

NOTICES FOR THE WEEK BEGINNING 5 MARCH

ATTENTION ALL

Monday, 5th March there will be a lecture at the club on transfers.
Starting at 7:10 till approximately 9:00 pm.

“Come along and learn a better bidding method” bits

All welcome.

CLUB PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIP PAIRS

Please register online to play in the Championship Pairs (open to all members) and in the Plate, as soon as possible, as those organising the event do need to know numbers before the event begins this week.

TOURNAMENTS

- 10 Invercargill Open 8B Pairs Morning Tea 9:30 am. Play starts 10:00 am. Entry fee \$30.
Catered lunch. Nibbles provided. Entries close 6 March.
- 11 Oamaru Open 5A Pairs (Sunday) 9.00 am Morning Tea; 9.30 am Start Play. \$25.00.
Continuous tea and coffee; Afternoon Tea after play finishes. Prizes for Open, Intermediate and Junior sections . Entries close tomorrow 6 March at midnight. PLEASE REGISTER ON THE OAMARU CLUB'S WEBSITE.
- 17 Taieri Open 8B Pairs. Morning Tea, 9.30 am. Start 10.00 am: \$20 each. Bring your own lunch. Continuous tea and coffee. Light refreshments at conclusion. Entries close on Wednesday 14 March, either on the Tournament noticeboard or on Taieri's website.
- 17 Timaru Congress: Open 10A Teams and Pairs, Intermediate 5B Teams and Pairs.

LESSONS

About 40 keen people have signed up to take the lessons, which started last week. Thank you to Phil Noye and Rob Lawson for all the work they have done in preparing and delivering these. They would still like some more helpers, so if you think you can help on some or all of Wednesday nights or Friday mornings, please get in touch with Phil (Wednesdays) 488 1706 or Rob 021 0239 1642

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Thank you for the gratifying response from Members to the fund-raising initiative to purchase the land on which the club rooms stand. The promised undertakings for loans and donations are such that the Club is now in a position to formally advise that the purchase will proceed. Although this has been considered likely for some time, we have not been able to tell Chalmers Properties that the purchase agreement is now unconditional. Formal advice went to them on Wednesday 28 February and settlement will take place on Thursday 29 March 2018.

We appreciate the sacrifices Members have made through their contributions that will help secure the Otago Bridge Club's future with its own premises on its own land.

We would still appreciate any donations towards the project that would help minimise the interest costs to be paid, so please advise any committee member if you could contribute in this way.

Regards
Paul Hudson
President

CONGRATULATIONS to winners of the Vice President Pairs

SENIOR

- 1st Cathy Thmson and Georgie Christie
- 2nd Vi Wilkinson and Arthur Patton
- 3rd Adrienne Dearnley and John Henderson

OPEN

- 1st Margaret Perley and Dennis McCaughan
- 2nd Lorraine Peacock and Donna Ruwhiu
- 3rd Matt Blakeley and Susie Lawless

MEMBERSHIP

NEW MEMBERS

- Gillian Alexander and Eunan Cleary have been nominated to join the Club. Gillian and Eunan hail from Howick and they will play in the Open Division on a Thursday night. Phone numbers are Gillian 021 868 200 and Eunan 021 942 855. We welcome them to the Otago Club.

SYMPATHY

Our condolences to the family of Shirley Collins who died last week. Shirley was a valued member of our Intermediate Division and until this year played regularly and successfully on Wednesday nights.

GREETINGS

Addy Gouverneur has joined the increasing number of members in our club who have reached the ninth decade. Hope you had a happy day Addy and that you will be back at the club soon.

NOTICES FOR THE WEEK BEGINNING 12 MARCH

TOURNAMENTS

- 17 Taieri Open 8B Pairs. Morning Tea, 9.30 am. Start 10.00 am: \$20 each. Bring your own lunch. Continuous tea and coffee. Light refreshments at conclusion. Entries close on Wednesday 14 March, either on the Tournament noticeboard or on Taieri's website.
- 17 Timaru Congress: Open 10A Teams and Pairs, Intermediate 5B Teams and Pairs.
- 24 Queenstown Events Centre Open 8B Pairs. Morning Tea 9.30 am. Start 10.00 am. \$40. Lunch provided. Entries to annette@feaqt.nz – close 20 March.

APRIL

- 7/8 Cromwell Open 8B Pairs and Teams

8 (Sunday) LIONS CHARITY PAIRS at Otago

LAW S O F B R I D G E

Lindsay Gunn has revised the Laws as published a couple of years ago in light of the changes in 2017. We repeat them now for the benefit of all. There will be one or two published each week for the next few months.

