

Volume 13, Issue 11
May 19, 2019

Results: WUSBC USA1 Final

#	TEAM	IMPs Total	SET #1	SET #2	SET #3	SET #4	SET #5	SET #6	SET #7	SET #8
1	Disa	142	40	17	4	20	22	33	6	WD
2	Baker	232	21	17	65	11	48	31	39	
Playoff										
USA2 Playoff										
3	Bjerkan	220	30	19	37	7	8	28	20	71
4	Pepsi-colas	198	20	41	32	6	42	16	20	21

UNITED STATES BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

“Trials” and Tribulations



Congrats Team Dinkin!

WUSA 1: Lynn Baker, Karen McCallum, Kerri Sanborn, Beth Palmer, Sam Dinkin, NPC, Sylvia Shi, Irina Levitina

Celebrating at dinner!



USBF President
Marty Fleisher

USBF Vice President
Brad Moss

USBF COO & Secretary
Jan Martel
USBF CFO
Stan Subeck

Directors - USBC
Sol Weinstein
McKenzie Myers
Jeanne Van Den Meiracker

Operations Manager
Joan Paradeis

Appeals Administrators
Suzi Subeck, Chairman
Bill Arlinghaus

Martha Katz

Appeals Panel:

Craig Allen

Bart Bramley

Gary Cohler

Mark Feldman

Ron Gerard

Geoff Hampson

Mike Kamil

Ralph Katz

Chip Martel

Jeff Meckstroth

Beth Palmer

Eric Rodwell

Debbie Rosenberg

Michael Rosenberg

Kerri Sanborn

Aaron Silverstein

Ronnie Smith

Danny Sprung

Adam Wildavsky

VuGraph Organizer
Jan Martel

Bulletin Editor
Suzi Subeck

Photographer
Peg Kaplan

Hospitality Chairs
Lisa Berkowitz
Martha Katz

USBC Teams Entered...

"TRIALS" AND TRIBULATIONS

Rosenthal Bye to Rnd of 8	Andrew Rosenthal, Capt Chris Willenken David Berkowitz	Aaron Silverstein Eldad Ginosar Migry Zur Campanile
Fleisher Bye to Rnd of 16	Martin Fleisher, Capt Eric Greco Joe Grue	Chip Martel Geoff Hampson Brad Moss
Wolfson	Jeffrey Wolfson, Capt Zia Mahmood John Hurd	Steve Garner Michael Rosenberg Joel Wooldridge
Kranyak	John Kranyak, Capt Greg Hinze	Vincent Demuy David Grainger
Kriegel	Oren Kriegel, Capt John Diamond	Ron Smith Brian Platnick
Rajadhyaksha	Pratap Rajadhyaksha, Capt John Schermer	Venkatrao Koneru Billy Miller
Hill	Kevin Dwyer Kevin Bathurst Joyce Hill, NPC	Shan Huang Justin Lall
Mahaffey	Jim Mahaffey, Capt Billy Cohen Daniel Lev	Sam Lev Gary Cohler Jacek Pszczola
Robinson	Steve Robinson, Capt Kit Woolsey Robert Hamman	Peter Boyd Bart Bramley Peter Weichsel
Donn	Joshua Donn, Capt Curtis Cheek Roger Lee	Huub Bertens Daniel Korbel Sheri Winestock
Morris	Michael Levine Mike Passell Dennis Clerkin Robert Morris, NPC	Eddie Wold Marc Jacobus Jerry Clerkin
Lo	Ai-Tai Lo, Capt Adam Wildavsky Jiang Gu	Larry Robbins Doug Doub
Watson	William Watson, Capt Vinita Gupta	Geeske Joel Debbie Rosenberg
Donner	Gary Donner, Capt Rose Meltzer	Yoko Sobel Nikolay Demirev
Grossack	Adam Grossack, Capt Bart Bussink Alex Hudson	Arjun Dhir John McAllister Peter Boyd-Bowman
Dinkin	Sam Dinkin, Capt Alex Kolesnik	Bob Etter Michael Shuster
Reynolds	W. Thomas Reynolds, Capt David Pelka Ellen Kent	Lance Kerr William Hall Robert Kent
Warner	Marc Warner, Capt Stephen Zolotow	Anam Tebha Glenn Eisenstein

It is more fun to talk with someone who doesn't use long, difficult words but rather short, easy words, like 'What about lunch?'

