

UNITED STATES BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS



“Trials” and Tribulations

Volume 9, Issue 9

May 15, 2015

Results:

#	TEAM	TOTAL	1-15	16-30	31-45	46-60
1	Diamond	110	42	36	12	20
4	Gordon	85	22	12	21	30
2	Fireman	123	41	14	26	42
3	Cayne	106	31	46	18	11

Correct Answers for the Rosenberg Puzzle are pouring in... submit yours when you solve it! Congrats to Patty Hinze and Craig Ganzer for being the first to get it right!

**see Page 7
for Important
Information
on Table Assignments**

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Stop, Look, and Lead ...

Board 1
 3rd Segment
 Dealer: N
 None Vul.
 ♠ J653
 ♥ Q
 ♦ QJ8
 ♣ A6532

♠ 98
 ♥ AJT765
 ♦ AK7
 ♣ J8
 ♠ AT72
 ♥ K943
 ♦ 532
 ♣ Q9
 ♠ KQ4
 ♥ 82
 ♦ T964
 ♣ KT74



Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Hurd	Grue	Wooldridge	Cheek
	Pass	Pass	Pass
1H	Double	2NT (inv. H)	3C
4H	All Pass		

Closed Room			
Zia	Wolpert	Kamil	Fireman
	Pass	Pass	Pass
1H	Pass	2C (Drury)	Pass
3H	Pass	4H	All Pass

Against Zia, Wolpert led the diamond queen. Zia won the ace and played the nine of spades to South's queen. Fireman played a second diamond, establishing a diamond trick for the defense. Zia played the HA followed by the S8 to the ace. He ruffed a spade off dummy, played a heart to the king, played another spade and ruffed in hand. Pretty much out of options, he played a club to the nine and ten, and conceded down one. -50

Sometimes players try to steal the hand and it backfires when they just own it. Grue got clever. He chose to lead the club deuce. Hurd covered with dummy's nine and Cheek, believing it could not be correct to play the king, covered the nine with the ten. Hurd won his jack and suddenly had three losers where four had once been. He played a spade to the queen and a diamond was returned. Grue won the ace and played a spade to the ace, ruffed a spade, played a heart to the king and claimed ten tricks. Contract making ... 10 IMPs to Fireman

In the other semi-final match, both tables reached four hearts. Both Norths led a high diamond, and both declarers went light one for a push.

Funny how the right opponents at the right time make all the difference in the results...

Board 4
 Segment 3
 Dealer: S
 All Vul.
 ♠ J84
 ♥ AKQT85
 ♦
 ♣ KQJ8

♠ 92
 ♥ 432
 ♦ JT65
 ♣ AT93
 ♠ T7
 ♥ 97
 ♦ AKQ832
 ♣ 765
 ♠ AKQ653
 ♥ J6
 ♦ 974
 ♣ 42



In the Cayne/Fireman match, neither team bid the slam on Board 4. Zia underled his club ace against Fireman and Fireman made seven. Hurd led the DJ and held Cheek to six.

In the Gordon/Diamond match, both teams bid the slam.

Again, Dwyer underled the club ace and Bathurst made seven while Hampson led the club ace and Sontag made six.

Had these matches been mixed, 13 IMPs could easily have traded hands!

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

"The only freedom you truly have is in your mind, so use it."

— M.T. Dismuke



**7th EUROPEAN OPEN BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS
Tromsø, Norway**

27th June – 11th July 2015

**Organised by the European Bridge League
In cooperation with the Norwegian Bridge Federation**

We are delighted to inform you that many players have already registered for this event open to all players worldwide.

Details of the Championships:

Format, schedule of play, Rules & Regulations, entry fees available at: www.eurobridge.org.

Registration

All entries to the medal competitions must be submitted electronically by 15th June 2015 via the EBL Website (not by email) at

<http://www.eurobridge.org/repository/competitions/15Tromso/microsite/Participants.htm>

Please note that on-site registrations will be closed the day before the event. No registrations will be accepted the day that any competition begins.

Bridge players from all WBF zones are entitled to participate in the Championships provided they are members in good standing of a National Bridge Federation (NBO).

To be eligible for participation in the 2015 European Open Championships a player must comply with the EBL Rules & Regulations and the EBL Eligibility Code under the control of the EBL Credentials Committee.

Entries received will be automatically forwarded to the NBO of each proposed player, and are subject to their NBO's approval. Entry applications submitted after the deadline will be accepted only if technically convenient. Withdrawals of accepted entries are subject to the same deadline.

For Open, Women and Seniors Teams the players must only apply to participate in one event. No player may be registered in two teams. The same also applies to Open, Women and Seniors Pairs.

