

Volume 13, Issue 8
October 25, 2021

UNITED STATES BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

“Trials” and Tribulations—Oldies but Goodies

Senior Quarterfinal Results!

1	Gupta	240	64	5	29	5	32	31	23	51	
8	Kahn - wins tie	152	30	41	9	33	9	20	9	1	
2	Levine - wins tie	269	17	36	56	56	19	40	45		
7	Cappelli	106	9	3	1	20	30	12	31	wd	
3	Bramley - wins tie	201	39	44	24	36	13	8	20	20	-3
6	Simson	213	2	23	32	30	24	68	16	21	-3
4	Beatty	225	30	17	50	16	15	29	35	33	
5	Lewis - wins tie	259	26	39	30	18	35	42	24	51	-6

Today's Match-ups USA1

Gupta v Lewis
Simson v Levine

USA2

Cappelli v Bramley
Beatty v Kahn

USBF President

Brad Moss

USBF Vice President

Kate Aker

USBF COO & Secretary

Jan Martel

USBF CFO & Treasurer

Stan Subeck

USBF Recorder

Jack Oest

Director

McKenzie Myers

Chris Wiegand

Will Watson (Senior Online)

Tournament Organizer

Jan Martel

Software Expert

Al Hollander

VuGraph Organizer

Chris Wiegand

Appeals Administrators

Suzi Subeck, Chairman

Bill Arlinghaus

Martha Katz

Appeals Panel:

Cheri Bjerkan

Mark Feldman

Ron Gerard

Marty Hirschman

Rich DeMartino

Ralph Katz

Kerri Sanborn

Danny Sprung

Joann Sprung

Bulletin Editor

Suzi Subeck

Photographer

Peg Kaplan

Hospitality Chair

Julie Arbit

Christian Jolly

Evvie Gilbert

Maya Alela

SUSBC Teams

Alphabetical

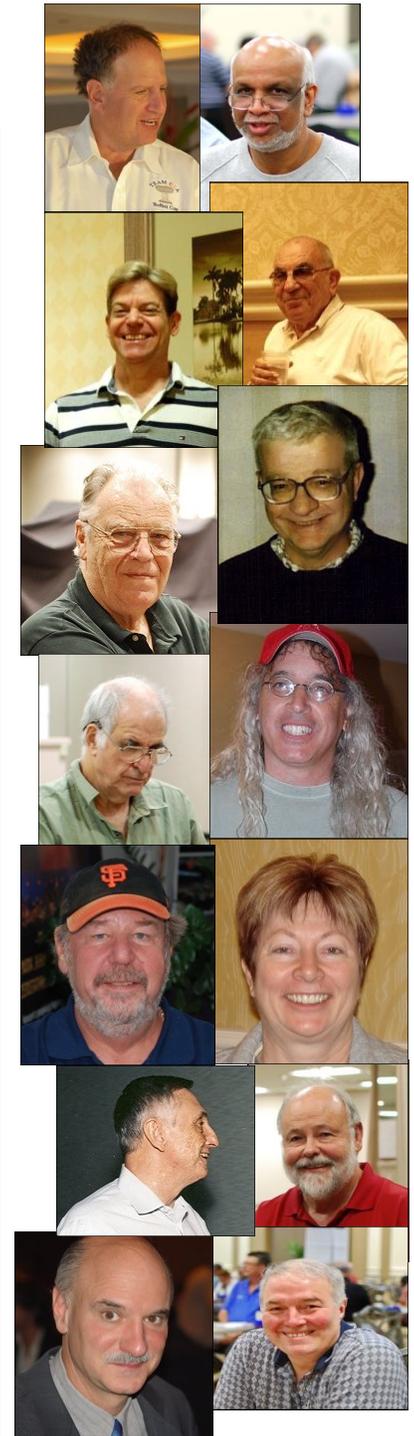


Beatty	Steve Beatty, Capt Jim Foster Jeff Roman	Fred Stewart Bryan Howard Ralph Buchalter
Bramley	Bart Bramley, Capt Dan Morse	Kit Woolsey Pratap Rajadhyaksha
Cappelli	Bob Cappelli, Capt Dave Caprera Gloria Bart	Bob Bitterman Anne Brenner Les Bart
Fox	Jim Fox, Capt Neil Chambers	Jerry Helms Allan Graves
Gupta	Naren Gupta, Capt Hemant Lall David Berkowitz	Zia Mahmood Steve Garner Alan Sontag
Kahn	Allen Kahn, Capt [KO] Mark Aquino Rick Binder	Jeffrey Rothstein [KO] Eric Robinson Alan Watson
Levine	Mike Levine Jeff Meckstroth Mark Lair Bob Morris, NPC	Eddie Wold Mike Passell
Lewis	Linda Lewis, Capt Ron Smith Doug Doub	Paul Lewis Billy Cohen John Stiefel
Reynolds	Tom Reynolds, Capt William Hall Randy Howard	Lance Kerr Joe Viola John Jones
Simson	Doug Simson, Capt Drew Casen John Schermer	Jeff Aker Jim Krekorian Venkatrao Koneru

Face-to-Face Schaumburg

Tournament Schedule

DAY	DATE	TIME - CDT	BOARDS
QUARTER-FINAL			
FRIDAY	OCT. 22	8:30 PM	CAPTAINS' MEETING WITH DIC (ON ZOOM)
SATURDAY	OCT. 23	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
SUNDAY	OCT. 24	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
SEMI-FINAL & USA2 STAGE 1			
MONDAY	OCT. 25	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
TUESDAY	OCT. 26	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 & USA2 QUARTERFINAL & SEMIFINAL			
WEDNESDAY	OCT. 27	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	OCT. 28	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
USA2 FINAL			
FRIDAY	OCT. 29	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	OCT. 30	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



"This boat is leaking," said Tom **balefully**.
 "Give me a haircut," Tom said **barbarously**.
 "I've been listening to the Brandenburg Concertos," Tom **barked**.
 "This is the most common language used on micros," said Tom **basically**.
 "I'm losing my hair," Tom **bawled**.
 "Ouch! When I get stung, I want revenge," said Tom **be grudg ingly**.
 "I'm sure we can fool them into thinking this is pollen," said Tom **beguilingly**.

Tom Swifties...

