

July 8, 2023

Bridge with Richard Ward

The Australian National Championships start tomorrow in Perth. Queensland representative teams are: **OPEN** Andy Braithwaite, Kim Morrison, Pele Rankin, Alison Dawson, Pamela and Jim Evans, Terry O'Dempsey [NPC]; **WOMEN** Carmel Martin, Abby Wanigaratne, Sue O'Brien, Margaret Millar, Maha Hoenig. Janeen Solomon, Toni Bardon [NPC]; **SENIORS** Kerry Wood, Charlie Howard, Ian Afflick, Paul Collins, Ralph Parker, Larry Moses, John Luck [NPC]; **YOUTH** Kate Macdonald, Alex Wu, Lauren Morgan, Sebastian Langdon Macmillan, Paddy Taylor, Zac Ross, Michael Gearing [NPC]. We wish them every success.

This entertaining hand from an international event was reported by distinguished journalist Barry Rigal. He wrote: "Never have the commentators' flabbers been so gasted as by the fact that two of the four matches started with a 2C opening by South".

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

All four matches reached a minor suit slam after spirited major suit interference from East-West. At table 1, the contract was six clubs, doomed by the 5-0 trump break combined with continued spade leads. Down 4. At table 2, North was playing six diamonds and, when East tried to cash the spade ace instead of starting with a club, declarer had twelve tricks. At tables 3 and 4, South was doubled in six diamonds. Both Wests on lead were desperate to reach partner at trick one to get their club ruff. One tried the successful low heart to partner's king. The other tried the nine of spades. Unlucky! Minus 15 imps.

TOWNSVILLE CONGRESS [Directors – Jan Smith, Leigh Owens] **PAIRS** 1 Janelle Conroy / Tex Sheedy; 2 Pat Larsen / Charlie Georgees; **B** Jan Harris / Janine Rodgers; **C** Ann Smith / Robyn Green; **TEAMS** 1 Diane & Max Holewa / Janelle Conroy / Tex Sheedy; 2 Maria Chippendale / Bill Bishop / Janelle Kipping / Terry Hughes / Ken Manders; **B** Helen & Wilfred Tapiolas / Anne Murphy / Roslyn Sneddon; **C** Mick King / Patricia Garner / Jan Harris / Janine Rodgers