Hotel accommodation

Special prices have been negotiated with hotels in Tromsø (valid up to end of May). All details and reservations are available on the following link:

www.tromso2015.no

Reservation code: embridge

Contact

For technical information, please send an e-mail to tromso2015@eurobridge.org

For logistical information (accommodation, travel, etc...) on www.tromso2015.no or e-mail post@tromso2015.no or you can contact the EBL Secretariat, Catherine Vitry at: secretariat@europeanbridge.org



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.



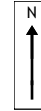
Knockout Schedule

Excitement From the Quarterfinals

Board 14 ♠ 74
 Dealer: E ♥ AJ
 None Vul. ♦ KQJT95
 ♣ Q92

♠ Q632 ♠ JT95
 ♥ KQ94 ♥ T65
 ♦ 72 ♦ A84
 ♣ AK7 ♣ JT5

♠ AK8
 ♥ 8732
 ♦ 63
 ♣ 8643



<i>Round of Sixteen</i>		
<i>Captains' Meeting in Playing Area at 9:45 AM</i>		
SUNDAY MAY 10TH	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 31-45 SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 45-60
MONDAY MAY 11TH	10:00 - 12:10 12:25 - 2:35 3:45 - 5:55 6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 5 BOARDS 61-75 SEGMENT 6 BOARDS 76-90 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK SEGMENT 7 BOARDS 91-105 SEGMENT 8 BOARDS 106-120
<i>Quarterfinals</i>		
TUESDAY MAY 12TH	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 31-45 SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 46-60
WEDNESDAY MAY 13TH	10:00 - 12:10 12:25 - 2:35 3:45 - 5:55 6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 5 BOARDS 61-75 SEGMENT 6 BOARDS 76-90 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK SEGMENT 7 BOARDS 91-105 SEGMENT 8 BOARDS 106-120
<i>Semi-Finals</i>		
THURSDAY MAY 14TH	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 31-45 SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 46-60
FRIDAY MAY 15TH	10:00 - 12:10 12:25 - 2:35 3:45 - 5:55 6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 5 BOARDS 61-75 SEGMENT 6 BOARDS 76-90 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK SEGMENT 7 BOARDS 91-105 SEGMENT 8 BOARDS 106-120
<i>Final</i>		
SATURDAY MAY 16TH	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 31-45 SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 46-60
SUNDAY MAY 17TH	10:00 - 12:10 12:25 - 2:35 3:45 - 5:55 6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 5 BOARDS 61-75 SEGMENT 6 BOARDS 76-90 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK SEGMENT 7 BOARDS 91-105 SEGMENT 8 BOARDS 106-120

Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Hurd	Bassegio	Wooldridge	Richter
		Pass	Pass
1NT	3D	All Pass	

Closed Room			
Ganzer	Kranyak	Brady	Demuy
		Pass	Pass
1C	3D	Pass	Pass
Double	Pass	3NT	Pass
Pass	Double	Redouble	All Pass

We'd be remiss not to mention a 19 IMP swing... In the Open Room, this appeared to be a simple hand. Defend 3D or play in 3S? An IMP one way or another...

However, no one would have dreamed that in the Closed Room Brady would bid 3NT over his partner's reopening double.

3S would have been far more reasonable.

Then, as luck would have it, Kranyak, wanting to assure himself of a diamond lead ... after all, he does hold the ace of hearts and queen of clubs for entries... doubled. Brady, likely assuming redouble showed doubt, tossed the blue card on the table.

Ganzer, likely thinking Brady was suggesting success, passed. -2200 is not an oft seen score in IMPs on a partscore hand.

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 is room 3321. Our wonderful hostess, Lisa Berkowitz is in Chicago, where she is joined by Martha Katz & Phyllis Cheek, to welcome you to the Hospitality Suite during the tournament. The girls are serving breakfast each day from 8:00-10:30 and **lunch from Sunday-Sunday from 12:30-4:00.***

The hospitality suite is 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.

There is also a "Players' Break Room" (aka Jan's office) near the playing rooms starting on Tuesday. It has coffee, soft drinks and snacks available while you wait for your slow teammates to finish playing.

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

Table Assignments

Teams will be playing in the corridor with rooms 12xx and 13xx, two floors down from the hospitality suite corridor.

1. I wondered why the baseball was getting bigger. Then it hit me.
2. Did you hear about the guy whose whole left side was cut off? He's all right now.
3. I'm reading a book about anti-gravity. It's impossible to put down.
4. I used to be a banker but I lost interest
5. I'd tell you a chemistry joke but I know I wouldn't get a reaction.

