

UNITED STATES BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS



“Trials” and Tribulations

Volume 9, Issue 7

May 13, 2015

Results:

#	TEAM	TOTAL	1-15	16-30	31-45	46-60	Penalties
1	Diamond	139	38	19	51	31	
8	Mahaffey	85	1	32	29	23	
2	Ganzer	100	23	26	26	25	
7	Fireman	173	48	48	37	40	
3	Cayne	167	39	41	36	51	
6	Bramley	75	27	15	28	5	
4	Fleisher	67	8	18	29	12	
5	Gordon	129	35	39	17	38	

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**See Page 4 for Important
Information on Table Assignments**

Board 5
 Dealer: N
 N/S Vul.

♠ J984
 ♥ 75
 ♦ K985
 ♣ A54

♠ 32
 ♥ KQJ3
 ♦ 72
 ♣ KQJ72



♠ Q
 ♥ AT842
 ♦ QJT
 ♣ T863

♠ AKT765
 ♥ 96
 ♦ A643
 ♣ 9

Closed Room:			
West	North	East	South
Stansby	Grue	Bramley	Cheek
	Pass	Pass	1S
2C	3H (spade raise)	3S	4S
All Pass			

Open Room:			
Zia	Bates	Kamil	Granovetter
	Pass	Pass	1S
2C	3H (spade raise)	Double	4S
5H	All Pass		

In the Closed Room, Cheek and Grue bid the spade game. Bramley chose a 3S cue bid to show a club raise, but when Cheek bid 4S, Stansby went quietly. There was nothing to the play and Cheek easily scored his +620.

In the Open Room, Bates and Granovetter also bid the spade game. There, however, Kamil chose double (responsive) instead of the cue over 3H. When Granovetter bid 4S, Zia knew it was right to save. He just didn't know where. He went with the known heart fit. The opponents could have doubled and Zia could have gone down four, however, he got lucky. No one doubled; and, Bates and Granovetter did not find both two club ruffs. The contract failed three tricks for -150.

10 IMPs to Cayne

Closed Room			
Wolpert	Watson	Fireman	Liu
	Pass	Pass	1S
2C	3S	Pass	4S
All Pass			

Open Room			
Ganzer	Wooldridge	Brady	Hurd
	Pass	Pass	1S
2C	3C	3H	4S
5C	Pass	Pass	Double
All Pass			

In the Fireman/Ganzer match, again one table took the save while one table did not.

In the Closed Room, Watson and Liu bid the spade game, but instead of using 3H to show spade support, they used 3S. Having no three level cue available. Fireman passed and Wolpert never knew of one ... let alone two fits. He sold out to 4S which made with no problem.

In the Open Room, Wooldridge chose to cue 3C as a spade raise. This afforded Brady the opportunity to bid 3H showing hearts while implying club support. Hurd bid the game and Ganzer sacrificed in clubs... his best spot. He wasn't as lucky as Zia. Hurd doubled. Five clubs doubled went down the expected two tricks for -300.

