

2nd MAY 2022

EVENTS AT OTAGO:

MONDAY 2nd MAY TEAMS RESUME TONIGHT.

TUESDAY 3rd Informal practice session – 1.30pm

TUESDAY 3rd **Directors Seminar - 7pm**

WEDNESDAY 4th Junior/Intermediate - Pairs Championship

THURSDAY 5th Senior/Open – Pairs Championship

FRIDAY 6th Normal Friday Bridge 10.30am

SATURDAY 14th **NB Saturday bridge/meal this month is a week later**

UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS: Check NZ Bridge Tournament Page for details of online tournaments or if a tournament has been cancelled. **We have had notices from these Clubs about their tournaments**

7th/8th May Otago/Southland Interprovincial Trials - **online**

14th May Te Anau Open Pairs - **online**

14th/15th May Canterbury 10A Open Teams and Pairs – **face to face**

15th May **Otago 3B Junior Pairs – this is the first day of a 2 day competition. The 2nd day to be played on the 3rd of July.**

We greatly encourage all Junior ranked players to enter.

Entry can be made on the NZ Bridge Tournament page

21st May Gore Junior and Intermediate – 10am start – \$25 -**face to face**

29th MAY Taieri 5A Open Pairs – 10am start - \$25 – **face to face.**

CONGRATULATIONS:

FRIDAY APRIL HANDICAP RESULTS

1st Philip Gillen

2nd Rudi Prent

3rd Judy Bevin

TAIERI CHARITY HOSPICE PAIRS

- 1st Janice Munden & Cushla Colquhoun
2nd Bob Gillanders & Dianne Curruthers
3rd Dale Cameron & Alan Lewthwaite

ONLINE BRIDGE RESULTS :

WELLINGTON OPEN TEAMS

Fantastic results Otago

Brad Johnston/Sam & Glenn Coutts with Graeme Stout/Jeff Miller - **3rd in the Swiss Competition**

They then played off in the **Final (top 4 teams)** on Anzac Day. Continuing their great form, they went on to **WIN** this competition – outstanding result guys.

OAKWOODS (Richmond) Pairs 5th Kaye Wilson and Wyn Jones

MURIHIKU TEAMS 2nd Peter Hall (with a team of Southlanders)

3rd Barbara Hutton & Lydia Turley

Brad Johnston & Sam Coutts

MURIHIKU PAIRS 1st Brad Johnston & Sam Coutts

3rd Kristen Collins & Donna Ruwhiu

DIRECTORS SEMINAR: A seminar for those interested in Directing will be held on **Tuesday 2nd May at 7.00pm**. This is being run by Lindsay Gunn.

It is very important for our Club that we keep training new Directors – without these very valuable people, we don't get to play our wonderful game.

This is **not** for people who are wanting to know the Laws of Bridge – a seminar for this will be held later in the year.

9th MAY 2022

FROM ROB LAWSON (President)

COVID PROTOCOLS: We are aware that many people's vaccination passes are due to expire towards the end of this month. The Medical advice we have received is that for older people at indoor events with long exposure times, they are still appropriate.

However, at this time, it is not clear if the Government is going to maintain the system, so we are watching this space closely. In the meantime, the club still requires masks to be worn unless you have a mask exemption.

BACK TO BRIDGE: Sunday 22nd May 1.30pm. The Club's Development Committee have decided to offer an informal session of bridge on Sunday afternoon. We are hoping this will allow out of practice members a chance to play a few fun hands in a non-competitive environment. You are welcome to attend with or without a partner. We will be asking for a gold coin donation.

EVENTS AT OTAGO:

TUESDAY 10th	Informal practice session – 1.30pm
WEDNESDAY 11th	Women's Pairs 1pm
WEDNESDAY 11th	Junior – Revision night
	Intermediate – Individual Ladder 2
THURSDAY 12th	Senior/Open – Autumn Pairs 1
FRIDAY 13th	Friday Bridge 10.30am
SATURDAY 14th	Chicken and Chips 6pm, bridge at 7pm.
	Please register for meal on Club noticeboard

UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS: We have had notices from these Clubs about their tournaments. All tournaments are face to face unless otherwise

highlighted. Check NZ Bridge Tournament page for entry details and/or cancellations.

