

Volume 11, Issue 1
April 27, 2017

“Trials” and Tribulations—Pre-Bulletin

The Prez Says ...



Welcome to the 2017 United States Bridge Championships, which will select the two teams to represent the United States in the 2017 Bermuda Bowl. Seventeen teams are entered. The Nickell and Diamond teams have byes to the Quarter Finals. The Fleisher and Fireman teams have byes to the Round of 16. This will be a busy two weeks!

The format will be:

Friday & Saturday, April 28-29: Thirteen teams are in the Round Robin. They will play a complete Round Robin of 8-board matches. Each team will sit out once.

Sunday & Monday, April 30-May 1: The top 10 RR teams will qualify for the USA1 Round of 16, where they will be joined by the Fleisher and Fireman teams for 120-board knockout matches. The 11th, 12th and 13th teams in the Round Robin will play a 3-way knock-out to qualify 2 teams for the USA2 Round of 32.

Tuesday & Wednesday, May 2 & 3: The 6 USA1 Round of 16 winners will join Nickell and Diamond in the USA1 Quarterfinal. The 6 USA1 Round of 16 losers will join the two winners from the USA2 Round of 64 in the USA2 Round of 32.

Thursday & Friday, May 4 & 5: The USA1 Quarterfinal winners will play in the USA1 Semifinal. The USA1 Quarterfinal losers and the USA2 Round of 32 winners will play in the USA2 Round of 16.

Saturday & Sunday, May 6 & 7: The USA1 Semifinal winners will play in the USA1 Final. The USA1 Semifinal losers and the USA2 Round of 16 winners will play in the USA2 Quarterfinal.

Monday & Tuesday, May 8 & 9: The USA1 losing finalist and the USA2 winning Quarterfinalists will play in the USA2 Semifinals. The USA1 losing finalist will choose its opponent for this match.

Wednesday & Thursday, May 10 & 11: The winning USA2 Semifinalists will play in the USA2 Final.

Over the past several years many foreign players have told me that they viewed our trials as the best in the world, in large part because of our superb organization (in particular the long matches) and high ethical standards. The USBF Board and the tournament organizers have done their best to make this the best trials it can be. Only the players can continue to uphold the ethics, camaraderie and sportsmanship for which US bridge is known worldwide. I will attempt to do my part to uphold these standards and ask that each of you keeps this in mind over the coming two weeks.

Marty Fleisher, President, USBF

USBF President

Marty Fleisher
USBF

Vice President

Josh Parker

USBF COO & Secretary

Jan Martel

USBF CFO

Stan Subeck

Directors - USBC

Chris Patrias

Sol Weinstein

McKenzie Myers

Jeanne Van Den Meiracker

Operations Manager

McKenzie Myers

Appeals Administrator

Suzi Subeck, Chairman

Bill Arlinghaus

Martha Katz

Appeals Panel:

David Berkowitz

Huub Bertens

Bart Bramley

Tom Carmichael

Gary Cohler

Ish Del Monte

Mark Feldman

Ron Gerard

Fred Gitelman

Bob Hamman

Geoff Hampson

Mike Kamil

Oren Kriegel

Chip Martel

Beth Palmer

Pepsi Pszczola

Eric Rodwell

Debbie Rosenberg

Michael Rosenberg

Kerri Sanborn

Aaron Silverstein

Danny Sprung

Lew Stansby

Adam Wildavsky

VuGraph Organizers

Jan Martel

Bulletin Editor

Suzi Subeck

Photographer

Peg Kaplan

Local Hospitality Chairs

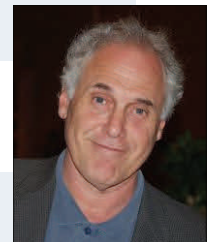
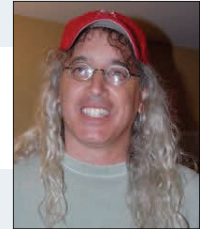
Lisa Berkowitz

Martha Katz

Teams Entered... listed in RR seeding order

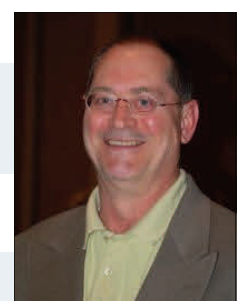
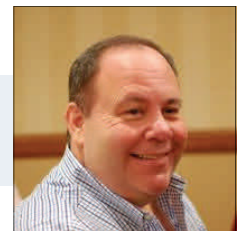
"TRIALS" AND TRIBULATIONS—PRE-BULLETIN

Nickell Bye to QF	Frank Nickell, Capt Jeff Meckstroth Bobby Levin	Ralph Katz Eric Rodwell Steve Weinstein
Diamond Bye to QF	John Diamond, Capt Justin Lall Eric Greco	Brian Platnick Kevin Bathurst Geoff Hampson
Fleisher Bye to R16	Martin Fleisher, Capt Brad Moss Michael Rosenberg	Chip Martel Joe Grue Jacek Pszczola
Fireman Bye to R16	Paul Fireman, Capt John Hurd John Kranyak	Gavin Wolpert Joel Wooldridge Vincent Demuy
Rosenthal	Andrew Rosenthal, Capt Chris Willenken David Berkowitz	Aaron Silverstein Eldad Ginossar Alan Sontag
Meltzer	Rose Meltzer, Capt Steve Garner Bart Bramley	Nikolay Demirev Ron Smith Robert Hamman
Mahaffey	Jim Mahaffey, Capt Neil Chambers Matthew Granovetter	Sam Lev John Schermer Russell Ekeblad
Dwyer	Kevin Dwyer, Capt Billy Cohen Michael Kamil	Roger Lee Gary Cohler Michael Becker
Wold	Eddie Wold, Capt Marc Jacobus Chris Compton	Michael Levine Mike Passell David Grainger
Simson	Doug Simson, Capt JoAnna Stansby	Jeff Aker Lew Stansby
Miller	Jeffrey Miller, Capt Reese Milner Joshua Stark	William Engel Hemant Lall
Robinson	Steve Robinson, Capt Kit Woolsey Bill Pollack	Peter Boyd Fred Stewart Ron Rubin
Jacobs	George Jacobs, Capt Dick Bruno David Lehman	Claude Vogel Jeffrey Schuett Richard Melson
Harris	Martin Harris, Capt Ai-Tai Lo Jay Barron	Jacob Morgan Howard Liu
Ivatury	Uday Ivatury, Capt Lapt Chan	Christal Henner Jon Sorkin
Dinkin	Sam Dinkin, Capt W. Thomas Reynolds	Michael Shuster Lance Kerr
Kent	Robert Kent Brenda Pugsley	Ellen Kent Paul Pugsley



Competing at the highest level is not about winning. It's about preparation, courage, understanding and nurturing your people, and heart. Winning is the result.

