

Volume 7, Issue 7
June 22, 2016

The End of the Semis ... Two Withdrawals ... An Early Start to the Final...

#	TEAM	TOTAL	SET #1	SET #2	SET #3	SET #4	SET #5	SET #6
1	Hamman, NPC	208	47	23	48	65	25	
4	Gupta	110	10	36	24	22	18	WD
2	Simson	88	16	28	1	43	WD	
3	Wolfson	200	65	57	49	29		

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Suzi Subeck
- Photographer**
Peg Kaplan
- Local Hospitality Chairs**
Lisa Berkowitz
Martha Katz

Hamman Leads Heading into the Final Four Segments:

#	TEAM	TOTAL	SET #1	SET #2
1	Hamman, NPC	70	25	45
2	Wolfson	27	16	11



UNITED STATES BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Old Times

Teams Entered... In Bracket Order

OLD TIMES

Hamman	Reese Milner Mark Lair Zia Mahmood Petra Hamman, NPC	Hemant Lall Robert Hamman Jeff Meckstroth
Morse	John Mohan Lew Stansby Steve Garner Jo Morse, NPC	Rose Meltzer Bart Bramley Ron Smith
Koneru	Eddie Wold Mike Passell Dennis Clerkin	Michael Levine Marc Jacobus Jerry Clerkin
Robinson	Steve Robinson, Capt Kit Woolsey	Peter Boyd Fred Stewart
Gupta	Vinita Gupta, Capt Peter Weichsel Neil Chambers	Billy Miller John Schermer
Wolfson	Jeffrey Wolfson, Capt Chip Martel David Berkowitz	Neil Silverman Michael Rosenberg Alan Sontag
Simson	Doug Simson, Capt Drew Casen	Jeff Aker Jim Krekorian
Mahaffey	Jim Mahaffey, Capt Russell Ekeblad Matthew Granovetter	Sam Lev Roger Bates
Pollack	Bill Pollack, Capt Mark Cohen Steve Beatty	Mark Feldman Peter Friedland Larry Robbins
Kasle	Gaylor Kasle, Capt Fred Hamilton Richard Schwartz	Dan Morse Arnold Fisher J. Allan Graves
Bell	Leo Bell, Capt Rick Roeder Claude Vogel	John Jones George Jacobs Jim Looby
Lewis	Paul Lewis, Capt Mark Itabashi Franklin Merblum	Linda Lewis Doug Doub
Reynolds	W. Thomas Reynolds, Capt David Pelka	Lance Kerr Alan Daniels
Bitterman	Robert Bitterman, Capt David Caprera	Jerry Helms Anne Brenner



The older I grow the more I distrust the familiar doctrine that age brings wisdom.

H. L. Mencken



All About Kibitzing



WHEN CAN YOU KIBITZ IN THE PLAYING ROOMS?

You will be able to kibitz at any of the tables during this event. However, except in the Open Room during the Round Robin, you will be subject to the following regulations:

Kibitzers may enter the room ONLY at the start of play for a segment. Once play has started, the room will be closed.

A kibitzer who leaves the room may not return until the start of the next session.

Cell phones and other electronic devices are not allowed in the playing rooms, even if they are turned off. Any kibitzer who is found with a cell phone will be evicted and not allowed to kibitz during the remainder of the tournament.

When a match is being shown on BBO Vugraph, no kibitzer may sit on the same side of the table as the Vugraph operator.

SCREENS

All of the Senior USBC is played with screens. If you've never kibitzed at a table with screens before, you need to know that it is quite different from kibitzing at a regular table. You need to be seated at an "open" corner of the table (not next to the screen) in order to see much, and once there are 4 kibitzers at a table it will be very hard for additional kibitzers to see.

