

UNITED STATES BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS



“Trials” and Tribulations

Volume 9, Issue 5

May 11, 2015

Results:

#	TEAM	TOTAL	1-15	16-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76-90	91-105	106-120	Penalties
1	Diamond	181	44	31	24	82					
16	Dinkin	113	23	39	23	28					
2	Hamman	124	20	30	41	33					
15	Ganzer	129	37	29	38	25					
3	Cayne	113	40	25	19	29					
14	Cappelli	127	6	20	72	29					
4	Fleisher	160	46	20	41	53					
13	Ivatury	95	15	26	23	31					
5	Gordon	92	30	19	17	26					
12	Lo	128	26	39	29	34					
6	Bramley	100	25	36	30	9					
11	Rigal	101	17	26	30	28					
7	Fireman	101	29	44	1	27					
10	Gupta	145	34	25	48	38					
8	Mahaffey	163	53	74	16	20					
9	Borker	93	17	19	42	15					

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See Page 3 for Important Information on Table Assignments

Teams in Order by Seeding

"TRIALS" AND TRIBULATIONS

Diamond Bye to Rnd of 16	John Diamond, Capt Eric Greco Justin Lall	Brian Platnick Geoff Hampson Kevin Bathurst
Hamman Bye to Rnd of 16	Robert Hamman, Capt Ross Grabel Ron Rubin	Roger Lee Howard Weinstein Peter Weichsel
Fleisher Bye to Rnd of 16	Martin Fleisher Brad Moss Michael Rosenberg Jan Martel, NPC	Chip Martel Ishmael Delmonte Chris Willenken
Cayne	Jimmy Cayne, Capt Curtis Cheek Michael Kamil	Michael Seamon Joe Grue Zia Mahmood
Gordon	Mark Gordon, Capt Alan Sontag Jacek Pszczola	Pratap Rajadhyaksha David Berkowitz Kevin Dwyer
Bramley	Bart Bramley, Capt Kit Woolsey Matthew Granovetter	Lew Stansby Fred Stewart Roger Bates
Mahaffey	Jim Mahaffey, Capt Gary Cohler Mike Passell	Sam Lev Billy Cohen Brian Glubok
Harris	Martin Harris, Capt Neil Chambers	Jacob Morgan John Schermer
Gupta	Vinita Gupta, Capt Steve Garner Adam Kaplan	Billy Miller Ron Smith
Fireman	Paul Fireman, Capt John Kranyak John Hurd	Gavin Wolpert Vincent Demuy Joel Wooldridge
Borker	Jay Borker Larry Robbins	Doug Doub Adam Wildavsky
Milner	Reese Milner, Capt Mark Lair David Grainger	Hemant Lall Ira Chorush
Lo	Ai-Tai Lo, Capt Jeffrey Miller George Jacobs	David Caprera Steve Beatty Claude Vogel
Rigal	Barry Rigal, Capt Allan Falk	Jeff Aker John Lusky
Cappelli	Robert Cappelli, Capt Robert Bitterman Joe Harris	Frank Treiber III Jerry Helms Leon Lowe
Ivatury	Uday Ivatury, Capt Jon Sorkin	Christal Henner Lapt Chan
Denison	Daniel Denison, Capt Jason Feldman	Richard Unger Greg Hinze
Ware	Peggy Ware, Capt Greg Humphreys	Spencer Jones Adam Parrish
Ganzer	Craig Ganzer, Capt Franco Baseggio William Watson	Robert Brady Brady Richter Howard Liu
Dinkin	Sam Dinkin, Capt Adam Grossack	Kenk Tunçok Zachary Grossack
Becker	Drew Becker, Capt Kenneth Zuckerberg	Jason Rosenfeld Daniel Wilderman

If you tell the truth, you don't have to remember anything.

Mark Twain



The Round of 16 ...

Board 25
 Dealer: N
 E/W Vul.

