

Volume 13, Issue 11
October 28, 2021

UNITED STATES BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

“Trials” and Tribulations—Oldies but Goodies

Senior Results

<u>Senior USBC USA2 - 2021</u>							
QuarterFinal (60 boards)				Set score of form "Ax" or "Rx" indicates Appeal or Ruling. IMPs Total may change			
27-Oct-2021				<i>The colored score boxes indicate the team with seating rights for that segment of play.</i>			
#	TEAM	IMPs Total	SET #1	SET #2	SET #3	SET #4	A
3	Simson	123	39	17	47	20	
6	Beatty - wins tie	97	12	30	16	39	
4	Lewis	123	44	18	32	29	
5	Bramley - wins tie	123	14	37	41	31	

<u>Senior USBC USA1 - 2021</u>											
Final (120 boards)			Set score of form "Ax" or "Rx" indicates pending Appeal or Ruling. IMPs Total may change.								
27-Oct-2021			<i>The colored score boxes indicate the team with seating rights for that segment of play.</i>								
#	TEAM	IMPs Total	SET #1	SET #2	SET #3	SET #4	SET #5	SET #6	SET #7	SET #8	Adjustment (IMPs)
1	Gupta	87	11	25	16	35					
2	Levine	135	33	9	60	33					

Read about the well bid slam on page 22 which secured the win for Bramley... “wins tie!!”

Why couldn't the pirate learn the alphabet? 'Cause he got lost at C.
What do you do with a sick boat? Take it to the doc.
What do horses say when they fall? I can't giddy up.
How do you impress a baker? Bring him flours.
How does a rancher keep track of his cattle? With a cow-culator.
What did the cake say to the fork? You want a piece of me?
How can you tell it's a dogwood tree? By the bark.

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- USBF Vice President**
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SUSBC Teams

Alphabetical

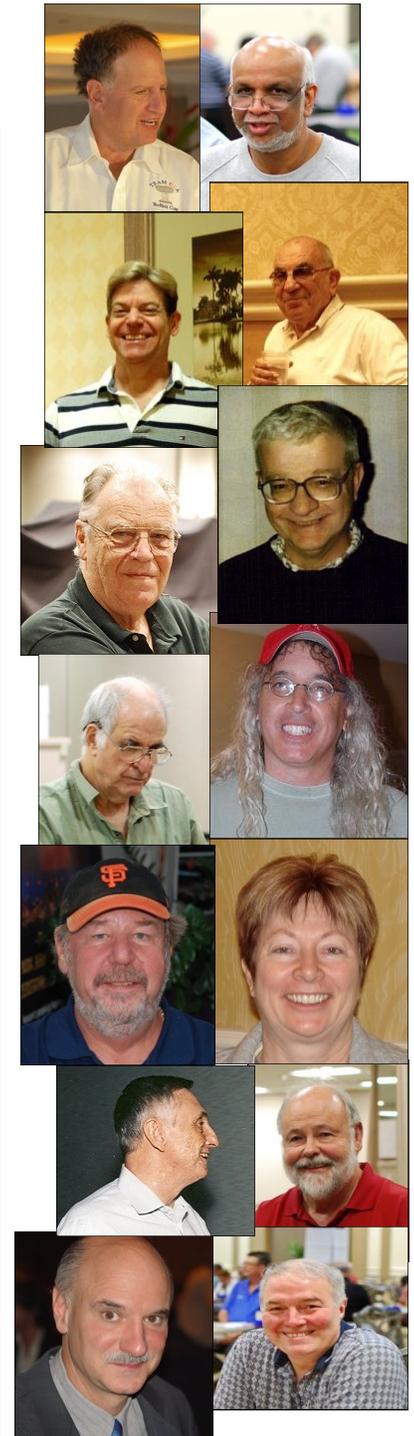


Beatty	Steve Beatty, Capt Jim Foster Jeff Roman	Fred Stewart Bryan Howard Ralph Buchalter
Bramley	Bart Bramley, Capt Dan Morse	Kit Woolsey Pratap Rajadhyaksha
Cappelli	Bob Cappelli, Capt Dave Caprera Gloria Bart	Bob Bitterman Anne Brenner Les Bart
Fox	Jim Fox, Capt Neil Chambers	Jerry Helms Allan Graves
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

