



Volume 16, Issue 8
May 22, 2022

Results: SemiFinal Day Two

<u>Open USBC USA1 - 2022</u>											
SemiFinal (120 boards)		Set score of form "Ax" or "Rx" indicates pending Appeal or Ruling. IMPs Total may change.									
20-May-2022		The colored score boxes indicate the team with seating rights for that segment of play.									
#	TEAM	IMPs Total	SET #1	SET #2	SET #3	SET #4	SET #5	SET #6	SET #7	SET #8	Adjustment (IMPs)
1	Nickell	314	28	35	35	71	49	27	13	56	
4	Fleisher	231	38	29	42	23	7	44	13	35	
2	Spector	249	46	32	33	36	9	27	35	31	
3	Rosenthal	191	14	15	22	27	9	38	35	31	

- USBF President**
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- USBF Vice President**
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Al Hollander
- Online VuGraph Organizer**
Chris Wiegand
- Commentary Organizers**
Michael Kamil
Maya Alela

It would be appreciated if BOTH finalist teams would be available for team pictures around 2:30 today. Stan will be at the site to take the photos. Thank you all!

Flat boards abound,
When just experts remain,
They take less chances,
They're never insane!

This one's not perfect
But still there's no swing...
One without Rusinow,
Led the darn KING!

Par: -620		♠	♣	♥	♦	N
NS	7	8	7	3	5	
EW	6	5	6	10	8	

10 EAST ALL

♠ A Q J 8 4
♥ K J
♦ A 5 3 2
♣ Q 5

♠ 9 3
♥ Q 9
♦ K Q T 7 6 4
♣ A 4 2

♠ K T 7 2
♥ A 8 5 3
♦ J 8
♣ T 9 3

♠ 6 5
♥ T 7 6 4 2
♦ 9
♣ K J 8 7 6

	Home team	Visiting team	Room	By	NS	EW
1	Nickell	Fleisher	Open	4♠ W ♦Q	=	620
			Closed	4♠ W ♦Q	=	620
2	Spector	Rosenthal	Open	4♠ W ♦Q	=	620
			Closed	4♠ W ♦K	=	620

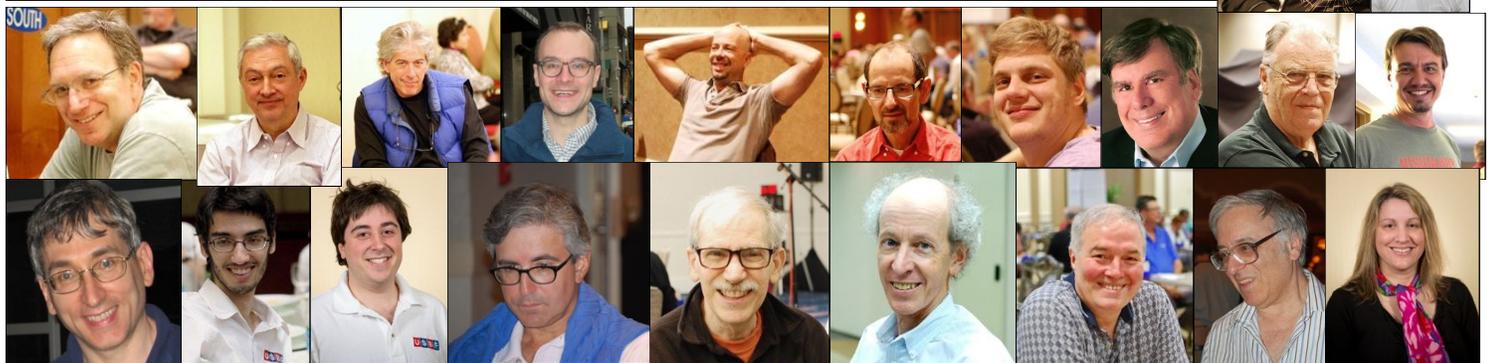
UNITED STATES BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

“Trials” and Tribulations

If you are in need
or a message,
see bottom of page 16
for information!

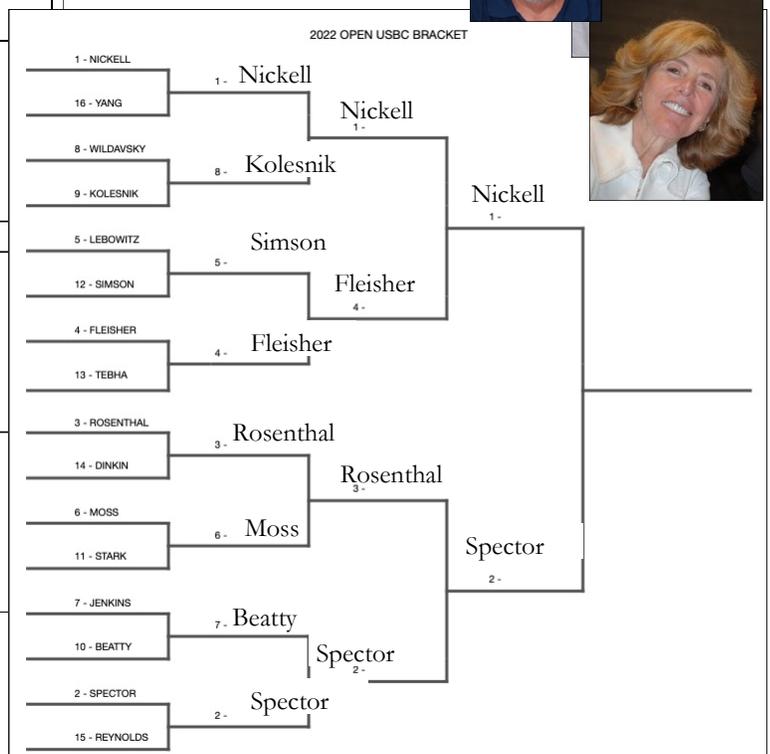
Teams Entered-Alphabetical

Beatty	Steve Beatty, Capt Marc Jacobus	Fred Stewart Jeff Juster
Dinkin	Sam Dinkin, Capt George Jacobs	Michael Shuster Craig Gardner
Fleisher	Marty Fleisher, Capt Joe Grue Bart Bramley	Chip Martel Brad Moss Kit Woolsey
Jenkins	Sheri Winestock Billy Cohen Ron Smith Bronia Jenkins, NPC	Josh Donn Gary Cohler
Kolesnik	Finn Kolesnik, Capt Jerry Stamatov	Ish DelMonte Kevin Rosenberg
Lebowitz	Larry Lebowitz, Capt Zach Grossack Joel Wooldridge	Adam Grossack Michael Rosenberg David Grainger
Moss	Sylvia Moss, Capt Jeff Meckstroth Daniel Korbel	Roger Lee Eddie Wold Zia Mahmood
Nickell	Nick Nickell Bobby Levin Geoff Hampson Jill Levin, NPC	Ralph Katz Steve Weinstein Eric Greco
Reynolds	Tom Reynolds, Capt Joe Viola John Jones	Lance Kerr Bill Hall Claude Vogel
Rosenthal	Andrew Rosenthal, Capt Chris Willenken Kevin Dwyer	Aaron Silverstein Eldad Ginossar Shan Huang
Simson	Doug Simson, Capt Glenn Milgrim Jiang Gu	Jeff Aker Barry Rigal Ai-Tai Lo
Spector	Warren Spector, Capt Vince Demuy Kevin Bathurst	Gavin Wolpert John Hurd John Kranyak
Stark	Andy Stark Alex Kolesnik, Capt Radu Nistor	Franco Baseggio Aaron Jones Iulian Rotaru
Tebha	Anam Tebha, Capt Max Schireson John McAllister	Debbie Rosenberg Stewart Rubenstein Will Watson
Wildavsky	Adam Wildavsky, Capt Peter Boyd Mark Lair	Doug Doub Steve Robinson Mike Passell
Yang	Tien-Chun Yang, Capt Hua Yang Jian-Jian Wang	Yanong Han Steve Chen Jun Shi



