



Team "Trials" and Tribulations

Welcome from Tom Sucher

We, in Chicago, are very excited to have all of you here for the 2007 International Team Trials. We hope you all do well and have a great time while here. If there is anything that any of the locals and/or the tournament committee can do to make your stay more pleasant, please do not hesitate to ask.



History of the **cme**

Chicago Mercantile Exchange

The Chicago Butter and Egg Board was founded in 1898 and evolved into the Chicago Mercantile Exchange in 1919. At that time, futures contracts were offered only on agricultural products. Since:

1961: A frozen pork belly futures contract, the first futures contract based on frozen, stored meats.

1964: A live cattle futures contract, the first futures contract to be based on a non-storable commodity.

1972: The world's first financial futures with futures contracts on 7 foreign currencies.

1981: CME® Eurodollar futures, the first contracts to be settled in cash. They became the world's most actively traded futures in 2002.

1982: The first successful equity contract, the CME S&P 500® Index futures contract.

1984: The first international link between futures exchanges — a mutual offset trading link between CME and the Singapore Exchange Derivatives Trading Ltd.

1992: CME Globex®, the first

global electronic futures trading platform. It originally provided after-hours trading. Now it offers trading 23 hours a day, five days a week.

1997: CME E-mini® S&P 500 contracts electronically traded products that are 1/5 the size of the standard S&P 500 Index futures, paving the way for additional E-mini products.

2000: The first demutualization of a U.S. financial exchange achieved by converting its membership interests into shares of common stock that can trade separately from exchange trading privileges.

2001: The formation of CME Holding, Inc., the parent of CME, providing business and strategic flexibility. CME became the largest futures exchange in the U.S.

2002: CME Holdings stock is listed on the NYSE, making CME the first publicly traded U.S. financial exchange.

2003: CME and CBOT implement a common clearing link under which CME provides clearing and related services for all CBOT-traded contracts.

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Area Eateries



Asian

Benihana's

1200 E. Higgins Rd. | Schaumburg, IL 60173 | 847-995-8201 | Fax:847-995-9473 |

We prepare food at the table (hibachi-style cooking). Price: \$20-30 per person. Serves: lunch & dinner. Reservations suggested. Handicap accessible.

Jocky Wok N' Rolls

1017 N. Roselle Road | Hoffman Estates, IL 60195 | 847-885-0888 | Fax:847-885-0890 |

Now you don't have to drive to Chinatown for authentic Chinese cuisine because you will find genuine Chinese food like Dim-Sum, Noodles, Seafoods and more at our place.

Mitsuwa Marketplace

100 E. Algonquin Road | Arlington Heights, IL 60005 | 847-956-6699 | Fax:847-956-6776 |

Mitsuwa offers one-stop shopping for everything Japanese. A gift shop, travel agency, bookstore, bakery, freshly-made sushi, family friendly food court which serves as a dining area for

P.F. Chang's China Bistro

5 Woodfield Mall | Schaumburg, IL 60173 | 847-610-8000 | Fax:847-610-8001 |

Experience P.F. Chang's China Bistro: Unforgettable Chinese cuisine, attentive service, extensive wine list and tempting desserts served in a stylish bistro setting. Reservations accepted.

Hours: Sunday-Thursday 11am-10pm, Friday & Saturday 11am-11pm.

Taste of Thai

1029 W. Golf Rd. | Hoffman Estates, IL 60169 | 847-490-9994 | Fax:847-490-9723 |

Enjoy delicious Thai cuisine in a relaxed atmosphere. Lunch specials, dinner, delivery, and carryout. Price: up to \$20 per person. Reservations suggested. Handicap accessible.

Brazilian

Sal & Carvao

801 E. Algonquin | Schaumburg, IL 60173 | 847-925-0061 | Fax:847-925-1663 |

Brazilian steakhouse serving all-you-can-eat cuts of beef, pork, lamb, chicken and sausage. Delicious! Price: \$30+ per person. Serves: lunch & dinner. Reservations suggested. Handicap accessible

