

Volume 11, Issue 9  
May 5, 2017

## Results:

### USA1 Semifinals... halfway through

1	<u>Nickell</u>	101	<u>33</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>42</u>
4	<u>Harris</u>	63	<u>13</u>	<u>31</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>11</u>
2	<u>Diamond</u>	128	<u>24</u>	<u>41</u>	<u>38</u>	<u>25</u>
3	<u>Dwyer</u>	77	<u>4</u>	<u>32</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>17</u>

### Women's Round Robin ... halfway through

Team Name	Total	1	6	2	4	5	3	7	BYE
1. <u>Clerkin</u>	99.22		18.04	4.77	11.67	19.24	20.00	15.50	10.00
6. <u>Jenkins</u>	80.62	1.96		13.45	19.37	14.39	13.12	8.33	10.00
2. <u>Eythorsdottir</u>	77.01	15.23	6.55		16.90	7.95	2.69	17.69	10.00
4. <u>Baker</u>	66.90	8.33	.63	3.10		12.77	14.96	17.11	10.00
5. <u>Wittes</u>	60.90	.76	5.61	12.05	7.23		14.39	10.86	10.00
3. <u>Sakr</u>	56.51	0.00	6.88	17.31	5.04	5.61		11.67	10.00
7. <u>OSMO</u>	48.84	4.50	11.67	2.31	2.89	9.14	8.33		10.00

### USA2 Round of 16 ... halfway through

5	<u>Rosenthal</u>	104	48	6	<u>30</u>	20
11	<u>Ivatury</u>	159	20	61	<u>28</u>	50
6	<u>Fireman</u>	104	33	24	17	<u>30</u>
12	<u>Fleisher</u>	137	29	37	39	<u>32</u>
7	<u>Wold</u>	99	16	<u>11</u>	29	43
9	<u>Simson</u>	119	6	<u>52</u>	16	45
8	<u>Meltzer</u>	93	<u>12</u>	25	32	24
10	<u>Mahaffey</u>	68	<u>18</u>	24	13	13

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# “Trials” and Tribulations

UNITED STATES BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS



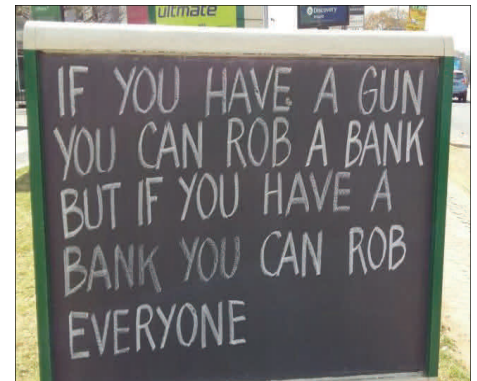
# USBF 8 Board

## VP Scale

Margin	Winner	Loser	Margin	Winner	Loser	Margin	Winner	Loser
0	10	10	15	15.23	4.77	30	18.37	1.63
1	10.44	9.56	16	15.50	4.50	31	18.53	1.47
2	10.86	9.14	17	15.75	4.25	32	18.68	1.32
3	11.27	8.73	18	16.00	4.00	33	18.83	1.17
4	11.67	8.33	19	16.23	3.77	34	18.97	1.03
5	12.05	7.95	20	16.46	3.54	35	19.11	0.89
6	12.42	7.58	21	16.68	3.32	36	19.24	0.76
7	12.77	7.23	22	16.90	3.10	37	19.37	0.63
8	13.12	6.88	23	17.11	2.89	38	19.50	0.50
9	13.45	6.55	24	17.31	2.69	39	19.62	0.38
10	13.78	6.22	25	17.50	2.50	40	19.74	0.26
11	14.09	5.91	26	17.69	2.31	41	19.85	0.15
12	14.39	5.61	27	17.87	2.13	42	19.95	0.05
13	14.68	5.32	28	18.04	1.96	43	20	0
14	14.96	5.04	29	18.21	1.79			

