

UNITED STATES BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS



“Trials” and Tribulations

May 17, 2015

Volume 9, Issue 11

USBF President
Howie Weinstein

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USBF Secretary
Jan Martel

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Jan Martel

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Operations Manager
McKenzie Myers

Results:

1	Diamond	229	23	53	28	39	29	23	8	26
2	Fireman	297	55	33	37	6	16	51	53	46

**Congratulations
Team Fireman
We'll Be Rooting
for You and
Team Nickell
in India!**

SENIOR ENTRIES CLOSED 1 or 3 ADDITIONAL TEAMS MAY ENTER

At the end of Monday, May 11, the last day for teams to enter the Seniors USBC and be guaranteed of entry, there are nine teams entered. The Conditions of Contest call for entries to remain open but only if additional teams will improve the format of the event. Therefore, entries will remain open and we will accept either one or three additional teams, in order to have an even number of teams in the Round Robin.

Appeals Administrator

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Appeals Committee:

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Team Diamond: John Diamond, Kevin Bathurst (name spelled correctly!), Brian Platnick, Geoff Hampson, Justin Lall, Eric Greco



Team Fireman: John Hurd, Joel Wooldridge, Vince Demuy, John Kranyak, Gavin Wolpert, Paul Fireman

On behalf of the tournament committee, Jan Martel, COO, and Howie Weinstein, USBF President, would like to thank all of those who came to Chicago to participate in the competition. You made it exciting for bridge players everywhere.

Thanks also to the hard working VuGraph operators who brought the action live to homes around the world. Thanks to the commentators who monitored the matches.

Thanks to Lisa Berkowitz and her cracker jack staff: Martha Katz and Phyllis Cheek, who provided attentive service and great meals and snacks for the players throughout the tournament.

Thanks to Sol Weinstein and Chris Patrias for a great directing job, and for keeping things moving on schedule. Everyone appreciates that.

Thanks to Peg Kaplan for spending three days photographing the players and the action, for posting the pics on Facebook, and for just being supportive to everyone at the site.

Thanks to Suzi Subeck for writing and editing the Daily Bulletins.

And above all, on behalf of the tournament committee to Jan, thanks for running the whole shebang! We couldn't do it without you!

See you in a few weeks at the Senior Trials!

"It is better to light a candle than to curse the darkness."
— Eleanor Roosevelt

Board 4
Dealer: W
All Vul.

♠ 5
♥ QT
♦ AT54
♣ AQJT94

♠ AT982	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">N ↑</div>	♠ KJ763
♥ AK7542		♥ 86
♦ K3		♦ Q76
♣		♣ 752

♠ Q4
♥ J93
♦ J982
♣ K863

Coming into the third segment of the final day, Fireman led by 3. After the first six boards of this segment, Fireman led by 40! Board 4, among others, contributed to Fireman's run.

Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
Hurd	Hampson	Wooldridge	Greco
1H	2C	Double	3C
4C	Double	Pass	Pass
Redouble	Pass	4S	Pass
4NT	Pass	5D (1 KC)	Pass
6S	All Pass		

Open Room			
Lall	Demuy	Bathurst	Kranyak
1H	3C (intermed)	Pass	3NT
4C	Pass	4S	All Pass

In the Closed Room, Hurd and Wooldridge had a serious auction to get to the slam. Hurd opened 1H; Hampson overcalled 2C; Wooldridge negative doubled; Greco raised clubs to three and Hurd cued. When Hampson doubled, Wooldridge passed and Hurd was able to redouble to show first round control. Wooldridge bid 4S and Hurd bid key card. One looked enough so Hurd bid the slam. The play was easy. Everything split perfectly and Wooldridge had exactly what he needed.

Things were different in the Open Room. Lall opened 1H and Demuy made an intermediate jump to 3C. This jump enticed Kranyak to bid 3NT without so much as a heart stopper! Of course, it put maximum pressure on the opponents. Lall cue bid and Bathurst bid 4S. With so many points in the deck, the hand played there, making seven.

