

Volume 8, Issue 4
May 19, 2017

Results: RR

Team Name	Total	2	8	5	9	1	6	3	4	7	10
2. Wolfson	106.25		11.20	14.74	6.72	13.28	9.19	4.03	12.29	18.83	15.97
8. Pollack	103.92	8.80		6.41	10.00	6.72	14.46	13.28	13.59	11.20	19.46
5. Mahaffey	103.73	5.26	13.59		6.41	8.42	15.74	15.74	7.04	13.28	18.25
9. Cappelli	103.71	13.28	10.00	13.59		17.03	3.80	17.03	7.37	10.41	11.20
1. Hamman, NPC	103.63	6.72	13.28	11.58	2.97		18.09	2.78	15.50	14.46	18.25
6. Lewis	93.17	10.81	5.54	4.26	16.20	1.91		15.26	9.19	15.00	15.00
3. Wold	82.84	15.97	6.72	4.26	2.97	17.22	4.74		7.37	10.00	13.59
4. Gupta	82.48	7.71	6.41	12.96	12.63	4.50	10.81	12.63		6.41	8.42
7. Falk	74.87	1.17	8.80	6.72	9.59	5.54	5.00	10.00	13.59		14.46
10. Reynolds	45.40	4.03	.54	1.75	8.80	1.75	5.00	6.41	11.58	5.54	

9	Reynolds	46	38	8
10	Falk	117	53	64

USA2 Round of 32

Wolfson	65		46	19
Cappelli	72.06	3.06	49	20
Hamman, NPC	69.06	3.06	39	27
Pollack	79		44	35
Mahaffey	59		36	23
Gupta	84.72	2.72	56	26
Wold	114		84	30
Lewis	74.16	8.16	28	38

USA1 Quarterfinal

Margin	Winner	Loser	Margin	Winner	Loser	Margin	Winner	Loser
0	10	10	16	15.26	4.74	31	18.25	1.75
1	10.41	9.59	17	15.50	4.50	32	18.40	1.60
2	10.81	9.19	18	15.74	4.26	33	18.55	1.45
3	11.20	8.80	19	15.97	4.03	34	18.69	1.31
4	11.58	8.42	20	16.20	3.80	35	18.83	1.17
5	11.94	8.06	21	16.42	3.58	36	18.97	1.03
6	12.29	7.71	22	16.63	3.37	37	19.10	0.90
7	12.63	7.37	23	16.83	3.17	38	19.22	0.78
8	12.96	7.04	24	17.03	2.97	39	19.34	0.66
9	13.28	6.72	25	17.22	2.78	40	19.46	0.54
10	13.59	6.41	26	17.41	2.59	41	19.58	0.42
11	13.89	6.11	27	17.59	2.41	42	19.69	0.31
12	14.18	5.82	28	17.76	2.24	43	19.80	0.20
13	14.46	5.54	29	17.93	2.07	44	19.90	0.10
14	14.74	5.26	30	18.09	1.91	45	20	0
15	15.00	5.00						

USBF 9 Board VP Scale

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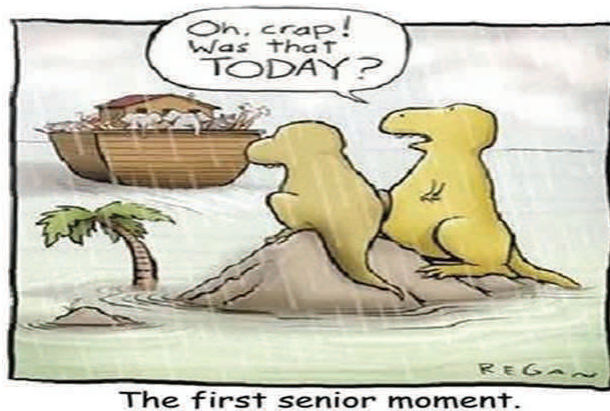
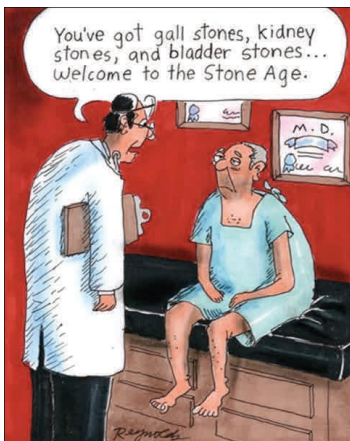
2017 USSBC Teams