USBF KIBITZING RULES

The USBF **General Conditions of Contest** contain specific rules about kibitzers. They are designed to promote security at the tournament and are set forth in the conditions of contest section labeled "Security." They are:

- a. **During any use of duplicated boards across multiple matches, Kibitzers must select one table for kibitzing and may not move to any other table during a session or segment.**
- b. **Kibitzers may not speak with players, must watch only one hand at a time, may not sit in such a position as to see more than one hand at a time, may not sit in such a position as to see a computer screen in use for Internet broadcast, must check communication devices with the Director, cannot call attention to irregularities other than a board being placed incorrectly on the table (arrow positioning), but may serve as witnesses to a possible irregularity.**
- c. **Kibitzers must enter the playing room before play commences. Kibitzers are required to remain until the segment of play is completed at the table they are watching or to leave the playing area entirely. Kibitzers are expected to abide by the same rules as the players regarding leaving the room (e.g. be escorted to the restroom).**
- d. **Except as expressly provided in these conditions and appendices, NPC's shall be subject to the WBF General Conditions, Section 17.**
- e. **No one other than the Internet broadcast personnel and Tournament Directors may watch any computer screen or any other mechanism for enabling the Internet broadcast at any time in either the Closed or the Open Room.**
- f. **These rules may be revised in specific instances by the DICs for the orderly running of the event.**

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.



Tournament Schedule:

<i>ROUND OF SIXTEEN</i>			
<i>DAY</i>	<i>DATE</i>	<i>TIME</i>	<i>BOARDS</i>
FRIDAY	JUNE 17	9:45 AM	CAPTAINS' MEETING
FRIDAY	JUNE 17	10:00 - 12:10 12:25 - 2:35 3:45 - 5:55 6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 1 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 2 BOARDS 16-30 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK SEGMENT 3 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 16-30
SATURDAY	JUNE 18	10:00 - 12:10 12:25 - 2:35	SEGMENT 5 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 6 BOARDS 16-30 95 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK
<i>QUARTER-FINAL</i>			
SATURDAY	JUNE 18	4:00 - 6:10 6:20 - 8:30	SEGMENT 1 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 2 BOARDS 16-30
SUNDAY	JUNE 19	10:00 - 12:10 12:25 - 2:35 3:45 - 5:55 6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 3 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 16-30 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK SEGMENT 5 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 6 BOARDS 16-30
<i>SEMI-FINAL</i>			
MONDAY	JUNE 20	10:00 - 12:10 12:25 - 2:35 3:45 - 5:55 6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 1 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 2 BOARDS 16-30 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK SEGMENT 3 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 16-30
TUESDAY	JUNE 21	10:00 - 12:10 12:25 - 2:35	SEGMENT 5 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 6 BOARDS 16-30 95 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK
<i>FINAL</i>			
TUESDAY	JUNE 21	4:00 - 6:10 6:20 - 8:30	SEGMENT 1 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 2 BOARDS 16-30
WEDNESDAY	JUNE 22	10:00 - 12:10 12:25 - 2:35 3:45 - 5:55 6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 3 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 16-30 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK SEGMENT 5 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 6 BOARDS 16-30

After completion of 2014 tournaments Rose Meltzer was the only woman among 84 living Open World Grand Masters. She ranked 58th among them by World Bridge Federation (WBF) open masterpoints.

For the 1999 to 2007 cycles of world bridge competition, Meltzer led professional teams that won two major open team world championships: the biennial Bermuda Bowl in 2001, representing the United States as USA2, and the quadrennial Rosenblum Cup in 2006. Kyle Larsen was her partner in both tournaments. In 2005 and 2007 she was one of six players on USA senior teams that won the Senior Bowl.

Awards

- Fishbein Trophy (1) 2000

Wins

- Bermuda Bowl (1) 2001
- North American Bridge Championships (6)
 - Grand National Teams (1) 2003
 - Senior Knockout Teams (1) 2011
 - Keohane North American Swiss Teams (1) 2013
 - Mitchell Board-a-Match Teams (1) 2001
 - Chicago Mixed Board-a-Match (1) 2001
 - Spingold (1) 2000

Meet the Players...



