

Volume 7, Issue 7  
June 5, 2013

UNITED STATES BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

# “Trials” and Tribulations

## Results... USA1

QuarterFinals											
#	TEAM	TOTAL	1-15	16-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76-90	91-105	106-120	Penalties
1	Fleisher	295	38	12	25	44	31	48	29	68	
8	Milner	231	20	23	35	41	26	35	33	18	
2	Nickell	210	32	22	32	36	50	38			
7	Mahaffey	116	33	11	16	15	11	30	Wd		
3	Diamond	265	25	34	7	44	30	32	32	61	
6	Kranyak	325	28	48	69	11	30	31	62	46	
4	Gordon	172	31	42	42	46	5	6	Wd		
5	Spector	304	42	49	44	55	48	66			

## USA2

Roundof64										
#	TEAM	TOTAL	1-15	16-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76-90	91-105	106-120
9	Weinstein	276	23	46	26	44	21	52	44	29
16	Baseggio	221	15	12	27	27	54	36	13	37
10	Aker	262	30	17	22	6	41	50	62	34
15	Ivatury	216	29	18	28	65	14	18	11	33
11	Blanchard	277	47	18	39	39	38	25	35	36
14	Harris	213	20	32	18	39	12	26	38	28
12	Kolesnik	171	21	3	18	38	25	9	20	37
13	Robinson	350	41	47	40	38	44	56	37	47

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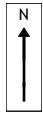
**Webmaster**  
Kitty Cooper

# Knockout Phase...

Board 65  
Dealer: N  
None Vul.

- ♠ T5
- ♥ 95
- ♦ KT4
- ♣ K87632

- ♠ KQJ82
- ♥ A
- ♦ A75
- ♣ Q954



- ♠ A97
- ♥ JT7
- ♦ Q9863
- ♣ AJ

- ♠ 643
- ♥ KQ86432
- ♦ J2
- ♣ T

West	North	East	South
Lev	Katz	Cohler	Nickell
	Pass	1D	2H
2S	Pass	3S	Pass
4D	Pass	4H	Pass
5H	Pass	6S	All Pass

Rodwell	Mahaffey	Meckstroth	Glubok
	Pass	1D	3H
3S	Pass	4S	All Pass

In the Closed Room, Nickell's 2H bid left his aggressive opponents room to explore for slam... and they did!

In the Open Room, Glubok's 3H call made it very difficult for Meckwell. Meck's hand did not have interest in more than game unless his partner could encourage. Encouraging at the five level was a little rich even for such a generally spirited pair.

At both tables a heart was led, Declarer winning the ace in hand. Rodwell cashed the spade queen and finessed the club jack. When that held, he played safely for five and scored +450.

Lev won trick one and immediately finessed the club jack. He pulled trump, ending in dummy, and crossed his fingers for the diamonds to work. A diamond to the ace and a diamond back toward the queen produced the magic layout and he claimed 12 tricks and 11 IMPs to Mahaffey.

Board 71  
Dealer: S  
All Vul.

- ♠ JT973
- ♥
- ♦ 8653
- ♣ 9875

- ♠ 6
- ♥ A987643
- ♦ J4
- ♣ KQ6



- ♠ 852
- ♥ KJ5
- ♦ QT72
- ♣ JT3

- ♠ AKQ4
- ♥ QT2
- ♦ AK9
- ♣ A42

Rodwell	Mahaffey	Meckstroth	Glubok
			2NT
3H	Pass	4H	All Pass

Lev	Katz	Cohler	Nickell
			2C
2H	Pass	3H	3NT
4H	Pass	Pass	Double
Pass	4S	All Pass	

For the purposes of the auction, Glubok downgraded his hand to open a 20-21 2NT on his 22 HCP. Perhaps Glubok downgraded his hand even more in the end position or perhaps he thought his pass of 4H was forcing... however, Mahaffey had so little, he was delighted to be out of the auction. Mahaffey passed and it played there. Rodwell went peacefully down two for -200.

