

Homewords Bound ... USBF Online Invitational Tournament

Results of the SemiFinals

USBF Invitational #1 - 2020							
SemiFinal (56 boards)				Set score of form "Ax" is preliminary with a pending Appeal and is not included in TOTAL			
02-JUN-2020				The colored score boxes indicate the team with seating rights for that segment of play.			
#	TEAM	IMPs Total	SET #1	SET #2	SET #3	SET #4	Penalty (IMPs)
1	Robinson	72	23	30	5	14	
4	Rosenthal (wins tie)	122	16	20	28	58	
2	Moss	91	17	20	26	28	
3	Gupta (wins tie)	93	37	13	19	24	

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Watch the Finals at 3 Central!

Reported on VuGraph by Al Hollander last night:
(unverified but probably NOT fake news...),

The combo of Gino (Eldad)/Willenken and Berkowitz/Migry has a current streak of 113-5! Very impressive!

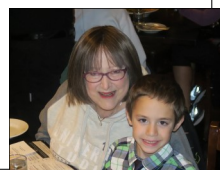
Apparently that foursome crushed Q3 and Q4 in the Quarterfinals two days ago!

(and that was only halfway through the third quarter!)

From the Editor:

If you have any interesting material you would like to see printed in these newsletters, you can contact me at stansubeck@prodigy.net and I will be happy to include anything appropriate! Thanks.

Suzi



Special
Pandemic
Competition

Teams Entered...

"TRIALS" AND TRIBULATIONS—PRE-BULLETIN

There are 12 teams entered. Following the two teams with byes, entries are listed in alphabetical order.

Nickell

Frank Nickell, Capt
Bobby Levin
Jeff Meckstroth

Ralph Katz
Steve Weinstein
Eric Rodwell

Bye to Rnd of 8

Spector

Warren Spector, Capt
John Kranyak
John Hurd

Gavin Wolpert
Vincent Demuy
Joel Wooldridge

Bye to Rnd of 8

Dinkin

Sam Dinkin, Capt
Finn Kolesnik
Lynn Baker

Michael Shuster
Michael Xu
Karen McCallum

Donner

Gary Donner, Capt
Rachael Moller
Rose Meltzer

Yoko Sobel
David Gurvich
Wayne Stuart

Fleisher

Martin Fleisher, Capt
Joe Grue
Geoff Hampson

Chip Martel
Brad Moss
Roger Lee

Gupta

Naren Gupta, Capt
Curtis Cheek

Huub Bertens
Daniel Korbel

Lebowitz

Laurence Lebowitz, Capt
Zachary Grossack
Kevin Rosenberg

Adam Grossack
Michael Rosenberg
Zia Mahmood

Levine

Michael Levine
Mike Passell
John Diamond
Robert Morris, NPC

Eddie Wold
Marc Jacobus
Brian Platnick

Moss

Sylvia Moss, Capt
Justin Lall
Kevin Dwyer

Ishmael Delmonte
Kevin Bathurst
Shan Huang

Reynolds

W. Thomas Reynolds, Capt
William Hall
George Jacobs

Lance Kerr
John Jones
Claude Vogel

Robinson

Steve Robinson, Capt
Kit Woolsey

Peter Boyd
Bart Bramley

Rosenthal

Andrew Rosenthal, Capt
Chris Willenken
David Berkowitz

Aaron Silverstein
Eldad Ginossar
Migry Zur Campanile



Today's Tournament Schedule

FINAL - SEGMENTS ON BBO HAVE TO START WITH BOARD 1			
WEDNESDAY	JUNE 3	4:00 - 5:45	SEGMENT 1 BOARDS 1-14
		5:50 - 7:35	SEGMENT 2 BOARDS 1-14
		BREAK	
		8:05 - 9:50	SEGMENT 3 BOARDS 1-14
		9:55 - 11:40	SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 1-14

Semi-Final Action...

Board 3 in the first segment was interesting. At three of the tables, South opened 3D and North jumped to game. Bramley was the only one to double.

At the fourth table, in Moss/Gupta, Bertens passed in first seat. Gupta opened in third seat and a highly competitive auction ensued. East/West (DelMonte/Moss) bid to 5H which is cold. Bertens wisely took the 6D sacrifice for -300 when the opponents collected the first three tricks.

At the other table in that match, against 5D undoubled, Cheek led a small club, and again, the defense took the first three tricks. 6 IMPs to Moss

In Robinson/Rosenthal, against 5D undoubled, a spade was led and Peter Boyd, declarer, had no problem taking the finesse. It was all a matter of math. If the finesse works, he scores +400. If the finesse loses, he scores -100 instead of -50 ... no real IMP cost.

