



Volume 2, Issue 3
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About Wroclaw...

Wroclaw is the fourth-largest city in Poland with over 630,000 inhabitants. It lies across the Oder river and four tributaries. The city is the administrative, economic and cultural capital of Lower Silesia.

It was once a crossroads for ancient trade routes: a silk route from China to western Europe and an amber route from the Baltic coast to the Roman Empire. The city has at its disposal a network of connections by road, rail, water and air.

In its thousand-year history Wroclaw has belonged to several states. As a result it spawns traditions of various nations: Czechs, Germans and Poles. Following the Second World War, the largest population exchange in Europe took place here. New residents arrived in the devastated city from all corners of Poland, the local community being rebuilt almost from the ground up.

Wroclaw is a city of tolerance and many faiths: Catholicism, Protestantism, the Orthodox faith and Judaism. It is famous for its hospitality, and its cultural life. The extraordinary history of the city is constantly enriched by prestigious scientific, cultural and sporting events. It is Wroclaw which will become 2016 European Capital of Culture and 2017 host to the World Games.

The cultural calling card of the city are the theatres. The opera, musical theatre and Philharmonic, the clubs, the museums and the galleries provide an uninterrupted sequence of artistic events. Wroclaw has played permanent host to the Wroclaw Cantans International Festival, the New Horizons International Film Festival and the Dialog International Theatre Festival.

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UNITED STATES WOMEN'S BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

"Miss" Print!!

Round of 16 Results

#	TEAM	TOTAL	SET	SET	SET	SET
			#1	#2	#3	#4
2	Wittes	159	34	62	43	20
5	OSMO	69	13	12	35	9
3	Palmer	113	26	52	15	20
4	Weingold	107	21	41	36	9

**Tomorrow:
Weingold
vs
OSMO
with one survivor**

Women's Teams: Listed in Quarterfinal Bracket Position Order



"MISS" PRINT!!

USBF
Photographer,
Peggy Kaplan

Baker Bye to SemiFinals	Lynn Baker Kerri Sanborn JoAnna Stansby Cenk Tuncok, NPC	Karen McCallum Irina Levitina Pam Granovetter
Wittes	Pamela Wittes Cheri Bjerkan Linda Lewis	Ljudmila Kamenova ----- Hjordis Eythorsdottir
Palmer	Beth Palmer, Capt Lynn Deas Tobi Sokolow	Sylvia Shi Juanita Chambers Janice Seamon-Molson
Weingold	Joanne Weingold Jill Meyers Kathleen Sulgrove	Shannon Cappelletti Jan Assini Debbie Rosenberg
OSMO	Mary Ose, Capt Ginny Curtis Joanne Merry	Teri Smoot Katherine Ewing Prudence Saunders

Meet the Players...



A six-time world champion, her most recent win being the McConnell Cup in Sanya, China, Karen McCallum is perhaps best known for her aggressive and complex "light initial action" bidding system. Although the five-card (non-vul) "McCallum weak 2-bids" (with no restrictions on suit quality or side holdings) are no longer an oddity among experts, Karen saw their promise in the 1970s.

Respected around the world as a bidding theorist as well as a player, Karen has served as a coach of several Turkish national bridge teams (open, women, and junior), and of the Australian open national bridge team. She was the NPC for the Turkish juniors in the 2000 Junior World Championships in Antalya. Karen has been an invited participant in bidding panels in numerous bridge publications in England, Australia, Turkey, New Zealand, France and the US. She has also edited several bridge books, including the best-selling bridge book of all time, Larry Cohen's "To Bid or Not to Bid."

In addition to her great success in women's bridge, Karen has had some memorable experiences in open bridge. She was invited (with her partner, Kerri Sanborn) to play in the 1990 Rosenblum Teams with Peter Pender, Ralph Cohen, Bob Jones, and Mike Smolen, and the team faced a formidable opponent in the round of 16: Bob Hamman, Bobby Wolff, Chip Martel, Lew Stansby, Jimmy Cayne, and Chuck Burger. At the half, Pender's team was down 15 IMPs, and one team member suggested that perhaps "the four guys" should play the rest of the way. But Pender sent in McCallum and Sanborn for the second half and won the match. Pender's team eventually lost in the round of 8 to the German open team that won the event.

