

# U26

December 29, 2024 Volume 7, Issue 4

| U26W STAGE 1             |        |                          |                       |           |         |         |         |         |         |         |
|--------------------------|--------|--------------------------|-----------------------|-----------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Links to Bidding & Play: |        |                          |                       | Link      | Link    | Link    | Link    | Link    | Link    | Link    |
| Standing                 | Pair # | Player                   | Player                | TOTAL VPs | Round 1 | Round 2 | Round 3 | Round 4 | Round 5 | Round 6 |
| 1                        | 1      | Jasmine Bakhshi [NE]     | Kyra Helmbold [SW]    | 76.26     | 10.00   | 12.93   | 9.14    | 12.66   | 13.57   | 17.96   |
| 2                        | 6      | Sharon Chu [NE]          | Ella Su [SW]          | 67.72     | 7.85    | 17.45   | 15.93   | 6.87    | 9.63    | 10.00   |
| 3                        | 3      | Yichen Cai [NE]          | Helena Hsieh [SW]     | 67.47     | 11.15   | 7.07    | 10.00   | 16.23   | 13.30   | 9.73    |
| 4                        | 4      | Leyi Chen [NE]           | Maiya Clouse [SW]     | 66.56     | 14.60   | 8.95    | 11.61   | 10.00   | 10.38   | 11.04   |
| 5                        | 10     | Katie Sullivan [NE]      | Caroline Zhao [SW]    | 62.08     | 8.86    | 9.46    | 10.13   | 5.97    | 9.24    | 18.43   |
| 6                        | 5      | Helen Chow [NE]          | Nicole Qian [SW]      | 59.45     | 12.49   | 10.54   | 10.86   | 3.78    | 10.00   | 11.79   |
| 7                        | 8      | Ava Donnellan [NE]       | Margot Donnellan [SW] | 59.16     | 7.51    | 16.11   | 3.45    | 11.71   | 11.41   | 8.96    |
| 8                        | 9      | Cecilia Ehrlichman [NE]  | Katie Hwang [SW]      | 55.24     | 5.41    | 2.55    | 16.55   | 14.04   | 6.43    | 10.27   |
| 9                        | 11     | Zara Weiss [NE]          | Yihan Xiao [SW]       | 50.01     | 13.79   | 11.05   | 4.07    | 8.29    | 10.77   | 2.06    |
| 10                       | 7      | Alexandra Deschenes [NE] | Avery Liang [SW]      | 48.17     | 12.16   | 3.89    | 9.87    | 7.34    | 6.70    | 8.22    |
| 11                       | 2      | Stephanie Bergman [NE]   | Rachel Yoken [SW]     | 47.90     | 6.21    | 10.00   | 8.39    | 13.14   | 8.59    | 1.57    |
| SITOUT                   |        |                          |                       |           |         |         |         |         |         |         |

# U21

| Links to Bidding & Play: |        |                      |                      |           |         |         |         |         |         |         |
|--------------------------|--------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Links to Bidding & Play: |        |                      |                      | Link      | Link    | Link    | Link    | Link    | Link    | Link    |
| Standing                 | Pair # | Player               | Player               | TOTAL VPs | Round 1 | Round 2 | Round 3 | Round 4 | Round 5 | Round 6 |
| 1                        | 4      | Kyo Chen [NE]        | Zinnia Meyer [SW]    | 82.97     | 15.90   | 15.03   | 14.23   | 11.93   | 15.24   | 10.63   |
| 2                        | 5      | Andrew Chen [NE]     | Jeff Xiao [SW]       | 76.88     | 14.85   | 18.01   | 16.25   | 9.10    | 6.58    | 12.08   |
| 3                        | 12     | Kaining Sheng [NE]   | Ryan Wolpert [SW]    | 71.20     | 17.77   | 12.92   | 8.79    | 8.07    | 13.42   | 10.25   |
| 4                        | 3      | Arjun Chaunal [NE]   | Kevin Wei [SW]       | 67.19     | 14.25   | 9.22    | 11.21   | 10.90   | 8.94    | 12.67   |
| 5                        | 7      | Chloe Chow [NE]      | Eli Shuster [SW]     | 64.80     | 14.36   | 13.69   | 8.80    | 8.98    | 11.06   | 7.92    |
| 6                        | 9      | Adam Hemmer [NE]     | Kate Lee [SW]        | 64.68     | 4.10    | 12.97   | 6.04    | 18.79   | 15.44   | 7.33    |
| 7                        | 11     | Demian Li [NE]       | Brandon Wolpert [SW] | 55.85     | 4.37    | 4.97    | 11.95   | 16.80   | 9.66    | 8.10    |
| 8                        | 8      | Derek Deschenes [NE] | Alexander Xu [SW]    | 51.93     | 5.15    | 6.31    | 13.96   | 3.20    | 13.94   | 9.37    |
| 9                        | 6      | Ryo Chen [NE]        | Jeremy Zhang [SW]    | 47.23     | 5.64    | 7.03    | 8.05    | 12.00   | 4.76    | 9.75    |
| 10                       | 10     | Joseph Hoagland [NE] | Clayton Kaneko [SW]  | 46.76     | 5.75    | 1.99    | 11.20   | 1.21    | 10.34   | 16.27   |
| 11                       | 2      | Lee Blocher [NE]     | Jayson Lee [SW]      | 46.28     | 15.63   | 7.08    | 5.77    | 8.00    | 6.06    | 3.73    |
| 12                       | 1      | Beatriz Aldana [NE]  | Ethan Wu [SW]        | 44.24     | 2.23    | 10.78   | 3.75    | 11.02   | 4.56    | 11.90   |

SAM AMER UNITED STATES BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

# All Kidding Aside

## 2024 Sam Amer Junior USBC - U21 USA1 Round Robin

| Team Name      | Total | 1     | 2     | 4     | 5     | 3     | BYE   |
|----------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1. Ge          | 75.83 |       | 9.61  | 16.78 | 19.44 | 20.00 | 10.00 |
| 2. He          | 61.67 | 10.39 |       | 6.00  | 16.18 | 19.10 | 10.00 |
| 4. Silverstein | 60.36 | 3.22  | 14.00 |       | 13.14 | 20.00 | 10.00 |
| 5. Xie         | 38.40 | 0.56  | 3.82  | 6.86  |       | 17.16 | 10.00 |
| 3. Hoagland    | 13.74 | 0.00  | 0.90  | 0.00  | 2.84  |       | 10.00 |

## 2024 Sam Amer Junior USBC - U26 USA1 Round Robin

| Team Name   | Total  | 6     | 5     | 2     | 9     | 7     | 8     | 1     | 3     | 4     | BYE   |
|-------------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 6. Wan      | 139.86 |       | 5.72  | 16.39 | 18.15 | 10.39 | 20.00 | 19.55 | 19.66 | 20.00 | 10.00 |
| 5. Kolesnik | 132.07 | 14.28 |       | 9.61  | 15.75 | 14.00 | 15.29 | 13.14 | 20.00 | 20.00 | 10.00 |
| 2. Chen     | 131.35 | 3.61  | 10.39 |       | 14.00 | 18.00 | 19.76 | 19.33 | 19.10 | 17.16 | 10.00 |
| 9. Zheng    | 98.98  | 1.85  | 4.25  | 6.00  |       | 17.16 | 12.83 | 13.72 | 16.39 | 16.78 | 10.00 |
| 7. Yang     | 85.25  | 9.61  | 6.00  | 2.00  | 2.84  |       | 15.52 | 5.72  | 16.78 | 16.78 | 10.00 |
| 8. Yeung    | 65.52  | 0.00  | 4.71  | 0.24  | 7.17  | 4.48  |       | 7.82  | 11.14 | 19.96 | 10.00 |
| 1. Brezak   | 65.50  | 0.45  | 6.86  | 0.67  | 6.28  | 14.28 | 12.18 |       | 0.78  | 14.00 | 10.00 |
| 3. Eckert   | 60.43  | 0.34  | 0.00  | 0.90  | 3.61  | 3.22  | 8.86  | 19.22 |       | 14.28 | 10.00 |
| 4. Jiang    | 31.04  | 0.00  | 0.00  | 2.84  | 3.22  | 3.22  | 0.04  | 6.00  | 5.72  |       | 10.00 |

