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News and Views ...

Congratulations to Team Eaton: Joan Eaton, Karen Cumpstone, Katie Thorpe, Sandra Blank, Lesley Tomson, Ina Demme, on winning the CWTC (Canadian Women's Team Championship). They will be representing Zone 2 ... along with the winners of this Championship in the upcoming tournament in Poland in September.

Eaton defeated Summers (Sylvia Summers, Barbara Saltsman, Pamela Nisbet, Brenda Bryant, Hazel Wolpert, Linda Wynston) in a true nail-biter: 233-232.

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More CWTC Finals:

Board 21
Dealer: N
N/S Vul.

♠ Q54
♥ Q42
♦ AQJ973
♣ 7

♠ 982
♥ T95
♦ 42
♣ JT863

♠ AKT
♥ A83
♦ T
♣ AKQ542

♠ J763
♥ KJ76
♦ K865
♣ 9

North	South
Summers	Bryant
Pass	1C
1D	3NT
All Pass	

Thomson	Blank
1D	2C
2D	2H
2NT	6NT
All Pass	

Board 21 in the fourth segment of the CWTC Finals swung 14 IMPs.

Looking at the hands, you would expect Thomson/Blank to be the beneficiary. They right-sided the slam and all they needed to do was concede a diamond to the king and claim. However... Wolpert led a spade which Thomson won in dummy. Thomson immediately played the DT and ran it. Wolpert found the duck and Thomson could no longer make her slam! She went down three for -300.

Bryant could never make the slam, playing it from South, even if she had bid it... difficult after her parter's opening pass(?) Thorpe led the HT through the HQ, setting up a heart trick for Demme when she won her DK! 14 IMPs to Summers 1

Women's Teams: Listed in Quarterfinal Bracket Position Order



Baker

Bye to SemiFinals

Lynn Baker
Kerri Sanborn
JoAnna Stansby
Cenk Tuncok, NPC

Karen McCallum
Irina Levitina
Pam Granovetter

Wittes

Pamela Wittes
Cheri Bjerkan
Linda Lewis

Ljudmila Kamenova
Rozanne Pollack
Hjordis Eythorsdottir

Palmer

Beth Palmer, Capt
Lynn Deas
Tobi Sokolow

Sylvia Shi
Juanita Chambers
Janice Seamon-Molson

Weingold

Joanne Weingold
Jill Meyers
Kathleen Sulgrove

Shannon Cappelletti
Jan Assini
Debbie Rosenberg

OSMO

Mary Ose, Capt
Ginny Curtis
Joanne Merry

Teri Smoot
Katherine Ewing
Prudence Saunders

Meet the Players...

Lynn Baker is a law professor at the University of Texas, and frequently serves as a consultant to other attorneys on issues of legal ethics in mass tort settlements. A graduate of Yale Law School and Yale College, she also holds a degree from Oxford University, which she attended as a Marshall Scholar.

A 16-time National Champion, Lynn's work commitments largely limit her tournament play to NABC women's team and pair events. In 2014, Lynn won her first World Championship, the McConnell Cup in Sanya, China. She has twice represented the US in the Venice Cup, winning a silver medal with USA I in 2009 (Sao Paulo, Brazil), and finishing 5th in 2001 (Paris, France). In 2015, she was on the winning Women's Team in the European Open Championships (Tromso, Norway).

A lifelong athlete, Lynn rowed for the Yale Varsity Women's Crew and was selected to one U.S. Olympic and three National Women's Rowing Team training camps during college. An avid downhill skier and runner in recent years, she has completed four marathons. She lives in Austin, Texas with her husband, Sam Dinkin, their 17-year-old daughter, and two cats, Reginald and Shadow.



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.



Tournament Schedule



QUARTERFINAL			
DAY	DATE	TIME	BOARDS
MONDAY	MAY 30	10:15 AM	CAPTAINS' MEETING
MONDAY MATCH 1	MAY 30	10:30 - 12:40 12:55 - 3:05 4:15 - 6:25 6:40 - 8:50	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 MATCH 2	MAY 31	10:30 - 12:40 12:55 - 3:05 4:15 - 6:25 6:40 - 8:50	SEGMENT 1 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 2 BOARDS 16-30 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK SEGMENT 3 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 16-30
SEMI-FINAL			
WEDNESDAY	JUNE 1	10:15 AM	CAPTAINS' MEETING
WEDNESDAY	JUNE 1	10:30 - 12:40 12:55 - 3:05 4:15 - 6:25 6:40 - 8:50	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	JUNE 2	10:30 - 12:40 12:55 - 3:05 4:15 - 6:25 6:40 - 8:50	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			
FRIDAY	JUNE 3	10:30 - 12:40 12:55 - 3:05 4:15 - 6:25 6:40 - 8:50	SEGMENT 1 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 2 BOARDS 16-30 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK SEGMENT 3 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 16-30
SATURDAY	JUNE 4	10:30 - 12:40 12:55 - 3:05 4:15 - 6:25 6:40 - 8:50	SEGMENT 5 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 6 BOARDS 16-30 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK SEGMENT 7 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 8 BOARDS 16-30



Hospitality Suite ...

