

Volume 13, Issue 14
October 31, 2021



Congrats Team Bramley! Senior Results USA2 Final...

Senior USBC USA2 - 2021											
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	224	18	10	35	39	18	29	48	27	
3	Bramley	299	27	51	39	31	20	41	46	44	

Thanks (from the Open, Women's, Mixed, Seniors)

This Competition was a challenge from the start: Online + On site. Thanks to the USBF Board of Directors and Jan Martel for coming up with a workable way to pull it off.

Thanks to McKenzie Myers and Al Hollander and Chris Wiegand and Will Watson for doing a great job ironing out glitches. We couldn't ask for a better staff.

Thanks to Julie Arbit, Christian Jolly, Evvie Gilbert and Maya Alela for working out the hospitality while still promoting social distancing. We know it wasn't easy.

Thanks to the Appeals Panel members for standing by and being there where we needed them. We had two process committees and one bridge committee and you made it easy on us to provide the best possible committees we could.

Thanks to Suzi for creating, writing and providing the Daily Bulletins.

Thanks to Stan Subeck for running errands, helping with the Bulletins, and doing the photography on site.

The success of these events depends on everyone pulling together to work like a well-oiled machine and in the case of the USBF, it shows.

Thanks to the players for cooperating with the rules: playing online and on site with tablets. You did great and we appreciate your patience and willingness to adapt.

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UNITED STATES BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

“Trials” and Tribulations—Oldies but Goodies

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 make the armor out of chain links," Tom replied by **mail**.

"You won the bronze," said Tom **meddlingly**.

"We need more people like Ronald Reagan and Ronald McDonald," said Tom **moronically**.

"Sorry! I've accidentally pierced your cheek instead," said Tom **mysteriously**.

"I told you not to ride that horse," Tom **nagged**.

"That's nothing!" said Tom **naughtily**.

"I haven't had my photographs developed yet," said Tom **negatively**.

"Let's take a vacation in the south of France," said Tom **nicely**.

"That just doesn't add up," said Tom, **nonplussed**.

"I can't do it!" Tom said **notably**.

"What's the value of a dollar bill?" asked Tom **noteworthily**.

"What's a wide-angle lens?" asked Tom **obtusely**.

"That horse looks like a good bet at 20 to 1," said Tom **oddly**.

"Oops! There goes my hat!" said Tom **off the top of his head**.

"Do you buy and sell stolen goods?" asked Tom **offensively**.

"I've been feeding the crocodile," said Tom **offhandedly**.

"I prefer trout to salmon," Tom said **officially**.

"I know which boyd gets the woym," said Tom in an **oily voice**.

"The door's ajar," said Tom **openly**.

"My bicycle wheel is damaged," said Tom **outspokenly**.

"I swallowed some of the glass from that broken window," Tom said **painfully**.

"I had an accident in the kitchen," said Tom with **panache**.

"I've joined the Airborne Medical Corps," said Tom **paradoxically**.

"There, there," was Tom's **pat answer**.

"I've deduced that this is the right way," said Tom **pathologically**.

"I'm waiting to see the doctor," said Tom **patiently**.

"I didn't look at all!" Tom **peeped**.

"I wish I had something to write with," Tom said **pensively**.

"Has my magazine arrived?" Tom asked **periodically**.

"3.14159265," Tom said **piously**.

"Who's your favorite operatic tenor?" Tom asked **placidly**.

"I've removed all the feathers from this chicken," said Tom **pluckily**.

"It has zero height, zero width, and just a little depth," said Tom, stretching the **point**.

"The exit is right there," Tom **pointed out**.

"My pencil is blunt," said Tom **pointlessly**.

"Where shall I plant these water lilies?" Tom **pondered**.

"I haven't had any tooth decay yet," said Tom **precariously**.

"I have a gift for you," said Tom **presently**.

"That's already been taken care of," Tom **pretended**.

"I'm just an ordinary soldier," Tom admitted **privately**.

"Crosby is my favourite singer. Who is yours?" asked Tom **probingly**.

"I teach at a university," Tom **professed**.

"This movie will be very popular," Tom **projected**.

"This is the real male goose," said Tom producing the **propaganda**.

"I've stuck a pin through my nose," said Tom **punctually**.

