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May 26, 2017

UNITED STATES BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Old Times — the official newsletter of the USSBC

## Results: USA2 Final

2	Hamman, NPC	151	28	26	31	37	17	12	
3	Wolfson	203	22	25	37	15	67	37	

# Congratulations Team Wolfson!

## USA2 Senior Champions



Becker, Graves, Wolfson, Berkowitz, Silverman and Sontag (L to R)

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Susie Miller

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# 2017 USSBC Teams

## listed in seeding point order

Hamman, NPC	Hemant Lall Zia Mahmood Robert Hamman	Reese Milner Steve Garner Bart Bramley
Wolfson	Jeffrey Wolfson, Capt David Berkowitz Michael Becker	Neil Silverman Alan Sontag Allan Graves
Wold	Eddie Wold, Capt Marc Jacobus Dennis Clerkin	Michael Levine Mike Passell Jerry Clerkin
Gupta	Vinita Gupta, Capt Kit Woolsey Steve Robinson	Billy Miller Fred Stewart Peter Boyd
Mahaffey	Jim Mahaffey, Capt Neil Chambers Matthew Granovetter	Sam Lev John Schermer Roger Bates
Lewis	Paul Lewis, Capt Jim Krekorian	Linda Lewis Drew Casen Mark Itabashi
Falk	Allan Falk, Capt Doug Simson Glenn Eisenstein	Jeff Aker John Lusky John Rengstorff
Pollack	Bill Pollack, Capt Mark Feldman Larry Robbins	Ron Rubin Mark Cohen Steve Beatty
Cappelli	Robert Cappelli, Capt David Caprera	Robert Bitterman Anne Brenner
Reynolds	W. Thomas Reynolds, Capt William Hall Sally Woolsey	Lance Kerr Brenda Jacobus

*Yesterday's home runs don't win today's game!*

*Yogi Berra*



**Seniors  
Rock!**



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

# Expert Sudoku

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

Bottom

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

Top

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

**Answers to Puzzle  
No Peeking!**



# Puzzle Page ...



Cindy had horseback riding lessons twice a week and she loved them. Her riding instructor told her that she had a natural talent for riding. She'd been riding for several years now and had graduated to a smaller, more advanced class. The students in her class all had their own horses and by some strange coincidence, all of the horses had different coloring. Determine the first name and age of each student in Cindy's class (the students were between 17 and 22 years old), and the name and coloring of each student's horse.

	17	18	19	20	22	Beauty	Dynamite	Fireball	Sassy	Sunny	black	palomino	pinto	sorrel	white	
Cindy																
Linda																
Tom																
Tony																
Tracy																
black																
palomino																
pinto																
sorrel																
white																
Beauty																
Dynamite																
Fireball																
Sassy																
Sunny																

- Cindy didn't ride a white horse but she was 17 years old. Tracy didn't ride Fireball.
- Tony was older than the student riding Fireball but he was also two years younger than the student riding the pinto.
- Sunny was a white horse but he wasn't ridden by Tracy. The 19-year-old student rode Dynamite, who wasn't a palomino.
- Linda didn't ride Sassy, whose coloring wasn't sorrel.
- The palomino was ridden by Tom, who was two years older than the student riding Beauty.
- The student, who wasn't Linda, riding the black horse was two years older than Fireball's rider.

Student's Name	Student's Age	Horse's Name	Horse's Color
Cindy			
Linda			
Tom			
Tony			
Tracy			

-----	17	Beauty	black
-----	18	Dynamite	palomino
-----	19	Fireball	pinto
-----	20	Sassy	sorrel
-----	22	Sunny	white

## Puzzle

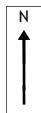
## Answer:

black	Dynamite	19	Tracy
white	Sunny	18	Tony
palomino	Sassy	22	Tom
pinto	Beauty	20	Linda
sorrel	Fireball	17	Cindy
Horse's	Horse's Name	Student's Age	Student's Name



Board 5 ♠ AJ9654  
 Dealer: N ♥ 32  
 N/S Vul. ♦ AQJ3  
 Segment 3 ♣ Q

♠ T73  
 ♥ J9  
 ♦ 85  
 ♣ AKT852



♠ K2  
 ♥ AKT865  
 ♦ K742  
 ♣ 9

♠ Q8  
 ♥ Q74  
 ♦ T96  
 ♣ J7643

Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Zia	Becker	Garner	Graves
	1S	2H	Pass
3C	Pass	3H	Pass
4H	All Pass		

Closed Room			
Berkowitz	Milner	Sontag	Lall
	1S	2H	Pass
3H	Pass	4H	All Pass

In both rooms, E/W reached 4H on similar auctions on their combined 21 HCP. Defense! Defense! Defense!