Tournament Schedule

DAY	DATE	TIME - CDT	BOARDS
ROUND OF 16			
SUNDAY	MAY 15	8:00 PM	CAPTAINS' MEETING WITH DIC (ON ZOOM)
MONDAY	MAY 16	10:00 - 12:30	SEGMENT 1 BOARDS 1-15
		12:45 - 3:05	SEGMENT 2 BOARDS 16-30 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK
		4:15 - 6:25	SEGMENT 3 BOARDS 31-45
		6:50 - 9:00	SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 46- 60
TUESDAY	MAY 17	10:00 - 12:10	SEGMENT 5 BOARDS 1-15
		12:25 - 2:35	SEGMENT 6 BOARDS 16-30 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK
		3:45 - 5:55	SEGMENT 7 BOARDS 31-45
		6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 8 BOARDS 46-60
QUARTERFINAL			
WEDNESDAY	MAY 18	10:00 - 12:10	SEGMENT 1 BOARDS 1-15
		12:25 - 2:35	SEGMENT 2 BOARDS 16-30 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK
		3:45 - 5:55	SEGMENT 3 BOARDS 31-45
		6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 46- 60
THURSDAY	MAY 19	10:00 - 12:10	SEGMENT 5 BOARDS 1-15
		12:25 - 2:35	SEGMENT 6 BOARDS 16-30 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK
		3:45 - 5:55	SEGMENT 7 BOARDS 31-45
		6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 8 BOARDS 46-60
SEMIFINAL			
FRIDAY	MAY 20	10:00 - 12:10	SEGMENT 1 BOARDS 1-15
		12:25 - 2:35	SEGMENT 2 BOARDS 16-30 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK
		3:45 - 5:55	SEGMENT 3 BOARDS 31-45
		6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 46- 60
SATURDAY	MAY 21	10:00 - 12:10	SEGMENT 5 BOARDS 1-15
		12:25 - 2:35	SEGMENT 6 BOARDS 16-30 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK
		3:45 - 5:55	SEGMENT 7 BOARDS 31-45
		6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 8 BOARDS 46-60
FINAL			
SUNDAY	MAY 22	10:00 - 12:10	SEGMENT 1 BOARDS 1-15
		12:25 - 2:35	SEGMENT 2 BOARDS 16-30 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK
		3:45 - 5:55	SEGMENT 3 BOARDS 31-45
		6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 46- 60
MONDAY	MAY 23	10:00 - 12:10	SEGMENT 5 BOARDS 1-15
		12:25 - 2:35	SEGMENT 6 BOARDS 16-30 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK
		3:45 - 5:55	SEGMENT 7 BOARDS 31-45
		6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 8 BOARDS 46-60



VACCINATION REQUIRED:
All players in the 2022 Open USBC MUST be vaccinated against CoVid19.
Players must submit proof of vaccination to the USBF Secretary (Jan Martel) before play commences in the event.
There are no exceptions to this rule.



Hospitality Suite...

Because of Covid, we won't be able to provide the full hospitality we have in the past, but we will do what we can.

Hosts **Maya Alela** and **Marie-France Benoit** will be in our hospitality suite (Room 2321). They will provide grab and go breakfast and lunch each day, except that on Monday and Tuesday, lunch will be a buffet in the hotel restaurant.

Breakfast: From 8-10 am. There will be individually packaged cereal, fruit, hard boiled eggs, bagels, and some hot options. Also individual butter, jam, peanut butter, and cream cheese, as well as condiment packages. Maya & Marie-France will be making coffee and will have individual packages of sugar, sweetener, and dairy & non-dairy creamers. For those of you who prefer Keurig coffee, that will also be available in the hospitality suite. We are limiting access to 6 players at any one time, so we ask that you come to the suite, pick up a large to go container and put the smaller packages in that to take with you as quickly as you can, and then go someplace else to eat. **Masks that cover your nose & mouth must be worn in the Hospitality Suite at all times.** There will be a hand sanitizer station near the door and we encourage you to sanitize your hands before choosing what to take.

Lunch: Monday, from 2:30-5:00 and Tuesday from 2:00-4:30 there will be a buffet lunch in the hotel restaurant. You will need to show a convention card or SSF to prove you're with the bridge tournament. Please tell the hotel staff if you see someone who isn't one of us, since we are paying for each lunch. From Wednesday on, lunch will be available in the hospitality suite from 2-4 pm (the first half of play each day ends at 2:35; we encourage those of you who are sitting out the 2nd quarter to go early). There will be a main dish (sandwiches, chicken, main dish salads, pizza) as well as tuna salad, green salad, cheese, fruit, and berries... Also all the individual packages of add-ons we have for breakfast. Water and soft drinks will be available in refrigerators.

Let us know what you want: If there is a menu for a future day's lunch hanging on the wall outside the Hospitality Suite, please mark what you want, so we have a better idea of what to order.

Playing Rooms & Player's Break Room

We will have bottled water in the playing rooms and if there is a refrigerator in a playing room we'll stock it with soft drinks.

We will also have bottled water in the Player's Break Room (1321), as well as soft drinks, nespresso, some packaged snacks, and some fruit.

AGAIN: Masks that cover your nose & mouth must be worn in the Player's Break Room at all times, so you may not eat and drink in the room.



You can follow the USBC on the <https://vugraph.lovebridge.com/> website. (See Schedule Below)

Popcorn time!

If you want to listen to commentary, search for the TV icon to choose from the available live commentary. If it doesn't respond, no one is commenting.

Nail biting!

You can choose the "Match view" at the starting page of your event and your screen will split into four small screens – two showing the two tables of the match you choose, the other two having the scoresheet for your match and the current scores of the other matches. In the 2x2 view you can also personalize the content in your windows. (The 2x2 view is not available on mobile devices.)

Think together!

When watching a table, click on a name and choose "Kibitz". Instead of seeing all 4 hands, you will see what the player sees, and you can decide what you would do and see whether your player agrees.

More Information:

The image of the sticker with the number of the board (upper right) takes you to the results of the board, in the bottom right corner the arrow takes you to the scoresheet, the DDS shows the double dummy analyses, beside that there is a button for the other table of the same match, at the top left corner you can see the bidding with alerts and the explanations (mouse over), the tricks already played, and the double dummy analysis for the available number of tricks with the par score.

