

WBC News – July 2013

PUT IT IN YOUR DIARY ...

If you are interested in playing this weekend. The 15A Centre Island Pairs is on in Picton. **35% discount** on interisland fares (*early change fares*) and also discount on accommodation, also if you are quick there may be some **free accommodation!** Let Bridget know please if any of you are interested.

Wellington Intermediate Tournament at our club on Sunday 28 July. (See flyer on notice board).

Novice / Beginners Tournament on Sunday 11 August – one session only (See flyer on notice board).

Presidents Corner... Kevin Walker

A successful congress was held at our club by the Wellington Regional committee over the weekend. The Open competitions attracted a good number of players and a high quality field. However, whilst intermediate and junior fields were similar to previous years, we would welcome more in these grades next year.

For club play, a couple of reminders that are necessary, but shouldn't be. Firstly please keep to the allotted time per round. If you are occasionally late for a round then there is an expectation that you will catch up play within the next two rounds. If play has completed, west must move on as soon as the round is called – no filling out of personal score card and/or discussion. East must move as soon as the score has been entered into the bridgepad.

The second reminder is around discussion of the hand once played. While you may wish to discuss the board just played, you must not do so in a way that will give the players nearby information about a board they have yet to play. You definitely should not have any discussion if the move for the round has been called. The best option is to leave any discussion to the end of the session.

If you do both of these things play will be more enjoyable for all.

My congratulations to the Wellington Club team members who were part of the winning team in the New Zealand Club Championship regional play-off held recently. The club will be looking to win back the National Club championship it has held on two previous occasions. The Club Championship finals are held as part of the National congress in Hamilton in late September.



Things that go bump in the night...

On Thursday June 27 – Bill Joss Memorial Swiss Pairs - it wasn't just the forces of nature that were demonstrating their awesome power. Some pretty powerful gremlins seemed to have affected our play night too. I'm relatively sure that the problems were human error. I believe that the draw which was posted at the start of the night was a printed version of one which got superseded after the final score adjustments were made for the fouled boards and the defaulting team from the week prior. This meant that a number of pairs were not seated where the draw said they should be. When we recognised this (after Round 7) we corrected by manually adjusting the draw to reflect the tables that pairs had played at. However, it appears that the pair numbers are stored separately in the system, so this caused the system to assign an incorrect pair number to these pairs.

I do heartily apologise to all players for the delay and the shortened play time and will try to make sure it doesn't happen again. I would also like to thank you all for your patience and good humour throughout this horror session!! The teams results page on the website does now contain a link to a document showing the round results for each pair and each round played. **Maureen Pratchett**



Wellington Bridge Club wins the Wellington regional play-off

Front Row: Sarah Bradbury, Jo Rollo, Cathy Nijman, John Davidson, Diana Dobbinson

Back Row: Nick Venter, Barbara Allen, Annette Henry, Warren Tocker, Devin Kilminster and Stephen Henry

Absent: Grace Millar and Mira Trifunovic and Nigel Kearney

Well done Team ! Congratulations on a fine win.

3 ROUND ROBIN MATCHES X 18 BOARDS												SCORES AFTER MATCH NO. :				
VP's Scores	HUTT			KARORI			VICTORIA			WELLINGTON			GRADE VP TOTALS			CLUB GRAND TOTAL
	Open	Int.	Jun.	Open	Int.	Jun.	Open	Int.	Jun.	Open	Int.	Jun.	Open	Int.	Jun.	TOTAL
HUTT				16	17	11	18	10	22	3	8	15	37	35	48	120
KARORI	14	13	19				14	11	25	14	11	3	42	35	47	124
VICTORIA	12	20	8	16	19	1				2	11	20	30	50	29	109
WELLINGTON	25	22	15	16	19	25	25	19	10				66	60	50	176
VP's cross-checks:	51	55	42	48	55	37	57	40	57	19	30	38	175	180	174	529
													175	180	174	529

