

Volume 13, Issue 3
May 23, 2019

Halfway Thru Mixed RR

Team Name	Total	3	8	2	5	4	6	7	1
3. Ivatury	91.25		16.42	6.96	12.03	13.75	8.80	16.26	17.03
8. Rosenthal	82.89	3.58		9.39	15.38	12.80	15.74	13.97	12.03
2. Donner	82.07	13.04	10.61		3.58	16.26	9.39	14.39	14.80
5. Kolesnik	79.88	7.97	4.62	16.42		9.39	7.97	15.92	17.59
4. Kent	61.96	6.25	7.20	3.74	10.61		12.03	5.40	16.73
6. Pszczola	61.55	11.20	4.26	10.61	12.03	7.97		6.96	8.52
7. Radin	55.90	3.74	6.03	5.61	4.08	14.60	13.04		8.80
1. Byrnes	44.50	2.97	7.97	5.20	2.41	3.27	11.48	11.20	

- USBF President**
Marty Fleisher
- USBF Vice President**
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- USBF COO & Secretary**
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- USBF CFO**
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- Directors - USBC**
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- Operations Manager**
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- Appeals Administrators**
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Bill Arlinghaus
Martha Katz
- Appeals Panel:**
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Bart Bramley
Gary Cohler
Mark Feldman
Ron Gerard
Geoff Hampson
Mike Kamil
Ralph Katz
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- Bulletin Editor**
Suzi Subeck
- Photographer**
Peg Kaplan
- Hospitality Chairs**
Molly O'Neil

UNITED STATES BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS
"Trials" and Tribulations—MUSBC



MUSBC Teams Entered

Alphabetical Order

"TRIALS" AND TRIBULATIONS

Byrnes	Dori Byrnes, Capt Matthew Granovetter Les Bart	Jiang Gu Pam Granovetter Gloria Bart
Donner	Gary Donner, Capt Sheila Gabay Adam Grossack	Yoko Sobel Giorgia Botta Zachary Grossack
Ivatury	Uday Ivatury, Capt Steve Garner Howard Weinstein	Christal Henner Jill Meyers Cheri Bjerkan
Kent	Robert Kent, Capt Mark Aquino Carl Nelson	Ellen Kent Selen Hotamisligil Abigail Nichols
Kolesnik	Alex Kolesnik, Capt David Caprera Kit Woolsey	Irina Kislitsyna Anne Brenner Cheryl Mandala
Pepsi	Jacek Pszczola, Capt Gary Cohler Jenny Wolpert	May Sakr Anam Tebha Eldad Ginossar
Radin	Judi Radin, Capt Lew Stansby Sam Lev	Jim Mahaffey JoAnna Stansby Janice Seamon-Molson
Rosenthal	Andrew Rosenthal, Capt Michael Rosenberg Migry Zur Campanile	Debbie Rosenberg Chris Willenken



Alert!

These are not for sale.
We are giving them to
those who want them.

Before the 1998 Chicago NABC, the ACBL commissioned an artist named Jim Harrington from Waukegan, IL, to do a painting called "Our Game." The lithos were sold at the '98 NABC and the original was auctioned off as a fund raiser for the tournament. Leo and Pat Perez from Garden Grove, CA, won the drawing and the winners were named at the Orlando NABC that year and awarded their painting. The picture was prominently displayed during both the Chicago and Orlando NABCs.

The lithos are numbered editions.

Mr. Harrington's widow, Sue, donated the remaining lithos to the USBF when she moved from her Waukegan home last year. We have several here at the tournament. If you would like one, please see either Jan Martel or Suzi Subeck. From the July 26, 1998, Daily Bulletin at the Chicago NABC:

Our Game

The ACBL Educational Foundation is happy to welcome artist Jim Harrington who is here in Chicago this morning to personalize limited edition prints of his painting "Our Game". This is the only day he will be here. Harrington will be at the Educational Foundation's booth which is located near the NorthEast Exhibit Hall on the lower level.

Harrington is a well-known artist listed in *Who's Who of Living American Artists* and is well represented in the collections of many corporate and private collections. Proceeds from the project will be split evenly between the Educational Foundation and Art Etc. Inc.