Committee Decision ... Appeal in the Finals ...

Board 2
 Dlr East
 Vul N/S

Players:
 North – Geoff Hampson
 South – Eric Greco
 East – John Kranyak
 West Vince Demuy

♠ T
 ♥ QT6542
 ♦ 3
 ♣ QJ964

N	E	S	W
	P	P	1C(1)
2D(2)	X(3)	2H	X
P	P	P	

♠ AK975	N ↑	♠ J643
♥		♥ AK83
♦ AQT87		♦ J92
♣ AT5		♣ 87

- 1) Precision
- 2) One major
- 3) Artificial game force

♠ Q82
 ♥ J97
 ♦ K654
 ♣ K32

Lead: SK

Table Result: EW +200

Play was:	SK	10	6	8
	DA	3	9	6
	S5	C4	J	Q
	H9	D7	2	K
	C7*	2	5	



*After winning the HK, East thought a long time before leading the C7.

E-W agreement is to lead low from doubleton.

Director's Statement: Experts were consulted. All believed that the cards played by East to tricks 1 and 2 overwhelmingly suggested that East did not have a singleton Club. One expert offered that with West needing the Ace, if East had had a singleton Club he would have waited until after winning the second Heart to shift to the Club so that partner couldn't go wrong.

Director's ruling: Table result stands.

Players present at appeal – Geoff Hampson (N) and John Kranyak (E).

Appeals Committee Ruling

The committee upheld the director's ruling of no adjustment by a 2-1 vote..

1. Unauthorized information was present, but winning the club A was not a logical alternative.
2. The suit preference signals at tricks one and two contraindicated the singleton club holding.

One of the members affirming the ruling felt that the case was very close. However, under WBF conditions, the committee is to presume that the table ruling is correct unless persuasive evidence to the contrary exists.

The appeal had merit.

Committee: Gaylor Kastle, Chairman, Kerri Sanborn, Kit Woolsey, Robb Gordon, Scribe (non-voting)

	2				E	B	1										
E					2	D	A	1	3						C		
	9	C					5		E	F				8	6		
4					8		F	6	9		2			3		E	
5	A	0	E		4	8				C				B		F	
	B		2			6	0			3							7
8					A	C	B			1			2	6			5
	6			E	3									4			
		9								0	F					4	
A		1	5		D			7	C	8							6
F					B			D	5				C		7		
3		7			1				B	6			5	F	2	8	
0		F		2		1	D	3		9							C
	1	E			5	4		C						7	F		
		5				9	6	F	D	E							B
								4	6	A						5	

Big Sudoku

Did you know...

- Tennessee is bordered by 8 states: Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina and Virginia - more than any other in the US
- stewardesses is the longest word that is typed with only the left hand
- there is no such thing as a naturally blue food
- honey is the only natural food which never goes off
- M&M's chocolate stands for the initials for its inventors Mars and Murrie
- you burn more calories eating celery than it contains (the more you eat the thinner you become)
- the only continent with no active volcanoes is Australia
- the longest street in the world is Yonge street in Toronto Canada measuring 1,896 km (1,178 miles)
- about 90% of the worlds population kisses
- Coca-Cola originally contained cocaine
- in every episode of Seinfeld there is a reference to Superman
- the Internet was originally called ARPANet (Advanced Research Projects Agency Network) designed by the US department of defense
- sound travels almost 5 times faster underwater than in air
- toilets use 35% of indoor water use
- the fortune cookie was invented in San Francisco
- Koalas sleep around 18 hours a day
- the average speed of a skydiver is 200kph (124mph)
- the first Burger King was opened in Florida Miami in 1954
- all insects have 6 legs
- that 90% of an iceberg sits under water