Texas de Brazil

5 Woodfield Road #D312 | Schaumburg, IL 60173 | 847-413-1600 | Fax:847-413-4084 |

Treat yourself to our sumptuous fifty item salad area including appetizers, soups and salads. Enjoy the house baked Brazilian cheese bread and one of our signature cocktails, the Caipirinha. Let one of our in-house wine connoisseurs select the perfect wine from the extensive wine list. Turn your card to green and prepare to be swarmed by a troop of carvers generously serving various cuts of sizzling Angus beef, lamb, pork, chicken, and Brazilian sausage. These delicious cuts are slowly roasted over an open flame and accompanied by garlic mashed potatoes and sweet fried bananas. We also offer a la carte items, Australian cold water Lobster tail and Brazilian Shrimp cocktail. Enjoy a dessert selection, then relax with an after dinner drink, espresso, or hand rolled cigar. With service, feasting, and an ambience as such, it is more than fine dining...it is Texas de Brazil.

"The surprising thing about young fools is how many survive to become old fools."

- Doug Larson

Donald Rumsfeld is giving the President his daily briefing. He concludes by saying: "Yesterday, 3 Brazilian soldiers were killed in an accident". "Oh no!" the President exclaims. "Oh my God!!! That's terrible - What are we going to tell the people?" His staff sits stunned at this display of emotion, nervously watching as the president sits, head in hands. Finally, the President looks up and asks... "How many is a Brazillion anyway?"

USBC/USWBC ROUND ROBIN SCORING from Jan Martel

Scoring for the Round Robin in the USBC and USWBC this year will be done by the program on our website, based on score sheets that the North player completes at each table. For those of you who played in the USBC last year, the score sheets will look about the same as they did then. However, there is a significant difference this year – these are now **official score sheets** and **must** be turned in before you can start your next match. Although you will have an opportunity to correct an incorrect score later, it will be much easier for everyone if you are initially accurate. Please check the results with your opponents at the end of each match before turning in the score sheet.

After each round, the scores on the score sheets will be entered into the computer and the computer will calculate IMPs on each board and VPs for the match. These results will be posted online and in addition we will print a scorecard from the match for each team. The VP results will be entered on a cross-table (two for USBC Round Robin 1 which will have two divisions) on the USBF website. We will have computers with overhead projectors in the lobby areas of both the Open and Closed rooms that will project these cross tables on the wall.

If you disagree with a posted result, you must find the captain of the opposing team and the two of you must submit a score correction to one of the DICs, within one hour after the session in which the match was played.

USBC Round Robin Lineup Submission Procedure

This year, as for the last few years, we will be using a “blind” lineup submission procedure for the USBC Round Robin. This means that you will not know your opponents for a match until after you have submitted your lineup. Before each “clump” of matches, you will hand your lineup in to one of our logistics staff (Jan, Rena, Jeff or Tom) and he or she will give you your guide cards for the matches in that clump.

With the exception of the final clump of 4 matches in RR2, you may change your lineup between matches of a clump in either the Open or Closed Room. During the final clump of 4 matches in RR2, the Closed Room teams will be sequestered and may not talk to their teammates. No substitutions will be allowed in the Closed Room during those matches. You may make substitutions in the Open Room at any time. Note that the substitutions must be included on the lineup you submit for each clump. You may make substitutions during a match or clump **only** for emergencies and with permission from a DIC.

USBC FORMAT AND MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

The ITT Conditions of Contest Committee has approved the following format for the USBC Round Robin: The 22 teams playing in the Round Robin will be divided into two 11 team groups of roughly equal ability. Each team will play a 7 board match against each other team in its group. These matches will be played on June 1st and 2nd. The IMPs in each match will be converted to VP's using the USBF 7-Board VP Scale. At the conclusion of this RR, the bottom 3 teams from each group will be eliminated. The remaining 8 teams from each group (16 in all) will complete RR play. Each continuing team will play a 7 board match against each continuing team from the **other** group, on the second half of Saturday, June 2nd, and the first half of Sunday, June 3rd.

After completion of play, each of the continuing teams will have played a 7 board match against all other continuing teams. In addition, each of the continuing teams will have played 3 matches against eliminated teams. The continuing teams' final scores will be the full VPs earned against other continuing teams, whether those VPs were earned in the first day and a half of play or in the final day of play, plus a percentage of the VPs they earned against the eliminated teams. That percentage will depend on the scores of the eliminated teams - VPs earned against a team that did better will count more. The Round of 16 will start the afternoon of Sunday, 6/3, and take 1 1/2 days. Each of the Quarterfinals, Semi-Finals and Finals will take two days. See the tournament schedule on page 10 for exact times of each session of play.