Joe Torre



Tournament Schedule (continued on page 4)

ROUND ROBIN			
DAY	DATE	TIME	BOARDS
FRIDAY	APRIL 28	9:45 AM	CAPTAINS' MEETING Room 1321
FRIDAY	APRIL 28	10:00 - 11:10 11:20 - 12:30 12:40 - 1:50 3:15 - 4:25 4:35 - 5:45 5:55 - 7:05 7:15 - 8:25	MATCH 1 - BOARDS 1-8 MATCH 2 - BOARDS 9-16 MATCH 3 - BOARDS 17-24 85 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK MATCH 4 - BOARDS 1-8 MATCH 5 - BOARDS 9-16 MATCH 6 - BOARDS 17-24 MATCH 7 - BOARDS 25-32
SATURDAY	APRIL 29	10:00 - 11:10 11:20 - 12:30 12:40 - 1:50 3:15 - 4:25 4:40 - 5:50* 5:50 - 7:00*	MATCH 8 - BOARDS 1-8 MATCH 9 - BOARDS 9-16 MATCH 10 - BOARDS 17-24 85 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK MATCH 11 - BOARDS 1-8 *MATCH 12 - BOARDS 9-16 *MATCH 13 - BOARDS 17-24
* THE FINAL 2 MATCHES ARE SEQUESTERED - ONE PAIR ON EACH TEAM MUST PLAY BOTH MATCHES & REMAIN IN THE CLOSED ROOM FOR BOTH MATCHES. NO SCORE COMPARISON ALLOWED.			
ROUND OF 16 & USA2 ROUND OF 64 (R of 64 ... see page 4)			
SUNDAY	APRIL 30	9:45 AM	CAPTAINS' MEETING
SUNDAY	APRIL 30	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
MONDAY	MAY 1	10:00 - 12:10 12:25 - 2:35 3:45 - 5:55 6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 5 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 6 BOARDS 16-30 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK SEGMENT 7 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 8 BOARDS 16-30
QUARTER-FINAL & USA2 ROUND OF 32 (8 USA2 TEAMS)			
TUESDAY	MAY 2	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 3	10:00 - 12:10 12:25 - 2:35 3:45 - 5:55 6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 5 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 6 BOARDS 16-30 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK SEGMENT 7 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 8 BOARDS 16-30
SEMI-FINAL & USA2 ROUND OF 16 (8 USA2 TEAMS)			
THURSDAY	MAY 4	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
FRIDAY	MAY 5	10:00 - 12:10 12:25 - 2:35 3:45 - 5:55 6:10 - 8:20	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 & USA2 QUARTERFINAL (6 USA2 TEAMS)			
SATURDAY	MAY 6	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 7	10:00 - 12:10 12:25 - 2:35 3:45 - 5:55 6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 5 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 6 BOARDS 16-30 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK SEGMENT 7 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 8 BOARDS 16-30



USA2 Round of 64

Time			
SUNDAY, APRIL 30TH (NOTE: EACH MATCH WILL HAVE A UNIQUE SET OF BOARDS 1-28) IF ALL 3 TEAMS CONTINUE ON MONDAY, THIS SCHEDULE WILL REPEAT ***BUT - THERE WILL BE NO SCORE COMPARISON ALLOWED AFTER THE 7TH SEGMENT (AT 5:55)*** IF ONE TEAM IS QUALIFIED AT THE END OF SUNDAY, THE ROUND OF 16 SCHEDULE WILL BE USED ON MONDAY			
10:00-11:00	C1	1 vs 2	1-7
	C2	2 vs 3	
	C3	3 vs 1	
11:10-12:10	C1	1 vs 3	1-7
	C2	2 vs 1	
	C3	3 vs 2	
SHORT BREAK FOR COMPARISON			
12:25-1:25	C1	1 vs 3	8-14
	C2	2 vs 1	
	C3	3 vs 2	
1:35-2:35	C1	1 vs 2	8-14
	C2	2 vs 3	
	C3	3 vs 1	
70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK			
3:45-4:45	C1	1 vs 3	15-21
	C2	2 vs 1	
	C3	3 vs 2	
4:55-5:55	C1	1 vs 2	15-21
	C2	2 vs 3	
	C3	3 vs 1	
SHORT BREAK FOR COMPARISON			
6:10-7:10	C1	1 vs 2	22-28
	C2	2 vs 3	
	C3	3 vs 1	
7:20-8:20	C1	1 vs 3	22-28
	C2	2 vs 1	
	C3	3 vs 2	

The leading team will qualify for the Round of 32 if it is ahead in both of its matches by 42 or more IMPs, either at the end of day 1 or at the half on day 2

Outback Steakhouse:

\$5 OFF WITH THE PURCHASE OF 2 ADULT DINNER ENTRÉES THROUGH 4/30/2017. Valid at Dinner only (Dine-In or Curbside Take-Away) at participating Outback Steakhouse locations in the US. Not valid in California. Get \$5 off your check with the purchase of two adult dinner entrées or \$2.50 off with the purchase of one adult dinner entrée with show of coupon (not valid for lunch). One coupon per table, per visit. Not valid for AARP Membership Discount, Bloomin' Monday®, Walkabout Wednesday, or in conjunction with any other offer, discount or coupon. Coupon is not valid after valid date. No cash value. Void where prohibited by law. Prices, product participation and restaurant hours may vary by location. **EXPIRES 4/30/2017.**

909 N Elmhurst Rd
 Mount Prospect, IL
 847-541-4329



USA2 SEMI-FINAL			
MONDAY	MAY 8	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
TUESDAY	MAY 9	10:00 - 12:10 12:25 - 2:35 3:45 - 5:55 6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 5 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 6 BOARDS 16-30 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK SEGMENT 7 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 8 BOARDS 16-30
USA2 FINAL			
WEDNESDAY	MAY 10	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
THURSDAY	MAY 11	10:00 - 12:10 12:25 - 2:35 3:45 - 5:55 6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 5 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 6 BOARDS 16-30 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK SEGMENT 7 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 8 BOARDS 16-30

Round Robin

The 2017 USBC Round Robin will be a 2-day complete Round Robin, with 8 board matches, scored using the **USBF 8 board Victory Point scale**.

