

WBC News – April 2016

PUT IT IN YOUR DIARY ...

Wellington Congress – Anzac Weekend – please check details for entries on our website.

Please!!! 

We need kitchen helpers, Bar people and baking for Wellington Congress 23rd to 25th April. Please contact Bridget if you can spare an hour or two over the weekend.

Presidents Corner... Mindy Wu

The Committee has met and discussed the result of the recent survey and the outcomes are:

FINISHING TIME

Finishing later than 10.30pm appeared to be a concern for some members. There were a number of suggestions as to how late finishing time could be avoided such as starting earlier, have no tea break, and playing fewer boards, though there was no strong mandate for change. The Committee has decided that rather than changing things drastically, we will, as a first step, enforce the current rules more stringently:

- a) Players are to be seated at 7.20pm (as stated in the Club Rules), and at which time the Grade captain will read the notices.
- b) By 7.25pm the Director will have confirmed how many tables there are and what the movement will be. At that time, the director has full discretion to turn away late arrivals. (Exception: In Pairs event - unless the partner of the late arrival is already seated. If both late arrivals are playing together they may not be allowed to play. The situation is different for Teams events where the team must be present and there are rules around forfeiture/penalties if a team is late.)
- c) Tea breaks to be kept to around 10 minutes.

SLOW PLAY

Around 57% of the respondents saw this as an issue and a significant number of Wednesday and Thursday players would like to see more frequent application of a procedural penalty to correct slow play. The Committee agreed that:

- a) Procedural penalty will be more rigorously apply on Wednesday and Thursday.
- b) Late play of boards – the Director will use his/her discretion if a table has not started their second board with less than 3 minutes left on the clock. That discretion could extend to requesting the board be played after play or during supper, or applying a percentage score to the board, or scored as not played.

All these rules/discretionary power are already in place, we are just intending to apply them more than is currently the case.

MORE BRIDGE PLAYING OPPORTUNITIES

This was another suggestion by a majority of the respondents. The Committee has agreed to trial two extra playing opportunities from May till the end of year. They are:

- a) Wednesday daytime – open to all Wellington Club members.
- b) Sunday afternoon – open to all comers including non-members.

Details will be advertised once they are finalized.

CLUB MANAGER

Please remember that although Bridget is the Club Manager she is also a playing member of the club. Her office hours are 9am-3pm, Mon-Fri. Any administrative matters are to be dealt with during office hours, except in emergency or unforeseen circumstances.

Other matters related to the play/players/complaints etc please take it up with the Grade Captain, or the Director, or write to the Committee.



Saturday afternoon improvers play

. These little Saturday afternoon forums are running along well.. Please join us !

We are continuing to run the informal bridge sessions on fortnightly Saturday afternoons. Everyone plays the same hands and there is time built in for discussion of bidding and play after each hand, with an experienced player there to comment and give helpful advice. The purpose of the sessions is to assist with confidence and reinforce skills. This was set up as a bridging (*excuse the pun!*) time to assist players new to Tuesday evenings but anyone who feels they could benefit is welcome to attend. If this interests you, please contact Bridget for the timetable. No partner required. Next session Saturday 16 April

Tuition to Junior & Novice players prior to Wgtn Congress on ANZAC weekend

The Wellington Regional Committee wants to encourage novices and juniors to play in the Wellington Congress being held at our club over Anzac weekend and want to give some tuition to those players beforehand. They have decided that the easiest way to do this is through our Saturday sessions, so this coming Saturday 16 April, players from other clubs will be encouraged to attend and the Regional Committee will pay the table money for anyone who is registered for Congress. Mindy Wu will be running the sessions.

Pay and Play.... Nigel Kearney

The first three Tuesdays in March I played with David Fowler as part of the “Pay and Play” scheme. The bridge was variable but it’s a great social environment and lots of fun. Based on what I noticed playing on Tuesday, here are some general comments that may help people:

Bridge is not a game where you can succeed by following rules. Exceptions come up regularly. For example, you may have been taught that you need 6 HCP to respond if partner opens one of a suit. It’s not true. Most 5 HCP hands and quite a lot of 3-4 HCP hands should respond.

On board 12 on the first night I picked up ♠K7632 ♥865432 ♦4 ♣5 and David opened 1♦. I tried 1♥ and David rebid 2♣. There wasn’t much I could do except rebid 2♥. David put down an excellent dummy: ♠5 ♥AJ ♦A10765 ♣AQ842 and I was able to scramble eight tricks.

I would happily respond 1♥ to 1♦ with a less shapely hand, e.g. ♠Kxxx ♥xxxx ♦x ♣xxx. It is possible that something bad will happen such as partner jumping to 2NT or 3♦, but there are a number of ways we could end up better off than if I pass 1♦, and those are more likely. A five card major and/or shortage in partner’s suit are reasons in favour of bidding so I would pass 1♦ with ♠Kxxx ♥Jxxx ♦xx ♣xxx.

