

May 18, 2024

Bridge with Richard Ward

Not knowing the scope of your own ignorance is part of the human condition. In 1999, two American psychologists, David Dunning and Justin Kruger published an academic paper describing the *Dunning-Kruger effect* in which unskilled individuals suffer from illusory superiority, mistakenly rating their ability to be much higher than average. This bias is attributed to an inherent inability of the unskilled to recognize their mistakes. The problem is that we see it in other people but we don't see it in ourselves. The first rule of the Dunning–Kruger club is that you do not know you are a member of the Dunning–Kruger club. Bridge clubs have many such members!

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

South plays in four hearts after West, who has overcalled one spade, leads the queen of spades. Declarer takes this in hand with the ace, draws trumps and then plays the king of clubs. East wins this with the ace and, seeing little future in spades, shifts to the ten of diamonds. Now there is no way for declarer to avoid the loss of three diamond tricks. South, a member of the aforementioned D-K club, has failed to see that there is a way home here. After winning the ace of spades, continue with the king and nine of spades, throwing the king of clubs from hand. West wins the third round of spades and exits with a trump. Win in hand and then cross to dummy with a heart to the ten to lead the queen of clubs. The contract makes via two spades, six trumps and two clubs. This line could fail on some layouts but it is better than the line chosen.

SURFERS PARADISE TEAMS [Director – Alan Gibson]: 1 George Bilski / Andy Braithwaite / Sandra & Andrew Richman; 2 Bill Powell / Marjorie Askew / Rachel Langdon / Kim Morrison; **B** 1 Fiona Evans / Lindell Day / Darren Brake / Paul Brake; 2 Sew Yoon Yap-Giles / Peter Schmidt / Peter Lyons / Faye Ding; **C** 1 Roger Hesford / Deryl McConaghy / Carol Giuffrida / Ian Murphy; 2 Lois & John Rolls / Alan Toohey / Pauline Greig.
