

## **New Plymouth Contract Bridge Club Presidents Report 2019**

It gives me great pleasure to present the 70th report of the New Plymouth Bridge club for 2019. The club membership is 305 and playing numbers remain steady

Financially we are in a sound position.

A Sponsorship sub-committee was implemented headed by Deane Skelton. Thankyou Deane and our sponsors for your support.

The game:

Congratulations to Pam Livingston who became a Silver Grandmaster.

The Rosebowl was returned to New Plymouth, while elsewhere many of our players were successful in tournaments.

Christine Burton and Helen Carryer continued with lessons supported by Bridge Buddies, with 20 graduating. A support system is in place post graduation.

Improver lessons were scheduled and successful thanks to all the tutors, Kevin, Murray, John and myself.

A revised programme was implemented this year. The aim was to increase playing numbers through the provision of more playing options.

The following changes were successful:

- moving the Monday Intermediate evening to Thursday evening
- moving Wednesday afternoon to Monday afternoon
- Scheduled Improver lessons, pre session lessons and assisted learning (green alerts) on Mondays
- Supplementary programme - Monday Swiss, Thursday Premier Fours and GM Multiple teams

Those less successful

- Supplementary programme pairs
- Fun events were unsupported

The 2020 programme has been adapted based on this demand.

However, the biggest change next year will be a move to handicap competitions apart from graded Cup, Swiss and Teams events which will be based on rating points

Tournaments were successfully run including the National Swiss which we hosted.

Positive feedback was recieved thanks to those support of club members involved in catering (led by June Metcalfe), dealing, scoring, directing, parking, bar service. The only negative being slight loss or break even on most

Facilities:

Under Lalith Mendis' guidance the building refurbishment continues with:

- recovering of chairs and new curtains (TSB grant)
- replacement of the photocopier
- changing to LED lighting
- repair of back step railing

Several roof leaks occurred which have been patched and are currently being monitored

An upgrade of the bathrooms is planned for 2020, dependant on obtaining a grant.

The rooms are rented out to several organisations.

#### Information Technology:

The year started well but there have been recent issues with scoring, The computers are dated and have insufficient RAM so will need replacement next year.

The dealing machine has been serviced and the supplier states it should last several more years.

All tournaments are advertised and entered via the NZB website.

#### Communication:

Convenors deliver weekly updates and acknowledge sponsors. Facebook is used to celebrate successes and upcoming events. I have tried to respond to members needs through surveys and the use of the suggestion box and incident book.

Like all clubs we rely on the support of our members who are our unsung heros baking, gardening, mowing lawns, convening, dealing, directing etc (over 70 members).

The "volunteer of the month" this year acknowledged the following club members for their behind the scenes contribution:

Raewyn McLean	newsletter
Helen Carryer	dealing, lessons, refurbishment

Thanks to all those retiring from the Committee and good luck for 2020 when we celebrate the Silver anniversary of our Club Rooms.

Lyn Muller  
President

I would like to move that my report be accepted.