"The cat sounds as if she's happy now she's been fed," said Tom **purposefully**.



Tom Swifties...

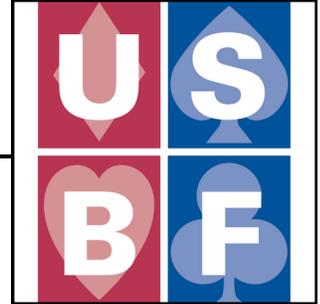
8	3	5	6	9	7	2	4	1
9	6	7	8	5	2	4	8	1
7	8	6	3	5	1	4	2	9
5	3	4	9	8	1	7	6	2
6	9	1	4	7	2	5	8	3
2	4	1	9	6	3	5	8	7
8	9	3	4	6	7	2	5	1
4	8	6	7	2	1	9	3	5
6	4	1	5	8	2	7	9	3

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

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.

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 ...

Please return any styluses you may have in your possession! Thank you. No questions asked!!

Meet the Players



Naran Gupta has been very successful in the business world. He is well known and respected in venture capital investment and software development. Clearly it has helped him develop and hone his bridge skills.

At the 2004 NABC in Reno, Naren and wife, Vinita, participated as a 299er pair, finishing 2nd out of 58 pairs. Naran (and Vinita) have come a long way since then!

Naran's more recent international achievements include:

Bridge Accomplishments

2020 Silver Medal - 3rd European Winter Games, Zimmermann Cup;

ACBL Ranking

Gold Life Master

My PIN
is the last
4 digits of
 π

Want to hear a
joke about Sodium
Hypobromite?

NaBrO.

What was the
charge when NaCl
was arrested?

A salt.

**YOU HAVE MASS,
YOU HAVE VOLUME
YOU MATTER**

**Geometry
keeps you
in shape.**

**WHAT DO YOU CALL AN
ACID WITH AN ATTITUDE?**

gimme ur lunch

A-mean-oh acid.

YOU HAVE
TO BE ODD
TO BE NUMBER
ONE

8
WEST
NONE

♠ K 9 8 2
♥ K Q 9 6 4 3
♦ Q
♣ Q 7

♠ J T
♥ A T 8 5 2
♦ T 8 7
♣ A 4 2

♠ 7 3
♥ J 7
♦ K J 6 2
♣ K T 8 5 3

♠ A Q 6 5 4
♥
♦ A 9 5 4 3
♣ J 9 6

Par: -420

	♣	♦	♥	♠	N
NS	6	5	6	3	6
EW	5	7	7	10	7

Home team Visiting team Room C By 1 = ★ P

	NS	EW	Home	Visitin					
2	Gupta	Bramley	Open	4♠	E	♣3	=	420	11
			Closed	6♠	E	♠7	-3	150	

Gupta came into this match down 46. With a whole day to go, there is plenty of time. The first five boards were flat and a 4 IMP swing one way was followed by a 6 IMP swing the other, so there was no significant change. Feeling the need to move some IMPs, Gupta/Lall pushed to slam on Board 8.

The screenshot shows a bridge bidding interface for Board 8. The bidding sequence is as follows:

BIDDING	TRICKS	INFO	DDS
1♥	PASS	1♠	PASS
2♠	PASS	3♣	PASS
4♠	PASS	6♠	PASS

The cards for each player are:

- West (Gupta):** ♠ K 9 8 2, ♥ K Q 9 6 4 3, ♦ Q, ♣ Q 7
- East (Lall):** ♠ 7 3, ♥ J 7, ♦ K J 6 2, ♣ K T 8 5 3
- North (Morse):** ♠ J 10, ♥ A 10 8 5 2, ♦ A 4 2, ♣ 10 8 7
- South (Lall):** ♠ A Q 6 5 4, ♥ J 9 6, ♦ A 9 5 4 3, ♣ J 9 6

The score display shows: N-S: Bramley 152 IMPs, E-W: Gupta 108 IMPs, Other room: E 4♠ = -420. The contract is 6♠, and the result is -3 tricks for 150.

They start off the CAK, but Pratap, on lead, doesn't know that and really, there are just no more than ten tricks for the offense in any case.

