

Volume 13, Issue 13
October 30, 2021

UNITED STATES BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

“Trials” and Tribulations—Oldies but Goodies

Senior Results USA2 Final Halfway...

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<u>Senior USBC USA2 - 2021</u>											
Final (120 boards)			Set score of form "Ax" or "Rx" indicates pending Appeal or Ruling. IMPs Total may change.								
29-Oct-2021			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	SET #5	SET #6	SET #7	SET #8	Adjustment (IMPs)
2	Gupta	102	18	10	35	39					
3	Bramley	148	27	51	39	31					



SUSBC Teams

Alphabetical



Beatty	Steve Beatty, Capt Jim Foster Jeff Roman	Fred Stewart Bryan Howard Ralph Buchalter
Bramley	Bart Bramley, Capt Dan Morse	Kit Woolsey Pratap Rajadhyaksha
Cappelli	Bob Cappelli, Capt Dave Caprera Gloria Bart	Bob Bitterman Anne Brenner Les Bart
Fox	Jim Fox, Capt Neil Chambers	Jerry Helms Allan Graves
Gupta	Naren Gupta, Capt Hemant Lall David Berkowitz	Zia Mahmood Steve Garner Alan Sontag
Kahn	Allen Kahn, Capt [KO] Mark Aquino Rick Binder	Jeffrey Rothstein [KO] Eric Robinson Alan Watson
Levine	Mike Levine Jeff Meckstroth Mark Lair Bob Morris, NPC	Eddie Wold Mike Passell
Lewis	Linda Lewis, Capt Ron Smith Doug Doub	Paul Lewis Billy Cohen John Stiefel
Reynolds	Tom Reynolds, Capt William Hall Randy Howard	Lance Kerr Joe Viola John Jones
Simson	Doug Simson, Capt Drew Casen John Schermer	Jeff Aker Jim Krekorian Venkatrao Koneru

"I see," said Tom **icily**.

"Pass the playing cards," said Tom **ideally**.

"That is a sick bird," said Tom **illegally**.

"There's nothing wrong with demons," Tom said **implicitly**.

"This bird hasn't got a beak," said Tom **impeccably**.

"I brush my teeth several times a day," said Tom **implacably**.

"That little devil didn't tell the truth," Tom **implied**.

"I'm burning aromatic substances," said Tom, **incensed**.

"He's a boring chap," said Tom **indulgently**.

"Can I become a chorister?" Tom **inquired**.

"I'm swimming in the middle of Paris!" shouted Tom **insanely**.

"I'm not leaving the chapel until I finish this painting," said Michelangelo **insistently**.

"I've borrowed my sister's camping gear," said Tom **insistently**.

"I like camping," said Tom **intently**.

"It's my personal magnetism," said Tom **ironically**.

"Your Honour, you're crazy!" said Tom **judgmentally**.

"The insect in William's hand is wearing a yarmulka!" said Tom **jubilantly**.

"Let's eat kosher tonight," said Tom **judiciously**.

"I like ragged margins," said Tom without **justification**.

"My parents are called Billy and Nanny," Tom **kidded**.

"I've run out of wool," said Tom, **knitting his brow**.

"I wonder if this will unlock the palace gates," said Tom **kinkily**.

"I have no recollection of the last twenty-four hours," said Tom **lackadaisically**.

"No ellipses, parabolas or hyperbolas," said Tom **laconically**.

"I think I've broken my leg ", reported Tom **lamely**.

"She even flies her own jet," Tom **leered**.

"It's a German song," Tom **lied**.

"This Bud's for you," said Tom **lightly**.

"Is it true that some animals will eat their own babies?" asked Tom **literately**.

"I have lost all my Hungarian sheet music," said Tom **listlessly**.

"Nobody has scored yet in the tennis game," said Tom **lovingly**.

"I chop down trees for a living," said Tom **lumberingly**.

"I'm just going to put these handcuffs on you," said Tom **manically**.

"It's only average," said Tom **meanly**.

"The average frequency of my voice is 160 Hz," said Tom in **measured tones**.

"I have to fix the car," said Tom **mechanically**.

"Thank you so much, Monsieur," said Tom **mercifully**.

"Perhaps I will," said Tom with all his **might**.

"The girl has been kidnapped," said Tom **mistakenly**.

"I want a motorized bicycle," Tom **moped**.

"We'll need a higher price at auction," Tom said **morbidly**.

"The sun is rising," Tom **mourned**.

"Another work week begins," said Tom **mundanely**.



Tom Swifties...

KIBITZING ON LOVEBRIDGE

You can follow the USBC on the <https://vugraph.lovebridge.com/> website. The stream is delayed; go to the schedule below for starting times for each segment.

Popcorn time!

Do you want to listen to commentary? Search for the TV icon! It will send you to the page where you can choose from the available live commentary. If it doesn't do anything, no one is commenting.

Nail biting!

Do you want to be deeply involved? Choose the "Match view" at the starting page of your event. Your screen will be divided into four small screens – two of them showing the two tables of the match you choose, the other two having the scoresheet for your match and the current scores of the other matches. In the 2x2 view you can also personalize the content in all your windows. (The 2x2 view is not available on mobiles.)

Think together!

When watching a table, click on a name and choose "Kibitz". Instead of seeing all 4 hands, you will see what the player sees, and you can decide what you would do and see whether your chosen player agrees.