A. A. Milne

FINAL			
SATURDAY	MAY 18	10:00 - 12:10 12:25 - 2:35 3:45 - 5:55 6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 1 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 2 BOARDS 16-30 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK SEGMENT 3 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 16-30
SUNDAY	MAY 19	10:00 - 12:10 12:25 - 2:35 3:45 - 5:55 6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 1 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 2 BOARDS 16-30 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK SEGMENT 3 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 16-30

USBC Schedule

WUSBC Teams Entered

Baker

Lynn Baker
Kerri Sanborn
Beth Palmer
Sam Dinkin, NPC

Karen McCallum
Irina Levitina
Sylvia Shi

Bjerkan

Cheri Bjerkan, Capt
Pamela Wittes

Rozanne Pollack
Peggy Sutherlin

Eythorsdottir

Hjordis Eythorsdottir, Capt
Janice Seamon-Molson
Cindy Bernstein

Linda Lewis
Lynn Deas
Sally Wheeler

OSMO

Toni Bales, Capt
Nalita Hall

Mary Ose
Kathleen Wood

Pepsi colas

May Sakr
Gen Geiger
Kristen Onsgard
Jacek Pszczola, NPC

Gigi Simpson
Allison Howard

WUSBC Schedule

FINAL & USA2 SEMI-FINAL (2 USA2 TEAMS)			
FRIDAY	MAY 17	10:00 - 12:10 12:25 - 2:35 3:45 - 5:55 6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 1 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 2 BOARDS 16-30 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK SEGMENT 3 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 16-30
SATURDAY	MAY 18	10:00 - 12:10 12:25 - 2:35 3:45 - 5:55 6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 5 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 6 BOARDS 16-30 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK SEGMENT 7 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 8 BOARDS 16-30
USA2 FINAL			
SUNDAY	MAY 19	10:00 - 12:10 12:25 - 2:35 3:45 - 5:55 6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 1 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 2 BOARDS 16-30 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK SEGMENT 3 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 16-30
MONDAY	MAY 20	10:00 - 12:10 12:25 - 2:35 3:45 - 5:55 6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 5 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 6 BOARDS 16-30 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK SEGMENT 7 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 8 BOARDS 16-30

No Electronic Devices are Permitted
in the Playing Area.

This applies to players AND kibitzers.
Severe penalties will be assessed for
violation of this rule.
Please turn off all cell phones and
check them at the door.
The USBF reserves the right to wand
anyone entering the playing field.



Did you ever stop to think, and forget to start again?

A. A. Milne

USA2 Final... Day One

	MRosenberg ♠ J105 ♥ AKJ742 ♦ J52 ♣ 9	Hampson ♠ K9863 ♥ 8 ♦ AK98 ♣ AKJ	
Greco ♠ AQ ♥ 1065 ♦ 106 ♣ Q87532			
		Zia ♠ 742 ♥ Q93 ♦ Q743 ♣ 1064	
		NS: 0 EW: 0	
Greco 1♥ 5♣ Pass	MRosenberg 3♥ Pass	Hampson Dbl 6♣ Pass	Zia 4♥ Pass
Wolfson 1NT 3♠ 4♠	Grue 2♥ Pass	Garner Pass	B Moss 1♠ 4♦ Pass
			1♣ Pass Dbl 6♣ Pass
			1♠ Pass 3♥ Pass Pass

On Board 6 of the first segment, Hampson and Greco had a great Precision auction to reach the cold club slam. Hampson opened a strong club and Greco immediately knew he was likely to be in slam range and they were forced to game. He responded 1H showing 8-11 HCP and now Hampson knew they were in slam range too.

Rosenberg attempted to muddy the waters by bidding 3H. Hampson doubled for takeout. Zia bid 4H, taking advantage of the favorable vulnerability, and Greco bid 5C. Hampson happily raised to slam.

There was nothing to the play and Hampson scored +1370.

In the other room, playing 2/1, Garner opened 1S. Wolfson responded 1NT and Grue overcalled his good heart suit. Garner doubled to show extras. Moss raised 2H to three and Wolfson, holding two honors in spades and no heart stopper, bid 3S, biding time. Garner bid 4D and now it was very difficult for Wolfson to show his clubs. He bid 4S and they played it there making six when spades split 3-3.

It would have been better had Wolfson bid 4C or 5C when Garner doubled, but it is always hard to venture past 3NT on these auctions... If he'd chosen 4C, a bid of 4NT will be Blackwood even if that was the last making spot.

12 IMPs to Fleisher

Very Punny!