Navigation icons:

While surfing here and there in the vugraph, or amongst the archive sessions, there are icons to help you. You can always go back to the main page with the "house" or to the standings with the "scores". If you cannot see the icons, move your mouse, or touch your screen and they pop up immediately. There is also a built-in back button because the back button of your browser will always take you to the starting page. If this is not what you wanted, push next in your browser and you can continue.

Replay:

After the event you can find every board from every table easily. While replaying the hands, the only surprise can be the way "next board" button works. If you have arrived from a scoresheet, it navigates through the scoresheet. If you have arrived from a screen where the results were shown for a given board then the same buttons move you through the list. Push every button and enjoy!

KIBITZING SCHEDULE (EDT)

On the first day of play, we added some time to the first segment to allow the players to get familiar with the tablets. Kibitzing times on May 16th will be:

Segment 1: 11:45 am

Segment 2: 2:30 pm

BREAK

Segment 3: 6:00 pm

Segment 4: 8:35 pm

For all other days, kibitzing times will be :

Segment 1: 11:45 am

Segment 2: 2:10 pm

BREAK

Segment 3: 5:30 pm

Segment 4: 7:55 pm



Kibitzing...

When I found out my toaster wasn't waterproof, I was shocked!

Pat Sajak and spouse are renewing their vowels!

My friend got fired as a cow milker because of erratic behavior. He became a danger to himself and udders!

I bought a bigger bed to have more bed room... I had more bed room but less bedroom.

Why was the apple uncomfortable in the fruit bowl? Pear pressure!

Who are the rudest people in medieval times? Peasants... they have no manors!

Most confused slogan ever: World Health Organization: WHO cares!

Just got kicked out of the secret cooking society... I spilled the beans!

Old archeologists never die. They just move into new digs!

Show me a down payment for your orthodontist and I will show you a retainer fee!

Radioactive cats have 18 half-lives!

Paddy took two stuffed dogs to the Antique Road Show. "This is a very rare breed," said the presenter. "Do you know what they would fetch if they were in good condition?"

"Sticks??" replied Paddy.

News reports say head lice are now resistant to the usual medical treatments. The news has scientists scratching their heads!



Seeding Info: The teams in the USBC are seeded based on ACBL Performance Points, including masterpoints, but adjusted by removing any seeding

SEED	TEAM NAME	TEAM AVERAGE SEEDING POINTS
1	Nickell	67.25
2	Spector	46.79
3	Rosenthal	45.80
4	Fleisher	44.85
5	Moss	40.56
6	Lebowitz	32.34
7	Wildavsky	21.45
8	Jenkins	18.11
9	Kolesnik	15.94
10	Stewart	13.99
11	Simson	13.06
12	Stark	10.35
13	Dinkin	8.80
14	Tebha	7.91
15	Reynolds	7.83
16	Yang	5.43

points earned on a team with a player who has confessed to or been convicted of cheating. The seeding points for an individual player are capped at 70. Teams are seeded based on the average seeding points for the team. These are the teams and their seed positions. On May 7th, teams were shuffled in pairs

to determine their bracket positions.



No Electronic Devices (except LoveBridge tablets) are permitted in the Playing Areas. Severe, increasing penalties will be assessed. The USBF reserves the right to wand anyone entering the playing field.



Some Nearby Suggestions For Your Dining Pleasure

Fat Rosie's Taco and Tequilla Bar, 870 N. Meacham, Schaumburg, IL 60173,
(847) 807-2850

Monday - Thursday
11:30am - 9:00pm
Friday and Saturday
11:30am - 10:00pm
Sunday
11:30am - 9:00pm
Sunday Brunch
11:30am-2:30pm



ANTOJITOS

GUACAMOLE DEL DIA

Chunky avocado mixed with seasonal toppings. Pick one, two or three. Mango Habanero | Morita Pineapple | Traditional Pico de Gallo

CEVICHE CAMPECHANO

Shrimp and fish ceviche with habanero-mango leche de tigre, red onions, radish, microgreens, spicy pepitas and served with banana chips

COCTEL DE CAMARON Y PULPO

classic shrimp cocktail with octopus, lime, jalapeno & avocado

ENSALADA CALAMARI AL AJILLO

Garlic marinated calamari tossed with arugula, sautéed corn, fresno peppers & lime juice with Mojo de ajo "sweet garlic"

ENSALADA DE COSECHA

Farmer's salad with black beans, corn, tomato, onion, green poblano pepper, avocado, mixed greens, farmer's cheese and citrus-jalapeno dressing. Add Chicken Add Shrimp Add Steak

POZOLE

Hominy & chicken soup infused with guajillo pepper, garnished with cabbage, radish & avocado

SOPES SURTIDOS

Four small masa boats topped with one each: mushrooms, crema and fresco cheese | chicken, mole and queso | poblano rajas, crema and fresco cheese | Fat Rosie's beef, queso dip and chopped cilantro

FLAUTAS DE RES

Three fried tortillas filled with shredded beef, served with a tres chiles salsa, lettuce, cheese & sour cream

FAT ROSIE'S QUESO DIP

Taco style queso with Fat Rosie's beef diced tomatoes, salsa suiza and cilantro

QUESO FUNDIDO

Melted queso Chihuahua with sauteed poblano peppers and onions

ROSIE'S NACHOS

Corn chips with ground beef, pinto beans, melted queso Chihuahua, pico de gallo, pickled jalapeno & sour cream

MEXICAN STREET CORN "ESQUITES"

Off the cob, roasted corn kernels tossed with guajillo, lime juice, mayonnaise, cotija cheese and piquin

EMPANADAS DE CARNE

Mexican ground beef stuffed turnovers, served with tomatillo-avocado salsa, queso fresco & sliced radish

QUESADILLA

Flour tortilla filled with queso Chihuahua Add Steak Add Chicken

PLATO SURTIDO

Platter of guacamole, ceviche campechano tostadas, sopes with chicken mole, queso fresco & crispy quesadillas

TACOS

all served on corn tortillas / flour tortillas available / mix & match

POLLO A LAS BRAZAS

Chipotle-marinated grilled chicken, topped with pico de gallo, lettuce & queso Chihuahua

PESCADO

Crispy battered or grilled fish of the day, drizzled with avocado-habanero aioli, topped lime-cabbage & pico de gallo

SALMÓN

Grilled Alaskan salmon topped with tropical pico de gallo & crispy onions, drizzled with chipotle aioli

WILD MUSHROOMS

Shitake, portobello and cremini mushrooms sauteed in garlic and topped with fresco cheese and morita salsa

COLIFLOR FRITA (VEG)

Crispy battered cauliflower topped with tomatillo jam, toasted Marcona almonds, red onion, cilantro, queso fresco & fresno peppers

AL PASTOR

Guajillo-marinated grilled pork shoulder topped with grilled pineapple, salsa verde, onion & cilantro

CARNE ASADA

Grilled steak drizzled with avocado-tomatillo salsa topped with pico de gallo & queso fresco

CAMARONES

Sautéed Tiger shrimp topped with arugula & pickled red onions, drizzled with jalapeño-garlic aioli