8 IMPs to Ganzer

Teams in Order by Seeding

"TRIALS" AND TRIBULATIONS

Diamond Bye to Rnd of 16	John Diamond, Capt Eric Greco Justin Lall	Brian Platnick Geoff Hampson Kevin Bathurst
Hamman Bye to Rnd of 16	Robert Hamman, Capt Ross Grabel Ron Rubin	Roger Lee Howard Weinstein Peter Weichsel
Fleisher Bye to Rnd of 16	Martin Fleisher Brad Moss Michael Rosenberg Jan Martel, NPC	Chip Martel Ishmael Delmonte Chris Willenken
Cayne	Jimmy Cayne, Capt Curtis Cheek Michael Kamil	Michael Seamon Joe Grue Zia Mahmood
Gordon	Mark Gordon, Capt Alan Sontag Jacek Pszczola	Pratap Rajadhyaksha David Berkowitz Kevin Dwyer
Bramley	Bart Bramley, Capt Kit Woolsey Matthew Granovetter	Lew Stansby Fred Stewart Roger Bates
Mahaffey	Jim Mahaffey, Capt Gary Cohler Mike Passell	Sam Lev Billy Cohen Brian Glubok
Harris	Martin Harris, Capt Neil Chambers	Jacob Morgan John Schermer
Gupta	Vinita Gupta, Capt Steve Garner Adam Kaplan	Billy Miller Ron Smith
Fireman	Paul Fireman, Capt John Kranyak John Hurd	Gavin Wolpert Vincent Demuy Joel Wooldridge
Borker	Jay Borker Larry Robbins	Doug Doub Adam Wildavsky
Milner	Reese Milner, Capt Mark Lair David Grainger	Hemant Lall Ira Chorush
Lo	Ai-Tai Lo, Capt Jeffrey Miller George Jacobs	David Caprera Steve Beatty Claude Vogel
Rigal	Barry Rigal, Capt Allan Falk	Jeff Aker John Lusky
Cappelli	Robert Cappelli, Capt Robert Bitterman Joe Harris	Frank Treiber III Jerry Helms Leon Lowe
Ivatury	Uday Ivatury, Capt Jon Sorkin	Christal Henner Lapt Chan
Denison	Daniel Denison, Capt Jason Feldman	Richard Unger Greg Hinze
Ware	Peggy Ware, Capt Greg Humphreys	Spencer Jones Adam Parrish
Ganzer	Craig Ganzer, Capt Franco Baseggio William Watson	Robert Brady Brady Richter Howard Liu
Dinkin	Sam Dinkin, Capt Adam Grossack	Cenk Tunçok Zachary Grossack
Becker	Drew Becker, Capt Kenneth Zuckerberg	Jason Rosenfeld Daniel Wilderman

Learn what
is true in
order to do
what is
right.

Thomas
Huxley



Wildavsky Writes...

Larry Robbins and I played five sets against Gary Cohler and Billy Cohen in the R16.

While we lost by a lot there were some fun deals. Here are a couple where Gary found himself on lead against the auction 1N 3N. Both times he led a spade and caught dummy with four of them:

From Sunday morning:

From Monday morning:

Board 24
 Dealer: W
 None Vul.

♠ KT875	N ↑	♠ QJ62
♥ JT98		♥ K2
♦ T		♦ J94
♣ 74		♣ QJ95
♠		
♥ AQ63		
♦ A8765		
♣ T632		



Board 17
 Dealer: N
 None Vul.

♠ K9532	N ↑	♠ JT84
♥ AK7		♥ T863
♦ Q6		♦ T95
♣ AJ8		♣ 64
♠		
♥ Q94		
♦ AK8742		
♣ KT53		
♠ AQ76		
♥ J52		
♦ J3		
♣ Q972		

We can't claim we didn't get some luck!

4S was substantially better than 3N on the second deal, but we pocketed 11 IMPs when 4S failed while 3N made.

Table Assignments Starting with the Quarterfinals...

Please note that starting on Tuesday, teams will be playing in the corridor with rooms 12xx and 13xx, two floors down from the hospitality suite corridor.

Apologies on behalf of the ACBL for forgetting to send the stools along with the tables for the VuGraph show. The poor VG operators are sitting on stacks of four chairs to be able to see. Someone made the comment that it was a pain in the butt ... literally!!



VuGraph Information

The 2015 USBC will be covered on BBO Vugraph starting with the Round of 16, in which we will cover 2 or 3 matches. The Round of 16 will start Sunday, May 10th. From the Quarterfinals on, we will cover all of the tables in play. To watch the Vugraph online, go to the **BBO website** where you can log on directly from your browser, go to "Vugraph" and choose which table to watch, or download the BBO software to run BBO on your computer. If you choose the latter approach, after downloading, install the software on your computer, log on, follow the directions to become a BBO member and you'll be magically transported to the Lobby of the largest bridge club in the world. Click on the button labeled VUGRAPH and you'll be able to choose which of the USBC matches you want to watch. There will often be a "yellow" user on BBO called USBF. If you have general questions, please ask USBF, not one of the hard-working Vugraph Operators, who may not have time to respond to private messages. Thank you.

Each day's schedule is the same (these are Chicago times; to see the times for your time-zone, go to the **BBO Vugraph schedule site**)

10:00-12:10
12:25-2:35
3:45-5:55
6:10-8:20

During the Semifinals and Finals, all of the teams will play the same boards.

During the Round of 16, each team will play a different set of boards.

After a session, you can review the Vugraph action on our Web Vugraphs, which show each hand played with a link to bidding and play records. Web Vugraphs are posted about half an hour after completion of the Vugraph show.

You can find the hand records for USBC matches on the USBF site, linked to the scorecards you can get to by clicking on 2015USBC under "Event Results" in the upper left of each page

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.



