

February 03, 2018
 Courier-Mail Bridge Column by Tony Jackman

The six year old Kenmore Bridge Club continues to thrive – so much so that it is earnestly seeking to acquire a site to build premises of its own. Last weekend the club hosted its annual open Congress with entry having to be closed early due to current space restrictions. Saturday was the Pairs and the Championship went to Alan Gibson/ Ian Afflick. Great to see Gibson actually playing – and clearly well – rather than in his usual directing role. Minor placings went to M. Carter/ T. Hutton, then R. Ward/ N. Francis while A. Woollons/ K. Langdon won the Plate and the Novice went to M. Fletcher/ K. Raymond.

Sunday's teams saw a good win to Carter/ Hutton with Lyn Carter/ Richard Wallis ahead of T. Tully/ R. Ward and M. Moren/ N. Francis. The Males team won the Plate and Sharp were the Novice champions. February is a busy month – the QBA Seniors Pairs this weekend and a. open Pairs at Toowong, followed by the Arana Club's open teams. These all lead to action 'down the coast'

The Commonwealth Nations Bridge Competition will get underway on Wednesday 14th at the Broadbeach Convention Centre and many of the competitors will then feed into the other 2000 odd entrants for the Gold Coast Congress. - Australia's largest bridge gathering. The local Gold Coast Bridge Club will host a welcoming pairs at their club house on Tuesday 13th with many of the overseas stars already entered. There are still some places left – apply to the club

E Dealer, E/W Vul

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|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| | NORTH | | |
| | a Q3 | | |
| | © 43 | | |
| | .. J1062 | | |
| | § J9642 | | |
| WEST | | EAST | |
| a K96542 | | a AJ1087 | |
| © 985 | | © AQ6 | |
| .. A | | .. K7 | |
| § A53 | | § Q108 | |
| | SOUTH | | |
| | a - | | |
| | © KJ1072 | | |
| | .. Q98543 | | |
| | § K7 | | |
| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
| | | 1NT | 2D |
| 3S | Pass | 4H(Cue) | Pass |
| 4NT | Pass | 5H | Pass |
| 6S | All Pass | | |

Today's auction saw most E/W pairs in a safe 4S with or without two suited interference from South. Where East had opened 1S, or West had been able to transfer after a 1NT opening, East played the hand, and can make 6S. Against best a diamond lead, he wins DA, draws trumps, cashes DK pitching H5, then plays to CA and exits C3 (C10 from hand). South wins his now bare CK but must return a heart or a diamond. Either sees 6S home. If West declares, a heart lead from North beats the contract – try it.