More Information:

Be well informed and tell your friends: while following the play, you can click many items. The image of the sticker with the number of the board (upper right) takes you to the results of the board, in the bottom right corner the arrow takes you the scoresheet, the DDS shows the double dummy analyses, beside that there is a button for the other table of the same match, at the top left corner you can see the bidding with alerts and the explanations (mouse over), the tricks already played, and the double dummy analysis for the available number of tricks with the par score.

Navigation icons:

While surfing here and there in the vugraph, or amongst the archive sessions, there are icons to help you. You can always go back to the main page with the "house" or to the standings with the "scores". If you cannot see the icons, move your mouse, or touch your screen and they pop up immediately. There is also a built-in back button because the back button of your browser will always take you to the starting page. If this is not what you wanted, push next in your browser and you can continue where you were.

Replay:

After the event you can find every board from every table easily. While replaying the hands, the only surprise can be the way "next board" button works. If you have arrived from a scoresheet, it navigates through the scoresheet. If you have arrived from a screen where the results were shown for a given board then the same buttons move you through list. Push every button and enjoy!

KIBITZING SCHEDULE FOR THE KO (EDT)

Segment 1: 12:00 noon

Segment 2: 2:25 pm

BREAK

Segment 3: 5:45 pm

Segment 4: 8:00 pm

NEXT DAY

Segment 5: 12:00 noon

Segment 6: 2:25 pm

BREAK

Segment 7: 7:00 pm

Segment 8: 9:30 pm



Ed. Note: See page 5 for the link to Tracey Bauer's video interview with Peter Talyigas at Love-Bridge explaining "How to Get the Most from Kibitzing on the site"

The Austin NABC will be held as scheduled.

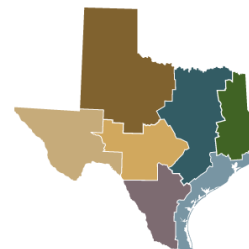
After much consideration, the decision has been made to move forward for the [2021 Fall North American Bridge Championships](#) scheduled for Nov. 25-Dec. 5 in Austin.



While we are excited to bring players back to the bridge table, we will still approach the tournament with an abundance of caution. We will hold the event as carefully as possible to protect the health and safety of players, volunteers and staff. Because of this, meetings and other large social gatherings outside of gameplay will be very limited (details are available on the [Austin NABC website](#)). We hope to hold these events during NABCs in 2022.

All NABC attendees, staff and volunteers must be fully vaccinated to attend the Austin NABC and have face masks properly worn when present in the tournament areas. We have procured VOW Digital Health to manage the verification process for vaccinations. Further details on all health and safety requirements are available on the Austin NABC page of our website

Please do not attend the Fall NABC if you are not prepared to follow the safety protocols. They are in place to protect all attendees, and no exceptions will be made.



In the Daily Bulletin from the Senior Online Championships on October 3, you may have seen the **In Memoriam** for Jeff Goldsmith. Jeff lost his battle with cancer last week.

Jeff's family has designated the **USBF Junior Fund**, a 501C(3) charity, for donations in his memory. Donations may be made through the USBF website (USBF.org) and will be properly acknowledged. This was a very kind gesture by Jeff and his family who recognized how important bridge was to Jeff.

ALERT!! PLAYERS WHO PLAYED IN SCHAUMBURG SO FAR...

Please return any styluses you may have in your possession. We need them for the Mixed and the Seniors! Thank you. No questions asked!!

LoveBridge computes some interesting statistics on each player each day. Today you can see yesterday's statistics and tomorrow you can see the stats from today. To view, you must go to https://stats.lovebridge.com/statistics/usbc_2285 and enter your username. Each player has an individual username and password. Anyone can view a complete set of stats by clicking the tournament link and selecting USBC Open All.

Your personal stats are only available when you're logged in.

Tracy Bauer put together a U-Tube video interview with Peter Talyigas at LoveBridge and if you are having trouble figuring out how to kubit, please access the link below... it may help:

<https://www.twitch.tv/videos/1176199382>

One side note: The format is not supported on Google Chrome. It does work on Edge!!

Meet the Players

Bart Bramley (born January 6, 1948) is a brilliant American bridge player. He is living in Dallas, Texas with his wife, Judy. He is a huge Yankees fan. He is originally from Connecticut, a graduate of MIT. Below is taken from Wikipedia and has not been updated for some time! Bart has served on several Ethics committees for the ACBL.

Awards

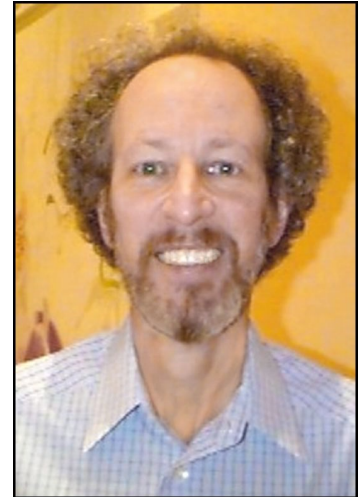
ACBL Player of the Year 1997
Herman Trophy 1997
Mott-Smith Trophy 1997

Wins

North American Bridge Championships
von Zedtwitz Life Master Pairs 2006
Silodor Open Pairs 1984
Blue Ribbon Pairs 2002, 2009
Nail Life Master Open Pairs 1987, 1995
Jacoby Open Swiss Teams 1984, 1990, 1997
Roth Open Swiss Teams 2013
Vanderbilt 1989
Senior Knockout Teams 2013
Keohane North American Swiss Teams 2008
Mitchell Board-a-Match Teams 1980
Reisinger 1997

