



Volume 11, Issue 8  
May 4, 2017

## Results: USA

9	<u>Miller</u>	156	7	41	11	8	51	38	WD		
16	<u>Simson</u>	301	64	57	62	34	30	54			
10	<u>Mahaffey</u>	307	64	59	38	24	14	37	37	34	
15	<u>Dinkin</u>	239	22	11	52	10	44	36	35	29	
11	<u>Jacobs</u>	187	6	44	34	65	8	16	14	WD	
14	<u>Ivatury</u>	310	50	35	22	20	44	71	68		
12	<u>Robinson</u>	163	25	16	28	23	29	28	14	WD	
13	<u>Fleisher</u>	316	57	60	23	49	36	47	44		

## USA1

1	<u>Nickell</u>	209	<u>31</u>	<u>38</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>28</u>	27	46	20
8	<u>Meltzer</u>	159	<u>25</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>28</u>	15	23	23
2	<u>Diamond</u>	242	<u>27</u>	<u>32</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>32</u>	41	28	25	32
7	<u>Wold</u>	230	<u>33</u>	<u>36</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>23</u>	32	54	15	25
3	<u>Fireman</u>	220	<u>21</u>	<u>33</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>24</u>	40	26	32	42
6	<u>Dwyer</u>	225	<u>43</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>14</u>	44	18	45	28
4	<u>Harris</u>	274	<u>43</u>	<u>44</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>24</u>	20	28	35	50
5	<u>Rosenthal</u>	267	<u>6</u>	<u>34</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>23</u>	62	65	12	39



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UNITED STATES BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

# “Trials” and Tribulations

# USBF 8 Board

## VP Scale

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			

Time	Pairings	Seeded Team	Boards
<b>THURSDAY, MAY 4TH</b>			
10:00-11:10	1 v 8, 2 v 7, 3 v 6, 4 v 5	none	1-8
11:20-12:30	1 v 7, 2 v 6, 3 v 5, 4 v 8	none	9-16
12:40-1:50	1 v 6, 2 v 5, 3 v 8, 4 v 7	1, 2, 4	17-24
<b>LUNCH BREAK</b>			
3:00 - 4:10	1 v 5, 2 v 8, 3 v 7, 4 v 6	5, 7, 6	1-8
4:20 - 5:30	1 v 4, 2 v 3, 5 v 8, 6 v 7	1, 2, 6	9-16
5:40 - 6:50	1 v 3, 2 v 4, 5 v 7, 6 v 8	3, 4, 7	17- 24
7:00 - 8:10	1 v 2, 3 v 4, 5 v 6, 7 v 8	1, 3, 5	25-32
<b>FRIDAY, MAY 5TH</b>			
10:00-11:10	1 v 2, 3 v 4, 5 v 6, 7 v 8	2, 4, 6	1-8
11:20-12:30	1 v 3, 2 v 4, 5 v 7, 6 v 8	1, 2, 5	9-16
12:40-1:50	1 v 4, 2 v 3, 5 v 8, 6 v 7	4, 3, 7	17-24
<b>LUNCH BREAK</b>			
3:00 - 4:10	1 v 5, 2 v 8, 3 v 7, 4 v 6	1, 3, 4	1-8
4:20 - 5:30	1 v 6, 2 v 5, 3 v 8, 4 v 7	6, 5, 7	9-16
5:40 - 6:50	1 v 7, 2 v 6, 3 v 5, 4 v 8	none	17-24
7:00 - 8:10	1 v 8, 2 v 7, 3 v 6, 4 v 5	none	25-32

## Women's RR Schedule

### Monkey Business



**REVISED**  
**Please read!**

Irina Levitina



## Meet the Players

Irina is the only person in the world to win world championships in both chess and bridge. She has won five bridge World Championships, including all of the Women's events (Venice Cup, McConnell, Olympiad and Women's Pairs) as well as the Transnational Mixed Teams. Especially well respected for her declarer play, Irina was one of 34 world-class players (including only 4 women) invited to participate in the World Par Contest, a declarer play competition, held in connection with the 1998 World Championships in Lille, France. In finishing 14th overall (and first among the women), Irina placed ahead of such stars as Benito Garozzo, Chip Martel, Steve Weinstein, and Zia. Born in St. Petersburg, Russia, Irina was first taught chess as a young child by her father. By the age of 14 she was a member of the Soviet team and was the top woman at the chess Olympiad. At age 18, Irina also took up bridge, introduced to the game by Simeon Furman, her chess teacher (and Karpov's) at the time. Immigrating to the US in December 1990, Irina co-founded the International Chess Academy in Teaneck, NJ, in 1997 (you can read more about the chess school and Irina's chess career at [www.icanj.net](http://www.icanj.net)).

