



Volume 16, Issue 9  
February 28, 2021

**We  
Remember:**



# QuarterFinals Results

1	<a href="#">Fleisher (wins tie)</a>	117	30	38	17	32
8	<a href="#">Lall</a>	84	14	16	40	14
2	<a href="#">Rosenthal</a>	117	49	16	7	45
7	<a href="#">Nickell (wins tie)</a>	87	17	35	25	10
3	<a href="#">Sanborn (wins tie)</a>	89	20	21	18	30
6	<a href="#">Levine</a>	91	22	14	23	32
4	<a href="#">Lebowitz</a>	145	44	38	22	41
5	<a href="#">Blanchard (wins tie)</a>	86	27	16	14	29

## Today's Matchups:

**Fleisher vs Lebowitz**  
**Rosenthal vs Levine**

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Steve Robinson  
Alan Sontag  
Stan Subeck  
**Bulletin Editor**  
Suzi Subeck  
**Photographer**  
Peg Kaplan

# Teams Entered...

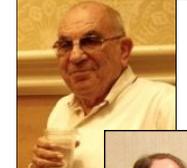
"TRIALS" AND TRIBULATIONS—PRE-BULLETIN

Teams in Alphabetical Order within RR Groups:

<b>Baker</b>	Lynn Baker, Capt Sam Dinkin Tobi Sokolow	Karen McCallum Michael Shuster David Sokolow
<b>Bell</b>	Leo Bell, Capt Bill Harker Bob Thomson	Cris Barrere Mark Ralph Bob Etter
<b>Bishel</b>	Tom Bishel, Capt Blaine Mullins	John Bishel Charley Seelbach
<b>Bitterman</b>	Bob Bitterman, Capt Phil Becker Jerry Helms	Bob Cappelli Ken Kranyak Ed Schulte
<b>Blanchard</b>	Bob Blanchard, Capt Fred Chang Gary Cohler	Sam Lev Dan Lev
<b>Compton</b>	Andy Goodman Kay Enfield Ish DelMonte	Chris Compton Greg Hinze Brian Glubok
<b>Dawson</b>	Dennis Dawson, Capt Mark Itabashi Leon Lowe	Charlie Wilkins Ifti Baqai
<b>Donn</b>	Josh Donn, Capt Uday Ivatury Jenni Carmichael	Sheri Winestock Christal Henner Greg Humphreys
<b>Donnelly</b>	Chris Donnelly, Capt Harrison Luba	Cornelius Duffie Olivia Schireson
<b>Donner</b>	Gary Donner, Capt Radu Nistor Jacob Freeman	Sandra Rimstedt Iulian Rotaru Finn Kolesnik
<b>Fleisher</b>	Marty Fleisher, Capt Joe Grue Bart Bramley	Chip Martel Brad Moss Kit Woolsey
<b>Greenspan</b>	Jon Greenspan, Capt Geof Brod John Rengstorff	Glenn Eisenstein John Stiefel Bob Feller
<b>Hill</b>	Joyce Hill Shan Huang Anam Tebha	Kevin Dwyer Roger Lee
<b>Joel</b>	Geeske Joel, Capt Sarah Youngquist Fred Stewart	Kevin Rosenberg William Watson Steve Beatty
<b>Lall</b>	Hemant Lall, Capt Naren Gupta Bob Hamman	Reese Milner Zia Mahmood Peter Weichsel
<b>Lebowitz</b>	Larry Lebowitz, Capt Zach Grossack David Grainger	Adam Grossack Michael Rosenberg Joel Wooldridge
<b>Levine</b>	Mike Levine Jeff Meckstroth Mike Passell Bob Morris, NPC	Eddie Wold Eric Rodwell Mark Lair
<b>Lewis</b>	Linda Lewis, Capt Ron Smith Mitch Dunitz	Marc Jacobus Billy Cohen Paul Lewis
<b>Lin</b>	Amber Lin, Capt Cynthia Huang Brent Xiao	Emma Kolesnik Ilan Wolff

<b>Liu</b>	Howard Liu, Capt Ari Greenberg Adam Kaplan	Eugene Hung Tom Carmichael Christian Jolly
<b>Lo</b>	Ai-Tai Lo, Capt Jiang Gu Andrew Stark	Alex Kolesnik Alex Perlin Franco Baseggio
<b>Merblum</b>	Frank Merblum, Capt Doug Doub Venkatrao Koneru	Adam Wildavsky Walter Lee John Schermer
<b>Nickell</b>	Nick Nickell Bobby Levin Geoff Hampson Jill Levin, NPC	Ralph Katz Steve Weinstein
<b>Rasmussen</b>	Jim Rasmussen, Capt Carrie Liu	Maxim Silin Anton Tsyppin
<b>Reynolds</b>	Tom Reynolds, Capt Bill Hall Joe Viola	Lance Kerr Randy Howard John Jones
<b>Rosenthal</b>	Andrew Rosenthal, Capt Chris Willenken David Berkowitz	Aaron Silverstein Eldad Ginossar Migry Campanile
<b>Sanborn</b>	Kerri Sanborn, Capt Jill Meyers Steve Garner	Steve Sanborn Allan Graves Jeff Wolfson
<b>Schireson</b>	Max Schireson, Capt Randal Burns John Miller	Cadir Lee Lynn Shannon
<b>Simson</b>	Doug Simson, Capt Allan Falk Drew Casen	Jeff Aker John Lusky Jim Krekorian
<b>Spector</b>	Warren Spector, Capt John Hurd Vince Demuy	Gavin Wolpert Kevin Bathurst John Kranyak
<b>Sprung</b>	Danny Sprung Anne Brenner Brian Platnick JoAnn Sprung, NPC	Gerry Seixas Dave Caprera John Diamond
<b>Wu</b>	Weishu Wu, Capt Brian Zhang Jiang Chen	Qiang Zhang Peter Sun Jane Wang

RED SOX	YANKEES
Baker	Bell
Bishel	Bitterman
Compton	Blanchard
Dawson	Donnelly
Donn	Fleisher
Donner	Hill
Greenspan	Joel
Levine	Lall
Lo	Lebowitz
Merblum	Lewis
Nickell	Lin
Rasmussen	Liu
Reynolds	Schireson
Rosenthal	Simson
Sanborn	Spector
Sprung	Wu



Do they have restaurants in Japan where American people cook in front of you with lawn chairs and a grill?

