

UNITED STATES BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS



# “Trials” and Tribulations

#	TEAM	TOTAL	1-15	16-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76-90	91-105	106-120
1	<b>Diamond</b>	239	42	36	12	20	13	58	34	24
4	<b>Gordon</b>	231	22	12	21	30	54	25	1	66
2	<b>Fireman</b>	298	41	14	26	42	62	34	49	30
3	<b>Cayne</b>	245	31	46	18	11	40	15	25	59

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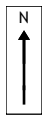
## SENIOR ENTRIES CLOSED 1 or 3 ADDITIONAL TEAMS MAY ENTER

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.

Board 25  
 Dealer: N  
 E/W Vul.

♠ T97652  
 ♥ AJ2  
 ♦ KQ6  
 ♣ 6

♠ AKJ  
 ♥ Q3  
 ♦ A852  
 ♣ AT87



♠ 984  
 ♥ T96  
 ♦ JT43  
 ♣ J54

♠ 3  
 ♥ K8754  
 ♦ 97  
 ♣ KQ932

Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
Diamond	Gordon	Platnick	Pratap
	1S	Pass	1NT
Pass	2S	All Pass	

Open Room			
Dwyer	Lall	Pepsi	Bathurst
	1S	Pass	1NT
Double	Pass	Pass	2C
3NT	Pass	Pass	Double
All Pass			

Closed Room			
Zia	Kranyak	Kamil	Demuy
	1S	Pass	1NT
Double	2S	All Pass	

Open Room			
Wolpert	Cayne	Fireman	Seamon
	2S	Pass	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Two spades was easy in both matches in the Closed Rooms.

3NT was not so easy... and 3NT doubled was even worse.

In the Gordon/Diamond match, Pepsi speculated by passing his partner's double of 1NT. Dwyer believed Pepsi's pass showed some values. When the opponents ran to 2C, Kevin bid the vulnerable game. Lall led a spade. Dwyer won the king. Dwyer led a small diamond. Lall won the queen and continued spades. Declarer played a club toward the jack; Bathurst won and played hearts. 800 to N/S

In the Fireman/Cayne match, Cayne opened an unusual weak two... a six card suit with everything outside! Wolpert balanced with 3NT. Cayne found the less than inspired lead of the DK. Wolpert won and continued diamonds. Cayne decided to attack hearts. He led low, but no matter what he did, the suit was blocked. Seamon won the HK and knowing that there was no longer a future in hearts, tried the CK. Wolpert ducked. Hearts were played... too late to defeat the contract more than one!

12 IMPs to Diamond; PUSH for the others

## Howie Doing...

Diamond v Fireman  
 Wild v Sound  
 Who will prevail:  
 India bound!

Diamond's already  
 Gone the nine yards  
 They've done it before  
 It's just in the cards.

Both teams have spunk.  
 Both teams have fire.  
 Predict that this match  
 Will go to the wire!

Howie Doing... Not Bad! See you at the Oldies!!

## Limey Jack...

Limey Jack is right knackered as this tourney comes to an end as it is far into the wee hours when you Yanks get what is sorely needed. Howie Dung cannot give you winners that you can make a few bob upon. He just rhymes incessantly while saying nothing. Limey Jack stays up burning the wick in the flat as he gives you winner after winner.

Sadly, after Cayne was dismissed by Fireman, Zia was given the sack. It was a stronking big victory by Fireman over the heavily favoured Cayne team. In the other tilt, Gordon gave it a bloody go but fell well short of Diamond's well running machine.

Diamond V Fireman: There seems to be no end to the Laddies belief in themselves. As long as Hampson has nothing to whinge about, the Diamond fury should continue unabated. Even the Dung one can hardly pick Fireman when it is his first time ever without an Au Pair. Fireman gets a doff of the cap as they have really taken the biscuit, but Diamond says pip-pip to them. Congratulations to Diamond for beating everyone in their path and to Fireman for achieving such lofty heights.

Cheers, LJ

# Teams in Order by Seeding

"TRIALS" AND TRIBULATIONS

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

"Giving up is always an option, but not always a failure."

— Cameron Conaway



# The Semi Final Continues...

## Sometimes Just Sitting in Your Chair Is Enough

Board 24  
Dealer: W  
None Vul.