6. It's not that the man did not know how to juggle, he just didn't have the balls to do it.
7. Did you hear about the guy who got hit in the head with a can of soda? He was lucky it was a soft drink.
8. I don't trust these stairs because they're always up to something.
9. Have you ever tried to eat a clock? It's very time consuming.
10. I couldn't quite remember how to throw a boomerang, but eventually it came back to me.

Puns

		4	5	3					F	8					
		C		6	7		A	D			3	E			
	0	7					D	2						8	
A	E			4	0	C	F	B		6			D	7	
B								C		7	5			1	
				1	5	D				E			9	B	
4							B	8		5		7		3	0
2	C		0			7	9		B	4			A	E	
	4	B			1	6		5	2			D		C	9
E	5		6		8		3	9							F
C	8			B					E	A	0				
0			F	2			7								E
5	9				6		8	0	F	E	C			B	D
3							C	A					4	7	
		0	C				5	7		D	1		6		
				E	D						3	F	9		

**Big
Sudoku**

D	6	4	5	3	2	9	1	E	7	F	8	C	B	0	A
9	F	C	B	6	7	8	A	D	1	0	5	3	E	2	4
1	0	7	3	5	E	B	D	2	4	C	A	9	F	6	8
A	E	8	2	4	0	C	F	B	3	6	9	1	5	D	7
B	D	3	E	8	4	0	6	C	A	9	7	5	2	F	1
8	A	6	7	1	5	D	2	F	0	3	E	4	C	9	B
4	1	F	9	C	A	E	B	8	6	5	2	7	D	3	0
2	C	5	0	F	3	7	9	1	B	4	D	8	A	E	6
7	4	B	A	0	1	6	E	5	2	8	F	D	3	C	9
E	5	2	6	D	8	A	3	9	C	7	4	B	0	1	F
C	8	D	1	B	9	F	4	3	E	A	0	6	7	5	2
0	3	9	F	2	C	5	7	6	D	1	B	A	8	4	E
5	9	A	4	7	6	3	8	0	F	E	C	2	1	B	D
3	B	E	D	9	F	1	C	A	8	2	6	0	4	7	5
F	2	0	C	A	B	4	5	7	9	D	1	E	6	8	3
6	7	1	8	E	D	2	0	4	5	B	3	F	9	A	C

**Answers to Puzzle
No Peeking!**

Three people check into a hotel.

They pay £30 to the manager and go to their room.

The manager suddenly remembers that the room rate is £25 and gives £5 to the bellboy to return to the people.

On the way to the room the bellboy reasons that £5 would be difficult to share among three people so he pockets £2 and gives £1 to each person.

Now each person paid £10 and got back £1.

So they paid £9 each, totalling £27. The bellboy has £2, totalling £29.

Where is the missing £1?

You can imagine an arrow in flight, toward a target. For the arrow to reach the target, the arrow must first travel half of the overall distance from the starting point to the target. Next, the arrow must travel half of the remaining distance.

For example, if the starting distance was 10m, the arrow first travels 5m, then 2.5m.

If you extend this concept further, you can imagine the resulting distances getting smaller and smaller. Will the arrow ever reach the target?

Imagine a prisoner in a prison. He is sentenced to death and has been told that he will be killed on one day of the following week. He has been assured that the day will be a surprise to him, so he will not be anticipating the hangman on a particular day, so keeping his stress levels in check.

The prisoner starts to think to himself, if I am still alive on Thursday, then clearly I shall be hanged on Friday, this would mean that I then know the day of my death, therefore I cannot be hanged on Friday. Now then, if I am still alive on Wednesday, then clearly I shall be hanged on Thursday, since I have already ruled out Friday. The prisoner works back with this logic, finally concluding that he cannot after all be hanged, without already knowing which day it was.

Casually, resting on his laurels, sitting in his prison cell on Tuesday, the warden arrives to take him to be hanged, the prisoner was obviously surprised!

Ponder this...

Consider an arrow in flight towards a target.

At any given moment of time, a snapshot could be taken of this arrow. In this snapshot, the arrow would not be moving. Let us now take another snapshot, leaving a very small gap of time between them. Again, the arrow is stationary. We can keep taking snapshots for each moment of time, each of which shows the arrow to be stationary. Therefore the overall effect is that the arrow never moves, however it still hits the target!

Where lies the flaw in the logic?

Puzzle Page

Answers to Puzzle:

Answer: We have to be careful what we are adding together. Originally, they paid £30, they each received back £1, they now have only paid £27. Of this £27, £25 went to the manager for the room and £2 went to the bellboy.