Why was Cinderella thrown off the basketball team? She ran away from the ball.

Atheists don't solve exponential equations because they don't believe in higher powers.

I'd tell you a chemistry joke but I know I wouldn't get a reaction.

I bought some shoes from a drug dealer. I don't know what he laced them with, but I've been tripping all day.

I saw an ad for burial plots, and thought to myself this is the last thing I need.

I was addicted to the hokey pokey... but thankfully, I turned myself around.

Claustrophobic people are more productive thinking out of the box.

I'm glad I know sign language, it's pretty handy.



	MRosenberg ♠ KQ85 ♥ Q3 ♦ J62 ♣ 9875
Greco ♠ 10976 ♥ 964 ♦ AKQ7 ♣ 62	Hampson ♠ J42 ♥ AKJ7 ♦ 854 ♣ AK4
Zia ♠ A3 ♥ 10852 ♦ 1093 ♣ QJ103	NS: 0 EW: 0
Greco 2♣ Pass Pass	MRosenberg 1NT Pass 2♥ Pass
Hampson Pass	Zia Pass

Wolfson 3♣ Pass 3♥ Pass Pass	Grue Pass	Garner 1NT Pass 3♦ Pass 3NT Pass	B Moss Pass

The Wolfson squad struggled throughout the day. Board 10 from the first segment was one of their triumphs.

Hampson opened a 14-16 NT. Greco bid Stayman. Hampson responded 2H. Greco held three cards in that suit and a concentrated nine count. He didn't think he would improve the contract by bidding more. He passed and when the defense failed to lead a spade, Hampson scored ten tricks for +170.

At the other table, Garner opened a 15-17 NT. Wolfson's 3C bid was Puppet. Garner showed one or more four card major and Wolfson bid 3H to show 4S. Wolfson bid 3NT and Garner played it there.

Moss led the CJ and Garner won the king. He cashed one high heart and led a diamond to dummy. Intending to take the heart finesse, he led a small heart and when the queen came up doubleton, he tested diamonds which split 3-3 to bring home three hearts, four diamonds, and two clubs, succeeding in the vulnerable game.

+600 and 10 IMPs to Wolfson.

Several bridge clubs in the Houston area have mentor-mentee games in which an experienced player partners with a less experienced player. If a person's mentee does not show up for their scheduled game, does that mean the mentor is demented?

Hospitality Suite...

The hospitality suite for the 2019 Open USBC will be room 2321. Our welcoming hostesses, Lisa Berkowitz, Martha Katz, and Chris Benson are here to welcome you to the Suite. They will serve breakfast each day from 8:00-10:30 and lunch each day from 1:00-4:00.

The hospitality suite will be open for Vugraph, casual chit chat, drinks & snacks during the rest of the playing hours and for a short time after the end of the day.

Players, kibitzers, friends, spouses and children are welcome to join us in the suite.

The "Players' Break Room" (aka Jan & McKenzie's office) is room 1321. It is available for the entire tournament. We have coffee, soft drinks and some snacks available in that room while you wait for your slow teammates to finish playing.

Hostesses:
Chris, Martha, Lisa



Board 26 in the second segment of the USA 2 Open Final match produced a 17 IMP swing for Fleisher.

Both tables bid the small slam in spades. Greco/Hampson started with a strong 1C opening. Zia/Rosenberg started with 2NT (20 to 22-).

Both Hurd and Martel led the DQ (Rusinow). Both Greco and Zia won the opening lead and finessed the HJ, North following with the H2. At Zia's table, Fleisher won the king and Martel later won the trump king for a one-trick set.

When Greco declared, events took a different turn. Wooldridge decided to duck the HK! Greco trumped a diamond and took the losing spade finesse. Greco won the spade return, trumped his last diamond and returned to hand with a club to draw the last trump making six.

Greco/Hurd's convention card indicates that they play upside down count after trick one. So, maybe the Hurd's H2 made Wooldridge think that Hurd held the doubleton heart and declarer held three hearts. On the other hand, if North doesn't have a trump trick, declarer will be able to draw trumps in three rounds and repeat the heart finesse, so ducking is futile. Note that Martel played the H4, playing upside down signals, and Fleisher wisely won his HK.

In the Women's USA 1 Final between Baker and Disa, there was an 11 IMP swing on this board. Palmer/Shi playing for the Baker team missed the good slam after Shi opened 2H showing both majors and 3-9 HCP. Palmer inquired about Shi's hand, and after checking for keycards, signed off in 5S, which easily succeeded.

