

Volume 19, Issue 8  
April 19, 2026

UNITED STATES BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

# “Trials” and Tribulations Results:

Table	👤	Σ	1	2	3	4
1	Shourie	115	42	29	25	19
	Wildavsky*	111	45	19	28	19

Table	👤	Σ	1	2	3	4
2	Nickell*	81	7	48	13	13
	Fleisher	113	32	34	16	31

**Matches continue...**  
**Segments 5-8**  
**Tomorrow...**  
**Good Luck All!**

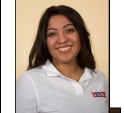
- USBF President**  
Geoff Hampson
- USBF Vice President**  
Christal Henner
- USBF COO & Secretary**  
Jan Martel
- USBF CFO & Treasurer**  
Max Schireson
- USBF Recorder**  
Jack Oest  
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- USBF Chief Communications Officer**  
Suzi Subeck
- Directors**  
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

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	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
<b>Quarterfinal</b>			
Monday	April 27	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
Tuesday	April 28	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
<b>Semifinal</b>			
Wednesday	April 29	10:00 - 12:00	Segment 17 Boards 1-15
		12:15 - 2:15	Segment 18 Boards 16-30
		3:30 - 5:30	75 minute Lunch Break
		5:45 - 7:45	Segment 19 Boards 31-45
			Segment 20 Boards 46-60
Thursday	April 30	10:00 - 12:00	Segment 21 Boards 1-15
		12:15 - 2:15	Segment 22 Boards 16-30
		3:15 - 5:15	60 minute Break
		5:30 - 7:30	Segment 23 Boards 31-45
			Segment 24 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.



I am impressed  
That declarer finessed!  
That's why he's on the  
top...  
I'd have played for the  
drop!

**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.

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## 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 ...

## Capital Cities of Europe

Find and circle all of the European capital cities that are hidden in the grid.  
The remaining letters spell a secret message.

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

AMSTERDAM (Netherlands)  
ANDORRA LA VELLA (Andorra)  
ANKARA (Turkey)  
ATHENS (Greece)  
BAKU (Azerbaijan)  
BELFAST (Northern Ireland)  
BELGRADE (Serbia/Montenegro)  
BERLIN (Germany)  
BERN (Switzerland)  
BRATISLAVA (Slovakia)  
BRUSSELS (Belgium)  
BUCHAREST (Romania)  
BUDAPEST (Hungary)  
CARDIFF (Wales)  
CHISINAU (Moldova)  
COPENHAGEN (Denmark)  
DUBLIN (Ireland)

EDINBURGH (Scotland)  
HELSINKI (Finland)  
KIEV (Ukraine)  
LISBON (Portugal)  
LJUBLJANA (Slovenia)  
LONDON (England)  
LUXEMBOURG (Luxembourg)  
MADRID (Spain)  
MINSK (Belarus)  
MONACO (Monaco)  
MOSCOW (Russian Federation)  
NICOSIA (Cyprus)  
OSLO (Norway)  
PARIS (France)  
PRAGUE (Czech Republic)  
REYKJAVIK (Iceland)  
RIGA (Latvia)

ROME (Italy)  
SAN MARINO (San Marino)  
SARAJEVO (Bosnia-Herzegovina)  
SKOPJE (Macedonia)  
SOFIA (Bulgaria)  
STOCKHOLM (Sweden)  
TALLINN (Estonia)  
TBILISI (Georgia)  
TIRANE (Albania)  
VADUZ (Liechtenstein)  
VALLETTA (Malta)  
VATICAN CITY (Vatican City)  
VIENNA (Austria)  
VILNIUS (Lithuania)  
WARSAW (Poland)  
YEREVAN (Armenia)  
ZAGREB (Croatia)



Some people wing it.  
Not me! I king it!

