October 17, 2026

Bridge with Richard Ward

The Queensland Bridge Association has awarded Honorary Life Memberships to Therese Tully and Ray Ellaway for their exceptional contributions to the bridge community over several decades.

- Therese has played internationally for Australia on many occasions and been an energetic supporter of bridge in Queensland and nationally, with a focus on new and youth players. She was also the convenor of the internationally-renowned and highly successful Gold Coast Congress from 2005 to 2018.
- Ray has served on many QBA and Australian Bridge Federation committees since 1985 including: Finance, Technology and Accounts and Youth. He was the Gold Coast International Congress Treasurer from 1995, the Grand National Open Teams convenor from 2001 and the floor manager at many national events.

NORTH
♠ 8 7 2
♥ A 7 2
♦ J 10 9 6 2
♣ A 6

W / NIL VUL

WEST
♠ K Q J 10 6 5
♥ 5
♦ Q 4
♣ J 9 8 3

EAST
♠ 3
♥ Q J 10 8 6 4
♦ K 5
♣ 10 7 4 2

SOUTH
♠ A 9 4
♥ K 9 3
♦ A 8 7 3
♣ K Q 5

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
2S	PASS	PASS	2NT
PASS	3NT	ALL PASS	

West led the king of spades won immediately by the ace. All that was needed now was to score at least three diamond tricks while keeping West off lead. Cashing the ace of diamonds would not be a good idea. As the cards lay, an alert East could unblock the king allowing West to win the second round of diamonds with the queen. There is a neat avoidance play. Cross to the ace of clubs and lead a low diamond. If East plays the king declarer plays low and the safe hand will be on lead. At the table East followed with the five, allowing declarer to played ace and another diamond. East had to win the defender's diamond trick with the king so the contract made with an overtrick. This plan would also succeed if East held both the king and queen of diamonds as no damage could be done with a heart or club return whilst declarer cleared the diamonds.

The TBIB Qld Festival of Bridge: **Joan McPheat Open Pairs** Michael Gearing / Heath Watkins won from Rachel Langdon / Nik Moore; and, in the **Reg Busch Open Teams**, Ralph Parker / Neville Francis / Magnus Moran / Sanmugaras Kamalarasa won by just 2 imps from Sonya & Shayne Palfreyman / Ann Liu / Usher Zeng. Complete results next week.