Jan Martel, hard at work

Tournament Schedule

2019 MIXED USBC Tournament Schedule

DAY	DATE	TIME	BOARDS
WEDNESDAY	MAY 22	9:45 AM	CAPTAINS' MEETING
WEDNESDAY	MAY 22	10:00 - 8:15	ROUND ROBIN CLICK FOR SCHEDULE
THURSDAY	MAY 23	10:00 - 8:15	ROUND ROBIN DAY 2
* THE FINAL 2 MATCHES ARE SEQUESTERED - ONE PAIR ON EACH TEAM MUST PLAY BOTH MATCHES & MUST REMAIN IN THE TEAM NS ROOM FOR BOTH MATCHES. NO SCORE COMPARISON ALLOWED.			
KNOCKOUT SCHEDULE USA1 FINAL & USA2 QUARTERFINAL			
FRIDAY	MAY 24	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
SATURDAY	MAY 25	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			
SUNDAY	MAY 26	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 27	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 28	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 29	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

Luck is not chance, it's
toil; fortune's expensive
smile is earned.

Emily Dickinson

Random chance plays
a huge part in every-
body's life.

Gary Gyax

MUSBC Round Robin Schedule by Team Name

WEDNESDAY, MAY 22ND		THURSDAY, MAY 23RD	
Time	Teams	Time	Teams
10:00-11:10	Byrnes vs Rosenthal	10:00-11:10	Byrnes vs Donner
	Donner vs Radin		Ivatury vs Kent
	Ivatury vs Pepsi		Kolesnik vs Pepsi
	Kent vs Kolesnik		Radin vs Rosenthal
11:20-12:30	Byrnes vs Radin	11:20-12:30	Byrnes vs Ivatury
	Donner vs Pepsi		Donner vs Kent
	Ivatury vs Kolesnik		Kolesnik vs Radin
	Kent vs Pszczola		Pepsi vs Rosenthal
12:40-1:50	Byrnes vs Pepsi	12:40-1:50	Byrnes vs Kent
	Donner vs Kolesnik		Donner vs Ivatury
	Ivatury vs Rosenthal		Kolesnik vs Rosenthal
	Kent vs Radin		Pepsi vs Radin
3:00-4:10	Byrnes vs Kolesnik	3:00-4:10	Byrnes vs Kolesnik
	Donner vs Rosenthal		Donner vs Rosenthal
	Ivatury vs Radin		Ivatury vs Radin
	Kent vs Pepsi		Kent vs Pepsi
4:20-5:30	Byrnes vs Kent	4:20-5:30	Byrnes vs Pepsi
	Donner vs Ivatury		Donner vs Kolesnik
	Kolesnik vs Rosenthal		Ivatury vs Rosenthal
	Pepsi vs Radin		Kent vs Radin
5:40-6:50	Byrnes vs Ivatury	5:40-6:50	Byrnes vs Radin
	Donner vs Kent		Donner vs Pepsi
	Kolesnik vs Radin		Ivatury vs Kolesnik
	Pepsi vs Rosenthal		Kent vs Pszczola
7:00-8:10	Byrnes vs Donner	7:00-8:10	Byrnes vs Rosenthal
	Ivatury vs Kent		Donner vs Radin
	Kolesnik vs Pepsi		Ivatury vs Pepsi
	Radin vs Rosenthal		Kent vs Kolesnik

COUPLES ONE-LINERS BECAUSE IT'S A MIXED!

Q: If love is "grand," what is divorce? A: A hundred grand, or more.

Q: What's the difference between love and marriage? A: Love is blind and marriage is an eye-opener!

My son wanted to know what it's like to be married. I told him to leave me alone and when he did, I asked him why he was ignoring me.

If I have to choose between a husband and shoes, I choose shoes. They tend to last longer and are easier to replace.

Man: "I haven't spoken to my wife in 18 months." Friend: "Why not?" "Man: "I don't like to interrupt her."

Wife: Do you want dinner?
Husband: Sure, what are my choices?
Wife: Yes and no.

Son: Dad, I've heard that in some parts of the world a man doesn't know his wife until he marries her.
Father: Son, that's true everywhere.

Every man wants a beautiful wife, a smart wife, a loving wife, a sexy wife, and a cooperative wife. Sadly, bigamy is against the law.

If a man opens the car door for his wife, you can be sure of one thing — either the car is new or the wife is.

