

October 2022 Newsletter

President's Message

Kia Ora koutou

It has been good being back at the club as Covid cases have decreased, and being able to hold the Peter Benham Memorial Tournament this month. Congratulations to Ray Gruschow and Graeme Norman for winning the inaugural event. However, recently Covid cases have started to increase so we all need to be careful.

We have continued to make progress with looking at our building and options for its future, and I expect we will be in a position to have a good discussion on these at our AGM on November 11. Off course the AGM provides the opportunity for members to join the Committee. While our committee has done a good job this year, there possibly will be a few members who may step down, and it is good for the committee to be able to welcome new members. If you don't have or don't wish to be on the Committee there are many other ways you can help the club, the Committee and Bridget generally as there are always many ways in which your help is necessary, so please do let us know if you have the capacity to be able to help.

I do hope to see many at the AGM if not before at the club.

Thank you
Peter.



Your Committee News

AGM

A reminder that our AGM will be held on Friday 11 November at 5.45pm, after which is a free meal served to all who attendees. following the meal is the NZ-Wide Pairs.

Directors

Our Chief Director, Sandy McKirdy is standing down. Sandy has done a magnificent job, not only in building and organising a team of Directors, but also coping with the covid outbreaks and Real Bridge. He has had to find approximately 350 directors, an extraordinary number. In addition to this Sandy always seems so cheerfully available, by phone but, at times, in person to give advice and assistance when things go wrong for other directors.

School Holiday Programme

In our effort to build our membership by encouraging young people into bridge, the club held another very successful school holiday programme was again very successful with eight tweens and teens attending these afternoon lessons. Some of these participants showed real promise and hopefully some will join our club, or another. A big thank you to the organisers, Anne-Marie Russell, Margaret Curnow and Fiona Palmer.



Matches against Other Club

The matches played against Palmerston North and the Prince Edward County Canadian Bridge Clubs were so successful that further matches are being arranged. These games are being arranged to give our players wider experiences, which is one of club's goals. The game against the Canadians will be **Wednesday 9 November at 1.00pm**. You will need to register for this event.

Monthly Results Club Series September 2022

Monday Online –Teams

- 1st Nebojsa Djorovic, Derek Snelling, Isobel Ross & David May
- 2nd Alan Grant, Anthony Ker, Stephen Henry, Annette Henry, Russell Wilson & Russell Dive

Tuesday - Capital Cup Pairs

- 1st Simon Havill & Leo Carton
- 2nd Mike Cui & Graham Ashworth

Wednesday - Woe Wilson Memorial Pairs

- 1st Cheryl Scott & Mike Roberts
- 2nd Bob Ure & Stuart Badger

Thursday – Stockman Salver Handicap Pairs

- 1st Ruth Brucker & Patti Poole
- 2nd Stephanie Smith & Helen Climo

Friday Owen Cup Handicap Pairs

- 1st Denise Barnett & Dougal Watson
- 2nd Sandie Lepper & Kathy O'Halloran

Recent Tournament Successes August/September 2022

National Congress

1st Open Teams Final: Peter Newall & Martin Reid

1st Open Swiss Pairs: N/S Gary Duncan & Les Gould

3rd Open Pairs Final: Alan Grant and Anthony Ker

3rd Open Restricted Teams: Bridget Hannaway, Tereska Knap Nan Wehipeihana and Ruth Brucker.



On the left. NZ Bridge Open Teams Congress winners featuring our boys Martin Read (3rd from right) and Peter Newall (2nd from right). We are lucky to have Martin and Peter as our club members. Not only are they champion players, in our experience they are great to play against, never patronising (even if we deserve it) and willing, if asked, to give advice.

On the right 3rd Open Restricted Teams, Back row Tereska Knap (left), Bridget Hannaway (our versatile club manager), front row Ruth Brucker (left) and Nan Wehipeihana.

Palmerston North 5A Swiss Pairs 24 September

3rd Anne-Marie Russell & Jack James

Wellington Region Junior Pairs 15 October

2nd Anne Gaskell & Ruth Harley

The Regional Committee were grateful to Wellington Club for holding this event. It was great to have so many players with the Waikanae club in particular, sending a large contingent, resplendent in black T-Shirts made especially for the tournament.



Ruth Harley, Margie Michael (Regional Secretary) and Anne Gaskell

Peter Benham Memorial Pairs 15 October

- 1st Ray Gruschow - Graeme Norman
- 2nd Stephen Henry - Annette Henry
- 3rd Sandy McKirdy - Graham Stronach
- 4th Mariusz Tumilowicz- Mindy Wu
- 5th Gregory Aldridge - Debbie McLeod

This was a wonderful day in Pete's memory; John Luoni not only dressed in colour, but in Pete's clothes; Brian Clever, Pete's bridge partner, won the raffle and Pete's life partner Anne Barr presented the trophy.



Thanks is also due to Forsyth Barr for the sponsorship the event.

On the left Chris Spring (Forsyth Barr) , Ray Gruschow , Graeme Norman and Anne Barr.

On the right Annette Henry , Chris Spring, Stephen Henry and Peter Newell (President).

Upcoming Events

30th October - Alan Grants Improvers Day. please email registrations wellingtonbridge@gmail.com

11th November AGM - followed by Dinner - then LoveBlock NZ Wide Pairs

8th December - Friday Afternoon - Visitors Day

9th December - Wellington Region Christmas Cheer

Regional Committee

The Regional Committee is holding a meeting with delegates from all the Bridge Clubs in the Wellington Region where we will be discussing among other matters the Interclub format for next year; 3+1 events, and the process of cancelling tournaments. As well we will listen to any concerns and worries our clubs are experiencing.

Directors' Training with Allan Joseph will be beginning soon, and the Regional Committee is covering the cost for these lessons for any one from the region who wishes to attend. It would be wonderful if we can encourage as many people as possible who are interested in understanding this important aspect of bridge to attend.

Nan Wehipeihana spoke to us about 3+1 tournaments which are an opportunity for Novices and Juniors to play with an expert player. These have been trialled and those attending have been very enthusiastic about these events. Nan has very generously offered to sponsor such Tournaments.

Planning is getting underway for both the Christmas Cheer Tournament and next years' Regional Congress to be held over Anzac weekend 2023.

From NZ Bridge

NZ Bridge reports that membership of Bridge nationally is on the rise with the number of members currently sitting at 12,925. They also tell us that their finances are in good shape (well I guess they are our finances, too, but NZ Bridge do sometimes feel very remote from the average bridge player). NZ Bridge has not yet completed the work in analysing the online review that was undertaken but they are hoping results will be available soon.

A men's team representing New Zealand has travelled to Jakarta for the Asian Cup. Three young players who you may well know have been included, Jack James, Jeremy Fraser-Hoskin and Leon Meier. We wish the whole team the best of luck.

Happy and successful Bridging and good health to you all

Margie Michael