

Volume 18, Issue 5  
May 4, 2024

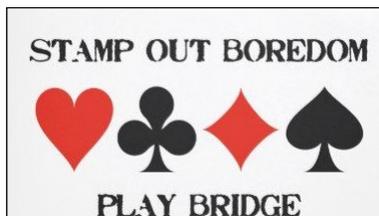
# Results:

## Open USBC - 2024

\* Lebowitz penalized 10imps for having electronic device in the room

| QuarterFinal (120 boards) |                           | Set score of form "Ax" or "Rx" indicates pending Appeal or Ruling. IMPs Total may change.      |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |                |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|--|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|----------------|
| 03-May-2024               |                           | <i>The colored score boxes indicate the team with seating rights for that segment of play:</i> |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |                |
| #                         | TEAM                      | IMPs Total   | SET #1 | SET #2 | SET #3 | SET #4 | SET #5 | SET #6 | SET #7 | SET #8 | Penalty (IMPs) |
| 1                         | <a href="#">Nickell</a>   | 87   | 34     | 9      | 7      | 37     |        |        |        |        |                |
| 8                         | <a href="#">Juster</a>    | 110  | 23     | 45     | 22     | 20     |        |        |        |        |                |
| 2                         | <a href="#">Lebowitz</a>  | 115  | 34     | 50     | 22     | 19     |        |        |        |        | -10            |
| 7                         | <a href="#">Simson</a>    | 152  | 36     | 47     | 22     | 47     |        |        |        |        |                |
| 3                         | <a href="#">Fleisher</a>  | 206  | 56     | 43     | 65     | 42     |        |        |        |        |                |
| 6                         | <a href="#">Bailey</a>    | 61   | 14     | 22     | 14     | 11     |        |        |        |        |                |
| 4                         | <a href="#">Rosenthal</a> | 92   | 10     | 5      | 48     | 29     |        |        |        |        |                |
| 5                         | <a href="#">Bramley</a>   | 76   | 6      | 22     | 20     | 28     |        |        |        |        |                |

Ed. Note: With delayed broadcasting, it is challenging to watch every hand for write ups. If anyone has a particularly interesting hand, please send me the board # & match # with any important details. I will do my best to review and include it. Email to stansubeck@prodigy.net. Thank you!



- USBF President**  
Aaron Silverstein
- USBF Vice President**  
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- USBF COO & Secretary**  
Jan Martel
- USBF CFO & Treasurer**  
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- USBF Recorder**  
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- Software Expert**  
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- VuGraph Organizers**  
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- Appeals Administrator**  
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Josh Stark  
Adam Wildavsky
- Bulletin Editor**  
Suzi Subeck
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Julie Arbit  
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UNITED STATES BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

“Trials” and Tribulations

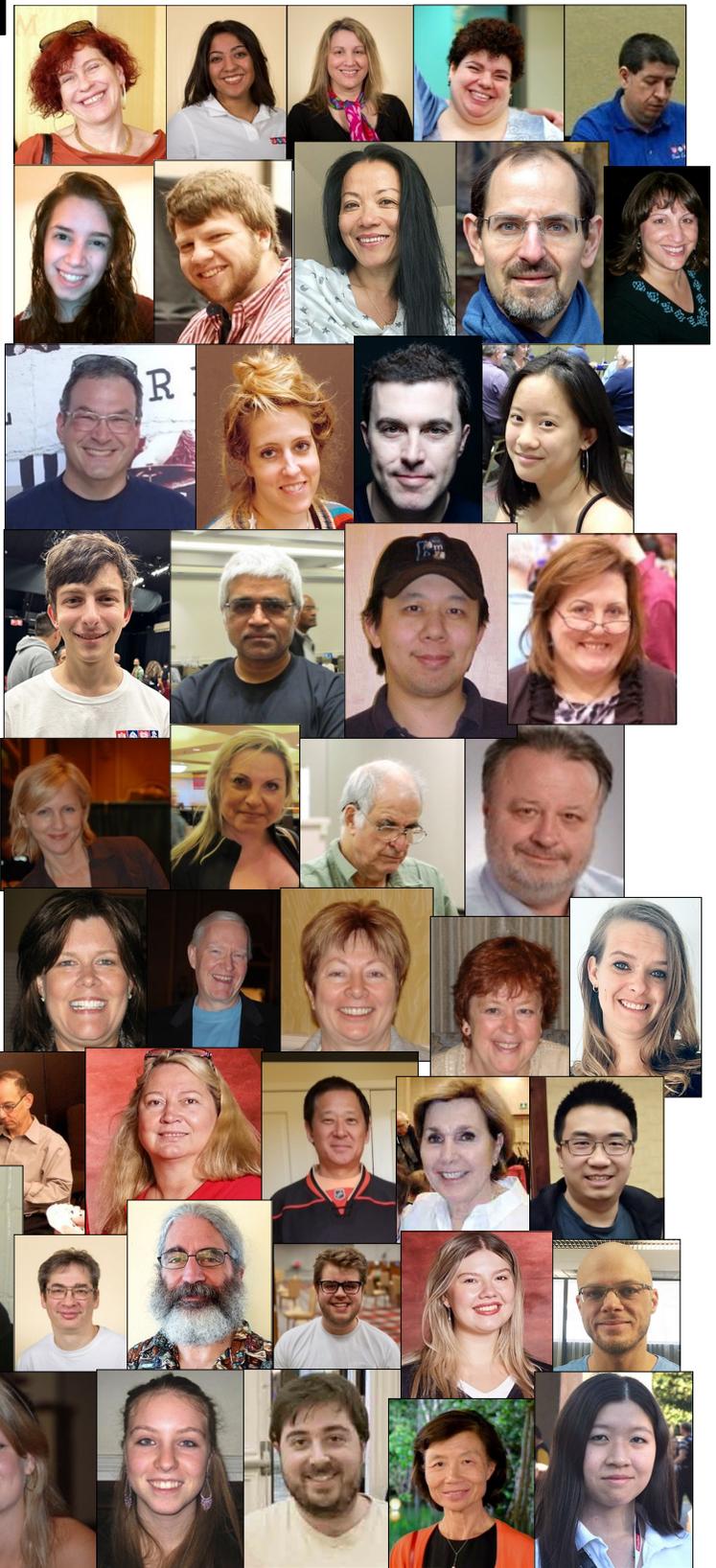
# Open Teams Entered

|                  |  |  |
|------------------|--|--|
| <b>Nickell</b>   | Nick Nickell<br>Bye to QF<br>Bobby Levin<br>Geoff Hampson<br>Jill Levin, NPC | Ralph Katz<br>Steve Weinstein<br>Eric Greco          |
| <b>Lebowitz</b>  | Adam Grossack, Capt<br>Zach Grossack<br>Zia Mahmood                          | Larry Lebowitz<br>Michael Rosenberg<br>Daniel Korbel |
| <b>Fleisher</b>  | Marty Fleisher, Capt<br>Brad Moss<br>Kevin Bathurst                          | Chip Martel<br>Joe Grue<br>John Hurd                 |
| <b>Bailey</b>    | Bill Bailey, Capt<br>Aaron Jones<br>Arti Bhargava                            | Josh Donn<br>Owen Lien                               |
| <b>Balleisen</b> | Aaron Balleisen, Capt<br>Nicole Qian   | Zhiyu Cheng<br>Philip Wang                           |
| <b>Bramley</b>   | Bart Bramley, Capt<br>Brian Platnick   | Kit Woolsey<br>Kevin Rosenberg                       |
| <b>Gu</b>        | Jiang Gu, Capt<br>Ai-Tai Lo<br>Josh Sher                                     | Walter Lee<br>Alex Kolesnik<br>Ron Smith             |
| <b>Hamman</b>    | Adam Wildavsky, Capt<br>Doug Doub<br>John Schermer                           | Bob Hamman<br>Neil Chambers<br>Greg Hinze            |
| <b>Han</b>       | Yanong Han, Capt<br>Qiang Zhang  | Ming Sheng<br>Brian Zhang                            |
| <b>Juster</b>    | Jeff Juster, Capt<br>Andy Goodman<br>Shan Huang                              | Jacob Morgan<br>Mike Passell<br>Kevin Dwyer Rimstedt |
| <b>Petrov</b>    | Dian Petrov, Capt<br>Matthew Haag  | Val Kovachev<br>Rumen Dimitrov                       |
| <b>Robinson</b>  | Eric Robinson, Capt<br>Ish DelMonte<br>David Berkowitz                       | Michael Kamil<br>Finn Kolesnik<br>Steve Garner       |
| <b>Rosenthal</b> | Andrew Rosenthal, Capt<br>Chris Willenken<br>John Kranyak                    | Aaron Silverstein<br>Gavin Wolpert<br>Vince Demuy    |
| <b>Schireson</b> | Max Schireson, Capt<br>John McAllister<br>Olivia Schireson                   | Debbie Rosenberg<br>Will Watson                      |
| <b>Simson</b>    | Doug Simson, Capt<br>Eddie Wold<br>David Grainger                            | Eric Rodwell<br>Joel Wooldridge<br>Venkatrao Koneru  |



# Mixed Teams Entered

|            |  |  |
|------------|--|--|
| Carmichael | Tom Carmichael, Capt<br>Christian Jolly<br>Adam Parrish        | Jenni Carmichael<br>Julie Arbit                      |
| Derman     | Ethan Derman, Capt<br>George Klemic                            | Avery Silverstein<br>Maya Jonas-Silver               |
| Ding       | Donna Compton, Capt<br>Hong Ding<br>Lin-huan Chen              | Chris Compton<br>Adam Wildavsky<br>Ding-hwa Hsieh    |
| Dinkin     | Sam Dinkin, Capt<br>Harrison Luba<br>Jeff Ferro                | Yoko Sobel<br>Cynthia Huang<br>Jean Barry            |
| Ivatury    | Uday Ivatury, Capt<br>Shawn Quinn<br>Lapt Chan                 | Allan Graves<br>Irina Kislitsyna<br>Christal Henner  |
| Lewis      | Paul Lewis, Capt<br>Mark Itabashi<br>Cheri Bjerkan             | Linda Lewis<br>Disa Eythorsdottir<br>Larry Robbins   |
| Millens    | Shan Huang, Capt<br>Kevin Dwyer<br>Sandra Rimstedt             | Joan Millens<br>Cecilia Dwyer Rimstedt               |
| Pollack    | Rozanne Pollack, Capt<br>Dave Caprera                          | Bill Pollack<br>Anne Brenner                         |
| Rosenthal  | Andrew Rosenthal, Capt<br>Chris Willenken<br>Michael Rosenberg | Migry Campanile<br>Jenny Wolpert<br>Debbie Rosenberg |
| Rubenstein | Stewart Rubenstein, Capt<br>Zach Grossack<br>Adam Grossack     | Anam Tebha<br>Giorgia Botta<br>Emma Kolesnik         |
| Zhang      | Susan Zhang, Capt<br>Eddie Wold<br>Janice Molson               | Sylvia Shi<br>Daniel Korbel                          |



