

NOTICES FOR THE WEEK BEGINNING 2nd MARCH 2020

TOURNAMENTS

MARCH

- 7 Invercargill Open 8B Pairs. Morning Tea 9.30 am. Start 10.00 am. Catered lunch. \$30 Entries close at 8 am on 4 March.
- 8 Oamaru Open 5A Pairs: Morning tea at 9.00 am. Play starts at 9.30 am. \$ 25.00. Coffee/tea/cold drinks provided and finger food at the end of play. Enter online on Oamaru's website. Entries close at 6 pm. on 4 March.
- 14 Taieri Open 8B Pairs, Morning Tea 9.30 am. Start 10.00 am. Bring your own lunch. \$20. Entries close 11 March. Enter online on Taieri's website.
- 21 Queenstown Open 8B Pairs
- 29 Winton Intermediate 5B Pairs

PLEASE NOTE: The Waimate All Grades 8B tournament scheduled for Sunday April 19th has been moved to Sunday 24th May. This change will only affect the 2020 tournament. This change has been approved by the CRC and NZB.

SATURDAY NIGHT BRIDGE: This Saturday 7th April. Chicken and Chips this month. Register for the meal on one of the notices at the Club. Meal at 6.00 pm or just come for the Bridge which starts at 7.00 pm.

ALL COMERS BRIDGE will begin Wednesday 11th March. Everyone welcome. Start time is 1.00 pm – be seated by 12.55 pm

O/S RUBBER BRIDGE 2020 Entries close – 7 April. Play Commences once draw is released. Play to be completed by 30 June (or sooner depending on entry numbers). Cost - \$10 Per person. Winners to play in the NZ National Competition at Congress in Hamilton 26-27 Sept. The draw will be sent to all participating players so that matches can be played in your own area. Send entries with contact name, email and payment to: Frances Sheehy 1 Warren St Oamaru fsheehy@xtra.co.nz/ Or payment can be made via internet banking to: NZ Bridge Otago/Southland 02 0912 0102165 00. Please show name of depositor

2020 LESSONS began last week but if you know of anyone wanting to take part in the lessons, do assure them that this week or the week after will be fine to start.

13, 14, 15, 16 Interdivisional Easter Week – Play four nights of Bridge for just \$6, play with anyone – see notices around the Club. Note that the Easter Pairs is a 3-night match for Juniors and Intermediates, but is just two nights for Senior and Open.

16, 30 March and April 13 **Improve your Bridge Seminars.** Each seminar will be on a specified topic. The first Seminar will be on **Reverse Bids**. “What is a Reverse Bid?” you ask. Come along and find it – it will improve your bridge. Your tutor will be our talented Dean Eidler.

SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR 2020

Please add \$20 to your subscription if you have not paid it yet. (\$125).

You can pay by sending a cheque to The Otago Bridge Club Inc, PO Box 2037, South Dunedin **OR** Post cash or a cheque in the door of the office next time you are at the Club (remember to include your name if it is cash) **OR** Direct credit to: ANZ 06-0911-0020619-00. Use your Computer No and Surname as reference.

The Bridge Zone Show -084 - 26th Feb 2020

[Link to the show here](#) Kiwis at the Gold Coast DianCongress, Judge Julie

One of the presenters of this show, Mireana Cullen, will be playing at our Club this Friday.

MARGARET ARCHER – Bridge Member 1987-2019

The Club was sad to hear of the tragedy of Margaret's death last week in a fire at her home.

Margaret was a very active member of the Bridge Club since she joined in 1987 and her resignation due to ill-health last year. She joined the Committee and was – Club Captain from 1993-1995, Vice President 1997-1999 and President from 1999-2001. As Club Captain and President she was often at the Club supporting each of the Divisions on their Playing nights, helping the Juniors, as well as helping out with administrative work.

At the Bridge table Margaret was a highly motivated and competitive player. Many of her weekends were taken up with playing around the region at Bridge Tournaments and she attended the National Congress on several occasions. Margaret was admired not only for her playing prowess, but also for her friendliness, her honesty, her fairness and her sense of fun. Our thoughts are with her family.