Against 5D doubled, in the other room, Kit also led a spade. Willenken had a tougher choice. He could take the finesse and score +550 if it worked but he would lose 300 if the finesse failed. Since the opponents are clearly cold for a heart game, a score of -100 would be an 11 IMP positive position; a score of -300 would be an 8 IMP positive position; and a score of 550 would be a 15 IMP gain. Willenken took the middle road. He rose with the SA.

11 IMPs to Robinson

Hand Diagram:

- South (aarons):** ♠ K8764, ♥ A10985, ♦ 1082, ♣ 1082
- North (robinswr):** ♠ AQ1053, ♥ 2, ♦ AKQ87, ♣ J6
- West (andrewr):** ♠ J9, ♥ KQ76, ♦ 9, ♣ AK7543
- East (pab1):** ♠ 2, ♥ J43, ♦ J1065432, ♣ Q9

Auction 1:

aarons	robinswr	andrewr	pab1
	5♦	Pass	3♦
Pass		Pass	Pass
Pass			

Auction 2:

kit	eldad	bbramley	junior
	5♦	Dbl	3♦
Pass			Pass
Pass	Pass		

Result: Robinson v Rosenthal

lshd	nareng	sylvie	H Berter
Pass	1♠	2♣	Pass
2♥	3♦	4♥	5♦
5♥	Pass	Pass	6♦
Dbl	Pass	Pass	Pass

curtis	kdwyer	dank	precise
Pass	5♦	Pass	3♦
Pass			

Moss/Gupta

Vugraph... Special "PANDEMIC" instructions...

The **2020 USBF Invitational 1** will be covered on BBO Vugraph starting with the Quarterfinals. All of the matches will be listed in the BBO Vugraph Theatre.

To watch the Vugraph online, go to the **BBO website**, log on to BBO, go to "Vugraph" and choose which match to watch. To watch on your smartphone or tablet, install the BBO app and watch using that.

The tables listed in the Vugraph Theatre are not real Vugraph tables, just links to actual tables on BBO where the players are playing. What you will see once you click on a "Vugraph" table is the same thing you would see if you got to the BBO table by searching for your favorite player and clicking on "join" on his or her profile. This means that some things are different from a normal Vugraph table:

1. We aren't able to load a starting score for segments after the first one. Instead, we will be putting the score from previous quarters in the Vugraph Theatre list, and will put (+###) after the name of the leading team in the score box to show how much that team was ahead at the start of the session. You will be able to determine the "real" running score by adding the score shown in the score box to the score after the +.
2. We do not have to have both tables "on Vugraph" to let you choose which table to watch. We only have 4 special Vugraph operators who can set up the links from the Vugraph Theatre to the tables in play. So for the Quarterfinal we will list one table from each match. To get to the other table, click on the blue "hamburger" menu in the upper right of the screen where the hands are shown and select "Other Table."
3. The names you see are the players' BBO names, but all of them will have their real names in the profile you can get by clicking on their name.
4. We will not have the usual pop ups with player pictures and links to convention cards. Instead, each pair has prepared a BBO convention card with links to the pair's USBF System Summary Form and either filled in the BBO convention card or provided a link to an electronic convention card. You can get to the BBO convention card using the hamburger menu, and to the linked system information by selecting the appropriate URL and either copying it and pasting it into a new tab or window, or right-clicking on it and going to it in a new tab or window (the links are not clickable).

There will often be a "yellow" user on BBO called USBF. If you have general questions, please ask USBF, although she will also be dealing with tournament issues and may not respond promptly.

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

4:00-5:45
5:50-7:35
8:05-9:50
9:55-11:40

All of the teams will play the same boards throughout the event.



Recipes For Home Dining ... Pandemic Pleasures...

Tex Mex Chicken Strips

Ingredients

- 1/2 cup finely crushed corn chips
- 1/4 cup panko bread crumbs
- 1/4 cup dry bread crumbs
- 1/4 cup finely shredded Mexican cheese blend
- 5 teaspoons taco seasoning
- Dash cayenne pepper
- 1/4 cup butter, melted
- 1 pound chicken tenderloins



Directions

- Preheat oven to 400°. In a shallow bowl mix the first 6 ingredients. Place butter in a separate shallow bowl. Dip chicken in butter, then roll in crumb mixture to coat; press to adhere. Place chicken on a foil-lined 15x10x1-inch baking pan. Bake until a thermometer inserted into the chicken reads 165°, about 15 minutes, turning halfway through the cooking time.

Test Kitchen tips

- ☑ This chicken would taste great chopped and served over taco salad.
- ☑ If you like dipping chicken strips, try these with salsa, guacamole, sour cream or ranch dressing.