# 2017 Women's USBC TEAMS

*There are 7 teams entered.* The teams are listed in their Round Robin number order.

Clerkin	Joanne Weingold Migry Zur Campanile Beth Palmer Dennis Clerkin, NPC	Jill Meyers Sylvia Shi Shannon Cappelletti
Eythorsdottir	Hjordis Eythorsdottir, Capt Cindy Bernstein	Linda Lewis Claire Tornay
Sakr	May Sakr, Capt Anam Tebha	Allison Howard Cristal Nell
Baker	Lynn Baker, Capt Kerri Sanborn Tobi Sokolow	Karen McCallum Irina Levitina Janice Seamon-Molson
Wittes	Pamela Wittes, Capt Cheri Bjerkan	Ljudmila Kamenova Rozanne Pollack
Jenkins	Bronia Jenkins, Capt Sylvia Moss Bernace De Young	Sheri Winestock Connie Goldberg Irina Kislitsyna
OSMO	Teri Smoot Toni Bales Paul Pugsley, NPC	Brenda Pugsley Kimberly Music

# Welcome Ladies!

## 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.

**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.**



# OpenTeams 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



Director Please!

Success is no accident. It is hard work, perseverance, learning, studying, sacrifice and most of all, love of what you are doing or learning to do.  
Pele

The hunter stir-fried his game because he liked to wok on the wild side.

Proper punctuation can make the difference between a sentence that's well-written and a sentence that's, well, written.

It is tough to do inventories in Afghanistan because of the tally ban.

I took a picture of a field of wheat, it was grainy.

I don't think I need a spine. It's holding me back.

**PUN  
FUN**

Come on, George! I could get to Dummy if I had a limo!



## Open Tournament Schedule (continued on page 6)

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

ROUND ROBIN SCHEDULE			
DAY	DATE	TIME	BOARDS
THURSDAY	MAY 4	9:45 AM	CAPTAINS' MEETING
THURSDAY	MAY 4	10:00 - 8:15	(See Page 2 for Schedule please)
FRIDAY	MAY 5	10:00 - 8:15	

**\* 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.**

SEMI-FINAL			
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
FINAL & USA2 SEMI-FINAL (2 USA2 TEAMS)			
SUNDAY	MAY 7	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 8	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			
TUESDAY	MAY 9	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 10	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

**Open**

**Women's**

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

Sudoku 1

# Sudoku

Sudoku 2

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

**Answers to Puzzle  
No Peeking!**

Sudoku 2 Solution

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

Sudoku 1 Solution

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

# Puzzle Page ...

Hidden in each of the sentences below is the name of a bird. Can you find them all?

Hint: The letters of the name may be separated by spaces.

Note: #10 has TWO birds hidden in it. Can you find them both?



1. The crane lifted the car and dropped it into the crusher.
2. My pillow is stuffed with goose feathers.
3. I was walking by the building when someone yelled "Duck!".
4. Jane and Jack went bowling last night.
5. "Do you see that star lingering on the horizon?" asked Tom.
6. As Sally watched, the beagle tripped over its own ear as it romped in the back yard.
7. The flaming oven had smoke billowing out of it.
8. "I only need one card in all the deck to go out," Jake said.
9. "How will we find her in this crowd of people?" Cindy asked.
10. Chris wanted to ride the carousel in the park.



# Answer:

1. CRANE - The crane lifted the car and dropped it into the crusher.
2. GOOSE - My pillow is stuffed with goose feathers.
3. DUCK - I was walking by the building when someone yelled "Duck!".
4. OWL - Jane and Jack went bowling last night.
5. STARLING - "Do you see that star lingering on the horizon?" asked Tom.
6. EAGLE or DOVE - As Sally watched, the beagle tripped over its own ear as it romped in the back yard.
7. FLAMINGO - The flaming oven had smoke billowing out of it.
8. CARDINAL - "I only need one card in all the deck to go out," Jake said.
9. CROW - "How will we find her in this crowd of people?" Cindy asked.
10. SWAN - Chris wanted to ride the carousel in the park.



