

Volume 19, Issue 19
 April 30, 2026

“Trials” and Tribulations—MUSBC

UNITED STATES BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Results:

	Σ	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	IMP Corr.
Hamman	74	12	39	21	2					0
Ge	175	47	31	17	80					0

Cross IMPs

- | | | | | | |
|----|--------------------------------------|--------|-------|---------|----|
| 1. | Amber Lin - Kevin Rosenberg | Ge | 2.47 | 74.00 | 30 |
| 2. | Debbie Rosenberg - Michael Rosenberg | Ge | 1.68 | 101.00 | 60 |
| 3. | Disa Eythorsdottir - Xin Ge | Ge | 0.90 | 27.00 | 30 |
| 4. | Kristen Onsgard - Mike Passell | Hamman | -0.90 | -27.00 | 30 |
| 5. | Kerri Sanborn - Steve Sanborn | Hamman | -1.47 | -66.00 | 45 |
| 6. | Bob Hamman - Jill Meyers | Hamman | -2.42 | -109.00 | 45 |

Tune in tomorrow for the last day of the Mixed Finals...

See if Limey Jack was right to pick Hamman

Or

If Howie was right to pick Ge

Either way, it rates to be exciting.

Good luck to all!!

- 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

Mixed Schedule:

Mixed Schedule			
Round Robin (15 or 16 TEAMS - with 15, each team has a sit out)			
Day	Date	Time	Boards
Wednesday	April 22	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
Thursday	April 23	4:15 - 5:40	Round 3 Boards 23-33
		6:00 - 7:25	Round 4 Boards 34-44
			Round 5, Boards 45-55
Friday	April 24	10:00 - 11:25	Round 6 Boards 1-11
		11:45 - 1:10	Round 7 Boards 12-22
		2:30 - 3:55	80 minute Lunch Break
Saturday	April 25	4:15 - 5:40	Round 8 Boards 23-33
		6:00 - 7:25	Round 9 Boards 34-44
			Round 10, Boards 45-55
Sunday	April 26	10:00 - 11:25	Round 11 Boards 1-11
		11:45 - 1:10	Round 12 Boards 12-22
		2:30 - 3:55	80 minute Lunch Break
Monday	April 27	4:15 - 5:40	Round 13 Boards 23-33
		6:00 - 7:25	Round 14 Boards 34-44
			Round 15, Boards 45-55
Quarterfinal			
Tuesday	April 28	10:00 - 12:00	Segment 1 Boards 1-15
		12:15 - 2:15	Segment 2 Boards 16-30
		3:30 - 5:30	75 minute Break
Wednesday	April 29	5:45 - 7:45	Segment 3 Boards 31-45
			Segment 4 Boards 46-60
Thursday	April 30	10:00 - 12:00	Segment 5 Boards 1-15
		12:15 - 2:15	Segment 6 Boards 16-30
		3:30 - 5:30	75 minute Break
Friday	April 30	5:45 - 7:45	Segment 7 Boards 31-45
			Segment 8 Boards 46-60
Semifinal			
Saturday	April 25	10:00 - 12:00	Segment 1 Boards 1-15
		12:15 - 2:15	Segment 2 Boards 16-30
		3:30 - 5:30	75 minute Break
Sunday	April 26	5:45 - 7:45	Segment 3 Boards 31-45
			Segment 4 Boards 46-60
Final			
Monday	April 27	10:00 - 12:00	Segment 5 Boards 1-15
		12:15 - 2:15	Segment 6 Boards 16-30
		3:30 - 5:30	75 minute Break
Tuesday	April 28	5:45 - 7:45	Segment 7 Boards 31-45
			Segment 8 Boards 46-60

Mixed Entries:

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





World Bridge Series

KATOWICE, POLAND
20 AUGUST - 3 SEPTEMBER, 2026



OPEN TO PLAYERS FROM
ALL OVER THE WORLD

ALL INFORMATION AT:
championships.worldbridge.org/2026WBS

8 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

TEAMS

- Open Teams
- Women's Teams
- Senior Teams
- Mixed Teams

PAIRS

- Open Pairs
- Women's Pairs
- Senior Pairs
- Mixed Pairs



For the first time in EBL history



1st European Online Transnational *Mixed* Teams Championship



14 - 17 May, 2026
Online on RealBridge

- Everybody can play - Team up across the world!
- Win EBL Medals, Master Points and entry fees to the European Transnational Championships!