Pratap did well to lead a trump. Lall won in dummy and ruffed a small heart. He cashed the DA and ruffed a diamond, played the HK, covered by Morse with the ace and ruffed in hand. He cashed the SA, ruffed a diamond, played the HQ, tossing a diamond from hand, played the C7 to the 4,9,T and actually went down one more than was necessary.

Contract failing 3 tricks for -150.

At the other table, Woolsey/Bramley had a simple auction: Woolsey opened 1H; Bramley bid 1S; Woolsey bid 2S; Bramley jumped to game. Berkowitz led the C3 to Sontag's ace. Sontag shifted to diamonds. Bramley won and played a second club. Berkowitz won and shifted to trump. Bramley won his SA and ruffed a diamond, ruffed out the HA, ruffed another diamond, pitched a diamond on a the HQ, cashed the SK and claimed ten tricks.

11 IMPs for Bramley

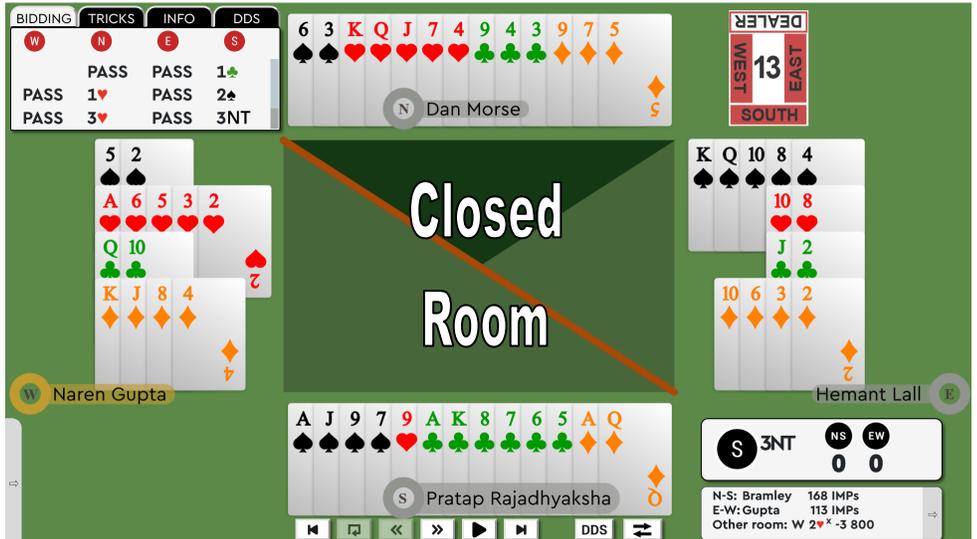


On Board 13, in the Open Room, Berkowitz/Sontag embarked on a Precision auction. David opened 1 strong, artificial club and Alan responded in the negative. Bramley stuck his neck out and overcalled 1S on a pretty light hand. Berkowitz bid 2 natural clubs and Woolsey, unable to take a joke, bid 2H. Sontag had an easy double and E/W played it there.

Sontag led the C3 to Berk's king. David returned a heart to Alan's jack. Alan played the HK, burying dummy's ten to Woolsey's ace. Woolsey played a spade

