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JUNIOR UNITED STATES BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

All Kidding Aside

Successful Bidding: Not a Skill of the Timid

Team Championships such as this one will never be a game for the faint of heart. Even years ago, when some of today's stars were learning and competing in International Competition, it was never a ho-hum experience.

Last week, I kibitzed Nathan Finkle and Ilan Wolff in a Bidding Practice session on BBO with two robots. The bots were vulnerable and Wolff/Nathan were not. Ilan picked up three random hearts and eight solid clubs with the Qx of spades. Nathan opened 1H; Bot B doubled; Ilan quickly made a somewhat unorthodox bid of 4H... never mentioning his club suit. Everyone passed. 4S would have been a good bid by the opponents and it would have succeeded, but they were shut out by Ilan's imaginative jump. 4H could have been made or at worst, it would have gone light one trick, which would have been an excellent result in any real competition. In discussion following the bidding, Ilan commented that his bid was somewhat less than "normal", but he wanted to keep the opponents out of the auction. He knew they held the spade suit and wanted to make it as tough as possible for them to bid it. As kibitzer I offered an unsolicited opinion that putting maximum pressure on one's opponents is a highly successful strategy in IMPs. It was great to see young players working so hard to iron the kinks out of their systems and testing strategies in advance of this Competition. The hand below from the 2003 World Youth Teams Playoff 4 featuring the then "youngsters," John Kranyak, Joe Grue, Kent Mignocchi, and Kevin Bathurst

(Continued on page 6)

D Open Room Board 20

USA 2: 165 IMPs
POLAND: 137 IMPs

N North: Grue
 ♠ J1098543 ♠ A107A42
 ♥ ♣

West	North	East	South
1♥	2♦	3♥	4♥
Pass	5♦	Pass	Pass
Pass			

W West: Buras
 ♠ Q2KQ92 ♠ KJ1096Q6
 ♥ ♣

E East: Lutostanski
 ♠ 7J863Q752K1073
 ♥ ♣

S South: Kranyak
 ♠ AK654843AJ985
 ♥ ♣

Closed Room: 3♥ W -1 -100

5♦ North NS 0 EW 0

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Teams Entered...

U26:

Fan	Yewen Fan, Capt Nian Si	Hongji Wei Boyuan Xiong
Gordon	Elliott Gordon, Capt Jacob Williams Daniel Weiss	Jack Donaghue Luke Williams
Hallerman	Raphael Hallerman, Capt Gan Yang Tak Chun Wong	Sean McNally Shaowu Li
Kaplan	Adam Kaplan, Capt Zachary Grossack Yichen Yin	Benjamin Kristensen Kevin Rosenberg Arjun Dhir
Rockoff	Kyle Rockoff, Capt Joseph Lieberman	Sarik Goyal Christopher Welland
Stephani	Isaac Stephani, Capt Hakan Berk	Louis-Amaury Beauchet Nolan Chang David Soukup
Wolff	Ilan Wolff, Capt Daniel Sonner	Nathan Finkle Cyrus Hettle
Xu	Yuchen Xu, Capt Victor Xu Zhiyu Cheng	Cynthia Huang Thomas Scruggs
YXu	Yang Xu, Capt Hengrui Xing Di Wu	Jiaheng Hu Morgan Johnstone Chengbo Gu

Word play



Mary needs to bring a fruit salad to the annual holiday party, but some of her friends are very picky eaters. Based on her shopping list below, can you figure out what type of fruit they like?

- Mary bought a banana, not a strawberry.
- Mary bought a kiwi, not a pear.
- Mary bought an apple, not an apricot.
- Mary bought a mango, not a peach.
- Mary bought a mango, not a grapefruit.

Answer: A, E, I, O, U
Mary's friends prefer fruit names that end in a vowel

Kevin Rosenberg



"Don't let what you can't do stop you from doing what you can do."
John Wooden

U21:

Chen	Haohao Chen, Capt Kevin Jiang Nicole Qian	Shi Chen Alex Zheng Andy Zhang
Kolesnik	Finn Kolesnik, Capt Sarah Youngquist	Harrison Luba Michael Xu
Vohra	Kunal Vohra, Capt Kyle Lui Rory Xiao	Cooper Smith Lauren Liu Jonathan Yue
Wang	Zhaofeng Wang, Capt Michael Zheng Yichen Xiao	Sihan Fei Ethan Wood Yuxiao Wang
Xiao	Brent Xiao, Capt Michael Hu Cornelius Duffie	Richard Jeng Arthur Zhou Stella (Qinqin) Wan
Zhao	Caroline Zhao, Capt Amalia Kutin	Miranda Schuyler Katherine Hwang

