

May 25, 2024

Bridge with Richard Ward

Today the Toowong Bridge Club is hosting the prestigious River City Gold Mixed Pairs. Over 200 players from across Australia are here in Brisbane including many of our top international pairs. It promises to be one of the toughest competitions ever.

The opportunity to discover the exact distribution of the opponents' hands probably comes up more often than people recognise. This is one of those times, after a simple 1NT:3NT auction.

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

West leads the three of hearts and declarer wins the third trick with the ace of hearts as East discard a diamond.. There are eight top tricks and the ninth depends on the club suit. Our successful declarer crossed to hand with the ace of clubs and played a spade to the ten, won by East who returned a spade. Then came a diamond to dummy's ten and East's jack. After the top spades and diamonds had been cashed, West's distribution was guaranteed to be 2-5-2-4. The rest was easy.

BBC PAIRS [Director – Julie Jeffries: 1 Jill Magee / Terry Strong; 2 Jasmine Skeate / Kate Macdonald; **B** 1 Raelene Clarke / Tony Treloar; 2 Bob Ren / Martin Wu; **GOONDIWINDI PAIRS** [Director – Jo Neary]: 1 Malcolm Saunders / Ian Price; 2 Alison Dawson / Elizabeth Zeller; **B** 1 Julie & Kevin Willcocks; 2 Laurie-Marie McRoberts / Kathy Duke; **C** 1 Yvonne & Trevor Mallory; 2 Leonard Schofield / George Sloss; **CALOUNDRA CONGRESS** [Director – Peter Busch]: **PAIRS** 1 Stephen Hughes / Andrew Dunlop; 2 Lyn & Jim Martin; **B** Siobhan Davies / Ian Pitts; **C** Kerry Rutter / Carmel Dwan; **TEAMS** 1 Ivy & John Luck / Maha Hoenig / Janeen Solomon; 2 Sue Ziegenfuss / Tim Runting / Kathy & Warren Males; **B** 1 Hazel Graham / Jay Kent / Rob Graham / Louise Taylor-Smith; 2 Upasana Shanti / Peter Zanki / Glenda Vincent / Cathy Clarke.
