

Volume 18, Issue 34
May 26, 2025

Results:

SCORE AFTER SEGMENT 4

CROSS IMP

BOARDS

Table		Σ	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	IMP Corr.
1	Wildavsky	102.25	29	13	34	27					-0.75
	Lall	128	14	60	30	24					0

Cross Imps...

1.	Sam Lev - Zia Mahmood	Lall	0.89	40.00	45
2.	Hemant Lall - Reese Milner	Lall	0.62	28.00	45
3.	Adam Wildavsky - Doug Doub	Wildavsky	-0.42	-25.00	60
3.	Mark Lair - Ron Gerard	Wildavsky	-0.42	-25.00	60
5.	Bobby Levin - Eric Rodwell	Lall	-0.60	-18.00	30

Happy Memorial Day!

Heard in a Nickell practice session:

"Do we play upside down or rightside up false cards?"



Ed. Note: With delayed broadcasting, it is challenging to watch every hand for write ups. If anyone has a particularly interesting hand, please send me the board # & match # with any essential details. I will do my best to review and include it. Email to stansubeck@prodigy.net. Thank you!



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USBF Vice President

Steve Garner

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USBF Recorder

Jack Oest

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Kerri Sanborn

Adam Wildavsky

Bulletin Editor

Suzi Subeck

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Marge Morgan

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Shaneka Cunningham

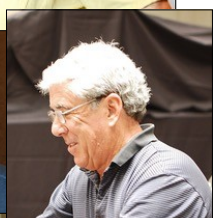
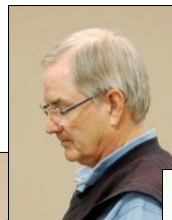
Nancy Boothe

Photographer

Kitty Cooper

Senior Teams Entered

Bramley	Bart Bramley, Capt Fred Stewart Jeff Aker	Kit Woolsey Larry Robbins Steve Beatty
Cappelli	Bob Cappelli, Capt Mark Aquino	Bob Bitterman Geof Brod
Compton	Chris Compton, Capt Ron Smith Alan Sontag	Richard Leonardon Ralph Katz Peter Weichsel
Falk	Allan Falk, Capt Barry Rigal Marc Zwerling	John Lusky Doug Simson Ron Rubin
Goodman	Andy Goodman, Capt Venkatrao Koneru Billy Cohen	Mike Passell Jim Krekorian Gary Cohler
Hamman	Mitch Dunitz, Capt Bob Hamman Mark Itabashi	Ifti Baqai Neil Chambers Neil Silverman
Lall	Hemant Lall, Capt Zia Mahmood Bobby Levin	Reese Milner Bobby Levin Eric Rodwell
Reynolds	Tom Reynolds, Capt Bernie Greenspan	Lance Kerr Fred Schenker
Wildavsky	Adam Wildavsky, Capt Ron Gerard	Douglas Doub Mark Lair
Wolfson	Jeff Wolfson, Capt David Berkowitz	Steve Garner Larry Cohen
	Mike Kamil	Jeff Meckstroth



Why did the Dalmatian go to the eye doctor? He kept seeing spots.

Why did the banana go to the doctor? He wasn't peeling well.

Why did the doctor tell the nurses to be quiet when walking past the medicine cabinet? So they don't wake the sleeping pills.

What type of dogs deliver blood test results? Laboratory retrievers

Who is the flu's favorite Star Wars character? Achoo-Detoo.

Do you have a bladder infection? Ooh, ur-ine trouble.

Why don't yogurt and medicine get along? One is probiotic, and the other is antibiotic!

What do you call frozen Ibuprofen? A chill pill.

What happens when you steal somebody's heart? You get cardiac arrested.

Why do nurses bring red markers to work? To draw blood.

Why do your heart, liver and lungs all fit in your body? Because they are well organ-ized.

Why are pediatricians always annoyed? Because they have such little patients!

Senior Schedule

Round robin

Day	Date	Time
Saturday	May 17	10:00 - 8:00
Sunday	May 18	10:00 - 8:00

USA1 Semifinal and USA2 Stage 1

Day	Date	Time	Boards
Monday	May 19	10:00 - 12:00	Segment 1 Boards 1-15
		12:15 - 2:15	Segment 2 Boards 16-30
			75 minute Break
		3:30 - 5:30	Segment 3 Boards 31-45
		5:45 - 7:45	Segment 4 Boards 46-60
Tuesday	May 20	10:00 - 12:00	Segment 5 Boards 1-15
		12:15 - 2:15	Segment 6 Boards 16-30
			75 minute Break
		3:30 - 5:30	Segment 7 Boards 31-45
		5:45 - 7:45	Segment 8 Boards 46-60