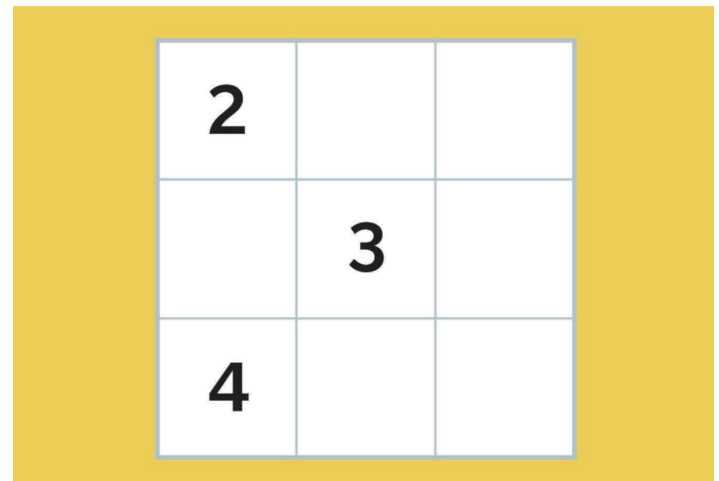
U16:

Cedrone	Marley Cedrone, Capt Michael Haas Eric Xiao	Zacharia Posternak Samuel Pahk Arthur Gong
Ge	Brandon Ge, Capt Kayden Ge Brian Zhang	Olivia Schireson Charlie Chen Ethan Xie
Zhao	Derrick Zhao, Capt Kevin Dai	Eric Dai Keith Yao

RONA (GIRLS):

Dai	Sihui Dai, Capt Samantha Leff	Helen Abadiotakis Zoe Bowlus
Hsieh	Ellie Fashingbauer Yichen Cai	Emma Miller Helena Hsieh
Huang	Lucy Huang, Capt Alexandra Clark	Sarah Cai Sophie Lian
Lin	Amber Lin, Capt Sophia Chang	Emma Kolesnik Lucy Zhang

Magic box



Place a number from 1 to 9 in each empty cell of this square so that each row, each column, and both main diagonals add up to the same sum. (You must determine this sum.) The same number can appear more than once.

Answer:

4	1	4
3	3	3
2	5	2

Tournament Schedules



Finn Kolesnik and friends collecting masterpoints at the San Francisco NABC last month

U26 SCHEDULE			
DAY	DATE	TIME	BOARDS
FRIDAY	DEC. 27	11:15 AM	CAPTAINS' MEETING
ROUND ROBIN			
FRIDAY EACH TEAM WILL SIT OUT ONE MATCH.	DEC. 27	11:30 - 12:20	MATCH 1 - BOARDS 1-6
		12:30 - 1:20	MATCH 2 - BOARDS 7-12
		1:30 - 2:20	MATCH 3 - BOARDS 13-18
		2:30 - 3:20	MATCH 4 - BOARDS 19-24
		3:30 - 4:20	MATCH 5 - BOARDS 25-30
			110 MINUTE BREAK
		6:10 - 7:00	MATCH 6 - BOARDS 1-6
		7:10 - 8:00	MATCH 7 - BOARDS 7-12
		8:10 - 9:00	MATCH 8 - BOARDS 13-18
	9:10 - 10:00	MATCH 9 - BOARDS 19-24	
USA1 SEMIFINAL & USA2 ROUND OF 16 (5 TEAM ROUND ROBIN - SCHEDULE)			
SATURDAY	DEC. 28	11:30 - 1:40	SEGMENT 1 BOARDS 1-15
		1:50 - 4:00	SEGMENT 2 BOARDS 16-30
			105 MINUTE BREAK
		5:45 - 7:55	SEGMENT 3 BOARDS 1-15
	8:05 - 10:15	SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 16-30	
USA1 FINAL & USA2 QUARTERFINAL & SEMIFINAL			
SUNDAY AND MONDAY	DEC. 29 & DEC. 30	11:30 - 1:40	SEGMENT 1 BOARDS 1-15
		1:50 - 4:00	SEGMENT 2 BOARDS 16-30
			105 MINUTE BREAK
	5:45 - 7:55	SEGMENT 3 BOARDS 1-15	
	8:05 - 10:15	SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 16-30	
USA2 Final			
TUESDAY	DEC. 31	11:30 - 1:40	Segment 1 Boards 1-15
		1:50 - 4:00	Segment 2 Boards 16-30
			105 minute Break
		5:45 - 7:55	Segment 3 Boards 1-15
	8:05 - 10:15	Segment 4 Boards 16-30	