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

Sudoku 1

I'm not lazy, just energy-efficient.  
 I set up an origami business. But it folded.  
 I ate a watch. It was time-consuming.  
 Why do cows have bells? Their horns don't work.  
 I got rid of my spine. It was holding me back.  
 My theory on inertia never gained momentum.  
 Age isn't just a number. It's clearly a word.  
 I'm Buzz Aldrin! 2nd man on moon! Neil before me!  
 Rockin' side dish? Fleetwood Mac & Cheese.  
 Undercooked rap-rock barbecue? Limp Brisket.  
 Magician's assistants are highly sawed after.  
 Hit a hailstorm in Italy. Now my car is al dente.  
 Self-help books are easier read than done.  
 Writing a Jedi book? Metaphors be With You.

*(Continued on page 9)*

# Hard Sudoku

## Sudoku Solutions on Page 12

Sudoku 2

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



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



# World Bridge News...Schedule for Katowice continued from yesterday's bulletin

## MIXED/Senior SWISS CUP Semifinal

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

## MIXED 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

## SENIOR TEAMS

### 14 teams or less Senior Teams Semi Final

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 Final

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 Final

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 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

## First Week BAM - Semifinals A & B

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

## DAY 7 - August 26

### MIXED TEAMS Final

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 Final

Round 1	8 boards	10.00 - 11.05
Round 2	8 boards	11.20 - 12.25
Round 3	8 boards	12.40 - 13.45
Round 4	8 boards	14.45 - 15.50
Round 5	8 boards	16.05 - 17.10
Round 6	8 boards	17.25 - 18.30

Round 7 8 boards 18.45 - 19.50



*(Continued from page 7)*

Where do monkeys work out? The jungle gym.

A musician with problems is a trebled man.

My band's called "Duvet". We only do covers.

Scary network name? Silence of the LANs.

Lazy kangaroo = pouch potato.

I don't trust trees. They're too shady

What hackers do on a boat? Go phishing.

Opposite of Ladyfingers? Mentos

I bought a boat because it was for sail.

My fear of moving stairs is escalating.

What do you call a short mother? Minimum.

Pronouns for a bar of chocolate? Her/she.

In the tanning Olympics, the winner gets bronze.

Beer for dieting vampires? Blood Lite.

Ghosts' favorite game? Hide and shriek.

How to end a mummy movie? That's a wrap!

Demons are a ghoul's best friend.

Vampire's favorite cocktail? Bloody Mary.

Cheap ghosts go bargain-haunting.

The Electrician's Daily covers current events.

I thought Ariana Grande was a font.

Worried about the calendar. Its days are numbered.

Kids with graph paper = always plotting something.

I'm afraid that a book on phobias won't help.

*(Continued on page 11)*

# A Little Humor!



**I'M CURRENTLY READING A  
BOOK ABOUT A COUPLE  
OF INSECTS WHO FALL IN  
LOVE IN AN ITALIAN CITY.**



**IT'S A ROME ANTS NOVEL.**

Something about acupuncture really needles me.

Banging my head against the keys = playing by ear

Identical twin grizzlies. That bears repeating.

When it comes to needles, cactus makes perfect.

Hipsters hate big rivers; they're too mainstream.

Nothing keeps me grounded like gravity.

Reincarnated vikings are Bjorn again.

I just sold my homing pigeon for the 10th time... the gift that keeps on giving!

The USBF has recorder forms. If something happens at your table, please fill out a form and submit it to Jack Oest, USBF Recorder, at this email address:

jost@rcn.com

This address as well as Jack's cell number are on the masthead on page 1.



# Meet the Players



**Greg Humphreys** is a talented software engineer and accomplished bridge player.

He was the winner of the Mott-Smith Trophy at a recent spring North American Bridge championships, a three-time North American champion, and arguably the best bridge player in Charlottesville, Virginia.

Greg got hooked on Bridge in 1998 and quickly joined the local club, where he found success playing with Walter Miller's 49er club.

Greg studied computer science at Princeton and Stanford before moving to Charlottesville, VA, to teach at the University of Virginia. Since that time, Greg has since left academia to work for several startups and major tech companies like Nvidia, Google, and Twitch.