LAW S THE EVERYDAY PLAYER SHOULD BE AWARE OF

The Laws of Contract Bridge are designed to ensure fairness when something goes wrong and ensure the orderly progress of the game. They are the same world wide, and were first published in 1949, with several updates since then. Since everyone plays the same boards and compares results, if something is different at one table (say someone opens out of turn, or someone wittingly or

unwittingly gives information about his hand to his partner) the situation has changed at this one table and the laws aim to resolve the matter to be as fair as possible. It makes life easier if you are aware of some of these rules, but if anything does go wrong the first thing you must do is *call the director*. Even if the director just says, 'it's OK, carry on" s/he would rather be called and not be needed than not called at all

PLACEMENT OF BOARD AND RELATED ISSUES

Law 7 says that when a board is to be played it is placed in the centre of the table where it shall remain, correctly oriented, until play is completed. This does not mean you need get out a tape measure, but you should not be moving the board away over to the side. Sometimes people with vision problems need the dummy close to them and may need to move the board back to make room for this, but on the whole there is plenty of room for dummy to be spread and the board to remain near enough to the centre. Players should be able to see the vulnerability and dealer at all times. Placing the bidding pad on top of the board is a bad habit.

You are expected to count your cards after taking them from the board, and shuffle them before returning (a light shuffle is all that is needed). No player may touch another player's cards except of course for dummy when playing declarer's cards.

All players are responsible for maintaining proper conditions of play. The Laws state that North is responsible for moving boards played to the proper table, unless the director directs otherwise. On the whole the director in New Zealand expects West to do this!

CONGRATULATIONS

FEBRUARY FRIDAY HANDICAP WINNERS

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------|
| 1 st | Nicki White |
| 2 nd | Lynn Howson |
| 3 rd | Brian Stuart |

NOTICES FOR THE WEEK BEGINNING 19 MARCH

PLEASE NOTE:

Another SEMINAR will be run this Monday night (19th) by Dean Eidler. This time his subject is Reverses. If you don't know what the term means or are rusty about the concept, then this is for you – 7.10 pm at the Bridge Club. Don't miss out on this one.

TOURNAMENTS

- 24 Queenstown Events Centre Open 8B Pairs. Morning Tea 9.30 am. Start 10.00 am. \$40.
Lunch provided. Entries to annette@feaqt.nz – close 20 March.

APRIL

- 7 Cromwell Open 8B Pairs – Lowburn Hall. Morning tea 9.30 am. Start 10.00 am. \$35 – midday meal plus something light after play. Entries close 4th April at Club or online otagosouthlandbridge.org.nz/cromwell
- 8 Cromwell 8B Teams – Catholic Church Hall, Sligo Street, Cromwell. 9.30 am morning team, start 10.00 am. \$25. Bring your lunch. Afternoon tea at conclusion. Entries as above.
- 8 **(Sunday) Dunedin and Tora LIONS CHARITY PAIRS at Otago**, supporting Camp Quality for Children living with Cancer. Start time 1.30 pm. \$10 (includes 5 raffle tickets), afternoon tea, Prizes awarded to two top pairs and top Junior Pair. Bar open at end of play.

LESSONS

Thank you to all the people who have come along to assist with the bridge lessons. We have 50 new learners this year. Philip Noye (tutor) is grateful to the large number of helpers on a Wednesday night and this has meant there has been a helper for every table. It would be

great to have 1-2 more volunteers for Friday's session – 10 am-12 nn. If people are interested please contact Rob Lawson (tutor).

Library News

We are very grateful to Lindsay Gunn for the generous donation of bridge books and magazines to the club library. We have now finished processing these and they can be found in the 'New Books' section of the library. Her collection includes some great reads. There are more of David Bird's humorous stories about the bridge-playing Rabbi, the bridge crazy monks of St Titus, bridge as a compulsory subject at Cholmely School, and bridge on a world cruise. Also look out for the books by Phillip and Robert King. The amusing titles include, 'The Kings' Tales', 'Farewell My Dummy', 'Your Deal Mr Bond', 'Play it again Slam', and 'Contract Killers'.

We have recently purchased several copies of a new book by New Zealand author Vil Gravis. Vil has played in the New Zealand Open Team, and has been in the forefront of Wellington Bridge for a number of years. His book 'Tips and Quips' is in story format, with lots of Quips and Tips throughout each chapter. It is aimed mainly at the Junior and Intermediate level, but will be of interest to players aspiring to greater heights as well. You will find Vil's book in the 'New Books' section

L A W S O F B R I D G E

Announcements and alerts

You must announce the range of your partner's 1NT opening bid and your agreement about a 1C opening (2+, 4+, strong 16+ etc).