WHAT DID THE DRUMMER NAME HIS TWIN DAUGHTERS?  
ANNA 1 , ANNA 2

THE INVENTION OF THE SHOVEL WAS A GROUND BREAKING DISCOVERY  
BUT THE INVENTION OF THE BROOM WAS THE ONE THAT TRULY SWEEPED THE NATION

Ed. Note:

With the delayed broadcasting and the use of the Round Robin, it will be especially challenging to write up the hands. If anyone has a hand of interest, please submit it to me at stansubeck@prodigy.net. I also welcome any human interest stories, news or gossip!!

Thanks.



One minute you're young and fun. And the next, you're turning down the stereo in your car to see better.



## Tournament Schedule

ROUND OF 16			
FRIDAY	FEB 26	1:00 - 2:45 3:00 - 4:45 5:30 - 7:15 7:30 - 9:15	SEGMENT 1 BOARDS 1-14 SEGMENT 2 BOARDS 15-28 BREAK SEGMENT 3 BOARDS 29-42 SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 43-56
QUARTERFINAL			
SATURDAY	FEB 27	1:00 - 2:45 3:00 - 4:45 5:30 - 7:15 7:30 - 9:15	SEGMENT 1 BOARDS 1-14 SEGMENT 2 BOARDS 15-28 BREAK SEGMENT 3 BOARDS 29-42 SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 43-56
SEMIFINAL			
SUNDAY	FEB 28	1:00 - 2:45 3:00 - 4:45 5:30 - 7:15 7:30 - 9:15	SEGMENT 1 BOARDS 1-14 SEGMENT 2 BOARDS 15-28 BREAK SEGMENT 3 BOARDS 29-42 SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 43-56
FINAL (WILL CHANGE IF TEAMS WANT 60 OR 64 BOARDS)			
MONDAY	MAR 1	1:00 - 2:45 3:00 - 4:45 5:30 - 7:15 7:30 - 9:15	SEGMENT 1 BOARDS 1-14 SEGMENT 2 BOARDS 15-28 BREAK SEGMENT 3 BOARDS 29-42 SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 43-56

## Ethics Statement

**Ethics** - We're not trying to provide the same security for this event as we have for online events to select USBF International teams. However, the provisions of the USBF General Conditions of Contest regarding ethical obligations and possible penalties apply to this event. The USBF has appointed an Ethics Investigation Committee that will review any complaints about ethics violations. If the EIC concludes that a player or pair was acting unethically, they will report to the USBF Board of Directors, who may place a player on probation, suspend, or expel a player for cause.

2021 Committee is: **Dana Berkowitz, Eugene Hung, Roger Lee, Chip Martel, Steve Weinstein, Jenny Wolpert**

## System Regulations & Conditions of Contest

- Normal USBF System regulations apply to this event.
- This event is governed by the USBF General Conditions of Contest and Special Conditions of Contest for this event.
- The ACBL Open+ Convention Chart applies to this event.



# Kibitzing on VuGraph...

**THERE WILL BE DELAYED KIBITZING FOR ALL OF THE JLALL2 EVENT.**

KIBITZING SCHEDULE FOR THE ROUND ROBIN (EST)

The schedule will be the same each day:

Round 1: 2:30 pm

Round 2: 4:05 pm

Round 3: 6:15 pm

Round 4: 7:50 pm

Round 5: 9:25 pm

**KIBITZING SCHEDULE FOR THE KO (EST)**

Quarter 1: 1:15 pm

Quarter 2: 3:15 pm

BREAK

Quarter 3: 7:15

Quarter 4: 9:15



Watching online,  
Even delayed,  
Is the best way to see  
How a hand's bid and played!

To kibitz, go to [the RealBridge kibitzing website](#), enter your name and click on Log In. That will take you to a screen where you can select the event to kibitz.

After you select Kibitz JLall Online Teams #2, you will be taken to a lobby where you will see a list of tables on the left and a chat box and list of people in the lobby on the right. The table listing shows the team & player names at each table, as well as the board and trick that table is on (that's in the middle of the table, immediately under the table number). Click on a table to kibitz it.

At the table, you will see a hand diagram, and the bidding and play as it happened.

There is a chat window on the right of the screen (if your browser window isn't large enough to show it, you can click on the "chat" icon immediately above the UNDO button to open the chat window.

Some things you can do to get more information:

If there is an asterisk next to a bid, that means it was Alerted or Explained. Click on the bid to see the explanation if there was one.

-- "Rewind" the play using the slider underneath the "table" with hand diagram. just move the vertical handle on the slider to the left to go to earlier tricks.

-- Click on the "Scores" button to the left of the South player's name, you will get a scorecard for the match so far. You can use this to get lots of information:

----Click on a board number to see the hand record and results at all the tables.

----You can click on a number in a yellow box to get to the hand record from some screens.

----In the hand record screen, click on a result to see the bidding and play at a specific table.

--In the upper left corner:

----Click on the yellow box with 4 little boxes to get the match scores for all the matches (that will be IMPs and will not include scores from previous rounds).

----Click on the yellow box with 3 bulleted lines to get Cross-IMPs for the pairs (for this match only).

The Scores information is also available in the lobby using the button at the upper right.

## **TIMING OF DELAY**

The Round Robin matches will be delayed until after each round is completed.

The first half KO matches will be delayed until each board has been played at all tables, so there may sometimes be a period when nothing new is being shown. **The second half of the KO matches will be delayed until the quarter has been completed. 3rd quarter kibitzing will start at 7:15 EST.**

# Looking Ahead to Team Trials...

## 2021 USBC Formats and Schedules

IN THE EVENT THE WBF CANCELS OR POSTPONES THE 2021 WORLD TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIPS AT ANY TIME BEFORE THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE USBCs, ALL USBF SELECTION TRIALS WILL BE CANCELED OR POSTPONED.

### OVERVIEW OF FORMATS AND SCHEDULES

For all of the events, the Round Robin and Round of 16 stages will be played online; The Women's (if more than 4 teams enter) will start on May 5th; the Open will start on May 7th; The Mixed will start on May 15th; the Seniors will start on May 23rd. Each event will be played on consecutive days. The full schedule is on the USBF website. (note there are two possibilities, depending on the number of teams entered in each event; the schedules might change if there is a surprisingly large or small entry in any event, but the starting dates will remain the same).

Any team that does not qualify for the Quarterfinal stage will be eliminated.

The face-to-face format of USA1 and USA2 events will be: (Full calendar on USBF site) (And on page 15)

Day/date	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7	Day 8
<b>USA1 Stage</b>		Quarterfinal (8 teams) Losers to USA2 R16	Semifinal (4 teams) Losers to USA2 QF		Final (2 teams) Winner is USA1, Loser to USA2 F			
<b>USA2 Stage</b>		NONE	Round of 16 (4 teams)	Quarterfinal (4 teams)	Semifinal (2 teams)	Final (2 teams) Winner is USA2		

Entry fee will be \$500 per team for the online stage of each event. Online play will be on RealBridge, using virtual screens and self-alerts. For online play **only**, players will be allowed to consult their notes during the bidding.

