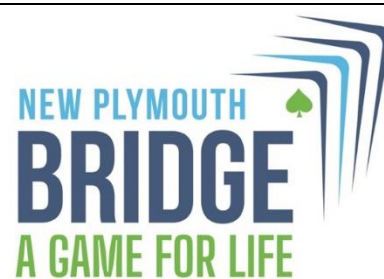


# NEW PLYMOUTH BRIDGE CLUB NEWSLETTER

April 2024



## TARANAKI BRIDGE CONGRESS 9th to 11th MARCH

Another very successful Congress, run by Taranaki Bridge Congress Inc, was held in the New Plymouth Bridge Club rooms over our Taranaki Anniversary weekend. All events were very well supported with a special thanks to the Intermediate/Junior players in the pairs who filled up the little room. We have been lucky over the last three years to have these Int/Junior events sponsored which has enabled us to keep the costs very low for these players which has been great. The cost may have to rise in 2025 but will still be a great event to participate and enjoy.

Entries..

Open Pairs	42	Int/Junior Pairs	24
Open Teams	22	Int/Junior Teams	6
Swiss Pairs	54		

Good results were achieved by our club members:

- David O'Shaughnessy - 2nd in Open pairs
- Jane Shaw and Kay Wyatt - 2nd in Int/Junior pairs
- Rob de Bique and John Rutten - 3rd in Int/Junior pairs
- Liz and Walt Crawshaw - 4th in Int/Junior pairs
- Inara Kjestrup and Carol McDermott - 1st Jun/Jun in pairs
- Pam Livingston 2nd in Open Teams
- Liz and Walt Crawshaw, Jane Shaw and Tony Wey 1st in Int/Junior Teams - a particularly good weekend for Jane, Liz and Walt.
- Sandra Calvert and Colin Carryer 2nd in Swiss Pairs

The Congress committee extend a special thanks to Frances Corcoran who stepped in late to oversee the internal management of the event and did an awesome job - also, all the members who contributed time and/or baking for the event - thanks heaps and most of the participants went away happy with a special bit of Taranaki hospitality.

Colin Carryer  
Chairman  
Taranaki Bridge Congress



Inara Kjestrup & Carol McDermott - 1st Jun/Jun in pairs



Kay Wyatt & Jane Shaw - 2nd in Int/Junior pairs

### Directors Corner: Bridge – Not a game of secrets.

In Duplicate Bridge (which is what we play) the goal is to score better than players playing exactly the same cards. In doing this however we must always adhere to the Rules/ Laws – these are there so all players know and follow correct procedures, and allow for rectification if anything goes wrong (which inevitably will happen at some stage as we are all human!). This means providing your opponents with ALL understandings and bidding methods that you have as a partnership.

One of the misconceived ideas is that if someone does make a mistake - either in the bidding or the playing – that the opposition should be entitled to a better score than they would've otherwise been entitled to. The current Laws allow for mistakes to be remedied to effect a result that may not entitle the non-offenders to a better score than they should've got – but it is an equitable result.

To help ensure that all players have a level playing field we are required to alert ALL partnership understandings that other players may not be aware of. This is done by Pre -Alerts and Alerting during the auction.

Whilst there are many different scenarios I have detailed below a few of the common 'understandings' that are alertable in our Club :

**Pre-Alerts** – This is advising opponents of your general system -eg ACOL, 5 Card Majors , Precision and any doubles which have specific meaning.

Even if you have played the same opponents previously don't assume that they will remember your system – ALWAYS Pre-Alert

**Alerts** – During the Auction any Bid which your partnership have a special meaning should be alerted (Circled) including :

- 2C ( if this isn't game forcing/ does not comply with rule of 29). Eg if you open 2C with 19 points this MUST be alerted
- Any change of suits after your partner has opened and opponents bid which is non-forcing
- 1H – 3H raise which is non-forcing -eg a law raise rather than invitational

Also as a Bidder you are only allowed to ask questions at your turn to bid (for your benefit not your Partners) as you have a responsibility not to convey unauthorised information to your Partner – this includes NOT asking questions on the bidding if you are not considering bidding.

If you have any questions you can request an explanation of the auction at the end of the bidding before the lead card is faced upwards or at your turn play.

These are only some of the alerting rules- as you progress in your Bridge journey you will need to know and understand all the alerting procedures as outlined in the regulations.