**No Electronic Devices are Permitted in the Playing Area.**

**This applies to players AND kibitzers.**

**Severe penalties will be assessed for violation of this rule.**

**Please turn off all cell phones and check them at the door.**

**The USBF reserves the right to wand anyone entering the playing field.**



# Senior Teams Entered

|                 |  |   |
|-----------------|--|---|
| <b>Aker</b>     | Jeff Aker, Capt<br>John Lusky<br>Barry Rigal           | Allan Falk<br>Glenn Milgrim<br>Ron Rubin          |
| <b>Cappelli</b> | Bob Cappelli, Capt<br>Bob Bitterman                    | Mark Aquino<br>Mark Bendure                       |
| <b>Goodman</b>  | Andy Goodman, Capt<br>Pratap Rajadhyaksha<br>Ron Smith | Mike Passell<br>Venkatrao Koneru<br>Billy Cohen   |
| <b>Hamman</b>   | Bob Hamman, Capt<br>Doug Doub<br>John Schermer         | Neil Chambers<br>Adam Wildavsky<br>Neil Silverman |
| <b>Lall</b>     | Hemant Lall, Capt<br>Eric Rodwell<br>Zia Mahmood       | Reese Milner<br>Eddie Wold<br>Michael Rosenberg   |
| <b>Reynolds</b> | Tom Reynolds, Capt<br>Bernie Greenspan                 | Lance Kerr<br>Fred Schenker                       |
| <b>Simson</b>   | Doug Simson, Capt<br>Jim Krekorian<br>Steve Beatty     | Curtis Cheek<br>Peter Weichsel<br>Fred Stewart    |
| <b>Tulin</b>    | Gary Cohler, Capt<br>Alan Sontag<br>Kit Woolsey        | Stan Tulin<br>Ralph Katz<br>Bart Bramley          |
| <b>Wolfson</b>  | Jeff Wolfson, Capt<br>David Berkowitz<br>Mike Becker   | Steve Garner<br>Michael Kamil                     |



# Women's Teams Entered

|               |   |   |
|---------------|---|---|
| <b>Baker</b>  | Lynn Baker, Capt<br>Kerri Sanborn<br>Cecilia Dwyer Rimstedt<br>[alternate] Debbie Rosenberg | Olivia Schireson<br>Jill Meyers<br>Sandra Rimstedt<br>[alternate] Migry Campanile |
| <b>Cooper</b> | Kitty Cooper, Capt<br>Linda Lewis<br>Rozanne Pollack  | Lynne Feldman<br>Hjordis Eythorsdottir<br>Cheri Bjerkan                           |
| <b>Zhang</b>  | Susan Zhang, Capt<br>Janice Molson  | Sylvia Shi<br>Irina Levitina  |



## Open Team Tournament Schedule

| OPEN SCHEDULE  |       |   |  |
|--|-------|---|--|
| Day  | Date  | Time (CDT)  | Boards   |
| Round of 16 (if 14-16 teams enter; fewer than 14 will be rr with different schedule) |       |   |  |
| Wednesday  | May 1 | 10:00 - 12:00<br>12:15 - 2:15<br><br>3:30 - 5:30<br>5:45 - 7:45 | Segment 1 Boards 1-15<br>Segment 2 Boards 16-30<br>75 minute Lunch Break<br>Segment 3 Boards 31-45<br>Segment 4 Boards 46-60 |
| Thursday   | May 2 | 10:00 - 12:00<br>12:15 - 2:15<br><br>3:30 - 5:30<br>5:45 - 7:45 | Segment 5 Boards 1-15<br>Segment 6 Boards 16-30<br>75 minute Lunch Break<br>Segment 7 Boards 31-45<br>Segment 8 Boards 46-60 |
| Quarterfinal   |       |   |  |
| Friday   | May 3 | 10:00 - 12:00<br>12:15 - 2:15<br><br>3:30 - 5:30<br>5:45 - 7:45 | Segment 1 Boards 1-15<br>Segment 2 Boards 16-30<br>75 minute Lunch Break<br>Segment 3 Boards 31-45<br>Segment 4 Boards 46-60 |
| Saturday   | May 4 | 10:00 - 12:00<br>12:15 - 2:15<br><br>3:30 - 5:30<br>5:45 - 7:45 | Segment 5 Boards 1-15<br>Segment 6 Boards 16-30<br>75 minute Lunch Break<br>Segment 7 Boards 31-45<br>Segment 8 Boards 46-60 |
| Semifinal  |       |   |  |
| Sunday   | May 5 | 10:00 - 12:00<br>12:15 - 2:15<br><br>3:30 - 5:30<br>5:45 - 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       |
| Monday   | May 6 | 10:00 - 12:00<br>12:15 - 2:15<br><br>3:30 - 5:30<br>5:45 - 7:45 | Segment 5 Boards 1-15<br>Segment 6 Boards 16-30<br>75 minute Break<br>Segment 7 Boards 31-45<br>Segment 8 Boards 46-60       |
| Final  |       |   |  |
| Tuesday  | May 7 | 10:00 - 12:00<br>12:15 - 2:15<br><br>3:30 - 5:30<br>5:45 - 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       |
| Wednesday  | May 8 | 10:00 - 12:00<br>12:15 - 2:15<br><br>3:30 - 5:30<br>5:45 - 7:45 | Segment 5 Boards 1-15<br>Segment 6 Boards 16-30<br>75 minute Break<br>Segment 7 Boards 31-45<br>Segment 8 Boards 46-60       |

Location: TBD

### Lovebridge practice sessions

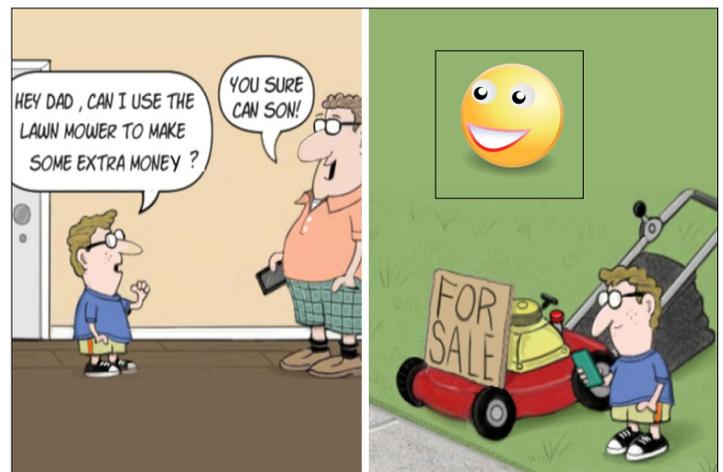
| Day       | Date     | Time (CDT)        |
|-----------|----------|-------------------|
| Tuesday   | April 30 | 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM |
| Thursday  | May 9    | 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM |
| Saturday  | May 18   | 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM |
| Wednesday | May 22   | 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM |

### PRE-TOURNAMENT CAPTAINS & PLAYERS MEETINGS

| On Zoom |                     |              |            |
|---------|---------------------|--------------|------------|
| Event   | Day                 | Date         | Time (CDT) |
| Open    | Tuesday             | April 30     | 9:00 PM    |
| Mixed   | Thursday            | May 9        | 9:00 PM    |
| Senior  | Saturday            | May 18       | 9:00 PM    |
| Women's | Monday or Wednesday | May 20 or 22 | 9:00 PM    |