The **Hyatt Regency in Schaumburg, IL** is host to all the face to face stages, where the entry fee will be \$400 per team per day. Playing will be on individual tablets assigned to each player using the LoveBridge software.

There will be 2 players (normal screenmates) in each playing room.

When available, playing rooms will have outdoor access.

The USBF will take precautions to prevent the spread of Covid-19 which may include taking temperatures, wearing masks and sanitizing surfaces.

We will be unable to offer our usual hospitality due to CoVid restrictions.

Teams that play only 3 days online will receive a credit of \$200 for future 2021 JLall entry fees; teams that play only 4 days online will receive a credit of \$100 for future 2021 JLall entry fees.

**AT THE MOMENT OUR WEBSITE SOFTWARE IS ACTING UP AND ENTRIES DON'T WORK - AS SOON AS WE'VE FIGURED OUT WHAT THE PROBLEM IS, WE'LL REMOVE THIS MESSAGE AND YOU CAN ENTER**

Entries are now open for all events and will close as follows:

- Women's - March 31, 2021
- Open - April 2, 2021
- Mixed - April 10, 2021
- Seniors - April 18, 2021

**USBF News**

## Some Suggestions For Dining at Home Between Sessions! Pandemic Pleasures...

### TOMATO & ROSEMARY FOCACCIA

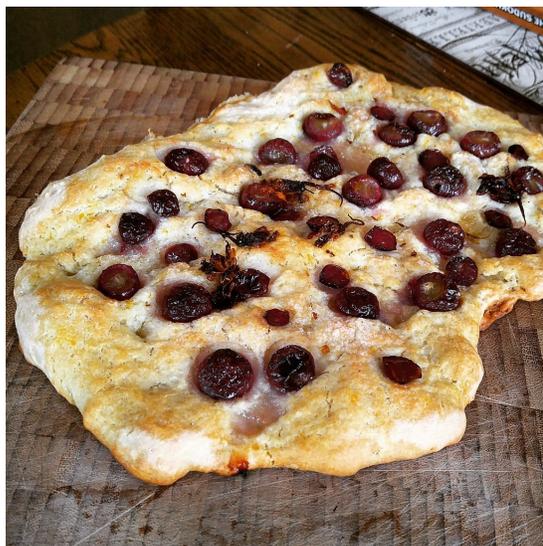
Servings: 6-8

#### Focaccia:

3 1/3 cups (415 g) bread flour  
2 teaspoons (10 g) instant yeast  
1 tablespoon (13 g) rosemary, minced  
3 cups (705 ml) water, room temperature  
1/4 cup (2 oz. or 60 ml) extra-virgin olive oil  
2 1/2 teaspoons (12 g) table salt  
Olive oil spray

#### Toppings:

24 cherry tomatoes  
2 teaspoons (10 g) rosemary, minced  
3/4 teaspoon (4 g) coarse sea salt, or 1-1/4 teaspoons (6 g) kosher salt



#### Directions:

Whisk flour, yeast and rosemary together in large bowl. Add room-temperature water and oil and stir with spatula until dough forms. Cover bowl with plastic wrap and let sit for 10 minutes. Sprinkle salt over dough and mix until fully incorporated. Cover bowl with a towel or plastic wrap and let dough rest for 20 minutes.

Using your wet hands or spatula sprayed with vegetable oil, fold dough over itself by gently lifting and folding edge of dough toward middle. Turn bowl 90 degrees; fold again, rotate 90 degrees and fold again (total of four folds). Cover bowl with towel or plastic wrap and let dough rest for 20 minutes. Repeat folding technique another 3 times, letting the dough rest for 20 minutes each time.

Add two tablespoons olive oil to a 13 by 9-inch (23 by 33 cm) baking pan and brush to coat all the inside of the pan. Transfer dough to prepared pan and gently press the dough towards corners. Spray or brush with olive oil and wrap with plastic wrap. Refrigerate overnight.

Remove from fridge 1 hour before baking. Dough should have doubled in height and be jiggly when shaken.

Press tomatoes into dough and spray or brush top with a little olive oil. Top with rosemary and sea salt.

Heat oven to 400 degrees F (205 degrees C). Uncover and bake for 35 to 40 minutes, until nicely browned.

## MARGHERITA PIZZA

Servings: 1

### Pizza:

1 portion individual pizza dough  
Generous 1/3 cup (100 g) tomato sauce  
3 fresh basil leaves, torn in half  
1 tablespoon (15 ml) olive oil  
1/2 cup (4 oz. or 115 g) fresh whole-milk mozzarella cheese

### Pizza Dough:

Servings: 3 individual or 2 large pizzas  
3 1/2 cups (420 g) bread flour  
2 teaspoons (10 g) fine sea salt  
1/4 cup plus 1 tablespoon (60 ml) warm water (80 degrees F to 85 degrees F or 27 degrees C to 29 degrees C)  
1 teaspoon (5 g) extra virgin olive oil  
1 tablespoon (15 g) honey  
1 1/2 to 2 cups water (355 ml), plus more as needed

### Directions:

For the Pizza:

At least 45 minutes before baking pizza, put stone or pizza steel in preheated 500 degrees F (260 degrees C) oven.

Put the sauce in the center of the stretched dough and use the back of a spoon to spread it evenly across the surface, stopping approximately 1/2 inch (1.25 cm) from the edges.

Drizzle a little olive oil over the pizza dough. Break the cheese into large pieces and place these gently on top of the sauce. Scatter basil leaves over the top.

Using a pizza peel, pick up the pie and slide it onto the heated stone or steel in the oven. Bake until the crust is golden brown, and the cheese is bubbling, approximately 4 to 8 minutes.

For the Pizza Dough:

Place the flour, yeast and salt in the bowl of a stand mixer. With the mixer running, pour the oil, honey and water in a steady stream. Continue to mix for 2 to 3 minutes. The finished dough should be soft, slightly sticky and elastic. If too dry, add a bit more water; if too wet, a tablespoon or so more flour.

