



Otago Bridge Club

Established 1936



MARCH 2012 BRIDGE UPDATE

LEARNERS CLASSES BEGIN 7 MARCH – TELL A FRIEND

Important dates: All Bridge Tournament Dates are printed on page 4 of your Bridge Book and posted on the Noticeboard just inside and to the right of the main entrance

Rubber Bridge – alternate Mondays to Teams : **5th and 19 March**

Played between two pairs. The cards are hand dealt. Similar to teams and depends on skill and the luck of the cards dealt. There are new and interesting tactics! Just turn up with or without a partner. \$5

Club Pairs Championship begins 8 March. Entries close 3 March. See Noticeboard for details.

Friday Bridge – be seated by 10.25am. Bring Lunch. Visitors welcome.

Saturday Bridge: Open to all grades and to visitors -

Dates: 10 March, 14 Apr, 5 May, 9 Jun, 7 Jul, 4 Aug, 1 Sep, 6 Oct, 10 Nov.

New Programme: Men's Pairs (Wednesday pm). To be run alongside Women's Pairs each Wednesday. Contact Susan Johnstone 4761360 to register your interest.

Learners Classes:

2012 Learners Classes will commence on Wednesday 7 March. Kristen Collins will be the tutor. Refresher classes also to be arranged. Please contact Marjan Lousberg 4738224 or marjan.lousberg@gmail.com if you are willing to help.

Membership:

Welcome back to
Anne Hudson Ramage (Snr) 4559918

Name Badges:

If you need a new name badge write down your name and number, CLEARLY, and place in Judith McKinlay's pigeonhole in the office.

Birthday Celebration:

Congratulations to Mr Ted Friedlander on reaching 90 years.

Ted joined the Otago Bridge Club more than a decade ago. Up until then his bridge playing had been social - enjoying regular games with his friends and his wife Lesley. Ted grew up knowing Bridge as his mother was a regular player in Christchurch where she played at several Bridge Clubs almost every day of the week. Now Ted loves his time at the Otago Bridge Club and can still play a mean game. His three children are members of the Club and eagerly await his weekly results!

You won't see him around the Club for the next six weeks - he's off cruising!

South Island Teams Tournament was held on Saturday 19 and Sunday 20 February. It was run by the Otago/Southland Regional Committee and NZ Bridge, with our Club as the chosen venue.

There were teams from all over New Zealand, 20 in all. Murray Wiggins was the Director and a very competent one too. Kris Wooles also attended. He is the Chef de Mission. His task was to collect data to help in the selection process of players to represent New Zealand in International Tournaments.

Thanks must be extended to Cliff Rickard who was responsible for the dealing of the boards -no small task considering there were 20 teams and up to four sets of boards for each section.

Cliff also was responsible for the scoring and was able to help with Directing when two rooms were being used.

Lynne Fegan, Judith McKinlay and Ann-Louise Stokes were the ever smiling and unflappable, volunteer, 'caddies', a task that many of the players appreciated and thanked them for.

Liz Nevill worked her magic in the kitchen once again. Visiting players love it when Liz does the catering. So do we Liz!

CONGRATULATIONS to James Coutts, whose team, consisting of James, Nick Jacob, GeO Tislevoll and Michael Ware **WON scoring 204.40 Vps.**

Millar team consisting of Jeff Millar, Graeme Stout, Susan Johnstone and Peter McCaskill were 4th in the final.

A big thanks to all the local members who played in this Tournament. Without your support the weekend would not have been the success it was. Thanks too, to the Regional Committee. It was a pleasure working with you all.

Etiquette – Beginning of the Board:

- a) The board should remain on the table during play facing north south with VUL (or not) visible.
- b) If you are on lead, lead **before** filling in your personal record sheet
- c) If you are South (and have control of the bridge pad) and East is declarer, lead your card **before** entering details in the bridge pad.) If you are dummy, lay down your cards **before** filling your personal record sheet.

Quick bridge laws and regulations reference by Jared Fudge

Situation: You play 4♣ and 4♦ openings that show very strong hands with long Hearts and Spades respectively. Do you alert these artificial opening bids?

A: Yes. Until recently, all bids at the four-level or higher needn't be alerted. However, the alerting rules were changed recently to ensure this situation didn't create problems when opponents failed to ask the meaning and assumed they were natural pre-empts. These artificial openings are the only bids at the four-level that are alerted.

Situation: You play Precision and open 1♣, showing 16+ HCP and forcing (popular in the Open division). LHO overcalls 1♥ and partner Doubles, to show 5-7 HCP. Do you have to alert the Double?

A: No. Doubles (and Redoubles) are 'self-alerting' calls. Refer to the NZ Bridge Manual, section D.

Situation: RHO opens 1NT and you overcall 2♣, thinking it shows both Majors. Partner doesn't alert your bid. LHO bids 3NT which is passed out and you are now on lead. When do I reveal that my bid was artificial?

A: Before the opening lead, call the Director. The last opponent to pass now has the opportunity to retract their pass and substitute a different call if they so wish. Then the whole auction is live again. Lots of things could happen from here including the issue with your partner now having unauthorised information from what you have just said about their misexplanation or failure to alert. That unauthorised information could affect the later stage of the auction or the play if you now lose the auction and become defenders. System cards assist to clarify what is going on in these situations.

If your side failed to alert a bid during the auction and then became the declaring side, then you inform the defenders before they make the opening lead. The Director may still need to make an adjustment, but at least both defenders have the correct explanation before the play of the hand starts.

Situation: Your opponents are playing 5 card Majors and their 1♣ opening could be short as two (or one) with transfer responses to their short 1♣ (i.e. 1♦ shows 4+ Hearts, 1♥ shows 4+ Spades). Do they need to pre-alert the transfer responses to their 1♣?

A: No. But the transfers are alerted during the auction, just as they are over NT opening bids. Perhaps you should agree with your partner what a Double of their transfer means. Does it show length in the suit Doubled or is it a take out Double of the suit being shown by the transfer? What does bidding the suit shown mean?

Situation: A deal was thrown in and BridgePad is being used to score the session. What do I enter into the 'Contract' field on the screen?

A: Press the 'Pass' button. The 'NP/LP' button stands for Not Played and Late Played, which the Director will use if a board is to be played at some other stage in the session, for example if a pair arrives late.

Monthly Bridge Bulletin

If you have any news items that might interest bridge club members please forward to otagobridgeclub@gmail.com