

Volume 10, Issue 7
May 11, 2016

“Trials” and Tribulations

UNITED STATES BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Halfway Through the Quarterfinals...

#	TEAM	TOTAL	1-15	16-30	31-45	46-60
1	Gordon	71	0	39	14	18
8	Coren	161	66	16	57	22
2	Diamond	125	43	40	28	14
7	Wolfson	105	15	30	32	28
3	Fireman	116.7	37	36.7	26	17
6	Schwartz	105	28	27	24	26
4	Nickell	103	13	33	19	38
5	Fleisher	109	55	9	33	12

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Lisa Berkowitz
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Hospitality Hostesses: Lisa and Susie
Before...



Hospitality Hostesses: Lisa and Susie
After...

Teams Entered... Ordered by Byes then Alphabetical

"TRIALS" AND TRIBULATIONS

Gordon

Bye to Rnd of 8
Mark Gordon, Capt
David Berkowitz
Jacek Pszczola
Pratap Rajadhyaksha
Alan Sontag
Michael Rosenberg

Diamond

Bye to Rnd of 16
John Diamond, Capt
Eric Greco
Kevin Bathurst
Brian Platnick
Geoff Hampson
Justin Lall

Fireman

Bye to Rnd of 16
Paul Fireman, Capt
John Kranyak
John Hurd
Gavin Wolpert
Vincent Demuy
Joel Wooldridge

Coren

Richard Coren, Capt
Russell Ekeblad
Matthew Granovetter
Roger Bates
Steve Garner

Dinkin

Sam Dinkin, Capt
Owen Lien
Adam Grossack
Cenk Tuncok
Zachary Brescoll
Zachary Grossack

Fleisher

Martin Fleisher, Capt
Joe Grue
Ishmael Delmonte
Chip Martel
Brad Moss
Chris Willenken

Gupta

Naren Gupta, Capt
Peter Weichsel
Neil Chambers
Billy Miller
John Schermer

Harris

Martin Harris, Capt
George Jacobs
Jay Barron
Jacob Morgan
Claude Vogel

Humphreys

Greg Humphreys, Capt
Peggy Ware
Sheri Winestock
Spencer Jones

Jacobus

Marc Jacobus, Capt
Jan Janitschke
Brenda Jacobus
Bonnie Smith
Jeff Holligan

Jolly

Christian Jolly, Capt
Gregory Herman
Julie Arbit
Anam Tebha

Lo

Ai-Tai Lo, Capt
Sylvia Shi
Howard Liu
William Pettis

McAllister

John McAllister, Capt
Ron Smith
Kevin Dwyer
Oren Kriegel

Nickell

Frank Nickell, Capt
Bobby Levin
Jeff Meckstroth
Ralph Katz
Steve Weinstein
Eric Rodwell

Reynolds

W. Reynolds, Capt
David Pelka
Lance Kerr
Alan Daniels

Robinson

Steve Robinson, Capt
Kit Woolsey
Bart Bramley
Peter Boyd
Fred Stewart
Robert Hamman

Schwartz

Richard Schwartz, Capt
Chris Compton
Huub Bertens
J. Allan Graves
Mike Passell
Curtis Cheek

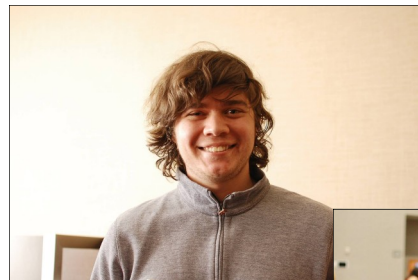
Wildavsky

Adam Wildavsky, Capt
Steve Beatty
Migry Zur Campanile
Larry Robbins

Wolfson

Jeffrey Wolfson, Capt
Gary Cohler
Zia Mahmood
Neil Silverman
Billy Cohen
Michael Kamil

If you play your cards right, you'll be able to hold all the aces and the situation won't become another house of cards.



Board 8 ♠ AT83
 Dealer: W ♥ AK5
 None Vul. ♦ KT532
 ♣ T

♠ K7 ♠ J642
 ♥ 42 ♥ QJ9873
 ♦ AJ87 ♦ 64
 ♣ AJ765 ♣ 4

♠ Q95
 ♥ T6
 ♦ Q9
 ♣ KQ9832



Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Meckstroth	Grue	Rodwell	Moss
1D (nebulous)	1S	Pass	2S
3C	Pass	3D	Pass
Pass	Double	All Pass	
Closed Room			
Willenken	Katz	Delmonte	Nickell
1NT (14+-17?)	Double	2D (transfer)	Pass
2H	All Pass		

In every match but Nickell/Fleisher, this board resulted in a swing of 3 IMPs or less. However...