FRIDAY, MAY 5TH			
10:00-11:10	1 v 2, 3 v 4, 5 v 6, 7 v 8	2, 4, 6	1-8
11:20-12:30	1 v 3, 2 v 4, 5 v 7, 6 v 8	1, 2, 5	9-16
12:40-1:50	1 v 4, 2 v 3, 5 v 8, 6 v 7	4, 3, 7	17-24
LUNCH BREAK			
3:00 - 4:10	1 v 5, 2 v 8, 3 v 7, 4 v 6	1, 3, 4	1-8
4:20 - 5:30	1 v 6, 2 v 5, 3 v 8, 4 v 7	6, 5, 7	9-16
5:40 - 6:50	1 v 7, 2 v 6, 3 v 5, 4 v 8	none	17-24
7:00 - 8:10	1 v 8, 2 v 7, 3 v 6, 4 v 5	none	25-32

## Women's RR Schedule



## ALERT!

On many of the boards, cards slide between pockets when being carried.

Please count your cards on every hand!

# 2017 Women's USBC TEAMS

*There are 7 teams entered.* The teams are listed in their Round Robin number order.

Clerkin	<b>Joanne Weingold</b> <b>Migry Zur Campanile</b> <b>Beth Palmer</b> <b>Dennis Clerkin, NPC</b>	<b>Jill Meyers</b> <b>Sylvia Shi</b> <b>Shannon Cappelletti</b>
Eythorsdottir	<b>Hjordis Eythorsdottir, Capt</b> <b>Cindy Bernstein</b>	<b>Linda Lewis</b> <b>Claire Tornay</b>
Sakr	<b>May Sakr, Capt</b> <b>Anam Tebha</b>	<b>Allison Howard</b> <b>Cristal Nell</b>
Baker	<b>Lynn Baker, Capt</b> <b>Kerri Sanborn</b> <b>Tobi Sokolow</b>	<b>Karen McCallum</b> <b>Irina Levitina</b> <b>Janice Seamon-Molson</b>
Wittes	<b>Pamela Wittes, Capt</b> <b>Cheri Bjerkan</b>	<b>Ljudmila Kamenova</b> <b>Rozanne Pollack</b>
Jenkins	<b>Bronia Jenkins, Capt</b> <b>Sylvia Moss</b> <b>Bernace De Young</b>	<b>Sheri Winestock</b> <b>Connie Goldberg</b> <b>Irina Kislitsyna</b>
OSMO	<b>Teri Smoot</b> <b>Toni Bales</b> <b>Paul Pugsley, NPC</b>	<b>Brenda Pugsley</b> <b>Kimberly Music</b>

## Hospitality Information...



The hospitality suite for the 2017 Open USBC is room 2321, one level up from the playing rooms. Our wonderful hostess, Lisa Berkowitz, and her co-chair, Martha Katz, will serve breakfast each day from 8:00-10:30, as well as lunch from 1:00-4:00. **Please note: Sit outs are encouraged to come as early as possible for lunch to avoid overcrowding the suite. Everyday, lunch will be served both in 2321 and 1321 to handle the expected overflow.**

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.

The "Players' Break Room" (aka Jan's office) is room 1321. It will be available for the entire tournament. You can find coffee, soft drinks and snacks in that room while you wait for slow teammates to finish playing.