Face-to-Face Schaumburg

Tournament Schedule

DAY	DATE	TIME - CDT	BOARDS
QUARTER-FINAL			
FRIDAY	OCT. 22	8:30 PM	CAPTAINS' MEETING WITH DIC (ON ZOOM)
SATURDAY	OCT. 23	10:00 - 12:10	SEGMENT 1 BOARDS 1-15
		12:25 - 2:35	SEGMENT 2 BOARDS 16-30
		70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK	
		3:45 - 5:55	SEGMENT 3 BOARDS 31-45
		6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 46- 60
SUNDAY	OCT. 24	10:00 - 12:10	SEGMENT 5 BOARDS 1-15
		12:25 - 2:35	SEGMENT 6 BOARDS 16-30
		70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK	
		3:45 - 5:55	SEGMENT 7 BOARDS 31-45
		6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 8 BOARDS 46-60
SEMI-FINAL & USA2 STAGE 1			
MONDAY	OCT. 25	10:00 - 12:10	SEGMENT 1 BOARDS 1-15
		12:25 - 2:35	SEGMENT 2 BOARDS 16-30
		70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK	
		3:45 - 5:55	SEGMENT 3 BOARDS 31-45
		6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 46- 60
TUESDAY	OCT. 26	10:00 - 12:10	SEGMENT 5 BOARDS 1-15
		12:25 - 2:35	SEGMENT 6 BOARDS 16-30
		70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK	
		3:45 - 5:55	SEGMENT 7 BOARDS 31-45
		6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 8 BOARDS 46-60
FINAL & USA2 QUARTERFINAL & SEMIFINAL			
WEDNESDAY	OCT. 27	10:00 - 12:10	SEGMENT 1 BOARDS 1-15
		12:25 - 2:35	SEGMENT 2 BOARDS 16-30
		70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK	
		3:45 - 5:55	SEGMENT 3 BOARDS 31-45
		6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 46- 60
THURSDAY	OCT. 28	10:00 - 12:10	SEGMENT 5 BOARDS 1-15
		12:25 - 2:35	SEGMENT 6 BOARDS 16-30
		70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK	
		3:45 - 5:55	SEGMENT 7 BOARDS 31-45
		6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 8 BOARDS 46-60
USA2 FINAL			
FRIDAY	OCT. 29	10:00 - 12:10	SEGMENT 1 BOARDS 1-15
		12:25 - 2:35	SEGMENT 2 BOARDS 16-30
		70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK	
		3:45 - 5:55	SEGMENT 3 BOARDS 31-45
		6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 46- 60
SATURDAY	OCT. 30	10:00 - 12:10	SEGMENT 5 BOARDS 1-15
		12:25 - 2:35	SEGMENT 6 BOARDS 16-30
		70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK	
		3:45 - 5:55	SEGMENT 7 BOARDS 31-45
		6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 8 BOARDS 46-60



"Now I can do some painting," said Tom **easily**.
 "The radio reception is much better now," said Tom **ecstatically**.
 "I'm shocked," said Tom **electrically**.
 "Emily has put on weight," said Tom **emphatically**.
 "I got in through the window after opening it with a crowbar," said Tom **enterprisingly**.
 "I just came in through the door," said Tom, **entranced**.
 "I'm going after that red fish," said Tom **erringly**.
 "I have no underwear," Tom said **expansively**.
 "I used to be a paratrooper," Tom **explained**.
 "Elvis is dead," said Tom **expressly**.
 "I used to command a battalion of German ants," said Tom **exuberantly**.

Tom Swifties...

Hospitality Suite

Because of Covid, we won't be able to provide the full, wonderful hospitality we have in the past, but we will do what we can.

Hosts Evvie Gilbert and Maya Alela for the Open and Women's and Julie Arbit and Christian Jolly for the Mixed and Seniors will be in our usual hospitality suite (Room 2321). They will provide grab and go breakfast and lunch each day'

Breakfast: From 8-10 am. There will be individually packaged cereal, fruit, hard boiled eggs, bagels, and surprise treats. Also individual butter, jam, peanut butter, and cream cheese, as well as condiment packages. They will be making coffee and will have individual packages of sugar, sweetener, and dairy & non-dairy creamers. For those of you who prefer Keurig coffee, that will also be available in the hospitality suite. We are limiting access to 6 players at any one time, so we ask that you come to the suite, pick up a large to go container and put the smaller packages in that to take with you as quickly as you can, and then go someplace else to eat. **Masks that cover your nose & mouth must be worn in the Hospitality Suite at all times.** There will be a hand sanitizer station near the door and we encourage you to sanitize your hands before choosing what to take.

Lunch: From 2-4 pm (the first half of play each day ends at 2:35; we encourage those of you who are sitting out the 2nd quarter to go early). There will be a main dish (sandwiches, chicken, main dish salads, pizza) as well as individually packaged tuna salad, green salad, cheese, fruit, and berries. Also all the individual packages of add-ons we have for breakfast. Water and soft drinks will be available in refrigerators.

Let us know what you want: If there is a menu for a future day's lunch hanging on the wall outside the Hospitality Suite, please mark what you want, so we have a better idea of what to order.

Playing Rooms & Player's Break Room

We will have bottled water in the playing rooms and if there is a refrigerator in a playing room we'll stock it with soft drinks.

We will also have bottled water in the Player's Break Room (1321), as well as soft drinks, nespresso, some packaged snacks, and some fruit.

Masks that cover your nose & mouth must be worn in the Player's Break Room at all times, so you may not eat and drink in the room.

I don't know if I
have a stalker,
but if I do...

Can you drop off
some wine.
Thanks.

Tom Swifties



"I'm trying to get some air circulating under the roof," said Tom **fanatically**.

"There's a high charge for supporters travelling by coach," said Tom with considerable **fanfare**.

"Ein, zwei, drei, fünf," said Tom **fearlessly**.

"The policeman charged me twenty bucks for speeding," said Tom **finally**.

