

August 2019 Newsletter

President's corner

Hi everyone

Well here we are finally having a winter. I hope you are all keeping well or, if you have caught one of the dreaded lurgies, that it hasn't laid you low for too long. If you do have a lurgy, please don't bring it to share.

We have had a very busy July and early August at the club with the North Island Pairs, the Wellington Open and the Wellington Region Club Championship and I want to say a huge thank you to all of those who supported and helped in a myriad of ways to make the events we hosted such resounding successes. We really appreciate the help you gave. We rely on our members volunteering to help on these occasions and we couldn't do it without you.

Coming up at the beginning of September we have our clubs Junior and Intermediate pairs

tournament. Junior and Intermediate players – if you play in one tournament a year make it this one! It promises to be a great day with a big contingent coming up from Akaroa so let's show them so good Wellington hospitality as well as some great bridge.

That's it for August. I'm heading away for four weeks so see you again in mid-September.

Margaret



An injection of youth

Welcome to new members Victoria Boulton and Zamalia Kearney, both youth members. Victoria hails from Dunedin while Zamalia, who at 11 years, not only comes with great pedigree, but will be our youngest member. Please make them feel warmly welcomed.

The committee decided at this month's meeting to investigate setting up a Wellington Club section on BBO to try and get more young players involved, particularly school pupils. The idea is to have a WBC session online on a particular evening as well as our own online tournament.

Volunteer of the month



Brian Cleaver has for many years taken on possibly the most important job in the club – selecting and ordering the booze for the bar. Brian has always fielded frequent gripes and suggestions with his ready smile. The committee recognised his contribution by selecting him as our Volunteer of the Month. Thanks Brian.

PUT IT YOUR DIARY

Wellington Region Tournaments

- 18 August Upper Hutt Hutt Multigrade 8B
- 25 August Karori Open 8B
- 25 Otaki Intermediate/Junior 5B/3B
- **1 Sept Wellington Intermediate/Junior 5B/3B**
- 15 Sept Victoria Intermediate/Junior 5B/3B
- 22 South Wairarapa Multigrade 8B
- 28 Sept – 5 Oct National Congress
- 29 Sept Paraparaumu Multigrade 8B

Club series

- Tuesday Junior - Manoy Estate Teams - starts Aug 27

- Thursday/Intermediate – Porter Ladder - starts Sept 13
- Wednesday/Open –McDermont Cup Ladder – starts Sept 11
- FridayOwen Cup Handicap Pairs – starts Aug 23

Recent triumphs Tournaments

Levin Open Pairs 21 July

1st Anthony Ker & Charles Ker (Pictured top right)

Karori Intermediate Pairs 21 July

2nd Pauline Murtagh & Mike Murtagh

Wellington Open 28 July

1st Sandy McKirdy & Graeme Stronach

2nd Tegan Bennik & John Davidson
(pictured right)

3rd Annette Henry & Stephen Henry

North Island Pairs 3rd & 4th August

1st Sam & Jo Simpson

2nd Tom Jacob & Malcolm Mayer

3rd George Masters & Blair Fisher

4th Anthony Ker & Charles Ker

5th Michael Ware & Geo Tislevol

6th Karl Hayes & Nigel Kearney

Waikanae Multi Grade 4th August

1st Ruth Brucker & Dorothy Mackay

2nd Margaret Curnow & Maureen Pratchett

3rd Alison O’Dea & Alison Beer

Wellington Club Champs Team (pictured right)

Open - Nigel Kearney & Anthony Ker

Restricted - Maureen Pratchett & Stuart Badger

Intermediate - Tegan Bennik & Jeremy Morley

Junior Helen - Climo & Murray Climo



Club Series

Tuesday- Morton Salver Pairs

1st Megan Turner & Simon Havill

2nd Jocelyn Street & Wayne Stechman

Wednesday -United Nations Cup Pairs

1st Anthony Ker & Nigel Kearney

2nd Charles Cahn & John Luoni

Thursday - Blomeyer Cup BTF Team Pairs

1st Haley Fenwick Helen Climo Murray Climo & Mike Cox

2nd Allan Joseph Sandy Connon Alison O’Dea & Yiyang Wang

Friday - Pipitea Pairs

1st Graham Potter & Sylvia Johns

2nd Sophie Atkin & Joan Waldvogel

Quiz night raises the bar

A successful quiz evening raised over \$1200 which will go toward improving our bar facilities. Over 80 people in 10 teams participated and our thanks also to Quiz Maestro Dean Sole and MC Eric Frykberg. The Chess Club (pictured below) held onto their coveted title as quiz champs. Thanks also to those who provided prizes.