CONGRATULATIONS –

Friday Bridge Handicap

- 1st Diane Daly
- 2nd Marilyn Stewart
- 3rd Margaret Harraway

NOTICES FOR THE WEEK BEGINNING 9th MARCH 2020

TOURNAMENTS

MARCH

- 14 Taieri Open 8B Pairs, Morning Tea 9.30 am. Start 10.00 am. Bring your own lunch. \$20. Entries close 11 March. Enter online on Taieri's website.
- 21 Queenstown Open 8B Pairs: Queenstown Events Centre. Morning tea 9.30 am. Start 10.00 am. Lunch provided. \$40.. Enter via the NZ Bridge website by 17 March
- 29 (Sunday) Winton Intermediate 5B **Teams**: Start 10.00 am, Morning tea 9.30am. Bring own lunch. Nibbles before and after play. \$25.00 each. Enter on Winton's website. Entries close at 6.00 pm on 25 March.

PLEASE NOTE: The Waimate All Grades 8B tournament scheduled for Sunday April 19th has been moved to Sunday 24th May. This change will only affect the 2020 tournament. This change has been approved by the CRC and NZB.

CLUB PAIRS

Club Pairs and the Club Plate begins this Thursday night in the Larnach Room. It is open to all members of the Club. Please register which event you wish to play in on the website.

ALL COMERS BRIDGE will begin this Wednesday 11th March. Everyone welcome. Start time is 1.00 pm – be seated by 12.55 pm.

O/S RUBBER BRIDGE 2020 Entries close – 7 April. Play Commences once draw is released. Play to be completed by 30 June (or sooner depending on entry numbers). Cost - \$10 Per person. Winners to play in the NZ National Competition at Congress in Hamilton 26-27 Sept. The draw will be sent to all participating players so that matches can be played in your own area. Send entries with contact name, email and payment to: Frances Sheehy 1 Warren St Oamaru fsheehy@xtra.co.nz/ Or payment can be made via internet banking to: NZ Bridge Otago/Southland 02 0912 0102165 00. Please show name of depositor

EASTER BONANZA: Play one, two, three or four nights for \$6. Play with the same partner or play with different partners from any division.

Monday, 13 April: **Goulash Pairs** – Wild distributions, wild results

Tues, 14 April: **Individual Night** – Speed dating appropriate to the bridge scene

Wed, 15 April: **IMP Pairs** – For when one night of teams bridge isn't enough.

Thursday, 16 April: **Crazy Pairs** – Bridge like you've never seen it before.

IMPROVE YOUR BRIDGE SEMINARS

NEXT MONDAY: 16 March: **Reverse Bids.** Tutor - Dean Eidler.

30 March: **Cue Bids.** Tutor – Phil Noye

BRIDGE ZONE

<https://www.accessmedia.nz/Player.aspx?eid=f54c11f3-5801-42b8-8b3f-4e757f34adff>

Gold Coast Round Up: 280 New Zealander's did very well across the ditch. Kiwis fight out the Open Teams Final. It was a nail biter. Judge Julie: Opening Leads, Kibbitzing. Prizes: What is the most unusual prize you have won ever. Bridge – Midnight Madness Tournaments: Will they get off the ground?

CORONAVIRUS

This seems to be the talking point currently. NZ Bridge has issued a Bulletin which is attached. We, as is usual, once winter approaches, do remind you not to come to Bridge if you are feeling unwell – no coughs or sneezes at the Club. If you have to cough or sneeze, do so into a tissue, or into your elbow, wash hands vigorously with soap and water and dry. Unfortunately we have run out of Hand Sanitizer in the Cargill Room, but there is some in the Larnach Room. (No more to be had locally)

BRIDGE PADS:

There are Wipes available in each Room. Take one to clean your pad before using if required.