A woman of many talents and interests, Karen's primary work outside bridge is creating hand-crafted glass and beaded jewelry. You can see examples of Karen's stunning work at www.eclectica3.com. She is an insatiable reader of all genres, with a home library of more than 50,000 volumes. She also enjoys gourmet cooking and playing the piano. She lives in a 215-year-old farmhouse in Exeter, New Hampshire with her husband of 32 years, Alex.

Tournament Schedule



QUARTERFINAL			
DAY	DATE	TIME	BOARDS
MONDAY	MAY 30	10:15 AM	CAPTAINS' MEETING
MONDAY MATCH 1	MAY 30	10:30 - 12:40 12:55 - 3:05 4:15 - 6:25 6:40 - 8:50	SEGMENT 1 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 2 BOARDS 16-30 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK SEGMENT 3 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 16-30
TUESDAY MATCH 2	MAY 31	10:30 - 12:40 12:55 - 3:05 4:15 - 6:25 6:40 - 8:50	SEGMENT 1 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 2 BOARDS 16-30 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK SEGMENT 3 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 16-30
SEMI-FINAL			
WEDNESDAY	JUNE 1	10:15 AM	CAPTAINS' MEETING
WEDNESDAY	JUNE 1	10:30 - 12:40 12:55 - 3:05 4:15 - 6:25 6:40 - 8:50	SEGMENT 1 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 2 BOARDS 16-30 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK SEGMENT 3 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 16-30
THURSDAY	JUNE 2	10:30 - 12:40 12:55 - 3:05 4:15 - 6:25 6:40 - 8:50	SEGMENT 5 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 6 BOARDS 16-30 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK SEGMENT 7 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 8 BOARDS 16-30
FINAL			
FRIDAY	JUNE 3	10:30 - 12:40 12:55 - 3:05 4:15 - 6:25 6:40 - 8:50	SEGMENT 1 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 2 BOARDS 16-30 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK SEGMENT 3 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 16-30
SATURDAY	JUNE 4	10:30 - 12:40 12:55 - 3:05 4:15 - 6:25 6:40 - 8:50	SEGMENT 5 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 6 BOARDS 16-30 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK SEGMENT 7 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 8 BOARDS 16-30



Hospitality Suite ...

The hospitality suite for the 2016 Women's USBC is Suite 4019 in the Folsum Wing. Players, volunteers, kibitzers, friends and supporters are welcome in the Hospitality Suite during the tournament. Please join hostesses Martha Katz and Chris Benson for:

Breakfast each day from 8:00-11:00 am.

Lunch each day from 2:30-4:30 pm.

The Hospitality Suite will be open for Vugraph, casual chit chat, drinks & snacks during the rest of the playing hours and for a short while after the end of the second session of play.

All About Kibitzing

You will be able to kibitz at any of the tables during this event. However, you will be subject to the following regulations:

Kibitzers may enter the room ONLY at the start of play for a segment. Once play has started, the room will be closed.

A kibitzer who leaves the room may not return until the start of the next session.

Cell phones and other electronic devices are not allowed in the playing rooms, even if they are turned off. Any kibitzer who is found with a cell phone will be evicted and not allowed to kibitz during the remainder of the tournament.

When a match is being shown on BBO Vugraph, no kibitzer may sit on the same side of the table as the Vugraph operator.

SCREENS

All of the Women's USBC is played with screens. If you've never kibitzed at a table with screens before, you need to know that it is quite different from kibitzing at a regular table. You need to be seated at an "open" corner of the table (not next to the screen) in order to see much, and once there are 4 kibitzers at a table it will be very hard for additional kibitzers to see.