**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.**



# OpenTeams Entered... listed in RR seeding order

"TRIALS" AND TRIBULATIONS

Nickell Bye to QF	Frank Nickell, Capt Jeff Meckstroth Bobby Levin	Ralph Katz Eric Rodwell Steve Weinstein
Diamond Bye to QF	John Diamond, Capt Justin Lall Eric Greco	Brian Platnick Kevin Bathurst Geoff Hampson
Fleisher Bye to R16	Martin Fleisher, Capt Brad Moss Michael Rosenberg	Chip Martel Joe Grue Jacek Pyszczola
Fireman Bye to R16	Paul Fireman, Capt John Hurd John Kranyak	Gavin Wolpert Joel Wooldridge Vincent Demuy
Rosenthal	Andrew Rosenthal, Capt Chris Willenken David Berkowitz	Aaron Silverstein Eldad Ginossar Alan Sontag
Meltzer	Rose Meltzer, Capt Steve Garner Bart Bramley	Nikolay Demirev Ron Smith Robert Hamman
Mahaffey	Jim Mahaffey, Capt Neil Chambers Matthew Granovetter	Sam Lev John Schermer Russell Ekeblad
Dwyer	Kevin Dwyer, Capt Billy Cohen Michael Kamil	Roger Lee Gary Cohler Michael Becker
Wold	Eddie Wold, Capt Marc Jacobus Chris Compton	Michael Levine Mike Passell David Grainger
Simson	Doug Simson, Capt JoAnna Stansby	Jeff Aker Lew Stansby
Miller	Jeffrey Miller, Capt Reese Milner Joshua Stark	William Engel Hemant Lall
Robinson	Steve Robinson, Capt Kit Woolsey Bill Pollack	Peter Boyd Fred Stewart Ron Rubin
Jacobs	George Jacobs, Capt Dick Bruno David Lehman	Claude Vogel Jeffrey Schuett Richard Melson
Harris	Martin Harris, Capt Ai-Tai Lo Jay Barron	Jacob Morgan Howard Liu
Ivatury	Uday Ivatury, Capt Lapt Chan	Christal Henner Jon Sorkin
Dinkin	Sam Dinkin, Capt W. Thomas Reynolds	Michael Shuster Lance Kerr
Kent	Robert Kent Brenda Pugsley	Ellen Kent Paul Pugsley

Tell me and I forget.  
Teach me and I  
remember. Involve  
me and I learn.

Benjamin Franklin

**As Mother's Day Approaches**

**Mom No. 1:** How do you get your sleepy-head son up in the morning?

**Mom No. 2:** I just put the cat on the bed.

**Mom No. 1:** How does that help?

**Mom No. 2:** The dog's already there.

**Baby snake:** Mommy, are we poisonous?

**Mother snake:** Yes, son. Why?

**Baby snake:** I just bit my tongue!

**Chris:** Why is a computer so smart?

**Mom:** It listens to its motherboard.

**Son:** Dad, do you know the difference between a pack of cookies and a pack of elephants?

**Dad:** No.

**Son:** Then it's a good thing Mom does the grocery shopping!

**Sunday school teacher:** Tell me, Johnny. Do you say prayers before eating?

**Johnny:** No, ma'am, I don't have to. My mom's a good cook.

**Ryan:** Why did you chop the joke book in half?

**John:** Mom said to cut the comedy.

**Open Tournament Schedule** (continued on page 6)

QUARTER-FINAL & USA2 ROUND OF 32 (8 USA2 TEAMS)			
TUESDAY	MAY 2	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 3	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 & USA2 ROUND OF 16 (8 USA2 TEAMS)			
THURSDAY	MAY 4	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 5	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 & USA2 QUARTERFINAL (6 USA2 TEAMS)			
SATURDAY	MAY 6	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 7	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

USA2 SEMI-FINAL			
MONDAY	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
TUESDAY	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
USA2 FINAL			
WEDNESDAY	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
THURSDAY	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

ROUND ROBIN SCHEDULE			
DAY	DATE	TIME	BOARDS
THURSDAY	MAY 4	9:45 AM	CAPTAINS' MEETING
THURSDAY	MAY 4	10:00 - 8:15	(See Page 2 for Schedule please)
FRIDAY	MAY 5	10:00 - 8:15	

**\* THE FINAL 2 MATCHES ARE SEQUESTERED - ONE PAIR ON EACH TEAM MUST PLAY BOTH MATCHES & MUST REMAIN IN THE CLOSED ROOM FOR BOTH MATCHES. NO SCORE COMPARISON ALLOWED.**

SEMI-FINAL			
SATURDAY	MAY 6	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
FINAL & USA2 SEMI-FINAL (2 USA2 TEAMS)			
SUNDAY	MAY 7	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 8	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
USA2 FINAL			
TUESDAY	MAY 9	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 10	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

**Open**

**Women's**

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

Sudoku 1

# Sudoku

Sudoku 2

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

## Answers to Puzzle No Peeking!

Sudoku 2 Solution

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

Sudoku 1 Solution

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

# Puzzle Page ...

How Observant are you?

