

July 2019 Newsletter

President's corner – Margaret Curnow

Hi everyone

What a busy month we have in July. All our events are mentioned below, with the first being the quiz on Friday night - and it's not too late to get a team together!

You may remember that in last month's newsletter I urged club members to support our various events and you came up trumps (so to speak!) with fabulous food and kitchen volunteers at the Wellington Region Teams event on 28-29 June. Thank you to everyone who contributed to the success of that weekend. The photo below shows the great spread we had for morning tea.

I had some feedback after the newsletter reminding me that Wellington Club does hold significantly more tournaments than other clubs as most, if not all, Wellington Regional events are held at our club, and that puts much greater demand on our members. As a result of these conversations, I am currently talking with the regional committee about how we might share the member support required for their events, thus reducing the pressure on our members. I will let you know the outcome next month – meanwhile any help you can give for the July tournaments will be very gratefully received.



Finally, a reminder about winter and staying well. A full bridge room with heating on and people sitting closely together is an ideal environment for the spread of coughs, colds and flu. If you are not well, please keep your germs with you at home – your fellow bridge players thank you in advance!

Welcome to new members

We welcome Brian Fitzsimons, Mairi Fitzsimons & Timothy Roberts.

PUT IT YOUR DIARY

Wellington Region Tournaments

- 21 July Paraparaumu Junior
- 21 July Karori Intermediate
- **28 July Wellington Open, Wellington Club (5A)**
- 28 July Kapi Mana Intermediate & Junior
- **3-4 August North Island Pairs, Wellington Club (20A)**
- 4 August Waikanae Multigrade
- 11 August Hutt Intermediate.





Helpers required...

For Wellington Open on 28th July & North Island Pairs on the 3rd and 4th August.
If you are able to spare an hour or two, we would greatly appreciate your help.
Please contact Bridget.

Recent triumphs

Tuesday Neal Trophy Pairs

1st Christopher Taylor & Richard Gawith
2nd Megan Turner & Sue Storer

Thursday Bill Joss Memorial Swiss Pairs

1st Turei Haronga & Christine Haronga
2nd Mairi Fitzsimons & Brian Fitzsimons

Friday Winter Pairs

1st Rhondda Sweetman & Cheryl Scott
2nd Valerie Rhodes & George Westermayer

Tournaments

Victoria Swiss Pairs 9th June

1st Maciej Szczesny & Mariusz Tumilowicz
2nd Patrick D'Arcy & Graeme Norman
3rd Anthony Ker & Russell Dive

Masterton Junior Pairs 23rd June

2nd Simon Dixie & Grant Poulton

Karori Junior Pairs 9th June

3rd Richard Gawith & Christopher Taylor

Kapi Mana Open 23rd June

1st Eleanor Morel & Lorraine McArthur
2nd Graham Stronach & Sandy McKirdy
3rd = Kathy Ker & Murray McMillan
3rd = Peter Delahunty & Lynda Rigler

Wellington Region 10A Teams 29/30 June

1st Martin Reid Peter Newell (**pictured**) Michael Ware & Hugh McGann
2nd Alan Grant Tegan Bennik John Skipper & Jane Skipper
3rd John Luoni John Patterson Murat Genc & Mindy Wu
Top Team with <750RP Ruth Brucker Phil Revell Anthea Black & Dorothy Mackay

Kairangi Multi-grade Teams

1st Nelson Proctor Peter Newell Elizabeth Schuck, Dougal Watson
2nd Jude Manhart Loretta Wong Lester Goodfellow Peter Jackson
3rd Helen Fitzgerald Mariusz Tumilowicz Tymek Tumilowicz Barbara Tumilowicz



QUIZ NIGHT - Friday 12th July @ 6.30 pm **Start time 7.00pm.**

ALL funds raised on the night go towards the Bar upgrade
Please register your team with Bridget
wellingtonbridge@gmail.com or Phone 04 972 4311
Quiz Master DEAN SOLE
Master of Ceremonies ERIC FRYKBERG
Tickets only \$20. Nibbles provided. Cash Bar.



Never give up!

NORTH

AQ85
AK54
K103
K10

EAST

4
QJ82
Q764
9652

WEST

J1096
963
852
Q73

SOUTH

K732
107
AJ9
AJ84

Elizabeth Schuck and Dougal Watson bid to 7NT on Sunday at the Kairangi multi grade tournament. After South's opening 1NT and checking that they had all the aces and kings they settled in 7NT. No suits were bid. This is a poor contract, queens and even jacks often play an important part in NT slams. Further playing in a 4-4 fit often provides advantages, on this hand 6S is the best contract, with 6NT not very good needing a spade split and 2 finesses.

West on lead does best to try and find a passive lead to avoid helping declaring finding the queens. However, against Elizabeth the lead was the queen of hearts, normal against 3NT but very risky against 6NT. 7NT looked hopeless, but one should never give up. Elizabeth won the first trick with the ace of hearts and played two rounds of spades winning the second round with the king and found the bad news, only three spade tricks.

Now Elizabeth played the 10 of hearts. Having led the queen, West should have covered with the jack but assumed declarer had the 9 and didn't, so that was an unexpected trick and a little bit closer. Now Elizabeth took the diamond finesse through west who was more likely to hold diamond length and therefore the queen as west had shown up with 1 spade, so Elizabeth now had 11 tricks. With successful club finesse the total came to 12 and then west came under pressure having to keep 4 clubs and 4 hearts and erred leaving Elizabeth to score the 13th and final trick with the 5 of hearts. 7NT making seven, 2220, which left their teammates rather stunned as they had defeated 6NT by two tricks after a normal club lead.
(written by Peter Newell)

**The Big and the Small Hands –
Some hands from APBF in Singapore by Alan Grant**

How to gain 8 IMPs defending a one-level contract

12

♠ A432

♥ J

♦ K6542

♣ AT9

Dir: W

Vul: NS

♠ K6

♥ A4

♦ AQJT

♣ KQ743

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ T85

♥ T97532

♦ 97

♣ J8

Datum 40

♠ QJ97

♥ KQ86

♦ 83

♣ 652

Against Japan round robin 2-match 12 in the Seniors, my partner John Skipper opened the West hand 1C (we are playing 2/1). Next hand overcalled 1D on their (poor quality!) 5-card suit. Having only one point, I naturally passed. South didn't see any need to bid at this stage and passed too. John, sitting West noted NS's vulnerability – and also chose to defend 1D and passed on his 19 count!