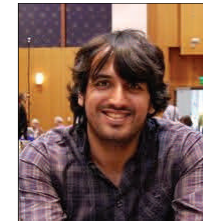
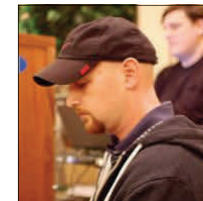
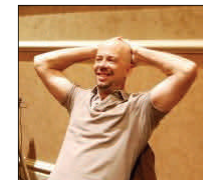
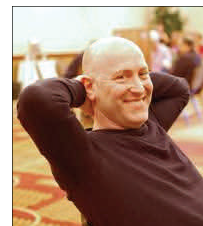
SCORE SUBMISSION

After each match, you must turn in a form showing your score (in IMPs) for the match; please enter the IMPs for each team, not the net IMPs. If you have time to confirm the score with your opponent before submitting it, please do so, but if you don't have time, turn the score in anyway. Write your lineup for the next match on the back of the score ticket, and turn in the score ticket to receive your assignment for the next match.

SEQUESTERED MATCHES

The final 2 matches on Saturday will have the Closed Room sequestered. One pair on your team must play both matches in the Closed Room. No score comparison is allowed during the 2-match clump. For the first sequestered match, the NS pair at each table will be asked to complete a score sheet & have the EW pair verify that it is correct. The score sheets will be collected and entered into the computer by the time you finish the second match. Those scores will be posted on a wall in the Players' Break Room. You will be asked to confirm that the first match score is correct when you turn in your score for the final match. We hope that this procedure will help speed up the determination of the qualifiers.

Margin	Winner	Loser	Margin	Winner	Loser	Margin	Winner	Loser
0	10	10	15	15.23	4.77	30	18.37	1.63
1	10.44	9.56	16	15.50	4.50	31	18.53	1.47
2	10.86	9.14	17	15.75	4.25	32	18.68	1.32
3	11.27	8.73	18	16.00	4.00	33	18.83	1.17
4	11.67	8.33	19	16.23	3.77	34	18.97	1.03
5	12.05	7.95	20	16.46	3.54	35	19.11	0.89
6	12.42	7.58	21	16.68	3.32	36	19.24	0.76
7	12.77	7.23	22	16.90	3.10	37	19.37	0.63
8	13.12	6.88	23	17.11	2.89	38	19.50	0.50
9	13.45	6.55	24	17.31	2.69	39	19.62	0.38
10	13.78	6.22	25	17.50	2.50	40	19.74	0.26
11	14.09	5.91	26	17.69	2.31	41	19.85	0.15
12	14.39	5.61	27	17.87	2.13	42	19.95	0.05
13	14.68	5.32	28	18.04	1.96	43	20	0
14	14.96	5.04	29	18.21	1.79			



USBF
8 Board
VP Scale

All About Kibitzing

WHEN CAN YOU KIBITZ IN THE PLAYING ROOMS?

You will be able to kibitz at any of the tables during this event, except in the Closed Room during the final sequestered matches of the Round Robin. 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 segment.

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

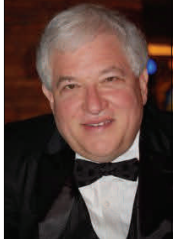
All of the USBC is played with screens. If you've never kibitzed at a table with screens before, you need to know that it is quite different from kibitzing at a regular table. You need to be seated at an "open" corner of the table (not next to the screen) in order to see much, and once there are 4 kibitzers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

USBC 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:

GENERAL RULES

- 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.



2017 Michael Seamon Junior USBC

The United States Bridge Federation (USBF) is pleased to announce that the 2017 Michael Seamon Junior United States Bridge Championships (JUSBC) will be held December 27-30/31, 2017, at the Hyatt Regency in Atlanta. Players will compete in four categories:

1) open U16 (born in 2003 or later); 2) open U21 (born 1998 or later); 3) open U26 (born 1993 or later); and 4) women U26 (Rona Cup; born 1993 or later).

At least one team in each category will qualify to represent the USA at the World Youth Teams Bridge Championships in China in the summer of 2018 (sending an U16 team will require our having enough chaperones going at their own expense).

Teams may enter with 4, 5, or 6 players; winning teams with fewer than 6 players will augment so that 6-person teams represent the USA in China. Depending on the number of teams entered in each category, an online (BBO) qualifying may be required on one or two weekends in September. Further details and entry forms will be available this summer.

Although the USBF has no designated funds for the Michael Seamon JUSBC, we hope to raise enough money privately to cover most of the expenses (airfare, lodging) for those who play in Atlanta.

The schedule of play in Atlanta will depend on the number of teams competing and will likely be different for the four categories. In all cases we plan for participants to play at least two days before anyone is eliminated. All matches at the JUSBC will be played with screens.

Vugraph

The 2017 USBC will be covered on BBO Vugraph starting with the USA1 Round of 16 on Sunday, April 30th. From the USA1 Quarterfinals on, we will cover **all** of the USA1 tables in play. We will also cover all of the USA2 Semifinals and Finals, and as many tables as we have operators for in the earlier USA2 rounds.

To watch the Vugraph online, go to the **BBO website**. You can either log on directly from your browser, go to "Vugraph" and choose which table to watch, or use the download version of the BBO software to run BBO on your computer (only available if you already have it, not to new users). If you choose the latter approach, from the Lobby, click on the button labeled VUGRAPH and you'll be able to choose which of the matches you want to watch.

To watch on your smartphone or tablet, install the BBO app and watch using that.

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

Each day's schedule is the same (these are Chicago times; to see the times for your time-zone, go to the **BBO Vugraph schedule site**)

10:00-12:10

12:25-2:35

3:45-5:55

6:10-8:20

All of the teams will play the same boards throughout the event.

Hints for BBO viewers

Useful information is available to browser BBO users [and perhaps some mobile 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

There will be live video of 2-4 tables each session. Video from the other tables will be uploaded to YouTube as soon as possible.

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. Take a look at the older events currently available (under Archived Results) to see what we'll have for the 2017 USBC. Web Vugraphs are posted about half an hour after completion of the Vugraph show.

You can find the hand records for USBC matches on this site, linked to the scorecards you can get to by clicking on 2017USBC under "Event Results" in the upper left of each page

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.