Runners-up

North American Bridge Championships
Rockwell Mixed Pairs 1981
Wernher Open Pairs 1997
Grand National Teams 1988, 2004
Jacoby Open Swiss Teams 1991, 1994
Vanderbilt 1986
Senior Knockout Teams 2012
Mitchell Board-a-Match Teams 1976, 1987
Reisinger 2012
Spingold 1981, 1988



Bart Bramley, Michael Rosenberg, Eric Rodwell (left to right) Par contest winners at World Championships 1998, Lille, France

BIDDING TRICKS INFO DDS

W	N	E	S
DBL	1NT	PASS	1♥
2♦	3♣	PASS	2♠

10 8 7 6 5 3 A Q A 9 4 J 8
♣♣♣♣♣♥♥♠♠♦♦

Hemant Lall

NORTH
WEST 7 EAST
DEALER

J 9 2
9 8 6 4
6 5
10 9 6 3

Bart Bramley

4
K 7
K Q 8 2
K Q 7 5 4 2

Kit Woolsey

Open Room

A K Q J 10 5 3 2 J 10 7 3 A
♣♣♥♥♥♥♥♠♠♠♦

Naren Gupta

S 3♣ NS EW 0 0

N-S: Gupta 7 IMPs
E-W: Bramley 7 IMPs
Other room: N4♥ +3 710

The lie of the cards on Board 7 is perfect for N/S declaring in either clubs or hearts.

In the Open Room, Gupta/Lall played in 3C, taking the way low road with 26 HCP between them. Gupta made four but he could have taken all the tricks! 1NT was a relay to clubs. 2C was forced. 2D was explained as "equal level correction" indicating it did not reflect extra values. Lall bid 3C and ended the auction.

BIDDING TRICKS INFO DDS

W	N	E	S
3♦	3♥	PASS	2♦
PASS	PASS	PASS	4♥

A Q A 9 4 J 8 10 8 7 6 5 3
♥♥♠♠♦♦♣♣♣♣♣♣♣♣

Dan Morse

NORTH
WEST 7 EAST
DEALER

9 8 6 4
6 5
10 9 6 3

Steve Garner

4
K 7
K Q 8 2
K Q 7 5 4 2

Zia Mahmood

Closed Room

J 10 5 3 2 J 10 7 3 A A K Q
♥♥♥♥♥♠♠♠♠♣♣♣♣♣♣

Pratap Rajadhyaksha

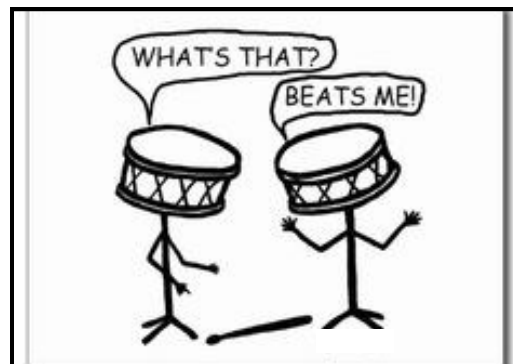
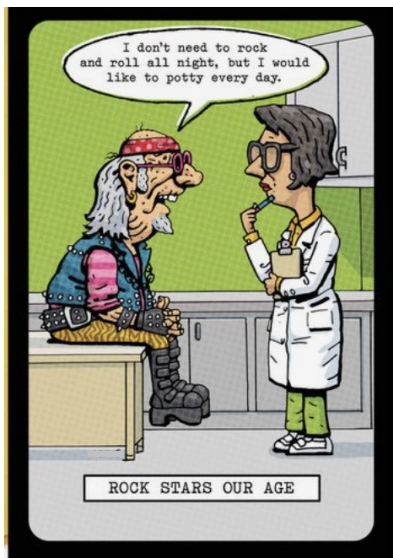
N 4♥ NS EW 0 0

N-S: Bramley 7 IMPs
E-W: Gupta 7 IMPs
Other room: S 3♣ +1 130

Woolsey led the DK. Gupta won his ace. Gupta played the CA and drew a wish trick! He played the SJ to the Q, A, 5. He ruffed the DJ with the CQ, cashed the CK. He played a spade to Woolsey's king and Kit gave Bart a ruff. Bart returned the DT and declarer claimed ten tricks.

In the Closed Room, Pratap used Bramley's long-time favorite convention and opened Flannery. Zia overcalled 3D. Dan Morse, with 2 hearts and 3 spades, chose hearts as the 7-card fit. Pratap raised to game.

Like 4C, with the Kx of hearts in the pocket and clubs no worse than 3-1, the hand is cold for seven. Garner led the DT, Morse won in dummy and played a heart to the queen and cashed the HA. When the king fell, He led the C5 to dummy (disdaining the wish trick had he led the C3!!) He pulled trump with the jack and ten of hearts and cashed the queen and king of clubs. He claimed all thirteen tricks. 11 IMPs to Bramley... the first double digit swing of the day!



BIDDING	TRICKS	INFO	DDS
W: 1NT	N: 2♣	E: PASS	S: 2♦
DBL	2♠	3♦	DBL
PASS	PASS	PASS	

Open Room

Hand 7: Dealer North (8). North: ♠A9542, ♥A1083, ♦974, ♣4. South: ♠K873, ♥1087, ♦K4, ♣J832. West: ♠QJ1092, ♥K3, ♦QJ97, ♣Q5. East: ♠A65, ♥QJ6, ♦A106, ♣AK106.