Write down your answers to the following questions **WITHOUT** looking around or using anything on or in your desk.

- 1. On a standard traffic light in the USA, is the green on the top or bottom?
- 2. How many US states are there? (Don't laugh, some people don't know)
- 3. In which hand is the Statue of Liberty's torch?
- 4. What 6 colors are on the classic Campbell's soup label?
- 5. What 2 letters don't appear on an American telephone dial? (No cheating!)
- 6. What 2 numbers on the telephone dial don't have letters by them?
- 7. When you walk does your left arm swing with, your right or left leg?
- 8. How many matches are in a standard American pack?
- 9. On the United States flag is the top stripe red or white?
- 10. What is the lowest number on the FM dial in America?
- 11. In most of the world, which way does water go down the drain, counter- or clockwise?
- 12. Which way does a "no smoking" sign's slash run?
- 13. How many channels on an American VHF TV dial?
- 14. Which side of a women's blouse are the buttons on?
- 15. On a current NY license plate, is New York on the top or bottom?
- 16. Which way do fans typically rotate?
- 17. Whose face is on a current USA dime?
- 18. How many sides does a stop sign have?
- 19. Do English books have even-numbered pages on the right or left side?
- 20. How many lug nuts are typically on a standard car wheel?
- 21. How many sides are there on a standard pencil?
- 22. Sleepy, Happy, Sneezzy, Grumpy, Dopey, Doc. Who's missing?
- 23. In America, how many hot dog buns are in a standard package?
- 25. On which playing card is the card maker's trademark typically found?
- 26. In America, on which side of a Venetian blind is the cord that adjusts the opening between the slats?
- 27. On the back of a US\$1 bill, what is in the center?
- 28. In America, there are 12 buttons on a touch tone phone. What 2 symbols bear no digits?
- 29. How many curves are there in the standard paper clip?
- 30. Does an American merry-go-round turn counter- or clockwise?

## Answer:

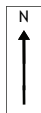
1. Bottom
2. 50 (HOPE you at least got this one!)
3. Right
4. Blue, red, white, yellow, black, and gold
5. Q, Z
6. 1, 0
7. Right
8. 20
9. Red
10. 88
11. Counter (unless you happen to be south of the equator)
12. Towards bottom right
13. 12 (no #!)
14. Left
15. Top
16. Clockwise as you look at it
17. Roosevelt
18. 8
19. Left
20. 5
21. 6
22. Basilful
23. 8
24. Did you notice there wasn't one?
25. Ace of spades
26. Left
27. ONE
28. \*, #
29. 3
30. Counter



Board 1 ♠ 542  
 Dealer: N ♥ T6  
 None Vul. ♦ KQ52  
 Segment 1 ♣ AJ54

♠ T85      ♠ AQ7  
 ♥ QJ984      ♥ K75  
 ♦ 94      ♦ J763  
 ♣ 982      ♣ KT3

♠ KJ93  
 ♥ A32  
 ♦ AT8  
 ♣ Q76



Closed Room	USA1			<b>Nickell/Harris</b>
West	North	East	South	
Lo	Katz	Liu	Nickell	
	Pass	1D	Double	
2H	Double	Pass	2S	
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT	
All Pass				

Open Room:	USA1			<b>Nickell/Harris</b>
Weinstein	Barron	Levin	Morgan	
	Pass	1D	Double	
Pass	1NT	All Pass		

Starting today, USA1 and USA2 are playing the same hands.

Board one seemed unexciting in the Diamond/Dwyer and Mahaffey/Meltzer matches.