Answers to Puzzle

D	2	A	3	6	E	B	1	8	4	7	C	F	5	0	9		
E	8	6	F	9	2	D	A	1	3	5	0	7	C	B	4		
7	9	C	1	4	0	3	5	B	E	F	A	D	8	6	2		
4	5	B	0	C	8	7	F	6	9	D	2	A	3	1	E		
5	A	0	E	1	4	8	7	9	2	C	6	3	B	D	F		
1	B	4	2	5	9	6	0	E	F	3	D	8	A	C	7		
8	F	3	9	D	A	C	B	0	7	1	4	2	6	E	5		
C	6	D	7	E	3	F	2	5	A	B	8	0	4	9	1		
B	C	9	8	7	6	5	3	2	1	0	F	E	D	4	A		
A	0	1	5	F	D	2	4	7	C	8	E	B	9	3	6		
F	E	2	6	8	B	A	9	D	5	4	3	C	1	7	0		
3	D	7	4	0	1	E	C	A	B	6	9	5	F	2	8		
0	4	F	B	2	7	1	D	3	8	9	5	6	E	A	C		
6	1	E	D	A	5	4	8	C	0	2	B	9	7	F	3		
2	7	5	A	3	C	9	6	F	D	E	1	4	0	8	B		
9	3	8	C	B	F	0	E	4	6	A	7	1	2	5	D		

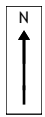
Board 7
 Dealer: S
 All Vul.

♠ A763
 ♥ A85
 ♦ A62
 ♣ A65

♠ 9542
 ♥ Q9432
 ♦ KQ7
 ♣ K

♠ J
 ♥ J
 ♦ JT8543
 ♣ Q9832

♠ KQT8
 ♥ KT76
 ♦ 9
 ♣ JT74



Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
Hurd	Hampson	Wooldridge	Greco
			Pass
Pass	1NT	Pass	2C
Pass	2S	Pass	4S
All Pass			

Open Room			
Lall	Demuy	Bathurst	Kranyak
			2D
Pass	2NT	Pass	3C
Pass	3D	Pass	3NT
Pass	4D	Pass	4H
Pass	4S	All Pass	

Another hand that helped Fireman in the third segment of the final day ...

Both tables bid the vulnerable game in spades. Both Easts led the HJ (Rusinow). Both declarers won the heart jack. BUT, in the Closed Room, Hampson won the ace in hand and played a spade to the king. He cashed the SQ and got the news.

The CJ went to the king and ace and a club was led toward dummy's ten. East won the queen, his partner pitching a heart. Wooldridge played his club nine, declarer covered with dummy's ten, and Hurd ruffed with his trump four. Hurd played his last spade, Hampson winning the ace in hand. The heart eight was led to Hurd's nine. Hurd played the diamond king to declarer's ace. Hampson ruffed a spade in dummy, played the club seven and conceded down one.

In the Open Room, Demuy won the heart jack in dummy with the king. He played a diamond to the ace and ruffed a diamond. The spade king was cashed, Demuy noting the fall of the jack on his left. Another diamond was ruffed. Declarer led the HT to the Q and A. The heart six was played to Lall's nine.

Lall led the CK to the ace and Demuy played a spade to the queen. The now established H7 was played from dummy, declarer and East both pitching clubs.

Demuy claimed 11 tricks. 13 IMPs to Fireman

Board 6
 Dealer: E
 E/W Vul.

♠ Q64
 ♥ Q2
 ♦ J7
 ♣ J97643

♠ K75
 ♥ T53
 ♦ KT82
 ♣ AQ2

♠ AT9
 ♥ AJ976
 ♦ 643
 ♣ K8

♠ J832
 ♥ K86
 ♦ AQ95
 ♣ T5



Closed Room			
Hurd	Hampson	Wooldridge	Greco
		1H	Pass
2C	Pass	2NT	Pass
3H	Pass	3S	Pass
3NT	Pass	4H	All Pass

Open Room			
Lall	Demuy	Bathurst	Kranyak
		1H	Pass
1S (1NT)	Pass	1NT	Pass
3H	All Pass		

10 more IMPs to Fireman when Hurd and Wooldridge bid the vulnerable heart game and Bathurst and Lall settled in a heart partial.