

NOTICES FOR THE WEEK BEGINNING 1 APRIL

TOURNAMENTS

APRIL

- 6 Cromwell Open 8B Pairs. Venue: Lowburn Hall (Lowburn Inlet, Cromwell-Wanaka Highway) Morning tea 9.30 am, start at 10.00 am. Midday meal plus something light after play. \$35. Entries are online and close at 11:59 pm on 3 April.
- 7 Cromwell Open 8B Teams. Venue: Catholic Church Hall (Sligo Street, Cromwell). Morning tea 9.30 am, start at 10.00 am. Bring your lunch. Afternoon tea at conclusion of play. \$25. Entries are online and close at 11:59 pm on 5 April.

Entries have been a little slow for this Tournament, especially for the teams event. These tournaments are ideal for people of all grades. The teams event is a great opportunity for junior and intermediate players to experience the teams format, and how the different scoring method gives everybody a chance to do well. Entry is on-line at the Cromwell Bridge Club web site. Your support for the Cromwell club is much appreciated.

- 13 Winton Open 5A Teams. Morning Tea 9.30. Play starts 10.00 am. Bring own lunch. Nibbles during play, supper at finish of play. \$30.00. Entries are online and close at 11:59 pm on 10 April.

- 14 Waimate All Grades Open 8B

- 14 **LIONS CHARITY PAIRS – OTAGO.** Sign up for this at the Club on the Tournament Noticeboard. A fun social event with all funds going to Camp Quality – a camp for families of children who suffer from cancer. \$10 entry which includes 5 raffle tickets, prizes for winners and afternoon tea. **Be seated by 1.20 pm.**

SATURDAY NIGHT BRIDGE - 6th April. Dinner at 6.00 pm. Bridge at 7.00 pm

IMPROVE YOUR BRIDGE SEMINARS: MONDAY 8th April.

RUBBER BRIDGE: Enter for the right to represent Otago/Southland Region at the National Congress in Hamilton at the end of September. Entries close on 7th April and should be made on the Tournament noticeboard.

INTER-PROVINCIAL TRIALS: are to be held on 11 May. You can enter even if not wanting to go to the IPs. Club assists with costs of travel, accommodation etc. Finals are to be held 23 November. The region will be looking for Open, Women's and Intermediate Teams.

THE BRIDGE ZONE RADIO SHOW

www.accessradio.org/Player.aspx?eid=1c2d79cd-674e-4f65-98f8-42380fdecac3

- Aces & Knaves – a Bridge movie premieres this week
- Statistical Analysis – what a tongue twister
- Convention Free Bridge - Is that like Gluten or diary free bridge?
- Checking back – Stayman after 1NT rebid
- Rubber Bridge time - Putaruru holds the 1st event

CORRECTION: Martijn Prent's phone number should have read 027 361 2980

READ A GOOD BRIDGE BOOK LATELY? If you have, consider writing a review of it and forward for printing in the Weekly, so that everyone can benefit.

FRONT DOOR

It has been discovered that the front door has not locked when people are leaving. If you are the last to leave, set the alarm and swipe the alarm three times and watch it turn colour. To check, stand in front of the door to ensure it does not open again.

NZ BRIDGE

The latest newsletter is available for download via their Website.

CONGRATULATIONS TIMARU CONGRESS

Another significant success for an Otago team last weekend. The team of Gillian Alexander, Bernadette van der Lem, Phil Noye and Marilyn Noye won the prize for the best team with less than 500 rating points, coming in at 8th. They were ranked 17th, so well done to this team.

FRIDAY BRIDGE HANDICAP FOR MARCH

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| 1 st | Alice Thompson |
| 2 nd | Margaret Middlemiss |
| 3 rd | Elaine Williscroft |

Quick Tips for Improving Your Bridge Game

When you are declarer:

Don't play to the first trick too quickly. Force yourself to stop and think when dummy comes down.

Concentrate on the opening lead for a few seconds so you'll remember it later. Decide what it tells you about the leader's length or strength in that suit.