What kind of tree can fit into your hand?
A palm tree!

*** Teams in Bold have Seating Rights

RR Information

There are 8 teams in the Round Robin. Teams have been numbered in alphabetical order. Each team will have a "home" room in which their pair will sit NS for each match.

ORDER OF PLAY ON MAY 23RD IS OPPOSITE TO THAT ON MAY 22ND.

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

Last two matches on May 23rd are segregated, no comparisons, no substitutions in your home room. Because this means there can be no seating rights for those matches, there are no seating rights in the first two matches on May 22nd.

Margin	Winner	Loser	Margin	Winner	Loser	Margin	Winner	Loser
0	10	10	21	15.19	4.81	42	18.33	1.67
1	10.31	9.69	22	15.38	4.62	43	18.44	1.56
2	10.61	9.39	23	15.56	4.44	44	18.55	1.45
3	10.91	9.09	24	15.74	4.26	45	18.66	1.34
4	11.20	8.80	25	15.92	4.08	46	18.77	1.23
5	11.48	8.52	26	16.09	3.91	47	18.87	1.13
6	11.76	8.24	27	16.26	3.74	48	18.97	1.03
7	12.03	7.97	28	16.42	3.58	49	19.07	0.93
8	12.29	7.71	29	16.58	3.42	50	19.16	0.84
9	12.55	7.45	30	16.73	3.27	51	19.25	0.75
10	12.80	7.20	31	16.88	3.12	52	19.34	0.66
11	13.04	6.96	32	17.03	2.97	53	19.43	0.57
12	13.28	6.72	33	17.17	2.83	54	19.52	0.48
13	13.52	6.48	34	17.31	2.69	55	19.61	0.39
14	13.75	6.25	35	17.45	2.55	56	19.69	0.31
15	13.97	6.03	36	17.59	2.41	57	19.77	0.23
16	14.18	5.82	37	17.72	2.28	58	19.85	0.15
17	14.39	5.61	38	17.85	2.15	59	19.93	0.07
18	14.60	5.40	39	17.97	2.03	60	20	0
19	14.80	5.20	40	18.09	1.91			
20	15.00	5.00	41	18.21	1.79			

USBF 16 Board VP Scale

Mixed USBC RR Schedule by Team Number

Time	Pairings	Seeded Team*	Boards
WEDNESDAY, MAY 22ND			
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, 3, 4	17-24
LUNCH BREAK			
3:00 – 4:10	1 v 5, 2 v 8, 3 v 7, 4 v 6	5, 8, 7, 6	1-8
4:20 – 5:30	1 v 4, 2 v 3, 5 v 8, 6 v 7	1, 2, 5, 6	9-16
5:40 - 6:50	1 v 3, 2 v 4, 5 v 7, 6 v 8	3, 4, 7, 8	17- 24
7:00 - 8:10	1 v 2, 3 v 4, 5 v 6, 7 v 8	1, 3, 5 7	25-32
THURSDAY, MAY 23RD			
10:00-11:10	1 v 2, 3 v 4, 5 v 6, 7 v 8	2, 4, 6, 8	1-8
11:20-12:30	1 v 3, 2 v 4, 5 v 7, 6 v 8	1, 2, 5, 6	9-16
12:40-1:50	1 v 4, 2 v 3, 5 v 8, 6 v 7	4, 3, 8, 7	17-24
LUNCH BREAK			
3:00 – 4:10	1 v 5, 2 v 8, 3 v 7, 4 v 6	1, 2, 3, 4	1-8
4:20 – 5:30	1 v 6, 2 v 5, 3 v 8, 4 v 7	6, 5, 8, 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

*The seeded team has seating rights per General Conditions of Contest

Vugraph

The 2019 Mixed USBC will be covered on BBO Vugraph starting with the SemiFinals , in which we will cover both matches. The Semifinal starts Friday, May 24th.

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 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, please 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]

if you click on the name of the table/event you will get 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 the event

if you click on a player name you will usually get a pop-up that

- * displays a picture of the player

- * shows links to System Summary Forms (SSFs), Convention Cards (CCs), and biographical information

VIDEO: Live video streaming is not available for this event.

Video from the event tables will be uploaded to YouTube as soon as we can manage.

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 2019 Open 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 2019 Open USBC under "Event Results" in the upper left of each page.

