

New Plymouth Bridge Club Newsletter

October 2019

AGM 24th November 3pm

Our Annual General meeting is coming up on November 24th. This is your chance to have a say in the running of your club. So, show your support by attending the AGM and learn more about the way things work. Please enter nominations for the committee on the noticeboard list. Vacancies for President, Vice president and committee. Any remits need to be submitted 14 days before. (By November 10th)

Wednesday Planning Night

All C grade players are reminded that **November 27th** is a planning night for 2020. The focus is to get your playing partners for 2020 sorted out. You will have your 2020 programme books by then.

You are encouraged to fill as much of your book as possible. Don't be concerned about possibly having to cancel later if something crops up. Everyone understands this. You do not know for sure what you might be doing in October next year. You may have won Lotto by then and be cruising the world – playing bridge.

Upcoming events in New Plymouth:

November 1st NZ Wide pairs 7:30 pm

A booklet with hand analysis is provided for all competitors at the end of play.

November 3rd Social Sunday 3 pm

An opportunity for all club members to get together for some fun bridge.

November 9th Growell Anniversay Tournament

Everyone is welcome to enter and there are trophies and prizes for all grades. To keep costs down this is a "bare bones" tournament so you need to BYO lunch.

President's Night and Prize Giving

Thursday 28th November is the date for the popular president's charity night. It's a great opportunity to socialise with club members from all grades so do come along and support Lyn for this night. Prize giving precedes the play and usually takes 20 – 30 minutes. We hope last year's winners have returned all of the club trophies. They are needed for engraving.

Committee updates:

- * The Psychic bid club policy has been updated and “psyches” are permitted in open events only.
- * If anyone has a club room key they no longer need please return.
- * If you have any issues with the behaviour of any member please chat with Colin Carryer. His role as Recorder is outlined later in this newsletter, but ethical, courteous behaviour is expected from all club members at all times.
- * Parking permits are available to display on your dashboard to differentiate between Bridge and Hockey players. Collect one for your car.

Club Results

Monday

M11 Pairs

1st Sarah Green and John Rutten

2nd Joan Smith and Jude Hansen

M12 Pairs

1st Lyn and David O'Shaughnessy

2nd Lorraine Hall and Eleanor Garvie

Marsh Cup

1st Jennifer O'Shaughnessy and Catherine Mann

2nd Lyn and David O'Shaughnessy

Tuesday

A6 Pairs

1st Campbell Priest and Wayne Beasley

2nd Pam Livingston and Kevin Turner

Wednesday

C9 Anne Wilson Remax Realty Pairs

1st Kay Wyatt and Jane Shaw

2nd Jill Dunlop and Michael Muller

C10 Plant and Platform Pairs

1st Sharee Robertson and Jane Shaw

2nd Marg Mora and Bev Griffin

Welcome Pairs

1st Mike Gooch and Walt Crawshaw

2nd Diane O'Donnell and Chris Kenny

Thursday

B7 J de B Olive Oil Pairs

1st Lou Stolte and Kumar Gunatunga

2nd Kay Shearer and Paul Fitzgibbons

Friday

F15 Impulsive Pairs

1st Joan Smith and Neil Murdoch

2nd Lyn and David O'Shaughnessy

F16 Pairs

1st Betty Smith and Lynda Couper

2nd Gaylene Riddle and Neil Murdoch

F17 Smart Road Canine Retreat Pairs

1st Feye Lyall and Bev Bromfield

2nd Fay and Anthony Murcott

F18 Pairs

1st Gay Masters and Barry Masters

2nd Linda Couch and Anne Wilson

Take your game to the next level

Private Bridge Tuition with
Pam Livingston

Multiple NZ Open Team representative
Two Open World Zone 7 Championships

Silver Grandmaster
Friendly, practical tuition in all aspects
of the game catered to your level -
bidding, declarer play, defence,
tactics, etiquette and how to get the
most from your partnership.
Individuals, pairs or table of four.