Nutrition Facts

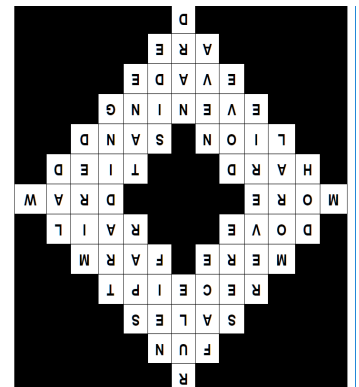
3 ounces cooked chicken: 258 calories, 14g fat (7g saturated fat), 85mg cholesterol, 351mg sodium, 7g carbohydrate (0 sugars, 0 fiber), 28g protein.

Sausage Stroganoff

Ingredients

- 8 ounces uncooked wide egg noodles
- 1 pound bulk pork sausage
- 8 ounces sliced fresh mushrooms
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- 1/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon paprika
- 1-1/2 cups beef broth
- 1 cup sour cream
- Chopped fresh parsley

Puzzle Answer (page 9)



(Continued on page 6)

Directions

- Cook noodles according to package directions. Set aside.
- In a large skillet, cook sausage, mushrooms, onion and garlic over medium heat until sausage is no longer pink and vegetables are tender, 5-7 minutes. Stir in flour, salt and paprika until blended; gradually stir in broth. Bring to a boil, stirring constantly; cook and stir 1-2 minutes or until thickened. Turn off heat. Stir in sour cream. Serve with noodles and sprinkle with parsley.

Nutrition Facts

1-1/4 cups sausage mixture with 1-1/2 cups noodles: 675 calories, 39g fat (15g saturated fat), 123mg cholesterol, 1204mg sodium, 55g carbohydrate (4g sugars, 3g fiber), 26g protein.

Skillet Mac and Cheese

Ingredients

- 2 cups uncooked elbow macaroni (about 8 ounces)
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 2 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 1-1/2 cups half-and-half cream
- 3/4 pound process cheese (Velveeta), cubed
- Optional toppings: fresh arugula, halved cherry tomatoes and coarsely ground pepper



Directions

- Cook macaroni according to package directions; drain.
- Meanwhile, in a large cast-iron or other heavy skillet, melt butter over medium heat. Stir in flour until smooth; gradually whisk in cream. Bring to a boil, stirring constantly. Cook and stir until thickened, about 2 minutes. Reduce heat; stir in cheese until melted.
- Add macaroni; cook and stir until heated through. Top as desired.

Nutrition Facts

1-1/2 cups: 600 calories, 37g fat (23g saturated fat), 144mg cholesterol, 1185mg sodium, 40g carbohydrate (9g sugars, 1g fiber), 23g protein.

Blackened Tilapia With Zucchini Noodles

Ingredients

- 2 large zucchini (about 1-1/2 pounds)
- 1-1/2 teaspoons ground cumin
- 3/4 teaspoon salt, divided
- 1/2 teaspoon smoked paprika
- 1/2 teaspoon pepper
- 1/4 tsp garlic powder

- 4 tilapia fillets (6 ounces each)
- 2 teaspoons olive oil
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- 1 cup pico de gallo



Directions

- Trim ends of zucchini. Using a spiralizer, cut zucchini into thin strands.
- Mix cumin, 1/2 teaspoon salt, smoked paprika, pepper and garlic powder; sprinkle generously onto both sides of tilapia. In a large nonstick skillet, heat oil over medium-high heat. In batches, cook tilapia until fish just begins to flake easily with a fork, 2-3 minutes per side. Remove from pan; keep warm.
- In same pan, cook zucchini with garlic over medium-high heat until slightly softened, 1-2 minutes, tossing constantly with tongs (do not overcook). Sprinkle with remaining salt. Serve with tilapia and pico de gallo.

Nutrition Facts

1 serving: 203 calories, 4g fat (1g saturated fat), 83mg cholesterol, 522mg sodium, 8g carbohydrate (5g sugars, 2g fiber), 34g protein. **Diabetic Exchanges:** 5 lean meat, 1 vegetable, 1/2 fat.

Bacon Chicken Club Pizza

Ingredients

- 1 prebaked 12-inch pizza crust
- 4 ounces cream cheese, softened
- 1 shallot, minced
- 2 cups shredded rotisserie chicken
- 1-1/2 cups shredded Monterey Jack cheese
- 1 cup shredded sharp cheddar cheese
- 8 slices ready-to-serve fully cooked bacon, cut into 1-inch pieces
- 1/4 cup sour cream
- 3 tablespoons 2% milk
- 2 teaspoons ranch salad dressing mix
- 1 cup shredded lettuce
- 1 plum tomato, seeded and chopped



Directions

- Place crust on an ungreased pizza pan. Combine cream cheese and shallot; spread over crust. Top with chicken, cheeses and bacon.
- Bake at 425° until edges are lightly browned and cheese is melted, 12-15 minutes .
- Meanwhile, in a small bowl, combine the sour cream, milk and dressing mix. Sprinkle lettuce and tomato over pizza; drizzle with dressing.

