

February 27, 2021

Bridge with Richard Ward

Next week commemorates the 15th year since Queensland's legendary player Ivy Dahler passed away. Born in the UK, Ivy moved to Australia after World War 2 and spent most of her time living in western Queensland, finally settling in Toowoomba for her later years. She was a remarkable lady in many ways - read the details under 'about the QBA' on the Association's website – but she is remembered mostly as a formidable state, national and international competitor whose contributions to bridge were substantial. We miss her.

Commented [RW1]: pion

In 1975, the Australian Women's team [Hans Rosendorff (NPC), Margaret Choate, Cecile Miles, Ivy Dahler, Gray Reynolds, Val Cummings & Mary McMahon] travelled to Bangkok where they won the Far East Women's Teams Championship. This has since been renamed the Asia Pacific Championships.

NORTH
♠ A 7 5 4 3 **W/ NIL VUL**
♥ K 9 8 6
♦ K Q 7
♣ 9

WEST
♠ K 9 6
♥ J 10 7
♦ 5 3
♣ A K J 10 5

EAST
♠ J 10 2
♥ Q 4 3
♦ 10 8 4 2
♣ 7 4 2

SOUTH
♠ Q 8
♥ A 5 2
♦ A J 9 6
♣ Q 8 6 3

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
1C	1S	PASS	2NT
PASS	3NT	PASS	PASS
PASS			

Ivy was declarer facing the lead of the ace of clubs-9-2-3. Next came the five of diamonds-K-2-6. She played the nine of hearts running it to the safe hand, West's ten. It would not help for East to fly with the queen on this trick. She won the red suit return and cashed all of her diamonds and hearts so that, with four cards to play, West was forced to keep her king and nine of spades and king and jack of clubs. So ace and another spade put West back on lead to give up the ninth trick to the queen of clubs. You might think that, if West had led the jack of clubs at trick one instead of the ace, this would defeat the contract. But, provided South bravely ducks this, the contract will always make.

Tomorrow sees the start of Stage 1 of the Open Selection Trials for the Queensland Open Team with a record entry of nearly 40 pairs. Results at the half-way mark will be reported next Saturday.