

Volume 7, Issue 10
June 8, 2013

UNITED STATES BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

“Trials” and Tribulations

USA1 FINALS ... HALFWAY HOME!

#	TEAM	TOTAL	1-15	16-30	31-45	46-60
1	Fleisher	49	14	14	14	7
2	Kranyak	132	22	17	46	47

USA2 ROUND OF 8

#	TEAM	TOTAL	1-15	16-30	31-45	46-60	Pen-alties
3	Nickell	118	21	38	11	48	
5	Gordon	99	27	20	31	21	
4	Spector	75	1	24	18	32	
6	Diamond	96	27	31	21	17	

TODAY'S MATCHES ... USA2

Nickell
vs
Diamond

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Knockout Phase...

Board 2
 Dealer: W
 N/S Vul.
 ♠ J973
 ♥ QT5
 ♦ AT4
 ♣ AQ5

♠ KQ85
 ♥ 98
 ♦ 982
 ♣ JT98



♠ AT6
 ♥ AK72
 ♦ KQJ753
 ♣

♠ 42
 ♥ J643
 ♦ 6
 ♣ K76432

West	North	East	South
Katz	Sontag	Nickell	Berkowitz
1S	Pass	1D	Pass
2NT	Pass	2H	Pass
4S	All pass	3S	Pass

Gordon	Meckstroth	Pratap	Rodwell
1S	Pass	1D	Pass
3C	Pass	2H	Pass
		3D	All pass

Both tables in the Nickell/Gordon match missed game on this hand. Both 3NT and 5D are cold.

Gordon passed 3D in an auction that some would play as forcing. The play was easy: spade lead to the ten, ace of hearts, king of hearts and a heart ruff, diamond to the king, ducked, and another heart ruff, overruffed by North, a spade back, pulling trump and claiming five.

In the Nickell/Katz room, game was bid. Unfortunately for them, instead of bidding 3NT or 5D, they wallowed in their 4-3 spade fit. Sontag led the heart five. Katz won in dummy and played the king of diamonds, ducked. He continued

with the diamond queen which Berkowitz ruffed. A heart was led to the king and a heart was ruffed. A diamond went to North's ace, South pitching a club. Sontag played his club ace, ruffed in dummy. The heart seven followed, ruffed and over ruffed. When the smoke cleared, Katz was down two. 6 IMPs to Gordon

In the other semi-final match, things went somewhat differently:

Diamond	Moss	Platnick	Gitelman
		1C (strong)	Pass
1D (0-8)	Pass	1H	Pass
1S	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	Pass	4D	Pass
4H	Pass	5D	Pass
6D	All pass		

Grue	Greco	Cheek	Hampson
		1C (strong)	Pass
1D (0-8)	Pass	1H	Pass
1S	Pass	2D	Pass
2NT	Pass	3S	Pass
4S	All pass		

The play and defense in the 4S room was similar to that of the other match, except that Greco won the first diamond. The contract still finished two down so the result was the same.

Against 6D, Moss led the ace of diamonds and a diamond. Diamond cashed dummy's ace and king of hearts and ruffed a heart with his remaining trump. At this point, had he led a spade to the ten and pulled the remaining trump, he was cold. Instead, he ruffed a club in dummy, pulled the last trump, and played for the spade jack to come down in three rounds. The result: 2 IMPs to Diamond

Note: Declarer chose to play for the combination of the 3-3 split and favorable drop positions together with the possibility of a spade-heart squeeze. The alternative was the 50% finesse for the jack of spades. The 3-3 break, singleton jack and jack-nine doubleton possibilities total only 37.5%. The possibility of a heart-spade squeeze is about 17% (based on suit probabilities in Emile Borel's text), if either opponent can be squeezed, making the combination play a 54.5% favorite.

However, on this hand it is unlikely that LHO can be squeezed. If LHO holds eight or nine major suit cards together with his three diamonds, his partner holds an unbid seven or eight car club suit, a rarity in these days of aggressive overcalls and preempts. The one-sided only squeeze together with the 3-3 and drops is only a 46% play.

Board 10
 Dealer: E
 All Vul.

♠ KT85
 ♥ T83
 ♦ 95
 ♣ K432

♠ 3
 ♥ AQ
 ♦ AJ732
 ♣ JT987

♠ 94
 ♥ KJ75
 ♦ KQ864
 ♣ Q6



♠ AQJ62
 ♥ 9642
 ♦ T
 ♣ A5

West	North	East	South
Willenken	Dwyer	Rosenberg	Bathurst
		1S	Pass
2D	Pass	2S	Pass
2NT	Pass	3C	Pass
3NT	All pass		

Kranyak	Kamil	Wolpert	Fleisher
		1S	Pass
2C	Pass	2S	Pass
2NT	Pass	3H	Pass
3NT	All pass		

deuce. Kranyak ducked and Fleisher won his queen. Fleisher continued clubs, taking the only entry to dummy off the board. Kranyak led another spade to Kamil. Kamil cashed his two clubs and was endplayed into leading a heart into Kranyak's AQ for down four!

