

Volume 2, Issue 6
June 3, 2016

Be Aware ...

Anti Doping Information & Regulations

From the day of the Opening Ceremony up to and including the day of the Closing Ceremony, individual competitors from the Open, Women's and Mixed Teams will, in accordance with the WBF Anti-Doping Regulations, be randomly selected for anti-doping testing. It is obligatory for selected competitors to undergo such testing. The analyses will be done by WADA accredited laboratories.

The NBOs are invited to pay attention to the Anti-doping Regulations and to ensure that their players are fully aware both of the regulations and of the penalties for not following them.

If a Competitor is undergoing medical treatment for a condition which requires medication on the World Anti-Doping Authority Prohibited list, the Competitor must get a dispensation (TUE) from the WBF Medical Commission.

Any players requiring exemption certificates should ensure that they complete the TUE form and return it as soon as possible and no later than 30 days before the commencement of the competition in which they are participating to

Dr. Jaap Stomphorst

Isala Klinieken - Sports medicine department

PO Box 10500

8000GM Zwolle, The Netherlands

Tph.: +31 38 4245689 (office hours)

+31 61 2088836 (cellphonen)

E.mail: j.stomphorst@isala.nl

The list of prohibited substances can be found at <http://www.wada-ama.org/>

USBF President
Howie Weinstein

USBF Vice President
Bob Katz

USBF Secretary & COO

Jan Martel

USBF CFO
Stan Subeck

Director - WUSBC

Jeanne van den Meiracker

Appeals Administrator
Suzy Subeck

Appeals Committee:
Bart Bramley
Larry Cohen
Steve Garner
David Caprera
John Lusky
Dan Morse
Beth Palmer
Ron Smith
Stan Subeck
Adam Wildavsky
Tom Carmichael
Danny Sprung
Ronnie Gerard
Steve Robinson
Robb Gordon
Lew Stansby
Peter Boyd
Cheri Bjerkan
Eric Rodwell
Gary Cohler
Ralph Katz

VuGraph Organizers
Jan Martel

Bulletin Editor
Suzy Subeck

Photographer
Peg Kaplan

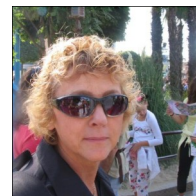
Hospitality Chair
Martha Katz
Chris Benson

Into the Finals: Palmer vs. Baker

#	TEAM	TOTAL	SET #1	SET #2	SET #3	SET #4	SET #5	SET #6	SET #7	SET #8
1	Baker	291	39	50	41	13	33	37	53	25
4	Weingold	238	30	11	53	56	14	45	4	25
2	Wittes	117	35	15	2	17	13	31	4	WD
3	Palmer	249	28	23	36	22	59	18	63	

Women's Teams: Listed in Quarterfinal Bracket Position Order

"MISS" PRINT!!



Jeanne van den Meiracker,
Tournament Director

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...



Irina is the only person in the world to win world championships in both chess and bridge. She has won five bridge World Championships, including all of the Women's events (Venice Cup, McConnell, Olympiad and Women's Pairs) as well as the Transnational Mixed Teams.

Especially well respected for her declarer play, Irina was one of 34 world-class players (including only 4 women) invited to participate in the World Par Contest, a declarer play competition, held in connection with the 1998 World Championships in Lille, France. In finishing 14th overall (and first among the women), Irina placed ahead of such stars as Benito Garozzo, Chip Martel, Steve Weinstein, and Zia.

Born in St. Petersburg, Russia, Irina was first taught chess as a young child by her father. By the age of 18 she was a member of the Soviet team and was the top woman at the chess Olympiad. At age 18, Irina also took up bridge, introduced to the game by Simeon Furman, her chess teacher (and Karpov's) at the time. Immigrating to the US in December 1990, Irina co-founded the International Chess Academy in Teaneck, NJ, in 1997 (you can read more about the chess school and Irina's chess career at www.icanj.net).

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.



Sign in an electrician's shop ... 'We will refuse you.'

The shop that sold ceramic heads was a bust.

Attention staff! The clothes keep falling off the mannequins in ladies' wear. Would someone please redress the problem?

The second hand clock shop had to wind up business as time ran out!

I was looking for watch batteries but I wound up at a clock shop.

I'm not happy with this Origami clothing. It always looks creased no matter how carefully I fold it.

Tire stores are highway rubbery.

Old calendars are outdated.



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

**Answers to Puzzle
No Peeking!**

Giant Sudoku

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

Puzzle Page ...

Puzzle Details:

Five patients, all potential blood donors, are waiting in the doctor's surgery and are sitting on the bench from left to right. Can you determine the position of each patient along with their blood group, age, height and weight?

Their ages are 5, 9, 30, 46 and 60.

Their heights are 40, 48, 60, 65 and 74.

Their weights are 40, 75, 96, 125 and 165.

The person on the far right is 37 years older than Jason, and is 60 inches tall.

Jason weighs 56 pounds more than his height.

Alan weighs 75 pounds and is 74 inches tall.

John is type AB and weighs 56 pounds less than Jason.

The person in the centre is 9 years old, is blood type AO and weighs 96 pounds.

