ouch! I got poked by a thorn," Tom said sharply.

**Tom Swiftie:** "I love fountains," Tom bubbled.

**Tom Swiftie:** "I'm on fire," Tom blazed.

**Tom Swifties!**

*(Continued on page 11)*

# Hard Sudoku

## Sudoku Solutions on Page 12

Sudoku 2

			7	9		2		
						7	8	
4								1
5	4			1	2			
6		3			7	8		
							4	
		7					6	
	2			3	8			
						9	1	



Please be "scent"sitive! Many players have allergies and have trouble breathing when perfumed aromas are present! Thank you!!



# World Bridge News...

2ND EDITION · MAY – AUGUST 2026

## The eBridge Cup is back

After drawing almost 10,000 players in 2025, the eBridge Cup returns in 2026 with a live finals stage in Katowice, Poland, at the start of the World Bridge Series. Hosted by BBO and Funbridge, the event is open to all players, regardless of country or federation membership.

Qualifiers: May 2026 · Semi-Finals: June 2026 · Live Finals: Aug 18–19 · Katowice, Poland

[Play on BBO →](#)

[Play on Funbridge →](#)

**If you like these online events, please play.  
The more popular these events are,  
the more there will be!**



Hosted by BBO × Funbridge

Co-organized with the World Bridge Federation and the ACBL

Some national federations award ranking points

### ABOUT THE EBRIDGE CUP

## What is the eBridge Cup?

The eBridge Cup is a major international bridge competition played online on BBO and Funbridge.

It starts with the Qualifiers in May, continues through the Semi-Finals, and leads to a final stage in July and August, including a live finals stage in Katowice, Poland. Along the way, players compete for official points, prize money, and a place in one of the most ambitious events in online bridge.

**BBO × Funbridge × WBF × ACBL**

- Open to players worldwide
- Structured for fair competition
- Easy to join and follow online



*(Continued from page 12)*

**Tom Swiftie:** "I stepped in poison ivy," Tom said rashly.

**Tom Swiftie:** "I hate subtraction," Tom said negatively.

**Tom Swiftie:** "I feel so average," Tom said meanly.

**Tom Swiftie:** "My walking stick broke," Tom snapped.  
"Good, now you can't complain about splinters," Bob said sharply.

**Tom Swiftie:** "Is my pastry ready yet?" Tom asked tartly.

**Tom Swiftie:** "Who turned off the lamp?" Tom asked, delighted.

**Tom Swiftie:** "April sure is rainy," Tom thundered.

**Tom Swiftie:** "How are the elements organized?" Tom asked periodically.

**Tom Swiftie:** "I've got plumbing to do," Tom piped up.

**Tom Swiftie:** "Have you seen my brain?" Tom asked absentmindedly.

**Tom Swiftie:** "I don't want anything on my burger," Tom said plainly.

**Tom Swiftie:** "This fruit isn't ripe yet," Tom said sourly.

**Tom Swiftie:** "I like the rear of the ship," Tom said sternly.

**Tom Swiftie:** "She tore my valentine in two," Tom said halfheartedly.

**Tom Swiftie:** "I almost got struck by lightning!" Tom said shockingly.

**Tom Swiftie:** "Tell the dog to be quiet!" Tom barked.

**Tom Swiftie:** "Use your own toothbrush!" Tom bristled.

**Tom Swiftie:** "This is an amazing comic," Tom marveled.

**Tom Swiftie:** "Pass me the shellfish," Tom said crabbily.

**Tom Swiftie:** "I love Kansas," Tom said plainly.

**Tom Swiftie:** "A car just ran over my foot," Tom said tiredly.

**Tom Swiftie:** "I have to change my answer," Tom remarked.

**Tom Swiftie:** "Electricity is amazing," Tom said ecstatically.

**Tom Swiftie:** "Help! My pants are falling off," Tom belted out.

# A Little Humor!



	Dansk	Moore	Price	Smith	Vane	4 days	5 days	5 days	6 days	6 days	airplane	airplane	car	car	train	art show	card games	exhibitors room	roleplaying games	writers' symposium	
Adam																					
Harry																					
Paul																					
Sara																					
Wendy																					
art show																					
card games																					
exhibitors room																					
roleplaying games																					
writers' symposium																					
airplane																					
airplane																					
car																					
car																					
train																					
4 days																					
5 days																					
5 days																					
6 days																					
6 days																					