RONA SCHEDULE			
Friday	Dec. 27	11:15 am	Captains' Meeting
Stage 1 KO			
Friday	Dec. 27	11:30 - 1:40	Segment 1 Boards 1-15
		1:50 - 4:00	Segment 2 Boards 16-30
			105 minute Break
		5:45 - 7:55	Segment 3 Boards 1-15
	8:05 - 10:15	Segment 4 Boards 16-30	
Stage 2 KO			
Saturday	Dec. 28	11:30 - 1:40	Segment 1 Boards 1-15
		1:50 - 4:00	Segment 2 Boards 16-30
			105 minute Break
		5:45 - 7:55	Segment 3 Boards 1-15
	8:05 - 10:15	Segment 4 Boards 16-30	
Stage 3 KO			
Sunday	Dec. 29	11:30 - 1:40	Segment 1 Boards 1-15
		1:50 - 4:00	Segment 2 Boards 16-30
			105 minute Break
		5:45 - 7:55	Segment 3 Boards 1-15
	8:05 - 10:15	Segment 4 Boards 16-30	
Final			
Monday	Dec. 30	11:30 - 1:40	Segment 1 Boards 1-15
		1:50 - 4:00	Segment 2 Boards 16-30
			105 minute Break
		5:45 - 7:55	Segment 3 Boards 1-15
	8:05 - 10:15	Segment 4 Boards 16-30	

U21 SCHEDULE			
Friday	Dec. 27	11:15 am	Captains' Meeting
Round Robin			
Friday And Saturday Schedule is the same both days	Dec. 27 & Dec. 28	11:30 - 1:05	Match 1 - Boards 1-11
		1:15 - 2:50	Match 2 - Boards 12-22
		3:00 - 4:35	Match 3 - Boards 23-33
			115 minute Break
		6:30 - 8:05	Match 4 - Boards 1-11
	8:15 - 9:50	Match 5 - Boards 12-22	
Semifinal			
Sunday	Dec. 29	11:30 - 1:40	Segment 1 Boards 1-15
		1:50 - 4:00	Segment 2 Boards 16-30
			105 minute Break
		5:45 - 7:55	Segment 3 Boards 1-15
	8:05 - 10:15	Segment 4 Boards 16-30	
Final & USA2 Semifinal			
Monday	Dec. 30	11:30 - 1:40	Segment 1 Boards 1-15
		1:50 - 4:00	Segment 2 Boards 16-30
			105 minute Break
		5:45 - 7:55	Segment 3 Boards 1-15
	8:05 - 10:15	Segment 4 Boards 16-30	
USA2 Final			
Tuesday	Dec. 31	11:30 - 1:40	Segment 1 Boards 1-15
		1:50 - 4:00	Segment 2 Boards 16-30
			105 minute Break
		5:45 - 7:55	Segment 3 Boards 1-15
	8:05 - 10:15	Segment 4 Boards 16-30	

U16 SCHEDULE			
Saturday	Dec. 28	11:15 am	Captains' Meeting
Semifinal (3 Team Round Robin)			
Saturday & Sunday Schedule is the same both days Final	Dec. 28 & Dec. 29	11:30 - 1:40	Boards 1-14
		1:50 - 4:00	Boards 15-28
		5:45 - 7:55	110 minute Break
		8:05 - 10:15	Boards 1-14
			Boards 15-28
Monday	Dec. 30	11:30 - 1:40	Segment 1 Boards 1-15
		1:50 - 4:00	Segment 2 Boards 16-30
			105 minute Break
		5:45 - 7:55	Segment 3 Boards 1-15
	8:05 - 10:15	Segment 4 Boards 16-30	

6 board VP scale

Margin	Winner	Loser	Margin	Winner	Loser	Margin	Winner	Loser
0	10	10	13	15.24	4.76	26	18.38	1.62
1	10.50	9.50	14	15.54	4.46	27	18.56	1.44
2	10.99	9.01	15	15.83	4.17	28	18.73	1.27
3	11.46	8.54	16	16.11	3.89	29	18.90	1.10
4	11.90	8.10	17	16.38	3.62	30	19.06	0.94
5	12.33	7.67	18	16.64	3.36	31	19.22	0.78
6	12.75	7.25	19	16.89	3.11	32	19.37	0.63
7	13.15	6.85	20	17.12	2.88	33	19.51	0.49
8	13.53	6.47	21	17.35	2.65	34	19.65	0.35
9	13.90	6.10	22	17.58	2.42	35	19.78	0.22
10	14.25	5.75	23	17.79	2.21	36	19.91	0.09
11	14.59	5.41	24	17.99	2.01	37	20	0
12	14.92	5.08	25	18.19	1.81			