Hospitality Suite

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

Hosts Evvie Gilbert and Maya Alela for the Open and Women's and Julie Arbit and Christian Jolly for the Mixed and Seniors will be in our usual hospitality suite (Room 2321). They will provide grab and go breakfast and lunch each day'

Breakfast: From 8-10 am. There will be individually packaged cereal, fruit, hard boiled eggs, bagels, and surprise treats. Also individual butter, jam, peanut butter, and cream cheese, as well as condiment packages. They 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: 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 individually packaged 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.

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.

Lunches for the Seniors will come from:

Sat, Oct 23: Corner Bakery

Sun, Oct 24: Blaze Pizza

Mon, Oct 25: Falafill

Tues, Oct 26: Honey Baked Ham Co

Weds, Oct 27: Noodles and Company

"I have to keep this fire alight," Tom **bellowed**.

"Why shouldn't I stir my coffee with a ballpoint pen?" Tom **bickered**.

"These bit patterns will be more readable in groups of 8," said Tom **bitingly**.

"I've only enough carpet for the hall and landing," said Tom with a **blank stare**.

"..." said Tom **blankly**.

"I need a pencil sharpener," said Tom **bluntly**.

"This wind is awful," **blustered Tom**.

"I think I'll use a different font," said Tom **boldly**.

"Are you all governors?" Tom asked, **bored**.

"I still haven't struck oil," said Tom **boringly**.

"This is mutiny!" said Tom **bountifully**.

"I presented my case to the judge," Tom said **briefly**.

"This blood-sucking insect likes French cheese," said Tom **briefly**.

"Use your own toothbrush!" Tom **bristled**.



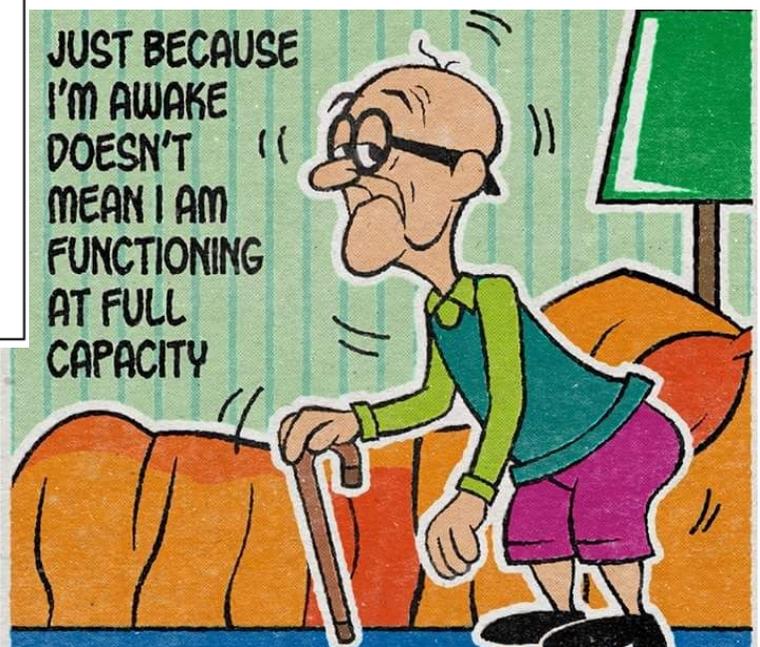
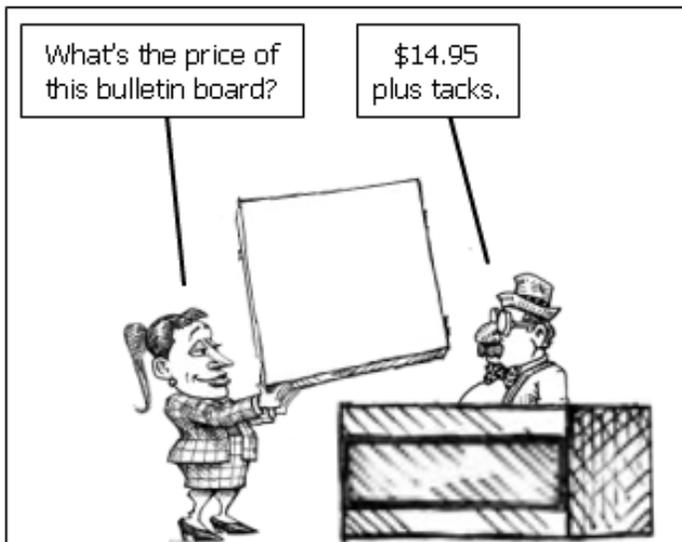
Tom Swifties



General Face-to-Face Tournament Information to Players

The USBF Board of Directors met earlier this week and confirmed:

1. Face-to-face play in Schaumburg will be with 2 players per room.
2. Players will not be required to get Covid tests, but will be provided with information about where they can be tested (in Woodfield Mall) if they want to be. Staff will be tested approximately once a week.
3. We will comply with the Illinois mask requirements, which currently require masks in public areas indoors. Our default will be for both players in the playing rooms to wear masks, but if the 2 players in a room agree on a different rule we will allow whatever they agree on, assuming that is in compliance with the Illinois requirements.
4. We will ask each player to sign a Covid-related waiver of liability form before they start play. Jan will be sending the text of the waiver to all of you in the next day or so, and will have printed forms in her office (room 1321) at the Hyatt for participants to sign.
5. Hospitality will be limited - "grab & go" breakfast and lunch will be distributed in our usual hospitality suite (room 2321), but everyone will have to go someplace else to eat. We will allow only 6 players in the suite at any one time. The suite will not be open for socializing at other times. We will have water, soft drinks, coffee and snacks in the Players' Break Room (1321), and there also, we will limit the number of people in the room at any one time. Eating in the Break Room is not allowed. Masks will be required in the hospitality suite and in the Players' Break Room.
6. There will be air purifiers in each playing room and in 1321 and 2321.



KIBITZING ON LOVEBRIDGE

You can follow the USBC on the <https://vugraph.lovebridge.com/> website. The stream is delayed; go to the schedule below for starting times for each segment.

Popcorn time!

Do you want to listen to commentary? Search for the TV icon! It will send you to the page where you can choose from the available live commentary. If it doesn't do anything, no one is commenting.

Nail biting!

Do you want to be deeply involved? Choose the "Match view" at the starting page of your event. Your screen will be divided into four small screens – two of them 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 all your windows. (The 2x2 view is not available on mobiles.)

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 chosen player agrees.

More Information:

Be well informed and tell your friends: while following the play, you can click many items. 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 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 where you were.