Answer: Yes. Since the arrow does indeed hit the target, it must be true that $1/2 + 1/4 + 1/8 + \dots = 1$. This is because the sum of an infinite series can be a finite number.

Answer: This puzzle is a classic paradox. You are led through a sequence of seemingly valid arguments which lead to a conclusion, which quite clearly cannot be true.

Answer: The arrow clearly reaches the target.

This is a classic paradox, attributed to Zeno of Elea, a Greek philosopher from Italy. Great minds over the centuries have pondered this paradox, and the scope of a solution is beyond the space available here. It is not even clear that a solution to the paradox actually exists.

Heading Into the Final Stretch... The SemiFinals Commence!

Board 1
Dealer: N
None Vul.

♠ Q42
♥ KT9
♦ 73
♣ T8543

♠ 985
♥ AJ843
♦ T92
♣ A6



♠ KT76
♥ Q62
♦ AKQ4
♣ J2

♠ AJ3
♥ 75
♦ J865
♣ KQ97

Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
Zia	Wolpert	Kamil	Fireman
	Pass	1NT	Pass
2D (transfer)	Pass	2H	Pass
3NT	Pass	4H	All Pass

Open Room			
Kranyak	Cayne	Demuy	Seamon
	Pass	1NT	Pass
2D (transfer)	Pass	2H	Pass
2S	Pass	3D	Pass
3NT	Pass	4H	All Pass

In the Open Room of the Cayne/Fireman match, Seamon led the obvious CK against the heart game. Demuy won the ace in dummy and played a diamond to the ace and a heart to the jack and king. Cayne played another diamond and Demuy pulled trump. Demuy led the last diamond from dummy, hoping for a 3-3 break to pitch his club loser. When diamonds were 4-2, he went quietly down one.

In the Closed Room, Fireman chose the more dangerous lead of a third best diamond from jack fourth. Kamil put up the ten from dummy and when it held, he was home free. He cashed ace of hearts and led a heart toward his queen, ducked by North. He conceded the heart king, and when Wolpert returned the spade queen, Kamil covered with the king and claimed ten tricks. Contract making. 11 IMPs to Cayne

In the Diamond/Gordon match, the swing was smaller on this Board.

Platnick, like Seamon, led the CK against the heart game.

Pratap won the club with the ace, played a diamond to his hand and finessed for the king of trump. The jack lost to the king, and Diamond returned a small spade. Pratap put up the king, losing to Platnick's ace, and resulting in down two for -100 when the defense collected three spade tricks, one club trick, and one heart trick.

In the Open Room, Sonty, like Fireman, chose the lead of a third best diamond from Jxxx. In his defense (pun intended), he was trying to defeat a 2H partscore.

Open Room			
Hampson	Berkowitz	Greco	Sontag
	Pass	1NT	Pass
2D (transfer)	Pass	2H	All Pass

Closed Room			
Gordon	Diamond	Pratap	Platnick
	Pass	1NT	Pass
2D (transfer)	Pass	2H	Pass
3NT	Pass	4H	All Pass

The diamond lead here had the same effect as it had in the other match. Contract making ten tricks, but this time for only +170.

7 IMPs to Diamond

Board 2
 Dealer: E
 N/S Vul.

♠ K8
 ♥ KJ875
 ♦ KJ9
 ♣ A62

♠ AT97652
 ♥ 2
 ♦ 73
 ♣ T54



♠ Q4
 ♥ AT93
 ♦ QT84
 ♣ Q93

♠ J3
 ♥ Q64
 ♦ A652
 ♣ KJ87

Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
Zia	Wolpert	Kamil	Fireman
		Pass	1D
1NT (psych)	Double	Pass	Pass
2H (psych again)	Double	Pass	Pass
2S	4H	All Pass	

Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Kranyak	Cayne	Demuy	Seamon
		1D	Pass
3S	All Pass		

Sometimes it works and sometimes it doesn't... By now, everyone knows Zia does it so some of the effectiveness is lost!

In the Open Room, Wolpert let the comedy go as long as he could and then he bid his game. Kamil led the spade queen. Zia won his ace and returned a diamond to the ten and ace. Wolpert led a small heart off dummy and inserted the jack. Kamil won his ace and played a second spade to dummy's jack. Wolpert cashed the heart queen, played a heart to the king and led a small heart to Kamil's ten. Kamil played the CQ. Wolpert won the king, played a club to the ace, cashed the last trump, and led a club to the jack, claiming ten tricks. +620

In the Closed Room, the auction showed less imagination. Demuy opened a diamond. Seamon thought better of double, and Kranyak made a preemptive jump to 3S. Cayne led a fifth best heart and 3S failed by two tricks. 11 IMPs to Fireman

In the other match (Gordon/Diamond), Board 2 was a push... but the results did not resemble the above one bit:

Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Hampson	Berkowitz	Greco	Sontag
		1D	Pass
3S	Double	Pass	4NT
Pass	5D	All Pass	

Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
Gordon	Diamond	Pratap	Platnick
		Pass	1D
3S	3NT	All Pass	

Things to note about this hand: At all tables 1D was the opening bid... however, once in each match it was opened by East... and once in each match it was opened by South. Very interesting!