Nutrition Facts

1 slice: 444 calories, 25g fat (13g saturated fat), 84mg cholesterol, 939mg sodium, 26g carbohydrate (1g sugars, 0 fiber), 28g protein.

Sudoku

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

Sudoku 1

Sudoku 2

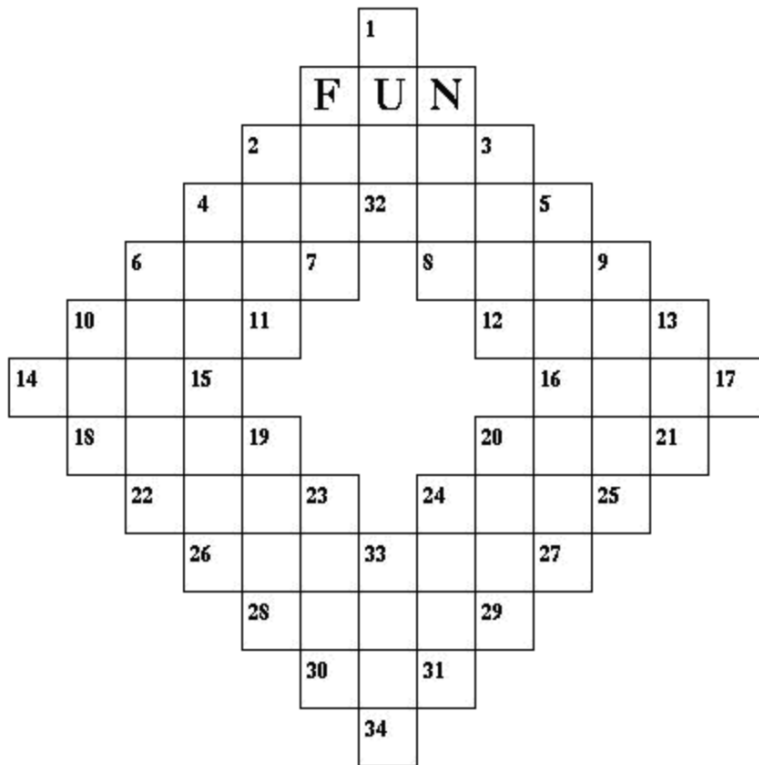
4				9		8		
		1						2
	9		8					1
8	4		9		5	3		
				2		6		
	1						5	
				1				
				8			6	
	5				3		7	

Answers to Puzzle on Page 12:

Online Ethics -

We're not trying to provide security for this event, as we do when we sometimes have "real" events online. However, the provisions of the USBF General Conditions of Contest regarding ethical obligations and possible penalties still apply to this event. If an expert committee is convinced that any player covertly communicated with his/her partner or unethically obtained information about any other player's hand, the player will be subject to discipline, which may include suspension or expulsion from the USBF.

The world's first crossword puzzle



By Arthur Wynne, December 21, 1913
from *The New York World*

Answer on page 5

- 2-3. What bargain hunters enjoy.
- 4-5. A written acknowledgment.
- 6-7. Such and nothing more.
- 10-11. A bird.
- 14-15. Opposed to less.
- 18-19. What this puzzle is.
- 22-23. An animal of prey.
- 26-27. The close of a day.
- 28-29. To elude.
- 30-31. The plural of is.
- 8-9. To cultivate.
- 12-13. A bar of wood or iron.
- 16-17. What artists learn to do.
- 20-21. Fastened.
- 24-25. Found on the seashore.
- 10-18. The fibre of the gomuti palm.
- 6-22. What we all should be.
- 4-26. A day dream.
- 2-11. A talon.
- 19-28. A pigeon.
- F-7. Part of your head.
- 23-30. A river in Russia.
- 1-32. To govern.
- 33-34. An aromatic plant.
- N-8. A fist.
- 24-31. To agree with.
- 3-12. Part of a ship.
- 20-29. One.
- 5-27. Exchanging.
- 9-25. To sink in mud.
- 13-21. A boy.

This introduction to crossword puzzles is provided by kind permission of Sik Cambon Jensen, and is excerpted from his thesis, "Design and implementation of Crossword Compilation Programmes using serial approaches. Use of Artificial Intelligence will be considered in order to make 'human like' puzzles" [2/97].