In the other room, Disa opened 2C and reached the doomed 6S contract.

Limey Jack...

Yanks:

Congratulations to Team Baker, the current World Champions, for thrashing the Eythorsdottir squad. Baker played dog's bollocks while Eythorsdottir's play was Baltic. However they get to reach into their rucksack for a second opine as they play for USA 2 against Bjerkan who had to win their way back in.

In this upcoming match, Bjerkan has some flaws and they are fully exposed forthwith. Eythorsdottir will get another chance to win the World Championship.

In the Open event, Zia's play was quite ropey today but he is in good spirits as, win or lose, he will have a fine meal tonight as well as some wonderful wine.

The rhyming Rumpelstiltskin continues to blather. Only Limey Jack can bring you home a winner.

Cheers, LJ

Howie Doing...

With all the time she plays online,
Cheri Bjerkan should do fine.

But she's been playing 'gainst the best
And when four-handed, gets no rest.

Rozanne and Pam and Peggy too
Will have a lot of work to do.

If they bid slams and they bid games.
They'll show 'em they are four tough dames!

Iceland's princess loves to play,
And lives to bid another day.

Janice Molson knows her stuff...
Like when to pitch and when to ruff.

One will win and one will yield.
Cheri wins on hometown field!

Howie Doing? Not too bad!

Answers to Sudoku Puzzles on page 8

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

Puzzle 1

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

Puzzle 2

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

Sudoku 1

Moderate Sudoku

Sudoku 2

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

**Answers
to
Puzzle
on Page 9:**

Still Life	16"	Dining Room
Portrait	24"	Living Room
Modern	22"	Kitchen
Landscape	35"	Bedroom
Painting Style	20"	
Width		Hung
Room where Hung		

**Sudoku
Solutions
on Page 7**

Puzzle Page ...

	Height				Width				Room			
	20"	22"	24"	28"	16"	24"	27"	35"	Bedroom	Dining Room	Kitchen	Living Room
Landscape												
Modern												
Portrait												
Still Life												
Bedroom												
Dining Room												
Kitchen												
Living Room												
Width	16"											
	24"											
	27"											
	35"											

Answer to Puzzle on Page 8!

Painting Style	Height	Width	Room where Hung
Landscape			
Modern			
Portrait			
Still Life			

-----	20"	16"	Bedroom
-----	22"	24"	Dining Room
-----	24"	27"	Kitchen
-----	28"	35"	Living Room

Sally Field loves art. Her home is filled with the works of countless artisans, both well-known and relatively obscure. She haunts art shows and even craft shows, always on the lookout for a new piece or portrait for her home. To her intense pleasure, she struck a gold mine last Saturday, attending a new art show in a neighboring town. She found four new paintings for her home and spent Sunday eagerly finding places to hang her new treasures. All of the paintings were rectangular. Determine the style of each of the four paintings, the height and width of each canvas (one height was 24" and one width was 27"), and the room in her home where she hung each painting.

1. The landscape painting wasn't hung in the living room. The painting that was 22" in height had a larger width than the portrait painting.
2. The painting with a height of 20" and a width of 35" wasn't hung in the kitchen.
3. The painting that had a 16" width was the still life but it wasn't hung in the bedroom.
4. The modern painting, which wasn't 24" in width, was hung in the kitchen.
5. The painting in the living room was 28" in height.
6. The landscape painting wasn't hung in the dining room but it was less than 24" in height.

May Sakr The Passion of Bridge ... excerpted from *Prestige* issue 274, May 2016

Champion of the recent and prestigious Patton bridge tournament in Monaco, a title never won before by a citizen from the Arab world, a «dream», May Sakr is, since 2010, considered the Queen of bridge internationally. A queen passionate of her game that combines skill, concentration, energy and perseverance ... Physical and intellectual faculties that she develops in a steady progress with her mentor, friend and companion, the Polish expert Krzysztof Martens. On the 365 days of the year, May and Martens spend more than one hundred to practice this game. While extending congratulations to May Sakr and more to Lebanon, Prestige is proud to present a Lebanese Talent that gives the world the most beautiful image of her country.

Can you give us an overview of your education and training? Following high school in Lebanon, I got a degree in «Computer Science» of the University of Northern Illinois NIU, in the United States.