14 board VP scale

Margin	Winner	Loser	Margin	Winner	Loser	Margin	Winner	Loser
0	10	10	20	15.26	4.74	40	18.41	1.59
1	10.33	9.67	21	15.46	4.54	41	18.53	1.47
2	10.66	9.34	22	15.66	4.34	42	18.65	1.35
3	10.97	9.03	23	15.85	4.15	43	18.76	1.24
4	11.28	8.72	24	16.03	3.97	44	18.87	1.13
5	11.58	8.42	25	16.21	3.79	45	18.98	1.02
6	11.87	8.13	26	16.38	3.62	46	19.08	0.92
7	12.16	7.84	27	16.55	3.45	47	19.18	0.82
8	12.44	7.56	28	16.72	3.28	48	19.28	0.72
9	12.71	7.29	29	16.88	3.12	49	19.38	0.62
10	12.97	7.03	30	17.04	2.96	50	19.47	0.53
11	13.23	6.77	31	17.19	2.81	51	19.56	0.44
12	13.48	6.52	32	17.34	2.66	52	19.65	0.35
13	13.72	6.28	33	17.49	2.51	53	19.74	0.26
14	13.96	6.04	34	17.63	2.37	54	19.83	0.17
15	14.19	5.81	35	17.77	2.23	55	19.91	0.09
16	14.42	5.58	36	17.91	2.09	56	19.99	0.01
17	14.64	5.36	37	18.04	1.96	57	20	0
18	14.85	5.15	38	18.17	1.83			
19	15.06	4.94	39	18.29	1.71			



**Zach Grossack
Youngest ACBL
Grand Life Master
U26 Kaplan Team**

Q: What do you get when you cross a snowman with a vampire?

A: Frostbite.

Q: What do Santa's elves do after school?

A: Their gnomework!

Q: What do snowmen like to eat for breakfast?

A: Frosted Flakes!

Q: What is a parent's favorite Christmas carol?

A: Silent Night.

Q: What is the fear of Santa Claus called?

A: Claustrophobia

Q: What does Tarzan sing on Christmas?

A: Jungle Bells!

Q: Why does Santa have a garden?

A: So he can hoe, hoe, hoe!

Q: Why is it cold on Christmas?

A: Because it's in Decembrrrrrrrr!

Why didn't Bob drink a glass of water with 8 pieces of ice in it? It was too cubed.

Why didn't sin and tan go to the party?

Just cos.

Why should you never argue with decimals? Decimals always have a point.

What do you call a number that can't keep still? A roamin' numeral.

Dear Algebra, Please stop asking us to find your X.

She's never coming back—don't ask Y.

What did the student say when the witch doctor removed his curse? Hexagon.

Who invented the Round Table?

Sir Cumference.

Why did the two 4's skip lunch?

They already 8!

Why did the student get upset when his teacher called him average?

It was a 'mean' thing to say!

Margin	Winner	Loser	Margin	Winner	Loser	Margin	Winner	Loser
0	10	10	18	15.33	4.67	36	18.49	1.51
1	10.37	9.63	19	15.55	4.45	37	18.62	1.38
2	10.74	9.26	20	15.76	4.24	38	18.75	1.25
3	11.09	8.91	21	15.97	4.03	39	18.87	1.13
4	11.43	8.57	22	16.18	3.82	40	18.99	1.01
5	11.77	8.23	23	16.38	3.62	41	19.11	0.89
6	12.09	7.91	24	16.57	3.43	42	19.22	0.78
7	12.41	7.59	25	16.75	3.25	43	19.33	0.67
8	12.71	7.29	26	16.93	3.07	44	19.44	0.56
9	13.01	6.99	27	17.11	2.89	45	19.54	0.46
10	13.30	6.70	28	17.28	2.72	46	19.64	0.36
11	13.58	6.42	29	17.45	2.55	47	19.74	0.26
12	13.85	6.15	30	17.61	2.39	48	19.84	0.16
13	14.11	5.89	31	17.77	2.23	49	19.93	0.07
14	14.37	5.63	32	17.92	2.08	50	20	0
15	14.62	5.38	33	18.07	1.93			
16	14.86	5.14	34	18.21	1.79			
17	15.10	4.90	35	18.35	1.65			

