

July 22, 2023

Bridge with Richard Ward

South Australia was the star performer at the Australian National Championships, qualifying for all four finals and winning three of them. Best for Queensland were the Seniors and Youth, both coming 3rd. Our fortunes improved greatly in the **INTERSTATE PAIRS: WOMEN** 1st Toni Bardon / Alison Dawson; 2nd Carmel Martin / Abby Wanigaratne; **SENIORS** 2nd Paul Collins / Ian Afflick; **YOUTH** 1st Lauren Morgan / Paddy Taylor.

Defence is arguably the most difficult part of the game requiring flair, imagination and co-operation between the defenders. This hand displays all of this from international stars Sabine Auken (North) and Roy Welland (South) defending 3NT played by East.

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

Welland began with a cost-nothing spade: 8-4-Q-A. Next came the club 2-3-K-J! That was an excellent card from Auken because it now gave declarer some losing options. Had she played the automatic six of clubs, declarer would have had to play for the doubleton ace by returning a low club. Now playing for North to hold J-10 of clubs it was reasonable to try the club queen from dummy won by South's now singleton ace. Welland could see four tricks for the defence so decided to hope partner held the jack or ten doubleton of diamonds in the suit bid twice by East. A low diamond went to the ten and jack so, when North won the third club, a diamond return provided the fifth trick.

SURFERS PARADISE CONGRESS [Director – Alan Gibson] **PAIRS** 1 Edward Hahn / Neven Burica; 2 Cathy & Philip Hocking; **B** John Rivers / Sameer Pandya; **TEAMS** 1 Ann Liu / Usher Zeng / Anthony Tuxworth / Kevin Steffensen; 2 Anne McGregor / Ernie Sutton / Robyn Fletcher / Pat Beattie; **B** John Rivers / Sameer Pandya / Winny Chan / Dewi Eastman; **MACKAY NOVICE PAIRS** [Director – Geoff Taylor] 1 Geoff Cowan / Sandy Patterson; 2 Sandra Morris / Ann Whitmore; **MORETON BRIBIE TEAMS** [Director – Peter Busch] 1 Eugene Pereira / Martin Wu / Vesna & Voyko Markovic; 2 Val Roland / Michael Stoneman / June Glenn / Alan Hamilton; **B** Noreen Weyling / Tony Davidson / Peter Gruythuisen / Ross Shardlow.