listed in seeding point order

Hamman, NPC	Hemant Lall Zia Mahmood Robert Hamman	Reese Milner Steve Garner Bart Bramley
Wolfson	Jeffrey Wolfson, Capt David Berkowitz Michael Becker	Neil Silverman Alan Sontag Allan Graves
Wold	Eddie Wold, Capt Marc Jacobus Dennis Clerkin	Michael Levine Mike Passell Jerry Clerkin
Gupta	Vinita Gupta, Capt Kit Woolsey Steve Robinson	Billy Miller Fred Stewart Peter Boyd
Mahaffey	Jim Mahaffey, Capt Neil Chambers Matthew Granovetter	Sam Lev John Schermer Roger Bates
Lewis	Paul Lewis, Capt Jim Krekorian	Linda Lewis Drew Casen Mark Itabashi
Falk	Allan Falk, Capt Doug Simson Glenn Eisenstein	Jeff Aker John Lusky John Rengstorff
Pollack	Bill Pollack, Capt Mark Feldman Larry Robbins	Ron Rubin Mark Cohen Steve Beatty
Cappelli	Robert Cappelli, Capt David Caprera	Robert Bitterman Anne Brenner
Reynolds	W. Thomas Reynolds, Capt William Hall Sally Woolsey	Lance Kerr Brenda Jacobus

There are some days when I think I'm going to die from an overdose of satisfaction.

Salvador Dali



<i>ROUND ROBIN</i>			
<i>DAY</i>	<i>DATE</i>	<i>TIME</i>	<i>BOARDS</i>
WEDNESDAY	MAY 17	9:45 AM	CAPTAINS' MEETING IN ROOM 1321
WEDNESDAY	MAY 17	10:00 - 11:20 11:30 - 12:50 1:00 - 2:20 3:45 - 5:05 5:15 - 6:35 6:45 - 8:10	BOARDS 1 - 9 BOARDS 10 - 18 BOARDS 19 - 27 85 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK BOARDS 1 - 9 BOARDS 10 - 18 BOARDS 19 - 27
THURSDAY	MAY 18	10:00 - 11:20 11:30 - 12:50 1:00 - 2:20	BOARDS 1 - 9 BOARDS 10 - 18 BOARDS 19 - 27 100 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK
* THE FINAL 2 MATCHES ARE SEQUESTERED - ONE PAIR ON EACH TEAM MUST PLAY BOTH MATCHES & MUST REMAIN IN THE CLOSED ROOM FOR BOTH MATCHES. NO SCORE COMPARISON ALLOWED.			
<i>QUARTERFINAL & USA2 ROUND OF 32 (KO ON SAME SCHEDULE)</i>			
THURSDAY	MAY 18	4:00 - 6:10 6:20 - 8:30	SEGMENT 1 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 2 BOARDS 16-30
FRIDAY	MAY 19	10:00 - 12:10 12:25 - 2:35 3:45 - 5:55 6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 3 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 16-30 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK SEGMENT 5 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 6 BOARDS 16-30
<i>SEMIFINAL & USA2 ROUND OF 16 (SCHEDULE SOON)</i>			
SATURDAY	MAY 20	10:00 - 12:10 12:25 - 2:35 3:45 - 5:55 6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 1 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 2 BOARDS 16-30 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK SEGMENT 3 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 16-30
SUNDAY	MAY 21	10:00 - 12:10 12:25 - 2:35	SEGMENT 5 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 6 BOARDS 16-30 95 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK
<i>FINAL & USA2 QUARTERFINAL (6 USA2 TEAMS)</i>			
SUNDAY	MAY 21	4:00 - 6:10 6:20 - 8:30	SEGMENT 1 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 2 BOARDS 16-30
MONDAY	MAY 22	10:00 - 12:10 12:25 - 2:35 3:45 - 5:55 6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 3 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 16-30 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK SEGMENT 5 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 6 BOARDS 16-30
<i>USA2 SEMIFINAL</i>			
TUESDAY	MAY 23	10:00 - 12:10 12:25 - 2:35 3:45 - 5:55 6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 1 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 2 BOARDS 16-30 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK SEGMENT 3 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 16-30
WEDNESDAY	MAY 24	10:00 - 12:10 12:25 - 2:35	SEGMENT 5 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 6 BOARDS 16-30 95 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK
<i>USA2 FINAL</i>			
WEDNESDAY	MAY 24	4:00 - 6:10 6:20 - 8:30	SEGMENT 1 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 2 BOARDS 16-30
THURSDAY	MAY 25	10:00 - 12:10 12:25 - 2:35 3:45 - 5:55 6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 3 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 16-30 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK SEGMENT 5 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 6 BOARDS 16-30

Tournament Schedule

Hospitality Suite

The hospitality suite for the 2017 Senior USBC is Suite 2321, on the level above the playing rooms. Players, volunteers, kibitzers, friends and supporters are welcome in the Hospitality Suite during the tournament. Please join hostesses Susie Miller, Lisa Berkowitz & Martha Katz for: Breakfast each day from 8:00-10:30 am.

