

June 2020 Newsletter

President's Corner – Margaret Curnow

See you soon

Kia Ora everyone

What great news! We are out of lockdown and social distancing, allowing us to return to live bridge. It has all happened faster than expected or hoped for, so let's celebrate by joining in. Even though in our last newsletter we were celebrating reopening of the club playing live bridge, that was not quite going to be bridge we knew it – with restrictions on what type of bridge we played and how we interacted. Now, with Aotearoa moving to Level 1, we can truly resume as we were.



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Our programme and plans have of course been disrupted, but as far as possible we will stick to what we had planned for the second half of the year. We needed to rejig some of the schedules with the aim being to prioritise premier events. NZ Bridge has decided that tournaments that have been affected by the lockdown will not be rescheduled as that would disrupt those still in place. The exception will be the Poppy Roberts, which will essentially continue as planned.

Some of you might be cautious about returning to live bridge. It may take some time to adjust to this new world we are now living in. Social distancing has become such a constant and now it is no more. One of the benefits of the social distancing during lockdown has been that the prevalence of the usual seasonal as colds and flu is far below what is usual for this time of year. I think we are now far more aware of the dangers of spreading flu and the like and the bridge club is requesting that members not come to bridge if you are feeling unwell and there is risk of you spreading your lurgy. We will be asking our grade captains to be proactive in asking people to go home if they are clearly unwell and at risk of affecting others. But if you are well, as I trust and expect most of you are, then I urge you all to come along and re-experience the fun and excitement of live bridge.

Wellington Regional Teams Event to proceed

Our club will host the 10A Wellington Regional Teams event on June 27th and 28th – one of the first major tournaments back on the programme as live bridge returns. Get your teams together and put your entry in to NZ Bridge.

Our rescheduled programme

Great to be back to near normal. The Committee has decided to stick with the teams event set up when we were expecting Level 2 to continue until June 22. There will still be some special procedures in place when the club reopens this week, such as registering when you enter and having a caddy service for beverages. The furniture and carpets have been professionally cleaned. The seating will still be spaced out initially so everyone feels comfortable. Essentially, the plan is to be as vigilant initially as if we were still in Level 2.

When rejigging the schedule, the Committee decided to prioritise premier events like the Paul Titcombe and Co Premier Teams and Poppy Roberts for Wednesday nighters, the Neal Salver Pairs (Thursday) and the Hand Trophy Pairs (Tuesday). The Poppy Roberts has been reduced to six events in the round-robin, but will still have a three-match finals round.

WELLINGTON BRIDGE CLUB Inc



The following is our rescheduled program:

Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday	
9/06/2020	Re-Opening Teams	10/06/2020	Re-Opening Teams	11/06/2020	Re-Opening Teams	12/06/2020	Re-Opening Teams
16/06/2020	Re-Opening Teams	17/06/2020	Re-Opening Teams	17/06/2020	Re-Opening Teams	19/06/2020	Re-Opening Teams
23/06/2020	Re-Opening Teams	24/06/2020	Re-Opening Teams	25/06/2020	Re-Opening Teams	26/06/2020	Re-Opening Teams
30/06/2020	Hand Trophy Pairs 3						
7/07/2020	Hand Trophy Pairs 4	1/07/2020	PT Premier Teams 1	2/07/2020	Neal Salver Pairs 3	3/07/2020	Gladys Taylor (2)
14/07/2020	Hand Trophy Pairs 5	8/07/2020	PT Premier Teams 2	9/07/2020	President Cup Teams	10/07/2020	Gladys Taylor (3)
21/07/2020	Hand Trophy Pairs 6	15/07/2020	Poppy Roberts 2	16/07/2020	President Cup Teams	17/07/2020	Gladys Taylor (4)
28/07/2020	Manoy Estate Teams	22/07/2020	Poppy Roberts 3	23/07/2020	President Cup Teams	24/07/2020	Tinakori Pairs
		29/07/2020	PT Premier Teams 3	30/07/2020	President Cup Teams	31/07/2020	Tinakori Pairs
4/08/2020	Manoy Estate Teams	5/08/2020	Schneideman Salver Teams	6/08/2020	John Fairbairn Cup	7/08/2020	Tinakori Pairs
11/08/2020	Manoy Estate Teams	12/08/2020	Schneideman Salver Teams	13/08/2020	John Fairbairn Cup	14/08/2020	Gladys Taylor (5)
18/08/2020	Manoy Estate Teams	19/08/2020	Schneideman Salver Teams	20/08/2020	John Fairbairn Cup	21/08/2020	Owen Cup Handicap
25/08/2020	Hand Trophy Pairs 7	26/08/2020	Schneideman Salver Teams	27/08/2020	John Fairbairn Cup	28/08/2020	Owen Cup Handicap
1/09/2020	Capital Cup Pairs	2/09/2020	Poppy Roberts 4	3/09/2020	Neal Salver Pairs 4	4/09/2020	Owen Cup Handicap
8/09/2020	Capital Cup Pairs	9/09/2020	PT Premier Teams 4	10/09/2020	Neal Salver Pairs 5	11/09/2020	Owen Cup Handicap
15/09/2020	Capital Cup Pairs	16/09/2020	PT Premier Teams 5	17/09/2020	Neal Salver Pairs 6	18/09/2020	Gladys Taylor (6)
22/09/2020	Hand Trophy Pairs 8	23/09/2020	Poppy Roberts 5	24/09/2020	Neal Salver Pairs 7	25/09/2020	Spring Pairs
29/09/2020	Tinakori Salver Pairs	30/09/2020	NZ Congress Individual				
6/10/2020	Tinakori Salver Pairs	7/10/2020	Woe Wilson Mem Pairs H'cap	1/10/2020	NZ Congress Individual	2/10/2020	Spring Pairs
13/10/2020	Tinakori Salver Pairs	14/10/2020	Woe Wilson Mem Pairs H'cap	8/10/2020	Stockman Salver Handicap	9/10/2020	Spring Pairs
20/10/2020	Thorndon Trophy Handicap	21/10/2020	Woe Wilson Mem Pairs H'cap	15/10/2020	Stockman Salver Handicap	16/10/2020	Gladys Taylor (7)
27/10/2020	Thorndon Trophy Handicap	28/10/2020	Poppy Roberts 6	22/10/2020	Stockman Salver Handicap	23/10/2020	Gloria & Neil Crabbe
				29/10/2020	Stockman Salver Handicap	30/10/2020	Gloria & Neil Crabbe
3/11/2020	Thorndon Trophy Handicap	4/11/2020	Poppy Roberts Finals/Plate	5/11/2020	Robson Cup Teams	6/11/2020	Gloria & Neil Crabbe
10/11/2020	Thorndon Trophy Handicap	11/11/2020	Poppy Roberts Finals/Plate	12/11/2020	Robson Cup Teams	13/11/2020	Gladys Taylor (8)
17/11/2020	Committee Cup Pairs	18/11/2020	Poppy Roberts Finals/Plate	19/11/2020	Robson Cup Teams	20/11/2020	Summer Pairs
24/11/2020	Committee Cup Pairs	25/11/2020	PT Premier Teams Final	26/11/2020	Robson Cup Teams	27/11/2020	Summer Pairs
1/12/2020	Committee Cup Pairs	2/12/2020	PT Premier Teams Final	3/12/2020	Bill Te Tau Summer Pairs	4/12/2020	Summer Pairs
8/12/2020	Committee Cup Pairs	9/12/2020	PT Premier Teams Final	10/12/2020	Bill Te Tau Summer Pairs	11/12/2020	Visitors Day
Hand Trophy same number		2 less Poppy roberts rounds		1 less Neal Salver		2 less Gladys Taylor	