Move the dough to the work surface and cut the dough into halves or thirds.  
Form the dough into balls and refrigerate for 24-72 hours



*(Continued on page 8)*

## PANZANELLA SALAD WITH MOZZARELLA & HONEY DIJON DRESSING

Servings: 8

### Salad:

- 1 small sourdough loaf, cubed
- 3 (45ml) tablespoons olive oil
- 2 sprigs fresh thyme
- 1 garlic clove, bashed
- 2 large ripened tomatoes, cut into 1-inch cubes
- 1 English cucumber, diced to 1/4 inch
- 1 red bell pepper, seeded and cut into 1-inch cubes
- 1 yellow bell pepper, seeded and cut into 1-inch cubes
- 1/2 red onion, diced
- Large handful basil leaves, coarsely chopped or torn
- 8 ounces (225 g) fresh mozzarella cheese, cut into 1/4-inch cubes and patted dry
- 1/4 cup (32 g) kalamata olives, chopped



### Honey Dijon Dressing:

- 1 garlic clove, pureed (garlic press)
- 1 teaspoon (5 ml) Dijon mustard
- 3 tablespoons (45 ml) champagne vinegar
- 1/2 cup (120 ml) extra virgin olive oil
- 1 teaspoon dried oregano
- 1 teaspoon (5 ml) honey

### Directions:

For the salad: Adjust oven rack to middle position and heat oven to 400 degrees F (205 degrees C). Toss bread pieces with oil, thyme, and garlic and arrange bread in a single layer on a rimmed baking sheet. Place in preheated oven and toast bread pieces until just starting to turn light golden, 15 to 20 minutes, stirring halfway through. Feel free to add any more oil if needed. Season toasted bread with salt and pepper. Set aside to cool to room temperature.

For the dressing: In a large bowl, whisk all ingredients together. Season with salt and pepper to taste. In a large bowl, mix the tomatoes, cucumber, red pepper, yellow pepper, red onion, basil, and olives. Add the bread cubes and toss with the vinaigrette. Season liberally with salt and pepper. Serve, or allow the salad to sit for about half an hour for the flavors to blend.

# Sudoku

**SOLUTION to Logic Puzzle on page 11**

9:00pm	Maddox	MIT	Purse
8:00pm	Anyia	Princeton	Hat
7:30pm	Amy	Duke	Earrings
2:00pm	Juliana	Cal Tech	Shoes
11:00am	Edward	Harvard	Scarf

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

Sudoku 1

Sudoku 2

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

# Answers on Page 13



Can you spot the dog?

**What goes up but never goes down?**

Your age

**Why do bees hum?**

Because they do not know the words

**How do you make the number one disappear?**

Add the letter G and it's "gone"

**How do you make 6 into an odd number?**

Remove the "s" ... it becomes Roman Numeral IX!

# HOBBIES

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

WORD GAMES	BEACHCOMBING	BIRDWATCHING	BOWLING
CALLIGRAPHY	CAMPING	CARD GAMES	CHESS
COIN COLLECTING	CRAFTING	CROCHETING	DRAWING
EMBROIDERY	EXPLORING	FLY TYING	GARDENING
GEOCACHING	GOLF	GOURMET COOKING	HIKING
KNITTING	MOVIES	PHILATELY	PHOTOGRAPHY
READING	SAILING	SEWING	SHOPPING
TAXIDERMY	TRAVELLING	VIDEO GAMING	WOODWORKING
WRITING			

		First Names					Universities					Accessories				
		Amy	Anya	Edward	Juliana	Maddox	Cal Tech	Duke	Harvard	MIT	Princeton	earrings	hat	purse	scarf	shoes
Flight Times	11:00am															
	2:00pm															
	7:30pm															
	8:00pm															
	9:00pm															
Accessories	earrings															
	hat															
	purse															
	scarf															
	shoes															
Universities	Cal Tech															
	Duke															
	Harvard															
	MIT															
	Princeton															
								<b>Flight Times</b>	<b>First Names</b>	<b>Universities</b>	<b>Accessories</b>					
							11:00am									
							2:00pm									
							7:30pm									
							8:00pm									
							9:00pm									

1. Of Maddox and Juliana, one will depart at 9:00pm and the other graduated from Cal Tech.
2. Juliana will depart later than the Harvard graduate.
3. Either the person who bought the hat or the person who bought the purse graduated from Princeton.
4. The Cal Tech graduate will depart earlier than Maddox.
5. The person who bought the scarf is not Juliana.
6. The person whose flight departs at 7:30pm didn't graduate from Princeton.
7. The 5 people were the MIT graduate, the person whose flight departs at 11:00am, Anya, the person who bought the earrings, and the Cal Tech graduate.
8. The Duke graduate is not Edward.
9. The person whose flight departs at 2:00pm graduated from Cal Tech.
10. The Harvard graduate will depart earlier than the Cal Tech graduate.
11. The person whose flight departs at 9:00pm bought the purse.

**Logic Puzzle**  
**Answer on Page 9**



Originally from Raleigh, North Carolina, **Frank T "Nick" Nickell** now lives in New York most of the time. Nick is the driving force behind the composition of one of the strongest ever bridge teams.

An investment banker and entrepreneur, Nick wanted to put together a very good team in the early nineties. His partner, Dick Freeman, suggested that Bob Hamman/Bobby Wolff and Jeff Meckstroth/Eric Rodwell were the two pairs needed. How right he was! This group (with Paul Soloway replacing Wolff in 1998, Zia replacing Soloway in 2008, and most recently Ralph Katz replacing Dick Freeman following his passing) proceeded to reel off an amazing run of results.

From 1995 to 2009, they reached the final of five of six Bermuda Bowls - beating Canada in the 1995 final in Beijing, Brazil in Bermuda in January, 2000, and Italy in Monte Carlo in 2003 and Sao Paulo in 2009, losing to the French in Hammamet in 1997 and to Italy in Estoril in 2005. They have also won too many US titles to list.

Playing with Hamman, Nick won the Cavendish Invitational Pairs in 1998. He is a WBF Grand Master, ranking 10th in the current standings. Business and family commitments leave Nick very little time to play between major tournaments, but he and Ralph Katz have been working on their partnership online between tournaments.

One of Nick's sons is an accomplished concert pianist. He is amazingly talented and provides great background music during practice matches online.

Nick has a penchant for "wish tricks" and it makes practice matches with Nick and Ralph fun and entertaining.

Nick is great for the game. He is a big supporter of Junior Bridge and bridge in general.

# Meet the Players



**Ralph Katz** was born in 1957 in Pittsburgh, PA and raised in Steubenville, OH. He was 22 when he won his first National Championship, the Life Master Pairs, and 24 when he won both the Spingold and Master Mixed Teams at the Summer Nationals. Not long after graduating college he moved to Chicago to trade options, but his loyalty to the Pittsburgh Pirates and Steelers has never waned.

His wife Martha won the World Junior Championship in 1991 and their son Sam was King of Bridge in 2006, so there is a family tradition of Bridge success.

