OTAGO BRIDGE CLUB

NEWSLETTER

7th AUGUST 2023



EVENTS AT OTAGO:

MONDAY 7th August Teams 7.10pm

TUESDAY 8th August Informal Practice –1.30pm – All Welcome

WEDNESDAY 9th August All Comers – **1.00pm** – All Welcome

WEDNESDAY 9th August Junior/Intermediate – Individual Ladder – 7pm

THURSDAY 10th August Open/ Senior – Pairs Champs - **7.10pm**

FRIDAY 11^h August Friday Bridge – 10.30am

Please note all players should be seated 10 minutes before starting time

UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS:

All tournaments can be entered on NZ Bridge Tournament page

August 13th Oamaru Junior 3B and Intermediate 5B Pairs

10am start, \$25, close 9/8

August 19th Invercargill Junior 3B and Intermediate 5B Pairs

10am start, \$25, close 18/8

August 26/27th SOUTH ISLAND 20A PAIRS, (run by Otago) ONLINE

9.30am start, \$45, pay before 24/8 to **02 0912 0102165 00** Please include your email address in reference for prize

distribution.

CONGRATULATIONS:

PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIP:

JUNIOR: INTERMEDIATE:

1^{st}	Peter McIver/Bruce Dowland	Barbara Galland/Mary McQueen
2 nd	Judy Gorman/Jamie Smith	Andrew Nicolson/Frances Witchall
3 rd	Michael Cooper/Peggy Tompkins	Greg Sligo/Neil Stevenson

SATURDAY BRIDGE:

Off-the Stick 1st Margaret Borland/Elaine McDonald Murray Barron/David Larsen 3rd Derek Tingle/Wendy Fallon Handicap M Borland/E McDonald Adrienne Dearnley/Gordon Smith Margaret Middlemiss/Bev Ross

BAR PRICES:

From the 1st of August 2023 there will be an increase in alcoholic drinks – an increase of 50 cents per drink. Non-alcoholic drinks will remain the same in the meantime

NZ BRIDGE NATIONAL CONGRESS 23rd – 30th September 2023







Graduates from our 2023 Learners Programme





We welcome back 3 former members:

Janet Gafford Susan McKillop Shirley Jones

We welcome 1 member who began his bridge education at another club: Glen Clarkson

We welcome 25 new members:

Patricia Appleby-Morrison	Cheryl Adams	Cathy Chapple
Liz Dougherty	Sue Filsell	Anita Grant
Pia Jones	Alexandra Kennedy	Karen Lyle
Stephanie McConnon	Heather McDiarmid	Judith Mann
Christine Messer	Ewi Mihaka	Hazel Mihaka
Pam Nelson	Stuart Pegg	Allison Robinson
Olivia Richmond-Johnston	Clive Ronson	Geordie Stephenson
Cheryl Tapp	Lyla Walter	Hannah West
Lynda Williams		

A VERY VERY BIG THANK YOU goes to our tutor Matt Blakeley and his loyal band of helpers – Ruth Airey, Dot Cotton, Lydia Turley, Graeme Stout and Brad Johnston– who have spent the last twenty weeks assisting our keen newcomers develop their understanding and skills of this wonderful game of ours.

Have you ever opened the Gambling 3NT?

Whilst this is a textbook bid it is one that is not routinely seen in club sessions of play. However, in a recent Thursday night pairs competition the opportunity prevailed.

In today's bidding repertoire, an opening 3NT bid shows a solid 7-8 card minor suit, typically denies a void or 4+ card side suit. It's another pre-empt designed to shut out the opposition whilst putting your side in the best place.

The aggressive opener is likely to have no higher card than a queen in the other suits, as shown in the first hand below (deep breadth required):

♠ 84	4 2
V 42	♥ KQ
♦ 73	* 82
♣ AKQJ763	♣ AKQ8532

Our hand is the one on the right with West as dealer NV.

How do you respond to the 3NT opening?

This pre-emptive opening bid clearly puts the final contract in the hands of the responder. He/she will pass when 3NT seems the best available contract,

- Holding stoppers in the other suits and an entry to dummy, or
- Even with one suit not held, responder might take the gamble this suit is not led, and choose to pass.