Kit Woolsey (W), Naren Gupta (S), Bart Bramley (E), Hemant Lall (N)

Score: N-S: Gupta 7 IMPs, E-W: Bramley 18 IMPs. Other room: N 4♣ -1 -50.

As lucky as Bramley was on Board 7, he gave most of it back on Board 8.

In the Open Room, Woolsey opened a 10-12 NT. Lall showed the majors. Bramley passed and Gupta bid 2D, likely showing equal majors. Kit doubled showing diamonds; Lall bid 2S; Bramley, with a 4-card holding in his partner's suit, competed with 3D. Gupta doubled and led the D5. Bramley won the ten and played a heart to the king. All roads lead to down two, the defense collecting one diamond, two spades, one heart and two clubs.

BIDDING	TRICKS	INFO	DDS
W: PASS	N: PASS	E: PASS	S: 1♣
1♦	1♠	3♦	PASS
PASS	DBL	PASS	4♣

Closed Room

Hand 8: Dealer North (8). North: ♠A9542, ♥A1083, ♦9744. South: ♠1087, ♥K4, ♦J832, ♣K873. West: ♠K3, ♥QJ97, ♦QJ1092, ♣Q5. East: ♠QJ6, ♥652, ♦AK106, ♣A65.

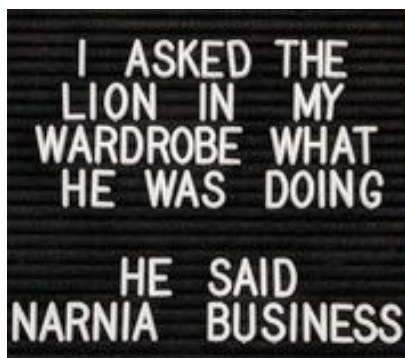
Zia Mahmood (W), Steve Garner (E), Pratap Rajadhyaksha (S), Dan Morse (N)

Score: N-S: Bramley 18 IMPs, E-W: Gupta 7 IMPs. Other room: E 3♦ x -2 300.

In the Closed Room, Morse and Pratap bid to 4S after Zia overcalled one diamond and Garner made a mixed raise in support.

Garner led the D3, won with dummy's ace. Morse led the SQ to the king and ace. He played the H3 to the 4,5,7. Zia led the S3 to the 4,8,J. The H2 went to the ace, and when the suit didn't split, Morse went quietly down one, losing two hearts, one spade, and one club.

8 IMPs to Gupta



I've started telling everyone about the benefits of eating dried grapes...
It's all about raisin awareness!

BIDDING **TRICKS** **INFO** **DDS**

W	N	E	S
1♦	2♣	PASS	PASS
2♥	PASS	3♣	PASS
3NT	PASS	PASS	PASS

DEALER WEST 21 EAST SOUTH

Kit Woolsey (W) Steve Garner (N) Zia Mahmood (S) Bart Bramley (E)

W 3NT NS 0 EW 0

N-S: Gupta 22 IMPs
E-W: Bramley 36 IMPs
Other room: E 3♣ +1 -130

Again, on Board 21, in the Open Room, Kit and Bart took the high road and bid game while Gupta and Lall took the low road and played in a partial.

The only alert in the auction was 2H showing spades. Against the game, Garner led the D8. Kit won in hand with the queen. He went about knocking out the CAK to take ten tricks. +430

BIDDING **TRICKS** **INFO** **DDS**

W	N	E	S
1♦	2♣	PASS	PASS
2♣	PASS	3♣	PASS
PASS	PASS	PASS	PASS

DEALER WEST 21 EAST SOUTH

Naren Gupta (W) Dan Morse (N) Pratap Rajadhyaksha (S) Hemant Lall (E)

E 3♣ NS 0 EW 0

N-S: Bramley 36 IMPs
E-W: Gupta 22 IMPs
Other room: W 3N +1 -430

While the swings are not so great when one side bids a non-vulnerable game that the other side misses, it still costs 6 or 7 IMPs each time.

The first two rounds of bidding are essentially identical, conveying the same message at both tables. The difference came in the

final call where Woolsey chose to bid 3NT and Gupta chose to pass 3C.

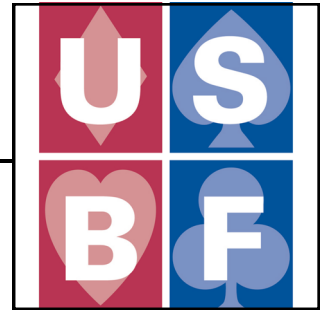
3C was cold with an overtrick. Pratap led the D2 and in the end, the defense collected two clubs and a spade. Lall took his ten tricks to lose 7 IMPs in the process.

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

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

Sudoku Answers

Answer to Sudoku 1 Answer to Sudoku 2



USBF Supporting Membership

If you don't want to play in the USBF Championships that choose teams to represent the USA in the World Bridge Federation Championships, but do want to aid our events, a **Supporting Membership** can be the perfect way for you to be involved.

A Supporting Membership is \$25 for one year (\$75 for 3 years) and your donation will be used to cover inevitable expenses: attorney fees, accounting fees, website support services, tournament directors, insurance, WBF dues, and vugraph operators.

The USBF is an **all-volunteer** organization.

Our meetings are by conference call and at NABCS. Board members and the organization's officers are not compensated for meetings, travel, or hotel expenses.