In the Closed Room, Nickell opened the expected 2C. Lev overcalled 2H and Cohler raised to three. Nickell made an aggressive bid of 3NT with his QT2 under the original heart bidder, and when 4H came around to him, he doubled. Katz had all winning options. He could pass and collect 500, or bid and collect 620. He chose to bid.

The opening lead was the heart five. Katz ruffed in hand, pulled a round of trump with the jack. He took the straightforward link of ruffing three hearts in hand and reversing the dummy. He easily scored up the game. 9 IMPs back to Nickell.

(Continued from page 2)

Board 68 ♠ J984  
 Dealer: W ♥ J53  
 All Vul. ♦ Q98  
 ♣ K75

♠ QT ♠ AK52  
 ♥ AKQT87 ♥ 4  
 ♦ K75 ♦ AJT6432  
 ♣ A2 ♣ 8



♠ 763  
 ♥ 962  
 ♦  
 ♣ QJT9643

West	North	East	South
Willenken	Schermer	Rosenberg	Chambers
1H	Pass	2D	Pass
2H	Pass	3D	Pass
4D	Pass	4NT	Pass
5D	Pass	5H	Pass
5S	Pass	6D	Pass
7C	Double	7D	All Pass
Milner	Martel	H Lall	Zia
1H	Pass	2D	Pass
3D	Pass	3S	Pass
4C	Pass	4NT	Pass
5D	Pass	7D	Pass
7NT	All Pass		

Meanwhile in the Milner/Fleisher match, in a segment with two one IMP swings and one four IMP swing and four pushes, this hand surfaced.

Willenken/Rosenberg played in 7D. It is surprising that Chris did not convert 7D to 7NT as Milner did in the other room. However, it worked out fine for him. The opening lead was the club queen won by the ace in dummy. Rosenberg was at the crossroads. He could guard against the 3-0 diamond holding either way. He chose correctly to lead the king from dummy and wrapped up 13 tricks.

Against a grand slam, a trump lead is most common. Perhaps Rosenberg inferred that the lack of that lead was likely to be a void... of course, one would not lead from Q98 either. Or perhaps, he reasoned that the lead of the club queen marked North with at most the king and no sequence, and what would prompt him to double 7C for a club lead? It could simply be to prohibit the lead of a trump!! Whatever the logic, it worked and Michael came home with 13 tricks.

Poor Reese. He made the technically correct decision to pull 7D to 7NT... What if the diamonds don't run? You get a second chance in the heart suit... and he received maximum punishment for his decision. The club queen was led. Lall won with the ace, and not having the inference declarer had in the other room, chose to lead a low diamond toward his AJT6432. When North followed, Lall won his ace and South showed out. Back to the drawing board! Lall played a small heart toward dummy. He could go up or finesse. He guessed wrong and finessed the ten of hearts. The hand imploded. Martel won his jack and the defense cashed five rounds of clubs to defeat the contract six vulnerable tricks.

Usually when you go down six, someone jokes, "Could it have been made on another line?" Usually there is no winning line.

On this hand, however, there were two. First, Lall could have gotten the diamond right. Second, he could have played for the drop of the heart jack. He could cash two diamonds, one club and five hearts to reach a five card position where dummy held S: Qx H:x D:x C:x and his hand was S: Akxx H: Void D: 3 C: Void. Righty would have S: Jxxx H: Void D: Q C: Void. On the play of the ultimate heart, Martel would be squeezed and 13 tricks would come home.

21 IMPs to Fleisher

(continued on page 5)

**Alert: Cell Phone Penalty Changes Scores:**

**A player on Weinstein's team in the Weinstein/Baseggio match of the USA2 Round of 64 forgot to leave his cell phone behind when he came to play Monday. As a result, the team was assessed a 9 IMP penalty in accordance with the USBF General Conditions of Contest.**

**The score has been changed and the change is reflected in a separate column on the bracket sheet online. Beware!!**

## One Liners

Incontinence Hotline...Can you hold, please?

\*Lysdexia: a peech imspediment we live to learn with...