## Mixed Team Tournament Schedule

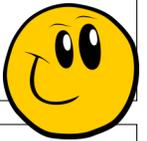
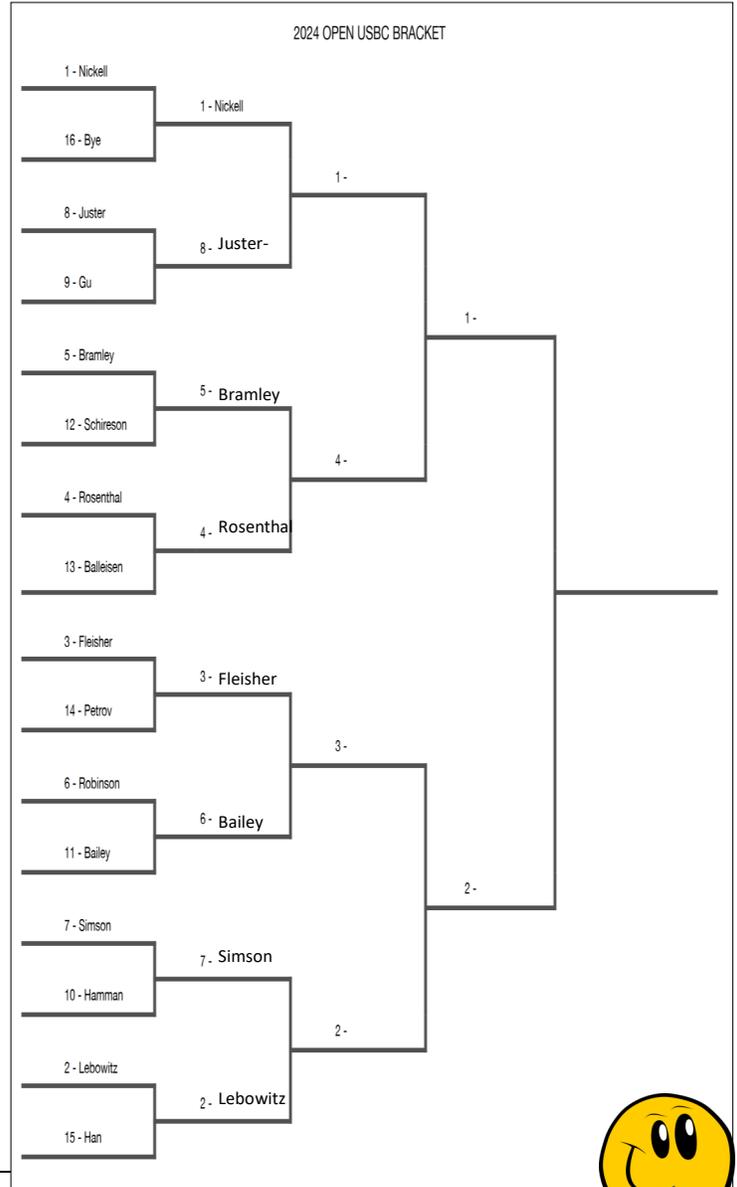
| Mixed Schedule  |        |   |   |
|---|--------|---|---|
| Round Robin or KO - Schedule will depend on number of teams |        |   |   |
| Day   | Date   | Time  | Boards  |
| Friday  | May 10 |   |   |
| Saturday  | May 11 |   |   |
| Quarterfinal  |        |   |   |
| Sunday  | May 12 | 10:00 - 12:00<br>12:15 - 2:15<br><br>3:30 - 5:30<br>5:45 - 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  |
| Monday  | May 13 | 10:00 - 12:00<br>12:15 - 2:15<br><br>3:30 - 5:30<br>5:45 - 7:45 | Segment 5 Boards 1-15<br>Segment 6 Boards 16-30<br>75 minute Break<br>Segment 7 Boards 31-45<br>Segment 8 Boards 46-60  |
| Semifinal   |        |   |   |
| Tuesday   | May 14 | 10:00 - 12:00<br>12:15 - 2:15<br><br>3:30 - 5:30<br>5:45 - 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  |
| Wednesday   | May 15 | 10:00 - 12:00<br>12:15 - 2:15<br><br>3:30 - 5:30<br>5:45 - 7:45 | Segment 5 Boards 1-15<br>Segment 6 Boards 16-30<br>75 minute Break<br>Segment 7 Boards 31-45<br>Segment 8 Boards 46-60  |
| Final   |        |   |   |
| Thursday  | May 16 | 10:00 - 12:00<br>12:15 - 2:15<br><br>3:30 - 5:30<br>5:45 - 7:45 | Segment 3 Boards 31-45<br>Segment 4 Boards 46-60<br>75 minute Break<br>Segment 5 Boards 61-75<br>Segment 6 Boards 76-90 |
| Friday  | May 17 | 10:00 - 12:00<br>12:15 - 2:15<br><br>3:30 - 5:30<br>5:45 - 7:45 | Segment 5 Boards 1-15<br>Segment 6 Boards 16-30<br>75 minute Break<br>Segment 7 Boards 31-45<br>Segment 8 Boards 46-60  |



A chicken said to me, "I can't find my eggs!"  
I replied, "You probably mislaid them!!"

# Senior Schedule

| SENIOR SCHEDULE   |        |   |  |
|---|--------|---|--|
| Round Robin or KO - Schedule will depend on number of teams |        |   |  |
| Day   | Date   | Time  | Boards   |
| Sunday  | May 19 |   |  |
| Monday  | May 20 |   |  |
| Quarterfinal  |        |   |  |
| Tuesday   | May 21 | 10:00 - 12:00<br>12:15 - 2:15<br><br>3:30 - 5:30<br>5:45 - 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 |
| Wednesday   | May 22 | 10:00 - 12:00<br>12:15 - 2:15<br><br>3:30 - 5:30<br>5:45 - 7:45 | Segment 5 Boards 1-15<br>Segment 6 Boards 16-30<br>75 minute Break<br>Segment 7 Boards 31-45<br>Segment 8 Boards 46-60 |
| Semifinal   |        |   |  |
| Thursday  | May 23 | 10:00 - 12:00<br>12:15 - 2:15<br><br>3:30 - 5:30<br>5:45 - 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 |
| Friday  | May 24 | 10:00 - 12:00<br>12:15 - 2:15<br>3:30 - 5:30<br>5:45 - 7:45     | Segment 5 Boards 1-15<br>Segment 6 Boards 16-30<br>75 minute Break<br>Segment 7 Boards 31-45<br>Segment 8 Boards 46-60 |
| Final   |        |   |  |
| Saturday  | May 25 | 10:00 - 12:00<br>12:15 - 2:15<br><br>3:30 - 5:30<br>5:45 - 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 |
| Sunday  | May 26 | 10:00 - 12:00<br>12:15 - 2:15<br><br>3:30 - 5:30<br>5:45 - 7:45 | Segment 5 Boards 1-15<br>Segment 6 Boards 16-30<br>75 minute Break<br>Segment 7 Boards 31-45<br>Segment 8 Boards 46-60 |



| Beth Palmer WOMEN'S SCHEDULE   |        |   |  |
|--|--------|---|--|
| Round Robin or Quarterfinal if 5-8 teams enter - schedule will depend on number of teams |        |   |  |
| Day  | Date   | Time  | Boards   |
| Tuesday  | May 21 |   |  |
| Wednesday  | May 22 |   |  |
| Semifinal  |        |   |  |
| Thursday   | May 23 | 10:00 - 12:00<br>12:15 - 2:15<br><br>3:30 - 5:30<br>5:45 - 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 |
| Friday   | May 24 | 10:00 - 12:00<br>12:15 - 2:15<br><br>3:30 - 5:30<br>5:45 - 7:45 | Segment 5 Boards 1-15<br>Segment 6 Boards 16-30<br>75 minute Break<br>Segment 7 Boards 31-45<br>Segment 8 Boards 46-60 |
| Final  |        |   |  |
| Saturday   | May 25 | 10:00 - 12:00<br>12:15 - 2:15<br><br>3:30 - 5:30<br>5:45 - 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 |
| Sunday   | May 26 | 10:00 - 12:00<br>12:15 - 2:15<br><br>3:30 - 5:30<br>5:45 - 7:45 | Segment 5 Boards 1-15<br>Segment 6 Boards 16-30<br>75 minute Break<br>Segment 7 Boards 31-45<br>Segment 8 Boards 46-60 |

# Beth Palmer Women's Schedule

**Physics Humor...**

Einstein developed a theory about space. And, it was about time!

A photon checks into a hotel. The bellhop asks, "Where's your luggage?" The photon replies, "I didn't bring luggage. I'm traveling light."

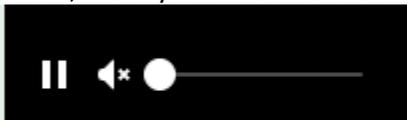
Q: How many general-relativity theorists does it take to change a light bulb?

A: Two. One to hold the bulb and one to rotate space.

A neutron walks into a bar and asks, "How much for a whiskey?" The bartender smiles and says, "For you, no charge."

## 2024 USBCs Kibitzing - There will be delayed kibitzing for all of the 2024 USBCs on LoveBridge

You can follow the USBC on the <https://vugraph.lovebridge.com/> website. 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. Click there to unmute. If you miss that icon, move your cursor to the bottom left of the screen and you should see a something like this:



Click on the speaker to unmute.

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

### Kibitzing Schedule (EDT)

For all KO days of the 2024 USBCs, kibitzing times will be :

Segment 1: 11:30 am EDT; Segment 2: 1:45 pm EDT

BREAK

Segment 3: 5:00 pm EDT; Segment 4: 7:15 pm EDT

For Round Robin days, each kibitzing segment will start 30 minutes after play starts. No voice for RR's.

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

**Deep Involvement:** Choose the "Match view" at the starting page of your event. Your screen will be divided into 4 small screens – 2 of them showing the 2 tables of the match you choose, the other 2 having the scoresheet for your match and the current scores of the other matches. In the 2x2 view you can 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.

### 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 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 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, the same buttons move you through the list.



I'd have finessed  
But Zia played ace.  
The stiff king off side  
Fell with great grace!

I'd have made less.  
Zia made more.  
That clearly explains  
How he gets the big  
score!



# Kibitzing...

## 2024 USBCs Hospitality

We are returning to our pre-pandemic hospitality, with the hospitality suite (room 2321) open most of the day for socializing, Vugraph, and snacks. We will be providing breakfast and lunch each **day of play**. Marie-France Benoit will be our lead hostess, with help from Jacob Morgan and Julie Arbit, who makes the best guacamole. If you're at the tournament and can volunteer to help with hospitality (pick up items at Costco or nearby stores or restaurants, preparing food) please let Jan or Marie-France know.

**Breakfast:** From 8-10 am. There will be the usual breakfast food: cereal, bagels, toast, salmon, fruit, juice, coffee and tea. For those who prefer Keurig coffee, that will be available. So long as the suite doesn't become too crowded, you are welcome to eat there. No masking requirement.

**Lunch:** On the first four days of each event we will be serving a buffet lunch in a hotel banquet room, usually the Slate and Cyan rooms at the front of the hotel; we will have signs in the Player Break Room and Hospitality Suite with daily location. The hotel will be supplying what they do best: salads and chips. We will be bringing in 2 or 3 hot dishes from a local restaurant each day. There should be enough room for you to eat in the hotel banquet room, but you are welcome to take food from there to an outside table or to your hotel room. Lunch will be served from about half an hour before the morning session is supposed to end until about half an hour after the afternoon session starts. After the first 4 days of each event, lunch will be available in the hospitality suite at the break. There will be a main dish (sandwiches, chicken, main dish salads, pizza) as well as tuna salad, green salad, cheese, fruit, berries, cookies or other desserts. Water and soft drinks will be available in refrigerators. As with breakfast, you are welcome to eat in the hospitality suite unless it is too crowded.

**Let us know** if you have specific needs. Our hosts will do their very best to accommodate you.

### 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 have bottled water in the Player's Break Room (1321), as well as soft drinks, Nespresso, some packaged snacks, and some fruit. Please keep your voices down in the Break Room where we are working.