Otherwise, without an equally strong major suit of their own their response will be 4C – pass or correct.

The example on the left where partner is likely to pass, hoping a diamond is not led and/or the diamond split is no worse than a 4/4 break. If so, there are 7 club tricks plus 2 Aces for 3NT making.

West	East	West	East
♠ 1073	♠AQ82	4 2	♠ A109
♥ 7	♥ AJ92	♥KQ	♥ J98742
♦ 105	♦ J84	♦ 82	♦ 954
♣ AKQ9743	♣ J2	♣ AKQ8532	♣ J

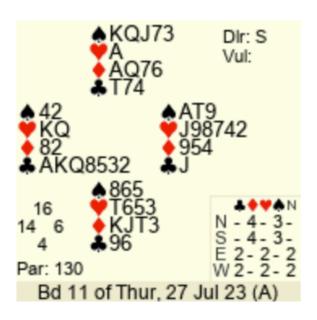
Our responder faced a similar decision (right hand example) and Deep Finesse also supported Pass here, with converting to the minor or trying our own long major, less optimal outcomes, with just 8 tricks in all three options.

How do you compete against the 3NT opening?

Conventional defences suggest X shows a strong hand happy to penalise; 4M is to play with a self-supporting long suit and 4C/D show both majors with longer hearts and spades respectively.

Over West's 3NT opening on the board shown, North has a difficult decision (one which the proper use of a stop card would hopefully give them time to solve in tempo). It could be correct for North to contract for 10 tricks in spades, or it could be right for North to X and hope that the defence can get to 5 tricks before declarer can get to 9.

Board 11



With such a good diamond holding, North knows that West is marked with a long club suit. A holding like T74 is bad for offensive prospects on hands like this, as it's likely that East will be shorter in clubs than us, and potentially in a position to score ruffs by leading them early.

If looking to defend; leading the KS would set up 4 immediate tricks for the defence - and it wouldn't take much for a fifth trick to materialise (the long spade setting up, or partner having the AS / KD etc).

On the balance, it's likely correct for North to X the 3NT opening. South has nothing to bid over this, as the X is more punitive than take-out in nature. There's nothing to say that North doesn't just have 5 tricks in their hand on lead, and no guarantee of making a 10+ trick contract North/South.

So was the 3NT Kamikaze or NOT?

The results show the hand was played 21 times with most Wests likely to have opened 1C.

- Deep Finesse shows if EW win the auction in clubs or hearts it will be at a level too high this occurred seven times, minus 100 or 300 if doubled
- In reality, it was more common to allow NS to play safely in 3S eight times, -140.

Anyone brave enough to open a gambling 3NT opener would therefore on best play be the winner, going just -1 for -50, or -100,if doubled as NS should only

take four diamonds and the AH when defending - EW getting the 7 clubs and AS.

So next time,....tempted????

Reminder of AGM for 2023

Date & Time: 18th September 6.30pm. Hudson Room

Nominations are required for:

- President
- Vice President

The above positions are currently for a 1 year term, with annual elections.

The Treasurer is appointed by the outgoing Management Committee and this appointment is required to be ratified by the AGM. This is also a one-year position but does not require nomination.

• Committee

There are six Committee members on the Management Committee. Election at the AGM is for a two year term and retiring members may seek reelection. Committee members co-opted and appointed during the year to fill vacancies must be re-elected at the AGM.

Nominations for the above positions must be in writing, signed by the candidate and the two nominees. All candidates must have been a member of the club for at least twelve months prior to the nomination closing date.

The Nominations forms are available from the main club noticeboard just inside the doors to the Larnach playing room. Additional forms are available by request to Dawn Cope (Club Secretary) by email office@otagobridgeclub.org.nz

Completed Nomination forms can be placed in the mailing slot in the office door, handed to Dawn or scanned and forwarded to office@otagobridgeclub.org.nz.

Nominations must be received by 5pm Friday August 25.

Motions:

If a member wants a matter considered and decided on they may submit a formal motion. All motions must be in writing, signed by the proposer and seconder (who must be full members of the club). It is helpful to the meeting if is the reasoning behind the motion is also provided at this time.

