

Volume 19, Issue 7
 April 18, 2026

“Trials” and Tribulations

UNITED STATES BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Results:

Table	👤	Σ	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	IMP Corr.
1	Nickell	257	1	29	42	59	37	15	33	44	-3
	Bailey*	241	49	40	22	6	20	60	15	32	-3
2	Shourie*	311	40	53	68	34	8	43	27	38	0
	Kovachev	271	41	43	14	29	35	18	58	33	0
3	Fleisher*	286	23	22	35	29	32	39	58	48	0
	Rosenthal	214	11	43	30	54	5	4	30	37	0
4	Wildavsky*	222	22	54	50	25	31	14	26	0	0
	Jacobs	118	9	9	5	18	31	27	19	0	WD 0

Sadly for Jacobs, there were no miracle finishes today...
 Better luck next year, George!

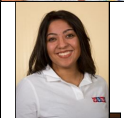
- USBF President**
Geoff Hampson
- USBF Vice President**
Christal Henner
- USBF COO & Secretary**
Jan Martel
- USBF CFO & Treasurer**
Max Schireson
- USBF Recorder**
Jack Oest
jost@rcn.com
773-387-9378
- USBF Chief
Communications Officer**
Suzi Subeck
- Directors**
McKenzie Myers, DIC
Ken Horwedel
Chris 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
Round ROBIN (Based on 16 TEAMS) (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
		80 minute Lunch Break	
		2:30 - 3:55	Round 3 Boards 23-33
		4:15 - 5:40	Round 4 Boards 34-44
Tuesday	April 14	6:00 - 7:25	Round 5, Boards 45-55
		10:00 - 11:25	Round 6 Boards 1-11
		11:45 - 1:10	Round 7 Boards 12-22
		80 minute Lunch Break	
		2:30 - 3:55	Round 8 Boards 23-33
Wednesday	April 15	4:15 - 5:40	Round 9 Boards 34-44
		6:00 - 7:25	Round 10, Boards 45-55
		10:00 - 11:25	Round 11 Boards 1-11
		11:45 - 1:10	Round 12 Boards 12-22
		80 minute Lunch Break	
Thursday	April 16	2:30 - 3:55	Round 13 Boards 23-33
		4:15 - 5:40	Round 14 Boards 34-44
		6:00 - 7:25	Round 15, Boards 45-55
		Quarterfinal	
		Friday	April 17
12:15 - 2:15	Segment 2 Boards 16-30		
75 minute Lunch Break			
3:30 - 5:30	Segment 3 Boards 31-45		
Saturday	April 18	5:45 - 7:45	Segment 4 Boards 46-60
		10:00 - 12:00	Segment 5 Boards 1-15
		12:15 - 2:15	Segment 6 Boards 16-30
		75 minute Lunch Break	
Sunday	April 19	3:30 - 5:30	Segment 7 Boards 31-45
		5:45 - 7:45	Segment 8 Boards 46-60
		Semifinal	
		Monday	April 20
12:15 - 2:15	Segment 2 Boards 16-30		
75 minute Break			
3:30 - 5:30	Segment 3 Boards 31-45		
Tuesday	April 21	5:45 - 7:45	Segment 4 Boards 46-60
		10:00 - 12:00	Segment 5 Boards 1-15
		12:15 - 2:15	Segment 6 Boards 16-30
		75 minute Break	
Wednesday	April 22	3:30 - 5:30	Segment 7 Boards 31-45
		5:45 - 7:45	Segment 8 Boards 46-60
		Final	
		Thursday	April 23
12:15 - 2:15	Segment 2 Boards 16-30		
75 minute Break			
3:30 - 5:30	Segment 3 Boards 31-45		
Friday	April 24	5:45 - 7:45	Segment 4 Boards 46-60
		10:00 - 12:00	Segment 5 Boards 1-15
		12:15 - 2:15	Segment 6 Boards 16-30
		75 minute Break	
Saturday	April 25	3:30 - 5:30	Segment 7 Boards 31-45
		5:45 - 7:45	Segment 8 Boards 46-60
		Final	
		Sunday	April 26
12:15 - 2:15	Segment 2 Boards 16-30		
75 minute Break			
3:30 - 5:30	Segment 3 Boards 31-45		
Monday	April 27	5:45 - 7:45	Segment 4 Boards 46-60
		10:00 - 12:00	Segment 5 Boards 1-15
		12:15 - 2:15	Segment 6 Boards 16-30
		75 minute Break	
Tuesday	April 28	3:30 - 5:30	Segment 7 Boards 31-45
		5:45 - 7:45	Segment 8 Boards 46-60
		Final	
		Wednesday	April 29
12:15 - 2:15	Segment 2 Boards 16-30		
75 minute Break			
3:30 - 5:30	Segment 3 Boards 31-45		
Thursday	April 30	5:45 - 7:45	Segment 4 Boards 46-60
		10:00 - 12:00	Segment 5 Boards 1-15
		12:15 - 2:15	Segment 6 Boards 16-30
		60 minute Break	
Friday	May 1	3:15 - 5:15	Segment 7 Boards 31-45
		5:30 - 7:30	Segment 8 Boards 46-60