In the play I led the ♥10, taken by the Ace and John noted declarer's play of the ♥J. He switched to the ♣K and noted my (reverse) encouraging ♣8 (he can see all the lower spots than the 8), and continued with the ♣A as I followed with the ♣J. Declarer has no way to enter dummy without losing a spade trick – so they led the ♠2 to the ♠Q and ♠K. John now cashes the ♣Q and, after some thought noting the spots in dummy continues with a 4th ♣ as declarer pitches a spade from hand and I ruff with the ♦9, higher than dummy's ♦8. I continued a spade to dummy's ♠J and declarer cashes their ♥K pitching the ♠A (!) from their hand. From this point, declarer can just make their long (5th) ♦ and the ♦K but must lose the remaining tricks to John's ♦AQJ to be kept to a total of just 5 tricks and 2-off in their 1D contract! +200 for our team gained +8 IMPs to the team on the board (+6 relative to the datum).

Elimination and end-play, to make a slam and save the match against India (Seniors – match 15)

As North you hold the following hand:

♠ KQ874

♥ J85

♦ 853

♣ AJ

Dir: E

Vul: Both

After East's pass, your partner opens 2C, strong. In our methods, while this is not strictly game forcing, it becomes so unless you show a bust (0-2pts) on the first response (by bidding 2H or 2S). However, this hand is clearly worth a positive bid, so you bid 3S. Next comes 4NT Roman key card from partner and you bid 5S to show your 2 key cards and the Q of spades. Partner then asks for specific outside kings with 5NT and when you don't show any with your 6S bid, this becomes the final contract.

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
		Pass	2 ♣
Pass	3 ♠	Pass	4 NT
Pass	5 ♠	Pass	5 NT
Pass	6 ♠	All pass	

After East's ♦J lead, partner puts down the following dummy:

♠ AJT95
♥ AK72
♦ AQ6
♣ K

If you want two challenges, before reading ahead:

- (A) Think through how would you play this hand if you received a non-diamond lead, before reading ahead?
- (B) For a harder challenge – how would you play this on the ♦J lead that I received?

In the situation I was in - this slam is not looking too promising now! Defenders at this level are not known for leading away from Kings against slams – so it looks like the ♦ King is almost certainly off-side; sitting over the AQx. At this point you may be wishing partner was playing it - so the ♦ lead would go up to his hand rather than through the vulnerable ♦ AQx holding in dummy.

So what real chances are there of making this contract? Even if I can avoid two diamond losers there is still a likely chance of a ♥ loser as well. Maybe there's a chance of an elimination and end-play and so I decide to try for that, as I think it's my best shot.

So I unblock the ♣K and draw three rounds of trumps ending in my hand (as West shows out on the first round). Then the ♣A pitching a diamond off the dummy (baring the Q). Now lead a diamond to the Q, won by West's King. I feel there is some hope as West thinks for quite a while before exiting with ♥4 (it's not hard for them to work out that a club continuation will give me a ruff and a discard and the contract). So now is the time to see if the end-play worked. Up with the ♥J, and it wins! The contract is made 😊

Here is the full deal:

10

♠ KQ874

♥ J85

♦ 853

♣ AJ

Dir: E

Vul: Both

Datum 480

♠

♥ Q94

♦ K4

♣ T9876543

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ 632

♥ T63

♦ JT972

♣ Q2

♠ AJT95

♥ AK72

♦ AQ6

♣ K

After the ♦A, the ♣K and 3 rounds of trumps and the ♣A, pitching a ♦ from the dummy - the remaining cards are:

10

♠ Q8

♥ J85

♦ 83

♣ -

Dir: E

Vul: Both

♠ -

♥ Q94

♦ K

♣ T98

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ -

♥ T63

♦ T972

♣ -

♠ T9

♥ AK72

♦ Q

♣ -

Now after a diamond to the Q and K; West has no answer – his best hope is to lead a ♥ and either find partner with the ♥J or get me to guess wrong.

At the other table the Indian declarer was fortunate to be able to play it from the South side and found an alternative, more straightforward end-play line to make it. However, the APBF results show this slam was made at less than half the tables playing it (while almost everyone bid 6S) and making it at our table saved the match – which we would otherwise have lost.

The alternative line that declarers used when they were fortunate enough to play it without the ♦ lead through the AQx was written up in one of the APBF bulletins: First draw trumps, eliminate clubs (discarding a ♦ from the South hand) and then play 3 rounds of ♥s – West is in with the ♥Q but is now end-played to lead a ♦ into the AQ or a club for a ruff and a discard.

Billets Required -Friday 16th and Saturday 17th August

We are hosting the NZ Bridge Teachers Conference. Some of the out of town attendees would appreciate a bed for a night or two. Please contact Bridget if you can help.



Hand Holders for Sale

We currently have a stock of these hand holders for Sale. \$20 from the Office.



Pay and Play – if you are wanting to improve your game, we have experienced players who will assist by playing with you for a night or a series. All you do is pay their table money and reap the benefits. Contact Bridget –who will arrange a suitable player.