Lunch Friday through Tuesday from 1:30-4:00.

Wednesday & Thursday, lunch will be a buffet served in the hotel restaurant.

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

The Players' Lounge (room 1321) will also be open throughout the tournament. We will have coffee and snacks there during play.



ALERT!
On many of the boards,
cards slide between pockets
when being carried.
Please count
your cards on
every hand!

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.



The **Bermuda Bowl** contest, the oldest WBF Championship, grew out of private initiatives principally by the late Norman Bach and took the name from Bermuda where the first World Championship was held in 1950, eight years before the World Bridge Federation itself was formed. The Bermuda Bridge Federation provided the trophy and generously provides the replicas for the winners on each occasion.

2015, Chennai - INDIA

2013, Nusa Dua, Bali - INDONESIA

2011, Veldhoven - THE NETHERLANDS

2009, São Paulo - BRAZIL

2007, Shanghai - CHINA

2005, Estoril - PORTUGAL

2003, Monte Carlo - MONACO

2001, Paris - FRANCE

2000 Hamilton - BERMUDA

1997, Hammamet - TUNISIA

1995, Beijing - CHINA

1993, Santiago - CHILE

1991, Yokohama - JAPAN

1989, Perth - AUSTRALIA

1987, Ochos Rios - JAMAICA

1985, São Paulo - BRAZIL

1983, Stockholm - SWEDEN



1981, Port Chester - USA

1979, Rio de Janeiro - BRAZIL

1977, Manila - PHILIPPINES

1976, Monte Carlo - MONACO

1975, Hamilton - BERMUDA

1974, Venice - ITALY

1973, Guaruja - BRAZIL

1971, Taipei - CHINESE TAIPEI

1970, Stockholm - SWEDEN

1969, Rio de Janeiro - BRAZIL

1967, Miami Beach - USA

1966, St Vincent - ITALY

1965, Buenos Aires - ARGENTINA

1963, St Vincent - ITALY

1962, New York - USA

1961, Buenos Aires - ARGENTINA

1959, New York - USA

1958, Como - ITALY

1957, New York - USA

1956, Paris - FRANCE

1955, New York - USA

1954, Monte Carlo - MONACO

1953, New York - USA

1951, Naples - ITALY

4 1950, Hamilton - BERMUDA

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

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

Medium Sudoku

To see the photos in color, go to
<https://www.facebook.com/United-States-Bridge-Federation-1963001673929727/>
 We have a page set up for these championships!

Answers to Puzzle No Peeking!

Two atoms are walking down the street and they run into each other.

One says to the other, "Are you all right?"

"No, I lost an electron."

"Are you sure?"

"Yeah, I'm positive."

Top

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

Bottom

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

Puzzle Page ...

Four couples bowl every Friday night in the Millersville Couples-Only bowling league. They're about halfway through the first half of the winter season, and competition is starting to get fierce for placement. Each night, the couples bowl three games and can win up to 8 points for the night. Last Friday, all four couples moved up in the league ranks, though none of the couples played each other this week. Determine the first names of each couple, the number of points they won on Friday night, and each couple's team name.

1. Steve didn't win all 8 points. The Red Dogs team won 2 points for the night.
2. The Bowling Aces won two more points than Larry's team.
3. Mike's team won four points more than Linda's team, but Linda's team didn't score the least amount of points.
4. The team that won 6 points was Just4Fun. Wanda wasn't on the team called No Pressure.
5. Steve's team won 4 points. Donna wasn't on the Bowling Aces.
6. Tom and Sara were on the same team, but it wasn't the Red Dogs.

	Donna	Linda	Sara	Wanda	2	4	6	8	Bowling Aces	Just4Fun	No Pressure	Red Dogs
Larry												
Mike												
Steve												
Tom												
Bowling Aces												
Just4Fun												
No Pressure												
Red Dogs												
2												
4												
6												
8												



Puzzle Answer:

Just4Fun	6	Sara	Tom
Bowling Aces	4	Linda	Steve
No Pressure	8	Donna	Mike
Red Dogs	2	Wanda	Larry
Team Name	Points Won	First Name	First Name

Meet the Players: Michael Becker



When Michael Becker graduated from high school in 1961, his father, B. Jay Becker, wrote in Mike's autograph book: "To my son, who will become a Life Master long before he masters life." Whether that was an accurate prediction only Mike Becker knows for sure, but one thing is certain — he is at his high point in bridge as an elected member of the ACBL Bridge Hall of Fame. With his election Becker joined his father, who was inducted into this illustrious group in 1995.