The hospitality suite for the 2016 Women's USBC is Suite 4019 in the Folsum Wing. Players, volunteers, kibitzers, friends and supporters are welcome in the Hospitality Suite during the tournament. Please join hostesses Martha Katz and Chris Benson for:

Breakfast each day from 8:00-11:00 am.

Lunch each day from 2:30-4:30 pm.

The Hospitality Suite will be open for Vugraph, casual chit chat, drinks & snacks during the rest of the playing hours and for a short while after the end of the second session of play.

All About Kibitzing

You will be able to kibitz at any of the tables during this event. However, you will be subject to the following regulations:

Kibitzers may enter the room ONLY at the start of play for a segment. Once play has started, the room will be closed.

A kibitzer who leaves the room may not return until the start of the next session.

Cell phones and other electronic devices are not allowed in the playing rooms, even if they are turned off. Any kibitzer who is found with a cell phone will be evicted and not allowed to kibitz during the remainder of the tournament.

When a match is being shown on BBO Vugraph, no kibitzer may sit on the same side of the table as the Vugraph operator.

SCREENS

All of the Women's USBC is played with screens. If you've never kibitzed at a table with screens before, you need to know that it is quite different from kibitzing at a regular table. You need to be seated at an "open" corner of the table (not next to the screen) in order to see much, and once there are 4 kibitzers at a table it will be very hard for additional kibitzers to see.

USBF KIBITZING RULES

The USBF General Conditions of Contest contain specific rules about kibitzers. They are designed to promote security at the tournament and are set forth in the conditions of contest section labeled "Security." They are:

a. During any use of duplicated boards across multiple matches, Kibitzers must select one table for kibitzing and may not move to any other table during a session or segment.

b. Kibitzers may not speak with players, must watch only one hand at a time, may not sit in such a position as to see more than one hand at a time, may not sit in such a position as to see a computer screen in use for Internet broadcast, must check communication devices with the Director, cannot call attention to irregularities other than a board being placed incorrectly on the table (arrow positioning), but may serve as witnesses to a possible irregularity.

c. Kibitzers must enter the playing room before play commences. Kibitzers are required to remain until the segment of play is completed at the table they are watching or to leave the playing area entirely. Kibitzers are expected to abide by the same rules as the players regarding leaving the room (e.g. be escorted to the restroom).

d. Except as expressly provided in these conditions and appendices, NPC's shall be subject to the WBF General Conditions, Section 17.

e. No one other than the Internet broadcast personnel and Tournament Directors may watch any computer screen or any other mechanism for enabling the Internet broadcast at any time in either the Closed or the Open Room.

f. These rules may be revised in specific instances by the DICs for the orderly running of the event.

Kibitzing



Team Seeding Points

The teams in the Women's USBC are seeded based on ACBL Performance Points, including masterpoints (aka Wagar seeding points). The seeding points for an individual player are capped at 50. Teams are seeded based on the average seeding points for the team, except that the team with a bye to the Semifinal is seeded first. The teams and their seed positions are listed in the table below. To see information about each player's seeding points, download the **PDF Spreadsheet of 2016 Women's USBC Seeding Points** at the USBF site. If you want to see the ACBL information (masterpoints and ACBL Positioning Points) for players on each of the teams, you can **email Jan** to get a text document with detailed information for each player on each team.

Teams may add or drop players before the USBC, which would change the seeding points.



<i>SEED</i>	<i>TEAM NAME</i>	<i>TEAM AVERAGE SEEDING POINTS</i>
1	Baker	Bye
2	Wittes	39.93
3	Palmer	37.22
4	Weingold	25.92
5	OSMO	2.98

Vugraph Information

The 2016 Women's USBC will be covered on BBO Vugraph starting with the Quarterfinals. We hope to cover all tables in play in the event. 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 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.

The schedule for each day (60 boards a day) is the same (these are California times; to see the times for your time-zone, go to the BBO Vugraph schedule site:

10:30 - 12:40: Segment 1; 12:55 - 3:05: Segment 2; 4:15 - 6:25:

Segment 3; 6:40 - 8:50: Segment 4

Segments 2 and 4 may start a little earlier or later than they are scheduled depending on when segments 1 and 3 end.

All of the teams will play the same boards. For security reasons, if one match is sufficiently behind that we have to start it later than the other one, we will not start the Vugraph broadcast until both matches have started play.

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. If you are going to be in Sacramento during the Women's USBC and want to volunteer to help as a Vugraph operator, please email Jan.