CARNE DE RES ROSIE-STYLE

Mexican ground beef topped with lettuce, salsa de la casa & crema drizzle

PULPO

Grilled octopus with roasted peppers & sweet corn relish, chipotle aioli, crispy potatoes, radish & cilantro

QUESABIRRIA

Crispy corn tortillas stuffed with guajillo-braised beef & queso Oaxaca, with pico de gallo rustico and consome

TAMALES

TAMALE DE POLLO

Chicken stuffed tamal dressed in a corn husk, smothered in mole verde and topped with sour cream and fresco cheese

TAMAL DE COCHINITA

Slow roasted achiote pork dressed in banana leaf, smothered in kolito sauce and topped with fresco cheese

PLATOS

ENCHILADAS ROJAS

Three corn tortillas filled with melted queso Chihuahua, covered in roasted tomato sauce, garnished with radish, onion & cilantro, served with rice & beans Add Beef Add Chicken Add Steak

ENCHILADAS DE MOLE

Three corn tortillas filled with wood grilled chicken, covered in Oaxacan mole negro & melted queso Chihuahua, served with rice & beans

FAJITAS

Flat grilled red & yellow bell peppers, poblano peppers & red onions, served with rice & beans, garnished with grilled cebollitas

Add Chicken Add Steak Add Shrimp

CAMARONES AL MOJO DE AJO

Sautéed Tiger shrimp in mojo de ajo (sweet garlic sauce) tossed with fresh pico de gallo, avocado & black beans, served over a bed of Mexican rice

SALMÓN POBLANO

Grilled Alaskan salmon on a bed of creamy poblano sauce, topped with grilled zucchini and served with Mexican rice

POLLO AL CHIPOTLE

Grilled chicken breast on a bed of creamy chipotle sauce, topped with crispy onions & grilled zucchini, served with garlic mashed potatoes

MAR Y TIERRA

Grilled Atlantic salmon, garlic shrimp and skirt steak served with red rice, charro beans and guacamole

COCHINITA PIBIL

Achiote-marinated slow braised pork shoulder wrapped & cooked in banana leaves, served with black beans, topped with queso fresco, garnished with pickled red onion, cilantro & a side of habanero salsa

TAMPIQUEÑA

Grilled skirt steak topped with salsa de Molcajete, plated with one "Enchilada Roja", grilled queso fresco, rajas, Mexican rice & beans, garnished with cilantro, served with a side of guacamole

CHILE RELLENO

Stuffed with roasted butternut squash, monterrey jack cheese, epazote, black beans and smothered in suiza salsa

ARROZ A LA TUMBADA

Shrimp, calamari and manila clams mixed with Mexican rice in our tomato, morita garlic sauce

TORTA DE MILANESE

Breaded chicken with refried beans, sliced avocado, tomato, pickled onion, monterrey jack cheese and chipotle mayo. Served with French fries

SUPER BURRITO

Stuffed with beans, rice, Chihauhau cheese, lettuce, pico de gallo, sour cream, and avocado

Add Veggie Add Beef Add Chicken Add al Pastor Add Steak

EL PATRON GORDO BURRITO

Eat in 12 minutes or less, and it's free!

EL PATON GORDO BURRITO

Our larger-than-life 3 lb. burrito is stuffed with grilled steak, rice, beans, lettuce, pico de gallo, sour cream, queso Chihuahua, French fries & avocado with habanero salsa. Served with rice & beans.

No substitutions

Dine-in only

SIDES

RICE

REFRIED BEANS

CEBOLLITAS (GRILLED ONIONS)

CHILES TREADADOS (GRILLED JALAPEÑO)

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

Sudoku 1

What do you call a couple of chimpanzees sharing an Amazon account? PRIME-mates.

Why did the teddy bear say no to dessert? Because she was stuffed.

Why did the soccer player take so long to eat dinner? Because he thought he couldn't use his hands.

What has ears but cannot hear? A cornfield.

What do you call a guy who's really loud? Mike.

Why do birds fly south in the winter? It's faster than walking!

Why did the student eat his homework? Because the teacher told him it was a piece of cake.

What did Yoda say when he saw himself in 4k? HDMI.

Which superhero hits home runs? Batman!

What social event do spiders love to attend? Web-bings.

What did one pickle say to the other? Dill with it.

Medium Sudoku

Sudoku 2

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

Sudoku Solutions on Page 16

Nickell Takes a Page from Kolesnik's Playbook...

The second day of the Semi-Finals is underway. At Board 9, the score in the fifth segment is 36-7 Nickell in Nickell v Fleisher and 8-9 Rosenthal in Spector v Rosenthal. Are we certain we are playing the same boards?

Two slam swings and a game have propelled the Nickell squad to a 60+ lead.

W	N	E	S
	P	1♠	2♦
3♠	4♠	P	6♦
P	P	P	

3S = wide ranging ... to play

Board 1

♠ 2
♥ 742
♦ KT54
♣ AT962

N Geoff Hampson

♠ 9764
♥ K865
♦ 87
♣ Q75

W Kit Woolsey

♠ AKQ853
♥ Q93
♦ 3
♣ J83

E Bart Bramley

♠ JT
♥ AJT
♦ AQJ962
♣ K4

S Eric Greco

SOUTH 6♦

Hampson/Greco play sound overcalls. Hampson's singleton spade combined with his 4-card diamond support and his CA led him to cuebid 4S, clearly the key to this auction.

Greco, with extra values and six good diamonds, jumped to the slam.

Slam is around 38%. The club suit must work to provide pitches for hearts. Either a 3-3 in clubs or QJ doubleton is fine. +920 N/S

At the other table, things were more subdued.

The auction started out the same, but Grue, holding the North cards, chose a jump-ending 5D bid as opposed to a 4S cue.

Moss passed and played it there. +400 N/S

11 IMPs to Nickell

HOME CARDS SPLIT

W	N	E	S
	P	1♠	2♦
3♠	5♦	P	P
P			

3S= Mixed Raise

Board 1

♠ 2
♥ 742
♦ KT54
♣ AT962

N Joe Grue

♠ 9764
♥ K865
♦ 87
♣ Q75

W Bobby Levin

♠ AKQ853
♥ Q93
♦ 3
♣ J83

E Steve Weinstein

♠ JT
♥ AJT
♦ AQJ962
♣ K4

S Brad Moss

SOUTH 5♦

Nickell/Fleisher (continued on page 11)

W	N	E	S
		P	1♥
DBL	RDBL	2♣	2♥
3♣	4♥	P	P
P			

Board 2

North: Geoff Hampson
 ♠ K752
 ♥ 7
 ♦ KQT5
 ♣ AJ72

West: Kit Woolsey
 ♠ AQ83
 ♥ Q6
 ♦ A74
 ♣ 9864

East: Bart Bramley
 ♠ J6
 ♥ T854
 ♦ J63
 ♣ KT53

South: Eric Greco
 ♠ T94
 ♥ AKJ932
 ♦ 982
 ♣ Q

SOUTH
 4♥

Board 2 produced a vulnerable game swing.

