

May 23, 2026

Bridge with Richard Ward

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
	1NT	PASS	2H
PASS	2S	PASS	3H
PASS	4D	PASS	4H
PASS	PASS	PASS	

After South's transfer to two spades, the rebid of three hearts was forcing to game and, in their bidding system, guaranteed at least 5-5 in the majors. North's cue-bid of four diamonds promised heart support and denied a club control but with a hand suitable for slam play if South held any extras. West began with the king-ace and jack of clubs. Declarer ruffed and, without any apparent thought, drew two rounds of trumps with the ace and queen. When West discarded a diamond, a spade to the queen lost to the king of spades. Then a diamond return put an end to all of those beautiful diamonds in dummy. Down one. See below for where declarer went wrong.

TOWNSVILLE BARRIER REEF CONGRESS [Directors – Chris Snook, Bill Bishop, Peter Busch]: **JOHN BROCKWELL OPEN TEAMS** 1 Fred Whitaker / Phil Markey / David Appleton / Ashley Bach; 2 David Weston / Julian Foster / Kim Morrison / Tony Hutton; **UNDER 300 TEAMS** 1 Chris Ferguson / Eve Sirigos / Sue Smith / Michael Huddart; 2 Helen Van Den Broek / Annie Lynch / Sandra & Jan Morris; **BEST NORTHERN ZONE PAIRS:** Open - Michael Byrne / Anthony Lusk; RESTRICTED – Helmut Geyer / Brian Tierney; NOVICE – Maureen Baxter / Justine McAllister; **BEST NORTHERN ZONE TEAMS:** Open – Janet Hansen / Diane Morgan / Frances & Alan Brown; UNDER 300 – Maureen Gallichan / Lyn Adams / Jane Seaborne / Thea Weekes; **BRISBANE BRIDGE CENTRE GRADED PAIRS** [Director – Julie Jeffries]: 1 Magnus Moren / Justin Mill; 2 Tony Treloar / Peter Evans; **B** 1 Andrea & Speros Pappas; 2 Sandra & Dov Berns; **GOONDIWINDI PAIRS** [Director – Jo Neary]: 1 Malcolm Saunders / Ian Price; 2 Anne Riley / Gary Lynn; **B** 1 Sally Jackson / Barbara O'Shea; 2 Kerrie Hayes / Stephen Price.

The solution is to play the king and ace of trumps, leaving the queen in dummy and then play on diamonds. In this way there will be five trumps, four diamonds and the ace of spades. Check it out.