The opening lead in both rooms was the SQ won by the ace and the S9 was returned. Declarer led a club to the ace and led a diamond off dummy won by North's ace.

Both Norths played the SJ and both declarers ruffed with their HT.

In the Open Room, Graves overruffed and returned a heart to dummy. When the CK was ruffed by North, declarer was a trick short.

In the Closed Room, Lall refused to overruff, discarding a diamond. Sontag cashed the DK and ruffed a diamond in dummy. He played the CA. North ruffed; Sontag overruffed and played his last diamond, trumping in dummy for his tenth trick. 10 IMPs to Wolfson

Note that the hand can always be defeated if North wins the SA and returns a trump at trick two. On the other hand, when North returned the SJ at trick five, declarer can make the hand if he guesses to ruff with the HA. This play is unlikely since he only needs one ruff in dummy if the CK is scoring.

### SENIOR CITIZEN TEXTING CODE:

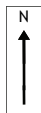
- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1) ATD—At The Doctors                   | 10) OMSG—Oh My! Sorry Gas                      |
| 2) BFF—Best Friend Fell                 | 11) ROFLACGU—Rolling On Floor And Can't Get Up |
| 3) BTW—Bring The Wheelchair             | 12) TTYL—Talk To Ya Louder                     |
| 4) BYOT—Bring Your Own Teeth            |  |
| 5) FWIW—Forgot Where I Was              |  |
| 6) GGPBL—Gotta Go Pacemaker Battery Low |  |
| 7) GHA—Got Heartburn Again              |  |
| 8) IMHO—Is My Hearing-aid On            |  |
| 9) OMMR—On My Massage Recliner          |  |

**We  
 hope  
 you enjoyed  
 the "Senior"  
 theme in  
 these Bulletins!**

Board 11 ♠ AQ  
 Dealer: S ♥ JT53  
 None Vul. ♦ K6  
 Segment 3 ♣ AJ764

♠ J875 ♠ T6432  
 ♥ 9 ♥ K62  
 ♦ AT753 ♦ 4  
 ♣ Q85 ♣ T932

♠ K9  
 ♥ AQ874  
 ♦ QJ982  
 ♣ K



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Zia	Becker	Garner	Graves
Pass	2NT (H raise)	Pass	1H
Pass	3NT	Pass	3S
Pass	4NT	Pass	4D
Pass	5H	All Pass	5D (1 KC)

Closed Room

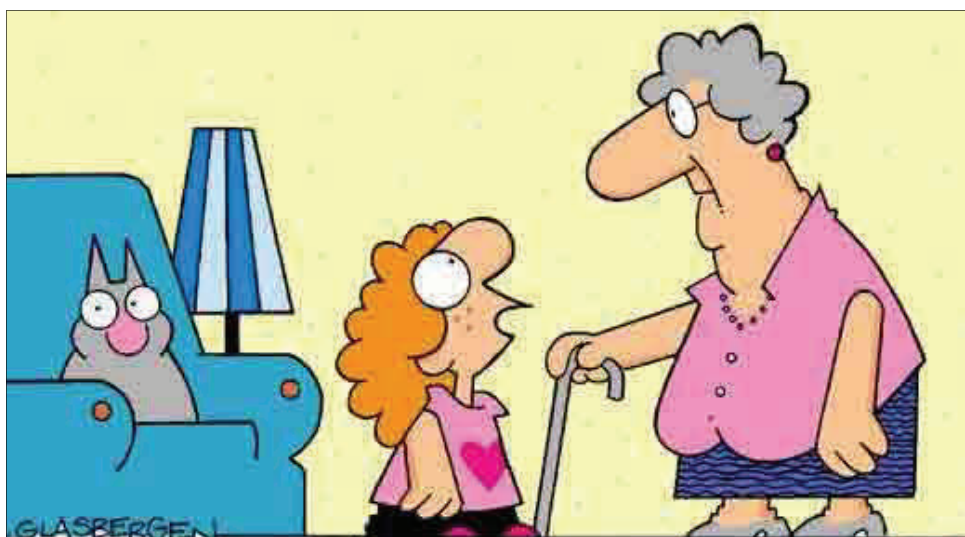
Berkowitz	Milner	Sontag	Lall
Pass	2NT (H raise)	Pass	1H
Pass	4NT	Pass	4D
Pass	5D	Pass	5C (1430)
All Pass			6H

In the Open Room, Becker and Graves did well to avoid what appears to be a 50% slam on a hook for the trump king. They discerned that they were missing two keycards and stopped in 5H.

With no reason to lead the unsupported ace of diamonds, Zia led the S7 and twelve tricks came home when the heart finesse worked.

In the Closed Room, Lall and Milner had the same information. Milner, aware that they could be off the ace/king of trump, or the two red aces, went for broke and asked for the queen of trump. Lall, holding both outside kings and the trump queen bid 6H.