From Greg's BridgeWinner's Profile:

## Bridge Information

Favorite Bridge Memory:  
2dXX+1, +760. Lose 8imps to Billy Miller.

## Bridge Accomplishments

Mixed Pairs: 1st, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 4th, 5th, 9th. Platinum Pairs: 3rd Mixed BAM: 3rd. Fast Pairs: 1st, 6th, 17th. 2 Day Swiss: 10th. Silodor: 5th, 11th.

## Regular Bridge Partners

Max Aeschbacher, Adam Parrish, and Jenni Carmichael.

## Favorite Tournaments

Hawaii, Bermuda, Hunt Valley, Santa Clara, Charleston

## Favorite Conventions

Transfers

BBO Username: Humper

Here in Schaumburg, Greg is playing on the Parrish team with Phil Clayton, Danny Sprung and Adam Parrish

*(Continued from page 9)*

Fish in schools sometimes take debate.

How does a train hide? It covers its tracks.

Duck pyrotechnics? Firequackers.

If you stand outside, you're outstanding.

The pregnant dog got arrested for littering.

I asked my dog how his day went. Rough, he said.

I wrote a book on chronology. It's about time.

It's hard to concentrate at a juice factory.

Where do TV controllers hide? Remote destinations.

Thanksgiving = Much Ado About Stuffing

I'd like to have kids one day, but no longer.

FedEx and UPS are merging. Now they're Fed-Up.

In my defense, I was left unsupervised.

I'll take the high road, you take the psycho path.

Prison librarians consider the prose and the cons.

Smaller babies = stork. Heavier babies = crane.

How do you make antifreeze? Steal her blanket.

How to make holy water? Boil the hell out of it.



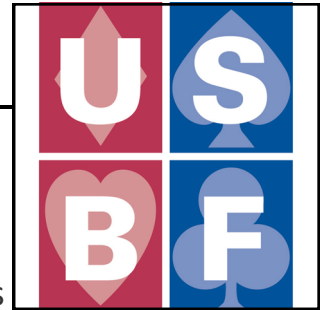
7	4	8	3	9	1	6	5	2
1	6	3	2	8	7	5	9	4
5	2	9	6	4	3	8	7	1
8	3	5	1	7	2	4	6	9
4	1	7	5	6	9	2	8	3
2	9	6	4	3	8	1	5	7
6	7	2	8	9	4	3	1	5
9	5	1	3	2	6	7	4	8
3	8	4	7	1	5	9	2	6

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

# 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)*

I'm so tired of babysitting my mom's grandkids.

I'm not passive-aggressive, unlike some people.

A group of idiotic lions is a foolish pride.

In Arnold's new piano movie, he'll be Bach.

People who talk behind my back discussed me.



## Answer to Logic Puzzle On Page 10

Water Feature	Type of Tree	Type of Bush	Type of 1st Flower	Type of 2nd Flower
fountain	Weeping Cherry	azalea	hyacinths	gladiolus
fountain	Flowering Almond	hydrangea	pansies	amaryllis
goldfish pond	Mimosa	lilac	daffodils	geraniums
waterfall	Sweetbay Magnolia	wisteria	muscar	crocus
waterfall	White Dogwood	rhododendron	tulips	dahlia

**MIXED PAIRS Finals A & B**

Round 1 plays together w/the Senior Pairs	16 boards 10.00 - 12.25	B
Round 2 plays together with the Senior Pairs	16 boards 13.15 - 15.40	B
Round 3*	18 boards 15.55 - 18.40	
*A only		

**SENIOR PAIRS Finals A & B**

Round 1	16 boards 10.00 - 12.25	B
plays together with the Mixed Pairs		
Round 2	16 boards 13.15 - 15.40	B
plays together with the Mixed Pairs		
Round 3*	14 boards 15.55 - 18.05	
*A only		

**First Week BAM - Final A & B**

Round 1	15 boards 10.00 - 12.25
Round 2	15 boards 13.15 - 15.40
Round 3*	21 boards 15.55 - 18.55
*A only	