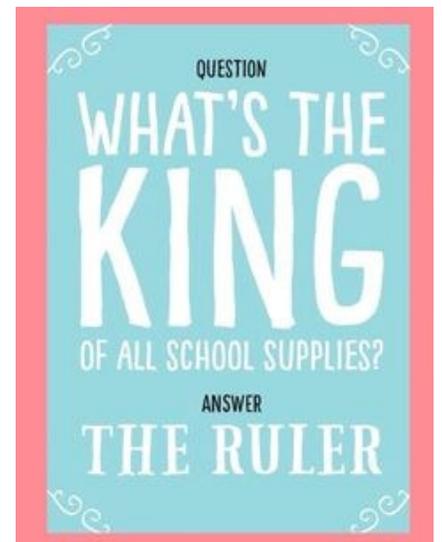
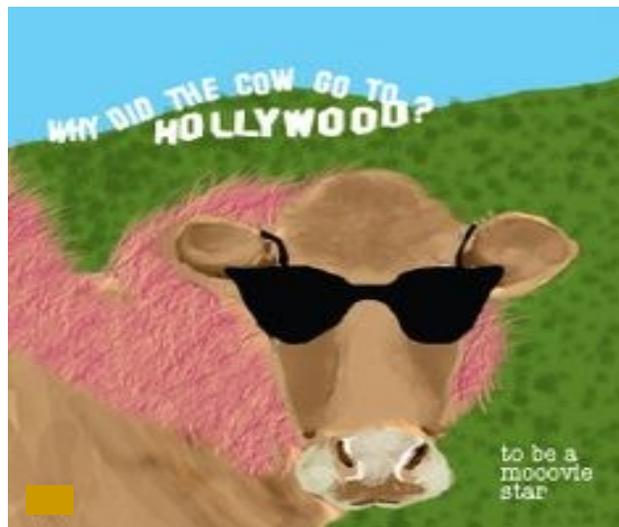
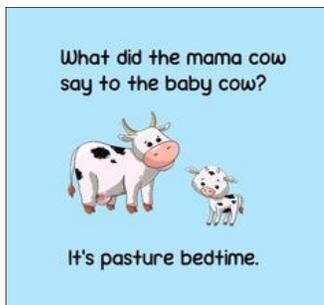
to the king and ace. Berk played a club and Woolsey ruffed. Woolsey took the high spade and led a small diamond toward his hand. Berkowitz won and had plenty of exit cards. He played a club, ruffed in dummy and overruffed by Sontag. Sontag pulled the last two rounds of trump and had nothing but diamonds left to lead. Contract failing 3 tricks. 800 to North/South

In the Closed Room, things proceeded more as one would expect on this hand. North/South reached the vulnerable 3NT game with no opponent interference. They wisely bid it from South to avoid a diamond through the AQ. Since clubs split and diamonds were divided 4-4, it turned out not to matter.



Gupta led a diamond. Pratap won the queen. Pratap played a heart to the king and a club back to his hand. He cashed the CK, unblocking the nine from dummy and claimed 10 tricks.

5 IMPs for Gupta



In spite of what Jack Oest (USBF Recorder and a good friend of Bramley's and mine) thinks about 10-12 NT's, sometimes they are effective!

Board 21 is a prime example.

In the Open Room, Bramley opened a 10-12 NT in second seat. For whatever reason,

Zia chose not to show a single suited diamond hand... perhaps because his partner was a passed hand and he didn't see a possibility of game on the hand. Bramley bought the contract at 1NT at favorable vulnerability.

Zia led the D7 to Garner's ace. Garner returned a diamond to Zia and Zia cashed out his six card suit. Zia led the H9 to the 4, Q, A. Bramley played the SK, burying dummy's queen, won with Zia's ace. Zia played a heart to Garner's king and Garner played the S6 to Bramley's jack. Bramley cashed his ST and exited with the C8. North/South took the last two tricks with high clubs. Contract down 4 undoubled for 200 N/S

In the Closed Room, not having a bidding tool to describe the hand, East passed. South opened 1D; North responded 1S; South rebid 2D and when North invited game, South accepted on the basis of his long diamond suit and the thought that North's invite was probably based somewhat on a fit in that suit. Good judgment and solid reasoning by Pratap!

Lall led a small heart. Morse won the king. Morse cashed the DA and led a diamond to the king. When diamonds split 2-2, Morse had an easy nine: six diamonds, the heart he already took, and the two black aces. 10 IMPs to Bramley

Dogs

Find and circle all of the words that are hidden in the grid.
The remaining 44 letters spell an Ogden Nash quotation.

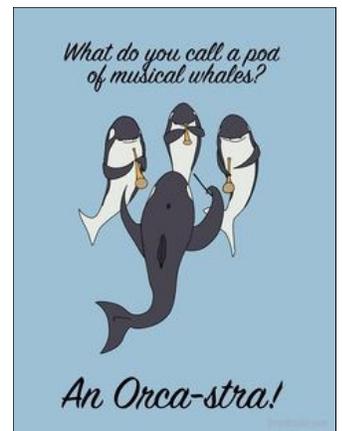
O D A C H S H U N D P A D D O O P Y R
 G C I D S W H A S B T O E T A D O K T
 N O D O R G R P R E U E O P U G I S E
 I L A D I A I O R E R L G D G S N U P
 D L L N P T N R T H V R L E L N T H P
 W I M U Z C I R O T E E R D A E E G I
 O E A O R E H U E A W M I I O O R R H
 H S T H R E N I T B A E N R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

