

April 20, 2024

Bridge with Richard Ward

This hand came up over a decade ago when the World Bridge Games were held in Lille, France. You are sitting West and choose to lead the ten of diamonds against a 1NT:3NT contract holding: S:A7 H:A43 D:10984 C:9872. Dummy appears with S:1032 H: 872 D:AJ62 C:AJ10. Declarer wins the ace of diamonds and leads a heart: 2-5-J-A. What now? Placing declarer with something like H: KJ106, it seemed likely that the defence could have some hope in the spade suit and so tried ace and another spade. This was the whole hand.

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

And so it was that the master of swindles, Zia Mahmood, came to ten tricks instead of the eight made at the other table after trying a spade at trick two with West, using similar reasoning, finding the switch to ace and another heart.

QUEENSLAND GRADED TEAMS [Director – Jan Peach]: 1 Jack Luke-Paredi, Paul Gosney, Kate Macdonald, Ben Leung; 2 Kerry Wood / Charles Howard / Pamela and Jim Evans; **B** 1 Barbara Mackay / Barry Koster / Peter Lyons / Daria Williams; 2 Davis Zhang / Lilly Jia / Sameer Pandya / Winny Chan; **C** 1 Jacqui Dudurovic / Peter Fagan / Althea Crowley / Kerry Barridge; 2 Geoff Willson / Robin Bishop / John Wilson / Marge Henry;
TOWNSVILLE PAIRS [Director – Jan Smith]: 1 Maria Chippendale / Bill Bishop; 2 Pat Leighton / Bill Redhead; **B** 1 Margaret Dousset / Joan Elliott; 2 Di Garside / Donna Fitch; **C** Greg Lawler / Bill Pickering; 2 Jana Zrno / Lynne Worley.

If you are aged between 14 and 24, registrations for the free online bridge lessons starting on 1st May are open now. Go to the Australian Bridge Federation homepage for the link.

Entries for the River City Gold Mixed Pairs at the Toowong Bridge club in late May are filling fast. Do not delay.
