



Otago Bridge Club

Inc
Established 1936



OCTOBER / NOVEMBER UPDATE

PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIPS & QUALIFYING FORMATS:

It had been agreed that the format for 2014 should be 5 rounds qualifying, best 4 to count, 30% carryover; top 18 pairs to qualify with 2 pairs added at discretion of Playing Committee; final over 5 rounds, best 4 to count.

There remain decisions to make about Senior and Intermediate Pairs Championships which at present run for 8 and 12 nights simultaneously with the Club Pairs Qualifying and Championships.

NZ Wide Pairs will be held at Otago Bridge Club (not Taieri Bridge Club) on Friday 8 November.

TOURNAMENT RESULTS

Alexandra Bridge Club –
3rd Place: Alan Geare and Sharon Mosley

Central Otago Teams:

1st: James Coutts, Glenn Coutts, Samuel Coutts, Sam Bailey

2nd: Margaret Perley, Lorraine Peacock, Dennis McCaughan, Nina Hewitt.
Congratulations and well done.

Hamilton results

1st **NZ Teams:** James Coutts, John Davidson, Martin Lofgren, Daniel Skipper

1st **Same Sex Pairs:** Chris Ackerley & Douglas Russell

3rd **Mixed Pairs:** Sam Coutts & Carol Richardson

3rd **Swiss Pairs:** Paul Freeland & Brett Glass

Congratulations to our brilliant OBC members. We are very proud of you and an inspiration to us all..

CAR PARK: The two parks outside the office window are to be removed for safety reasons. There is additional parking available behind the building next door to the Bridge Club with access off Otaki Street and Portobello Road.

BADGES: If you want a name badge give your information (name/number) to Judith McKinlay or to your convenor.

AIR CONDITIONING

Members will be pleased to hear that there has been a substantial decrease in our electricity accounts since the installation of the new air conditioning units i.e. July to September: Last year \$3448.55 This year \$1564.89.

SCRATCHY BOARDS:

Monies raised from Scratchy Boards is to be spent on hiring mobility taxis for anyone using a wheelchair. If you need this form of support let Judith McKinlay or your convenor know. Each scratchy board earns the Club \$55.

Congratulations to the following winners:
Jo McLaren; Isolda Fechner and Dot Cotton.

October Scratchy Winners

Monday (Teams): Anne Marie Devereux
Wednesday (Intermediate): Margaret Tagg
Friday (Social): Sylvia Girvan
Congratulations to all.

New boards will be out in a week or two.

MEMBERSHIP:

Death: Don Hill
Our deepest sympathy to Don's family and friends.

Christmas Party for OBC Volunteers – 22 November at 5.30pm.

TROPHIES: Could those holding trophies please return them to the OBC so they may be presented to this year's recipients.

LOST: Do you have a purple and black jacket? Jocelyn Kilcullen took one from the club last week by mistake thinking it was hers. However the brand is Mitre Peak and it does not fit. Her own purple/black coat is Patagonia label, but it is not at the club, so perhaps someone took hers by mistake.

2014 LEARNERS CLASSES

Classes will commence in March 2014. Please encourage your friends (maybe a Christmas gift). Also if you know of members who seldom play encourage them to return on a regular basis.

GRAND MASTERS

We have two new Grand Masters in our midst:

Congratulations to Paul Freeland and James Coutts.

News from NZCBA

E newsletter available for all members – if you would like to subscribe go to NZBCA website.

Online survey for feedback on Interprovincial format changes – like on the NZCBA website.

**FOR THOSE CHRISTMAS PARTIES DON'T
FORGET OBC CLUB ROOMS FOR HIRE**

Contact: Susan Johnstone 4761360

SECURITY OF BUILDING

The last person out of the building must turn off all the lights and lock the front door. Locking the front door sets the alarm (so please ensure everyone is out).

**See next page for
The Black Herring**

The Black Herring

Now everyone has heard of a red herring, something which potentially leads you down a wrong path and distracts you from solving a problem, but let me introduce the black herring. This is the fish that deliberately gets in the way, and overshadows all other possibilities. The black herring is so dominant that you may be mistaken in thinking that no other possibilities exist. The black herring in this instance is North's spade suit. Such a powerhouse, it is almost impossible to ignore, but ignore it you should, at least when it comes to bidding this hand.

22	<p>♠ AKQJ532</p> <p>♥</p> <p>♦ J109864</p> <p>♣</p>	<p><i>Dir: E</i></p> <p><i>Vul: E-W</i></p>																														
	<p>♠ 8764</p> <p>♥ K10983</p> <p>♦ 3</p> <p>♣ K53</p>	<p>♠ 109</p> <p>♥ J764</p> <p>♦ 75</p> <p>♣ AQJ108</p>																														
	<p>11 ♠</p> <p>6 8 ♥</p> <p>15 ♦</p>	<p>♠ AQ52</p> <p>♥ AKQ2</p> <p>♦ 97642</p>																														
		<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th style="width: 10%;"></th> <th style="width: 10%;">♠</th> <th style="width: 10%;">♥</th> <th style="width: 10%;">♦</th> <th style="width: 10%;">♣</th> <th style="width: 10%;">NT</th> </tr> <tr> <td>N</td> <td>-</td> <td>7</td> <td>-</td> <td>7</td> <td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>S</td> <td>-</td> <td>7</td> <td>-</td> <td>7</td> <td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>E</td> <td>1</td> <td>-</td> <td>2</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>W</td> <td>1</td> <td>-</td> <td>2</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> </tr> </table>		♠	♥	♦	♣	NT	N	-	7	-	7	2	S	-	7	-	7	2	E	1	-	2	-	-	W	1	-	2	-	-
	♠	♥	♦	♣	NT																											
N	-	7	-	7	2																											
S	-	7	-	7	2																											
E	1	-	2	-	-																											
W	1	-	2	-	-																											

It is so natural to bid your longest and strongest suit initially, and then proceed to show the rest of your hand, but if you pause for thought, what meaningful information are you going to get from partner if you do bid spades first. Whether they support your spades or not, or introduce a new suit (and every chance it is one of your voids), you are no better off.

So unless you have a system that can accurately show two voids (and if you can, I think your system is probably so complex that any gain from bidding these hands correctly is lost through failure to remember the system for more mundane hands) I suggest you try bidding the weaker suit first, in this case diamonds. Playing a natural system, the bidding could go something like this:

```

1C : 1D
1H : 2S*   *Fourth suit forcing
3D : 3S*   * Cue
4H* : 4NT** * Cue                **RKCB
5D* : 5H**  * 0 or 3              **Q of trumps?
5NT* : 7D** *QD and no KC        **Or 7S at pairs...
  
```

And look what happens if you try the black herring first....

```

1C : 1S
1NT : 2D
???
  
```

It gets very murky very quickly....

