

August 19, 2023!

Bridge with Richard Ward

This hand from the recent World Youth Championships illustrates the way our up-and-coming champions approach the game. They bid as if they are bullet-proof. UK journalist, Mark Horton, uncovered this bidding gem. Enjoy.

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
	CLOSED ROOM		
	3D	PASS	PASS
3NT	PASS	PASS	PASS
	OPEN ROOM		
	PASS	PASS	1H
DBL	2H	4S	PASS
4NT	PASS	5H	PASS
5NT	PASS	6D	PASS
7C	PASS	PASS	DBL
7NT	PASS	PASS	PASS

The favourable vulnerability brought out the creative flair of the North-South players in both rooms. The 3D opening on a terrible 6-card suit and just one queen proved effective in keeping East-West out of their slam. South in the other room could not resist a psychic 1H opening which North raised to 2H. All this on a combined six high card points. West was undeterred finding partner with two key cards plus the king of clubs. 7C would have been worth +2140 but South - does this bloke ever stop bidding? – created something out of nothing with an audacious psychic double. West became concerned that an opening spade lead would be ruffed and so retreated to 7NT which had no play. This hand alone saved the USA team from a 20-0 trouncing by Poland.

REDCLIFFE PAIRS [Director – Alan Gibson]: 1 Raelene Clarke / Richard Fox; 2 Ivy & John Luck; **B** Margaret Plunkett / Greg Gosney; **C** Barbara & Warren Holmes; **GOLD COAST PAIRS** [Director – Steve Murray]: **UNDER 500** 1 Sew Yoon Yap-Giles / Liz Moss; 2 Cheryl Hensel / Odette Hall; **NOVICE** 1 Fiona Evans / Anne Moase; 2 Deb Carroll / Robyn Kronenberg; **CASSOWARY PAIRS** [Director – Julie Jeffries]: 1 Bill Redhead / Pat Leighton; 2 Peerapan Maslen / Tony Lusk; **B** Margaret Azar / Sonja Ramsund; **C** Patricia Ottone / Kate Gargan.
