

November 18, 2023

Bridge with Richard Ward

Terence Reese (1913-1996) was a brilliant player and accomplished author from the United Kingdom who, despite many international successes, achieved notoriety when accused of inexplicably cheating using finger signals at the 1965 World Championships in Buenos Aires.

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
	1C	2NT	3S
4H	4S	ALL PASS	

Reese advised against using 2NT to promise a 5-5 hand as he claimed that such bids provided a blueprint for declarer - which is what happened here. After the defence played three rounds of diamonds and trumps were drawn declarer could see that making his contract depended on managing the club suit for three tricks. With East now known to have a 2-5-5-1 distribution, declarer led the ten of clubs, planning to run it if it was not covered. However, West played the jack of clubs and declarer won the trick with the king and continued with a low club to his eight and West's nine. After regaining the lead, declarer led a low club and covered West's four with dummy's seven. A diamond ruff and the king of clubs ensured that declarer made ten tricks. There would be no problem if East took the ten of clubs with a singleton queen or jack because declarer will still have the entries to take a deep finesse against West's remaining holding in clubs. The big payoff occurs when East holds the singleton nine of clubs. Bingo! 11 tricks.

QUEENSLAND SENIOR PAIRS [Director – Peter Busch]: 1 Geoff Olsen / David Christian; 2 Susie Warren / Di Rogers; **B** 1 Ross Shardlow / Peter Gruythuysen; 2 Rozanne Thomas / Sandy Long; **RESTRICTED** 1 Robert King / Keith Cohen; 2 Carme; Dwan / Tricia Merefield; **DEL RYAN CENTRAL QUEENSLAND TEAMS** [Directors – Jan Smith & Leigh Owens]: 1 John Morris / Neven Burica / Tony Lusk / Alexander Long; 2 Nancy Martin / Ken Seaniger / Geoff Taylor / Marilyn Robins; **B** Debra & Eric Goodchild / David Ting / Ian Cruickshank; **C** Annie Lynch / Sandra Morris / Noel Saunders / Ted Cullinan.
