

Volume 10, Issue 5  
May 9, 2016

# “Trials” and Tribulations

## UNITED STATES BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

#	TEAM	TOTAL	1-15	16-30	31-45	46-60
2	<b>Diamond</b>	151	7	49	29	66
15	<b>Dinkin</b>	145	36	39	51	19
3	<b>Fireman</b>	183	77	24	46	36
14	<b>Jolly</b>	143	15	42	62	24
4	<b>Nickell</b>	275	66	108	30	71
13	<b>Reynolds</b>	28	0	2	15	11
5	<b>Fleisher</b>	116	23	32	32	29
12	<b>Wildavsky</b>	132	31	11	20	70
6	<b>Schwartz</b>	157	48	45	40	24
11	<b>Harris</b>	132	41	46	24	21
7	<b>Wolfson</b>	98	32	23	34	9
10	<b>Gupta</b>	92	26	29	5	32
8	<b>Robinson</b>	72	14	7	28	23
9	<b>Coren</b>	159	60	33	26	40



A man's home is his castle, in a manor of speaking  
 Dijon vu - the same mustard as before  
 Practice safe eating - always use condiments  
 Shotgun wedding - A case of wife or death  
 A man needs a mistress just to break the monogamy  
 A hangover is the wrath of grapes  
 Dancing cheek-to-cheek is really a form of floor play  
 Does the name Pavlov ring a bell?  
 Reading while sunbathing makes you well red  
 When two egotists meet, it's an I for an I  
 A bicycle can't stand on its own because it is two tired  
 What's the definition of a will? It's a dead give away  
 Time flies like an arrow. Fruit flies like a banana  
 In democracy your vote counts. In feudalism your count votes  
 She was engaged to a boyfriend with a wooden leg but broke it off  
 A chicken crossing the road is poultry in motion  
 If you don't pay your exorcist, you get repossessed  
 With her marriage, she got a new name and a dress  
 The man who fell into an upholstery machine is fully recovered  
 You feel stuck with your debt if you can't budge it  
 Local Area Network in Australia - the LAN down under  
 Every calendar's days are numbered  
 A lot of money is tainted -Taint yours and taint mine  
 A boiled egg in the morning is hard to beat  
 He had a photographic memory that was never developed  
 A midget fortune-teller who escapes from prison is a small medium at large  
 Once you've seen one shopping center, you've seen a mall  
 Bakers trade bread recipes on a knead-to-know basis  
 Santa's helpers are subordinate clauses  
 Acupuncture is a jab well done

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Bob Katz

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# 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

Life is like a game of cards. The hand you are dealt is determinism; the way you play it is free will.

Jawaharlal Nehru



Board 20 ♠ Q652  
 Dealer: W ♥ 5  
 All Vul ♦ 873  
 ♣ AQT53

♠ AJT94 ♠ K83  
 ♥ 9 ♥ KQT74  
 ♦ AQJ64 ♦ 952  
 ♣ K6 ♣ 74

♠ 7  
 ♥ AJ8632  
 ♦ KT  
 ♣ J982



West	North	East	South
Miller	Kamil	Weichsel	Zia
1S	Pass	2S	3H
4S	All Pass		
Cohen	Schermer	Silverman	Chambers
1S	Pass	2S	Pass
4S	All Pass		

Miller was declarer in the Closed Room. Kamil led the H5. Zia switched to the S7 giving away the show. Miller won the S8 in dummy, led a diamond off the board, king, ace, small. Miller ran the SJ, cashed the DQ, and led a spade to dummy's king. The queen of hearts was played off dummy, Kamil ruffing with the SQ. It was all over but the shouting. +620 for Gupta

Not so easy in the Open Room for Cohen. Schermer, like Kamil, led the H5. Chambers found a better return than Zia found. He led the DK. Cohen won the ace, cashed the SA and SK, Chambers pitching a small heart. In dummy for what could be the only time, Cohen played the HQ, tossing the C6, while Schermer ruffed with the S6. Schermer now had two spades, one club and one heart in the bank. -100 for Wolfson

12 IMPs to Gupta

# Wolfson vs Gupta

## Tournament Schedule (continued on page 4)

ROUND OF 16			
SUNDAY	MAY 8	9:45 AM	CAPTAINS' MEETING
SUNDAY	MAY 8	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
MONDAY	MAY 9	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

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.



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.



## 2016 USBC Appeal #1 - Round Robin Match 8 - Coren vs Dinkin

Board 20  
 Vul: Both  
 Dealer: W

North (Dinkin)  
 ♠ K 9 8 5 4 3  
 ♥ ---  
 ♦ K J 10 6  
 ♣ K 8 2

East (Ekeblad)

West (Granovetter)

♠ A Q 7  
 ♥ K J 8 7 4 2  
 ♦ A 7  
 ♣ Q 3

♠ J 10 6 2  
 ♥ Q 10 9  
 ♦ Q 8  
 ♣ A J 6 4

South (Tunçok)  
 ♠ ---  
 ♥ A 6 5 3  
 ♦ 9 5 4 3 2  
 ♣ 10 9 7 5



### Bidding

N	E	S	W
			1♣*
2♠**	2NT	P	3♦***
P	3NT	P	P
DBL	P	P	p

\* Strong

\*\* Natural

\*\*\* West to South: transfer to Hearts; East to North: Natural, forcing

West told South he was not sure

**Lead:** ♣10

**Table Result:** 3NTx making; NS +750

**Director's Ruling:** 3NTx -1; NS -200

The meaning of North's Pass and Double was different to South than to North because of the differing explanations of West's 3D bid.