**DAY 8 - August 27****OPEN 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

\*Members of the Knocked out teams can join Semifinal B of the Pairs competition

\*\*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

\*\*\*Open and Women eliminated pairs can form teams and play the Open/BAM qualification

**WOMEN'S TEAMS****14 teams or less****Women's Teams Qualification**

TBD Either a Round Robin or a Swiss

**15 to 30 teams****Women's Teams Qualification**

TBD Either a Round Robin or a Swiss

**31+ teams****Women's 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 9 - August 28****OPEN 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

**WOMEN'S TEAMS**

**14 teams or less**

**Women's Teams Qualification TBD** Either a Round Robin or a Swiss

**15 to 30 teams**

**Women's Teams Qualification**

**TBD** Either a Round Robin or a Swiss

**31+ teams**

**Women's 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 10 - August 29**

**OPEN TEAMS Round of 64**

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

**OPEN/Women SWISS Cup Qualification**

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

⚠ A dedicated Swiss Women's Cup will be organised only if there are enough registered teams.

**OPEN 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

**WOMEN'S TEAMS**

**14 teams or less**

**Women's Teams Qualification TBD** Either a Round Robin or a Swiss

**15 to 30 teams**

**Women's Teams Qualification**

**TBD** Either a Round Robin or a Swiss

**31+ teams**

**Women's 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

**WOMEN'S 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 11 - August 30****OPEN 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

**OPEN 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

**OPEN/Women SWISS Cup Qualification**

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

**WOMEN'S TEAMS****14 teams or less****Women's Teams Qualification TBD** Either a Round Robin or a Swiss**15 to 30 teams****Women's 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

**31+ teams****Women's 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

**WOMEN'S 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 12 - August 31****OPEN 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

**OPEN 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



# From Diana Serban at BBO

## Update on the Currently Ongoing Women's Online Bridge Festival (Today is your last chance to participate!)

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.

**THE 32<sup>nd</sup> WBF WOMEN'S  
ONLINE BRIDGE FESTIVAL**

Spring 2026

**April 13-19, 2026**

Win a free entry the Women's Pairs Championship at the WBF World Bridge Series 2026 in Katowice, plus lots of points and other prizes.

**BBO** 

**Play at bridgebase.com**

***"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!!

**BOARD:** 5  
**DEALER:** NORTH  
**VULNERABLE:** N-S

♠ KQJ4  
 ♥ KJ8652  
 ♦ A  
 ♣ Q3

♠ 6  
 ♥ Q4  
 ♦ 865  
 ♣ KJ98742

♠ A9875  
 ♥ 3  
 ♦ QT742  
 ♣ AT

Par: 100

	♣	♦	♥	♠	N
NS	4	5	8	8	5
EW	8	7	2	5	5

♠ T32  
 ♥ AT97  
 ♦ KJ93  
 ♣ 65

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

Shourie	Wildavsky*	Open	4♥	N	♦2	+1	650	13
		Closed	4♥	N	♣A	-1	100	
Nickell*	Fleisher	Open	4♥	S	♠6	-2	200	-
		Closed	4♥	N	♠A	-2	200	-

On Board 5 of the SemiFinals, all four tables played in 4H N/S. If the opening lead is a heart or a diamond, declarer can win in North, cash the DA, play a heart to dummy and discard one of the club losers on the DK. At three of the tables a black suit was led and the contract was defeated.

In the Open Room of Shourie/Wildavsky, however, Ron Gerard led the D2. Play ensued as described above and declarer claimed 11 tricks. 13 IMPs to Shourie

W N E S  
 1♥ 1♠ 2♥  
 PASS 4♥ PASS PASS  
 PASS

Table: OP 1, Round: 1  
 N-S: Shourie 6 IMP  
 E-W: Wildavsky\* 4 IMP

♠ KQJ4  
 ♥ KJ8652  
 ♦ A  
 ♣ Q3  
 N John Hurd

♠ 6  
 ♥ Q4  
 ♦ 865  
 ♣ KJ98742  
 W Mark Lair

Open Room

♠ A9875  
 ♥ 3  
 ♦ QT742  
 ♣ AT  
 E Ron Gerard

♠ T32  
 ♥ AT97  
 ♦ KJ93  
 ♣ 65  
 S Kevin Bathurst

**BOARD:** 8  
**DEALER:** WEST  
**VULNERABLE:** NONE

♠ AJT863  
 ♥ JT865  
 ♦ A5  
 ♣

On Board 8, both 3NT and 4S produce 9 tricks for declarer.