In Nickell/Fleisher, it was an adventure. In the Closed Room, Willenken opened a light 1NT; Delmonte transferred. Katz and Nickell could not expect much of a swing after defeating 2H a trick.

At the other table, Meckstroth opened a normal 1D and Grue overcalled his four card spade suit. Moss raised to 2S and Meckstroth completed the pattern by bidding 3C. Rodwell, with a small preference for diamonds, bid 3D. Grue doubled. 3D went light four tricks for -800 and a surprising 13 IMP swing to Fleisher. Grue led the king and ace of hearts and a heart which Moss ruffed with the queen and Meck overruffed with the ace. In the fullness of time, Meckstroth claimed five tricks and in the words of Joey Silver: Next Board!

2016 Women's USBC

The 2016 Women's USBC will select the USA teams for the [2016 World Bridge Games](#), to be held in Wroclaw, Poland from September 3 through September 17th.

LOCATION & DATES

The 2016 Women's USBC will be held at the [Doubletree Hotel, Sacramento](#) CA starting on Monday, May 30th and ending on Saturday, June 4th. Room rate for the Women's USBC is \$99 per night, including internet. If you have any problem with the hotel, [email Jan](#) and she will try to straighten it out.

RELEVANT DATES

Monday, May 14: Final day to submit Advance Submission Forms if you are playing a Super Chart method.

Monday, May 9: Last day to make hotel reservations and be assured of receiving our hotel rate. The hotel may honor the rate for later reservations, but is not required to do so.

Monday, May 16th: Final day to submit System Summary Form and ACBL Convention card. Penalty for late submission of SSF is loss of seating rights in one segment of the team's Semi-final match per day that the form is late.

Friday, May 27: Last day for roster changes without Credentials Committee approval.

FORMAT

With exactly 5 teams entered (4 in the Quarterfinal), the Round Robin is a "Knock-In" event: on the first day the non-bye team with the highest number of Women's seeding points and the team with the second highest number of Women's seeding points will be teams 2 and 3. The other two non-bye teams will be randomly assigned numbers 4 and 5. Team 2 will play a 60 board match against team 5 and team 3 will play a 60 board match against team 4. The winners of these matches will qualify for the Semifinal and will have a day off on Tuesday. The losers of these matches will play each other in a 60 board match on Tuesday. The winner of that match will qualify for the Semifinal and the loser will be eliminated.

The Semifinal will be a two day, 120 board Knockout, on Wednesday & Thursday, June 1 & 2.

The winning Semifinalists will play a 2 day, 120 board Finals on Friday & Saturday June 3 & 4.

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

QUARTER-FINAL			
TUESDAY	MAY 10	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
WEDNESDAY	MAY 11	10:00 - 12:10 12:25 - 2:35 3:45 - 5:55 6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 5 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 6 BOARDS 16-30 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK SEGMENT 7 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 8 BOARDS 16-30
SEMI-FINAL			
THURSDAY	MAY 12	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
FRIDAY	MAY 13	10:00 - 12:10 12:25 - 2:35 3:45 - 5:55 6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 5 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 6 BOARDS 16-30 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK SEGMENT 7 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 8 BOARDS 16-30
FINAL			
SATURDAY	MAY 14	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
SUNDAY	MAY 15	10:00 - 12:10 12:25 - 2:35 3:45 - 5:55 6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 5 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 6 BOARDS 16-30 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK SEGMENT 7 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 8 BOARDS 16-30



Upcoming Senior USBC Information

LOCATION AND DATES

The 2016 Senior USBC will be held at the **Grand Hyatt, Denver, CO**, starting on Friday, June 17th and ending on Wednesday, June 22nd. Room rate for the Senior USBC is \$169 per night, including internet. You can make a reservation at the USBF **online reservation page** or by calling the hotel at (303) 295-1234 and mentioning USBF. **NOTE:** The hotel is fully booked on June 20, 21, and 22. The hotel has assured me that when those of you who made reservations for the last few days lose and check out, they will extend the reservations of those of you who are still playing. So please just reserve through 6/20 and we will work out the remaining days if you are still playing. If you have any problems with hotel reservations, **email Jan** and she will try to straighten things out. **The cut-off date to make reservations at our rate is Friday, May 20th.**

AIRPORT RAIL OPEN

The train goes from the airport to downtown Union Station, which is about 12 blocks from the Grand Hyatt. Cost is \$9 each way.