USBF KIBITZING RULES

The USBF General Conditions of Contest contain specific rules about kibitzers. They are designed to promote security at the tournament and are set forth in the conditions of contest section labeled "Security." They are:

a. During any use of duplicated boards across multiple matches, Kibitzers must select one table for kibitzing and may not move to any other table during a session or segment.

b. Kibitzers may not speak with players, must watch only one hand at a time, may not sit in such a position as to see more than one hand at a time, may not sit in such a position as to see a computer screen in use for Internet broadcast, must check communication devices with the Director, cannot call attention to irregularities other than a board being placed incorrectly on the table (arrow positioning), but may serve as witnesses to a possible irregularity.

c. Kibitzers must enter the playing room before play commences. Kibitzers are required to remain until the segment of play is completed at the table they are watching or to leave the playing area entirely. Kibitzers are expected to abide by the same rules as the players regarding leaving the room (e.g. be escorted to the restroom).

d. Except as expressly provided in these conditions and appendices, NPC's shall be subject to the WBF General Conditions, Section 17.

e. No one other than the Internet broadcast personnel and Tournament Directors may watch any computer screen or any other mechanism for enabling the Internet broadcast at any time in either the Closed or the Open Room.

f. These rules may be revised in specific instances by the DICs for the orderly running of the event.

Kibitzing



Team Seeding Points

The teams in the Women's USBC are seeded based on ACBL Performance Points, including masterpoints (aka Wagar seeding points). The seeding points for an individual player are capped at 50. Teams are seeded based on the average seeding points for the team, except that the team with a bye to the Semifinal is seeded first. The teams and their seed positions are listed in the table below. To see information about each player's seeding points, download the **PDF Spreadsheet of 2016 Women's USBC Seeding Points** at the USBF site. If you want to see the ACBL information (masterpoints and ACBL Positioning Points) for players on each of the teams, you can **email Jan** to get a text document with detailed information for each player on each team.

Teams may add or drop players before the USBC, which would change the seeding points.



<i>SEED</i>	<i>TEAM NAME</i>	<i>TEAM AVERAGE SEEDING POINTS</i>
1	Baker	Bye
2	Wittes	39.93
3	Palmer	37.22
4	Weingold	25.92
5	OSMO	2.98

Vugraph Information

The 2016 Women's USBC will be covered on BBO Vugraph starting with the Quarterfinals. We hope to cover all tables in play in the event. To watch the Vugraph online, go to the BBO website where you can log on directly from your browser, go to "Vugraph" and choose which table to watch, or download the BBO software to run BBO on your computer.

If you choose the latter approach, after downloading, install the software on your computer, log on, follow the directions to become a BBO member and you'll be magically transported to the Lobby of the largest bridge club in the world. Click on the button labeled VUGRAPH and you'll be able to choose which of the matches you want to watch.

There will often be a "yellow" user on BBO called USBF. If you have general questions, please ask USBF, not one of the hard-working Vugraph Operators, who may not have time to respond to private messages. Thank you.

The schedule for each day (60 boards a day) is the same (these are California times; to see the times for your time-zone, go to the BBO Vugraph schedule site:

10:30 - 12:40: Segment 1; 12:55 - 3:05: Segment 2; 4:15 - 6:25:

Segment 3; 6:40 - 8:50: Segment 4

Segments 2 and 4 may start a little earlier or later than they are scheduled depending on when segments 1 and 3 end.

All of the teams will play the same boards. For security reasons, if one match is sufficiently behind that we have to start it later than the other one, we will not start the Vugraph broadcast until both matches have started play.

After a session, you can review the Vugraph action on our Web Vugraphs, which show each hand played with a link to bidding and play records. If you are going to be in Sacramento during the Women's USBC and want to volunteer to help as a Vugraph operator, please email Jan.

Hints for BBO viewers

Useful information is available to browser BBO users

- * click on the name of the table/event name will provide a pop-up that:
 - * displays the BBO Schedule for the specific vugraph event – calculated for the time zone of the viewer's electronic device
 - * has a link to the home page for event
- click on a player name will usually provide a pop-up that
 - * displays a picture of the player
 - * shows links to System Summary Forms (SSFs), Convention Cards (CCs), and biographical information



Upcoming Senior USBC Information

LOCATION AND DATES

The 2016 Senior USBC will be held at the **Grand Hyatt, Denver, CO**, starting on Friday, June 17th and ending on Wednesday, June 22nd. Room rate for the Senior USBC is \$169 per night, including internet. You can make a reservation at the USBF **online reservation page** or by calling the hotel at (303) 295-1234 and mentioning USBF. **NOTE:** The hotel is fully booked on June 20, 21, and 22. The hotel has assured me that when those of you who made reservations for the last few days lose and check out, they will extend the reservations of those of you who are still playing. So please just reserve through 6/20 and we will work out the remaining days if you are still playing. If you have any problems with hotel reservations, **email Jan** and she will try to straighten things out. **The cut-off date to make reservations at our rate is Friday, May 20th.**

AIRPORT RAIL OPEN

The train goes from the airport to downtown Union Station, which is about 12 blocks from the Grand Hyatt. Cost is \$9 each way.

