

Volume 1, Issue 3
January 1, 2014

RESULTS: DAY 1

USBF President
George Jacobs

USBF VP
Howie Weinstein

USBF Secretary
Jan Martel

USBF Treasurer
Cheri Bjerkan

USBF COO
Jan Martel

USBF CFO
Barbara Nudelman

EDITOR
Suzi Subeck

DIRECTOR
Jay Bates

APPEALS
Barry Goren
Karen McCallum
Debbie Rosenberg
Michael Rosenberg
Chip Martel

UNITED STATES JUNIOR BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

U26 Junior United States Bridge Championship - 2013							
#	TEAM	TOTAL	1-12	13-24	25-36	37-48	Penalties
1	Kaplan	178	43	37	41	57	
4	Kaye	98	45	29	22	2	
2	Wang	133	33	31	31	38	
3	Herman	85	23	10	28	24	

U21 Junior United States Bridge Championship - 2013							
#	TEAM	TOTAL	1-12	13-24	25-36	37-48	Penalties
1	Kriegel	159	51	26	30	52	
4	Weingarten	74	10	35	21	8	
2	Harper	151	34	17	58	42	
3	Dhir	121	31	34	28	28	

Junior Jive

AND THE RONA STARTS WITH THE NEW YEAR: WELCOME LADIES!

ATLANTA THIS SUMMER



U-26 Qualifiers

Kaplan	Adam Kaplan, Capt Owen Lien Adam Grossack	Zachary Brescoll Marius Agica Zachary Grossack
Wang	Zhuo Wang, Capt Edmund Wu	Erli Zhou William Zhu
Herman	Gregory Herman, Capt Alex Hudson	Anam Tebha Drew Cavalier
Kaye	Jordan Kaye, Capt John Altman	Xu Wang Isaac Stephani

U-21 Qualifiers

Kriegel	Oren Kriegel, Capt Benjamin Kristensen	Christopher Huber Kevin Rosenberg
Harper	Brandon Harper, Capt Hakan Berk	Ryan Miller David Soukup
Dhir	Arjun Dhir, Capt Burke Snowden	Christian Jolly Allison Hunt
Weingarten	Matthew Weingarten, Capt Cole Spencer	Nolan Chang Evan Berman

Rona Qualifiers

Goyal	Rachna Goyal, Capt Mili Raina Asya Ladyzhensky	Alice Kaye Ruth Ng
Thapa	Isha Thapa, Capt Marianna Linz	Julie Arbit Rebecca Wernis

CHICAGO
IN JULY



Play Cards!

U26 & U21 USA1 SemiFinals

Captains' Meeting in Playing Area at 10:15 AM

TUESDAY DECEMBER 31ST	10:30 - 12:10	SEGMENT 1 BOARDS 1-12
	12:25 - 2:05	SEGMENT 2 BOARDS 13 - 24 1 HOUR 10 MINUTE BREAK
	3:15 - 4:55	SEGMENT 3 BOARDS 25 - 36
	5:10 - 6:50	SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 37 - 48

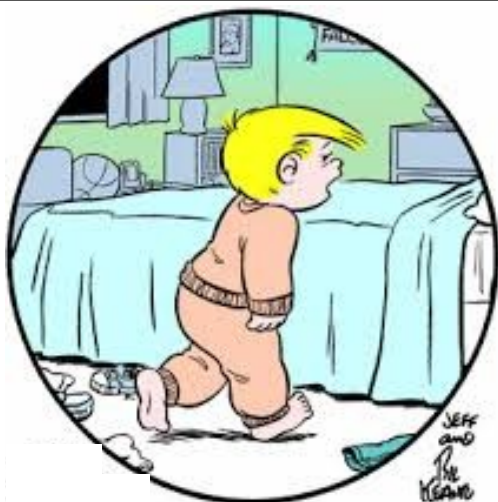
U26, U21 & Rona USA1 Final & U26 & U21 USA2 SemiFinal