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 list. Push every button and enjoy!

KIBITZING SCHEDULE FOR THE KO (EDT)

Segment 1: 12:00 noon

Segment 2: 2:25 pm

BREAK

Segment 3: 5:45 pm

Segment 4: 8:00 pm

NEXT DAY

Segment 5: 12:00 noon

Segment 6: 2:25 pm

BREAK

Segment 7: 7:00 pm

Segment 8: 9:30 pm



Ed. Note: See page 7 for the link to Tracey Bauer's video interview with Peter Talyigas at Love-Bridge explaining "How to Get the Most from Kibitzing on the site"

The Austin NABC will be held as scheduled.

After much consideration, the decision has been made to move forward for the [2021 Fall North American Bridge Championships](#) scheduled for Nov. 25-Dec. 5 in Austin.



While we are excited to bring players back to the bridge table, we will still approach the tournament with an abundance of caution. We will hold the event as carefully as possible to protect the health and safety of players, volunteers and staff. Because of this, meetings and other large social gatherings outside of gameplay will be very limited (details are available on the [Austin NABC website](#)). We hope to hold these events during NABCs in 2022.

All NABC attendees, staff and volunteers must be fully vaccinated to attend the Austin NABC and have face masks properly worn when present in the tournament areas. We have procured VOW Digital Health to manage the verification process for vaccinations. Further details on all health and safety requirements are available on the Austin NABC page of our website

Please do not attend the Fall NABC if you are not prepared to follow the safety protocols. They are in place to protect all attendees, and no exceptions will be made.



In the Daily Bulletin from the Senior Online Championships on October 3, you may have seen the **In Memoriam** for Jeff Goldsmith. Jeff lost his battle with cancer last week.

Jeff's family has designated the **USBF Junior Fund**, a 501C(3) charity, for donations in his memory. Donations may be made through the USBF website (USBF.org) and will be properly acknowledged. This was a very kind gesture by Jeff and his family who recognized how important bridge was to Jeff.

ALERT!! PLAYERS WHO PLAYED IN SCHAUMBURG SO FAR...

Please return any styluses you may have in your possession. We need them for the Mixed and the Seniors! Thank you. No questions asked!!

LoveBridge computes some interesting statistics on each player each day. Today you can see yesterday's statistics and tomorrow you can see the stats from today. To view, you must go to https://stats.lovebridge.com/statistics/usbc_2285 and enter your username. Each player has an individual username and password. Anyone can view a complete set of stats by clicking the tournament link and selecting USBC Open All.

Your personal stats are only available when you're logged in.

Tracy Bauer put together a U-Tube video interview with Peter Talyigas at LoveBridge and if you are having trouble figuring out how to kibitz, please access the link below... it may help:

<https://www.twitch.tv/videos/1176199382>

One side note: The format is not supported on Google Chrome. It does work on Edge!!

Mask Rules

Attendees are required to wear a mask that covers their nose and mouth in all public areas in the hotel. That means the hotel lobby, corridors, and elevators, as well as the **Hospitality Suite** and the **Office/Players' Break Room, where masks must be worn at all times. Therefore, there is no eating or drinking in those rooms.**

Our attorney has told us that the Cook County Mask Mandate forces us to require masks in the playing rooms. Therefore, we have adopted the following policy about that:

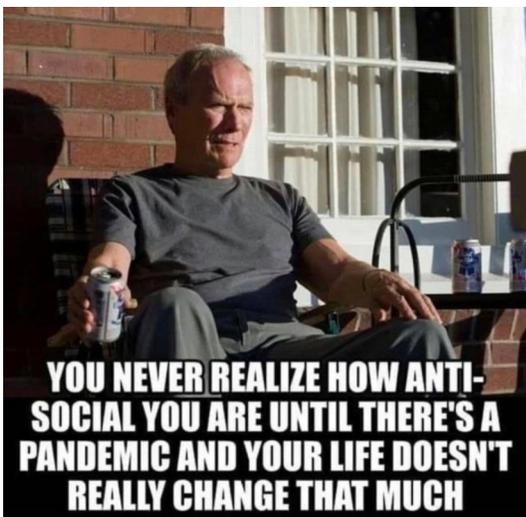
*Masks are required in playing rooms. If you are observed not wearing a mask in a playing room, there will be a 2 IMP penalty for the first offense in a segment, a 4 IMP penalty for the second offense, an 8 IMP penalty for the third offense, and a 16 IMP penalty for the fourth and subsequent offenses; however, if you and your opponent agree to something other than both wearing masks, any IMP penalties for not wearing a mask will apply to both of you equally and there will be no other penalties. You may remove your mask briefly to eat or drink. **However, if you call for a director (for any reason), and you are not wearing a mask properly when the director enters the room, the penalty will apply to your team for your next match in the event.** There is no eating or drinking in the playing room when the Director present.*

In addition, anyone who is penalized more than twice (over the course of the entire event) in situations where his/her opponent was wearing a mask while s/he wasn't, or where the director was called, may be subject to additional conduct penalties.

You should bring masks to the tournament with you; we will not be supplying masks.

Covid Waiver

We are going to ask each player in these events to sign a COVID-19 Waiver of Claims. It is being sent to you by email and you may sign it electronically and return it to Jan (marteljan@gmail.com) or you can sign a printed waiver at the site. Waivers will be available to sign in room 1321 starting Oct. 5th at 9:00 am. **Everyone is required to sign the form before the start of play!**



Meet the Players

Alan M. Sontag (born 1946) is a world champion American bridge player and author of bridge books.

He has won the Vanderbilt Cup three times (1972, 1988 and 1999), the Reisinger Trophy in 1973 and the Spingold Trophy in 1980, 1982 and 2000.

Other victories in the NABC + category include winning the Men's Teams in 1971 and 1979; the Life Master Men's Pairs in 1971; the Life Master Pairs in 1977; the Men's Swiss Teams in 1985 and 1987; the Master Mixed Teams in 1989; the Grand National Open Teams in 1994 and the Open B-A-M Teams in 2001.

Although he is a six-time world champion in contract bridge, winning the prestige Bermuda Bowl twice, Sontag is best known as the author of *The Bridge Bum*, a book "on everybody's list of the top ten bridge books ever written."

Besides his aforementioned highly acclaimed book, Sontag has written "Power Precision" and is co-author of "Improve Your Bridge Fast."