11 board VP scale



28 Boards (Blitz is 80 IMPs)											
Margin	Winner	Loser	Margin	Winner	Loser	Margin	Winner	Loser	Margin	Winner	Loser
0	10.00	10.00	21	14.16	5.84	42	16.99	3.01	63	18.93	1.07
1	10.24	9.76	22	14.32	5.68	43	17.10	2.90	64	19.01	0.99
2	10.47	9.53	23	14.48	5.52	44	17.21	2.79	65	19.08	0.92
3	10.70	9.30	24	14.63	5.37	45	17.32	2.68	66	19.15	0.85
4	10.92	9.08	25	14.78	5.22	46	17.42	2.58	67	19.22	0.78
5	11.14	8.86	26	14.93	5.07	47	17.52	2.48	68	19.29	0.71
6	11.35	8.65	27	15.08	4.92	48	17.62	2.38	69	19.36	0.64
7	11.56	8.44	28	15.23	4.77	49	17.72	2.28	70	19.43	0.57
8	11.77	8.23	29	15.37	4.63	50	17.82	2.18	71	19.50	0.50
9	11.98	8.02	30	15.51	4.49	51	17.92	2.08	72	19.56	0.44
10	12.18	7.82	31	15.65	4.35	52	18.01	1.99	73	19.62	0.38
11	12.38	7.62	32	15.78	4.22	53	18.10	1.90	74	19.68	0.32
12	12.57	7.43	33	15.91	4.09	54	18.19	1.81	75	19.74	0.26
13	12.76	7.24	34	16.04	3.96	55	18.28	1.72	76	19.80	0.20
14	12.95	7.05	35	16.17	3.83	56	18.37	1.63	77	19.86	0.14
15	13.13	6.87	36	16.29	3.71	57	18.45	1.55	78	19.92	0.08
16	13.31	6.69	37	16.41	3.59	58	18.53	1.47	79	19.98	0.02
17	13.48	6.52	38	16.53	3.47	59	18.61	1.39	80	20.00	0.00
18	13.65	6.35	39	16.65	3.35	60	18.69	1.31			
19	13.82	6.18	40	16.77	3.23	61	18.77	1.23			
20	13.99	6.01	41	16.88	3.12	62	18.85	1.15			

28 board VP scale

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.



U26 USA2 Round Robin Schedule

NOTES:

There are 5 teams in the Round Robin. Teams will be numbered in alphabetic order.

In order to avoid a sit out round, the matches will be played in clumps of 7 boards at a time, in 2 halves.

EVERY PLAYER ON EACH TEAM MUST PLAY 2 7 BOARD SEGMENTS AGAINST EACH OTHER TEAM (USBF General Conditions of Contest Section VIII B).

Because you are playing all at once, there are no seating rights, you cannot change lineups until both 7 board matches have been completed, and each match will have a different set of boards.

For security reasons, your NS pair must remain in the playing room when EW pairs are changing tables. During play, no one can leave a playing room without an escort.

Scoring: At the end of the day, you will have played a 14 board match against each other team. The IMP scores in those matches will be converted to Victory Points, using the **USBF 14 board VP scale**. Your score for the Round Robin will be the total VPs from those 4 matches.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28TH		
Time	Pairings	Boards
11:30-12:33	1 v 3 at table 1	A 1-7
	2 v 4 at table 2	A 8-14
	3 v 5 at table 3	A 15-21
	4 v 1 at table 4	A 22-28
	5 v 2 at table 5	A 29-35
12:35-1:38	1 v 4 at table 1	A 22-28
	2 v 5 at table 2	A 29-35
	3 v 1 at table 3	A 1-7
	4 v 2 at table 4	A 8-14
	5 v 3 at table 5	A 15-21
BREAK - SCORE COMPARISON AND LINEUP CHANGE		
1:55-2:58	1 v 5 at table 1	B 8-14
	2 v 1 at table 2	B 15-21
	3 v 2 at table 3	B 22-28
	4 v 3 at table 4	B 29-35
	5 v 4 at table 5	B 1-7
3:00-4:03	1 v 2 at table 1	B 15-21
	2 v 3 at table 2	B 22-28
	3 v 4 at table 3	B 29-35
	4 v 5 at table 4	B 1-7
	5 v 1 at table 5	B 8-14
LUNCH BREAK (72 MINUTES)		
5:10 - 6:13	1 v 5 at table 1	C 15-21
	2 v 1 at table 2	C 22-28
	3 v 2 at table 3	C 29-35
	4 v 3 at table 4	C 1-7
	5 v 4 at table 5	C 8-14
6:15 - 7:18	1 v 2 at table 1	C 1-7
	2 v 3 at table 2	C 8-14
	3 v 4 at table 3	C 15-21
	4 v 5 at table 4	C 22-28
	5 v 1 at table 5	C 29-35
BREAK - SCORE COMPARISON AND LINEUP CHANGE		
7:35 - 8:38	1 v 3 at table 1	D 22-28
	2 v 4 at table 2	D 29-35
	3 v 5 at table 3	D 1-7
	4 v 1 at table 4	D 8-14
	5 v 2 at table 5	D 15-21
8:40 - 9:48	1 v 4 at table 1	D 29-35
	2 v 5 at table 2	D 1-7
	3 v 1 at table 3	D 8-14
	4 v 2 at table 4	D 15-21
	5 v 3 at table 5	D 22-28

(Continued from page 1)

Closed Room Board 20

USA 2: 165 IMPs
POLAND: 137 IMPs

North: K. Kotorowic

South: J. Kotorowic

West: Mignocchi

East: Bathurst

Open Room: 5♦ N = +600

3♥ West NS 0 EW 0

against the Polish squad further illustrates how well putting pressure on the opponents works.