- ♠ Q865
- ♥ K4
- ♦ KT76
- ♣ A94

- ♠ J3
- ♥ T98
- ♦ AQJ9543
- ♣ Q



- ♠ KT942
- ♥ AQ753
- ♦ 2
- ♣ T2

- ♠ A7
- ♥ J62
- ♦ 8
- ♣ KJ87653

Zia still has flair. That's o'k when it works. When it doesn't, it can be costly.

Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
Zia	Kranyak	Kamil	Demuy
2D	Pass	Pass	3C
3D	Double	Pass	3H
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Open Room			
Hurd	Grue	Wooldridge	Cheek
1D	Pass	1S	3C
Pass	Pass	3H	Pass
4D	All Pass		

As the commentators on VuGraph mentioned... and as was mentioned earlier in the week in the Daily Bulletin, rebids by preemptor can be a dangerous practice.

In an attempt to do the unusual, Zia opened 2D on his seven card suit. It went pass, pass, and Demuy balanced with 3C. Zia rebid 3D!! Kranyak doubled and Demuy, not clear on whether double was cards or majors, bid 3H. Kranyak pulled this to the miracle 3NT... a contract very unlikely to be reached on any other auction.

Kamil led a fourth best spade; Kranyak ducked and collected his nine for +400... a great result N/S.

At the other table, Hurd and Wooldridge reached a logical 4D contract E/W. They had to lose two diamonds, and two black aces for down one. 8 IMPs to Fireman.

Board 25  
Dealer: N  
E/W Vul.

- ♠ J4
- ♥ T94
- ♦ KT64
- ♣ KT43

- ♠ A532
- ♥ AJ865
- ♦ 73
- ♣ J7



- ♠ T987
- ♥ 732
- ♦ QJ85
- ♣ 65

- ♠ KQ6
- ♥ KQ
- ♦ A92
- ♣ AQ982

Closed Room			
Zia	Kranyak	Kamil	Demuy
	Pass	Pass	1C (strong, art.)
1H	Double	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Open Room			
Hurd	Grue	Wooldridge	Cheek
	Pass	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Kranyak and Demuy are playing a forcing club system. It can be tactical to bid over the strong opener before they know what they have or before they start to relay. Zia overcalled 1H and, while reasonable, once the opponents bid 3NT knowing he held hearts, he convinced himself to lead his second suit: spades. Zia led the SA. This was good for Demuy who now had two spades, two diamonds, and five clubs.

At the other table, where Cheek opened a standard 2NT, Hurd led a low heart. This established the hearts so he could cash when he gained the entry with his

SA. Cheek went light one trick. 10 more IMPs to Fireman



## 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 6  
Dealer: E  
E/W Vul.

- ♠ AQT4
- ♥ KQ863
- ♦ AJ
- ♣ AQ

- ♠ 85
- ♥ JT754
- ♦ QT8
- ♣ J92



- ♠ KJ963
- ♥ 92
- ♦ 652
- ♣ 764

- ♠ 72
- ♥ A
- ♦ K9743
- ♣ KT853

# Quarterfinals

<i>Round of Sixteen</i>		
<i>Captains' Meeting in Playing Area at 9:45 AM</i>		
<b>SUNDAY</b> <b>MAY 10TH</b>	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
<b>MONDAY</b> <b>MAY 11TH</b>	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>		
<b>TUESDAY</b> <b>MAY 12TH</b>	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
<b>WEDNESDAY</b> <b>MAY 13TH</b>	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>		
<b>THURSDAY</b> <b>MAY 14TH</b>	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
<b>FRIDAY</b> <b>MAY 15TH</b>	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>		
<b>SATURDAY</b> <b>MAY 16TH</b>	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
<b>SUNDAY</b> <b>MAY 17TH</b>	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

Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
Sontag	Diamond	Berkowitz	Platnick
		Pas	1D
Pass	1H	Pass	2C
Pass	2S	Double	Pass
Pass	Redouble	Pass	3C
Pass	4NT	All Pass	

Open Room			
Hampson	Gordon	Greco	Pratap
		Pass	1D
Pass	1H	Pass	2C
Pass	2S	Pass	3C
Pass	6NT	All Pass	

In the Closed Room, Berkowitz led a top of nothing diamond to partner's queen and declarer's ace. On that lead, all transportation problems were cured and Diamond coasted home with 14 tricks: 5 diamonds, 5 clubs, 3 hearts and 1 spade.

In the Open Room, it was not so easy. Greco led a top of nothing club against the slam. Gordon won the ace, cashed the queen, led a heart to the ace, cashed the club king and eight, Hampson, pitching a spade. Gordon led a diamond to his ace to work on hearts. When hearts didn't break, the contract was doomed.

