

February 1, 2020

Bridge with Richard Ward

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
PASS	4S	4H ALL PASS	DBL

West has a tough decision over 4S – to pass or bid 5H (double is not really a sensible alternative). In the recent Australian Mixed Teams play-offs (won by Queensland's Pele Rankin with Stephen Fischer/ Leone & Trevor Fuller), five pairs pushed on to 5H, some were doubled and all made 11 tricks. Seven pairs were allowed to play quietly in 4H. Six pairs were left in 4S, three were doubled and four made 10 tricks. Now for the defence to 4S. East led the seven of diamonds to partner's ace and received a ruff at trick two. West's diamond four return indicated a club entry so a club went to the ace and another diamond was returned. This allowed declarer to discard her club loser and the game was made. East-West were cranky about this outcome. "I led a low club back to you so you knew I had an honour" complained East. Well maybe, but East, who knows he cannot ruff a second diamond, should play the club king and another to avoid disaster. Blame East 100% for taking his eye off the ball.

KENMORE CONGRESS: PAIRS A Normand Maclaurin/ Paul Collins; B Peter Taylor/ Allan Byrnes; C Jill Dunning/ Sue Ziegenfuss; **TEAMS** A Val Rowland/ Michael Stoneman/ June Glenn/ Alan Hamilton; B Lyn Tracey/ Sameer Pandya/ Janet Price/ Richard Spelman; C Rick Webster/ Robert Olander/ Eliza Hemphill/ Christine Smith; **TOWNSVILLE CONGRESS: PAIRS** A Leigh Owens/ Jan Smith; B Kenn Winter/ David North; C Charlie Georges/ Russell Woolley; **TEAMS** A Janelle Conroy/ Noel Bugeia/ Monica Darley/ Del Ryan; B Bill & Sam Bishop/ Di Garside/ Donna Fitch; C Jan Harris/ Helen Van Den Broek/ Richard Wix/ Janine Rodgers