All motions maybe scanned and forwarded to office@otagobridgeclub.org.nz; placed in the mailing slot in the office door, or handed to the Cub Secretary.

Motions must be received by 5pm Friday August 25.

General Business

Any member wishing to raise items under General Business for discussion is asked to submit the item to the Club Secretary in advance also by the above deadline. Note that if the member wants a motion considered it needs to be provided as outlined above.

14th AUGUST 2023

EVENTS AT OTAGO:

TUESDAY 15th August Informal Practice –1.30pm – All Welcome

WEDNESDAY 16th August Women's Pairs – **1.00pm**

WEDNESDAY 16th August Junior – Welcome Pairs 7.00pm

Intermediate – Alma Delahunty Pairs – **7.00pm**

THURSDAY 17th August Open/ Senior Alma Delahunty Pairs - 7.10pm

FRIDAY 18^h August Friday Bridge – 10.30am

Please note all players should be seated 10 minutes before starting time

UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS:

All tournaments can be entered on NZ Bridge Tournament page

August 19th Invercargill Junior 3B and Intermediate 5B Pairs, 10am start, \$25, close 18/8

August 26/27th SOUTH ISLAND 20A PAIRS, (run by Otago) ONLINE 9.30am start, \$45, pay before 24/8 to 02 0912 0102165 00 Please include your email address in reference for prize distribution.

August 27th	Taieri Charit	v Pairs – funds for	Mosgiel Foodbank
		,	

1.30pm start, \$15, entries close 25/8 Enter on the Taieri Club website

September 2nd Central Otago Open 5A Teams – Alexandra

9.30am start, \$30, closes 25/8

September 3rd Central Otago Open 5A Pairs – Alexandra

9.30 am start, \$30, closes 25/8

September 3rd Waimate All Grades 8B -, 10am start, \$25, close 30/8

CONGRATULATIONS:

PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIP:

	OPEN:	PLATE:
1 st	Chris Ackerley/Arleen Schwartz	Julienne Armitage/Alison Giller
2 nd	John Sheehy/Robert Cowan	Denise Carter/Ruth Airey
3 rd	Donna Ruwhiu/Kristen Collins	Judith Smeijers/Laurie Smeijers

SENIOR:

1 st	Glenys Shum/Mary O'Neill
2 nd	Allan Lockhart/Jenny Fieldwick
3 rd	John Curran/John Henderson

OAMARU JUNIOR PAIRS:

4th Hilary Bisset and Pip Weber



BEREAVEMENT: Noel Ellison

Noel Ellison's first association with the Otago Bridge Club was when he joined with a number of others as a student member in 1969.

He formed a partnership with another student, Brian Patterson, in the early years; they showed considerable promise by coming 2nd in an Open tournament. Brian has gone on to a very successful bridge career in Wellington and Australia.

Noel joined the OBC as a full member in 1972 and was an active member for c.30 years, much of that time working as a science teacher at Kaikorai Valley High School (now Kaikorai Valley College).

Between 1977 and 1985 Noel established a strong partnership with Peter McCaskill, winning the Club's premier Teams competition in 1977, 1982 and 1984 and representing the Otago-Southland Centre in the inter-provincial competition on a number of occasions. Noel and Peter played the challenging Symmetric Relay bidding system, a big club system developed by NZ international rep., Roy Kerr of Christchurch, with many relay responses. He was great company at and away from the table, gregarious, friendly and always in good humour.

Noel was great diplomat - I remember him using this skill in extricating Steven Burgess from an impending dust up with a cast member from Home and Away in a New Plymouth pub. Speights and a game of three card loo into the wee hours usually followed a session.

His contribution to the Otago Bridge Club will always be a valued part of the Club's heritage. (Written by David Green)



Peter McCaskill & Noel Ellison Symmetric relay exponents, 1977-85

OPENING LEAD OUT OF TURN: (Lindsay Gunn)

If an opponent makes an opening lead out of turn (and face up) the director will (or should!) give you *five* options.