Ralph's partnership with Nick began in 2009, a win in the Trials leading a few months later to victory over Italy in the 2009 Bermuda Bowl final in Sao Paulo.

In addition to that gold medal, Ralph has won three silver medals at the world level: 1990 World Open Pairs; 2007 Bermuda Bowl; 2010 Rosenblum Teams. With 21 North American titles with many different colleagues, Ralph has earned a reputation as a great partner and teammate, perhaps the ultimate compliment attainable from peers.

Both Ralph and Nick are in the ACBL Hall of Fame!

# Puzzle Answers:

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

## Sudoku

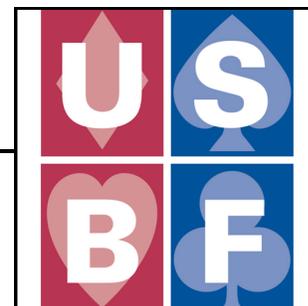
on page 9

Puzzle 1 on left

Puzzle 2 on right

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

## 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.

# Limey Jack...

Cheerio Colonials:

Who else but Limey Jack could tell you for a cert that Nickell would be upset. Keep the dial on the Telly tuned to every word from Limey Jack, but when Howie Dung is speaking, go to the loo.

Fleisher-Lebowitz: M Rosenberg is nearest to a countryman of Limey Jack and thus will keep the juniors under control as they cruise to a good sized headline.

Rosenthal-Levine: hard as horses to ever go against the Levine studs, but Rosenthal is performing like Man City V Sheffield United.

Make a few bob or listen to a buffoon. Seems clear as bells.

Ta

# Howie Doing...

Fleisher's got the old guard.  
They're solid and they're strong...  
Unless you deal Woolsey  
A suit that's really long!

Then you will be guessing  
Does his preempt really stink?  
Is it any 5-card suit,  
Or is it what you think?

Lebowitz has young guys,  
With winning in their sights.  
But they will make the wild plays  
To see their names in lights!

I am picking Lebowitz...  
They're pumped up and alive.  
Fleisher is a goner.  
Grossacks will survive.

Levine's done well with Mike Passell,  
But now he's getting cold.  
Houston has its problems...  
Poor Morris! And poor Wold!

Rosenthal is ready.  
He's ousted great team Nick.  
He's not afraid of Eddie.  
So Andrew is my pick!

Till tomorrow! I am Howie Doing...

14

What's the best thing about Switzerland?  
**I don't know, but their flag is a huge plus.**

Where do you find a cow with no  
legs?  
**Right where you left it.**

Why aren't koalas actual bears?  
**They don't meet the koalafications.**

Never criticize someone until you  
have walked a mile in their shoes.  
**That way, when you criticize them,  
you'll be a mile away, and you'll have  
their shoes.**

May, 2021						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
OPTION 1 - Assumes 30-34 teams in the Open, 12-18 teams in Mixed & Seniors						
2	3	4	5 Women's RR (if needed)	6 Women's RR (if needed)	7 Open RR1	8 Open RR1
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Open RR1	Open RR2	Open R16	Open R16			
16	17	18	19 Mixed RR (if a 4th day is needed)	20	21	22
Mixed RR	Mixed RR	Mixed RR	Mixed RR (if a 4th day is needed)			
23	24	25	26 Senior RR (if a 4th day is needed)	27	28	29
Senior RR	Senior RR	Senior RR	Senior RR (if a 4th day is needed)			
30	31					

# Online Trials Schedules

May, 2021						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
OPTION 2 - Assumes 30-34 teams in the Open, 19-34 teams in Mixed & Seniors						
2	3	4	5 Women's RR (if needed)	6 Women's RR (if needed)	7 Open RR1	8 Open RR1
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Open RR1	Open RR2	Open R16	Open R16			Mixed RR1
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Mixed RR1	Mixed RR1	Mixed RR2	Mixed R16	Mixed R16		
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Senior RR1	Senior RR1	Senior RR1	Senior RR2	Senior R16	Senior R16	
30	31					



# Face to Face Schedule



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Open USA1 Quarterfinal		Open USA1 Semifinal		Open USA1 Final	
			Open USA2 R16 (4 teams)		Open USA2 QF (4 teams)	Open USA2 SF (2 teams) Women's USA1 Semifinal
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Open USA2 Final					Mixed USA1 Quarterfinal	
Women's USA1 Semifinal	Women's USA1 Final & USA2 Semifinal		Women's USA2 Final			
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Mixed USA1 Semifinal		Mixed USA1 Final				Seniors QF
Mixed USA2 R16 (4 teams) Women's USA1 Final & USA2 Semifinal		Mixed USA2 QF (4 teams)	Mixed USA2 SF (2 teams)	Mixed USA2 Final		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Seniors QF	Seniors USA1 Semifinal		Seniors USA1 Final			
	Seniors USA2 R16 (4 teams)		Seniors USA2 QF (4 teams)	Seniors USA2 SF (2 teams)	Seniors USA2 Final	

Board 5  
Dealer N  
NS Vul

♠ A863  
♥ Q975  
♦ 93  
♣ 753

♠ 974  
♥ K2  
♦ AQJ842  
♣ A10

♠ QJ2  
♥ J63  
♦ K107  
♣ Q862

♠ K105  
♥ A1084  
♦ 65  
♣ KJ94

NS	EW	Contract	Lead	Score
Fred Chang & Bob Blanchard	Zach Grossack & Michael Rosenberg	3NT-2 W	♥5	100
Joe Grue & Brad Moss	Hemant Lall & Neil Chambers	3NT-1 W	♥7	50
Aaron Silverstein & Andrew Rosenthal	Nick Nickell & Ralph Katz	3NT-1 W	♥5	50
Steve Weinstein & Geoff Hampson	Migry Campanile & David Berkowitz	3NT-1 W	♥5	50
Steve Sanborn & Kerri Sanborn	Jeff Meckstroth & Eric Rodwell	3NT-1 W	♥5	50
Naren Gupta & Zia Mahmood	Bart Bramley & Kit Woolsey	3♦= W	♦9	110
Adam Grossack & Larry Lebowitz	Gary Cohler & Sam Lev	3♦= W	♣3	110
Eddie Wold & Mike Levine	Steve Garner & Jeff Wolfson	3NT= W	♥5	400

Most everyone played in 3NT on Board 5. Jeff Wolfson was the only one to bring home nine tricks.

A heart was led to the ace and a heart returned. Wolfson cashed five rounds of diamonds to reach this position:

On the 6th diamond, Wold needed to choose between discarding a club and a spade. We can see that if he discards a club, the defense will take four of the last five tricks... and indeed, that is what happened at most tables.