*Those of us at the United States Bridge Championships want to express our condolences to the family of Nancy and Mike Passell on the death of Nancy's father. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.*

**FYI: Note that the matchups in USA2 R of 16 may appear strange. The seeding was done this way in order to prevent replays when teams drop from USA1 to USA2. Instead of the seeds in every match adding to 17, two matches add to 16 and two matches add to 18.**

Board 3 ♠ T9843  
 Dealer: S ♥ J83  
 E/W Vul. ♦ 4  
 Segment 5 ♣ KT32

♠ AJ72  
 ♥ 97  
 ♦ QT97  
 ♣ Q86

♠ KQ65  
 ♥ Q6  
 ♦ AJ653  
 ♣ 94



Closed Room				<b>Nickell/Meltzer</b>
West	North	East	South	
Hamman	Katz	Bramley	Nickell	
			1D	
2H intermediate	Pass	3NT	Pass	
4C	Pass	4H	All Pass	

Open Room				<b>Nickell/Meltzer</b>
West	North	East	South	
Weinstein	Demirev	Levin	Meltzer	
			1D	
2H intermediate	Double	2NT	3S	
4C	4S	Double	All Pass	

In the Closed Room, when Katz disdained a negative double over 2H, the spade suit was lost. Hamman/Bramley bid the straightforward heart game and made it. Katz led his singleton diamond and declarer took his easy ten tricks.

Closed Room				<b>Harris/Rosenthal</b>
West	North	East	South	
Barron	Ginossar	Morgan	Willenken	
			1D	
1H	Double	Redouble	2S	
3S	Pass	3NT	All Pass	

In the Open Room, Demirev, not known as a shy bidder, negative doubled on the North cards. Meltzer was happy to bid her spades. Demirev, not willing to defend 4H at favorable vulnerability bid 4S directly over the 4C call. Levin doubled ending the auction. Weinstein led the HA followed by a low heart! Weinstein knew from Levin's play of the nine that he held either singleton 9, 97 doubleton, or Q9 doubleton but he didn't know which. The low heart rode to Meltzer's queen. Rose led a club toward the king; Weinstein rose and played a high heart. Meltzer now crossruffed for nine tricks and 11IMPs.

Open Room				<b>Harris/Rosenthal</b>
West	North	East	South	
Sontag	Liu	Berkowitz	Lo	
			1D	
1H	Pass	1NT	Pass	
2D	Pass	2S	Pass	
3C	Pass	3H	Pass	
4H	All Pass			

In the Diamond/Wold match both tables played in 4H making four for a push.

In Harris/Rosenthal, in the Open Room, Sontag declared the routine 4H. In the Closed Room, however, Morgan was

*(Continued on page 10)*

(Continued from page 9)

declarer in the anything but routine 3NT.

Willenken led the SQ. Morgan ducked, discarding a diamond from dummy. Willenken switched to a small diamond won in dummy with the eight. If declarer reads the position perfectly, he can make the contract by continuing with the not-so-obvious king of diamonds. Instead he tackled the heart suit. Willenken had a chance to be a hero. He could dump his HQ under the ace, creating an entry to his partner's hand. As it was, declarer continued with a second high heart, failing to endplay South.

Declarer needed to play a small heart to Willenken's queen in order to collect nine tricks.

Board 3 ♠ T9843  
 Dealer: S ♥ J83  
 E/W Vul. ♦ 4  
 Segment 5 ♣ KT32

(hand repeated from page 9 for ease of reading)

♠ AJ72  
 ♥ 97  
 ♦ QT97  
 ♣ Q86  
 ♠ KQ65  
 ♥ Q6  
 ♦ AJ653  
 ♣ 94



Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
Demuy	Becker	Kranyak	Kamil
			1D
2H (intermediate)	Pass	2NT	Pass
3D	Pass	3H	Pass
3S	Pass	4H	Pass
4NT	All Pass		

Open Room			
Cohen	Wolpert	Cohler	Fireman
			1D
1H	1S	1NT	2S
3S	Pass	3NT	All Pass

**Fireman/Dwyer**

In the Open Room, Fireman led a small diamond against 3NT. Cohler won the seven, played a heart to the ace followed by the DK. Fireman won and switched to a club, ducked to Cohler's queen.

