

April 27, 2024

## Bridge with Richard Ward

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You are North holding **S** KJ1032 **H** 73 **D** K3 **C** 8652 This has been the bidding:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
			1D
2S	PASS	PASS	DBL
PASS	PASS	PASS	

On lead you try the king of diamonds. Dummy tracks with **S** Q4 **H** Q9654 **D** 5 **C** KQ743 and the singleton diamond is a disappointment. Clearly you want to prevent declarer's diamond ruffs and you know from the bidding that partner has no spades, so how to proceed? The solution is logical and findable. Play the king of spades at trick 2! – a low spade will not be as effective. On the king play, declarer can win the ace, but, if a diamond is ruffed with dummy's queen, the trump trick the defenders seemingly gave up would come back. On a low spade switch, declarer could put up the queen, ruff out the ace of clubs, then ruff a diamond low and take a discard on the queen of clubs to finish just two down for -300. The king of spades play collects 500.

NORTH		E/ NIL VUL/ MATCHPOINT PAIRS	
♠	K J 10 3 2		
♥	7 3		
♦	K 3		
♣	8 6 5 2		
WEST		EAST	
♠	A 9 8 7 6 5	♠	Q 4
♥	J 8	♥	Q 9 6 5 4
♦	10 9 8 7 2	♦	5
♣	-	♣	K Q 7 4 3
SOUTH			
♠	-		
♥	A K 10 2		
♦	A Q J 6 4		
♣	A J 10 9		

**GYMPIE APRIL CONGRESS** [Director – Steve Murray]: **PAIRS** 1 Alison Dawson / Ken Dawson; 2 Patrick Bugler / Tim Runting; **B** 1 Jennifer Hollingworth / Carolann Verity; 2 Lynne Leyton / George Gibson; **TEAMS** 1 Ines Dawes / Di Jones / Brett Middelberg / Ann Mellings; 2 Dianne Musgrave / Sue Smith / Michael Huddart / Roberta Macnee; **B** 1 Janice & Edgar Beckett / Anna Irminger / Anna Jadach; 2 Sheryl Cullenward / Julie Scott / Rozanne Thomas / Elizabeth Van Vugt; **WARWICK PAIRS** [Director – Chris Snook]: 1 Mavis Simpson / Noela Collins; 2 Meta Goodman / Therese Tully; **B** 1 Judy & Roy Reynolds; 2 Margot Tesch / Janine Cumming; **NORTHERN SUBURBS PAIRS** [Director – Alan Gibson]: 1 Martin Qin / Kuldip Bedi; 2 Andrew Woollons / Nikolas Moore; **B** 1 Ibrahim Diallo / Eugene Pereira; 2 Jasmine Skeate / Kate Macdonald; **C** 1 Vanessa Brewis / Jenny McGowan; 2 Peter Lyons / Warren Males.

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