USA1 final and USA2 Quarterfinal

Day	Date	Time	Boards
Wednesday	May 21	10:00 - 12:00	Segment 1 Boards 1-15
		12:15 - 2:15	Segment 2 Boards 16-30
			75 minute Break
		3:30 - 5:30	Segment 3 Boards 31-45
		5:45 - 7:45	Segment 4 Boards 46-60
Thursday	May 22	10:00 - 12:00	Segment 5 Boards 1-15
		12:15 - 2:15	Segment 6 Boards 16-30
			75 minute Break
		3:30 - 5:30	Segment 7 Boards 31-45
		5:45 - 7:45	Segment 8 Boards 46-60

USA2 Semifinal

Day	Date	Time	Boards
Friday	May 23	10:00 - 12:00	Segment 1 Boards 1-15
		12:15 - 2:15	Segment 2 Boards 16-30
			75 minute Break
		3:30 - 5:30	Segment 3 Boards 31-45
		5:45 - 7:45	Segment 4 Boards 46-60
Saturday	May 24	10:00 - 12:00	Segment 5 Boards 1-15
		12:15 - 2:15	Segment 6 Boards 16-30
			75 minute Break
		3:30 - 5:30	Segment 7 Boards 31-45
		5:45 - 7:45	Segment 8 Boards 46-60

USA2 final

Day	Date	Time	Boards
Sunday	May 25	10:00 - 12:00	Segment 1 Boards 1-15
		12:15 - 2:15	Segment 2 Boards 16-30
			75 minute Break
		3:30 - 5:30	Segment 3 Boards 31-45
		5:45 - 7:45	Segment 4 Boards 46-60
Monday	May 26	10:00 - 12:00	Segment 5 Boards 1-15
		12:15 - 2:15	Segment 6 Boards 16-30
			75 minute Break
		3:30 - 5:30	Segment 7 Boards 31-45
		5:45 - 7:45	Segment 8 Boards 46-60

(Continued on page 4)

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.



(Continued from page 3)

What did one tonsil say to the other tonsil? “The doctor’s taking us out tonight.”

Why can you never lie to an X-ray technician? Because they see right through you.

What do you prescribe to a sick lemon? Lemon-aid!

Why did the cell phone go see an eye doctor? Because it needed some new contacts.

What should you call if you hurt your foot? A toe truck.

Why should you trust the surgeons who are repairing your slipped disk? Because they have your back!

Why did the window go to the doctor? It had a lot of pane.

How did the cat know it was sick? It wasn’t feline well.

What do you call an alligator’s nurse? Gator-aid.

Why did I keep losing at hide and seek in the hospital? I always hid in the ICU.

Why is everyone so sick of optometry puns?

They keep getting cornea.

One day in the pediatric clinic, a nurse handed a young patient a urine sample container and told him to fill it up in the bathroom. A few minutes later, he returned with an empty cup and said, “I didn’t need this after all. There was a toilet.”

As I was admitted to the hospital prior to a procedure, the clerk asked for my wrist, saying, “I’m going to give you a bracelet.” “Has it got rubies and diamonds?” I asked coyly. “No,” he said, “But it costs just as much.”

A patient in the Emergency Room filled out a form. After Name and Address, the next question was “Nearest Relative.” She wrote “Walking distance.”

When a patient was wheeled into our emergency room, the nurse on duty asked, “On a scale of 0 to 10, with zero representing no pain and 10 representing excruciating pain, where is your pain level is now?” The patient snapped, “How should I know? I’m terrible at math!”

A patient is super nervous, before their first surgery. So the anesthesiologist reassures them, “This is a very simple procedure.” The patient relaxes... until the anesthesiologist adds, “Heck, you have a better chance of dying from the anesthesia!”

An Emergency Room Nurse asks, “So, what brings you here?” The patient looks around confused, then replies: “An ambulance.”

An 88-year-old woman is rushed to the hospital with a possible concussion. The doctor asks her a series of questions: “Do you know where you are?” “I’m at County General.” “What city are you in?” “Portland.” “Do you know who I am?” “Dr. Greene.” Satisfied, the doctor walks away... but then the elderly woman turns to the nurse and says, “Phew! I’m glad he didn’t ask me any further questions.” “Why?” “Because all of those answers were on his badge.”

A woman calls her mother. “Mom? Don’t freak out, but I’m in the hospital...” “Stephanie, you’ve been a doctor for over eight years. Stop starting every phone conversation we have like that.”

A harried man runs into an emergency room. “Nurse! Nurse! My wife’s in labor! But she keeps screaming, ‘Shouldn’t, couldn’t, wouldn’t, can’t!’” “Oh, that’s okay,” says the nurse. “She’s just having contractions.”