Masks will be required in playing rooms **only if your screenmate asks you to wear one**. You do not have to put on a mask when you summon a director or ask for coffee, water or an escort outside to smoke.



Marie-France



Julie Arbit

**Crushing pop cans is soda pressing!**

**Should I call you or should we resolve things in a quick 200 texts?**

**Sign at the car dealer's: Free brake check. Stop here if you can!**



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

Sudoku 1

**Q: What 5-letter word typed in all capital letters can be read the same upside down?**

A: SWIMS.

**Q: The more you take, the more you leave behind. What am I?**

A: Footsteps.

**Q: What is more useful when it is broken?**

A: An egg.

**Q: I am easy to lift, but hard to throw. What am I?**

A: A feather.

**Q: Where do you take a sick boat?**

A: To the dock-tor.

**Q: Which fish is worth the most?**

A: A goldfish.

**Q: What goes up, but never comes down?**

A: Age.

**Q: A cowboy rode into town on Friday. He stayed for three nights and rode out on Friday. How is this possible?**

A: His horse's name is Friday.

**Q: What has a neck but no head?**

A: A bottle

**Q: What is full of holes but still holds water?**

A: A sponge

**Riddles...cont'd on page 16**



# Hard Sudoku

## Sudoku Solutions on Page 16

Sudoku 2

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

Please be "scent" sitive! Many players have allergies and have trouble breathing when perfumed aromas are present! Thank you!!



# Puzzle Page ...

## Beatles Songs 2

Find and circle all of the songs by The Beatles that are hidden in the grid.  
The remaining letters spell the name of an additional Beatles song.

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



I'd play up-  
side down  
but I'm the  
same both  
ways!!

|                |                 |                  |                |
|----------------|-----------------|------------------|----------------|
| ALL MY LOVING  | GIRL            | I'M SO TIRED     | PIGGIES        |
| AND I LOVE HER | GLASS ONION     | LET IT BE        | RAIN           |
| BECAUSE        | GOLDEN SLUMBERS | LOVE ME DO       | REVOLUTION     |
| BLUE JAY WAY   | GOOD NIGHT      | LOVE YOU TO      | ROCKY RACCOON  |
| COME TOGETHER  | HELP            | MAGGIE MAE       | SAVOY TRUFFLE  |
| DIG IT         | HELTER SKELTER  | MARTHA MY DEAR   | SHE LOVES YOU  |
| DOCTOR ROBERT  | HER MAJESTY     | NOWHERE MAN      | THE WORD       |
| DRIVE MY CAR   | I FEEL FINE     | OLD BROWN SHOE   | THIS BOY       |
| FOR NO ONE     | I NEED YOU      | PAPERBACK WRITER | WHAT GOES ON   |
| FOR YOU BLUE   | I'M A LOSER     | PENNY LANE       | WILD HONEY PIE |

I have a new theory on inertia... but it doesn't seem to be gathering momentum!

Q: What did the male magnet say to the female magnet?

A: Seeing you from the back, I thought you were repulsive. But seeing you from the front, I find you rather attractive.

**World Bridge Calendar (could be subject to change... from worldbridge.org)**  
**Apologizing to everyone but Limey Jack that the dates are written in "English!!"**

**World Bridge News**

**June 2024**

09jun 1st European Online Women's Team Championship  
 24jun-27 European Women's & Senior's National Pairs  
 24 jun-04 jul European National Team Championships  
 24jun-04 jul European National Teams Championship

**July 2024**

07jul- 12 July European Youth Bridge Team Championships  
 18jul-28 July 28 Summer NABC

**September 2024**

16sep- 21 September The HCL International Teams  
 25sep- 30 September 41st Jordan International Bridge Festival  
 27sep-29 Vilnius Cup

**October 2024**

09oct- November 11 European Small Federation Games  
**22 oct-05nov2024 World Bridge Games**  
 November 2024  
 14nov-16 European Bridge Champions Cup  
 28nov-08dec Fall NABC



**June 2025**

21jun-05jul European Transnational Championships

**Event Details**

The European Transnational Championships will take place from June 21 to July 5, 2025 and will be hosted at the Poznań International Fair (Międzynarodowe Targi Poznańskie), Poland's largest industrial fair venue.

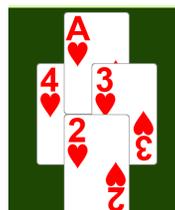
Further information:

<http://www.eurobridge.org/2024/02/11/european-transnational-championships-2025/>

On this hand from pre-USBC practice, Ralph Katz and Bobby Levin combined to reach the par result! After 2 passes, Greco opened a 3rd seat 1D... it could have been better or it could have been worse! Nickell doubled; Levin bid 1H and Katz overcalled 1S on his 4-card, 7-high suit and four-triple-three distribution at unfavorable. Greco passed; and Nick, holding a GREAT hand for spades, jumped to game. Nick was on point as his side could collect exactly ten tricks in spades!

Levin was having no part of this. His side was at favorable and he took full advantage by bidding 5D. Katz did not want his partner to bid more spades and he held enough defense with his strong club holding to double.

Nickell led the SK. Greco won the ace and played a small heart toward dummy, creating this wish trick! →



Nickell won the heart ace and led a small diamond, won with dummy's ten. Greco went into a heart/spade cross-ruff, conceding down two for -300 and a good save against the vulnerable game!

|  |                                    |  |                              |
|--|------------------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| x [pen] ♠ KQ1043<br>Bd 18, Dlr E<br>5♦ X-2 W<br>W eric greco |                                    | ♥ AK85<br>♦ 5<br>♣ K53                                 | N Frickell<br>Robert Levin E |
| ♠ A98<br>♥ 4<br>♦ AQ73<br>♣ 98762                            |                                    | ♠ J<br>♥ QJ973<br>♦ KJ1086<br>♣ 104                    |                              |
| [score: 0] [score: 0]<br>[arrow]                             | ♠ 7652<br>♥ 1062<br>♦ 942<br>♣ AQJ | W N E S<br>P P P P<br>1♦ X 1♥ 1♠<br>P 4♠ 5♦ X<br>P P P |                              |
| Ralph Katz S   |                                    |  |                              |

**It's Par for the Course**

Why shouldn't pigs drive? They hog the road.  
 Did you hear about interrupting cow? What interr...MOO!  
 How does Darth Vader like his bagels toasted? On the dark side.  
 Why can't leopards hide? They're always spotted.  
 What's the best way to cook an alligator? In a croc-pot.  
 How much do dead batteries cost? Nothing. They're free of charge.  
 Why are owls so carefree? Because they don't give a hoot.  
 Humpty Dumpty had a great fall. Spring was pretty good, too.  
 I never really liked facial hair. But now it's starting to grow on me.  
 Why did the pony need a glass of water? Because it was a little horse.  
 Did you hear about the book on glue? You can't put it down.  
 Did you hear about the frustrated doctor? He lost his patients.  
 Why do cows wear bells? Their horns don't work.  
 What did one eye say to the other? "Between you and me, something smells."  
 What's the best way to attract a squirrel? Act like a nut.  
 I'm afraid of escalators, so I take steps to avoid them.  
 Why are snowmen so easy to get along with you? Because they're very chill.  
 Why do vampires use breath mints? Because they have bat breath.  
 Why did the rabbit go to the salon? It was having a bad hare day.  
 What's the best way to spot a baby snake? Look for its rattle.  
 Why shouldn't you play games with big cats? Because sometimes they're cheetahs.  
 I'm on a seafood diet. When I see food, I eat it.  
 Why did the invisible man quit his job? He just couldn't see himself doing it.  
 What did the credit card say after being arrested? "Guilty as charged."  
 Did you hear about baker that got dough for his birthday? It was just what he kneaded.  
 What do you call a police officer that won't get out of bed? An undercover cop.  
 How should you properly address a hippie's mom? Call her Mississippi.  
 Did you hear the one about the peach? It's pitiful.  
 What happens to cows that get too much sun? They turn into evaporated milk.  
 Did you hear about the rowboat that sank? It was an oar-deal.  
 Why shouldn't you tell jokes about pole vaulters? They never go over very well.  
 Why should you hang sweaters together in the closet? They're very close knit.  
 Did you hear the joke about breakfast? It was eggs-cellent.  
 Why can't you send custodians into space? Because they always scrub the mission.  
 Why can't you tell pigs secrets? They always squeal.  
 Did you hear about the dinosaur car accident? It was a tyrannosaurus wrecks.  
 Where can you find horses? In a neigh-borhood.  
 Did you hear about the cow that couldn't produce milk? It was an udder disaster.  
 Did you hear about the frog that lost its car? Apparently, it got toad.  
 Why don't ants get sick? They have anty-bodies.  
 What do you give a thirsty crocodile? Gater-aid.  
 What do you call a sleeping cow? A bulldozer.  
 Why did the cat go to the vet? It wasn't feline well.  
 What's weirder than seeing a catfish? Watching a goldfish bowl.  
 What did the beaver say to the tree? "It was nice knawing you."  
 A diner says to the waiter, "Will the pizza be long?" The waiter replies, "No. It'll be round."  
 Where do birds go on vacation? Someplace cheep.  
 What's a balloon's least favorite kind of music? Pop.

# Pun-ishment!



For those of you who are interested, Ela has agreed to come to the Hyatt to provide massages any day that we have 3 or more people who want her. So if you want a massage, please let me know a day or two in advance, including what your timing is, and I'll try to make things work.

For now, Ela said she could come on April 30th for anyone who wants a post-flight, pre-tournament massage. So if you want one, please let me know and tell me what time(s) would work for you.

I think Ela still charges \$100 for an hour. She'll be setting her table up in my room (5117) and will have a key so she can get in and can the let you in when it's your turn. Any questions, let Jan know!

