

August 12, 2023

### Bridge with Richard Ward

100 teams competed in the World Youth Championships where the Blue Riband U26 event was won by host country, the Netherlands, over Singapore 157-88. Held in Veldhoven, Australia sent two youth teams which included two Queenslanders, Jack Luke-Paredi in the U21 and Sebastian Langdon Macmillan in the U26 squads. The former were tantalisingly close to reaching the quarter finals but, despite wins against Germany, Ireland and Denmark in the later rounds, just missed the cut-off.

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
1D	PASS	1H	4S
PASS	PASS	PASS	

After winning the ace of diamonds at trick one, declarer saw that one of four things were needed for success: (i) make a second heart trick, or (ii) make a club trick, or (iii) ruff a club in the dummy, or (iv) play the trumps for no losers. The questions were, (a) which of these alternatives to attempt? and (b) how to achieve one of them as safely as possible? Given the bidding, it appeared likely that neither the spade nor the heart finesses would work so our expert declarer saw that a simple avoidance play might work. This involved keeping East off lead to prevent the defence from playing two rounds of trumps. Trick two was a heart to the ace and then a low club was led from dummy. East had to play low to avoid setting up a club trick, and, with the club honours split, the contract was now secure.

**TOOWOOMBA PAIRS** [Director – Chris Snook]: 1 Adrian Mayers / Elizabeth Zeller; 2 Lech Kaszubski / Terry O'Dempsey; **B** Susie & Sandy Fraser; **CLEVELAND BAY TEAMS** [Director – Jan Smith]: Jayne Dalton / Jan Smith / Pat Leighton / Bill Redhead; **SUNNYBANK TEAMS** [Director - Julie Jeffries]: 1 Larry Moses / Richard Wallis / Charles Howard / Kerry Wood; 2 Paul Hooykaas / Therese Tully / Pele Rankin / Greer Tucker; **B** Paul Brake / Lindell Day / Darren Brake / Oliver McCarthy; **C** Daphne Young / Sheila Parsons / Andrea & Speros Pappas.

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