Cohler led a heart and let Fireman's queen hold the trick. Fireman exited with a high spade and Cohler won the ace. He crossed to the CA and collected eleven tricks: 5 hearts, 3 diamonds, 2 clubs and 1 spade.

In the Closed Room, Kranyak turned down the slam try by passing! Of course, that was an irrelevant decision since his side was already too high. Kamil led the SQ and switched to C9. Becker won the king and continued the attack on spades. Kranyak took the finesse for the QJ onside. It was his best hope at that point.

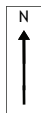
The defense took a spade and the DA for down two. 13 IMPs Dwyer

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

Board 18 ♠ AJ7  
 Dealer: E ♥ T8  
 N/S Vul. ♦ AKQT  
 Segment 6 ♣ K953

♠ Q3                      ♠ 84  
 ♥ J4                      ♥ K96532  
 ♦ J7643                 ♦ 952  
 ♣ QT72                 ♣ 86

♠ KT9652  
 ♥ AQ7  
 ♦ 8  
 ♣ AJ4



In Fireman/Dwyer, this board was a push when both tables reached 6S making 7. In all three other matches, this was a 13 IMP swing... It is interesting to note that the same swing can be created in more than one way!

In Nickell/Meltzer, Garner started with a 3H preempt. Nickell overcalled 3S. Smith bid 4H, and Katz jumped to 5S likely looking for second round heart control. Nickell could have bid 6H to show first round control, but he apparently thought 5S was a general slam try, and with a minimum three level overcall, he passed. It was hard for Nickell to visualize that the opponents had bid 4H on an eight card fit. He held three hearts himself so it made sense that Katz already had second round control of hearts in the form of a singleton.

In their other room, their counterparts, Demirev and Meltzer, bid the small slam and won 13 IMPs.

In Diamond/Wold, Levine and Wold had a long auction to land in the spade grand while Lall and Bathurst had an even longer auction to stop in six ... a different 13 IMP swing:

West	North	East	South
Diamond	Levine	Platnick	Wold
		Pass	1S
Pass	2C	Pass	2S
Pass	3S	Pass	4C
Pass	4D	Pass	4H
Pass	4NT	Pass	5D
Pass	7S	All Pass	
Passell	Lall	Jacobus	Bathurst
		Pass	1S
Pass	2C	Pass	2S
Pass	3S	Pass	4C
Pass	4D	Pass	4H
Pass	4NT	Pass	5D
Pass	5H	Pass	5S
Pass	6S	All Pass	

**Diamond/Wold**

Harris/Rosenthal experienced the same fate as Diamond/Wold.

In the Closed Room, Morgan and Harris bid to the small slam after Silverstein opened 3H.

In their Open Room, Liu passed in 1st seat and Willenken/Ginossar bid to the grand.

13 IMPs to Rosenthal

Board 29 ♠ 2  
 Dealer: N ♥ A32  
 All Vul. ♦ K9832  
 Segment 6 ♣ KT43

♠ T863 ♠ KQ75  
 ♥ 6 ♥ QJ87  
 ♦ QT6 ♦ AJ75  
 ♣ QJ982 ♣ A

♠ AJ94  
 ♥ KT954  
 ♦ 4  
 ♣ 765



Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Lo	Ginossar	Liu	Willenken
	Pass	1D	1H
Double	2C	3S	Pass
4S	Double	Redouble	All Pass

Closed Room			
Rosenthal	Morgan	Silverstein	Harris
	1D	1NT	All Pass

It wasn't easy to make 1NT. Harris led a small heart to Morgan's ace and Morgan returned a heart to Harris's king, declarer pitching a club from dummy. Harris led the HT clearing the suit while dummy pitched another club. Silverstein led the SK to Harris's ace and Harris cashed his hearts, dummy and Morgan tossing diamonds on the first heart, and dummy and declarer tossing spades on the second while Morgan threw the C4. Harris took the club as encouraging and played a club. Silverstein put up dummy's queen and Morgan covered with the king. Silverstein won his singleton ace and scored one heart, one spade, three diamonds, and two clubs. +90

Silverstein and Rosenthal probably thought this was a nothing board... wrong again!

