

Volume 11, Issue 7  
May 3, 2017

## Results:

	Total	Seg 1	Seg 2	Seg 3	Seg 4
1 Nickell	88	31	38	11	8
8 Meltzer	70	25	21	4	20
2 Diamond	116	27	32	25	32
7 Wold	104	33	36	12	23
3 Fireman	80	21	33	2	24
6 Dwyer	90	43	4	29	14
4 Harris	141	43	44	30	24
5 Rosenthal	89	6	34	26	23

# USA1

9 <u>Miller</u>	67	7	41	11	8
16 <u>Simson</u>	217	64	57	62	34
10 <u>Mahaffey</u>	185	64	59	38	24
15 <u>Dinkin</u>	95	22	11	52	10
11 <u>Jacobs</u>	149	6	44	34	65
14 <u>Ivatury</u>	127	50	35	22	20
12 <u>Robinson</u>	92	25	16	28	23
13 <u>Fleisher</u>	189	57	60	23	49

# USA2

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UNITED STATES BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

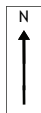
# “Trials” and Tribulations

**Mother's  
Day  
Is Coming Soon!**



Board 12 ♠ Q9  
 Dealer: W ♥ QJ94  
 N/S Vul ♦ A92  
 Segment 3 ♣ AJ54

♠ AT7      ♠ J652  
 ♥ 52      ♥ KT63  
 ♦ Q8653      ♦ KJ  
 ♣ T32      ♣ Q86



♠ K843  
 ♥ A87  
 ♦ T74  
 ♣ K97

West	North	East	South
Willenken	Morgan	Ginossar	Harris
Pass	1NT (14-17)	Pass	2NT(puppet)
Pass	3C (no 5 card M)	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Lo	Silverstein	Liu	Rosenthal
2D	All Pass		

Jacob Morgan made a clever play to bring home a touch-and-go 3NT contract. After receiving a somewhat favorable heart lead, he really didn't want to guess how to play on clubs or spades. He deceptively ducked a diamond to East's jack.

## Harris/Rosenthal

If East continued with the DK, he could duck that as well.

East knew he could not afford to continue hearts. He switched to the S6. Morgan ducked the spade to West's ten and his queen, and continued with the S9 which held the trick. He finessed the HQ. Needing only three club tricks, he took the safest and best play by cashing the ace, playing a club to the king, and leading the C9 off dummy to East's queen.


East exited with a heart and Morgan claimed nine tricks! Well played!

At the other table, Lo started and ended the auction with a weak 2D bid on his five card suit to the queen. The HQ was led. This held the trick. North shifted to a diamond, won in dummy. Diamonds were continued and North took his ace. Rather than simply exiting with his last diamond, he switched to the queen of spades. His partner had played the seven of diamonds followed by the four... maybe he read this as preference for spades.

Lo held his contract to down one. 11 IMPs to Harris

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

## Diamond and Nickell Join the Fray...

Board 2	♠ K942		♠ AT86
Dealer: E	♥ AQ86		♥ K7
N/S Vul.	♦ T		♦ J83
Segment 1	♣ A972		♣ KQT8
	♠ J5		♠ Q73
	♥ T92		♥ J543
	♦ KQ72		♦ A9654
	♣ 6543		♣ J

In most matches, Board 2 produced no significant swing. Most North/South pairs reached a partscore in hearts and made three. In Fireman/Dwyer and Rosenthal/Harris, game was bid at one of the tables.

In Fireman/Dwyer, Wolpert squeezed dummy to defeat 1NT.

