

March 19, 2022

Bridge with Richard Ward

The World Team Championships will be starting in Salsomaggiore in Italy on 27th March. In the light of the invasion of the Ukraine by Russian forces, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and the World Bridge Federation have recommended that 'in order to protect the integrity of global sports competitions ... event organisers should not invite or allow the participation of Russian and Belarusian competitors'. Australia is sending four teams whose progress will be followed with interest.

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
KOKISH	MATEI	SILVER	GLIGA
		4D	5D
6C	DBL	PASS	6H
PASS	PASS	7C	DBL
7D	DBL	ALL PASS	

This hand comes from the Transatlantic Seniors Cup for teams from Europe and the Americas. We are reminded of the aphorism, attributable to many sources: "*Twice armed is he whose cause is just. Thrice armed who gets his blow in fust*". East has a choice of 2-suited openings if available, 2NT or 4NT, though neither are recommended given the disparity between the two suits. Most started with 3D, but others tried the more adventurous 4D or 5D. In the bidding shown, West's 6C bid was a thoughtful effort, always planning to return to diamonds, but perhaps indicating a possible defence. The final contract of seven diamonds doubled cost only 500, good value against the vulnerable North-South game. Six hearts by North-South can be defeated in theory but never was in practice. Too difficult for most of us.

ROCKHAMPTON AUTUMN CONGRESS: [Director – Les Bonnick] **TEAMS:** 1 Betty Theodore / Helen Manzau / Lydia George / Peter Gordon; 2 Malcolm Allan / Ken Cupples / Donna Smith / John Lanham; **B** 1 Lesley Halliday / Sue Rohrig / Cindy Mackintosh / Lynne Macfarlane; 2 Paula Gibb / Brian Blackmore / Mavis Anderson / Margaret Doak; **PAIRS:** 1 Janet Hansen / Diane Morgan; 2 Ken Cupples / Malcolm Allan; **B** 1 Helen Manzau / Peter Gordon; 2 Diane & Max Holewa.