Becker's bridge career encompasses many stellar achievements, including the 1983 Bermuda Bowl title he won playing with Ron Rubin in Stockholm, Sweden, as a member of the last "Aces" team. The final match against Italy will long be remembered as a thriller, where the lead changed hands 25 times. Becker has won 11 North American championships, almost all of them played at IMPs and most of them in partnership with Ron Rubin. As an administrator, he has served as the International Team Trials Chair for the past 12 years. As Chair of the ACBL Hall of Fame Committee, he led an effort to update the voting rules and committee procedures. He helped to start the United States Bridge Federation, serving as its first president. He was on the Greater New York Bridge Association board for 20 years and served as its President in 1980.

Becker is also the co-author of a book, *The Ultimate Club*, describing the relay system he and Rubin played throughout their 20-year partnership. He recently joined the staff of *The Bridge World* as Problem Editor.

Becker learned bridge in 1957 at age 13, studying the game with his older brother, Steve. One of his early triumphs was winning the Teenyear Pairs in 1961 (with Augie Boehm), the first Junior event ever held in the United States. In the same year, Mike and Steve entered the Reisinger Knockout Teams, an event that continues to attract the top teams in the New York area. B. Jay Becker frowned on the idea. According to Steve Becker: "Mike was 17 and I was 23. Our father thought we were wasting our time going to New York and would get clobbered." The Becker brothers and their teammates, none of whom had more than 100 masterpoints, defeated some top seeded teams before losing in the quarterfinal to Sam Fry, Dick Frey, Lee Hazen and Johnny Rau — all giants in the game. Since then, no one has been surprised by Becker's continuing success.

Now and then, the family put together an all-Becker team — B. Jay, Steve, Mike and B. Jay's older brother Simon (Skippy) and his two sons, Murray and Bobby — all Life Masters. B. Jay and Mike Becker are the only father and son to have teamed up to win the Spingold, in 1972, and to have played on the same Bermuda Bowl Team, in 1973.

Success at bridge continues to be a family affair for Becker. His wife, Judy, is also an NABC champion, having won the six-session Fall Open Swiss Teams in the same year that she won the Harter Cup, a New York City event for non-Life Masters.

Until 1979, Becker made his living playing bridge, mostly in money games. Then his bridge partner, Ron Rubin, talked him into trying options trading. Becker was so good at it he soon formed his own company. He trained 50 ACBL members, including 15 NABC champions, to be options traders (and in so doing helped make some bridge experts into wealthy entrepreneurs).

Becker retired from the options business in 1994 and moved a few years later to Boca Raton, Florida, where he now lives. His business card reads: Professional Retiree: Tennis * Golf * Bridge * Dinner.

History of the WBF...

The World Bridge Federation was formed on **18th August 1958 in Oslo**, Norway, by delegates from **Europe, USA and South America** and **Baron Robert de Nexon**, from France, an inspiring figure in bridge, was elected as first President. **Charles J. Solomon**, from USA (1964-1968) and **Count Carl Bonde**, from Sweden (1968-1970) succeeded Baron de Nexon as WBF President.

With the election of **Julius Rosenblum** in 1970, the WBF started to assume the mantle of a real **World Organisation**. Rosenblum strongly believed that bridge needed to have a visible central organisation with a global reach rather than conducting its affairs on a local or continental basis. When in 1976 Rosenblum decided to retire for health reasons, **Jaime Ortiz-Patiño** from Switzerland, was elected President.

Under his guidance the WBF started its new modern era and in **August 1977** was incorporated under the Laws of the State of New York as a **“not for profit”** organization. The Federation cast off the mantle of a paternalistic organization and was re-structured as an **International Federation** devoted to offering its members the best possible service. The stimulation given by Ortiz-Patiño to building the organizational and administrative structure, to developing the discipline and its image, to introducing new rules and a rigid code of ethics is still effective even today. When he left the WBF in 1986 he was elected President Emeritus by acclamation for his exceptional services to bridge.