Wolpert led the H6 and Lee won the king in dummy. He played the DJ which was ducked around, felling the ten from North. He switched to the CK, losing to North's ace, felling the jack from South. Interestingly, he now had tenaces over both minor suit nines! (*for whatever good that did him*)

Open Room				<b>Fireman/Dwyer</b>
West	North	East	South	
Demuy	Becker	Kranyak	Kamil	
		1C	Pass	
1NT	2C (majors)	Pass	4H	
All Pass				

Closed Room				<b>Harris/Rosenthal</b>
Lee	Wolpert	Dwyer	Fireman	
		1C	Pass	
1NT	All Pass			

Open Room				<b>Harris/Rosenthal</b>
Lo	Berkowitz	Liu	Sontag	
		1C	Pass	
1D	Double	Redouble	1H	
2C	2H	3C	3D	
Pass	4H	All Pass		

Closed Room				<b>Harris/Rosenthal</b>
Willenken	Barron	Ginossar	Morgan	
		1C	Pass	
1S (NT)	Double	Pass	Pass	
1NT	Pass	Pass	2H	
All Pass				

Wolpert cashed the HA and another heart on which Lee pitched a spade from dummy. On Wolpert's last heart, Lee pitched the D3 from dummy and the C4 from his hand. Wolpert exited a spade, ducked to the queen. Fireman took his DA, led a spade and the contract failed one trick.

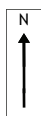
At the other table, Kamil exhibited great declarer skill in 4H. Demuy led the DQ which Kamil won in hand. Kamil ruffed a diamond in dummy and played a spade, ducked to his queen; jack of clubs to the ace and a club ruff; diamond ruff, club ruff, diamond ruff with the trump ace; club ruff; and the D9 ... declarer now guaranteed to score either the Q or J of trump for his tenth trick. Great play and a well earned 11 IMPs!

In Harris/Rosenthal, the swing was only 6IMPs when Morgan made 3H in the 2H partial, and Sontag failed in the heart game. Lo led a club and after ruffing a club, cashing a diamond and ruffing a diamond, Sontag tried a heart toward his jack. Liu won his king and switched to a spade. Sontag won his queen. Sontag ruffed another diamond in dummy. Instead of now ruffing a club in hand, he tried a small spade ducked to the jack. Only 9 tricks and 6 IMPs to Harris.

Board 16 ♠ KQJ75  
 Dealer: W ♥ AT964  
 E/W Vul. ♦ AJ8  
 Segment 2 ♣

♠ T964 ♠ 8  
 ♥ Q852 ♥ J3  
 ♦ 2 ♦ KT9753  
 ♣ KJT7 ♣ A984

♠ A32  
 ♥ K7  
 ♦ Q64  
 ♣ Q6532



Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
Demirev	Katz	Meltzer	Nickell
Pass	1S	Pass	1NT
Pass	3H	Pass	4S
All Pass			

Open Room			
Rodwell	Garner	Meckstroth	Smith
Pass	1S	Pass	3C (fit showing)
Double	3H	Pass	4S
Pass	4NT	Pass	5C
Pass	6S	All Pass	

In the Closed Room, Katz was able to show a strong hand suggesting slam interest. Nickell jumped to the game ending the auction. Meltzer led the D9. Katz put up the queen and went about his business collecting 11 tricks ... making 5.

In the Open Room, after Smith's fit showing jump, Garner couldn't show extras with his 3H response. When Smith jumped to game, perhaps it should have suggested fast arrival, but Garner wanted to make a try. He asked for keycards and when Smith showed one, Garner bid the small slam.

Meckstroth led the CA; declarer ruffed and led a small heart to the king. He played a heart to his ace, and ruffed a heart, Meckstroth discarding a club. When the diamond finesse lost to the king, Garner was only able to collect 10 tricks. Down two and 11IMPs to Nickell.

Harris/Rosenthal was more interesting. Both tables arrived in 4S. Silverstein, North, like Katz, made five on the lead of a diamond.

In the other room, Morgan, also North, went down after Ginossar led his CA. Like Garner, Morgan ruffed the club, led a small heart to the king and a heart to the ace. When he led the H9 intending to ruff, Ginossar inserted the S8 and Morgan had to ruff with the ace. A diamond went to the king and a club was returned and ruffed. The SK revealed the bad split. A heart was ruffed in dummy and a diamond was played. Willenken, West, ruffed with the S6. He forced declarer with another club. The defense had now promoted enough trumps to hold declarer to nine tricks.