Logic Puzzle Page



		First Names				Islands				Football Teams			
		Carmen	Eliana	Holly	Sergio	Antigua	Grenada	Jamaica	Saint Martin	Bears	Cowboys	Jets	Patriots
Orders	first												
	third												
	seventh												
	eighth												
Football Teams	Bears												
	Cowboys												
	Jets												
	Patriots												
Islands	Antigua												
	Grenada												
	Jamaica												
	Saint Martin												

Orders	First Names	Islands	Football Teams
first			
third			
seventh			
eighth			

- The person with the vacation home on the island of Antigua is not Eliana or Sergio.
- The Cowboys fan is not Eliana or Carmen.
- The one who is eighth in line owns vacation property on the island of Antigua.
- The one who is third in line is Holly.
- The person with the vacation home on the island of Saint Martin is not Holly or Carmen.
- The Jets fan is farther down the line than Holly.
- Either the Cowboys fan or the Jets fan is Sergio.
- The Bears fan is not Carmen and doesn't own property on the island of Saint Martin.
- The person with the vacation home on the island of Saint Martin is closer to the front of the line than the person with the vacation home on the island of Jamaica.
- Of the Jets fan and Carmen, one is seventh in line and the other owns vacation property on the island of Antigua.
- The person with the vacation home on the island of Grenada is not Eliana.
- The Patriots fan is not Holly.

Answer to Puzzle

Patriots	Antigua	Carmen	Eighth
Jets	Jamaica	Eliana	Seventh
Bears	Grenada	Holly	Third
Cowboys	Saint Martin	Sergio	First



Curtis Scott Cheek (born February 15, 1958) is an American bridge player. Cheek is from Huntsville, Alabama and is an aerospace engineer.

Cheek and the Dutch star Huub Bertens, who now resides in Oregon, have established a partnership that represented the United States in the SportAccord World Mind Games at Beijing in December 2014.

Curtis is married to the lovely Phyllis Cheek, daughter of excellent bridge player in her own right, Brenda Jacobus.

Meet the Players

Bridge accomplishments

Wins

2019 Platinum Pairs
 Yeh Bros. Cup 2017 **North American Bridge Championships**
 Wernher Open Pairs 2002
 Nail Life Master Open Pairs 2013
 Vanderbilt 2012
 Keohane North American Swiss Teams 2008
 Reisinger 2006

Runners-up

North American Bridge Championships

von Zedtwitz Life Master Pairs 2002
 Wernher Open Pairs 1994
 Nail Life Master Open Pairs 1996
 Grand National Teams 1997
 Jacoby Open Swiss Teams 1997
 Vanderbilt 2011
 Keohane North American Swiss Teams 1999
 Chicago Mixed Board-a-Match 2001

Hubertus Johannes Antoinetta (Huub) Bertens (born 24 May 1960) is a Dutch bridge player previously from Tilburg, Netherlands, now living in Bend, Oregon (U.S.A.). Bertens has won numerous national and some international tournaments including the Cavendish Invitational, NEC Cup, the Yeh Brothers Cup, the European Open Team Championships.



In world championships for national teams, he earned a Bronze medal in 2007 and played on the Dutch teams that finished 5th to 8th (quarterfinalists) in 2008 and 2009. Bertens and Curtis Cheek have established a partnership that represented the United States in the SportAccord World Mind Games in Beijing in December 2014. Huub's regular partners in the Netherlands included Ton Bakkeren and Berry Westra.

Huub is married to tournament director, Jeanne van den Meiracker. He has one son and one daughter.

Dutch championships

- 1986-1987 Champion MK foursome
- 1999-2000 Champion MK foursome
- 2001 NK Mixed foursome
- 2001-2002 Champion MK foursome
- 2003-2004 Champion MK foursome
- 2004-2005 Champion MK foursome
- 2006-2007 Champion MK foursome
- 2007-2008 MK Champion Pairs
- 2009-2010 Champion MK foursome
- 2010 NK Mixed foursome

Runner up in the Champion MK foursome in 1987, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2009 and 2011. Bertens won the Transfer Race, a yearly individual ranking of the best Dutch player, from 2006 to 2009 and in 2011.

International results

Bertens has played on Netherlands teams in world championship tournaments 2000, 2005, 2007, 2008, and 2009. In odd years (Bermuda Bowl) that implies a top-six rank in the preceding European Bridge League open teams championship.

- 2005: 1st place, European Open in Tenerife
- 2006: 1st place (pairs), Cavendish Invitational in Las Vegas with Ton Bakkeren
- 2006: 1st place, Patton Pinkster Tournament at it Onstein with Ton Bakkeren, Vincent Ramondt and Berry Westra
- 2007: 1st place, NEC Cup in Yokohama
- 2007: 1st place, White House Tournament in Amsterdam
- 2007: Bronze medal (Netherlands), World national teams (Bermuda Bowl)
- 2008: 5th place (Netherlands), national teams at the first World Mind Sports Games
- 2009: 1st place, Yeh Bros Cup in Australia with Ton Bakkeren, Sjoert Brink and Bas Drijver
- 2009: 5th place (Netherlands), World Teams Championships (Bermuda Bowl)
- 2011: Quarter final (Onstein) World Transnational Teams Championships

Puzzle Answers:

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

Sudoku

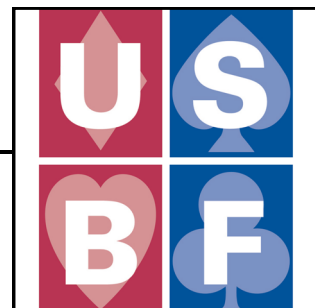
on page 8

Puzzle 1 on left

Puzzle 2 on right

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

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.