We hope you will join us.



Playing cards,
Don't be a grump!
Make good use
Of every trump!



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

Hard Sudoku

From the Editor:
 Please be advised to keep this issue of the newsletter. While team lists and schedules will be reprinted in subsequent hard copy editions, other information may not.
 Thank you!!
 Suzi
 If you have a great hand or bridge news or gossip you think would be of interest to our readers, you can email me at stansubeck@prodigy.net



Answer to Puzzle on Page 12

Type	Day	Time	Name	Number
Soccer	Sunday	3pm	Wooster	#23
Hockey	Sunday	7pm	Scott	#41
Football	Saturday	3pm	Jansen	#58
Basketball	Saturday	7pm	Davis	#34

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

Sudoku Answers on page 10

	Saturday	Saturday	Sunday	Sunday	3pm	3pm	7pm	7pm	Davis	Jansen	Scott	Wooster	#23	#34	#41	#58
Basketball																
Football																
Hockey																
Soccer																
#23																
#34																
#41																
#58																
Davis																
Jansen																
Scott																
Wooster																
3pm																
3pm																
7pm																
7pm																

Answer on Page 11

Type	Day	Time	Name	Number

Joe is all set for the weekend! His wife is going away for a girls' only weekend, so he figures he can have the guys over for the game Saturday... and Sunday! By a happy coincidence, their four favorite sports were all airing games this weekend and the schedule actually worked out so that they could watch all of them, none of the games overlapped. With food, extra chairs, and plenty of beer stocked up, he was ready for the games to begin. He was such a big sports fan that he even had a different team shirt to wear for each game! Each shirt was an accurate replica of his favorite player's uniform including the name on the back and the player's number. Determine the type of sport, day and time of each game, and the player name and number of each team shirt that Joe planned to wear.

- The two games that aired at 3pm, in no particular order, were the football game and the one that Joe planned to wear his Wooster shirt for, though his number wasn't #34.
- Jansen's number wasn't #41.
- The basketball game was on the day before the game where Joe wore the Scott shirt but on the same day as the #58 shirt, which was for a different game.
- The Davis shirt, which had a number lower than the Sunday at 7pm shirt, was worn for the second game on Saturday, which wasn't a hockey game.
- The soccer game wasn't watched with the #58 shirt.
- Shirt #23 wasn't worn on Saturday. The hockey game was at 7pm.

USA States

Find and circle all of the USA States that are hidden in the grid.
 The remaining letters spell a secret message - an Adlai Stevenson quotation.
 Note: VIRGINIA and WEST VIRGINIA do not overlap. The same goes for KANSAS and ARKANSAS

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

- | | | | |
|-------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|
| ALABAMA | INDIANA | NEBRASKA | SOUTH CAROLINA |
| ALASKA | IOWA | NEVADA | SOUTH DAKOTA |
| ARIZONA | KANSAS | NEW HAMPSHIRE | TENNESSEE |
| ARKANSAS | KENTUCKY | NEW JERSEY | TEXAS |
| CALIFORNIA | LOUISIANA | NEW MEXICO | UTAH |
| COLORADO | MAINE | NEW YORK | VERMONT |
| CONNECTICUT | MARYLAND | NORTH CAROLINA | VIRGINIA |
| DELAWARE | MASSACHUSETTS | NORTH DAKOTA | WASHINGTON |
| FLORIDA | MICHIGAN | OHIO | WEST VIRGINIA |
| GEORGIA | MINNESOTA | OKLAHOMA | WISCONSIN |
| HAWAII | MISSISSIPPI | OREGON | WYOMING |
| IDAHO | MISSOURI | PENNSYLVANIA | |
| ILLINOIS | MONTANA | RHODE ISLAND | |

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This app will connect you to bid72. All you need to do is scan it with your phone (Special thanks to my children and grandchildren for explaining how to accomplish this...)

Jan VanCleaf provided this so our readers could use it to improve their bidding and better build partnerships. Bid72 allows users to participate in bidding contests, bid random boards and get a rating based on their bidding, learn about "topic board" hands dedicated to conventions and special agreements, and to create, upload and bid your own boards.

For more information, email info@bid72.com

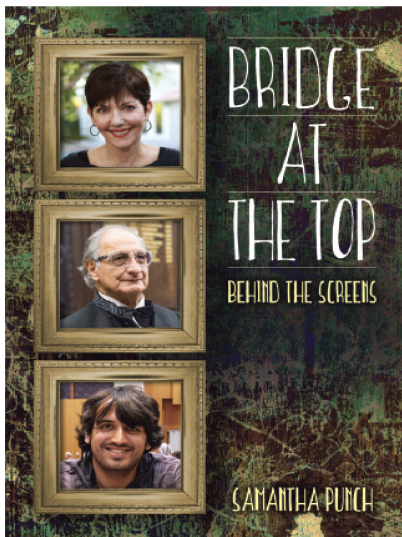
In addition, Bid72 has an excellent newsletter to which you can subscribe.

Now Available

Bridge at the Top

Behind the Screens

Samantha Punch



The interviews make the names we see on VuGraph come to life. The tips are tricks of the trade that will be useful to players of all levels. It is a fun and informative read.

— Jill Levin

...intimate and revealing pictures of who these stars are, how they got to the top, and what keeps them there. The interviews are absorbing reading and the advice will help players at any level. The suggestions on partnership and mental toughness are of particular note.

