

August 2022 Newsletter

President's Message

Kia Ora koutou

We are continuing our exploration of options for our building needs for the future. We are exploring the idea of sharing premises with another club, and have started thinking about our future requirements. For example, how much space will we need, car parks, do we want a bar, charging for electric bikes/vehicles? We are in the early stages of exploring options, but I welcome any thoughts you may have.



I have been involved in the New Zealand Bridge online strategy work recently. Thanks for all the feedback you have given me. There are a fairly wide range of views, but general agreement that online bridge is here to stay. Online bridge presents opportunities in terms of being more flexible and accessible, and bridge clubs need to adapt, or else their viability will surely be affected. I think we have made good progress this year with online bridge, but I'm keen that we further improve what we offer and am keen to hear your ideas and suggestions.

While we are keen to further improve our online bridge offering, now that covid cases are starting to drop it is now time for us to offer more face to face bridge as well as online bridge. I hope that for new events we are able to move back to face to face bridge shortly on Wednesday nights and I'm hoping that we get plenty of entries for the Peter Benham memorial open pairs on October 15.

Peter Newell

Your Committee News

In addition to the work the committee is doing on the future of our building the committee as developed a new strategy to help the new players and that is providing them with mentors.

New Member Mentors

To support new members we are introducing a programme for new players. We will develop a "mentor" programme whereby the mentor will keep in touch with any new members for the first 12 months of joining. This is not necessarily to play with them but to ensure they are kept engaged in the game and any questions or queries can be easily answered.

If you are willing and available can you please contact either Bridget or Margaret Curnow.

School Holiday Programme

Following the resounding success of the July school holiday programme, another programme will be held in the October school holidays. One of the learnings from the July programme was that a morning and afternoon session over 5 days is too long for a lot of the budding bridge players. Accordingly the October programme will run from Monday 10th to Thursday 14th October between 1pm and 3pm. This programme is suitable for ages 10+, so if you know of any young people interested in playing bridge, let them know about this fun programme.

Improvers Day

Alan Grant will be holding an Improvers Day Sunday 30th October. See the notice board for details. This is a great chance for players to learn some new tricks and to gather more confidence in their play.

Super Social Sunday

Super Social Sunday is an afternoon for bridge beginners and is designed for those who have come out of classes this year and last year. It is an afternoon of fun intended to make new players more confident and to enjoy playing bridge. This day is organised by Katherine Gough, the Wellington Region's Support Person, and will be held Sunday 28 August from 1.00-4.30 at Wellington Bridge Club. For more details contact Katherine on 027 2433495 or email: katherine.gough@nzbridge.co.nz

Monthly Results Club Series July 2022

Well done to all the successful players, and it is so nice to see that some nights we have face-to-face bridge again.

Monday Online – Handicap Pairs

- 1st Hilda Burgess & Sandy Connon
- 2nd Donna Monk & Leon Meier
- 3rd Oliver McCready & Nigel Kearney

Monday Online – Winter Swiss Pairs (Open to all)

- 1st Pam Livingston & Jeff Miller
- 2nd John Davidson & Candice Smith

Tuesday - Morton Salver Pairs

- 1st Brian O'Sullivan & Simon Havill
- 2nd Christine Wilson & Peter Flanagan

Wednesday - United Nation Cup Pairs

- 1st Sandra Coleman & Joan Waldvogel
- 2nd Anne-Marie Russell & Anthony Ker

Thursday – Blomeyer Cup BTF Team Pairs

- 1st Dennis McKinlay, Stephanie Smith, Dianne Tredger & Mike Cox
- 2nd Pam Hancox, Rachel Baskerville, Andrew Smith & Patti Poole

Friday Pipitea Pairs

- 1st Susan Brown & Stephanie Smith
- 2nd Pam Hancox & Rob Egginson

Upcoming Club Events

Monday Online Teams starts 22nd August (registrations essential). Online

Club Play all face-to - face

Tuesday – Capital Cup Pairs - starts 6 September

Wednesday - Woe Wilson Memorial Handicap Pairs – starts 14 September

Thursday – Stockman Salver Handicap Pairs – starts 1 September

Friday - Owen Cup Handicap Pairs – starts 2 September

Recent Tournament Successes (July/August 2022)

Congratulations to the successful winners.