Mixed Schedule			
Day	Date	Time	Boards
Round Robin (Assumes 13 or 14 teams; with 15 or 16 will be same as open) (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
		100 minute Break	
		3:00 - 4:30	Round 3 Boards 25-36
		4:50 - 6:20	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
		70 minute Break	
		2:30 - 4:00	Segment 7 Boards 25-36
		4:20 - 5:40	Segment 8 Boards 37-48
Friday	April 24	6:00 - 7:30	Segment 9 Boards 49-61
		10:00 - 11:30	Round 10 Boards 1-12
		11:50 - 1:20	Round 11 Boards 13-24
		100 minute Break	
		3:00 - 4:30	Round 12 Boards 25-36
Saturday	April 25	4:50 - 6:20	Round 13 Boards 37-48
		10:00 - 12:00	Segment 1 Boards 1-15
		12:15 - 2:15	Segment 2 Boards 16-30
		75 minute Break	
		3:30 - 5:30	Segment 3 Boards 31-45
Sunday	April 26	5:45 - 7:45	Segment 4 Boards 46-60
		10:00 - 12:00	Segment 5 Boards 1-15
		12:15 - 2:15	Segment 6 Boards 16-30
		75 minute Break	
		3:30 - 5:30	Segment 7 Boards 31-45
Monday	April 27	5:45 - 7:45	Segment 8 Boards 46-60
		10:00 - 12:00	Segment 1 Boards 1-15
		12:15 - 2:15	Segment 2 Boards 16-30
		75 minute Break	
		3:30 - 5:30	Segment 3 Boards 31-45
Tuesday	April 28	5:45 - 7:45	Segment 4 Boards 46-60
		10:00 - 12:00	Segment 5 Boards 1-15
		12:15 - 2:15	Segment 6 Boards 16-30
		75 minute Break	
		3:30 - 5:30	Segment 7 Boards 31-45
Wednesday	April 29	5:45 - 7:45	Segment 8 Boards 46-60
		10:00 - 12:00	Segment 1 Boards 1-15
		12:15 - 2:15	Segment 2 Boards 16-30
		75 minute Break	
		3:30 - 5:30	Segment 3 Boards 31-45
Thursday	April 30	5:45 - 7:45	Segment 4 Boards 46-60
		10:00 - 12:00	Segment 5 Boards 1-15
		12:15 - 2:15	Segment 6 Boards 16-30
		60 minute Break	
		3:15 - 5:15	Segment 7 Boards 31-45
Friday	May 1	5:30 - 7:30	Segment 8 Boards 46-60

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.



North, South,
East, and West...
Sit there debating
Which one is best!

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.

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 ...

Fears and Phobias

Find and circle all of the things that some people are afraid of, hidden in the grid.
The remaining letters spell an additional beach word.

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

BASEMENTS
BATS
BEES
BIRDS
BLOOD
CLOWNS
COCKROACHES
CROWDS
DEATH
DENTISTS
DOCTORS
DOGS
DOLLS

DRIVING
ENCLOSED SPACES
FAILURE
FALLING
FIRE
FLYING
FROGS
GERMS
GETTING OLD
GHOSTS
HEIGHTS
HORROR MOVIES

HOSPITALS
INSECTS
LIGHTNING
LOUD NOISES
NEEDLES
NUMBER THIRTEEN
OPEN SPACES
PAIN
PEOPLE
POPPING BALLOONS
PUBLIC SPEAKING
RATS

REJECTION
ROLLER COASTERS
SHARKS
SICKNESS
SNAKES
SPIDERS
STORMS
THE DARK
THUNDER
WASPS
WATER
WORMS



Love to play
All games of cards.
Bridge requires
I have pards!

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

Sudoku 1

Droid takes the long way = R2-Detour.

Bowling alley closed. Employees went on strike.

Oyster's last words? Aww shucks!

Where'd the shah park his car? The Garage Mahal.

Killed by wild pig = boared to death.

Shouldn't the name 'broker' make us nervous?

The revolutionary new blender got mixed results.

Why do anti-aging creams have expiration dates?

What are golfers scared of? The Bogey-man.

As you get older, it gets late earlier.

Why is a lion in your wardrobe? Narnia business.

Swallowing Scrabble tiles could spell disaster.

Common foot problem for architects? Fallen arches.

Heard of Cole's Law? It's thinly sliced cabbage.

(Continued on page 11)

Hard Sudoku

Sudoku Solutions on Page 14

Sudoku 2

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



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



World Bridge News...

DAY 1 – August 20

MIXED TEAMS Qualification Swiss

Round 1	14 boards	10.00 - 11.55
Round 2	14 boards	12.10 - 14.05
Round 3	14 boards	15.05 - 17.00
Round 4	14 boards	17.15 - 19.10

SENIOR TEAMS

14 teams or less Senior Teams Qualification TBD

Either a Round Robin or a Swiss

15 to 30 teams

Senior Teams Qualification

TBD

Either a Round Robin or a Swiss

31+ teams

Senior Teams Qualification Swiss

Round 1	14 boards	10.00 - 11.55
Round 2	14 boards	12.10 - 14.05
Round 3	14 boards	15.05 - 17.00
Round 4	14 boards	17.15 - 19.10

DAY 2 - August 21

WBF Meeting of Congress

MIXED TEAMS Qualification Swiss

Round 5	14 boards	10.00 - 11.55
Round 6	14 boards	12.10 - 14.05
Round 7	14 boards	15.05 - 17.00
Round 8	14 boards	17.15 - 19.10