REGISTER BY 7 MAY 2026

Need a partner or team mates?
Check the Partnership Desk!

championships.eurobridge.org/2026-european-online-transnational-mixed-teams-championship

For more information, go to:

<https://championships.eurobridge.org/2026-european-online-transnational-mixed-teams-championship>

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.



Waiting for play
Is really quite hard.
How long can it take
To play a darn card?

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 ...

Public Library

Find and circle all of the words that are hidden in the grid.
The remaining letters spell a secret message - a Henry Ward Beecher quotation.

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

APPLIED SCIENCE
ARTS
BIOGRAPHY
BOOKS
BORROW
BRANCH
CATALOG
CHAIRS
CHECKOUT
COMPUTERS
DICTIONARY
DUE DATE

ENCYCLOPEDIA
FICTION
FINES
GEOGRAPHY
HARDCOVER
HISTORY
INFORMATION
INTERNET
LANGUAGES
LIBRARIAN
LIBRARY CARD
LITERATURE

MAGAZINES
MATHEMATICS
MOVIES
MUSIC
NEWSPAPERS
NOVELS
OVERDUE
PAPERBACK
PERIODICALS
PHILOSOPHY
PHOTOCOPIER
PSYCHOLOGY

QUIET
READ
RECREATION
RELIGION
RENEW
RESEARCH
RESERVE
SHELVES
SOCIAL SCIENCES
TABLES
TECHNOLOGY



Some think I'm cute.
But it's just my
heart suit!

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

Sudoku 1

How does an octopus go into battle? Well-armed.

What do you get when you mix a cocker spaniel, a poodle, and a ghost? A cocker-poodle boo.

What do you call a dinosaur that crashes his car? Tyrannosaurus Wrecks.

It's hard to explain puns to kleptomaniacs because they always take things literally.

"I'm a linguist, so I like ambiguity more than most people."

Jean-Paul Sartre is sitting at a French cafe, revising his draft of Being and Nothingness. He says to the waitress, "I'd like a cup of coffee, please, with no cream." The waitress replies, "I'm sorry, Monsieur, but we're out of cream. How about with no milk?"

Did you hear about the man who got cooled to absolute zero? He's OK now.

The programmer's wife tells him: "Run to the store and pick up a loaf of bread. If they have eggs, get a dozen." The programmer comes home with 12 loaves of bread.

A logician's wife is having a baby. The doctor immediately hands the newborn to the dad.

His wife asks impatiently: "So, is it a boy or a girl?" The logician replies: "yes".

A Photon checks into a hotel and the bellhop asks him if he has any luggage. The Photon replies "No I'm traveling light"

(Continued on page 9)

Hard Sudoku

Sudoku Solutions on Page 12

Sudoku 2

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



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



World Bridge News...

World Bridge Series Master Point Tables

Updated January 2025

Rosenblum Cup, McConnell Cup,

Rand Cup, Mixed Teams

All Pairs events

Rank	WBS	WBS Pairs			
1	700	700	35	70	170
2	550	600	36	60	165
3	450	500	37	50	160
4	450	450	38	40	155
5	300	400	39	36	150
6	300	375	40	32	145
7	300	350	41	28	140
8	300	325	42	24	135
9	200	300	43	20	130
10	200	295	44	18	125
11	200	290	45	16	120
12	200	285	46	14	115
13	200	280	47	12	110
14	200	275	48	10	105
15	200	270	49	8	100
16	200	265	50	7	95
17	100	260	51	6	90
18	100	255	52	5	85
19	100	250	53	4	80
20	100	245	54	3	75
21	100	240	55	2	70
22	100	235	56	1	65
23	100	230	57		60
24	100	225	58		55
25	100	220	59		50
26	100	215	60		45
27	100	210	61		40
28	100	205	62		35
29	100	200	63		30
30	100	195	64		25
31	100	190			
32	100	185			
33	90	180			
34	80	175			