Margin	Winner	Loser	Margin	Winner	Loser	Margin	Winner	Loser
0	10	10	14	15.22	4.78	28	18.36	1.64
1	10.47	9.53	15	15.51	4.49	29	18.53	1.47
2	10.92	9.08	16	15.78	4.22	30	18.69	1.31
3	11.35	8.65	17	16.04	3.96	31	18.85	1.15
4	11.77	8.23	18	16.29	3.71	32	19	1
5	12.18	7.82	19	16.53	3.47	33	19.15	0.85
6	12.57	7.43	20	16.76	3.24	34	19.29	0.71
7	12.94	7.06	21	16.99	3.01	35	19.43	0.57
8	13.3	6.7	22	17.21	2.79	36	19.56	0.44
9	13.65	6.35	23	17.42	2.58	37	19.68	0.32
10	13.99	6.01	24	17.62	2.38	38	19.8	0.2
11	14.32	5.68	25	17.82	2.18	39	19.92	0.08
12	14.63	5.37	26	18.01	1.99	40	20	0
13	14.93	5.07	27	18.19	1.81			

**USBF
7-BOARD
VP SCALE**

USBC Teams

Allegaert: Withrop Allegaert, Jaggy Shivdasani, Lapt Chan, Aaron Silverstein, Kevin Bathhurst, Judith Bianco
Benson: Richard Benson, Martha Katz, Donna Compton, Lynne Feldman
Colchamiro: Mel Colchamiro, Janet Colchamiro, Steve Bloom, Betty Bloom
Cole: William Cole, Ai-Tai Lo, John Fout, Jeff Roman, Alan Falk, Venkatrao Koneru
Deutsch: Seymon Deutsch, Gary Cohler, Bart Bramley, Sidney Lazard, Grant Baze, John Kranyak
Einberg: Howard Einberg, Tony Ames, William Hall, Jim Munday
Ekeblad (bye ► round of 8): Russell Ekeblad, Ron Rubin, Fred Gitelman, Brad Moss, Chip Martel, Lew Stansby
Gordon: Mark Gordon, Chuck Burger, Stephen Landen, Pratap Rajadhyaksha, Bobby Levin, Steve Weinstein
Hammond: Nicolas Hammond, Ed Foran, Robert Todd, Christopher Moll, Kitty Cooper, Steve Cooper
Harris: Martin Harris, Jacob Morgan, Dan Gerstman, Tom Carmichael
Hollman: Bob Hollman, Bruce Ferguson, Dennis Clerkin, Jerry Clerkin
Lall: Hemant Lall, Ira Chorush, Justin Lall, Barnet Shenkin, Doub Daub, Adam Widavsky
Mahaffey: Jim Mahaffey, Mark Lair, Mike Passell, Eddie Wold, John Hurd, Joel Wooldridge
Meltzer (bye ► round of 16): Rose Meltzer, Kyle Larsen, Alan Sontag, Roger Bates, Billy Cohen, Ron Smith
Nickell (bye ► semi-finals): Frank Nickell, Dick Freeman, Bob Hamman, Paul Soloway, Jeff Meckstroth, Eric Rodwell
Onstott: John Onstott, Garey Hayden, Kerry Smith, Claude Vogel, Larry Robbins, Peter Weichsel
O'Rourke: Lou Ann O'Rourke, Marc Jacobus, Curtis Cheek, Joe Grue, Eric Greco, Geoff Hampson
Robinson: Steve Robinson, Peter Boyd, Kit Woolsey, Fred Stewart, Bobby Wolff, Dan Morse
Schuett: Jeffrey Schuett, Nikolay Demirev, Jeffrey Miller, William Wickham, David Yang, Sangarapil Mohan
Schwartz: Richard Schwartz, Michael Becker, Drew Casen, Jim Krekorian, David Berkowitz, Larry Cohen
Stark: Andrew Stark, Franco Baseggio, Gene Saxe, Daniel Nussbaum, Jim Rasmussen, Pamela Miller
Vose III: Clint Vose III, Tim Tullis, Bob Fashingbauer, Serge Bondar
Weed: Jimmy Cayne, Michael Seamon, Benito Garozzo, Richard Reisig, Sam Lev, Jacek Pszczola, Charlie Weed, NPC
Weinstein: Jonathan Weinstein, Robert Heitzman, Glen Milgrim, Jeff Aker, Jiang Gu, Xiaodong Shi
Welland: Roy Welland, Bjorn Fallenius, Martin Fleisher, Michael Kamil, Chris Willenken