ENTRY INFORMATION

Entries are now open and will close at midnight EDT on May 23, 2016; additional entries will be accepted through June 3, but only if those additional teams will improve the format of the event. Any team that is reduced to fewer than 4 players because team members have qualified to represent the USBF in the Women's Teams in Wroclaw can withdraw its entry to the Senior USBC and receive a full refund of the entry fee.

FORMAT

The Senior USBC will last for 6 days.

The first stage will be a 1.5 day Round Robin. The top 8 teams will qualify for the Quarterfinal. The event will continue with 1.5 day KO matches for the Quarterfinal, Semi-Final & Final.

IMPORTANT DATES

Friday, May 20: Final day to submit Advance Submission Forms if you are playing a Super Chart method.

Friday, June 3: Final day to submit System Summary Form & ACBL Convention card. Penalty for late submission of the SSF is loss of seating rights in one segment of the team's first KO match per day that the form is late.

Friday, May 20: Last day to make hotel reservations and be assured of receiving our hotel rate. The hotel may honor the rate for later reservations, but is not required to do so.

Wednesday, June 15: Last day for roster changes without Credentials Committee approval.

**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.



If you Russia round and Ukraine your neck don't Crimea river.
A practical Czech is considered to be Praguematic.
Goats in France are musical because they have French horns.
I used to like Russian dolls until I realized they were full of themselves!
There is some Confucion about the oldest religion in China.
The pharaohs of Egypt worked out the first pyramid scheme.
Television sets in Britain have to cross the English Channel.
If you send a letter to the Philippines put it in a Manila envelope.



2	1				7				8		3	B			
5				6		1			E		A		3		
	A			D		C				1				F	4
7			B					0	2				9	6	
0		1	2	E				6					4		A
4		F	5										2	7	
	3	B	D		1					5	C				
9				7		2	6		3					D	8
C		8				6		7	5		F				A
				2	0					4			6	E	9
		D	6										0	4	F
	9		0			7				D	3	C			2
		3	9			E	2						C		6
F	5				3				A		B				4
		7		F		B			D		1				9
			1	4		5				9				E	B

**Answers to Puzzle
No Peeking!**

Big Sudoku

D	0	2	1	4	8	5	A	3	C	9	6	7	F	E	B
E	4	7	8	F	6	B	C	5	D	2	1	A	0	3	9
F	5	6	C	0	3	7	9	8	A	E	B	1	2	4	D
A	B	3	9	1	D	E	2	F	4	7	0	C	8	5	6
1	9	5	0	B	4	F	7	E	6	A	D	3	C	8	2
B	E	D	6	8	C	A	5	9	1	3	2	0	4	7	F
3	F	A	7	2	0	D	1	C	B	4	8	6	E	9	5
C	2	8	4	9	E	6	3	7	5	0	F	D	1	B	A
9	C	E	A	7	F	2	6	1	3	B	4	5	D	0	8
8	3	B	D	A	1	0	4	2	7	5	C	F	9	6	E
4	6	F	5	C	9	8	B	A	0	D	E	2	7	1	3
0	7	1	2	E	5	3	D	6	F	8	9	4	B	A	C
7	8	C	B	3	A	4	E	0	2	F	5	9	6	D	1
6	A	0	3	D	2	C	8	B	9	1	7	E	5	F	4
5	D	9	F	6	B	1	0	4	E	C	A	8	3	2	7
2	1	4	E	5	7	9	F	D	8	6	3	B	A	C	0

Puzzle Page ...

Puzzle Details:

There are four bungalows in our cul-de-sac. They are made from these materials: straw, wood, brick and glass.

Mrs. Scott's bungalow is somewhere to the left of the wooden one and the third one along is brick.

Mrs. Umbrella owns a straw bungalow and Mr. Tinsley does not live at either end, but lives somewhere to the right of the glass bungalow.