♠ 9742  
 ♥ AK9  
 ♦ 974  
 ♣ 983

♠ K5  
 ♥ Q73  
 ♦ T2  
 ♣ KT6542

At three of the tables, on similar auctions to the one below from Nickell/Fleisher, North showed 5+ spades and 5+ hearts. South preferred NT and North acquiesced.

Par: 400

	♣	♦	♥	♠	N
NS	7	10	9	9	9
EW	6	2	4	4	4

♠ Q  
 ♥ 42  
 ♦ KQJ863  
 ♣ AQJ7

Grue Weinstein Moss Levin

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

3H showed 5/5 weaker

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

Shourie	Wildavsky*	Open	3N	S	♣9	=	400	10
		Closed	4♠	N	♣6	-1	50	
Nickell*	Fleisher	Open	3N	S	♥A	+1	430	1
		Closed	3N	S	♣8	=	400	

It's certainly reasonable, once North has described his distribution to allow South to choose the game.

Things went awry in the Closed Room of Wildavsky/Shourie where Wildavsky chose 3NT and Doub corrected to 4S.

Wolpert led the C6 and Doub ruffed in hand. He played a heart off dummy and Shourie won the king. Shourie played a spade, ducked to Wolpert's king. Wolpert cashed the HQ and played a heart to Shourie's ace. Four tricks for defense, contract light one.

10 IMPs to Shourie

Home team	Visiting team	Room	By	IMP
Shourie	Wildavsky*	Open	4♠x N ♥2 -6	1700
		Closed	5♥ E ♣4 =	650
Nickell*	Fleisher	Open	4♠x N ♥2 -6	1700
		Closed	3N E ♠5 +2	660

Looking at the traveler, Board 10 is worth noting. TWO 1700's are not commonplace.

6H E/W is a lucky make with everything working. The HQ is onside, hearts splitting. The SA is available to pitch the club loser.

Table: OP 1, Round: 1  
 N-S: Shourie 29 IMP  
 E-W: Wildavsky\* 11 IMP

Hand of West (Mark Lair):  
 ♠ KJ7432  
 ♥ Q85  
 ♦ AQ  
 ♣ J3

Hand of East (Ron Gerard):  
 ♠ AQT8  
 ♥ KJ932  
 ♦ K  
 ♣ AT8

Hand of South (Kevin Rathurst):  
 ♠ 965  
 ♥ 64  
 ♦ 862  
 ♣ Q9764

Hand of North (John Hurd):  
 ♠ AT7  
 ♥ JT97543  
 ♣ K52

At both tables where 4SX was the final contract, the auctions as well as the majority of play were identical. East led the H2 and West won the ace.

West shifted to a diamond and declarer finessed, losing to East's singleton king. East cashed the HK and CA producing a wish trick!!



The CT went to the king and the DJ followed. Declarer played the ace. East ruffed trump eight. East played their C8 and declarer claimed 4 total tricks for down 6!

14 IMP to Wildavsky and Fleisher

Just think: if the two tables where the results were 1700 had been in the same match, it would have been "just another push board!"