WEDNESDAY JAN 1ST	10:30 - 12:10	SEGMENT 1 BOARDS 1-12
	12:25 - 2:05	SEGMENT 2 BOARDS 13 - 24 1 HOUR 10 MINUTE BREAK
	3:15 - 4:55	SEGMENT 3 BOARDS 25 - 36
	5:10 - 6:50	SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 37 - 48

**U26 & U21 USA2 & Rona Final
(Rona plays Boards 49 - 96)**

THURSDAY JAN 2ND	10:00 - 11:40	SEGMENT 1 BOARDS 1-12
	11:55 - 1:35	SEGMENT 2 BOARDS 13 - 24 1 HOUR 10 MINUTE BREAK
	2:45 - 4:25	SEGMENT 3 BOARDS 25 - 36
	4:40 - 6:20	SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 37 - 48

schedule of Play



"That's it, I'm tired. I'm gonna call it a year."

I need to start eating more healthy, but first I need to eat all the junk food in the house so it's not there to tempt me anymore.



**WELCOME
TO
2014**

Sudoku

Happy New Year



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

This Training & Trials week is being held at the Hyatt Regency in Atlanta, GA, starting about 4:00 PM on December 28, 2013 (Saturday) and ending about 6:00 PM on January 2, 2014 (Thursday).

USBF is paying a substantial portion of expenses for players participating in the in-person competition. Many thanks to ACBL and the **generous individual donors** who provided the funds necessary for this first-ever stand-alone Junior USBC and to donors of prizes to be distributed to the players. The Bridge World has generously donated 6 month subscriptions and copies of ALL IN THE GAME to each participant in the T&T Week. Larry Cohen, Eddie Kantar and others have donated books and CDs and BridgeWinners has donated hoodies to be distributed as prizes during the training portion of the event. Thank you all.

The T&T Week starts with 3 days of training and continues with 3 days of competition to select the 2014 World Championship teams. The competition will be shown on BBO Vugraph on Dec. 31 & Jan. 1 & 2. In person kibitzers are welcome also. If you live in the Atlanta area and are interested in helping us show more tables on Vugraph by being a Vugraph operator, please email Jan Martel.

Assisting with the T&T Week will be Debbie & Michael Rosenberg, without whose tireless efforts to organize the event this wouldn't be happening, mentors Marty Fleisher, Barry Goren, Karen McCallum, Jan & Chip Martel, Patty Tucker, Joe Stokes and Howie Weinstein, and ACBL Director Jay Bates. Many thanks to all of them for spending part of their holiday helping with this event. None of the mentors is being paid for his or her participation and we are very thankful to all of them for their help.

Answers to puzzle

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

PLAYER PROFILES:

OREN KRIEGEL

Oren is a second-year student at the University of Chicago, double-majoring in Political Science and Law, Letters, & Society (a program for which it is hard to find a description and with which it is harder to find a job). He lives in the woods in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, where he learned bridge in 2008 through the Superiorland Duplicate Bridge Club.

He is an accredited bridge teacher and has taught classes at Superiorland DBC, local tournaments, and his high school. For his Eagle Scout service project, he offered free bridge lessons to youth and their families. He is the president of the UChicago Bridge Club. He has published several articles in Better Bridge Magazine and has an article forthcoming in The Bridge World. He won the U21 World Youth Open Teams in 2013.

Bridge has consumed the greater part of his recent life, but he also enjoys social dance, puns, and some board games. He watches an unhealthy amount of Netflix and takes pride in this.

CHRISTOPHER HUBER

After playing various card games for the whole of my life, I finally graduated to bridge at the age of fifteen under the instruction of my grandmother. I found the game quite intriguing. I soon discovered that a local club existed nearby and started attending lessons there. The teacher of these lessons, Giorgio Provenza, took an immediate interest in my bridge education. He strongly encouraged me to continue bridge and offered his own time to teach me. We began to play together frequently.

Eventually, I was asked to try out for the England U20 bridge team. I was quickly integrated into the squad and started playing with a new and dependable partner. Together we competed in many international events.