**Massage Therapist  
message from Jan**

# Logic Puzzle Page

|            |                 | First Names |      |         |       | Detectives |            |        |                 | Nicknames |        |      |         |
|------------|-----------------|-------------|------|---------|-------|------------|------------|--------|-----------------|-----------|--------|------|---------|
|            |                 | Arianna     | Cali | Eduardo | Jayda | Nancy Drew | Nero Wolfe | Poirot | Sherlock Holmes | Cueball   | Shades | Tiny | Wolfman |
| Ages       | 25              |             |      |         |       |            |            |        |                 |           |        |      |         |
|            | 31              |             |      |         |       |            |            |        |                 |           |        |      |         |
|            | 39              |             |      |         |       |            |            |        |                 |           |        |      |         |
|            | 68              |             |      |         |       |            |            |        |                 |           |        |      |         |
| Nicknames  | Cueball         |             |      |         |       |            |            |        |                 |           |        |      |         |
|            | Shades          |             |      |         |       |            |            |        |                 |           |        |      |         |
|            | Tiny            |             |      |         |       |            |            |        |                 |           |        |      |         |
|            | Wolfman         |             |      |         |       |            |            |        |                 |           |        |      |         |
| Detectives | Nancy Drew      |             |      |         |       |            |            |        |                 |           |        |      |         |
|            | Nero Wolfe      |             |      |         |       |            |            |        |                 |           |        |      |         |
|            | Poirot          |             |      |         |       |            |            |        |                 |           |        |      |         |
|            | Sherlock Holmes |             |      |         |       |            |            |        |                 |           |        |      |         |

## Answers to Puzzle on Page 16

| Ages | First Names | Detectives | Nicknames |
|------|-------------|------------|-----------|
| 25   |             |            |           |
| 31   |             |            |           |
| 39   |             |            |           |
| 68   |             |            |           |

- The 68 year-old has the nickname Shades.
- The person whose favorite detective is Nancy Drew is younger than Arianna.
- The person nicknamed Wolfman is younger than Jayda.
- The person nicknamed Cueball is not Cali.
- Of Arianna and the person whose favorite detective is Sherlock Holmes, one has the nickname Wolfman and the other has the nickname Cueball.
- Either the person whose favorite detective is Nancy Drew or the person whose favorite detective is Sherlock Holmes is Cali.
- The 68 year-old is not Eduardo.
- The 31 year-old loves Poirot mysteries.
- The person nicknamed Wolfman doesn't enjoy Sherlock Holmes mysteries.

As I put my car into reverse this morning, I thought, "This takes me back!"  
 If you get a message from me about canned meat, DO NOT OPEN IT! It's SPAM!!  
 When I was younger, I trained to be an Ice Cream Man! I went to Sundae School!!



# Meet the Players



**Adam Wildavsky**, born in 1960, grew up in Berkeley, CA and now resides primarily in New York City. A graduate of M.I.T., he pursued a career as a software engineer and in 2013 retired from a position with Google GmbH in Zürich.

Since 1983, Adam has served in administrative positions in the New England Bridge Conference, the Greater New York Bridge Association, ACBL District 17, the ACBL itself, and the USBF.

He was elected as a member of the Executive Council in 2019 and chairs the WBF Rules and Regulations Committee. He also serves on the WBF Management Committee, the WBF Technology Committee, the WBF Statutes and By-laws Committee, the USBF Conditions of Contest Committee, and the ACBL Laws Commission. In 2022 he was unanimously elected to the position of Honorary Secretary of the WBF by the WBF Executive Council.

Adam has written articles for a number of publications, including *The Bridge World*, *Bridge Today*, and the ACBL Bulletin. He serves as an editor and panellist for the ACBL's appeals casebooks. He was a member of the winning squad in the US Bridge Championships in 2003 and 2009, earning a Bronze medal in the Bermuda Bowl 2003.

In bridge and in life, Adam follows the philosophy of Russian-American author Ayn Rand. He has written about the connection between Rand and bridge on his website, [www.tameware.com](http://www.tameware.com)

In life, Adam has a wonderful girlfriend, an excellent, thoughtful bridge player in her own right, Hong Ding. While Adam is a member of the Hamman team in the Open event at this USBC, he is also a member of the Ding team in the mixed where he will be playing with Hong.

Besides bridge, Adam likes to travel, to ski and to dance. Last year he took a serious fall while skiing, but is back on his feet and is almost certain to return to the slopes!

Adam also does a great job informing the New York Bridge "Group" of breaking news as it's happening.



At the recent European Championships!



# Tom Swifties...

"I'm wearing a ribbon round my arm," said Tom with abandon.  
"I'm concerned about the number of people not attending," said Tom absentmindedly.  
"I like modern painting," said Tom abstractly.  
"Now I have the tools to chop down that tree," said Tom with a heavy accent.  
"This salad dressing has too much vinegar," said Tom acidly.  
"There's room for one more," Tom admitted.  
"Here's your allowance for the next two weeks," Tom advanced.  
"I'd like to eat seventeen cakes," Tom agreed.  
"I'm halfway up a mountain," Tom alleged.  
"There's no need for silence," Tom allowed.  
"It's a unit of electric current," said Tom amply.  
"These propulsion systems were used by NASA on moon rockets," said Tom apologetically.  
"I compliment the company that makes the Macintosh computer," said Tom applauding.  
"We can't have this and eat it too," said Tom archaically.  
"It's an actual parameter, not a formal parameter," was Tom's argument.  
"You have the right to remain silent," said Tom arrestingly.  
"Someday I'll run the CIA," said Tom aspiringly.  
"I've mailed the letter," Tom assented.  
"I decided which car to purchase after looking at the pictures," said Tom autobiographically.  
"This boat is leaking," said Tom balefully.  
"Give me a haircut," Tom said barbarously.  
"I've been listening to the Brandenburg Concertos," Tom barked.  
"This is the most common language used on micros," said Tom basically.  
"I'm losing my hair," Tom bawled.  
"Ouch! When I get stung, I want revenge," said Tom begrudgingly.  
"I'm sure we can fool them into thinking this is pollen," said Tom beguilingly.  
"I wonder why the hive's still empty," said Tom belatedly.  
"I have to keep this fire alight," Tom bellowed.  
"Why shouldn't I stir my coffee with a ballpoint pen?" Tom bickered.  
"These bit patterns will be more readable in groups of 8," said Tom bitingly.  
"I've only enough carpet for the hall and landing," said Tom with a blank stare.  
"... " said Tom blankly.  
"I need a pencil sharpener," said Tom bluntly.  
"This wind is awful," blustered Tom.  
"I think I'll use a different font," said Tom boldly.  
"Are you all governors?" Tom asked, bored.  
"I still haven't struck oil," said Tom boringly.  
"This is mutiny!" said Tom bountifully.  
"I presented my case to the judge," Tom said briefly.  
"This blood-sucking insect likes French cheese," said Tom briefly.  
"Use your own toothbrush!" Tom bristled.  
"Rowing hurts my hands," said Tom callously.  
"I have been reading Voltaire," Tom admitted candidly.  
"I've been to a film festival in Southern France," said Tom cannily.  
"I can't be bothered," said Tom carelessly.  
"I don't work here on a regular basis," said Tom casually.



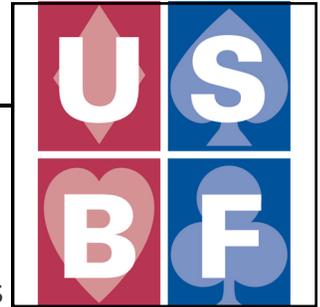
|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 8 | 2 | 9 | 1 | 4 | 5 | 7 | 3 | 6 |
| 6 | 1 | 3 | 8 | 2 | 7 | 5 | 4 | 9 |
| 5 | 7 | 4 | 6 | 3 | 9 | 2 | 8 | 1 |
| 7 | 8 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 6 | 4 | 9 | 3 |
| 4 | 6 | 5 | 9 | 7 | 3 | 8 | 1 | 2 |
| 3 | 9 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 8 | 6 | 5 | 7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

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

# Sudoku Answers Puzzles on Page 9

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.

**Q: How do you spell COW in thirteen letters?**

A: SEE O DOUBLE YOU.

**Q: Why is Europe like a frying pan?**

A: Because it has Greece at the bottom.

**Q: I am an odd number. Take away one letter and I become even. What am I?**

A: Seven

**Q: If 2 is company and 3's a crowd, what are 4 and 5?**

A: 9

### Answer to Logic Puzzle

#### On Page 13

|    |         |                 |         |
|----|---------|-----------------|---------|
| 68 | Jayda   | Nero Wolfe      | Shades  |
| 39 | Eduardo | Sherlock Holmes | Cueball |
| 31 | Arianna | Poirot          | Wolfman |
| 25 | Calli   | Nancy Drew      | Tiny    |

**THE ONE WITHOUT  
A MUSTACHE  
IN A STANDARD DECK,  
HE'S BEEN SAID  
TO HAVE REPRESENTED  
CHARLEMAGNE**

On Jeopardy on Wednesday...  
Bridge players should know this...



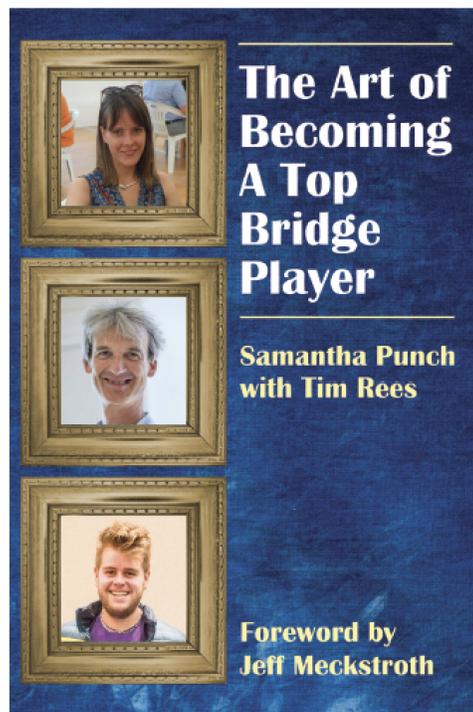
*New Release*

# The Art of Becoming a Top Bridge Player

Samantha Punch with Tim Rees

If you are not familiar with Samantha (Sam) Punch, you really should be. Sam is a remarkable women working to insure the preservation of bridge! She has done incredible studies on relevant bridge statistics and uses her expertise to analyze and evaluate the data. Her new book rates to be great reading. It is on sale now at Amazon. Buy one before you next see her at an NABC or at a European tournament and maybe she will autograph it for you!!