Placing Points

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

**Current Members of the
World Bridge Federation
High Level Players Commission**

**Ashley BACH
Irene BARONI
Catherine DRAPER
Chip MARTEL
Michael ROSENBERG
Wang WEN FEI**

(Continued from page 7)

An organic chemist, an analytical chemist, and a physical chemist are asked if a certain horse will win the race. The organic chemist asks what the horse has been eating and drugs given to it. The analytical chemist asks for the makeup of the track and mud. The physical chemist starts with "If we assume that the horse is a sphere..."

A German walks into a bar and asks for a martini. The bartender asks "dry?", he replies "nein, just one"

A pun, a play on words, and a limerick walk into a bar. No joke.

There's a band called 1023MB. They haven't had any gigs yet.

A Buddhist monk approaches a hotdog stand and says "make me one with everything"
The vendor makes the hot dog and hands it to the Buddhist monk, who pays with a \$20 bill. The vendor puts the bill in the cash box and closes it. "Excuse me, but where's my change?" asks the Buddhist monk. The vendor replied, "Change must come from within."

What do you call two crows on a branch? Attempted murder.

C, E flat, and G walk into a bar. The bartender says, "Sorry, no minors"

The barman says, "We don't serve time travelers in here." A time traveler walks into a bar.

How do trees get on the internet?

They log in.

I wanted to play a game of hide-and-go-seek.

But good players are so hard to find.

Why was the broom late for work?

It over-swept.

What do postal workers do when they get mad?

They stamp their feet!



		Anderson	Barr	Daily	Mason	Sampson	To Play					To Watch					Least				
		baseball	basketball	boxing	football	hockey	baseball	basketball	boxing	football	hockey	baseball	basketball	boxing	football	hockey	baseball	basketball	boxing	football	hockey
	Dan																				
	Fred																				
	Jack																				
	Ted																				
	Tom																				
Least	baseball																				
	basketball																				
	boxing																				
	football																				
	hockey																				
To Watch	baseball																				
	basketball																				
	boxing																				
	football																				
	hockey																				
To Play	baseball																				
	basketball																				
	boxing																				
	football																				
	hockey																				

**Answer to Puzzle
on page 12
Bottom of Page**

First Name	Last Name	To Play	To Watch	Least Favorite

One night, five friends got into a discussion about their favorite sports. They discovered that in the same five sports, each had different favorites to play and to watch, as well as a least favorite sport. Using the clues and grid below, determine the full name of each friend, what each favorite sport to play and each favorite sport to watch was (each is different), and what each least favorite sport was (each is different). HINT: for each person the sports that they liked to play, to watch, and their least favorite were always three different sports.

- Mr. Daily, who didn't watch football, didn't like hockey. Jack, whose last name isn't Anderson, didn't watch basketball.
- Mr. Sampson played football but the man who played basketball didn't like football and the one who loved watching football didn't like baseball.
- Tom, whose last name isn't Sampson, loved to play hockey. Jack didn't watch boxing.
- The man who watched basketball didn't like boxing. Dan's last name wasn't Mason. Mr. Anderson watched baseball.
- The five friends are represented by: Ted, the one who watched hockey, Mr. Barr, Jack, and the one who played basketball.
- Fred Sampson didn't like basketball. Ted Daily didn't play football.

Meet the Players



Jenni Carmichael says that she mostly directs these days, but gets to play with some frequency at Nationals and some larger tournaments. Jenni is married to expert player, Tommy Carmichael. She and Tommy live in the Seattle area. Also, perhaps less well known, Chris Wiegand, directing here in Schaumburg, is her sister-in-law.

