

September 27, 2025

Bridge with Richard Ward

When South opened one spade it was inevitable that North would drive to the excellent six spades contract with the queen of clubs the opening lead.

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

At first sight the contract appears to rely on either a well-placed heart queen or a 3-3 heart break or a doubleton ten of hearts or, finally, the diamond king with East. Excellent odds. Sadly, the bridge gods were cranky today so the slam failed. Declarer had missed an elimination play. Draw trumps, ruff the third club in dummy then lead a low heart covering East's card. Whatever the layout, the defence will be forced to provide the twelfth trick.

Queensland did not feature strongly in the recent online Grand National Teams qualifying held last weekend although **CAPRICORNIA** (Don Cameron. Jan Randall, Karin Le Roux, Malcolm Allan, Adrian Lohman) from Rockhampton will be travelling to Sydney in November to compete for the National Non-Metropolitan Final. The finals will be between two Adelaide teams and one from each of Melbourne and Canberra.

QUEENSLAND TEAMS-OF-THREE [Director – Chris Snook, 42 teams]: **A** 1 Magdalena Kowalczyk / Geoff Doyle / Kerry Barridge / Andrew Slater; 2 Jo Mammen / Anna Green / Cynthia Sharp / Siegfried Konig; **B** 1 Helen Klieve / Christine Bolger / Jenny Thompson / Richard Fox; 2 Rachel Darken / Rama Naidoo / Maxim Wilson / John Gough; **C** 1 Merle Thomas / George O'Brien / Nita Copper / Tim Runting; 2 Peter Grinlaubs / Harry Sunderland / Graham Killoran / Richard Wallis; **D** 1 Tracy Martin / Liz Hardcastle / Rita Von Rotz / Pip Witham; 2 Gail Wheelwright / Rowan Ward / Karen Collier / Charles Page; **SURFERS**
PARADISE CONGRESS [Director – Julie Jeffries]: **PAIRS** 1 Eva & Tony Berger; 2 Carolyn Miller / Kevin Steffensen; **B** 1 Peter Schmidt / John Rivers; 2 Kaye Abraham / Libby Persson; **TEAMS** 1 Bijan Assaee / George Topfner / Kathy Johnson / Eva & Tony Berger; 2 Ivy & John Luck / Nadya Tuxworth / Lech Kaszubski; **B** 1 Cathy & Philip Hocking / John Glennie / Paul Brake; 2 Jill Dunning / Sue Ziegenfuss / Margaret Giebels / Mick Fawcett.