Screen conditions expect the declaring side to verify alerts and explanations given so that MI does not affect the defense and for other reasons. West was uncertain about what his partner thought his bid meant but did not initiate an exchange of declaring side's explanations before the play.

Had that exchange occurred, South would know what his partner's double meant and would lead a Diamond.

### Appeals Committee Ruling

Director's ruling upheld.

**Appeals Committee:** Gavin Wolpert, Chairman; Joel Wooldridge, Member; John Hurd, Member

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

Sudoku 1

# Sudoku

Sudoku 2

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

## Answers to Puzzle No Peeking!

Sudoku 2 Solution

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

Sudoku 1 Solution

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

## GOLD RUSH WORD SEARCH PUZZLE



- |                |              |            |               |
|----------------|--------------|------------|---------------|
| ALASKA         | CLAIM        | NUGGET     | SHOVEL        |
| AMERICAN RIVER | FORTY-NINERS | PANNING    | SIERRA NEVADA |
| ASSAYER        | GOLD DUST    | PLACER     | SLUICE        |
| BOOMTOWN       | KLONDIKE     | PROSPECTOR | SUTTER'S MILL |
| CALIFORNIA     | MINERS       | RIVERBED   | YUKON         |

### Meet The Players ...



John Diamond is a former options trader who lives in Boca Raton, FL with his wife and two children.

John has a master's degree in physics and is also an avid computer programmer. John's partnership with Brian Platnick began in 1988, and together they have won the 1991 World Junior Championships, the 2012 Blue Ribbon Pairs, and both the 2010 Spingold and the 2010 Rosenblum with Eric Greco, Geoff Hampson, Brad Moss and Fred Gitelman.

John has also won two Open Swiss Teams, two Open Pairs, placed 2nd twice in the Vanderbilt, and received a Bronze medal in the 2014 Rosenblum.



# 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

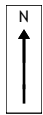
Please [email Jan](#) if you have any suggestions, comments or questions about this event.



Board 22    ♠ T7  
 Dealer: E    ♥ JT9764  
 E/W Vul.    ♦ Q84  
               ♣ 52

♠ KQJ86                    ♠ A94  
 ♥ K82                      ♥ A3  
 ♦ KT96                    ♦ A53  
 ♣ Q                         ♣ AT943

♠ 532  
 ♥ Q5  
 ♦ J72  
 ♣ KJ876



West	North	East	South
Cohen	Schermer	Silverman	Chambers
		1NT (15-17)	Pass
2H (transfer)	Pass	2S	Pass
3D	Pass	3S	Pass
4S	All Pass		

Miller	Kamil	Weichsel	Zia
		1NT (15-17)	Pass
2H (transfer)	Pass	2NT (super accept)	Pass
3D	Pass	3H	Pass
4C	Pass	4D	Pass
4NT (key card)	Pass	5D (1 or 4)	Pass
6S	All Pass		

Both declarers took 12 tricks. In the Closed Room, Miller/Weichsel did well to bid the slam. In the Open Room, Silverman dropped the ball when he bid only 3S over Cohen's 3D call. Missing all the aces, Cohen needed encouragement to bid beyond game. 13 IMPs to Gupta

Board 6    ♠ 63  
 Dealer: E    ♥ 2  
 E/W Vul.    ♦ AT8763  
               ♣ AJ52

♠ T97                        ♠ KQ8542  
 ♥ T8654                    ♥ K973  
 ♦ K2                        ♦ 95  
 ♣ 876                        ♣ 9

♠ AJ  
 ♥ AQJ  
 ♦ QJ4  
 ♣ KQT43



Robbins	Fleisher	Beatty	Martel
		Pass	2NT
Pass	3S (C or both min)	Double	4C
Pass	4H (double KC)	Pass	4S (0 or 3)
4NT (Q ask)	Pass	5D (alerted)	Pass
6C	All Pass		

Delmonte	Campanile	Willenken	Wildavsky
		Pass	1C
Pass	1D	1S	Double
Pass	3C	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Chip Martel and Marty Fleisher had a nice bidding sequence to reach the club slam which makes on a wide variety of holdings. On a spade lead, declarer draws a round of trump and plays HA followed by the HJ pitching a spade from dummy. If this loses, declarer falls back on the diamond finesse. If West holds the HK and covers, declarer ruffs and returns to his hand in trump. If trumps are 2-2, he discards a spade on the HQ and takes the diamond finesse for an overtrick. If trumps are 3-1, he has a choice; he can draw trumps and take the diamond finesse or he can cash a heart, pitching a spade from dummy, ruff a spade in dummy and follow with ace and a diamond. Now if diamonds are 2-2 or even 3-1 with the long trump in the same hand as the long diamond, he is home free. In fact, Martell won the spade and played ace and jack of hearts. A third heart was returned. Declarer won in hand trumped a spade, drew trumps and took the diamond finesse for twelve tricks, scoring +920.

At the other table, NS reached 3NT after East overcalled in spades. Declarer won the spade lead and took nine tricks by first trying to drop the DK and finessing in hearts when the diamond did not drop, scoring +400.