Improve your game and become a better partner

First session free!

pjlivingston6@gmail.com
027 384 5492

Or come and chat to me at the club

NP Restricted Pairs

We had another successful Tournament here in New Plymouth with many club members contributing. Our thanks to Coby Slager, June Grant, Yvonne Scott, Bronwyn Donaldson and Ann Fitzgibbons who provided morning tea. Also thanks to Kathy Smith and Jenny Waite who helped in the kitchen and Alex Parr who caddied and helped out. Of course Lyn was as usual a great support all weekend as well as setting things up on Friday. Everything ran smoothly under the Directorship of Sandra Calvert. Anthony Murcott was the first person on the scene as he directed traffic and prevented our car parks from being used by those pesky hockey players. The barmen did their usual good job. Thank you Matthew, Colin and Lyn.

I would like to update the lists of kitchen helpers and morning tea providers. These are not onerous tasks – even an hour helping with morning tea or lunch is appreciated and helps to lighten the load. Morning tea is provided by club members and enjoyed by the players. If enough people are willing to provide plates, individuals will not need to be called upon very often.

Please contact June Metcalfe 02108408922 to add your name to the list.

Results

Junior/Junior 2nd Gaylene Phillips and Gallia Therin

Intermediate/Junior 1st Coby Slager and Catherine Mann (and 2nd overall)
2nd Anne Wilson and Linda Couch

Open/Junior 1st Lalith Mendis and David O'Shaughnessy
2nd Pam Newson and Sue Rollo

Intermediate/Intermediate 2nd John de Bueger and Campbell Priest

Open/Intermediate 1st Tom Lawn and Russell Wilson
2nd Maggie Garnham and Lois Cleaver

Tournament Results

National Congress

Several club members travelled to Hamilton for this year's National Congress with some playing all week and others attending for part of the week.

- * Russell Wilson was 1st in the Congress Pairs playing with Russell Dive.
- * Pam Livingston was part of the team that finished 3rd in the final of the NZ Teams.
- * The New Plymouth Team of Lyn Muller, Sarah Green, Lyn and David O'Shaughnessy just missed out on a place in the final 16. Great effort.

Hawera Open

1st Russell Wilson and Alister Stuck

2nd Ravi Modgill and Kevin Turner

3rd Lyn Muller and Judy Holdom

Palmerston North Swiss Pairs

Pam Livingston was 2nd playing with Johnny Davidson.

SUPER SOCIAL SUNDAY
November 3rd
Would you like to play
a relaxed afternoon of bridge?
* Bar open
* Table money \$4.00
* All levels welcome
* Play with different people
* Notes can be used by beginners
* Have fun!

New Directors

Congratulations to Sandie and Tim Howard and Russell Wilson on passing the exam to become qualified Directors. Thank you for your commitment to the study involved to qualify and help the club members out.

Housekeeping

Icecream containers are required to replace some of the manky ones. If you're an icecream eater and want somewhere to recycle the containers the Bridge club would like them.

At the end of your evenings bridge could all members please do their bit to tidy the table that you finish at. The containers need checking that they have all the requirements for the next session and rubbish bins need emptying. The boards and scoring machine need returning too. It's not a big job for 4 people!!!

A Hand from Pam at NZ Congress

I think I'm fairly stoic at the bridge table. Que sera sera and all that. But there are some hands in some situations where you can't help but go through the whole gamut of emotions. One of those was in the semi-final of the New Zealand teams. I picked up

♠KQx
♥AQxxxx
♦Q
♣AKx

Partner opened 1d. Oooh this looks like a slam. 1h from me, 3d from partner (showing around 14-17 hcp and 6 diamonds). Oooh this is now looking like a grand slam. Stay calm Pam, you have to be very sure before you bid a grand at teams.

Partner and I play a very simple system but we do play minorwood which means if I bid 4d now it is key card for diamonds. This will be quite useful as my intended final contract will be 6nt or 7nt. I can also subsequently ask about Kh which is important information.

Partner tells me she has 3 key cards (2 aces and Kd) and denies Kh. For grand slam to be sure enough she needs to have the Jd and then I can count 13 tricks if diamonds break no worse than 4-2. With no jack of diamonds she needs to have a 7th diamond or the suit has to break 3-3 – not good enough odds. If she had the Kh, there would be a supplementary chance that if the diamonds didn't provide 6 tricks then the hearts might come home. I decide to rest in 6nt. I am nervous about this decision – such a lot of IMPS riding on it - and wait with trepidation as the opening lead is made and dummy goes down.