Among his other victories are the Rosenblum Cup, Transnational Open Teams, Senior Bowl, numerous North American Bridge Championships, and twice winning the London Sunday Times and Cavendish Invitational Pairs.

In 1973, he and Steve Altman became the first American players to win the Sunday Times Pairs, at the time the premier invitational tournament in the world. Two years later, Sontag returned to London and won the tournament again, this time with Peter Weichsel, with whom he formed one of the strongest partnerships in the world from the 1970's until 2005.

The two were partners in 1983 in Stockholm, Sweden, when the United States defeated Italy in one of the most exciting finals in the history of the event.

Sontag returned to the final of the Bermuda Bowl in 2001 in Paris, France to help Rose Meltzer become the first woman ever to win that championship.

He also won the Buffett Cup in 2012.

Sontag was inducted into the American Contract Bridge League (ACBL) Hall of Fame in 2007.

Widely regarded as one of the fastest players in the world, he is known by his nickname Sonty.

Sontag and his wife, Robin, live in Gaithersburg, Maryland with their son Robert.

He was elected to the Hall of Fame in 2007.

Alan is playing in the Senior USBC in partnership with David Berkowitz and is a member of the Gupta team.

David and Alan are a great partnership to kibitz. Both have an excellent sense of humor and make the game exciting and fun!



1	Gupta	Kahn	Board 1	Open	4♠
				Closed	4♠
2	Levine	Cappelli	Board 1	Open	4♠
				Closed	4♠
3	Bramley	Simson	Board 1	Open	4♠
				Closed	4♠
4	Beatty	Lewis	Board 1	Open	4♠
				Closed	4♠

Yesterday's hands started out really flat. Board 1, 3, 4, 8, and 10 are perfect examples...

It must be good bridge when so many pairs in an event land in the same contract or make the same lead against the same contract on so many boards ... normally the bridge is not quite as "good" as this!!

1	Gupta	Kahn	Board 3	Open	3N	S	♠K
				Closed	3N	S	♠K
2	Levine	Cappelli	Board 3	Open	3N	S	♠K
				Closed	3N	S	♠K
3	Bramley	Simson	Board 3	Open	3N	S	♠K
				Closed	3N	S	♠K
4	Beatty	Lewis	Board 3	Open	3N	S	♠K
				Closed	3N	S	♠K

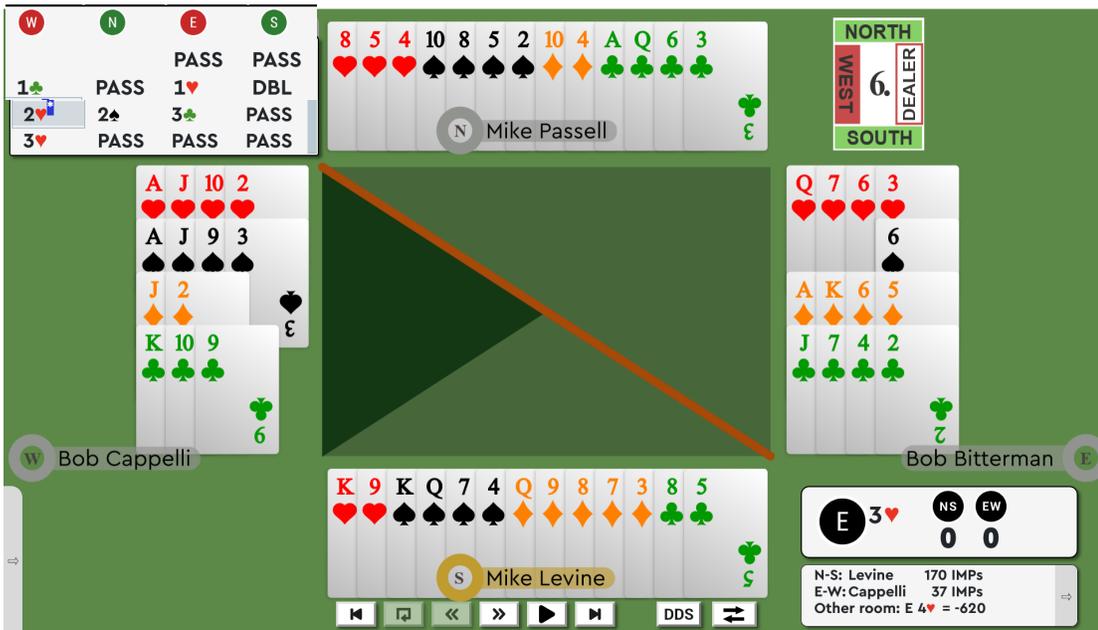
These hands were all in the first segment on Sunday. The smart money says we will see more swings as we near the end of play!

1	Gupta	Kahn	Board 4	Open	4♥
				Closed	4♥
2	Levine	Cappelli	Board 4	Open	4♥
				Closed	4♥
3	Bramley	Simson	Board 4	Open	4♥
				Closed	4♥
4	Beatty	Lewis	Board 4	Open	4♥
				Closed	4♥

1	Gupta	Kahn	Board 10	Open	3N	E
				Closed	3N	E
2	Levine	Cappelli	Board 10	Open	3N	E
				Closed	3N	E
3	Bramley	Simson	Board 10	Open	3N	E
				Closed	3N	E
4	Beatty	Lewis	Board 10	Open	3N	E
				Closed	3N	E

1	Gupta	Kahn	Board 8	Open	4♠
				Closed	4♠
2	Levine	Cappelli	Board 8	Open	4♠
				Closed	4♠
3	Bramley	Simson	Board 8	Open	4♠
				Closed	4♠
4	Beatty	Lewis	Board 8	Open	4♠
				Closed	4♠





On Board 6, most of the East/West pairs bid and made the 4H game.

In Cappelli/Levine there was a 10 IMP swing when Cappelli/Bitterman stopped short of game.