You are champion of Monaco after your victory at the Patton bridge tournament in Monaco ... What are your impressions? We are recent winners of the prestigious Patton bridge tournament in Monaco which took place in October 2015. I am very proud for this victory, during which we met with several teams of champions, including the Team Lavazza with Giorgio Duboin, Madala, Bocci and Bilde and without losing any match.

You hold more than twenty-two international trophies. When was this passion for bridge? What did it give you? Some friends Bridge players introduced us, my husband and I to this wonderful game and I was captivated right away. I enjoy each deal I have in my hands. The intellectual challenge of bridge revealed my taste for the competition.

You have a bridge Academy, how was it founded? In Lebanon, there was no place to learn bridge. I was encouraged in this direction by my family who is in this area of activity.

Your career, From the Academy to the Club ... The course was designed especially to encourage beginners to get used to bridge tournaments. This is why we started to organize them at the Academy. All students enjoyed the friendly atmosphere and at the same time began to gain trust in them. We also asked former players to participate, which made them closer to beginners and more forgiving. It was a success.

How did you encounter your mentor and travel companion Krzysztof Martens? I met Krzysztof because he often came to Lebanon to play with local bridge players and to encourage bridge. He took me under his wing and taught me lessons that introduced me to the high bridge competition.

Krzysztof Martens nicknamed you «Killer», why? Krzysztof gave me this nickname because of my sense of competition that absolutely drives me to achieve my goal, no matter what. My logic, my instinct and my intellect then work together to achieve the best possible result, or sometimes impossible...

«My dream is to play all the big tournaments in the world and win the largest number of trophies.»



Meet the Players



Alert!

Before the 1998 Chicago NABC, the ACBL commissioned an artist named Jim Harrington from Waukegan, IL, to do a painting called "Our Game." The lithos were sold at the '98 NABC and the original was auctioned off as a fund raiser for the tournament. Leo and Pat Perez from Garden Grove, CA, won the drawing and the winners were named at the Orlando NABC that year and awarded their painting. The picture was prominently displayed during both the Chicago and Orlando NABCs.

The lithos are numbered editions.

Mr. Harrington's widow, Sue, donated the remaining to the USBF when she moved from the Waukegan home last year. We have several here at the tournament. If you would like one, please see either Jan Martel or Suzi Subeck. From the July 26, 1998, Daily Bulletin at the Chicago NABC:

Our Game

The ACBL Educational Foundation is happy to welcome artist Jim Harrington who is here in Chicago this morning to personalize limited edition prints of his painting "Our Game". This is the only day he will be here. Harrington will be at the Educational Foundation's booth which is located near the NorthEast Exhibit Hall on the lower level.

Harrington is a well-known artist listed in *Who's Who of Living American Artists* and is well represented in the collections of many corporate and private collections. Proceeds from the project will be split evenly between the Educational Foundation and Art Etc. Inc.

Our wonderful massage therapist, Ela, is available again this year. She has agreed to come to the Hyatt after 1:00 pm on the following days. People who want a massage should sign up with Jan.

Monday, 5/20

Thursday, 5/23 (that's Mixed of course)

Monday, 5/27

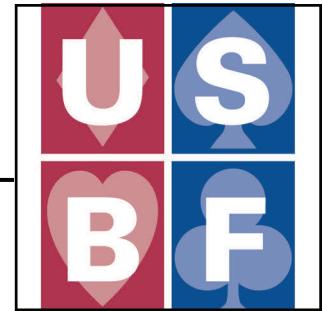
Thursday, 5/30 (between Mixed & Seniors)

Monday, 6/3

Thursday, 6/6



Relaxation Therapy!



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. As a Supporting Member, you are eligible to:

1. Enter the fantasy brackets, run on Bridge Winners, for the USBF trials choosing our Open and Senior teams for the World Championships. The highest-ranking Supporting Member in the fantasy brackets for each of these two events will win the prize of your choice - either an online match against the USBC winners or dinner with them at the next NABC.
2. Receive daily emails during the USBF Championships. These will summarize the previous day's results and provide vugraph information and links to daily bulletins containing pictures and commentary on individual hands.
3. Upon advanced request, make arrangements for you to kibitz a USBF member of your choice for a session once each year – either at an NABC or the USBF Championships.
4. Upon advanced request, we will arrange for you to be one of the vugraph commentators for one session of the team trials.

A Supporting Membership is \$25 for one year (\$75 for 3 years) and the ACBL now offers you the chance to become an USBF Supporting Member when you renew your ACBL membership. If you don't want to wait that long, you can join by choosing the red **Donate Now** button on the USBF website. 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.