CONGRATULATIONS –

VICE PRESIDENT PAIRS:

Senior:

- 1st Graham Mitchell and Murray Thomson
- 2nd Peter Pfeifer and Alistair Mackay
- 3rd Erin Flannery and Ann Hamilton

Open:

- 1st Donna Ruwhiu and Brad Johnston
- 2nd Juilienne Armitage and Rob Lawson
- 3rd David Larsen and Steve Moratti

OAMARU OPEN 5A PAIRS

- 1st Marilyn Noye and Philip Noye
- 2nd Lydia Turley and Brad Johnston

NOTICES FOR THE WEEK BEGINNING 16th MARCH 2020

TOURNAMENTS

MARCH

- 21 Queenstown Open 8B Pairs: Queenstown Events Centre. Morning tea 9.30 am. Start 10.00 am. Lunch provided. \$40.. Enter via the NZ Bridge website by 17 March
- 29 (Sunday) Winton Intermediate 5B **Teams:** Start 10.00 am, Morning tea 9.30am. Bring own lunch. Nibbles before and after play. \$25.00 each. Enter on Winton's website. Entries close at 6.00 pm on 25 March.

APRIL 19 Preliminary Notice – Lions Club Charity at Otago – see Noticeboard

NOTE: The Waimate All Grades 8B tournament scheduled for Sunday April 19th has been moved to Sunday 24th May. This change will only affect the 2020 tournament. This change has been approved by the CRC and NZB.

O/S RUBBER BRIDGE 2020 Entries close – 7 April. Play – See noticeboard for further details

EASTER BONANZA: Play one, two, three or four nights for \$6. Play with the same partner or play with different partners from any division.

Monday, 13 April: **Goulash Pairs** – Wild distributions, wild results

Tues, 14 April: **Individual Night** – Speed dating appropriate to the bridge scene

Wed, 15 April: **IMP Pairs** – For when one night of teams bridge isn't enough.

Thursday, 16 April: **Crazy Pairs** – Bridge like you've never seen it before.

IMPROVE YOUR BRIDGE SEMINARS

MONDAY: 16 March: **TONIGHT is on Reverse Bids.** Tutor - Dean Eidler.

30 March: **Cue Bids.** Tutor – Phil Noye

BRIDGE ZONE

[Go to the NZ Bridge Website to download this week.](#)

CUPS: Our Purchasing Officer is unable to procure the compostable cups which we have been lucky enough to have for the past year or so. Many members have protested about the polystyrene cups which have replaced them. In the meantime it would be great if everyone could bring their own cup to bridge, use, and take home again – if you are in the habit of having a drink on Division nights, Teams, All Comers and Friday bridge morning tea. The small water cups are still compostable.

KEY CARD BLACKWOOD

“Being jubilee year for the Stayman convention and seeing an increasing number of players using Key-card Blackwood yet still struggling to find a suit slam after a 2NT opener I thought this an important topic for a newsletter adjunct.” *David Green.* See Attached.

CONGRATULATIONS –

TAIERI TOURNAMENT

1st Margaret Perley and Paul Freeland

2nd Wyn Jones and Kaye Wilson

3rd Maria Godfrey and Susie Lawless

NOTICES FOR THE WEEK 23 MARCH 2020

TOURNAMENTS CANCELLED

28 March Winton Intermediate Teams

4/5 April Timaru Congress

18 April Winton Open Teams

19 April Lions Charity Pairs - Otago

O/S RUBBER BRIDGE 2020 Entries close – 7 April. See previous newsletters for details

The Club is working on being able to host online sessions of bridge using the Bridge Base Online website. If you're interested in playing online, we'd suggest you sign up for an account there. If you have a group of friends you want to play with online, you can create a private table for yourself and them, assuming that you know their BBO usernames. Once we know more about hosting events on BBO this will be communicated, along with more thorough instructions on getting set up.

STAYMAN AND BLACKWOOD CONVENTION: Read the pertinent comments and followup on last week's hands – *attached. With thanks to David Green.*

NZ NATIONAL CONGRESS is a happening event ... this year.

That is certainly the message NZ Bridge wants to send out at this point. The event is still over 6 months' away.

There will be many decisions made regarding the level of bridge which can be played in this country between now and September. No-one can predict for sure the impact of Covid 19 on our bridge community.

Our infrastructure for the Congress is in place and we really want to make it happen especially if our bridge playing is to be curtailed in the meantime.