Ice Cream Flavors

S	E	Y	C	H	Y	C	H	A	K	N	C	P	M	VANILLA
E	L	T	O	P	R	O	O	B	N	O	E	C	O	CHOCOLATE
S	T	R	T	L	R	C	K	B	Y	O	T	O	A	STRAWBERRY
E	U	I	T	C	E	O	E	C	A	D	P	N	L	REESES
E	N	P	O	K	B	N	Y	E	C	N	I	A	L	TRIPLE TORNADO
R	L	L	N	N	W	U	P	E	G	W	A	A	I	PECAN
E	A	E	C	E	A	T	O	L	Y	D	G	N	N	FUDGE
N	W	T	A	Y	R	R	K	C	E	I	U	T	A	COOKIE DOUGH
A	E	O	N	B	T	B	E	S	D	T	A	F	V	MAPLE WALNUT
E	L	R	D	W	S	R	Y	W	I	P	N	D	P	COCONUT
T	P	N	Y	C	H	O	C	O	L	A	T	E	Y	COTTON CANDY
P	A	A	C	O	O	K	I	E	D	O	U	G	H	HOKEY POKEY
Y	M	D	Y	P	E	C	A	N	C	A	N	T	W	BANANA
U	T	T	T	N	H	N	C	U	E	S	P	Y	R	

Word Find

2020 USBCs CANCELLED

Although the WBF has not scheduled the 2021 World Championship, they have announced that there will be only one World Championship in 2021. It will be held in the late summer in Salsomaggiore, Italy. The USBF Board has therefore cancelled the scheduled 2020 USBCs. We expect to hold 2021 USBCs in May of 2021 to select the teams for whatever World Championship the WBF schedules. *The plan (still to be ratified) is to hold the Bermuda Bowl in 2021 and the World Bridge Games in 2022.*

Captains of teams that were entered in the 2020 USBCs should have received an email telling them of the cancellation and that they can either move their entry to 2021 or receive a full refund of their entry fee. If you are a team captain and did not receive the email, you can **email Jan** at [Marteljan@gmail.com](mailto:Jan@Marteljan@gmail.com) for more information.

Byes to the 2021 Open USBC will almost certainly be based on team performance in the 2019 USBC, Spingold, Soloway, and Reisinger, and the 2020 Soloway, and Reisinger and 2021 Vanderbilt, if those events are held.

For new teams, the entry pages for the 2021 USBCs will be online soon at the USBF website: USBF.org. Closing date for guaranteed entries is currently March 31, 2021. By then we should have firm dates for the events and will adjust those dates appropriately.

Open Room Board 13

W |shd
 ♠ K943
 ♥ J94
 ♦ 86
 ♣ AJ109

N |nareng
 ♠ Q52
 ♥ AK108763
 ♦ K5
 ♣ 4

E |sylvie
 ♠ AJ10876
 ♥ Q5
 ♦ J3
 ♣ K65

S |H Bertens
 ♠
 ♥ 2
 ♦ AQ109742
 ♣ Q8732

Gupta: 20 IMPs
 Moss: 17 IMPs
 Closed Room: 3♠ E +2 +200

West	North	East	South
3♥	1♥	1♠	2♦
Pass	4♥	Pass	Pass

Moss/Gupta

West	North	East	South
2NT	1♥	1♠	Dbl
Pass	3♥	3♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Moss got off to a quick lead in the first segment, picking up 12 IMPs on the first three boards. The hands were unexciting and picking up 12 IMPs was impressive. After ten boards this lead had grown to 14 IMPs.

Gupta fought back. On Board 11, he gained 7 IMPs when his team successfully declared one-level partscores at both tables. On Board 12, he grabbed the lead, gaining 10 IMPs when he and Bertens bid a cold 4H contract while Dwyer/Huang stopped in 2H.

Board 13, shown here, added 13 IMPs to Gupta's lead when Bertens and Huang took sharply different views of their 7-5 minor suit fit.

At one table, Gupta opened 1H, Moss overcalled 1S and Bertens bid 2D with his 8 HCP, a singleton and a void. DelMonte bid 3H (a mixed spade raise) and Gupta had no problem bidding the heart game.

In the other room, after 1H-1S, Huang chose to negative double with the 7-5 South hand. With suits of wildly different length and strength, a negative double may create a faulty picture for partner. Cheek showed his spade raise by bidding 2NT (either mixed or better than limit) and Dwyer competed with 3H. Korbelt, holding six cards in spades, had an easy 3S bid. Huang passed!! (In the words of the late bridge great, Grant Baze, "6-5 come alive" He'd have most certainly come alive with a SEVEN/FIVE).

