

September 17, 2022

Bridge with Richard Ward

When you have a choice of two finesses, try to assess whether taking one of them first allows you to avoid the other one entirely, as here.

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
			1S
PASS	2D	PASS	3S
PASS	4NT ¹	PASS	5C ²
PASS	6S	ALL PASS	
1: key card ask 2: 0 or 3			

At a club duplicate session with no intervening bidding, many Souths opened one spade and then jumped to three spades which encouraged North to check for key cards and then bid six spades. Of those in slam, all but one drew trumps and took the losing diamond finesse. whereupon East cashed the ace of hearts for one down. The lone successful declarer chose to attack hearts first after winning the club lead and drawing trumps. When the queen of hearts was favourably placed, it was a simple matter to establish an additional heart trick for a diamond discard.

MAGNETIC ISLAND TEAMS [Directors – Jan Smith & Leigh Owens] 1 Charlie Georgees / John Tredrea / Terrence Sheedy / Janelle Conroy; 2 Bill Bishop / Maria Chippendale / Pat Larsen / Leslie Rooney / Phil Rains; **NOOSA TEAMS** [Director – Peter Busch] 1 Ken Dawson / Adrienne Kelly / Sue O'Brien / Paul Collins; 2 Neville Francis / Ralph Parker / Tony Hutton / Richard Ward; **B** Debbie & Gary Gibbards / Hugh Gehrmann / Charlene Frederiksen; **DALBY PAIRS** [Director – Chris Snook] 1 Raelene Clark / Alan Gibson; 2 Jenni Buckley / Jim Wood; **B** Kerrie Hayes / Stephen Price; **KENMORE PAIRS** [Director - Julie Jeffries] **NOVICE** 1 Heather & Peter Andrews; 2 Jill Dunning / Margaret Giebels; **ROOKIE** 1 Lois Munro / Anna De Borah; 2 Jennifer Brangan / Anne Gardiner.

Entries for the limited number of places at the 61st International Gold Coast Congress in February 2023 are filling fast. Preference will be given to those whose entry is fully paid.