If you are going to be in the Chicago area during the Mixed USBC and want to volunteer to help as a Vugraph operator, please **email Jan Martel**.

Sudoku 1

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

Sudoku 2

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

**Sudoku
Solutions
on Page 9**

Hospitality Suite...

The hospitality suite for the 2019 Mixed USBC will be room 2321. Our wonderful hostess, Molly O'Neill will be in Schaumburg to welcome you to the Hospitality Suite, with a lot of help from other volunteers.

The hospitality suite will be open starting on Tuesday evening and continuing throughout the event. Breakfast will be served each day from 8:00-10:30 and lunch each day from about 1:00-4:00. Players, kibitzers, friends, spouses and children are welcome to join us in the hospitality suite.

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 & McKenzie's office) is room 1321. It will be available for the entire tournament. We will have coffee, soft drinks and some snacks available in that room while you wait for your 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.



no	685	Horn	Zach
won!	750	Wild	Joe
no	787	Black	Grace
no	674	Plummer	Cindy
no	700	Smith	Adam
Win?	Final Guess	Last Name	First Name

Puzzle Page ...

	Black	Horn	Plummer	Smith	Wild	674	685	700	750	787	no	no	no	no	won!
Adam															
Cindy															
Grace															
Joe															
Zach															
no															
no															
no															
no															
won!															
674															
685															
700															
750															
787															

Answer on page 7

First Name	Last Name	Final Guess	Win?
Adam	Black	674	no
Cindy	Horn	685	no
Grace	Plummer	700	no
Joe	Smith	750	no
Zach	Wild	787	won!

There's a big jar in Mr. Elliot's Sweet Ecstasy candy shop, in downtown Millersville. The jar is filled to bursting with M&Ms in a rainbow of colors. There's a small sign before the jar which reads, "Take a guess! The one closest to the number of M&Ms in the jar by Saturday night wins the whole jarful!" His jar of M&Ms has been the favorite subject of discussion all week in Mrs. Field's class. Finally, she suggested that the class take a scientific approach and try to figure out how many M&Ms were in the jar by running a series of experiments. For example, they could fill up smaller bottles with M&Ms and then estimate how much bigger Mr. Elliot's jar was by comparison. Then they'd have a more accurate guess and hence a better chance of winning the prize. Five of the students thought this was a fine idea. Since one of them won, and all of them were fairly close, Mrs. Field's suggestion must have helped! Determine the full name of each of these students (one student was named Grace), what each one's final guess was, and which one won the jar for the closest guess.

NOTE: The actual number of M&Ms in the jar is NOT one of the numbers listed in the puzzle. The numbers in the puzzle are the closest guesses to the actual number, and include the guess which won the jar. The solution, when it is revealed next month, will state how many M&Ms the jar actually held.

- Ms. Black's guess, which was 787, was the furthest away from the right number of M&Ms.
- Zach, whose last name wasn't Plummer, guessed a higher number than the person who guessed 674 M&Ms, but a lower number than Mr. Wild guessed.
- The person who won the jar of M&Ms guessed an even number. Joe's last name wasn't Horn. Mr. Smith didn't guess 750. Cindy's guess was smaller than Adam's guess.
- Joe didn't guess 685. Adam, whose last name wasn't Wild, guessed 700 M&Ms.
- The winning number was higher than Mr. Smith's guess.
- Adam's last name wasn't Horn. Zach's last name wasn't Smith.

Meet the Players...

Christal Henner is an American bridge player and a World Life Master in the Open rankings of the World Bridge Federation.

Henner finished second in the Rosenblum Cup World Championship in 2006 in Verona, Italy and won five North American Bridge Championships.

Divorced from Roy Welland, she has won titles as Christal Henner-Welland; they have two sons.

Bridge accomplishments

Wins

North American Bridge Championships

Jacoby Open Swiss Teams 2003
 Vanderbilt 2007
 Mitchell Board-a-Match Teams 2004
 Roth Open Swiss Teams 2005, 2006

Runners-up

Rosenblum Cup 2006
 North American Bridge Championships
 Jacoby Open Swiss
 Teams 2004
 Reisinger 2010



Howard M. Weinstein (born 1953) is an American bridge player from Palm Springs, CA. He is a graduate of University of Minnesota. He is related to Josh (J. Elvis) Weinstein from Mystery Science Theater 3000.