Jenni won the Mixed Pairs - 2016 AND 2023 (2nd, 3rd, 4th twice!, 5th and 9th in other years - all with the Greg Humphreys), Won Red Ribbon Pairs with Andrew Rosenthal - 1999, 4th in Women's Swiss, 3rd in Women's Pairs, one of the top 50 pairs in the World - also with Greg! (Made it to Open Pairs FINALS in Orlando)... and they say directors can't play!!!

Regular Bridge Partners: Tom Carmichael, Bryan Delfs, and the Amazing Greg Humphreys

Jenny is in the Mixed Teams here as a member of the Kaplan team. Here teammates include: Adam Kaplan, Harrison Luba, Allison Howard and Garth Yettick.

Where do you learn to make banana splits? At sundae school.

What do cakes and baseball teams have in common? They both need a good batter.

Where do polar bears keep their money? In a snow bank.

Why are horses so sleepy? They're always hitting the hay.

What insect is the sneakiest? Spy-ders.

Why are trees so unreliable? They're shady.

Why are bunnies so great at catch? They always g-rabbit!

Why did the two rabbits get on so well? Love was in the hare.

What do you call two birds in love? Tweethearts

What is a computer's first sign of old age? Loss of memory.

My boss asked me how good I was at making spreadsheets. I told him I Excel at it.

Why was there a bug in the computer? It was looking for a byte to eat.

What do computers like to eat? Chips.

Where will you find Friday before Thursday? A dictionary.

I pity the calendar. Its days are numbered.

Why did the frog take the bus to work? His car got toad.

How do you stay warm in any room? Go to the corner — it's always 90 degrees.

Why did the developer go broke? Because he used up all his cache.

Can You Take a Joke?

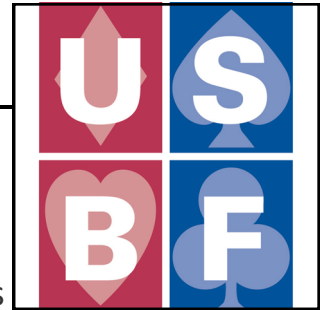
5	9	1	3	2	4	7	9	8
7	4	3	9	8	5	6	2	1
8	2	9	7	6	1	5	3	4
3	9	8	6	2	4	7	1	5
6	9	8	5	3	8	2	4	7
2	4	5	9	7	1	8	6	3
4	5	3	2	6	1	9	8	7
1	2	8	7	9	4	3	6	5
9	6	7	8	5	3	1	4	2

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

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.

What snack never gets mad? Pickles. They're cool as a cucumber.

Why did the robber jump in the shower? He wanted to make a clean getaway.

What classic bar game do swimmers always win? Pool.

Besides a rake and shovel, what tool do all gardeners need? A yardstick.



Answer to Logic Puzzle On Page 10

Tom	Barr	hockey	basketball	boxing
Ted	Daily	baseball	boxing	hockey
Jack	Mason	boxing	football	baseball
Fred	Sampson	football	hockey	basketball
Dan	Anderson	basketball	baseball	football
First Name	Last Name	To Play	To Watch	Least Favorite

BOARD: 38
DEALER: EAST
VULNERABLE: E-W

♠ KQJT653
 ♥ 3
 ♦ Q62
 ♣ 74

♠ 82
 ♥ AT8
 ♦ AK94
 ♣ AQJ5

♠ A9
 ♥ QJ96
 ♦
 ♣ KT98632

Par: -2220

	♣	♦	♥	♠	N
N	0	5	2	7	0
S	:	:	:	6	:
EW	13	7	11	6	13

♠ 74
 ♥ K7542
 ♦ JT8753
 ♣

Home team	Visiting team	Room	By	=	★	IMP
					NS	EW Home Visiting
Rosenthal	Hamman*	▶ Open	7♦x	S ♣A	-6	1400
		▶ Closed	7♠x	N ♥Q	-6	1400
Zhang*	Ge	▶ Open	7N	E ♠7	=	2220
		▶ Closed	6♣	E ♠7	+1	1390