SENIOR TEAMS

14 teams or less

Senior Teams Qualification

TBD

Either a Round Robin or a Swiss

15 to 30 teams

Senior Teams Qualification

TBD

Either a Round Robin or a Swiss

31+ teams

Senior Teams Qualification Swiss**

Round 5	14 boards	10.00 - 11.55
Round 6	14 boards	12.10 - 14.05
Round 7	14 boards	15.05 - 17.00
Round 8	14 boards	17.15 - 19.10

**If the number of teams in their dedicated competition is 31 or more the eliminated teams can join the Swiss Cup at the qualification stage only, which will be then renamed Mixed/Seniors Swiss Cup or Open/Women Swiss Cup

DAY 3 - August 22

MIXED TEAMS Round of 32**

Stanza 1	14 boards	10.00 - 11.55
Stanza 2	14 boards	12.15 - 14.10
Stanza 3	14 boards	15.10 - 17.05
Stanza 4	14 boards	17.25 - 19.20

MIXED/Senior SWISS CUP Qualification**

Stanza 1	14 boards	10.00 - 11.55
Stanza 2	14 boards	12.15 - 14.10
Stanza 3	14 boards	15.10 - 17.05
Stanza 4	14 boards	17.25 - 19.20

⚠ A dedicated Swiss Mixed Cup or Swiss Senior Cup will be organized only if there are enough registered teams.

**If the number of teams in their dedicated competition is 31 or more the eliminated teams can join the Swiss Cup at the qualification stage only, which will be then renamed Mixed/Seniors Swiss Cup or Open/Women Swiss Cup



MIXED PAIRS Qualification

Round 1	16 boards 10.00 - 12.25
Round 2	16 boards 13.15 - 15.40
Round 3	16 boards 15.55 - 18.20

SENIOR TEAMS 14 teams or less Senior Teams Qualification**TBD**

Either a Round Robin or a Swiss

15 to 30 teams Senior Teams Qualification**TBD**

Either a Round Robin or a Swiss

31+ teams**Senior Teams Round of 16**

Stanza 1	14 boards 10.00 - 11.55
Stanza 2	14 boards 12.15 - 14.10
Stanza 3	14 boards 15.10 - 17.05
Stanza 4	14 boards 17.25 - 19.20

SENIOR PAIRS QUALIFICATION

Round 1	16 boards 10.00 - 12.25
Round 2	16 boards 13.15 - 15.40
Round 3	16 boards 15.55 - 18.20

DAY 4 - August 23**MIXED TEAMS Round of 16**

Stanza 1	14 boards 10.00 - 11.55
Stanza 2	14 boards 12.15 - 14.10
Stanza 3	14 boards 15.10 - 17.05
Stanza 4	14 boards 17.25 - 19.20

MIXED/Senior SWISS CUP Qualification

Stanza 5	14 boards 10.00 - 11.55
Stanza 6	14 boards 12.15 - 14.10
Stanza 7	14 boards 15.10 - 17.05
Stanza 8	14 boards 17.25 - 19.20

MIXED PAIRS Qualification

Round 4	16 boards 10.00 - 12.25
Round 5	16 boards 13.15 - 15.40
Round 6	16 boards 15.55 - 18.20

SENIOR TEAMS 14 teams or less**Senior Teams Qualification****TBD**

Either a Round Robin or a Swiss

15 to 30 teams**Senior Teams Quarter Finals**

Stanza 1	14 boards 10.00 - 11.55
Stanza 2	14 boards 12.15 - 14.10
Stanza 3	14 boards 15.10 - 17.05
Stanza 4	14 boards 17.25 - 19.20

31+ teams**Senior Teams Quarter Finals**

Stanza 1	14 boards 10.00 - 11.55
Stanza 2	14 boards 12.15 - 14.10
Stanza 3	14 boards 15.10 - 17.05
Stanza 4	14 boards 17.25 - 19.20



SENIOR PAIRS QUALIFICATION

Round 4	16 boards	10.00 - 12.25
Round 5	16 boards	13.15 - 15.40
Round 6	16 boards	15.55 - 18.20

DAY 5 - August 24

MIXED TEAMS Quarterfinals

Stanza 1	14 boards	10.00 - 11.55
Stanza 2	14 boards	12.15 - 14.10
Stanza 3	14 boards	15.10 - 17.05
Stanza 4	14 boards	17.25 - 19.20

MIXED/Senior SWISS CUP Semifinal

Round 1	14 boards	10.00 - 11.55
Round 2	14 boards	12.15 - 14.10
Round 3	14 boards	15.10 - 17.05
Round 4	14 boards	17.25 - 19.20

MIXED PAIRS Semifinals A & B

Round 1	16 boards	10.00 - 12.25
Round 2	16 boards	13.15 - 15.40
Round 3	16 boards	15.55 - 18.20

First Week BAM

Round 1	15/16 boards	10.00 - 12.25
Round 2	15/16 boards	13.15 - 15.40
Round 3	15/16 boards	15.55 - 18.20

14 teams or less

Senior Teams Semi Finals

Stanza 1	14 boards	10.00 - 11.55
Stanza 2	14 boards	12.15 - 14.10
Stanza 3	14 boards	15.10 - 17.05
Stanza 4	14 boards	17.25 - 19.20

15 to 30 teams

Senior Teams Semi Finals

Stanza 1	14 boards	10.00 - 11.55
Stanza 2	14 boards	12.15 - 14.10
Stanza 3	14 boards	15.10 - 17.05
Stanza 4	14 boards	17.25 - 19.20

31+ teams

Senior Teams Semifinals

Stanza 1	14 boards	10.00 - 11.55
Stanza 2	14 boards	12.15 - 14.10
Stanza 3	14 boards	15.10 - 17.05
Stanza 4	14 boards	17.25 - 19.20

The losers of the semifinals will both be awarded bronze medals.