Wold was unsure of the black suit holdings. He chose to discard his small spade.

Wolfson exited with a spade to Wold's ace. Wold cashed his hearts and Levine was squeezed in the black suits. It turns out that the spade discard did not actually cost a trick. Wold needed to cash only one high heart. He could then exit with a club to Wolfson's ace and Levine would take the last two tricks.

What happened at the table is a form of a suicide squeeze...

10 IMPs to Sanborn



## 2021 JLall Online Teams #3

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The third USBF JLall Online Teams event (JLall3) will be held from April 9-12 and April 16-19 on RealBridge. It will be very similar to JLall2, with a few minor changes suggested by the players in JLall2. JLall3 is open to all Active USBF members. An Active member is one who has paid USBF dues. All players must have paid 2021 dues on or before April. 1.

### Event Schedule and Format

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- JLall3 will be held from April 9-12 and April 16-19.
- Play each day will start at 1:00 pm EDT and end no later than 9:30 pm EDT.
- There will be no more than 32 teams, each with 4-6 players, all of whom are USBF Active members.
- The entry fee for the event is \$300 per team.
- DIC for the event is McKenzie Myers. Tournament Organizer is Jan Martel. Software guru is Al Hollander.
- The event format will be:

#### **Round Robin Stage 1, April 9-11:**

Everyone plays 3 days of a "split field" Round Robin with 10 board matches; there are two Round Robin groups, to be named by the winners of JLall2. Teams will be assigned to the two groups based on a "draft" by the top two teams (chosen by a vote of all teams). The top 5 teams in each group will qualify for the KO Round of 16. The bottom 6 teams in each group will be eliminated. The five teams in the middle of each group ("bubble teams") will play in Stage 2 of the Round Robin.

#### **Round Robin Stage 2, April. 12th:**

Each bubble team plays a 10 board match against each bubble team from the other group, scored at VPs with carryover from the first 3 days. The top 6 teams qualify for the Round of 16. The bottom 4 teams are eliminated.

#### **Knockouts, April 16-19:**

- One match per day. 56 boards per match. If both of the finalists want a longer match (60 or 64 boards), we will have that.

• **There will be a short Captains' meeting on April 20th to set the KO bracket.** The precise method of setting the bracket is set forth in the Special Conditions of Contest. Summary: the top 4 teams from Round Robin Stage 1 will select their opponents for the Round of 16 from the bottom 8 qualifiers. The remaining qualifiers will be shuffled in groups to fill the bracket.

• The matches will be played on RealBridge. During the bidding & play, each player will see & hear their screenmate - (N&E, S&W). Before and after each match, teammates will be seated at one table, and RealBridge is working on a way to allow the players who were sitting out to join you (players who sat out can see & hear their teammates and be heard but not seen).

• There will be no real-time online kibitzing allowed for any match. Kibitzers will be able to watch after a delay. For the Round Robin, the delay will be until each match is over so kibitzing does not provide "state of the match" information. For the first half of each KO match, each board will be shown when all tables have completed it. For the second half of each KO match, kibitzing will start at the end of the segment. We will try to have voice commentary, and perhaps may limit chat at the tables late in the event to approved commentators.

• RealBridge will archive bidding, play & score information for the event. We will also post scores on this website.

• Players may consult their bidding notes, SSF, and convention card **during the bidding only**. Other aids to memory (for example, lists of percentages, calculators, notes about carding) are not allowed.

## How to Enter the JLall 3

(continued from page 17)

- Entries are now open. Entries will close on the earlier of March 12th or when 32 teams (and 2 alternates) have entered. You must be logged in to this website to enter. After you have logged in, click on "Enter 2021 JLall3" under the User Menu and complete the entry form.
- Your entry is not complete until you have 4 players. You cannot "save" a place in the event by entering a team with fewer than 4 players.
- Any player who has not paid 2021 USBF dues by April 1 will not be allowed to play.
- Teams can freely change their rosters until April 17th, when the division of teams into Round Robin groups will start. After April 17th, a team may change its roster only if the change does not substantially strengthen or weaken the team. Roster changes are made by **email to the Tournament Organizer** (Jan: marteljan@gmail.com). If an added player or pair is not able to meet the deadlines for system filing, they may not play any unusual method unless it is played by another pair in the event.

		<p>N Naren Gupta</p>												
<p>Bd 13, Dir N *3NT+1 W</p>	<p>♠ 1082 ♥ Q3 ♦ AQ10972 ♣ 105</p>	<p>E Bart Bramley</p>												
<p>W Kit Woolsey</p>	<p>♠ 4 ♥ 1076 ♦ KJ543 ♣ A742</p>	<p>♠ KQJ753 ♥ A854 ♦ — ♣ KQ8</p>												
<p>0 0</p>	<p>♠ A96 ♥ KJ92 ♦ 86 ♣ J963</p>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>W</td> <td>N</td> <td>E</td> <td>S</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>2♦</td> <td>3♠</td> <td>P</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3NT</td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> </tr> </table>	W	N	E	S		2♦	3♠	P	3NT	P	P	P
W	N	E	S											
	2♦	3♠	P											
3NT	P	P	P											
<p>S Zia Mahmood</p>														

The East players in the Lall/Fleisher match had different views of their hands.

Bramley treated his good six card spade suit as single suited and jumped to 3S over Gupta's 2D opener while Lall chose to make a take-out double in the same position with his 6-4-0-3 shape.

Woolsey was endplayed into bidding 3NT over 3S with good diamond stoppers and 8 HCP.

A heart lead would defeat 3NT when the ten comes down... however that would take a psychic

Gupta led the DQ. Woolsey won the king, discarding a heart from dummy. He led a spade to the king, ducked, and played the SQ, ducked again. A third spade forced the ace.

Chambers	Grue	Lall	Moss
W	N	E	S
P	2♦	X	P
P	P		

Zia played his D8 through Woolsey's hand, Gupta letting it hold. Zia tried a club but declarer had ten tricks for the taking. Contract making with an overtrick... +630

In the other room where Lall doubled 2D, Chambers sat with his strong diamond holding.

Lall led the SK. Grue won in dummy and led the D6, playing the deuce from his hand when Chambers contributed the three. He ran the D8 to his nine and played the HQ, ducked. He continued hearts and Lall won his ace. Lall cashed two high spades, played the CK and a club to his partner's ace, and the defense collected six tricks for down one.

10 IMPs to Fleisher

According to the Double Dummy analysis now provided by RealBridge, East/West is only entitled to eight tricks in a spade contract and seven tricks in a NT contract... Just an FYI!