W	N	E	S
	1♣	2NT	
3♥	4♣	4NT	PASS
5♦	PASS	7♣	PASS
PASS	7♠	DBL	PASS
7NT	PASS	PASS	PASS

Table: OP 2, Round: 7

2NT=H & D
 3H=LR Clubs
 4NT=RKC
 5D=0 or 3

♠ KQJT653 ♥ 3 ♦ Q62 ♣ 74	N Geoff Hampson	♠ A9 ♥ QJ96 ♦ ♣ KT98632
♠ 82 ♥ AT8 ♦ AK94 ♣ AQJ5	W Amber Lin	E Kevin Rosenber
♠ 74 ♥ K7542 ♦ JT8753 ♣	S Janice Molson	EAST 7NT

On Board 38 from the 7th segment of the SemiFinals on Tuesday, Amber Lin made the winning decision to pull her partner's double of North/South's 7S save to 7NT. In a vacuum, 7NT is not a great percentage contract. It needs a friendly lie of the heart suit. With the perfect spot cards in hearts, having the king in the slot was enough.

On best defense, 7SX from North would yield 1400 ... down 6.. 2220 was clearly superior.

13 IMPs to Ge when Korbel/Shi stopped in 6C taking all 13 tricks.

Good decision, Amber!

BOARD: 49
DEALER: NORTH
VULNERABLE: NONE

♠ Q97
 ♥ A73
 ♦ K85
 ♣ KQ76

♠ AT84
 ♥ 8
 ♦ QJT972
 ♣ J8

♠ QT9654
 ♥ A43
 ♣ T953

Par: 420

	♣	♦	♥	♠	N
N	8	5	7	10	7
S	:	:	:	:	6
EW	4	7	6	2	4

♠ KJ6532
 ♥ KJ2
 ♦ 6
 ♣ A42

One more hand from the Semi-Final on Tuesday:

On Board 49 of the final segment, in the Open Room of Zhang/Ge, North/South (Shi and Korbel respectively) bid to 5S, while exploring for slam.

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

Rosenthal	Hamman*	Open	5♦x	W	♣K	-3	500	
		Closed	4♠	S	♦Q	+1	450	2
Zhang*	Ge	Open	5♠	N	♥T	-1	50	
		Closed	4♠	S	♦Q	+1	450	11

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

- 1NT=13-16
- 2H=spades
- 3H=slam try
- 3S=asking
- 5D=1 keycard

♠ AT84
 ♥ 8
 ♦ QJT972
 ♣ J8

W Kevin Rosenberg

♠ Q97
 ♥ A73
 ♦ K85
 ♣ KQ76

N Sylvia Shi

♠ KJ6532
 ♥ KJ2
 ♦ 6
 ♣ A42

S Daniel Korbel

♠ QT9654
 ♥ A43
 ♣ T953

E Amber Li

To defeat 5S, East MUST lead a heart so when declarer knocks out West's SA, West can get to East with a diamond to score his heart ruff for down one!

Amber was up to it! She led the HT. Shi won the ace and played on spades. Kevin ducked two rounds, won the 3rd round, played a diamond to Amber and got the heart ruff as described.

11 IMPs to Ge when their teammates played in 4S making 5 in the other room.

W	N	E	S
	PASS	PASS	
1♣	4♥	PASS	PASS
PASS			

Table: OP 1, Round: 1
 N-S: Hamman 3 IMP
 E-W: Ge 0 IMP

♠ Q2
 ♥ AKQJ42
 ♦ AKT93
 ♣

N Bob Hamman

♠ T8753
 ♥
 ♦ J4
 ♣ AKT864

W Disa Eythorsdottir

♠ J94
 ♥ 8653
 ♦ Q5
 ♣ Q973

E Xin Ge

♠ AK6
 ♥ T97
 ♦ 8762
 ♣ J52

S Jill Meyers

Open Room

LoveBridge

DDS

Board 6 provided the first double digit swing of the Hamman/Ge Final.