Some example of other ‘rules’ that should often not be followed are ‘second hand low’ and ‘cover an honour with an honour’. Understand the reasons these rules are there but consider each situation on its merits so you can recognize when those reasons don’t apply or other considerations are more important.

My second comment is probably the biggest thing that separates good players from average players. A good player builds up a mental picture of the hand, using information from the bidding and play, including inferences from bids and plays not chosen. The accuracy and completeness of this picture has a huge effect on your ability to make the right choices. Here is a hand that came up on the third night:

♠ 765
♥ Q972
♦ KJ83
♣ J8

♠ AJ3
♥ 108
♦ 7542
♣ A942



S	W	N	E
	Pass	Pass	Pass
1♣	Pass	1♦	Pass
1♥	Pass	2♥	Pass
4♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

I chose a diamond lead to the jack, queen and 6. David switched to the ♠10 and declarer played the ♠Q. Figure out as much as you can about the hand before reading further.

Partner must have ace and queen of diamonds so declarer needs all the other high cards to justify their 4♥ bid. If declarer has a second diamond loser it is not going anywhere so let’s assume they have a singleton. We know that partner has at least three spades and must therefore have the nine or he would have switched to a low one.

We therefore place declarer with ♠KQx ♥AKJx ♦x ♣KQxx and the thirteenth card may be a small spade or small club. If you are having difficulty forming a mental picture of the hand in this way, it may help to play against a computer (e.g. on BBO) to give yourself as much time as you need to do it properly.

Dealer W	♠ 765		
Vul N/S	♥ Q972		
	♦ KJ83		
	♣ J8		
♠ AJ3		♠ 1094	
♥ 108		♥ 543	
♦ 7542		♦ AQ109	
♣ A942		♣ 1053	
	♠ KQ82		
	♥ AKJ6		
	♦ 6		
	♣ KQ76		

Based on our analysis, it is clear that we need to win and return a spade, establishing a second trick there before it is too late. The full hand was:

On any return except a spade, declarer can win, knock out the ace of clubs and later discard a spade on a club winner then ruff out spades to establish ten tricks: two spades, four trumps, two ruffs and two clubs.

PAY AND PLAY. We have several players keen to improve their Bridge Play if you are available to give some coaching to others, specifically on Tuesday or Thursday Nights usually for a 3/4 week series please contact Bridget. In return they will pay your table money

Masterton Bridge Club entices new players with beginners' course

... extract from article on Stuff, 30 March 2016

Beneath the pleasant veneer of polite conversation and measured movements, the game of bridge fosters fierce competition and scheming alliances.

Wairarapa News paid a visit to the Masterton Bridge Club's Friday afternoon game last week to find out what it is about the four-person game that is so addictive.

Regular player Michael Rouse says it is a card game that elicits unusual passion and loyalty among its devotees who say there is nothing to match its ability to surprise and to teach.

"I love the game, the spirit of the game, and the animosity that creeps into it to keep it lively. I like that fact that there are some lovely rogues here, but not many people cheat. It's a very good club- social," he says.

Twelve tables sit evenly placed around the main room at the home of Masterton Bridge Club on the corner of Pownall and Villa streets, each with four seats for players. At first glance it appears that it is occupied by a gentile group of mostly older players whiling away the afternoon. But at closer enquiry it is plain to see the humour and competition between the participants that love the cut and thrust of the team game which rewards experience and tactical thinking.



Carparking...parking at a premium on the busy nights, if you park "in the middle" please remember to write your name and car registration on the whiteboard, then at the end of play move your car in a timely fashion.

	Welcome to New Members: James Andrew
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Monthly Pairs - Results from March 2016

Tuesday: Thelma Wylde Pairs 1 st Denise Barnett & Tegan Bennik 2 nd Gordon Streatfield & Graham Streatfield	Wednesday: Andrew Thompson Memorial Teams 1 st Martin Reid, Peter Newell, Charlie Cahn & Nigel Kearney 2 nd Kathy Kerr, Anthony Ker, Russell Dive & Gary Duncan
Thursday: J Robson Cup Pairs 1 st Anthea Black & Nan Wehipeihana 2 nd Jack Richardson & Lee Miller	Friday afternoon: Hobson Pairs 1 st Peter Benham & Russell Delahunty 2 nd Hans Evenbly & Kim Janor

Results from Recent Tournaments - Congratulations!

Paraparaumu Open 20th March 1 st Alan Grant and Anthony Ker 3 rd Russell Dive and Gary Duncan	Mixed Sex Pairs Karori – Easter Monday 1 st Nan Wehipeihana & Tani Blackburn 2 nd Kathy Ker & Anthony Ker 3 rd Carolyn Black & Johnny Davidson
South Wairarapa Junior 3rd April 2 nd Tegan Bennik & Denise Barnett.	Victoria Multi Grade 10th April 1 st Eileen Gray & Pat Knight 2 nd Chris Bolland & Sam Ward 3 rd Christine Haronga & Turei Haronga