In the Open Room, West opened 1H and Grue overcalled 2D on his 7-card suit headed by the jack. While this is not unreasonable holding two outside aces, it is not necessarily commonplace... East preempted 3H over 2D and Kranyak, holding both the ace and king of trump PLUS an outside ace cued 4H; Grue bid 5D and they successfully played in their vulnerable game. Suits broke perfectly and there was little to the play, declarer losing only one club and one spade.

In the Closed Room, things went quite differently! North chose not to overcall on the jack-high diamond suit, passing softly. Bathurst, East, raised to 2H; and when that passed around to North, he balanced with 3D. Bathurst bid 3H, and not knowing at this point if he was in danger of pushing the opponents to a vulnerable game with a 4D call, South passed and 3H went down one.

This was worth 11 IMPs to the USA! Note: North/South had to get the spade suit going early in order to successfully negotiate a spade ruff to defeat 3H one trick.

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

Sudoku 1

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

Sudoku 1 Solution

Sudoku 2 Solution

Answers to Puzzles
No Peeking!

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

Sudoku

Sudoku 2

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

Meet the Players:



Yewen Fan is from Beijing, China. He is a Machine Learning engineer on Facebook. He graduated from UIUC in 2017 and has been playing bridge with his teammates for 12 years since 8th grade.



Nian Si is a 3rd-year PhD student in Operations Research at Stanford University. He has been playing bridge for 10 years. He placed 4th in the 5th World Youth Open Championship in Lyon, France.

Puzzle Page

	Massachusetts	Michigan	Montana	New York	Vermont	1 inch	1-1/2 inches	2 inches	2-1/2 inches	3 inches	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	40 inches	50 inches	60 inches	70 inches	80 inches	
Alan																					
Eddie																					
Harold																					
Matthew																					
Walter																					
40 inches																					
50 inches																					
60 inches																					
70 inches																					
80 inches																					
Monday																					
Tuesday																					
Wednesday																					
Thursday																					
Friday																					
1 inch																					
1-1/2 inches																					
2 inches																					
2-1/2 inches																					
3 inches																					

Eddie and four of his friends chatted on Facebook last night about the first snowfalls of the season. Each of the friends lived in a different northern state and all of them had already gotten a snowstorm, each on a different day of the week. While the storms were small so far, only one to three inches, they speculated on how much snow each area would get during the whole winter. After all, there was still plenty of winter to come! Determine the name of each friend, the state each lived in, how much snow each got and on which weekday from this first storm, and what each friend's speculated total snowfall for the winter was (40, 50, 60, 70, or 80 inches).

1. Eddie lived in Massachusetts but he didn't get snow on Thursday. Harold got snow on Tuesday but not 2 inches.
2. Walter got half an inch less snow than the friend who got snow on Monday but he got an inch more than the friend who estimated his area would get 80 inches.
3. The friend who lived in Michigan, who wasn't Matthew, guessed 20 inches more snow for his area than the friend who got snow on Friday guessed.
4. The five friends, in no particular order, were Alan, the friend who estimated his area would get 80 inches, the friend who lived in Vermont, the friend who already got 2 inches of snow, and the friend who got snow on Thursday.
5. Matthew got 3 inches of snow but not on Thursday. Alan lives in New York but he didn't get snow on Wednesday.
6. The friend from Montana estimated his area would get 30 inches less than Matthew guessed. The friend that guessed 50 inches of snow didn't get snow on Thursday.

First Name	State	First Snowfall	Day of Week	Forecasted Snowfall
Alan				
Eddie				
Harold				
Matthew				
Walter				
-----	Massachusetts	1 inch	Monday	40 inches
-----	Michigan	1-1/2 inches	Tuesday	50 inches
-----	Montana	2 inches	Wednesday	60 inches
-----	New York	2-1/2 inches	Thursday	70 inches
-----	Vermont	3 inches	Friday	80 inches

40 inches	Thursday	2-1/2 inches	Montana	Walter
70 inches	Monday	3 inches	Vermont	Matthew
80 inches	Tuesday	1-1/2 inches	Michigan	Harold
50 inches	Wednesday	2 inches	Massachusetts	Eddie
60 inches	Friday	1 inch	New York	Alan
Forecasted Snowfall	Day of Week	First Snowfall	State	First Name

Answer to Puzzle

VuGraph Information

The 2019 Michael Seamon Junior USBC will be covered on BBO Vugraph starting on Dec. 28th.

From Saturday, December 28th on, we will cover as many matches as we can, probably 3 matches each session.