- USBF President**  
Aaron Silverstein
- USBF Vice President**  
Lynn Baker
- USBF COO & Secretary**  
Jan Martel
- USBF CFO & Treasurer**  
Max Schireson
- USBF Recorder**  
Jack Oest
- Bulletin Editor & Chief Communications Officer**  
Suzi Subeck
- Directors**  
McKenzie Myers, DIC  
Chris Wiegand
- Tournament Organizer**  
Jan Martel
- Chief Technical Expert**  
Al Hollander
- Online VuGraph Organizer**
- Appeals Administrators**  
Suzi Subeck, Chairman
- Appeals Panel:**  
Cheri Bjerkan  
Bart Bramley  
Kitty Cooper  
Rich DeMartino  
Mitch Dunitz  
Marty Fleisher  
Ron Gerard  
Marty Hirschman  
George Jacobs  
Ralph Katz  
Bobby Levin  
Chip Martel  
Adam Wildavsky
- Junior Committee Chair**  
Joe Stokes
- Junior Program Co-Ordinator**  
Alex Kolesnik
- Junior Training Camp Officials**  
Amber Lin  
Kevin Rosenberg



# Teams Entered

## U26:

|          |   |   |
|----------|---|---|
| Brezak   | Luke Brezak, Capt<br>Alan Hale                      | Chris Staszak<br>Cade Johnson                     |
| Chen     | Tianyang Chen, Capt<br>Philip Wang<br>Fangqing Yuan | Rory Xiao<br>Jonathan Yue<br>Will Duan            |
| Eckert   | Kai Eckert, Capt<br>Matthew Rippin                  | Isaac Stone<br>Levi Katriel                       |
| Jiang    | Kevin Jiang, Capt<br>Ryan Carlson<br>Zihao Sun      | Alex Safonov<br>Andy Zhang<br>Jingcheng Dai       |
| Kolesnik | Finn Kolesnik, Capt<br>Harrison Luba<br>Ethan Wood  | Michael Xu<br>Bo Han Zhu<br>Michael Hu            |
| Wan      | Stella Wan, Capt<br>Brent Xiao<br>Cornelius Duffie  | Olivia Schireson<br>Richard Jeng<br>Jacob Freeman |
| Yang     | Yanlai Yang, Capt<br>Ruizhe Wang                    | Renyu Li<br>Eric Shao                             |
| Yeung    | Alan Yeung, Capt<br>Evan Alexis                     | Dan Irish<br>Rohan Srivastava                     |
| Zheng    | Lixin Zheng, Capt<br>Vasisht Ganesh                 | Weilong Shen<br>Tom Ye                            |

## U21:

|             |   |   |
|-------------|---|---|
| Ge          | Brandon Ge, Capt<br>Brian Zhang<br>Charlie Chen     | Kayden Ge<br>Arthur Gong<br>Eric Xiao     |
| He          | Edward He, Capt<br>Nathan Gong                      | Eric He<br>Jason Yao                      |
| Hoagland    | Michael Hoagland, Capt<br>Owen Jiang                | James Fu<br>Eric White                    |
| Silverstein | Avery Silverstein, Capt<br>Sam Pahk<br>Ethan Derman | Daniel Balof<br>Michael Haas<br>Jack Boge |
| Xie         | Ethan Xie, Capt<br>Kyle Lin                         | Zach Posternak<br>Keith Lin               |

## RONA (GIRLS):

### 2024 Sam Amer Junior USBC - U26W PAIRS

Stephanie Bergman  
Rachel Yoken

Leyi Chen  
Maiya Clouse

Alexandra Deschenes  
Avery Liang

Ava Donnellan  
Margot Donnellan

Cecilia Ehrlichman  
Katie Hwang

Kyra Helmbold  
Jasmine Bakhshi

Helena Hsieh  
Yichen Cai

Nicole Qian  
Helen Chow

Ella Su  
Sharon Chu

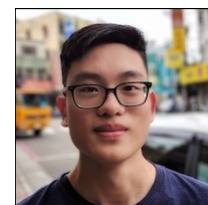
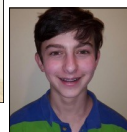
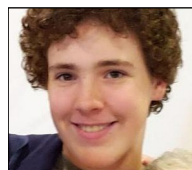
Katie Sullivan  
Caroline Zhao

Yihan Xiao  
Zara Weiss



### 2024 Sam Amer Junior USBC - U16 PAIRS

|                 |                 |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| Beatriz Aldana  | Ethan Wu        |
| Andrew Chen     | Jeff Xiao       |
| Ryo Chen        | Jeremy Zhang    |
| Joseph Hoagland | Clayton Kaneko  |
| Jayson Lee      | Lee Blocher     |
| Kate Lee        | Adam Hemmer     |
| Zinnia Meyer    | Kyo Chen        |
| Eli Shuster     | Chloe Chow      |
| Kevin Wei       | Arjun Chaunal   |
| Brandon Wolpert | Demian Li       |
| Ryan Wolpert    | Kaining Sheng   |
| Alex Xu         | Derek Deschenes |



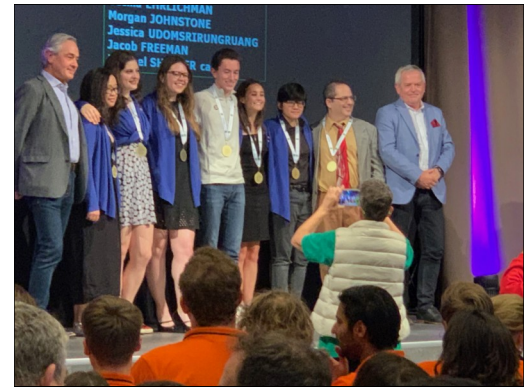
# U26 Schedule:

Schedules continued on pages 4 and 5

| Day                                       | Date   | Time (EST)  | Boards  |
|---|--------|---|---|
| <b>Training Camp</b>                      |        |   |   |
| Thursday                                  | Dec 26 | 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM   | Optional evening session  |
| Friday                                    | Dec 27 | 11:00 AM - 9:00 PM  | Details TBA   |
| Saturday                                  | Dec 28 | 11:00 AM - 4:30 PM  | Details TBA   |
| <b>ROUND ROBIN</b>                        |        |   |   |
| Saturday                                  | Dec 28 | 5:30-6:35<br>6:50-7:55<br>8:10-9:15   | Match 1 Boards 1-10<br>Match 2 Boards 11-20<br>Match 3 Boards 21-30   |
| Sunday                                    | Dec 29 | 11:00-12:05<br>12:20-1:25<br>1:40-2:45<br><br>3:45-4:55<br>6:10-7:15<br>7:30-8:35 | Match 4 Boards 31-40<br>Match 5 Boards 41-50<br>Match 6 Boards 51-60<br>60 Minute BREAK<br>Match 7 Boards 61-70<br>Match 8 Boards 71-80<br>Match 9 Boards 81-90 |
| <b>USA1 Semifinal &amp; USA2 Stage 1</b>  |        |   |   |
| Monday                                    | Dec 30 | 11:00 - 12:45<br>1:00 - 2:45<br><br>4:00 - 5:45<br>6:00 - 7:45                    | Segment 1 Boards 1-15<br>Segment 2 Boards 16-30<br>75 minute Break<br>Segment 3 Boards 31-45<br>Segment 4 Boards 46-60  |
| <b>USA1 Final &amp; USA2 Quarterfinal</b> |        |   |   |
| Tuesday                                   | Dec 31 | 11:00 - 12:45<br>1:00 - 2:45<br><br>4:00 - 5:45<br>6:00 - 7:45                    | Segment 1 Boards 1-15<br>Segment 2 Boards 16-30<br>75 minute Break<br>Segment 3 Boards 31-45<br>Segment 4 Boards 46-60  |
| <b>USA2 Semifinal</b>                     |        |   |   |
| Wednesday                                 | Jan 1  | 10:00 - 11:45<br>12:00 - 1:45<br><br>3:00 - 4:45<br>5:00 - 6:45                   | Segment 1 Boards 1-15<br>Segment 2 Boards 16-30<br>75 minute Break<br>Segment 3 Boards 31-45<br>Segment 4 Boards 46-60  |
| <b>USA2 Final</b>                         |        |   |   |
| Thursday                                  | Jan 2  | 10:00 - 11:45<br>12:00 - 1:45<br><br>3:00 - 4:45<br>5:00 - 6:45                   | Segment 1 Boards 1-15<br>Segment 2 Boards 16-30<br>75 minute Break<br>Segment 3 Boards 31-45<br>Segment 4 Boards 46-60  |

They say winning isn't everything, and I've decided to take their word for it.

