

May 9, 2026

Bridge with Richard Ward

Australian Bridge Federation President, Allison Stralow of West Australia, has completed her term of office after more than a decade of dedicated service to our game. Her outstanding leadership has been recognised by her appointment to the ABF Committee of Honour. Allison travelled far and wide throughout Australia and became a familiar face at many Queensland events. Last year she partnered Queensland Bridge Association Manager, Kim Ellaway, to win the Yeppoon Barrier Reef Pairs.

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

The bidding: (3C) – 3S – (PASS) – 5S – (PASS) – 6S

North's leap to five spades asked South to bid the slam if holding a club control. After West led the jack of hearts, declarer won the trick with the ace and cashed the ace of trumps. If trumps were no worse than 3-1, declarer's plan was to draw trumps and ruff a club in dummy for the twelfth trick. When East discarded a club on the first round of trumps, that plan had to be shelved. Now declarer decided that the best chance was to reverse the dummy by ruffing dummy's two red-suit losers in hand. It was not difficult to play three rounds of hearts, ruffing the third, then the same in diamonds. West's trumps were then drawn providing twelve tricks: four trumps, three hearts, two diamonds, one club and two red-suit ruffs. Dummy reversals such as this are notoriously difficult to spot at the table.

The Autumn Nationals concluded in Adelaide last week with a number of Queenslanders travelling to the event. Kate Macdonald (QLD) and Heath Watkins (VIC), who will be playing in the Australian Under 25 Youth Team later this year, teamed up with Jane Beeby (NSW) and Leon Meier (NZ) to win the TBIB Open Swiss Teams 45-33 against Geeske Joel (NZ), Liam Milne (NSW), Shane Harrison (NSW) and James Coutts (NSW)

QUEENSLAND NOVICE PAIRS [Director – Julie Jeffries]: 1 Peter Erlandsen / Julie-Anne Bradwyn; 2 Sue Sherrell / Joshua Davis; **B** 1 Emma Langford / Robert Cumming; 2 Jassy & Ricky Carthew; **C** 1 Fiona Beattie / Joe Pearce; 2 Sue Kopelke / Martin Murray; **SURFERS SWISS TEAMS** [Director – Jo Neary]: 1 Sue & David Smith / Eva & Tony Berger; 2 Krystyna Homik / Frank Hymus / Trish Anagnostou / Margaret Pisko; **B** 1 Patrick Wallas / Wayne Mitchell / Brian Borrell / Dimity Burke; 2 Jenny McGowan / Andrea & Speros Pappas / Vanessa Brewis.