Denis Howard, from Australia, succeeded him to the Presidency from 1986 to 1990. Re-elected for a second term, Howard resigned in January 1991 following a crisis within the world of bridge. **Ernesto d’Orsi**, from Brazil, who had distinguished himself as a leading bridge administrator succeeded him in 1991 and 1992 and successfully steered the WBF through this difficult and delicate situation. In August 1992 he left the chair to **Robert S. Wolff**, from the USA, one of the most successful players in the history of bridge, who successfully completed the task started by d’Orsi and then left the chair in August 1994, when **José Damiani**, from France, was elected President.

José Damiani completely changed the way forward, both for the WBF and Bridge itself. Under his leadership, following its initial recognition as an International Organisation in 1995 pursuant to Article 29 of the Olympic Charter, the WBF **was recognised by the International Olympic Committee** as an International Sports Federation in 1999. **In October 2000 in Monaco**, the World Bridge Federation was admitted as a **member of the GAISF (General Association of Internationals Sports Federations – Olympic and non-Olympic) – now SportAccord** – at the General Assembly of this Association.

The WBF also became a member of **ARISF (Association of Recognised International Sport Federations)** and in **October 2002** moved its headquarters to Lausanne (Switzerland), the Olympic City, where it is incorporated under Swiss Law. The WBF is one of the **founder members of IMSA (Inter- national Mind Sports Association)** which was formed on 19 April 2005. The WBF is recognised by **FISU** (International University Sport Federation), which organises every two years the World University Bridge Championship and **UNESCO** (United Nation Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation) and is Code Signatory of **WADA** (World Anti-Doping Agency).

José Damiani left the chair in November 2010 after 16 years of Presidency, having achieved tremendous success in developing bridge, introducing new concepts of communication and information, which attracted media, sponsors and supporters; improving technological systems to manage and run the competitions, creating new events participated in by players of any category and developing youth bridge, opening the door and then constantly supporting and improving the teaching of bridge to school children. When he left, was elected WBF Chairman Emeritus by acclamation for his extraordinary services to bridge and subsequently, following the death of Ortiz-Patiño in 2013, elected President Emeritus.

Gianarrigo Rona, from Italy, former First Vice-President and EBL President (1999-2010) was elected President in São Paulo September 2009 and took the chair in November 2010. In Nusa Dua, Bali, November 2013, **Rona** was re-elected unopposed for a second four-year term which will thus run until 2018.

(Continued on page 9)

The Disciplinary Code, the Eligibility Code, the Code of Ethics, the Dress Code, the Players Commitment Form, the Reviewer, substituting the Appeal Committee, the Antibetting Regulations, the WBF Sentences Guidelines, the HLPC Express Line were adopted as well as the **Tournament Directors Official Register and Rules & Regulations.**

Afterwards the **Sport Integrity Declaration** and the **IOC Code of Prevention** were introduced.

The **Constitution** and the **By-Laws** were updated in conformity with the **Olympic Charter** and the **IOC Principles**, but definitively respecting the fundamental principles of democracy, transparency and division of the powers.

The format of the World Bridge Games was modified with the introduction of the **National Pairs Championship**, following the **National Teams Championship**, as well as the format of the **World Bridge Series with Mixed, Open, Women and Seniors** events both in teams and in pairs. In the Youth Championship the new categories of Girls and Kids were added to the already existing Juniors and Youngsters.

Particular attention was given to the development of youth and school bridge and the consolidation of the Headquarters in Lausanne, employing personnel and accomplishing the requirements to be incorporated in the Swiss Law. Since 30th January 2014 the WBF is a non-profit organization incorporated as an association in accordance with article 60 ff. of the Swiss Civil Code and registered in the Commercial Register of the Canton de Vaud.

For purposes of administration and furtherance of its objectives and to comply with the International Olympic Committee's principles of the five IOC rings, the WBF structure is divided into **five geographical Continental Conferences** identical to the IOC's five rings. For organizational reasons the WBF established zones within each of the five Continents which, although part of a Continent, shall be entitled to have at least one member on the Executive and berths at the WBF Championships as set forth in Article 9 of the By-Laws. Each zone has its own Zonal Conference of its member NBOs, organizing, managing and administering its activity and conducting both its own zonal competitions and those delegated to it by the WBF. The eight Zonal Conferences are:

Zone 1 – Europe

Zone 2 – North America

Zone 3 – South America

Zone 4 Asia and the Middle East

Zone 5 – Central America and Caribbean

Zone 6 – Asia Pacific

Zone 7 – South Pacific

Zone 8 – Africa

The WBF has shown strong and steady growth and its membership now comprises **116 National Bridge Organizations (NBOs)** with approximately 1,000,000 affiliated members who participate actively in competitive bridge events (locally, nationally and internationally).