Bitterman passed the East hand in first seat. (Some Easts opened 1D.) Levine passed in second and Cappelli opened 1C. Passell passed. Bitterman responded 1H, and Levine, holding a smattering

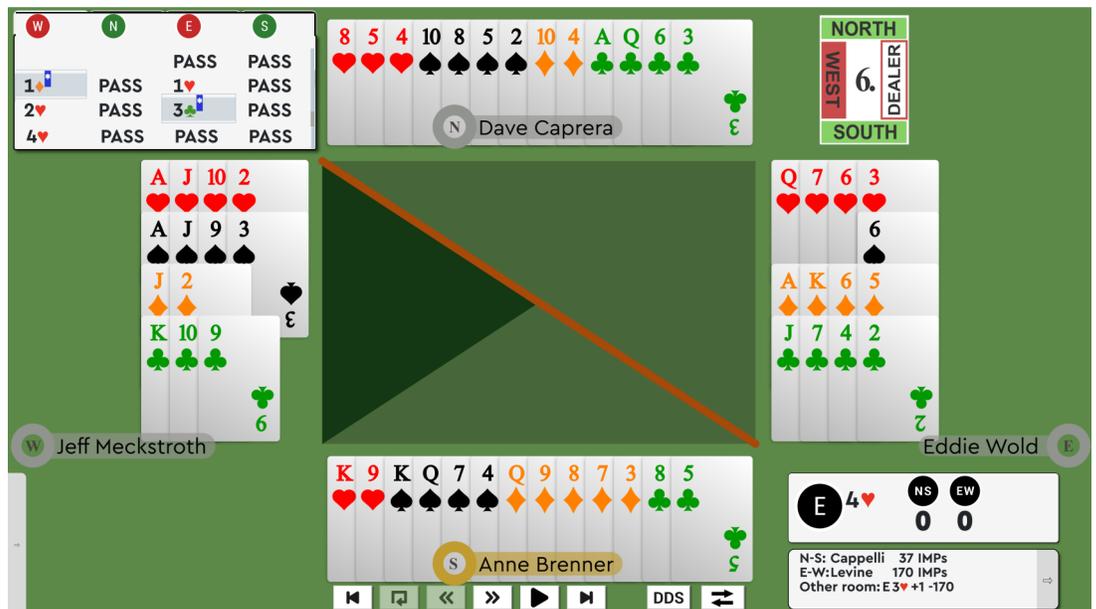
of values and four cards in spades doubled. Cappelli showed a four card heart raise. Passell threw in a 2S bid and Bitterman bid 3C to show a double fit. Cappelli, even knowing his partner did not hold more than a singleton spade based on his opponent's bidding, was not dazzled. The delayed T/O double combined with the free call of 2S made it sound like his opponents had values. Cappelli bid 3H and played it there, taking 10 tricks.

At the other table, Wold also passed the East hand in first seat. Brenner passed and Meckstroth opened the West hand 1 nebulous diamond. Wold responded 1H. Brenner passed.

Meckstroth raised to 2H and Wold made a game try with clubs. Meckstroth, not hearing any competitive bidding from the opponents, easily bid the vulnerable game.

Brenner led the SQ. Wold lost two off side club tricks to the ace and queen and a club ruff to South to bring in 10 tricks.

10 IMPs to Levine





10
EAST
ALL

♠ K T 9 6 4 3
♥ Q 9
♦ K J 9 3
♣ 5

♠ A Q 7 2
♥ K T 4
♦ Q 5 4
♣ A T 2

♠ J 8 5
♥ A J 7 5
♦ T 7
♣ K Q J 7

Par: -600

	♣	♦	♥	♠	N
NS	4	6	4	6	4
E	9	6	9	7	9
W	8	:	8	:	:

♠
♥ 8 6 3 2
♦ A 8 6 2
♣ 9 8 6 4 3

Home team		Visiting team		Room	C	By	1	=	★	P		
									NS	EW	Home	Visiting
1	Gupta	Kahn		Open	3N	E	♥6	-1	100			12
				Closed	3N	E	♥6	=	600			
2	Levine	Cappelli		Open	3N	E	♥6	=	600			12
				Closed	3N	E	♣8	-1	100			
3	Bramley	Simson		Open	3N	E	♥6	=	600			13
				Closed	3N	E	♣8	-2	200			
4	Beatty	Lewis		Open	3N	E	♣4	=	600			12
				Closed	3N	E	♦2	-1	100			

Things became more interesting starting on Board 10 where in every match, 3NT made in one room and went down in the other! Every match swung 12 or 13 IMPs

To succeed, declarer has to get the heart position correct. In Gupta/Kahn, Zia, South, was on lead against Eric Robinson. Zia, like three others, led the H6. Robinson played dummy's 4; Garner played the nine; and declarer won the jack. The H6 is a very telling card for declarer. Once Garner's nine fell, the only holding to include the queen and the six from which one could lead would be Q86. There are no logical four card holdings from which one would lead the six.

From what combination did Zia lead? If not from Q86, the six could easily be second from top in a weak four card holding, leaving North to have started with Qx. If this is true, the hand is cold.

Robinson played a spade to the ace. At this point, he needs to cash the HK! When the queen drops, he will have four hearts, four clubs and the spade ace for nine! Instead, Robinson tried a small spade which Garner won with the king. Garner played a diamond to the ace; a diamond to the jack. His DK and D9 cashed and declarer was down one!

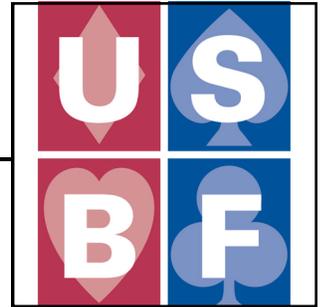
12 IMPs to Gupta

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

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

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.

We hope you will join us.



Partner,
Please don't be a grump!
I forgot what suit
Was trump!



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

Hard Sudoku

From the Editor:
 Please be advised to keep this issue of the newsletter. While team lists and schedules will be reprinted in subsequent hard copy editions, other information may not.
 Thank you!!
 Suzi
 If you have a great hand or bridge news or gossip you think would be of interest to our readers, you can email me at stansuback@prodigy.net



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

Answer to Puzzle on Page 15

Wayne	Wells	Viking	relative	Rice Road
Sara	Whittaker	elf	friend	River Road
Ross	Wright	skeleton	friend	Redstone Road
Martha	Wentworth	mummy	friend	Rabbit Road
Aaron	White	pirate	relative	Ruiland Road
First Name	Last Name	Costume	Friend/Relative	Street Name

Sudoku Answers on page 13

	Wells	Wentworth	White	Whittaker	Wright	elf	mummy	pirate	skeleton	Viking	friend	friend	friend	relative	relative	Rabbit Road	Redstone Road	Rice Road	River Road	Rutland Road
Aaron																				
Martha																				
Ross																				
Sara																				
Wayne																				
Rabbit Road																				
Redstone Road																				
Rice Road																				
River Road																				
Rutland Road																				
friend																				
friend																				
friend																				
relative																				
relative																				
elf																				
mummy																				
pirate																				
skeleton																				
Viking																				

Answer on Page 14

First Name	Last Name	Costume	Friend/Relative	Street Name

Last Friday was October 31st, Halloween night! To celebrate the holiday, five neighbors traveled across town to attend different costume parties with friends or family. Each neighbor wore a different costume to the party and each party was held on a different street. Determine the full name of each neighbor, what costume each wore, if the party each attended was held by a friend or a relative, and the street name of where each party was held.