2016-2017 USBC POSITIONING POINTS

Team	BYE To	Total For R16	Total For Deep	2016 USBC		%	2016 Spingold		2016 Reisinger		2017 Vanderbilt	
				Matches PPs	Won		PPs	Rank	PPs	Rank	PPs	Rank
Nickell (Katz, Levin-Weinstein, Meckstroth-Rodwell)	R8	131	123	8	R16	1	12	9-16	11	9	100	1
Diamond (Platnick, Greco-Hampson, Bathurst-Lall)	R8	150	99	51	R16,Q,S,F	1	27	5-8	60	2	12	9-16
Fleisher (Martel, Grue-Moss, (DelMonte-Willenken USBC; Auken-Welland others))	R16	83		33	R16,Q,S	0.5	100	1				
Strul (Becker, Coren-Kamil, Elahmady-Sadek)	R16	71.5				0.5	46	3-4	85	1	12	9-16
Bramley (Hamman, H. Weinstein, Grabel), Polowan- Fredin Vanderbilt		49.3	49.3			1			29	4	20	5-8
Fireman (Wolpert, Demuy-Kranyak, Hurd-Wooldridge)	R16	48	29	19	R16,Q	1	12	9-16	17	6		
Rosenthal (Silverstein, Berkowitz-Sontag, Jansma -Willenkin)		34.5				0.8					46	3-4
Wolfson (Silverman, Cohler-Cohen, (Mahmood-Kamil USBC; Garner-Smith Spingold))		20	12	8	R16	1	12	9-16				
Coren (Bates-Garner, Granovetter-Ekebad)		19		19	R16,Q							
Gupta (Miller, Zia-DelMonte, Nystron-Upmark)		13.5				0.5	27	5-8				
Sonsini (Jacobus, Bertens-Cheek, DeWijs-Muller)		13.5				0.5	27	5-8				
Mahaffey (Lev, Lee-Rosenberg, Gawrys-Klukowski) Rigal		12				0.5	12	9-16			12	9-16
(Polowan, Lilienstein, Aker, Simson)		10	10			1			10	10		
Schwartz (Graves, Compton-Passell, Bertens-Cheek)		8		8	R16							

Notes: Deep Bye PP's can only be earned in the V/S/R on a team with no ineligible players.

% is the reduction for foreign players for all of the V/S/R PPs for each team that had one or two foreign players

Bramley reduction for Vanderbilt is in the PP column because other event doesn't have reduction

Number of PPs Required for Byes:

R16: 40, 40, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48, 50, 52, 54, 57, 60 (note that smaller numbers are taken by byes to semi's and R8)

R8: 78, 79, 81, 84, 88, 93 (smaller numbers are taken up by any semi-final byes)

Semi: 155, 165 **PLUS** a win in the 2016 Spingold, Reisinger, World Bridge Games, or 2017 Vanderbilt

Hospitality Information...



The hospitality suite for the 2017 Open USBC will be room 2321, one level up from the playing rooms. Our wonderful hostess, Lisa Berkowitz, and her able assistant, Martha Katz, will serve breakfast each day from 8:00-10:30, as well as lunch starting on Sunday from 2:00-4:00.

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 the day.

The "Players' Break Room" (aka Jan's office) will be room 1321. It will be available for the entire tournament. We will have coffee, soft drinks and snacks in that room while you wait for slow teammates to finish playing.

On Friday and Saturday, we will be serving a buffet lunch catered by the hotel in the hotel restaurant.

Some Nearby Suggestions For Your Dining Pleasure



Fresh 1800
1800 E Golf Rd
0.0 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg

Elliott's Off Broadway Deli
1900 E Golf Rd Ste 116
0.1 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg

Olive Garden
1925 E Golf Rd
0.1 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg

LongHorn Steakhouse
1901 E Golf Rd
0.1 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg

Ram Restaurant and Brewery
1901 McConnor Pkwy
0.2 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg

Joe's Crab Shack
2000 E Golf Rd
0.2 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg

Kuma's Corner
1570 E Golf Rd Wood Field Mall
0.2 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg

The Cheesecake Factory
53 Woodfield Rd
0.4 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg

Garrett Popcorn Shops
5 Woodfield Mall, Woodfield Mall, Ground Floor
0.3 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg

Wildberry Pancakes and Cafe
1383 N Meacham Rd
0.6 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg

Maggiano's Little Italy Schaumburg
Streets of woodfield
0.3 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg

Wetzel's Pretzels
5 Woodfield Mall
0.3 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg

Chill Bubble Tea
5 Woodfield Mall #F-319
0.3 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg

Texas de Brazil
5 Woodfield Mall D312
0.5 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg

Nestle Toll House Cafe
5 Woodfield Mall
0.3 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg

A&W Restaurant
5 Woodfield Mall F118
0.3 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg

IKEA Restaurant
1800 McConnor Pkwy
0.3 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg

Weber Grill Restaurant
1010 N Meacham Rd
0.7 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg

California Pizza Kitchen
1550 E Golf Rd
0.3 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg

Seasons 52
1770 E Higgins Rd
0.9 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg

Cold Stone Creamery
5 Woodfield Drive
0.3 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg

Wildfire
1250 E Higgins Rd
1.1 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg

Subway
1478 E Golf Rd Plaza Drive & Meacham Road
0.4 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg

Arby's
1564 E Golf Rd
0.4 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg

Maggiano's Little Italy
1901 East Woodfield Rd.
0.6 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg

Panda Express
3 Woodfield Mall
0.4 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg

Level 257
2 Woodfield Mall Unit a
0.4 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg

(Continued from page 9)

Hooters
1705 E Golf Rd
0.4 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg

P.F. Chang's
Woodfield Mall 5 Woodfield Mall Space D313
0.5 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg

Jason's Deli
1530 McConnor Pkwy
0.5 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg
Cuisines: American, Soups, Delicatessen

Portillo's
611 E Golf Rd
1.5 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg
Cuisines: Italian, American, Fast Food

Rainforest Cafe
D121 Woodfield Mall
0.5 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg
Cuisines: American

Cafe Zupas
1422 E Golf Rd
0.6 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg
Cuisines: Cafe, Soups, Fast Food

Surf City Squeeze
E117 Woodfield Mall
0.4 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg

Chevys Fresh Mex
1180 Plaza Dr
0.5 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg
Cuisines: Mexican, Southwestern

TGI Friday's
1695 E Golf Rd
0.5 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg
Cuisines: American, Bar, Pub

UNO Pizzeria and Grill
1160 N Plaza Dr
0.5 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg
Cuisines: Italian, Pizza

Westwood Tavern
1385 N Meacham Rd
0.6 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg
Cuisines: American, Bar, Pub

Hooters - Schaumburg
1110 Perimeter Dr
0.5 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg
Cuisines: American, Bar, Pub

Egg Harbor Cafe
1310 American Ln Meacham Point
0.8 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg
Cuisines: American, Cafe

Argo Tea
5 Woodfield Mall
0.5 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg
Cuisines: Cafe, Healthy

Morton's the Steakhouse
1470 McConnor Pkwy
0.6 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg
Cuisines: American, Steakhouse

Great Steak
5 Woodfield Mall
0.5 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg
Cuisines: Steakhouse