VuGraph Information

The Knockout stages of the 2016 Senior USBC will be covered on BBO Vugraph. We plan to cover all of the tables from the Quarterfinals on. 2 or 4 tables will have streaming video, and the other tables will have video uploaded after the day is over. To watch the Vugraph online, go to the **BBO website** where you can log on directly from your browser, go to "Vugraph" and choose which table to watch. If you prefer to use the Windows version of BBO, after you log on, click on the button or line labeled VUGRAPH and you'll be able to choose which of the Senior USBC matches you want to watch.

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

Each day's schedule is about the same (these are Denver times; to see the times for your time-zone, go to the **BBO Vugraph schedule site**):

10:00 - 12:10: Segment 1

12:20 - 2:30: Segment 2

3:45 - 5:55: Segment 3

6:10 - 8:20: Segment 4



On Saturday and Tuesday, when a new match starts in the middle of the day, the third and fourth segments will be at:

4:00 - 6:10: Segment 3

6:20 - 8:30: Segment 4

Segments 2 and 4 may start a little earlier or later than they are scheduled depending on when segments 1 and 3 end.

All of the teams in the Semi-Finals will play the same boards. For security reasons, if the matches do not all start at the same time, we will not start the Vugraph broadcast until all matches have started play. The DIC will decide whether all of the Quarter-final teams will play the same boards after looking at any security issues.

Hints for BBO viewers

Useful information is available to browser BBO users [and perhaps some mobile BBO users] click on the name of the table/event name will provide a pop-up that:

*** displays the BBO Schedule for the specific vugraph event – calculated for the time zone of the viewer's electronic device**

*** has a link to the home page for event**

click on a player name will usually provide a pop-up that

*** displays a picture of the player**

*** shows links to System Summary Forms (SSFs), Convention Cards (CCs), and biographical information**

VIDEO: For those who use the original windows BBO - when you enter a room that has video, BBO will welcome you and broadcast the link to video. If video starts after you've entered the room or you forgot to grab the information, then exit the table and re-enter to see the automatic display. All other users will have a "Video" button at the bottom of the table. Just push the button and click on the link provided.

After a session, you can review the Vugraph action on our Web Vugraphs. Take a look at the events currently available to see what we'll have for the 2016 Senior USBC. Web Vugraphs are posted within about an hour of completion of the Vugraph show.

If you are going to be in Denver during the Senior USBC and want to volunteer to help as a Vugraph operator, please **email Jan Martel**.

The End of the Semis...

Board 3
 Segment 5
 Dealer: S
 E/W Vul.
 ♠ 9
 ♥ AQ7
 ♦ KT93
 ♣ A8754

♠ K83
 ♥ 842
 ♦ A76
 ♣ QJT2
 ♠ QT6542
 ♥ JT53
 ♦ 2
 ♣ 93
 ♠ AJ7
 ♥ K96
 ♦ QJ854
 ♣ K6



West	North	East	South
Zia	Miller	Meckstroth	Weichsel
Pass	3S (short spades)	Pass	1NT (14+-17)
Pass	6D	All Pass	4D

Schermer	Milner	Chambers	Lall
Pass	3S (short spades)	Pass	1NT (14+-17)
All Pass			3NT

Both Souths opened a 14+-17 NT. Both Norths showed a three suiter with short spades and game going values. At this point, their auctions diverged.