This is a lot to take in and if you are wise you will get to know these well and then while the director is reciting the options you can be making up your mind which one you want.

- 1. You may **accept the lead** from the wrong side and spread **your hand as dummy** and you partner becomes declarer.
- 2. You may **accept the lead** from the wrong side, dummy goes down straight away and you **continue as declarer** and play around to dummy in the usual way.
- 3. You may **demand the lead** of that suit **from the correct side**, but offender may now pick up the card.
 - The demand to lead applies only at the partner's first turn to lead.
- 4. You may **forbid the lead** of that suit **from the correct side** but the card may be picked up.
 - Offender's partner may not lead that suit until the lead has been lost and later regained.
- 5. You may say 'lead what you like'.
 - Offender must leave the card on the table to be played at the first legal opportunity, and as long as it remains on the table you have the choice of option 3,4 and 5 any time the partner comes on lead.

Whenever players have a penalty card - not just when the opening lead is made (perhaps from a corrected revoke, from leading a card when they mistakenly think they have taken the last trick, or from dropping an honour card on the table) - options 3, 4 and 5 apply.

21st AUGUST 2023

EVENTS AT OTAGO:

MONDAY 21st August Teams 7.10pm

TUESDAY 22nd August Informal Practice –1.30pm – All Welcome

WEDNESDAY 23rd August All Comers – 1.00pm - All Welcome

WEDNESDAY 23rd August Junior – Welcome Pairs 7.00pm

Intermediate – Alma Delahunty Pairs – **7.00pm**

THURSDAY 24th August Open/ Senior Alma Delahunty Pairs - 7.10pm

FRIDAY 25th August

Friday Bridge – 10.30am

Please note all players should be seated 10 minutes before starting time

UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS:

All tournaments can be entered on NZ Bridge Tournament page

August 26/27 th	SOUTH ISLAND 20A PAIRS , (run by OSRC) ONLINE 9.30am start, \$45, pay before 24/8 to 02 0912 0102165 00
	Please include your email address in reference for prize distribution.

August 27th Taieri Charity Pairs – funds for Mosgiel Foodbank

1.30pm start, \$15, entries close 25/8

Enter on the Taieri Club website

September 2nd Central Otago Open 5A Teams – Alexandra

9.30am start, \$30, closes 25/8

September 3rd Central Otago Open 5A Pairs – Alexandra

9.30 am start, \$30, closes 25/8

September 3rd Waimate All Grades 8B -, 10am start, \$25, close 30/8

September 9th Wanaka Intermediate 5B Pairs, 10am start, \$35, close 9/9

September 9th Canterbury Regional Open 10A Pairs – Timaru

9.30am start, \$40, Close 4/9

CONGRATULATIONS:

WOMEN'S WINTER PAIRS:

	Off-the Stick	Handicap
1^{st}	Wyn Jones/Kaye Wilson	Wyn Jones/Kaye Wilson
2 nd	Ann Wood/Barbara Hutton	Maria Godfrey/Marjo Prent
3 rd	Ann Woodhead/Gillian Alexander	Judith Laube/Diane Daly

46th WORLD BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS – starts 20th August in Morocco The club wishes **Pamela Nisbet** (representing Canada) all the best for the tournament.

Less than 40 days till Congress!

Organisation of the 2023 NZ Bridge Congress organisation is in full stride with less than 40 days to go.

The team has secured corporate membership for all Congress attendees to Club Mount Maunganui, with access to their bar, restaurant and entertainment. Plenty of space for everyone to head there for end-of-day post-mortems!

Early bird registration is open until the 31st of August and you can register at: www.nzbridge.co.nz/congress

LIBRARY NEWS: (Dorothy Butterfield)

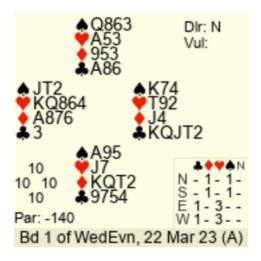
Our amazing collection of bridge books continues to grow. A big thankyou to **Dai Redshaw** for his kind donation of a number of books. Thankyou also to those of you who have donated books and puzzles to our general selection. This continues to bring in a few dollars (donations) for our library budget. A **reminder** that a number of books are long overdue! I am happy to renew these if you still want them, otherwise their return would be appreciated.

