

October 22, 2022

### Bridge with Richard Ward

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This hand was reported by British international expert and columnist Andrew Robson. It could be entitled 'the case of the disappearing defensive trick'.

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
			1H
PASS	2H	PASS	4C
PASS	6H	ALL PASS	

South's 'splinter' 4C bid showed a singleton or void club (not usually the ace) and North, seeing no wastage in clubs, a fourth trump and two prime honours outside clubs and hearts took the plunge to slam. Fortune favours the brave. West started with the jack of spades won with the king and, when trumps did not break 2-2, declarer conceded one down saying "There's nothing I can do about it. I must lose a spade and a heart." Actually, there was something to do, and that was to play out the hand in the hope that the defensive spade trick and West's heart trick would fall together at trick 13. The plan is to ruff three clubs, hoping that West started with four clubs: king of diamonds; ruff a club; ace of diamonds and a diamond ruff; ruff a club; cross to the ace of spades and ruff the last club. The last two tricks have South holding a spade and a trump leading a diamond towards dummy's small spade and heart. Check it out. It's magic.

**GYMPIE TEAMS** [Director – Steve Murray]; 1 Tim Ridley / David Harris / Sam Halvorsen / Rosemary Green; 2 Ines Dawes / Di Jones / John Morris / Brett Middelberg; **B** 1 Moira Gibbens / Maureen Wright / Prunella Adams / Diana Banks; 2 Ross Shardlow / Peter Gruythuysen / Barry Williams / Neville Williams

**BRISBANE BRIDGE CENTRE PAIRS** [Director – Julie Jefferies]; **RESTRICTED:** 1 Rod Wilson / Leith Cameron; 2 Lilly Jia / Davis Zhang; 3 Rosemary Thomson / Sally Hall; **NOVICE:** 1 Malcolm Corney / Clive Carter; 2 Vanessa Brewis / Jenny McGowan; 3 Carol Findlay / Jenny Thompson.

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