What a difference a lead makes! Against Kranyak, Kamil found the nine of diamonds to the ten, queen, and ace. Kranyak finessed the spade king and cashed the spade ace, pitching a club. He tried a third spade, pitching another club, hoping for a 3-3 split. He wasn't so lucky. Kamil won and led the club

Against Willenken, Dwyer led a fourth best club. Willenken ducked and Bathurst won his queen. Bathurst continued with a club to dummy's ace. Willenken played the diamond ten to the king and ace. He played his club jack, Dwyer winning the king. Dwyer exited with the spade ten, won by dummy's queen. Willenken cashed dummy's spade ace, took the heart finesse, cashed two rounds of clubs, South pitching two hearts while North pitched one spade. Willenken cashed the heart ace, and exited his hand with the diamond jack! Bathurst could win his queen and cash his eight, but he had to concede a diamond to Willenken's seven. Nice play, Chris!! 14 IMPs to Fleisher

Board 16
 Dealer: W
 E/W Vul.

♠ QJ
 ♥ AKQJ76
 ♦ 754
 ♣ 43

♠ 76
 ♥ T98
 ♦ KQ86
 ♣ QJT8

♠ K852
 ♥ 542
 ♦ AJT2
 ♣ K2



♠ AT943
 ♥ 3
 ♦ 93
 ♣ A9765

West	North	East	South
Becker	Greco	Spector	Hampson
Pass	1H	1S	2S
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
All pass			

Diamond	Moss	Platnick	Gitelman
Pass	1NT	2C	Double
3C	4H	All pass	

Only in bridge! How likely is it that at one table, North opens one heart and arrives in 3NT, and at the other table, North opens one no-trump and lands in 4H!! While at lower levels of the game, no one would dream of opening Moss's hand 1NT, whatever the range (and in this case 15-17), at these levels you see it all... and sometimes it works.

4H is an easy make with only one spade, one diamond, and one club to lose. Three no-trump is a bit more problematic. Having bid spades, Spector led a fourth best club. When he got in with his spade ace, East/West scored their four

club tricks and defeated the hand one trick. 10 IMPs to Spector

In the other semi-final, both teams opened 1H ... one landed in 4H and one in 3H... Both made ten tricks:

S Weinstein	Pepsi	Levin	Seamon
Pass	1H	1S	Double
Pass	2H	Pass	4H
All pass			

Gordon	Katz	Pratap	Nickell
Pass	1H	1S	2S
Pass	3H	All pass	

7 IMPs to Gordon

Board 23

Dealer: S
All Vul.

♠ AK86
♥ KQT4
♦ 762
♣ T9

♠ JT94
♥ 653
♦ T98543
♣



♠ Q753
♥ A97
♦ J
♣ AQJ54

♠ 2
♥ J82
♦ AKQ
♣ K87632

This board produced a 12 IMP swing in both USA2 matches.

West	North	East	South
S Weinstein	Pepsi	Levin	Seamon
Pass	1H	Pass	1C
Pass	2D	Pass	2C
Pass	4H	All pass	3H
Gordon	Katz	Pratap	Nickell
Pass	1H	Pass	1C
Pass	2D	Pass	2C
Pass	2S	Pass	2H
Pass	3NT	All pass	3D

Levin led ace of hearts and a heart against 4H. Pepsi pulled the last trump and went after clubs. He led the ten of clubs, won by Levin's ace. Levin shifted to the diamond jack won in dummy. Pepsi led another club. Levin won and all he could do was lead a spade or a club. Declarer wins whichever and drives out the last club honor to take ten tricks. +620

Against 3NT, Pratap led a fourth best spade, won by declarer with the ace in hand. Katz played a heart to the jack and a heart to the king, both ducked. At this point Katz must play a diamond to the ace, removing East's exit card. Then he can play a third round of hearts establishing his 9th trick in hearts if the opponents continue spades and in clubs if East switches to clubs. However, Katz wasn't double dummy and he abandoned hearts to play on clubs. Pratap won his club ace, played queen of spades, ducked, and another spade to the ten and king. Katz played a club to the king and another club. The defense collected two spades, two clubs and a heart. Down one and 12 IMPs to Gordon