Beginners get together at Victoria

On Friday, June 28 a Beginners Get Together was held at the Victoria Bridge Club for all those who had just completed their lessons. New players from Wellington, Hutt and Karori clubs joined the beginners from Victoria for a session of social bridge. Chocolate bars were given as prizes. Those who attended are keen to do this again so plans are afoot to repeat this in two months time perhaps at Wellington or the Hutt club. [There will be a novice/beginners (or New Players) tournament on the 11th of August.] Thank you Judith and Ann from Victoria. They set a high standard with supper. **Vivienne Cannell**

Thursday Lessons: Again 40 plus of us Thursday nighters were privileged to have another of our internationals, **Alan Grant**, to coach us into slam bidding, cue bidding and splinters. Thank you for your time Alan, we do appreciate these lessons.

Wellington TSB Regional Bridge Congress – 5-7 July

Congratulations to the Wellington Regional committee and their directors and helpers for a very enjoyable congress last weekend in perfect bridge playing weather! Superb organisation from many months of planning and plenty of food and drinks throughout the day. Thank you. Lots of bridge was played over the weekend with players having the normal number of challenging hands to deal with. The directors had their share of matters to resolve, as well as some computer scoring issues. But with good organisation play kept to time and was completed as planned by 5.30pm on Sunday. It's great to see so many willing and smiling faces toiling in the kitchen to look after us so well; non-playing bridge husbands giving up their weekend to help run this event; and all the helpers from our club and other local clubs contributing to the Wellington Congress success. **Dinnie Hall** (president of the regional committee) presented the prizes, thanked the sponsors and her committee. Special thanks to **Heather Jared**, the Congress Manager. **Peter Newell** on behalf of the winning Open team also thanked the organisers, and of course the "caddies" and said the Congress had been excellent practise for their team members going to play in Bali in September. This Congress gets better every year! Congratulations to the prize-winners listed below.

<p>Open Pairs (60 pairs) 1st Kate Davies, John Patterson 2nd Geo Tislevoll, Michael Ware 3rd David Macdonald, Patrick Darcy</p>	<p>Intermediate Pairs (16 pairs) 1st Martin Rew, Heath Tolley 2nd Sue Brown, Keith Massey 3rd Margot Brough, Jim Brough</p>
<p>Junior/Novice Pairs (10 pairs) 1st Mira Trifunovic, Paul Gold 2nd Kathryn Bradshaw, Candice Ng 3rd Pauline Murtagh, Toni Allwood</p>	<p>Intermediate Teams (8 teams) 1st T Haronga, C Haronga, G Tippett, P Maxwell 2nd Leuchars Team</p>
<p>Open teams (30 teams) 1st M Reid, P Newell, M Ware, G Tislevoll 2nd Hurley Team 3rd J Davidson, J Li, A Russell, J Lennon 4th S Blackstock, S Henry, C Cahn, N Kearney</p>	<p>Best Open Team under 800 rating points J Delany, C Black, P Heazlewood, D Dobbinson</p>



Intermediate Team Winners:
Paul Maxwell, Gail Tippett, Christine & Turei Haronga



Open Team Winners: Peter Newell and Geo Tislevoll:
[Martin Reid & Michael Ware unfortunately missed the prizegiving, while dashing to the airport].

49th Asia Pacific Bridge Federation Championships

Last month from June 7th to 16th **Alan Grant and Anthony Ker** were over in Hong Kong playing with the New Zealand Open team in the APBF competition, and the Zone 7 (Australasia and Pacific Islands) Championship. The team ended up a disappointing 9th in the APBF, but on the positive side we convincingly won the Zone 7 final vs Australia by a massive 122 IMPs (219-97)! Here's an interesting hand from APBF Round Robin 2, Round 6 where Anthony and Alan were playing for New Zealand vs Thailand. How would you bid the following hand? You are the dealer and you are vul vs not vul:

<p>♠ A 10 5 ♥ K ♦ A K Q J 10 8 7 3 2 ♣ -</p>	<p>Our Thailand opponent playing in the North seat, Kridsadayut Plengsap decided to start with a 1D opening, and then the bidding proceeded as follows:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 25%;">N</td> <td style="width: 25%;">E</td> <td style="width: 25%;">S</td> <td style="width: 25%;">W</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1D</td> <td>2C</td> <td>pass</td> <td>4C</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5D</td> <td>all pass</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	N	E	S	W	1D	2C	pass	4C	5D	all pass		
N	E	S	W										
1D	2C	pass	4C										
5D	all pass												

Playing in 5D, the defence kicked off with Alan's lead of the ♣A, ruffed. Dummy tracks with:

♠ J 8 4 3
♥ J 9 7 6 2
♦ 5
♣ K 8 6

Then after two rounds of diamonds you exit with the ♥K, taken by ♥A and Alan exits with the ♥Q which you ruff. How would you play the hand from here? Here is the full hand:

<p>Board 5:</p> <p>♠ A 10 5 ♥ K ♦ A K Q J 10 8 7 3 2 ♣ -</p> <p>♠ Q 9 7 6 ♥ 10 5 3 ♦ 9 6 ♣ J 10 5 3</p> <p>♠ J 8 4 3 ♥ J 9 7 6 2 ♦ 5 ♣ K 8 6</p>	<p>Dealer: N Vul: N/S</p> <p>♠ K 2 ♥ A Q 8 4 ♦ 4 ♣ A Q 9 7 4 2</p>	<p>Kridsadayut played off all the diamonds to get to the following position. After a similar start to the defence at the other table Michael Cornell who was declaring from the North seat at the other table came to a similar position. Discarding from the dummy after East, with counting, allowed declarer to keep a winner in the appropriate side suit:</p> <p>♠ A 10 5 ♥ - ♦ - ♣ -</p> <p>♠ Q 9 7 ♥ - ♦ - ♣ -</p> <p>♠ J 8 ♥ J ♦ - ♣ -</p> <p>♠ K 2 ♥ 8 ♦ - ♣ -</p>
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The Thai declarer now decided to try the effect of a low spade to the J. This was smoothly ducked by East and taken with the ♠Q by Anthony who exited with a low spade. Considering the bidding, including Anthony's 4C bid, and the smooth play of ♠2 by East, Kridsadayut decided to play Anthony for ♠K as well as ♠Q and finessed – resulting in 1- off.

From a similar position to the above at the other table, Michael chose to play for the stepping-stone threat position by playing ♠A followed by another. Under the ♠A – East correctly dropped the ♠K, naturally hoping that his partner had ♠Q 10 x, but to no avail as when a low spade was played to the J won by the Q, the 10 scored for the eleventh trick for declarer – and 5D making – and a 12 IMP pickup for New Zealand.

This result contributed to one of New Zealand's better results in the competition with a win in this match 51-33 IMPs, which in the new fractional VP scale is 14.6 to 5.4 VPs. **[Thank you to Alan Grant. Ed].**

Wanted New Directors Please!

Do you like working with people? Would you like to learn more about the Laws of bridge? Can you keep your cool when things do not go to plan?

As you know, the Director is the person who orchestrates the running of the bridge session, making sure the Laws are followed and players have an enjoyable evening. To some extent, the health of the club depends on a steady stream of new directing talent.

There are 3 levels of Directors in New Zealand – Club, Tournament and National Directors. Directors at each of these levels are certified after achieving a satisfactory score on a written exam. This year, the exam will take place in November. As in previous years, Allan Joseph (the Wellington region's only National Director) will coach and prepare candidates for the exam in a series of workshops leading up to the date.