A man calls the mental hospital and asks the receptionist if he can talk to the patient in room 42. They go to check, then return to report that room 42 is empty. The man sighs, relieved, “So I really did escape!”

Doing rounds, a new nurse kept overhearing a surgeon yelling, “Typhoid! Tetanus! Measles!” Confused, they asked a colleague, “Why does he keep doing that?” They explained, “Oh, he likes to call the shots around here.”

Delayed Kibitzing Throughout the USBC

[You can watch the Open, Mixed, & Senior USBCs on the LoveBridge website.](#) Live Vugraph is delayed for 30 minutes until all tables have completed play on a board.

Live video commentary of Finals

Rob Barrington will be hosting full day video commentary coverage of the second day of the USA1 & USA2 Finals of each event on the USBF YouTube channel with post-game highlights.

Video commentary will be at 11:30 AM and 5:00 PM EDT, on the following dates:

May 1, Open USA1 Final, and USA2 Quarterfinal, May 5, Open USA2 Final, May 14, Mixed USA1 Final, and USA2 Semifinal, May 16, Mixed USA2 Final, May 22, Senior USA1 Final and USA2 Quarterfinal, May 25, Senior USA2 Final

Highlights after each stage of each event

Experts will join Rob for chat after each session. BridgeCasts will be posted on the USBF YouTube channel the morning after each segment ends:

●● 4/26 - Open Round of 16, 4/28 - Open USA1 Quarterfinal & USA2 Stage 1; 5/1 - Open USA1 Semifinal & day 1 of Final & USA2 Stage 2 & day 1 of Quarterfinal; 5/5 - Open USA2 Semifinal & day 1 of Final.

●● 5/9 - Mixed Round of 16: 5/11 - Mixed USA1 Quarterfinal and USA2 Stage 1; 5/12 - Mixed USA1 Semifinal at the half & USA2 Stage2; 5/19 - Senior Round Robin; 5/21 - Senior USA1 Semifinal & USA2 Stage 1.

5/22 - Day 1 of Senior USA1 Final and USA2 Semifinal 5/25 - Day 1 of Senior USA2 Final

Kibitzing Schedule (EDT) ... For all KO days of the 2025 USBCs, kibitzing times will be :

Segment 1: 11:30 am EDT

Segment 2: 1:45 pm EDT

Segment 3: 5:00 pm EDT

Segment 4: 7:15 pm EDT

For Round Robin days, each kibitzing segment will start 30 minutes after play starts.

Play Schedules (CDT):

[Main play schedule.](#)

[Mixed USBC USA2 Round Robin Schedule.](#)

[Senior USBC USA2 Round Robin Schedule.](#)



Happy, Happy
VuGraph Time.
Gonna watch,
I'm done with rhyme.

More information about LoveBridge kibitzing... Set up your screen as you like it best.

You will see a **single table** if you click on the blue arrow on the scores page with buttons for more info.

Match View will show you two tables of a match side by side on your screen;

Split View will give you 4 panes and you can put whatever you want in each of them.

Click on Buttons to get interesting information:

●● The image of the sticker with the number of the board (upper right) takes you to the results of the board;

●● the arrow in the bottom right corner 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.

NEW THIS YEAR: Written commentary will show in a large area on the left of the screen in Single Table view and at the top of the screen in Match View. If you are interested in providing written commentary, please [email Jan](#) and she will get you authorized.

Navigation icons:

While surfing on the vugraph, or amongst the archives, you can 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. 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.

How to find System Information: If you want to look at a pair's System Summary Form or ACBL Convention card, just go to the Teams Entered page and click on either player's name.



2025 USBC Hospitality

We have returned to our pre-pandemic hospitality, with the hospitality suite (room 2321) open most of the day for you to hang out, watch Vugraph, get a snack, or whatever. In addition, we will be providing breakfast and lunch each day of play. Marie France Benoit will be our lead hostess, with help from Jacob Morgan, Marge Morgan, Shanika Cunningham, Hal George, and Nancy Booth. If you're at the tournament and can volunteer to help with hospitality (mainly picking up last-minute things at Costco and other local stores) please let Jan or Marie France know.

Breakfast: From 8:30-10:30 am. There will be the usual breakfast food, cereal, bagels, toast, salmon, fruit, juice, coffee and tea. For those of you who prefer Keurig coffee, that will also be available in the hospitality suite. So long as the suite doesn't become too crowded, you are welcome to eat there. No masking requirement.

