

August 28, 2021

Bridge with Richard Ward

NORTH		N/ NIL VUL/ TEAMS	
♠	A Q 6		
♥	A 8 4		
♦	K 9 4		
♣	Q 10 8 5		
WEST		EAST	
♠	J 8 4	♠	K 10 9 7 2
♥	Q J 10 5 2	♥	K 9 7 3
♦	7 3	♦	8 5 2
♣	A J 6	♣	9
SOUTH			
♠	5 3		
♥	6		
♦	A Q J 10 6		
♣	K 7 4 3 2		

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
	1NT	PASS	3D
PASS	3NT	PASS	5C
PASS	PASS	PASS	

This Terence Reese declarer play hand from a few decades ago illustrates the importance of considering specific card combinations in the context of the whole hand. South's bidding (before the proliferation of transfer bids) was natural and pragmatic, effortlessly avoiding the hopeless 3NT reached at some tables.

West started with the queen of hearts won in dummy. The key question is 'how to play the club suit?' In isolation there is no reason not to play for a 2-2 club break. But, in this case, it is important to keep West from gaining the lead and putting a spade through. So, ruff a heart to hand and play a club to the ten. Even if this loses to a singleton or doubleton jack, the spade suit will be protected from attack and can later be thrown on the diamonds. Making twelve tricks. Obvious really if you think it through.

CLEVELAND BAY TEAMS: [Director – Leigh Owens] **A** Angela Little / Robyn Nolan / Joan Elliott / Margaret Dousset; **B** Pat Leighton / Kenn Winter / Gladys Tulloch / Ray Muld; **C** Margie & John Toogood / Sue Reilly / Joe Gillis; **DARLING DOWNS GNOT:** [Director – Chris Snook] Glenys Clift / Trevor Henderson / John Churchett / Eileen Josey / Lee Hore; **TOOWONG SWISS TEAMS:** [Director – Jan Peach] **A** Tony Hutton / Neville Francis / Jill Magee / Terry Strong; **B** Annette Hyland / Abby Wanigaratne / Peter Nilsson / Alan Boyce; **C** Robyn Stevens / Simon Fleming / Lilly Jai / Martin Wu; **TOOWOOMBA PAIRS:** [Director – Chris Snook] **A** Jenni Buckley / Jim Wood; **B** Oliver Dashwood / Delma Clark; **C** Greg Munck / Lawrence Price; **CASSOWARY PAIRS:** [Director – Bill Bishop] **A** Rebecca Delaney / Lesley Fraser; **B** Danny Benedetto / Stephen Vigh; **C** Harry Graepel / Sandrine Taillardat; **U50 MP** Elaine Dickson / Jonathan Jones; **U20 MP** Julie Duncan / Midge Bell