North Island Teams 30/31 July

2nd Annette Henry, Stephen Henry, Alan Grant with Jane Lennon.

Hutt Intermediate Pairs 7 August

3rd Megan Turner & Sue Storer

Fullerton Teams 13/14 August

2nd Alan Grant, Anthony Ker with team-mates Matt Brown and Andi Boughey

Upcoming Events

WELLINGTON SIXES

It is exciting for us to be able to hold a face-to-face tournament again, and the Wellington 6's on the 4th September is a fun way start. This fun event is being hosted by the Wellington Bridge Club on Sunday 4 September. Each team of six people has 2 Open players, 2 Intermediate players and 2 Junior players, each player only playing against those of their own grade. There are 3B points available for Junior winners; 5B points for Intermediate winners and 3A for Open players, run as Swiss pair scoring.

There are prizes for each grade and to the overall team as well as one for the Best Dressed Team, put your thinking caps on and be creative! Lunch is provided and a cash bar will be available. Morning tea is 9am with play beginning at 9.30am. This tournament is limited to 16 teams, so book early! If you are looking for team-mates ask Bridget, as usual she can help...as always. Thank you, Bridget!

Cost is \$35 and entries to Bridget or online to <http://www.nzbridge.co.nz/events.html> The payment may be made online to Wellington Bridge Club Inc A/C 03 0518 0093731 00

PALMERSTON NORTH FRIENDLY

This is an online match - Sunday 25th September at 7.00pm. All are welcome to play.

INTERNATIONAL FRIENDLY with Prince Edward County, Canada. Wednesday 31st August 11am

3 & 1 EXPERT TEAMS. Players wanting to improve their game, get together either individually or in teams of 3 - you will then be assigned an "expert" player to be the 4th member of your team.

A fun, informative night. There will be 3 rounds of 8 boards, each of you play one round with the expert. This event will be held on Friday 9th September at 7pm.

Volunteers

As well the need for mentors we are looking for helpers at the Sixes tournament on 4 October. We will need people in the kitchen to assist with the morning tea, lunch and at the end of play. If you are available to help please let Bridget or me know. (My number is 0272 379 164)



Office/work room available

Due to our tenant vacating our upstairs room we currently have a room to rent. If you or anyone you know is interesting in leasing some office or work space please contact Bridget for further details wellingtonbridge@gmail.com

Regional Committee

Monthly Update from Your Regional Committee:

The committee had its first meeting on 18 July and it was decided that one of the most important things the committee should do is to make sure that it does act as the link between New Zealand Bridge and all the clubs. To this end the Chair, Annette Henry, assisted by the committee, plans to visit each club's committee to explain to each club how the Regional Committee can support them and to listen to any issues that any clubs may have, and consider how the committee can help individual clubs.

As well as organizing interclub and the rubber bridge competitions, the other major event that the Regional Committee runs is the Wellington Congress over ANZAC weekend, and this is an event the committee will be asking for support from the clubs in terms of helpers. Another major event the Regional Committee is responsible for is the Christmas Cheer Tournament, and we have always been so grateful for the support of clubs here, particularly Wellington Club who provide their club rooms, and without whom the Christmas Cheer Tournament would not be the same. Some of our key organizing people will be away this year, so we will be asking for assistance from other clubs.

The committee has provided a response to New Zealand Bridge regarding the Online Consultation, and in this response the committee was clear that for clubs to survive and flourish we need face-to-face bridge, and that any new tournaments that New Zealand Bridge choose to offer must not disadvantage local tournaments our clubs wish to hold.

The committee is planning to provide all clubs with a monthly update of its work so that you can be aware of the things the committee are trying to do to improve your bridging experience.

Happy Bridging and good health to you all

Margie Michael Editor