Mentally review the bidding. If one of your opponents has bid, try to come up with a general picture of his point-count and his length in the suit bid.

Karen's Bridge Library

NOTICES FOR THE WEEK BEGINNING 8 APRIL

TOURNAMENTS

APRIL

- 13 Winton Open 5A Teams. Morning Tea 9.30. Play starts 10.00 am. Bring own lunch. Nibbles during play, supper at finish of play. \$30.00. Entries are online and close at 11:59 pm on 10 April.
- 14 Waimate All Grades Open 8B. Waimate Golf Club House, Brownes Road Start time 10.00 am. \$20. Entries close 8 April at the Club or email waimatebridgeclub@gmail.com
- 14 **LIONS CHARITY PAIRS – OTAGO.** Do sign up for this when you are at Bridge this week/ - at the Club on the Tournament Noticeboard. Lots more entries are required for this worthy cause with all funds going to Camp Quality – a camp for families of children who suffer from cancer. \$10 entry which includes 5 raffle tickets, prizes for winners and afternoon tea. **Be seated by 1.20 pm.** If you decide to come at the last minute that will be OK – the more the better. Approximate numbers are required for afternoon tea catering, so one or two more will be fine.
- 27 Wanaka Open 5A Pairs
- 28 Otago 3B Junior Pairs

IMPROVE YOUR BRIDGE SEMINARS: MONDAY 8th April. This is the final of Dean's popular lectures for the year. The topic this week is **Two-level Openings** – 7.00-9.15 pm.

INTER-PROVINCIAL TRIALS: are to be held on 11 May. You can enter even if not wanting to go to the IPs. Club assists with costs of travel, accommodation etc. Finals are to be held 23 November. The region will be looking for Open, Women's and Intermediate Teams.

NZ BRIDGE FIVE-YEAR YOUTH STRATEGIC PLAN

We have been asked to share this with members who may have an interest in supported youth bridge.

The plan revolves around six core strands:

- 1 Growing Youth Bridge in schools and universities
- 2 Supporting Youth Players
- 3 Adult led Mentoring Programme
- 4 Website development, communication and marketing
- 5 Growing the game at the Club, Regional and National levels
- 6 Supporting International Youth

We have appointed Jan France into a Youth Development Worker Role for NZB to aid with implementing the plans. As the RBM for the Auckland/Northland area she has been aiding that Region and beyond with her work for the past 18 months. Jan comes from a strong youth work background and has been working in collaboration with Richard Solomon during 2018 to bring together a strategy for youth in the game for the future. Richard's work over many years to develop youth is well-known nationwide. Sam Coutts is our International Youth Squad co-ordinator. In Richard, together with Jan and Sam, we believe we have a committed team which is endorsed and supported by the Board and tasked with implementing its strategy. Clubs and their members have a key role to play with regard to Youth; their support of the strategy will be a strong ingredient in helping its successful implementation. See attached file for full details.

BRIDGE ZONE:

www.accessradio.org/Player.aspx?eid=b074f894-c120-4448-bf6c-590848681d4f

- Celebrations and celebrity dating – what does this have to do with Bridge.
- Are you a mop or a sponge?
- Book of the week
- Who would be brazen enough to say - Don't buy this book - that's right our friend – Zia
- How the experts win @ Bridge
- BJ feels the commentators curse when BJ puts the hoo doo on him
- We read and share statistical analysis info from Brad (*Yes, it's our own Brad Johnston*)
- Jump over calls – nothing like causing havoc when you jump
- Judge Julie – when 2 becomes 4
- Think more Count more – but not today
- 10 seconds – practise your game face or talk about yourself
- William Harlow – we're watching the ~~detectives~~ director

NOTICES FOR THE WEEK BEGINNING 15 APRIL

TOURNAMENTS

APRIL

27 Wanaka Open 5A Pairs: Morning Tea 9.30 am Play starts at 10.00 am. Bring your lunch. Continuous tea and coffee. Light refreshments at conclusion. \$25. Limited to 20 tables. Entries close at 8 pm on 23 April.

