



Volume 13, Issue 13
October 22, 2021

“Trials” and Tribulations—Mixed USBC

UNITED STATES BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Mixed Final Halftime Results USA2

#	TEAM	IMPs Total	SET #1	SET #2	SET #3	SET #4	SET #5	SET #6	SET #7	SET #8	Adjustment (IMPs)
2	Moss	87	41	9	26	11					
3	Lewis	105	31	27	25	22					



Migry, Willenken, Rosenberg, Rosenthal, Ginossar, Berkowitz
USA1 Mixed

- USBF President**
Brad Moss
- USBF Vice President**
Kate Aker
- USBF COO & Secretary**
Jan Martel
- USBF CFO & Treasurer**
Stan Subeck
- USBF Recorder**
Jack Oest
- Director**
McKenzie Myers
Chris Wiegand
Will Watson (Senior Online)
- Tournament Organizer**
Jan Martel
- Software Expert**
Al Hollander
- VuGraph Organizer**
Chris Wiegand
- Appeals Administrators**
Suzi Subeck, Chairman
Bill Arlinghaus
Martha Katz
- Appeals Panel:**
Cheri Bjerkan
Mark Feldman
Ron Gerard
Marty Hirschman
Rich DeMartino
Ralph Katz
Kerri Sanborn
Danny Sprung
Joann Sprung
- Bulletin Editor**
Suzi Subeck
- Photographer**
Peg Kaplan
- Hospitality Chair**
Julie Arbit
Christian Jolly
Evvie Gilbert
Maya Alela

MUSBC Teams Entered

Alphabetical Order

Bauer	Tracey Bauer, Capt John McAllister George Jacobs	Howard Parker Lilly Justman
Donner	Gary Donner, Capt Zachary Grossack Joe Grue	Sandra Rimstedt Giorgia Botta Anam Tebha
Hammond	Nicolas Hammond, Capt Jacqueline Chang	Kristen Onsgard Eric Gettleman
Henner	Christal Henner, Capt Adam Wildavsky Doug Doub	Sheila Gabay Yiji Starr Uday Ivatury
Hinze	Greg Hinze, Capt Allison Howard [KO] Owen Lien	Kay Enfield Mike Cappelletti [KO] May Sakr
Kolesnik	Alex Kolesnik, Capt Cheryl Mandala Sally Woolsey	Lynne Feldman Yul Inn Kit Woolsey
Lewis	Paul Lewis, Capt Mark Itabashi Ljudmila Kamenova	Linda Lewis Disa Eythorsdottir Ron Smith
Moss	Sylvia Moss, Capt Brad Moss [KO] Kevin Dwyer	Roger Lee Bronia Jenkins Jenny Wolpert [RR] John Hurd
Rosenthal	Andrew Rosenthal, Capt Chris Willenken Eldad Ginossar	Debbie Rosenberg Migry Campanile Dana Berkowitz
Rubenstein	Stewart Rubenstein, Capt Adam Grossack Joel Wooldridge	Chris Parker Irina Levitina Janice Molson
Watson	Will Watson, Capt Mark Aquino	Geeske Joel Selen Hotamisligil
Xu	Finn Kolesnik Cynthia Huang (KO) Anne Brenner [KO] Karen McCallum Michael Xu, NPC	Kevin Rosenberg Dave Caprera [RR] JoAnna Stansby



Face-to-Face Schaumburg I

Tournament Schedule

DAY	DATE	TIME - CDT	BOARDS
<i>QUARTER-FINAL</i>			
THURSDAY	OCT. 14	8:00 PM	CAPTAINS' MEETING WITH DIC (ON ZOOM)
FRIDAY	OCT. 15	10:00 - 12:10	SEGMENT 1 BOARDS 1-15
		12:25 - 2:35	SEGMENT 2 BOARDS 16-30
		3:45 - 5:55	70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK
		6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 3 BOARDS 31-45 SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 46- 60
SATURDAY	OCT. 16	10:00 - 12:10	SEGMENT 5 BOARDS 61-75
		12:25 - 2:35	SEGMENT 6 BOARDS 76-90
		3:45 - 5:55	70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK
		6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 7 BOARDS 91-105 SEGMENT 8 BOARDS 106-120
<i>SEMI-FINAL & USA2 STAGE 1</i>			
SUNDAY	OCT. 17	10:00 - 12:10	SEGMENT 1 BOARDS 1-15
		12:25 - 2:35	SEGMENT 2 BOARDS 16-30
		3:45 - 5:55	70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK
		6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 3 BOARDS 31-45 SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 46- 60
MONDAY	OCT. 18	10:00 - 12:10	SEGMENT 5 BOARDS 61-75
		12:25 - 2:35	SEGMENT 6 BOARDS 76-90
		3:45 - 5:55	70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK
		6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 7 BOARDS 91-105 SEGMENT 8 BOARDS 106-120
<i>FINAL & USA2 QUARTERFINAL & SEMIFINAL</i>			
TUESDAY	OCT. 19	10:00 - 12:10	SEGMENT 1 BOARDS 1-15
		12:25 - 2:35	SEGMENT 2 BOARDS 16-30
		3:45 - 5:55	70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK
		6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 3 BOARDS 31-45 SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 46- 60
WEDNESDAY	OCT. 20	10:00 - 12:10	SEGMENT 5 BOARDS 61-75
		12:25 - 2:35	SEGMENT 6 BOARDS 76-90
		3:45 - 5:55	70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK
		6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 7 BOARDS 91-105 SEGMENT 8 BOARDS 106-120
<i>USA2 FINAL</i>			
THURSDAY	OCT. 21	10:00 - 12:10	SEGMENT 1 BOARDS 1-15
		12:25 - 2:35	SEGMENT 2 BOARDS 16-30
		3:45 - 5:55	70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK
		6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 3 BOARDS 31-45 SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 46- 60
FRIDAY	OCT. 22	10:00 - 12:10	SEGMENT 5 BOARDS 61-75
		12:25 - 2:35	SEGMENT 6 BOARDS 76-90
		3:45 - 5:55	70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK
		6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 7 BOARDS 91-105 SEGMENT 8 BOARDS 106-120



Lily, Snowy and Esha are working with Mrs Daring Daughters at Delhi. They lunch together on every working day at Cafe Paris where they also order wine based on the following premises:

- A. Esha has wine only if either Lily or Snowy or both have it.
- B. Unless neither Lily nor Snowy have wine, Esha must have it.
- C. Snowy and Esha never have wine together.
- D. If Lily does not have wine, either Snowy or Esha or both have it.

