

August 27, 2022

Bridge with Richard Ward

The 16th World Bridge Series began this week in Wroclaw, Poland with a number of Australians competing. In the Open, a field of 80 teams comprised many renowned internationals and world champions. Australia/New Zealand's Sartaj Hans, Peter Gill, Nabil Edgerton and Michael Whibley were most impressive, reaching the Round-of 16. Also noteworthy was the World Bridge Federation's strong stance against abusive, bullying or harassing behaviour. Yes, this sadly does occur at times and does need to be dealt with emphatically. One incident resulted in a player being suspended from the current event and for the remainder of these championships.

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

Once North showed slam interest (after East's spade overcall) and at least 5-5 in hearts and diamonds, North gambled on there being at least one ace in dummy by bidding a practical 6NT. West led the singleton spade taken by East's ace. The spade queen was returned, won with the king. Declarer saw that the contract needed just five tricks in one of the red suits and so started with diamonds – the king then the ace. West's discard was an unpleasant, but not unexpected, sight, leaving declarer with the problem of making five heart tricks. Before committing to a heart play, South went on a voyage of discovery by cashing the three club winners. Now East's distribution was known to be 6-1-4-2 so, taking the best chance that the singleton heart was not the jack, she played the ten of hearts, covered and all was well.

QUEENSLAND GRADED TEAMS [Director – Jan Peach] 1 Janeen Solomon / Ian Afflick / Jill Magee / Terry Strong; 2 Peter Evans / Tony Treloar / Christine Newberry / Richard Fox; **B** 1 Eugene Pereira / Eduardo Besprosvan / Daria Williams / Jeff Conroy; 2 Lyn Tracey / Janet Price / Winny Chan / Richard Spelman; **C** 1 Martin Wu / Alex Wu / Jasmine Skeate / Paddy Taylor; 2 Jenny Thompsen / Jenny McGowan / Carol Findlay / Vanessa Brewis