— Chip Martel

In the course of her research project, *Bridge: A MindSport for All*, sociologist Dr. Samantha Punch has been able to speak with many of the world's top bridge personalities. The best interviews are collected in this book, and they offer fascinating insight into what it takes to be a top player, coach or even sponsor. As a bonus, each subject offers their favorite bridge tip.

US\$22.95 | GBP 17.95
978-1-77140-064-0

Available to order today from your favourite bookstore.



Master Point Press

Samantha Punch's book is recently published and ready for your reading pleasure.

Sam is an amazing advocate of the game and while I have not yet read the book, based on her work with "Keep Bridge Alive" and more, I am certain you will want to have this volume in your collection!

Learn about the experts... how they think... what they think... and why they are so driven by a card game.

Editor



Samantha

TRICKS AND TREATS

Thurs.-Sun., October 28-31, 2021

ACBL Tournament

Regionally Rated - All Times Eastern



Daily Two-Session Events

Award Gold & Red Points - Must Play Both Sessions - \$30 per player



Midday Two-Session Event Schedule

- 1:15 pm & 4:45 pm ET** **Golden Ghoul Gold Rush Pairs** (750/400/200)
No player may have more than 750 masterpoints
- 1:15 pm & 4:45 pm ET** **Candy Corn Mid-Flight Pairs** (3000/1250)
No player may have more than 3000 masterpoints
- 1:15 pm & 4:45 pm ET** **Jack O' Lantern Top-Flight Pairs** (unlimited/4000)



Daily Single-Session Events

Awards red points

Play in One, Two, Three or All Four Events - \$15 per player, per session

- 10:15 am, 1:30 pm, 5:00 pm & 8:00 pm ET** **Great Pumpkin 499er Pairs** (500/300/100)
No player may have more than 500 masterpoints

Daily Side Games

Play in two sessions of the same series for a chance to win gold!

Play in One, Two, Three or All Four Sessions - \$15 per player, per session



- 10:15 am ET** **Creaking Staircase Side Game Series**
(unlimited/1500/500)
- 1:30 pm ET** **Rattling Chains Side Game Series**
(unlimited/1500/500)
- 5:00 pm ET** **Flickering Lights Side Game Series**
(unlimited/1500/500)
- 8:00 pm ET** **Howling Wind Side Game Series**
(unlimited/1500/500)(No Sunday)



Stratification for all events is by the average masterpoint holding of the pair. In any event with an upper masterpoint limit, neither player may exceed the limit for the event. Masterpoint awards for all single-session events are red points



36
WEST
ALL

♠ A
♥ A J 7 5 4 2
♦ Q J 9 8 3
♣ 5

♠ K T 8 7 6 4 2
♥ T 8
♦ A 7
♣ Q T

♠ Q
♥ K 9 3
♦ K 2
♣ K 8 7 6 4 3 2

Par: 500

	♣	♦	♥	♠	N
N	4	10	10	5	6
S	:	:	:	:	8
EW	9	3	3	8	5

♠ J 9 5 3
♥ Q 6
♦ T 6 5 4
♣ A J 9

Home team		Visiting team		Room	C	By	I	=	★	P
					NS	EW	Home	Visiting		
2	Gupta	Bramley		Open	4♥	N	♠Q	-1	100	11
				Closed	4♥	N	♠Q	=	620	

In the Open Room, Steve Garner, North, was declarer in 4H. Bramley led the SQ to Garner's ace. Garner cashed the HA!! He played a second heart to Bramley's king. Bramley played the DK and his small diamond to Woolsey. Woolsey played the SK, promoting the H9 in his partner's hand for the setting trick! Nice defense.

In the Open Room, Dan Morse, North, was declarer in 4H. Sontag led the SQ to Morse's ace. Morse cashed the HA. He played the H4 which Sontag won with the king. Sontag could have played the diamonds as Bramley did to reach partner for the uppercut, but he tried the C8 instead. Morse flew with dummy's ace, ruffed a club in hand, and quickly played the HJ to remove the threat of the H9 in Sontag's hand.

Declarer had ten tricks.
Contract making.
12 IMPs to Bramley



Senior Players:

We wanted to make you aware of the fact that the electronic environment provides the directors with full information about the time used by each pair for each bid or play. **You do not have to summon the director when you think your opponent has taken an unreasonable amount of time for one action or for the entire segment of play.** After a segment, you can ask the director to review the time taken by your opponents. At the completion of a hand, you can summon the director if you think the time taken provided Unauthorized Information to your opponent(s) and that might have influenced the opponent(s)' actions.

We want to discourage you from calling the director for general time issues during a segment, because that will only take more time, and will not provide the director with any additional information. Please call the director only if you think that a time issue has provided UI, and then only after the hand is over.

Time Sensitive!

		25	♠ J T 8 6 2		
		NORTH	♥ 6 5 2		
		E-W	♦ Q 9		
			♣ J 8 6		
		♠ A K 9 5	♠ 7 3		
		♥ K Q	♥ 9 8 4 3		
		♦ J 7 2	♦ K 8 5 4 3		
		♣ Q 9 7 2	♣ 4 3		
			♠ Q 4		
			♥ A J T 7		
			♦ A T 6		
			♣ A K T 5		
Par: 420					
	♣	♦	♥	♠	N
NS	8	7	9	10	9
EW	5	6	4	3	4

Home team	Visiting team	Room	C	By	1	=	☆	P
NS EW Home Visiting								
Gupta	Bramley	Open	3N	S	♥Q	+1	430	6
		Closed	1N	W	♠J	-2	200	

On Board 25, Gupta played in NT at both tables. Garner and Zia bid the game North/South in the Open Room. Gupta/Lall stole in the Closed room.