Table: OP 2, Round: 1  
 N-S: Nickell\* 6 IMP  
 E-W: Fleisher 5 IMP

Hand of West (Joe Grue):  
 ♠ KJ7432  
 ♥ Q85  
 ♦ AQ  
 ♣ J3

Hand of East (Brad Moser):  
 ♠ AQT8  
 ♥ KJ932  
 ♦ K  
 ♣ AT8

Hand of South (Bobby Levin):  
 ♠ 965  
 ♥ 64  
 ♦ 862  
 ♣ Q9764

Hand of North (Steve Weinstein):  
 ♠ AT7  
 ♥ JT97543  
 ♣ K52

# A Hand from Friday's QuarterFinal...

Kitty Cooper pointed out this hand from Friday's QuarterFinal matches, citing the fact that there were 4 pass-outs among the most aggressive contenders in bridge today... adding to Kitty's observation, making the situation even stranger, is the fact that East/West is cold for 9 tricks in 3NT on the favorable lie of the cards.

<b>BOARD:</b> 50 <b>DEALER:</b> EAST <b>VULNERABLE:</b> N-S		♠ K87 ♥ 752 ♦ A63 ♣ QT65																			
		♠ J965 ♥ AJ86 ♦ 42 ♣ A74	♠ QT3 ♥ Q9 ♦ QJT5 ♣ KJ83																		
<b>Par: -400</b> <table border="1"> <tr> <td></td> <td>♣</td> <td>♦</td> <td>♥</td> <td>♠</td> <td>N</td> </tr> <tr> <td>NS</td> <td>5</td> <td>5</td> <td>5</td> <td>4</td> <td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>EW</td> <td>8</td> <td>7</td> <td>8</td> <td>8</td> <td>9</td> </tr> </table>			♣	♦	♥	♠	N	NS	5	5	5	4	4	EW	8	7	8	8	9	♠ A42 ♥ KT43 ♦ K987 ♣ 92	
	♣	♦	♥	♠	N																
NS	5	5	5	4	4																
EW	8	7	8	8	9																

Home team	Visiting team	Room	By	=	★	IMP
						NS EW Home Visiting
Nickell	Bailey*	Open	Passed out			- -
		Closed	Passed out			
Shourie*	Kovachev	Open	1N	E	♥3 +2	150
		Closed	Passed out			4
Fleisher*	Rosenthal	Open	1N	E	♦7 +2	150
		Closed	1N	E	♦8 +1	120
Wildavsky*	Jacobs	Open	1N	E	♦7 +2	150
		Closed	Passed out			4

At half of the tables where 1NT was played, East opened 1D. West responded 1H and E bid 1NT.

In Wildavsky/Jacobs, where Cohler/Sontag were E/W respectively, Cohler passed the East hand and Sontag opened 1H. Gary bid 1NT and it passed out.

In Fleisher/Rosenthal, where Fleisher/Martel were E/W respectively, Fleisher opened 1C (2+), Martel bid 1D showing hearts, Fleisher bid 1H and Martel bid 1S, NF to invitational, Fleisher bid 1NT and it, too, passed out.

Thanks Kitty for suggesting this hand! Hope you and Bart enjoyed the Art Institute! If anyone sees an interesting hand, please send me an email at [thesubecks@sbcglobal.net](mailto:thesubecks@sbcglobal.net) or [stansubeck@prodigy.net](mailto:stansubeck@prodigy.net).

**BOARD: 31**  
**DEALER: SOUTH**  
**VULNERABLE: N-S**

♠ JT432  
♥ JT876  
♦ J2  
♣ 8

♠ A865  
♥ K9  
♦ KQT843  
♣ 7

♠ Q7  
♥ AQ54  
♦ A9  
♣ QJ942

♠ K9  
♥ 32  
♦ 765  
♣ AKT653

Par: -460

	♣	♦	♥	♠	N
NS	4	2	5	5	2
E	9	11	8	8	11
W	8	:	7	:	10

Home team Visiting team Room By = ★ IMP

	NS	EW	Home	Visiting
<b>Shourie</b>				
<b>Wildavsky*</b>				
Open	3N	E	♣A +2	460
Closed	5♦	W	♣8 -1	50
<b>Nickell*</b>				
<b>Fleisher</b>				
Open	3N	E	♣6 +3	490
Closed	3N	E	♣5 +3	490

On Board 31, North/South can collect 11 tricks in diamonds or no-trump.