Who order(s) wine?

**Logic Puzzles
answer on page 4**

Hospitality Suite

Because of Covid, we won't be able to provide the full, wonderful hospitality we have in the past, but we will do what we can.

Hosts Evvie Gilbert and Maya Alela for the Open and Women's and Julie Arbit and Christian Jolly for the Mixed and Seniors will be in our usual hospitality suite (Room 2321). They will provide grab and go breakfast and lunch each day'

Breakfast: From 8-10 am. There will be individually packaged cereal, fruit, hard boiled eggs, bagels, and surprise treats. Also individual butter, jam, peanut butter, and cream cheese, as well as condiment packages. They will be making coffee and will have individual packages of sugar, sweetener, and dairy & non-dairy creamers. For those of you who prefer Keurig coffee, that will also be available in the hospitality suite. We are limiting access to 6 players at any one time, so we ask that you come to the suite, pick up a large to go container and put the smaller packages in that to take with you as quickly as you can, and then go someplace else to eat. **Masks that cover your nose & mouth must be worn in the Hospitality Suite at all times.** There will be a hand sanitizer station near the door and we encourage you to sanitize your hands before choosing what to take.

Lunch: From 2-4 pm (the first half of play each day ends at 2:35; we encourage those of you who are sitting out the 2nd quarter to go early). There will be a main dish (sandwiches, chicken, main dish salads, pizza) as well as individually packaged tuna salad, green salad, cheese, fruit, and berries. Also all the individual packages of add-ons we have for breakfast. Water and soft drinks will be available in refrigerators.

Let us know what you want: If there is a menu for a future day's lunch hanging on the wall outside the Hospitality Suite, please mark what you want, so we have a better idea of what to order.

Playing Rooms & Player's Break Room

We will have bottled water in the playing rooms and if there is a refrigerator in a playing room we'll stock it with soft drinks.

We will also have bottled water in the Player's Break Room (1321), as well as soft drinks, nespresso, some packaged snacks, and some fruit.

Masks that cover your nose & mouth must be worn in the Player's Break Room at all times, so you may not eat and drink in the room.



Julie Arbit



Christian
Jolly

Answer to Puzzle on page 3

Premise D may be alternatively stated as 'either' Lily or Snowy or Esha must have wine'. Considering Premise A in the light of this, it is easy to infer that either Lily or Snowy must have wine. Consequently, from Premise B it is apparent that Esha too must have wine. However, Snowy cannot have wine when Esha does (Premise C), it stands to reason that both Lily and Esha have wine where as Snowy never does.

General Face-to-Face Tournament Information to Players

The USBF Board of Directors met earlier this week and confirmed:

1. Face-to-face play in Schaumburg will be with 2 players per room.
2. Players will not be required to get Covid tests, but will be provided with information about where they can be tested (in Woodfield Mall) if they want to be. Staff will be tested approximately once a week.
3. We will comply with the Illinois mask requirements, which currently require masks in public areas indoors. Our default will be for both players in the playing rooms to wear masks, but if the 2 players in a room agree on a different rule we will allow whatever they agree on, assuming that is in compliance with the Illinois requirements.
4. We will ask each player to sign a Covid-related waiver of liability form before they start play. Jan will be sending the text of the waiver to all of you in the next day or so, and will have printed forms in her office (room 1321) at the Hyatt for participants to sign.
5. Hospitality will be limited - "grab & go" breakfast and lunch will be distributed in our usual hospitality suite (room 2321), but everyone will have to go someplace else to eat. We will allow only 6 players in the suite at any one time. The suite will not be open for socializing at other times. We will have water, soft drinks, coffee and snacks in the Players' Break Room (1321), and there also, we will limit the number of people in the room at any one time. Eating in the Break Room is not allowed. Masks will be required in the hospitality suite and in the Players' Break Room.
6. There will be air purifiers in each playing room and in 1321 and 2321.

Read the following information carefully and answer the questions given below it.

1. P, Q, R, S and T are five friends.
2. Q is elder to T, but not as tall as R.
3. R is younger to P and is taller to S and T.
4. P is taller to S and is not the tallest, but younger than T.

S is elder to P but is shortest in the group.

Who among the following is the tallest?



Logic Puzzle

In terms of age, we have T < Q, R < P, P < T, P < S, So we have: R < P < T < Q, P < S. In terms of height, Q < R, S < R, T < R, S < P. So R

Answer:

is the tallest.

It's my wife's birthday tomorrow. Last week I asked her what she wanted as a present. 'Oh, I don't know,' she said. 'Just give me something with diamonds. That's why I'm giving her a pack of playing cards.'



KIBITZING ON LOVEBRIDGE

You can follow the USBC on the <https://vugraph.lovebridge.com/> website. The stream is delayed; go to the schedule below for starting times for each segment.

Popcorn time!

Do you want to listen to commentary? Search for the TV icon! It will send you to the page where you can choose from the available live commentary. If it doesn't do anything, no one is commenting.

Nail biting!

Do you want to be deeply involved? Choose the "Match view" at the starting page of your event. Your screen will be divided into four small screens – two of them showing the two tables of the match you choose, the other two having the scoresheet for your match and the current scores of the other matches. In the 2x2 view you can also personalize the content in all your windows. (The 2x2 view is not available on mobiles.)

Think together!

When watching a table, click on a name and choose "Kibitz". Instead of seeing all 4 hands, you will see what the player sees, and you can decide what you would do and see whether your chosen player agrees.

More Information:

Be well informed and tell your friends: while following the play, you can click many items. The image of the sticker with the number of the board (upper right) takes you to the results of the board, in the bottom right corner the arrow takes you the scoresheet, the DDS shows the double dummy analyses, beside that there is a button for the other table of the same match, at the top left corner you can see the bidding with alerts and the explanations (mouse over), the tricks already played, and the double dummy analysis for the available number of tricks with the par score.

Navigation icons:

While surfing here and there in the vugraph, or amongst the archive sessions, there are icons to help you. You can always go back to the main page with the "house" or to the standings with the "scores". If you cannot see the icons, move your mouse, or touch your screen and they pop up immediately. There is also a built-in back button because the back button of your browser will always take you to the starting page. If this is not what you wanted, push next in your browser and you can continue where you were.

