

## WARWICK BRIDGE CLUB

Dealer: E Vul: Both

	NORTH	
	S. A983	
	H. KQ87	
	D. J107	
	C. 42	
WEST		EAST
S. 1065		S. –
H. J62		H. A53
D. K432		D. Q986
C. AJ9		C. KQ10865
	SOUTH	
	S. KQJ742	
	H. 1094	
	D. A5	
	C. 73	

On a very testing set of boards, the N/S winners of the local heat of the Australia-Wide Pairs were Noela Collins and David Moran with 68.2%. Denise Hartwig and Mavis Simpson came out top in the E/W section with 61.9%. Last year 70% was needed to make the top six and 63% to scrape into the top 50. As details of the boards must be kept confidential until the event is completed, this week's hand comes from the game last Friday.

On Board 26 (above) there were different scores at every table. Against best defence no pair can make game, although N/S look to have good prospects in spades and E/W would have fancied their chances in 5C. John Rose and David defied the odds by making 4S. Careful handling of hearts was the key to their success. Their opponents took the first two club tricks so David, as declarer, had to find a way to play the hearts for the loss of only one trick. Starting in hand after drawing trumps the winning play is to lead the ten of hearts, covering with the King if West produces the Jack. E wins with the Ace and now leads a diamond. South wins with the Ace and plays the nine of hearts, which is now good, followed by the four of hearts. This is won in dummy and South's losing diamond is discarded on the thirteenth heart.

Three E/W pairs played in diamonds, but only Anna Rogers achieved a positive result, having wisely stopped in 4C. The key to making ten tricks in clubs is to play losers on losers. On the inevitable spade lead, there is no point in ruffing a spade, as this does not produce any extra tricks or reduce the number of losers. It is far better to discard a heart on each of the first two spades led. The third can be ruffed and the defenders' trumps removed, finishing in the East hand. The next important play is a small diamond to towards the King, inviting South to rise with the Ace. If both defenders play low the King wins and declarer then plays for the Ace to be doubleton. A small diamond from both East and West brings out the King and declarer's remaining diamonds are high. It is no wonder that there were so many different scores.

Results for the period ending 28/08/17:

**Friday, 25th August** (7-table Mitchell):

N/S T. Hinde R. Mobbs (59.5%) 1; J. Rose D. Moran (58.9%) 2; N. Collins J. Marley (57.7%) 3.

E/W Jenny Smith R. Hart (66.1%) 1; M. Simpson N.McGinness (61.9%) 2; J. Mobbs J. McLellan (48.2%) 3.

**Monday, 28th August** (7-table Mitchell Australia-Wide Pairs):

N/S N. Collins D. Moran (68.2%) 1; J. Rose P. Campbell (65.8%) 2; T. Hinde R. Mobbs (52.4%) 3.

E/W D. Hartwig M. Simpson (61.9%) 1; H. Richardson R. Hart (58.3%) 2; N. McGinness A. Wedgwood (50.9%) 3.