- ♠ 6
- ♥ T3
- ♦ KQ972
- ♣ AQJ94

- ♠ QT87
- ♥ KQJ2
- ♦ 65
- ♣ T72



- ♠ AK54
- ♥ 865
- ♦ T4
- ♣ 8653

- ♠ J932
- ♥ A974
- ♦ AJ83
- ♣ K

Closed Room:			
West	North	East	South
Ivatury	Rosenberg	Henner	Willenken
	1D	Pass	1H
Pass	2C	Pass	2S (FSF)
Pass	3C	Pass	3D
Pass	3H	Pass	4C
Pass	4D	Pass	4S
Pass	4NT	Pass	5H (2 without)
Double	Pass	Pass	6D
All Pass			

Open Room:			
Fleisher	Chan	Martel	Sorkin
	1D	Pass	1H
Pass	2C	Pass	2S (FSF)
Pass	3C	Pass	3D
Pass	4C	Pass	4NT
Pass	5D	All Pass	

In the Closed Room, Rosenberg/Willenken did well to bid the slam. Their 3H and 4S bids appear to be "interesting."

Henner led the SK and shifted to a small heart. Rosenberg won the heart in dummy, ruffed a spade, and pulled trump in two rounds. He cashed the CK and ruffed another spade to his hand. He led the CA and claimed his 12 tricks.

In the Open Room, the auction was the same through 3D. When Chan bid 4C, Sorkin revealed first round heart control by bidding 4NT. When playing Kickback (or Redwood as some would call it), 4NT becomes the cuebid for the suit used to ask for keycards. Once Sorkin "cued" the HA, Chan, looking at the 2nd round spade control, could have bid 6D. Unfortunately for him, he chose the conservative route.

Chan and Sorkin are an unfamiliar partnership having practiced some online and only played in person what they've played in this competition.

The result was 11 IMPs to Fleisher.

Table Assignments Starting with the Quarterfinals...

Please note that starting on Tuesday, teams will be playing in the corridor with rooms 12xx and 13xx, two floors down from the hospitality suite corridor.

Attention Seniors: Entries for the SUSBC close on May 11th. Please reserve your spot accordingly!

VuGraph Information

The 2015 USBC will be covered on BBO Vugraph starting with the Round of 16, in which we will cover 2 or 3 matches. The Round of 16 will start Sunday, May 10th. From the Quarterfinals on, we will cover all of the tables in play. 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, or download the BBO software to run BBO on your computer. If you choose the latter approach, after downloading, install the software on your computer, log on, follow the directions to become a BBO member and you'll be magically transported to the Lobby of the largest bridge club in the world. Click on the button labeled VUGRAPH and you'll be able to choose which of the USBC matches you want to watch. There will often 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 not have time to respond to private messages. Thank you.

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

10:00-12:10
12:25-2:35
3:45-5:55
6:10-8:20

During the Semifinals and Finals, all of the teams will play the same boards.

During the Round of 16, each team will play a different set of 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. Web Vugraphs are posted about half an hour after completion of the Vugraph show.

You can find the hand records for USBC matches on the USBF site, linked to the scorecards you can get to by clicking on 2015USBC under "Event Results" in the upper left of each page



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.

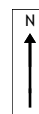
The USBF reserves the right to wand anyone entering the playing field.



Knockout Schedule

Board 12 ♠ Q5
 Dealer: W ♥ AQ983
 N/S Vul. ♦ KT82
 ♣ A7

♠ K76 ♠ AJ9842
 ♥ 2 ♥ 64
 ♦ Q7653 ♦ J4
 ♣ KQJ5 ♣ T84
 ♠ T3
 ♥ KJT75
 ♦ A9
 ♣ 9632



<i>Round of Sixteen</i>		
<i>Captains' Meeting in Playing Area at 9:45 AM</i>		
SUNDAY MAY 10TH	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 31-45 SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 45-60
MONDAY MAY 11TH	10:00 - 12:10 12:25 - 2:35 3:45 - 5:55 6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 5 BOARDS 61-75 SEGMENT 6 BOARDS 76-90 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK SEGMENT 7 BOARDS 91-105 SEGMENT 8 BOARDS 106-120
<i>Quarterfinals</i>		
TUESDAY MAY 12TH	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 31-45 SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 46-60
WEDNESDAY MAY 13TH	10:00 - 12:10 12:25 - 2:35 3:45 - 5:55 6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 5 BOARDS 61-75 SEGMENT 6 BOARDS 76-90 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK SEGMENT 7 BOARDS 91-105 SEGMENT 8 BOARDS 106-120
<i>Semi-Finals</i>		
THURSDAY MAY 14TH	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 31-45 SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 46-60
FRIDAY MAY 15TH	10:00 - 12:10 12:25 - 2:35 3:45 - 5:55 6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 5 BOARDS 61-75 SEGMENT 6 BOARDS 76-90 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK SEGMENT 7 BOARDS 91-105 SEGMENT 8 BOARDS 106-120
<i>Final</i>		
SATURDAY MAY 16TH	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 31-45 SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 46-60
SUNDAY MAY 17TH	10:00 - 12:10 12:25 - 2:35 3:45 - 5:55 6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 5 BOARDS 61-75 SEGMENT 6 BOARDS 76-90 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK SEGMENT 7 BOARDS 91-105 SEGMENT 8 BOARDS 106-120