14th May	Te Anau Open Pairs - online
14th/15th May	Canterbury 10A Open Teams and Pairs
15th May	Otago 3B Junior Pairs – this is the first day of a 2 day competition. The 2 nd day to be played on the 3 rd of July. We greatly encourage all Junior ranked players to enter. Entry can be made on the NZ Bridge Tournament page
21st May	Gore Junior and Intermediate – 10am start – \$25
29th May	Taieri 5A Open Pairs – 10am start - \$25
4th June	Otago/Southland 15A Teams – Wanaka
5th June	Otago/Southland 15A Pairs – Wanaka

OTAGO/SOUTHLAND INTERPROVINCIAL TRIALS:

On behalf of the Regional Committee, thank you to all the players who competed in this weekend's IP trials. Congratulations to these players who have been selected for the following teams

OPEN TEAM

Sam Coutts / Brad Johnston
Jeff Miller / Graeme Stout
Kevin Skoropoda / Moss Wylie

WOMEN'S TEAM

Kristen Collins / Donna Ruwhiu
Wyn Jones / Kaye Wilson
Kaye Shand / Anne Sommerville

SENIOR TEAM

Murat Genc / Arleen Schwartz
Peter Hall / Peter McCaskill
Marilyn Noye / Phil Noye

INTERMEDIATE TEAM

Jan Brown / Yvonne Hughes
Barbara Hutton / Jenny Rowley
Genevieve Webb / Tim Webb

A FEW THINGS FOR US ALL TO THINK ABOUT:

Over the last 2 years we have had a big decline in our playing numbers. This has not been unexpected. Thankfully we are now in a position of many players starting to return and keen to play again.

It is really important that all players can expect and deserve a welcoming, comfortable and non-critical place to play bridge.

Nobody likes to be the recipient of rude, boorish and critical behaviour or to witness other pairs engaging in same, including berating each other for mistakes.

People leave bridge because of bad behaviour and a non-welcoming environment.

Please play your part in making our Club a great and growing Club.

CONGRATULATIONS:



Huge Congratulations to **Murat Genc** on his recent achievement of obtaining the status of

GOLD GRAND MASTER.

Sam Coutts (NZ Board Member) had the privilege of presenting him with his certificate this week.

16th MAY 2022

EVENTS AT OTAGO:

MONDAY 16th	Teams – Qualifying R4
TUESDAY 17th	Informal practice session – 1.30pm
WEDNESDAY 18th	Junior and Intermediate - Autumn Pairs 1
THURSDAY 19th	Senior and Open – Autumn Pairs 2
FRIDAY 20th	Friday Bridge 10.30am
SUNDAY 22nd	BACK TO BRIDGE: 1.30pm.

BACK TO BRIDGE:

The Club's Development Committee have decided to offer an informal session of bridge on Sunday afternoon to allow 'out of practice' members a chance to play a few fun hands in a non-competitive environment. You are welcome to attend with or without a partner. We will be asking for a gold coin donation.

TEAMS:

The original draw was based on having a similar number of teams to previous years. Unfortunately, this year we only have 20 teams competing (down 8 teams).

Our draw has also seen 3 of the 7 qualifying rounds postponed due to Covid interventions.

The Playing Committee advise the following changes:

QUALIFYING ROUND:	Remains at 7 rounds, ending on June 27 th
POST SECTION PLAY:	The competition will split into two sections of 6 teams and one section of 8 teams.

	ORIGINAL DRAW			REVISED DRAW	
	Based on 24+ Teams			Based on 20+ Teams	
Date					
14-Feb	Qualifying	R1		Qualifying	R1
28-Feb		R2			R2
14-Mar		R3	NP		NP
28-Mar		R4	NP		NP
11-Apr		R5	NP		NP
02-May		R6			R3
16-May		R7			R4
30-May		R1			R5
13-Jun		R2			R6
27-Jun		R3			R7
11-Jul		R4		Round Robin 1 (6 Teams * 2)	R1
25-Jul	Round Robin 1	R5			R2
08-Aug		R6			R3
22-Aug		R7			R4
05-Sep		R1			R5
19-Sep		R2		Round Robin 2 (6 Teams * 2)	R6
03-Oct		R3			NP
17-Oct		R4			R7
31-Oct		R5			F1
14-Nov		R6			F2
28-Nov		R7			F3

The top two sections will play a double round robin.