Lunch: On the first four days of the Open and Mixed USBCs we will be serving a buffet lunch in the hotel restaurant. There should be enough room for you to eat in the restaurant, but you are also welcome to take food from there to an outside table or to your hotel room. Lunch will be served from 1:45-3:45. After the first 4 days of each event and for all of the Seniors, lunch will be available in the hospitality suite from 1:45-3:45. There will be a main dish (sandwiches, chicken, main dish salads, pizza) as well as tuna salad, green salad, cheese, fruit, berries, cookies or other desserts.

There is a water dispenser in the room, and we have refillable water bottles for you in room 1321 (we'll put a label with your name on yours). Soft drinks will be available in refrigerators. As with breakfast, you are welcome to eat in the hospitality suite unless it is too crowded.

Let us know what you want: If you have specific needs, please let our hosts know and they will do their very best to provide food that meets your needs.

Playing Rooms & Player's Break Room

We have a water dispenser in the Player's Break Room (1321), as well as soft drinks, Nespresso, some packaged snacks, and some fruit. We ask that you recognize that we are working in that room, and others are still playing in the rooms next door and across the hall, so please try to keep voices low.

Masks will be required in playing rooms only if your screenmate asks you to wear one. You do not have to put on a mask when you summon a director or ask someone to bring you coffee or water or escort you outside to smoke.



Marie France



Massages - Message from Jan Martel...

Once again this year, our wonderful massage therapist Ela come to the hotel any day that there are 3-5 people who want massages. Her schedule will probably be mostly during playing hours, with one or two times after the end of play. I think she's still charging \$100 for an hour's massage. If you let me know a day or two before you want a massage, I will try to make it work.



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

Sudoku 1

Hard Sudoku

**Sudoku Solutions
on Page 13**

Sudoku 2

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

Do you need a fork?

A man walks into a doctor's office. He has a cucumber up his nose, a carrot in his left ear and a banana in his right ear. "What's the matter with me?" he asks the doctor. The doctor replies, "You're not eating properly."

A cure-all

A guy suffering from a miserable cold begs his doctor for relief. The doctor prescribes pills. But after a week, the guy's still sick. So the doctor gives him a shot. But that doesn't help his condition either. On his third visit, the doctor thinks for a beat, then says, "Okay, this is what I want you to do. Go home. Take a hot bath. Then throw open all the windows and stand in the draft." The patient protests, "But I'll get pneumonia!" The doctor nods, "I know. And *that* I can cure."

My job is better ...

During an appointment, a lawyer chats with their doctor, saying, "My job is the best. People come into my office, tell me their problems, and pay me for my advice." The doctor chuckled, "Well, at my job, people come into my office, tell me their problems, *take off all their clothes*, and then pay me for my advice."



Please be "scent"sitive! Many players have allergies and have trouble breathing when perfumed aromas are present! Thank you!!



Puzzle Page ...

Capital Cities of Europe

Find and circle all of the European capital cities that are hidden in the grid.
The remaining letters spell a secret message.

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

AMSTERDAM (Netherlands)
ANDORRA LA VELLA (Andorra)
ANKARA (Turkey)
ATHENS (Greece)
BAKU (Azerbaijan)
BELFAST (Northern Ireland)
BELGRADE (Serbia/Montenegro)
BERLIN (Germany)
BERN (Switzerland)
BRATISLAVA (Slovakia)
BRUSSELS (Belgium)
BUCHAREST (Romania)
BUDAPEST (Hungary)
CARDIFF (Wales)
CHISINAU (Moldova)
COPENHAGEN (Denmark)
DUBLIN (Ireland)

EDINBURGH (Scotland)
HELSINKI (Finland)
KIEV (Ukraine)
LISBON (Portugal)
LJUBLJANA (Slovenia)
LONDON (England)
LUXEMBOURG (Luxembourg)
MADRID (Spain)
MINSK (Belarus)
MONACO (Monaco)
MOSCOW (Russian Federation)
NICOSIA (Cyprus)
OSLO (Norway)
PARIS (France)
PRAGUE (Czech Republic)
REYKJAVIK (Iceland)
RIGA (Latvia)

ROME (Italy)
SAN MARINO (San Marino)
SARAJEVO (Bosnia-Herzegovina)
SKOPJE (Macedonia)
SOFIA (Bulgaria)
STOCKHOLM (Sweden)
TALLINN (Estonia)
TBILISI (Georgia)
TIRANE (Albania)
VADUZ (Liechtenstein)
VALLETTA (Malta)
VATICAN CITY (Vatican City)
VIENNA (Austria)
VILNIUS (Lithuania)
WARSAW (Poland)
YEREVAN (Armenia)
ZAGREB (Croatia)



Heavy Hearted

President Franck Riehm at the Élysée

By [WBF](#) In [News](#) On 23rd May 2025

Constructive meeting between Franck RIEHM, President of the World Bridge Federation, and William ELMAN, Sports, Solidarity and Community Life Advisor at the Élysée Palace.