Open Room:

West	North	East	South
Hurd	B Miller	Wooldridge	Kaplan
1D	1H	2H (spades)	4H
4S	5H	All Pass	

Closed Room:

Smith	Wolpert	Garner	Fireman
1D	1NT	2S	3H
4S	5H	All Pass	

In the Closed Room, Smith, on lead from West, led the obvious CK. Declarer had no chance. No matter how he plays, he has three losers.

In the Open Room, Wooldridge was on lead from East. He heard his partner open 1D and dutifully led the DJ. Declarer won the ace and pulled two rounds of trump.

With that out of the way, he finessed the diamond ten and claimed his eleven tricks.

Garner's 2S overcall worked like a charm. Without it, Wolpert and Fireman would have had transfers available and Garner would be facing the same guess as Wooldridge.

13 IMPs to Gupta

Seeding Information

The teams in the USBC are seeded based on a combination of Individual Positioning Points & ACBL Performance Points, including masterpoints. The seeding points for an individual player are capped at 65. Teams are seeded based on the average seeding points for the team, except that the three teams with byes are seeded on the basis of their PPs. The teams and their seed positions are listed in the table below. Note that the top 4 finishers in the Round Robin receive additional seeding points, which may change the seeding order for the Knockout stage. Teams may also add or drop players before the USBC, which would change their seeding points.

Seed	Team Name	Team Average Seeding Points
1	Diamond	70 PPs
2	Hamman	46 PPs
3	Fleisher	41 PPs
4	Cayne	52.13 SPs
5	Gordon	43.56 SPs
6	Bramley	36.72 SPs
7	Mahaffey	30.82 SPs
8	Harris	28.54 SPs
9	Gupta	25.90 SPs
10	Fireman	23.05 SPs
11	Borker	17.41 SPs
12	Milner	16.00 SPs
13	Lo	13.58 SPs
14	Rigal	11.59 SPs
15	Cappelli	8.74 SPs
16	Ivatury	8.21 SPs
17	Denison	7.32 SPs
18	Ware	5.36 SPs
19	Ganzer	4.82 SPs
20	Dinkin	4.51 SPs
21	Becker	3.38 SPs



Hospitality Suite Information

The hospitality suite for the 2015 USBC will be room 3321. Our wonderful hostess, Lisa Berkowitz will make the "trek" to Chicago, where she will be joined by Martha Katz & Phyllis Cheek, to welcome you to the Hospitality Suite during the tournament. They will serve breakfast each day from 8:00 -10:30 and **lunch from Sunday-Sunday from 12:30-4:00.***

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 the day.

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

***Note earlier starting time than originally planned please!**



Board 27
 Dealer: S
 None Vul.

♠ 52
 ♥ AKJ82
 ♦ A6
 ♣ AKJ2

♠ J63
 ♥ Q54
 ♦ JT8754
 ♣ 9



♠ KT98
 ♥ T9
 ♦ Q932
 ♣ QT6

♠ AQ74
 ♥ 763
 ♦ K
 ♣ 87543

Closed Room:

West	North	East	South
Diamond	Dinkin	Platnick	Tuncok
Pass	1D (GF)	Pass	1C (8-13 art.)
Pass	1S (asks)	Pass	1H (spades)
Pass	2D (asks)	Pass	2C (clubs)
Pass	2S (asks)	Pass	2H (4 ♠ + 5 ♣)
Pass	3D (asks)	Pass	3C (4-3-1-5)
Pass	4C (scans for controls)	Pass	3S (3 controls)
Pass	4H (scans)	Pass	4D (D control/no C control)
Pass	6C	All Pass	4NT (S control/no H control)

Open Room:

Z Grossack	J Lall	A Grossack	Bathhurst
2D	Double	3D	Pass
Pass	4H	All Pass	Double

On Board 27 of the Diamond/Dinkin match, the Dinkin team gained a well-deserved 10 IMPs when Dinkin-Tuncok used a sophisticated relay auction to reach a solid 6C contract.

