

February 4, 2023

Bridge with Richard Ward

Thirty-two pairs are competing today for the thirteen available places in the Open Team Trials. The Queensland Bridge Association will be sending four teams to the Australian National Championships to be held in Perth in July.

Today's hand comes from a European Winter Games teams event and features a variety of results across the expert field.

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
PASS	PASS	3NT	PASS

The East-West system included a 3NT opening to show a solid minor suit with at most a king outside. This contract is not great and was made worse when South led the queen of hearts, then the jack, then the ten, giving declarer a nasty guess which he got wrong for -100. West might have looked for a safer minor suit spot. In other matches there was some very ambitious bidding to a reasonable club grand slam and a precarious spade grand slam via:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
		1C	1H
DBL ¹	3H	4H ²	PASS
4NT ³	PASS	6C ⁴	PASS
7S	PASS	PASS	PASS

1: shows spades; 2 intended to show a solid suit but taken as a spade raise; 3: key card Blackwood; 4: two key cards and a void. Clearly East and West were on different wavelengths but all was forgiven when the trumps behaved perfectly.

QUEENSLAND SENIOR TEAMS [Director – Peter Busch] 1 Sam Halvorsen / Rosemary Green / Philippa Barnett / David Harris / Tim Ridley; 2 Verna & Stephen Brookes / Ken Dawson / Adrienne Kelly; **B** Amber Noonan / Anne Young / Fay Stanton / Gabrielle Elich.

KENMORE CONGRESS [Director - Chris Snook] **PAIRS** 1 Sue O'Brien / Paul Collins; 2 Larry Moses / Terry O'Dempsey; **B** Davis Zhang / Lilly Jia; **C** Jim Pope / Peter Wilce;

TEAMS 1 Rachel Langdon / Nikolas Moore / Andrew Woollons / Richard Fox; 2 Tony Hutton / Neville Francis / Jill Magee / Terry Strong; **B** Davis Zhang / Lilly Jia / Lyn Tracey / Mick Fawcett; **C** Jenny McGowan / Malcolm Corney / Oliver Goodman / Vanessa Brewis / Ming Yang