*Calvin (of Calvin & Hobbes)*



Jan Kamras, Jessica Udomsriungruang, Cecilia Ehrlichman, Morgan Johnstone, Jacob Freeman, Katie Sullivan, Khan Tran Nguyen, NPC Michael Shuster, Eric Laurent



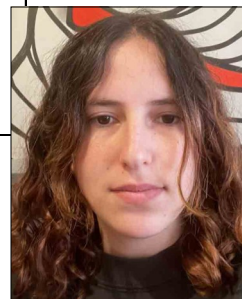
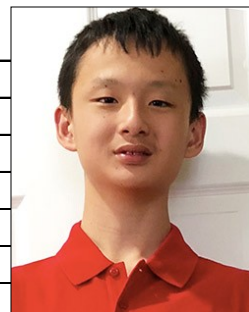
Bruce Zhu, Harrison Luba, Nathan Gong, Michael Xu, Arthur Gong, Olivia Schireson, NPC Roger Lee

"I can't find the bananas," Tom said fruitlessly.  
"I'll have the lamb," Tom said sheepishly.  
"This milk isn't fresh," Tom said sourly.  
"I don't like hot dogs," Tom said frankly.  
"I'll have the shellfish," Tom said crabbily.

"You're only average," Tom said meanly.  
"I never did trust that buzz saw," Tom said offhandedly.  
"Where are my crutches?" Tom asked lamely.  
"Let's visit the tombs," Tom said cryptically.  
"How do I get to the cemetery?" Tom asked gravely.

## Tournament Schedules... continued from page 3

| U21 Schedule                           |             |   |                          |
|--|-------------|---|--------------------------|
| Day                                    | Date        | Time (EST)  | Boards                   |
| <b>Training Camp</b>                   |             |   |                          |
| Thursday                               | Dec 26      | 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM                                   | Optional evening session |
| Friday                                 | Dec 27      | 11:00 AM - 9:00 PM                                  | Details TBA              |
| Saturday                               | Dec 28      | 11:00 AM - 3:15 PM                                  | Details TBA              |
| <b>ROUND ROBIN</b>                     |             |   |                          |
| Saturday                               | Dec 28      | 4:10-5:15   | Match 1 Boards 1-10      |
|  |             | 5:30-6:35   | Match 2 Boards 11-20     |
|  |             | 6:50-7:55   | Match 3 Boards 21-30     |
|  |             | 8:10-9:15   | Match 4 Boards 31-40     |
| Sunday                                 | Dec 29      | 11:00-12:05   | Match 5 Boards 41-50     |
|  |             | 12:20-1:25  | Match 6 Boards 51-60     |
|  |             | 1:40-2:45   | Match 7 Boards 61-70     |
|  |             |   | 60 Minute BREAK          |
|  |             | 3:45-4:55   | Match 8 Boards 71-80     |
|  |             | 6:10-7:15   | Match 9 Boards 81-90     |
|  | 7:30-8:35   | Match 10 Boards 91-100 [exact board # might change] |                          |
| <b>USA1 Semifinal</b>                  |             |   |                          |
| Monday                                 | Dec 30      | 11:00 - 12:45                                       | Segment 1 Boards 1-15    |
|  |             | 1:00 - 2:45   | Segment 2 Boards 16-30   |
|  |             |   | 75 minute Break          |
|  |             | 4:00 - 5:45   | Segment 3 Boards 31-45   |
|  | 6:00 - 7:45 | Segment 4 Boards 46-60                              |                          |
| <b>USA1 Final &amp; USA2 Semifinal</b> |             |   |                          |
| Tuesday                                | Dec 31      | 11:00 - 12:45                                       | Segment 1 Boards 1-15    |
|  |             | 1:00 - 2:45   | Segment 2 Boards 16-30   |
|  |             |   | 75 minute Break          |
|  |             | 4:00 - 5:45   | Segment 3 Boards 31-45   |
|  | 6:00 - 7:45 | Segment 4 Boards 46-60                              |                          |
| <b>USA2 final</b>                      |             |   |                          |
| Wednesday                              | Jan 1       | 10:00 - 11:45                                       | Segment 1 Boards 1-15    |
|  |             | 12:00 - 1:45  | Segment 2 Boards 16-30   |
|  |             |   | 75 minute Break          |
|  |             | 3:00 - 4:45   | Segment 3 Boards 31-45   |
|  | 5:00 - 6:45 | Segment 4 Boards 46-60                              |                          |



## More About Atlanta...

What makes Atlanta unique?

According to the National Forest Service, Atlanta is “the most heavily forested urban area in the country.” Over 47.9% of the city is covered in trees, painting the southern city green and offering residents and visitors plenty of opportunities to connect with nature.

What was invented in Atlanta?

On May 8, 1886, Dr. John Pemberton brought his perfected syrup to Jacobs' Pharmacy in downtown Atlanta where the first glass of Coca-Cola was poured. Serving about nine drinks per day in its first year, Coca-Cola was an exciting new drink in the beginning.

| U26W SCHEDULE |        |                    |   |
|---------------|--------|--------------------|---|
| Training Camp |        |                    |   |
| Friday        | Dec 27 | 11:00 AM - 9:00 PM | Details TBA                             |
| Saturday      | Dec 28 | 11:00 AM - 9:00 PM | Details TBA                             |
| STAGE 1       |        |                    |   |
| Sunday        | Dec 29 | 10:30 - 11:30      | Round 1 Boards 1-9                      |
|               |        | 11:40 - 12:40      | Round 2 Boards 10-18                    |
|               |        | 12:50 - 1:50       | Round 3 Boards 19-27<br>70 MINUTE BREAK |
|               |        | 3:00 - 4:00        | Round 4 Boards 28-36                    |
| Monday        | Dec 30 | 4:10 - 5:10        | Round 5 Boards 37-45                    |
|               |        | 5:20 - 6:20        | Round 6 Boards 46-54                    |
|               |        | 10:30 - 11:30      | Round 7 Boards 55-63                    |
|               |        | 11:40 - 12:40      | Round 8 Boards 64-72                    |
|               |        | 12:50 - 1:50       | Round 9 Boards 73-81<br>70 MINUTE BREAK |
|               |        | 3:00 - 4:00        | Round 10 Boards 82-90                   |
|               |        | 4:10 - 5:10        | Round 11 Boards 91-99                   |
|               |        | STAGE 2            |   |
| Tuesday       | Dec 31 | 10:30 - 12:15      | Round 1 Boards 1-15                     |
|               |        | 12:30 - 2:15       | Round 2 Boards 16-30<br>75 MINUTE BREAK |
|               |        | 3:30 - 5:15        | Round 3 Boards 31-45                    |
|               |        | 5:30 - 7:15        | Round 4 Boards 46-60                    |
| Wednesday     | Jan 1  | 10:30 - 12:15      | Round 5 Boards 1-15                     |
|               |        | 12:30 - 2:15       | Round 6 Boards 16-30<br>60 MINUTE BREAK |
|               |        | 3:15 - 5:00        | Round 7 Boards 31-45                    |