The third section will play a single round robin, then split into two sections for a final round robin.

The final night of competition will be on 28 November.

(Note: There will be no play on October 3rd - this will become a reserve day.)

UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS:

NZ Bridge have decided that all tournaments from the end of May are now to be face to face. As players, it is really important we start to support these tournaments. I know these are difficult times, but Clubs are relying on us to get back out there and play.

We have 2 local tournaments coming up very soon, with very low entries. Please try and support these if you can.

21st May	Gore Junior and Intermediate – 10am start – \$25
29th May	Taieri 5A Open Pairs – 10am start - \$25
4th June	Otago/Southland 15A Teams – Wanaka
5th June	Otago/Southland 15A Pairs – Wanaka

CONGRATULATIONS:

BLANCHE WOLKEN WOMEN'S PAIRS TROPHY

Off-the Stick		Handicap	
1 st	Ann Wood / Barbara Hutton	1 st	Ann Wood / Barbara Hutton
2 nd	Wyn Jones / Kaye Wilson	2 nd	Alison Giller / Marion Russell
3 rd	Joanne Currie / Vivienne Cowan	3 rd	Frances Best / Beverly Ross

SATURDAY NIGHT BRIDGE

1 st	Derek Tingle / Wendy Fallon	(NS)
2 nd	Julienne Armitage / Alison Giller	(EW)

CANTERBURY CONGRESS TEAMS:

FANTASTIC RESULT GUYS

1 st	Brad Johnston, Sam Coutts, Glen Coutts (plus 2 others).
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OBITUARY: Dorothea (Doff) Stewart

It is with great sadness we acknowledge the passing of **Doff**.



Doff joined the Otago Bridge Club in 1973. She played regularly in the Open Division, Teams and Women's Pairs, until the early 2000's, when her and her late husband David moved to Auckland. Doff won the Women's Pairs in 1992, 1993, 1996, and 2000, with her partners Sue Thorpe, Claire Mortimer, and Wyn Jones.

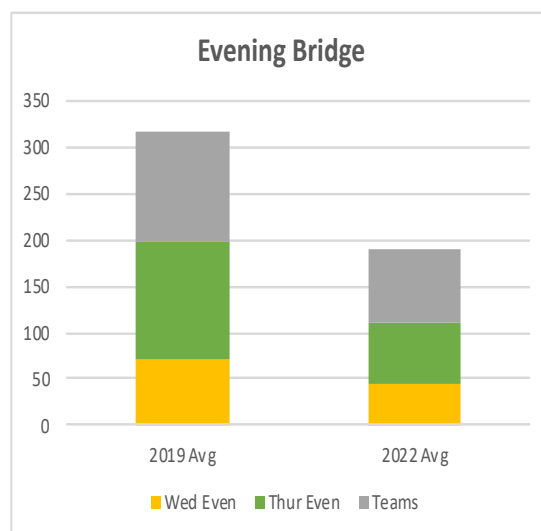
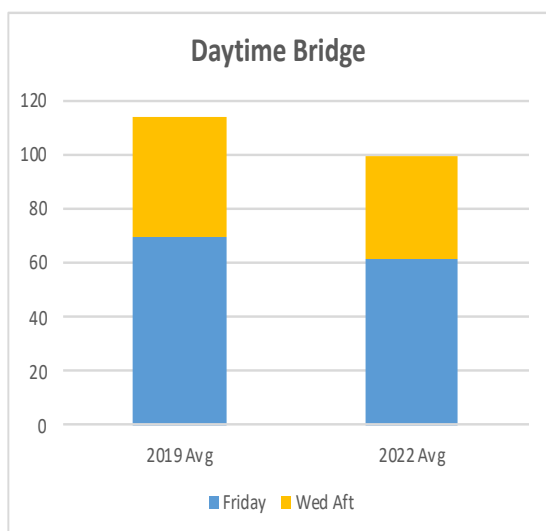
She will always be remembered as one who brought great style to the table, in her dress and table etiquette. Our condolences go out to the Stewart family.