William ELMAN, Sports, Solidarity and Community Life Advisor at the Élysée Palace and Franck RIEHM, President of the World Bridge Federation

In a political context marked by the National Great Cause 2025 for mental health, the “Ageing Well” law, and the educational emergency revealed by the 2024 TIMSS survey, bridge—and the French Bridge Federation in particular—has emerged as a key player in social cohesion, cognitive stimulation, and equal opportunity.

Once thought of merely as games, mind sports that complement physical activity have now become powerful public-policy tools. Inclusion, educational performance, intergenerational transmission: their impact is concrete, measurable—and steadily growing.



Max Bavin Main TD Course

By **WBF** In **News** On 15th May 2025



The **Max Bavin Main TD Course** will be held in **Warsaw, Poland** from **27-30 November 2025** (3 nights – hotel Bella Vista).

The **deadline for application is 31st August 2025** but space is limited and if necessary, acceptance for the course will be determined by the order in which the Application Forms are received.

The primary objectives of the Course are:

1. to support NBOs in their activity through updating the knowledge of their leading Tournament Directors, and to offer the opportunity to achieve the title of WBF Zonal TD and to be appointed in the WBF Official TDs Register,
2. to offer Zonal Tournament Directors the opportunity to achieve the title of WBF International Tournament Director and to be appointed in the WBF Official TDs Register,
3. to offer WBF TDs, already appointed in the WBF Official TDs Register, the opportunity to maintain or improve their category.



The WBF Women's Committee in conjunction with the WBF Tournament Directors is encouraging female players to consider tournament directing as a career.

It is their hope that other NBO's or affiliations (like the ACBL) will consider programs similar to this one to train directors, and especially to provide information to female directors who might want to become involved in international bridge. For more information, go to Worldbridge.org/

This is in an early stage but thoughts and ideas are appreciated.

Email Suzi Subeck with your thoughts... stansubeck@prodigy.net

Thank you!

		First Names				Directions					Breads				
		Ayla	Davis	Lorenzo	Max	northeast	northwest	south	southeast	west	brioche	challah	cornbread	naan	pumpnickel
Hospital Bills	\$570														
	\$1010														
	\$2130														
	\$2270														
	\$2460														
Breads	brioche														
	challah														
	cornbread														
	naan														
	pumpnickel														
Directions	northeast														
	northwest														
	south														
	southeast														
	west														

**Answer to Puzzle
on page 13
Bottom of Page**

Hospital Bills	First Names	Directions	Breads
\$570			
\$1010			
\$2130			
\$2270			
\$2460			

1. The person who lives south of city hall owes more money than Lorenzo.
2. The person who lives northeast of city hall is Lorenzo.
3. The person who bought the challah is Max.
4. The person who lives southeast of city hall owes less money than Lorenzo.
5. The 5 people were the patient with the \$2130 hospital bill, the person who lives west of city hall, Lorenzo, the person who bought the challah, and the patient with the \$2460 hospital bill.
6. The patient with the \$1010 hospital bill lives northeast of city hall.
7. The person who bought the brioche doesn't live northwest of city hall.
8. Davis owes more money than the person who lives south of city hall.
9. The person who bought the brioche doesn't live south of city hall.
10. The person who lives northwest of city hall is not Ayla.
11. The person who lives west of city hall is not Davis.
12. The person who bought the cornbread lives west of city hall.
13. The person who bought the naan is not Alec.

**Logic
Puzzle**

Meet the Players

Mark Aquino, ACBL Regional Director

Board Committees: Strategic, Bridge, ByLaws, Committees and Communications Task Force

Bridge Experience: ACBL member since 1969. Grand Life Master

Volunteer Service: US Bridge Federation (USBF) Director – Jan 2019

District 25 Director – Jan 2016 to Dec 2018

District 25 President – Jan 2014 to Dec 2015

District 25 Vice President – Jan 2012 – Dec 2013

D25 GNT/NAP Coordinator – Jan 2001-Dec 2012

Chairman, ACBL-wide NAP/GNT Coordinators Forum 2011 – 2015

Unit 108 (EMBA) President – Jan 2007- Dec 2008

Unit 108 (EMBA) Board Member – Jan 1983- Dec 2008



Career/professional Activities: Procter & Gamble /Gillette/Polaroid – Retired 2014

25 yrs Manufacturing and Technical Operations

Global Best Practices and Re-Organizational Optimization Committees

Twice Chosen to be Dean of P&G's Technical Engineering School (2011 & 2013)

PlyGems – >7 yrs Marketing – Programs upped sales 42% without lowering prices

US Army – 5 years active duty as a junior officer. Diversified international leadership experience.