The screenshot shows a bridge bidding interface for Board 25. The bidding process is as follows: West (Woolsey) passes, North (Garner) passes, East (Bramley) passes, and South (Zia) passes. The final bid is 3NT by South. The dealer is West (Bramley). The cards for each player are: Garner (N): ♠ J 10 8 6 2, ♥ 6 5 2, ♦ Q 9, ♣ J 8 6; Woolsey (W): ♠ A K 9 5, ♥ K Q, ♦ J 7 2, ♣ Q 9 7 2; Bramley (E): ♠ 7 3, ♥ 9 8 4 3, ♦ K 8 5 4 3, ♣ 4 3; Zia (S): ♠ Q 4, ♥ A J T 7, ♦ A T 6, ♣ A K T 5. The interface also shows the bidding history and the current score: N-S: Gupta 22 IMPs, E-W: Bramley 52 IMPs, Other room: W 1N -2 200.

In the Open Room, Garner's 2D was multi. 2NT asks. 3D showed spades and a minimum. 3H asked for more but there was no more to tell and 3NT was to play.

Woolsey led the HQ (Rusinow). Zia won the ace. Zia played the SQ to Woolsey's king and Woolsey exited the C2, won with dummy's six. The H5 went to Woolsey's king. Woolsey cashed the SA, got out with a diamond and Zia claimed 10 tricks.

In the Closed table, things were more interesting...

Morse didn't think the North hand was a classic weak 2S. He passed and Lall passed. Pratap opened 1C and Gupta over-called 1NT. Everyone passed.

(Continued on page 18)

BIDDING **TRICKS** **INFO** **DDS**

W	N	E	S
1NT	PASS	PASS	1♣
	PASS	PASS	PASS

Hand 1 (Naren Gupta): ♠ A K 9 5, ♥ K Q, ♦ Q 9 7 2, ♣ J 7 2

Hand 2 (Dan Morse): ♠ J 10 8 6 2, ♥ 6 5 2, ♦ J 8 6 Q 9, ♣ 6

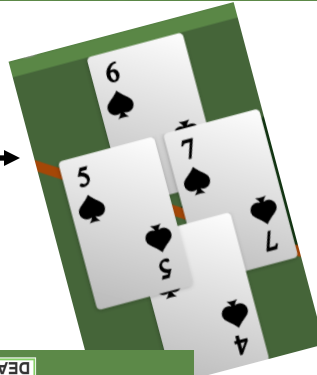
Hand 3 (Hemant Lall): ♠ 7 3, ♥ 9 8 4 3, ♦ K 8 5 4 3, ♣ 4 3

Hand 4 (Pratap Rajadhyaksha): ♠ Q 4, ♥ A J 10 7, ♦ A K 10 5, ♣ A 10 6

Score: W 1NT, NS 0, EW 0

IMP Table:
 N-S: Bramley 52 IMPs
 E-W: Gupta 22 IMPs
 Other room: S 3N +1 430

Morse led the SJ; Pratap played the queen and Gupta won his ace. Gupta led the D2 to the 9, 3, 6! Morse continued spades, leading the six to the 7, 4, 5. (Is this a "little, middle" wish trick... Ralph? Nick?)



Lall played the D4 to the ten and jack, Morse winning with his queen. Morse played the C6 to the king and Pratap cashed the DA to reach this position:

BIDDING **TRICKS** **INFO** **DDS**

W	N	E	S
1NT	PASS	PASS	1♣
	PASS	PASS	PASS

Hand 1 (Naren Gupta): ♠ K 9, ♥ K Q, ♦ Q 9 7, ♣ L

Hand 2 (Dan Morse): ♠ 10 8, ♥ 6 5 2, ♦ J 8, ♣ 8

Hand 3 (Hemant Lall): ♠ 9 8 4 3, ♥ 9 8 4 3, ♦ K 8, ♣ 3

Hand 4 (Pratap Rajadhyaksha): ♠ A J 10 7, ♥ A 10 5, ♣ 3

Score: W 1NT, NS 4, EW 2

IMP Table:
 N-S: Bramley 52 IMPs
 E-W: Gupta 22 IMPs
 Other room: S 3N +1 430

If Pratap cashes his HA, he will have Gupta endplayed in his hand in three suits for down three!

Pratap missed it at the table. He played the H7. Gupta won the queen and exited the HK to Pratap's ace, escaping for down two when all Pratap could so was cash his high hearts and exit a club. Pratap exited the C5. Gupta guessed correctly and played the queen, scoring both the CQ and SK!