"This steamroller is amazing," said Tom **flatteringly**.

"I'm falling into a void," said Tom **flawlessly**.

"I've joined the navy," Tom said **fleetingly**.

"Watch this insect sail through the air," said Tom **flippantly**.

"I have three houses, and I'm going to buy another," said Tom **forebodingly**.

"I'm about to hit the golf ball," Tom **forewarned**.

"I won't finish in fifth place," Tom held **forth**.

"Ignore the first three turnings," directed Tom **forthrightly**.

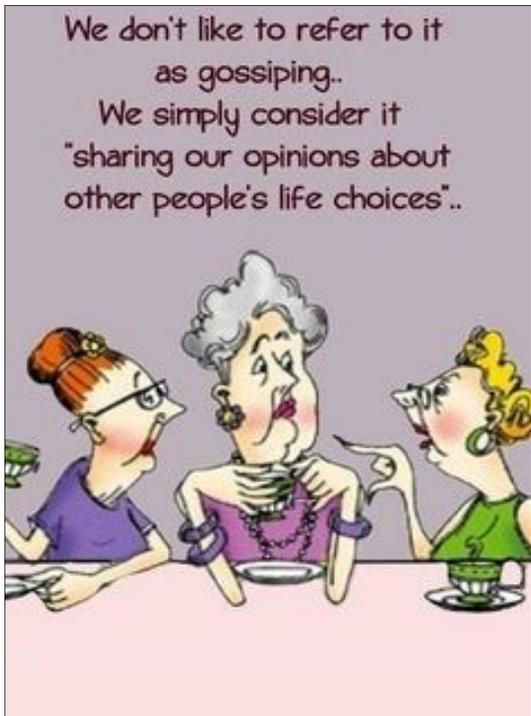
"I bought myself fifty hamburgers and I've only ten left," said Tom with **fortitude**.



General Face-to-Face Tournament Information to Players

The USBF Board of Directors met earlier this week and confirmed:

1. Face-to-face play in Schaumburg will be with 2 players per room.
2. Players will not be required to get Covid tests, but will be provided with information about where they can be tested (in Woodfield Mall) if they want to be. Staff will be tested approximately once a week.
3. We will comply with the Illinois mask requirements, which currently require masks in public areas indoors. Our default will be for both players in the playing rooms to wear masks, but if the 2 players in a room agree on a different rule we will allow whatever they agree on, assuming that is in compliance with the Illinois requirements.
4. We will ask each player to sign a Covid-related waiver of liability form before they start play. Jan will be sending the text of the waiver to all of you in the next day or so, and will have printed forms in her office (room 1321) at the Hyatt for participants to sign.
5. Hospitality will be limited - "grab & go" breakfast and lunch will be distributed in our usual hospitality suite (room 2321), but everyone will have to go someplace else to eat. We will allow only 6 players in the suite at any one time. The suite will not be open for socializing at other times. We will have water, soft drinks, coffee and snacks in the Players' Break Room (1321), and there also, we will limit the number of people in the room at any one time. Eating in the Break Room is not allowed. Masks will be required in the hospitality suite and in the Players' Break Room.
6. There will be air purifiers in each playing room and in 1321 and 2321.



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 7 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 kibitz, 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!!

Mask Rules

Attendees are required to wear a mask that covers their nose and mouth in all public areas in the hotel. That means the hotel lobby, corridors, and elevators, as well as the **Hospitality Suite** and the **Office/Players' Break Room, where masks must be worn at all times. Therefore, there is no eating or drinking in those rooms.**

Our attorney has told us that the Cook County Mask Mandate forces us to require masks in the playing rooms. Therefore, we have adopted the following policy about that:

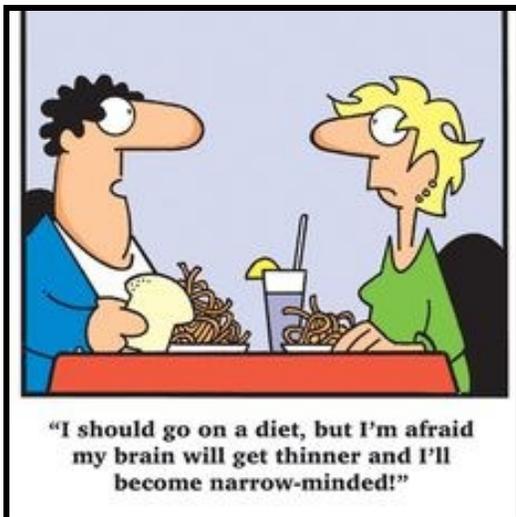
*Masks are required in playing rooms. If you are observed not wearing a mask in a playing room, there will be a 2 IMP penalty for the first offense in a segment, a 4 IMP penalty for the second offense, an 8 IMP penalty for the third offense, and a 16 IMP penalty for the fourth and subsequent offenses; however, if you and your opponent agree to something other than both wearing masks, any IMP penalties for not wearing a mask will apply to both of you equally and there will be no other penalties. You may remove your mask briefly to eat or drink. **However, if you call for a director (for any reason), and you are not wearing a mask properly when the director enters the room, the penalty will apply to your team for your next match in the event.** There is no eating or drinking in the playing room when the Director present.*

In addition, anyone who is penalized more than twice (over the course of the entire event) in situations where his/her opponent was wearing a mask while s/he wasn't, or where the director was called, may be subject to additional conduct penalties.