Knockout Schedule

<i>Round of Sixteen</i>		
<i>Captains' Meeting in Playing Area at 9:45 AM</i>		
SUNDAY MAY 10TH	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 45-60
MONDAY MAY 11TH	10:00 - 12:10	SEGMENT 5 BOARDS 61-75
	12:25 - 2:35	SEGMENT 6 BOARDS 76-90 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK
	3:45 - 5:55	SEGMENT 7 BOARDS 91-105
	6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 8 BOARDS 106-120
<i>Quarterfinals</i>		
TUESDAY MAY 12TH	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
WEDNESDAY MAY 13TH	10:00 - 12:10	SEGMENT 5 BOARDS 61-75
	12:25 - 2:35	SEGMENT 6 BOARDS 76-90 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK
	3:45 - 5:55	SEGMENT 7 BOARDS 91-105
	6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 8 BOARDS 106-120
<i>Semi-Finals</i>		
THURSDAY MAY 14TH	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
FRIDAY MAY 15TH	10:00 - 12:10	SEGMENT 5 BOARDS 61-75
	12:25 - 2:35	SEGMENT 6 BOARDS 76-90 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK
	3:45 - 5:55	SEGMENT 7 BOARDS 91-105
	6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 8 BOARDS 106-120
<i>Final</i>		
SATURDAY MAY 16TH	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 MAY 17TH	10:00 - 12:10	SEGMENT 5 BOARDS 61-75
	12:25 - 2:35	SEGMENT 6 BOARDS 76-90 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK
	3:45 - 5:55	SEGMENT 7 BOARDS 91-105
	6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 8 BOARDS 106-120

More Wildavsky Wisdom ...

Board 16 ♠
 Dealer: W ♥ QJ8
 E/W Vul. ♦ AKQJT96
 Sunday Aft. ♣ KQ7

♠ 6 ♠ KQT72
 ♥ T94 ♥ A63
 ♦ 52 ♦ 73
 ♣ J965432 ♣ AT8
 ♠ AJ98532
 ♥ K752
 ♦ 84
 ♣



West	North	East	South
Cohler	Robbins		Wildavsky
Pass	1D	1S	Pass
Pass	2S	Pass	3S
Pass	4S	Pass	5D
All Pass			

Gary Cohler, West, found the accurate lead of a trump.

Larry ruffed a club, pulled trump, and gave up a club and a heart. Had Larry been in six he'd have made twelve tricks by taking a ruffing finesse against the club ace and pitching his small club on the spade ace.

As I put down the dummy I noted that, "It will probably go the same way at the other table."

In fact, North/South at the other table were playing Precision so there was no chance of that.

After an auction that started

1C 1S Pass Pass
 2D ...

they reached 3N from the South hand and scored eleven tricks on a heart lead.

3N was never in danger even on a club lead thanks to South's D8, an entry for the SA.

Seeding Information

The teams in the USBC are seeded based on a combination of Individual Positioning Points & ACBL Performance Points, including masterpoints. The seeding points for an individual player are capped at 65. Teams are seeded based on the average seeding points for the team, except that the three teams with byes are seeded on the basis of their PPs. The teams and their seed positions are listed in the table below. Note that the top 4 finishers in the Round Robin receive additional seeding points, which may change the seeding order for the Knockout stage. Teams may also add or drop players before the USBC, which would change their seeding points.

Seed	Team Name	Team Average Seeding Points
1	Diamond	70 PPs
2	Hamman	46 PPs
3	Fleisher	41 PPs
4	Cayne	52.13 SPs
5	Gordon	43.56 SPs
6	Bramley	36.72 SPs
7	Mahaffey	30.82 SPs
8	Harris	28.54 SPs
9	Gupta	25.90 SPs
10	Fireman	23.05 SPs
11	Borker	17.41 SPs
12	Milner	16.00 SPs
13	Lo	13.58 SPs
14	Rigal	11.59 SPs
15	Cappelli	8.74 SPs
16	Ivatury	8.21 SPs
17	Denison	7.32 SPs
18	Ware	5.36 SPs
19	Ganzer	4.82 SPs
20	Dinkin	4.51 SPs
21	Becker	3.38 SPs



Hospitality Suite Information

The hospitality suite for the 2015 USBC will be room 3321. Our wonderful hostess, Lisa Berkowitz will make the "trek" to Chicago, where she will be joined by Martha Katz & Phyllis Cheek, to welcome you to the Hospitality Suite during the tournament. They will serve breakfast each day from 8:00-10:30 and **lunch from Sunday-Sunday from 12:30-4:00.***

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.