Mr. Wilshaw lives in the fourth bungalow, whilst the first bungalow is not made from straw.

Who lives where, and what is their bungalow made from?



Hint & Answers: No Peeking!

Hint: Try to find out where Mrs Umbrella lives first.

Answer:
From, left to right:
#1 Mrs Scott - glass
#2 Mrs Umbrella - straw
#3 Mr Tinsley - brick
#4 Mr Wilshaw - wood

If we separate and label the clues, and label the bungalows #1, #2, #3, #4 from left to right we can see that:

a. Mrs Scott's bungalow is somewhere to the left of the wooden one.
b. The third one along is brick.
c. Mrs Umbrella owns a straw bungalow
d. Mr Tinsley does not live at either end.
e. Mr Tinsley lives somewhere to the right of the glass bungalow.
f. Mr Wilshaw lives in the fourth bungalow
g. The first bungalow is not made from straw.
By (g) #1 isn't made from straw, and by (b) nor is #3. By (f) Mr Wilshaw lives in #4 therefore by (c) #2 must be straw, and Mrs Umbrella lives there.
Therefore by (d) Mr Tinsley must live in #3, which, by (b) is the brick bungalow.
By (a) #4 must be wooden (otherwise Mrs Scott couldn't be to its left) and by (f) Mr Wilshaw lives there.
Which leaves Mrs Scott, living in #1, the glass bungalow. QED.

2016 Mixed USBC

In 2016, the [World Bridge Games](#) , to be held in Wroclaw, Poland from September 3 through September 17th, will include a Mixed Teams event. USBF will hold a hybrid online & face-to-face selection event, the 2016 Mixed United States Bridge Championship. The USBF Tournament Committee is working on the details of the competition, but what we expect is that it will be in 3 stages:

1. An online Swiss Teams event to be held on BBO on Saturday & Sunday, July 9 & 10, 2016. Any USBF member who has paid dues for 2016 may enter this event. The exact format will be determined by the number of teams. Each player will be required to provide a monitor, who will sign a statement that the player did not communicate with anyone during play and did not have any window other than the BBO playing window open during play.
2. Online Knockout Rounds of 16 and 8 on BBO on Saturday & Sunday, July 16 & 17 (teams in the Round of 16 may arrange to play their match earlier than July 16). The top 16 teams from the Swiss stage will participate, and they will be seeded in the order of finish in the Swiss. Each match will probably be 64 boards long, but that has still to be finally determined. Each player will be required to have a monitor, who will have to be approved in advance and may have to be an ACBL certified director. The monitor will sign a statement that the player did not communicate with anyone during play and did not have any window other than the BBO playing window open during play. Arrangements may be made for multiple players to compete at a local bridge club.
3. Face to face Semi-Final and Final matches to be played in Washington, DC on Aug. 1-3 (the three days after the Summer NABC). These matches will be 90 boards long. We hope to arrange space for this stage of play at the NABC tournament hotel, but are still working on that.

ENTRY INFORMATION

Entries are now open and will close on June 27th, 2016; additional entries will be accepted after June 27th, but only if those additional teams will improve the format of the event.

ENTRY FEES

Entry fees for this event will be lower than for the Open, Senior & Women's events, because USBF costs will be lower. The tournament committee has not yet determined the exact entry fees. Best guess right now is that there will be an event entry fee of \$240 per team, and no additional fees until the Semi-Final. Players will, however, be required to compensate their monitors and to pay any fees that local bridge clubs may charge if they play at a local club. Session fees for the Semi-Final and Final will be the same as for other USBF events - \$150 per team per session, so \$450 for each stage.

COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS

Please [email Jan](#) if you have any suggestions, comments or questions about this event.

People have a happy time vacationing in Ireland because they are walking on Eire.

When Irish boys carry their little brothers, they get a Pat on the back.

How Long is a Chinese man.

People in Switzerland can't learn to ski without a lot of alp.

When Mongolians walk they like to take big steppes.

I czeched on the prague-ress of my geography.

'Should we watch the Swiss?'. 'Of quartz we should.'

A new country decided to conduct a flag poll.

Occasionally in the Caribbean there's a total calypso the sun.



Off the Running...