Naturally, we cannot say "for sure" but at present, the 2020 New Zealand National Bridge Congress is a happening event in late September-early October 2020. We will review the situation in mid-April and keep you, the players, updated.

Senior Events at National Congress

As you may know, NZ Bridge follows WBF guidelines in respect of age eligibility for Senior events. This involves increasing the minimum age limit by one year every two years until a minimum age of 65 is reached. This year, 2020, sees the minimum age rise by one year to 62.

- Thus, from 1st January 2018, a Senior player must be aged 61 or older in the year of the Championship in which they are going to play
- On 1st January 2020, this will be raised to 62 years of age
- On 1st January 2022, it will be raised to 63 years of age
- On 1st January 2024, it will be raised to 64 years of age
- On 1st January 2026, it will be raised to 65 years of age

To compete in the Senior Pairs and Teams events at this year's National Congress, you must be at least 62 years old sometime, any time during 2020. This criteria applies equally to Seniors in I/Ps as well.

SUBSCRIPTIONS:

There are still 34 members with unpaid subscriptions. It would be helpful to our Finance Committee to get those paid as soon as possible. Many thanks.

RESIGNATION:

Jane Hailes of the Intermediate Division has moved to Cromwell and intends to join the Cromwell Bridge Club. She says she has very much enjoyed playing bridge at the Otago club and has forged valued friendships. We thank Jane for her support of the Otago Club and send our best wishes for her new life in Cromwell.

OTAGO BRIDGE CLUB - NOTICES FOR THE WEEK 30 MARCH 2020

TOURNAMENTS CANCELLED

4/5 April Timaru Congress
18 April Winton Open Teams
19 April Lions Charity Pairs – Otago
9/10 May All Interprovincial Trials
16/17 May Canterbury Congress

INTER-PROVINCIAL TRIALS -from O/S Regional Bridge

Please pass this information on to your club members by whatever means you have available at present, particularly those who may be interested in entering the Trials.

The Entry Form and Rules for Inter Provincial Teams Trials are on the NZ Bridge website and are currently scheduled to be held on 09/10 May 2020. While it is impossible to know at this time whether the Trials will be held as scheduled, we need to receive entries from the players who do wish to trial, in anticipation of the event actually being held at that time. But, because of the uncertainty as to whether the Trials will be held as scheduled, we do not require payment of the entry fee at this time - this will be requested at a later date, after we have confirmation that the Trials will actually take place. Kind Regards, *Marilyn Jackson, O/S Regional Bridge*

Hi from Ross Haddow

Carol and I found our way back to England from Dunedin via Auckland, Kuala Lumpur, Dubai, Heathrow London, and we are now in day 8 of self isolation as a safety precaution; but the whole country is in lockdown, as I believe you are.

I thank you, all my kind partners, and indeed everybody at OBC for such a warm welcome and good fun and competitive bridge. Not sure when we will be able to return, but looking forward to it. Best wishes, take care, and wash your hands!! *Ross*

From Alister Stuck, Secretary of NZ Bridge

I am touching base with you following the board meeting held yesterday (25 March) to share with you what we have put in place regarding the cancellation or otherwise of bridge tournaments at 10A level or above.

Events at this level and above are the responsibility of NZ Bridge either directly or by way of a delegation to Regional Committees and in some case host Clubs. To give organisers and players, especially those that would need to book travel, some clarity NZ Bridge will make a decision 8 weeks prior to the scheduled date regarding cancellation.

On the website is a list of those events and I have included a date for which each event will be cancelled or otherwise. This policy also applies to any lower grade events held in conjunction with Regional Congress's. Regards, *Alister*

Remember: You can play Bridge Online There are currently 2 sessions of bridge running every day on BBO especially for Kiwis, one at 1:30pm and one at 7:30pm. These sessions are around 12-15 boards long currently, and take about 1.5 hours to play. It's good to see that some club members have already tried out playing these events. They serve as an easy way to keep connected with your bridge playing peers during lockdown. For information regarding how to play, see this newsletter from the Auckland Bridge Club. <https://www.akbc.co.nz/online-bridge-march-2020-newsletter>