We will also have a "Players' Break Room" (aka Jan's office) near the playing rooms starting on Tuesday. We will have coffee, soft drinks and some snacks available in that room while you wait for your slow teammates to finish playing.

***Note earlier starting time than originally planned please!**

In Case There's Any Doubt About This Editor's Allegiance: Go White Sox!

Twenty major events that have occurred since the Chicago Cubs last laid claim to a World Series championship:

1. Radio was invented; Cubs fans got to hear their team lose.
2. TV was invented; Cubs fans got to see their team lose.
3. Baseball added 14 teams; Cubs fans get to see and hear their team lose to more clubs.
4. George Burns celebrated his 10th, 20th, 30th, 40th, 50th, 60th, 70th, 80th, 90th and 100th birthdays.
5. Haley's comet passed Earth twice.
6. Harry Caray was born....and died. Incredible, but true.
7. The NBA, NHL and NFL were formed, and Chicago teams won championships in each league.
8. Man landed on the moon, as have several home runs given up by Cubs pitchers.
9. Sixteen U.S. presidents were elected.
10. There were 11 amendments added to the Constitution.
11. Prohibition was created and repealed.

12. The Titanic was built, set sail, sank, was discovered and became the subject of major motion pictures, the latest giving Cubs fans hope that something that finishes on the bottom can come out on top.
13. Wrigley Field was built and becomes the oldest park in the National League.
14. Flag poles were erected on Wrigley Field roof to hold all of the team's future World Series pennants. Those flag poles have since rusted and been taken down.
15. A combination of 40 Summer and Winter Olympics have been held.
16. Thirteen baseball players have won the Triple Crown; several thanked Cubs pitchers.
17. Bell-bottoms came in style, went out of style and came back in.
18. The Chicago White Sox, Cleveland Indians, Boston Red Sox and the Florida Marlins have all won the World Series.
19. The Cubs played 14,153 regular-season games; they lost the majority of them.
20. Alaska, Arizona, Hawaii, Oklahoma and New Mexico were added to the Union.

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

Sudoku



Answers to Puzzle No Peeking!

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

Puzzle Page ... Brain Teasers ...

1. In this puzzle, each letter represents a different number. Can you work out what number (0-9) each letter stands for? The leftmost letter can not be zero in any word.

$$\begin{array}{r}
 \text{S A T U R N} \\
 + \text{U R A N U S} \\
 \hline
 = \text{P L A N E T S}
 \end{array}$$

2. Martin is Tina's brother, Jennifer is Steven's sister and Desmond is Dorothy's brother. Who is Alistair's sister, Alicia or Stella and why?

3. DECIDE, HUMANS, LIKELY, NODDED, REFUGE

Which one of the following words belongs in the list above and why?
ARTIST, BAMBOO, CANDLE, SECURE, VOLUME.

4. Peter is 20 years old, Raymond is 25, Veronica is 18 and Julian is 12. How old is Yvonne and why?

5. Seven friends collect pop posters and each person has a different number of posters. Angela has four more posters than Mike, who has a dozen fewer posters than Alex, who has half as many posters as Emma, who has seven more posters than Vernon, who has three times as many posters as Sue, who has three more posters than Jenny. How many posters has each person got if the total number of posters is 82?

Answers to Puzzle:

5. Emma 28, Vernon 21, Alex 14, Sue 7, Angela 6, Jenny 4, Mike 2.

4. The letters in each person's name have numerical values A-Z=1-26. The third letter of each name is equal to each person's age so Yvonne is 15.

3. The third and fifth letters of each of the first set of words are consecutive, so VOLUME.

2. The fifth letter of each brother's name is the same as the second letter of each sister's name, so Stella is Alistair's sister.

A=4, E=8, L=3, N=0, P=1, R=9, S=5, T=6, U=7

$$\begin{array}{r}
 548780 \\
 + 784075 \\
 \hline
 = 1340885
 \end{array}$$

Into the Quarterfinals ... Same Hands, All Matches ...

Board 3
Dealer: S
None Vul.