Board 16, Dir W  
4♥-1 S

W Steve Weinstein

N Aaron Silverstein

E Geoff Hampson

♠ Q9  
♥ Q4  
♦ AK109872  
♣ A4

♠ K1086  
♥ K  
♦ Q653  
♣ 9632

♠ AJ752  
♥ 10853  
♦ J  
♣ Q105

♠ 43  
♥ AJ9762  
♦ 4  
♣ KJ87

Andrew Rosenthal S

W N E S  
P 1♦ P 1♥  
P 3♦ P 3♥  
P 4♥ P P

On Board 16 in the Nickell/Rosenthal match, both tables reached 4H. Rosenthal played it from South after Silverstein opened 1D while Nickell played it from North after opening 1NT, Katz responding with a Texas transfer.

Against Rosenthal, Weinstein led a spade. Hampson inserted the jack and it held. He cashed the SA and shifted to the C5. Rosenthal inserted the jack. Andrew should have gone to temple (after all, it is Purim). He didn't apply the Rabbi's rule and led a low heart from his hand, losing to the singleton king with Weinstein.

Weinstein continued clubs, won in dummy with the ace. The HQ was cashed. Rosenthal, having no clue that the two high diamonds would not be cashing, played the ace and king. When Hampson ruffed, Rosenthal overruffed, but now he came up a trick short, Weinstein's carefully preserved C9 scored trick 13 for down one!

Willenken Nickell Ginossar Katz

W N E S

P 1NT P 4♦\*

P 4♥ P P

P

Against Nickell, Ginossar led his singleton DJ. Nick recognized that this was likely from shortness. Still, you can't blame a guy for trying. Nick won the DA and tried the DK. Eldad ruffed with the five and Nick overruffed with dummy's six. He played a club to the ace and a club to the king. He ruffed the third club felling the queen and turning the jack good in dummy. He played the HQ to the ace!! He knew the Rabbi's rule! Nick cashed dummy's HJ and led the H9 to Ginossar's ten. Eldad was

down to all spades. East/West collected their two high spades and dummy was good. Contract making. 10 IMPs to Nick

Board 16  
Dealer W  
EW Vul

♠ Q9  
♥ Q4  
♦ AK109872  
♣ A4

♠ K1086  
♥ K  
♦ Q653  
♣ 9632

♠ AJ752  
♥ 10853  
♦ J  
♣ Q105

♠ 43  
♥ AJ9762  
♦ 4  
♣ KJ87

NS		EW		Contract	Lead	Score
David Grainger & Joel Wooldridge	Bob Blanchard & Fred Chang	4♥+1 S	♣6	450		
Naren Gupta & Zia Mahmood	Joe Grue & Brad Moss	4♥= S	♠8	420		
Nick Nickell & Ralph Katz	Eldad Ginossar & Chris Willenken	4♥= N	♦J	420		
Sam Lev & Dan Lev	Larry Lebowitz & Adam Grossack	4♥= S	♠8	420		
Marty Fleisher & Chip Martel	Peter Weichsel & Bob Hamman	4♥-1 S	♠6	50		
Aaron Silverstein & Andrew Rosenthal	Geoff Hampson & Steve Weinstein	4♥-1 S	♠8	50		
Eddie Wold & Mike Levine	Steve Garner & Jeff Wolfson	4♥-1 S	♠8	50		
Allan Graves & Jill Meyers	Mark Lair & Mike Passell	3NT-2 N	♠5	100		

Note that Nick was the only one of the seven who played 4H to declare from the North hand!

Graves, North, and Meyers, South, reached 3NT on the auction to the right. 3D was a transfer to hearts. Graves disdained it hoping his diamonds would run in the NT game. They did not.

W N E S

P 1♦ P 1♥

P 2NT P 3♦\*

P 3NT P P

P

Board 25, Dir N  
2♣X-3 E

W Brad Moss

♠ 864  
♥ QJ75  
♦ 764  
♣ AK6

N Naren Gupta

♠ 7  
♥ K1084  
♦ 92  
♣ QJ8752

E Joe Grue

♠ AQ1092  
♥ 632  
♦ J105  
♣ 94

♠ KJ53  
♥ A9  
♦ AKQ83  
♣ 103

S Zia Mahmood

	W	N	E	S
1♠	X		1NT	X
2♣	X			X
3NT				
4♣				

## What Comes Around, Goes Around...

On Board 25 in the Fleisher/Lall match, Zia opened 1D and Brad Moss overcalled 1S. Brad had a decent suit and a bad hand. Naren Gupta made a negative double and Joe Grue bid 1NT showing clubs (either a suit or lead directing). Zia doubled to show his strong hand. This passed around to Grue who bid 2C. Zia doubled again and Naren was happy to sit with his strong club holding.

The defense started with three rounds of diamonds. Declarer ruffed the third diamond and led the CQ. Gupta won the CK and returned the HQ. This was ducked around. Gupta continued with a small heart to Grue's ten and Zia's ace. Zia led the D3. Dummy discarded a heart and North pitched a spade. Declarer trumped in hand and led a spade to the ace. The SQ was passed around to Zia's king. Zia returned the D8, trumped in

dummy and over ruffed by Gupta's CA. Naren played a heart and Zia scored his CT for the eighth defensive trick. N/S +800 was good for 6 IMPs when their counterparts played in 3NTX scoring +550.

Board 26, Dir E  
4♥X-5 N

W Brad Moss

♠ 75  
♥ J876  
♦ —  
♣ KJ98753

N Naren Gupta

♠ KQ102  
♥ A42  
♦ K86  
♣ AQ2

E Joe Grue

♠ AJ86  
♥ Q10  
♦ 10942  
♣ 1064

♠ 943  
♥ K953  
♦ AQJ753  
♣ —

S Zia Mahmood

	W	N	E	S
1♠			1♣	1♦
1♥		1♥	1NT	4♥
2♣	X			
3♥				

On the very next hand, it was Zia/Gupta's turn to get aggressive.

Grue opened 1C. Zia overcalled 1D. Moss passed, and when Naren freely bid 1H, Grue bid 1NT showing better than 15-17. Zia showed no respect and jumped to 4H over 1NT. Brad Moss doubled.

Grue led the H2, which was ducked to West's queen. Brad returned the C4 to Grue's CQ and Dummy trumped. Gupta cashed the DA, discarding a spade and led the DQ, tossing a second spade. East won the DK and played two rounds of hearts. Gupta won the HK and cashed the DJ discarding a club. Declarer exited dummy with a spade on which he discarded a losing club.