USWBC Teams

Baker (bye ► RR2): Lynn Baker, Karen McCallum, Kerri Sanborn, Lynn Deas, Beth Palmer
Goldberg: Connie Goldberg, Renee Mancuso, Cheri Bjerkan, Sue Weinstein, Pam Wittes, Linda Lewis
Kennedy: Betty Ann Kennedy, Shannon Cappelletti, Stacy Jacobs, Peggy Sutherlin, Ginny Schuett, Chris Benson
Lourie: Ora Lourie, Lori Jacobs, Margie Gwozdzinsky, Cathy Strauch
Moss: Sylvia Moss, Judi Radin, Mildred Breed, Marinesa Letizia, Janice Seamon-Molson, Tobi Sokolow
Narasimhan: Hansa Narasimhan, Irina Levitina, Jill Levin, Jill Meyers, Debbie Rosenberg, JoAnna Stansby
Quinn: Shawn Quinn, Sue Picus, Hjordis Eythorsdottir, Rozanne Pollack
Sulgrove: Kathleen Sulgrove, Candace Griffey, Laurie Kranyak, Linda McGarry, Cindy Bernstein, Sally Wheeler

HOSPITALITY INFORMATION from Barbara Nudelman, Joan Gerard, and Rena Hetzer

The hospitality suite is in room 3321. It will be open for **Breakfast** at 8:30 AM till game time for all players.

USBC Lunch: Today the hotel will extend the hours of its lunch buffet to accommodate our players.

Lunch will be served in the suite starting tomorrow at the mid-afternoon break (approximately 1:30 PM tomorrow, and 2:45 PM the rest of the time). We may be a bit crowded but we'll see to it that everyone gets to eat.

USWBC Lunch – The suite will be open for lunch on Friday and Saturday during your short break at 1:40 PM. There is a buffet lunch available in the hotel restaurant. There are not actual lunch breaks from Sunday on, but we will try and offer a more substantial breakfast in the hour just before your starting time and you are welcome to join the regular lunch break the rest of the week.

The suite will be open most days until the completion of play for soft drinks and snacks.

Hotel Restaurants: **Metro:** 6am - 10pm daily; **Tre Cena:** Breakfast: 6:30am-11 AM M-F, 7am-11am S/S; Lunch 11am-5pm daily; Dinner 5pm-10pm daily; **Knuckles** 4:30pm-12am Su-F, 4:30pm-1am Saturday

Check in-room for **room service menu** ... available 6am-12am.

Additional restaurant advice is in this daily bulletin and will be in future editions from this day forth.

Once again we are here to feed you and listen to all of your trials and tribulations at the bridge table. If you need something just ask... we might not be able to help but we will surely try.

Bears Bracket - RR1

#	Seed	Name	Players
1	4	O'Rourke	Lou Ann O'Rourke, Marc Jacobus, Curtis Cheek, Joe Grue, Eric Greco, Geoff Hampson
2	6	Welland	Roy Welland, Björn Fallenius, Martin Fleisher, Michael Kamil, Chris Willenken
3	9	Gordon	Mark Gordon, Chuck Burger, Stephen Landen, Pratap Rajadhyaksha, Bobby Levin, Steve Weinstein
4	10	Deutsch	Seymon Deutsch, John Kranyak, Bart Bramley, Sidney Lazard, Grant Baze, Gary Cohler
5	13	Lall	Hemant Lall, Ira Chorush, Doug Doub, Adam Wildavsky, Justin Lall, Barnet Shenkin
6	15	Cole	William Cole, Ai-Tai Lo, Allan Falk, Venkatrao Koneru, John Fout, Jeff Roman
7	16	Harris	Martin Harris, Jacob Morgan, Dan Gerstman, Tom Carmichael
8	19	Colchamiro	Mel Colchamiro, Janet Colchamiro, Betty Bloom, Steve Bloom
9	20	Benson	Richard Benson, Lynne Feldman, Donna Compton, Martha Katz
10	22	Weinstein	Jonathan Weinstein, Robert Heitzman, Jeff Aker, Glen Milgrim, Jiang Gu, Xiaodong Shi
11	25	Vose	Clint Vose, Serge Bondar, Bob Fashingbauer, Tim Tullis
101		Bye round	