Granite City Food and Brewery
801 N Plaza Dr
0.7 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg
Cuisines: American, Bar, Pub

Giordano's
930 N Meacham Rd
0.7 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg
Cuisines: Italian, Pizza

Moretti's Ristorante and Pizzeria
1893 Walden Office Sq
Cuisines: Italian, Pizza, American

Qdoba Mexican Grill
1408 E Golf Rd
0.6 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg
Cuisines: Mexican, Fast Food

Shaw's Crab House
1900 East Higgins Road
1.0 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg
Cuisines: American, Seafood, Sushi

Sam & Harry's Steak House
1551 Thoreau Dr N Renaissance Schaumburg Convention
0.7 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg
Cuisines: American, Steakhouse

Stonewood Ale House
601 Mall Drive
0.9 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg
Cuisines: American, Bar, Pub

ZEAL Restaurant
680 Mall Dr
0.8 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg
Cuisines: Italian, American, Steakhouse

(Continued from page 10)

Panera Bread
1140 N Plaza Dr
0.6 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg
Cuisines: Soups, Cafe, Fast Food

Noodles & Company
1400 N Meacham Rd
0.6 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg
Cuisines: Japanese, Asian, Soups

Sarku Express
1408 E Golf Rd
0.6 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg
Cuisines: Asian

Corner Bakery Cafe
1901 E Woodfield Rd
0.7 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg
Cuisines: American, Cafe, Healthy, Soups

Pie Five Pizza Co.
1428 N Meacham Rd
0.6 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg
Cuisines: Pizza, Fast Food

Five Guys
1424 N Meacham Rd
0.6 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg
Cuisines: American, Fast Food

Big Bowl Schaumburg
1950 E Higgins Rd
0.9 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg
Cuisines: Chinese, Asian, Thai

Grillhouse by David Burke
1301 American Lane
0.8 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg
Cuisines: American, Soups, Steakhouse

Buffalo Wild Wings
1430 N Meacham Rd
0.7 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg
Cuisines: Bar, Pub, American

Einstein Bros. Bagels
1422 N Meacham Rd
0.7 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg

Roti Modern Mediterranean
892 N Meacham Rd
0.8 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg
Cuisines: Middle Eastern, Lebanese, Fast Food, Mediterranean, Greek

Jimmy John's
1420 N Meacham Rd
0.6 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg

The Beer Market
888 N Meacham Rd
0.8 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg
Cuisines: American, Bar, Pizza, Pub

Chicago Prime Italian
1370 Bank Dr
1.0 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg
Cuisines: Italian

The Clubhouse
1301 American Lane
0.8 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg

Starbucks
1018 N Meacham Road
0.7 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg

Meatheads
601 N Martingale Rd Streets of Woodfield Shopping Ctr
0.8 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg
Cuisines: American, Fast Food

Sakura Restaurant Woodfield
4011 Algonquin Rd
0.7 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg
Cuisines: Sushi, Japanese

Potbelly Sandwich Shop
880 N Meacham Rd
0.8 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg

La Charanga Mexican Restaurant
4003 Algonquin Rd
0.8 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg
Cuisines: Mexican
Jamba Juice
601 N Martingale Rd Ste 310
0.8 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg

Benjyehuda
1022 N. Meacham
0.7 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg

Starbucks
601 N Martingale Rd Streets Of Woodfield
0.8 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg

Jersey Mikes
601 N Martingale Rd
0.8 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg
Cuisines: Pizza

On the Border
870 N Meacham Rd
0.8 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg
Cuisines: Mexican, Southwestern

Tokio Pub
1900 E Higgins Rd
1.0 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg
Cuisines: Asian, Japanese, Sushi, Pub

(Continued from page 11)

Stadium
4015 ALGONQUIN RD
0.8 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg

Finn McCool's
1941 E Algonquin Rd
0.8 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg
Cuisines: American

Gameworks
601 N Martingale Rd Ste 115
0.8 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg
Cuisines: American, Bar, Pub

Gather Bar
1551 Thoreau Dr N Renaissance Convention Center Hotel
0.8 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg
Cuisines: Bar, Pub, American

Gaylord Fine Indian Cuisine
555 Mall Dr
0.9 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg
Cuisines: Indian

Wintergarden Cafe
1551 Thoreau Dr N Renaissance Convention Center Hotel
0.8 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg

Taco Bell
650 Mall Dr
0.9 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg
Cuisines: Mexican

Benihana
1200 E Higgins Rd
1.2 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg
Cuisines: Japanese, Sushi, Asian

Mc Kenna's Restaurant
3405 Algonquin Rd
0.9 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg
Cuisines: American, Bar, Pub

Punch Bowl Social
1100 American Ln
0.9 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg
Cuisines: American, Gastropub

Red Lobster
800 E Golf Rd
1.3 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg
Cuisines: American, Seafood

Chef Ping
1755 Algonquin Rd
1.7 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg
Cuisines: Chinese, Asian

Egg'lectic
2905 Algonquin Rd
1.2 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg
Cuisines: American

La Mirage
3223 Algonquin Rd
1.0 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg

Chicago Prime Steakhouse
1444 E Algonquin Rd
1.2 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg
"Cuisines: American, Steakhouse

Entre Bar & Grill
1725 E Algonquin Rd
0.9 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg
Cuisines: Italian, Mexican, Chinese, American, Indian

Portillo's
1900 W Golf Rd
1.6 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg
Cuisines: American, Fast Food

Chick-fil-A
935 E Golf Rd between Plum Grove Rd & Commons Dr
1.2 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg
Cuisines: American, Fast Food

Woo Lae Oak
3201 Algonquin Rd
1.0 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg
Cuisines: Asian, Korean

Big Chef
1602 E Algonquin Rd
1.1 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg
Cuisines: American, Bar, Pizza, Pub

Hong Kong Cafe
1608 E Algonquin Rd
1.1 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg
Cuisines: Chinese, Asian

Embassy Cafe
1933 N Meacham Rd Ste 130
1.1 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg
Cuisines: Delicatessen

Bahama Breeze
406 E Golf Rd
1.8 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg
Cuisines: American, Caribbean, Seafood, Bahamian, Jamaican

Culver's
1410 E Algonquin Rd
1.2 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg
Cuisines: Fast Food, American

(Continued from page 12)

Tilted Kilt

1140 E Higgins Rd

1.2 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg

Cuisines: American, Bar, Pub

Kouzina

795 E Golf Road

1.4 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg

Cuisines: Mediterranean, Greek

Pompei

1261 E Higgins Rd

1.2 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg

Cuisines: Italian

Fuddruckers

436 E Golf Rd

1.8 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg

Cuisines: American, Fast Food

Sake Sushi & Grill

697 E Golf Rd

1.5 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg

Cuisines: Sushi, Asian, Japanese

Minghin Cuisine

1440 Golf Rd Marketplace

1.9 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg

Cuisines: Chinese, Asian

Barnelli's Pasta Bowl

611 E Golf Rd

1.5 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg

Cuisines: Italian, Fast Food

Toscana

1859 W Central Rd

1.7 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg

Cuisines: Italian

La Michoacana Paeteria

2219 W Algonquin Rd

1.4 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg

La Quiringua

#27 of 58 Restaurants in Rolling Meadows

1.4 miles from Hyatt Regency Schaumburg

Cuisines: Mexican

There are many more restaurants within proximity of the playing site. The Schaumburg area is well respected for its great choice of ethnic cuisines and first class steakhouses.