HAND OF THE WEEK:

Each week Matt Blakely very kindly reviews the hands played on Wednesday nights by the Intermediate and Junior divisions. This is in addition to having prepared and taken the lessons to our newcomers on the Wednesday night!

He selects 6 - 8 of the hands played and provides a written review on the bidding and play of each of these hands, usually re-enforcing a convention, a play technique and basic principles of bidding declarer play and defence. The review is emailed to those divisions so that they can read it over the weekend.

Board 1



Amongst the boards played on Wednesday nights this year there was the

"Perfect 10",

exactly 10 HCPs in each hand

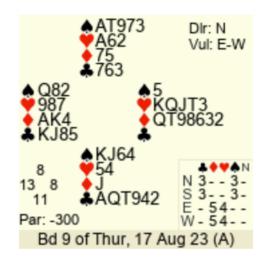
which provided an excellent example that bidding is not all about points but the combination of points and shape The hands we include in this newsletter come from Thursday night's (Open & Senior) competitions where we are thankful to the watchful eyes of some of our top players to provide similar comment and guidance.

Brad Johnston chose board 9 from last week, given the wide range of contracts played and posed the question:

"Presuming a pass from North, what's does East bid?"

He believes East's decision could have a key impact on the final contract (and result)

Board 9



In Open the results were:

Cn	\mathbf{Dc}	Res	Score	Ld	Pairs	Rd	Tbl	Sec
NΡ	N		0		14-6	9	14	W
3 🌲	N	-2	-100	K♥	7-10	12	7	W
4 🌲	N	-3	-150	K♥	10-12	13	10	W
4 🌲	N	-3	-150	K♥	8-7	2	8	W
3 🔸	W	+3	-170	A♣	5-5	1	5	W
2 🧡	E	+3	-200	J 🔷	1-11	5	1	W
5 🌲	N	-4	-200	K♥	4-3	2	4	W
5 🚣 x	S	-2	-300	K 🔷	3-1	3	3	W
4 🌲 x	N	-3	-500	T♥	6-8	13	6	W
5 🔶	\mathbf{E}	=	-600	5 💙	11-14	12	11	W
5 🧡	E	=	-650	4 🌲	13-4	10	13	W
4 💙	\mathbf{E}	+1	-650	J 🔷	9-9	1	9	W
4 💙	\mathbf{E}	+2	-680	A♣	2-13	4	2	W
5 🔷 x	E	=	-750	4 🌲	12-2	11	12	W

In Senior the results were:

Cn	\mathbf{Dc}	Res	Score	Ld	Pairs	Rd	Tbl	Sec
2 🌲	N	-1	-50	K♥	2-1	2	2	W
3 🔸	E	+2	-150	5 💙	6-9	7	6	W
3 🔷	\mathbf{E}	+2	-150	5 💙	1-8	3	1	W
4 🔷	\mathbf{E}	+2	-170	A♣	9-6	4	9	W
5 🔷	\mathbf{E}	=	-600	5 💙	8-4	5	8	W
5 🔷	\mathbf{E}	+1	-620	A♣	4-5	9	4	W
5 🔷	\mathbf{E}	+1	-620	A♣	5-7	8	5	W
4 💙	E	+1	-650	A♣	7-2	6	7	W

A key contributing factor is this week was the first week of the Alma Delahunty, - so for most – this was also the first week with a new partner and usually new altogether or new this year, so proved a good test for partnership understanding.

It's likely that:

- When pairs played in part game, East undervalued the power of their shape
- When EW were allowed to play in 4H, NS failed to compete
- When the contract reached the 5 level, there was an element of competitive bidding and choice of contracts.

Playing EW Brad's partner Christine Kerr opened the bidding with 2H:

N	\boldsymbol{E}	S	W	
P	2H*	3C	X	2H showed 5M/4+m, less than an opener
P	4D*	P	4H	X was intended for penalties
P	P	P		4D is "I'm not defending!"