In Diamond/Dwyer of the USA1 event, Cohler led the CT. This rode to Greco's jack. Greco played a spade ducked to the jack, a diamond to the king, ducked, a spade to the queen and king, and a spade to the ace. Back in, Cohler played the D6, won by the ten in dummy. Greco cashed dummy's DA then S9. The CQ went to the king and Cohler finally found hearts... too little too late. Greco won the HA and collected 11 tricks! +210

Closed Room	USA1			<b>Diamond/Dwyer</b>
Cohen	Greco	Cohler	Hampson	
	Pass	1D	Double	
Pass	1NT	All Pass		

Open Room	USA1			<b>Diamond/Dwyer</b>
Diamond	Becker	Platnick	Kamil	
	Pass	1D	Double	
Redouble	1NT	All Pass		

Closed Room	USA2			<b>Mahaffey/Meltzer</b>
Schermer	Hamman	Chambers	Bramley	
	Pass	1D	Double	
Pass	1NT	All Pass		

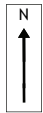
Open Room	USA2			<b>Mahaffey/Meltzer</b>
Meltzer	Lev	Demirev	Mahaffey	
	Pass	1C	Pass	
1D (transfer)	Pass	1H	Pass	
Pass	Double	Pass	1S	
2H	All Pass			

In the other room of Diamond/Dwyer, Platnick led the H5. Diamond won the jack and continued hearts to Platnick's king. Platnick cleared the heart suit. Becker played a diamond to the king and a club to the queen, the DA and the DT to his queen. Becker played a spade toward dummy, Platnick rising with the ace. He cashed his high diamond and exited the S7, Becker winning dummy's king. A club was led to the ace and declarer claimed seven tricks. +90

3 IMPs to Diamond

(Continued on page 10)

Board 1 ♠ 542  
 Dealer: N ♥ T6  
 None Vul. ♦ KQ52  
 Segment 1 ♣ AJ54

♠ T85		♠ AQ7
♥ QJ984		♥ K75
♦ 94		♦ J763
♣ 982		♣ KT3

♠ KJ93
♥ A32
♦ AT8
♣ Q76

*(hand repeated for ease of reading)*

In the Nickell/Harris match of USA1, there was more action. In the Open Room where Barron/Morgan bid 1NT, Levin led the SA. This seems curious, but his only four card suit was opened on his left, and maybe his partner holds something like Kxxx of spades. After cashing the ace, Bobby led the S7. Declarer thought he started with Ax and rose with the king. A club went to the jack and king and a heart went to the jack, followed by a heart to the king and ace. Three rounds of high diamonds followed and 8 tricks were claimed. +120

In the Closed Room of that match, Nickell/Katz bid an aggressive 3NT after Katz bid 2NT despite the lack of a heart stopper. Liu found the best lead of the H5. Lo won the jack and continued hearts to Liu's king and Liu cleared the suit. The C6 went to the jack and king, and Liu was back in... alas with no hearts! Liu tried the CT to dummy's queen. This held and a club went to the ace. Katz cashed his C5, Liu pitching a diamond. Katz played a diamond to the king, and when everyone followed he knew he could bring in that suit for four tricks. He played a small spade toward the KJ in dummy, putting up the king when Liu ducked. Katz had nine tricks for +400. 7 IMPs to Nickell

In the Meltzer/Mahaffey USA2 match, Meltzer scored 3 IMPs when Hamman and Bramley played 1NT in the Closed Room making 3... Chambers led his SQ. Hamman won the king and played a diamond to his king and a club to dummy's queen, a club to the ace and a spade toward the jack, Chambers winning his ace. Chambers played a heart to Schermer and another heart was returned to dummy's ace. Hamman cashed the SJ, S9 and DA. He claimed nine tricks for +150.

In the Open Room of this match, Demirev opened 1C with three clubs and 4 diamonds?? Meltzer bid 1D transferring to hearts. In the end, Nik became declarer in 2H.

Mahaffey led a trump from his ace; Demirev winning the king and continuing hearts. Mahaffey won his ace and played a third heart.

Demirev tried the D4 to the deuce and his six, losing to the eight. A club to the ace and a club to the king and a third club followed. Mahaffey cashed his DA and led another diamond on which Demirev discarded a spade from dummy. Nik claimed 7 tricks for -50.

3 IMPs to Meltzer

Logic: "If you fall off that swing and break your neck, you can't go to the store with me."  
 Humor: "When that lawn mower cuts off your toes, don't come running to me." **MOM!**  
 Justice: "One day you'll have kids, and I hope they turn out just like you. Then you'll see what it's like!"