| U16 SCHEDULE  |        |                    |   |
|---------------|--------|--------------------|---|
| Training Camp |        |                    |   |
| Friday        | Dec 27 | 11:00 AM - 9:00 PM | Details TBA                             |
| Saturday      | Dec 28 | 11:00 AM - 9:00 PM | Details TBA                             |
| STAGE 1       |        |                    |   |
| Sunday        | Dec 29 | 10:30 - 11:30      | Round 1 Boards 1-9                      |
|               |        | 11:40 - 12:40      | Round 2 Boards 10-18                    |
|               |        | 12:50 - 1:50       | Round 3 Boards 19-27<br>70 MINUTE BREAK |
|               |        | 3:00 - 4:00        | Round 4 Boards 28-36                    |
| Monday        | Dec 30 | 4:10 - 5:10        | Round 5 Boards 37-45                    |
|               |        | 5:20 - 6:20        | Round 6 Boards 46-54                    |
|               |        | 10:30 - 11:30      | Round 7 Boards 55-63                    |
|               |        | 11:40 - 12:40      | Round 8 Boards 64-72                    |
|               |        | 12:50 - 1:50       | Round 9 Boards 73-81<br>70 MINUTE BREAK |
|               |        | 3:00 - 4:00        | Round 10 Boards 82-90                   |
|               |        | 4:10 - 5:10        | Round 11 Boards 91-99                   |
|               |        | STAGE 2            |   |
| Tuesday       | Dec 31 | 10:30 - 12:15      | Round 1 Boards 1-15                     |
|               |        | 12:30 - 2:15       | Round 2 Boards 16-30<br>75 MINUTE BREAK |
|               |        | 3:30 - 5:15        | Round 3 Boards 31-45                    |
|               |        | 5:30 - 7:15        | Round 4 Boards 46-60                    |
| Wednesday     | Jan 1  | 10:30 - 12:15      | Round 5 Boards 1-15                     |
|               |        | 12:30 - 2:15       | Round 6 Boards 16-30<br>60 MINUTE BREAK |
|               |        | 3:15 - 5:00        | Round 7 Boards 31-45                    |

Tournament Schedules... continued

**No Electronic Devices are Permitted in the Playing Area. This applies to both 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 randomly wand attendees as they enter the playing field.**



## Pun-ctuality!

What do you call a teenager who never grows? Constantine.

Why does a music teacher need a ladder? To reach the high notes!

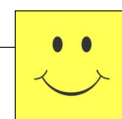
Why did the golfer bring two pairs of pants? In case he got a hole in one!

What travels the world but stays in one corner? A stamp

What's the difference between ignorance and apathy? I don't know and I don't care!

Why do pirates learn the alphabet? Because if they don't, they will be lost at C

What are the most popular perfumes for ages 12-18? Adolescents!



**Deal**

**BOARD:** 2  
**DEALER:** EAST  
**VULNERABLE:** N-S

♠ Q6  
♥ QT432  
♦ KQ2  
♣ K42

♠ AJT32  
♥ AJ9  
♦ 87  
♣ AQJ

♠ K854  
♥ K865  
♦ J  
♣ T653

♠ 97  
♥ 7  
♦ AT96543  
♣ 987

Par: -450

|    |    |   |   |    |   |
|----|----|---|---|----|---|
|    | ♣  | ♦ | ♥ | ♠  | N |
| NS | 3  | 8 | 4 | 2  | 5 |
| EW | 10 | 4 | 9 | 11 | 6 |

Home team Visiting team Room By = IMP

|                   | NS                 | EW  | Home | Visiting |
|-------------------|--------------------|-----|------|----------|
| A1 Brezak Yeung   | Open 4♠ W ♦K +1    | 450 | -    | -        |
|                   | Closed 4♠ W ♥2 +1  | 450 | -    | -        |
| A2 Chen Yang      | Open 4♠ W ♥2 +1    | 450 | 11   | -        |
|                   | Closed 3♦ S ♦8 =   | 110 | -    | 11       |
| A3 Eckert Wan     | Open 4♠ W ♠6 +1    | 450 | 6    | -        |
|                   | Closed 5♦x S ♦8 -1 | 200 | -    | 6        |
| A4 Jiang Kolesnik | Open 4♠ W ♥2 +1    | 450 | -    | -        |
|                   | Closed 4♠ W ♦K +1  | 450 | -    | -        |

Board 2 from Saturday's U26 Round Robin looks at first glance like flat spade game making with an overtrick. But "flat" is not what keeps it interesting!

In Chen/Yang, in the Open Room, Eric Shao and Renyu Li bid the expected game after the 15-17 NT opening, Stayman, spades confirmed and an invite and acceptance.

In the Closed Room, however, after the same NT opening and Stayman, Yuan, passed the 2S response on 4-4-1 -4 7-count... certainly not unreasonable.

Yue was now uncertain whose hand it was. He balanced with 3D, giving his opponents a second chance at game. Lucky for Yue, his opponents remained steadfast and he played in 3D taking 9 tricks to gain 11 IMPs for Yang on the combined game/part score swing.

## From Saturday's U26 RR

The auction most worth discussing was in the Wan/Eckert match where Stone opened 1S. Jeng doubled for takeout. Eckert made a mixed raise and Xiao thought his 7th diamond made his 4-count worth a constructive call.

When his opponents bid the spade game, Jeng went quietly but Xiao took the rare, dangerous, unfavorable save in 5D by himself. Stone, with 3 aces, had an easy double.

At the start, the contract could have been defeated 2 or 3 tricks. Stone led a diamond to Xiao's ace. Xiao played a heart to the 9, T, K. A spade went to Stone's ace and the CA was cashed. At this point, with the contract down one, Stone could have insured another trick for his side by leading a spade to his partner's king before declarer has time to set up the hearts and discard his losers. Stone apparently had a blind spot and led the CQ. This allowed Xiao to win in dummy, ruff a heart, return to dummy with a trump, ruff another heart, return again to dummy in trumps and throw away both his spade and club losers. South claimed 10 tricks, contract failing one trick. - 200 for 6 IMPs to Wan

HOME CARDS SPLIT

LoveBridge

W N E S

PASS PASS

1♠ DBL 2♠ 3♦

4♠ PASS PASS 5♦

DBL PASS PASS PASS

1S=11-17  
2S=mixed raise  
3D=nat/constructive

NORTH  
WEST 2 DEALER  
SOUTH

Score card >  
Frequency >  
Standings >

DDS

♠ Q6  
♥ QT432  
♦ KQ2  
♣ K42

N Richard Jeng

♠ K854  
♥ K865  
♦ J  
♣ T653

E Kai Eckert

♠ AJT32  
♥ AJ9  
♦ 87  
♣ AQJ

W Isaac Stone

♠ 97  
♥ 7  
♦ AT96543  
♣ 987

S Brent Xiao

SOUTH 5♦x

**BOARD:** 5  
**DEALER:** NORTH  
**VULNERABLE:** N-S

♠ QJ752  
 ♥ Q876  
 ♦ QJ83

♠ KQJ98754  
 ♥ 6  
 ♦ AK9  
 ♣ A

♠ A32  
 ♥ 94  
 ♦ 543  
 ♣ K9752

**Par: -980**

|    | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠  | N |
|----|---|---|---|----|---|
| NS | 6 | 5 | 9 | 1  | 1 |
| EW | 7 | 6 | 4 | 12 | 8 |

♠ T6  
 ♥ AKT83  
 ♦ JT2  
 ♣ T64

|           |               | Home team | Visiting team   | Room     | By | = | ★  | IMP |     |      |          |
|-----------|---------------|-----------|-----------------|----------|----|---|----|-----|-----|------|----------|
|           |               |           |                 |          |    |   |    | NS  | EW  | Home | Visiting |
| <b>A1</b> | <b>Brezak</b> |           | <b>Yeung</b>    | 🔄 Open   | 4♠ | W | ♣Q | +2  | 480 |      | 11       |
|           |               |           |                 | 🔄 Closed | 6♠ | W | ♥Q | =   | 980 |      |          |
| <b>A2</b> | <b>Chen</b>   |           | <b>Yang</b>     | 🔄 Open   | 6♠ | W | ♥Q | =   | 980 | -    | -        |
|           |               |           |                 | 🔄 Closed | 6♠ | W | ♥Q | =   | 980 |      |          |
| <b>A3</b> | <b>Eckert</b> |           | <b>Wan</b>      | 🔄 Open   | 4♠ | W | ♥Q | +2  | 480 | -    | -        |
|           |               |           |                 | 🔄 Closed | 4♠ | W | ♥Q | +2  | 480 |      |          |
| <b>A4</b> | <b>Jiang</b>  |           | <b>Kolesnik</b> | 🔄 Open   | 6♠ | W | ♥J | =   | 980 |      | 11       |
|           |               |           |                 | 🔄 Closed | 4♠ | W | ♥Q | +2  | 480 |      |          |

It is not often that you see a traveler when exactly half the field bid slam and half stopped in game. The statistics are interesting...