Weichsel, even looking at his AJ7 of spades, knew how valuable the second round controls were in the round suits. Accordingly, he bypassed 3NT and bid

4D. That was all Miller needed to hear. Zia led the DA and another diamond. Even that could not stop the contract from succeeding. +920

In the other room, Lall was swayed by his minimum opener with AJ7 of spades to simply sign off in 3NT. Schermer led a club and Lall went about his business collecting ten tricks. +430

10 IMPs to Gupta

Board 13
 Segment 5
 Dealer: N
 All Vul.
 ♠ 4
 ♥ AJ3
 ♦ JT732
 ♣ T742

♠ KQ65
 ♥ KT7652
 ♦ A85
 ♣
 ♠ J732
 ♥ 84
 ♦ KQ6
 ♣ Q865
 ♠ AT98
 ♥ Q9
 ♦ 84
 ♣ AKJ93



Zia	Miller	Meckstroth	Weichsel
	Pass	Pass	1NT
2H	All Pass		

Schermer	Milner	Chambers	Lall
	Pass	Pass	1C
1H	2C	Pass	3C
Double	All Pass		

The state of the match is always a factor. Down nearly 100 with 18 boards to go, it appears that Chambers took a shot in the hopes of creating a swing.

In the Open Room, against 2H, Milner led a small spade. Weichsel won the ace and shifted to the CK. Zia ruffed, played a diamond to the king and finessed the HT, losing to the HJ. Milner led a diamond; Zia won the queen in dummy, led another heart and when the queen popped, he claimed ten tricks.

In the Closed Room, thinking that some number of spades might be normal after Schermer's 1H overcall and his subsequent T/O double, Chambers decided to go for broke. He passed! 3CX made 4 for +870. Ironically, had Chambers done the "normal" thing and bid 3S, given the state of the match, Schermer might well have bid the spade game. Whether or not South finds the lead of the heart queen, the spade game will fail... the defense collecting two hearts and either two spades or one spade and a heart ruff.

Gupta was snake bit... destined to lose IMPs in any contract on this one.

14 IMPs for Hamman

Gupta withdraws and we head into the final: Wolfson vs. Hamman! Congratulations Howie Doing! You picked the Final!

Into the Final...

Board 11 ♠ AKQJ98743
 Segment 1 ♥ J
 Dealer: S ♦ K53
 None Vul. ♣

♠ 6 ♠ 2
 ♥ AQ9843 ♥ K762
 ♦ 2 ♦ AQT876
 ♣ AT652 ♣ 43



♠ T5
 ♥ T5
 ♦ J94
 ♣ KQJ987

West	North	East	South
Berkowitz	Meckstroth	Sontag	Zia
Pass	4S	All Pass	3C

Milner	Martel	Lall	Rosenberg
3H	4S	5H	Pass
Pass	5S	6H	All Pass

Everything about this hand defies reality! First, in the Open Room, Zia opened 3C and Berkowitz didn't bid with the West hand. Second, Meckstroth jumped to game in his NINE card suit and bought it there.

In the Closed Room, Rosenberg also opened 3C. Milner bid 3H. Martel jumped to 4S. Lall bid 5H, and when it came back to Martel, he couldn't pass with a NINE card suit so he bid 5S. Lall had no idea if he was bidding to make or save.

He bid 6H and after a long tank, Martel passed it out.

Now, if you want to get into the newspaper, you lead the S3 to put partner in with the ST to give you a club ruff, however, Martel's not Zia and he's been in the newspaper enough. He led the SJ. When that held, he wished he's gone for the gusto. He shifted to his singleton HJ and the slam was cold... at least to those of us looking at all four hands. Milner won the heart in his hand, thought forever, led the diamond deuce, but missed the fact that to make the contract, he needed diamonds 3-3 with the king in the pocket. He rose with the ace and gracefully went down one.

In the other room, against 4S, Sontag led a heart. Berkowitz won the ace and played back his singleton diamond. Sontag won with the queen, cashed the ace, Berk pitching a heart, and another diamond for Berkowitz to ruff... down one.

It was by far the most exciting 3 IMP swing of the tournament so far! 3 IMPs to Wolfson

Howie Doing ...

I never give up.
 I never stop hopin'
 I called Zagorin
 When he won the Open!

Called on day one
 Held firm in my stance
 Once it was over,
 The victory dance!