♠Axx
♥x
♦AKJxxx
♣Qxx

Oh no! Looks like 13 tricks are pretty certain here. Hope 7nt wasn't bid at the other table! I proceeded to play off the diamonds and hurrah! The suit is breaking 5-1. Thank you Bridge Gods but now even 6nt is in danger. I stared and stared at the cards trying to think of some play other than taking the simple heart finesse. If there was a better play I couldn't see it. I took a deep breath and played small to the queen of hearts which held. Phew. Hope 7nt was bid at the other table! Anyone who had bid 7nt will be hoping that the heart finesse lost because then they only have a small loss to those who bid 6nt instead of a whopping one.

Same result at the other table and a flat board at the score up. Of the four tables in the semi-final, one bid 7nt and three bid 6nt. Imagine how the 7nt bidder felt ...

Club Recorder

The NZCBA job description for the recorder is as follows:

A bridge recorder is an experienced player who is available for informal advice; this could be about an issue of play, bidding or etiquette. Any bridge player may contact the recorder to help them decide whether to take an incident to formal appeal, or just to report a concern about another bridge player's behaviour (at or away from the table). Communications with a recorder should remain strictly confidential to that person alone.

Our Club Recorder is Colin Carryer. He is available if you have any issues.

Directors Corner

Law 74 states

1. A player should maintain a courteous attitude at all times
2. A player should avoid any remark or action that might cause annoyance or embarrassment and interfere with the enjoyment of the game.
3. As a matter of courtesy a player should refrain from making gratuitous comments during the auction or the play.
4. A player must refrain from detaching a card before it is his turn to play.
5. A player should not prolong play unnecessarily to disconcert an opponent.
ie Claim when you know the rest of the tricks are yours.
6. A player should refrain from summoning and addressing the DIRECTOR in a manner discourteous to him or the other contestants.

Conduct & Etiquette

Unauthorised information is given to your partner by such things as:-

- facial expression
 - sighs - particularly if partner doesn't lead what you want or signalled
 - comments
 - hesitations
 - discussing hands you have just played and their outcome so all around can hear.
- Please pay attention to these rules and call the director if you are unhappy with any behaviour at your table.

Patrick Jourdain, a famous bridge player-teacher from Wales is called over to a table at one of his classes where a hand has just passed out, but 4th hand had 17 high card points. "So why did you pass?" asks Patrick. "Because you told us after three passes the bidding is over, so I had to pass."

More Patrick: Again he is called over to a table and this time a lady tells him that she has opened 1H and there have been three passes back to her so this time she bid 2H. Again there were three passes back to her, but this time she wants to know if she is worth 3H?

Coming Events

November 1 NZ Wide Simultaneous Pairs
November 3 Social Sunday
November 9 New Plymouth Anniversary Pairs
December 7 Rotorua Christmas Tournament
January 10 – 12 Thames Summer Bridge Festival

The information for these and other competitions is available on the NZCBA web site. www.nzbridge.co.nz

There are other exotic places to be playing bridge. Check out the flyers for Iceland/Norway, Australia, and the Mediterranean on the noticeboard..

Condolences

We offer our sympathies to Barbara and the family and friends of Graeme Smart who passed away recently. Graeme had been a long time member of the club, playing until very recently. Please accept our condolences Barbara.

We also acknowledge the passing of another long time member, Anita Swafford. She enjoyed her bridge and was actively playing on Mondays this year. Our condolences to Anita's friends and family.

Too Tall Tex has learned to play Roman Keycard Blackwood and is intrigued with the queen-ask. He learns that there are basically two responses: either you have the queen or you don't. Too Tall invents a third response when he is being asked. The third response is: "I don't have the queen, but I know who does."

I am always happy to receive any interesting stories or bridge jokes at johnandraewyn@gmail.com

Newsletter compiled by Raewyn McLean. Thanks to Jenny Cleaver, Christine Burton, Lyn Muller and Pam Livingston for your contributions.