Sam is Scottish. She plays in international competition. You will really appreciate her insights!



*What an interesting read - the inner story of the challenges of being a top bridge player. Whether you are one yourself, or an aspiring bridge player near the start of your journey, you will find Sam and Tim's insights absolutely fascinating.*

— Andrew Robson

*This book is a treasure chest of information that can improve anyone's bridge game, regardless of their skill level. Reading how so many great players approach different aspects of the game is not only interesting, but highly educational.* — Roy Welland

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Dr Samantha Punch has interviewed many of the world's top bridge players. In this book they reveal their views of the non-technical aspects of the game, including coping with mistakes and emotions, how to become a good partner, dealing with pressure and coping with loss.

US\$19.95 | GBP 15.95  
978-1-77140-264-4

Available to order today from your favourite bookstore.



Master Point Press

2024 Open United States Bridge Championship - Round of 16 Day 2

Board 42, Closed Room, Segment 7 of the 2024 Open USBC USA match between Gu and Juster

Table Director: Chris Wiegand

Table Result: 4S N -3 -300

Committee Result: Table result stands. 4S N -300

# Appeal #1

## 2024 USBC

**The play to 4S was as follows:**

- DK, 3, 5 S5
- C2, 7, K, 6
- S2, 3, J, 8
- SA, H2, 6, 4
- CA, 4, 3, ST
- SK, 7, H5, SQ
- D4, **S9**, D5 DJ
- CT, **CJ**, C5\*, D6



At this juncture, the director was summoned to the table. Declarer claimed that he misclicked because he could not see (declarer does suffer from vision issues) and intended to play the CQ, not the C5.

**Director's Determination of Facts:**

- The card played (C5) was not immediately adjacent to the card asserted as intended (CQ) on the screen.
- Declarer was using a mouse rather than the touchpad or a stylus on the touchscreen.
- Declarer has our recommended settings of Drag-and-Drop turned on. This means that declarer clicked on the C5 and dragged it to the target in the middle of the table, waited until the target changed color, and released the card. (It is similar in face-to-face play to a declarer reaching across to pick up the C5 and put it in the "middle" of the table.)

**Table Director's Ruling:**

Prior to making the table ruling, the Director inquired as to how declarer would play the hand if the card played were changed to the CQ. Declarer gave his assertions about the play at that point and his intended line (see second bullet below).

*(Continued on page 19)*

Per Law 45.C.3 [CARD PLAYED.Card Deemed to be Played]

*A card in the dummy is played if it has been deliberately touched by declarer except for the purpose either of arranging dummy's cards, or of reaching a card above or below the card or cards touched.*

The director ruled that the actions required to maneuver the card into the middle of the table showed "deliberate touching." Further, since they were not adjacent (a card to the left or right of intended card when the Law is translated to the playing environment), it was determined that the C5 was played.

Director resumed play with the C5 played at that point.

**Appeal:** Appellant Smith (in consultation with partner, Kolesnik and team captain Gu) asked for an appeal of the director's determination about intent of the card played. Smith asserted the following:

- Recent eye problems (well-documented) make vision difficult, and he has trouble seeing the cards.
- At the time of the incident, he had already solved the problem of the hand ("run the clubs in dummy then end East (opening bidder) with the DA so that he would have to lead from his HK").
- This makes the declarer's intent clear that he intended the CQ not the C5

**Committee's Decision\*:** The committee analyzed that there were two items to consider. 1) The applicable laws for the ruling of whether the CQ or the C5 should be played (slip of the hand vs slip of concentration), subject to USBF Conditions of Contest and 2) only IF they would allow the CQ play, what the likely result would be, and potentially weighted results based upon likely play at that point.

The committee reviewed relevant laws and asked about prior rulings/case law about the way these situations were handled. DiC Myers asserted that as a general rule, we would allow the adjacent card to be changed, but not a card that was two or more away from the intended card. Further, they practiced the action of dragging and dropping with a mouse on a device. It was the determination of the committee that the play of C5 was more likely to be a slip of concentration than a slip of the mouse.

**Table result stands. The appeal was considered to have merit.**

\*Note that since the incident occurred relatively late in the 7th segment of 8, play resumed for 8th segment while the Committee held their deliberations. TD McKenzie Myers asserted the above bullet points with complainant Smith's permission.

## **USBF General Conditions**

### **XIV.SPECIAL RULES FOR ELECTRONIC FACE-TO-FACE PLAY**

#### **D. Undos for Misclicks Will be Allowed**

Any player who accidentally clicks on the wrong bid or card ("misclick") may ask for an undo and shall summon the director to rule on whether it should be allowed. The request for an undo must be made before the partner of the person requesting the undo has acted.

#### **G. Modification of Laws**

LAW 45, 46, and 47: An unintended played card ("misclick") by declarer or a defender will be treated as in Law 45D1: The card must be withdrawn if attention is drawn to it before each side has played to the next trick; cards played subsequent to the unintended played card may be withdrawn. Information from all such withdrawn cards is deemed to be unauthorized to the side with the unintended played card, and authorized to the other side.

**Appeal Committee: Brad Moss, Will Watson, Chip Martel**

BOARD: 2  
 DEALER: EAST  
 VULNERABLE: N-S

♠ KJ  
 ♥ 5  
 ♦ A9843  
 ♣ KQJ75

♠ AQ74  
 ♥ 6  
 ♦ J75  
 ♣ AT963

♠ 965  
 ♥ Q8743  
 ♦ KT  
 ♣ 842

Par: 600

|    |   |    |   |   |   |
|----|---|----|---|---|---|
|    | ♣ | ♦  | ♥ | ♠ | N |
| N  | 8 | 10 | 9 | 8 | 9 |
| S  | 7 | :  | : | 7 | : |
| EW | 5 | 3  | 4 | 5 | 4 |

♠ T832  
 ♥ AKJT92  
 ♦ Q62  
 ♣

Game was a given on Board 2 of the first day of the Quarterfinals (Welcome Team Nickell!). Which game was the question. 3 pairs found the cold 3NT while 5 of their counterparts found the doomed 4H.

Against 3NT, Greco, E, led the S6 to Hampson's ace. Hampson tried the CT, declarer winning the king. Declarer played a small diamond toward the queen, effectively setting up four diamond tricks when the suit split 3-2.

|   | Home team | Visiting team | Room   | By | =    | IMP |     |    |
|---|-----------|---------------|--------|----|------|-----|-----|----|
|   |           |               |        |    |      | NS  | EW  |    |
| 1 | Nickell   | Juster        | Open   | 4♥ | N ♠5 | -1  | 100 | 12 |
|   |           |               | Closed | 3N | N ♠6 | =   | 600 |    |
| 2 | Lebowitz  | Simson        | Open   | 3N | N ♣2 | +1  | 630 | 12 |
|   |           |               | Closed | 4♥ | S ♥6 | -1  | 100 |    |
| 3 | Fleisher  | Bailey        | Open   | 4♥ | S ♣A | =   | 620 | -  |
|   |           |               | Closed | 3N | N ♣8 | +1  | 630 |    |
| 4 | Rosenthal | Bramley       | Open   | 4♥ | S ♦J | -2  | 200 | 3  |
|   |           |               | Closed | 4♥ | S ♠A | -1  | 100 |    |

Greco won his DK and tried another small spade. Declarer won the king and played a high club to Hampson's ace. Hampson cashed his high spade but that was the last trick for the defense. Declarer collected 4 diamonds, two spades, three hearts, and a club for nine!

Play was similar at the other 3NT tables. However, when declarer received the club lead, they scored ten for +630.

| Lien | Grue | Jones | Moss |
|------|------|-------|------|
| W    | N    | E     | S    |
|      |      | PASS  | 1♥   |
| DBL  | RDBL | 1NT   | 2♥   |
| PASS | 4♥   | PASS  | PASS |
| PASS |      |       |      |

One only declarer was successful in 4H and that was Brad Moss in Fleisher/Bailey. It wasn't so much the declarer play as it was the opening lead.

Following the auction on the left, Owen Lien, W, chose to lead the CA!! Only two of his 13 choices would allow declarer to succeed: one was the SQ... and that wasn't happening!! The other was the CA. Brad ruffed CA played a small spade to dummy's king. He played the SJ to Lien's ace and Lien tracked his singleton trump. Moss won the H9, cashed the HA getting the news! He played a diamond to the ace, cashed the king and queen of clubs, pitching his spades. He played the CJ and when Jones ruffed, Brad overruffed.

Brad ducked a diamond around to Jones's king and Jones played a spade which Moss ruffed in hand. At this point, Brad had 9 tricks in and was still holding the good king of trump!

Push board when N/S in the other room played in 3NT.

BOARD: 3  
 DEALER: SOUTH  
 VULNERABLE: E-W

♠ AQ98  
 ♥ J  
 ♦ AKQ2  
 ♣ KT73

♠ K763  
 ♥ AKQ  
 ♦ T63  
 ♣ QJ5

♠ 54  
 ♥ 9642  
 ♦ J987  
 ♣ 982

Par: 420

|   |    |   |    |    |   |
|---|----|---|----|----|---|
|   | ♣  | ♦ | ♥  | ♠  | N |
| N | 10 | 9 | 9  | 10 | 9 |
| S | :  | : | 10 | :  | : |
| E | 3  | 4 | 3  | 2  | 3 |
| W | :  | : | :  | :  | 4 |

♠ JT2  
 ♥ T8753  
 ♦ 54  
 ♣ A64

What a diabolical hand on Board 3!

Four E/W pairs went 1100 at the two-level!