Berkowitz reasoned well that Sontag might be short in diamonds since Lall had shown diamonds as a second 5 card or longer suit. Dutifully, he led the DA and a diamond, allowing Sontag to score a ruff and defeat the contract. 11 IMPs to Wolfson



**“My teacher says little girls can grow up to be anything they choose! Why did you choose to be an old lady?”**

Board 4      ♠ 96  
 Dealer: W    ♥ 93  
 All Vul.     ♦ K8  
 Segment 3   ♣ AKQJT75

♠ KJ                                      ♠ AQ853  
 ♥ AKJ75                                ♥ 862  
 ♦ A965                                 ♦ J42  
 ♣ 84                                      ♣ 32

♠ T742  
 ♥ QT4  
 ♦ QT73  
 ♣ 96



Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Zia	Becker	Garner	Graves
1H	2C	2H	Pass
3D	Pass	3H	All Pass

Closed Room			
Berkowitz	Milner	Sontag	Lall
1NT	3C	3H (S, inv+)	Pass
4S	All Pass		

In the Closed Room, Berkowitz and Sontag reached 4S on a seven card fit. As one might expect, the defense started by cashing two high clubs. Milner knows that Berkowitz holds a strong NT. Not knowing that his partner holds the DQT and four trumps, he did not find the killing shift to the diamond king.

He exited with a spade, Berkowitz winning in hand. Berkowitz overtook a spade and cashed a third spade. Now he finessed a heart and ran the hearts until Lall ruffed in. Eventually, he was able to pitch two diamond losers from dummy and come home with ten tricks.

In the Open Room, Zia and Garner settled in 3H, their eight card heart fit. Becker cashed two high clubs and exited with a spade. Since Zia could not conveniently reach dummy to take the heart finesse without tangling the spades, he laid down the ace/king of hearts. He played the SJ to the ace in dummy and cashed the SQ, discarding a diamond. He trumped a spade in hand and was at the crossroads.

He knew that Becker was probably 2-2 in the majors when he showed out of spades and didn't ruff the third spade. What he didn't know was that Becker had seven clubs since Becker bid two, not three clubs when he overcalled and couldn't get back into the auction at a comfortable level.

If he knew that Becker had seven clubs, he might have played him for honor/doubleton in diamonds. He would cash the DA and exit a diamond, endplaying Becker. If Becker sees this coming and plays his high diamond under Zia's ace, Zia can play a heart to Graves who will be endplayed in the diamond suit.

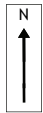
This is all hypothetical. If Becker followed smoothly with a high diamond under the ace, Zia would probably play him for king/queen doubleton of diamonds and go wrong anyway. As it was, Zia decided to play the D9 to dummy's jack. This play would work if Becker held KQx of diamonds.

As it was played, the contract failed one trick. 12 IMPs to Wolfson

Had Zia made the hand, it would still have been a loss of 10 IMPs once 4S succeeded at the other table.

Board 1 ♠ QT43  
 Dealer: N ♥ QJT  
 None Vul. ♦ 743  
 Segment 5 ♣ J64

♠ 8752      ♠ AK6  
 ♥ A76      ♥ K94  
 ♦ 2      ♦ AK965  
 ♣ AKQ92      ♣ 53



♠ J9  
 ♥ 8532  
 ♦ QJT8  
 ♣ T87

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Hamman	Wolfson	Bramley	Silverman
	Pass	1D	Pass
2C	Pass	2NT	Pass
3H	Pass	4NT	Pass
5NT	Pass	6D	Pass
6NT	All Pass		

Closed Room

Sontag	Garner	Berkowitz	Zia
	Pass	1C (strong)	Pass
2C (Nat GF)	Pass	2D (asks)	Pass
2S	Pass	2NT (asks)	Pass
3D (shortness)	Pass	3NT	Pass
4C	Pass	4D	Pass
4S	Pass	4NT	Pass
6C	All Pass		

Both rooms bid to slam.

In the Open Room, Hamman/Bramley bid the slam in NT.

In the Closed Room, Sontag/Berkowitz bid the slam in clubs.

Both slams require 3-3 clubs. On the surface, 6NT also requires 3-3 spades making it a less than 15% slam. There are also some squeeze possibilities which, in fact, operate on this hand because North holds the heart queen, jack, ten and four cards in spades.

Silverman led the DQ. Bramley won his ace and ran clubs, pitching two diamonds and a heart. He ducked a spade around to Silverman's nine. Silverman returned the SJ. Bramley cashed a spade getting the bad news and could no longer make the slam.

Against 6C, Zia led a trump. Sontag drew trumps and played on diamonds. When diamonds were 4-3, he claimed. 14 IMPs to Wolfson



Watch out in Schaumburg... One bad bid or one bad play and we put you in jail!