Board 1	♠ AKQ63	♠ T982
Dealer: N	♥ Q6	♥ 4
None Vul.	♦ 954	♦ QT862
	♣ K93	♣ 762
♠ J754	N ↑	
♥ 9732		
♦ A		
♣ JT84		
	♠	
	♥ AKJT85	
	♦ KJ73	
	♣ AQ5	

West	North	East	South
Curtis	Kamenova	Smoot	Wittes
	1S	Pass	2H
Pass	2S	Pass	3D
Pass	3NT	Pass	4H
All Pass			

Lewis	Merry	Disa	Ewing
	1S	Pass	2H
Pass	2NT	Pass	3H
Pass	4H	Pass	5C
Pass	5H	Pass	6H
All Pass			

In the Closed Room, Wittes/Kamenova bid game. Wittes showed six hearts and extras. Kamenova could have made a move toward slam, but signed off at the safe four level. Curtis led the CJ. Wittes won, cashed two rounds of trump ending in dummy and ran off three high spades, pitching three diamonds. She ruffed a spade, pulled the last trump, returned to dummy with the CK and jettisoned her last diamond... making seven!

In the Open Room, Lewis led a trump against the Merry/Ewing slam. Ewing, realizing what a good contract she was playing, won the trump in hand with the ace. She cashed the king, jack and ten, played a club to the king and threw three diamonds on three top spades, claiming 12 tricks.

10 IMPs to OSMO

Board 8	♠ 952	♠ AJ743
Dealer: W	♥ T642	♥ Q87
None Vul.	♦ AKQ	♦ JT4
	♣ Q65	♣ T3
♠ 8	N ↑	
♥ J95		
♦ 763		
♣ AKJ742		
	♠ KOT6	
	♥ AK3	
	♦ 9852	
	♣ 98	

Both tables in Wittes vs. OSMO played in 2NT after South opened a fourth seat 1D and West overcalled 2C. In the Closed Room, Kamenova bid 2NT and they auction ended. In the Open Room, Merry doubled 2C; Ewing bid 2S; Merry bid 2NT and it was done.

Both Easts led the CT... and both Wests ducked, declarer winning the queen in hand.

Merry immediately led a spade toward dummy. Disa gave her a chance to succeed. She ducked the ace!! Had Merry been up to it, she could have played three rounds of diamonds; diamonds splitting 3-3, a heart to the dummy, a fourth diamond and another high heart to collect 8 tricks. She got greedy. She played one diamond to the king and without testing even a second round, she played a second spade. This time Disa rose, played a club to Lewis and they cashed out six tricks.

At the other table, Kamenova had no chance. She won the club, played off two rounds of diamonds, and led a small spade toward dummy. Smoot grabbed her ace, led a club and it was over.

Lucky PUSH for Wittes

Board 10
 Dealer: E
 All Vul.

♠ QT
 ♥ AJ873
 ♦ K74
 ♣ AK7

♠ 6
 ♥ 94
 ♦ A932
 ♣ QJT832

♠ J853
 ♥ 652
 ♦ QT86
 ♣ 65

♠ AK9742
 ♥ KQT
 ♦ J5
 ♣ 94

West	North	East	South
Curtis	Kamenova	Smoot	Wittes
		Pass	1S
Pass	2H	Pass	3H
Pass	4C	Pass	4H
Pass	4NT	Pass	5S
Pass	6H	All Pass	

Lewis	Merry	Disa	Ewing
		Pass	1S
2C	2H	Pass	2S
Pass	3C	Pass	3H
Pas	3NT	Pass	4H
Pass	6H	All Pass	

In the Closed Room, Smoot led the H2 against the slam. Kamenova won in dummy with the king, cashed two high clubs and ruffed a club in dummy. She cashed the KQ and played a spade to the queen. She played the HA pitching a diamond and the HJ pitching a spade. The ST went to the ace and the SK was cashed, a diamond tossed from declarer. She was at the crossroads. She led the DJ off dummy, and when Curtis flew with the ace, she claimed 12 tricks.

In the Open Room, things went a little differently. Disa led a club which Merry won in hand. She immediately pulled three rounds of trump, apparently banking on a 3-2 spade split. She cashed the SQ and played the ST to the SA getting the bad news. She cashed the SK, pitching a club. When Merry led the DJ off dummy, Lewis ducked. Merry did too. Disa won the DQ, led a club, and in the fullness of time, the defense collected another diamond for down 2! 17 IMPs to Wittes

Board 18
 Dealer: E
 N/S Vul.