Greco/Hampson play Precision and open most 10 counts. Greco opened the South hand 1H. Woolsey made a takeout double. Hampson, with his full opener plus redoubled Bramley retreated to 2C.

Greco showed his 6th heart and over Woolsey's 3C raise, Hampson bid the heart game.

Woolsey led a club, ducked to Bramley's king. Bramley led the S6 to Woolsey's ace and Woolsey cashed his DA.

Woolsey exited his hand with a spade and Greco won the king in dummy. Success would rest with the trump suit. Based on the takeout double, trumps were unlikely to be divided 3-3. Greco needed a trump coup to handle a 4-2 split. At trick 5, he cashed the CA, discarding a spade, and ruffed a club in hand to shorten his trumps. The HA and HK felled the queen. Greco led a diamond to dummy and ruffed a club. He played a diamond to dummy and East was couped. Greco's trump J9 was safe over Bramley's T8. +620 N/S

In the other room, Moss opened a weak 2H on the South hand... certainly reasonable with all his strength in one suit.

Everyone passed. Moss took 11 tricks, making 5 for +200.

9 IMPs to Nickell

Board 3 was a 6 IMP swing for Fleisher when Nickell played 2S N/S down one and 3H E/W down two.

W	N	E	S
		P	2♥
P	P	P	

Board 2

North: Joe Grue
 ♠ K752
 ♥ 7
 ♦ KQT5
 ♣ AJ72

West: Bobby Levin
 ♠ AQ83
 ♥ Q6
 ♦ A74
 ♣ 9864

East: Steve Weinstein
 ♠ J6
 ♥ T854
 ♦ J63
 ♣ KT53

South: Brad Moss
 ♠ T94
 ♥ AKJ932
 ♦ 982
 ♣ Q

SOUTH
 2♥

(Continued on page 13)

Word Find...

Countries of Europe

Find and circle all of the Countries of Europe that are hidden in the grid.

The remaining letters spell a secret message.

Note: IRELAND and NORTHERN IRELAND are separately hidden and do not overlap.

A A D Y A W R O N I E T S N E T H C E I L W I
 U T N H S P A I N O D E C A M R A L B A N I A
 S E A D S F I N L A N D A Z E R B A I J A N M
 T E L P O E D N A L E C I C T B U L G A R I A
 R N R N S R U S S I A N F E D E R A T I O N L
 I O E B E D R K R A M N E D C F T M O A I R T
 A R Z Y I D N A E A S E A Z D U R H O V R B A
 I T T N O A E A P L E L E I I N U A O N E S T
 N H I A P R M W L H U C O S T N A G N L A L E
 A E W M O M L O S R H X A V G A E L G C A C Y
 M R S R L E I S N R E N E A E Z O I E G E T O
 O N E E A N T D E T M H R M R N U R U R I A C
 R I Y G N I H P N A E Y T E B M I T C C I I U
 E R O L D A U G R A E N H E A O R A N S S K K
 C E T N A B A I E N L A E I N O U A D U S A R
 E L S U L T N I G O I T N G P M C R R R E V A
 E A A I R O I L V N R O O L R I L A G P L O I
 R N C E S K A T S T T G C C T O L O N Y A L N
 G D T I N N E O E S A N I A S E T I N C W S E
 T H E W D O B Y E R L L V A B A V O D L O M D



- | | | | |
|--------------------|---------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| ALBANIA | ENGLAND | LITHUANIA | SAN MARINO |
| ANDORRA | ESTONIA | LUXEMBOURG | SCOTLAND |
| ARMENIA | FINLAND | MACEDONIA | SLOVAKIA |
| AUSTRIA | FRANCE | MALTA | SLOVENIA |
| AZERBAIJAN | GEORGIA | MOLDOVA | SPAIN |
| BELARUS | GERMANY | MONACO | SWEDEN |
| BELGIUM | GREECE | NETHERLANDS | SWITZERLAND |
| BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA | HUNGARY | NORTHERN IRELAND | TURKEY |
| BULGARIA | ICELAND | NORWAY | UKRAINE |
| CROATIA | IRELAND | POLAND | SERBIA/MONTENEGRO |
| CYPRUS | ITALY | PORTUGAL | VATICAN CITY |
| CZECH REPUBLIC | LATVIA | ROMANIA | WALES |
| DENMARK | LIECHTENSTEIN | RUSSIAN FEDERATION | |

Day Five Semifinal Cross IMPS

1.	John Hurd - Kevin Bathurst	Spector	0.99	89.33	90
2.	Steve Weinstein - Bobby Levin	Nickell	0.87	78.33	90
3.	Geoff Hampson - Eric Greco	Nickell	0.57	51.67	90
4.	Marty Fleisher - Chip Martel	Fleisher	0.40	24.00	60
5.	Shan Huang - Kevin Dwyer	Rosenthal	0.15	13.67	90
6.	John Kranyak - Vince Demuy	Spector	-0.04	-3.67	90
7.	Eldad Ginossar - Chris Willenken	Rosenthal	-0.19	-17.00	90
8.	Ralph Katz - Nick Nickell	Nickell	-0.40	-24.00	60
9.	Gavin Wolpert - Warren Spector	Spector	-0.42	-25.00	60
10.	Joe Grue - Brad Moss	Fleisher	-0.49	-51.00	105
11.	Andrew Rosenthal - Aaron Silverstein	Rosenthal	-0.96	-57.33	60
12.	Bart Bramley - Kit Woolsey	Fleisher	-1.05	-79.00	75

Board 5

North: ♠ KJ87543, ♥ 643, ♦ 9, ♣ A7 (Geoff Hampson)

South: ♠ AQT, ♥ T, ♦ AKT652, ♣ QT8 (Eric Greco)

West: ♠ 9, ♥ AKQ8752, ♦ J, ♣ J963 (Kit Woolsey)

East: ♠ 62, ♥ J9, ♦ Q8743, ♣ K542 (Bart Bramley)

Contract: 3♣

4C= modified RKC

Board 5 was the second big slam swing for Nickell... This one, vulnerable ...

Hampson opened a traditional 3S preempt in first seat.

Greco bid 4C, modified Keycard, and Woolsey jumped to 6H to make North/South guess how high to bid. Hampson guessed right and bid the slam.

Bramley led the HJ which held and shifted to a trump. Hampson won dummy's ace, cashed the DA and DK, discarding the C7. He ruffed a diamond, ruffed a heart, ruffed a diamond, ruffed a heart and claimed. +1430

At the other table, Grue also opened the North hand 3S., but Moss signed off in game.

Levin, at favorable, did not know if 5H would be a good save or even a make if Weinstein held the right cards. He didn't need to make his opponents guess since they were stopping in game anyway.

Levin bid 5H. Grue and Weinstein passed. Moss balanced back in with 5S and N/S played it there making six.