Dwyer started with three rounds of hearts, not expecting Huang to be 7-5 in the minors with a void in spades. Cheek discarded a diamond on the third heart, drew trumps and guessed clubs to make five.

13 IMPs to Gupta.

In Rosenthal/Robinson, both North/South pairs bid and played 5D. Both Peter Boyd and Chris Willenken chose 2D over the 1H-1S bids.

aarons	robinswr	andrewr	pab1
3♥	1♥	1♠	2♦
Pass	4♥	4♠	5♦
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Boyd took 12 tricks for +620 while Willenken took 13 for +640.
1 IMP to Rosenthal

kit	eldad	bbramblej	junior
2♥	1♥	1♠	2♦
Dbl	4♥	4♠	5♣
Pass	5♦	Pass	Pass

Robinson v Rosenthal

On page 14, we saw how a negative double made the South hand hard to bid. On this hand from the second segment, we see how the lack of a negative double made the hand hard to bid.

At three of the tables in play, the final contract was a major suit slam.

Both tables in Gupta/Moss played in 6H making seven with a perfect lie of the cards and a 7-2 trump fit breaking 3-1.

Once Cheek started with a strong 2C, he and Korbel could never stop short of slam.

DelMonte started with 1H. When Gupta bid 2D and Moss negative doubled, DelMonte was off to the races. He cued 3D; Moss bid 3NT and Ish knew she had to have good cards for him. He jumped to 6H and it was another boring push!

Robinson v Rosenthal

7

robinswr
 ♠ Q
 ♥ J98
 ♦ AJ87652
 ♣ 109

mikeyb
 ♠ KJ10
 ♥ AK107632
 ♦
 ♣ AQ5

migry
 ♠ A9875
 ♥ Q5
 ♦ Q1093
 ♣ J2

pab1
 ♠ 6432
 ♥ 4
 ♦ K4
 ♣ K87643

NS: 0
 EW: 0

mikeyb	robinswr	migry	pab1
			Pass
1♥	3♦	Pass	Pass
Dbl	Pass	Pass	Pass

kit	aarons	bbramley	andrewr
			Pass
1♣	2♦	2♠	Pass
5♦	Pass	5♠	Pass
5NT	Pass	6♠	Pass

In Rosenthal/Robinson, however, IMPs were swung. Woolsey/Bramley found 6S on a 5-3 fit after an interesting auction where Woolsey opened a strong club. Silverstein overcalled 2D, interfering with any relays. Bramley was not deterred. He showed a positive response with 5+ spades and Woolsey jumped to 5D, exclusion KC. He found Bramley with the spade ace without the spade queen and placed the hand in 6S, which, like 6H, made 13 tricks on the favorable lie of the cards.

Cheek	Lall	Korbel	Bathurst
West	North	East	South
		Pass	Pass
2♣	3♦	3♠	Pass
3♥	Pass	5♥	Pass
4♦	Pass	Pass	Pass
6♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

In the other room of this match, Berkowitz opened 1H. Robinson bid 3D and Migry chose to pass with her nine count and five spades. When it got back to Berk, he reopened with double, hoping for a constructive response from partner.

DelMonte	Gupta	Moss	Bertens
West	North	East	South
			Pass
1♥	2♦	Dbl	Pass
3♦	Pass	3NT	Pass
6♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

Moss/Gupta

Migry, holding four diamonds to the QT9, passed!! While they defended it well and the contract was defeated three tricks, this was not a winning decision.

12 IMPs to Robinson

From every-one's favorite north of the border...
 Thanks to
 Jonathan
 Steinberg



Limey Jack...

Well, Yanks: The Corona Cup will be decided at dawn. The duelists at 30 paces will be Rosenthal and Gupta. Each group has played exceedingly well. If this t'were double elimination, one can be sure that Zia would be waiting in the wings to devour the second.

To the final tilt.

All the natter is of Gupta being foursquare with little experience and nowhere to hide. The Little Dutch Boy seems to have gotten the pacing quite well. Rosenthal and his Merry Men and Damsel of flame, have also comported themselves at the highest level. Howie Dung is pacing the castle having no idea who will raise the Cup to their lips. Assuredly he will pick Rosenthal, but Limey Jack has more at stake as he must take care of his many dependents yearning to cash their tickets.

Gupta, four handed though they may be, have the honor of winning the first Invitational USBC.

Limey Jack is only a Pond away if you have another Colonial event soon.

Cheers

Limey Jack



Howie Doing...

Thanks USBF!
And thanks BBO!
Without baseball or golf,
And with nowhere to go...

Whether contracts succeed
Or contracts go down,
VuGraph is surely,
The best show in town!