Bulls Bracket - RR2

#	Seed	Name	Players
12	5	Schwartz	Richard Schwartz, Michael Becker, David Berkowitz, Larry Cohen, Drew Casen, Jim Krekorian
13	7	Weed	Jimmy Cayne, Michael Seamon, Benito Garozzo, Richard Reisig, Sam Lev, Jacek Pszczola
14	8	Robinson	Steve Robinson, Peter Boyd, Dan Morse, Bobby Wolff, Fred Stewart, Kit Woolsey
15	11	Hollman	Bob Hollman, Bruce Ferguson, Dennis Clerkin, Jerry Clerkin
16	12	Mahaffey	Jim Mahaffey, Mark Lair, John Hurd, Joel Wooldridge, Mike Passell, Eddie Wold
17	14	Onstott	John Onstott, Garey Hayden, Kerry Smith, Claude Vogel, Larry Robbins, Peter Weichsel
18	17	Allegaert	Winthrop Allegaert, Jaggy Shivdasani, Kevin Bathurst, Aaron Silverstein, Judith Bianco, Lapt Chan
19	18	Schuett	Jeffrey Schuett, Nikolay Demirev, Jeffrey Miller, William Wickham, Sangarapli Mohan, David Yang
20	21	Einberg	Howard Einberg, Tony Ames, William Hall, Jim Munday
21	23	Stark	Andrew Stark, Franco Baseggio, Gene Saxe, Daniel Nussbaum, Pamela Miller, Jim Rasmussen
22	24	Hammond	Nicolas Hammond, Ed Foran, Kitty Cooper, Steve Cooper, Christopher Moll, Robert Todd
102		Bye round	

USBC Schedule:

Thursday, May 31 10:00 p.m. Captains' meeting: Mayoral Ballroom

Round Robin:

Friday, June 1 10:00-12:15 Boards 1-7 & 8-14 clumped
12:30-2:45 Boards 15-21 & 22-28 clumped

4:15-6:30 Boards 29-35 & 36-42 clumped
6:45-9:00 Boards 43-49 & 50-56 clumped

Saturday, June 2 10:00-11:05 Boards 57-63
11:20-1:35 Boards 64-70 & 71-77 clumped
- END OF RR1-
3:30-5:45 Boards 1-7 & 8-14 clumped
6:00-8:15 Boards 15-21 & 22-28 clumped

Sunday, June 3 10:00-2:35 Boards 29-35, 36-42,
43-49, & 50-56 clumped
Closed Room Pairs Sequestered

Round of 16:

Sunday, June 3 4:15-6:30 Segment 1, Boards 1-15
6:45-9:00 Segment 2, Boards 16-30

Monday, June 4 10:00-12:15 Segment 3, Boards 31-45
12:30-2:45 Segment 4, Boards 46-60
2:45-4:00 1 hour & 15 minute break
4:00-6:15 Segment 5, Boards 61-75
6:30-8:45 Segment 6, Boards 76-90

Quarterfinals:

Tuesday, June 5 10:00-12:15 Segment 1, Boards 1-15
12:30-2:45 Segment 2, Boards 16-30
2:45-4:00 1 hour & 15 minute break
4:00-6:15 Segment 3, Boards 31-45
6:30-8:45 Segment 4, Boards 46-60

Wed., June 6 10:00-12:15 Segment 5, Boards 61-75
12:30-2:45 Segment 6, Boards 76-90
2:45-4:00 1 hour & 15 minute break
4:00-6:15 Segment 7, Boards 91-105
6:30-8:45 Segment 8, Boards 106-120

Semifinals:

Thursday, June 7 10:00-12:15 Segment 1, Boards 1-15
12:30-2:45 Segment 2, Boards 16-30
2:45-4:00 1 hour & 15 minute break
4:00-6:15 Segment 3, Boards 31-45
6:30-8:45 Segment 4, Boards 46-60

Friday, June 8 10:00-12:15 Segment 5, Boards 61-75
12:30-2:45 Segment 6, Boards 76-90
2:45-4:00 1 hour & 15 minute break
4:00-6:15 Segment 7, Boards 91-105
6:30-8:45 Segment 8, Boards 106-120