♠ 95
 ♥ KO6
 ♦ 65432
 ♣ 982

♠ AKQJT42
 ♥ 72
 ♦ A8
 ♣ Q3

♠ AJ9854
 ♥ KQJ97
 ♣ K6

♠ 8763
 ♥ T3
 ♦ T
 ♣ AJT754

Lewis	Merry	Disa	Ewing
		1H	Pass
1S	Pass	2D	Pass
3C	Pass	3H	Pass
3S	Pass	3NT	Pass
4D	Pass	6D	Pass
6S	All Pass		

Curtis	Bjerkan	Smoot	Wittes
		1H	Pass
1S	Pass	2D	Pass
3S	Pass	3NT	Pass
4C	Pass	4H	Pass
4S	All Pass		

In the Closed Room, Bjerkan found the club lead to hold the hand to 12 tricks. Any other lead yields 13.

11 IMPs to Wittes

Board 19
 Dealer: S
 E/W Vul.

♠ K9853
 ♥ 8
 ♦ 6
 ♣ 987532

♠ T6	<div style="background-color: black; color: white; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">N</div> <div style="background-color: black; color: white; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">↑</div>	♠ J72
♥ T964		♥ 73
♦ 9742		♦ QJT853
♣ QJ6		♣ K4
		♠ AQ4
	♥ AKQJ52	
	♦ AK	
	♣ AT	

West	North	East	South
Curtis	Bjerkan	Smoot	Wittes
			2C
Pass	2D	Pass	2H
Pass	2S	Pass	3H
Pass	3S	Pass	4NT
Pass	5D	Pass	5NT
Pass	6S	Pass	7H
All Pass			

Lewis	Merry	Disa	Ewing
			2C
Pass	2D	Double	3NT
All Pass			

Wittes and Bjerkan were not supposed to be partners in this

Trials. They were simply planning to be teammates. A last minute family medical problem kept Roseanne Pollack (Cheri's regular woman's partner) from attending. Even the most experienced partnerships rarely bid grand slams... even more rarely in Women's events. Cheri and Pam did well to bid 7H. When hearts were no worse than 4-2 and spades behaved, they claimed their 13 tricks.

In the Open Room, something went awry. Disa's double could hardly scare South, holding the AK. Clearly South's jump to 3NT made the hand very difficult for North. She may not have been certain of transfers? Or she may have been afraid her partner held a trick-taker with long running hearts and a diamond stopper? Either way, she chose to pass 3NT. 14 IMPs to Wittes

Board 4
 Dealer: W
 All Vul.

♠ AT9865
 ♥ K3
 ♦ K
 ♣ 9863

♠ KQ32	<div style="background-color: black; color: white; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">N</div> <div style="background-color: black; color: white; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">↑</div>	♠
♥ JT952		♥ 8764
♦ J74		♦ T8632
♣ J		♣ QT52
		♠ J74
	♥ AQ	
	♦ AQ95	
	♣ AK74	

Myers	Palmer	Cappelletti	Shi
Pass	1S	Pass	2C (Art GF)
Pass	2S	Pass	3S
Pass	4S	Pass	4NT (ace ask)
Pass	5D	Pass	5H (Q?)
Pass	5S (no Q)	Pass	6NT
All Pass			

Sokolow	Rosenberg	Molson	Sulgrove
Pass	2S	Pass	2NT (Ogust)
Pass	3H (GH, BS)	Pass	4S
All Pass			

The two North players had a difference in view. Palmer opened her ten count with a 6 card spade suit and two outside kings 1S, while Rosenberg chose a weak two. The 1S opener opposite the twenty count propelled itself to the cold slam. Even with the poor spade break, the honors were slotted and the contract came home.

Sulgrove bid Ogust, inquiring about the quality of Rosenberg's hand and the quality of her suit. She showed good hand, bad suit. Being a first time partnership, Rosenberg/Sulgrove had not discussed "tendencies." As a precaution, Sulgrove allowed for a poor suit... perhaps missing the top two honors... and settled in the game.

13 IMPs to Weingold