PLAYING ATTENDANCE – POST COVID

Club Captain Phil Noye presented a report to last week's Management Committee meeting that reviewed our playing attendance for the first four months of 2022.

His analysis reviewed the average number of members playing this year against a pre Covid baseline of 2019.

An interesting outcome was that Daytime bridge numbers are almost back to 2019 levels but Evening bridge has suffered a significant decline over the last 3 years.



ARE YOU READY FOR A SERIOUS RELATIONSHIP???

(Excerpts from an article on Bridge Base Online)

A partnership is the single most important thing that makes bridge different from other games and sports.

Completely dependent on each other is exciting, challenging and frightening. I'm convinced that bridge partnerships is one of the most complex and demanding relationships in human society. Its delicate, sensitive, and turbulent structure raises so many issues that need to be tackled in order to build a successful long-term relationship.

I'm sure you've noticed that in many ways a bridge partnership is similar to a romantic relationship!!

Both go through comparable stages – the introduction, the dating or casual playing, committing, dealing with tensions or conflicts, breaking up or enduring.

INTRODUCTION: Some people are cautious, choosing carefully with whom they play, while others take a chance with someone they hardly know.

DATING: Regardless of the circumstances leading up to the introduction, some partnerships enter the second stage, analogous to dating.

You start to invite each other to tournaments and look forward to the next encounter with your “perfect match”. Everything is new and exciting, and it almost feels like falling in love. In this honeymoon phase, people may idolize their partners and tend to overlook their flaws. Positive energy and harmony often lead to some unusually satisfying performances which additionally boost their partnership.

The two of you are recognised as a partnership by others, you may be developing your system, looking for adequate teammates...ambitious plans are made for the future as you happily realize you are **COMMITTED**.

However, just like life, the honeymoon doesn't last forever. You may overlook occasional bad results, but sooner or later inevitable differences and misunderstandings will cause **TENSIONS**.

At this stage you know you know each other pretty well, you're familiar you're your partner's strengths and weaknesses . Power struggles become common place and many partnerships don't survive the first year.

Still the majority of players would sincerely acknowledge that they'd like to have a steady partnership, but very few are ready to put the necessary energy into the process. Are we all that naïve to expect to find our prince charming with whom every bid will be pure magic and every board a fairy tale?

Survivors are those who managed to maintain the partnership with mutual satisfaction. It is dynamic, cyclical process where when an issue arises, they work together to solve it. They have bad days of course, and they occasionally flirt playing with others, but there is no doubt who their partner is.

- Are you lucky enough to enjoy the benefits of a steady, flourishing partnership?
- Are you still in the honeymoon phase where every card has a pink reflection?
- Or maybe you feel stuck in your current partnership, and yearn for a change?
- Perhaps you're one of those liberal souls avoiding routine and regularly switching partners?

Don't despair if you've never reached the survival stage.

Through the years, a bridge player will find themselves in various, more or less satisfying, partnership phases.

Bridge partnership is a relatively safe arena to exercise social skills, emotions such as trust, commitment, respect, patience, adjustment, empathy, assertiveness, restraint and **FORGIVENESS**.

These virtues, developed at the table, may transfer to "real" life and help us cope with daily stressors and challenges.

Therefore enjoy your partnership, regardless of the current state, if not for its own merits, then because of the experiences and perspectives it provides.

(Tihana Brkljacic – Psychologist and Bridge Player at Zagreb University. She has represented Croatia at European and World championships and her studies include the psychology of games – bridge in particular).

23th MAY 2022

MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT (Rob Lawson)

The Management Committee reviewed the club's COVID response at its last meeting. Like everyone else, we hoped for a more rapid decline in case numbers and a quicker return to normality than has happened. Unfortunately it is clear that locally, the health service and hospital are still under strain. So in effect, we decided there has been no real improvement in the situation that would encourage us to announce a change to our existing precautions. So far these seem to have worked well and kept the Club a reasonably safe place to visit.

We have medical advice that both vaccination status and mask wearing are still relevant to protecting people, and are especially desirable considering the age profile of our members. We still do not know how vaccination status is going to be managed in the future. Some passes have expired and many more will expire this month. However, the effects of vaccination itself are still desirable, so we continue to expect people to be vaccinated and will trust people to be so.