At the other table, Ginossar passed in first seat. Liu opened 1D; Willenken overcalled 1H; Lo negative doubled and Ginossar bid 2C, a conventional raise. Liu could have cuebid 2H... but he conservatively bid 3S. When Lo raised to game and Ginossar doubled, Liu thought redouble was safe if they sat and he had a certain answer if they ran back to hearts.

Willenken led a small club, Liu winning his ace. Liu tried the HQ, losing to the ace with a spade coming back. Liu ducked to Willenken's jack. Willenken cashed his SA and played the S9. Liu won in dummy and finessed the DQ. He played the DT, covered by the K and A, Willenken pitching a heart. On the third round of diamonds, Willenken ruffed and exited a club. Liu ruffed, cashed his D7 and collected a total of seven tricks for -1600.

Board 20 ♠ KT65  
 Dealer: W ♥ T3  
 All Vul. ♦ AJ9762  
 Segment 6 ♣ Q

♠ AQJ ♠ 83  
 ♥ K752 ♥ A986  
 ♦ Q ♦ KT853  
 ♣ AJT62 ♣ 87

♠ 9742  
 ♥ QJ4  
 ♦ 4  
 ♣ K9543



A little seen score you say? Not necessarily...

On Board 20 in this same segment in the Wold/Diamond match, Wold and Levine played in 1DXX for another -1600.

Diamond	Levine	Platnick	Wold
1C (strong)	1D	Pass	Pass
Double	Pass	Pass	Redouble
All Pass			

Several tables, including the other one in this match arrived in 2DX and went 800. 1DXX was miserable to play. Like the hand above, it went -1600! Twice in one fifteen board segment? What are the odds?

Diamond's team won 16 IMPs for their 1600.

Rosenthal's team won 17 for theirs.

Board 2  
 Dealer: E  
 N/S Vul.  
 Segment 7

♠ J93  
 ♥ J872  
 ♦ K43  
 ♣ T75

♠ K64  
 ♥ QT96  
 ♦ A852  
 ♣ 63

♠ A875  
 ♥ AK54  
 ♦ JT6  
 ♣ KQ



Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
Smith	Rodwell	Garner	Meckstroth
Pass	1NT (positive)	Pass	1C (strong)
Pass	3NT	All Pass	2NT

Open Room			
Weinstein	Bramley	Levin	Hamman
Pass	2S	Pass	1NT
Pass	3H	Pass	3C
Pass	4S	Pass	3S
All Pass			5C

Rodwell had no trouble in 3NT. Garner led the H9. Rodwell won dummy's ace and played a small spade to his ten and Garner's king. Garner continued his attack on hearts; Rodwell won the heart and cashed his eleven tricks. +660

At the other table, the hand was more problematic for Hamman/Bramley. Hamman opened a strong NT. Bramley bid 2S, range ask or clubs. Hamman bid 3C and Bramley bid 3H showing shortness.

Hamman, holding a maximum 17 count, cued the SA. This gave Bramley a dilemma. Should he bid 3NT if Hamman didn't bid it over 3H? Would nine tricks be easier in NT or 11 in clubs?

He chose 5C and hoped it was right.

Unfortunately, they were matched in diamonds, off the ace/king, and were faced with a spade loser even on a correct guess in the suit. Down one... 13 IMPs to Nickell

This board was a push in Rosenthal/Harris, both tables in 3NT making four.

It was a one IMP swing in Diamond/Wold where one table was in 3NT making three and the other in 3NT making four.

It was a two IMP swing in Fireman/Dwyer where 3NT made three in one room and five in the other.

So much for minor suits!



Board 4 ♠ AQJ7  
 Dealer: W ♥ A  
 All Vul. ♦ KQ84  
 Segment 7 ♣ K972

♠ 9 ♠ T8654  
 ♥ J742 ♥ KQT3  
 ♦ T7653 ♦ 9  
 ♣ AQ4 ♣ 865



♠ K32  
 ♥ 9865  
 ♦ AJ2  
 ♣ JT3

Against 4H, Hurd led a heart. Wooldridge won and played a small diamond to Hurd's jack.

