

May 12, 2018
 Courier-Mail Bridge Column by Tony Jackman

There was bridge of many levels and sites last weekend. We'll start with the Autumn Nationals played at the Adelaide Showgrounds. Not many Queenslanders made the trip, perhaps preferring to go to Townsville (it's warmer there) this coming weekend for the gold pointed Barrier Reef Congress. In Adelaide, M. Smith/ J. Thompson won the Open Pairs, T. Brown/ P. Buchen the Seniors and S. Bird/ L. Havas the Women's. In the Team's final, top qualifiers (Buchen/ Brown with A. Braithwaite/ A. De Livera) met P. Markey/ J. Haffer and M. Mullamphy/ J. Williams over 56 boards. It was a wildly swinging match but, in the end, Markey prevailed by a whisker (104-102).

Somewhat closer to home, Hervey Bay hosted their annual open Congress. D. Priol/ D. Kwok won the Pairs ahead of J&L. Martin who then made it a great weekend by teaming with P. Busch/ A. Kelly for a good win in the Teams Championship, ahead of D. Harris/ T. Ridley and D. Gerhke/ B. Luchenbroers. Finally, back to town where the Sunnybank Club held the QBA Novice Pairs last Sunday. Overall winners were D&G. Gibbards ahead of H&J. Hansen and S&C. Farr while T. Larsen/A. Yang took B grade and C went to M&P. Lobigs.

S Dealer, Nil Vul

	NORTH		
	a AQ106542		
	© K		
	.. AKJ6		
	§ 9		
WEST		EAST	
a J8		a K3	
© AQ653		© J9842	
.. 42		.. 105	
§ AK105		§ J874	
	SOUTH		
	a 97		
	© 107		
	.. Q9873		
	§ Q632		
WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
1H	1S	3H	Pass
Pass	3S	Pass	Pass
4H	4S	All Pass	

Today's hand came from the Sunnybank event, and was sent by QBA representative Charles Page who did the prize giving. He congratulated the Gibbards but noted that this – their second win – would be their last, as the victory now moves them out of Novice grade. They held the N/S cards and were perhaps fortunate that their E/W pair didn't either pass 3S or save in 5H. 4S makes 10 tricks for 420 while 5H is either one or two down – cheap in any case.