

October 1, 2022

## Bridge with Richard Ward

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There has been a changing of the guard in the World Bridge Federation with Gianarrigo Rona of Italy stepping down as President after thirteen years of service. His successor is Sweden's Jan Kamras who takes up the role at the start of 2023 and plans to visit Australia, playing in the prestigious 61<sup>st</sup> International Gold Coast Congress at Broadbeach in February. Australia's Ben Thompson is to be congratulated on his election as WBF Vice President.

There are a number of bridge myths floating around which some players use when trying to locate a missing queen. One is that the nine and the queen are always in the same hand – "Where lies the nine there lies the queen". Another is that king of the same suit always looks toward the queen. The king of spades looks to his left whilst the others face right so, on the hand below the queen of diamonds should be in the South hand. All nonsense of course! Sometimes there are better roads to discovery.

### WEST

♠ A 6 4  
♥ K 4 2  
♦ K 8 5  
♣ A Q 7 3

### EAST

♠ 9 3 2  
♥ Q 10 9  
♦ A J 10  
♣ K 9 4 2

The bidding is a simple 1NT-3NT auction to which North leads the fourth-highest two of spades which indicates that spades are breaking 4-3. Declarer West can count five tricks in spades and clubs, assuming the latter break 3-2. A good guess in diamonds will provide three tricks there plus a heart by force. Alternatively, a good guess for the jack of hearts will deliver two tricks to go with the top two diamonds. Rather than relying on good fortune, our declarer won the second spade and cashed just three clubs before exiting with a spade won by North. On the fourth spade, a club was discarded from dummy and a heart or a diamond from hand. Whichever suit North chose next would guarantee the contract regardless of the whereabouts of the missing honours.

**QUEENSLAND TEAMS-OF-THREE** [Director – Chris Snook] **A** 1 Gordon Gemmell / Ilo Hellaby / Magdeline Wong / Jane Doyle; 2 Jan Peach / Michael Martin / Jennifer Finigan / Jamshid Vazirzadeh; **B** 1 Richard Fox / Kris Sullivan / Carol Findlay / Jenny Thompson; 2 Tony Hutton / Janet McKeough / Lois Munro / Judy Hefferan; **C** 1 David Lehmann / Suzy Brownlow / Gail & Gary Taylor; 2 Terry Strong / Jenny & Barry Fryar / Irene Komen;  
**SURFERS PARADISE CONGRESS** [Director – Alan Gibson] **PAIRS** 1 Wendy Gibson / Murray Perrin; 2 Margaret Pisko / Trish Anagnostou; **B** Edward Hahn / Jeff Conroy; **C** Lourie Stewart / Graham Arden **TEAMS** 1 Michael Kent / Birgitt Bingham / Carol & George Wilkinson; 2 James & Richard Wallis / Charlie Lu / Lynne Gray; **B** Daria Williams / Eduardo Besprosvan / Paul Brake / John Glennie.

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