Had Gordon been psychic, he actually could have made the hand by cashing the SA before crossing to the HA. Now West will be forced to discard a spade and a heart on the run of the clubs. Declarer can then lead a diamond to the jack, cash the king/queen of hearts and exit a heart. West will have only a diamond left to return. As it went, 11 IMPs to Diamond

In the Cayne/Fireman match, Seamon and Cayne played 7D and made it when both the diamonds and clubs behaved. Kranyak and Demuy played 4NT, making seven after receiving a diamond lead. 14 IMPs to Cayne

# 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 is room 3321. Our wonderful hostess, Lisa Berkowitz is in Chicago, where she is joined by Martha Katz & Phyllis Cheek, to welcome you to the Hospitality Suite during the tournament. The girls are serving breakfast each day from 8:00-10:30 and **lunch from Sunday-Sunday from 12:30-4:00.\***

The hospitality suite is 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.

There is also a "Players' Break Room" (aka Jan's office) near the playing rooms starting on Tuesday. It has coffee, soft drinks and snacks available while you wait for your slow teammates to finish playing.

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

Did you know the most commonly used letter in the alphabet is E

Did you know the least used letter in the alphabet is Q

Did you know the 3 most common languages in the world are Mandarin Chinese, Spanish and English

Did you know dreamt is the only word that ends in mt

Did you know the names of all continents both start and end with the same letter

Did you know the first letters of the months July through to November spell JASON

Did you know if you try to say the alphabet without moving your lips or tongue every letter will sound the same

Did you know a cat has 32 muscles in each ear

Did you know Perth is Australia's windiest city

Did you know Elvis's middle name was Aron

Did you know the flag for Libya is unlike any other being a solid green color

Did you know goldfish can see both infrared and ultraviolet light

Did you know the smallest bones in the human body are found in your ear

Did you know cats spend 66% of their life asleep

Did you know Switzerland eats the most chocolate equating to 10 kilos per person per year

Did you know money is the number one thing that couples argue about

Did you know macadamia nuts are toxic to dogs

Did you know when lightning strikes it can reach up to 30,000 degrees celsius (54,000 degrees fahrenheit)

Did you know spiders are arachnids and not insects

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

# Big Sudoku

- Did you know August has the highest percentage of births
- Did you know unless food is mixed with saliva you can't taste it
- Did you know the average person falls asleep in 7 minutes
- Did you know a bear has 42 teeth
- Did you know an ostrich's eye is bigger than it's brain
- Did you know most lipsticks contain fish scales
- Did you know no two corn flakes look the same
- Did you know lemons contain more sugar than strawberries
- Did you know 8% of people have an extra rib
- Did you know 85% of plant life is found in the ocean
- Did you know Ralph Lauren's original name was Ralph Lifshitz
- Did you know rabbits like licorice
- Did you know the Hawaiian alphabet has 12 letters
- Did you know 'Topolino' is the name for Mickey Mouse Italy
- Did you know a lobsters blood is colorless but when exposed to oxygen it turns blue
- Did you know armadillos have 4 babies at a time and are all the same sex
- Did you know reindeer like bananas
- Did you know the longest recorded flight of a chicken was 13 seconds
- Did you know birds need gravity to swallow

# Answers to Puzzle No Peeking!

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



# Puzzle Page ... Riddles

**1. Cathy has six pairs of black gloves and six pairs of brown gloves in her drawer. In complete darkness, how many gloves must she take from the drawer in order to be sure to get a pair that match? (a left and right glove of the same color) Think carefully!**

She could possibly take out 6 black left hand gloves and then 6 brown left hand gloves, the next one would have to be either the right hand or left hand match.

**2. Mom, Dad, and 2 kids have come to a river, and they find a boat. It is small and can only carry one adult or 2 kids at a time. Both kids are good rowers, but how can the whole family reach the other side of the river?**

The kids row across. One comes back. An adult goes over, and the kid comes back. Both kids row across again, and one comes back. The other adult rows across and the kid comes back. Both kids row across again.

**3. Why can't you take a picture of a Indian woman with hair curlers?**

You can't take a picture with hair curlers, you need a camera

**4. What is the largest possible number you can write using only 2 numbers - just 2 numbers, no other mathematical symbols?**

$9^9$ , this is  $9 \times 9 \times 9 \times 9 \times 9 \times 9 \times 9 \times 9 \times 9$  or 387,420,489.