13 IMPs to Nickell

Board 5

North: ♠ KJ87543, ♥ 643, ♦ 9, ♣ A7 (Joe Grue)

South: ♠ AQT, ♥ T, ♦ AKT652, ♣ QT8 (Brad Moss)

West: ♠ 9, ♥ AKQ8752, ♦ J, ♣ J963 (Bobby Levin)

East: ♠ 62, ♥ J9, ♦ Q8743, ♣ K542 (Steve Weinstein)

Contract: 3♣

NORTH 5♣

	\$177 000	\$186 000	\$189 000	\$193 000	16,000 sq ft	21,000 sq ft	24,000 sq ft	32,000 sq ft	35,000 sq ft	8 rooms	9 rooms	10 rooms	11 rooms	12 rooms	Bungalow	Colonial	Farmhouse	Garrison	Ranch
5th Avenue																			
Elliot Circle																			
Forest Drive																			
High Street																			
Oakland Road																			
Bungalow																			
Colonial																			
Farmhouse																			
Garrison																			
Ranch																			
8 rooms																			
9 rooms																			
10 rooms																			
11 rooms																			
12 rooms																			
16,000 sq ft																			
21,000 sq ft																			
24,000 sq ft																			
32,000 sq ft																			
35,000 sq ft																			

Logic Puzzle

Answer on Page 15

Address	Price	Lot Size	# of Rooms	Type

Greg's ready to buy his first house and has spent the past few weeks looking at houses. So far, he's found five that he likes. They're all within his price range and have about what he's looking for, mostly some land and a moderate-sized house. Coincidentally, all of the houses that he likes are different styles. Determine the street address of each house, the asking price for each house, the size of each lot, the number of rooms each house has, and each type of house.

- The house on 5th Avenue wasn't the farmhouse but it did have 9 rooms. The house that was \$193,000 had two more rooms than the ranch but neither house had a lot that was 32,000 square feet.
- The house on Oakland Road was a colonial house but it wasn't \$189,000. The house that was \$177,000 had 12 rooms but it wasn't the house on Elliot Circle. The house

on Forest Drive wasn't a bungalow.

- The cheapest house, which was \$174,000, was on the smallest lot, which was 16,000 square feet but it wasn't on Oakland Road.
- The house that had 12 rooms wasn't a garrison. The house on High Street had 8 rooms.
- The five houses were the house on Elliot Circle, the house priced at \$186,000, the house with a lot size of 21,000 square feet, the house with ten rooms, and the ranch.
- The farmhouse had a lot size of 24,000 square feet but it was also two rooms bigger than the \$189,000 house. The ranch is not on High Street but it is on a lot size of 35,000 square feet.

Meet the Players



Joe Grue, who grew up in Minnesota and now lives in New York City, is a professional bridge player, who has had great success with many different partners. He won Junior World Championships with John Kranyak in 2001, 2005 and 2006. He won the Reisinger, North American Swiss and Vanderbilt with Curtis Cheek. Since then he & Brad Moss have won the Spingold, Vanderbilt, Bermuda Bowl and two USBCs, as well as finishing second in the World Open Pairs. He won the 2018 Barry Crane top 500, winning a record total of 3676 master-points.

Excerpted from the District 14 Website, Peggy Kaplan, webmaster:

Over 25 years ago, I met **Joe Grue**. It was Joe's 10th birthday; his parents, Sue and Tom, made plans to have a birthday celebration at one of my husband's pizza places. Joe and a bunch of his young friends topped pizza crusts with pepperoni, cheese and other condiments - and had a blast.

Little did we know then that Joe one day would be having a blast playing bridge ... but that Joe would also be one of the most successful super star

bridge players in the world! Yet, that is exactly what happened, culminating at present with Joe winning a prestigious ACBL award, the Barry Crane top 500 - and crushing previous records in the process.

A few years after I met Joe on his birthday, he started learning bridge. From the beginning, indications were that Joe had talent! I recall competing against Joe early on in a team game. On one hand, he got doubled and went for a big number. The first few times this happened to me, I had to fight off tears, feeling so terrible that I had cost my team many IMPs! Not Joe, though! He brushed off disaster, went on to the next hand ... and began a pattern of positivity, creativity and a sixth sense of what would work and when.

Joe was fortunate to have superb mentors. Fine players such as Jerry Lee, Kerry Holloway, Larry Oakey and others worked with Joe when he began. Of course, parents Sue and Tom guided Joe also - and his grandmother, Maggie Grue, one of our top players for years, contributed mightily, too!

In 1997, while still a teenager, Joe won his first national event: Grand National Teams Flight C. From that point on, Joe added more and more wins, all "big kahuna" events. Indeed, Joe's second national win ever was the Reisinger, an event many consider to be the toughest of all! Joe has a fabulous record of winning the Blue Ribbon pairs 3 times in 4 years - with the odd year a 2nd! Additionally, many of us know that Joe has earned multiple junior titles on the world stage - and - recently the international star event, the Bermuda Bowl.

Since Joe moved away from the Twin Cities in 2001, many of our current players either don't know Joe well or have never met him. But those of us who do are in awe of more than Joe's spectacular bridge talents. Joe is a very caring, helpful, honorable AND fun guy. Over the years, I have heard from many people who share tales of how Joe went out of his way to help and support others - and how his ethics at the table are of the highest order.

Ed. Note:

With the delayed broadcasting, it is especially challenging to write up hands. If anyone has a hand of interest, please submit it to me at stan-subeck@prodigy.net. I welcome any human interest stories, news or gossip as well!!

Thanks.

Suzi



Answer to Puzzle on Page 14

Address	Price	Lot Size	# of Rooms	Type
Oakland Road	\$177 000	21,000 sq ft	12 rooms	Colonial
High Street	\$186 000	32,000 sq ft	8 rooms	Bungalow
Forest Drive	\$174 000	16,000 sq ft	10 rooms	Garrison
Elliot Circle	\$193 000	24,000 sq ft	11 rooms	Farmhouse
5th Avenue	\$189 000	35,000 sq ft	9 rooms	Ranch

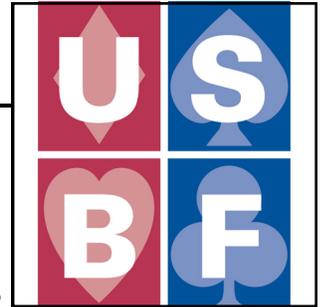
8	6	9	7	3	1	2	5	4
4	1	7	5	9	2	8	6	3
3	5	2	6	4	8	1	9	7
9	4	8	3	5	6	7	2	1
1	3	6	8	2	7	9	4	5
7	2	5	4	1	9	3	8	6
6	8	1	2	7	5	4	3	9
5	9	4	1	8	3	6	7	2
2	7	3	9	6	4	5	1	8

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

Sudoku Answers

Answer to Sudoku 1

Answer to Sudoku 2



USBF Supporting Membership

If you don't want to play in the USBF Championships that choose teams to represent the USA in the World Bridge Federation Championships, but do want to aid our events, a **Supporting Membership** can be the perfect way for you to be involved.

A Supporting Membership is \$25 for one year (\$75 for 3 years) and your donation will be used to cover inevitable expenses: attorney fees, accounting fees, website support services, tournament directors, insurance, WBF dues, and vugraph operators.

The USBF is an **all-volunteer** organization.

Our meetings are by conference call and at NABCS. Board members and the organization's officers are not compensated for meetings, travel, or hotel expenses.