In one of the four matches, both pairs stopped short of the cold slam.

In one of the matches, both pairs bid the cold slam.

In both of the other two matches, one pair bid slam and one stopped in game resulting in 11 IMP swings to the slam bidders.

Also note that at 7 tables, North led a high heart. At one only table against the game, North chose a high club.

It mattered not on this hand where 12 tricks were there for the taking. The secret to success here was in bidding the low high card slam by E/W, not in the defense by N/S.

## From Saturday's U26 RR

# Kibitzing...

Our site is undergoing a migration and some things may not work as expected. We appreciate your patience.

## There will be delayed kibitzing for all of the 2024 Sam Amer JUSBCs on LoveBridge

You can follow the Sam Amer JUSBC on the [LoveBridge website](#). There will often be voice commentary, which you can access by clicking on the TV icon.

If you get to the voice commentary and there is no sound, you need to "unmute." When you first get to the page, there is a small icon of a speaker in the middle of your screen with an x on it:



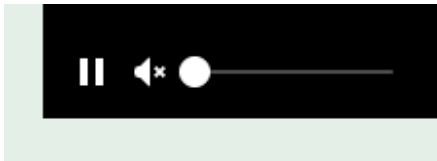
Just click on it to unmute.



Watching the VuGraph  
Just as I should  
Flannery looks like  
A method that's good!

Showing both majors  
All in one bid.  
All I can say is  
"Quite well done, kid!"

If you miss that icon, you can still unmute - move your cursor to the bottom left of the screen and you should see a similar icon:



Click on the speaker. It should unmute your machine.

Vugraph is delayed for 30 minutes or until all tables have completed play on a board, whichever is later.

[LoveBridge website](#)

(Kibitzing, continued on page 9)

## Battle of Atlanta, (July 22, 1864)

American Civil War engagement that was part of the Union's summer Atlanta Campaign. Union Major Generals William Tecumseh Sherman and James B. McPherson successfully defended against a Confederate offensive from Lieut. Gen. John Bell Hood on the eastern outskirts of Atlanta, Ga. The Union victory inflicted heavy casualties on Hood's army, but the city would not fall to Sherman until September.

Of the 34,863 Union troops engaged at the Battle of Atlanta, 3,722 were killed, wounded, captured, or reported missing. Confederate forces suffered an estimated 5,500 casualties of the 40,438 engaged. The battle had special significance for Abraham Lincoln, who was seeking a second term as U.S. president. The war had been dragging on longer than either the Union or the Confederacy expected, and war dissatisfaction was already threatening Lincoln's chances of reelection.



### **Kibitzing Schedule (EDT)**

**For all KO days** of the 2024 Sam Amer JUSBCs, kibitzing times will be :

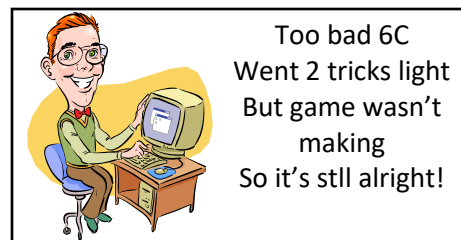
Segment 1: 11:30 am EDT

Segment 2: 1:30 pm EDT

BREAK

Segment 3: 4:30 pm EDT

Segment 4: 6:30 pm EDT



**For Round Robin days**, each kibitzing segment will start 30 minutes after play starts. There will not be voice commentary during the Round Robins.

### **More information**

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 the result.

### **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 to 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, 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 the list. Push every button and enjoy!

# Sudoku

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

Sudoku 1

Answers to Sudokus on Page 14

## Facts About Cards...

### Why is a jack called a jack?

In English the initial K for knave would have been indistinguishable from K for king and was therefore replaced with J for jack. Originally this was the name applied to the knave of trump in the old game of all fours, which had already achieved wide popularity in preference to the archaic-sounding knave in other games.

### Which symbol is the highest in cards?

In some card games, the card suits have a dominance order— **Spade** (highest), Heart, Diamond, Club (lowest). In Germanic countries, ♠ was the symbol associated with a spade's blade or shovel. The ♥ suit is associated with love. The ♣ is also known as clovers or flowers.

### What does the “ace” represent?

It originally meant the side of a die with only one pip, before it was a term for a playing card. Since this was the lowest roll of the die, it traditionally meant 'bad luck' in Middle English, but as the ace is often the highest playing card, its meaning has since changed to mean '**high-quality, excellence**'.

### Why did soldiers put cards in their helmets?

The death card—US troops used the card during the war, as they believed it was a source of superstition for Viet Cong soldiers. They often carried them tucked in their helmets as a symbolic way of showing that where they went, so, too, did death.

Answer to Logic Puzzle on Page 13

| Code Name | Country       | Cost    |            |
|-----------|---------------|---------|------------|
| Arrow     | USA           | Extreme | Submarine  |
| Raft      | Russia        | High    | Ship       |
| Mosquito  | Germany       | Cheap   | Helicopter |
| Wizard    | Great Britain | Low     | Paramedics |
| BlueEye   | France        | Medium  | Divers     |

Sudoku 2

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

Symbols during wartime are important and, more than that, they are powerful. [Winston Churchill](#) famously used the “V for Victory” symbol during World War II, which was adopted by the United Kingdom as a way to stick it to their enemies. Likewise, [Uncle Sam](#) became a powerful symbol for US military enlistment.

The ace of spades became one of these very symbols when it was used by US troops during the Vietnam War. Although the symbol was popularized during the conflict, it wasn't the first time card suits were used in wartime with a bigger meaning behind them.

# Puzzle Page

## Geometry

Find and circle all of the Geometry words that are hidden in the grid.  
The remaining letters spell a secret message.

R A D I U S E Q U I L A T E R A L E P Y  
E C A F S A R O G A H T Y P T P H L A G  
O R R H O M B U S E P T O O T O N C C D  
A E L G N A I R T R E C B L N L O R H I  
C O N G R U E N T A R E T S E Y I I O O  
E T U C A V E R E H P S U S M G T C R Z  
L I V O S E E E D D E I S U G O A P D E  
M R I N N N G T Q R N B E C E N U O S P  
H A A E E R E S E U D I I X S T Q L E A  
H R R L A R E T A L I R D A U Q E Y T R  
T T A G E M E T C C C A E L N T H H A T  
I C C S O M E Y E U U U N R E Y Y E N M  
S S A E I L L H M M L P F G P G B D I I  
S B O R S I E F T T A O Y O U E S R D D  
E S E S N R E L H O R I T R E L S O R P  
C P O D C R E G L M P E D M A Q A N O O  
A F E L E E I T U A N A U N U M O R O I  
N R R N I E L L N U R L T A E C I H C N  
T R C I H D A E S I O A R S I D E D S T  
V E R T E X S E S V T E P M E R O E H T

ACUTE  
APOTHEM  
AREA  
BASE  
BISECT  
CHORD  
CIRCLE  
CIRCUMFERENCE  
CONE  
CONGRUENT  
COORDINATES  
CYLINDER  
DIAMETER

EQUATION  
EQUIANGULAR  
EQUILATERAL  
FACE  
FORMULA  
HEIGHT  
HYPOTENUSE  
INTERSECT  
ISOSCELES  
LEGS  
MIDPOINT  
OBTUSE  
PARALLELOGRAM

PERIMETER  
PERPENDICULAR  
POLYGON  
POLYHEDRON  
PYRAMID  
PYTHAGORAS  
QUADRILATERAL  
RADIUS  
RHOMBUS  
SCALENE  
SECANT  
SEGMENT

SIDE  
SLANT  
SLOPE  
SOLIDS  
SPHERE  
SQUARE  
THEOREM  
TRANSVERSAL  
TRAPEZOID  
TRIANGLE  
VERTEX  
VOLUME

# More Tom Swifties...

"Have you any creased slacks?" "No, just flatfronts," said the store owner, depleted.