Wins

North American Bridge Championships
 von Zedtwitz Life Master Pairs 1997
 Silodor Open Pairs 1996
 Blue Ribbon Pairs 1998
 Nail Life Master Open Pairs 2006
 Grand National Teams 1991
 Vanderbilt 1993
 Mitchell Board-a-Match Teams 2012
 Reisinger 1997, 2001

Runners-up

Bermuda Bowl 2007
 North American Bridge Championships
 von Zedtwitz Life Master Pairs 1988, 1989, 2007
 Grand National Teams 1986, 1988
 Jacoby Open Swiss Teams 2002
 Mitchell Board-a-Match Teams 1987, 2002
 Reisinger 1987, 1995, 2008, 2010
 Spingold 2008

Sudoku 1 Solution

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

Sudoku 2 Solution

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

**Sudoku
 Solutions
 from page 9**

Our wonderful massage therapist, Ela, is available again this year. She has agreed to come to the Hyatt after 1:00 pm on the following days. People who want a massage should sign up with Jan.

Thursday, 5/23

Monday, 5/27

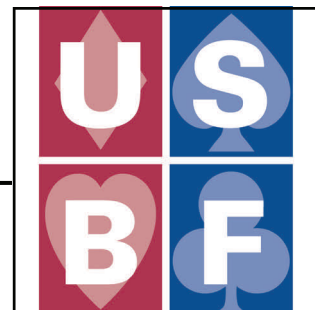
Thursday, 5/30 (between Mixed & Seniors)

Monday, 6/3

Thursday, 6/6



Relaxation Therapy!



USBF Supporting Membership

If you don't want to play in the USBF Championships that choose teams to represent the USA in the World Bridge Federation Championships, but do want to aid our events, a **Supporting Membership** can be the perfect way for you to be involved. As a Supporting Member, you are eligible to:

1. Enter the fantasy brackets, run on Bridge Winners, for the USBF trials choosing our Open and Senior teams for the World Championships. The highest-ranking Supporting Member in the fantasy brackets for each of these two events will win the prize of your choice - either an online match against the USBC winners or dinner with them at the next NABC.
2. Receive daily emails during the USBF Championships. These will summarize the previous day's results and provide vugraph information and links to daily bulletins containing pictures and commentary on individual hands.
3. Upon advanced request, make arrangements for you to kibitz a USBF member of your choice for a session once each year – either at an NABC or the USBF Championships.
4. Upon advanced request, we will arrange for you to be one of the vugraph commentators for one session of the team trials.

A Supporting Membership is \$25 for one year (\$75 for 3 years) and the ACBL now offers you the chance to become an USBF Supporting Member when you renew your ACBL membership. If you don't want to wait that long, you can join by choosing the red Donate Now button on the USBF website. Your donation will be used to cover inevitable expenses: attorney fees, accounting fees, website support services, tournament directors, insurance, WBF dues, and vugraph operators. The USBF is an all-volunteer organization. Our meetings are by conference call and at NABCs. Board members and the organization's officers are not compensated for meetings, travel, or hotel expenses.

We hope you will join us.

The Young and the Reckless!

Board 10
 Dealer: E
 All Vul.
 2nd match
 RR

♠ J4
 ♥ AQ32
 ♦ AKJ32
 ♣ T3

♠ A93
 ♥ 64
 ♦ T54
 ♣ K7542

♠ QT752
 ♥ K87
 ♦ 7
 ♣ J986

♠ K86
 ♥ JT95
 ♦ Q986
 ♣ AQ



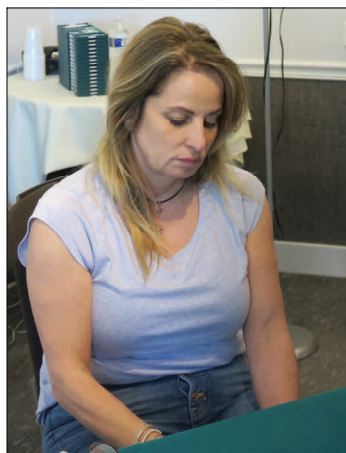
West	North	East	South
Sakr	Botta	Pepsi	Z Grossack
		Pass	1C (could be short)
Pass	1D	1S	1NT
Pass	2H	Pass	3H
Pass	3NT	Pass	4C
Pass	4D	Pass	4NT
Pass	5S	Pass	6H
All Pass			

At the other table in this match... and most other matches, Board 10 was played in 4H by North/South. If South declares, the defense can never take more than three tricks..