\*If only women came with pull-down menus and on-line help.

\*43.3% of statistics are meaningless!

\*Circular Definition: see Definition, Circular.

\*A.A.A.A.A. - An organization for drunks who drive.

\*It said 'Insert disk #3', but only two will fit.

\*Which is the non-smoking lifeboat?

\* |||||/////\_\_\_ The domino effect at work.

\*Originality is the art of concealing your sources.

\*Just fill out one simple form to win a Tax Audit!

\*Grow your own Dope - Plant a Politician.

\*Democracy: Four wolves and a lamb voting on lunch.

\*The buck doesn't even slow down here!

\*Don't assume malice for what stupidity can explain.

\*If you think talk is cheap, try hiring a lawyer.

\*Oh, no! Not ANOTHER learning experience!

\*The only cure for insomnia is to get more sleep.

\*Advice is free: The right answer will cost plenty.

\*Stupidity does not qualify as a handicap, park elsewhere!

\*Don't Insult the Alligator till after you cross the river.

\*Nothing's impossible for those who don't have to do it.

\*Two can live as cheaply as one, for half as long.

\*Don't worry: the answer's at the back of the book.

\*We do precision guesswork.

\*My life has a superb cast, but I can't figure out the plot.

\*'Oh what a tangled web we weave' - Hair Club for Men.

\*A penny saved is a government oversight.

\*Shin - Device for finding furniture in the dark.

\*Laughing stock: cattle with a sense of humor.

## Howie Doing ...

Blanchard v Gordon? With so many pros,  
I hurd thru the grapevine... It's Shane by a nose!

Stevie is finished. And soon he'll be through.  
He's signed for the Seniors. Ya think it's a clue?

Cohler is smoking and sure to do well.  
If you want to help him, just call Howie's cell!

I like the dough boys... no longer a ton...  
With Aker and Milgrim and Homers best son!

Fleisher's a winner without too much fight.  
Spector be warren torn ... and gone in the night.

Kranyak is awesome, but just to be true,  
I stand by my call. He'll be USA2!

## Limey Jack ...

Greetings from Merry Olde England

Gads, but that Dung bloke could certainly gen up on the fine art of prognosticating. He is a raving radge pot who hasn't the first Sherlock. It clearly shows in his results, not to mention his pathetic attempt at poetry.

Limey Jack stayed up quite late tonight in order to get you the straight skinny.

Fleisher-Spector: Fleisher had better give it some rice early or they will be watching the other main event. Spector is Limey Jack's pick to win it all and while this match will strain the kettle, Spector will prevail in the end.

Nickell-Kranyak: Nickell is in their typical position as the favourite but will form hold? Limey Jack is having a tough go of figuring out what move Kranyak has afoot. Are these chaps really just a throwback and playing for Yank pride? Nickell devoured Mahaffey, but Kranyak may be tougher to swallow. Nickell looks to be best on paper and so it will prove after the channel surfing is done.

In the USA II bracket:

Gordon-Blanchard: In what may be Hamman's swan song, Gordon makes a rum go of it and steps aside.

Diamond-Robinson: It is hard to play 4 handed, as each team is finding out. Diamond's 2 pairs are more consistent and while Howie Dung will talk the hind leg off a donkey telling you why Robinson will win, he is a cabbage with no inkling. Diamond advances.

Mahaffey-Weinstein: Hardest match to predict, but Mahaffey is coming off a beat down and Weinstein has the stuff.

Milner-Aker: The only one sided match. Oh my giddy aunt, even the Dung one will get this right with Milner.

Limey Jack wishes he could be there in the Colonies to witness this in person, but a touch of lumbago is hampering travel.

Cheers, LJ



(continued from page 3)

Board 79  
 Dealer: S  
 N/S Vul.  
 ♠ Q52  
 ♥ 654  
 ♦ QT76  
 ♣ A32

♠ A987643  
 ♥ 8  
 ♦ J93  
 ♣ K6



♠ K  
 ♥ AKQJ973  
 ♦ K52  
 ♣ T7

♠ JT  
 ♥ T2  
 ♦ A84  
 ♣ QJ9854

In the Open Room, Platnick, West, opened 2S and Diamond, East, jumped to 4H and played it there. In the Closed Room, Wolpert, West, opened 3S and Kranyak, East, bid 4H and also played it there.