"I believe that I have swallowed my reading glasses," Tom introspected.

"No! It's only called *magma* when it's *underground!*" Tom erupted.

"You jerk! You lost my car!" Tom derided.

"I reckon them Asia-bears might eat them some fried rice. Yer so right." Tom pandered.

"A place for every pickle *and* every pickle in its place?!" Tom said, jarringly.

"Oh Christmas tree... Oh Christmas tree! You're the best!" Tom opined.

"Black mold in the house? Well... maybe... just in the very top floor..." said Tom, sporadically.

Oh, and I bet that man in the top-hat spends a lot of time in the sun, too." said Tom, tangentially.

"Aha! That mime isn't *actually* walking uphill at all!" said Tom, climatically.

"You thought *that* was a good movie?! I'd give it 80%... on a good day!" Tom berated.

"Do you like my new sweater? It's made entirely out of the finest nitrogen!" said Tom, putting on airs.

"Oh no! This floor is too slippery! I can't get any traction at all," the Kitten mewed.

"No, you prefer living in the astral plane," Tom projected.

"I believe that is a baby octopus," said Tom, with an inkling.

"That cloud? Yes, it does look like a lamb," said Tom, sheepishly.

"A right angle? What's that again? 120-degrees?" said Tom, obtusely.

"Why yes, I would love to eat some pickled peppers!" said Tom, peckishly.

"The doctor had to remove my left ventricle," said Tom half-heartedly.

"Your Honor, you're crazy!" said Tom judgementally.

"Elvis is dead," said Tom expressly.

"I swallowed some of the glass from that broken window," Tom said painfully.

"My garden needs another layer of mulch," Tom repeated.

"You must be my host," Tom guessed.

"I've only enough carpet for the hall and landing," said Tom with a blank stare.

"Don't let me drown in Egypt!" pleaded Tom, deep in denial.

"Who discovered radium?" asked Marie curiously.

"This is the real male goose," said Tom producing the propaganda.

"The cat sounds as if she's happy now she's been fed," said Tom purposefully.

"I have a split personality," said Tom, being frank.

"I love hot dogs," said Tom with relish.

"There's no need for silence," Tom allowed.

"I won't finish in fifth place," Tom held forth.

"I'm no good at playing darts," Tom said aimlessly.

"I'm a softball pitcher," Tom said underhandedly.

"I like hockey," Tom said puckishly.

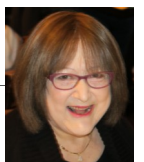
"That's a lot of hay," Tom said balefully.

"Let's get married," Tom said engagingly.

"I forgot what I was supposed to buy," Tom said listlessly.

"Mush!" said Tom huskily.

"I'll have a bowl of Chinese soup," Tom said wantonly.



From the Editor:

If you find an interesting hand and want to call my attention to it, please send the board #, the names of the players, the session in which it was played and any relevant comments to me at:

stansubeck@prodigy.net

Extra eyes and ears are always appreciated! Please address any Letters to the Editor, tournament tales or fun photos to that address as well.

Thank you! I will include as much as I can daily! And give you credit!

Suzi

A nuclear submarine has suffered an severe accident. It sits on the bottom of the ocean. A rescue team has been assembled. USA, France, Russia, Great Britain and Germany offered their support. A ship, a submarine, a helicopter, paramedics and divers will take part in this operation. Each country send only one thing, which implies some costs. Each rescue team has a code name.

From the information provided, determine for each team, the country where it comes from, the code name, and the costs used to support the team.

|               | Cheap | Low | Medium | High | Extreme | France | Germany | Great Britain | Russia | USA | Arrow | BlueEye | Mosquito | Raft | Wizard |  |
|---------------|-------|-----|--------|------|---------|--------|---------|---------------|--------|-----|-------|---------|----------|------|--------|--|
| Submarine     |       |     |        |      |         |        |         |               |        |     |       |         |          |      |        |  |
| Ship          |       |     |        |      |         |        |         |               |        |     |       |         |          |      |        |  |
| Helicopter    |       |     |        |      |         |        |         |               |        |     |       |         |          |      |        |  |
| Paramedics    |       |     |        |      |         |        |         |               |        |     |       |         |          |      |        |  |
| Divers        |       |     |        |      |         |        |         |               |        |     |       |         |          |      |        |  |
| Arrow         |       |     |        |      |         |        |         |               |        |     |       |         |          |      |        |  |
| BlueEye       |       |     |        |      |         |        |         |               |        |     |       |         |          |      |        |  |
| Mosquito      |       |     |        |      |         |        |         |               |        |     |       |         |          |      |        |  |
| Raft          |       |     |        |      |         |        |         |               |        |     |       |         |          |      |        |  |
| Wizard        |       |     |        |      |         |        |         |               |        |     |       |         |          |      |        |  |
| France        |       |     |        |      |         |        |         |               |        |     |       |         |          |      |        |  |
| Germany       |       |     |        |      |         |        |         |               |        |     |       |         |          |      |        |  |
| Great Britain |       |     |        |      |         |        |         |               |        |     |       |         |          |      |        |  |
| Russia        |       |     |        |      |         |        |         |               |        |     |       |         |          |      |        |  |
| USA           |       |     |        |      |         |        |         |               |        |     |       |         |          |      |        |  |

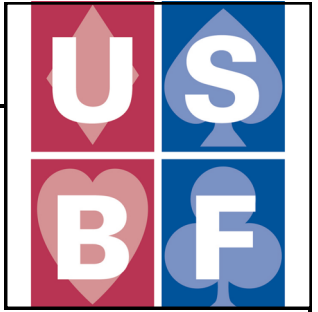


1. The costs supported by USA and France were medium or extreme.
2. The code name for the US team is Arrow, which is the code name for the Submarine or the Divers (whose costs were not extreme).
3. BlueEye and Raft are the code names of some teams whose costs aren't cheap and low. The costs of the helicopter and the paramedics were the lowest.
4. Russia and Germany didn't send the submarine and the paramedics.
5. Neither the Ship nor the paramedics use the code names BlueEye and Mosquito.
6. Neither Germany nor Russia sent Wizard. Neither the Helicopter nor the divers use the code name Raft and Wizard.
7. Neither Mosquito nor Wizard has medium and extreme costs. The costs supported by Great Britain and Germany were cheap or low.
8. The Divers are from France. Mosquito is not from France and its cost is not low.

|            | Cost | Country | Code Name |
|------------|------|---------|-----------|
| Submarine  | -    | -       | -         |
| Ship       | -    | -       | -         |
| Helicopter | -    | -       | -         |
| Paramedics | -    | -       | -         |
| Divers     | -    | -       | -         |

# Hard Logic Puzzle...

**Answer to Puzzle can be found on page 10**



# 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.

## Sudoku 1

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

## Sudoku 2

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

## Puzzles on Page 10

What is made of water but if you put it into water it will die? An ice cube.

I'm tall when I'm young and I'm short when I'm old. What am I? A candle.

What has hands but can not clap? A clock.

You can drop me from the tallest building and I'll be fine, but if you drop me in water I die. What am I? Paper.

What has a head and a tail, but no body? A coin.

What has an eye but can not see? A needle.

## Riddles

# Meet the Players:

**Bridge To Success: Two Seniors' Journey to Nationals** By Zakir Ahmad and Michelle Li • from February 24, 2018



His brow furrows as he examines the cards in his hands, splayed out in a perfect fan. Taking his time, Palo Alto High School senior **Cornelius Duffie** slowly pulls out the queen of hearts and gently places it on the table in front of him. His partner, senior **Stella Wan**, sits across from him, following his every move; she slowly relaxes after seeing that they've played their cards right.