Replay:

After the event you can find every board from every table easily. While replaying the hands, the only surprise can be the way "next board" button works. If you have arrived from a scoresheet, it navigates through the scoresheet. If you have arrived from a screen where the results were shown for a given board then the same buttons move you through list. Push every button and enjoy!

KIBITZING SCHEDULE FOR THE KO (EDT)

Segment 1: 12:00 noon
Segment 2: 2:25 pm
BREAK
Segment 3: 5:45 pm
Segment 4: 8:00 pm
NEXT DAY
Segment 5: 12:00 noon
Segment 6: 2:25 pm
BREAK
Segment 7: 7:00 pm
Segment 8: 9:30 pm



Ed. Note: See page 7 for the link to Tracey Bauer's video interview with Peter Talyigas at Love-Bridge explaining "How to Get the Most from Kibitzing on the site"

The Austin NABC will be held as scheduled.

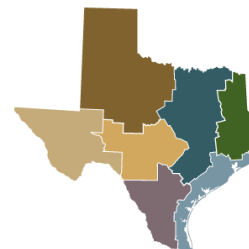
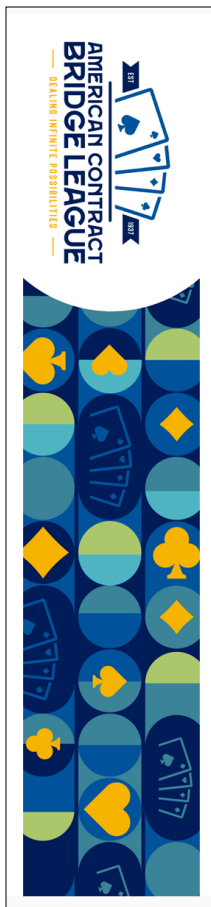
After much consideration, the decision has been made to move forward for the [2021 Fall North American Bridge Championships](#) scheduled for Nov. 25-Dec. 5 in Austin.



While we are excited to bring players back to the bridge table, we will still approach the tournament with an abundance of caution. We will hold the event as carefully as possible to protect the health and safety of players, volunteers and staff. Because of this, meetings and other large social gatherings outside of gameplay will be very limited (details are available on the [Austin NABC website](#)). We hope to hold these events during NABCs in 2022.

All NABC attendees, staff and volunteers must be fully vaccinated to attend the Austin NABC and have face masks properly worn when present in the tournament areas. We have procured VOW Digital Health to manage the verification process for vaccinations. Further details on all health and safety requirements are available on the Austin NABC page of our website

Please do not attend the Fall NABC if you are not prepared to follow the safety protocols. They are in place to protect all attendees, and no exceptions will be made.



In the Daily Bulletin from the Senior Online Championships on October 3, you may have seen the **In Memoriam** for Jeff Goldsmith. Jeff lost his battle with cancer last week.

Jeff's family has designated the **USBF Junior Fund**, a 501C(3) charity, for donations in his memory. Donations may be made through the USBF website (USBF.org) and will be properly acknowledged. This was a very kind gesture by Jeff and his family who recognized how important bridge was to Jeff.

ALERT!! PLAYERS WHO PLAYED IN SCHAUMBURG SO FAR...

Please return any styluses you may have in your possession. We need them for the Mixed and the Seniors! Thank you. No questions asked!!

LoveBridge computes some interesting statistics on each player each day. Today you can see yesterday's statistics and tomorrow you can see the stats from today. To view, you must go to https://stats.lovebridge.com/statistics/usbc_2285 and enter your username. Each player has an individual username and password. Anyone can view a complete set of stats by clicking the tournament link and selecting USBC Open All.

Your personal stats are only available when you're logged in.

Tracy Bauer put together a U-Tube video interview with Peter Talyigas at LoveBridge and if you are having trouble figuring out how to kibitz, please access the link below... it may help:

<https://www.twitch.tv/videos/1176199382>

One side note: The format is not supported on Google Chrome. It does work on Edge!!

Mask Rules

Attendees are required to wear a mask that covers their nose and mouth in all public areas in the hotel. That means the hotel lobby, corridors, and elevators, as well as the **Hospitality Suite** and the **Office/Players' Break Room, where masks must be worn at all times. Therefore, there is no eating or drinking in those rooms.**

Our attorney has told us that the Cook County Mask Mandate forces us to require masks in the playing rooms. Therefore, we have adopted the following policy about that:

*Masks are required in playing rooms. If you are observed not wearing a mask in a playing room, there will be a 2 IMP penalty for the first offense in a segment, a 4 IMP penalty for the second offense, an 8 IMP penalty for the third offense, and a 16 IMP penalty for the fourth and subsequent offenses; however, if you and your opponent agree to something other than both wearing masks, any IMP penalties for not wearing a mask will apply to both of you equally and there will be no other penalties. You may remove your mask briefly to eat or drink. **However, if you call for a director (for any reason), and you are not wearing a mask properly when the director enters the room, the penalty will apply to your team for your **next match** in the event.** There is no eating or drinking in the playing room when the Director present.*

In addition, anyone who is penalized more than twice (over the course of the entire event) in situations where his/her opponent was wearing a mask while s/he wasn't, or where the director was called, may be subject to additional conduct penalties.

You should bring masks to the tournament with you; we will not be supplying masks.

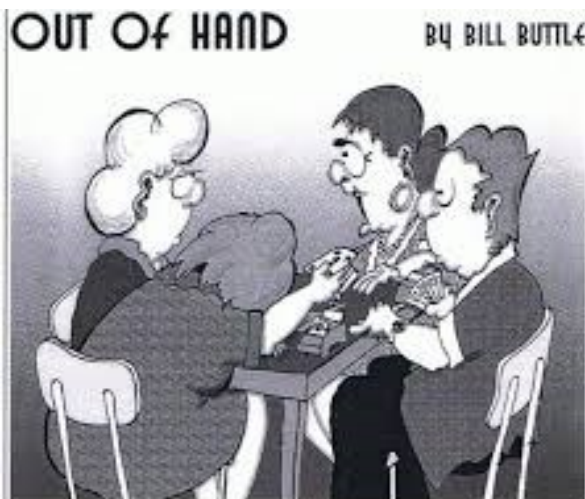
Covid Waiver

We are going to ask each player in these events to sign a COVID-19 Waiver of Claims. It is being sent to you by email and you may sign it electronically and return it to Jan (marteljan@gmail.com) or you can sign a printed waiver at the site. Waivers will be available to sign in room 1321 starting Oct. 5th at 9:00 am. **Everyone is required to sign the form before the start of play!**



Q: What did the dealer say to the deck of cards?