Each National Bridge Organization agrees to fulfill certain requirements, such as opening its ranks to all its citizens and residents and upholding a standard of ethics acceptable to the WBF.

The **WBF Executive Council** consists of the President, who acts as Chairman, **17 Members**, elected from the eight WBF Zonal Conferences, representatives of the five Continental Conferences and 2 Member representatives from the **High Level Players Commission**. The President Emeritus and the President of the Congress are non voting members of the Executive Council.

Veldhoven – October 2011. The five WBF Presidents, Bobby Wolff, Jaime Ortiz-Patiño, Gianarrigo Rona, Ernesto d'Orsi, José Damiani





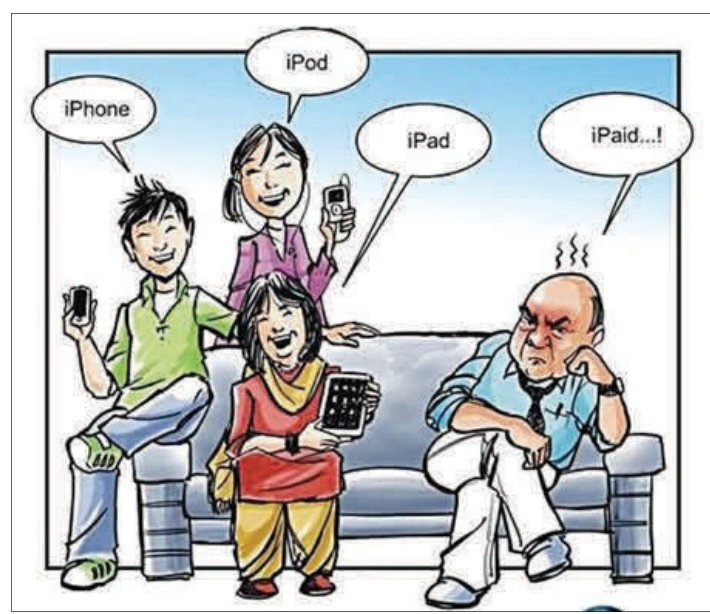
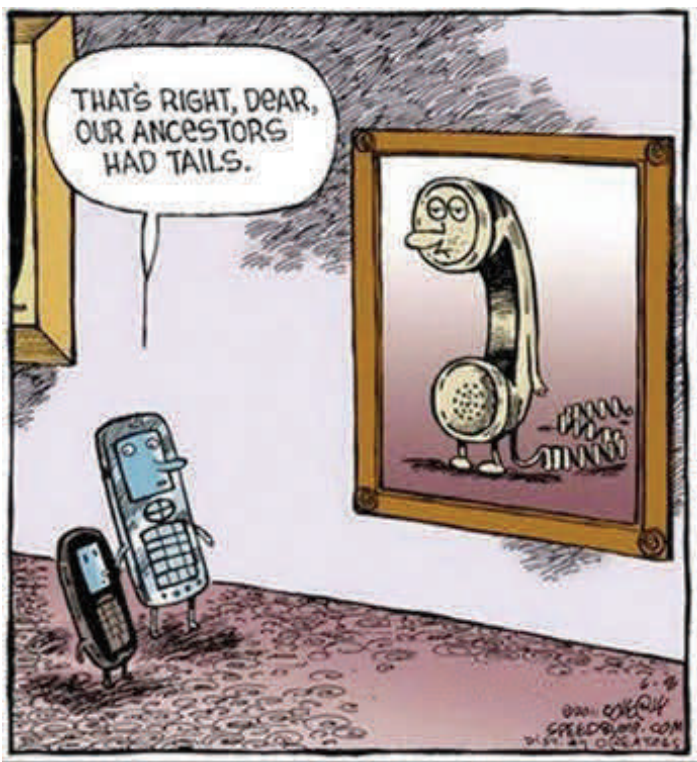
"Male, 38, still living with his parents. They asked us to keep him overnight, so they could change the locks."

How fights start:



I feel horrible; I look old, fat and ugly. I really need you to pay me a compliment.

Your eyesight's damn near perfect.



Items: Popular culture inspiring stranger baby names

Senior Sense of Humor!

RR Action...

