

September 22, 2018

Bridge with Richard Ward

There are 51 bridge clubs with over 7500 registered players across the state, many of whom have been adversely affected by the drought. As a response to this, the bridge community recently staged a "Drought Appeal Week" which raised nearly \$15,000 towards the Queensland Government's Drought Appeal fund.

There will be a workshop for bridge directors at the Queensland Contract Bridge Club, Woolloongabba next Saturday starting at 9.30am. It is highly recommended for those who have some experience or are simply interested in refreshing their knowledge. Prior registration would be appreciated. Email janpeach8@bigpond.com.

Last weekend's results were:

Magnetic Teams – Townsville: 1 Lesleigh Rooney/ Christine Perkins/ Yvonne Houbolt/ Gloria Macdonald/ Kath Peever 2 Noel Bugeia/ Terrence Sheedy/ Robyn Nolan/ Angela Little

Sanctuary Cove Novice Pairs 1 Eugene Pereira/ Rex Meadowcroft 2 Pauline Moore/ Dimity Burke;
Restricted Pairs 1 Jennifer Vickers/ Geoff Saxby 2 Sandra Cool/ Daniele Escreet

Sunshine Coast Pairs 1 Lyn and Jim Martin 2 Jo Drake/ Pat Buch; B Grade Andrea Smith/ Kate Balmanno; C Grade Diane Sargent/ Di Jones

The following hand features a Norwegian bridge superstar, Nils Kvangraven, the holder of many national and international titles over the past two decades. He first gained recognition as a talented youth player for Norway back in 2000.

S/All Vul

♠	Q 6 5 2		
♥	Q J		
♦	A 9 7 3		
♣	A K 2		
♠	J	♠	A K 8 7 3
♥	7 4 2	♥	6 5
♦	Q J 8 6 2	♦	K 10 5
♣	7 6 5 4	♣	Q 9 8
	♠	10 9 4	
	♥	A K 10 9 8 3	
	♦	4	
	♣	J 10 3	

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
			2H
pass	2NT	pass	3D
pass	4H	all pass	

South began with a 'weak-two' bid showing a six-card suit and less than opening values. 2NT asked for any shortage and 3D revealed the singleton diamond which was all North needed to jump directly to game. West led his singleton SJ.

Stopping to think at the first trick is the automatic, recommended strategy for all players on every hand, so South, Kvangraven, paused to consider his play. There are nine easy tricks and the tenth can come from an established spade winner or, if the CQ is with West, it can be finessed. He feared that the ace and king of spades would be followed by a ruff and then the contract would depend on the whereabouts of the CQ. Consequently, he played low from dummy, assuming that this was a singleton lead, leaving West on lead. It does East no good to overtake the SJ at trick one. The defence was now unable to prevent ten tricks as declarer could draw trumps and lead spades twice, finally establishing the SQ as a parking place for the losing club.