**5. Before Mt. Everest was discovered, what was the tallest mountain in the world?**

Mount Everest has always been the tallest mountain, even before being discovered

**6. Because cigars cannot be entirely smoked, a hobo who collects cigar butts can make a cigar to smoke out of every 5 butts that he finds. Today, he has collected 25 cigar butts. How many cigars will he be able to smoke?**

6, he makes 5 originals from the 25 butts he found, and after he smokes them he has 5 butts left for another cigar.

**7. Jenn is facetious. She is also abstemious. She gets pneumonia. Given those clues, what American trees will she like?**

The Sequoia, the Southern Magnolia, the Russian-Olive and the Euphorbia. She only likes words with all 5 vowels in them.

**8. How many birth days does the average man have?**

One, he may have many Birthdays, but only one birth day.

**9. Someone at a party introduces you to your mother's only sister's husband's sister in law. He has no brothers. What do you call this lady?**

Mother, or Mom, or whatever you call your maternal relative

**10. Which weighs more, a pound of feathers or a pound of gold?**

The answer is actually feathers. We need proof though. One pound of feathers is more than one pound of gold because the "pound" unit is different. The most commonly used system of weights in the US and Great Britain is the avoirdupois system, where 1 pound = 16 ounces. This is used for most solid objects, except for precious metals and gems; gold is weighed by a special system, called the troy system, where one troy pound = 12 troy ounces. Where one avoirdupois ounce is 28.35 grams, one troy ounce is about 31.10 grams. To convert from avoirdupois pounds to troy pounds, multiply the first by 1.2152 to get its equivalent in troy measurement. Therefore, one `pound` of feathers in troy weight is actually 1.2152 pounds (one avoirdupois pound), compared to one troy pound of gold. And the feathers win.

Board 7  
 Dealer: S  
 All Vul.

♠ A83  
 ♥ AK65  
 ♦ KT2  
 ♣ A95

♠ T64  
 ♥ Q94  
 ♦ Q  
 ♣ KT8732



♠ K2  
 ♥ T872  
 ♦ A987  
 ♣ Q64

♠ QJ975  
 ♥ J3  
 ♦ J6543  
 ♣ J

In the Open Room, Gordon and Pratap had a simple auction to reach the spade game.

Gordon came into the day down, but they are steamrolling in the first segment.

Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Hampson	Gordon	Greco	Pratap
Pass	1C	Pass	1S
Pass	2NT	Pass	3D
Pass	3H	Pass	3NT
Pass	4S	All Pass	

Closed Room			
Sontag	Diamond	Berkowitz	Platnick
Pass			Pass
2C	1C (strong)	3C	1D
Pass	Pass	Pass	Double
Pass	3H	Pass	3S
Pass	3NT	Pass	4D
All Pass			

Hampson led the DQ to dummy's king and Greco's ace. Greco returned the D7 and Hampson dutifully led a club. Declarer won the CA and, not being able to afford a second diamond ruff, disdained the trump finesse, playing ace of spades and conceding the king. Making four...

In the Closed Room, it would appear that a small amount of interference created a large amount of confusion.

Diamond opened one strong club. Platnick bid one diamond, negative. Sontag threw in a 2C bid on his six card suit, brave at this vulnerability but not insane. Diamond passed and Berkowitz raised to 3C taking up just enough of the bidding room. Platnick doubled and diamond bid 3H. Platnick bid 3S and Diamond bid 3NT. Berk passed and Platnick bid 4D, likely believing the auction would not end here.

It did!

Sontag led the C8, Platnick winning the ace in dummy. A diamond was led to the jack and queen. Sontag led the CT and declarer ruffed. The SQ went to the K and another club forced declarer one more time. Platnick claimed 7 tricks... contract down three for -300...

14 IMPs to Gordon

In the Fireman/Cayne match, Seamon and Cayne missed game on this board, playing the hand in two spades. They made four for +170.

In the other room, Kranyak and Demuy bid the spade game and made it for +620.

10 IMPs to Fireman

Board 8  
 Dealer: W  
 None Vul.