Adam, who is the first, is 65 inches tall, and weighs 100 pounds more than his height.

The person who is blood type O, is 25 years older than the person to the left of them.

Kevin is 60 years old.

The person who is blood type A, is 55 years younger than Kevin and is not next to the person who is type AO.

The person who is next to the 9 year old but not next to the person who is 65 inches tall, is blood type B, and weighs 125 pounds.



Hint & Answers: No Peeking!

#	Name	Type	Age	Height	Weight
1	Adam	A	5	65	165
2	Alan	O	30	74	75
3	Jason	AO	9	40	96
4	Kevin	B	60	48	125
5	John	AB	46	60	40

Answer:

Hint: John is 46.

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.

When Plato discovered he was out of food, he decided to go shop at the stoa.

The window company said it was pane full to reduce prices but they want to sill any deal possible.

Grills are a hot item.

I saw a poster for a company offering free quotes, so I called them and asked for something profound.

Buy a chicken franchise and you'll soon find out your pecking order.

He wanted to buy a load of soil that didn't cost the earth.

I searched for designer compression stockings. My wife says it is because I'm so vein.



From Wittes vs. Palmer

Board 3
 Dealer: S
 E/W Vul.

♠ A86
 ♥ 8654
 ♦ QT953
 ♣ 7

♠ QJ32
 ♥ AK
 ♦ AJ2
 ♣ A532

♠ KT97
 ♥ Q9732
 ♦
 ♣ QJ86

♠ 54
 ♥ JT
 ♦ K8764
 ♣ KT94

West	North	East	South
Shi	Kamenova	Palmer	Wittes
			Pass
1C	Pass	1H	Pass
2NT	Pass	3D	Pass
3S	Pass	4S	All Pass

Lewis	Sokolow	Disa	Molson
			Pass
2NT	Pass	3D (transfer)	Pass
3H	Pass	3S	Pass
4S	Pass	5D	Pass
6C	Pass	6S	All Pass

Both E/W pairs play 19+-21 2NT openers. Lewis felt her 4-2-3-4 19 count passed mustard and opened it 2NT accordingly. Disa transferred to hearts and showed four (or five) spades. When Lewis raised to the spade game, Disa knew she had a great hand opposite an opening 2NT. She dutifully drove to slam. With the HJT falling and the CK in the pocket, it was only a matter of driving out the trump ace. 12 tricks for +1430

Shi apparently downgraded her flat 19 and opened 1C followed by a jump to 2NT over partner's 1H response. Palmer, imagining at most an 18 count, found the spade fit and bid the game. Shi, as did Disa, collected 12 tricks. 13 IMPs to Wittes

Board 6
 Dealer: E
 E/W Vul.

♠ 4
 ♥ KJ85
 ♦ T653
 ♣ 7532

♠ KQJ875
 ♥ A3
 ♦ J
 ♣ T964

♠ 93
 ♥ 9642
 ♦ AK97
 ♣ KQ8

♠ AT62
 ♥ QT7
 ♦ Q842
 ♣ AJ

Shi	Kamenova	Palmer	Wittes
		1D	Pass
1S	Pass	1NT	Pass
2C	Pass	2D	Pass
3S	Pass	4S	All Pass

Lewis	Sokolow	Disa	Molson
		1D	Pass
1S	Pass	1NT	Pass
4S	All Pass		

On lead against Shi, Kamenova led the C3. Wittes won the ace and returned the jack, likely hoping she would win her trump ace and have an entry to partner's hand. This play left Shi with no losing options. She won the CJ with the queen and went after trump. Wittes won the SQ with her ace on the second round and

returned a heart... no problem for Shi. She won the heart, pulled one more round of trump, played a diamond to the ace and king, tossing her heart loser and conceded a high spade to make four.

In the other room, Molson was cagier. Sokolow also led the C3; Molson won the ace and shifted to hearts. Lewis won the ace, played a diamond to dummy's ace and king, pitched her heart loser, led two rounds of trump, Molson winning the queen with the ace. Molson exited a heart. Lewis ruffed and was faced with a club guess. Did Sokolow start with three clubs to an honor or three or four small? Lewis played the odds but was unlucky when Molson started with AJ doubleton.

12 IMPs to Palmer

From Baker vs. Weingold

Board 5
Dealer: N
N/S Vul.

♠ AQ987
♥ KOT93
♦ 2
♣ Q9

♠ 43
♥ 7
♦ QJT8765
♣ T65



♠ J52
♥ AJ6542
♦ 3
♣ K84

♠ KT6
♥ 8
♦ AK94
♣ AJ732

West	North	East	South
Sanborn	Assini	Levitina	Weingold
	1S	1NT	3S
All Pass			

What a strange hand! Neither side ever mentioned its eleven card fit!! Levitina overcalled an off shape 1NT and stymied the opponents.

While it might not always work, over 1NT overcalls, some play Cappelletti. On this hand, Weingold could have bid 2D to show both majors. Assini most certainly would have bid the game. 3S made four. At the other table, not surprisingly, they played four hearts, making game there.

10 IMPs to Baker

From Wittes vs. Palmer

Board 2
Dealer: E
N/S Vul.