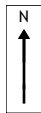
Greco, South, led the heart ten against Kranyak. John pulled three rounds of trump, cashed the spade king, and led the ten of clubs to the king and ace. Hampson exited a club won by Greco's eight. Greco exited a club and declarer had no entry to the spade ace. Kranyak tried a diamond to the nine, losing to the ten and finished down one when a diamond came back.

At the other table, Dwyer, South, led the diamond ace. He shifted to the club queen, won by North (Bathurst) with the ace. Bathurst exited a trump to declarer's ace. Diamond cashed all seven of his trump.

Dwyer pitched four clubs and a diamond. Diamond cashed his pointed kings. He exited his hand with the club ten to Dwyer's club jack. Kevin held only the spade jack. He was endplayed into allowing Diamond to collect his spade ace and take ten tricks. 10 IMPs to Diamond.

Board 87  
 Dealer: S  
 All Vul.  
 ♠ AJ  
 ♥ Q43  
 ♦ Q765  
 ♣ AKQJ

♠ K875432  
 ♥ 96  
 ♦ AJ  
 ♣ 42



♠ Q6  
 ♥ AT85  
 ♦ T83  
 ♣ T985

♠ T9  
 ♥ KJ72  
 ♦ K942  
 ♣ 763

West	North	East	South
Platnick	Bathurst	Diamond	Dwyer
			Pass
2S	Double	3S	Pass
Pass	3NT	Pass	4H
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
Wolpert	Hampson	Kranyak	Greco
			Pass
2S	2NT	Pass	3C
Pass	3D	Pass	3NT
All pass			

When Hampson overcalled 2NT on his 19 count, Greco had room for science. He used Stayman to check for four hearts in partner's hand. Hampson showed no major and Greco logically signed off in 3NT.

Kranyak led the spade queen which Hampson ducked. Fortunately for him, Kranyak held only two spades, but unfortunately for him, Kranyak also held only one red ace. Hampson led the heart queen. Kranyak won and played a diamond to Wolpert's ace. Wolpert cashed his spades and the contract was defeated four vulnerable tricks.

At the other table, Bathurst made a good decision to double, with only one full spade stopper. Diamond bid 3S over the double and when it got back to Bathurst, he chose 3NT. Dwyer knew the spade stopper was likely to be doubtful. He also knew partner was likely to hold four hearts. Backing up this thinking, he bid 4H.

Partner did not have four hearts, but his extra values were good for the game. Platnick led a club. Dwyer won the jack and played a heart to the king and a diamond to the queen. He played a heart to the jack and led another diamond won by Platnick's ace. Platnick played a spade, won with dummy's ace. Dwyer cashed clubs discarding a spade, trumped a spade in hand and cashed the diamond king for ten tricks.

Moyse would be proud! 14 IMPs to Kranyak.

# Play This Hand from Barry Rigal

The auction on Board 27 of the Round Robin presented an interesting declarer problem. You are the dealer, South. The auction proceeds:

Pass    Pass    1C    1S  
 1NT    Pass    3NT    Pass

The heart 5 is led.  
 Your hand and dummy are:

Board 27  
 Dealer: S  
 None Vul.

♠ 93  
 ♥ AJ5  
 ♦ A94  
 ♣ AKJ98

You win the heart lead in hand with the queen and run the club ten losing to the queen. The spade ten is returned. How do you play?

If West started with a singleton honor, any play will work. If West started with a small singleton or doubleton, you must cover and win the trick. Finally, if West started with Honor doubleton, you duck and the spade suit will be blocked.

Christal Henner ducked, playing for West to hold honor/small.