PUT IT IN YOUR DIARY

Wellington Region Tournaments

Masterton Intermediate/Junior 5B/3B- Sunday, June 21
 Kapi Mana Open 5A – Sunday, June 21
 Wellington Regional Teams 10/A - - Saturday 27 & Sunday, June 28,
 Kairangi Multigrade Teams 8B – Sunday, July 5

Club series

Tuesday– Hand Trophy Pairs resumes – starts June 30
 Tuesday– Manoy Estate Teams – starts July 28
 Thursday – Neal Salver Pairs resumes – July 2
 Thursday– President’s Cup Teams – July 9
 Wednesday– Paul Titcombe Lowe & Co Premier Teams – July 1
 Wednesday – Poppy Roberts (Round 2) – July 22
 Friday – Gladys Taylor Pairs – resumes July 3rd

NZ Bridge explains why they won't reschedule tournaments

As we edge towards a return to bridge at the table, we are receiving several requests regarding rescheduling tournaments that were cancelled due to the covid-19 lockdown. During that period, we lost 122 Club tournaments, 2 National events, 7 Regional Congress's and our Interprovincial Trials. Significant work is undertaken each year to put together a schedule whereby a clash of events either within or between neighbouring regions is avoided. In the interest of fairness to those events scheduled for the remainder of the year, we will not be rescheduling any of the cancelled tournaments, or as we have been asked to do, adding additional events to the calendar for 2020. Regions, Clubs & Players are asked to support this decision. With a return to the table likely within a matter of days there will be ample opportunities for tournament play for all players including the National Congress in September. To misquote the American actor Robin Williams "reality is just a crutch for people who can't play Bridge".

Club finances

Treasurer Donna Upchurch says that while the club has been financially affected by the loss of table money, bar takings and rental as result of the lockdown, the club's finances remain in relatively sound shape. A revamped budget forecast a small loss for the year to July 31. Many thanks to Donna for her sterling extra work during the lockdown which has gone well beyond just doing her job.

Men's toilets upgrade complete

The upgrade of the men's toilets has been completed during the lockdown. Thanks to Bridget's efficient management, the work has finished very quickly. Now that the men have first class facilities, please ensure you have first class hygiene habits. To quote Jacinda and others: "Wash your hands, wash your hands, wash your hands."

Lessons back live

Alan Grant's lessons are returning to live action. Allan did an excellent job taking the lessons online but he reckons there is another dimension when you are teaching face-to-face. The second set of lessons was due to start this month. An announcement on when they will begin will be made soon, with the series likely to begin next month.

Special thanks to Bridget

Our club is a healthy state in all ways in large part due to the fantastic work of our manager Bridget Hannaway-Willcox. As a sole employee, it can be a lonely job and doing it during lockdown makes it more solitary. Always doing a great job during normal times, Bridget has excelled during the lockdown. She has managed things like the online bridge, the programme and tournament reschedule, the committee's numerous zoom meetings, getting the club ready to play under Level 2 restrictions, the toilet upgrade etc etc. We have all benefited enormously from her calm competence, her common sense and her proactive approach. Many, many thanks Bridget.