Masks are now the main method of restricting the transmission of COVID. We should remember that masks help reduce transmission on breathing in **and** breathing out. So to be most effective they should be worn correctly by all, unless a person has a mask exemption.

We are also aware that there are large numbers of influenza cases hitting schools and the University, so mask wearing may have the additional benefit of helping to restrict the spread of this illness also.

Keep safe, keep well, and keep enjoying your bridge.

EVENTS AT OTAGO:

TUESDAY 24th	Informal practice session - 1.30pm
WEDNESDAY 25th	Women's pairs -1.00pm
WEDNESDAY 25th	Junior and Intermediate - Autumn Pairs 2
THURSDAY 26th	Senior and Open - Autumn Pairs 3
FRIDAY 27th	Friday Bridge - 10.30am

UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS:

We have 2 local tournaments coming up very soon, with very low entries. Please try and support these if you can.

29th May Taieri 5A Open Pairs – 10am start - \$25

OTAGO/SOUTHLAND CONGRESS – this tournament has had a change of venue from Wanaka – now being held at the Otago Club.

4th June Otago/Southland 15A Teams – Otago

5th June Otago/Southland 15A Pairs – Otago

Please try and support this event.

11th June Winton Intermediate Teams – 10am start - \$100 per team

18th June Winton Intermediate and Junior Pairs – 10am start - \$25

18th June National swiss Pairs 15 A – Nelson

26th June Oamaru 8B All grades

NEW ONLINE PAIRS TOURNAMENT FROM NZ BRIDGE:

New Zealand Bridge is pleased to announce 4 separate tournaments on Sunday evenings at 7pm, on Real Bridge.

The separate events are:

Open 10A

Restricted Open 5A (both players must be National Master or lower grade)

Intermediate 5B

Junior 3B

This will be run over 10 nights during the rest of the year. Your best 8 scores with the same partner will count to overall result.

You can play all 10 nights or just casually on one or more nights.

Entry Fee: \$40 for all 10 nights, or \$6 a night casual play.

Nights scheduled are 29th May, 26th June, 10th July, 24th July
 14th August, 18th September, 16th October, 13th November
 27th November, 11th December

You need to enter for each night, even if you have prepaid for 10 nights.

The events are set up for you to enter on the NZ Bridge Tournaments Page.

CONGRATULATIONS:

Gore Intermediate Pairs:

2nd Christine Samson & Lyn Clark
5th Murray Barron & David Larsen

Gore Junior Pairs

5th Hilary Bisset & Judy Bevin
6th Dawn Cope & Mary McQueen

30th MAY 2022

EVENTS AT OTAGO:

MONDAY 30th	Teams qualifying
TUESDAY 31st	Informal practice session - 1.30pm
WEDNESDAY June 1st	Junior and Intermediate - Autumn Pairs 3
THURSDAY 2nd	Senior and Open – Individual Ladder
FRIDAY 3rd	Friday Bridge - 10.30am (Gustavson Medallion 1)

UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS:

OTAGO/SOUTHLAND CONGRESS – this tournament has had a change of venue from Wanaka – now being held at the Otago Club.

4th June Otago/Southland 15A Teams – Otago – 10am start

5th June Otago/Southland 15A Pairs – Otago – 10am start

Please try and support this event.

11th June Winton Intermediate Teams – 10am start - \$100 per team

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CONGRATULATIONS:

AUTUMN PAIRS

OPEN

- 1st** Matt Blakeley & Sam Coutts
- 2nd** Rudi Prent & Marilyn Noye
- 3rd** Stewart Kerr & Robert Cowan

SENIOR

- Cathy Thomson & Eleanor Westoby
- Bronwyn Powell & Vicki Galland
- Glenys Shum & Murray Thomson

FRIDAY May Handicap Ladder.

- 1st** Archie Crawford
- 2nd** David Larsen
- 3rd** Murray Barron

TAIERI 5A OPEN PAIRS

- 1st** Nick Bailey & Sam Coutts
- 2nd** Ann Wood & Barbara Hutton
- 3rd** Wyn Jones & Kaye Wilson