SENIOR PAIRS Semifinals A & B***

Round 4	16 boards	10.00 - 12.25
Round 5	16 boards	13.15 - 15.40
Round 6	16 boards	15.55 - 18.20

DAY 6 - August 25

MIXED TEAMS Semifinals

Stanza 1	14 boards	10.00 - 11.55
Stanza 2	14 boards	12.15 - 14.10
Stanza 3	14 boards	15.10 - 17.05
Stanza 4	14 boards	17.25 - 19.20

The losers of the semifinals will both be awarded bronze medals.



Schedule continued
in tomorrow's issue
of the Trials and
Tribulations...

(Continued from page 7)

You're so old your back goes out more than you do.

Malevolent cats are purr evil.

Swedish martial art? IKEA-do.

Thor lost his lightning. Odin grounded him.

Visited the local landfill. What a dump!

I don't know what people see in black holes.

Sometimes I go to the pier just for the halibut.

Reading while sunbathing makes you well red.

Looking back, I really hurt my neck.

People always open up to surgeons.

My book club only reads wine labels.

Decaf only works if you throw it at people.

What's the opposite of Kathmandu? Dogwomandont.

Cold jalapeños are chilly peppers.

Dry grape in Phoenix = raisin Arizona.

Got fired as a psychic. Didn't see that coming.

Maze designers often get lost in their work.

Hard work pays off later; laziness pays off now.

For astronomers, their careers are looking up.

There's just no future in being a historian.

Fishermen live on their net income.

How do coffee tasters sleep at night?

Italian Bigfoot = Spag-yeti.

Happy island off coast of Africa? Gladagascar.

A Little Humor!

After devouring several luxury hotels, Godzilla developed some cavities. The dentist told him he'd been eating too many suites.

Coffee was just voted the best drink in the nation. It was an unfair vote: There were absent tea ballots!

The corniest Clue character is Kernel Mustard!

Humpty Dumpty thought the wall was alright...
But he had a falls sense of security!



A woman was arrested for chuckling like a man!!
She was charged with manslaughter!

What's large on Saturday and Sunday.
Small on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, and disappears on Monday and Friday?

Answer: The letter "S"

(Continued on page 13)

	Grant	Larriot	Rich	Stewart	West	38	40	42	44	46	Hole 3	Hole 6	Hole 9	Hole 12	Hole 15
Aaron															
Elliot															
Jerry															
Joe															
Steven															
Hole 3															
Hole 6															
Hole 9															
Hole 12															
Hole 15															
38															
40															
42															
44															
46															

**Answer to Puzzle
on page 14
Bottom of Page**

First name	Last Name	Final Score	Hole-in-one Hole

Jerry and four friends spent yesterday afternoon playing miniature golf. It was a gorgeous day and the five friends had a great time. Par for the course was 42 and all of them had decent scores at the end of the course. Each one also got a hole-in-one at a different hole in the 18-hole course. Determine the full name of each friend, what their final score for the course was (38 to 46), and at what hole each got their hole-in-one. Hint: In golf, a lower score is better than a high score. The goal is to make the course par or lower.

- Steven, whose last name wasn't Rich, was under par for the course. Mr. West got his hole-in-one at hole 9.
- The person who matched the course par got a hole-in-one at hole 15, but it wasn't Aaron.
- Mr. Rich's score was four points higher than Elliot's score. Jerry's last name wasn't Grant.
- Elliot got his hole-in-one three holes before Mr. Stewart, who got his hole-in-one three holes before the person who had a final score of 38, who got his hole-in-one three holes before Jerry.
- The two people who scored under par for the course were Mr. Grant and the person who got a hole-in-one at hole 9.
- Joe Larriot didn't get his hole-in-one at hole 3.

Meet the Players



Born in the Big Apple, **Marty Fleisher** learned to play bridge at the age of eight by observing his parents and his uncle. His biggest bridge thrill was either winning the 2017 Bermuda Bowl, the 2010 Team Trials, the 2011 Vanderbilt, the 2013 Platinum Pairs or the 2016 Spingold.

However, he considers his "greatest achievement" a toss up between his marriage to his wife of over thirty years and getting to the finals of the Grand Nationals in 1976 (at age 17 still the youngest player to reach a National Championship final).

But there was a famine of over twenty-eight years until he won the Swiss Teams at the 2004 Fall Nationals.

It is interesting to note it may have been the longest stretch between 1st and 2nd for anyone. Indeed, it took Marty's teammates in the National Swiss (Gavin Wolpert and Vince Demuy) only one National to transcend from bridesmaid to bride! Marty enjoys few leisure moments for hobbies other than bridge as his professional commitments as a manager of life insurance investments and attorney are very time-consuming.