- Ms. Whittaker didn't wear the pirate costume. The two people who went to a relative's party were the pirate and the person whose last name was Wells
- Aaron didn't go to his relative's party dressed as a Viking. The person whose last name was Wright went to

the party on Redstone Road.

- Martha didn't go to the party on Rice Road. Sara's last name wasn't Wentworth.
- A relative held the party on Rutland Road. Sara dressed as an elf. Wayne didn't have a skeleton costume.
- Aaron White didn't go to the party on River Road. The neighbor who went to a friend's party on Rabbit Road was dressed in a mummy costume.
- Mr. Wells went to the party on Rice Road. Ross, whose last name wasn't Wentworth, went to a friend's party.

Beatles Songs

Find and circle all of the songs by The Beatles that are hidden in the grid.
The remaining letters spell the name of an additional Beatles song.

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

ALL MY LOVING
 AND I LOVE HER
 BECAUSE
 BLUE JAY WAY
 COME TOGETHER
 DIG IT
 DOCTOR ROBERT
 DRIVE MY CAR
 FOR NO ONE
 FOR YOU BLUE

GIRL
 GLASS ONION
 GOLDEN SLUMBERS
 GOOD NIGHT
 HELP
 HELTER SKELTER
 HER MAJESTY
 I FEEL FINE
 I NEED YOU
 I'M A LOSER

I'M SO TIRED
 LET IT BE
 LOVE ME DO
 LOVE YOU TO
 MAGGIE MAE
 MARTHA MY DEAR
 NOWHERE MAN
 OLD BROWN SHOE
 PAPERBACK WRITER
 PENNY LANE

PIGGIES
 RAIN
 REVOLUTION
 ROCKY RACCOON
 SAVOY TRUFFLE
 SHE LOVES YOU
 THE WORD
 THIS BOY
 WHAT GOES ON
 WILD HONEY PIE

bid72

Work on your Partnership
Try the App for Free



This app will connect you to bid72. All you need to do is scan it with your phone (Special thanks to my children and grandchildren for explaining how to accomplish this...)

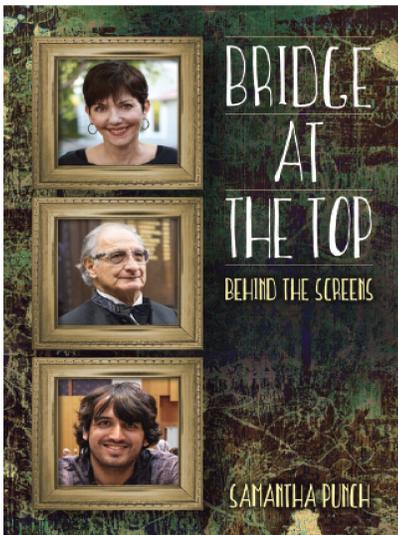
Jan VanCleaf provided this so our readers could use it to improve their bidding and better build partnerships. Bid72 allows users to participate in bidding contests, bid random boards and get a rating based on their bidding, learn about “topic board” hands dedicated to conventions and special agreements, and to create, upload and bid your own boards.

For more information, email info@bid72.com

In addition, Bid72 has an excellent newsletter to which you can subscribe.

Now Available

Bridge at the Top *Behind the Screens* Samantha Punch



The interviews make the names we see on VuGraph come to life. The tips are tricks of the trade that will be useful to players of all levels. It is a fun and informative read.

— Jill Levin

...intimate and revealing pictures of who these stars are, how they got to the top, and what keeps them there. The interviews are absorbing reading and the advice will help players at any level. The suggestions on partnership and mental toughness are of particular note.

— Chip Martel

In the course of her research project, *Bridge: A MindSport for All*, sociologist Dr. Samantha Punch has been able to speak with many of the world’s top bridge personalities. The best interviews are collected in this book, and they offer fascinating insight into what it takes to be a top player, coach or even sponsor. As a bonus, each subject offers their favorite bridge tip.

US\$22.95 | GBP 17.95
978-1-77140-064-0

Available to order today from your favourite bookstore.

 Master Point Press

Samantha Punch’s book is recently published and ready for your reading pleasure.

Sam is an amazing advocate of the game and while I have not yet read the book, based on her work with “Keep Bridge Alive” and more, I am certain you will want to have this volume in your collection!

Learn about the experts... how they think... what they think... and why they are so driven by a card game.

Editor



Samantha

Questions asked by Players in the Open and the Mixed... FAQ's from Jan Martel

Chat

- **My physical keyboard isn't working!** Make sure to click/put focus into the chat box before attempting to type in the box. (The blinking cursor makes it seem as though focus is there, but it may not be.) This seems to only occur with an external keyboard, not the virtual keyboard.
- **What does that number on the left side mean?** You have unread chat message(s). Click on left gray arrow to open chat and right gray arrow to close the chat. (If you actually type and send a message, the chat will close automatically. Reopen with left gray arrow.)
- **Why can't I chat to my partner?** For security reasons, chat to partner is not available while cards for a new hand are on display. Since there is no "between round down time," there is no real partner chat.

Bidding

- **The system won't let me pass!** If you have the level (1 through 7) highlighted, you will be unable to pass/double/redouble. Click on the highlighted numeral to remove the highlight, then make the desired call.
- **My explanation keeps disappearing!** If you alert your bid as you make it but go back later to explain, there is a bug in the system where subsequent table actions will erase any text that you have typed into the explanation box. If you include your explanation with your call or when it is your turn to act, then this will not occur. (We have reported this issue to LoveBridge.)
- **Where is the undo button?** While there is no undo button, every call made is followed by a brief cancellation time period. A cancel button will appear immediately below the call selected in the top center portion of the screen. If you cancel within the time period, your bidding panel will reappear for you to select the intended call. If you do not cancel within the time period, summon a director (hit red TD whistle) to request an undo.

