

September 5, 2026

Bridge with Richard Ward

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
			1H
PASS	2S	PASS	3C
PASS	3H	PASS	4H
PASS	4NT	PASS	5H
PASS	6H	ALL PASS	

North revealed a very strong hand with the initial two-spades response then pushed on to slam when South showed two key cards missing the queen of trumps. Declarer took the king of diamonds lead with dummy's ace and played two top spades, discarding the two small diamonds. Next came a trump to the king followed by a low trump towards dummy. When West followed with the eight of trumps, declarer saw that the contract could be all but guaranteed by finessing dummy's ten. When East discarded on the second round of trumps, declarer could not afford to cash the ace of trumps just yet - in which case West would ruff the third round of spades and there would be two club losers remaining. Instead, declarer played on spades immediately, leaving the ace of trumps as a late entry to dummy's spade winners. No matter when West ruffed, declarer could win the return, draw the last trump with the ace and use more spades to dispose of the remaining club losers. Note that, if the finesse of the ten of trumps had lost to East's queen, trumps would then be 3-2. As a result, on most layouts, declarer would win the return (in particular, ruffing a spade exit with the jack), draw the last trump with dummy's ace and cash three spade winners to take care of the clubs.

YEPPOON CONGRESS [Director – Chris Snook]: **PAIRS** 1 Ivy & John Luck; 2 Jan Randall / Don Cameron; **B** 1 Veronica Cullen / Alanna Waugh; 2 Darryl Newport / Graeme Driscoll; **C** 1 Joie Day / Hilary Gunthorpe; 2 Tania Rayfield / Valda Corbett; **TEAMS** 1 Kim & Ray Ellaway; Anna Monks / Fred Whitaker; 2 Janet Hansen / Frances & Alan Brown / Diane Morgan; **B** 1 Annette Howe / Annie Lynch / Jan Harris / Sandra Morris; 2 Joie Day / Michele & Matt Rau / Hilary Gunthorpe; **KENMORE PAIRS** [Director – Julie Jeffries]: **NOVICE** 1 Anthony & Stephen Mills; 2 Anne-Maree Carne / Martine Hero; 2 **ROOKIE** 1 Corrine Pryce / Derek Nankivell; 2 Debbie Manche / Rosemary Clark.