If clubs are 2-2, declarer has an easy twelve tricks. If clubs are 3-1, there are still many possibilities.

At the table, Tuncok won the diamond lead and played two rounds of clubs followed by the ace and king of hearts. He pitched a heart on the diamond ace and trumped a heart, exiting with a club. Platnick won and played a spade. Tuncok took the spade finesse and claimed twelve tricks.

As explained above, Tuncok described his distribution with his bids of 1H, 2C, 2H and 3C. When Tuncok showed three controls (A=2 and K=1), Dinkin began a Spiral-Scan sequence to find which controls Tuncok held. As soon as Tuncok showed a diamond control and denied a club control, Dinkin could have jumped to slam. He knows Tuncok's other control is the spade ace. Perhaps he was thinking of scanning for queens, which, at this point, he could have done.

Either way, he gave up on bidding the grand slam and signed-off in six.

USBF Recorder

In order to handle player complaints about behavior and ethics at USBF Tournaments in a more efficient and flexible manner, in April, 2015 the USBF Board approved the creation of the position of USBF Recorder and President Howard Weinstein's appointment of Jack Oest to serve as the USBF's first Recorder. The exact procedures under which the Recorder is to operate will be included in a new set of Bylaws currently being drafted.

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

Fill each empty cell so that every row, every column and every 4x4 box contains the digits 0 to 9 and the letters A to F.

Sudoku



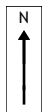
Answers to Puzzle No Peeking!

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

Board 5
 Dealer: N
 N/S Vul.

♠ 96432
 ♥ J7
 ♦ 7
 ♣ JT643

♠ QT75
 ♥ 852
 ♦ 853
 ♣ KQ8



♠ AKJ
 ♥ A94
 ♦ KQJ42
 ♣ A5
 ♠ 8
 ♥ KQT63
 ♦ AT96
 ♣ 972

Open Room:

West	North	East	South
Ganzer	Lee	Brady	Hamman
	Pass	2C	Pass
2D	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Closed Room:

Rubin	Watson	Weichsel	Liu
	Pass	1C (strong)	1H
Double	Pass	2D	Pass
3D	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Both tables in the Hamman/Ganzer match played in 3NT from East.

In the Closed Room, Liu led the HK. Watson/Liu play Rusinow leads but according to their convention card, agree to lead the K from KQT9. Without a thought, Watson unblocked his jack. Weichsel ducked and Liu continued with the heart ten. In the fullness of time, Liu collected his DA and cashed his remaining hearts to defeat the contract one trick.

In the Open Room, Hamman led his HQ. The lead of the Q from KQT9 has become standard. There was apparently some confusion since their convention card indicates they lead the king from this holding.

The lead of the queen must have created an odd situation for Lee. Accordingly, Lee played the seven, failing to unblock. Hamman had no idea his partner held the jack. He shifted to clubs and the hand came home without contest.

It is hard to imagine a holding from which Hamman would be leading the Q on this auction unless he wanted the drop of the jack.

Clearly, the heart overcall made the unblock easier for Watson than for Lee. The result: 10 IMPs to Ganzer

I have six locks on my door all in a row. When I go out, I lock every other one. I figure no matter how long somebody stands there picking the locks, they are always locking three.

Always borrow money from a pessimist. He won't expect it back.

The scientific theory I like best is that the rings of Saturn are composed entirely of lost airline luggage.

First the doctor told me the good news: I was going to have a disease named after me.

A successful man is one who makes more money than his wife can spend. A successful woman is one who can find such a man.

How do you get a sweet little 80-year-old lady to say the F word? Get another sweet little 80-year-old lady to yell "BINGO!"

My therapist told me the way to achieve true inner peace is to finish what I start. So far I've finished two bags of M&Ms and a chocolate cake. I feel better already.

Humorous Quotes