♠ KT7
♥ Q8
♦ 763
♣ J9853

♠ 8643
♥ J753
♦ J2
♣ T64



♠ Q95
♥ 96
♦ AQ984
♣ AQ2

♠ AJ2
♥ AKT42
♦ KT5
♣ K7

Open Room:	Bramley/Cayne		
West	North	East	South
Cheek	Bramley	Grue	Stansby
			1C (strong)
Pass	1D	Pass	1NT
Pass	2S	Pass	3C
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Closed Room:	Ganzer/Fireman		
Kranyak	Baseggio	Demuy	Richter
			1H
Pass	1NT	Double	Redouble
2S	Pass	Pass	Double
Pass	2NT	Pass	3D
Pass	3H	All Pass	

Always interesting when the same boards are being played in all the matches.

Board 3 illustrates just how differently even experts perceive their holdings. There is a great mixture of partscores and games ... some successful and some a failure. So many factors impact the outcome.

In the Bramley/Cayne match, Open Room, Bramley/Stansby reached 3NT. Cheek led the H3 which Stansby let ride to his T. Things were looking good... If Stansby can peg the SQ, he can collect five hearts and three spades for eight ... and surely one of the minor suit kings will make nine.

Open Room:	Ganzer/Fireman		
Watson	Wolpert	Liu	Fireman
			1H
Pass	1NT	Double	Redouble
2S	All Pass		

Closed Room:	Gordon/Fleisher		
Gordon	Delmonte	Pratap	Moss
			1C (strong)
Pass	1D	Pass	1NT
Pass	2S	Pass	3C
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Lew led the club king at trick two, losing to the ace. A low diamond came through the ten to the jack. Another diamond to the ace was followed by a third diamond clearing the suit. Lew won his DK. He played a heart to the queen and a spade to ace! Misguessing the spade was costly... Down two for -100 and a six IMP loss when the other table played in only 2NT making eight tricks.

Ganzer/Fireman produced a 4 IMP swing for Fireman when Richter/Baseggio made their 3H while Watson and Liu went down three vulnerable tricks in 2S.

In Gordon/Fleisher, the result was very different. As in the Bramley/Cayne match, the swing was 6 IMPs, however, in Gordon/Fleisher, Delmonte and Moss bid game and made it while their counterparts in the other room stopped in 1NT, making ten tricks!

How did Moss make the game? Gordon led the S6 which rode to the T, Q and A. Moss, like Stansby, led the CK from hand, losing to the A with East. Pratap, like Grue, shifted to low diamond to the T and J... but instead of continuing diamonds, Gordon led the H3 to the T. Moss floated the C7 which held. He played a heart to dummy's queen and a spade to the jack. He cashed his hearts and claimed his nine tricks.

This all goes to prove that you never know what is happening at "the other table" ... in your match or in others!

Three in a Row for 40 IMPs to Fireman

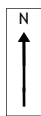
Board 9
 Dealer: N
 E/W Vul.

♠ Q863
 ♥ KQJT2
 ♦ 9
 ♣ J87

♠ KT
 ♥ A98
 ♦ T652
 ♣ 9543

♠ J9542
 ♥ 75
 ♦ J7
 ♣ QT62

♠ A7
 ♥ 643
 ♦ AKQ843
 ♣ AK



Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Watson	Wolpert	Liu	Fireman
	2H	Pass	2NT
Pass	3C	Pass	4NT
Pass	5H	Pass	6H
All Pass			
Closed Room			
Kranyak	Baseggio	Demuy	Richter
	Pass	Pass	2C
Pass	2D	Pass	3NT
Pass	5NT	Pass	6D
Pass	6NT	All Pass	

After Wolpert's somewhat unusual weak two opening (after all, his suit is only five cards long and he has a second four card major), Fireman drove the hand to 6H. The weak two could have backfired had Liu led a spade. However, Liu chose a heart. Wolpert won the HT and played the HK, losing to Watson's A. Watson played a club to dummy's king. Wolpert drew the last trump, led a diamond and claimed.

If Wolpert passes in first seat, Fireman might well have opened 2NT. In that case, Wolpert could transfer and bid the COLD slam since no lead from Watson will set the contract.

In the Closed Room, Richter chose to open 2C... hardly unreasonable since the sixth diamond makes the hand look awfully good. Over 3NT, Baseggio may or may not have had methods to find a major suit fit. He chose to bid 5NT: Choose a slam. When Richter chose 6D, Baseggio could no longer right-side 6H. He chose 6NT instead.