Hints for BBO viewers

Useful information is available to browser BBO users

- * click on the name of the table/event name will provide a pop-up that:
 - * displays the BBO Schedule for the specific vugraph event – calculated for the time zone of the viewer's electronic device
 - * has a link to the home page for event
- click on a player name will usually provide a pop-up that
 - * displays a picture of the player
 - * shows links to System Summary Forms (SSFs), Convention Cards (CCs), and biographical information



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.

I started dating the girl across the street. I know what people say, but honestly, lawn distance relationships aren't that hard.

Why did the proton blush? It was positively attracted to the electron.

I love you mower today than yesterday, but not as mulch as tomorrow.

The young man quit dating the telephone operator because he felt disconnected. Besides, she had too many hangups.

My boyfriend and I started to date after he backed his car into mine. We met by accident.

My blind date's not looking good.

The electrician and the air hostess got on really well together. Sparks flew!

Helicopter rescue pilots have the most successful pick-up lines.

When his wife demanded that he give up polo, he decided to chucker.



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

**Answers to Puzzle
No Peeking!**

Big Sudoku

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

Puzzle Page ...

Puzzle Details:

After a recent spate of home improvements, four couples were having a dinner party to discuss the additions to their houses.

Alan had not recently had a new bathroom.

Kara had not yet done her kitchen, but perhaps would update it next.

Brian, who is married to Maud, had not had new windows.

Laura delighted in showing photographs of her new conservatory.

Neither Charles nor David had a new kitchen.

Julie had not had new windows.

Alan, who also had not had windows, is not married to Laura and Charles is not married to Kara.

Who is married to whom and what work had they recently undertaken, assuming that each couple had one improvement and no two couples had the same improvement.



Hint & Answers: No Peeking!

Answer:
Alan is married to Julie and they had a new kitchen.
Brian is married to Maud and they had a new bathroom.
Charles is married to Laura and they had a new conservatory.
David is married to Kara and they had new windows.

Hint: Alan is married to Julie.

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.

England doesn't have a kidney bank, but it does have a Liverpool

It is tough to do inventories in Afghanistan because of the tally ban.

It's a lengthy article on Japanese Sword Fighters but I can Samurais it for you.

Those who jump off a Paris bridge are in Seine.

A grenade thrown into a kitchen in France would result in Linoleum Blownapart.

Visitors to Cuba are usually Havana good time.

The Irish should be rich because their capital is always Dublin.

Never make fun of a Scotsman's traditional garb. You could get kilt that way.

I would like to go to Holland one day, wooden shoe?

The most wasted
of all days
is the one
without
Laughter
-E.E.Cummings

Still Scoping the Competition...

Board 20
 Dealer: W
 All Vul.

♠ J9642
 ♥ K4
 ♦ AJ92
 ♣ J7

♠ AT3
 ♥ J65
 ♦ Q876
 ♣ T53

♠ KQ85
 ♥ AQT98
 ♦
 ♣ AKQ8

♠ 7
 ♥ 732
 ♦ KT543
 ♣ 9642

West	North	East	South
Nesbit	Thomson	Wolpert	Blank
Pass	Pass	1H	Pass
2H	Pass	2S	Pass
4H	Pass	6H	All Pass

Thorpe	Summers	Demme	Bryant
Pass	Pass	1H	Pass
2H	Pass	3D (short suit game/slam try)	Pass
3H	Pass	4C	Pass
4H	All Pass		

Nesbit/Wolpert did well to bid the slam. Wolpert made a natural “game try” in spades. Nesbit, happily holding ATx jumped to game, and Wolpert, actually making a slam try, bid the slam.

With the HK in the pocket, declarer only needs spades or clubs to behave in a friendly manner. Even if the HK is offside, declarer survives when both black suits come home or when she can leave a trump outstanding and ruff out one suit of the other. Having both black suit tens increases the chance of success.

Blank led the H3 against the slam. Thomson put up the king and Wolpert won the ace. Wolpert continued the heart attack, pulling the opponent’s trumps. She played the SK and a spade to the ace. When the spades didn’t split, she fell back on clubs. When the club jack came down in two rounds, she was home free with four clubs, five hearts, and three spades. +1430

Thorpe and Demme had a different gadget. Demme made a short suit game try in diamonds. With Qxxx, only three hearts, and a minimum response, Thorpe had no reason to accept. She bid 3H and Demme made one more feeble try with 4C. Thorpe could not get excited by her Txx there and she signed off in game. 12 IMPs to Summers

Show me someone in denial and I'll show you a person in Egypt up to their ankles.

If you said you were from South America, I would not Bolivia.

When I go to West Africa I'm Ghana make sure Togo to Mali and then I can say I've Benin Timbuktu.

Italian building inspectors in Pisa are leanient.

Things made in Australia are high koala-ty.

While in Mexico, the Chinese diplomat got a ticket for going the Wong way on the Juan Way street.

Britain is a wet place since the queen has had a long reign.

In a Scandinavian race the last Lapp crossed the Finnish line.

The incontinent Scotsman had a wee accident.

Did you know that donuts were first made in Greece?

**Pun
Place!**