I moved to America to attend Brown University in 2012. After a year of struggling to play with my friends in England, I looked for some opportunities in America. I wrote to Joe Stokes. His response was swift and decisive. Quickly, I found myself with a new partner, Oren Kriegel, and solid teammates, Kevin Rosenberg and Ben Kristensen. I am looking forward to playing more with all of them.

BEN KRISTENSEN

Ben, 15 years old, is a Sophomore at Marshall School in Duluth, MN, where he plays trombone in the Concert Band and is on the cross country running and track teams.

After his Sunday School teacher gave Ben an ACBL bidding manual for his 10th birthday, he taught himself bridge and started playing at the Duluth Bridge Club in January, 2009 and in bridge tournaments in May, 2009. He won his first Regional open event in May, 2011. Ben placed 1st in NABC Youth Pairs & Swiss Teams in 2011 and 2nd in Youth Pairs in 2012 & 2013, as well as 2nd in Youth Swiss Teams in 2012.

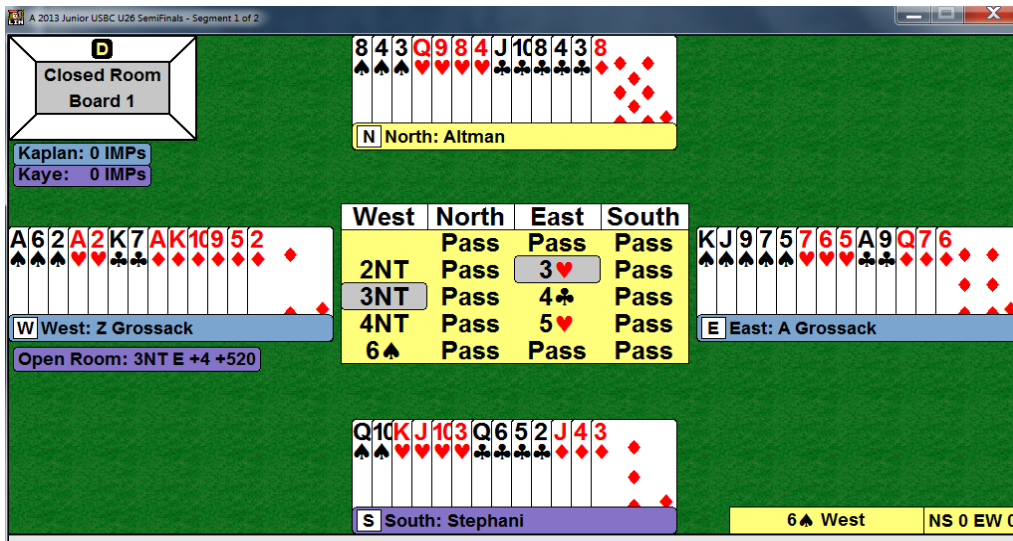
Ben placed 2nd in the 2013 Under-21 World Swiss Teams and 11th in the World Under-21 Teams in 2012. When he isn't playing bridge, Ben enjoys reading about bridge and playing the piano.

KEVIN ROSENBERG

Kevin, 16 and a Junior at Monta Vista High School in Cupertino, California, says:

I'm the son of two professional bridge players, so I was exposed to bridge at a very young age. Actually, I learned to play bridge at a very basic level at the child-care at summer Nationals. 7ntXX there was a very popular contract (and is still not unheard of in the junior bridge I play in now). I started playing bridge more seriously and often when I moved out to California from New York about 2 and a half years ago. I've always read a lot of bridge books (Bridge in the Menagerie), and I just think it's a great game. I hope my mom's new project called Silicon Valley Youth Bridge will involve more kids my age in the game.

