

NEW PLYMOUTH BRIDGE CLUB NEWSLETTER

February 2023



Congratulations No 1

Congratulations to Pam Livingston who has been chosen to represent New Zealand at the World Bridge Federation (WBF) 46th World Bridge Teams Championships to be held in Marrakech, Morocco on 20th August to the 2nd September. Pam and her partner Jan Alabaster from Christchurch, will be members of the women's team

Further congratulations are due for Pam's second place in the 2022 Baden Wilson trophy for female players. This trophy is for the top overall 'A' point earners in a calendar year based on points earned in New Zealand only. Pam earned 268 A points last year.



Congratulations No 2

Congratulations to Jane Shaw and Kay Wyatt who have come third equal in the 2022 Central Districts competition for Junior tournaments placings. Points are awarded to place getters in tournaments held across the Central Districts bridge region. This totals 17 clubs stretching from New Plymouth across to Gisborne and as far south as Levin. Well done Jane and Kay.



The Judy Holdom Memorial NP Picnic Pairs

This tournament was played on 22 January. There was a good entry with 15 tables. Players from outside clubs came from Hawera, Whanganui, Palmerston North and Auckland. New Plymouth pairs were very successful, filling the top five placings. The runaway winners were Lois Cleaver and Lois Harrop.



1st Lois Harrop and Lois Cleaver



2nd Sarah Green and David Whittle



3rd Jo Butler and Jim Sutherland



4th equal: Ceclia Stringer & Stephanie Larmer,
Pam Livingston & Russell Wilson

Club Handicaps Policy

From the committee: there has been a slight change to the handicap policy for 2023

That any player ranked Open nationally has a club handicap of no more than 4 and is deemed to be a Tuesday player.

That any player ranked Intermediate nationally has a club handicap of no more than 12 and is deemed a Thursday or Tuesday player (dependent on rating points).

Being better at the table - Part one

We all use mannerisms, manners or actions at the table from time to time which annoy or distress our opponents or partners. As we go into the new playing year it is timely to remind ourselves of these.

Matters of impropriety: Things like hesitating before playing a singleton; hesitating when playing in second seat to make declarer think you've got a missing honour; asking questions or making comments to mislead the opponents; making comments or doing other things to suggest something to partner; prolonging play unnecessarily (e.g. failing to claim when the outcome is obvious); asking questions for your partner's benefit – these all fall under Laws 73 and 74, and infractions can be subject to procedural penalties. These laws also deal with etiquette, so the Director has the power to penalise general rudeness and impoliteness by a score adjustment if they feel it is appropriate.

General handling of cards: At least one opponent must be present before cards are removed from the board. Touching another player's cards is also a no-no (except that Declarer can touch the cards in dummy).

Detaching a card before it's your turn to play: This is a specific item mentioned in Law 74 and seems to irk a lot of people. Its poor form because you are telling your partner that whatever they or the next hand does, this is the card you are playing. It is specifically listed as an infraction in Law 74B3, and also constitutes Unauthorised Information under Law 16. It also falls under the category of Deception if your aim is to suggest to the opponent that you only have one card that can be played at that turn and in fact you don't.

Dummy playing without instructions from declarer: Dummy is just that – dummy. They cannot take any part in the play of the hand and can only do what declarer tells them to do. This means they shouldn't pick up a card and play it until declarer calls for it, and this even applies if there's a singleton on the table, or if Dummy thinks declarer's play is obvious e.g. ruffing or playing low under the ace. If the Director finds that Dummy suggested a play that wasn't what Declarer was going to do, they can award an adjusted score. I've seen occasions where dummy reaches for a trump expecting this to be Declarer's plan when Declarer may have thought the card they led was a winner, or worse, Dummy hovers over a discard when they know that Declarer has led a winner but Declarer may not have realised their lead was a winner and was planning to trump.

Quitting a trick then re-facing it in order to ask others to re-face their cards played: The laws allow a player to ask to see all cards played to the last trick until they have turned their card over. However once they've turned their card over, they can't turn it back and ask others to show their cards. If this happens to you, you are within your rights to politely refuse.

Part 2 of Being Better at the Table will be published in the next newsletter

Heard at the bridge table

- We can't all be full-time Bridge Players. There must be someone who has to work to support us.
- "Do you think my game is improving?" "Of course. You only go down 2 nowadays".

Recent Club Results

Monday

Vospers Pairs

- 1st Pamela Jensen & Frances Corcoran
2nd David Whittle & Sarah Green

Vivian Pharmacy Pairs

- 1st Karin Lilley & Carolyn O'Sullivan
2nd Jill Johnson & Kevin Turner

Tuesday

Vet Group Pairs

- 1st Bev Bromfield & Maggie Garnham
2nd Neil Murdock & Karin Champion

Chris Kenning Harcourt Pairs

- 1st David O'Shaughnessy & Sarah Green
2nd Lynnette O'Shaughnessy &
Murray Carter

Revital Growwell Pairs

- 1st David O'Shaughnessy &
Wayne Beasley
2nd Jude Hansen & Gabrielle Masters

Wednesday

The Accounting Room Pairs

- 1st Jill Johnson & June Metcalfe
2nd Lisa Miller & Rick Derham

Vospers Pairs

- 1st Rick Derham & John Rutten
2nd Diane Hill & Lisa Miller

Thursday

Liquorland Courtney Pairs

- 1st Kumar Gunatunga & Graham Mora
2nd Margaret Crawford & Pamela Jensen

Chris Kenning Harcourt Pairs

- 1st Pamela Jensen & Murray Carter
2nd Christine Feigler & Marie Gilliland

Friday

Waimate Pairs

- 1st Fay Murcott & Anthony Murcott
2nd Marion Biggs & Joy Clouston

Karen & Murray Carter Pairs

- 1st Campbell Priest & Catherine Gabites
2nd Lynnette O'Shaughnessy &
Jennifer O'Shaughnessy

70 Percent Club

Date	Pair	Score
27 Jan 2023	Catherine Gabites & Campbell Priest	73.88
31 Jan 2023	David O'Shaughnessy & Sarah Green	72.53
05 Feb 2023	Lyn Muller & Maggie Garnham	71.05

Bridge Truths

The difference between a fantastic bid and a stupid bid is largely a matter of result.

Bidding is a rest period between arguments.

The meek may inherit the earth but they won't win at Duplicate Bridge

You have no control over what the other pair does. But you have control over what you do

BRIDGE

BRIDGE? NO, WE
DON'T PLAY BRIDGE...BUT
WE PLAY FIVE-HUNDRED...
THAT'S JUST ABOUT THE
SAME AS BRIDGE,
ISN'T IT?