To many students, bridge is seen as an "old person's game," played only by retirees and grandparents. However, to Duffie and Wan, the card game is a mentally challenging endeavor filled with meticulous counting and the pressure to strive for perfection.

"You're in the zone and you're always solving problems," Duffie says.

"It's sort of like a game of mistakes. It's stressful because you're just trying not to do bad things."

Duffie and Wan, members of Paly's Bridge Club and the National Bridge Association, travel the nation playing competitive bridge. The duo have traveled as far as Vancouver, and plan to play in China this year. Both are on the U.S. national team.

Achieving anything close to mastery has been no simple task. Wan and Duffie each dedicate countless hours of training to maintain their current skill level.

"We play four to five times a week," Wan says. "When there's a tournament, we play Friday night and both weekend days as well."

Assessing mistakes and working with your partner are also crucial factors to success.

"We video chat and talk about the mistakes and what we can do better next time," Wan says.

Tournaments, the culmination of their hard practice, are especially trying for the pair. Hands are played consecutively, with little break. Teams rotate around the room after each hand.

"For Nationals, it's usually from 1 p.m. to 2 a.m.," Duffie says. "You are super exhausted mentally after concentrating for that long."

Players stay in their hotels the whole time, and are constantly focused on bridge.

"You don't get to do any sightseeing," Wan says. "I'm literally in the hotel the whole time."

After day-long events, bridge players often socialize back at the hotels about bridge; in essence, bridge is their mutual language.

"When you're done with bridge, you hang out with other bridge players and talk about bridge," Duffie says.

Despite the long tournaments, Duffie does not regret the commitment.

"Even if you don't do well, it's sort of like when you run a lot, and you are tired but happy," Duffie says.

With the large time commitment, even Wan's own mother questions the value of the game. Wan's bridge-playing days were temporarily put on hold last semester when her mother grounded her.

"She [my mom] didn't let me play bridge for six months for college apps," Wan says. "She prefers that I don't play at tournaments so much."

From here, their future is unclear. Both players have learned all the intricate details of the game, and are looking to take their game to the next level.

"It's hard to improve because there's not a linear way to learn bridge," Duffie says. "You have to figure out what you don't know, and then learn it."

However, both Duffie and Wan's success has provided encouragement.

"It feels good to know that I have improved a lot," Duffie says. "It's nice to get validation that you are not actual garbage at bridge."

Now, six years since this article, both Duffie and Wan are playing in this competition as members of the Wan squad in U26. Their team includes: Olivia Schireson, Brent Xiao, Richard Jeng, and Jacob Freeman.



In this episode of Table Talks, Steve Raine sits down with 16-year-old U.S. junior bridge star, Avery Silverstein, a silver medalist at the World Championship and the daughter of professional bridge player, owner and operator of the Cavendish Bridge Club in New York, and President of the USBF, Aaron Silverstein. Her mom, Gennifer Binder, is an excellent player in her own right.

Avery shares her journey to winning silver with the USA 2 junior team, her love for playing behind screens, and the joy of partnering with her dad in major events.

### Young Bridge Star Avery Silverstein on Her World Championship Journey - Table Talks #5

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Along the way, she gives tips for new partnerships, and reflects on the challenges of fast play in junior events. She discusses past

NABCs, her early days at bridge tournaments, and her plans for more competitive events. Watch until the end to see Steve get "beer-ed"—by Avery's expert play... well, actually his own!

Avery is playing in this JUSBC as part of the U21 Silversten squad. Her teammates include: Daniel Balof, Sam Pakh, Michael Haas, Ethan Derman and Jack Boge. At this time, Avery's team is in second place.

BOARD: 2  
DEALER: EAST  
VULNERABLE: N-S

♠ T98  
♥ AK2  
♦ AT52  
♣ K95

♠ K732  
♥ T8  
♦ J943  
♣ Q76

♠ AJ54  
♥ J75  
♦ KQ86  
♣ T2

Par: 650

|    |    |   |    |   |   |
|----|----|---|----|---|---|
|    | ♣  | ♦ | ♥  | ♠ | N |
| N5 | 11 | 6 | 11 | 5 | 9 |
| EW | 2  | 7 | 2  | 6 | 2 |

♠ Q6  
♥ Q9643  
♦ 7  
♣ AJ843

On Board 2 in Sunday's U16 IMP Pairs competition, only one pair successfully bid and made the vulnerable 4H game.

|      | W | N  | E    | S    |
|------|---|----|------|------|
|      |   |    | PASS | 1♥   |
| PASS |   | 2♦ | PASS | 3♣   |
| PASS |   | 4♥ | PASS | PASS |
| PASS |   |    |      |      |

|                              | By                               |      | =     | ★    | P            |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|------|-------|------|--------------|
| Arjun Chaunal - Kevin Wei    | Clayton Kaneko - Joseph Hoagland | 4♥ S | ♠2 =  | 620  | 10.60 -10.60 |
| Kaining Sheng - Ryan Wolpert | Beatriz Aldana - Ethan Wu        | 3♥ S | ♠2 +1 | 170  | 0.00 0.00    |
| Brandon Wolpert - Demian Li  | Jayson Lee - Lee Blocher         | 3♥ S | ♦4 +1 | 170  | 0.00 0.00    |
| Chloe Chow - Eli Shuster     | Jeremy Zhang - Ryo Chen          | 3♣ N | ♦K +2 | 150  | -1.00 1.00   |
| Adam Hemmer - Kate Lee       | Kyo Chen - Zinnia Meyer          | 1N N | ♠4 +1 | 120  | -2.00 2.00   |
| Alex Xu - Derek Deschenes    | Andrew Chen - Jeff Xiao          | 4♥ S | ♦4 -1 | -100 | -7.60 7.60   |

Arjun Chaunal aggressively opened 1H on South's 5-5-9 count(see auction above). There were only three losers: 2 spades and 1 club. A spade was led. Chaunal won and continued spades. He ruffed the 3rd spade and pulled trump. He cashed the DA and CAK effectively conceding the CQ and the 2 spades for +620. 10.6 IMPs for his efforts.

Alex Xu and Derek Deschenes also bid the game. Andrew Chen,

West, led a diamond. Deschenes won in dummy & pulled 2 **only rounds of trump!** He played the CK and took the club finesse losing to West's CQ. The combination of leaving an outstanding trump with East & a 3rd club with West, allowed Chen to give his partner a club ruff to set the game: 2 spades, 1 club and 1 ruff for E/W scoring 7.6 IMPs!



BOARD: 13  
DEALER: NORTH  
VULNERABLE: ALL

♠ K  
♥ 963  
♦ AT4  
♣ KJT542

♠ Q732  
♥ AKQ842  
♦ 98  
♣ A

♠ J98  
♥ JT7  
♦ J65  
♣ 9863

Par: 600

|    |    |    |   |   |   |  |
|----|----|----|---|---|---|--|
|    | ♣  | ♦  | ♥ | ♠ | N |  |
| NS | 11 | 10 | 5 | 7 | 6 |  |
| EW | 2  | 2  | 8 | 5 | 6 |  |

♠ AT654  
♥ 5  
♦ KQ732  
♣ Q7

|                                     |                                | By   | Trumps | Score | IMP   | MP     |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|------|--------|-------|-------|--------|
| Kaining Sheng -<br>Ryan Wolpert     | Jayson Lee -<br>Lee Blocher    | 5♣ N | ♥7 =   | 600   | 10.80 | -10.80 |
| Alex Xu - Derek Deschenes           | Chloe Chow -<br>Eli Shuster    | 4♦ S | ♥A +1  | 150   | -0.40 | 0.40   |
| Kyo Chen - Zinnia Meyer             | Brandon Wolpert -<br>Demian Li | 3♥ W | ♠K -1  | 100   | -2.60 | 2.60   |
| Adam Hemmer - Kate Lee              | Jeremy Zhang -<br>Ryo Chen     | 3♥ W | ♠K -1  | 100   | -2.60 | 2.60   |
| Clayton Kaneko -<br>Joseph Hoagland | Andrew Chen -<br>Jeff Xiao     | 3♥ W | ♣J -1  | 100   | -2.60 | 2.60   |
| Beatriz Aldana - Ethan Wu           | Arjun Chaunal -<br>Kevin Wei   | 3♥ W | ♠K -1  | 100   | -2.60 | 2.60   |

On Board 13 in Sunday's U16 IMP Pairs competition, North/South have 11 tricks in the club game but is it bid-dable?