I'm stickin' with Wolfson.
 Jeff is da man!
 I know he can do it,
 If anyone can!

Howie Doing? ... just grand!

Limey Jack ...

Blimey but Limey Jack is keen to stay up late to see this final. As a favour to Limey Jack the parties have agreed to start the tilt at just past tea time. Very sporting, old chaps.

Hamman, Hamman, Hamman. Wolfson comes a close second. That pitiful Howie Dung cretin will undoubtedly pick Wolfson, but only Limey Jack can keep you upright in the English saddle as you pass the 16th pole.

You Yanks have put on a fine show with no dissention, and some pretty astute bridge play. Limey Jack will be back for the Open Trials next Spring. Possibly even sooner for the new Mixed Teams event as long as the checque clears.

7 Cheers, LJ

Board 29
 Segment 2
 Dealer: N
 All Vul.
 ♠ A6
 ♥ 9
 ♦ J865
 ♣ AT9752

♠ QT9754
 ♥ AQ
 ♦ KQT7
 ♣ J
 ♠ K82
 ♥ KJT854
 ♦ 94
 ♣ 86
 ↑ N
 ♠ J3
 ♥ 7632
 ♦ A32
 ♣ KQ43

West	North	East	South
Martel	Meckstroth	Rosenberg	Zia
	Pass	2D (multi)	Pass
2H (pass or	3C	Pass	Pass
3H	Pass	Pass	4C
All Pass			

Hamman	Wolfson	Lair	Silverman
	Pass	2H	Pass
2S	Pass	3S	Pass
4S	All Pass		

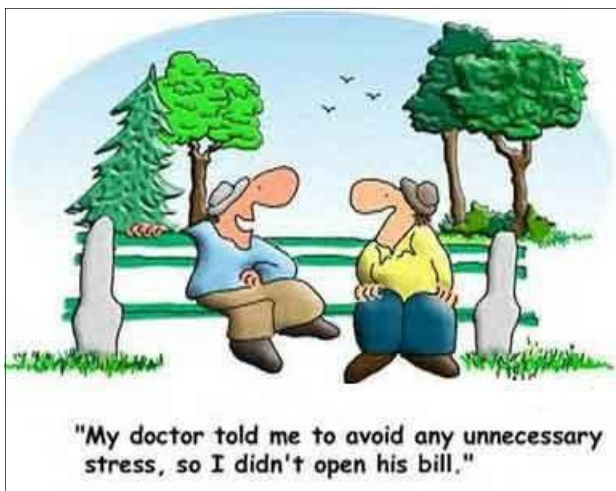
In the Open Room, Lair/Hamman had a natural auction to reach a solid 4S contract. Lair opened a weak 2H and Hamman responded with a natural and forcing 2S. When Lair raised spades, Hamman had no problem bidding game.

Meanwhile, in the Closed Room Rosenberg opened a Multi-2D showing a weak two bid in either major. Martel was caught, he could not bid a natural 2S and he did not want to force to game. Martel bid a conservative 2H and when Meckstroth bid 3C, the spade suit was lost forever.

In fact Rosenberg/Martel sold out to 4C which made when a heart was led. Meckstroth was able to strip the hand and endplay Martel to make 4C.

Martel won the heart with the ace. He played the CJ back to the 7, 8, K. Meckstroth played another heart and ruffed, pulled another round of trump, cashed ace of spades and got out with a spade to Rosenberg's king. Rosenberg exited with a diamond and Meckstroth claimed 10 tricks.

13 IMPs to Hamman



An Old man went to the doctor complaining of a terrible pain in his leg.

"I am afraid it's just old age", replied the doctor, "there is nothing we can do about it."

"That can't be" fumed the old man, "you don't know what you are doing."

"How can you possibly know I am wrong?" countered the doctor.

"Well it's quite obvious," the old man replied, "my other leg is fine, and it's the exact same age!"