## Answer to Puzzle on page 12 Bottom of Page

First Name	Last Name	Length of Stay	Means of Travel	Special Passion

The Worldsapes Convention, the premiere gaming, science fiction, and fantasy event of the year, takes place this month! By land, sea, and air, people flock to Indianapolis at this time each year to experience four packed solid days of gaming, science fiction and fantasy in all its forms including an art show and writers' symposium, and an extensive exhibitor's room where companies provide gaming demonstrations, contests, and new product announcements. Like many others, five friends have been traveling to this convention for years and traditionally meet up the day before for supper to renew their friendship and plan out their schedule for the convention. Each friend has a special passion for one particular event. Determine the full name of each friend (one first name is Harry), how long each friend is staying for, the way each friend traveled to the convention, and each friends' special passion.

- The two people who traveled by airplane were the man who loved the art show and Sara.
- Mr. Vane didn't stay for five days. Paul, whose last name wasn't Moore, traveled by car.
- Adam stayed one day longer than the person who loved the writers' symposium. The person who came by train loved card games.
- The two people who stayed for 6 days were the person who loved roleplaying games and Mr. Moore.
- The person whose last name was Price loved the exhibitor's room. Wendy's last name was Smith but her favorite event wasn't the roleplaying games.
- Mr. Dansk's favorite event wasn't the art show. The woman who loved the writers' symposium only stayed for four days.



# Meet the Players

Born in New York City, **Chris Willenken** graduated from Collegiate School in 1993 and Williams College in 1997. While at Williams, Willenken competed in the American Parliamentary Debate Association; he and Amanda Amert earned Team of The Year honors as the most successful partnership of the 1996-1997 season.

Willenken is an American Contract Bridge League Grand Life Master and a World Bridge Federation Life Master.

In 2011, he won the gold medal at the inaugural Sport Accord World Mind Games Individual Championship. In World Bridge Federation competition, Willenken reached the finals of the 2018 World Mixed Team Championship and the semifinals of the 2010 Rosenblum Cup and 2011 World Transnational Open Teams Championship. He also has five NABC+ wins to date, as well as in the 2013 Open USBC.

Chris is married to Dana Berkowitz, an excellent player in her own right.

Here in Schaumburg, Chris is a member of team Rosenthal with Andrew Rosenthal, Migry Zur Campanile, Dana Berkowitz, Eldad Ginossar, and Olivia Schireson

*(Continued from page 7)*

**Tom Swiftie:** "These pigs sure do like this stuff," Tom said sloppily.

**Tom Swiftie:** "Stop acting like a baby," Tom cried.

**Tom Swiftie:** "It's a werewolf!" Tom howled.

**Tom Swiftie:** "Look at that bird," Tom chirped.

**Tom Swiftie:** "Tell me when my package gets here," Tom ordered.

**Tom Swiftie:** "It's freezing in here," Tom said coldly.

**Tom Swiftie:** "I think I'll use a different font," Tom said boldly.

**Tom Swiftie:** "Change the channel," Tom said remotely.

**Tom Swiftie:** "I want to teach at a university," Tom professed.

**Tom Swiftie:** "Man, that robotics class was hard!" Tom droned.

**Tom Swiftie:** "We struck oil," Tom gushed.

**Tom Swiftie:** "I hate cats!" Tom barked.

**Tom Swiftie:** "This paper has nothing on it," Tom said blankly.

**Tom Swiftie:** "It didn't rain today," Tom said dryly.

**Tom Swiftie:** "I love hitting piñatas," Tom said bashfully.

**Tom Swiftie:** "What's the first letter of your name?" Tom asked initially.

**Tom Swiftie:** "And I really don't like math class," Tom added.



A pun, A two, A three...

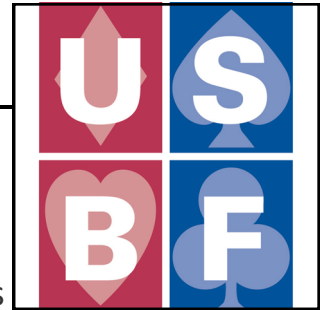
9	9	2	5	1	3	8	4	7
5	7	4	9	8	1	6	2	3
8	1	3	7	2	5	9	6	8
2	8	1	4	9	7	3	6	5
7	9	5	6	3	8	4	1	2
4	3	6	1	2	5	9	7	8
6	4	5	2	7	9	3	8	1
3	9	2	8	1	5	7	6	4
1	8	7	4	6	3	2	5	9