Whereas Sam Coutts elected for a more conservative Pass:

N	\boldsymbol{E}	S	W	
P	P*	2C*	P	East's pass was "new partner/play safe"
2S*	3D*	3S	4D	2C is Precision (5C/4M or 6+C); 2S non forcing
4S	5D	P	P	3D, (safe again long suit) so 4D made 5D easy
X	P	P	P	X with 2 Aces & partner openedOops!!!

Lydia Turley elected the more aggressive 1D opening:

N	\boldsymbol{E}	S	W	
P	1D*	2C	3NT*	1D meets "Rule of 20"
P	4H*	P	5D*	3NT to play, score better than possible 2CX
P	P	P		4H to play – must show 6+D/5H
				5D – better option, scared of diamond ruff

And for those partnerships that competed the likely bidding could have been:

N	\boldsymbol{E}	S	W	
P	1D*	2C	3NT*	1D,3NT,4H as above; X= takeout, black suits
P	4H*	X	P*	P = 4HX should make
4S	P	P	5D*	5D – wild distribution, let's play not defend
????				???? Option time – $P/X/5S$

So different opening options for East should still have led to a game contract.

As important, Deep Finesse shows that competing NV shape v shape was the winning option for NS against the making red suit contracts EW.

Were you in sync with your partner on Board 9?

28th AUGUST 2023

EVENTS AT OTAGO:

TUESDAY 29th August	Informal Practice –1.30pm	– All Welcome

WEDNESDAY 30th August Women's Pairs – **1.00pm**

WEDNESDAY 30th August Junior Welcome Pairs 7.00pm

Intermediate Alma Delahunty Pairs – **7.00pm**

THURSDAY 31st August Open/ Senior Alma Delahunty Pairs - 7.10pm

FRIDAY 1st Sept Friday Bridge – 10.30am

SATURDAY 2 nd Sept	Dinner 6pm – Pasta and Dessert night
	Bridge 7pm
	Please put names up on noticeboard.

Please note all players should be seated 10 minutes before starting time

UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS:

All tournaments can be entered on NZ Bridge Tournament page

September 3rd Waimate All Grades 8B -, 10am start, \$25, close 30/8

More entries needed – encouraging Junior and Intermediate to enter

September 9th Wanaka Intermediate 5B Pairs, 10am start, \$35, close 9/9

September 9th Canterbury Regional Open 10A Pairs – Timaru

9.30am start, \$40, Close 4/9

September 17th. Charity Tournament at Otago. 1.30pm start

For Camp Quality (children living with Cancer)

\$10 (includes 5 raffles), afternoon tea, entries close 15/9

CONGRATULATIONS:

SOUTH ISLAND PAIRS:

3rd Brad Johnston and Sam Coutts – **fantastic result guys**

FRIDAY AUGUST HANDICAP LADDER:

1st Derek Tingle

2nd Gordon Smith

3rd Michael Cooper

Mosgiel Foodbank Charity Pairs:

1st Murray Barron and Alec Weavers

2nd Gillian Alexander and Pip Weber

3rd Jan Munden and Cushla Colquhoun

RESIGNATION: Daphne McCoy (Open). Daphne has been a valued member of the club for many years, playing in the Open Division, Women's Pairs and on Fridays. She is a good reminder to us all as to how bridge should be played – her laughter can be heard all around the room, and is a clear indication of the fun she enjoyed at the bridge table. We thankyou Daphne for your support of the Club, and wish you all the best.

AGM REMINDER:

A reminder to everybody that our AGM is 18th September at 6.30pm in the Hudson room.

2024 Programme Book: Help wanted to contact our Advertisers

A helper or helpers are urgently needed to contact our advertisers to confirm their support for the 2024 programme book and to act as a contact for new advertisers.

For the last two years Alan Nichols (Intermediate) has kindly fulfilled this role and we thank him for his efforts. Unfortunately Alan has advised he will not be available this year as he is soon to travel overseas. Alan has a list of advertisers and contact details and is available to brief a new helper.

If you are willing to help with this task me contact Phil Noye, Club Captain 021 424 676.

Advertising pays for the programme book and we cannot finalise the layout until the advertising is confirmed.