To watch the Vugraph online, go to the **BBO website** where you can either log on directly from your browser, go to "Vugraph" and choose which table to watch, or watch from the Windows version of BBO on your computer (if you don't have the Windows version, or don't know what it is, you probably can't use it). If you choose the Windows version, log on, click on the button labeled VUGRAPH and you'll be able to choose which of the MSJUSBC 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, please ask USBF, not one of the hard-working Vugraph Operators, who may not have time to respond to private messages. Thank you.

The schedule for the entire event is the same (these are Atlanta times; to see the times for your time-zone, go to the **BBO Vugraph schedule site**):

11:30-1:40

1:50-4:00

5:45-7:55

8:05-10:15

All of the teams in each event will play the same boards.

You can find the hand records for USBC matches on this site, linked to the bracket sheets you can get to by clicking on 2016MSJUSBC under "Event Results" in the upper left of each page.

If you are going to be in Atlanta during the MSJUSBC and want to volunteer to help as a Vugraph operator, please **email Jan Martel**. The more operators we have, the more tables we can cover!

Jan's email address is marteljan@gmail.com.

Watch it Live!
Thanks BBO
and the GREAT
crew of commentators
and operators!

I don't play Precision
But AI explains all.
He follows the action
Explaining each call!

I love to watch
As long as it's clear.
Thanks to Jan's guys
I will be here!



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, **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, 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.



3rd WBF Online (BBO) YOUTH TEAMS League (February – July, 2020)

Format of the Championship

1. The Championship consists of **three** Series: Juniors (U26), Kids (U16), **NEW** - Girls (U26)
2. U26: All series will be played as a League & Draw tournament, each with a 7-round qualification stage.
3. At the end of the qualification stage, the leading 8 teams (Or 4 if there are 2 groups) in each series will qualify for the knock-out stages.
4. It is possible for a player to play in **more than one** category. For example, every girl who register for the Girls category can register also to the U16/U26.

Timetable

Important Dates: End of registration: Sunday 20th January 2020

Start of the first round–Sunday, 2nd February 2020.

End of the tournament -Tuesday, 14th June 2020

For more information,

go to <http://youth.worldbridge.org/wbf-youth-online-league-2020-by-gilad-ofir/>

You can find the registration form along with detailed information on this site.

Players interested in competing in this event may indicate their intent during these Team Trials. Check with Joe or Jan.

Board 2 7b from Dec 15 College Event... (Analysis from ACBL Bulletin)

Board 7b
South Deals
Both Vul

♠ A Q J 6
♥ 9
♦ Q 10 8 2
♣ 10 8 7 6

11
9 4
16

♠ K 7 5 4 3
♥ K 10 8 7

♦ —
♣ A J 9 2

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ 9 2
♥ A Q 6 5 3
♦ A K 7
♣ K 5 4

♠ 10 8
♥ J 4 2
♦ J 9 6 5 4 3
♣ Q 3

Auction 1

	South	West	North	East
1 NT	Pass	2 ♣	Pass	
2 ♥	Pass	4 ♥	All pass	

Auction 2

	South	West	North	East
1 ♥	Pass	4 ♦	Pass	
4 ♥	All			

NS 6N; NS 6♥; NS 6♣; NS 4♠;
EW 1♦; Par +1440

Result	#	Pnts	Score
<u>6HS=</u>	5	1430	10.89
<u>4HS+2</u>	8	680	-1.11
<u>4HS+1</u>	2	650	-1.74
<u>5HS=</u>	1	650	-1.74
<u>4SN=</u>	1	620	-2.53
<u>6HS-1</u>	2	-100	-12.63
<u>7HS-1</u>	1	-100	-12.63

South's values fall directly in the middle of the 15-17 HCP range for a 1 NT opening bid. So the opening options seem to be between 1 ♥ and 1 NT. The perceived problem with opening 1 NT might be the small doubleton Spade. The absolute problem with opening 1 ♥ is South wouldn't have an accurate description of his hand if North responds 1 ♠. For the latter reason, I would open 1 NT and quickly end up in 4 ♥ on the Auction 1 above. NS might be able to reach slam if North had jumped to 4 ♦ (Splinter) over South's 2 ♥ rebid. But after the jump to 4 ♥, the auction will be over.

Souths who open 1 ♥ will hear a 4 ♦ splinter response shows 13-16 points counting 3 or 5 for the singleton or void. The ♦ K is less valuable on this auction so it seems normal to signoff in four Hearts as shown in the Auction 2 above. However, in Hearts, two Clubs can be discarded on the ♦ AK, and NS can win 12 tricks (5 Hearts, 1 Spade, 2 Diamonds, 2 Clubs, 1 Club ruff and 1 Diamond ruff in North) so those who manage to bid 6 ♥ should pick up a lot of IMPs. The number of pairs who bid 6 ♥ will influence how negative IMPs NS will receive for the normal 4 ♥ contract.

Board 2 Hands 7c and 7d from Dec 15 College Event...