♠ T7654  
 ♥  
 ♦ T9873  
 ♣ QJ5

♠ K8  
 ♥ A  
 ♦ Q6542  
 ♣ KT987



♠ A32  
 ♥ JT962  
 ♦ A  
 ♣ A643

♠ QJ9  
 ♥ KQ87543  
 ♦ KJ  
 ♣ 2

Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
Sontag	Diamond	Berkowitz	Platnick
1D	Pass	1H	2H
Pass (alerted)	Pass	Double	Pass
3C	Pass	3H	Pass
4H	Pass	6C	All Pass

Open Room			
Hampson	Gordon	Greco	Pratap
1D (CB short)	Pass	1H	2H
3C	Pass	3H	Pass
3NT	Pass	4C	Pass
4H	Pass	5C	All Pass

In the Closed Room, David Berkowitz made an excellent decision to bid the slam. East/West held all the right controls and all the right shortnesses.

Diamond led the DT to the stiff ace in dummy. Sontag cashed the ace and king of clubs. He played a heart to the ace and a spade to the ace, and ruffed a heart in hand. He ruffed a diamond to dummy, played the ten of hearts, ruffed in hand when Platnick covered and claimed 12 tricks.

In the Open Room, Greco appears to have made a somewhat conservative decision to bid only game.

11 IMPs to Gordon

Meanwhile, in the other match...

Closed Room			
Hurd	Cayne	Wooldridge	Seamon
1D	Pass	IH	2H
Pass	Pass	Double	All Pass

Open Room			
Cheek	Kranyak	Grue	Demuy
1D (CBS)	Pass	1H	2H
3C	Pass	3H	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

In the Closed Room, Wooldridge balanced with a double and Hurd decided to pass and defend. The contract can be defeated three tricks but this requires that West uses his trump ace to ruff a spade.

As it was, a diamond was led to the ace. A spade was returned to the king. Wooldridge trumped a diamond. He played a club to the king and Hurd returned a spade to the ace. At this point, Wooldridge needs to play a third spade. Instead, he tried the ace of clubs and declarer was able to escape for down two.

In the Open Room, Kranyak led a spade against 3NT. Since clubs didn't run, the defense was able to collect five tricks to defeat 3NT.

8 IMPs to Fireman

# Quarterfinals: Day Two, Segment Two

Board 24  
Dealer: W  
None Vul.

♠ A74  
♥ K5  
♦ AKJ  
♣ QJ754

♠ 8  
♥ QJT32  
♦ Q762  
♣ K63



♠ 532  
♥ A764  
♦ 543  
♣ AT9

♠ KQJT96  
♥ 98  
♦ T98  
♣ 82

## Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Dwyer	Lall	Pepsi	Bathurst
Pass	2NT	Pass	4H
Pass	4S	All Pass	

## Open Room

Diamond	Gordon	Platnick	Pratap
Pass	1C	Pass	1S
Double	Redouble	2H	2S
3H	4S	All Pass	

In the Closed Room, Lall chose to open 2NT showing 19-21 on his balanced 18 with a five card club suit. Pepsi wanted to make an attacking lead. He had no inference which of his two aces would be successful. He chose the HA. This was a massive failure. Lall lost one heart and two clubs and scored up his game.

At the other table, Gordon opened a normal 1C. Pratap responded 1S, making South declarer in 4S. Platnick had responded 2H to Diamond's T/O double, and even if he hadn't, from his hand the HQ stood out as "the" lead. Diamond led the HQ and the defense collected two hearts and two clubs to defeat the game.

10 IMPs to Diamond

In the other match, both tables arrived in 4S by South.

## Closed Room

Zia	Kranyak	Kamil	Demuy
Pass	1C (strong)	Pass	1D (negative)
1H	Pass	2H	3S
Pass	4S	All Pass	

## Open Room

Wolpert	Cayne	Fireman	Seamon
Pass	1C	Pass	1S
Pass	2NT	Pass	4S
All Pass			

In the Open Room, Wolpert, West, led the HQ and the defense took two hearts off the top and waited for their two clubs... exactly as did Diamond and Platnick.

In the Closed Room, the wheels came off the bus.

Zia, West, led the HQ. Demuy put up the king from dummy and Kamil won his ace. Kamil wasn't sure his side was collecting two hearts... what if Zia held six? Kamil decided to cash the clubs first. Truly no harm, no foul... unless ...

Kamil cashed his CA, Zia playing the six. Kamil continued with his club ten, Zia winning with his king.

Zia was at the crossroads... Did Kamil need a club ruff to defeat the hand or was a second heart cashing?

Zia guessed wrong. He continued clubs. Kamil followed suit and Demuy collected his ten tricks to make his contract.

10 IMPs to Fireman