28 **Otago 3B Junior Pairs:** One tournament run over two days. Come along and enjoy a fun afternoon of bridge in a tournament setting. Dates: Sunday 28th April and 21st July. Cost: Both days - \$20 per person. One day - \$10 per person. Start: 1.00 pm. Afternoon tea and hot drinks provided. Entries close at 11.59 pm on 26 April.

INTER-PROVINCIAL TRIALS: are to be held on 11 May. You can enter even if not wanting to go to the IPs. Club assists with costs of travel, accommodation etc. Finals are to be held 23 November. The region will be looking for Open, Women's and Intermediate Teams. Collect your Entry Form from the Foyer.

NZ BRIDGE - *New To The Table*

This is a new feature which will run on the NZ Bridge website. It is aimed at new players, perhaps those who have just come out of a Beginners' Class or those who need a bit of a refresher. It is quite likely that some of you do not currently use this website. Every Friday they will discuss the bidding of a hand and then on a Sunday the play and defence. The hands are real hands from recent sessions, instructive deals but ones which they hope newish players can follow. Go to the NZBridge website and select "Newer Player Articles" under "My NZB" for **New to the Table**. You will need to register, using your Computer Number. The first articles went out on 12th and 14th April, and a new one will appear the following Friday and Sunday.

MEMBERSHIP

Please contact Barbara Wilkes on her cellphone 0274 118 912 as she no longer has a landline.

Resignation

Margaret Archer has decided to resign from our Club., which is accepted with regret. Margaret joined in 1987 and was a dedicated worker for the club, being Club Captain 1993-95, Vice President 1997-99 and President from 1999 to 2001. A very competitive player and lots of fun to be with, Margaret has been missed from the Bridge Table for some time, but has unfailingly paid her subscription each year to support the Club. We thank Margaret for her dedication to Bridge over many years.

QUICK TIPS with thanks to Karen Walker

For most No Trump contracts, your general plan should be:

- 1** - Count your **winners**. If you don't have enough top tricks to make your contract, decide which suit offers you the best chance of creating more winners.
- 2** - Attack that suit first (it will usually be your longest side suit). Give up the tricks you have to lose early.
- 3** - Stick with one suit at a time. Keep leading it until you've established your tricks (counting the defenders' cards as you go), then cash your winners in the suit. When you move to a different suit, start counting again.
- 4** - Last, cash honors in your short suits.

CONGRATULATIONS – EASTER PAIRS WINNERS

JUNIOR

- 1st Deidre Bruce and Stewart Whyte
2nd Jenny Turnbull and Connie Mackay
3rd Frances Witchall and AnneMarie Tangney

INTERMEDIATE

- 1st Alice Booth and Ron McMurrin
2nd Matt Smits and Barbara Clare
3rd Pat Hall and Graeme Donaldson

SENIOR

- 1st Mary O'Neill and Raylene Ryan
2nd Allan Lockhart and Jenny Fieldwick
3rd Grant Walker and John Curran

OPEN

- 1st David Green and Jeff Miller

2nd Matt Blakeley and Paul Freeland

3rd Tim Webb and John Sheehy

LIONS CHARITY EVENT

This very successful event was held today, Sunday, and the Lions Club would like to say a big thank you to all those who attended and help raise over \$1,000 for Camp Quality for children and their families living with cancer. For the 84 people attending it was a most enjoyable day, lovely afternoon tea and great raffles. Winners of the Bridge:

1st Matt Blakeley and Phil Noye

2nd Kaye Wilson and Kevin Farnden

3rd Kristen Collins and Donna Ruwhiu

Top Intermediate Pair: Judith and Laurie Smeijers

Top Junior Pair: Colleen Fletcher and Alan Lewthwaite

WAIMATE ALL GRADES

Grade 1 1st John Sheehy playing with Frances Sheehy from Oamaru

Grade 2 1st Robyn Hawkesby and Phil Radford

NOTICES FOR THE WEEK BEGINNING 22 APRIL

TOURNAMENTS

APRIL

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MAY

4 Murihiku 5A **Teams**, 50 Elles Road, Invercargill. Morning tea 9.30 am. Start 10.00 am. \$35 – catered lunch and nibbles. On-line registration at otagosouthlandbridge.org.nz/invercargill Entries close at 8.00 am 1 May.