Finals:

Saturday, June 9 10:00-12:15 Segment 1, Boards 1-15
12:30-2:45 Segment 2, Boards 16-30
2:45-4:00 1 hour & 15 minute break
4:00-6:15 Segment 3, Boards 31-45
6:30-8:45 Segment 4, Boards 46-60

Sunday, June 10 10:00-12:15 Segment 5, Boards 61-75
12:30-2:45 Segment 6, Boards 76-90
2:45-4:00 1 hour & 15 minute break
4:00-6:15 Segment 7, Boards 91-105
6:30-8:45 Segment 8, Boards 106-120

"You see things; and you say, 'Why?' But I dream things that never were; and I say, 'Why not?'"
-George Bernard Shaw

USWBC Schedule:

Thursday, May 31 10:00pm Captains' meeting: 3321

Round Robin:

Friday, June 1 11:00-1:30 2 8-board matches
2:00-5:45 3 8-board matches
5:45-8:00 Dinner Break
8:00-10:30 2 8-board matches

Saturday, June 2 11:00-1:30 2 8-board matches
2:00-5:45 3 8-board matches
5:45-8:00 Dinner Break
8:00-10:30 2 8-board matches

Semi-Final:

Sunday, June 3 11:00-1:30 Boards 1-16
1:45-4:15 Boards 17-32
4:15-6:15 Dinner Break
6:15-8:45 Boards 33-48
9:00-11:30 Boards 49-64

Finals & 1st Playoff:

Monday, June 4 11:00-1:30 Boards 1-16
1:45-4:15 Boards 17-32
4:15-6:15 Dinner Break
6:15-8:45 Boards 33-48
9:00-11:30 Boards 49-64

Tuesday, June 5 11:00-1:30 Boards 65-80
1:45-4:15 Boards 81-96
4:15-6:15 Dinner Break

Second Playoff:

6:15-8:45 Boards 1-16
9:00-11:30 Boards 17-32

Wednesday, June 6 11:00-1:30 Boards 33-48
1:45-4:15 Boards 49-64
4:15-6:15 Dinner Break
6:15-8:45 Boards 65-80
9:00-11:30 Boards 81-96

Good Sports: Four high school coaches in Boise, Idaho went to a coaches' retreat. To save money they roomed in pairs. No one wanted to room with Coach Daryl because he snored so badly. They decided it wasn't fair for one of them to stay with him the whole time, so they voted to take turns.

Coach One slept in the room with Daryl the first night and came to breakfast the next morning with his hair a mess and his eyes all bloodshot. The others asked, "Man, what happened to you?"

"That Daryl snored so loud, I watched him all night."

The next night it was a the 2nd coach's turn. In the morning, same thing -- hair standing up, eyes bloodshot. They asked, "Man, what happened to you? You look awful!" He said, "That Daryl shakes the roof. I watched him all night."

The third night was Frank's turn. Frank was a big burly ex-football player.

Next morning, he came to breakfast bright eyed and bushy tailed. "Good morning."

The others could not believe it! They asked, "What happened? You look rested!"

"We got ready for bed. I tucked Daryl in and kissed him good night... He stayed up and watched me all night!"

The Best of Late Night...

"It's starting to get nasty out there on the campaign trail. A new book out by veteran Democratic strategist Robert Shrum claims when asked about gay rights, John Edwards said he was "not comfortable around those people." Do you believe that? How does a guy who spends 400 bucks to get his hair styled not like gay people?" - Jay Leno

"Paris Hilton has been spotted carrying a Bible around. A lot of people think she's only trying to improve her image. Paris denied this and said, "I'm very religious. In fact, I scream out 'Oh God' more than anyone." -Conan O'Brien

"How about this? A 60-year-old woman gave birth with twins. She was in labor for 16 years. The kids came out and asked for the car keys. " -David Letterman

"Tomorrow is the 30th anniversary of the premier of "Star Wars." They're having a huge convention with 10,000 fans. Last night at the convention center they had a 17-hour marathon screening of all the "Star Wars" films. It's amazing how much fun you can have when you're not tied down to a girlfriend, or your own apartment, or self esteem . . ." -Craig Ferguson