You should bring masks to the tournament with you; we will not be supplying masks.

Covid Waiver

We are going to ask each player in these events to sign a COVID-19 Waiver of Claims. It is being sent to you by email and you may sign it electronically and return it to Jan (marteljan@gmail.com) or you can sign a printed waiver at the site. Waivers will be available to sign in room 1321 starting Oct. 5th at 9:00 am. **Everyone is required to sign the form before the start of play!**



Meet the Players



Wins

North American Bridge Championships

Blue Ribbon Pairs 2007

Reisinger 2002

Roth Open Swiss Teams 2011

Wernher Open Pairs 2000

Runners-up

North American Bridge Championships

North American Pairs 1991

Grand National Teams 1982

Blue Ribbon Pairs 2001

Roth Open Swiss Teams 2005



Pratap Rajadhyaksha is a professional bridge player. Years ago in Michigan, he played regularly in partnership with Steve Landon. They were a formidable pair.

Pratap is playing in this event as a member of the Bramley team. Dan Morse is his partner.

4 boys are sitting in a park to be photographed. Manjeet is to the right of Rohan. Rustom is between Rohan and Manjeet. Sukhjeet is to the left of Rohan. Who is 2nd from the left in the photograph ?

- A. Rohan
- B. Sukhjeet
- C. Manjeet
- D. Rustom

Logic Problems

There are 7 houses, A to G in a row. A is standing right to B and left to C. D is standing left to E but right to C. Similarly, F is standing right to E and left to G. Which house lies in the middle?

Answer to Logic Problem: Sukhjeet is to the left of Rohan and Manjeet is to his right. Rustom is between Rohan and Manjeet. So, the order is: Sukhjeet, Rohan, Rustom, and Manjeet. Therefore, Rohan will be second from left in the photograph.

There are 7 houses, A to G in a row. A is standing right to B and left to C. D is standing left to E but right to C. Similarly, F is standing right to E and left to G. Which house lies in the middle?

Solution to Logic Puzzle:
A is to the right of B and left of C i.e. B, A, C.
D is left to E and to the right of C i.e. C, D, E.
F is to the right of E and left of G i.e. E, F, G.
Thus, the order is: B, A, C, D, E, F, G.
So, Middle house is D.

		3			♠ K 9 5 4																																
		SOUTH			♥ A 8 6																																
		E-W			♦ A 9																																
					♣ Q J 5 3																																
		♠ A T 8						♠ Q 7 2																													
		♥ K 9 5						♥ T 7 3																													
		♦ J T 4 3						♦ 7 5 2																													
		♣ 8 6 4						♣ A 9 7 2																													
					♠ J 6 3																																
					♥ Q J 4 2																																
					♦ K Q 8 6																																
					♣ K T																																
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	♣	♦	♥	♠	N																																
NS	9	9	9	10	9																																
EW	4	4	3	3	4																																
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center; background-color: #333; color: white; padding: 5px;"> Home team Visiting team ▶ Room C By 1 = ★ P </div> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2"></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th>NS</th> <th>EW</th> <th>Home</th> <th>Visiting</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td rowspan="2">2</td> <td rowspan="2">Levine</td> <td rowspan="2">Gupta</td> <td>▶</td> <td>Open</td> <td>3N</td> <td>S</td> <td>♥5</td> <td>-1</td> <td>50</td> <td rowspan="2">10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>▶</td> <td>Closed</td> <td>3N</td> <td>S</td> <td>♣8</td> <td>= 400</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>																	NS	EW	Home	Visiting	2	Levine	Gupta	▶	Open	3N	S	♥5	-1	50	10	▶	Closed	3N	S	♣8	= 400
							NS	EW	Home	Visiting																											
2	Levine	Gupta	▶	Open	3N	S	♥5	-1	50	10																											
			▶	Closed	3N	S	♣8	= 400																													

The first two boards were unexciting. Board 3 provided the first major swing.

In USA2, all four tables bid 3NT and took nine or ten tricks successfully.

In USA1, 3NT made in the Closed Room but failed in the Open Room.

The opening lead was no factor. Declarer can always take three clubs, three diamonds, two hearts and a spade given the favorable position of the HK and the SA.

Against Mike Levine, Zia led the H5. Levine won in hand with the queen. He played the CK which Garner won with the ace. Garner played the H7 to the 2, 9, ace. Levine led a club to the ten and a diamond to the ace and cashed the queen and jack of clubs. He played a diamond to the queen and led the SJ. Zia followed with the TEN!! That should have been a clear indication that he did not hold the queen. With QT, Zia would most certainly cover.

While Zia can be tricky, he would not Grosvenor when it would give declarer the chance to make a hand that could never make on its own in an important event like this. However, Zia's reputation for flamboyance is well-known and sometimes it is hard to know when to consider that.

Mike played Zia to be tricky and ducked. Garner won the queen, played back a diamond and the offense could only come to 8 tricks.