Here in Schaumburg, Marty is a member of Fleisher team, playing in partnership with his longtime friend and longtime partner, Chip Martel... and his teammates, Brad Moss, Joe Grue, Brian Platnick and Kevin Rosenberg.

Marty is a past president of the USBF. Continuing his volunteer ways, he has recently assumed the office of President of the North American Bridge Association (NABF). Marty is the second ever President of the NABF, taking the reins from Jan Martel who had been the President since the inception of the Zone 2 authority to the World Bridge Association. We wish Marty luck in his new position and we know he will continue to promote good relations with the World Bridge Federation.

The Janitor just asked if I wanted to smoke some weed with him.
I said, "No."
I just can't deal with high maintenance people!

(Continued from page 11)

When you leave Bali, you go Outdonesia.

Why do French eat snails? They hate fast food.

Got fired as a tailor. My work was only sew-sew.

Plastic surgeons ask clients to pick their noses.

Someone glued my cards together. I just can't deal

If con is the opposite of pro, then what is Congress?

Procaffeinating = refusing to work before coffee.

Cannibal dessert? Chocolate-covered aunts.

Tried joining the knife club, but didn't make the cut.

Illiterate? Write me for free help.

Acupuncturists really stick it to you.

Why didn't the tea go uphill? It was too steep.

Know any good rope jokes? I'm a frayed knot.

Pasta with no money is penne-less.



Musical killer whales join orca-stras.

Leading cause of computer problems? Upgrades.

Undercover pilots spend their life in da skies.

(Continued on page 14)

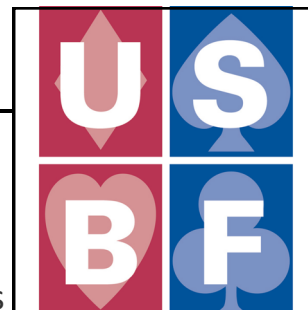
4	8	2	5	7	9	6	3	1
1	9	5	8	3	2	7	4	9
9	3	7	1	4	6	2	5	8
6	4	1	3	7	2	8	9	5
8	9	5	4	6	1	3	2	7
2	7	3	8	9	5	1	6	4
3	2	7	9	8	1	5	6	4
3	1	2	7	5	4	9	8	6
5	9	6	1	2	8	4	7	3
7	8	4	3	9	6	5	2	1

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

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 13)

How to cook Hawaiian pizza? At aloha temperature.

What fruit do twins love the most? Pears.

Evil Lucky Charms are tragically malicious.

Where'd the IT guy go? He ransomware.

Bread puns happen when you yeast expect them.

The Italian chef didn't die, he just pasta way.



Answer to Logic Puzzle On Page 12

Hole 9	38	West	Steven
Hole 15	42	Larriot	Joe
Hole 12	44	Rich	Jerry
Hole 3	40	Grant	Elliot
Hole 6	46	Stewart	Aaron
Hole-in-one	Final Score	Last Name	First Name

From Diana Serban at BBO

Update on the Currently Ongoing Women's Online Bridge Festival (It's not too late to play!)

BBO welcomed around 800 entries across 12 games on Day 1, with approximately 600 unique players. The biggest tournament was, as expected, the very popular Women's Daylong, which attracted around 400 players. We expect participation to continue growing as the Festival progresses.

The current rankings are available here:

<https://news.bridgebase.com/womens-online-festival-leader/>

After Day 1, Connie Marfel of the United States is in first place, followed by Sviatlana Badrankova of Lithuania in second, and Melanie Kakalec of the United States in third.

More information about the Festival is available here:

<https://newsbridgebase.com/womens-online-festival-home/>

For any woman who would still like to participate, there are 12 games each day through Sunday. The Daylong is a most convenient option for players with a busy schedule.

There is also a free Pairs tournament with video chat (optional) every day at 7 PM Central European Time (1 PM New York) for those who prefer a more social game.



"On behalf of the WBF Women's Committee, we hope you consider playing in this event and we hope you enjoy it. Bringing Women's Bridge to the forefront is key right now with declining numbers of players. After the highly successful WBF Women's Online Teams just a short time ago, this event serves to build momentum in the growing Women's Bridge Community. Drop by BBO anytime through April 19th and take a look-see!"

Suzi Subeck, Chairman, WBF Women's Committee

Mary Kelly Rogers, Co Chair, WBF Women's Committee

Supporting these events will encourage the advocates (WBF, BBO, RealBridge, and more) to find and provide more platforms for women-specific challenges to make us a force in the game.

Good luck if you play... we'll be watching your progress and working with you to build "the women's" game...
We matter!

Thanks, ladies, for your support!!

A truly FLAT board!

Board 1 of the segment 5 could have been "passed" over!

Only the opening

leads vary!

Well done!

Good Bridge!

In the words of Joey Silver,
"Next Board!"

