

July 25, 2026

Bridge with Richard Ward

Fortune favoured the brave at the recent Australian National Championships. South Australian youth pair Jarrad Dunbar-Fletcher Davey held:

S - **H** KQ98765432 **D** AK **C** K opposite **S** 104 **H** AJ **D** 8642 **C** AJ1092 and their simple bidding, 6H – 7H, was a great success. Queenslanders Paddy Taylor-Zac Ross and Alison Dawson-Ken Dawson also bid the grand with the latter being doubled for their troubles and +2470. Meanwhile, in Stage 3 of the Open Butler Pairs, Carmel Martin and Abby Wanigaratne were unfortunate enough to be playing against Joe Haffer-Ron Cooper who held:

S 94 **H** 1087543 **D** Q7 **C** 1094 opposite **S** AK105 **H** AK62 **D** AK **C** AKQ and, when the weak hand opened three spades, the strong hand had no trouble bidding a direct seven no trump. Such shenanigans are not always successful however.

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

Twelve of the thirty tables at the European Championships opened the North hand three spades to which various Easts came up with six different solutions. Simplest was 3S:DBL; PASS: 4H making +620. Another East simply passed three spades which went down several tricks. Another East tried an overcall of five no trump, leading to an unsuccessful six hearts Those trying 3NT also went down because of the poor heart break. Other results included 4S North doubled -1400; 6D North doubled -1400 and 4H West doubled -790.

CAIRNS PAIRS [Director – Bill Bishop]: 1 Bjorg Risle / Dee Jierasak; 2 Andrea & Dave Mathieson; **B** Jan & Mark Firth; **C** Klarika Tortely / Mark Ryan; **D** Irma Beekhuis / Chris Johnson; **MARYBOROUGH CONGRESS** [Director – Peter Busch]: **PAIRS** 1 Astrid Korfgan / Lynne Leyton; 2 Sue Ziegenfuss / Tim Runting; **B** Sue Smith / Michael Huddart; **C** Heather Meares / Thistel Anderson; **TEAMS** 1 Janelle Shaw / Astrid Korfgan / Lynne Leyton / Lynne Layton; 2 Carol Smith / Glenn Chapman / Sue Smith / Michael Huddart; **B** Sue Mittermair / Sa & Paul Smith / John Rogers; **MACKAY NOVICE PAIRS** [Director – Jan Harris]: 1 Vicky Howard / Susan Ross; 2 Glen Cocup / Ian Vary; **QCBC TEAMS** [Director – Julie Jeffries]: 1 Nadya Tuxworth / Lech Kaszubski / Kerry Wood / Charles Howard; 2 Barbara Mackay / Barry Koster / Lyn Tracey / Richard Spelman; **UNDER 150** Vina & Naran Shah / Gayleen Trevaskis / Jim Pope.