Sandra Calvert  
Director

## **Recent Club Club Results**

### **Monday**

#### **Vivian Pharmacy Pairs**

1<sup>st</sup> Audrey McKay & Liz Crawshaw

2<sup>nd</sup> David O'Shaughnessy &  
Jennifer O'Shaughnessy

#### **M4 Pairs**

1<sup>st</sup> Sue Geraghty & Christine Smith

2<sup>nd</sup> Jane Waite & Janet Voss

#### **M5 Pairs**

1<sup>st</sup> Lynette O'Shaughnessy &  
Sheree Robbertsen

2<sup>nd</sup> Lois Cleaver & Pamela Jensen

### **Tuesday**

#### **T3 Pairs**

1<sup>st</sup> David O'Shaughnessy & Sarah Green

2<sup>nd</sup> Ken & Margaret Crawford

#### **Vivian Pharmacy Pairs**

1<sup>st</sup> Russell Wilson & David O'Shaughnessy

2<sup>nd</sup> Lyn Muller & Gillian Gonthier

1<sup>st</sup> Anne & Paul Fitzgibbons

2<sup>nd</sup> Lise Milne & Frances Barron

### **Wednesday Evening**

#### **The Accounting Room Pairs**

1<sup>st</sup> Tony Wey & Bronwyn Gower

2<sup>nd</sup> Kaye Corlett & Jim Sutherland

#### **Ghris Kenning Harcourt Pairs**

1<sup>st</sup> Rodney Stevens & Julie Clement

2<sup>nd</sup> Sharron Harris & Helen Johnston

### **Thursday**

#### **Cave Plant Nursery Pairs**

1<sup>st</sup> Judith Schumacher & Patricia Chivers

2<sup>nd</sup> Fiona Smith & Joan Smith

#### **New Partnership Rock Gas Pairs**

1<sup>st</sup> Barbara Hunt & Lise Milne

2<sup>nd</sup> Walt Crawshore & Hanah Winyawonk

### **Friday**

#### **3 Happy Hours Pairs**

1<sup>st</sup> Andrew Freyne & Lynda Couper

2<sup>nd</sup> Fay & Anthony Murcott

#### **Hine Street Pairs**

## **Heard at the bridge table (1)**

- I don't understand why you couldn't see my signal, partner. Everyone knows that a singleton is the top of nothing
- Some declarers have difficulty counting the opponents' distribution. I have the same problem with Dummy's distribution.
- My point count system? Extra for long suit, extra for short suit and 3 points for my superb play.

## **Our Code of Conduct**

A new Code of Conduct has been developed for our club. This is the poster version which will be posted on the notice board at club. The full Code will be loaded on the club website in the policies section under the Rules and Resources tab.

### **NPCBC Code of Conduct**

The New Plymouth Bridge Club (NPBC) aims to promote the enjoyment and development of bridge for players of all levels. In order to achieve this outcome we expect members to be courteous and respectful to their partner, opponents, the director, contractors, service providers and volunteers at all times.

This Code outlines the standards of behaviour that the NPBC expects from all members, contractors and visitors. It confirms our commitment to building a club environment free of any form of inappropriate or unacceptable behaviour.

A breach of this Code of Conduct may lead to disciplinary action, up to and including the cancellation of club membership, termination of your contract or engagement with us, or if a visitor, exclusion from the club facility. If we consider the breach to be of a criminal nature, we may report the matter to the police.

### **Our Requirements**

All members, contractors and visitors are expected to abide by the following conduct:

- Members, contractors and visitors shall not engage in inappropriate or unacceptable behaviour
- The rules and etiquette of bridge as outlined by the World Bridge Federation and the New Zealand Bridge Association are followed at all times. This includes comments or gestures that may convey information to your partner or disturb the opponents during the bidding or play, and unfair or unethical methods to gain an advantage over the opponents, such as cheating, colluding, or using unauthorised signals or conventions
- The director is called promptly and politely whenever there is an irregularity or a dispute at the table. Do not argue with the director or question their ruling. Should a player disagree with a Director's decision the player has the right to appeal but play at the table must continue according to the Director's decision.
- Harsh criticisms or comments on matters of bridge bidding & play shall not be made to your partner or opponents

## 70 Percent Club

Date	Pair	Score
22 January	Ken Crawford & Pamela Jensen	70.51%
29 January	Neil Murdoch & Gillian Gonthier	70.61%
6 February	David O'Shaughnessy & Wayne Beasley	75.00%
18 March	Karin Champion & Lynda Couper	70.56%



## LEARNERS' CLASS 2024

With great pleasure, we extend a warm welcome to the 42 eager learners who have joined our Bridge Club for the class of 2024.

The success of our marketing endeavours, including the feature article in "Live" magazine titled "A Bridge to Friendship," the strategic Facebook campaign, and the distribution of informative bookmarks, has certainly played a significant role in attracting this cohort of learners. Thanks also to club members who have generously spread the word through their recommendations to family and friends.

Classes commenced at the beginning of April, marking the beginning of an exciting and enriching learning experience for all involved. Throughout the coming weeks, our team will guide our newest members through the intricacies of the game and foster a supportive environment for growth and development.

Looking ahead, we anticipate witnessing the progress and friendships that will undoubtedly blossom within our class of 2024. Together, we will navigate the intricacies of the game, forging bonds of friendship and camaraderie that extend far beyond the confines of the bridge table.

Good luck, Class of 24! We look forward to your graduation on June 19, equipped with newfound skills and a deeper appreciation for the game of bridge, where every hand dealt is an opportunity for connection, learning, and friendship.

Christine Burton

## Heard at the bridge table (2)

- Isn't it a shame how 99% of bridge players give the whole game a bad name
- My partner plus 12 sure tricks equals 11
- You made your Ace of trumps. What else can you possibly want?

## BE A GOOD TOSSER!

Our Club follows the convention of 'tossing' for your playing direction when you & your partner arrive at the first table of the session. The winning pair is required to sit N/S.

This way of selecting your direction for the session is used by the majority of clubs in NZ for regular sessions.

Thus the seating is randomised so players who may want to choose to play in the same direction each time do not skew the results.

(Our Club has the discretion to permit players to sit in a particular direction on application)

NB: Seating at Tournaments is usually at the discretion of the Tournament Director

Over the years our club has received donations of One Penny coins or recently, metal discs with H or T on either side to facilitate the toss.

Sadly these coins/discs have been steadily 'missing' from the table boxes.

On Tuesday last week I hunted around 6-10 boxes to find a tossing disc

Please make sure that the people at your table return the disc back to the table boxes and.....

Be A Good Tosser!

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Charles M. Schulz