Education: B.S., Chemistry, MIT, M.S., Engineering Management, Northeastern University

Hobbies: Swimming, singing, reading, most sports

Family: Married to Silver Life Master Susan, who I met at the bridge table in 1980! 3 adult children, and 3 grandchildren

Mark is playing in the Senior USBC as a member of the Cappelli team. His teammates include Bob Bitterman, Bob Cappelli and Geof Brod.

Favorite Bridge Memory: 75% game to win 1036 pairs Olympiad Fund Pairs with John Hrones, Jr. in first tournament I ever played in - 1970 Boston NABC

Bridge Accomplishments

Won my 1st Blue Ribbon Pairs Qualification in 1978 - Without a Partner! Impossible today. Won it by winning now long obsolete 4 Session New England Regional by Individual Win earned the Q. Before the event was reduced to 2 sessions and later completely eliminated, I joined a small group of two-time winners - a mere 24 years later in 2002! Winner 2015 NAP Flight A with Shome Mukherjee, Winner 2021 Spring NAOBC Open IMP Pairs and 2nd 2004 LM Pairs with Jon Green, 2nd 1995 Las Vegas Invitational Calcutta with the late, great Charlie Coon, 3rd 2009 Silver Ribbons with Shome Mukherjee, 4th 2015 Werner Open Pairs with Andrew Chesterton

Favorite Conventions: Jumpball

BBO Username: shark621

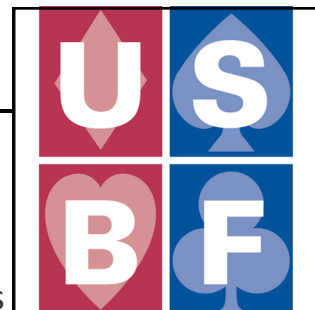
7	9	3	5	1	8	2	6	4
4	8	1	6	9	2	3	5	7
2	5	6	3	4	7	8	1	9
1	7	8	6	9	4	3	5	2
3	2	9	1	8	5	4	7	6
6	4	5	2	7	3	9	8	1
9	1	8	4	5	6	2	3	7
8	3	4	7	1	2	9	5	6
5	6	2	7	3	9	4	1	8

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

Sudoku Answers Puzzles on Page 7

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.

Handwriting handicap

Our nephew was getting married to a doctor's daughter. At the wedding reception, the father of the bride stood to read his toast, which he had scribbled on a piece of scrap paper. Several times during his speech, he halted, overcome with what I assumed was a moment of deep emotion. But after a particularly long pause, he explained, "I'm sorry. I can't make out what I've written down. Is there a pharmacist in the house?"



Answer to Logic Puzzle On Page 11

Naan	Northwest	Davis	\$2460
Cornbread	West	Ayla	\$2270
Pumpernickel	South	Alec	\$2130
Brioche	Northeast	Lorenzo	\$1010
Challah	Southeast	Max	\$570

ACBL-Sanctioned games on RealBridge – Starting July 1, 2025

Graham Hazel, the CEO of Real Bridge Games Ltd, along with fellow directors Shireen Mohandes and Andy Bowles, is looking forward to July 1 2025. Why? Because from that day onwards clubs will be able to host ACBL-sanctioned games on RealBridge, allowing players to earn ACBL masterpoints on the only online platform that looks and feels like real bridge.

Following a recent agreement between the ACBL and RealBridge, the two organisations are working together to implement the necessary interfaces to support this new opportunity.

Bronia Jenkins, Executive Director of the ACBL, said, “We are delighted to offer an ACBL sanction to RealBridge. Through RealBridge’s work with the ACBL Educational Foundation and the ACBL’s Social Bridge Nights, we have become familiar with their technology and their commitment to quality. We’re confident that expanding the options available to players to include platforms like RealBridge is good for bridge.”

About RealBridge

RealBridge is a British company that started as a lockdown project for Graham Hazel, a professional software developer. He lives in Cambridge, England, with his family.

Andy Bowles and Shireen Mohandes, also British, live in London, England. Their background is in financial and broadcast software for advertising and television. As enthusiastic bridge players, they have been visiting North America to play bridge since the mid-1990s. You will find Andy posting on Bridge Winners almost daily. Shireen immerses herself in bridge history, specializing in the period 1933 to 1948.

RealBridge is coming up to its fifth birthday. Unlike other online bridge platforms, it is a business-to-business company, with a customer base of more than 1,000 clubs and teachers all over the world. RealBridge doesn’t normally run games itself; instead, the company works with its customers to enable them to host games and lessons online.