A: "I can't deal with you anymore."



Bronia Jenkins, who learned to play 30+ years ago during an internship while pursuing a mechanical engineering degree at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, hadn't played as much as she would've liked.

In fact, during one 14-year stretch – while working as a foreign exchange options trader in London, New York and Connecticut, and raising her two now-teen-aged children who attend St. Edward's – she actually stopped playing entirely. "I had zero time," she said.

But even when she wasn't playing, Jenkins, 48, never lost her love for what she called a "fascinating game," one she said she'll never completely master.



"I've been playing a long time, and I play at a very high level, but I don't play enough," Jenkins said. "I'd like to play more. To be super competitive, you need to play more. Bridge is a game you can continually get better at.

"As much as I've played over the years, I still constantly make mistakes," she added. "I can still always look back and see something I could've done differently. There's so much that goes into it: strategy, tactics, probabilities, statistics, table presence . . .

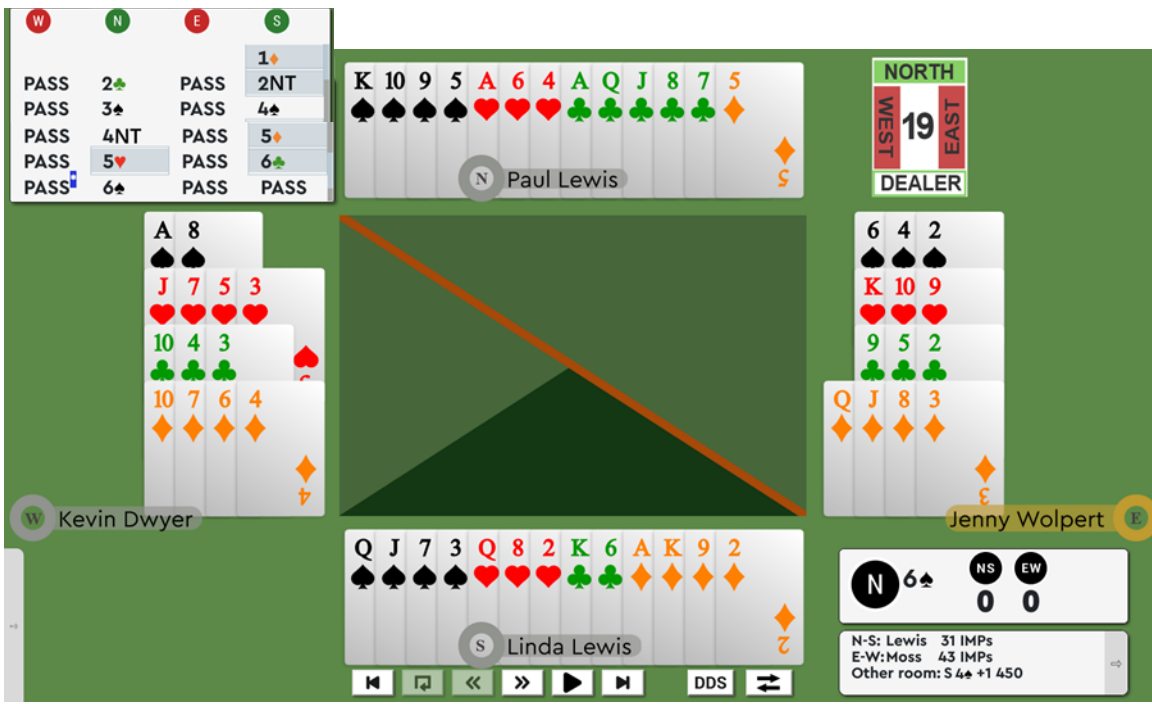
"That's why I enjoy the game so much."

Meet the Players

Jenkins, who was born in France and grew up in Montreal and San Diego, said she always has enjoyed playing cards and board games. "In chess, everything is out there on the board and the better players are going to win every time," Jenkins said. "In poker, there's some skill involved, but there's a lot of luck, too. You can be the better player, but, sometimes, the cards just don't come your way.

"Bridge is in the middle," she added. "Anyone can beat anyone on any given hand, but, over the long run, the better player is usually going to win." Bronia is playing in the MUSBC as a member of the Moss squad.





Paul and Linda Lewis were able to right-side 6S because of their weak NT structure.

Linda Lewis opened 1D (4+) and Paul responded 2C. Linda rebid 2NT to show her 15-17 Notrump. Paul bid a natural 3S and Linda raised to 4S. 4NT was keycard and 5D showed 1 or 4 keycards. 5H asked for the SQ and 6C showed the SQ and CK and denied the HK.

Wolpert led the HT. Lewis played the HQ. When the HQ held and trumps split 3-2, twelve tricks were easy to score +980.

Playing 15-17 no-trumps, South will inevitably become declarer in a spade contract.

This is no problem at the four level, where a heart lead holds declarer to eleven tricks.

In fact, that is exactly what happened at the other table where Moss/Jenkins played 4S from the South hand and Disa led a small heart. This was ducked to Itabashi's king and declarer later lost the SA to score +450


11 IMPs to Lewis

What kind of music do planets like?
Neptunes.

How do rabbits travel?
By hareplanes.

What did the tomato say to the other tomato during a race?
Ketchup.

What do you call a cow with two legs?
Lean beef.



How do you stop a bull from charging?
Cancel its credit card.

Why did the mushroom go to the party?
Because he was a fungi.

Why does a chicken coop only have two doors?
If it had four doors it would be called a chicken sedan.

What do cows most like to read?
Cattle-logs.

Why did the photo go to jail?
Because it was framed.

BIDDING	TRICKS	INFO	DDS
W	N	E	S
	1NT	PASS	PASS
2♣	PASS	2♥	PASS
4♥	PASS	PASS	PASS

DEALER: WEST 13 EAST SOUTH

Hand: Kevin Dwyer (N)

Hand: Linda Lewis (W)

Hand: Jenny Wolpert (S)

Hand: Paul Lewis (E)

Score: E 4♥ NS 0 EW 0

IMP: N-S: Moss 38 IMPs, E-W: Lewis 21 IMPs, Other room: E 3♥ +1 -170

Opening strong notrumps used to keep the opponents out of the bidding.