When declared by North, success depends on East's choice of opening leads. If East leads his singleton diamond, he will be able to win his king of hearts, cross to his partner's spade ace and get a diamond ruff. If East finds the inspired lead of a club, he will not get a ruff, but will defeat the contract by scoring the CK, HK, and ultimately two spade tricks when declarer has to break that suit.

At Zach Grossack's table, Zach showed his super aggressive style by driving the contract to 6H. Zach opened 1C and freely rebid 1NT over Pepsi's spade overcall. Notice that if he passes over 1S, there is a good chance that he will be able to declare 4H from the "safe side." Once he bid 1NT, Botta introduced the heart suit. Zach raised hearts and cuebid 4C over partner's 3NT call. When partner cued diamonds, Zach took the bull by the horns and asked for aces, settling in 6H! ... only three tricks too high!

Pepsi did not find the club lead... he actually made the unlucky lead of a small spade. Sakr won her SA and eventually Pepsi collected his HK to defeat 6H one trick.



May Sakr

Just think, if the HK and CK were reversed, 6H would make on the spade lead and Zach would have a great story!

Pepsi's teammates bid and made 4H in the other room for 12 IMPs.



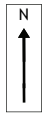
Giorgia Botta

Minor Error or When Henner meets Brenner (for you Howie Doing!)

Board 16 ♠ T832
 Dealer: W ♥ Q2
 E/W Vul. ♦ A97
 2nd match ♣ A752

♠ AKQ754 ♠ 6
 ♥ J43 ♥ AKT
 ♦ Q ♦ K5432
 ♣ J64 ♣ KT83

♠ J9
 ♥ 98765
 ♦ JT86
 ♣ Q9



West	North	East	South
Henner	Caprera	Ivstury	Brenner
1S	Pass	2D	Pass
2S	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	All pass		

On Board 16, Annie Brenner led the H8 against 3NT. Declarer played small from dummy and Caprera did well to follow small, not revealing to declarer the favorable heart position. If Caprera plays the queen, declarer will simply win and tackle the spade suit with a sure heart entry to dummy.

After winning his HK, Ivstury played a diamond to the queen. Caprera ducked. Declarer led a club to the ten and queen. Brenner returned the H6 to the queen and ace. Ivstury played on spades. When Caprera won the 4th round of spades, he could do no better than to cash his minor suit aces.

A more interesting defense would be for Caprera to win his DA at trick two and continue with the D9. This is a tough play to find after declarer's two over one in diamonds. On this defense, declarer will likely duck the second diamond and win the third diamond. If declarer now plays a 4th round of diamonds, South will win the trick and when spades don't break, the defense will have collected three diamonds, one club and one spade.

Sometimes Full Disclosure Isn't Best...

Board 5 ♠ K93
 Dealer: N ♥ AK8763
 N/S Vul. ♦ K2
 1st match ♣ AQ

♠ J6 ♠ T85
 ♥ JT2 ♥ 54
 ♦ AQ8 ♦ JT763
 ♣ JT832 ♣ 965

♠ AQ742
 ♥ Q9
 ♦ 954
 ♣ K74



Sakr	Bjerkan	Pepsi	Weinstein
	1H	Pass	1S
2C	Double (support)	Pass	3S
Pass	4NT	Pass	5D (one)
Pass	5H (Q ask)	Pass	6C (SQ + CK)
Pass	6S	All Pass	

When Bjerkan asked for the trump queen, Weinstein took quite a bit of time before he confirmed holding the SQ and CK. Was he thinking of concealing the CK by simply jumping to 6S? Given his heart holding, it's likely that there will be plenty of tricks if the opponents do not find a killing lead. On this hand, there is no killing lead, but what if the DA was with East? Of course, seeing all the hands, one thinks that perhaps North could bid 6NT. But, North does not know

about the HQ ... and even with the HQ, it might be necessary for declarer to trump a heart if the suit doesn't break. The real question is: Should you ever lie to partner when you think it's more likely to keep you safe? (A new version of a "safety play?")