10 IMPs to Gupta

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

W	N	E	S
PASS	3NT	2♥	DBL
DBL	PASS	PASS	PASS

NORTH
WEST 14 DEALER
SOUTH

8 3 A 9 5 3 K J 10 K 5 4 3
♠ ♠ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

10 9 4 2 K A Q 3 Q 10 9 8 7
♠ ♠ ♠ ♠ ♥ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

A K Q J 7 5
♠ ♠ ♠ ♠ ♠ ♠

10 8
♥ ♥

9 4 2
♣ ♣ ♣

A 2
♦ ♦

7
♣

6
♠

Q J 7 6 4 2
♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥

8 7 6 5
♣ ♣ ♣ ♣

J 6
♦ ♦

9
♦

W Jeff Meckstroth N Hemant Lall S Naren Gupta E Mark Lair

N 3NT^x NS 0 EW 0

N-S: Gupta 11 IMPs
E-W: Levine 19 IMPs
Other room: W 3♠ -2 100

Meckstroth/Lair got back Levine's IMPs plus interest on Board 14.

Lair opened a weak 2H. Gupta doubled. Meckstroth passed with arguably the best hand at the table... waiting in the weeds? Lall jumped to 3NT on his 11 count with his sure heart stopper and the hand imploded!

Lair passed; Gupta passed; and Meckstroth doubled asking for an unusual lead... generally one's shortest suit. This was no problem for Lair. He deduced instantly what Meck wanted and tabled the S6! Meckstroth cashed his six spades and his DA for a three trick set.

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

W	N	E	S
2♥	PASS	2♠	DBL
2♠	3♠	PASS	PASS
3♠	PASS	PASS	PASS

NORTH
WEST 14 DEALER
SOUTH

8 3 A 9 5 3 K J 10 K 5 4 3
♠ ♠ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

10 9 4 2 K A Q 3 Q 10 9 8 7
♠ ♠ ♠ ♠ ♥ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

A K Q J 7 5
♠ ♠ ♠ ♠ ♠ ♠

10 8
♥ ♥

9 4 2
♣ ♣ ♣

A 2
♦ ♦

7
♣

6
♠

Q J 7 6 4 2
♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥

8 7 6 5
♣ ♣ ♣ ♣

J 6
♦ ♦

9
♦

W Zia Mahmood N Mike Passell S Mike Levine E Steve Garner

W 3♠ NS 0 EW 0

N-S: Levine 19 IMPs
E-W: Gupta 11 IMPs
Other room: N 3N^x -3 -500

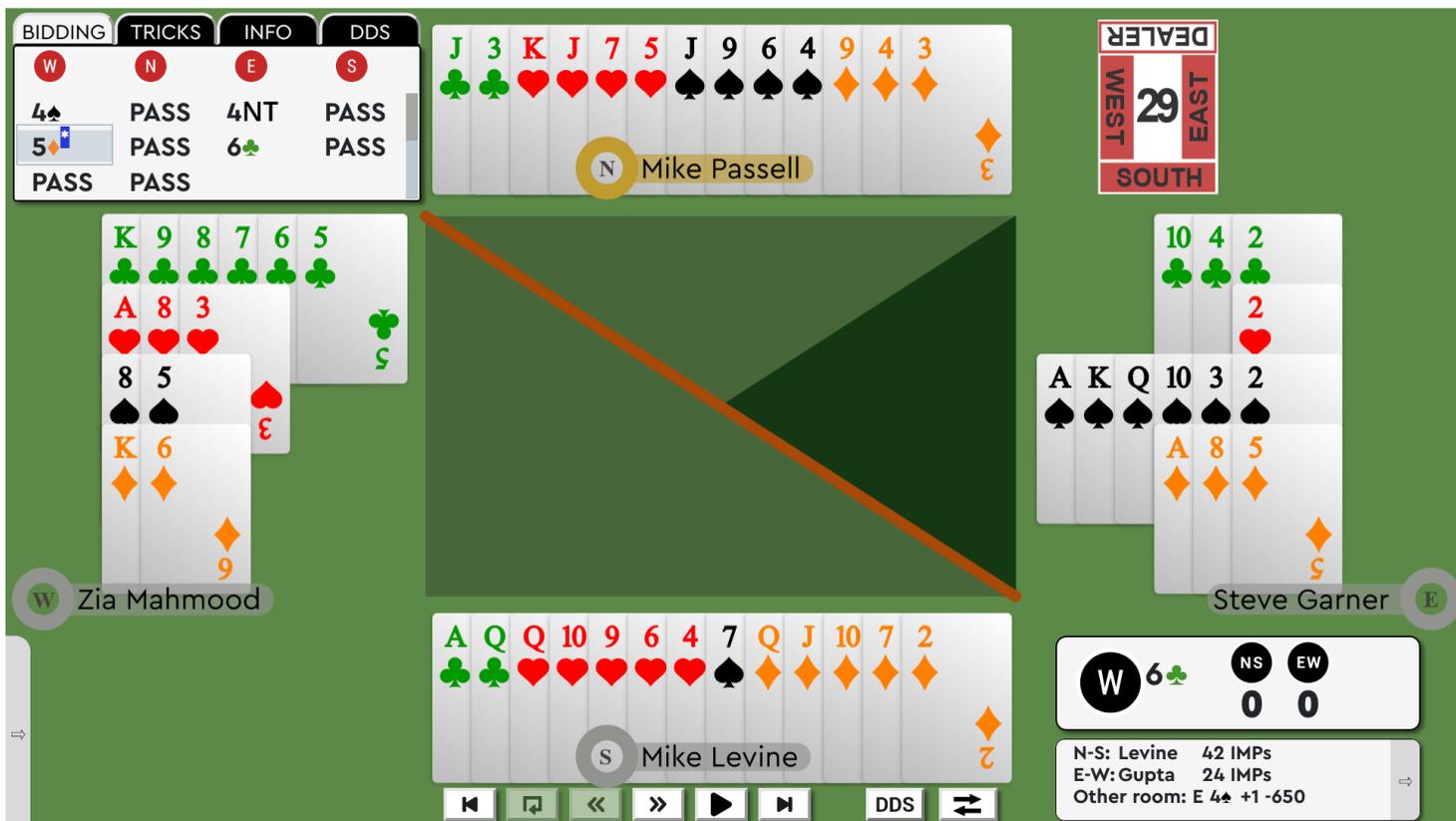
At the other table, Garner opened a multi 2D showing a weak major suit preempt.