Kevin Dwyer opened 1NT (15-17) with 14 HCP including a singleton king. This was passed around to Linda Lewis, who bid 2C showing the majors. Paul Lewis trusted his wife to have her vulnerable bid. He jumped to 3H. With 19 HCP, a singleton and five trumps, Linda had no problem bidding game.

Wolpert led the C8 to dummy's ace. Paul Lewis played the DK off dummy. Dwyer won the DA and played the S9 to dummy's jack. Lewis cashed the HA and led a heart to his queen. He drove out the SA and conceded the HJ, collecting ten tricks in the process and scoring his vulnerable game.

BIDDING	TRICKS	INFO	DDS
W	N	E	S
	1♣	PASS	PASS
DBL	PASS	1♥	PASS
3♥	PASS	PASS	PASS

DEALER: WEST 13 EAST SOUTH

Hand: Ron Smith (N)

Hand: Sylvia Moss (W)

Hand: Ljudmila Kamenova (S)

Hand: Roger Lee (E)

Score: E 3♥ NS 0 EW 0

IMP: N-S: Lewis 21 IMPs, E-W: Moss 38 IMPs, Other room: E 4♥ = -620

At the other table, Ron Smith disdained the off-shape/off-strength 1NT opener and opened 1C.

This was passed around to Sylvia Moss, who reopened with a double. Roger Lee responded 1H and Moss raised to 3H. With nothing extra for his 1H bid, Lee passed and played in 3H.

A club was led. Lee won the CA, cashed the HA and drove out the DA. Ten tricks were claimed for +170.

10 IMPs to Lewis

BIDDING TRICKS INFO DDS

W	N	E	S
1NT	PASS	2♣	PASS
2♥	PASS	3NT	PASS

9 8 5 4 3 A 8 Q 10 8 5 J 5

N Uday Ivatury

NORTH WEST 59 EAST DEALER

K 7 6 2
K J
J 9
A 9 7 6 3

W Ljudmila Kamenova

Ron Smith

10 10 5 4 3 K 7 3 2 Q 8 4 2

S Christal Henner

W 3NT NS EW 0 0

N-S: Henner 69 IMPs
E-W: Lewis 112 IMPs
Other room: W 3N -150

Both tables in this match from the USA2 SemiFinals got to 3NT from West on Board 59.

Uday made an unorthodox lead: the DJ!

It was understandable that he did not want to lead a spade knowing from the Stayman auction that his LHO held four of them, but he did, after all, hold four clubs and only two diamonds!

BIDDING TRICKS INFO DDS

W	N	E	S
1♥	PASS	2♦	PASS
3NT	PASS	PASS	PASS

9 8 5 4 3 A 8 Q 10 8 5 J 5

N Mark Itabashi

NORTH WEST 59 EAST DEALER

K 7 6 2
K J
J 9
A 9 7 6 3

W Sheila Gabay

Adam Wildavsky

10 10 5 4 3 K 7 3 2 Q 8 4 2

S Disa Eythorsdottir

W 3NT NS EW 0 0

N-S: Lewis 112 IMPs
E-W: Henner 69 IMPs
Other room: W 3N +1-430

Kamenova won the DK and played the H2 to the king, Ivatury ducking.

Kamenova continued with the HJ to Uday's ace. Uday played the D5, but Kamenova's contract was safe with four spades, two hearts, two diamonds and a club!

In the other room, Itabashi led the C5 to Disa's king, Gabay ducking. Disa continued clubs, Gabay ducking again, Itabashi winning the ten. Itabashi cleared clubs. Gabay cashed the ace and queen of spades before playing a heart to toward the king. Itabashi won his heart ace and cashed his C8. He played the D9 and Gabay won the ace in dummy. Gabay cashed the HK, played a diamond to her king, and cashed the HQ.

Sadly for her, the opponents already had their book and she was left holding the good jack of spades in hand with the losing H9 and the good SK in dummy with the losing S7. She had no transportation to collect both good spades.

Gabay needed to play on hearts right away to preserve her communication.

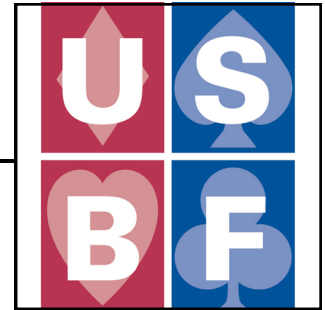
Contract down one.

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

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

Sudoku Answers

Answer to Sudoku 1 Answer to Sudoku 2



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.

A Supporting Membership is \$25 for one year (\$75 for 3 years) and 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.



I'll sit East.
You sit West.
We'll see who
Plays the cards the best!



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

Hard Sudoku

From the Editor:
 Please be advised to keep this issue of the newsletter. While team lists and schedules will be reprinted in subsequent hard copy editions, other information may not.
 Thank you!!
 Suzi
 If you have a great hand or bridge news or gossip you think would be of interest to our readers, you can email me at stansubeck@prodigy.net



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

Answer to Puzzle on Page 15

3rd	2-piece	red	James	Sarah
4th	2-piece	black	Travers	Rachel
1st	1-piece	yellow	West	Melony
2nd	1-piece	blue	Sanford	Julia
5th	1-piece	white	Couch	Amelia
Place Won	Suit Type	Suit Color	Last Name	First Name

Sudoku Answers on page 13

	Couch	James	Sanford	Travers	West	black	blue	red	white	yellow	1-piece	1-piece	1-piece	2-piece	2-piece	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	
Amelia																					
Julia																					
Melony																					
Rachel																					
Sarah																					
1st																					
2nd																					
3rd																					
4th																					
5th																					
1-piece																					
1-piece																					
1-piece																					
2-piece																					
2-piece																					
black																					
blue																					
red																					
white																					
yellow																					

Answer on Page 14

First Name	Last Name	Suit Color	Suit Type	Place Won
Amelia				
Julia				
Melony				
Rachel				
Sarah				

To add a little fun to the sweltering summer heat, Bella's Bath and Body Boutique in downtown Millersville (commonly known as the 4Bs by her clientele) announced that they were sponsoring a swimsuit contest. Prizes would be awarded to the winners and judging would be held the following weekend at Settler's Pond, a favorite local hang-out that featured a public beach and town-funded restroom facilities. Interested contestants could sign up inside and the 4Bs clientele set up quite a buzz over it all, with speculation running high for both who would sign up and who would win, if they did sign up. Determine the full name of the five winning contestants (one first name was Sarah and one last name was Sanford), the color of each winner's bathing suit, if the winners wore a 1-piece suit or a 2-piece, and what place each won (1st to 5th).