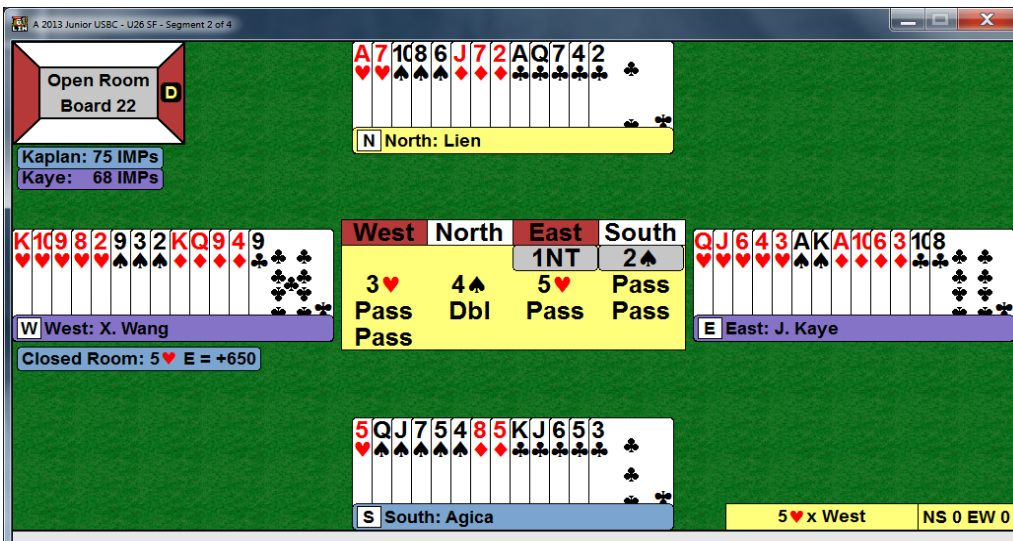
As a child, I first became interested in chess, despite being heavily exposed to bridge. I competed at an expert chess level for about 2 years, and peaked at about age 12. From there I moved to Scrabble, also reaching approximately an expert level, and competing twice in the National School Scrabble Championships. From there, I moved to bridge, where my primary focus is now, although I do still play on my school's chess team. I also played on my school's JV tennis team last year, and hope to play Varsity this year.



Off and running... In the U-26 semi final, the Grossack brothers started aggressively by opening an 18 point 2NT on Board 1, arriving in 6S in the Closed Room. In the Open Room, their counterparts, X Wang, W, and Kaye, E, settled in 3NT after Kaye opened a 10-12 1NT and Wang raised to game. 3NT made seven for 520.

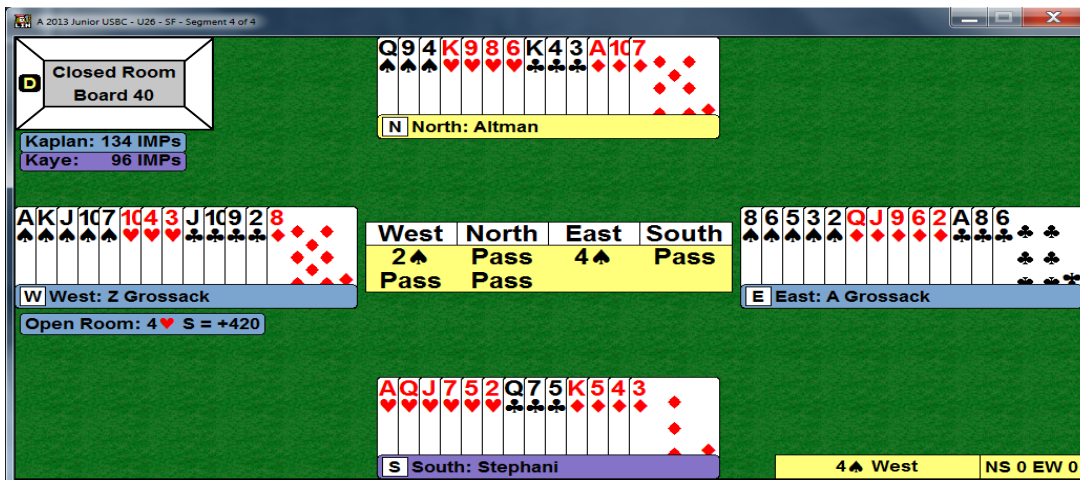
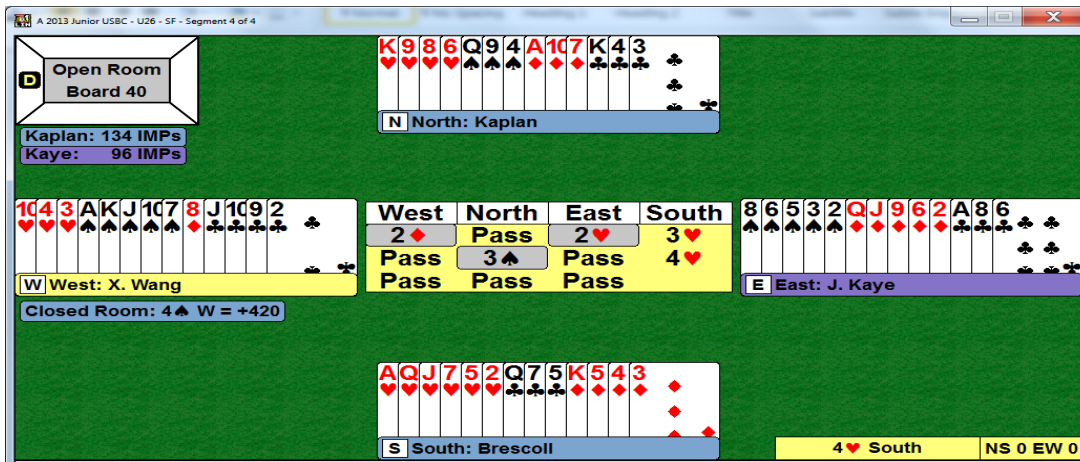
6S is interesting. Altman led his singleton diamond, making it easy for Zach to play the trump suit for one loser or four winners to make the hand. Accordingly, he won the opening diamond, led a spade to the king and a spade to the ace. When the queen fell, he was home with 13 tricks.