6 IMPs to Gupta

37
NORTH
N-S

♠ J 9
♥ K J 6 5 3
♦ K J 8
♣ A 6 5

♠ K 2
♥ A T 8 7
♦ Q T 9 7 5
♣ T 4

♠ Q 6
♥ Q 9 4
♦ A 6 3
♣ J 9 8 3 2

♠ A T 8 7 5 4 3
♥ 2
♦ 4 2
♣ K Q 7

Par: 620

	♣	♦	♥	♠	N
N	7	6	7	10	7
S	:	5	:	:	:
EW	6	7	6	3	3

Home team Visiting team Room C By 1 = ☆ P

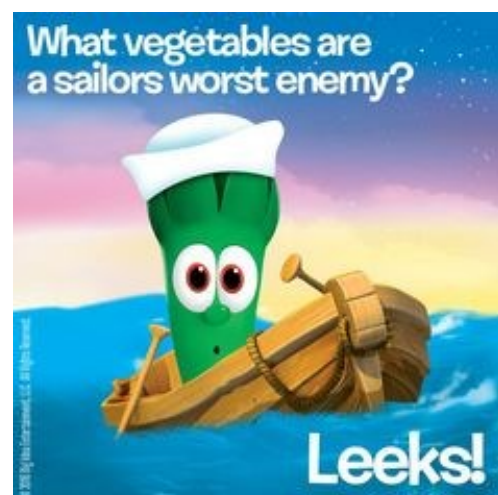
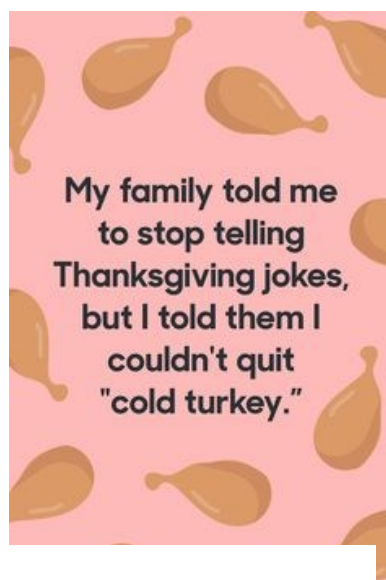
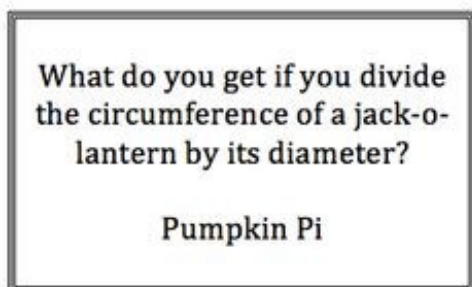
	NS	EW	Home	Visiti
2 Gupta Bramley	Open	4♠ S ♦T	= 620	10
	Closed	3♠ S ♦T	+1 170	

On Board 37, in the Open Room, Garner/Zia bid 4S, certainly a good enough game to want to be there vulnerable in IMPs. Zia started the hand with a loser in spades, a loser in hearts, and a loser in diamonds IF he guesses correctly... potentially two losers in diamonds if he guesses wrong.

The guess became much less foreboding when Woolsey led the DT! Zia made the normal play of the jack and when it forced the ace, he had an easy ten tricks.

In the Closed Room, Berkowitz also led the DT, however, Morse/Pratap had stopped in 3S, rendering the matter moot!

10 IMPs to Gupta

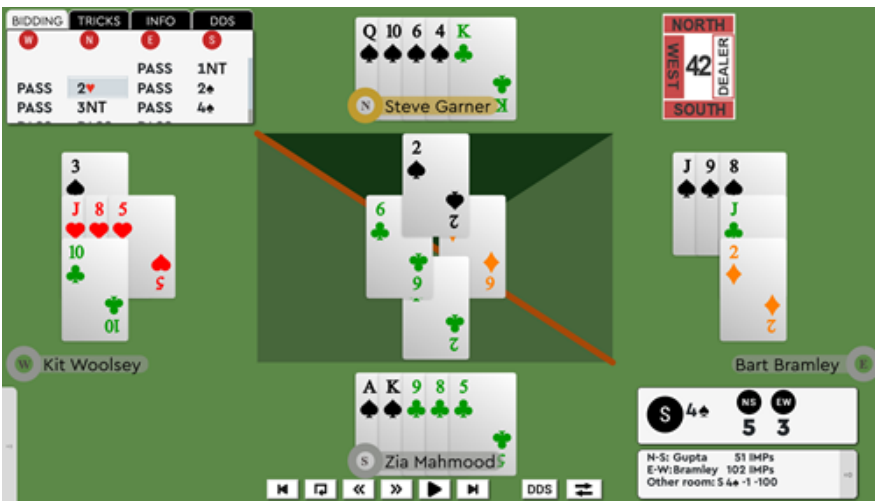




Board 42 presented some interesting timing problems for both declarer and the defenders.

Woolsey led a heart to dummy's king. Zia played the D7 to his queen. Woolsey followed with the D8. Zia led the D4 on which Woolsey played the jack. Zia covered with the king and Bramley won the ace. A heart exit will give declarer a problem, but that wasn't clear to Bramley. The D8 was UDCA, but what was the DJ? Bramley exited with the DT, allowing Zia to score his S5.

Zia led to the HQ and came off dummy with the C3 to his queen and Woolsey's ace. Woolsey led the H2. Dummy's small club was discarded, and Bramley trumped. Bramley played a diamond on which Zia and Woolsey discarded clubs. Zia ruffed in dummy. The five card position was:



Zia cashed the SAK and was able to lead a club back to dummy and drawing the remaining trump to make his contract and score +620.

At the other table, Pratap won the HQ and led a diamond to his queen. Pratap lead a heart to dummy's king. This was followed by the SAK, getting the bad news. Pratap cashed the HA, discarding a club from dummy. Sontag ruffed the heart, cashed the DA and led a club to Berkowitz's ace creating this five card position →



Berkowitz led the HJ and Sontag scored an up-percut for his SJ, setting the contract one trick. 12 IMPs to Gupta