It would seem likely there would be crazy distribution to see such scores, but in this case, it was the HCP between West and North... not so much the distribution... that did it!

| Home team   | Visiting team | Room   | By  | = | NS | EW | Home | Vis | IMP |
|-------------|---------------|--------|-----|---|----|----|------|-----|-----|
| 1 Nickell   | Juster        | Open   | 1N  | W | ♦Q | -3 | 300  |     | 4   |
|             |               | Closed | 2♠  | N | ♠4 | +2 | 170  |     |     |
| 2 Lebowitz  | Simson        | Open   | 2♥x | W | ♥J | -4 | 1100 |     | 13  |
|             |               | Closed | 1N  | W | ♦A | -3 | 300  |     |     |
| 3 Fleisher  | Bailey        | Open   | 2♦x | E | ♦4 | -4 | 1100 |     | 13  |
|             |               | Closed | 1N  | W | ♦Q | -3 | 300  |     |     |
| 4 Rosenthal | Bramley       | Open   | 2♦x | E | ♦4 | -4 | 1100 |     | -   |
|             |               | Closed | 2♥x | E | ♥3 | -4 | 1100 |     |     |

North has a strong enough hand to double almost anything... hearts for takeout or spades, diamonds and clubs for penalty.

And when North doubled hearts for takeout as in Lebowitz/Simson (see auction below left), South happily sat for penalty with his 5-card trump holding.

|         |           |        |        |
|---------|-----------|--------|--------|
| Rodwell | Michael R | Simson | Zach G |
| W       | N         | E      | S      |
| 1NT     | DBL       | PASS   | PASS   |
| RDBL    | PASS      | 2♦     | PASS   |
| 2♥      | DBL       | PASS   | PASS   |
| PASS    |           |        |        |

1NT=14-16  
 P=NOT pointed or rounded  
 XX=forced or any suit bid is at least 5 cards long

In this match, Lebowitz/Simpson, Michael Rosenberg led the HJ to Rodwell's ace. Rodwell played the S7 to Zach's ten. Zach continued the heart attack. Rodwell played the S6 yielding to Zach's SJ. Zach played another heart. The S3 went to Michael's queen and dummy trumped. The D9 rode to the queen and the DAK were cashed. Rosenberg played the SA and Rodwell cried, "Uncle!"

Contract down 4 for -1100 E/W  
 13 IMPs to Lebowitz

In Rosenthal/Bramley, Woolsey/Bramley found themselves in 2DX on this auction:

|         |       |         |         |
|---------|-------|---------|---------|
| Woolsey | Demuy | Bramley | Kranyak |
| W       | N     | E       | S       |
|         |       |         | PASS    |
| 1NT     | DBL   | 2♦      | DBL     |
| PASS    | PASS  | PASS    |         |

1NT=14-16  
 2D=diamonds + a major

Kranyak led the D4. Demuy won the king and cashed his ace and queen. He played the C7 to Kranyak's ace. John tracked the SJ which held. The ST maintained the lead with South who continued with the S2 to North's queen, ruffed with the last trump standing. Bramley played a heart to dummy and claimed 4 total tricks!

Different contract... same result... down 4 for -1100 E/W

Push board when Platnick/K Rosenberg played in 2HX at the other table!

Poor Kevin defeated Mom in the round of 16 to get Dad in the Quarterfinals!

BOARD: 6  
 DEALER: EAST  
 VULNERABLE: E-W

♠ AK3  
 ♥ 87  
 ♦ T9542  
 ♣ KT6

♠ 9842  
 ♥ A954  
 ♦ AJ  
 ♣ A42

♠ QJT7  
 ♥ KQ6  
 ♦ Q87  
 ♣ QJ7

Par: -620

|    |   |   |   |    |   |
|----|---|---|---|----|---|
|    | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠  | N |
| NS | 5 | 6 | 4 | 3  | 4 |
| EW | 8 | 7 | 9 | 10 | 8 |

♠ 65  
 ♥ JT32  
 ♦ K63  
 ♣ 9853

Board 6 is the antithesis of Board 2. Here, 3NT fails while 4S is cold!

Interestingly, the choice between strains was split evenly at 4 for NT and 4 for spades in this scenario.

Note: both tables in Nickell/Juster chose the successful 4S while both tables in Rosenthal/Bramley chose the doomed 3NT.

And both Lebowitz/Simson and Fleisher/Bailey swung 12 IMPs when the counterparts were inconsistent with one another!

| Home team |           | Visiting team |  | Room   | By | = | ★  | IMP |     |    |
|-----------|-----------|---------------|--|--------|----|---|----|-----|-----|----|
|           |           |               |  |        |    |   |    | NS  | EW  |    |
| 1         | Nickell   | Juster        |  | Open   | 4♠ | E | ♣5 | =   | 620 | -  |
|           |           |               |  | Closed | 4♠ | E | ♣3 | =   | 620 | -  |
| 2         | Lebowitz  | Simson        |  | Open   | 4♠ | E | ♣5 | =   | 620 | -  |
|           |           |               |  | Closed | 3N | E | ♦3 | -1  | 100 | 12 |
| 3         | Fleisher  | Bailey        |  | Open   | 3N | E | ♦3 | -1  | 100 | 12 |
|           |           |               |  | Closed | 4♠ | W | ♦2 | =   | 620 | -  |
| 4         | Rosenthal | Bramley       |  | Open   | 3N | E | ♦3 | -1  | 100 | -  |
|           |           |               |  | Closed | 3N | E | ♦3 | -1  | 100 | -  |

The play in spades is simple. N/S will collect the two high spades and the CK because the finesse in clubs fails. Trumps split. N/S has all the boss hearts and the diamond finesse for works. Success!

The diamond lead against the NT game squelches all hope for 9 tricks with the DAJ lying doubleton. Before E/W can set up 9 tricks, N/S has enough entries to set up their diamonds. 12 IMPs to Simson and Fleisher; Pushes in the other 2 matches.

Identical auctions in Nickell/Juster, both pairs playing Precision:

| Dwyer Weinstein Huang Levin |      |                 |      |
|-----------------------------|------|-----------------|------|
| W                           | N    | E               | S    |
|                             |      | 1♦ <sup>+</sup> | PASS |
| 1♥                          | PASS | 1♠              | PASS |
| 4♠                          | PASS | PASS            | PASS |

| Hampson Passell Greco Goodman |      |                 |      |
|-------------------------------|------|-----------------|------|
| W                             | N    | E               | S    |
|                               |      | 1♦ <sup>+</sup> | PASS |
| 1♥                            | PASS | 1♠              | PASS |
| 4♠                            | PASS | PASS            | PASS |

The auctions in Rosenthal/Bramley, the other push match. Non-identical systems but equally effective ( or ineffective in this case??):

| Woolsey Demuy Bramley Kranyak |      |      |      |
|-------------------------------|------|------|------|
| W                             | N    | E    | S    |
|                               |      | 1♦   | PASS |
| 1♥                            | PASS | 1NT  | PASS |
| 2♦ <sup>+</sup>               | PASS | 2♥   | PASS |
| 2♠ <sup>+</sup>               | PASS | 3♣   | PASS |
| 3♦ <sup>+</sup>               | PASS | 3♥   | PASS |
| 3NT                           | PASS | PASS | PASS |

| Wolpert Platnick Willenken Kevin R |      |     |      |
|------------------------------------|------|-----|------|
| W                                  | N    | E   | S    |
|                                    |      | 1♣  | PASS |
| 1♥                                 | PASS | 1NT | PASS |
| 2♦ <sup>+</sup>                    | PASS | 2♥  | PASS |
| 2NT                                | PASS | 3NT | PASS |
| PASS                               | PASS |     |      |

2D=GF relay  
 2H=3 hearts  
 2S=relay  
 3C=one of several shapes  
 3D=relay  
 3H=4-3-3-3



If you ask me, Here's what me thinks...  
 Winning IMPs sweet!  
 Losing IMPs stinks!

BOARD: 9  
 DEALER: NORTH  
 VULNERABLE: E-W

♠ 86  
 ♥ J2  
 ♦ QJ642  
 ♣ J853

♠ KJ42  
 ♥ 843  
 ♦ KT753  
 ♣ 6

♠ A97  
 ♥ AKT5  
 ♦ 98  
 ♣ KQ42

Par: -140

|    | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | N |
|----|---|---|---|---|---|
| NS | 5 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 5 |
| E  | 7 | 8 | 9 | 9 | 8 |
| W  | : | : | 8 | 8 | : |

♠ QT53  
 ♥ Q976  
 ♦ A  
 ♣ AT97

| Home team |           | Visiting team |  | Room   | By  | = | ★  | IMP |     |      |          |
|-----------|-----------|---------------|--|--------|-----|---|----|-----|-----|------|----------|
|           |           |               |  |        |     |   |    | NS  | EW  | Home | Visiting |
| 1         | Nickell   | Juster        |  | Open   | 2♥  | E | ♥6 | =   | 110 | -    | -        |
|           |           |               |  | Closed | 2♥  | E | ♠3 | =   | 110 |      |          |
| 2         | Lebowitz  | Simson        |  | Open   | 2♣x | S | ♣6 | -1  | 100 | 2    |          |
|           |           |               |  | Closed | 1N  | E | ♠3 | +2  | 150 |      |          |
| 3         | Fleisher  | Bailey        |  | Open   | 3N  | E | ♠3 | =   | 600 |      | 10       |
|           |           |               |  | Closed | 2♥  | E | ♦A | +2  | 170 |      |          |
| 4         | Rosenthal | Bramley       |  | Open   | 2♦  | E | ♦A | -1  | 100 |      | 6        |
|           |           |               |  | Closed | 2♥  | E | ♦A | +1  | 140 |      |          |

Only one (E/W) pair in eight bid game on this hand. The others stopped at the 2-level. Owen Lien and Aaron Jones of the Bailey squad had the following auction to game versus Fleisher:

Lien    Grue    Jones    Moss

| W                | N    | E   | S    |
|------------------|------|-----|------|
|                  | PASS | 1NT | PASS |
| 2♣               | PASS | 2♥  | PASS |
| 2NT <sup>+</sup> | PASS | 3NT | PASS |
| PASS             | PASS |     |      |

To legitimately defeat 3NT, Moss needed to lead either the DA or one of his two high spades... and that is not realistic! Moss led the S3 and Jones scored his 9 in hand. He knocked out the DA and won the club return with the king. He played a diamond to the king and a small heart to the ten and queen. Moss played the CA followed by the CT. At this point, Jones had 4 spades, 2 hearts, 1 diamond, and 2 clubs... nine cashers... home free!