11IMPs to Rosenthal and very nice defense!

**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.**



# Teams Entered... listed in RR seeding order

"TRIALS" AND TRIBULATIONS

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

There are no secrets to success. It is the result of preparation, hard work, and learning from failure.

Colin Powell

The Balloon family name died off when it ran out of heir.  
 I was going to tell you a joke about infinity, but it didn't have an ending!  
 How do trains drink? They chug.  
 Children who fail their coloring exams always need a shoulder to crayon.  
 Weight loss pills stolen this morning - police say suspects are still at large.  
 My tailor is happy to make a pair of pants for me, or at least sew it seams.  
 The store keeps calling me to come back and buy more bedroom furniture, but all I really wanted was one night stand.  
 There was a big paddle sale at the boat store. It was quite an oar deal.  
 I used to hate math but then I realized decimals have a point.  
 When the musician got in a car accident, his guitar was destroyed. The accident was a Fender bender.  
 I don't mind kids playing hopscotch in most places, but my driveway is where I draw the line.  
 I try wearing tight jeans, but I can never pull it off.  
 Time flies like an arrow. Fruit flies like a banana.  
 I was struggling to figure out how lightning works then it struck me.  
 People are choosing cremation over traditional burial. It shows that they are thinking out of the box.  
 My student was late for class, claiming he was in the washroom. I think he was stalling.  
 A relief map shows where the restrooms are.  
 Why did the capacitor kiss the diode? He just couldn't resistor.



## Tournament Schedule (continued on page 7)

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 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

## Hospitality Information...



The hospitality suite for the 2017 Open USBC is room 2321, one level up from the playing rooms. Our wonderful hostess, Lisa Berkowitz, and her co-chair, Martha Katz, will serve breakfast each day from 8:00-10:30, as well as lunch from 1:00-4:00. **Please note: Sit outs are encouraged to come as early as possible for lunch to avoid overcrowding the suite. Everyday, lunch will be served both in 2321 and 1321 to handle the expected overflow.**

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) is room 1321. It will be available for the entire tournament. You can find coffee, soft drinks and snacks in that room while you wait for slow teammates to finish playing.

## Meet the Players



Fred and his wife Kathee (along with their 4 lb. yorkie) spread their time between Bloomington NY., and Bradenton Fl. Fred has represented the US in several world championships and has 8 major national championships to his credit. He also has three wins in the prestigious Cavendish Invitational Pairs, the latest with his current partner Kit Woolsey.

Fred is an avid and competitive runner, usually racing two marathons a year. He also is a frequent contributor to the magazine "Marathon and Beyond"

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

Sudoku 1

# Sudoku

Sudoku 2

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

## Answers to Puzzle No Peeking!

Sudoku 2 Solution

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

Sudoku 1 Solution

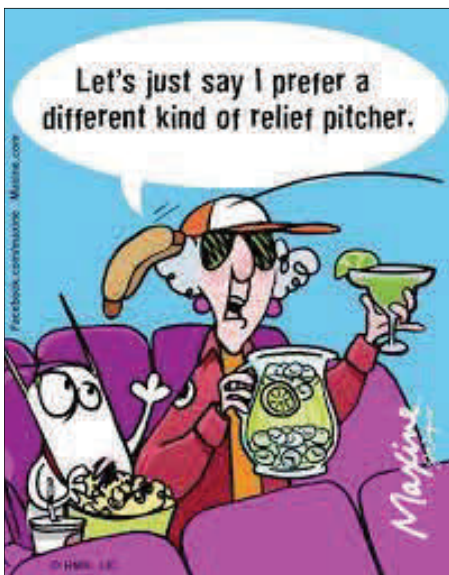
5	7	2	8	3	4	1	9	6
1	4	8	5	6	9	2	7	3
6	3	9	1	2	7	8	5	4
7	9	1	2	5	3	4	6	8
4	8	3	7	1	6	5	2	9
2	6	5	4	9	8	7	3	1
8	1	6	9	7	2	3	4	5
9	5	7	3	4	1	6	8	2
3	2	4	6	8	5	9	1	7