You should alert any bid below the level of 4 that does not mean what it says. If 2S means 5+ spades *plus* 4+ of a minor it must be alerted, but 2S showing long spades need not be alerted whether weak or strong. However there are three bids which do not mean what they say that should *not* be alerted. These are 2C Stayman over 1NT– if you play 2C natural you would have to alert it; 2C game force and the negative reply of 2D. If you are playing 2D as a game force and 2C as 19 or 20 to 22 you must alert the 2C which, while strong, is not your strongest bid. And oddly enough if you play that Stayman is on after a double you must alert it as well as a natural 2C in the same situation.

Other bids. which should not usually be alerted are all doubles and redoubles; all cue bids and any bid at the 4 level or higher (except for conventional opening bids in the first round).

Always ask if you need to know about these bids. If the opponents bid a suit you have bid, are they saying they have a hold or asking partner for a hold? Or making a strong takeout? Or playing Michaels cue bids? Is a bid of 4C asking for aces or showing a singleton or void? Is the reply to an Ace ask the same as in your system? Possibly not.

When you add to your system you may want to check the manual or ask a director about what should or should not be alerted.

MEMBERSHIP

Geraldine Scanlan has enjoyed her time in Dunedin, learning and playing Bridge with us and making new friends. She is moving back to the Wellington region after Easter and hopes to join a Bridge Club there.

Paulette Quartermaine is unable to remain with us due to her many other commitments.

CONGRATULATIONS

TAIERI TOURNAMENT - Saturday

1st John Sheehy and Robert Cowan

3rd Donna Ruwhiu and Kristen Collins

TIMARU CONGRESS

TEAMS

- 2nd Sam Coutts, Glenn Coutts, Vicki Bouton, Moss Wylie
3rd Paul Freeland, Margaret Perley, Arleen Schwartz, Murat Genc

PAIRS

- 2nd Glenn Coutts and Moss Wylie.

NOTICES FOR THE WEEK BEGINNING 26 MARCH

TOURNAMENTS

APRIL

- 7 Cromwell Open 8B Pairs – Lowburn Hall. Morning tea 9.30 am. Start 10.00 am. \$35 – midday meal plus something light after play. Entries close 4th April at Club or online otagosouthlandbridge.org.nz/cromwell
- 8 Cromwell 8B Teams – Catholic Church Hall, Sligo Street, Cromwell. 9.30 am morning team, start 10.00 am. \$25. Bring your lunch. Afternoon tea at conclusion. Entries as above.
- 8 **(Sunday) Dunedin and Tora LIONS CHARITY PAIRS at Otago**, supporting Camp Quality for Children living with Cancer. Start time 1.30 pm. \$10 (includes 5 raffle tickets), afternoon tea, Prizes awarded to two top pairs and top Junior Pair. Bar open at end of play.
- 14 Winton Open 5A Teams: Morning tea 9.30 am, Start play 10.00 am, Bring your own lunch. Supper end of play. \$20. Entries close at the end of 10th April 2018.
- 15 Winter Intermediate 5B Teams: Morning tea 9.30 am, Start play 10.00 am, Bring your own lunch. Supper end of play. \$20. Entries close at the end of 10th April 2018.
- 15 Waimate All Grades Open 8B Pairs

SATURDAY NIGHT BRIDGE will be held on 7 April.

IMPROVE YOUR BRIDGE SEMINAR

The next lecture will be on 16 April and the topic will be on a more advanced topic - the Lebensohl convention.

Bid Em Ups and suggested answers from the previous two lectures are on the OBC website under Resources or at the following links. Reverses:

<http://otagobridgeclub.org.nz/resources/Lessons/3%20-%20Reverse%20Bid%20Em%20Ups.pdf>
<http://otagobridgeclub.org.nz/resources/Lessons/5%20-%20Answers%20to%20Reverse%20Bid%20Em%20Ups.pdf>

Transfers

<http://otagobridgeclub.org.nz/resources/Lessons/4%20-%20Transfers%20Bid%20Em%20Ups.pdf>
<http://otagobridgeclub.org.nz/resources/Lessons/6%20-%20Answers%20to%20Transfer%20Bid%20Em%20Ups.pdf>

LAW S O F B R I D G E

STOP CARDS

You are studying your hand. Do you have enough to open? Might you make an overcall if they open anything but spades? Do you have a Yarborough and have given up thinking?

