

February 18, 2023

### Bridge with Richard Ward

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The 61<sup>st</sup> International Gold Coast Congress is under way at Broadbeach. Players from New Zealand, Argentina, Canada, Germany, Netherlands, Singapore, Sri Lanka and the USA have been joined by World Bridge Federation President, Sweden's Jan Kamras to participate in this renowned event. The 'house full' sign has been up for several weeks.

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
	1C	PASS	1S
PASS	1NT	PASS	4S
PASS	PASS	PASS	

West led the jack of hearts to dummy's queen and East's ace. Declarer took the heart return with dummy's king and then played a trump to the ace. Declarer's next move was to cross to dummy's ace of clubs and lead a trump, intending to cover East's card. This thoughtful plan would have made the contract if East held the queen of trumps or if West had it doubleton. In the latter case, declarer could have arranged to ruff a diamond in dummy for his tenth trick. Sadly, East discarded a club on the second round of trumps and the contract could no longer be made. West could always win a diamond trick and draw dummy's last trump with the queen.

Another possible but precarious line would be to try to ruff all three of dummy's clubs which happens to work on the layout shown. But the best route to ten tricks is to duck a diamond early and before touching trumps. Then play off ace and king of spades preserving dummy's third trump which is needed to ruff a diamond loser.

**ARANA TEAMS** [Director – Julie Jeffries] 1 Tony Treloar / Peter Evans / Therese Tully / Richard Ward; 2 Pele Rankin / Kim Morrison / Neville Francis / Tony Hutton; **B** 1 Winny Chan / Eugene Pereira / Lyn Tracey / Mick Fawcett; 2 Pam Horton / Ann Smith / Tony Agar / Wayne Lambley; **C** 1 Siobhan & Bob Davies / Bob Hannam / Ian Pitts; 2 Vanessa Brewis / Jenny McGowan / Ming Shu Yang / Oliver Goodman

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