Kranyak led the diamond deuce. There just were not 12 tricks for the taking. Richter went light one for a 14 IMP swing to Fireman.

Board 10
 Dealer: E
 All Vul.

♠ J
 ♥ AT5
 ♦ J
 ♣ AKJ87652



Watson	Wolpert	Liu	Fireman
Kranyak	Baseggio	Demuy	Richter
		3S	Pass
4S	5C	Pass	Pass
Double	All Pass		

♠ A7
 ♥ KQ862
 ♦ AQT3
 ♣ T9

♠ QT986543
 ♥ 94
 ♦ 74
 ♣ 4

♠ K2
 ♥ J73
 ♦ K98652
 ♣ Q3

The auction was the same in both rooms ... but the result was very different.

In the Open Room, Liu chose to lead the nine of spades... the queen would have worked. Wolpert played small from dummy and Watson won the ace. Watson shifted to the heart king, but it was too late. Wolpert won his ace, pulled trump and claimed, pitching his diamond loser on the good king of spades. +750

Demuy chose to lead the D7. Baseggio played the eight and Kranyak won his queen. Holding all the cards, Kranyak shifted to a trump and waited for his tricks.

Baseggio won his club ace, played a club to the queen, ruffed a diamond to hand and ran a million clubs (at least it seemed like a million.) In the end, he led the SJ from hand to the queen, king and ace. Kranyak exited the diamond ace which Baseggio ruffed and eventually Kranyak collected a third trick in hearts. Down 2 for -500 and 15 IMPs to Fireman.

Board 11
 Dealer: S
 None Vul.

♠ 6
 ♥ 974
 ♦ 9832
 ♣ KQ872

♠ 82
 ♥ K85
 ♦ AKJ5
 ♣ J543

♠ AKQ9543
 ♥ 62
 ♦ T7
 ♣ AT

♠ JT7
 ♥ AQJT3
 ♦ Q64
 ♣ 96



Closed Room:			
West	North	East	South
Kranyak	Baseggio	Demuy	Richter
			Pass
1D	3C	3H (shows spades)	Pass
4H (cue)	Pass	6S	All Pass

Open Room:			
Watson	Wolpert	Liu	Fireman
			Pass
1D	Pass	1S	Pass
1NT	Pass	3S	Pass
4S	All Pass		

Against Demuy's slam in the Closed Room, Richter led his HA. He shifted to the C9. With the queen of diamonds pocketed, there was only pulling trump and taking a finesse to succeed. Poor Richter... It was all his fault... He gets a holding penalty for sure. He held the only cards that mattered: the DQ and the HA. It was purely positional but it was there.

In the Open Room, Liu, in game, received the lead of a club. He won the club, pulled a few rounds of trump and exited a club. Wolpert collected his club king and Fireman, his heart ace. 11 more IMPs to Fireman

Finally a swing in the other direction!

Board 13
 Dealer: W
 All Vul.

♠ 2
 ♥ AQJT
 ♦ AT8654
 ♣ AK

♠ KQJ865
 ♥ 54
 ♦
 ♣ Q7653

♠ AT9743
 ♥ 9
 ♦ K72
 ♣ T92



Open Room:			
Watson	Wolpert	Liu	Fireman
	1D	3S	Pass
Pass	Double	All Pass	

Closed Room:			
Kranyak	Baseggio	Demuy	Richter
	1D	4S	Pass
Pass	Double	All Pass	

Imagine South's elation — at BOTH tables – when partner reopened with double!

At both tables, the H9 was led to the ten. Wolpert shifted to the king and ace of clubs followed by the diamond ace. Liu ruffed and sailed the spade queen. He played the spade king, Fireman ducking and the club queen. Fireman ruffed the club six and tried the diamond king. Liu ruffed and played another club which

Fireman ruffed. Fireman played another diamond. Dummy won the jack, Liu pitching a low heart. A diamond was ruffed and overruffed. The contract failed three tricks for 800 to Fireman.

In the Closed Room, Baseggio won the heart ten and switched to the diamond ace, Demuy ruffing. Demuy played the SK, ducked, and the CQ to the ace. A diamond was played, Demuy pitching a heart, Richter winning his king. A club to North was followed by the heart ace, ruffed and overruffed. The club nine went to the jack and the diamond jack was cashed. Demuy tried the DQ, pitching a club while Richter ruffed.

In the fullness of time, Demuy claimed six tricks for down four or -1400. 12 IMPs to Ganzer!