When unsure, we recommend any of the Lettuce Entertain You Restaurants. They offer a big variety of fare and tend to be reasonably priced.

Bon Appétit!



Kibitzer Activities...

The **White Sox** are in town May 9-14th.

They are playing the Twins through the 11th and the Padres from the 12th to the 14th.



Tuesday through Friday games are at 7:10pm. Saturday is at 6:10pm and Sunday is at 1:10pm.

For ticket information, go to Chicago.WhiteSox.mlb.com.

The **Cubs** are in town from May 1-7th.

They are playing the Phillies through the 4th and the Yankees through the 7th.

For ticket information, go to Chicago.Cubs.mlb.com.

Woodfield Mall is a shopping mall located in Schaumburg at the intersection of Golf Road and Interstate 290. It is large... has a huge selection of stores... restaurants... movie theaters. It is a great place to take a break, get some exercise walking indoors, or stop for a meal or a snack. If you are sitting out for an entire session, you can even go see a movie.

Not far from the playing site, **Long Grove** is a special little village that retains all the character of its original farming community roots, with historic buildings, cobblestone walks and flowering gardens, set in a secluded rural atmosphere. And now, added to all the traditional favorites, Long Grove has an exciting new mix of attractions, offering contemporary goods and style, cool arts and entertainment, and festive spaces to fulfill the wishes of a whole new generation. For everyday shopping and dining, this is an easy "must-see" trip.

Long Grove is known for its eclectic and artsy shops and eateries and its old-fashioned country setting.

Nestled in historic homes and buildings that date back to the community's roots in the 1800's, Long Grove's many shops specialize in unique gifts, boutiques, exceptional art and home decor, and distinctive menus. Visitors can stroll the cobblestone walks that wind through the historic downtown and enjoy seasonal lush gardens and scenic views. And they can make it a quick trip or a day's outing, shopping and indulging their tastes with a variety of food and bakery products, cafés, and fine eating establishments.

(Continued on page 14)

(Continued from page 13)

Long Grove Historic Village is located just 35 miles northwest of Chicago, near Routes 53 and 83 north of Lake Cook Road. This little crossroads was settled in the early 1800's by German farmers who came to town to buy their supplies and have their horses shod. The original homes and businesses now bear plaques recognizing their importance to Long Grove's history. The signature covered bridge and the village landmarks in the historic district have all been carefully guarded as the town evolved into a unique and charming destination for visitors. Additional Long Grove merchants and fine restaurants can be found outside of the historic district on Routes 83, 53, and 22.

Long Grove is also known for its fun. Their full schedule of festivals and concerts are among Chicagoland's premier outdoor events. Chocolate Fest in early May, Strawberry Festival in June and Apple Fest in October draw appreciative crowds, as do many other outdoor music and ethnic feasts and events throughout the year. Activities continue right through the holidays with music, winter activities and world-class shopping.

Area Golf Courses

Schaumburg Golf Club -Original Nine
Public - 9 holes
401 N Roselle Rd - Schaumburg
Distance: 1.24 miles

Schaumburg Golf Club -White & Blue (Tournament)
Public - 18 holes
401 N Roselle Rd - Schaumburg
Distance: 1.24 miles

Highland Woods Golf Course
Public - 18 holes
2775 N Ela Rd - Hoffman Estates
Distance: 1.31 miles

Hilldale Golf Club
Public - 18 holes
1655 Ardwick Dr - Hoffman Estates
Distance: 1.50 miles

Walnut Greens Golf Course
Public - 9 holes



1150 N Walnut Ln - Schaumburg
Distance: 1.64 miles

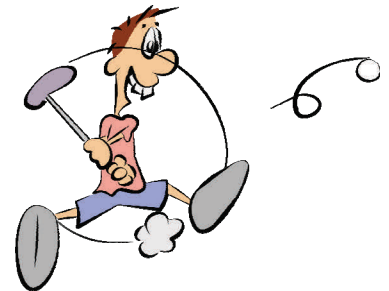
Poplar Creek Country Club
Public - 18 holes
1400 Poplar Creek Dr - Hoffman Estates
Distance: 2.20 miles

Fox Run Golf Links
Public - 18 holes
333 Plum Grove Rd - Elk Grove Village
Distance: 2.68 miles

Palatine Hills Golf Course
Public - 18 holes
512 W Nw Hwy - Palatine
Distance: 4.31 miles

Arlington Lakes Golf Club
Public - 18 holes
1211 S New Wilkes Rd - Arlington Heights
Distance: 4.74 miles

Twin Lakes Golf Course
Public - 9 holes
1200 E Twin Lakes Dr - Palatine
Distance: 5.46 miles



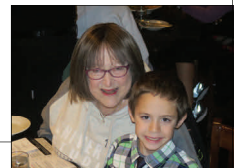
My shots on the golf course
work out better than my
shots at the bridge table!

From the Editor:

Please be advised to keep this issue of the newsletter. While team lists and schedules will be reprinted in subsequent hard copy editions, other information will not. We do this to make room for new content at a substantial print savings to the organization.

Thank you!!

Suzi



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

Sudoku 1

Hard Sudoku

Sudoku 2

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

Answers to Puzzle No Peeking!

Sudoku 2 Solution

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

Sudoku 1 Solution

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

Puzzle Page ...

Home Improvements

Four neighbors decided one summer to improve their homes. Each couple planned on an outside home improvement to take advantage of the good summer weather. However, once they got started, they got carried away and worked on an inside home improvement too. Using the clues, determine the full name of each couple and the two home improvements each couple made.

1. George, who wasn't married to Kim, didn't remodel the kitchen.
2. Ted Manor and his wife had the roof replaced.
3. Larry and Alice didn't add a bathroom or landscape their yard.
4. Burt, who wasn't married to Mary Wells, installed new carpeting in the bedrooms but didn't add a swimming pool.
5. Tara, whose last name wasn't Fischer, added a new garage.
6. The Parkers didn't remodel the kitchen. The couple that finished their basement into a game room was the couple that landscaped their yard.