BOARD: 1
DEALER: NORTH
VULNERABLE: NONE

♠ K6
♥ KT64
♦ JT92
♣ Q43

♠ 8742
♥ 932
♦ Q5
♣ A965

♠ QJ953
♥ 75
♦ K86
♣ KJT

Par: 100

	♣	♦	♥	♠	N
NS	5	9	9	5	8
EW	7	4	4	8	5

♠ AT
♥ AQJ8
♦ A743
♣ 872

	Home team	Visiting team	Room	By	=	★	IMP		Cross			
							NS	EW	Home	Visiting	NS	EW
1	Nickell	Bailey*	Open	4♥	S	♠4	-1	50	-	-	0.00	0.00
			Closed	4♥	S	♥2	-1	50	-	-	0.00	0.00
2	Shourie*	Kovachev	Open	4♥	S	♠4	-1	50	-	-	0.00	0.00
			Closed	4♥	S	♥2	-1	50	-	-	0.00	0.00
3	Fleisher*	Rosenthal	Open	4♥	S	♠4	-1	50	-	-	0.00	0.00
			Closed	4♥	S	♠8	-1	50	-	-	0.00	0.00
4	Wildavsky*	Jacobs	Open	4♥	S	♠4	-1	50	-	-	0.00	0.00
			Closed	4♥	S	♥2	-1	50	-	-	0.00	0.00

It would be better if everyone was successful instead of everyone failing a trick, however, it is always impressive to see the entire field in the same game from the same side. It kind of feels like the game is working!

It also matched the double dummy when, on this hand, everyone takes nine tricks in hearts!

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

1C=strong, art, for
 Dbl=maj
 Pass=0-5
 2S=undiscussed but I
 do have Dbl T/O
 available as well as
 2NT minors

Open Room

♠ QJT852
 ♥ T8
 ♦ J86
 ♣ T9
 N Eric Greco

♠ AK97
 ♥ K7654
 ♦ T32
 ♣ Q
 W Daniel Korbelt

♠ 63
 ♥ J93
 ♦ AQ5
 ♣ J8765
 E Roger Lee

♠ 4
 ♥ AQ2
 ♦ K974
 ♣ AK432
 S Geoff Hampson

DDS

On Board 5 of Nickell/Bailey, the combination of a successful partscore doubled into game in the Open Room and a vulnerable 2NT contract failing 4 tricks in the Closed Room swung 15 IMPs to team Nickell.

In the Open Room, 3S could be defeated on the lead of a black suit. Lee led the H3. Greco ducked to Korbelt's king. Korbelt returned the CQ to the ace in dummy. HA, HQ followed, declarer pitching the CT. The S4 was ducked to declarer's 8. SQ to the king... D2 to Lee's ace... Small diamond to the 7, T, J. Greco played the SJ to Korbelt's A and claimed 9 tricks.

W	N	E	S
PASS	PASS	1♣	
1♥	PASS	2♥	PASS
PASS	2♠	PASS	2NT
PASS	PASS	PASS	

1C=2+
 2NT=minors?



Closed Room

♠ QJT852
 ♥ T8
 ♦ J86
 ♣ T9
 N Joel Wooldridge

♠ AK97
 ♥ K7654
 ♦ T32
 ♣ Q
 W Steve Weinstein

♠ 63
 ♥ J93
 ♦ AQ5
 ♣ J8765
 E Bobby Levin

♠ 4
 ♥ AQ2
 ♦ K974
 ♣ AK432
 S David Grainger

DDS

In the Closed Room, 2NT is an odd contract. By his own explanation, Grainger intended the bid as T/O for the minors. Wooldridge didn't have great options and chose to pass hoping no double, no trouble would apply!

Weinstein led a 4th best heart to Grainger's queen. Grainger cashed 2 high clubs and learned of the bad split. He played a small spade, Weinstein winning his king. Stevie continued the attack on hearts. Grainger won with style, creating an awesome "low, multi-colored wish trick!" (see other side of auction). Weinstein cashed two hearts

and the SA. He exited with a diamond and declarer settled for 4 total tricks!! Accidents happen!

On another note FYI:

We've been advised that Bill Bailey, captain of the Bailey squad, is facing a medical problem and he and his partner, Josh Donn, have withdrawn from their team.

The remainder of the team will stay in Schaumburg and continue playing.

The USBF, its staff and membership wish Bill the best and hope for a quick, easy recovery.

Bill and Josh may be eligible for augmentation to the team (now 4-handed) for the world competition if they win the USBC. Augmentation is subject to committee approval.

BOARD: 8
DEALER: WEST
VULNERABLE: NONE

♠ AKJT5
 ♥ 953
 ♦ K9742
 ♣

♠ 9872
 ♥ J8
 ♦ AT8
 ♣ K853

♠ 64
 ♥ Q74
 ♦ 65
 ♣ QJT964

Par: 980

	♣	♦	♥	♠	N
NS	6	12	11	12	8
EW	7	1	2	1	1

♠ Q3
 ♥ AKT62
 ♦ QJ3
 ♣ A72

Board 8 of the first round yesterday is interesting because N/S is better off in their 5-2 spade fit than their 5-3 heart fit... not a normal happenstance.

There are 11 tricks in hearts, declarer losing the DA and a trick in the trump suit.

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

Nickell	Bailey*	Open 6♥ S ♦A -2 100	11
		Closed 4♠ N ♣Q +2 480	
Shourie*	Kovachev	Open 4♥ S ♣5 +1 450	-
		Closed 4♥ S ♠7 +1 450	
Fleisher*	Rosenthal	Open 4♥ S ♣5 +1 450	-
		Closed 4♥ S ♣5 +1 450	
Wildavsky*	Jacobs	Open 6♥ S ♣5 -1 50	11
		Closed 4♥ S ♦8 +1 450	

In spades, the heart loser can be ruffed out and there are 12 tricks.

