

July 26, 2025

Bridge with Richard Ward

Time for some counting on today's hand.

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
1H	DBL	PASS	2S
PASS	4S	ALL PASS	

Against four spades West could find nothing better to do than play three rounds of hearts hoping that the discard on the queen of hearts was not critical for the defence. The spade ace, king and queen followed, revealing that East had three of them as well. Finally, declarer completed the good work by cashing the club tricks. When West showed out on the third round, East's distribution was known to be three-three-one-six. Declarer thus knew that ace and another diamond, ducking, could not be the winning play. The diamond four was led instead, ducking when the ten appeared. If West left East on lead, a ruff-and-discard would allow declarer to discard the other diamond loser, while if it was overtaken, West would be endplayed. Had East's singleton been the five, declarer would simply have covered with the seven or eight whilst if it was the king declarer would also prevail.

MARYBOROUGH CONGRESS [Director – Peter Busch]: **PAIRS** 1 Sa & Paul Smith; 2 Siobhan & Bob Davies; **B** 1 Judy Hapeta / Barbara Love; 2 Rhonda Chantler & Kevin Chapman; **TEAMS** 1 Gordon Kellerman / Patricia Mann / John Morris / Barry Koster; 2 Val Roland / Michael Stoneman / Sue Ziegenfuss / Tim Runting; **B** 1 Janelle Shaw / Astrid Korfgen / Lynne Layton / George Gibson; 2 Beverley O'Hara / Christine Hasted / Siobhan & Bob Davies; **QUEENSLAND CONTRACT BRIDGE CLUB TEAMS** [Director – Alan Gibson]: 1 Lyn & Jim Martin / Larry Moses / Nikolas Moore; 2 Tere Wotherspoon / Ziggy Konig / Jill Magee / Terry Strong; **B** 1 Joan Jenkins / Evelyne Mander / June Glenn / Alan Hamilton; 2 Lyn Tracey / Richard Spelman / Barbara Kent / Ross Murtagh; **UNDER 150** 1 Kit Duncan / Tracey Armour / Alexia Lennon / Janet Smith; 2 Karen Gosney / Suzy Brownlow / Brian Clark / Tom Murphy.