"Jimmy Carter actually said that George W. Bush is the worst in history. Then Bush said that's not true, he said that he was the worst in math and English. He actually got a C- in history." -Jay Leno

"Congratulations to Jordin Sparks. She's the new American Idol. The moment was spoiled when Paula Abdul tripped over her." -David Letterman

"Some of Michael Jackson's personal possessions will be auctioned off in Las Vegas the end of this month. The one thing that Michael won't be parting with though, is his Pinocchio doll. Do you know about this? Michael will not sell his Pinocchio doll. You know, on the off chance, that one day it might become a real live boy." -Jay Leno

"Nelson Mandela's birthday is coming up. A concert is being planned to celebrate Nelson Mandela's birthday. Friends say that Mandela wants the Spice Girls to perform. Apparently 27 years in prison really screws with your taste in music." -Conan O'Brien

"New York City is going green. All the cabs are converting to hybrids. I was in a low-emission cab this morning. I wish I could say the same for my driver. " -David Letterman

"How about this? At a charity auction yesterday someone paid \$350,000 to be kissed by George Clooney. I had no idea Ryan Seacrest had that kind of money. " -Jay Leno

An Interesting Hand from the Recent District 13 Regional Knockouts

South opens 4♠ and everyone passes. The opening lead is the diamond king, followed by a diamond to the ace and a third diamond. You ruff this. What is the best line of play?

- ♠ J2
- ♥ K32
- ♦ JT2
- ♣ KQ432

- ♠ K
- ♥ 87
- ♦ KQ75
- ♣ AT9876



- ♠ T9
- ♥ QJ954
- ♦ A986
- ♣ J5

You appear to have a heart loser and a potential spade loser. A simple line would be to lead a heart to the king and finesse for the king of spades. This line works when RHO has the singleton or doubleton king of spades or if the queen/jack of hearts fall. It appears, however, that the spade finesse is the wrong finesse to take. You should instead lead a heart to the king and lead the king of clubs off dummy. If RHO has the ace of clubs and covers, you now ruff and lead the queen of spades. Either opponent holding the king doubleton or singleton of spades will be forced to win this trick and you will be able to use the jack of spades as your entry for a heart discard. If RHO fails to cover, you simply discard a heart. If RHO has the ace of clubs, the hand is over... you simply play on spades. If LHO has the ace of clubs, your heart loser has gone away and you have to hope one of the opponents holds the singleton king of spades. This way you have combined the finesse with the drop of the spade king and increased your chances for success.

- ♠ AQ876543
- ♥ AT6
- ♦ 43
- ♣

Now put yourself in the East seat. How do you defend to beat the contract? Based on partner's play in the diamond suit, you discern that declarer has no more diamonds. If his spades are solid, you can only beat the hand if partner has both side aces, and in that case, you will automatically succeed. Therefore, you must hope that partner has a spade trick and one of the side aces. If you continue diamonds, declarer will ruff, cross to dummy's king of hearts and take the combination play of a ruffing finesse for the ace of clubs or a drop of the single-

ton king of spades. This will succeed when your partner's singleton king drops.

The only defense that will beat declarer is a club shift!! Since declarer knows the club play will fail, he will give up on that line of play and simply finesse for the king of spades, losing to partner's singleton king and allowing your side to eventually score a heart trick.

The Chicago Mercantile Exchange VuGraph

Thanks to the generous support of the **Chicago Mercantile Exchange**, the USBC will be covered on the Bridge Base Online Vugraph starting with the Round of 16. In the Round of 16 we will be covering either 2 or 3 of the ten matches being played. From the Quarterfinals on, we will cover all of the tables in play. To watch the Vugraph online, go to the BBO website and download the BBO software. Install the software on your computer, log on, follow the directions to become a BBO member (it's free!) and you'll be magically transported to the Lobby of the largest bridge club in the world. Click on the button labeled EXPLORE BRIDGE and then on the button labeled VUGRAPH THEATRE and you'll be able to choose which of the USBC matches you want to watch.

There will be a "yellow" user on BBO called USBF. If you have general questions, please ask USBF, not one of the hard-working Vugraph Operators, who may be too busy to respond to private messages. Thank you.

