September 18, 2021

**Bridge with Richard Ward**

Here is a hand which contains some ‘interesting’ bidding decisions in the Romania vs Germany match at the notorious 2021 European Bridge League World Championship Teams qualifier.

**NORTH**

♠ 9 4 3 **S/ NIL VUL/ TEAMS**

♥ 10 7 6 5

♦ J 7 2

♣ Q J 4

**WEST EAST**

♠ - ♠ 8 6

♥ A K J 8 3 ♥ 9 4 2

♦ K Q 5 3 ♦ 9 8 6 4

♣ A K 8 2 ♣ 10 7 6 3

**SOUTH**

♠ A K Q J 10 7 5 2

♥ Q

♦ A 10

♣ 9 5

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **WEST** | **NORTH** | **EAST** | **SOUTH** |
| GERMANY | ROMANIA | GERMANY | ROMANIA |
|  |  |  | 2D |
| DBL | RDBL | 2NT | 4S |
| DBL | PASS | 4NT | PASS |
| 5S | PASS | PASS! | PASS |

2D showed an undisclosed long major suit, either weak or strong. Double was a takeout of spades. Redouble was pointless. 2NT meant something to East, but not the same something as understood by West, who was not in on the joke. 4NT asked the doubler to pick a suit with at least two places to play. 5S said “No, you pick a suit at the 6-level”. East’s pass said, “No, I won’t” and so there was the German pair stranded in the opponents’ 8-3 fit! This bizarre contract made just three tricks for minus 400. This may have been a 1 imp sacrifice, but at the other table where the players were less excitable, a contract of four spades doubled by South went down one for plus 100 and 7 imps to Romania.

The Queensland Teams-of-Three Championship for players with fewer than 300 masterpoints will be held at the Northern Suburbs Bridge Club next Sunday 26th. Each 3-person team will be assigned an experienced player as captain. Check the QBA website for entry details.

**DALBY PAIRS:** [Director – Alan Gibson] 1 John Erlandson / Will Higgins; 2 Noreen Weyling / Tony Davidson; **B** 1 Ngaire Wills / Joan Mladen; 2 Naureen Gearon / Rebecca Night; **C** 1 Terry Sheedy / Mark John Hunt; 2 Michelle & Thomas O’Connor; **KENMORE GRADED NOVICE PAIRS:** [Director – Julie Jeffries] 1 Wendy Cuthbert / Martin Wu; 2 Anne Gardiner / Gloria Newton; **B** 1 Linda & Peter Neil; 2 Jenny McGowan / Vanessa Brewis; **NOOSA SPRING TEAMS:** [Director – Peter Busch] 1 Therese Tully / Richard Ward / Tony Hutton / Neville Francis; 2 Geoff Olsen / Maureen Jakes / Rosemary Crowley / Richard Perry; **B** 1 Lesley Power / Susan Lee / Jean Pearce / Marylou Shaw; 2 Kiyomi Avanduk / Sue Gardner / Margaret & Don Robertson.