Andy Bowles says, “We’re delighted that ACBL players will soon be able to enjoy the features that set RealBridge apart from others: integrated audio and video, affordable price model, an environment that retains the bridge-club atmosphere, and a flexible yet simple-to-use application that looks and feels close to real-life bridge.”

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Shireen Mohandes



Graham Hazel



Andy Bowles

Open Room

W	N	E	S
	PASS	1♦	PASS
1♥	PASS	2♣	PASS
2♠	PASS	3♣	PASS
4♣	PASS	4♥	PASS
5♣	PASS	PASS	PASS

2S=GF could be artificial

DDS

Reese Milner (W): ♠ 92, ♥ QJ93, ♦ AK6, ♣ KQ64

Ron Gerard (N): ♠ QT853, ♥ 865, ♦ J9, ♣ J97

Mark Lair (S): ♠ KJ74, ♥ KT742, ♦ 874, ♣ T

Hemant Lall (E): ♠ A6, ♥ A, ♦ QT532, ♣ A8532

The first real swing in the USA2 Final between Wildavsky and Lall occurred on Board 13.

6C is easy East/West with 5 clubs, five diamonds, and two major suit aces.

In the Open Room, Milner/Lall stopped in game, taking 12 tricks.

Lair led the S7. Lall won the ace, pulled trump and claimed.

In the Closed Room, Wildavsky and Doub were more aggressive. They had a really good auction.

Their first four bids were the same as their counterpart's first four bids... then science prevailed!

Where Lall bid 3C, not really showing

or asking for anything, Doub bid 2NT. That elicited a 3C response from Wildavsky, setting trump and waiting for more information. Doub cued his spade control... exactly what Adam was hoping to hear.

Needing the spade control and confirming Doub had it, Wildavsky rightly pushed on with 4NT, a diamond cue in support of clubs.

That was all Doub needed to hear. He jumped to slam. Again, there was nothing to the play!

13 IMPs on Board 13 to Wildavsky

Closed Room

W	N	E	S
	PASS	1♦	PASS
1♥	PASS	2♣	PASS
2♠	PASS	2NT	PASS
3♣	PASS	3♠	PASS
4NT	PASS	6♣	PASS
PASS	PASS	---	---

2S=Art GF
4NT=should be D cue for Clubs

DDS

Adam Wildavsky (W): ♠ 92, ♥ QJ93, ♦ AK6, ♣ KQ64

Bobby Levin (N): ♠ QT853, ♥ 865, ♦ J9, ♣ J97

Eric Rodwell (S): ♠ KJ74, ♥ KT742, ♦ 874, ♣ T

Doug Doub (E): ♠ A6, ♥ A, ♦ QT532, ♣ A8532

W

N

E

S

PASS

1♣

PASS

1♥

1♠

2♣

2♠

3NT

PASS

4♦

PASS

4♥

PASS

5♣

4D=KC in clubs
4H=0 or 3 or natural

Open Room

♠ T973

♥ 654

♦ QT3

♣ A84

W Reese Milner

♠ AJ5

♥ KQJT8

♦ J862

♣ J

N Ron Gerard

♠ KQ842

♥ A32

♦ 975

♣ 96

E Hemant Lall

♠ 6

♥ 97

♦ AK4

♣ KQT7532

S Mark Lair

DDS

Board 18 was the second swing.

To play in your 8-card club fit or your 7-card heart fit or in 3NT ... that is the question.

Consideration: You are at the 3 level in NT, the 4 level in hearts, or the 5 level in clubs!

Par: 650

	♣	♦	♥	♠	N
N	10	9	10	6	9
S	:	:	11	:	7
EW	2	3	2	7	3

According to the Frequency Chart, there are 10 tricks for North in both contracts... there are 11 tricks for South in hearts... and there are 9 tricks for North in NT.

In the Open Room, all options were out there. South showed real clubs. North showed hearts and later, North offered the option for NT. Gerard/Lair would have succeeded in either hearts or NT from North as was offered... But once Gerard bid Keycard and Lair responded at the 5-level with 5C, Gerard surrendered and they played it there down one.

Lair has 1 loser in spades, 1 loser in clubs, and 1 loser in hearts off the top... Milner made it easy for the defense, leading a spade on the go. Contract failing one trick!

In the Closed Room, Zia and Lev did well to choose 4H. Lev won the opening spade lead, knocked out the CA, ruffed Wildavsky's spade return, cashed the CK, discarding a spade and knocked out the HA. Lev won the D5 with the king and trumped a club. He pulled trump and claimed 11 tricks.