LHO then opens 3 Diamonds. Wow. If you have a Yarborough you pass immediately, with the other two hands you have to rearrange your thoughts. Partner now has the information that if you passed

quickly you had little in your hand, while if you thought a bit you had been contemplating a bid. But if opener had put out the STOP CARD in front of you and counted slowly to 10 before removing it you would have been able to do your thinking, or lack of thinking without giving any information to anyone else. Questions about the bid must be made and answered *before* the (silent) counting starts – opponents need to know what the bid means before contemplating action. Be sensible about the count of ten; sometimes there is really no need for action.

Picking up the stop card, waving it in front of LHO and putting it away is a waste of time as you have not stopped the opponents from inadvertently giving away information.

There is no penalty as such for not using a stop card, but if you do not there will be no recourse if an opponent thinks for a while and passes and their partner makes a doubtful bid.

MEMBERSHIP

WELCOME to Lee Whyte to the Junior Division, although she will principally play Women's Pairs and Friday Bridge at the moment, as she is also playing at the Taieri Club. Lee's phone number is 489 4533 if you wish to get in touch with her.

NOTICES FOR THE WEEK BEGINNING 23 APRIL

TOURNAMENTS

- 29 **OTAGO 3B JUNIOR PAIRS.** One tournament run over two days. Second day 22 July. Both days \$20 (one day \$10). Start time 1.00 pm. Afternoon tea and hot drinks provided. Please enter online. **ENTRIES CLOSE THIS FRIDAY** – only seven pairs have entered so far, so do think about it if you are rated a Junior player. You will enjoy it!!
- MAY**
- 5 Wanaka Open 3A Pairs. Morning tea 9.30 am. Start time 10.00 am. 9 Cliff Wilson Street. \$35 includes lunch, continuous tea and coffee, light refreshments at conclusion. On-line registration closes 1 May. Limited to 20 tables.
- 6 **Sunday. Hospice Charity Pairs – Taieri.** Start at 1.30 pm. \$10 (includes 5 raffle tickets). Enter online by 3 May.

12/13 Otago-Southland Inter-Provincial Trials -Otago

READ THIS! GREAT NEWS!!

Brad Johnston and Nik Mitchell have been chosen, along with two young Asian boys from Auckland, to represent NZ in the World Youth Teams Championships in Wujiang, near Shanghai, in August.

Well done boys, and also a pat on the back for our club which is still keeping up the tradition of producing good young players. Only Auckland is doing the same and they are much bigger!

The next **SATURDAY NIGHT BRIDGE** will be on the night of 5th May.

APPRECIATION: We send out a huge thank you to Kathleen Dickson for her many years of wonderful service to the Club as Social Convenor. No-one came forward to take over the full job and it was decided to split the position into three. The club thanks these members who have offered themselves as volunteers:

Murray Barron - purchasing kitchen and cleaning supplies
Anne Hudson-Ramage – laundering of tea towels
Robyn Hawkesby – laundering the playing table cloths
Jan Munden – who will take over any of the above if people are away

GARDENS

We are still looking for a volunteer to help Bev Ross in the garden. It would require a willing person to come in twice a year to prune the higher trees and shrubs. If this sounds like you, even just this year, then please get in touch with the President, Paul Hudson, Phone 472 8945 or email hudsonpaul64@gmail.com

L A W S O F B R I D G E

BIDDING PADS AND EXPLANATION OF CALLS

Not every country uses bidding pads, most use bidding boxes. Once upon a time bidding was spoken, and many will remember the forceful **double** from someone who is doubling for penalty rather than take out, or the 4C on a rising intonation when it is an ace ask not a suit! NZBridge lays down the rules for the use of bidding pads, but these are based on the actual rules of bidding. For example, Law21 allows for changes of call based on misinformation, and NZBridge says that illegible handwriting is misinformation. Certainly a bid seen from the side or upside down often looks different if written carelessly.

Laws 20 and 41 talk about reviewing calls. During the auction you may ask the meaning of a call at your turn to speak, or when the auction has ended and the opening lead has been made but not turned over, or throughout the play at your turn to play. Players should give a full explanation but if they do not seem to be doing so or use terms you do not understand, call the director for help.

If you are not intending to enter the auction you should not ask about the bidding during the auction. If your opponents are playing a very artificial system with lots of alerts it is often wise to wait until the auction is over and then ask each in turn what partner has shown.

You are entitled to have all calls restated during the auction – but with bidding pads there they are. This option ceases when the auction has ended and after each person's first turn to play. Declarer's first turn to play is when playing from dummy. When the opening leader's partner has played the bidding pad must be turned over as a full review of the auction is no longer permitted. You may still ask what the contract is and whether or not it is doubled at your turn to play – just not have a full review.