

December 26, 2020

Bridge with Richard Ward

Kim Frazer, an Olympian in Athens 2004 and winner of three gold medals in four Commonwealth Games for shooting, has won a prestigious international award for writing a bridge book "Gaining the Mental Edge at Bridge." Kim has represented Victoria in Women's and Open bridge teams and has won selection for the Australian Women's Team. She is also the secretary of the Australian Bridge Federation.

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

Playing in a matchpoint pairs event South opens 1S. North raises to 2S and everyone passes. West's opening lead is the ace of clubs which usually promises the king. After all, who leads unsupported aces against part-score contracts? What card should East play? Most partnerships play an 'attitude' card at trick one. Simplest would be to agree that a high card says that you like the lead, a low card that you don't. But there is one other possibility. The play of the queen of clubs simply says, 'partner, I have the jack of clubs' – nothing more. It is up to West to use that information in any way she wishes. On this hand, it allows West to play a low club to partner's jack and then the obvious heart switch holds the contract to just eight tricks. This is the best the defence can do and should produce an average-plus score.

QBA QLD-WIDE ONLINE PAIRS RECENT WINNERS: Margaret Azar – Sonja Ramsund; Don Saunders – Ellen Duggan; Jan & Peter Randall; George Gibson – Lynne Layton; Bob Hunt – Jane Swanson; Bill Szumidlo – Graham Rusher; Annette & Paul Henry; Denise Hartwig – Chris Snook; Veena & Asok Chotai; Ming Yang – Larry Moses; Gill Phillippo – Peter Munro; Kim & Ray Ellaway.