In Case Your Partner's Bidding "Rubs" You Wrong... Massage, Anyone?



Ella, our wonderful massage therapist, will arrange to visit the Hyatt during the USBC between 10 am and 8 pm if scheduled.

Ella charges \$100 per hour, including tip.

If players wish to schedule a massage, please alert Jan Martel in the Breakroom and she will organize the times.

Ella has served the USBCs in the past and it has been much appreciated by players sitting on less than comfortable chairs during play.

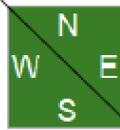
Board 51

South Deals

E-W Vul

♠ 8 6 4 2
 ♥ A 10 9 8
 ♦ J 7 2
 ♣ A 6

♠ K Q J 9 5 3
 ♥ Q 7 5 3
 ♦ —
 ♣ Q 3 2



♠ A
 ♥ K 4 2
 ♦ A K 10 9 5 3
 ♣ 10 8 5

♠ 10 7
 ♥ J 6
 ♦ Q 8 6 4
 ♣ K J 9 7 4



Appeal #1
Rosenberg vs Moss
QuarterFinals

NORTH – Meckstroth	EAST – Willenken	SOUTH – Wold	WEST – Ginossar
		P	P
1♣	2♦	P	2♣
3♣	X*	P	4♥**
P	5♦	AP	

Table Result: 5♦ by East took 11 tricks, +600 EW

* Dbl: Alerted, not concurrently explained. South clicked to inquire (twice); East explained as cards. South’s Pass over 3♣ took 36 seconds (includes the above inquiry times).

** 4♥: Took 1 minute, 12 seconds. Collectively with South’s call, the virtual tray returned to the NE side of the screen in 1 minute and 48 seconds.

The Director Call:

During the last deal of the segment (Bd 60), South was the dummy and came to the Directors to request a ruling on a board from earlier in the segment. South claimed that his screenmate took extra time to bid 4♥. After the match, North was asked about the hand. He stated that he had noticed the hesitation but was more focused on playing the remainder of the hands than on whether he was damaged by a potential violation of the laws.

Facts determined by the directors:

The directors were able to determine from the system summaries and convention cards submitted by each pair that the North-South pair play a big club system. Similarly, the directors were able to verify that the East-West pair play fit-showing jumps in auctions such as this one.

The East player further stated that they did not bypass heart suits that were five cards or longer to cuebid in support of partner’s minor. The Directors were unable to substantiate this agreement or style.

Under USBF regulations, neither the late timing of the request for the ruling nor the fact that it was the screenmate (South) rather than the opponent on the other side of the screen determining the amount of time taken to bid 4♥ remove the rights of the side requesting a ruling, though the latter does hold less weight than if the director call had been initiated on the other side of the screen without consultation between the partners.

Polling:

The Directors conducted a poll to determine three things:

- 1) whether a player in East's position could tell that the time taken on the South-West side of the virtual screen was unmistakably due to a hesitation by the West player
- 2) whether the break in tempo demonstrably suggested that 5♦ would be more successful than another action
- 3) whether the suggested action(s) were logical alternatives to 5♦.

Five anonymous players were given the verified agreements of both partnerships and the East hand. The players were asked what they would do at each stage of the auction. The majority of players passed 4♥ and believed that a slow 4♥ bid suggested that West had fewer than five hearts. One of the players polled stated it this way:

The longer it takes, the fewer hearts partner has.

When another player was asked about how his analysis fit within the context that the agreements of the pair in question who play fit-showing jumps and, as a matter of style, do not bypass 2♥ with five or more hearts, the player offered that West might not be good enough to bypass 3♦.

A passed hand cuebid, doesn't have to be all that...and while, stylistically, the pair might not bypass heart suits, the heart suit might not have been good enough to mention.

The results of the poll determined that a) the break in tempo demonstrably suggested that 5♦ might fare better than Pass, and b) Pass was a logical alternative to 5♦. However, the responses to the question of unmistakable hesitation were as follows: two of the five players thought it was likely that the 4♥ bid was after a break in tempo by West, though because of South's request(s) for information it was not unmistakable, another thought it was 4:1 that West vs South took time, the fourth player could not tell at all whether it was West or South who took time, and the last player polled said "The longer it takes, the fewer hearts partner has." Law 16 says in part:

Any extraneous information from partner that might suggest a call or play is unauthorized. This includes remarks, questions, replies to questions, unexpected alerts or failure to alert, unmistakable hesitation, unwonted speed, special emphasis, tone, gesture, movement, or mannerism.

The Directors' conclusion was that this break in tempo did not transmit an *unmistakable hesitation* to the other side of the virtual screen, and therefore the other provisions of Law 16B did not apply. **The table result of 5♦, making 5 (EW +600) was allowed to stand.**

The Appeal:

The appellants agreed and found no fault with the poll conducted by the directors concerning the questions of whether Pass was a logical alternative and whether Pass was demonstrably suggested by the unauthorized information. However, they disagreed with the validity of the poll and the directors' conclusions concerning the question of whether the break in tempo transmitted an unmistakable hesitation to the other side of the virtual screen.

The appellants contended that a player who had no action over 2♦ could not now be thinking about what to do over East's double.

The non-appellants did not necessarily agree with the finding of the poll that Pass was a logical alternative to 5♦, but they agreed that the crux of the situation was East's perspective after the virtual tray came back from the SW side of the screen. They contended that South's repeated queries, especially non-vulnerable vs. vulnerable, could have been predicated on a decision to save in 4♣ or something similar. Further, they suggested that West's time was likely spent on decision of level, not strain. That is, West was determining whether to bid 4♦ (signoff, minimum for previous actions) or continue on to game. Once West decided on committing the partnership to game, it was EW style to show the playable 4-card heart suit along the way to 5♦, in case East also had 4 hearts or a suitable hand to play the 4-3 heart fit.

East and West re-emphasized that their style did not allow for West to have a five-card heart suit, as West could either bid 2♥ with 5 and willingness to be passed in 2♥, or show a fit-showing jump with 3♥, even with only three diamonds. This is based upon a fairly sound 2♦ overall style that usually contains six diamonds, hence three-card support is usually a nine-card fit. East claimed he thought briefly about his hand's suitability for playing the 4-3 heart fit, determined it was likely he would be tapped out, and decided the diamond game would be more likely to be successful.

The Committee Findings:

The committee was split concerning the question of whether Pass was a logical alternative to 5♦. Two members thought there was no logical alternative to 5♦ because, as stated by West during the proceeding and in their own bridge judgement, West could not have five or more hearts because he did not bid 2♥ over his partner's bid.

While the committee largely disagreed with the results of the poll concerning the questions of whether there was a less favorable logical alternative or whether the less favorable action was suggested, the committee also believed this disagreement was irrelevant, because Law 16 requires an unmistakable hesitation. The committee believed that the South's query could create enough doubt in East's mind about who took the time on the other side of the screen. They concluded unanimously that the directors' poll and their conclusion that the break in tempo did not transmit an unmistakable hesitation to the other side of the virtual screen were valid, and **upheld the ruling**.