Staying at home
Is really a bore.
Please bring us INV's
Two, Three, and More!

Tomorrow's the final
Of INV One,
The players and viewers
Are all having fun!

Stuck in the house
With little to do,
Confined in some states
With early curfew,

This is exciting!
That is quite clear...
When eve hits tonight,
Who's buying the beer?

I picked one finalist.
Jack picked one too.
Today is the "rubber match"
Who will come through?

I'm sticking with Andrew,
Migry and Chris.
David and Aaron
And Gino can't miss!!

See you in INV2?? Howie Doing!! Quite Well, thank you!

Board 3 of Segment 4 generated swings in both matches.

In Gupta/Moss, Korbel/Cheek played game in their 5-5 heart fit. The defense took two diamonds and a club and it was done.

At the other table, where Bertens chose to open 4C on his jack high suit plus four diamonds to the AK. Bathurst doubled and when Gupta furthered the preempt to 5C, Lall penalized and they played it there. The defense took their two spades and one club for the par result.

11 IMPs to Gupta, already up six in the match

In Robinson/Rosenthal, Berkowitz and Migry found their ten card heart fit after a 3C-double-Pass-4H auction. Again, the defense took their three tricks and Rosenthal scored +620.

At the other table, the wheels came off the bus. In the absence of an opening preempt, Woolsey opened 1S. Bramley's 2NT showed a conventional raise of limit or better. 3D showed a non minimum with some shortness. Bramley bid 4S to play and Willenken doubled.

Gino led the CA. Willenken signaled with the club jack for a heart switch. Gino led a heart and Willenken ruffed!!

Chris cashed his ace and king of diamonds and defeated the game one trick for +200.

13 IMPs to Rosenblum

Robinson v Rosenthal

kit
 ♠ AQ732
 ♥ KQ765
 ♦ Q5
 ♣ Q

eldad
 ♠ J106
 ♥ J42
 ♦ 109864
 ♣ A6

bbramley
 ♠ K84
 ♥ A10983
 ♦ J2
 ♣ K43

junior
 ♠ 95
 ♥
 ♦ AK73
 ♣ J1098752

NS: 0
EW: 0

kit	eldad	bbramley	junior
			Pass
1 ♠	Pass	2NT	Pass
3 ♦	Pass	4 ♠	Dbl
Pass	Pass	Pass	

mikeyb	robinswr	migry	pab1
			3 ♣
Dbl	Pass	4 ♥	Pass
Pass	Pass		

curtis	kdwyer	dank	preciseb
			2 ♣
3 ♣	Pass	4 ♥	Pass
Pass	Pass		

kmb24	nareng	jlall	H Berten
			4 ♣
Dbl	5 ♣	Dbl	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Moss/Gupta

When the drug dealers got divorced, they agreed to joint custody.

Why are Casinos a popular travel destination? Because people have access to a pair-a-dice.

Book now for the lecture on the expanding universe because space is limited.

6

Robinson v Rosenthal

eldad
 ♠ AJ84
 ♥ AQ94
 ♦ 652
 ♣ 83

kit
 ♠ KQ32
 ♥ 1032
 ♦ A107
 ♣ Q42

bbramley
 ♠ 7
 ♥ KJ7
 ♦ KQJ843
 ♣ KJ10

junior
 ♠ 10965
 ♥ 865
 ♦ 9
 ♣ A9765

NS: 0
 EW: 0

kit	eldad	bbramley	junior
		1♦	Pass
1♠	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

Going into the final segment, both matches were a spread of six. Gupta/Moss stayed close to the end. Robinson/Rosenthal was close until Board 6.

Three of the tables played 3NT from East; One played it from West.

With East as declarer, all three South players led the C6. All three declarers won the CJ and played the S7 to dummy's king and North's ace. **At this point only Gino found the killing play!**

Gino had some "extra" information from the opponent's auction and he took full advantage of it.

Bramley's 2NT rebid showed fewer than three spades!!

When Gino won the SA, he returned the jack knowing that he would bury Bramley's spot whatever it was. In this case, there was no spot and this set up two more spade tricks to go with North/South's three aces!

At all other tables, 3NT was successful.

12 IMPs to Rosenthal

mikeyb	robinswr	migry	pab1
		1♦	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♦	Pass
3♦	Pass	3NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Stay Safe

Play Online Bridge!!

Watch the Finals

Today!!

The announcement in quotes below was in the original bulletin but in fact, the adjustments were the result of a software glitch... I guess you can just put it in the category of "fake news". I apologize for any inconvenience it might have caused!

Ed

"In yesterday's match, Will Watson, Director in Charge, was forced to adjust the final two boards in Rosenthal/Robinson.

The match did not end until almost midnight Eastern time.

The result of the adjustment was 3IMPs for Rosenthal on Board 13 and 9 IMPs for Robinson on Board 14."