Zia bid 2H pass or correct.

The opponents competed to 3D which would have been successful plus. Zia bid 3S and played it there. 3S goes down 2 on any lead.

12 IMPs to Levine

No significant swing on this board in USA2.



What an incredibly lucky slam!

Zia and Garner were, not surprisingly, the only pair to find 6C.

First, they needed to find the Ax of clubs outside, roughly 20%, AND they needed for the singleton spade to be in the hand with the CA!!

When you live right... Passell led the HK to Zia's ace. Zia played a diamond to the ace and closed his eyes and led a club! Levine popped with the ace and returned the DQ. Zia won the king, held his breath, and played the CK!

When the Q and J fell, Zia claimed 12 tricks

12 IMPs to Gupta

In USA2, all four tables played in the more obvious 4S collecting either 11 or 12 tricks.

If one bids 6S, they are likely to fail because of the Jxxx of spades with North.

Being an adult is just walking around wondering what you're forgetting.

Everyone my age is older than me...

He is so old that he gets nostalgic when he sees the Neolithic cave paintings.

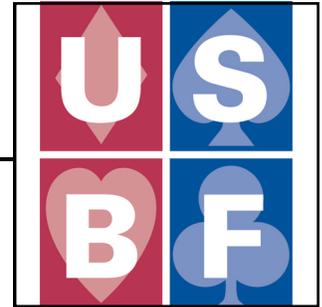
You're old enough to remember when emojis were called "hieroglyphics."

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

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

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.



Hearts or Spades
Or Bridge or Gin,
Play the ace,
The trick to win!



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

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



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

Answer to Puzzle on Page 15

Sheila	Enfield	September	8	month
Rachel	Mann	February	17	day
Linda	Scoperfield	April	4	month
Cally	Ridge	July	23	day
Brenda	Wish	May	12	day
First Name	Last Name	Birthday Month	Birthday Day	Day/Month/Le

Sudoku Answers on page 13

	Enfield	Mann	Ridge	Scopefield	Wish	February	April	May	July	September	4	8	12	17	23	day	day	day	month	month
Brenda																				
Cally																				
Linda																				
Rachel																				
Sheila																				
day																				
day																				
day																				
month																				
month																				
4																				
8																				
12																				
17																				
23																				
February																				
April																				
May																				
July																				
September																				

Answer on Page 14

First Name	Last Name	Birth Month	Birth Day	Day/Month Lie

Linda and four of her friends played a guessing game at lunch time one day at school. Each was required through the course of the game to share her birthday month and day. However, each also had to lie once about either the day or the month of their birthday. It ended up that three lied about the day of their birthday and two lied about the month. Determine the full name of each friend, each friend's real birthday, and whether each lied about their birthday month or day.

- Linda, whose last name wasn't Ridge, had her birthday on the 4th day of the month but not in September.
- One of the girls was born on May 12th but didn't have a last name of Ridge. The one born in February, who lied about the day she was born, had a last

name of Mann.

- The girl whose last name was Enfield had her birthday in September but her first name wasn't Cally.
- The three girls who lied about the day of their birthday were the girl whose last name was Wish, Rachel, and the girl born on the 23rd of the month.
- Sheila lied about her birthday month. Rachel's birthday was on the 17th but not in April.
- Brenda's birthday was in May but her last name was not Scopefield. Cally's birthday wasn't on the 8th of the month but it was in July.

More 1950's Songs

Find and circle all of the 1950's song titles that are hidden in the grid.
The remaining letters spell the title of an additional 1950's song.