ENTRY INFORMATION

Entries are now open and will close at midnight EDT on May 23, 2016; additional entries will be accepted through June 3, but only if those additional teams will improve the format of the event. Any team that is reduced to fewer than 4 players because team members have qualified to represent the USBF in the Women's Teams in Wroclaw can withdraw its entry to the Senior USBC and receive a full refund of the entry fee.

FORMAT

The Senior USBC will last for 6 days.

The first stage will be a 1.5 day Round Robin. The top 8 teams will qualify for the Quarterfinal. The event will continue with 1.5 day KO matches for the Quarterfinal, Semi-Final & Final.

IMPORTANT DATES

Friday, May 20: Final day to submit Advance Submission Forms if you are playing a Super Chart method.

Friday, June 3: Final day to submit System Summary Form & ACBL Convention card. Penalty for late submission of the SSF is loss of seating rights in one segment of the team's first KO match per day that the form is late.

Friday, May 20: Last day to make hotel reservations and be assured of receiving our hotel rate. The hotel may honor the rate for later reservations, but is not required to do so.

Wednesday, June 15: Last day for roster changes without Credentials Committee approval.

Hospitality Suite Information

The hospitality suite for the 2016 USBC will be room 2612. Lisa Berkowitz and assistant Susie Miller are your hostesses during your stay. They will serve breakfast each day from 8:00-10:30 and lunch starting on Sunday day from 2:00-4:00.

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 the day.

As we have the last two years, we will also have a "Players' Break Room" (aka Jan's office) near the playing rooms from Tuesday on. We will have coffee, soft drinks and some snacks available in that room while you wait for your slow teammates to finish playing.

On Friday and Saturday, we will be serving a buffet lunch catered by the hotel - as soon as we know the location, we'll let you know.

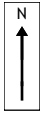


Quarterfinals ... Same Hands in All the Matches

Board 4 ♠ KQ32
 Dealer: W ♥ J42
 All Vul. ♦ AT5
 ♣ K87

♠ J9765 ♠ T
 ♥ T3 ♥ Q97
 ♦ J62 ♦ KQ97
 ♣ 932 ♣ AJ654

♠ A84
 ♥ AK865
 ♦ 843
 ♣ QT



Only in the Schwartz/Fireman match was this Board flat. Both tables bid to 3NT from North and both Easts led the queen of diamonds to defeat the contract.

In every other match, 12 IMPs were exchanged.

Delmonte led the DQ against Katz to take five tricks: down one!

At the other table, Rodwell led the C5 against Grue to collect only four tricks: contract making!

Bates, the only West on lead, found the diamond lead against Berkowitz... even though clubs were never bid. Again, contract down one!

Pratap, East, same match, led the C5 and Ekeblad brought home the game.

Greco led the DQ and Cohler was light a trick while Wolfson led the C5 and Platnick succeeded.

West	North	East	South
Meckstroth	Grue	Rodwell	Moss
Willenken	Katz	Delmonte	Nickell
Pass	1C	Pass	1H
Pass	1NT	Pass	2C
Pass	2D	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Nickell/Fleisher

Bates	Sontag	Garner	Berkowitz
Pass	1D (nebulous)	Pass	1H
Pass	1S	Pass	2D
Pass	2H	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Coren/Gordon

Gordon	Ekeblad	Pratap	Granovetter
Pass	1D (nebulous)	Pass	2C
Pass	2D	Pass	2H
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Hampson	Cohler	Greco	Cohen
Pass	1C	Pass	1H
Pass	1NT	Pass	2C
Pass	2D	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Diamond/Wolfson

Silverman	Platnick	Wolfson	Diamond
Pass	1D (nebulous)	Pass	1H
Pass	1S	Double	Redouble
Pass	Pass	2C	Pass
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Cheek	Wolpert	Bertens	Fireman
Pass	1C	Pass	1H
Pass	1NT	Pass	2D
Pass	2S	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Schwartz/Fireman

Hurd	Schwartz	Wooldridge	Graves
Pass	1C	Pass	1H
Pass	1NT	Pass	2C
Pass	2D	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

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

Sudoku 1

Sudoku

Sudoku 2

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

Answers to Puzzle No Peeking!

Sudoku 2 Solution

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

Sudoku 1 Solution

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

Puzzle Page ...

Just last week, Stacey's nieces and nephews met up to go to the cinema to see the latest blockbuster.

From the clues below, can you determine the order in which they stood in the ticket queue?

