

Trumps Spring Teams

15 SEPTEMBER (SUN)



Friendship, Partnership and Sportsmanship

by Alex Kemeny and Derrick Browne

The Trumps Spring Teams was won by Yumin Li, Warren Dobes, Witold Chylewski and Cevat Emul (rear row in photo below), with second place going to rivals Rosa Pang, Paul Weaver, Catherine Zhang and Titus Ling (front row). Friends and bridge partnerships had been split up to form these two teams, but they hugged and got back together when the battle was over.

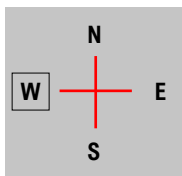
The top restricted and top Trumps team (and fifth overall) were Liz Neil, Sarah Gray, Ellen Borda and Madeleine Gray. They got off to a good start with this board from the triangle at the start of the day:

Board 4

Dealer W | Vul All

♠ K95
♥ JT
♦ J86
♣ AT953

♠ 8743
♥ K95
♦ 975
♣ KQ7



♠ A2
♥ AQ876432
♦ T3
♣ J

♠ QJT6
♥
♦ AKQ42
♣ 8642

W	N	E	S
		1D	4H
X	P	4S	//

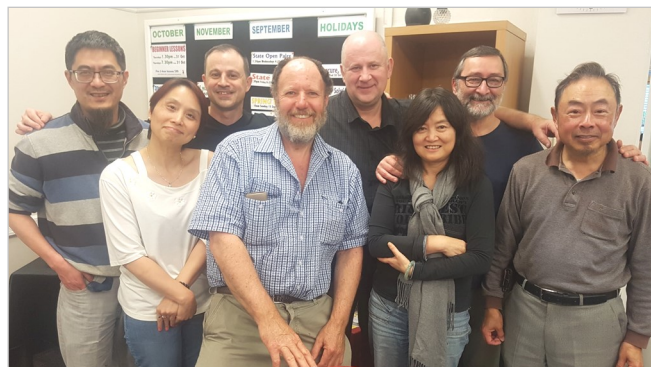
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N	-	-	4	-	-
S	-	-	4	-	-
E	-	2	-	2	-
W	-	2	-	2	-

Liz Neil opened 1♦ on the East cards, and South made an effort to silence the opponents with a 4♥ overcall. However West, Sarah Gray, found an aggressive negative double, and Liz was pleased to bid 4♠.

Now 4♠ is a good save against the cold 4♥ that was made, sometimes doubled, at most other tables. However, it got even better. The lead was the ♥A, ruffed, and then when South did not win the first round of spades, his chance of a club ruff was lost and the opponents made their 4♠ contract.

In fact it is possible to beat 4♠ by two tricks, by leading clubs but not taking the ruff. The ♣J is led, covered by dummy, then won by North who leads back a high club to knock out dummy's other honour (while South discards). When spades are led, North wins and leads a heart. To avoid losing this trick, declarer must ruff. However, when South wins the next round of trumps and leads the ♥A, declarer has only one trump left and if that is used for ruffing, North's ♠9 becomes a winner and hence the contract finishes two down!

Teammates and opponents — Yumin Li, Rosa Pang, Warren Dobes, Paul Weaver, Witold Chylewski, Catherine Zhang, Cevat Emul and Titus Ling.



[...More results can be found HERE](#)