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

ALL SHOOK UP
ALMOST GROWN
AT THE HOP
BIRD DOG
BLUE MONDAY
CHANCES ARE
CHANTILLY LACE
CRY
DON'T BE CRUEL
EL PASO

FLAMINGO
GET A JOB
GOODNIGHT IRENE
I'M A MAN
I'M WALKIN'
JIM DANDY
JUKE
LITTLE DARLIN'
LONELY AVENUE
LOUIE LOUIE

LUCILLE
MAYBE
MONEY HONEY
MR SANDMAN
PERSONALITY
REBEL ROUSER
ROLLIN' STONE
SEA CRUISE
SINCERELY
SO WHAT

SOUL ON FIRE
STAGGER LEE
THE BELLS
THE WIND
TIPITINA
TOM DOOLEY
TRY ME
WHITE LIGHTNING
YOUNG BLOOD

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Work on your Partnership
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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...)

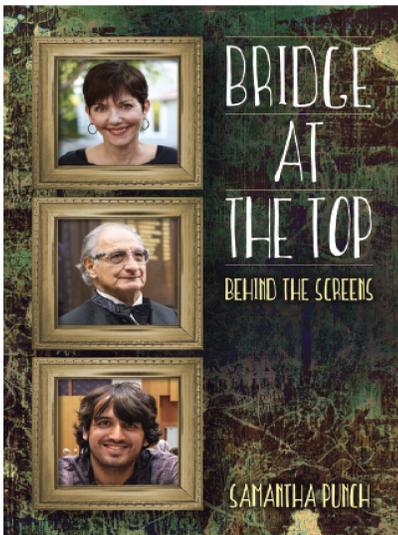
Jan VanCleaf provided this so our readers could use it to improve their bidding and better build partnerships. Bid72 allows users to participate in bidding contests, bid random boards and get a rating based on their bidding, learn about "topic board" hands dedicated to conventions and special agreements,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

For more information, email info@bid72.com

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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
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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

Questions asked by Players in the Open and the Mixed... FAQ's from Jan Martel

Chat

- **My physical keyboard isn't working!** Make sure to click/put focus into the chat box before attempting to type in the box. (The blinking cursor makes it seem as though focus is there, but it may not be.) This seems to only occur with an external keyboard, not the virtual keyboard.
- **What does that number on the left side mean?** You have unread chat message(s). Click on left gray arrow to open chat and right gray arrow to close the chat. (If you actually type and send a message, the chat will close automatically. Reopen with left gray arrow.)
- **Why can't I chat to my partner?** For security reasons, chat to partner is not available while cards for a new hand are on display. Since there is no "between round down time," there is no real partner chat.

Bidding

- **The system won't let me pass!** If you have the level (1 through 7) highlighted, you will be unable to pass/double/redouble. Click on the highlighted numeral to remove the highlight, then make the desired call.
- **My explanation keeps disappearing!** If you alert your bid as you make it but go back later to explain, there is a bug in the system where subsequent table actions will erase any text that you have typed into the explanation box. If you include your explanation with your call or when it is your turn to act, then this will not occur. (We have reported this issue to LoveBridge.)
- **Where is the undo button?** While there is no undo button, every call made is followed by a brief cancellation time period. A cancel button will appear immediately below the call selected in the top center portion of the screen. If you cancel within the time period, your bidding panel will reappear for you to select the intended call. If you do not cancel within the time period, summon a director (hit red TD whistle) to request an undo.

Play

1. **Why can't I click on a card?** The default setting for LoveBridge is neither a tap/click nor a double tap/click. The default setting is a drag-and-drop motion where the player pulls a card to the gray box in the center of the screen and releases to play the card. If the "pulled" card is not the intended one, the player can drag it back to the hand and select another card. **We recommend this setting while players are getting accustomed to the system.** Players may change this setting to double tap/click if desired, but we strongly discourage single tap/click settings.
2. **Whose turn is it?** In the bidding or play of the hand, the player's direction letter (N S E W) will be white inside of the circle when it is the player's turn. This is a very subtle change from the normal pale blue letter.
3. **How do I claim?** During the play, you may click the larger red box below the TD whistle to claim. If the claim button is grayed out (not available), you either already contributed a card to the current trick or you are dummy.

How do I see the bidding once play has started? A player is not entitled to the entire auction once they have played to trick 1. If you have not yet played to trick one, the auction will be in the lower left corner. Click on it to enlarge to the center area. Click the double gray arrows in the bottom right of the center area to send it back to the corner. Similarly, this is how a player may see the cards from the previous trick (prior to playing to current trick).

The new and improved 60 Board USBF Convention Card is now available on the table in Jan's office (Break Room??)

We hope it "suits" you! 

I grew a beard thinking it would say "Distinguished Gentleman." Instead, turns out it says, "Senior Discount, Please!"

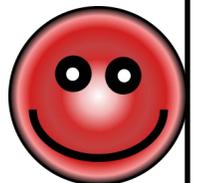
When I was a boy, I had a disease that required me to eat dirt three times a day in order to survive... It's a good thing my older brother told me about it.

A diplomat is a man who always remembers a woman's birthday but never remembers her age.

Aging gracefully is like the nice way of saying you're slowly looking worse.

The question isn't at what age I want to retire, it's at what income.