# Puzzle Page ...

T	E		B				D	
	A			T	H	E		
		B					T	
			E			A	S	T
E				A				X
D	S	A			T			
	H					L		
		T	A	B			E	
	B				L		A	S

# Beatles Sudoku



**Answer:**

S	A	T	L	H	D	E	B	X
H	E	X	S	B	A	T	D	L
D	B	D	T	X	E	S	H	A
E	B	L	E	T	X	H	A	D
X	H	D	H	A	S	T	L	E
T	A	S	D	L	E	H	B	X
A	T	S	D	E	X	B	H	L
B	X	B	E	H	T	D	A	S
L	D	H	A	S	B	X	E	T

In the second segment of the Nickell/Meltzer match, in the first five boards, 6S went down three times: twice N/S and once E/W... what are the odds? This was one of those boards, but it only went down at one table... Nickell and Katz judged well to avoid the slam. Making 5S was worth 13 IMP's in their match.

Board 20	♠ AKQ95	Closed Room			
Dealer: W	♥ Q	West	North	East	South
All Vul.	♦ AK952	Demirev	Katz	Meltzer	Nickell
Segment 2	♣ Q3	Pass	1S	Pass	3S
♠ 632	♠ 8	Pass	4D	Pass	4H
♥ J6432	♥ AKT975	Pass	4S	Pass	5C
♦ 3	♦ JT4	Double	Pass	Pass	Redouble (1st round control)
♣ KJ64	♣ T87	Pass	5S	All Pass	
	♠ JT74	Open Room			
	♥ 8	Rodwell	Garner	Meckstroth	Smith
	♦ Q876	Pass	1S	Pass	3C
	♣ A952	Pass	3D	Pass	3S
		Pass	4D	Pass	4H
		Pass	4NT	Pass	5C
		Pass	6S	All Pass	

**Nickell/Meltzer**

Meltzer led the HK and shifted to the C7. Katz won dummy's ace and pulled trump. He played the CQ to the king and claimed his 11 tricks.

In the other room, Garner and Smith, like several other tables, reached the spade slam... and like the others, Garner/Smith went light one.

It was a push in Dwyer/Fireman; a push in Diamond/Wold ... all bidding the slam. It was a push in Harris/Rosenthal where both tables stopped below game. Playing the right opponents at the right time clearly matters.

Board 21	♠ J9	Closed Room			
Dealer: N	♥ QJ632	Willenken	Morgan	Ginossar	Harris
N/S Vul.	♦ 53		Pass	3S	4C
Segment 2	♣ 9754	4S	Pass	Pass	Double
♠ AK8	♠ QT7643	Redouble	All Pass		
♥ AKT85	♥ 94	Open Room			
♦ JT986	♦ 42	Barron	Silverstein	Liu	Rosenthal
♣	♣ 62		Pass	Pass	1C
	♠ 52	1H	Pass	Pass	2D
	♥ 7	Pass	3C	Pass	3H
	♦ AKQ7	Pass	3NT	All Pass	
	♣ AKQT83				

**Harris/Rosenthal**

This result was probably not duplicated! In the Open Room, Liu, having never bid his spades, led them and collected six spades and two hearts for down FOUR! In the Closed Room, Ginossar opened a VERY aggressive 3S. Harris over-

called and Willenken, not in on the joke, took the push. Harris led a high diamond and switched to a trump. Ginossar led a diamond; Harris winning and continuing trump. That was it for the trump suit. Ginossar knocked out the last high diamond and claimed. 880 for E/W in the Closed Room... 400 for E/W in the Open Room. 10 IMPs to Rosenthal