Play

1. **Why can't I click on a card?** The default setting for LoveBridge is neither a tap/click nor a double tap/click. The default setting is a drag-and-drop motion where the player pulls a card to the gray box in the center of the screen and releases to play the card. If the "pulled" card is not the intended one, the player can drag it back to the hand and select another card. **We recommend this setting while players are getting accustomed to the system.** Players may change this setting to double tap/click if desired, but we strongly discourage single tap/click settings.
2. **Whose turn is it?** In the bidding or play of the hand, the player's direction letter (N S E W) will be white inside of the circle when it is the player's turn. This is a very subtle change from the normal pale blue letter.
3. **How do I claim?** During the play, you may click the larger red box below the TD whistle to claim. If the claim button is grayed out (not available), you either already contributed a card to the current trick or you are dummy.

How do I see the bidding once play has started? A player is not entitled to the entire auction once they have played to trick 1. If you have not yet played to trick one, the auction will be in the lower left corner. Click on it to enlarge to the center area. Click the double gray arrows in the bottom right of the center area to send it back to the corner. Similarly, this is how a player may see the cards from the previous trick (prior to playing to current trick).

The new and improved 60 Board USBF Convention Card is now available on the table in Jan's office (Break Room??)

We hope it "suits" you! 

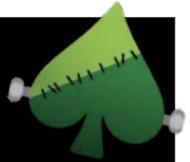


TRICKS AND TREATS

Thurs.-Sun., October 28-31, 2021

ACBL Tournament

Regionally Rated - All Times Eastern



Daily Two-Session Events

Award Gold & Red Points - Must Play Both Sessions - \$30 per player



Midday Two-Session Event Schedule

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1:15 pm & 4:45 pm ET | Golden Ghoul Gold Rush Pairs (750/400/200)
No player may have more than 750 masterpoints |
| 1:15 pm & 4:45 pm ET | Candy Corn Mid-Flight Pairs (3000/1250)
No player may have more than 3000 masterpoints |
| 1:15 pm & 4:45 pm ET | Jack O' Lantern Top-Flight Pairs (unlimited/4000) |



Daily Single-Session Events

Awards red points

Play in One, Two, Three or All Four Events - \$15 per player, per session

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1:15 am, 1:30 pm,
5:00 pm & 8:00 pm ET | Great Pumpkin 499er Pairs (500/300/100)
No player may have more than 500 masterpoints |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

Daily Side Games

Play in two sessions of the same series for a chance to win gold!

Play in One, Two, Three or All Four Sessions - \$15 per player, per session



- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 10:15 am ET | Creaking Staircase Side Game Series
(unlimited/1500/500) |
| 1:30 pm ET | Rattling Chains Side Game Series
(unlimited/1500/500) |
| 5:00 pm ET | Flickering Lights Side Game Series
(unlimited/1500/500) |
| 8:00 pm ET | Howling Wind Side Game Series
(unlimited/1500/500)(No Sunday) |



Stratification for all events is by the average masterpoint holding of the pair. In any event with an upper masterpoint limit, neither player may exceed the limit for the event. Masterpoint awards for all single-session events are red points

17
NORTH
NONE

♠ 9 5 2
♥ Q T 3
♦ Q 8 5 3
♣ Q 3 2

♠ A K J 7 3
♥ 9
♦ 7 4
♣ 9 7 6 5 4

♠ T 8
♥ K 8 7 6
♦ J 9 2
♣ A K J 8

It is not surprising that three declarers went down in 4S after a trump lead. It takes careful play to succeed.

In Bramley vs Simson, Bramley led the S2. Casen won the queen in dummy, played the CT and Woolsey won his king. Woolsey exited with the ST and Casen won the ace. The C5 was ruffed in dummy and Casen was doomed. He cashed the HA and ruffed a heart, cashed the SK, and played a diamond to the ten. Woolsey played a heart to Bramley's queen and Bramley played a club to Kit's ace. The CJ was cashed and the contract finished down two. 2 IMPs to Bramley

Par: -420

	♣	♦	♥	♠	N
NS	5	5	5	3	5
EW	8	8	7	10	8

Home team	Visiting team	Room	C	By	I	=	★	P
			NS	EW	Home	Visiting		
Gupta	Kahn	Open	4♠	W	♠2	-1	50	10
		Closed	4♠	W	♦5	=	420	
Levine	Cappelli	Open	2♦	E	♣A	=	90	2
		Closed	2♠	W	♠5	+1	140	
Bramley	Simson	Open	4♠	W	♠2	-2	100	2
		Closed	4♠	W	♠2	-1	50	
Beatty	Lewis	Open	2♦	E	♦2	=	90	8
		Closed	4♠	W	♠5	+1	450	

The screenshot shows a bridge game interface with the following elements:

- BIDDING:** West (W) has bid 1♠, 3♣. North (N) has passed. East (E) has bid 1♥, 2♠, 3♦. South (S) has passed.
- TRICKS:** A table showing tricks taken by each player: W (3), N (1), E (2), S (3).
- INFO:** Shows the current trick and the cards played: ♠ 9, ♥ 9, ♦ 9, ♣ 9.
- DDS:** Shows the cards in dummy (top left) and the cards in hand (bottom left).
- DEALER:** Dealer is West, 17th hand.
- CARD HANDS:**
 - Drew Casen (W):** ♠ A K J 7 3, ♥ 9, ♦ 9 7 6 5 4, ♣ 7 4.
 - Kit Woolsey (S):** ♠ 10 8 K 8 7 6 A K J 8 J 9 2, ♥ 9, ♦ 9, ♣ 9.
 - Jim Krekorian (E):** ♠ Q 6 4, ♥ A J 5 4 2, ♦ A K 10 6, ♣ 10.
- SCORE:** W 4♠, NS 0, EW 0.
- IMP SCORE:** N-S: Bramley 158 IMPs, E-W: Simson 108.20 IMPs, Other room: W 4♠ -1.50.

Jeff Roman, in Lewis vs Beatty found the best line and brought home the game. Linda Lewis led the S5. Roman won the king. He played a small club to the ten, losing to the king. Paul Lewis played back a spade, Roman winning his jack. A club was ruffed in dummy and the HA was cashed. A heart was ruffed and the SA pulled the last trump. **Roman played the C7 to Paul Lewis's**

ace! (the key play!!)