10 IMPs to Bailey

2NT=may or may not have 4 Spades

At the other table in Fleisher/Bailey, Hurd and Bathurst stopped in 2H and must have played it well... Hurd was the only one to take 10 tricks in any contract! Bailey led the DA followed by the H6. Hurd won the HA and played a diamond which Bailey ruffed. At this point any heart or spade... or event the CA would have held declarer to 9 winners. Bailey chose the C9 and that afforded Hurd to collect his tenth trick! As the IMPs go, it would have made no difference.

# Cross IMPs...

|     |                                      |           |       |        |    |
|-----|--------------------------------------|-----------|-------|--------|----|
| 1.  | Brad Moss - Joe Grue                 | Fleisher  | 2.05  | 61.57  | 30 |
| 2.  | John Hurd - Kevin Bathurst           | Fleisher  | 1.73  | 77.71  | 45 |
| 3.  | David Grainger - Joel Wooldridge     | Simson    | 1.36  | 61.00  | 45 |
| 4.  | John Kranyak - Vince Demuy           | Rosenthal | 0.98  | 44.00  | 45 |
| 5.  | Jacob Morgan - Jeff Juster           | Juster    | 0.69  | 20.14  | 29 |
| 6.  | Eric Greco - Geoff Hampson           | Nickell   | 0.66  | 29.14  | 44 |
| 7.  | Daniel Korbel - Zia Mahmood          | Lebowitz  | 0.56  | 16.71  | 30 |
| 8.  | Michael Rosenberg - Zach Grossack    | Lebowitz  | 0.53  | 15.86  | 30 |
| 9.  | Chip Martel - Marty Fleisher         | Fleisher  | 0.48  | 21.71  | 45 |
| 10. | Kevin Dwyer - Shan Huang             | Juster    | 0.42  | 25.43  | 60 |
| 11. | Bart Bramley - Kit Woolsey           | Bramley   | 0.17  | 10.14  | 60 |
| 12. | Eddie Wold - Venkatrao Koneru        | Simson    | -0.17 | -5.00  | 30 |
| 13. | Aaron Silverstein - Andrew Rosenthal | Rosenthal | -0.26 | -7.86  | 30 |
| 14. | Bobby Levin - Steve Weinstein        | Nickell   | -0.28 | -12.71 | 45 |
| 15. | Chris Willenken - Gavin Wolpert      | Rosenthal | -0.39 | -17.71 | 45 |
| 16. | Doug Simson - Eric Rodwell           | Simson    | -0.48 | -21.71 | 45 |
| 17. | Brian Platnick - Kevin Rosenberg     | Bramley   | -0.48 | -28.57 | 60 |
| 18. | Andy Goodman - Mike Passell          | Juster    | -0.85 | -25.57 | 30 |
| 19. | Arti Bhargava - Josh Donn            | Bailey    | -0.89 | -26.71 | 30 |
| 20. | Adam Grossack - Larry Lebowitz       | Lebowitz  | -1.11 | -66.86 | 60 |
| 21. | Nick Nickell - Ralph Katz            | Nickell   | -1.21 | -36.43 | 30 |
| 22. | Aaron Jones - Owen Lien              | Bailey    | -1.43 | -85.86 | 60 |
| 23. | Josh Donn - William Bailey           | Bailey    | -1.61 | -48.43 | 30 |

BOARD: 20  
 DEALER: WEST  
 VULNERABLE: ALL

♠ Q75  
 ♥ 943  
 ♦ T84  
 ♣ A932

♠ J4  
 ♥ AKQJ52  
 ♦ K2  
 ♣ JT6

♠ AK96  
 ♥ T  
 ♦ AQJ753  
 ♣ 75

Par: -650

|    | ♣ | ♦  | ♥  | ♠ | N |
|----|---|----|----|---|---|
| NS | 5 | 0  | 0  | 3 | 0 |
| EW | 8 | 11 | 11 | 9 | 9 |

♠ T832  
 ♥ 876  
 ♦ 96  
 ♣ KQ84

| Home team |           | Visiting team |  | Room   | By | =    | IMP |     |    |
|-----------|-----------|---------------|--|--------|----|------|-----|-----|----|
|           |           |               |  |        |    |      | NS  | EW  |    |
| 1         | Nickell   | Juster        |  | Open   | 4♥ | W ♣3 | +1  | 650 | 13 |
|           |           |               |  | Closed | 6♥ | W ♣3 | -1  | 100 |    |
| 2         | Lebowitz  | Simson        |  | Open   | 3N | E ♣Q | =   | 600 | 2  |
|           |           |               |  | Closed | 4♥ | W ♣A | +1  | 650 |    |
| 3         | Fleisher  | Bailey        |  | Open   | 5♦ | E ♣Q | =   | 600 | 2  |
|           |           |               |  | Closed | 4♥ | W ♣3 | +1  | 650 |    |
| 4         | Rosenthal | Bramley       |  | Open   | 4♥ | W ♠5 | +3  | 710 | -  |
|           |           |               |  | Closed | 4♥ | W ♠5 | +3  | 710 |    |

Board 20 was unexciting anywhere but Nickell/Juster where Nickell/Katz bid to slam.

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

- Bidding:**
  - W: 1♥ PASS, 3♥ PASS, 5♠ PASS
  - N: PASS, 4NT PASS
  - E: 2♦ PASS, 4NT PASS, 6♥ PASS
  - S: PASS, PASS
- Notes:**
  - 4NT=BW for hearts
  - 5S=2 with the SQ
- Other Room:** W 4♥ +1 -650
- Score Card:** NORTH DEALER 20 EAST SOUTH
- Frequency:** Frequency
- DDS:** DDS
- Hand Information:**
  - North (Shan Huang): ♠ Q75, ♥ 943, ♦ T84, ♣ A932
  - West (Ralph Katz): ♠ J4, ♥ AKQJ52, ♦ K2, ♣ JT6
  - East (Nick Nickel): ♠ AK96, ♥ T, ♦ AQJ753, ♣ 75
  - South (Kevin Dwyer): ♠ T832, ♥ 876, ♦ 96, ♣ KQ84

Only a club lead will defeat the slam. Huang found the club lead... but it wasn't the ace as expected!!

He trusted Nick to hold second round club control when he inquired about keycards. As such, Shan led the C3.

He hoped that if the CK was in dummy, Katz would play small and just maybe Dwyer would hold the CQ to defeat the contract!

As it was, Katz played small and Dwyer played the queen as hoped, however, it was irrelevant since Dwyer held the both the king and queen. Down 1

**BOARD:** 21  
**DEALER:** NORTH  
**VULNERABLE:** N-S

♠ Q5  
 ♥ KT85  
 ♦ QJT8632  
 ♣

♠ AJ2  
 ♥ 732  
 ♦ 754  
 ♣ Q874

♠ 8  
 ♥ AQJ96  
 ♦ AK9  
 ♣ JT93

Par: 100

|   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|   | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | N |
| N | 5 | 6 | 4 | 9 | 4 |
| S | : | 5 | : | : | 3 |
| E | 8 | 6 | 7 | 3 | 7 |
| W | 7 | 7 | : | : | 8 |

♠ KT97643  
 ♥ 4  
 ♦  
 ♣ AK652

Board 21 is another hand only interesting at one table. This time that table was in Lebowitz/Simson.

At 7 tables, E/W either doubled or passed it out once N/S reached game.

At some tables, North opened 3D. At others, North passed and East opened 1H. Only Koneru bid Michaels. Others just jumped to 4S.

Adam G had a tough choice on the auction below. X, pass, or bid on? He chose 5H which Wold doubled. It failed 4 tricks for 14 IMPs to Simson.

| Home team |           | Visiting team |  | Room   | By  | =    | IMP |                  |    |
|-----------|-----------|---------------|--|--------|-----|------|-----|------------------|----|
|           |           |               |  |        |     |      | NS  | EW Home Visiting |    |
| 1         | Nickell   | Juster        |  | Open   | 4♠x | S ♥2 | -1  | 200              | -  |
|           |           |               |  | Closed | 4♠x | S ♥2 | -1  | 200              | -  |
| 2         | Lebowitz  | Simson        |  | Open   | 4♠x | S ♥2 | -1  | 200              | 14 |
|           |           |               |  | Closed | 5♥x | E ♣K | -4  | 800              |    |
| 3         | Fleisher  | Bailey        |  | Open   | 4♠  | S ♥2 | -1  | 100              | -  |
|           |           |               |  | Closed | 4♠  | S ♥2 | -1  | 100              | -  |
| 4         | Rosenthal | Bramley       |  | Open   | 4♠x | S ♥2 | -1  | 200              | -  |
|           |           |               |  | Closed | 4♠x | S ♥2 | -1  | 200              | -  |

In Fleisher/Bailey, both Fleisher & Donn (sitting North) were endplayed into bidding 4S. They both opened 3D. Both Easts overcalled 3H. Both Souths bid 3S. The only option left for the Norths was to bid 4S.

Apparently, the auction sounded strong enough at both tables that the opponents disdained doubling in favor of passing.

Another boring push!?!?

The screenshot shows the LoveBridge app interface. On the left, a bidding sequence is displayed:

| W    | N    | E    | S    |
|------|------|------|------|
|      | PASS | 1♥   | 2♥   |
| 3♥   | PASS | 4♥   | 4♠   |
| PASS | PASS | 5♥   | PASS |
| PASS | DBL  | PASS | PASS |

Table: CL 2, Round: 2  
 N-S: Simson 50 IMP  
 E-W: Lebowitz 29 IMP

OTHER ROOM: S 4♠x -1 -200

Score card, Frequency, Live scores options are visible.

The card hands are shown for four players:

- North (Eddie Wold):** ♠ Q5, ♥ KT85, ♦ QJT8632, ♣
- West (Larry Lebowitz):** ♠ AJ2, ♥ 732, ♦ 754, ♣ Q874
- East (Adam Grossack):** ♠ 8, ♥ AQJ96, ♦ AK9, ♣ JT93
- South (Venkatrao Koneru):** ♠ KT97643, ♥ 4, ♦, ♣ AK652

The current bid is 5♥x, which has been doubled.