Press Release:

EBL and ACBL team up to better serve their members

The European Bridge League and American Contract Bridge League are joining forces to tackle critical challenges facing bridge today.

At meetings during the European championships underway in Budapest, Hungary, EBL President Yves Aubry and ACBL Chief Executive Robert Hartman got down to business on how the two powerhouse bridge conferences can pool resources and share information for greater impact and efficiency.

“Given the tumultuous events of the past year, the obvious starting point is partnering to combat cheating and taking a more aggressive role in identifying and prosecuting law breakers,” said Hartman.

Aubry agreed, saying, “While we are having success using video monitoring to uncover low-tech collusive signaling and cheating in the present, we need to look ahead and be prepared to detect cheating via electronic transfer of information.” He announced that the EBL, ACBL and United States Bridge Federation are cooperatively investing in a study on electronic surveillance. “We must stay at least one step ahead of those seeking to harm our game through illegal methods.”

Hartman added that the open exchange of investigatory findings will strengthen both organizations’ abilities to police the game and may speed up case preparation as well as maximize limited resources.

“Upon the recommendation of a high-level player task force, the ACBL Board recently approved the formation of an Anti-Cheating Commission,” Hartman said. He explained that the Commission is a panel of five experts who will confidentially investigate suspect ethical and disciplinary activity.

“I am pleased,” Hartman said, “that Eric Laurant, who sits on the EBL Executive Committee and who chaired EBL’s Investigation Committee for the first wave of cases last fall, has agreed to be one of our Commissioners. I’m grateful, too, to Boye Brogeland, who led the charge that transformed how administrators deal with cheating allegations in the age of social media. Boye also accepted my invitation to serve on the Commission.”

The EBL-ACBL partnership is well positioned to make a significant impact on the game at every level. As the administrator of WBF’s Zone 1, the EBL’s oversight extends to 46 national bridge organizations, whose membership totals more than 384,000. ACBL coordinates bridge activities among the 168,500 members of the USBF, the Canadian Bridge Federation and the Mexican Bridge Federation. Together, the two zonal conferences represent more than 80% of the players who belong to the WBF’s member NBOs.

“We admire what the EBL has done in a number of areas – including youth bridge/education, marketing and technology,” the ACBL officer said. “We look forward to learning what works in Europe and seeing how we might feasibly adapt those practices in North America.”

Aubry added, “There may be the possibility of teaming up in the creation of a new event featuring the top players in Europe versus the top players in the U.S. The opportunities are limitless.”

For more information about the EBL, please visit eurobridge.org. ACBL’s online home is at acbl.org.

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

Sudoku 1

Sudoku

Sudoku 2

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

Answers to Puzzle No Peeking!

Sudoku 2 Solution

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

Sudoku 1 Solution

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

Puzzle Page ...

At the local sports club, some veteran members were photographed together for the annual awards ceremony.

In the photograph, each member has a different coloured T-shirt on.

Obviously, the number of awards each has won over the years counts towards their status within the club, however, it is also significant to let other members know how many relatives of theirs are eligible for membership.

From the information given below, can you determine the positions of the five members in the photograph, their T-shirt colour, their age (40, 48, 60, 65, 74), the number of awards they have won (40, 75, 96, 125, 165) and the number of eligible relatives (5, 9, 30, 46, 60)?

The person who is wearing red, has 25 relatives more than Jeff and is not next to the person wearing blue. Jim is wearing orange and has 40 awards more than John. John has 51 awards more than his age and Jeff has 5 relatives. Jake has 75 awards and is 65 years old. The person on the far right has 37 fewer relatives than John, and is 40 years old. Jack, who is the first, is 60 years old, and has 20 awards fewer than his age. The person who is next to the person who has 46 relatives but not next to the person who is 60 years old, is wearing yellow, and has 96 awards. The person in the centre has 46 relatives, is wearing blue and has 125 awards. The person who is wearing green, has 30 more relatives than the person to the left of him.

