

August 15, 2026

Bridge with Richard Ward

Australian youth players did not bring home any medals from the World Youth Transnationals in China, but several reached the Finals - excellent results in an extremely large and tough field. Best performances were: **TEAMS U26 Women** Alexis Wilsmore – Sijie He, Lara Topper – Jasmine Skeate and Natalie Newman – Ida Malene Andersen who also made the Butler Pairs finals. In the **Pairs FINALS: Under 26** Kate Macdonald - Heath Watkins; and **Under 31** Jeremy Reid – Sebastian Wright and Alex Goss – Damian Flicker. We congratulate all members of the five teams who represented Australia with distinction and fine sportsmanship.

Today's hand features a slam which just plays itself. A rare beast.

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
	1D	1H	1S
PASS	3S	PASS	4D
PASS	4H	PASS	4NT
PASS	5H	PASS	6S
PASS	PASS	PASS	

The bidding was optimistic with South checking for key cards, two without the trump queen, which was enough to try for slam. Declarer took West's lead of the ten of hearts with dummy's ace and tried to discard the heart loser on the diamonds. After cashing the ace and king of diamonds, the queen of diamonds was played from dummy. East thwarted the planned discard by ruffing in with the three of trumps. Declarer overruffed, crossed back to dummy with the ace of clubs and played the ten of diamonds. Again East spoiled the attempted discard by ruffing it with the seven of trumps. Declarer overruffed again and then played the three top clubs, discarding hearts from dummy. Even though that suit broke 5-3, the fact that East had been reduced to a bare ace of trumps came to the rescue. That was the only trick the defenders made.

WARWICK PAIRS [Director – Chris Snook]: 1 Kathy Duke / Laurie-Marie McRoberts; 2 John Morris / Peter Lyons; **B** 1 Mavis Simpson / Noella Collins; 2 Chris Ferguson / Eve Sirigos; **C** 1 Mark Hunt / Terry Sheedy; 2 Len Don / Pat Kelly; **MORETON-BRIBIE CONGRESS** [Director - Bob Davies]: **PAIRS** 1 Adrienne Kelly / Ken Dawson; 2 Shirley & Chris Watson; **B** 1 Joanne Scott / John Nothdurft; 2 Jan & Chris Nelson; **TEAMS** 1 Adrienne Kelly / Ken Dawson / Janeen Solomon / Alison Dawson; 2 Val Roland / Michael Stoneman / Sue Ziegenfuss / Tim Runting; **B** 1 Siobhan Davies / Linda Lee / Peter Zanki / Paul Jenkins; 2 Sue Smith / Michael Huddart / Claire & Robert Stammel.