Work Space:

Answers to Puzzle:

First Name	Last Name	Outside home improvement	Inside home improvement
Ted	Manor	replaced roof	additional bathroom
Larry	Fischer	swimming pool	remodeled kitchen
George	Wells	landscaping	finished basement
Burt	Parker	new garage	replaced carpeting
		improvement	improvement

Limey Jack...

Hallo Yanks:

Limey Jack is back and bum over teakettle to have something else to do cept watch the Colonies go to war with the whole bloody world including California. For a certainty, that Howie Dung creature will return and give a black eyed Susan to analysts everywhere. Limey Jack is here to give you the straight skinny as to how best to make a few bob with your favourite punter.

Once again, your admins have lost the plot with this tosser format; where losing is winning, but winning is just putting off losing whilst teams afforded a bye have a pint and a kip awaiting their short stay. Apparently 2 teams will survive the carnage. Howie Dung will have no clue and will just reach new blathering heights. Limey Jack takes you where you need be.

In the first round robin, 13 start and 10 move on, but fear ye not for the left behinds as they will have another attempt to knock each other off the Maypole.

There are 6 teams with less than 6 players. It is from this lot that the first cut will be made. Kent, while clearly a Countryman, will be hard put to join Stag Night. Dinkin is close to the bubble but falls short. Miller, AKA Milner, loses on the very last hand, but will come back to fight again.

Limey Jack will need good sleep to keep you blokes well informed over the next fortnight, so it is off to Bedfordshire.

Cheers, L. J.

Howie Doing...

Happy to be here... glad to be back.
Love handicapping so close to the track.

Slimey is here but he don't know Jack!
Trust Howie Doing... The Brit is a quaque!

My Round Robin picks: Here's what I'm thinkin'.
Pollack will frolic while Dinkin is sinkin'.

Kent will relent, outclassed by the field;
Mahaffey and crew will wear out and yield.

Remember this format goes on forever.
Confusing to Jack, it really is clever.

Though a team loses, it still isn't through.
It simply emerges in USA2.

Back in two days, more picks ensuing...
For now, I remain the great Howie Doing!

**If you are still here
on Mother's Day,
Don't forget to call home!**



"To my favorite palindrome."

Pun-ishment!

Did you hear about the guy whose whole left side was cut off? He's all right now.

I wasn't originally going to get a brain transplant, but then I changed my mind.

Yesterday I accidentally swallowed some food coloring. The doctor says I'm OK, but I feel like I've dyed a little inside.

Why don't some couples go to the gym? Because some relationships don't work out.

I'd tell you a chemistry joke but I know I wouldn't get a reaction.

I wondered why the baseball was getting bigger. Then it hit me.

A friend of mine tried to annoy me with bird puns, but I soon realized that toucan play at that game.

Did you hear about the guy who got hit in the head with a can of soda? He was lucky it was a soft drink.

Have you ever tried to eat a clock? It's very time consuming.

I'm reading a book about anti-gravity. It's impossible to put down.

A man just assaulted me with milk, cream and butter. How dairy.

Why don't programmers like nature? It has too many bugs.

The experienced carpenter really nailed it, but the new guy screwed everything up.

A prisoner's favorite punctuation mark is the period. It marks the end of his sentence.

If there was someone selling drugs in this place, weed know.

When notes get in treble, bass-ically they get put behind bars. The alto-nate punishment is to push them off a clef and hope they land flat on sharp objects.

I don't trust these stairs because they're always up to something.

I used to be a banker but I lost interest

He drove his expensive car into a tree and found out how the Mercedes bends.

The shoemaker did not deny his apprentice anything he needed. He gave his awl.

A man just assaulted me with milk, cream and butter. How dairy.

Why don't programmers like nature? It has too many bugs.

The experienced carpenter really nailed it, but the new guy screwed everything up.

North-South vulnerable, East deals

	North	
	♠ 53	
	♥ K9764	
	♦ J63	
	♣ A63	
West (Platnick)		East (Kriegel)
♠ AK10642		♠ 7
♥ 105		♥ J832
♦ K1085		♦ Q742
♣ 10		♣ K984
	South	
	♠ QJ98	
	♥ AQ	
	♦ A9	
	♣ QJ752	

West	North	East	South
---	---	Pass	1♣
3♠	Dbl.	Pass	3NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

A Hand from A Local Regional by Oren Kriegel



West, Brian Platnick, chose 3♠ instead of the normal 1♣ to generate some action. Unfortunately, it worked!! He started with two high spades, setting up a couple winners for declarer, and I had to find a discard as East. Not knowing much about the hand and not wanting to strongly request a damaging shift, I discarded the ♦4, playing standard signals. Brian had been planning to shift to the ♦10—a good play, neutralizing the ♦9 in declarer’s hand—but my discard looked discouraging enough to make him change his plan. He shifted to the ♥10.

One way declarer could succeed is by rising with the ♥K, capturing her own ♥Q, but gaining a critical entry to attack clubs. Now a low club to the ♣Q, back to the ♣A, and a third round of the suit sets up four tricks there to go along with two spades, two hearts, and one diamond.

Declarer at our table, Denise Kadleck, found a more elegant route to nine tricks. She won the ♥A in her hand and ran the ♣Q to the ♣K. Too little, too late I shifted to a diamond, but Denise alertly went up with the ♦A, cashed her two spade winners—forcing me to discard my remaining diamonds—and the ♥A, then crossed to the ♣A. I had a faint hope that declarer would test the hearts, setting up my ♥J, but no dice. She stranded the ♥K in dummy, coming back to the ♣J to throw me in with a fourth round of clubs. I had to concede the last two tricks. Making 3NT was a tie for top for North-South.

It wasn’t so much Denise’s good play that got me on this deal—I’ve been the victim plenty of times before—but that after making her plan, she played the hand in tempo and with such purpose that it made my head spin. That’s not the sort of thing you see every day.

Practice in the Afternoon...

Board 2
 N/S Vul.
 Dealer: E
 IMP Pairs

♠ AQ9
 ♥ 72
 ♦ AQT872
 ♣ J4

West	North	East	South
Pepsi	Lesniak	Rosenberg, M	Blas
		3H	All Pass

♠ JT532
 ♥ A3
 ♦ 9
 ♣ AK987



♠ 84
 ♥ QT9654
 ♦ 654
 ♣ T5

♠ K76
 ♥ KJ8
 ♦ KJ3
 ♣ Q632

Bridge is a bidder's game.

