

March 16, 2024

## Bridge with Richard Ward

Here we have two expert declarers bringing home a tricky game contract where many would be defeated.

be defeated.

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

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

At table one, West cashed the ace and king of diamonds, East playing high-low, and then led a third round of diamonds. Not liking the look of this one bit, declarer decided not to ruff this with one of dummy's small trumps. (East would have overruffed and the contract would have failed on the combination of West having four spades and East having the king of clubs). Instead, declarer discarded a club from dummy. East ruffed, but declarer was then in control. After gaining the lead, trumps were drawn then dummy's jack of clubs was discarded on the good queen of diamonds.

At the other table, West cashed just one top diamond and switched to a club. Just as at the other table, this declarer too was wide awake. If the club finesse was taken, East might win and return a diamond to West. As the cards lay, a third round of diamonds would then promote a trump trick for the defenders. Declarer avoided this outcome by rising with the club ace, drawing trumps and then testing the spades. When they proved to be 4-2, dummy's jack of diamonds was played. Only two diamonds and one club were lost.

**ROCKHAMPTON AUTUMN CONGRESS** [Director – Les Bonnick]: **PAIRS** 1 Diane & Max Holewa; 2 Malcolm Saunders / Luke Wilson; **B** Joie Day / Hilary Gunthorpe; **C** Sandra Morris / Annie Lynch; **TEAMS** 1 Jan Randall / Don Cameron / Karin Le Roux / Malcolm Allan; 2 Diane & Max Holewa / Tex Sheedy / Noel Bugeia; **B** Ken Cupples / Bernhard Hilse / Richard Zimmerman / Sue Rohrig; **C** Michelle Morrissey / Stuart Thurston / Pam Carmody / Alanna Waugh; **QBA MARCH PAIRS** [Director – Alan Gibson]: 1 Jack Luke-Paredi – Paul Gosney; 2 Jenny Hay / Ralph Parker; **B** Kathleen Clifford / Oliver Goodman; **C** Rosemary Floquet / Jan Kinross.

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