North is looking at an extremely distributional hand.

No doubt he wants to land in the best spot but he doesn't want to bid too slowly or East/West might find a spade fit in which they can save.

North is likely to have game in his own hand.

In the Open Room, Hamman put maximum pressure on his opponents by jumping directly to game over Disa's aggressive third seat 1C opening bid.

This is an effective way to take up bidding room for the opposition, however, it also takes up bidding room for partner. Meyers could have tried a 4S bid which would probably have gotten them to slam, but she has nothing outside of the spades and it really isn't clear if partner is being constructive or simply preempting the opposition. Meyers passed.

In the Closed Room, instead of opening 1C with his 8HCP and six card suit, Passell opened 3C. With a preempt instead of an opening bid on his right, Michael Rosenberg jumped to 5H over 3C, clearly suggesting the possibility of slam.

Debbie, looking at the SAK, had no problem bidding six hearts.

There are six hearts, five diamonds, and three spades for the taking.

Michael pulled trump, tested diamonds, and claimed 13 tricks.

11 IMPs to Ge

W	N	E	S
	PASS	PASS	
3♣	5♥	PASS	6♥
PASS	PASS	PASS	

Table: CL 1, Round: 1
 N-S: Ge 0 IMP
 E-W: Hamman 3 IMP

♠ Q2
 ♥ AKQJ42
 ♦ AKT93
 ♣

N Michael Rosenberg

♠ T8753
 ♥
 ♦ J4
 ♣ AKT864

W Mike Passell

♠ J94
 ♥ 8653
 ♦ Q5
 ♣ Q973

E Kriste

♠ AK6
 ♥ T97
 ♦ 8762
 ♣ J52

S Debbie Rosenberg

Closed Room

LoveBridge

DDS

1 Hamman

Ge

Open 3N E ♥A +1

430

Closed 2♠ N ♦K = 110

11

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

Table: OP 1, Round: 1

N-S: Hamman
8 IMP

E-W: Ge
12 IMP

♠ J9643
♥ 74
♦ 83
♣ JT54

N Bob Hamman

♠ 85
♥ JT2
♦ A9762
♣ AQ2

W Disa Eythorsdottir

Open Room

♠ AQ2
♥ Q63
♦ KQT54
♣ 73

E Xin Ge

♠ KT7
♥ AK985
♦ J
♣ K986

S Jill Meyers

LoveBridge

DDS

On Board 11, 3NT is cold E/W with the CK slotted. Declarer can collect at least 1 spade, 1 heart, 5 diamonds and 2 clubs.

In the Open Room, Meyers opened 1H and it went Pass, Pass to Ge. Ge bid 2D. Meyers doubled holding more than a minimum. Disa cued 2H showing values and suggesting partner show a heart stopper if he had one.

Hamman bid 2S; Ge showed a heart stopper and implied a spade stopper with 2NT. Disa, bid the NT game.

Meyers led the HA & continued hearts to dummy's HT. Five rounds of diamonds followed. A club went to the king and ace and the CQ was cashed. Declarer has 8 tricks in with the SAQ still in his hand. Ge executed a perfect endplay! He played the HJ to his queen and Meyers's king. Meyers cashed her good H9 and had to lead from her SKT into Ge's SAQ! Well done, Xin!

The 2 card end position:
South on lead...

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

Table: CL 1, Round: 1

N-S: Ge
12 IMP

E-W: Hamman
8 IMP

♠ J9643
♥ 74
♦ 83
♣ JT54

N Michael Rosenberg

♠ 85
♥ JT2
♦ A9762
♣ AQ2

W Mike Passell

Closed Room

♠ AQ2
♥ Q63
♦ KQT54
♣ 73

E Kristen Onsgar

♠ KT7
♥ AK985
♦ J
♣ K986

S Debbie Rosenberg

LoveBridge

DDS

In the Closed Room, Michael Rosenberg, North, bid more aggressively than Bob Hamman.

