

WBC News – September 2014

PUT IT IN YOUR DIARY

WBC Novice & Beginners Tournament – Sunday 12 October at 1 pm one session only.

AGM - 31st October 2014 - Friday night, followed by dinner and then at 7.30pm the **NZ Wide Pairs**, for those who choose to enter.

Presidents Corner... Kevin Walker

At last evening's committee meeting there was considerable discussion on information provided by the club's auditor on a revenue shortfall in bar takings. The auditor's analysis showed that based on the amount of alcohol purchased and consumed the revenue should have been considerably higher than it was for the 2013/14 financial year. The significance of the shortfall means the accounts will receive a qualified audit report. The committee discussed various options for dealing with the issue of this shortfall in revenue and has decided that more robust controls over alcohol and its sale will be implemented. Stocktaking will be more regular and the matching of revenue against consumption will occur for each night's bar. Hopefully these tighter controls will solve the current problems. If they don't then more restrictive controls may have to be introduced.

The committee has agreed to install a Grand Masters Board in the main foyer of the club rooms. The Grand Masters Board will contain all full members of the club who have attained the Grand Master rank and will also identify those who have attained the rank of Silver or Gold Grand Master. A draft list of past and current club members who have attained this rank is being put together and will be available within the next couple of weeks. When this list is available it will be put on our website and members will be asked to check the details prior to the names being put on the Grand Masters Board.

The committee last night also agreed to hold a Novice tournament on Sunday October 12. This will be a one session event and we are keen to get as many novice players as possible both from our club and other clubs in the region. We will be providing a best club prize to encourage participation from clubs.

2014 Annual General Meeting Reminder Friday 31 October at 6 pm

Reminder for our AGM followed by New Zealand Wide Pairs if you want to stay on and play. If you would like to be nominated to stand on our new committee, please make yourself known. Meetings are every second Monday in the month at 5.45 pm. If you have any remits to be considered, now is the time to gather your thoughts. Remits should be to our office by 23 September.

Updating any personal details

It's time again to let Bridget know of any changes to phone numbers, addresses email addresses etc. Please also let Bridget know if you would like to add your email address to the 2014 programme book.

2014 Congress at Hamilton

Good luck to all our players competing at Congress in Hamilton at the end of this month. Looks like numbers are down this year for whatever reason.

Wellington Open tournament – Sunday 31 August

Entries were well down for our Open tournament and we wondered why. Last year our Open was held in February and we agreed to change the date to late August so players could practise for Congress. A few suggestions could be: the warmer weather; sickness – lots of colds floating around; \$30 entry fee as opposed to \$25; and lastly a plethora of bridge tournaments at this time of the year.



However, our boutique tournament of 13 and a half tables was a very pleasant and friendly day, and many thanks to Jocelyn Grainger and all her helpers who made this possible; to Kevin Walker who directed, and of course to Mindy Wu and her catering business for our tasty lunch.

Congratulations to the place-getters:

1st Sandra Coleman & Mindy Wu (Sandra said Mindy bid all the slams!)

2nd Ray Gruschow & Graeme Norman
 3rd Murray McMillan & Murray Phillips;
 4th Alan Grant & Anthony Ker

Things you learn at bridge... and not necessarily about bridge...

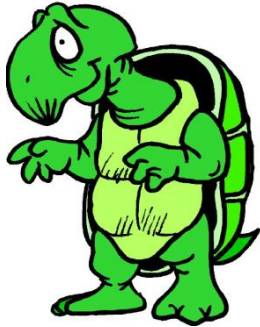
- **After all these years mopping one's eyes with a tea-towel while cutting onions, we heard from one of our learned late-night stayers on Wednesday night that if you put your onions in the fridge before chopping them up, they DO NOT affect your eyes! It worked, it's wonderful!**
- **Thursday evening the girls are comparing SKY accounts. "A" says "we bought our SKY decoder a few years ago and we are still paying top dollars per week". "B" suggests a phone call to SKY accounts might sort this out. It worked: "A" was given a \$1,000 refund.**

Thursday Night Lessons

The Neal Salver Pairs competition is completed for this year and our lessons before play have been invaluable. Many thanks indeed to all our "teachers". A good crowd listened to **Stephen Henry's** part 2 talk on "balancing" last Thursday evening with various examples of hands to either X, overcall or balance with a 2NT bid. The basic concept, he said, is flexibility – be as flexible as you can say.