In the Closed Room, against 3NT, Pratap led his SQ. Gordon ducked and Diamond won the king. Diamond played a heart to the queen and a club to the ace. He wanted to collect all the tricks he could since he knew the spades were up and this was hopeless. He played a second club disdaining the finesse and winning dummy's king. He played a diamond to the king and a diamond to the ace. He then exited dummy with the spade jack. In the end, 3NT failed by three tricks for -300. Once the heart queen held, had he guessed perfectly, he could have scored one spade, one heart, two diamonds and four clubs for down only one.

In the Open Room, 5D was as successful as 3NT. Greco led the SQ and Hampson won his ace. Hampson played a heart to Greco's ace and Greco gave him a heart ruff. Hampson played a small spade and Berkowitz won dummy's jack. A diamond to the king and a diamond to the ace followed. Eight tricks were claimed... down three for the push.

After the hand, Berkowitz was heard to say, "I shouldn't have doubled... I should have bid 4H!"

Board 20

Dealer: W

All Vul.

♠ 754

♥ AQT72

♦ Q5

♣ T85

♠ K82

♥ J9654

♦ A98

♣ A7



♠ AJT63

♥ K

♦ KT74

♣ 962

♠ Q9

♥ 83

♦ J632

♣ KQJ43

Both matches produced swings on Board 20:

Closed Room		Fireman/Cayne	
West	North	East	South
Cheek	Wooldridge	Grue	Hurd
1H	Pass	1S	Pass
1NT	Pass	2S	All Pass

Open Room		Fireman/Cayne	
Wolpert	Cayne	Fireman	Seamon
1H	Pass	1S	Pass
1NT	Pass	2C	Double
2D	Pass	2S	Pass
4S	All Pass		

Open Room		Gordon/Diamond	
Bathhurst	Pepsi	Lall	Dwyer
1H	Pass	1NT (spades)	Pass
2S	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	Pass	4S	All Pass

Closed Room		Gordon/Diamond	
Gordon	Diamond	Pratap	Platnick
1H	Pass	1S	Pass
1NT	Pass	2C	Double
Pass	Pass	2S	All Pass

In both matches, one table reached game and one played a spade partscore. Their results were quite different.

Against Fireman's game, Seamon led the CK. When that held, he switched to the H8 to his partner's ace. Cayne led a club to dummy's ace and Fireman ruffed a heart in hand. A club was ruffed in dummy and a diamond was led to the ten and jack. Seamon continued diamonds to Cayne's queen and Fireman's king. Fireman played a spade to the king and a spade to the jack, losing to Seamon's queen doubleton

offside. Seamon led a diamond which Cayne ruffed with his remaining trump. Down two! -200

In the Open Room of this match, against the spade partial, Hurd led the CQ (Rusinow). When this held, he continued with a second club. Grue won in dummy and played a small heart. Wooldridge rose with his ace and played the S4, pickling that suit. Grue made ten tricks for +170 and 9 IMPs to Cayne.

In the Open Room of the Gordon/Diamond match, where 4S was played from West, Pepsi led the S5 to the jack, queen and king. That made Bathhurst's life a lot easier. Bathhurst cashed the ace of clubs and led a small club, losing to Dwyer's jack. Dwyer led a heart to the ace and Pepsi continued spades. Bathhurst won the spade with the ace in dummy and ruffed a club in his hand. A diamond was ducked to the jack and the queen of clubs was returned, Bathhurst pitched a heart; Pepsi pitched a heart; and dummy ruffed small. The ST drew the last trump. The 13th trump was cashed and a diamond was led to the ace. Bathhurst collected ten tricks for +620.

In the Closed Room of this match, against the spade partial, Platnick, like the other Souths led a high club. The hand played pretty much the same as it did in the Open Room of the other match, except no one played spades for Pratap. Pratap took the percentage play of the finesse for the trump queen and as a result, made only three. +140 and 10 IMPs to Diamond.

You expect at these levels to see more push boards. Surprisingly you don't. It should make the rest of us feel better to know that.