

June 24, 2023

Bridge with Richard Ward

The Asia Pacific Bridge Championships in Hong Kong proved to be a triumph for China in all four categories. Best Australian teams were the Seniors and the Mixed. New Zealand had a great tournament and team member Michael Cornell became the very first World Grand Master in the Australia-New Zealand Zone, the 126th player worldwide to achieve this rank.

On this hand declarer, seeing that a 3-3 diamond break or a 2-2 trump break would make the contract laydown, looked for a 'dummy reversal' just in case the bridge gods were displeased, as they frequently are.

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

North-South brushed aside their opponents' spade interference to reach a sound game in clubs. After ruffing the second round of spades, declarer cashed the king of trumps, pleased to see that the suit was no worse than 3-1. Next came the heart jack-two-king-four then another spade ruff. After exiting with a heart to East's queen there were now 11 tricks via one heart, three diamonds, three clubs and four ruffs in hand.

CAIRNS NOVICE PAIRS [Director – Rick Gryg]: 1 Cheryl Parks / Julie Duncan; 2 Deb Morison / Bridget Findley; **B** 1 Thomas Kik / Yana Kappel; **GOLD COAST CONGRESS** [Director – Alan Gibson]: **PAIRS** 1 Ann Liu / Usher Zeng; 2 Rachel Langdon / Kim Morrison; **B** Barry Koster / Barbara Mackay; **C** Juliet Rogers / Carolyn Waters; **TEAMS A** Carmel Martin / Abby Wanigaratne / Pamela & Jim Evans; **B** Barry Koster / Lyn Tracey / Richard Spelman / Barbara Mackay; **C** Robyn Kronenberg / Alan Kestenberg / Deb Carroll / John Lemarchand; **NOOSA PAIRS** [Director – Peter Busch]: 1 Ken Dawson / Adrienne Kelly; 2 Fred Whitaker / Duncan Badley; **B** Eugenie Mooney / Anna Irminger; 2 Dieter Bendt / David Thrum; **SUNSHINE COAST CONGRESS** [Director – [Peter Busch]: **PAIRS** 1 Fay Stanton / Janeen Solomon; 2 Adrienne Kelly / Ken Dawson; **B** Carmel Dwan / Tricia Merefield; **TEAMS** 1 Toni Bardon / James Wallis / Neville Francis / Patrick Bugler; 2 Nikki Riszko / Mattie Baljet / Andrew Struik / Marcel Hoevenaars; **B** Shanaal & Hema De Zoysa / Denise Hartwig / Chris Snook.