NZ Bridge reviewing the role of Regional Committee


New Zealand Bridge is reviewing the role of the Regional Committees which were originally set up before NZ Bridge came into existence. A task force comprising representation from the Regional Committees and the NZB Board is conducting the review. Comments are welcome.

AGM on Nov 1

The annual meeting will again be held in conjunction with the NZ-wide pairs, on Friday, Nov 1. A dinner will be provided to those attending the AGM.

Hesitations and what to do about them – Nigel Kearney

The hand below is from a recent pairs tournament.

<p>Dealer: W Vul: Nil</p> <p>♠ K ♥ Q84 ♦ AJ7642 ♣ QJ10</p>	<p>♠ Q643 ♥ A653 ♦ K953 ♣ 9</p>  <p>♠ A9852 ♥ - ♦ Q10 ♣ A87652</p>	<p>♠ J107 ♥ KJ10972 ♦ 8 ♣ K43</p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>S</th> <th>W</th> <th>N</th> <th>E</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td>P</td> <td>1♦</td> <td>2♥</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2♠</td> <td>3♥</td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4♣</td> <td>4♥</td> <td>P*</td> <td>P</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5♣</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>* Hesitation</p>	S	W	N	E		P	1♦	2♥	2♠	3♥	P	P	4♣	4♥	P*	P	5♣			
S	W	N	E																				
	P	1♦	2♥																				
2♠	3♥	P	P																				
4♣	4♥	P*	P																				
5♣																							

North's pass over 4H was made after a significant hesitation. South then bid 5C and the director was called. The hesitation is not an infraction. North is allowed to think before choosing a call. However the slow pass does transmit unauthorised information and that means South's options may be restricted.

The laws say South may not choose a call demonstrably suggested by the unauthorised information if there is a logical alternative. In practice that means you determine which calls are reasonable, then determine what the hesitation suggests, and try to choose a call not suggested by the hesitation.

Here the slow pass suggests North is not happy about passing 4H and is considering some other action, most likely double or 5C. Those are the calls suggested by the unauthorised information. It's not so easy to decide what South's logical alternatives are (that is usually the hard part in these situations).

I took a poll on bridgewinners.com on what South should do (without any mention of a hesitation). The voting is currently 22 for double, 15 for pass, 6 for 5C and 1 for 5D This is not a scientific poll by any means but it suggests that pass, double and 5C are all logical alternatives. Therefore South is legally required to pass as that is the action not suggested by the unauthorised information.

What happened at the table was the hand was played in 5C making 6. The director ruled that there was no logical alternative to 5C and therefore the result stands. Probably the director should have taken a poll himself to check what other players might have done as South. Since N/S got 23 out of 26 matchpoints but would have only received 2 out of 26 for 4H down two, South's choice to bid 5C plus the director's decision had a large impact.

A further lesson from this hand is the importance of not bidding your hand twice. South has already bid strongly, suggesting at least 10 black cards and close to an opening hand. Yet partner has shown no interest. In addition, South's suits are weak apart from the aces and those are useful on defence as well. If South's suits were QJ10xx and KQ10xxx the case for bidding would be much stronger. North should probably have bid 5C over 4H but when they didn't, it's doubtful that South should keep bidding and I prefer double.

WBC Blackcaps supporters club – Simon Louisson

A reasonable contingent of Wellington Bridge Club members travelled to the UK to support the Blackcaps' winning efforts at the cricket World Cup (despite a quirk of the rules deeming that England somehow stole the trophy despite being all out in the Final for the same total as the Kiwis, who were only eight down. Some of the WBC Beige and Purple Brigade Supporters Club, including Margie Michael and Mark Rowe, met up at a sodden Nottingham for the first India v NZ game that was washed out.





The night before the none-game, Brad Tattersfield and I played at the small but friendly Nottingham Bridge Club, where the playing standard was similar to our Wednesday night. Next day we had a disappointing day at the famous Trent Bridge ground, with play finally abandoned late

afternoon and WBC members repairing to a pub outside the ground. Like a boy scout, I had packed a deck of cards for such an eventuality although it turned out that working out what the cards, designed by top British artists, were, took more skill than finding the right contract or playing them, especially after the third pint.

Brad and I also cycled across northern England on coast-to-coast (C2C) cycleway through the Lake District and over the Pennines which was both challenging and satisfying.

