

July 16, 2022

Bridge with Richard Ward

The New South Wales teams were the star performers at the Australian National Championships in Adelaide taking out the Open, Women's and Seniors Interstate Teams whilst South Australia won the Youth event. The four Queensland teams did not bother the scorers although our Youth team started well, leading in the early stages but fading at the end. The Interstate Pairs went to Queensland's Paul Hooykaas and Charlie Lu with Ian Halford and Ralph Parker placing third.

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

South opens a strong no trump. North checks for a 4-card heart suit using 2C simple Stayman and then subsides in 3NT. West leads the recommended six of hearts – fourth highest of the longest and strongest suit – to the 2, 9 and queen. Declarer uses the “Rule of 11” – subtracting the opening card spot from 11. The answer gives the number of cards higher than that in the other three hands. 11 minus 6 equals 5 so South knows that East started with just one higher heart and can play low to the 8 with confidence and later, low to the jack. Contract making with East berating partner for not trying a spade at trick one. Such is life.

BOWEN PAIRS [Directors – Jan Smith & Leigh Owens] 1 Kim & Ray Ellaway; 2 Monica Darley & Geoff Taylor; 3 Pat & Geoff Allen; **BUNDABERG CONGRESS** [Director - Julie Jeffries] **PAIRS** 1 Malcolm Allan / John Morris; 2 Robyn Nolan / Di Jones; **B** Eugenie Moonie / Anna Irminger; **C** Sa & Paul Smith; **TEAMS** 1 Mattie Baljet / Fred Whitaker / Maurice Williams / Marcel Hoevenaars; 2 Lydia George / Betty Theodore / Peter Gordon / Helen Manzau; **B** Ian Bloore / Sheryl Matthews / Carol Christensen / Pat Faircloth; **LOCKYER PAIRS** [Director – Alan Gibson] 1 Elizabeth Zeller / Mearon Geldard; 2 Lesley Mundell / Rosemary Kelley; **B** Inta Devine / Helen Blair; **REDLANDS PAIRS** [Director – Chris Snook] **NOVICE** 1 Jenny Andrews / Alice Edwards; 2 Alex Wu / Kate McDonald; **RESTRICTED** 1 Eugene Pereira / Martin Wu; 2 Sandra & Dov Berns