BASSET HOUND
 BEAGLE
 BLOODHOUND
 BOXER
 BULLDOG
 CHIHUAHUA
 CHOW CHOW
 COCKER SPANIEL
 COLLIE
 CORGI

DACHSHUND
 DALMATIAN
 DEERHOUND
 DINGO
 GERMAN SHEPHERD
 GREAT DANE
 GREYHOUND
 HUSKY
 LHASA APSO
 MALAMUTE

MASTIFF
 PEKINGESE
 PINSCHER
 POINTER
 POMERANIAN
 POODLE
 PUG
 RETRIEVER
 ROTTWEILER
 SAINT BERNARD

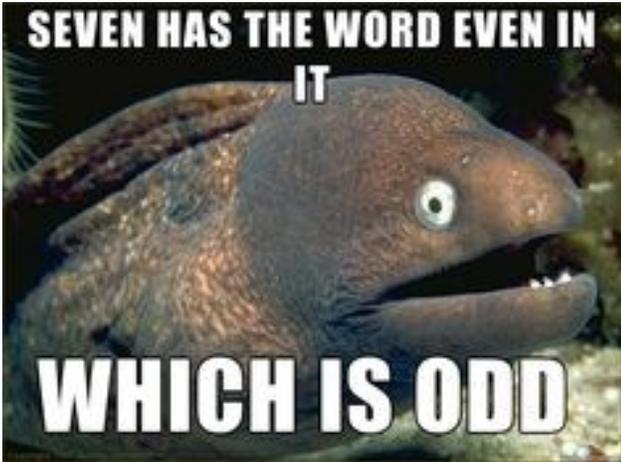
SAMOYED
 SCHNAUZER
 SETTER
 SHAR PEI
 SHEEPDOG
 SPITZ
 TERRIER
 WHIPPET



**NEVER DISCUSS
 INFINITY WITH A
 MATHEMATICIAN.
 YOU'LL NEVER
 HEAR THE END
 OF IT**

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

**Not So Hard
Sudoku**



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

**Answer to Puzzle
on Page 11**

Cousin	2	Bow Tie	Jackson	Sara
Father	6	Dutchman's Puzzle	Maxwell	Ralph
Aunt	4	Ladder	Weatherby	Marcia
Uncle	5	Ohio Star	Jones	Elliot
Sister	3	Churn Dash	Winter	Donna
Family Relationship	Number of Colors	Name of the Quilt Block	Last Name	First Name

**Sudoku Answers
on page 4**

	Jackson	Jones	Maxwell	Weatherby	Winter	Bow Tie	Churn Dash	Dutchman's Puzzle	Jacob's Ladder	Ohio Star	2	3	4	5	6	Aunt	Cousin	Father	Sister	Uncle	
Donna																					
Elliot																					
Marcia																					
Ralph																					
Sara																					
Aunt																					
Cousin																					
Father																					
Sister																					
Uncle																					
2																					
3																					
4																					
5																					
6																					
Bow Tie																					
Churn Dash																					
Dutchman's Puzzle																					
Jacob's Ladder																					
Ohio Star																					

Answer on Page 10

First Name	Last Name	Name of the Quilt Block	Number of Colors	Family Relationship

Sherry decided that, for several members of her family, she'd give each of them a different quilt for their birthday present this year. For each one, she picked a different common quilt block for the main design of the quilt. Then she picked the colors and so each quilt used a different number of colors. As each birthday occurred throughout the year, each new quilt was revealed and presented. The gifts were well-received and the audiences always watched with envious appreciation, hoping that their turn and quilt would be coming too. Determine the full name of each relative (their last names are all different from Sherry's due to various marriages and divorces over the years), the name of the quilt block that each quilt used, the number of colors each quilt used (from 2 to 6), and the relationship of each family member to Sherry.

1. Ralph, who wasn't Sherry's uncle, didn't receive a quilt

with Ohio Star. Sara Jackson didn't receive the Jacob's Ladder quilt.

