

August 5, 2023

Bridge with Richard Ward

Some declarer-play problems can be planned as soon as dummy is tabled. Others, such as this one, end up just playing themselves so are less difficult. It also illustrates why transfer bids after an opening 1NT are so successful.

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
			1NT
PASS	2H	PASS	2S
PASS	4S	ALL PASS	

With South the declarer in 4S thanks to North's transfer bid of 2H, the king of hearts is protected on the opening lead. West leads the jack of clubs and, when the trump loser is revealed, the contract appears to require the ace of hearts to be with East but there is no hurry to play for that. Play king, ace and ruff a diamond. Cross back to hand with a club and lead the last diamond, When the queen appears it is obvious to discard a heart leaving West on lead with only losing options. It would not help East to ruff his partner's diamond winner, of course, since that would then mean just one trump and two heart losers overall.

BRISBANE BRIDGE CENTRE TEAMS [Director – Chris Snook]: 1 Ross Murtagh / Barbara Kent / Jack Rohde / Lex Ranke; 2 Tere Wotherspoon / Siegfried Konig / Maha Hoenig / Janeen Solomon; **B** 1 Jenny McGowan / Vanessa Brewis / Oliver Goodman / Ming Shu Yang; **QCBC NOVICE TEAMS-OF-THREE** [Director – Chris Snook]: **A** Tony Treloar / Louise Purdie / Jenny Neuss / Sue Green; **B** Barry Williams / Christine Jensen / Brian Weigel / Simon Byrne; **C** Ross Murtagh / Kathy Van Geest / Karen Johnston / Suzanne Adams; **CALOUNDRA PAIRS** [Director – Steve Murray]: **RESTRICTED** 1 Keith Cohen / Jenny Hays; 2 Ian Pitts / Bob Hannam; **NOVICE** 1 Robert King / Mike O'Reilly; 2 Phoebe & Mark Harnack.

The two biggest events on the Queensland bridge calendar are the QBA Festival of Bridge in October and the Gold Coast International Congress in February. Entries for both are now open on myABF.