I always feel better when my doctor says something is normal for my age but then think dying will also be normal for my age at some point.

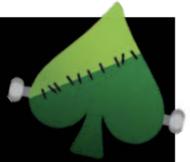


TRICKS AND TREATS

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

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1:15 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

On Board 35 in USA1, Passell and Lair bid a thin game... 21 HCP between them with a combined eight card trump holding missing the king and the jack.

Berkowitz led the C7, won in hand by declarer with the queen. Passell led a club to the dummy, cashing the two high clubs to discard his losing heart.

Passell led a diamond to the king and ruffed a diamond in dummy. He went into a diamond/heart crossruff to come to ten tricks. Well bid and well judged by North/South.

In the other room of this match, Lall and Gupta were far less aggressive.

Lall opened 1H; Gupta responded 1S; Lall simply rebid 3H and played it there.

Lair's decision to bid 2C instead of 2 or 3 hearts showed really good judgment on his part. He clearly holds an in-between hand. Bidding 2C kept his partner in the auction and gave Lair a chance to support spades.

If Berkowitz had led a red suit, Passell would have to double hook the spades to succeed, but Mike is no doubt up to that.

In USA2, all four tables played in 2H making two!

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!

Limey Jack...

Hallo Yanks:

Quite the nailbiter in USA2. Lewis had hard lines in losing at the wire to the four handed Bramley team. Due to a recent USBF format change, there was no overtime when Bramley tied it on the last hand. As they had beaten Lewis in the Swiss last month, the carryover earned them the win. Lewis was gutted by the loss while Bramley was quoted as saying it was "easy peasy".

Bramley-Simson: The winner here plays the loser of Gupta-Levine for USA2 champion.

Can the four handed squad continue to pull Excalibur from the stone? It seems that Simson has been playing steadily apace and should be in far less need of a kip. Howie Dung will choose Bramley, but he is a dunce. Stick with Limey Jack.

Toodle pip.

Howie Doing...

Bramley's team would surely have died.
Had Lewis's team one more IMP and not tied!

Bet members of Lewis won't sleep very well,
Lying awake on one IMP they will dwell.

'Least Lewis and Lewis and Smith will be found.
Playing the Mixed ... They are Italy-bound!

They won't object. They'll think it was fair.
'Cause they can't go twice so why would they care?

Odd that three teams in USA2
Scored 123 before it was through.

Simson will need to play well today.
Bramley's charmed and planning to stay.

The Bramley team is really stronger
So they should rate to stay in longer.

Simson plus five is playing with six
So they get rest to throw in the mix.

Bramley's team is playing with four?
Will these guys be too tired to score?

I think we will see experience rise...
Which means the Bramley squad takes home the prize!

Till next pick...
Howie Doing? Just grand

ALERT! Every IMP Counts!

The screenshot shows a bridge game interface for Board 38. At the top left, a bidding table shows the following sequence:

1NT	PASS	1♣	PASS
3♣	PASS	2♣	PASS
4♣	PASS	3♣	PASS
4♥	PASS	4♣	PASS
		6NT	PASS

The hands are as follows:

- Billy Cohen (North):** ♠ Q 6, ♥ Q 10 8 5 2, ♦ 7 5 9 6 5 2, ♣
- Kit Woolsey (West):** ♠ A K 4, ♥ K, ♦ Q 8 7, ♣ Q 9 8 6 4 2
- Bart Bramley (East):** ♠ J 10, ♥ A 7 6 4, ♦ A K 10 3, ♣ A J 3
- Ron Smith (South):** ♠ 9 8 7 5 3 2, ♥ J 9 3, ♦ K 10 J 4, ♣

The score display at the bottom right shows:

W	6NT	NS	EW
		0	0
N-S: Lewis 63 IMPs			
E-W: Bramley 69 IMPs			
Other room: W 3N +3 -690			

In yesterday's USA2 Quarterfinal third segment of a very close match between Bramley and Lewis, Bramley/Woolsey used a strong club relay auction to reach the best small slam on Board 38... best in two ways: scores more and is the safest (for the esoteric reader: there is no chance of a freak ruff taking place!)

Both 6C and 6NT are cold as long as declarer plays the club suit to guarantee no more than one loser.

The auction:

- 1C by Bramley was strong and artificial. Woolsey's 1NT response was game forcing with clubs.
- 2C asked and 3C showed 3-2-2-6 or 2-2-2-7 distribution.
- 3D asked and 4C showed 3-2-2-6 with four controls and 13+ HCP.
- 4D asked which controls and 4H showed 0 or 2 of the CAK controls.

Bramley knew that Woolsey's four controls were the SAK and the HK. Bramley was able to place the contract in 6NT.

Cohen led the D2. Woolsey won the DQ and played a club to the jack. Smith won his CK and Woolsey claimed the remaining tricks to score +1440. At the other table Doub/Stiefel played 3NT and scored +690.

13 IMPs to Bramley

After 60 boards Bramley and Lewis were tied with 123 IMPs each. Bramley had the tiebreaker on his side and moved on to the Semifinals. If Bramley/Woolsey had bid 6C, like two other pairs, they would have won 12 IMPs and would be on their way home.