Wooldridge and Grainger were the only pair to find the best scoring strain but stopped at the level of

game. They had an easy auction with no alerts:

Weinstein	Wooldridge	Levin	Grainger
W	N	E	S
PASS	1♠	PASS	2♥
PASS	3♦	PASS	3♠
PASS	4♠	PASS	PASS

Levin led the CQ. Wooldridge won it with dummy's ace. He pulled trump in 4 rounds, knocked out the DA, and ruffed the club return with the last trump. He played a diamond to the jack and claimed 12 tricks.

In the other room, Greco and Hampson bid to 6H on this auction:

Korbel led the DA and continued diamonds, Greco winning the king.

Korbel	Greco	Lee	Hampson
W	N	E	S
PASS	1♠	3♣	3♥
5♣	PASS	PASS	DBL
PASS	5♥	PASS	6♥
PASS	PASS	PASS	

5H=Greco: "I think stronger than a direct 5H"

While it appears that Greco's only change would be QJ doubleton of hearts with either opponent or honor fourth with East and singleton honor with West allowing Eric to drop an honor under the ace or king and take a repeated finesse for the other honor, he played a heart to the ten and when Korbel won his jack, was down one. The alternative play in hearts won't work on this hand and the result was always going to be one light.

BOARD: 32
DEALER: WEST
VULNERABLE: E-W

♠ K9542
 ♥ J98
 ♦ K6542

♠ QT
 ♥ 76
 ♦ A43
 ♣ QJT983

♠ KJ876432
 ♥ AQJT
 ♦ 7
 ♣ 7

Par: 200

	♣	♦	♥	♠	N
N	6	11	7	3	4
S	5	10	6	2	:
EW	7	2	6	10	5

♠ A95
 ♥ 83
 ♦ KQT7652
 ♣ A

Board 32 produced something truly new: At 2 tables there were doubled double game swings... one in Shourie/Kovachev and one in Wildavsky/Jacobs.

It is also notable that every contract in every match at every table was doubled!! 47 IMPs in 4 matches switched hands on this board!

This hand is a tribute to the power of distribution!

It is easy to see how 5D can and should be defeated with the trump ace and two hearts to lose off the top. On the lead of the SQ, however, as demonstrated in Wildavsky/Jacobs, declarer wins the SA, goes to hand with a club, ruffs the S9 and pitches one of their heart losers on the CK. Contract successful!

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

Nickell	Bailey*	Open 6♠x E ♣A -1 200	7
		Closed 6♠x E ♣A -2 500	
Shourie*	Kovachev	Open 4♠x E ♣A +1 990	17
		Closed 5♦x S ♠Q = 550	
Fleisher*	Rosenthal	Open 5♦x S ♣Q -1 100	7
		Closed 6♠x E ♣A -1 200	
Wildavsky*	Jacobs	Open 5♦x S ♠Q = 550	16
		Closed 4♠x E ♣A = 790	

At the other table in Wildavsky/Jacobs, surely Larry Robbins, holding the two black aces... the CA singleton... thought that after this auction (below)

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

He could reach partner likely with a heart in time to score a club ruff and defeat 4S.

He led the CA, noted partner's deuce, and shifted to the DK. Chambers ruffed in hand, played a spade to dummy and another spade to Robbins's ace.

Robbins tried his partner's bid heart suit and was disappointed to see it ride to the ten with declarer.

Chambers pulled the last trump and claimed up his game... a great hand for the VuGraph with so many exciting results!

16 IMPs to Wildavsky

BOARD: 34
DEALER: EAST
VULNERABLE: N-S

♠ T95
 ♥ J932
 ♦ A2
 ♣ KJ96

♠ AJ82
 ♥ AK5
 ♦ 73
 ♣ AT83

♠ Q6
 ♥ T8
 ♦ Q9864
 ♣ Q752

Par: 100

	♣	♦	♥	♠	N
N	4	5	7	6	6
S	:	:	8	:	:
EW	8	8	5	7	6

♠ K743
 ♥ Q764
 ♦ KJT5
 ♣ 4

Board 34 is yet an example of why doubling partscores into game is so dangerous.

2H can be defeated played from North but not from South, however, one small slip and 12 IMPs change hands.

Chip Martel, North for Fleisher, and Geoff Hampson, South for Nickell, were the declarers in 2HX.

In the Fleisher match, where 2HX, wrong-sided, could legitimately be defeated on a spade lead through

Home team		Visiting team		Room	By	=	★ IMP	
							NS	EW Home Visiting
Nickell	Bailey*	🕒	Open	2♥x	S	♥A =	670	12
		🕒	Closed	3♣	W	♥3 -1	50	
Shourie*	Kovachev	🕒	Open	1N	W	♥2 =	90	-
		🕒	Closed	1N	W	♠T =	90	
Fleisher*	Rosenthal	🕒	Open	2♥x	N	♥T =	670	12
		🕒	Closed	2♠	E	♣4 -1	50	
Wildavsky*	Jacobs	🕒	Open	1N	W	♣6 +1	120	5
		🕒	Closed	1N	W	♥2 -1	50	

the king, Ginossar led the HT. Willenken won the king and tracked the C8. Martel won the king, ruffed a club, played a diamond to the ace, ruffed another club, cashed the DK, ruffed a diamond with the H3 while Willenken discarded a small spade, ruffed the last club and played the ST to Gino's queen. The S6 went to the jack. Willenken played the HA and Martel claimed 8 tricks!