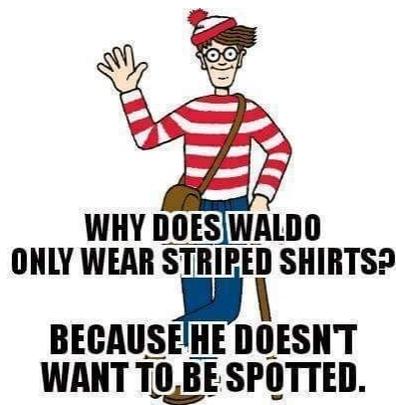
Moss won the spade, cashed the D9 and continued spades. Declarer's only remaining trick was his high trump.

Down five for N/S scored -1400. At the other table, 4S by E/W was defeated one trick.

17 IMPs to Fleisher



The Romans didn't find algebra very challenging, because X was always 10.



Board 32, Dlr W  
5♥X= W

W Chip Martel

♠ Q1054  
♥ K  
♦ KJ106  
♣ Q642

N Peter Weichsel

♠ A6  
♥ AQ10982  
♦ 7  
♣ A1093

Marty Fleisher E

♠ 32  
♥ J754  
♦ Q9432  
♣ K5

Bob Hamman S

♠ KJ987  
♥ 63  
♦ A85  
♣ J87

W N E S  
1♥ X 3♥\* 4♠  
5♥ P P X  
P P P

Chip Martel showed great instincts on this hand.

Peter Weichsel led the S4 and Martel captured the king with his ace. Chip led a club to the king and returned a club to his ace. A club was trumped with the H7 and Martel played the H4 to his ace felling North's singleton king of trumps!!

Why did he do that?

Martel likely reasoned that North held only one of the diamond honors since he did not lead a diamond on opening lead. Also, South had shown up with the SK... but he needed more than that for his raise to 4S. (The HK would probably not have excited him.)

Dropping the singleton king (Again the Rabbi's Rule and Chip probably knew it was Purim season) was worth 850 and 14 IMPs.

Board 32, Dlr W  
5♥-1 W

W Neil Chambers

♠ Q1054  
♥ K  
♦ KJ106  
♣ Q642

N Bart Bramley

♠ A6  
♥ AQ10982  
♦ 7  
♣ A1093

Hemant Lall E

♠ 32  
♥ J754  
♦ Q9432  
♣ K5

Kit Woolsey S

♠ KJ987  
♥ 63  
♦ A85  
♣ J87

W N E S  
1♥ P 3♥\* 3♠  
4♠ 4♠ P P  
5♥ P P P

At the other table where Neil Chambers did not play for the singleton HK, he was defeated a trick in 5H.

Since Bart Bramley did not make a takeout double with the North hand, Chambers had no reason to assume he held more than average strength, AND, Kit Woolsey's 3S bid was gutsy, but effective.

NS	EW	Contract	Lead	Score
Bart Bramley & Kit Woolsey	Hemant Lall & Neil Chambers	5♥-1 W	♠5	100
Jeff Meckstroth & Eric Rodwell	Steve Sanborn & Kerri Sanborn	5♥-1 W	♠5	100
Migry Campanile & David Berkowitz	Geoff Hampson & Steve Weinstein	4♥= W	♠5	620
Allan Graves & Jill Meyers	Mark Lair & Mike Passell	4♥= W	♠5	620
Sam Lev & Dan Lev	David Grainger & Joel Wooldridge	4♥+1 W	♠4	650
Nick Nickell & Ralph Katz	Eldad Ginossar & Chris Willenken	4♥+2 W	♠5	680
Michael Rosenberg & Zach Grossack	Fred Chang & Gary Cohler	4♥+2 W	♦J	680
Peter Weichsel & Bob Hamman	Marty Fleisher & Chip Martel	5♥X= W	♠4	850

	<p>♠ 98</p> <p>♥ AQJ72</p> <p>♦ AK53</p> <p>♣ Q6</p>	<p>N Michael Rosenberg</p>																									
<p>W Fred Chang</p>	<p>♠ 3</p> <p>♥ K5</p> <p>♦ Q1064</p> <p>♣ AJ5432</p>	<p>E Bob Blanchard</p>																									
<p>Zach Grossack S</p>	<p>♠ AKJ62</p> <p>♥ 983</p> <p>♦ J92</p> <p>♣ 109</p>																										
<p>♠ Q10754</p> <p>♥ 1064</p> <p>♦ 87</p> <p>♣ K87</p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>W</th> <th>N</th> <th>E</th> <th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>1♥</td> <td>1♠</td> <td></td> <td>P</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2♣</td> <td>X</td> <td></td> <td>P</td> <td>2♥</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2NT</td> <td>P</td> <td></td> <td>P</td> <td>X</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td></td> <td>P</td> <td></td> <td>P</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		W	N	E	S	P	1♥	1♠		P	2♣	X		P	2♥	2NT	P		P	X	P		P		P	
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P	1♥	1♠		P																							
2♣	X		P	2♥																							
2NT	P		P	X																							
P		P		P																							

It is easy to see that if North makes his normal lead of the HQ, declarer will likely lose seven tricks (four hearts, one club and two diamonds). But that's not what happened here.

Presumably thinking that South, Zach Grossack, was showing a better hand with a spade stack (note that Zach did not bid 2H over East's 1S bid), Michael Rosenberg led the S9.

Declarer, Fred Chang, won the SA and led the C9. Grossack covered with the CK. Declarer won the CA and played a second round of clubs.

Rosenberg won the CQ and cashed the DK. If South had the DQ, declarer would not have an entry to his hand. If declarer had only Qxx of diamonds and a singleton spade, he would be endplayed in his hand and would only be able to take seven tricks.

Defending on this line Rosenberg continued with the DA and a diamond. Declarer was able to take two diamond tricks and four club tricks to make his contract and score +690.

13 IMPs to Blanchard

At the other table, Lev and Cohler played 3H making +170.

	<p>♠ 98</p> <p>♥ AQJ72</p> <p>♦ AK53</p> <p>♣ Q6</p>	<p>N Sam Lev</p>																									
<p>W Joel Woolldridge</p>	<p>♠ 3</p> <p>♥ K5</p> <p>♦ Q1064</p> <p>♣ AJ5432</p>	<p>E David Grainger</p>																									
<p>Gary Cohler S</p>	<p>♠ AKJ62</p> <p>♥ 983</p> <p>♦ J92</p> <p>♣ 109</p>																										
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	W	N	E	S																							
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P	P	2♠		P																							
2NT	3♥	P		P																							
P		P		P																							

**Why is England the wettest country?  
Because the queen has reigned there  
for years.**

**Two men meet on opposite sides of a river.  
One shouts to the other "I need you to help  
me get to the other side!"  
The other guy replies, "You're on the other  
side!"**