5 Murihiku 5A **Pairs**, 50 Elles Road, Invercargill. Morning tea 9.30 am. Start 10.00 am. \$35 – catered lunch and nibbles. On-line registration at otagosouthlandbridge.org.nz/invercargill Entries close at 8.00 am 1 May.

5 **Taieri – Otago Hospice Charity Pairs.** Start time 1.30 pm. \$10 entry, includes 5 raffle tickets, afternoon tea, prizes and a great afternoon out. Entries close 3 May or you can phone Jenny Magee on 489 8004 if you won't be at the Club to put your name up. Numbers are required for catering purposes.

11 **INTER-PROVINCIAL TRIALS:** Finals are to be held 23 November. The region will be looking for Open, Women's and Intermediate Teams. Collect your Entry Form from the Foyer.

18 Te Anau Open 8B Pairs: Te Anau Bowling Club, Luxmore Drive. Morning tea 9.30 am. Play starts at 10 am. Bring your own lunch. Nibbles, tea, coffee, cold drinks provided during play, and finger food at the end of play. \$20 per player. Online entry close at 6 pm on 15 May.

19 **OTAGO – Save the Children Charity Pairs** – mark this date on your calendar. Details later. **SATURDAY NIGHT BRIDGE** in May is the first Saturday, 4 May. Meal 6.00 pm Bridge 7.00 pm.

NO-NOs AT THE BRIDGE CLUB

No perfume – be aware that many people are allergic to perfumes, especially in a closed room that can become over-heated at this time of the year. So please keep your perfumes, strong smelling hand creams, etc for other times.

No fresh flowers – for the same reasons as above. If you are given flowers at the Club, then put them in your car or leave them in the kitchen or the foyer.

No colds or flu-like symptoms – if you have a cold, then please stay away. We know you don't like to let a partner down by cancelling, but better that, than passing your germs to others, especially the many older people in the club who are more susceptible than younger members. Your partner will understand.

BRIDGE ZONE

Here is the link to 17 April's Bridge Zone Radio show:

www.accessradio.org/Player.aspx?eid=63a24e2b-369f-4b4e-9509-ea4c5a6c2ee8

- Upper Hutt Bridge Club – Celebrate their 50th Jubilee in May
- We speak with President – Biddy RUSH
- Top of the South – Results from Marlborough Teams and Pairs Event
- Tip of the week - Cheap airfares – by Anthony Ker
- Look online and play all around Aotearoa....
- Book of the week – *I Shot my Bridge Partner!*
- Judge Julie
- Is there a timeframe on lodging an appeal?
- Comparable bids
- Stop Cards – reminder on what the 10 second rule is for
- Do I look intelligent?
- Hamilton Restricted Tournament – Results, Johnny Cash and mental health
- Brad Johnston, Michael Ware – both playing teams this weekend at opposite ends of the country

Quick Tips for Improving your Bridge - with thanks to Karen Walker

When you're a defender:

Lead attacking combinations (suits with touching honors -- QJ10x, KQxx, etc.).

Don't lead unsupported aces (Ax, Axx, Axxx) *unless* it's the suit partner has bid.

When in doubt about what to lead, lead the fourth-best card in your longest suit. Leading from length is the "standard" lead to a notrump contract, and it's often the safest lead to a suit contract.

Count cards and points as you play. Use clues from the bidding, the opening lead and the play to try to come up with a mental picture of partner's or declarer's hand.