Respectfully submitted,

Committee:

Jacob Morgan, Chair
Tom Carmichael
George Jacobs

Directors:

McKenzie Myers
Ken Horwedel
Chris Wiegand



Thanks to the Committee members for serving. We appreciate that this committee took place late in the evening on Thursday.

Thanks to those polled for giving their time to answer the director's questions.

Thanks to the directors for handling this matter so expeditiously.

The process works but it takes a village!

Rosenthal v Spector

Board 4

W N E S

1♣	P	1♠	DBL
RDBL	P	2♦	P
P	DBL	P	2♥
P	3NT	P	P

Rdbl = 3 card support

♠ K63
♥ QT
♦ AQ7
♣ J7543

N John Kranyak

♠ Q54
♥ J75
♦ T5
♣ AKQ86

W Aaron Silverstein

♠ JT72
♥ 962
♦ K9842
♣ T

E Andrew Rosenthal

♠ A98
♥ AK843
♦ J63
♣ 92

S Vince Demuy

It's generally difficult to find a no-trump game after the opponents open the bidding and respond.

In the tightly contested fifth segment of Spector/Rosenthal (9-9), Demuy/Kranyak won 7 IMPs for Spector on Board 4 by bidding and making 3NT while their counterparts, Ginnsar/Willenken, sold out to 2D at the other table (see diagram below).

The key bid was Demuy's takeout double over the Rosenthal's 1S bid. As the cards lie, N/S could collect 800 by defending 2DX, but this is hardly clear during the auction. Demuy showed a good 5-card heart suit and Kranyak jumped to 3NT.

Rosenthal led the D4, and Kranyak rose with dummy's jack, providing an extra entry to take the best play for five heart tricks: After winning the DJ, Kranyak led a heart to his ten!!

When this held, John was able to cash five hearts, two diamonds and two spades for +600.

Kranyak's teammates went down 3 in 2D undoubled for -300.

Board 4

W N E S

1♣	P	1♠	P
1NT	P	2♣	P
2♦	P	P	P

2C=relay to 2D
2D=forced

♠ K63
♥ QT
♦ AQ7
♣ J7543

N Eldad Ginossar

♠ Q54
♥ J75
♦ T5
♣ AKQ86

W Kevin Bathurst

♠ JT72
♥ 962
♦ K9842
♣ T

E John Hurc

♠ A98
♥ AK843
♦ J63
♣ 92

S Chris Willenken

Board 20 from Segment 6 produced swings in both Semi-Final matches.

HOME CARDS SPLIT

W	N	E	S
1♥	P	4♣	5♣
5♥	P	6♥	P
P	P		

4C=stronger splinter, usually exactly one!

♠ 9642
 ♥ 9
 ♦ 98632
 ♣ J43
 N Bobby Levin

♠ AK5
 ♥ QT6532
 ♦ Q4
 ♣ 96
 W Joe Grue

♠ QJT7
 ♥ KJ74
 ♦ AKJT
 ♣ 7
 E Brad Moss

♠ 83
 ♥ A8
 ♦ 75
 ♣ AKQT852
 S Steve Weinstein

In the Nickel/Fleisher match, Steve Weinstein bid 5C with the South hand, forcing Joe Grue and Brad Moss to guess at the five level. Grue bid 5H on his six-card suit and Moss raised to slam, hoping his partner held two aces for the 5H bid.

Levin led the C3. Weinstein won the club and cashed the HA.

Contract failing one trick. -100 E/W

At the other table in this match, the auction was the same through the 4C bid. Nickell, sitting West, however, passed over 5C and Katz

balanced with a 5D cuebid. Nick retreated to 5H, showing a weaker hand than if he had bid 5H directly.

Fleisher, North, led a spade. Nick won and played a heart to Martel's ace. Martel cashed a high club and Nick claimed. 13 IMPs to Nickell

HOME CARDS SPLIT

W	N	E	S
1♥	P	4♣	5♣
5♥	P	6♥	P
P	7♣	DBL	P
P	P		

4C=stronger splinter

♠ 9642
 ♥ 9
 ♦ 98632
 ♣ J43
 N Kevin Dwyer

♠ AK5
 ♥ QT6532
 ♦ Q4
 ♣ 96
 W Warren Spector

♠ QJT7
 ♥ KJ74
 ♦ AKJT
 ♣ 7
 E Gavin Wolpert

♠ 83
 ♥ A8
 ♦ 75
 ♣ AKQT852
 S Shan Huang

In Spector/Wolpert, things went very differently. After a splinter response at the table, where Spector/Wolpert held the E/W cards, Shan Huang muddied the waters with a 5C bid on the South cards. Spector bid 5H and Wolpert raised to 6H (Spector/Wolpert may not have methods to show a weak as opposed to a strong 5H bid).

With his basically worthless hand Kevin Dwyer took the even vulnerability save in 7C. This was doubled and defeated four tricks for 1100.

Assuming that South showed eight tricks with his 5C bid, expecting to go down two or three, it seems dangerous for North to take the 7C sacrifice. First, as was the case here, E/W were guessing at the six level and 6H might have no play. If 6H is making, the North hand is likely to produce one or no tricks toward the offense, and 7C will at best produce an 1100 or 1400 penalty.

At the other table in this match, Rosenthal/Silverstein had a Jacoby 2NT sequence to stop in 4H.

W	N	E	S
1♥	P	2NT	4♣
P	P	4♦	P
4♥	P	P	P

The moral of the story: When you have opponents guessing, don't let them off the hook. 10 IMPs for Spector

Limey Jack...

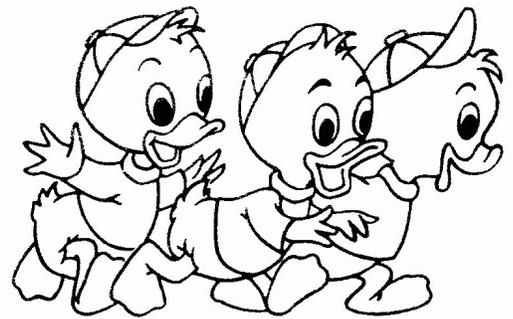
Hallo Colonials:

Limey Jack has filled your coffers this week and there is more to come.

Ring up your punter and place a few bob on Spector as they take on Nickell in the final. Whilst it would be proper to see either squad represent your side of the pond, Spector is playing well and will be quite chuffed to bring home the trophy. The bangers and mash will taste better having beaten all the best teams.

As always, beware of the sewage that spews from the putrid poet. He rhymes with dolt.

Ta.



If you hadn't "duck"ed the setting trick,
we'd still have our 4th!

Howie Doing...

We need some more teams
With well-rhyming names,
To play the events
In United States games!

What can you rhyme
With a name like Nick Nickell?
"Using Gazilli, they land
In a pickle?"

Then we've got Warren,
Last name of Spector...
To rhyme I am hoping,
He'll call the DIRECTOR!

So on to my picks,
Who will be scorin'?
Will it be Nickell
Or will it be Warren?

I believe Nickell
Will be a repeat.
I believe Spector
Will suffer defeat!

See you again
In Two-Oh-Two Three.
Till then, please stay well
And stay Covid free.

Howie Doing!!