Sam was in front of Sarah. Stuart was behind Sandra and Sally. Sally was in front of Sharon and Steve. Sabrina was behind Stuart, Simon and Steve. Steve was in front of Sabrina, Simon and Shane. Shane was behind Simon, Sharon and Sabrina. Sandra was in front of Sarah. Simon was in front of Sam, Stuart and Sandra. Sarah was in front of Sharon. Sabrina was in front of Sam and Shane. Sarah was behind Sandra, Sally and Sabrina. Stuart was in front of Sarah. Simon was behind Sally.

Sharon
Sarah
Sam
Sabrina
Stuart
Sandra
Simon
Steve
Sally
Answer:

There are 5 houses in 5 different colors. In each house lives a person of a different nationality. The 5 owners drink a certain type of beverage, smoke a certain brand of cigar, and keep a certain pet. Using the clues below can you determine who owns the fish?

The Brit lives in a red house.
The Swede keeps dogs as pets.
The Dane drinks tea.
The green house is on the immediate left of the white house.
The green house owner drinks coffee.
The person who smokes Pall Mall rears birds.
The owner of the yellow house smokes Dunhill.
The man living in the house right in the middle drinks milk.
The Norwegian lives in the first house.
The man who smokes Blend lives next door to the one who keeps cats.
The man who keeps horses lives next door to the man who smokes Dunhill.
The owner who smokes Blue Master drinks chocolate.
The German smokes Prince.
The Norwegian lives next to the blue house.
The man who smokes Blend has a neighbor who drinks water.

Meet the Players



Answer:
This puzzle is usually attributed to Einstein, who may or may not have written it.
The German owns the fish and the table below details the full answer:
Nationality: Norwegian Dane Brit German Swede
Color: Yellow Blue Red Green White
Beverage: water tea milk coffee chocolate
Smokes: Dunhill Blend PallMall Prince BlueMaster
Pet: cats horses birds fish dogs

An MIT graduate, Bart Bramley grew up in Connecticut. He learned bridge at a young age (both parents played) and got serious in college. Among his NABC wins are the Vanderbilt, the Reisinger, Blue Ribbon Pairs (twice), and LM Pairs.

In WBF events, Bart won the 2007 Senior Bowl, was third in the Rosenblum, fifth in the Bermuda Bowl, second in the Transnational Teams and second in the World Par Contest. He captained the U.S. team in the 1996 Olympiad.

Bart writes frequent bridge articles, mostly for The Bridge World, where he is also a director of the Master Solvers Club.

In his spare time he follows sports avidly, especially his Yankees, and plays a mediocre game of golf. He's a serious Deadhead. Bart now resides in Dallas with his wife, Judy, and their two cats

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.



Board 19 ♠ QJ
 Dealer: S ♥ AJ843
 E/W Vul. ♦ AK862
 ♣ J

♠ KT954 ♠ 3
 ♥ K9 ♥ Q72
 ♦ 7 ♦ T543
 ♣ KT982 ♣ AQ653

♠ A8762
 ♥ T65
 ♦ QJ9
 ♣ 74



West	North	East	South
Weinstein	Grue	Levin	Moss
			Pass
Pass	1C (strong)	Pass	1NT
Pass	2C (asking)	Pass	2H (5-3-3-2)
Pass	2S	Pass	3NT
Pass	4D	Pass	4H
All Pass			

Because of the relays, Grue/Moss ended up playing 4H from South. At all other tables, 4H was played from North.

Against North's 4H, all Easts led the singleton spade. There was no longer a way to defeat the hand. Declarer wins the SA, finesses the HJ, losing to the HQ. A low club is led to the king. West cashes the SK, but now he is helpless. If he leads another spade, declarer ruffs with the eight and collects ten tricks.

Weinstein, West, also led a singleton... his singleton diamond. That is the only lead to defeat the contract. Moss was out of luck. He won the diamond in hand and finessed to the HJ, however, Levin won his queen, gave his partner a diamond ruff with the now singleton HK, won the club ace and waited for Weinstein to score his SK. 11 IMPs to Nickell

Board 20 ♠ AQ3
 Dealer: W ♥ KT6
 All Vul. ♦ 98
 ♣ K6543

♠ J82 ♠ 764
 ♥ J87 ♥ Q5432
 ♦ JT753 ♦ 64
 ♣ QT ♣ A98

♠ KT95
 ♥ A9
 ♦ AKQ2
 ♣ J72



At all tables, 3NT was played by North. At all tables, East led the H3. At all but one table, the contract succeeded, making 3, 4, or 5. At one table the contract failed:

Weinstein	Grue	Levin	Moss
Pass	1C	Pass	1S
Pass	1NT	Pass	2D
Pass	2S	Pass	3C
Pass	3H	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Levin led the H3. Weinstein put up the jack and Grue ducked. Weinstein returned the eight, Grue played the ten, Levin concealed the length by playing the five, and Grue won the ace in dummy.