## Breakfast in the Hospitality Suite

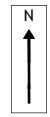


# From USA2 Round of 32

Board 15 ♠ KJ8  
 Dealer: S ♥ A3  
 N/S Vul. ♦ AT63  
 Segment 7 ♣ KQT5

♠ A9      ♠ T765  
 ♥ J982    ♥ Q76  
 ♦ K84     ♦ J95  
 ♣ 9874    ♣ J62

♠ Q432  
 ♥ KT54  
 ♦ Q72  
 ♣ A3



West	North	East	South
Henner	Jacobs	Ivatury	Vogel
Pass			Pass
Pass	1NT	Pass	2C
	2D	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

This hand exhibits a very unusual property:

**Playing double-dummy, N/S can make exactly four of any suit or no-trump from either side of the table.**

In the Jacobs/Ivatury match on Wednesday, Uday Ivatury and Cristal Henner put up a tough defense that actually defeated 3NT.

Realizing that his hand had no entries, Ivatury disdained the normal spade lead and started with a small heart.

Jacobs played low from dummy and ducked when Henner played the eight.

Hearts were continued. Jacobs won the ace and played a diamond to the queen, losing to Henner's king. Henner continued the attack on hearts. On the third round of hearts, Jacobs had a discarding problem. He did not know which of his 7-card fits was breaking. He discarded a spade, won the heart in dummy and played a spade. Henner won the ace and cashed the HJ. Another tough discard for Jacobs, he guessed wrong again and pitched a club. Ivatury discarded the same. Henner exited with a diamond and Jacobs was held to eight tricks.

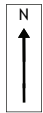
At the other table, Sorkin and Chan played in 3NT making four for +630 and 12 IMPs.



Board 15    ♠ AQJ82  
 Dealer: S    ♥ KJ8  
 N/S Vul.    ♦ K4  
 Segment 1   ♣ T73

♠ K74                    ♠ T95  
 ♥ AT965                ♥ 432  
 ♦ 96                      ♦ QJ853  
 ♣ AK5                    ♣ 96

                              ♠ 63  
                               ♥ Q7  
                               ♦ KT72  
                               ♣ QJ842



Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
Cohen	Greco	Cohler	Hampson
			Pass
1H	1S	Pass	1NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Open Room			
Diamond	Becker	Platnick	Kamil
			Pass
1NT	All Pass		

In the Open room, John Diamond stole a lot of IMPs when he opened 1NT in second seat.

Despite holding 14 HCP and a good five-card suit, Mike Becker chose to pass over the 1NT opening. (Note that a 2S bid would show spades and a weak hand and double would have shown spades and a strong hand or spades and another suit.) Best defense would hold Diamond to three tricks, but Becker made the normal spade lead and the defense took eight tricks for +100.

In the closed room, Cohen opened 1H in second seat and Greco overcalled 1S with the North hand. Cohler passed and Hampson bid 1NT with a dubious heart stopper (Qx). Greco held a good 14 and a couple of heart stoppers, so he raised to 3NT.

Cohen started the defense by taking his AK of clubs. When he realized this attack had failed, Cohen shifted to the heart ace and Hampson claimed 10 tricks making +630. 11 IMPs to Diamond.

Board 17    ♠ 864  
 Dealer: N    ♥ Q97  
 None Vul.    ♦ K652  
 Segment 2   ♣ 986

♠ QJT73                    ♠ AK  
 ♥ AJT                      ♥ K852  
 ♦ Q9                        ♦ T43  
 ♣ Q53                      ♣ AJ42

                              ♠ 952  
                               ♥ 643  
                               ♦ AJ87  
                               ♣ KT7



J Stansby	Grainger	L Stansby	Compton
	Pass	1NT	Pass
2H (transfer)	Pass	2NT	Pass
3H	Pass	3S	Pass
4S	All Pass		

Joanna Stansby made an unusual decision on this Board. Most tables played in 3NT, going down on four rounds of diamonds and a spade shift, leaving declarer to take a losing finesse in clubs or guess a finesse in hearts!