8	1	9	5	7	2	4	6	3
7	4	5	8	3	6	1	2	9
2	6	3	9	4	1	7	5	8
5	4	1	6	8	3	2	9	7
9	2	8	7	4	5	3	1	6
3	6	7	2	9	1	8	4	5
1	9	5	3	2	8	6	7	4
4	7	8	1	6	5	9	3	2
2	3	9	5	6	1	7	8	4
6	3	2	4	9	7	5	1	8

# Sudoku Answers Puzzles on Page 7

Answer to Sudoku 1

Answer to Sudoku 2



## USBF Supporting Membership

If you don't want to play in the USBF Championships that choose teams to represent the USA in the World Bridge Federation Championships, but do want to aid our events, a **Supporting Membership** can be the perfect way for you to be involved.

A Supporting Membership is \$25 for one year (\$75 for 3 years) and your donation will be used to cover inevitable expenses: attorney fees, accounting fees, website support services, tournament directors, insurance, WBF dues, and vugraph operators.

The USBF is an **all-volunteer** organization.

Our meetings are by conference call and at NABCS. Board members and the organization's officers are not compensated for meetings, travel, or hotel expenses.

*(Continued from page 11)*

**Tom Swiftie:** "I'm making pancakes," Tom said flatly.

**Tom Swiftie:** "Who chopped down this tree?" asked Tom, stumped.

**Tom Swiftie:** "Let me Tom said gratefully.  shred the cheese,"

*(Continued on page 9)*

## Answer to Logic Puzzle On Page 10

First Name	Last Name	Length of Stay	Means of Travel	Special Passion
Wendy	Smith	4 days	car	writers' symposium
Sara	Price	5 days	airplane	exhibitors room
Paul	Vane	6 days	car	roleplaying games
Harry	Moore	6 days	airplane	art show
Adam	Dansk	5 days	train	card games

## Tales of the Unexpected by Mark Horton

Of the many events that are streamed online each year, the USBF Trials are one of my favorites. The strength of the teams is reflected by the number of past and present World Champions who compete.

This deal from the fourth session of the final of the Open Teams between Shourie and Fleisher illustrates the stain of having to play high-level bridge for days on end (pointed out in yesterday's Bulletin with respect to Board 38):

W	N	E	S
		PASS	1NT
PASS	2♣	PASS	2♥
PASS	3♠	PASS	3NT
PASS	4♣	PASS	4NT
PASS	5NT	PASS	6♦
PASS	6♥	PASS	PASS

- 1NT=Good 14-17
- 2C=Stayman
- 3S=Heart fit and unspecified shortage
- 3NT =Asking
- 4C=Short clubs
- 4NT=RKCB
- 5NT=2 keycards + C void
- 6C=Confirms all keycards

♠ A763  
♥ KJ92  
♦ KT432  
♣

N Gavin Wolpert

Open Room

♠ QJ4  
♥ T874  
♦  
♣ Q96542

E Brian Platnick

♠ KT98  
♥ 3  
♦ Q75  
♣ KJT83

W Kevin Rosenberg

Closed Room

♠ 52  
♥ AQ65  
♦ AJ986  
♣ A7

S Raiath Shourie

6H is an excellent contract. However, on this layout, if West happens to lead a spade, heart or diamond, declarer cannot arrive at 12 tricks.

Leading a spade from the king is not attractive; a heart might pick up partner's trumps; a diamond looks dubious.

West led the CK. Declarer won with the CA and played a heart to the king and a heart. When West discarded the C8 on the second round, declarer won, ruffed a club, cashed the HJ and played the D2. East ruffed and exited with the CQ, the defenders collecting a spade at the end. Down one for -50.

If declarer ruffs the club lead in dummy and cashes the HKJ, he can overtake the H9, draw the outstanding trump & cash the CA.

W	N	E	S
		PASS	1NT
PASS	3♦	PASS	3♠
PASS	3NT	PASS	4♠
PASS	PASS	PASS	

- 1NT=14-16
- 3D=4/4M(41)m or (50)m
- 3S=good hand for H
- 3NT=club shortness
- 4S=RKC H

♠ A763  
♥ KJ92  
♦ KT432  
♣

N Brad Moss

Closed Room

♠ QJ4  
♥ T874  
♦  
♣ Q96542

E John Hurd

♠ KT98  
♥ 3  
♦ Q75  
♣ KJT83

W Kevin Bathurst

Open Room

♠ 52  
♥ AQ65  
♦ AJ986  
♣ A7

S Joe Grue

In the Closed Room, West led the C10. Declarer ruffed in dummy and played a diamond, winning with the DA when East pitched the H7. East ruffed the diamond continuation and returned the C2 to declarer's CA as a heart went from dummy.