I met a guy who's a walking economy the front of his hair is in recession, his stomach is a terrible victim of inflation, and the combination together are putting him into a deep depression!

Q. What's the best way to make a small fortune in the stock market? A. Start off with a big one!

When the lodge meeting broke up, John confided to a friend.

"Mike, I'm in a terrible pickle. I'm strapped for cash and I haven't the slightest idea where I'm going to get it."

"I'm glad to hear that." answered Mike.

"I was afraid you might have an idea you could borrow it from me!"



Hint and Answer to Puzzle

# Name	T-shirt	Age	Relatives	Awards
5 Jim	orange	40	9	165
4 Jeff	yellow	48	5	96
3 John	blue	74	46	125
2 Jake	green	65	60	75
1 Jack	red	60	30	40

Hint: Jack wore red.

2016 Mixed USBC

In 2016, the [World Bridge Games](#) , to be held in Wroclaw, Poland from September 3 through September 17th, will include a Mixed Teams event. USBF will hold a hybrid online & face-to-face selection event, the 2016 Mixed United States Bridge Championship. The USBF Tournament Committee is working on the details of the competition, but what we expect is that it will be in 3 stages:

1. An online Swiss Teams event to be held on BBO on Saturday & Sunday, July 9 & 10, 2016. Any USBF member who has paid dues for 2016 may enter this event. The exact format will be determined by the number of teams. Each player will be required to provide a monitor, who will sign a statement that the player did not communicate with anyone during play and did not have any window other than the BBO playing window open during play.
2. Online Knockout Rounds of 16 and 8 on BBO on Saturday & Sunday, July 16 & 17 (teams in the Round of 16 may arrange to play their match earlier than July 16). The top 16 teams from the Swiss stage will participate, and they will be seeded in the order of finish in the Swiss. Each match will probably be 64 boards long, but that has still to be finally determined. Each player will be required to have a monitor, who will have to be approved in advance and may have to be an ACBL certified director. The monitor will sign a statement that the player did not communicate with anyone during play and did not have any window other than the BBO playing window open during play. Arrangements may be made for multiple players to compete at a local bridge club.
3. Face to face Semi-Final and Final matches to be played in Washington, DC on Aug. 1-3 (the three days after the Summer NABC). These matches will be 90 boards long. We hope to arrange space for this stage of play at the NABC tournament hotel, but are still working on that.

ENTRY INFORMATION

Entries are now open and will close on June 27th, 2016; additional entries will be accepted after June 27th, but only if those additional teams will improve the format of the event.

ENTRY FEES

Entry fees for this event will be lower than for the Open, Senior & Women's events, because USBF costs will be lower. The tournament committee has not yet determined the exact entry fees. Best guess right now is that there will be an event entry fee of \$240 per team, and no additional fees until the Semi-Final. Players will, however, be required to compensate their monitors and to pay any fees that local bridge clubs may charge if they play at a local club. Session fees for the Semi-Final and Final will be the same as for other USBF events - \$150 per team per session, so \$450 for each stage.

COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS

Please [email Jan](#) if you have any suggestions, comments or questions about this event.



Hospitality Suite Information

The hospitality suite for the 2016 Senior USBC is Suite 2612. Players, volunteers, kibitzers, friends and supporters are welcome in the Hospitality Suite during the tournament. Lisa Berkowitz and Martha Katz, being the good sports they are, have agreed to awaken even earlier than usual to accommodate the early risers... Early Bird Senior Breakfast will be served from 7:30 going forward! Thank you ladies!! You are the best!

Breakfast each day from 7:30-11:00 am.-Lunch Sunday through Wednesday from 2:30-4:00.

The Hospitality Suite will be open for Vugraph, casual chit chat, drinks & snacks during the rest of the playing hours and for a short time after the end of play each day. The Players' Lounge (room 1901) will also be open on Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday. We will have coffee and snacks there for you during play.