Good judgment paid off.
13 IMPs to Lall

W

N

E

S

PASS

1♣

PASS

1♥

PASS

2♣

PASS

2♦

PASS

4♣

PASS

4♥

PASS

PASS

Table: CL 1, Round: 2
N-S: Lall
17 IMP
E-W: Wildavsky
29 IMP

Closed Room

♠ T973

♥ 654

♦ QT3

♣ A84

W Adam Wildavsky

♠ AJ5

♥ KQJT8

♦ J862

♣ J

N Sam Lev

♠ KQ842

♥ A32

♦ 975

♣ 96

E Doug Doub

♠ 6

♥ 97

♦ AK4

♣ KQT7532

S Zia Mahmood

DDS

BOARD: 23
DEALER: SOUTH
VULNERABLE: ALL

♠ JT8
♥ A976
♦ AQ5
♣ KJ8

♠ 7643
♥ KJ3
♦ K87
♣ 976

♠ 95
♥ Q84
♦ T96
♣ AQT32

Par: 120

	♣	♦	♥	♠	N
N	6	8	8	8	8
S	5	:	:	:	7
EW	7	5	5	5	5

♠ AKQ2
♥ T52
♦ J432
♣ 54

On Board 23, both tables played in 3NT from North. At both tables, the C3 was led.

Declarer starts with 4 spades, 1 heart, and 2 diamonds (king in the pocket.)

In the Open Room, Gerard won the opening club lead with the jack. He played a spade to the queen and a

Home team Visiting team Room By = NS EW Home

Wildavsky

Lall

Open 3N N ♣3 -1 100
Closed 3N N ♣3 +2 660

diamond to the queen, **Milner following low!** He cashed the SJ, the DA, the SK, and the SA. (7 tricks in for declarer... 1 for the defense)... He played the H2 to the H3, H7, and H8 with East. Lall played a diamond to Milner's ten and Milner played the C7 to the K, A, 5. Milner cashed the CQ and CT for down one!

Closed Room

♠ JT8
♥ A976
♦ AQ5
♣ KJ8

N Sam Lev

♠ 7643
♥ KJ3
♦ K87
♣ 976

W Adam Wildavsky

♠ 95
♥ Q84
♦ T96
♣ AQT32

E Doug Doub

♠ AKQ2
♥ T52
♦ J432
♣ 54

S Zia Mahmood

In the Closed Room, a slight variation on defense ... perhaps an "expert play" ?? rendered the contract cold:

Lev won the opening lead with the CJ. He played a spade to the queen, and led the D2 from dummy. **Wildavsky covered with the DK.** Suddenly Lev had four diamond tricks to go with his four spades, one heart, and the club he had already scored!

In the end, he collected 11 tricks for +660...

The diamond king may have been the proper play in this situation, however, the effect on this hand was not what Wildavsky wanted when he played it.

13 IMPs to Lall

BOARD: 24

DEALER: WEST

VULNERABLE: NONE

♠ 65

♥ KT

♦ 75

♣ KJT9542

♠ KJT9

♥ J32

♦ AKJ96

♣ 6

♠ Q43

♥ A864

♦ 83

♣ AQ87

Par: -460

	♣	♦	♥	♠	N
N	6	2	4	2	2
S	:	3	:	:	:
EW	7	10	9	10	11

♠ A872

♥ Q975

♦ QT42

♣ 3

Home team	Visiting team		Room	By	=	★	IMP
						NS	EW
Wildavsky	Lall	▶	Open	3♣x	N ♦8 -3	500	5
		▶	Closed	3♣x	N ♦8 -2	300	

Board 24 is an interesting hand.

Because of the position of the CK and DQT, North/South can collect 11 tricks in the NT game or 10 tricks in the spade game. At neither table were spades nor NT ever bid!!

Both tables played in 3CX from North.

In the Open Room, this was the auction:

Milner	Gerard	Lall	Lair
W	N	E	S
1♦	3♣	PASS	PASS
DBL	PASS	PASS	PASS

Lall led the D8 to Milner's jack. It went club to the queen, diamond to the nine, Da ruffed and overruffed, spade won with ace in dummy, heart to the king and ace, spade to the king, ruffed and overruffed... Declarer claiming 6 total tricks for down 3!

In the Closed Room, the circumstances are more baffling. Wildavsky **PASSED** his 13 HCP in 1st seat. So many days of play and 4-handed in this event, he must be exhausted! Or he psyched?? Either way, North opened 3C ... Adam balanced with double and they played it there.

It went diamond to the jack, club to the jack and queen, spade to the king, DA cashed, S to the queen and ace, H queen cashed, S ruff, CK holds, CT won with CA, HA cashed and declarer 7 tricks for down 2!

5 IMPs to Lall

Wildavsky	Lev	Doub	Zia
W	N	E	S
PASS	3♣	PASS	PASS
DBL	PASS	PASS	PASS