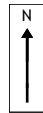


♠ J654  
 ♥ Q4  
 ♦ KT63  
 ♣ T76

The complete deal:

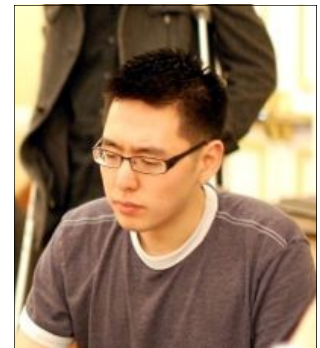
♠ 93  
 ♥ AJ5  
 ♦ A94  
 ♣ AKJ98

♠ 82  
 ♥ KT872  
 ♦ QJ5  
 ♣ 54



♠ AKQT7  
 ♥ 963  
 ♦ 82  
 ♣ Q32

♠ J654  
 ♥ Q4  
 ♦ KT63  
 ♣ T76



Kudos to Roger Lee for finding that nice spade ten play (yes, an initial spade lead would beat it outright, but what's the fun in that?)

Answer to Puzzle on page 8:  
 Colleen Dobson, Lyme, 3:10 pm, ballet  
 Donno Johnson, Capri, 3:30 pm, chess  
 Josh Steinway, Cathy, 3:25 pm, football  
 Margie Walsh, Ann, 3:00 pm, fencing  
 Mary Holden, David, 3:20 pm, hiking

## Hospitality Suite Information:

The hospitality suite for the 2013 USBC is room 1122 in the Tower building. Players, kibitzers, friends and supporters are welcome in the Hospitality Suite during the tournament. Please join hostesses Lisa Berkowitz & Molly O'Neill there.

**Hospitality suite hours are:**

**8:00-10:30 for breakfast**  
**1:00 - 4:00 for lunch**

**Otherwise there will be snacks in the Players' Lounge.**



# Puzzle Page ...

Five parents pick-up their children at the Parkway Elementary School every Tuesday to bring the kids to their afterschool activity. Colleen and the four other children all attended a different afterschool activity and their parents always arrive at different times (between 3:00 pm and 3:30 pm). Determine each child's full name, the first name of the parent picking them up (all the parents' last names are the same as their child's), the time each was picked up, and the activity each child is being brought to.

- Margie's best friend's mother, Mrs. Dobson, arrived before Cathy came to pick up her son. Mrs. Walsh picked up her daughter for fencing.
- Josh Steinway loved football as much as Donno liked chess, and they both liked being the last two to be picked up.
- David Holden picked up his daughter for her hiking as soon as he could, but Lynne was always there before he was.
- Margie liked being the first one picked up but she didn't take ballet or hiking.
- Lynne's daughter was not Margie.
- In order of their departure from school: Ann, the girl who took ballet, Mary Holden, the boy who took football, and Capri Johnson.

	Dobson	Holden	Johnson	Steinway	Walsh	Ann	Capri	Cathy	David	Lynne	3:00	3:10	3:20	3:25	3:30	ballet	chess	fencing	football	hiking	
Colleen																					
Donno																					
Josh																					
Margie																					
Mary																					
ballet																<b>Answer on Page 6</b>					
chess																					
fencing																					
football																					
hiking																					
3:00																					
3:10																					
3:20																					
3:25																					
3:30																					
Ann																					
Capri																					
Cathy																					
David																					
Lynne																					

### Next year's USBC ...

The 2014 USBC to select USA1 for the 2015 Bermuda Bowl, will be held from May 9 through May 18 at the Embassy Suites in Scottsdale. Room rate is \$139 including free internet, a hot breakfast, and an afternoon "Managers' Reception." The hotel is situated on a golf course with special rates for hotel guests.

Phoenix is the largest Southwest hub in the country, so there are flights from anyplace that Southwest flies, with the huge advantage that you can change the date of your return flight with no extra fee.

We hope this will be a great venue for the 2014 USBC.

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

Sudoku 1

# Sudoku

Sudoku 2

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

## Answers to Puzzle No Peeking!

Sudoku 2 Solution

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

Sudoku 1 Solution

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