For example, on this bidding: 1S, P, 2S ?	Your bid and you hold x Axx Qxxx AKxxx	X or bid 2NT. Not 3C	It's a bidder's game. "Defence is the hardest". Many thanks, Stephen, for both your lessons: really appreciated.
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Slow Play is Selfish Play - we last mentioned "slow play" in January of this year



The real keys to playing fast are in forming habits that serve to keep the game moving and staying alert at the table.

Arriving at the table: This is where most of the time goes. It is important to greet your opponents, however, a smile and a hello are all that are needed and don't forget to pull your cards from the board at the same time.

The Golden Rule: Too many players refuse to speed up their game after a pair arrives late, since they feel that they were not responsible for the original delay. If your opponents arrive late at your table, for whatever reason, all four of you are responsible for trying to catch up.

The Golden Rule is that there is only one person responsible for slow play: you. No matter what the circumstances, even if you've never been late getting to a table in your life: if you make no effort to catch up, you are guilty. Fast players don't play "fast". They just slow the game down less often. Slow players don't play "slow". They use bidding and playing time for other things.

Yes, Bridge is a social occasion, but use your time to socialise – not the opponents' or the next table's time.
[Credit – extracts - Otago Bridge Club]



**Welcome to New Member for Friday afternoons:
Lesley Gilhooly**

Results from August 2014

Tuesday – Capital Cup Pairs 1st Megan Turner & Paul Devadatta	Wednesday – Andrew Thompson Memorial Teams 1st Charlie Cahn, Nigel Kearney, Stephen Henry & Stephen Blackstock
Thursday – Blomeyer Cup Back to the Future Team: 1st Gail Tippett, Paul Maxwell, Donna Upchurch & Jolene Zink Owen Cup Pairs: 1st Malcolm Greig & Tim Heartt	Friday – Tinakori Pairs 1st Mira Trifunovic & Sophie Atkin

Results from Recent Tournaments - Congratulations to our Club Members!

Karori Open – Sunday 17 August 1st Mindy Wu & John Wilkinson; 2nd Jenny Coulter & Ross Craig; 3rd Ray Gruschow & Graeme Norman Special mention to Director Sam. A real credit to you Sam.
Levin Multigrade – Saturday 30 August 3rd Joan Waldvogel & Max Wigbout

Certificates have arrived from NZ Bridge



Our Congratulations to:

John Davidson who has attained the ranking of Silver Grand Master

Judith Johnson who is now a Grand Master

Terry Neal who has achieved a Certificate of Proficiency

Novice Tournament - Sunday 12 October at 1 pm

Novice & Beginners Tournament ... for players with 2 years or less experience

This will be our third Novice & Beginners Tournament and it's an exciting opportunity for new players from all Wellington clubs to have a go and play in a one session tournament. If you have recently completed a set of lessons and/or have started playing on Tuesday evenings at our Club, this is perfect for you to play in your first tournament.

Players, who are members of other clubs, could you please encourage your novices and beginners to participate here - we plan to give a special prize for the "Best Club" for the pairs who score the most points overall. Please check details on the notice board.

Karori Bridge Club

is looking for a part time club manager starting in October 2014.

See our notice board for more detail.



Bridget will be back on Tuesday 23 September after her holiday, and very many thanks to **Vivienne Cannell, Anthea Black, Julie Hawkins and Bruce Ivamy** for the many hours they have helped out to hold the fort together. Thank you too to everyone who has helped in some small way to bridge the gap, even making special efforts to tidy the clubrooms after play. Bridget we welcome you back!