A third diamond saw East ruff once more. If he exits with the SQ at this point, declarer will be five down.

His club exit allowed declarer to ruff in hand and discard the H9. He played a heart to dummy's HK. If he continues hearts, he escapes for two down, but playing the D10 allowed East to score the SQ and that meant three down, -150.

It is rarely a good idea to break *Burn's Law of Total Trumps*, but this time the outcome was a mere 3 IMP loss.

**Mark Horton** is a well-know, highly respected bridge journalist. We are very lucky that he sends us hand write-ups from time to time when he has a chance. Thank you Mark! We always look forward to your contributions.

Also, thank you for the great job on the WBF Women's Online Transnational Team bulletins. Your expertise both at bridge and at writing is well appreciated by the players and the readers!

DDS

W	N	E	S
	2♦	PASS	PASS
PASS			

Table: OP 1, Round: 5  
N-S: Shourie  
93 IMP  
E-W: Fleisher  
148 IMP

North: ♠ 85, ♥ KJ, ♦ AQT765, ♣ T76  
Gavin Wolpert

South: ♠ T64, ♥ 8642, ♦ KJ9, ♣ 953  
Joe Gruel

Center: Open Room

East: ♠ J92, ♥ AQ75, ♦ 42, ♣ A842  
Brad Moser

South: ♠ AKQ73, ♥ T93, ♦ 83, ♣ KQJ  
Raiath Shourie

You don't see a lot of players playing a weak 2D these days. In modern style, it's either multi or Flannery or perhaps Mexican (private joke with Nickell/Katz!)

Gavin Wolpert opened the North hand an old-fashioned weak two and lived to regret it.

The auction passed out and North/South scored 150 when they were cold for game in three strains: diamonds, spades and no-trump. (Note: Small caveat: Diamonds had to be played from North. A heart lead through the KJ to the AQ would defeat the game if played from South.)

The bidding in the Closed Room reflects a big difference in hand evaluation. Where Wolpert saw a weak two, Kevin Rosenberg saw an opening bid. Kevin opened 1D and there was stopping North/South from bidding game.

Platnick/Rosenberg landed in 3NT.

While it does not matter what Kranyak-leads since 3NT is always cold on the lie of the cards, it is worth noting that he chose a somewhat strange option, leading the SJ from J92, especially after South had shown spades in the auction! Maybe he was "leading through strength."

DDS

W	N	E	S
	1♦	DBL	1♥
PASS	2♦	PASS	3♣
PASS	3♦	PASS	3♠
PASS	3NT	PASS	PASS

Table: CL 1, Round: 5  
N-S: Fleisher  
148 IMP  
E-W: Shourie  
93 IMP

North: ♠ 85, ♥ KJ, ♦ AQT765, ♣ T76  
Kevin Rosenberg

South: ♠ T64, ♥ 8642, ♦ KJ9, ♣ 953  
Vince Demuy

Center: Closed Room

East: ♠ J92, ♥ AQ75, ♦ 42, ♣ A842  
John Kranyak

South: ♠ AKQ73, ♥ T93, ♦ 83, ♣ KQJ  
Brian Platnick

- 1D=2+
- 1H=spades
- 3C=diamond invite+

Rosenberg won the ace in dummy and played a diamond to his ten, successfully finessing against both the DK and DJ.

He played a club toward dummy. Kranyak ducked and the jack won. A diamond to the jack and queen followed and the DA was cashed.

Kevin cashed the diamonds and claimed 13 tricks.

Bidding and making the vulnerable game swung 11 IMPs to Fleisher who already held a significant lead in this match.

W	N	E	S
		2♣	PASS
2♠	PASS	2NT	PASS
3♣	PASS	3♥	PASS
4♥	PASS	PASS	PASS

2S=art, 8-11, generally balanced  
3C=Stayman

LoveBridge

DDS

♠ KT6542  
♥ 72  
♦ KQ4  
♣ 83  
N Gavin Wolpert

♠ Q3  
♥ Q863  
♦ T8732  
♣ A2  
W Joe Grue

♠ AJ8  
♥ AKT5  
♦ AJ  
♣ KQ74  
E Brad Moss

♠ 97  
♥ J94  
♦ 965  
♣ JT965  
S Rajath Shourie

Open Room

Shourie gained 13 IMPs on Board 10 when in the Open Room, Moss/Grue missed bidding the cold heart slam while in the Closed Room, Kran-yak/Demuy bid and made it.