Each day's schedule is the same (these are Central Daylight Time)

10:00-12:15

12:30-2:45

4:00-6:15

6:15-8:45



During the Quarterfinals, Semifinals and Finals, all of the teams will play the same boards, unless one or more matches gets sufficiently far behind that it has to start later than the other matches, in which case, for security reasons, the teams involved will play different boards.

During the Round of 16, all of the teams will play the same boards in the first and third segments each day. In the second and fourth segments, those matches that start on time will play the same boards. We will try to have all of the tables shown on Vugraph be ones that play the same boards.

After a session, you can review the Vugraph action on our Web Vugraphs, which show each hand played with a link to bidding and play records. Take a look at the older events currently available to see what we'll have for the 2007 USBC. Web Vugraphs are posted within about half an hour of completion of the Vugraph show.

BRAIN CRAMPS: (On September 17, 1994, Alabama's Heather Whitestone was selected as Miss America 1995.)

Question: If you could live forever, would you and why?

Answer: "I would not live forever, because we should not live forever, because if we were supposed to live forever, then we would live forever, but we cannot live forever, which is why I would not live forever," --Miss Alabama

"Whenever I watch TV and see those poor starving kids all over the world, I can't help but cry. I mean I'd love to be skinny like that, but not with all those flies and death and stuff." --Mariah Carey

"Smoking kills. If you're killed, you've lost a very important part of your life," -- Brooke Shields, during an interview to become spokesperson for federal anti-smoking campaign.

"I've never had major knee surgery on any other part of my body," --Winston Bennett, U of Kentucky basketball forward.

"Outside of the killings, Washington has one of the lowest crime rates in the country," --Mayor Marion Barry, Wash. DC.

"That lowdown scoundrel deserves to be kicked to death by a jackass, and I'm just the one to do it," --A congressional candidate in Texas.

"Half this game is ninety percent mental." --Philadelphia Phillies manager, Danny Ozark

"It isn't pollution that's harming the environment. It's the impurities in our air and water that are doing it." --Al Gore, VP

"I love California. I practically grew up in Phoenix." --Dan Quayle

"We've got to pause and ask ourselves: How much clean air do we need?" --Lee Iacocca

"The word "genius" isn't applicable in football. A genius is a guy like Norman Einstein." --Joe Theisman, NFL football quarterback & sports analyst.

"We don't necessarily discriminate. We simply exclude certain types of people." -- Col. Gerald Wellman, ROTC Instructor.

"Your food stamps will be stopped effective March 1992 because we received notice that you passed away. May God bless you. You may reapply if there is a change in your circumstances." --Department of Social Services, Greenville, SC

"Traditionally, most of Australia's imports come from overseas." --Keppel Enderbery

"If somebody has a bad heart, they can plug this jack in at night as they go to bed and it will monitor their heart throughout the night. And the next morning, when they wake up dead, there'll be a record." --Mark S. Fowler, FCC

Screen rules:

Only N or S move the tray.

No verbal questions or explanations. Claims, calls of cards from dummy, etc should be whispered. This is an absolute requirement in the RR stage because all the hands are the same. In the KO stages all the hands are the same, but you will play in individual hotel rooms.

The alert card or tab should be put on top of the alertable bid and removed when the bid is made or the alert seen. It is your responsibility to make sure your opponent knows you have alerted.

Prior to the opening lead the opening leader is permitted to ask for clarification, in writing, from her opponent on the other side of the screen.

After the final pass, the declaring side may initiate an exchange of information about their own explanations (if misinformation is discovered, the auction may be reopened).

The opening lead is made face down. Opening leader's screen mate announces the opening lead has been made (or knocks on the screen) and a defender raises the screen.

During play any questions (only in writing) must be asked and answered with the screen closed.

Play requirements:

Important: For the last two matches of the RR on Saturday pairs in Section BB will be sequestered and play straight through. Plan for this when you schedule when each pair is going to play. You will meet the teams in the same order on both days.

Each pair must play at least 8 boards in the RR against all other teams.

In each match of the RR, the team that did not have the seed the first day has the seed the second. Your guide cards should have an asterisk to designate that you have the seed.

Time penalties:

If you are one minute late the penalty is 1 IMP/VP, so please be prompt. Penalties escalate.

In the RR stage you do not have the right to compare if the next match is starting. If you used up most of your time in a match and need a smoke/bathroom break, take it before comparing if you have another match to play. Players should not have to take a break during any RR match.



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

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