- Rachel Travers didn't wear a red bathing suit but she did place one higher than the woman wearing the white 1-piece bathing suit.
- Melony's last name wasn't James but she won 1st place.
- The three who wore 1-piece suits were the woman in 2nd place, the one who wore the yellow bathing suit, and Amelia, whose last name wasn't West.
- Rachel placed one higher than Ms. Couch but two places lower than the one who wore the blue bathing suit.
- Julia's last name wasn't Couch. Ms. James wore a 2-piece bathing suit.
- The five women were, in no particular order, Ms. James, Julia, the woman who placed 5th, the woman who wore the black 2-piece bathing suit, and Ms. West.

The screenshot shows a bridge game interface with the following details:

- Bidding Sequence:**

W	N	E	S
1♦	PASS	1♥	PASS
1♠	PASS	2♣	PASS
3♣	PASS	3♠	PASS
4♦	PASS	5NT	PASS
6♣	PASS	PASS	PASS
- Hand 1 (North, Ron Smith):** ♠6 5 4 ♥J 6 4 3 2 ♣A 7 Q J 6 ♦9
- Hand 2 (West, Brad Moss):** ♠K 8 3 2 ♥10 9 8 3 ♣A K 8 3 2 ♦7
- Hand 3 (East, Bronia Jenkins):** ♠A Q 9 ♥A K Q 9 5 ♣K J 4 ♦7 5
- Hand 4 (South, Ljudmila Kamenova):** ♠J 10 7 ♥10 8 7 ♣Q 6 5 2 ♦10 9 4
- Score Table:**

W	6♣	NS	EW
		0	0

N-S: Lewis 80 IMPs
E-W: Moss 56 IMPs
Other room: E 3N +1 -630

Brad Moss and Bronia Jenkins found the only making slam on Board 39. They have three seven card fits.

With the CA to lose off the top, they needed to play in a trump suit that had no losers. In addition, they needed to be able to take a ruff in the short hand to set up the diamond suit.

When Moss bid spades he was known to hold either a 4-4-4-1 hand or a hand with five or more diamonds and four or more spades. When Jenkins bid 2C (fourth suit forcing) and Brad raised to 3C his hand pattern was known to be either 4-1-4-4 or 4-0-5-4.

Jenkins showed her spade support and then bid 5NT (pick a slam). Moss's spades were better than his clubs. Since Jenkins 2C bid was artificial, it was not even clear that clubs were in play. Moss assumed that Jenkins would have shown some delayed diamond support if she held Qxx (or even Qx). Moss made the winning choice and bid 6S.

Smith led the CA, taking away the guess in that suit. A club was continued, and Moss won the king in dummy. Moss cashed two high hearts discarding his club losers. This was followed by three rounds of diamonds, trumping the third round with dummy's S9. Moss cashed the SAQ and returned to his hand by trumping a heart. He drew the last trump and claimed.

This was a very low percentage slam needing two 3-3 breaks and the club ace (or queen) on side (depending which way declarer decides to guess.) But sometimes it is just your day and your 6% slams come home.

In the other room Paul Lewis passed the West hand in 2nd seat and Linda Lewis opened 2NT in fourth seat. Paul Lewis bid Puppet Stayman. Linda showed a five card heart suit by bidding 3N, which became the final contract. Declarer took ten tricks for +630.

13 Imps to Moss

bid72

Work on your Partnership
Try the App for Free



This app will connect you to bid72. All you need to do is scan it with your phone (Special thanks to my children and grandchildren for explaining how to accomplish this...)

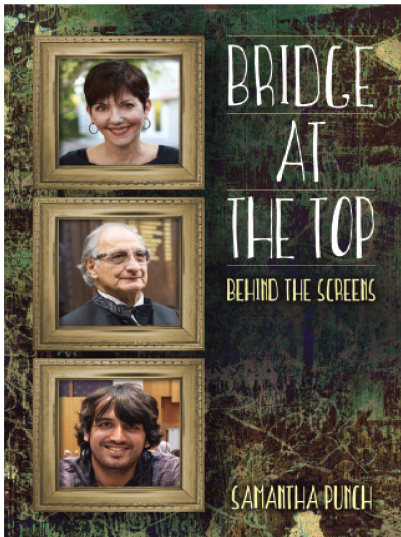
Jan VanCleaf provided this so our readers could use it to improve their bidding and better build partnerships. Bid72 allows users to participate in bidding contests, bid random boards and get a rating based on their bidding, learn about “topic board” hands dedicated to conventions and special agreements, and to create, upload and bid your own boards.

For more information, email info@bid72.com

In addition, Bid72 has an excellent newsletter to which you can subscribe.

Now Available

Bridge at the Top *Behind the Screens* Samantha Punch



The interviews make the names we see on VuGraph come to life. The tips are tricks of the trade that will be useful to players of all levels. It is a fun and informative read.

— Jill Levin

...intimate and revealing pictures of who these stars are, how they got to the top, and what keeps them there. The interviews are absorbing reading and the advice will help players at any level. The suggestions on partnership and mental toughness are of particular note.

— Chip Martel

In the course of her research project, *Bridge: A MindSport for All*, sociologist Dr. Samantha Punch has been able to speak with many of the world’s top bridge personalities. The best interviews are collected in this book, and they offer fascinating insight into what it takes to be a top player, coach or even sponsor. As a bonus, each subject offers their favorite bridge tip.

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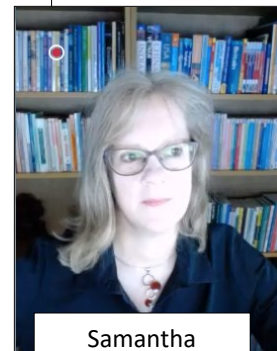
 Master Point Press

Samantha Punch’s book is recently published and ready for your reading pleasure.

Sam is an amazing advocate of the game and while I have not yet read the book, based on her work with “Keep Bridge Alive” and more, I am certain you will want to have this volume in your collection!