Think ahead, and be ready for critical plays. Indecision will often tell declarer what you hold in a suit, so try to decide in advance which card you'll play when declarer leads a suit toward or from dummy.

Use defensive signals to help partner during the play:

When discarding or following suit, signal with the lowest card possible in a suit you want partner to lead. Play a high card if you have no interest in the suit. (Some may play opposite to this – discuss with partner)

When following suit, use count signals to help partner figure out how many cards you hold in the suit. Playing *high-low* in a suit tells partner you have an *even* number of cards. Playing *low, then high* shows an *odd* number of cards.

CONGRATULATIONS to our winners at the Winton 5A Teams last weekend.

1st Margaret Perley, Paul Freeland, Arleen Schwartz and Chris Ackerley

2nd Glenn Coutts, Sam Coutts, Brad Johnston and Peter Hall

OUR LATEST GRANDMASTER IS:

Donna Ruwhiu who gained her 500 A Points in February and was presented with her Certificate last Thursday night. She now has 512 A Points. Well done, Donna.

The Club can now boast 13 Grandmasters, 6 Silver Grandmasters and 3 Gold Grandmasters.

NOTICES FOR THE WEEK BEGINNING 29 APRIL

TOURNAMENTS

MAY

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SATURDAY NIGHT BRIDGE this Saturday, 4 May. Meal 6.00 pm Bridge 7.00 pm.

THOSE OF YOU WHO HAVE XTRA as your Internet Provider: You would not have received your newsletter last week. Xtra, in its wisdom, decided to reject the emails due to possible spam content or possibly because it was a bulk email. If you do not receive the Weekly at any time, you can always view it on the website under Resources/Bridge Weekly or by clicking on *Bridge Weekly* on the Home Page of the website. Hopefully this goes through to you this week.

CONGRATULATIONS

Otago Junior Tournament - 1st session

- 1st Jennifer Macmillan and Eleanor Westoby
- 2nd Alan Lewthwaite and Colleen Fletcher
- 3rd Alice Booth and Matheus Smits

The second session will be played on Sunday 21 July

Friday Bridge Handicap

- 1st Rod Waugh
- 2nd Ron Robert
- 3rd Elaine McDonald

QUICK TIPS FOR IMPROVING YOUR BRIDGE by Karen Walker

When you are bidding:

Always search for a major-suit fit if one is possible, even if you've already found a minor fit. If you have a 4-card major you can show at the one-level, always bid it.

Consider playing 3NT instead of 5C or 5D when you have the strength for game, but your only fit is in a minor suit.

If you have length in the opponent's suit and are in doubt about what to bid, pass. Don't show your problem by thinking too long about what to do.

Keep the bidding simple. If you have a fit for partner's major, always raise.

If you have a fit for partner's suit, "stretch" to raise, especially in a competitive auction. If you have extra trumps (one more than you need for an 8-card fit), feel free to compete to the 3-level if the opponents bid over your 2-level partscore.

Always assume partner has a minimum until he tells you otherwise. A minimum range is 13-15 pts. if partner opened the bidding; 6-9 pts. if he responded to your opening bid.

If you have a minimum hand (13-15 pts. for opener, 6-9 or 10 pts. for responder), keep the bidding low until you find a fit. ***Don't go past the one-level unless:***

You are raising partner's suit.

You are rebidding your own long suit.

You are bidding a second suit that's ***lower in rank*** than your first suit (1D by you-1S by partner-2C by you) or (1D-1S-1NT-2H).

Once you've decided to raise partner's suit, rebid your own long suit or bid notrump, be sure you show your point-count by bidding at the proper level:

If you know you have 25 combined points, jump to game in your suit or notrump. Don't give partner a chance to pass.

If you have an invitational hand (16-18 pts. if you're opener; 10-12 pts. if you're responder) and you think you and partner ***might*** have 25+ points, make your bid one level higher than necessary. This usually means you'll freely take the auction to 2NT or 3 of your suit.

If you have a minimum hand, show it by making your bid at the lowest level available.