- The family member whose last name was Jones received a quilt with five colors but it wasn't a Churn Dash pattern. The Dutchman's Puzzle quilt had six colors but it wasn't given to the relative whose last name was Winter.
- Marcia's quilt had two more colors than Sherry's cousin's quilt but one less than the Ohio Star quilt, which wasn't received by Sherry's aunt.
- The Bow Tie quilt had two colors but it wasn't received by Donna, whose last name wasn't Weatherby. Elliot is her father's sister's brother.
- Sherry's sister received a quilt made with less than four colors. Mr. Maxwell was Sherry's father but he didn't receive the Bow Tie quilt.
- The family member who received the Jacob's Ladder quilt was her grandmother's daughter.

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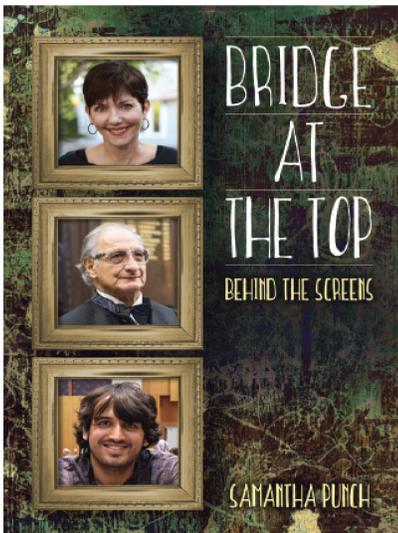
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The interviews make the names we see on VuGraph come to life. The tips are tricks of the trade that will be useful to players of all levels. It is a fun and informative read.

— 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.

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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

Bramley and Woolsey had a great Precision auction to get to 6C on Board 22.

Woolsey opened a strong club in third seat. Bramley responded 1NT showing 5+ clubs. Woolsey bid 2C, relay. Garner stuck in a random 2D call (often a good way to

interrupt Highly Effective Relay sequences... but not if the opponents are ready for it). Bramley freely bid 3C. Woolsey bid 4D, RKC; Bramley responded 4S showing 1 keycard; Woolsey bid 4NT, queen ask; Bramley bid 6C showing the queen and no outside kings.

Garner led the DQ. Woolsey won the ace. He cashed the CA and it is easy to see his 12 tricks: six clubs, four spades, one diamond, and two hearts.

In the Closed Room, Gupta and Lall had a simple auction to play in the NT game.

Pratap led a fourth best heart. Lall won in hand and immediately played a heart toward dummy. Pratap ducked. He had no idea there was a running club suit. Lall took 13 tricks.

12 IMPs to Bramley

Both tables got to 3NT on Board `8. This hand is a perfect example of the discarding complexities that occur when declarer has a long suit to run and a couple of possible sources for developing an extra trick.

Woolsey played it from West and Lall played it from East

At both tables, a spade was led. Declarer won the opening lead and began playing diamonds. On the second round of diamonds, South was faced with a difficult discarding problem. Both South players discarded the H7. On the surface, this seems harmless. The H7 seems unimportant and is unlikely to be protecting anything. It turns out that a black suit discard would allow the defenders to time their subsequent discards in a manner which wouldn't help declarer. The H7 created an unforeseen problem for N/S.

When Woolsey was declarer, he cashed two more diamonds to produce this eight card position...

On the last diamond, Garner discarded the C5 and Zia discarded the H2. Woolsey read the position correctly. He led the C7 to the queen, king, and ace. The CJ was his ninth trick.

If Garner discards a major suit instead of a small club, Woolsey will set-up an endplay where the opponents are forced to break clubs. E.g. if Garner discards a small spade, declarer can cash his major suit aces and exit with a heart. The defenders will be able to take three major suit tricks before breaking clubs, giving declarer his ninth trick.

In the Closed Room, where Lall declared from the East hand, Dan Morse discarded two spades from the North hand and held all three of his clubs. The eight card position was:

On the last diamond, Morse discarded the C5, and Pratap discarded the H3. Lall led the C7 to his king and Pratap's ace. Pratap exited with a spade. Lall won the SK and played the C6 to dummy's jack and Morse's queen. Morse played the S8 to Pratap's queen and Pratap cashed the S5 and the CT to defeat 3NT one trick.

10 IMPs to Bramley