♠ AQT2
♥ AJT652
♦ J
♣ JT

♠ K95
♥ K74
♦ AT64
♣ Q82



♠ 7643
♥ Q9
♦ K532
♣ 763

♠ J8
♥ 83
♦ Q987
♣ AK954

Shi	Kamenova	Palmer	Wittes
		1D	Pass
2H (11-12 or mixed raise)	Double	Pass	Pass
2NT	All Pass		

Lewis	Sokolow	Disa	Molson
		Pass	Pass
1D	1H	3C (FS jump)	Pass
3D	All Pass		

Against 2NT, Kamenova led the HJ overtaken by her partner's queen. Shi won the king and played five rounds of clubs on which Kamenova pitched the 2 (upside down), T, Q of spades; Wittes pitched the 7, 3 of spades; and declarer pitched the D6 and H4.

Looking from the pitches like Kamenova held the SA and was endplayed, Shi left dummy with the SJ. Unlucky for Shi, Kamenova held six, not five hearts and was able to cash out for down one. The contract could have been successful had Shi played Kamenova for a singleton diamond honor. She had no way to know, however, which honor it was and would have to guess correctly to come to eight tricks.

At the other table, Sokolow led the CJ against 3D. Lewis won in dummy with the ace. Lewis does not know how many major suit losers she has, however, it is possible to make the contract by taking five clubs and four diamonds. If diamonds are 3-2 there is always a diamond loser. Therefore, to make the hand, diamonds must be 4-1 with a singleton honor. On the auction, this honor is likely to be with North since she has shown heart length. If North's holds the singleton jack, declarer can bring home the suit by leading the queen from dummy. If North's diamond is stiff king, Lewis can never pick up the suit. At trick two, Lewis led the seven from dummy and ran it. Sokolow won the jack and played the HJ. Lewis won the king, cashed the DA, led three rounds of clubs, Molson ruffing the third, Lewis overruffing. Lewis left her hand with a heart. Molson won her queen and played a spade through the king to Sokolow's AQ. Down one for a push!

From Wittes vs. Palmer

Board 12
 Dealer: W
 N/S Vul.
 ♠ Q43
 ♥ 87632
 ♦ 65
 ♣ 854

♠ K8
 ♥ KT
 ♦ K98
 ♣ AKQT63



♠ T62
 ♥ Q954
 ♦ T42
 ♣ J72

Board 10
 Dealer: E
 All Vul.
 ♠ A83
 ♥ T95
 ♦ AQ
 ♣ T9863

♠ 5
 ♥ AJ72
 ♦ K98754
 ♣ 72



♠ JT2
 ♥ K843
 ♦ 632
 ♣ Q54

Deas	Disa	Chambers	Lewis
2NT	Pass	3H (transfer)	Pass
3S	Pass	7D	All Pass

Wittes	Sokolow	Kamenov	Molson
1C	Pass	1S	Pass
3NT	Pass	6NT	All Pass

There are 15 tricks in either no-trump or diamonds. Kamenov probably should have mentioned her second suit somewhere along the way.

9 IMPs to Palmer already leading by 90

Deas	Disa	Chambers	Lewis
		1S	Pass
1NT	Pass	3S	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Wittes and Kamenov reached 4S in the Open Room. Unfortunately for them, the way the cards lie, they had to lose two spades and two diamonds for down one. However, this still could have been a badly needed pick-up. In the Closed Room, Deas/Chambers played 3NT. Disa led clubs, best for her side. Deas rose with the ace and ran the DJ to the DQ. Disa continued clubs, Deas finessing. Lewis won the queen and all she had to do was continue her partner's suit. With two more entries, this contract was light two. For some reason, Lewis led a low heart back from the king. Deas let it ride to the queen, knocked out the diamond ace and collected nine tricks! 12 more IMPs to Palmer

Howie Doing ...

I never tell you all that I hear...

But based on the gossip concerning last year,

Kibs: high alert! Stay far from the match,
 Cats with sharp nails can leave quite a scratch.

Palmer for me! She's got the power!
 E-coli's about... and Baker's use flour!

Till the Seniors... Howie Doing ... Doing Fine!

Limey Jack ...

Hallo Yanks:

Limey Jack was pleased to see the decorum meeting the high standards of the Colonial Trials. There was nary a penalty assessed throughout the two tilts today. The morrow will bring quite another storey.

The participants for the upcoming cage match are Baker and Palmer, who played together for many a year. The parting was not without some acrimony, shall we say. Limey Jack would be loathe to tell tales learned at the Parsonage, but suffice to say this will be a dilly. There is no chance of a withdrawal in either direction no matter if a lorry was to run amok.

Baker likes to take the early lead, but it will be Palmer at the first two furlongs. Then the posturing will start and the pace will slow to waiting for Prudence's Boysenberry pie to cool in the window of the Tucker Abbey.

Howie Dung is a sucker for favourites and will try to waste your hard earned bob on Baker. Limey Jack knows better and foresees Palmer scratching a long burning itch and taking Baker to the Bridge woodshed.

Limey Jack will check in next for your Senior Trials.

Cheers, LJ