Learn about the experts... how they think... what they think... and why they are so driven by a card game.

Editor



Samantha

Questions asked by Players in the Open and the Mixed... FAQ's from Jan Martel

Chat

- **My physical keyboard isn't working!** Make sure to click/put focus into the chat box before attempting to type in the box. (The blinking cursor makes it seem as though focus is there, but it may not be.) This seems to only occur with an external keyboard, not the virtual keyboard.
- **What does that number on the left side mean?** You have unread chat message(s). Click on left gray arrow to open chat and right gray arrow to close the chat. (If you actually type and send a message, the chat will close automatically. Reopen with left gray arrow.)
- **Why can't I chat to my partner?** For security reasons, chat to partner is not available while cards for a new hand are on display. Since there is no "between round down time," there is no real partner chat.

Bidding


- **The system won't let me pass!** If you have the level (1 through 7) highlighted, you will be unable to pass/double/redouble. Click on the highlighted numeral to remove the highlight, then make the desired call.
- **My explanation keeps disappearing!** If you alert your bid as you make it but go back later to explain, there is a bug in the system where subsequent table actions will erase any text that you have typed into the explanation box. If you include your explanation with your call or when it is your turn to act, then this will not occur. (We have reported this issue to LoveBridge.)
- **Where is the undo button?** While there is no undo button, every call made is followed by a brief cancellation time period. A cancel button will appear immediately below the call selected in the top center portion of the screen. If you cancel within the time period, your bidding panel will reappear for you to select the intended call. If you do not cancel within the time period, summon a director (hit red TD whistle) to request an undo.

Play

1. **Why can't I click on a card?** The default setting for LoveBridge is neither a tap/click nor a double tap/click. The default setting is a drag-and-drop motion where the player pulls a card to the gray box in the center of the screen and releases to play the card. If the "pulled" card is not the intended one, the player can drag it back to the hand and select another card. **We recommend this setting while players are getting accustomed to the system.** Players may change this setting to double tap/click if desired, but we strongly discourage single tap/click settings.
2. **Whose turn is it?** In the bidding or play of the hand, the player's direction letter (N S E W) will be white inside of the circle when it is the player's turn. This is a very subtle change from the normal pale blue letter.
3. **How do I claim?** During the play, you may click the larger red box below the TD whistle to claim. If the claim button is grayed out (not available), you either already contributed a card to the current trick or you are dummy.

How do I see the bidding once play has started? A player is not entitled to the entire auction once they have played to trick 1. If you have not yet played to trick one, the auction will be in the lower left corner. Click on it to enlarge to the center area. Click the double gray arrows in the bottom right of the center area to send it back to the corner. Similarly, this is how a player may see the cards from the previous trick (prior to playing to current trick).

The new and improved 60 Board USBF Convention Card is now available on the table in Jan's office (Break Room??)

We hope it "suits" you! 

Why did the man get hit by a bike every day?

He was stuck in a vicious cycle.

What did the bartender say to the turkey sandwich when it tried to order a beer?

"Sorry, we don't serve food here."

Why do seagulls fly over the sea?

If they flew over the bay, they would be bagels.

What's the difference between the bird flu and the swine flu?

One requires tweetment and the other an oinkment.



59 SOUTH NONE

♠ AKQJ 6 3
♥ J 9 4
♦ J 5 2
♣ A

♠ 8 7 4 2
♥ A T 7 6
♦ 8 7
♣ Q J T

♠
♥ Q 8 5 3
♦ A Q T 6
♣ K 9 7 6 2

♠ T 9 5
♥ K 2
♦ K 9 4 3
♣ 8 5 4 3

Par: 100

	♣	♦	♥	♠	N
NS	4	7	4	9	7
EW	9	5	9	4	5

Home team Visiting team Room C By T = ★ P

	NS	EW	Home	Visiting
3 Moss Lewis				
Open	3N	N	♣6	-1 50
Closed	4♠x	N	♥3	= 590

In the Open Room, Wolpert/Dwyer played in 3NT from North. Smith led a 4th best club and the contract was doomed to failure.

In the Closed Room, Disa/Itabashi bid to 4S and Moss doubled after Itabashi opened 1S; Jenkins doubled; Disa bid 2S; and Moss bid 3H. Itabashi jumped to 4S.

Any neutral club lead will defeat 4SX because declarer cannot play on diamonds or hearts without generating two losers in those suits. Unfortunately for the Moss team, once Brad bid 3H, Bronia was going to lead a heart and 4SX scored ten tricks.

Bronia's heart lead went to the deuce, ten, jack. A heart back to the king and ace followed. Moss shifted to clubs but it was too late. Itabashi won the ace, played the H9, ruffing in dummy with the ST, played the S9 and a spade to the jack, cashed the spade ace and king, and exited his hand with the D5. Jenkins won the ace and played the CK. Itabashi ruffed, played the SQ, led the D2 to the king and conceded the last diamond trick. Contract making

12 IMPs to Lewis

Why are the Irish so wealthy?
Because their capital is Dublin.

What do lawyers wear to work?
Lawsuits.



What has more lives than a cat?
A frog, because it croaks every day.

What do you call a priest that becomes a lawyer?
A father-in-law.

TRICKS AND TREATS

Thurs.-Sun., October 28-31, 2021

ACBL Tournament

Regionally Rated - All Times Eastern



Daily Two-Session Events

Award Gold & Red Points - Must Play Both Sessions - \$30 per player



Midday Two-Session Event Schedule

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| 1:15 pm & 4:45 pm ET | Golden Ghoul Gold Rush Pairs (750/400/200)
No player may have more than 750 masterpoints |
| 1:15 pm & 4:45 pm ET | Candy Corn Mid-Flight Pairs (3000/1250)
No player may have more than 3000 masterpoints |
| 1:15 pm & 4:45 pm ET | Jack O' Lantern Top-Flight Pairs (unlimited/4000) |



Daily Single-Session Events

Awards red points

Play in One, Two, Three or All Four Events - \$15 per player, per session

- | | |
|--|---|
| 10:15 am, 1:30 pm,
5:00 pm & 8:00 pm ET | Great Pumpkin 499er Pairs (500/300/100)
No player may have more than 500 masterpoints |
|--|---|

Daily Side Games

Play in two sessions of the same series for a chance to win gold!

