

January 15, 2022

Bridge with Richard Ward

The online Summer Festival of Bridge based in Canberra has started and we wish every success to the many Queenslanders who will be playing from home.

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
			1H
1S	3H	PASS	4C
PASS	4S	PASS	4NT
PASS	5H	PASS	6H
PASS	PASS	PASS	

West's timid one spade overcall gave her opponents plenty of room to investigate a slam. 3H was invitational and 4C and 4S showed first or second round controls. Key Card Blackwood revealed that all were held and South decided against investigating for a grand slam. West led the queen of diamonds and, with a spade and a club to lose, declarer needed to focus on how best to attack the club suit. If an extra winner could be developed there, the spade loser could be discarded. Interestingly there was a 100 percent line. Simply draw trumps and cash the ace-king of diamonds. Then play the ace of clubs and a club to the ten. If the clubs split 3-3, the nine of clubs will later be high. If East has four clubs to one honour, then West will be end-played. If the hand is as shown, either East will split her honours or the ten will win. The trickiest layout occurs when West holds four or five clubs to both honours. Now, when declarer plays off all of the trumps, West will be unable to guard both the spade and club winners.

Stage 1 of the trials for the Queensland Open Team will be held at the Queensland Contract Bridge Club on 5th-6th February. This is a good opportunity to practice for the Gold Coast International Congress which starts on the 18th February and pairs may enter as contenders or non-contenders. Youth pairs are encouraged to take advantage of their free entry.

QCBC GRADED PAIRS: [Director – Alan Gibson] **A** 1 Tony Hutton / Richard Ward; 2 Robyn Clark / Richard Fox; 3 Normand Maclaurin / Paul Collins; **B** 1 Valerie & Peter Robbins; 2 Lex Ranke / Jack Rohde; 3 Suzi Ledger / Jeff Conroy; **NOVICE** 1 Jennifer Finigan / Chris De Jong; 2 Siobhan & Bob Davies; 3 Jane Tagney / Marge Henry