There is little to the play. East/West has no spade losers, no heart losers, 1 diamond loser & no club losers.

Platnick led the S9 against the slam. Kranyak won the king with the ace and made this wish trick:



He played a heart to the queen and a heart to the king and cashed the DA.

W	N	E	S
		2NT	PASS
3♣	PASS	3♥	PASS
3♠	DBL	RDBL	PASS
4♣	PASS	4♦	PASS
4♥	PASS	4♠	PASS
5♣	PASS	6♥	PASS

2NT-21-23  
3H=4-5 H not 4S  
3S=3+H  
Rdbl=no agreement  
4C=4+H slam interest  
5C=1 KC

DDS

♠ KT6542  
♥ 72  
♦ KQ4  
♣ 83  
N Kevin Rosenberg

♠ Q3  
♥ Q863  
♦ T8732  
♣ A2  
W Vince Demuy

♠ AJ8  
♥ AKT5  
♦ AJ  
♣ KQ74  
E John Kranyak

♠ 97  
♥ J94  
♦ 965  
♣ JT965  
S Brian Platnick

Closed Room

The DJ rode to the DQ with Rosenberg. Rosenberg returned the S5. Kranyak inserted the 8 and it held.

Kranyak claimed 12 tricks ... the start of a comeback??

**BOARD:** 12  
**DEALER:** WEST  
**VULNERABLE:** N-S

♠ K92  
 ♥ 932  
 ♦ 865  
 ♣ AT64

♠ 3  
 ♥ AK8754  
 ♦ K4  
 ♣ J852

♠ AQ876  
 ♥  
 ♦ AJT3  
 ♣ KQ73

Par: -920

	♣	♦	♥	♠	N
NS	1	3	3	3	3
EW	12	10	10	10	10

♠ JT54  
 ♥ QJT6  
 ♦ Q972  
 ♣ 9

Board 12 could have been a swing for Shourie. In the Closed Room, Demuy/Kranyak bid to 6C which can be successful with careful play while in the Open Room, Moss/Grue stopped in 3NT on the East/West cards.

3NT is easy with the C9 falling singleton. Declarer can navigate 2 spades, 2 hearts, 2 diamonds and 3 clubs at a minimum.

Home team Visiting team Room By = IMP  
 NS EW Home Visiting

Open 3N E ♣9 = 400  
 Closed 6♣ W ♦5 -1 50

Shourie Fleisher

10

W	N	E	S
1♥	PASS	1♠	PASS
2♣	PASS	2♦	PASS
2♥	PASS	3♣	PASS
3♥	PASS	3♠	PASS
4♥	PASS	4NT	PASS
6♣	PASS	PASS	PASS

2D=GF or weak 2 H

♠ 3  
 ♥ AK8754  
 ♦ K4  
 ♣ J852  
 W Vince Demuy

♠ K92  
 ♥ 932  
 ♦ 865  
 ♣ AT64

N Kevin Rosenberg

**Closed Room**

♠ AQ876  
 ♥  
 ♦ AJT3  
 ♣ KQ73  
 E John Kr

In the Closed Room, Rosenberg led the D5 against the slam. It went DJ, DQ, DK. Demuy played a small spade to the ace, ruffed a spade in hand, a small diamond to the ace, another spade ruff, and a cash of the HA, dummy tossing the D3.

This was the critical moment.

The position:

♠ JT54  
 ♥ QJT6  
 ♦ Q972  
 ♣ 9  
 S Brian Platnick

♠ K92  
 ♥ 932  
 ♦ 865  
 ♣ AT64

N Kevin Rosenberg

♥ 2  
 ♥ A  
 ♦ 3  
 ♥ 6

♠ 3  
 ♥ AK8754  
 ♦ K4  
 ♣ J852  
 W Vince Demuy

♠ AQ876  
 ♥  
 ♦ AJT3  
 ♣ KQ73  
 E John Kranya

Demuy needed to play a heart... Playing the king is the easiest to see what happens: Declarer cashes the HK, throwing a spade from the board, plays another heart and ruffs in dummy. He cashes the DT throwing a heart from his hand and leads the C7. When the 9 comes up singleton with South, Demuy covers with the jack. Rosenberg can win it or not. He is endplayed now or later. He is down to the T64 of trump under the KQ7. At the table, Demuy led the C8 to the king and had to lose 2 club tricks effectively endplaying dummy! 10 IMPs to Fleisher... Shourie is running out of time...