If you have been playing bridge for a year or more and this is of interest to you, please discuss with Maureen Pratchett or let Bridget know. We especially welcome the expressions of interest from Junior and Intermediate players. **Maureen Pratchett**

Conventions: **THE “UNUSUAL NO TRUMP” OVERCALL**

*Invented by Al Roth
Article by Alfred Sheinwold (March 1956 ACBL Bulletin)*

The convention known as the Unusual Notrump Overcall, unlike many others, has a history and a parentage. It was conceived, appropriately enough, in a mixed pair event (Miami Beach Winter Nationals, 1948). The convention sprang full-grown from the brow of Al Roth in a post-mortem discussion of the following hand:

♠ 9 7 ♥ K 10 ♦ A K 10 7 ♣ A 10 8 3 2

Roth's partner made a takeout double with this hand when her right-hand opponent opened with 1♠. LHO raised to 2♠, which was passed around to the doubler. She doubled again. This put it up to Roth, who held:

♠ 10 4 3 ♥ Q J 8 2 ♦ Q J 6 2 ♣ 9 4.

Roth's hearts were slightly stronger than his diamonds, as any bridge player can plainly see. Also, the double of one major urges a response in the other major. So Roth bid 3♥ and went down one. He could have made 3♦ either by playing it out or by throwing the hand against any convenient wall.

Now, Alvin Roth is a gent who doesn't like to land in a bad contract when a good one is available. How, he wondered, could he have known that this was no time to be bidding the other major? Was there any way for his partner to indicate that her hand was strong in the minors but weak in the unbid major?

He came to the conclusion that his partner should have bid 2NT at her second turn instead of doubling for a second time. It seemed clear to Roth that his partner couldn't really want to play the hand at no trump. Hence the bid of 2NT would be idle or meaningless – unless he assigned to it the special conventional meaning “Partner, this is a takeout double that asks you to choose between the two minor suits.”

That was in 1948, and the resourceful Mr. Roth submitted the bid to his then-small coterie, polished it, refined it, and made it officially part of The (Roth-Stone) System (the forerunner of today's Standard American System). Then, as now, one always thought of The System in capital letters. The Unusual No trump became better known when Roth published his book in 1953. Since that time it has been adopted by most tournament experts whether they play The System or just a system. Essentially, the meaning of the convention has remained unchanged. An unusual overcall in no trump is a takeout double asking for a response in a minor suit.

Results from Recent Tournaments

Kapi-Mana Open 23 June 1 st Pat Darcy & Graeme Norman 2 nd Nebojsa Djorovic & Donna Upchurch 3 rd Alan Grant & James Li	Upper Hutt Intermediate – 30 June 3 rd Paul Maxwell & Gail Tippett
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Welcome to our new members:

Bill Alexander, Anne Gaskell, Nigel Smith, Sandra Schmid, David Meek, Carina Jansen, Edmund Stephen-Smith, Terry Neal, Di Patchett, Kevin Moar, Colin McIntosh, Bobbi Gibbons, Ross Tanner, Nigel Kirk-Patrick, Craig Taylor
 We also welcome back to Elaine McFadyen and Eva Woodbury

“Next round, all move please... and gentlemen, please move your Broads.”
 — *Harry Goldwater (during the Mixed Pairs), National Tournament Director*
Famous for his unique rulings and announcements

Club Results from June 2013:

Tuesday <u>Neal Trophy Pairs</u> 1 st Jane Gibbons / Pauline Murtagh 2 nd Paul Gold / Paul Searle	Thursday <u>Bill Joss Memorial Swiss Pairs</u> 1 st Tereska Knap & Suzanne Duncan 2 nd Haley Fenwick & Clinton Scott
Friday <u>Winter Pairs</u> 1 st Joan Waldvogel / Max Wigbout 2 nd Shirley Green / Ann Tyrie	

Parking

As many will know we do not have enough parking at the club rooms for all players at most sessions. This now includes Friday as there are more players turning up. It is not economic for the club to have or make more parking available. Therefore please be considerate of other when parking, make use of alternate parking (Thorndon Quay for night sessions) or other transport arrangements to ease the pressure on parking at the club.

PS: TSB Bank who sponsored the weekend’s Wellington Congress has a special offer for our members. Please check our website for details.

Photos from the Congress are on our website, also hand records are there too.