In a Practice Game on BBO last week, Michael Rosenberg, in first seat at favorable, opened the East hand 3H! His poor opponents... Cold for 3NT+ without a finesse and no sensible way to bid over the preempt.

Three hearts was defeated one trick on the lead of a small club. Michael won dummy's ace; led a diamond won by North; a club continued to the king. Ruff a club (overruffing North's seven), ruff a diamond, ruff a club, ruff a diamond... and in the fullness of time, conceding three hearts, one spade and one diamond.

11 IMPs to Rosenberg for a successfully calculated risk

As many of you know, bridge is not just a game to me. It has and continues to transform my life. There is something about sitting down to play bridge that brings me an incredible sense of peace and belonging. A few years ago, responding to a call within the bridge community for young blood, I set out with friends to produce my first film. *Double Dummy* is a documentary that captures the game's unique ability to develop community, exercise the mind, risk some, lose plenty, and ultimately have fun. Now, I'm thrilled to report that we are in the final stages of production and we're in the early stages of planning our launch.

Why the name *Double Dummy*? To say you played a hand "double dummy" is one of the finest compliments you can pay a bridge player, you've played the hand as if you knew all the cards.

During filming, we had several coups. Phillip Alder, the *New York Times* columnist, was covering the 2012 World Youth Teams Championships, which makes up the primary through line of our film. Now, just a few years later, Alder's column is emblematic of the problem facing bridge today. The game has lost so much traction with younger audiences that even after nearly a century of coverage, the *Times* cancelled Phillip's column. (Fortunately, we made it in before it disappeared.) Like the newspapers themselves, bridge is facing signs of extinction. Keeping the game alive is one of the primary reasons we've made this film. The game is too important to me to let it simply fade into oblivion.

We're just getting started. Over the next couple of months, I'll be sharing a few behind the scenes moments on the process of making the film. We do not yet know when, where or how the film will be released.

Finally, I want to thank everyone in the bridge community and our incredible team of filmmakers for making this happen, and thanks to each of you for coming along on the journey with us.

McAllister





Sam Dinkin makes a living as a consultant for high stakes auctions at the firm Power Auctions LLC. He advised the leading telecom company in India to help them acquire \$6 billion of telecom spectrum in the previous two auctions held by the Department of Telecommunications. He is currently advising the Okavango Diamond Company which is Botswana's government-owned rough diamond seller, selling two million carats per year.

Sam did his undergraduate work at Caltech and earned a doctorate in economics from the University of Arizona. After learning bridge at Caltech, he placed in the collegiate team championships. He later placed in the pair trials qualifying to represent the USA in U25 competition as USA I in 1993.

Sam's recent bridge credits include placing 5th in North American Swiss Team Championship at the Fall 2014 Providence NABC; 4th in the May 2015 Open USBC round robin; 7th in the Board-A-Match Teams at the EU Open Championship in Tromsø, Norway in Summer 2015 and 6th in the North American Swiss Team Championship at the Spring 2016 NABC. His bridge captaining credits include USA I winning a silver medal competing for the 2009 Venice Cup in São Paulo, Brazil.

His other hobbies include jogging and space journalism. Sam lives in Austin, Texas, with his wife, Lynn Baker, an excellent player in her own right, and their 18-year old daughter, Mahria.

Meet the Players



Brian Platnick is an option trader who lives in Evanston, IL with his wife and 2 children. He and his brother David started playing tournaments in high school. Then in 1988, Brian and John Diamond formed a partnership with the goal of competing in the World Junior Championships which they won in 1991.

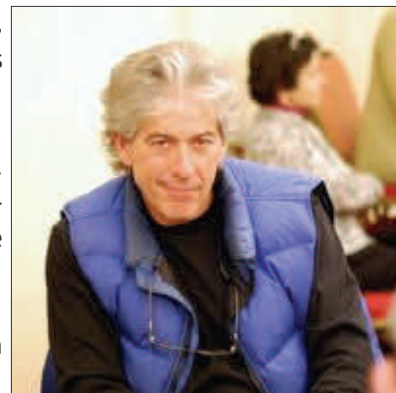
In 2008, Brian started playing "serious" bridge again when he joined the Diamond team (John Diamond, Eric Greco, Geoff Hampson, Brad Moss and Fred Gitelman). They had success quickly with a 2nd place finish in the 2008 Vanderbilt followed by victories in the 2010 Spingold, 2010 Rosenblum and in 2012, Brian & JD won the Blue Ribbon Pairs.

In 2014, Brian competed in his 3rd world championship winning his 3rd medal, a bronze in the Rosenblum.

Bobby Levin has won too many bridge events to list. In 1981 at age 23, he was the youngest player ever to win the Bermuda Bowl. He and partner, Steve Weinstein, were second in the World Open Pairs in Verona in 2006 and won the event 4 years later in Philadelphia.

Bobby has recently become an avid skier and has always been an avid tennis player. He also enjoys biking and has spent most of the last year and a half traveling the country with wife Jill and their dog, skiing and biking around towns with lots of time on the beaches.

Bobby's son Andrew is in college at Northwestern, and Jill's sons Shane and Justin Blanchard are upcoming bridge players who live in New York city.



Ain't it funny how the colors red, white, and blue represent freedom until they are flashing behind your car.

I'll change my Facebook username to NOBODY so that way when people post crappy posts, and i press the like button it will say NOBODY likes this.

You know you're ugly when it comes to a group picture and they hand you the camera.

A recent study has found that women who carry a little extra weight live longer than the men who mention it.

One day while in a bank, an old lady asked if I could help her check her balance... so i pushed her over.

I'm the kind of guy who stops the microwave at 1 second just to feel like a bomb defuser.

My girlfriend told me to go out and get something that makes her look hot.. so I got drunk.

A blind man walks into a bar... And a chair... and a table.

Maybe if we all emailed the constitution to each other, the NSA will finally read it.

Don't you hate it when someone answers his own questions? I do.

You haven't experienced awkward until you try to tickle someone who isn't ticklish.

After Monday and Tuesday even the calendar says W T F.

He can embarrass the batter on one pitch and the catcher on the next. Ron Tingley

Tommy John is so old, he uses Absorbine Senior. Bob Costas

I'm too lazy to work and too scared to steal. Tom Bolton

Now there's three things you can do in a baseball game; you can win or you can lose or it can rain.
Casey Stengel

Ronald Reagan has held the two most demeaning jobs in the country; President of the United States and radio broadcaster for the Chicago Cubs. George Will

Hey, Lou, it took you 15 years to get out of the game. Sometimes I'm out in 15 minutes. 'Lefty' Gomez