We've seen a 16 IMP swing and a 17 IMP swing today... well, here is an 18 IMP swing!

Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
Lee	Wooldridge	Dwyer	Hurd
Pass	1D	1H	1S
4H	Double	All Pass	

Open Room			
Demuy	Becker	Kranyak	Kamil
Pass	1D	Pass	1NT
Pass	2S	Pass	3D
Pass	3NT	Pass	5D
Double	All Pass		

Hurd played a second trump. Dwyer won and played a club to the queen and Wooldridge's king. Wooldridge returned the C9 to the eight, ten and ace.

Dwyer tried a spade ducked around to Hurd's king. Hurd played a third heart, and Dwyer gave up for down five! -1400

Meanwhile, in the Open Room, Becker opened 1D; Kamil responded 1NT. Becker showed great strength by bidding 2S. Kamil bid 3D and Becker found their best spot: 3NT!

Kamil apparently thought his partner had more than four diamonds ... or worried that they might not have a stopper in one of the unbid suits. He jumped to 5D. Demuy doubled, after all he hadn't taken a call and had five trump and an outside ace.

Kranyak led the HQ. Becker won and played the ace of spades and a spade, scrambling to take as many tricks outside of trump as he could. Demuy ruffed the second spade, led a heart forcing Becker to ruff. Becker played three rounds of high diamonds ending in dummy and led a club toward his hand.

Demuy won the club ace, played a heart to Kranyak, and in the fullness of time, East/West defeated the contract two tricks for +500 and 18 IMP's.

With all these IMPs flying, it was an exciting day to watch the VuGraph!



# Game Faces

# Limey Jack ...

Hallo Yanks:

Limey Jack is basking in the light of Howie Dung's immolation. Limey Jack picked every winner that has advanced to the semi-finals of USA 1. The Dungmeister, while taking blathering to new heights, was sadly lacking and should be put on garden leave.

USA 1:

Nickell-Harris: Harris has made a wonderful run, but returns to the work force after this match. Nickell is poised like a cobra waiting to strike a helpless bunny. Harris will always have Chicago.

Diamond-Dwyer: All the neighbours will be at the Rectory to watch this encounter on the big telly. Each team is strong and able. There will be no quarter given and none asked. Both teams are tough as a woodpecker's lips. In perhaps the tightest match in recent memory, Dwyer moves into the first final and Diamond will have to navigate the moors.

USA 2:

Rosenthal-Ivatury: Rosenthal has gone pear shaped. It is hard as a twist to keep one's wits about them knowing this is the curtain call. This team is on the rocks. The peephole in the window shade is that they are playing one of the last remaining 4 handed squad, which cannot keep up this pace. Rosenthal has twice come from ahead to lose and is in danger of continuing that pattern lest they find their inner core. Rosenthal in a squeaker.

Fireman-Fleisher: Oh what evil lurks when the Gods of team draws are angered. Two previous winners meet in the back draw where one of them will go home. Each team had high expectations but choked on the meat and potatoes. They had best make a better fist tomorrow as only one can get to the last chucker. Fleisher, with a bye, was an early favourite. Fireman, with their strange mix of young and old, is doomed. Howie Dung will get this one spectacularly wrong.

Wold-Simson: Wold made a legitimate run to be in the USA 1 Semi, but fell short. They will trounce Simson here.

Meltzer-Mahaffey: Each team is but a place marker waiting to be put to pasture in another 2 days hence. It is Limey Jack's obligation to give you winners so you can make a few quid and have a chuckle at Howie Dung's incompetency. Meltzer out-underwhelms Mahaffey. Cheers, LJ

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## Howie Doing ...

Dwyer's on fire; Or are they just dreamin'?  
They will take Diamond out kickin' and screamin.'

Cohler is smoking' and he will go far,  
At least to the yard to puff a cigar.

Harris is really a very nice fella.  
But his team is simply a soft Cinderella.

Getting this far is more than they planned.  
Expect in the Semis that they will be canned.

Uday will fall to team Rosenthal.  
I might be wrong but that is my call.

Simson won once but Wold is no stranger.  
I pick for Eddie, Mikes, Marc and Grainger.

This Swami knows he's gotta pick Rose.  
She's got a crew of truly great pros.

See you in two!  
It's Doing to you!