(Analysis from ACBL College Bulletin)

Board 7c
 South Deals
 Both Vul

♠ A 5 4
 ♥ K J 10 9
 ♦ 8 7 5 2
 ♣ 4 2

♠ Q 6
 ♥ 7 5 2
 ♦ A Q 10 9 4 3
 ♣ A 8

♠ 10 9 8
 ♥ Q 6 3
 ♦ 6
 ♣ Q 10 7 6 5 3

♠ K J 7 3 2
 ♥ A 8 4
 ♦ K J
 ♣ K J 9

8
 12 4
 16

Auction 1

South	West	North	East
1 NT	2 ♣ ¹	Dbl ²	Pass
2 ♠	Pass	2 NT	Pass
3 ♠	Pass	4 ♠	End

Auction 2

South	West	North	East
1 ♠	2 ♦	2 ♠	Pass
3 ♠	Pass	4 ♠	All

Result	#	Pnts	Score
4SS=	3	620	11.5
2SS+2	1	170	5.72
4SS-1	7	-100	0.28
3NS-3	5	-300	-4.22
3NS-4	2	-400	-6.33
3NS-5	1	-500	-8.39

NS 6N; NS 6♥; NS 6♣; NS 4♠; EW 1♦;
 Par +1440

Auction one notes

1. Capelletti
2. Stayman

While the Hand 7b might be opened 1-Major or 1 NT, this South hand is a normal 1 NT opening bid for anyone who doesn't refuse to open 1 NT with a five-card major. West will overcall with a Cappelletti 2 ♣ showing some one suited hand and less than 15 HCP. North's double of 2 ♣ is stayman allowing South to show his Spades and then over his partner game invite with 2 NT, South will repeat his Spades to show a five-card suit. North will raise Spades to game. Should South open 1 ♠, West will overcall 2 ♦ and game should be reach when North accepts South's game try (see auction 2).

While some might reach 3NT, 4 ♠ will be the most popular contract. In 4 ♠ you will quickly lose two | 2 aces and a Diamond ruff, so to make 4 ♠ you will have to get Hearts right. As you try to figure out who to finesse one piece of info you get early is West has Six Diamonds, East one. So that give East 12 vacant spaces to hold the Heart Queen. You soon find East started with three Spades, West two. So East has 9 vacant spaces to West's 5 such spaces. With that info, Those favor finessing East for the ♥ Q. However, should you cash the ♠ K and ruff a Club, you will discover both East and West will have only 3 vacant spaces. In other words, Hearts will split 3=3 and the odds are equal that East or West will hold the ♥ Q. Those who guess the ♥ Q right will make game, those who don't will go down. Should you lead the ♥ J from the North East shouldn't cover with the ♥ Q, but the robot just might solving the guess.

Board 7d
 South Deals
 Both Vul

♠ Q 5
 ♥ A Q J
 ♦ 10 9 5 4 3
 ♣ 6 4 2

♠ 8 6 4
 ♥ 10 9 8
 ♦ A J 8 7
 ♣ Q J 9

♠ K 9 7
 ♥ 7 6 4 2
 ♦ 6 2
 ♣ K 8 5 3

♠ A J 10 3 2
 ♥ K 5 3
 ♦ K Q
 ♣ A 10 7

9
 8 6
 17

Auction 1

South	West	North	East
1 NT	Pass	2 ♣	Pass
2 ♠	Pass	2 NT	Pass
3 NT	End		

Auction 2

South	West	North	East
1 ♠	Pass	1 NT	Pass
2 NT	Pass	3 NT	End

NS 4N; NS 4♣; NS 3♥; NS 4♦;
 NS 2♠; Par +630

Result	#	Pnts	Score
3NN+2	4	660	0.88
3NS+2	1	660	0.88
3NN+1	4	630	-0.18
3NS+1	7	630	-0.18
3NN=	2	600	-1.24

The final hand there is good reason to open South 1 ♠ instead of 1 NT. South has a very good 17 HCP, so some people will evaluate this hand as 17+ and treat it as if he held 18 HCP. You will determine how many people opened 1 NT and how many upgraded the hand to 18 and opened 1 ♠ by checking the declarer in 3 NT. If more Souths play 3NT most of your competitors opened it 1 NT, if more are played by North, more Souths opened 1 ♠. There appears to be only 10 tricks in Notrump (5 Spades, 3 Hearts, 1 Diamond, 1 Club). A declarer might be able to safely steal a second Diamond trick without risking 10 tricks by setting up a second Diamond if the defense fails to find a Club lead & declarer maintains two Heart entries in dummy. At matchpoints, that extra trick would be HUGE, but at IMPS, it will be at most 1-IMP. So on this hand, there will be very few IMPS rewarded to anyone. There is just not much of a chance for an IMP swing on this table.