# Limey Jack...

Blimey, Yanks:

Back at it for near another fortnight. Limey Jack senses that some of these lassies are more serious than those same what entered the Open USBC.

Let's get at it, shall we? First order of business is a cautionary tale. Howie Dung will lead you straight to the char house, While Limey Jack makes you a certain winner at the punter.

Howie Dung has a face like a wet weekend, does he not? He picked Fleisher to win, while Limey Jack picked Shourie. Admittedly there was a brief moment when it looked grim, but when is Limey Jack ever wrong?

In this event there are 15 squads at hand. They will play a full roundabout, with one team each chucker winning 10 VPs V bye. 8 teams will survive to get to the knockout phase. Here is what will happen. There are 10 extremely talented teams but two must fall on the sword.

Bramley: Is a 4 lot and has resurrected Joanna Stansby, last seen when the Parson's wife sent her wee one off to Oxford. Much like the Open, if there is to be an upset it starts with Bramley missing the cut  
Compton: While they have a weak sponsor, M. Meckstroth has finally shown up and that will get them back to the paddock safely

Ding: Ding gets its bell rung, alas.

Dinkin: Strange pairings here. Even with a budding superstar in Adam Grossack, there is no room at the Inn for them.  
Ge: The Ge team will qualify and even go deep.

Hamman: The old man of the sea makes his final run at a World title at 88 years old. He will have his oppo 3 days hence. The Sanborns are a top hat addition.

Henner: After playing on a random team with three sponsors in the Open, Henner gets serious here. While they will be at the bottom, they could eke out a spot. But Limey Jack will have to put them on the no fly list.

Kaplan: The newly crowned world champion falls victim to the numbers game. Just too many good squads.  
Lewis has cobbled together a nice 6 handed team. They are in fine fettle.

Li: This pick makes Limey Jack a little teary. The first name of Li is Music. Sadly, this is the only oppo for Limey Jack to make a reference to a Musically talented team.

Millens: While 5 handed and playing the game of 'hide the sponsor', this team is just too good to fail. They could actually do some damage

Rosenthal: Perennial qualifier.

Rubenstein: They have the other Grossack twin and easily get through.

Smid-Samow: 4 handed, unknown by anyone, and no future this time.

Zhang: A reasonable sponsor and a fine team. They will be hoisting an ale in no time.

Limey Jack will return for the knockout phase and make you a quid or two.

**Howie Doing on page 18!**

# Cross IMPs

#			Avg	Sum	✓
1.	Brad Moss - Joe Grue	Fleisher	1.40	84.00	60
2.	John Hurd - Kevin Bathurst	Shourie	1.31	118.00	90
3.	John Kranyak - Vince Demuy	Shourie	0.60	54.00	90
4.	Brian Platnick - Kevin Rosenberg	Fleisher	-0.75	-79.00	105
5.	Chip Martel - Marty Fleisher	Fleisher	-1.24	-93.00	75
6.	Gavin Wolpert - Rajath Shourie	Shourie	-1.40	-84.00	60

Going into Segment 8, after two really strong sets, the score stands as below. It's anyone's game!

Table		Σ	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	IMP Corr.	Open Room	Closed Room	Match View
1	Shourie	203	18	16	35	23	17	49	45	0	0	0/15	1/15	
	Fleisher	205	36	51	29	15	56	15	3	0	0			

A three day RoundRobin...  
 It leaves me betwixt.  
 Why do the both sides  
 Want to play in a Mixed?  
 I've witnessed discussions.  
 I've seen them all cry.  
 So what I am asking is  
 "Why? Why? Why? Why?"  
 No guys ever wrong.  
 It's as the dames say,  
 "I hate how he wince,  
 With my every play!"  
 No gals ever right,  
 The dudes will confess...  
 "She can't even take  
 What's a simple finesse!"

## Howie Doing

Yet somehow it's fun  
 For the 8 who will thrive:  
 Bramley and Hamman,  
 Are sure to survive.  
 Smid, Zhang and Henner  
 And Dinkin and crew  
 Add up to six  
 So who else will do?  
 Two other teams  
 Who surely will score...  
 Are Ge with three Rosenbergs  
 Soon to be FOUR!  
 And with Adam remaining,  
 Hong will play tough.  
 The next round of picking  
 Is gonna be rough!