

August 8, 2026

Bridge with Richard Ward

The World Youth Transnational Championships will conclude in Hefei, China tomorrow. Australia has sent a record five teams. Results next week.

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

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

Reaching game on these cards is routine nowadays and, if the trumps had broken 2-2 it would have been lay-down. Even with a trump loser there should be ten tricks provided the heart suit breaks no worse than 4-2. The key to the hand needs declarer to realise that dummy's aces must be used as timely entries to establish that extra heart trick. Win the diamond king at trick one, cash the king of spades then play ace and another heart which West will win to continue with the ten of diamonds won by dummy's ace. Now, when the jack of hearts is led and covered with the queen, it is essential to avoid the main trap of the hand by discarding the diamond loser instead of ruffing – which West could overruff, cross to East's queen of diamonds so that a fourth round of hearts would allow West to make a second trump trick. All the defence can do is to make one more trick with West's queen-jack of trumps. The established ten of hearts will take care of declarer's club loser. The winning line had the defence started on clubs instead of diamonds is slightly less complicated. Try it for yourself.

CLEVELAND BAY TEAMS [Director – Jan Smith]: 1 Angela Little / Robyn Nolan / Di Garside / Donna Fitch; 2 Pat Leighton / Barbara Hospers / Cathy Crawford / Jo Gillis;
CALOUNDRA PAIRS [Director – Bob Davies]: **UNDER 500** 1 Elizabeth Van Vugt / Julie Scott; 2 Sue Smith / Michael Huddart; **NOVICE** 1 Rhys Dewar / Yuko Colthurst; 2 Tracey Barnett / Brett Waring; **GOLD COAST PAIRS** [Director – Alan Gibson]: **UNDER 500** 1 Libby Persson / Lindell Day; 2 Wendy Harrison / Dimity Burke; **NOVICE** 1 Fiona Beattie / Joe Pearce; 2 Daisy Booth / Diana O'Ferrall; **SUNNYBANK TEAMS** [Director – Julie Jeffries]: 1 Martin Qin / Charlie Lu / Tim Runting / Patrick Bugler; 2 Sheila & Ralph Parker / Michelle Radke / Ian Halford; **B** Eugene Pereira / Peter Lang / Gary Wardrop / Matthew Page-Hanify; **C** June McNamara / Lee Pitt / Alice Edwards / Jenny Andrews.