Board 12 ♠ JT86
 Dealer: W ♥ JT96
 N/S Vul. ♦ 532
 Match 8 ♣ QJ

♠ 542 ♠ KQ973
 ♥ KQ84 ♥ A52
 ♦ A ♦ J984
 ♣ T9874 ♣ K



♠ A
 ♥ 73
 ♦ KQT76
 ♣ A6532

Board 4 ♠ AKJ53
 Dealer: W ♥ T
 All Vul. ♦ Q964
 Match 7 ♣ AQ4

♠ T87 ♠ 2
 ♥ AJ64 ♥ KQ532
 ♦ A532 ♦ J7
 ♣ 83 ♣ KJT97



♠ Q964
 ♥ 987
 ♦ KT8
 ♣ 652

West	North	East	South
Rubin	Aker	Pollack	Simson
1NT !! 10-12	Pass	2C	Pass
2H	Pass	2S (invitational)	Pass
4S	All Pass		

Falk/Pollack

Before Rubin placed the dummy on the table, he announced, "You will think I am crazy..." He was close. He held nine HCP for his 10-12 NT ... and two for his singleton? And if that wasn't crazy enough, he accepted the game try in spades with three impressive spot cards (NOT!) and a sub-minimum!

But, as sometimes happens in this game of ours, 4S was cold!

The opening lead was the DK which rode to the ace. Next came the C8 to the queen, king and ace. That was followed by the spade ace and a club exit. Poor Simson and Aker who were the recipients of all this.

Rubin proves he still has great instincts at the table... and sometimes great instincts beat science... As in the I'd Rather Be Lucky Than Good category!

Brenner	Casen	Caprera	Krekorian
Pass	1S	2S (Michaels)	3S
4H	4S	All Pass	

Lewis/Cappelli

Zia	J Clerkin	Garner	D Clerkin
Pass	1C (strong)	1H	Double (5-8)
3H (mixed)	3S	Pass	4S
All Pass			

Wold/Hamman

At both of the tables featured above, East led the HK. Both Wests overtook with the ace and shifted to the C8.

Casen, knowing the club hook was doomed on the auction, rose with the ace, hoping that LHO started with the DA, 5-5 in hearts and clubs. As you can see, ignorance is bliss! Casen was punished for having too much information. He

drew trumps and played a diamond toward dummy. This lost to the ace and a club came through and he lost four tricks.

Clerkin, not having a clue about the two-suiter on his left, covered the C8 with the queen. This lost to the king and the CJ came back to the ace. The spade king, queen and ace were cashed. The D4 went to dummy's ten, ducked. The DK lost to the ace, burying the jack in the process. When the smoke cleared, Clerkin was able to discard dummy's third club on the D9. Contact making...

Once the diamond held, he needed Lefty to be 5-5 so he played for that position.

Well played... nice duck of the DA by Garner... too bad for Steven that Jerry had no losing options!

Heard or Seen in Schaumburg...

On Wednesday in the hall...

Player: "But you're the Great Bob Hamman..."

Bob: "No ... He's dead!"

On Thursday at the table... Board 8...

Zia opened 3NT

Garner: (written of course)... good 4 of a major opener... VERY GOOD suit!

Play unfolds.

Zia, West, holds only H: AKxxxx and it is evident when East, dummy, tables his singleton Q.

North, Jerry Clerkin, screenmate of East, holding JTx, looks at Steven, picks up the pen and paper and crosses out "VERY GOOD" ... a little comic relief for the players and most certainly the kibitzer!

Hallo Yanks: **Limey Jack** ————— **Howie Doing**

The Senior Championships are full asped and Limey Jack has the first winner easily. Of course that would be Zia, a person with whom Limey Jack has shared many nights of bridge, fine wine, and Indian food. The rest of the lot is playing for USA 2. The formalities must be observed and thus you will have to listen to Howie Dung struggle with his utter lack of rhyming as well as his cretinous lack of discernible talent.

As predicted, Reynolds missed the boat and Gupta clung to the finale spot.

USA 2:

Reynolds-Falk: Shocking that Falk came a-cropper but they will comfortably advance this day.

USA 1:

Wolfson-Cappelli: Though woefully undermanned, Cappelli has heart. Wolfson played as a lark, not expecting to succeed and they will be relegated to the bowels of USA 2.

Hamman-Pollack: While Pollack has 3 seasoned pairs, Hamman has Zia. Pollack gets to play for USA 2 where they will be one of the favourites.

Mahaffey-Gupta: Normally Mahaffey is the clear underdog, but a fortuitous draw have left them driving the lorry. Gupta goes to USA 2 for a brief respite.