Michael responded 1S to Debbie's 1H opener with nothing more than 2 black jacks! Onsgar, with a passed hand partner, believed him and passed. Debbie raised Michael's 1S bid to 2S and North/South went passively, never taking a call.

Rosenberg lost a spade, a diamond, two clubs and a club ruff for +110 and 11 IMPs.

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

Table: OP 1, Round: 1

N-S: Hamman
8 IMP

E-W: Ge
23 IMP

DDS

♠ Q8
♥ A82
♦ AJ98
♣ QT82

N Bob Hamman

♠ A97
♥ JT63
♦ 643
♣ J43

W Disa Eythorsdottir

♠ T6543
♥ Q97
♦ T72
♣ 95

E Xin Ge

♠ KJ2
♥ K54
♦ KQ5
♣ AK76

S Jill Meyers

Open Room

After so many days of play in Schaumburg, it looks like Jill Meyers might have missed Hamman's opening bid on Board 12. (Screens can be hard to read at times.) Jill's 2NT response was not alerted and her hand resembles more of a 2NT opening than a standard 2NT response to 1D.

Hamman raised 2NT to 3NT and N/S played it there taking the obvious 12 tricks: 2 spades, 2 hearts, 4 diamonds and 4 clubs.

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

2NT=natural GF
4C=natural
4D=cue
4NT=KC
5S=2+ queen

DDS

♠ Q8
♥ A82
♦ AJ98
♣ QT82

N Michael Rosenberg

♠ A97
♥ JT63
♦ 643
♣ J43

W Mike Passell

♠ T6543
♥ Q97
♦ T72
♣ 95

E Kristen Onsgar

♠ KJ2
♥ K54
♦ KQ5
♣ AK76

S Debbie Rosenberg

Closed Room

OTHER S 3N
SOUTH 6NT

In the Closed Room, there was a much more complex auction, fraught with alerts, which landed the Rosenbergs in slam.

Passell led the HT. Debbie won in hand and knocked out the SA in two rounds.

Passell continued spades and Debbie won her jack.

She cashed four rounds of diamonds and followed that with the CA. She played the H5 to

dummy's ace and the C8 to her king. Her side's last two clubs took tricks twelve and thirteen.

Slam making.

13 IMPs to Ge

There were no swings on the first three boards of the second quarter of play. The 4th board, Board 19, produced a vulnerable game swing. Both tables bid to 4S East/West. Only in the Open Room was declarer successful.

Kerri Sanborn led her HK. She continued hearts to Steve's ace which Ge ruffed with the SJ. Ge played the SK, knocking out the ace. Sanborn played the D3 to dummy's singleton ace. Ge played a spade to his queen followed by the CA producing this wish trick:



Ge cashed the CQ, ruffed a diamond in dummy, and cashed the

CK pitching a diamond from his hand. He continued clubs, Steve ruffing and Ge overruffing. He ruffed a diamond, cashed the good C7, and the ruff of the HT produced his 11th trick. Contract making with an overtrick ... +650

In the Closed Room, Debbie Rosenberg led the HK, Michael overtaking with the ace.

Michael played a diamond to dummy's singleton ace. Onsgard led a spade to her king, losing to Debbie's ace. Debbie played a diamond, ruffed with the ST in dummy. That was an oops!!

Ruffing low would have been fine but ruffing with the ten put North in command. He would be able to overruff the with the 8 when the next diamond was played. A spade to the queen followed and the CA was cashed producing the same wish trick as above:



Onsgard cashed the CQ and attempted to get to dummy to enjoy the good clubs. She played a diamond and ruffed with the S7. Michael overruffed with the 8! The clubs were stranded in dummy. Onsgard ruffed the heart return, cashed the SJ and conceded the DT to Debbie's DK. Debbie cashed her DQ to defeat the game 2 tricks.

13 IMPs to Ge