Ryan Wolpert, son of well-known, well-liked bridge professionals, Jenny and Gavin Wolpert, and grandson of well-liked Canadian bridge club owner, Hazel Wolpert, made a key bid to get his side to the game. (Mom and Dad taught him well.)

At most other tables, the auction started as it did at Ryan's table: North opened 1C; South responded 1S; West overcalled 2H... At this point, Wolpert/Sheng's auction diverged.

HOME CARDS SPLIT

| W    | N    | E    | S  |
|------|------|------|----|
| 1♣   | PASS | 1♠   |    |
| 2♥   | 3♣   | PASS | 5♣ |
| PASS | PASS | PASS |    |

Stage 1 1/4  
Table D1, Round 2/3

N-S: PERSONAL SCORE

E-W: PERSONAL SCORE

DEALER WEST 13 EAST SOUTH

Frequency Standings DDS

♠ K  
♥ 963  
♦ AT4  
♣ KJT542

N Ryan Wolpert

♠ Q732  
♥ AKQ842  
♦ 98  
♣ A

W Lee Blocher

♠ J98  
♥ JT7  
♦ J65  
♣ 9863

E Jayson Lee

♠ AT654  
♥ 5  
♦ KQ732  
♣ Q7

S Kaining Sheng

NORTH 5♣

At 4 of the 5 tables (including Wolpert's) where the auction to this point was the same, North PASSED over East's 2H bid.

Wolpert, unlike his counterparts, chose to confirm his 6-card club holding by bidding 3C. This was key! (When you open a minor that could be only 3 cards long, it is always good to clue partner in when you really hold the suit!)

Sheng, holding an opening hand opposite partner's opener, perked up and jumped to the game.

There was little to the play. Jayson Lee led the H7 to Blocher's queen. Blocher cashed the CA and tried to cash the HA.

Wolpert ruffed with dummy's trump queen, played a diamond to the ace, and pulled the remaining trump. +600 and 10.8 IMPs to Wolpert/Sheng

Well done, Ryan!

# Cross IMPs

|     |                                  |          |       |         |    |
|-----|----------------------------------|----------|-------|---------|----|
| 1.  | Olivia Schireson - Stella Wan    | Wan      | 2.50  | 124.90  | 50 |
| 2.  | Bo Han Zhu - Harrison Luba       | Kolesnik | 2.32  | 116.19  | 50 |
| 3.  | Finn Kolesnik - Michael Xu       | Kolesnik | 1.64  | 98.40   | 60 |
| 4.  | Cornelius Duffie - Jacob Freeman | Wan      | 1.58  | 95.00   | 60 |
| 5.  | Fangqing Yuan - Philip Wang      | Chen     | 1.50  | 75.17   | 50 |
| 6.  | Jonathan Yue - Rory Xiao         | Chen     | 1.44  | 86.21   | 60 |
| 7.  | Brent Xiao - Richard Jeng        | Wan      | 1.03  | 51.51   | 50 |
| 8.  | Ethan Wood - Michael Hu          | Kolesnik | 0.72  | 35.80   | 50 |
| 9.  | Lixin Zheng - Weilong Shen       | Zheng    | 0.49  | 39.51   | 80 |
| 10. | Tianyang Chen - Will Duan        | Chen     | 0.45  | 22.52   | 50 |
| 11. | Ruizhe Wang - Yanlai Yang        | Yang     | 0.36  | 28.00   | 78 |
| 12. | Tom Ye - Vasisht GaneshZheng     | 0.02     | 1.81  | 80      |    |
| 13. | Eric Shao - Renyu Li             | Yang     | -0.36 | -27.86  | 78 |
| 14. | Chris Staszak - Luke Brezak      | Brezak   | -0.73 | -58.16  | 80 |
| 15. | Alan Yeung - Dan Irish           | Yeung    | -0.77 | -60.36  | 78 |
| 16. | Evan Alexis - Rohan Srivastava   | Yeung    | -0.79 | -61.86  | 78 |
| 17. | Jingcheng Dai - Zihao Sun        | Jiang    | -0.88 | -61.90  | 70 |
| 18. | Alan Hale - Cade Johnson         | Brezak   | -0.93 | -73.11  | 79 |
| 19. | Isaac Stone - Kai Eckert         | Eckert   | -1.01 | -80.69  | 80 |
| 20. | Levi Katriel - Matthew Rippin    | Eckert   | -1.51 | -120.64 | 80 |
| 21. | Andy Zhang - Ryan Carlson        | Jiang    | -1.53 | -75.14  | 49 |
| 22. | Alex Safonov - Kevin Jiang       | Jiang    | -3.88 | -155.31 | 40 |

# U26

|     |                                  |             |       |         |    |
|-----|----------------------------------|-------------|-------|---------|----|
| 1.  | Brian Zhang - Kayden Ge          | Ge          | 2.33  | 116.67  | 50 |
| 2.  | Charlie Chen - Eric Xiao         | Ge          | 2.07  | 124.00  | 60 |
| 3.  | Arthur Gong - Brandon Ge         | Ge          | 1.54  | 77.00   | 50 |
| 4.  | Jason Yao - Nathan Gong          | He          | 1.25  | 100.33  | 80 |
| 5.  | Ethan Xie - Zach Posternak       | Xie         | 1.08  | 86.33   | 80 |
| 6.  | Ethan Derman - Jack Boge         | Silverstein | 0.95  | 47.67   | 50 |
| 7.  | Avery Silverstein - Daniel Balof | Silverstein | 0.83  | 50.00   | 60 |
| 8.  | Michael Haas - Sam Pahk          | Silverstein | 0.57  | 28.67   | 50 |
| 9.  | Edward He - Eric He              | He          | 0.30  | 24.33   | 80 |
| 10. | Keith Lin - Kyle Lin             | Xie         | -1.02 | -81.67  | 80 |
| 11. | James Fu - Owen Jiang            | Hoagland    | -1.97 | -19.67  | 10 |
| 12. | James Fu - Michael Hoagland      | Hoagland    | -2.08 | -62.33  | 30 |
| 13. | Alex Shih - James Fu             | Hoagland    | -2.69 | -80.67  | 30 |
| 14. | Alex Shih - Michael Hoagland     | Hoagland    | -3.15 | -63.00  | 20 |
| 15. | Eric White - Michael Hoagland    | Hoagland    | -3.33 | -33.33  | 10 |
| 16. | Alex Shih - Owen Jiang           | Hoagland    | -4.73 | -47.33  | 10 |
| 17. | Eric White - Owen Jiang          | Hoagland    | -5.08 | -203.33 | 40 |
| 18. | Alex Shih - Eric White           | Hoagland    | -6.37 | -63.67  | 10 |

# U21

| Sam Amer Junio        |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| SemiFinal (60 boards) |  |
| 30-Dec-2024           |  |
| #                     | TEAM                                   |
| 1                     | <a href="#">Ge - wins tie</a>          |
| 4                     | <a href="#">Xie</a>                    |
| 2                     | <a href="#">Silverstein - wins tie</a> |
| 3                     | <a href="#">He</a>                     |

## Monday Match-Ups

### U26 Round Robin Pairings

This page has pairings for the U26 Round Robin, which are only available if lineups are blind.

#### ROUND 1

Brezak vs Yeung  
Chen vs Yang  
Eckert vs Wan  
Jiang vs Kolesnik  
Zheng SITOUT

#### ROUND 2

Brezak vs Yang  
Chen vs Wan  
Eckert vs Kolesnik  
Yeung vs Zheng  
Jiang SITOUT