

WBC News – April 2013

PUT IT IN YOUR DIARY ...

Interprovincial Trials 2013, Saturday May 25 and/or Sunday May 26 at Victoria Bridge Club.
Entries to Joan Waldvogel forestbird@xtra.co.nz or on our notice board/website.

Casual bridge – it's on again

A reminder that the club is hosting casual bridge every second Tuesday from 7.30 pm – the next session is on Tuesday 16 April. This is a chance to play bridge in a more relaxed format than regular club nights, with plenty of time to play each board, a senior player available to discuss hands, and an early finish (around 9.30 pm). If this sounds like you, or you have friends who could be interested, please contact the organiser, Brad Tattersfield, at bradandjill@xtra.co.nz or 021 784 101 – or just turn up on the night.

Presidents Corner... Kevin Walker

The committee recently discussed a proposal to upgrade the status of the Schneideman Memorial Premier Teams event to make it a 5A event similar to the Poppy Roberts pairs event. The Wellington Regional committee has indicated support in requesting New Zealand Bridge to put this on the 2014 calendar. There will be two main changes that would occur if we are successful in the premier Teams event gaining 5A status. Firstly the substitution rules would need to comply with the NZ Bridge Manual (more restrictive than what is currently in place) and secondly A points would be awarded to winning teams through preliminary and finals rounds. At this stage it is not proposed to change the format of the event with 5 preliminary rounds and 3 finals rounds in the later part of the year.

Given the success of the Poppy Roberts pairs event, the committee felt that an equivalent Teams event through the year would benefit the club and bridge in the region, and therefore have agreed in principle to make an application subject to any feedback from club membership.

The committee considered that this matter had not been widely discussed by the club and therefore, before making the final decision, feedback is being sought from members. The application needs to be forwarded by the end of April. Therefore anyone who would like to make a comment (in particular if you think this is not a good idea) please discuss with a committee member and /or email Bridget your thoughts by the end of next week.

Congratulations Alan Grant, Anthony Ker, Peter Newell & Martin Reid!

NZ Bridge announced the following International Teams to represent NZ Bridge in 2013.

Open

APBF Hong Kong

Ashley Bach / Michael Cornell

GeO Tislevoll / Michael Ware

Alan Grant / Anthony Ker

Reserve Pair

Patrick Carter / Tom Jacob

WBF Bali

Ashley Bach / Michael Cornell

GeO Tislevoll / Michael Ware

Peter Newell / Martin Reid

Reserve Pair

Patrick Carter / Tom Jacob

Congratulations also to **John Cormack and Tony Thomson** who are the Senior Reserve Pair for Hong Kong and Bali. [Hong Kong, 7-16 June 2013; Bali, 16-29 September].

Main Centre Pairs 10A – 23 and 24 March

The weekend Main Centre 10A Pairs tournament attracted only 32 pairs, 23-24 March. While it was a very enjoyable and friendly tournament, all the players were from the Wellington Bridge Club with the exception of 10 players from Auckland, Wanganui and the Hutt. In fact, overall, we had better numbers at the Wellington Open Tournament in February attracting 46 pairs. So why so few out of town visitors you might ask? Where were the usual Horowhenua, Palmerston North, Wairarapa, Hawkes Bay players? They were playing at the Waipukurau Open Pairs 5A tournament - possibly the Hutt Bridge Club AGM on the Sunday also clashed. Surely for the Wellington region's only 10A tournament, the bridge year calendar should have a sanity check to make sure two regional major tournaments are not held on the same weekend!

However we did enjoy – three sessions of qualifying on the Saturday, one session of the final/plate on Sunday morning, lunch, and then the last session and prizegiving. Many thanks to Allan Joseph who was kept very busy directing, ably assisted by Sue Brown on Sunday; to our many members who baked biscuits and cakes and helped in the kitchen and to Bridget Willcox who is a wizard organising behind the scenes.



Alan Grant & Anthony Ker



Karl Hayes & John Luoni

Congratulations to the winners of the final:

- 1st** *Alan Grant & Anthony Ker*
- 2nd** *Karl Hayes & John Luoni*
- 3rd** *Stephen Henry & Stephen Blackstock*
- 4th** *Patrick Carter & Tom Jacob*

Congratulations to the winners of the plate: **Barbara Daly and Lyn Mansfield**

Good acts of sportsmanship

We were defending against Patrick Carter and Tom Jacob as declarer. Partner made the opening lead, dummy played and the next dummy being me pulled out the wrong card and put it on the table. It was beyond the simultaneous rule and I said nothing but Tom told me to pick it up. I said I was willing to leave it there but he said in effect it was clearly inadvertent and he didn't want to take advantage. Jacob gave up an overtrick and a good number of match points.

The next act was the last board of a session playing Steph Jacobs and Susan Humphries. We had gone down 1NTX for a clear bottom board. At lunch Susan came up to us and said that the hand on the hand records was not the hand she had played. The board had been fouled. However being the last board no one would have picked it up and it was not a radical difference between the hands and we had not and would not have picked it up either. Susan on her own initiative went to the director to get the result changed; again with a resulting loss of match points for them. **Peter Barker**

Levin Easter Multigrade Tournament



This is always a popular tournament, and a strong Wellington Bridge Club contingent helped make up the 21 tables and collected a bunch of prizes.