Three of the four tables played in the nine trick game.

At the fourth table, where Bathurst/Hurd were West/East respectively, they bypassed 3NT, took 7 rounds of bidding and ultimately opted to play in 5D.

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

4NT=H cue

♠ JT432  
♥ JT876  
♦ J2  
♣ 8

N Adam Wildavsky

♠ A865  
♥ K9  
♦ KQT843  
♣ 7

W Kevin Bathurst

♠ Q7  
♥ AQ54  
♦ A9  
♣ QJ942

E John Hurd

♠ K9  
♥ 32  
♦ 765  
♣ AKT653

S Doug Doub

LoveBridge

DDS

Bathurst, arguably one of the best, most successful, highly focused declarers, played South for the trump jack and was harshly punished when North held Jx. With no opponent bidding, he had no information about North/South's distribution.

Wildavsky led the C8, ducked to Doub's ten.

Doub, having an advantage over Bathurst, was able to count all 13 clubs. He nonchalantly, returned the C5. Bathurst MUST ruff with either the king or

queen of diamonds if Wildavsky holds the DJ or Wildavsky will be able to overruff and defeat the game. Kevin ruffed with the D3 and the contract was doomed.

11 IMPs to Wildavsky

**BOARD:** 33  
**DEALER:** NORTH  
**VULNERABLE:** NONE

♠ Q964  
 ♥ T  
 ♦ Q652  
 ♣ 9653

♠ T7532  
 ♥ K974  
 ♦ T7  
 ♣ KT

♠ AJ  
 ♥ QJ3  
 ♦ AJ8  
 ♣ QJ842

♠ K8  
 ♥ A8652  
 ♦ K943  
 ♣ A7

**Par: -300**

	♣	♦	♥	♠	N
NS	5	8	5	6	4
E	7	5	8	7	9
W	:	4	:	:	:

Board 33 is truly FLAT!

Same contract at every table

Same lead at every table

Same result at every table

Same direction declaring at every table

And they say that never happens...

Home team	Visiting team	Room	By	=	★	IMP
		NS	EW	Home	Vis	
Shourie	Wildavsky*	Open	2♠	W	♥T	-1 50
		Closed	2♠	W	♥T	-1 50
Nickell*	Fleisher	Open	2♠	W	♥T	-1 50
		Closed	2♠	W	♥T	-1 50

*Ed. Note: Of course it is easier to have a flat board with only four tables in play!!*

## And look at this!!

Immediately following Board 33, 34, too is FLAT!

Two in row is really amazing!

**BOARD:** 34  
**DEALER:** EAST  
**VULNERABLE:** N-S

♠ Q4  
 ♥ KQJ753  
 ♦ A2  
 ♣ 985

♠ AT85  
 ♥ A986  
 ♦ AKQJ6  
 ♣ AKQJ6

♠ K632  
 ♥ 2  
 ♦ KQ653  
 ♣ T73

♠ J97  
 ♥ T4  
 ♦ JT9874  
 ♣ 42

**Par: -1440**

	♣	♦	♥	♠	N
N	0	4	5	1	3
S	:	5	:	:	:
EW	13	8	8	12	8

Home team	Visiting team	Room	By	=	★	IMP
		NS	EW	Home	Vis	
Shourie	Wildavsky*	Open	4♠	E	♥T	+1 450
		Closed	4♠	E	♥T	+1 450
Nickell*	Fleisher	Open	4♠	E	♥T	+1 450
		Closed	4♠	E	♥T	+1 450

