



Bridge Update

NZ CONGRESS

Our club acknowledges and congratulates the tremendous successes by our members in Hamilton at the end of September.

The **Open** team, representing Otago and Southland won the Inter-provincial competition. They were Nick Bailey, James Coutts, Martijn Prent, Cameron Benson, Murat Genç and Paul Freeland.

The **Congress Pairs** was won by Donna Ruwhiu and Kristen Collins.

The **Multiple Teams** were won by Kay Wilson, Donna Ruwhiu Janette Quennell and Kristen Collins.

The **Swiss Pairs** were won by James Coutts and Nick Bailey

Sam Bailey and Alysha Bloxham were part of the New Zealand team which won the **Youth Test** against Australia.

Nick Bailey/James Coutts, Peter McCaskill/Jeff Thompson, Paul Freeland/ Margaret Perley all made it to the final section of the **NZ Pairs**. James Coutts/Nick Bailey and others, Murat Genç and others reached the final 16 in the **NZ Teams**.

OTAGO/SOUTHLAND CONGRESS

This was held at Queenstown over Labour Weekend and winners from our club were:

Welcome Pairs: Frank Gradon/Elaine McDonald N/S, Nina Hewitt and Dennis McCaughan E/W

Open Pairs: Graeme Stout playing with Michael Ware from Auckland.

Open Teams: Graeme Stout, Michael Ware, Jeff Miller and Arleen Schwartz.

Intermediate Teams: Estelle Maxwell, Margaret Archer, Betty Laing and Eleanor Archer 1st=

SPONSORSHIP

Francis Hodgkin Retirement Village have kindly offered to sponsor one of our Club Tournaments and we have accepted \$500 for the Festival Pairs in February. We will now be able to offer better prizes, which in turn will hopefully attract more entries. In return Francis Hodgkin ask that we advertise their name on the entry form, on the website and request display space for some of their literature at the tournament.

If you have any ideas for further sponsorship of tournaments, the committee would be pleased to hear from you. Ideally we would like sponsorship, however small, for the Winter Teams, Winter Pairs, Swiss Pairs and the South Island Teams being held at our club next year.

NZ WIDE PAIRS

This event is being held at The Otago Bridge Club on Friday 6 November. Entries close on Wednesday 4 November. It is open to all club members and prizes are awarded to the best Junior and Intermediate Pairs, as well as the top N/S and E/W pairs. Hands are the same all over the country and a book is produced for each player, giving a commentary of the hands. Do consider entering as it is a fun night. Table money is \$7 and we request that all be seated by 7.25 pm. Thanks to Dennis McCaughan for organising the NZ Wide Pairs.

SATURDAY NIGHT BRIDGE

Because the NZ Wide Pairs and the Maniototo Tournament are on the first weekend of November, Saturday night bridge has been re-scheduled to the second Saturday 14 November.

2010 PROGRAMME BOOK

The first draft has arrived from the printer and several people are proofreading. It is important that members notify changes of telephone number to Pat Dickson, changes in division or other comments to Nina Hewitt as soon as possible in order that all details are accurate.

We hope to have the Programme to members by the middle of November. Please read the rules and conditions carefully at the front of the book, as your committee have made some changes to previous years, regarding promotions and playing up a division. Also:

- The Champions League this year was tried on alternate Monday nights and these have been transferred to some Thursday nights where the Open Division will be split in two, to play separate competitions.
- The Otago/Southland Regional Committee have given permission for the Club to run two A Point Tournaments on some of the alternate Monday nights. These will be open to all members.
- Other alternate Monday nights are designated as discussion evenings for different levels where hands will be played and bidding and play discussed.

THE BIRO BIC TROPHY

This trophy is awarded to the Junior Division pair who achieved the highest score during the year. It is missing. Please have a look at home in case it is lurking on one of your shelves and return to the club.

PROMOTIONS

These have been displayed on the notice board. Congratulations to those people who have been offered promotion. If you do not wish to accept promotion, please notify Nina Hewitt, as soon as possible.

WEBSITE

You may have noticed that the website is already reflecting the promotions for 2010. This is because we need to update our database as soon as the promotions are known, so that the Programme Book is accurate. If your division is not correct on the website, please inform Nina or leave a note in the box of the door into the Committee Room.

PRESIDENT'S PARTY

Because of the financial constraints at the moment, the Committee felt it prudent not to burden the Club with the \$7-800 which this event costs. It has traditionally been held to thank volunteers for the work they do in and around the club – this number has grown even more this year.

75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE OTAGO BRIDGE CLUB INCORPORATED

This milestone will be coming up in 2011 and it would be great to mark the occasion with some sort of celebration and to bring back some of our ex- members for a weekend. Is there anyone out there who would be willing to be part of a small group who would help to organise an event/s?

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PLAYING FOR THE OYSTER PLATE

The Oyster Plate and Paua Trophy are contested between the Invercargill and Otago Clubs each year. Next year will be the 50th contest at Otago and once again it would be nice to celebrate this occasion. Is there anyone with ideas for how we could do this, or who would like to be part of an organising committee? Let us know!

For the above two events it would be great to have some of our long-term members who would be able to relate happenings in the club and take us back to yesteryear at the Otago Bridge Club.

SUPPER SURVEY

In response to instructions from the AGM a further survey will be issued in the near future.

Our sincere thanks to Bob Gillanders for re-painting the car park lines. Bob requires a little more paint to complete the project.

CROMWELL TOURNAMENT

The last tournament of the year is being held at Cromwell 28/29 November – Open 8B Pairs and Teams. An Open Tournament means just that – anyone can play in it, so make up a team and enjoy a weekend in Central Otago before the rush of Christmas begins.

LUNCHEON BRIDGE

Taieri Bridge Club are holding bridge on the following days commencing at 11.00 am

Wednesday 16 December

Wednesday 23 December

Wednesday 30 December

Wednesday 6 January 2010

A partner is not required – you will be “married” up on the day. Please bring your lunch. For more information phone Sherryn Wright 488 6206.

KEYS

If you have a key to the Bridge club which you no longer really need, could you please return to the Secretary or any of the committee. It costs \$17 to cut a key for the front door and as we now have more volunteers who need to get into the club outside session hours, it would be good to have unused keys returned to save the expense of cutting new ones.

CELLPHONES

Please turn off noisy cellphones when you are playing at the club. If you need to make a call or if you need to answer a call, please do so in the foyer, not at the table.

RECORDER

Thank you to Sharon Mosley who has agreed to take over the position of recorder, ie someone who records the people who make psych bids and who they psych against. In the next edition of Table Talk there will be an article of what a psych bid is, for those who are not sure. If you psych, or are psyched against, please ensure that the **person who has psyched** completes the appropriate form (found on noticeboards in the playing rooms), and places it into the *Recorder* pigeon hole in the Committee Room.

BRIDGE PADS

We now have 60 of these at the club, nearly paid for by your donations, grants and sponsorship monies. We thank the Otago Community Trust for a donation of \$2,000. We still need \$1,400 to cover the cost completely. Cliff Rickard has kindly offered to set up the technical side and they should be in use in your division soon.