Becker	Greco	Spector	Hampson
			2C
Pass	2D (maj ask)	Pass	2S
Pass	2NT	Pass	3C
Pass	3NT	All pass	

Diamond	Moss	Platnick	Gitelman
			1C
Pass	1H	Pass	2C
Pass	3NT	All pass	

Greco put all his eggs in one basket. The opening lead was a low spade, won with the king. The ten of clubs was led to the jack and king. Jack of hearts, a heart to the queen and the king of hearts followed. Another spade was led, but Greco was able to claim nine tricks... and claim he did. +600

Again a small spade was led against Moss. Like Greco, Moss won the king and led the ten of clubs toward the king. Platnick won his ace and played another spade, ducked by Moss. Diamond continued the attack on spades. Moss won his ace, played a heart to the jack and a heart to the queen, ducked. Like Katz, Moss shifted gears and went after clubs. Again, like Katz, Moss failed by a trick.

12 IMPs to Diamond

Hospitality Suite Information:

The hospitality suite for the 2013 USBC is room 1122 in the Tower building. Players, kibitzers, friends and supporters are welcome in the Hospitality Suite during the tournament. Please join hostesses Lisa Berkowitz & Molly O'Neill there.

Hospitality suite hours are:

8:00-10:30 for breakfast

1:00 - 4:00 for lunch

Otherwise there will be snacks in the Players' Lounge.



♠ A83
 ♥ J98632
 ♦ QJ4
 ♣ 7

♠ KT94
 ♥ KT
 ♦ 97
 ♣ QJT63



♠ Q76
 ♥ AQ7
 ♦ A865
 ♣ A82

♠ J52
 ♥ 54
 ♦ KT32
 ♣ K954

West	North	East	South
Becker	Greco	Spector	Hampson
		1NT	Pass
2C	Pass	2D	Pass
3NT	All pass		

Diamond	Moss	Platnick	Gitelman
		1NT	Pass
2C	Pass	2D	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All pass

S Weinstein	Pepsi	Levin	Seamon
		1NT	Pass
2C	Pass	2D	Pass
3NT	All pass		

Gordon	Katz	Pratap	Nickell
		1NT	Pass
2C	Pass	2D	Pass
3NT	All pass		

Fourth from your longest and strongest really does work. Both Nickell and Gitelman led a 4th best diamond and defeated the contract. Had they been playing one another, this would have been a boring push! However, they were not.

Their counterparts, Hampson and Seamon, both led the heart five, allowing 3NT to make. 13 IMPs to Nickell and Spector

Board 37
Dealer: N
N/S Vul.

♠ 5
 ♥ KQJT73
 ♦ AJ72
 ♣ T6



♠ KQ876
 ♥ 96
 ♦ 6
 ♣ AQ832

♠ AJT3
 ♥ A852
 ♦ KQ5
 ♣ 95

Bathurst	Kamil	Dwyer	Fleisher
	2H (constructive!)	Pass	4H
4S	Pass	Pass	Double
All pass			

Zia	Kranyak	Martel	Wolpert
	1H	Pass	2NT
3H	3S	4S	Double
All pass			

In the Closed Room, Kamil led the king of hearts. Not knowing to tap declarer, and not wanting to tap dummy, he shifted to the club ten. Bathurst won the king and led a spade to his king. He ruffed a heart in dummy and led another spade, won by Fleisher with the ace. Fleisher played a heart... too little too late. Bathurst ruffed and claimed nine tricks. (Pulling one more round of trump and running clubs till Fleisher ruffed in ... losing two spades, one diamond, and one heart.

In the Open Room, Kranyak and Wolpert had spot-on defense to defeat 4SX three tricks. Wolpert led the ace of hearts. When that held, he switched to the diamond king and a low diamond, tapping dummy. Martel ruffed a heart and led to the king of spades. The ace of clubs and a club to the king followed. Chip tried a spade toward dummy. Wolpert rose with the ace and played a heart tapping dummy again. Declarer could come to only 7 tricks on that defense.

9 IMPs to Kranyak

Board 38

Dealer: E

E/W Vul.

- ♠ T52
- ♥ J54
- ♦ T7
- ♣ KJ865

- ♠ J6
- ♥ AKQT8
- ♦ KQ3
- ♣ 432



- ♠ AK9743
- ♥ 96
- ♦ 964
- ♣ AT

- ♠ Q8
- ♥ 732
- ♦ AJ852
- ♣ Q97

West	North	East	South
Zia	Kranyak	Martel	Wolpert
		1S	Pass
2H	Pass	2S	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All pass

Bathurst	Kamil	Dwyer	Fleisher
		1S	Pass
2H	Pass	2S	Pass
3D	Pass	3H	Pass
3S	Pass	4S	All pass

One more hand where one side decides to disdain its major suit fit to play in 3NT. Chip bid and rebid spades, but Zia decided to play in 3NT. He has great heart cards and a good diamond stopper. The only problem was the lack of a club stopper.

