

August 22, 2020

Bridge with Richard Ward

If it were not for COVID-19, keen bridge players would have already attended major events this year in Yeppoon, Perth, Melbourne, Coffs Harbour, Launceston and Adelaide. Next week they would be packing their bags for the Territory Gold Bridge Festival in Darwin but, it too has been cancelled. Bridge provides a great excuse to travel all over Australia and overseas as well. Back in 2017, the 8th European Bridge Championships were held in picturesque Montecatini Terme, a small Italian municipality situated in Tuscany not far from Pisa (of Leaning Tower fame) and Florence with Michelangelo's original statue of David and its renowned Uffizi Gallery. This hand pitted the two oldest players in the senior teams event final, multiple world champion 89 year-old Benito Garozzo and 87 year-old Amos Kaminski.

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
PODGUR	GAROZZO	KALISH	MASOERO
2H	DBL	3H	4H
PASS	6C	PASS	PASS
PASS			

West's 2H bid showed a weak hand (tick ✓) with hearts and any other suit. East's 3H bid was also weak (tick again ✓). This interference with a combined 8 high card points did its job, taking away all of North-South's investigative bidding space so Garozzo-Masoero scored +1370.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
WOLFSON	LEVIT	SILVERMAN	KAMINSKI
PASS	1C	PASS	1S
PASS	2D	PASS	3D
PASS	4NT	PASS	5S
PASS	7D	PASS	PASS
PASS			

At the other table, with no interference, North showed a strong hand with his reverse rebid, South agreed trumps and then key card Blackwood revealed the two aces and the diamond queen. Voila! +2140 and 13 imps to Kaminski-Levitt. The KAMINSKI team went on to win by 33 imps.