

October 16, 2021

### Bridge with Richard Ward

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

South opens 2NT which North raises to 3NT. West leads the 4<sup>th</sup> highest of her longest and strongest suit, hearts. Declarer notices that, even if the clubs break 2-2, the suit is blocked. With only one entry to dummy, only one finesse in spades or diamonds can be taken and, even if one of those happens to work, there will still be only eight tricks available. Another possibility is to hold up the ace of hearts to the third round and then try to duck a club to East. No luck again!

One solution might be to win the second trick and return a heart immediately. This will work against most defenders when West cashes her winners and the club blockage is resolved. If however she is clairvoyant and returns a club instead, declarer will go down. There is just one remaining 100% line which involves taking the second heart, then three clubs and now exit with the third heart. West will be endplayed. Much too hard for we mere mortals.

### QBA FESTIVAL OF BRIDGE

[Directors: Jan Peach & Alan Gibson]

**TBIB OPEN TEAMS:** 1 Ralph Parker / Paul Hooykaas / Peter Evans / Richard Ward; 2 Neville Francis / Jill Magee / Tony Hutton / Terry Strong; 3 Nikolas Moore / Rachel Langdon / Murray Perrin / Janeen Solomon; **PLATE:** 1 Lyn & Jim Martin / Richard Trollope / David Christian 2 Noel Bugeia / Val Holbrook / Bronwyn McLeod / Connie Schoutrop;  
**CONSOLATION** Charles Page / Tere Wotherspoon / Robyn Stevens / Simon Fleming;  
**REGIONAL** Denise Hartwig / Chris Snook / Jenni Buckley / Jim Wood; **RESTRICTED** Annette Scott / Raelene Clark / Joyanne Gissing / Rosemary Thomson; **MOORE**  
**AUSTRALIA OPEN PAIRS:** 1 Paul Collins / Ian Afflick; 2 Linda Norman / Wendy Gibson; 3 Richard Ward / Neville Francis; **PLATE** 1 Diane Morgan / Janet Hansen; 2 Evelyne Mander / Joan Jenkins; **CONSOLATION** Martin Wu / Lilly Jia; **REGIONAL** Denise Hartwig / Chris Snook; **RESTRICTED** Susan & Andrew Sharp

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