In the Nickell match, where South declared the cold 2HX, Grainger led the HA and continued with the D7 to Hampson's king. Hampson played a club toward dummy and Grainger took his ace. Grainger played the H5, a thoughtful try to get partner on lead to put a spade through the king... credit to Grainger for good defense there! Unfortunately for him, the attempt failed, because Wooldridge got a "holding penalty" for holding the wrong cards!! Hampson won the HQ, played a diamond to the ace, cashed the CK, discarding a spade from hand, ruffed the C9, played the DJ, pitching the S5 when Grainger discarded the S2, cashed the DT, Grainger tossing another spade and Hampson tossing dummy's CJ. The H7 went to Grainger's king. Grainger had a safe club exit but it was only safe for 5 winners on defense. Hampson ruffed the club for his 8th trick and conceded two spade tricks. 12 IMPs to Nickell

Limey Jack...

Gadzooks, Colonials:

Has Limey Jack reached an all-time high of perfection? That cur, Howie Dung, just dodders along like a lorry stuck in first shifting, but Limey Jack is unstoppable, calling every match perfectly.

In the semis, a maths error has belatedly switched the opponents where the two top seeds will play one another. Nickell was scheduled to play Wildavsky but will now play Fleisher, whilst Shourie and Wildavsky will now tilt.

As much as Nickell is put upon by this cockup, Fleisher has the better complaint as they lose to Nickell.

Both Shourie and Wildavsky are playing in fine fettle, but one has to be hoisting an ale at the pub earlier than planned. Wildavsky takes the measure of Shourie.

Limey Jack thinks you should be in a favourable position with the Punter. Unless, of course, you listened to the Dungmeister.

Ta.



It's been grueling for some
And easy for others.
One Rosenberg left,
With no Grossack brothers!

It's Nickell v Fleisher,
Wildavsky v Shourie,
Hope time's not a factor...
Gerard doesn't hurry!

Nickell v Fleisher
Is anyone's game.
Like reach in a hat
And pull out a name!

There's been a pattern
For Nickell not greatl...
They get down very early
Then resuscitate!

Howie Doing

Fleisher's been strong,
Right from the start.
It seems unlikely
That they will depart.

I feel quite torn.
I always pick Nickell,
But this time is different.
I'm really not fickle.

Fleisher remains,
They're Finals bound.
And Nickell goes home,
Though Katz lives in town.

Wildavsky is rolling.
But Shourie has wood.
Shourie succeeds
By just playing good.

Howie Doing... pretty well!

Cross IMPS

1.	Eric Greco - Geoff Hampson	Nickell	1.46	131.06	90
2.	Mark Lair - Ron Gerard	Wildavsky*	1.16	85.86	74
3.	John Hurd - Kevin Bathurst	Shourie*	0.72	64.46	90
4.	Brian Platnick - Kevin Rosenberg	Fleisher*	0.49	36.94	75
5.	Brad Moss - Joe Grue	Fleisher*	0.43	38.50	90
6.	Alan Sontag - Gary Cohler	Jacobs	0.33	24.57	75
7.	John Schermer - Neil Chambers	Wildavsky*	0.30	22.43	75
8.	Chris Willenken - Eldad Ginossar	Rosenthal	0.30	27.29	90
9.	John Kranyak - Vince Demuy	Shourie*	0.26	23.46	90
10.	Alex Hudson - Jacob Morgan	Kovachev	0.25	30.47	120
11.	Adam Wildavsky - Doug Doub	Wildavsky*	0.13	7.57	60
12.	Daniel Korbel - Roger Lee	Bailey*	0.08	9.37	120
13.	Chip Martel - Marty Fleisher	Fleisher*	0.00	-0.29	75
14.	David Grainger - Joel Wooldridge	Bailey*	-0.27	-32.86	120
15.	Michael Rosenberg - Zach Grossack	Rosenthal	-0.35	-31.23	90
16.	Nick Nickell - Ralph Katz	Nickell	-0.50	-30.00	60
17.	Charlie Wilkins - Valentin Kovachev	Kovachev	-0.63	-75.17	120
18.	Billy Cohen - Larry Robbins	Jacobs	-0.64	-47.00	74
19.	Gavin Wolpert - Rajath Shourie	Shourie*	-0.72	-43.21	60
20.	Bobby Levin - Steve Weinstein	Nickell	-0.86	-77.57	90
21.	Aaron Silverstein - Andrew Rosenthal	Rosenthal	-1.19	-71.21	60
22.	Claude Vogel - George Jacobs	Jacobs	-1.56	-93.43	60

Update: The ACBL provides the USBF with the players' seeding points. Some reporting errors were found when the points were recalculated following the RR. When this was complete, Shourie was #1; Nickell was #2; Fleisher was #3 and Wildavsky was #4. That accounts for today's matchups: Shourie v Wildavsky and Nickell v Fleisher. Just a heads up in case you noticed any ambiguity and wonder how this occurred.

Letter to the Editor

James Traudt wrote to me through BridgeWinners to express a desire to have the front page results turned right side up. He said it was awkward to read in the form I was publishing them.

Thank you James for pointing this out. Note that I have fixed the problem and today the results are as they should be.
Suzi