No matter what Paul played, declarer could succeed. Paul played the H8. Roman ruffed and cashed his high clubs and high diamonds and made five!

8 IMPs to Beatty when E/W in the other room played in 2D making two.



One in Every Crowd?

32
WEST
E-W

♠ T 6 3 2
♥ T 8 2
♦ 9 7 2
♣ A 6 3

♠ J 9 5 4
♥ A 9
♦ K J 3
♣ Q 7 5 2

♠ A K 8 7
♥ Q J 7 6
♦ Q 5
♣ K T 9

Par: -650

	♣	♦	♥	♠	N
NS	2	5	3	2	2
EW	10	8	9	11	10

♠ Q
♥ K 5 4 3
♦ A T 8 6 4
♣ J 8 4

Home team		Visiting team		Room	C	By	1	=	★	P		
									NS	EW	Home	Visiting
1	Gupta	Kahn		Open	4♠	E	♣4	=	620			
				Closed	4♠	E	♣4	=	620			
2	Levine	Cappelli		Open	4♠	E	♣4	+1	650			
				Closed	3N	E	♦6	-1	100			
3	Bramley	Simson		Open	4♠	W	♠3	+1	650			
				Closed	4♠	W	♦2	+1	650			
4	Beatty	Lewis		Open	4♠	W	♥2	+1	650			
				Closed	4♠	E	♣4	+1	650			

Seven of the eight declarers played 4S in their 4-4 fit; Two made four and five made five. The spade position combined with the heart position leaves declarer with two sure minor suit losers and a possible loser in the wash.

At the outlier table, Passell and Lair journeyed into 3NT. Lair opened a 14-17 NT. Passell bid Stayman. Lair showed 4 hearts but did not deny 4 spades. Passell jumped to the no-trump game, expecting Lair to correct if he held four spades. Lair passed!!

Les Bart led a diamond. Lair could win the diamond in hand, cash one high spade getting good news when the queen dropped, play a club to the queen and rely on the heart finesse for nine tricks. (four spades, two hearts, two diamonds, and one club) Instead, Lair won the diamond in dummy and played a club to the TEN!! This lost to the jack and a diamond came back. Lair won the diamond with the queen in hand and played the CK to knock out the ace. Gloria Bart needed to win the ace and play a diamond to her partner to defeat 3NT. She ducked!! Lair still did not see the value of the spade play. Instead, he continued clubs. Gloria won her ace and led her last diamond to Les. Contract failing by one!

13 IMPs to Cappelli

Limey Jack...

Hallo from the right side of the pond. You Colonials just keep going. Limey Jack is honour bound to continue letting you know the best way to shake a bob or two loose from the punters. Howie Dung simply cannot get out of his own way.

In the Seniors USA1, there are but four squads remaining. One of them will survive.

Gupta-Lewis: Gupta has Zia so Lewis will need to play a perfect set to stand a chance. Lewis has the slight edge in partnerships, but Zia has Zia. He and Limey Jack will hoist a pint but not for a bit as yet. Lewis will have to find another way home.

Simson-Levine: Levine has the four horsemen but they are ripe for the upset in spite of getting a withdrawal as Limey Jack accurately predicted. Simson is humming along with the precision of the about face of Her Majesty's Guards. Simson in a close match.

In USA2, there are 4 teams at this moment. Some will get knocked out and the other three semifinalists will join them. There is no clear favourite.

Cappelli-Bramley: Bramley lost a tear jerker whilst Cappelli was shamed. Form will prevail here as Bramley seeks to get back to the title round. These are aged blokes playing four handed and time will take its toll, but for now Bramley will be cheesed off to go home. Cappelli uses their air tickets soon.

Beatty-Kahn: Two nondescript sextets, but Beatty has slightly more petrol in its tanks.

Give us a bell when you have further need of Limey Jack's winning strategies.

Howie Doing...

You're playing the Seniors, The final event...
How many days and dollars you've spent!

Four teams remain in USA1.
Not much more time until it be done.

Already Mixed 2, Lewis should share.
I'm picking Gupta by only a hair!

Levine's showing signs of coming back strong.
They will trounce Simson and move right along.

Now for the teams in USA2.
Certainly Bramley is way overdue!

Beatty v Kahn is tougher to choose.
Either could win and either could lose!

In Kahn v Beatty, Beatty will rule.
It'll be close... a formidable duel!

The screenshot shows a bridge game interface. At the top left, a bidding table is visible:

BIDDING	TRICKS	INFO	DDS
1♠	PASS	1NT	
PASS	PASS	2♦	2♥
PASS	3♥	PASS	4♥

The dealer is Fred Stewart (North). The board number is 41. The hands are:

- North (Fred Stewart): A♥ K♥ 4♥, A♠ 10♠ 7♠ 5♠ 3♠, 10♦ 8♦, K♣ 8♣ 2♣
- West (John Stiefel): J♥ 6♥ 2♥, K♥ 8♥ 4♥ 2♥, 9♦ 6♦, A♠ Q♠ 7♠ 4♠, A♣ Q♣ 7♣ 4♣
- South (Doug Doub): 8♥ 5♥, J♥ 6♥, K♦ Q♦ 7♦ 5♦ 4♦ 3♦ 2♦, J♣ 10♣
- East (Steve Beatty): Q♥ 10♥ 9♥ 7♥ 3♥, Q♠ 9♠, A♦ J♦ 9♦ 6♦ 5♦ 3♦, Q♣ 9♣, A♣ J♣ 9♣ 6♣ 5♣ 3♣

The score is 4♥ (South) vs 0 (North/East). The IMP scores are: N-S: Beatty 169 IMPs, E-W: Lewis 199 IMPs, Other room: N 4♥ -1-50.

On Board 41, four pairs bid 4H but only one brought home 10 tricks. The three that failed played the hand from North and East consistently found the killing lead of the CJ. (In order for the defense to collect two clubs, one diamond and one spade, it is important to get clubs going quickly.)

Steve Beatty played the hand from South. John Stiefel was never going to lead a club from the AQ74. John led the D9. Beatty won and played a heart to the ace

followed by a spade to the 9 and king. Steifel continued diamonds. Doub won the king and shifted to the CJ. Stiefel won the ace and continued clubs but it was too late. Beatty won the king in dummy and played a spade to the queen. He ran the H9, played a heart to the king, and claimed 10 tricks!

10 IMPs to Beatty