Grue played a club to the king and ace, and Levin continued the attack on hearts with the four. Grue won his king... and at this point, he was entitled to four spades, two hearts, and three diamonds. Of course, declarer was not certain of the heart length and if Levin started with only four hearts, then it was likely he also held four spades. Grue cashed his SA, played three rounds of high diamonds, Levin showing out on the third round, pitching the C8, making it look even more like he held four spades. Grue led a spade to his queen and finessed the S9. This was a massive failure.

Had spades been 4-2, Grue would have been the only one to make the hand, but as it was, he was the only one to fail. 13 IMPs to Nickell

Fireman/Schwartz

Board 16 ♠ Q42
 Dealer: W ♥ J642
 E/W Vul. ♦ QT82
 ♣ Q5

♠ AJT96
 ♥ 97
 ♦ K43
 ♣ K82



♠ 875
 ♥ AKQT53
 ♦ A75
 ♣ 6

♠ K3
 ♥ 8
 ♦ J96
 ♣ AJT9743

West	North	East	South
Demuy	Passell	Kranyak	Compton
1S	Pass	2H	4C
Pass	Pass	4H	All Pass
Schwartz	Wooldridge	Graves	Hurd
1S	Pass	2H	4C
Double	5C	Pass	Pass
Double	All Pass		

Diamond/Wolfson

Hampson	Cohler	Greco	Cohen
1S	Pass	2H	3C
Pass	Pass	4H	All Pass
Zia	Bathurst	Kamil	Lall
1S	Pass	2H	4C
Double	All Pass		

Both Chris Compton and Billy Cohen found a great lead against four hearts on Board 16.

Since West had opened 1S, Cohen and Compton tried to gain a trick by leading low from the Kx of spades. It worked spectacularly. At both tables, declarer decided that there was no point in ducking the spade and having a spade return ruffed by South.

Since both Souths had preempted clubs, both declarers knew South was likely to hold the club ace, which would give declarer a parking place for a losing diamond or spade.

This was a mirage.

If North held both spade honors, he could not return the suit profitably unless he also held the club ace. The declarers were apparently planning to draw trumps and drive out the spades for a diamond pitch. This would work no matter who held the club ace.

As it was, both declarers failed.

12 IMPs to Schwartz

10 IMPs to Wolfson

FYI: For non-bridge related reasons, two players were unable to play the requisite number of boards in the Round of Sixteen. The Tournament C&E committee unanimously agreed that Russ Ekeblad will be required to play 5 of the 8 segments in the Round of 8 and Gary Cohler will be required to play either 6 segments in the Round of 8 or 5 segments each of the round of 8 and Semi-finals.

Puns ...

The butcher backed up into the meat grinder and got a little behind in his work.

Atheists don't solve exponential equations because they don't believe in higher powers.

It was an emotional wedding. Even the cake was in tiers.

I think Santa has riverfront property in Brazil. All our presents came from Amazon this year.

I was going to look for my missing watch, but I could never find the time.

Always trust a glue salesman. They tend to stick to their word.

When the cannibal showed up late to the luncheon, they gave him the cold shoulder.

When the window fell into the incinerator, it was a pane in the ash to retrieve.

Smaller babies may be delivered by stork but the heavier ones need a crane.

If towels could tell jokes they would probably have a dry sense of humor.

A hole has been found in the nudist camp wall. The police are looking into it.

Broken puppets for sale. No strings attached.

Two hats were hanging on a hat rack in the hallway. One hat says to the other, 'You stay here, I'll go on a head.

What's the definition of a will? (It's a dead giveaway).

I was going to buy a book on phobias, but I was afraid it wouldn't help me.

I knew a woman who owned a taser, man was she stunning!

I used to be addicted to soap, but I'm clean now.

Novice pirates make terrible singers because they can't hit the high seas.

Some people's noses and feet are built backwards: their feet smell and their noses run.

I went to the dentist without lunch, and he gave me a plate.

Sleeping comes so naturally to me, I could do it with my eyes closed.

When a clock is hungry it goes back four seconds.

I don't mind kids playing hopscotch in most places, but my driveway is where I draw the line.

I really wanted a camouflage shirt, but I couldn't find one.

Einstein developed a theory about space, and it was about time too.

How do they figure out the price of hammers? Per pound.

Did you hear about the crime that happened in a parking garage? It was wrong on so many levels.

The dead batteries were given out free of charge.

I knew a guy who collected candy canes, they were all in mint condition.

Never discuss infinity with a mathematician, they can go on about it forever.