Joanna “insisted” on spades, holding only five. Unlike, in NT, where South would lead 4th from his longest and strongest, Compton had no reason to lead a diamond from the ace. Instead, he led a heart, picking up his partner’s queen. Lew brought home the contract with an overtrick. +450

11 IMPs to Simson in USA2

Board 25 ♠ Q96  
 Dealer: N ♥ Q  
 E/W Vul. ♦ QT87543  
 Segment 2 ♣ 92

♠ T832      ♠ AK5  
 ♥ JT2      ♥ AK4  
 ♦ A62      ♦ KJ  
 ♣ QJ8      ♣ AKT74

♠ J74  
 ♥ 987653  
 ♦ 9  
 ♣ 653



Board 25 created tons of action.

Open Room				<b>Wold/Simson</b>
West	North	East	South	
Wold	Simson	Levine	Aker	
3NT	3D	Double	Pass	
	Pass	7C	All Pass	

Closed Room				<b>Diamond/Dwyer</b>
J Stansby	Grainger	L Stansby	Compton	
3S	3D	Double	Pass	
	Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Open Room				<b>Nickell/Harris</b>
Lee	Lall	Dwyer	Bathurst	
3NT	3D	Double	Pass	
	Pass	4C	Pass	
4D	Pass	7NT	All Pass	

Closed Room				<b>Diamond/Dwyer</b>
Diamond	Becker	Platnick	Kamil	
3S	3D	Double	Pass	
	Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Open Room				<b>Nickell/Harris</b>
Harris	Rodwell	Morgan	Meckstroth	
3S	3D	Double	Pass	
	Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Closed Room				<b>Nickell/Harris</b>
Nickell	Barron	Katz	Liu	
3S	3D	Double	Pass	
	Pass	3NT	All Pass	

With the heart queen singleton, those in NT (any level) easily made 13 tricks.

In clubs, it apparently wasn't as clear. Aker led the D9 against Levine.

Levine won the jack, played a club to the queen and a club to the ace. The transportation was a mess, however, it would have been best to try a high heart just in case the queen was singleton.

Levine tried to cash the DK hoping that either diamonds were 6-2 or that the hand with the singleton diamond also had a doubleton club. Aker ruffed and it was all over but the shouting.

13 IMPs to Simson



Hostesses, Martha Katz and Lisa Berkowitz do an amazing job serving breakfast and lunch to all the players, their families, the VuGraph operators, directors, tournament staff and anyone else who is there for the event.



Board 19  
 Dealer: S  
 E/W Vul.

♠ AQJ976542	♠ KT8
♥ 72	♥ J95
♦ 6	♦ K3
♣ 7	♣ A9632

N

♠ 3	
♥ KT843	
♦ AQT94	
♣ 54	

Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Diamond	Becker	Platnick	Kamil
4S	4NT	5S	5NT
6S	Pass	Pass	7D
Pass	Pass	Double	All Pass

Closed Room			
Lee	Lall	Dwyer	Bathurst
4S	Double	Pass	4NT
Pass	5C	Double	Redouble
Pass	5D	All Pass	

Board 19 produced some fireworks in the Diamond/Dwyer match.

6D by NS is a decent contract, appearing to depend only on a diamond finesse through the non-preemptor. However, as the cards lie, West can score a ruff on a club lead to beat the slam.

In the Closed room, Lee opened 4S and Lall doubled with the North hand. Bathurst responded 4NT with his two-suiter. Lall picked clubs and Dwyer doubled. Still trying to find the best fit, Bathurst redoubled and now Lall bid 5D. Dwyer made the thoughtful lead of the CA, gave his partner a club ruff, and held the contract to five.

In the Open room, Diamond opened 4S and Becker bid 4NT for takeout.

Platnick raised the ante with a 5S bid and Kamil bid 5NT on his two-suiter. Diamond bid 6S.

When this came around Kamil, he could have doubled and scored +500 for a 3 IMP pickup, but he probably thought he was taking out insurance by bidding 7D.

Or, on the other hand, if Becker's pass of 6S showed first round control, Kamil might have been bidding to make. In any case, 7D was doubled and defeated two tricks on the lead of the club seven.

12 IMPs to Diamond.

Bored??