Kranyak had an easy lead. He had no other possibility. He tracked the five of clubs. Zia ducked and Wolpert won the queen. Wolpert continued with the nine of clubs to the ace in dummy. Zia played one round of hearts and sailed the jack of spades to the queen in Wolpert's hand. Unlucky for Zia, Wolpert had another club. The defense collected four clubs, one diamond and one spade for down two.

Against four spades, Fleisher also found a club lead. However, it wasn't as effective against a suit contract. Dwyer played safe for IMPs. He won the club and played a spade toward the jack in dummy. Fleisher rose with the queen and continued with two rounds of clubs, the second ruffed by declarer in hand. Dwyer led a spade to the jack, cashed ace of hearts, king of hearts, and a low heart off dummy to be sure have ten tricks even if hearts were 4-1. Making the spade game was worth 13 IMPs to Kranyak. The kids are on a roll!

Board 46

Dealer: E

None Vul.

- ♠ Q96
- ♥ 52
- ♦ AKQ42
- ♣ 732

- ♠ AT
- ♥ AKT764
- ♦ J8
- ♣ T64



- ♠ KJ87
- ♥ 3
- ♦ 763
- ♣ AKQJ8

- ♠ 5432
- ♥ QJ96
- ♦ T95
- ♣ 95

Zia	Kranyak	Martel	Wolpert
		1C	Pass
1H	2D	Pass	Pass
Double	Pass	2S	Pass
3H	Pass	4C	Pass
4H	All pass		

Bathurst	Rosenberg	Dwyer	Willenken
		1D (could be 2)	Pass
1H	2D	Pass	Pass
Double	Pass	2S	Pass
3H	Pass	3S	Pass
4H	Pass	5C	All pass

Bathurst and Dwyer did well on this board to bid 5C instead of 4H. Hearts break badly in the opponents' hands and you come up a trick short in the major.

Against 5C, Willenken led a diamond to Rosenberg's Ace. Rosenberg cashed his diamond king and exited with a club. Dwyer won in hand and played a heart to the ace and king, ruffed a heart, played a club to the ten, ruffed another heart, pulled trump, played a spade to the ace and claimed his game.

Against 4H, Kranyak led the king of diamond, followed by the queen of diamonds and the ace of diamonds which Zia ruffed. Zia played the ace of hearts and king of hearts and conceded two trump tricks for down one.

10 IMPs to Kranyak

Board 22
 Dealer: E
 E/W Vul.

- ♠ Q9
- ♥ AJ95
- ♦ KT973
- ♣ T8

- ♠ KJT4
- ♥ KQ2
- ♦ J
- ♣ J9653



- ♠ 87
 - ♥ T643
 - ♦ Q6542
 - ♣ AK
-
- ♠ A6532
 - ♥ 87
 - ♦ A8
 - ♣ Q742

West	North	East	South
Wold	Greco	Compton	Hampson
		Pass	Pass
1S	Pass	1NT	All pass

Diamond	Milner	Platnick	H Lall
Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass

It's not often you win 9 IMPs on a passout board, especially when the high cards are divided 20-20.

Wold opened his 11 count in third seat. And Compton responded 1NT... the final contract. A club was led. Compton won in hand and played a heart to the king. Greco ducked. Compton returned to his hand with a club and led another heart to the queen and Greco's ace.

Greco now made a master play. He led the king of diamonds smothering dummy's jack and followed with the seven. Compton played Greco to have the ace/king of diamonds and went up queen. Hampson won the now stiff ace and played a small spade to Greco's queen. Greco cashed the jack of hearts and two rounds of diamonds. He played a spade to the ace and Hampson cashed the queen of clubs and a small club (Compton had stiffed the jack of clubs in dummy) for down four vulnerable tricks and 9 IMPs to Diamond



Adam Parker, peppermints, 7 pieces, 35 cents
 John Smythe, gum drops, 10 pieces, 50 cents
 Peter Brown, lollipops, 5 pieces, 75 cents
 Tom Wilson, Tootsie Rolls, 6 pieces, 60 cents
 Tom Wilson spent 60 cents (3), John spent 50 cents (3), and Adam spent 35 cents (3), so by elimination Peter's last name is Brown. From Clue 4, Tom spent the most and so he bought lollipops (2) and he bought the smallest quantity (6). Also from Clue 4, Adam bought peppermints, John's last name is Smythe, and Tom bought Tootsie Rolls. Adam bought seven peppermints and Peter bought five lollipops (7). By elimination, John bought gumdrops and Adam's last name is Parker. John bought ten gumdrops (6). From Clue 1, Tom got six Tootsie Rolls and Peter spent 75 cents.