Wold-Lewis: On the surface, Wold seems closer to the Guardsmen, but Lewis has enough tension in its bow to thrive. As e'er, Limey Jack does not cotton to short-handed teams and may not allow Lewis to get farther after this one. The Dung one will go with Wold as an obvious choice, but he is still paying off the Punter for the last three events.

Cheers LJ.

Falk was one surprise defeat.

And Reynolds team can't take the heat.

Pollack will frolic and stay in the fray,
Unless their slow play gets in their way.

Wolfson remains. He's not a quitter.
His men are fitter; Cappelli's are bitter.

Gupta/Mahaffey will sure be a chiller.
Mahaffey emerging a Bill Miller killer!

Wold will continue with Clerkin and Clerkin.
Woolsey's light preempts won't keep them from workin'.

While all of the teams are having much fun,
Their days may be numbered in USA1.

Here's to a great set of matches to go.
Watch BBO and don't miss the show!

Back tomorrow ... a pick a day...
Wishing that "slime" ball would just go away.

Yours till the end...
Howie Doing... not bad!

More from the RR...

Board 16 ♠ K9543
 Dealer: W ♥ 875
 E/W Vul. ♦ 9763
 Match 8 ♣ T

♠ JT ♠ AQ8762
 ♥ K2 ♥ AT9
 ♦ AKQ42 ♦
 ♣ J743 ♣ AQ65

♠
 ♥ QJ643
 ♦ JT85
 ♣ K982



West	North	East	South
Rubin	Aker	Pollack	Simson
1NT 14-16	Pass	2H (transfer)	Double
Pass	Pass	3H	Pass
3NT	Pass	4C	Pass
4D	Pass	4H	Pass
4NT	Pass	5S	All Pass

Try as he might Bill Pollack was unable to get his partner to bid the slam. Spades were bid for the first time at the five level and that is where Pollack played the hand. When dummy came down, Bill probably wished he was in six.

The opening lead was the DJ won in dummy. Pollack discarded a club from his hand and continued with two more high diamonds, discarding two more clubs. Pollack finessed a spade, a safe play at the five level, but not necessarily at the six level. If this lost and a second spade was returned, cutting dummy's heart ruff, Pollack could win in dummy and trump a diamond. He can draw trumps

and claim eleven (or twelve if diamonds broke 4-4) tricks consisting of 5 spades, 2 Hearts, 3 (or 4) diamonds and 1 club.

Of course as things lie, Pollack still had to deal with the 5-0 trump split.

As stated, it is not clear that taking the early spade finesse is the correct play in slam. If the finesse loses and a trump is returned, there might only be eleven tricks available.

Pollack played as follows: he trumped a diamond, cashed the club ace and led a heart to dummy's king. On the thirteenth diamond from dummy, Aker trumped low and Pollack overruffed. The ace of hearts was cashed and a heart was ruffed in dummy. A club was played and Pollack took two more spade tricks.

Notice that if Aker discards a heart on the thirteenth diamond, Pollack simply trumps low and plays ace and a heart, trumping with the jack. If Aker overruffs, he is forced to lead from his 9xx of spades into Pollack's AQ8 for the same result.

Billy was right in the first place. With his excellent dummy play, he belonged in the slam!

One From the Head-ups...

Board 22 ♠ AK2
 Dealer: E ♥ K5
 E/W Vul. ♦ Q854
 ♣ 8632

♠ J76 ♠ QT853
 ♥ AT8642 ♥ 7
 ♦ A ♦ KJ91
 ♣ AQ7 ♣ KJ5

♠ 94
 ♥ QJ93
 ♦ T763
 ♣ T94



Boyd	Schermer	Robinson	Chambers
		Pass	Pass
1H	Double	Redouble	All Pass

This score was probably not duplicated in any of the other matches. In the Open Room of the Mahaffey/Gupta match, Boyd opened 1H in third seat and Schermer made a takeout double on his flat 12 count. Robinson redoubled and Chambers passed. Most players play that pass in this situation shows no strong preference for any of the three other suits. Either Schermer/Chambers treat this Pass as penalty oriented (to handle a psychic XX) or someone simply "had a senior moment". In any case, declarer easily collected eight tricks and scored 1120 at the one-level.

In the Closed Room of the Mahaffey/Gupta match EW played in 4S, scoring 650 when the opponents failed to lead a trump. Cohen/Feldman and Zia/Garner played 4S making four. Bitterman/Cappelli reached 2H on the E/W cards. Becker/Graves scored 500 defending 2DX.

10 IMPs to Gupta.



Game Faces

