

February 22, 2020

## Bridge with Richard Ward

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Queensland bridge clubs have raised around \$40,000 towards the bushfire appeal which is more than double the amount raised previously for droughts and floods. Thanks to everyone for your generosity.

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
PASS	3C	PASS	2NT 3D
PASS	3NT	ALL PASS	

North-South reached the normal contract after North checked for a 5-card major and then settled in 3NT. Our declarer received a 4<sup>th</sup>-best heart lead and continuation winning the ace at trick three. With only seven top tricks, the only source of extras had to come from the diamonds whilst if possible preventing West from gaining the lead. So he played the ace of diamonds just in case West had a singleton king. He was correct in a way as there was a singleton king but unfortunately it was in the wrong hand and 8 tricks was now the limit. Declarer had missed one small additional chance. He should have crossed to dummy with a spade and led a diamond towards his hand, intending to play the ace. But, when the king popped up with East, he could safely duck that trick leaving West with no entry to the established heart winners.

As you read this, the biggest and best bridge congress in the world is under way at the Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre, Broadbeach. More than 40,000 hands have been pre-dealt for this week-long event - an astonishingly arduous task undertaken each year by Kim McCusker. Best wishes and good luck to all competitors, officials and administration staff.

**ARANA TEAMS:** 1 Neville Francis/ Magnus Moren/ Tony Hutton/ Malcolm Carter; 2 Maha Hoenig/ Greer Tucker/ Sue O'Brien/ Paul Collins; **B** Greg Lee/ Alan Currie/ Nikolas Moore/ Rachel Langdon; **C** Barry Koster/ Daniel Chua/ Janet Price/ Richard Spelman.

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