**Answer to Puzzle
 on Page 10**

Best Oxymorons

Act naturally
Advanced BASIC
Airline Food
Alone together
American history
British fashion
Business ethics
Butt head
Clearly misunderstood
Computer security
Definite maybe
Diet ice cream
Exact estimate
Extinct Life
Found missing
Genuine imitation
Good grief
Government organization
Legally drunk
Living dead
Microsoft Works
Military intelligence
New classic
Passive aggression
Peace force
Plastic glasses
Political science
Pretty ugly
Resident alien
Same difference
Sanitary landfill
Silent scream
Small crowd
Soft rock
Sweet sorrow
Synthetic natural gas



Taped live
Temporary tax increase
Terribly pleased
Tight slacks
Twelve-ounce pound cake
Working vacation

Daily News Headlines Worth a Second Look

Something Went Wrong in Jet Crash, Expert Says
Police Begin Campaign to Run Down Jaywalkers
Drunk Gets Nine Months in Violin Case
Iraqi Head Seeks Arms
Prostitutes Appeal to Pope
Panda Mating Fails; Veterinarian Takes Over
Include Your Children when Baking Cookies
Clinton Wins on Budget, But More Lies Ahead
Miners Refuse to Work after Death
Juvenile Court to Try Shooting Defendant
Two Sisters Reunited After 18 Years at Checkout Counter
War Dims Hope for Peace
If Strike Isn't Settled Quickly, It May Last a While
Cold Wave Linked to Temperatures
Enfields Couple Slain; Police Suspect Homicide
Red Tape Holds Up New Bridges
Typhoon Rips Through Cemetery; Hundreds Dead
Kids Make Nutritious Snacks
Hospitals are Sued by 7 Foot Doctors
New Vaccine May Contain Rabies
Man Struck By Lightning Faces Battery Charge

Howie Doing:

**Nickell has six
Who all take their tricks.**

**Diamond has four.
Who make kibitzers snore.**

**Diamond's too slow.
He has to go.**

**Nickell's the one.
Diamond is done.**

Limey Jack:

Limey Jack is mortified that he forgot about the blood feud betwixt Diamond and Spector. You see, Diamond played 4 handed because Moss and Gitelman abandoned ship and played with Spector. Diamond was on quite the quest and slew the dragon. Will Nickell be an anticlimax or will there be petrol left in the tank? Limey Jack says this is the real deal and there could be two 4 handed teams from the colonies.

The Dung sod will of course pick Nickell but he has ne'er had an original thought.

Cheerio, LJ



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

Sudoku 1

Sudoku

Sudoku 2

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

Answers to Puzzle No Peeking!

Sudoku 2 Solution

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

Sudoku 1 Solution

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

Puzzle Page ...

One Saturday afternoon, four boys visited the local 5 and 10 store to buy candy. Each boy bought just his favorite candy and they all had a different favorite. They each spent under one dollar and they each bought a different amount of their favorite candy. Can you determine each boy's full name, the type and quantity of candy each boy purchased, and how much each boy spent?

1. Peter, whose last name isn't Smythe, bought one piece less than the boy who bought the Tootsie Rolls but he spent 15 cents more.
2. Adam, who spent 35 cents, spent the least. The boy who bought the lollipops spent the most.
3. Tom Wilson, who spent 10 cents more than John, spent 60 cents.
4. The amount spent by each boy, from the least to the most, was the boy who bought the peppermints, the boy whose last name is Smythe, the boy who bought the Tootsie Rolls, and the boy whose last name is Brown.
5. Peter's last name isn't Parker.
6. The boy who bought ten gum drops, whose last name isn't Parker, bought the largest quantity. The boy who spent the most bought the smallest quantity.
7. The boy who got seven peppermints had two more pieces than the boy who got the lollipops.

	Brown	Parker	Smythe	Wilson	Gum drops	Lollipops	Peppermints	Tootsie rolls	pieces	pieces	pieces	pieces	cents	cents	cents	cents
Adam																
John																
Peter																
Tom																
cents																
cents																
cents																
cents																
pieces																
pieces																
pieces																
pieces																
Gum drops																
Lollipops																
Peppermints																
Tootsie Rolls																

**Answer
on Page 7**