Play in One, Two, Three or All Four Sessions - \$15 per player, per session



- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| 10:15 am ET | Creaking Staircase Side Game Series
(unlimited/1500/500) |
| 1:30 pm ET | Rattling Chains Side Game Series
(unlimited/1500/500) |
| 5:00 pm ET | Flickering Lights Side Game Series
(unlimited/1500/500) |
| 8:00 pm ET | Howling Wind Side Game Series
(unlimited/1500/500)(No Sunday) |



Stratification for all events is by the average masterpoint holding of the pair. In any event with an upper masterpoint limit, neither player may exceed the limit for the event. Masterpoint awards for all single-session events are red points

Interview with Antonio Riccardi from Neapolitan Club

Laura Camponeschi: Antonio, let's remind our readers your track record as a tournament director.

Antonio Riccardi: I am WBF Head Tournament Director with Laurie Kelso. In the EBL, I am the Head TD for the European Championships. Within the FIGB I am Head TD and I have been responsible for the Championships for the past few years.

LC: Many are surprised that you were not directing the Open Team Trials, held in Salsomaggiore last weekend. Why did you not do it?

AR: I am not able to answer. At the end of the Clubs Pairs Championships, Sunday 10th October, the Counsellor Stefano Back called me to say that the President (Mr. Francesc Ferlazzo Natoli) was not happy with how I managed the first phase of the Open Trials and he had 'put me on ice' until the rest of the year.

LC: Is that what Back said?

AR: Yes. I have a good relationship with Back, and he was trying to make the news easier to digest. But the meaning was clear. This decision is in practice a suspension, although there has been no official communication. Back also told me that the President's decision would not have an impact on my role in the TD school: next weekend I will assess the new cohort of aspiring TDs.

LC: So there is no formal suspension, or any disciplinary action against you?

AR: No. Otherwise I would have been notified.

LC: You only got a call from a Counsellor, who told you that the President decided not to call you to direct any events until the end of the calendar year.

AR: Precisely.

LC: Have you asked for an explanation?

AR: Obviously yes. I sent this email to the President and the whole FIGB Committee on Monday 11th October:

'Good morning, I was told that I would not be directing any competitions between now and the end of the year (7 events). The rationale given to me was the first phase of the Open Trials, which was not played, and the captains' meeting on 29/09/2021. My professionalism and integrity are recognised and appreciated across Europe and the World. Therefore I would like to ask why you have made this decision. I am available to discuss further, kind regards'.

LC: What did they reply?

AR: I have received no answer so far.

LC: Have you pursued other avenues to find out more?

AR: No. I received a second call from Back on the 17th October about the exams for aspiring TDs and I took the opportunity to ask him about my 'suspension'. He did not go into details but I understood that the President was unhappy about a difference between the TD report and the National Sports Judge's statement during the hearing on 29th September. I tried to find out more but this is the only explanation I got and it was still an informal conversation.

LC: Can you tell me more about what Back meant? What happened at the hearing? What exactly did the President dislike?

AR: As you can imagine I am just guessing, but after writing the report, I answered the Judge's questions and delved into what I had already written.

As the hearing minutes show, this is what I said:

'That afternoon it was chaos. Players were coming in and out of the play area. Nobody was sure whether to play or not. And nobody knew what was going to happen if the Tribunal excluded Bortoletti's team. Lauria demanded an answer to the four teams' request to postpone the event, prior to deciding whether Vinci was going to play'. (1)

This statement was not written in the report, but I described the facts. When the Judge asked, I explained what I summarised in my report:

'Players started arriving around 1.45. Most were unhappy because the programme had changed the night before, since the Tribunal decided to readmit Bortoletti's team. Additionally, a new hearing was scheduled for the 5th October. Play-

ers asked (verbally and in writing) to postpone the Trials to the date scheduled for the second phase. They had two reasons for this:

- a) check whether the readmission was confirmed, to avoid playing a phase that could later turn out to be pointless
- b) give each team more time to decide what to do if the readmission was confirmed'. (2)

As you can see, these are not different versions, but rather a more detailed description prompted by the Judge's questions.

LC: Do you think this could justify your informal 'suspension'?

AR: Let's start by saying that this 'suspension' is very strange, because it is not based on a formal decision. In practice, TDs are hired for each competition, so if they simply stopped calling me, there would have been no issue. The issue is that I was given vague excuses in a phone call, and I am disappointed to hear about the President's dissatisfaction.

LC: Was the President unhappy about anything else?

AR: I think so. We were in the hearing, trying to decide whether to cancel the results of the first phase and the President jumped in to say the Trials were not a competition and so there was no question about ratifying the results. This is not a moot point: if it is a competition, then Prosecutor Bianchi is right to ask to cancel the results, and vice versa.

The President stated his point of view (and I quote):

"The Trials are not a competition but rather an internal process to identify the team to represent Italy. There is nothing to rarify. Nobody played and a phase was skipped due to two teams' withdrawals. I do not understand the reasons for the appeal." (1)

Following this, the Judge asked me whether the Trials were a competition. I said yes. Here is another quote:

"Judge: do you believe this first phase is a competition? Riccardi: I believe so". (1)

That Trials are a competition is supported in many ways including the fact that they are listed as such on the FIGB website. I could not have answered differently.

LC: So, you answered the Judge's questions and your answers upset the President.

AR: I think this is why the President is unhappy.

LC: Why did you decide to share this?

AR: Because many rumours have been going around on social media. People talked about a demotion, which is false. Some said i was not in line with covis rules and this is also false. The FIGB's lack of clarity led to annoying suspicions and misinformation.

LC: You sound upset by this situation, in addition to the reputational damage, have there been any practical negative consequences?

AR: Yes, I have lost 28 days of work.

LC: Are you planning to take further action against the Italian Federation?

AR: I am not ruling out any possibilities.

LC: Please tell us your view of the Italian Federation's actions around the Trials.

AR: I can only talk about the bits that involved me. We could have foreseen that the situation was going to be difficult on the 14th of september. I think having a member of the FIGB Committee with decision making powers would have been not just preferable but also necessary.

LC: To round up, lets remember that on social media many expressed their solidarity with you, even from abroad.

AR: This is true, but i am still disappointed, I fear that my relationship with the Federation is compromised... But who knows?

Laura Camponeschi [English translation by Laura Cecilia Porro for Neapolitan Club]

Notes

1. Minutes of Hearing held before Nationa Sports Judge on the 29th of September, 2021
2. TD's Report September 14, 2021