Stephani could have made it tougher by doubling 5H. On a heart lead, declarer has to fell the QT of spades to make his contract. 1010 was worth 10 IMPs to Kaplan



On Board 22, after Kaye chose to open an off-shape 14-16 point 1NT, Agica showed spades and a minor with his 2S call. Wang bid a forcing 3H and Lien jumped to 4S on his three card suit. Kaye bid 5H. Holding two aces and thinking that his partner's minor was probably diamonds, Lien doubled. Note that 5S is a good sacrifice, going down 3 for -500, if the opponents get their club ruff.

X Wang demonstrated very good declarer technique. His concern was that he not lose a diamond trick. While unlikely, it was possible that South's minor was diamonds, or that South held spades and both minors. Wang won the spade lead and played a trump to the ace. Lien continued trumps. Now Wang played a high spade, crossed to his hand in diamonds and trumped his last spade. He exited dummy with a club. Lien won the queen and played the ace of clubs. At this point Wang knew that South presumably held five spades and had followed to one heart, one diamond, and two clubs. If South held four diamonds, North would hold AQxxxx of clubs. With that holding, Lien almost certainly would have bid 4C rather than 4S at his first opportunity. Wang played with the odds and cashed the queen of diamonds for +850.



After Zach Grossack opened a weak 2S bid on the West hand, his brother, Adam, had no problem jumping to 4S. The opponents were locked out of the bidding and 4S made easily.

At the other table, X Wang opened 2D showing a weak two in either major. His partner, Jordan Kaye, was now faced with a guess. He did well not to just assume his partner's weak two was hearts, in which case he could pass the 2D bid. Instead, he bid 2H and hoped for the best.

Brescoll bid a natural 3H. Kaplan raised to game and Kaye passed quietly. 4H was cold, so the Kaplan team made +420 at both tables and gained 13 IMPs.

Once Kaye discovered that his partner's suit was likely spades, he should bid 4S. It is a possible make, or in the event that it is not, it is still insurance against a making 4H.

Interestingly, if West doesn't open, North will probably open 1C, West (or maybe even East) will overcall spades and the spade game will be bid.

If E/W do bid 4S on a competitive auction, N/S should take out insurance and bid 5H as was done in the Harper/Dhir U21 match. The auction there was P-1C-2S-4H-4S-5H-All Pass.