

April 1, 2023

Bridge with Richard Ward

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
		1H	1S
PASS	2H	3H	4S
PASS	PASS	PASS	

Most of us have a tendency to give up when a 10-trick contract like this one appears to have four inescapable losers. West leads a heart - seven-two-ace-three. To declarer's surprise, East returns a diamond rather than a second heart which looks suspiciously like a singleton. So the ace of diamonds is followed by the ace of spades in the hope of dropping a singleton king somewhere. No luck there. Placing the king of spades with East, the only remaining chance is that East's diamond was a singleton. So, after discarding a diamond from dummy on the king of hearts, declarer ruffs the queen of hearts and leads a low club. East follows with the three and declarer's queen of clubs wins the trick. All that remains now is to throw East in with a trump. As a result, East has the choice of either leading a heart, allowing declarer to discard his diamond loser while ruffing in dummy, or of setting up dummy's king of clubs for declarer's tenth trick. The lesson from this hand is to keep counting and never give up.

At the half-way point in the trials for the Queensland Women's and Seniors teams: Carmel Martin / Abby Wanigaratne are leading from Janet Hansen / Diane Morgan and Kathy Males / Michele Radke; and Paul Collins / Ian Afflick are leading from Kerry Wood / Charlie Howard and Sandy Long / Tony Lusk.

MACKAY PAIRS [Director – Geoff Taylor] 1 Diane & Max Holewa; 2 Noel Bugeia / Tex Sheedy; **B** Helen Van Den Broek / Patricia Garner; **C** Annie Lynch / Diane Stokes;

SURFERS PARADISE PAIRS [Director – Julie Jeffries] **UNDER 500 MPs** 1 Eugene Pereira / Martin Wu; 2 Barry Williams / Ashok Chotai; 3 Vesna & Voyko Markovic; **NOVICE** 1 Moyra Galton / Jean Sheather; 2 Deryl McConaghy / Martyn Jacobson; 3 John Rivers / Paul Jenkins.