**BOARD:** 43  
**DEALER:** SOUTH  
**VULNERABLE:** NONE

♠ 54  
 ♥ AQ5  
 ♦ A8632  
 ♣ 976

♠ QJ9  
 ♥ J97642  
 ♦ 94  
 ♣ K4

♠ KT76  
 ♥ K83  
 ♦ QT5  
 ♣ AQJ

Par: -140

	♣	♦	♥	♠	N
NS	8	8	4	6	7
EW	5	5	9	7	6

♠ A832  
 ♥ T  
 ♦ KJ7  
 ♣ T8532

Home team	Visiting team	Room	By	=	IMP				
					NS	EW			
Shourie	Wildavsky*	Open	4♥	E	♦7	-2	100	-	-
		Closed	4♥	W	♠5	-2	100	-	-
Nickell*	Fleisher	Open	4♥	E	♦7	-2	100	6	-
		Closed	3♥	E	♣2	=	140	6	-

W N E S

PASS PASS 1NT PASS

2♦ PASS 2♥ PASS

3♥ PASS PASS PASS

2D=hearts

♠ 54  
♥ AQ5  
♦ A8632  
♣ 976

N Chip Martel

♠ QJ9  
♥ J97642  
♦ 94  
♣ K4

W Ralph Katz

♠ KT76  
♥ K83  
♦ QT5  
♣ AQJ

E Nick Nickell

♠ A832  
♥ T  
♦ KJ7  
♣ T8532

S Marty Fleisher

Katz and Nickell are more conservative than some would think.

It paid off on Board 43 when they were the only East/West pair to stop short of the heart game.

East/West have four losers: 2 hearts, 2 diamonds, and the SA

6 IMPs to Nickell

# Cross IMPs

1.	Brad Moss - Joe Grue	Fleisher	0.73	32.67	45
2.	Brian Platnick - Kevin Rosenberg	Fleisher	0.66	29.67	45
3.	Mark Lair - Ron Gerard	Wildavsky*	0.28	12.67	45
4.	John Kranyak - Vince Demuy	Shourie	0.27	12.00	45
5.	Adam Wildavsky - Doug Doub	Wildavsky*	0.06	2.67	45
6.	Bobby Levin - Steve Weinstein	Nickell*	-0.01	-0.33	45
7.	John Hurd - Kevin Bathurst	Shourie	-0.05	-2.33	45
8.	Gavin Wolpert - Rajath Shourie	Shourie	-0.12	-3.67	30
9.	Nick Nickell - Ralph Katz	Nickell*	-0.31	-9.33	30
10.	Eric Greco - Geoff Hampson	Nickell*	-0.66	-29.67	45
11.	John Schermer - Neil Chambers	Wildavsky*	-0.71	-21.33	30
12.	Chip Martel - Marty Fleisher	Fleisher	-0.77	-23.00	30

The screenshot shows a bridge game interface with the following details:

- Table:** OP 2, Round: 4
- Players:** N-S: Nickell\* (75 IMP), E-W: Fleisher (82 IMP)
- Bidding:**
  - W: 1♥
  - N: 1NT
  - E: 4♥
  - S: DBL
  - Final: PASS PASS PASS
- Hands:**
  - North (Eric Greco):** ♠ KQ7, ♥ AQ, ♦ 652, ♣ AJ854
  - West (Brian Platnick):** ♠ 65, ♥ 7432, ♦ KT, ♣ KT973
  - South (Geoff Hampson):** ♠ J3, ♥ T96, ♦ AQ9874, ♣ Q6
  - East (Kevin Rosenberg):** ♠ AT9842, ♥ KJ85, ♦ J3, ♣ 2

On Board 50, Brian Platnick and Kevin Rosenberg, made it impossible for Greco/Hampson to bid their cold 3NT game.

Platnick opened light, light enough that some would consider it a psych. Greco overcalled 1NT and Rosenberg, never shy, jumped to game in hearts.

The best N/S could do was to double. Greco led the SK, played a diamond to Hampson's ace, got the CQ through the king to the ace, followed by a club ruffed in

dummy. Platnick played the H2 to Greco's ace. Greco led another club which Hampson ruffed with the HT while dummy shed a spade. The SJ went to the ace and the DJ went to the king. The H3 went to the king and declarer settled for 8 tricks... down 2 and 8 IMPs while Moss/Grue bid and made 3NT with an overtrick in the other room.