3rd Paul Maxwell & Gail Tippett

Also collecting prizes were: **Carolyn Black & Jenny Delany; Isobel Ross & Derek Snelling and Sue E Brown & Jane Windle.**

The annual Gentlemen v Players match



Left: John Jowett, Pete Benham, Rex Benson, Ross Quayle, Doreen Wilkinson, Dale Lacey, Simon Arnold, Charlie Cahn.

The annual Gentlemen v Players match for the Doreen Wilkinson Challenge Trophy was played on March 16th. In a reversal of last year's result, *The Players* (Doreen Wilkinson (Captain), Ross Quayle, Simon Arnold & Rex Benson) narrowly defeated *The Gentlemen* (Dale Lacey (Captain), Charlie Cahn, Peter Benham & John Jowett) by 102-88 IMPS, in a 48 board match (3x16 with rotating partners). A standard bidding system

was played throughout and by all, being a simplified form of Acol, circa late 1970s. Doreen comes from Sydney every year for this event: WBC members might spot her on the Honours Board as NZ rep. D Gravis, 1979.

The brainchild of Charlie and Dale, the GvP was first contested in 2006, and brings together current and former players who have known each other for decades. The post-university active years for the 2013 participants have been variously: Doreen (1970-1985), Ross (1966-1981, 2007+), Simon (1967-1985,2012+), Rex (1970-1980,1999+), Dale (1966-1979), Charlie (1967+), Pete (1970+), and John (1970-1990).

Rex Benson



What's happening with the Bar? You ask...

Answer: the bar is going well with the new money box system.

Playing Numbers Swell

Such is the popularity of the monthly Wellington Wednesday Open Poppy Roberts Trophy Pairs, we had a record number of **38** tables last Wednesday 3 April.

Defibrillator News:

We need to organise training and we are told this will take approximately an hour and a half. A Saturday morning, date to be advised, sounds like a good idea. You may have seen "it" hanging on the wall and the Free Ambulance are going to provide a sign.

Interclub 2013

This year we have interclub here 6 times out of nine, because of the number of teams we have (and Kairangi not hosting).

Basics Quiz (courtesy ACBL newsletter)

YOU

♥KJ108532

DUMMY

♥976

Question: As declarer in a heart contract, you lead the ♥9 from dummy and right hand opponent (RHO) follows with the ♥4. Should you let the nine ride or go up with the King?

Answer: Many players confronted by this suit have a blind spot, believing it is simply a matter of guessing which opponent has the Queen and which has the Ace. If the Queen is behind them, they reason, then it is right to put up the King; but if LHO has the Ace, then it is right to finesse the nine. The flaw in this reasoning is that it does not allow for a third pertinent case: the one where RHO started with AQ4. Going up with the King in this case will give declarer two losers in the suit when he actually began with only one. Thus, since running the 9 wins against AQ4 or Q4 in RHO's hand, and loses only when RHO has A-4, it is clearly the correct percentage play and eliminates any need to flip a coin.

Failing to listen to the auction!

Courtesy: extract from St Louis Spring Nationals bulletin Wednesday, March 20, 2013 (Brent Manley]

Suppose you are dealt this hand:

♠KJ98 ♥987 ♦KQJ8 ♣87

You are in second seat as South and take part in this auction:

West	North	East	South
		1♠	Pass,
1NT	Pass	2♥	Pass,
3♥	Pass	4♥	All Pass

What will you lead? Your powerful diamond suit is very tempting – but only if you were not listening to the auction. Can you guess what declarer's hand looks like? What does the auction tell you?

Well, East started with five spades and has at least four hearts, and he thought his hand was good enough to accept an invitation to game. What's the best holding in spades that declarer can have? Right: AQ1076, perhaps with one extra. Now, how about West? He surely has four or more hearts and frequently will have two or fewer spades.

You are sitting "behind" declarer, so you almost surely have three natural tricks in spades. Can declarer do anything about that? Sure, he can ruff his losing spades in dummy – if you let him. By now, you have probably guessed that you should put that ♦K back in your hand and start off with a trump. If dummy has only four trumps and, say, a doubleton spade, you have probably hit on the killing lead. You will certainly get in with a spade, and when you do, you can play another trump. Even if you don't defeat 4♥, in a pairs game the trump lead will very likely save an overtrick, which could be worth a lot of match points for you against the players who, unlike you, were not listening to the bidding.

Wellington Regional Bridge Committee's minutes. It was interesting to note from the minutes of a meeting of regional club representatives in February a couple of items:

- Rubber Bridge: "nearly all of the 22 entries to date were from the Wellington Club although the rubber bridge competition was a regional event".
- Prizes for club events: Most clubs reported that they give supper tickets and/or trophies/certificates for event winners. Wellington and Kapimana are the only clubs that give supper tickets for each night's winners".



Recent High Scores

Nan Wehipeihana / Alex Swainson **70.58%** - J Robson Cup Pairs, Thursday 14 March

Free lesson: Thank you to Nigel Kearney for his lesson last month on "***Counting – who's got what***". A very good muster of Thursday nighters turned up.

Next lesson by Anthony Ker is Thursday 2 May at 6.30 pm – subject by request is "***To double or not to double - takeout or penalties?***".

[We are so fortunate to have these lessons/continuing education throughout the year, much appreciated. Ed]

Results from Recent Tournaments

<p>Auckland Easter 10A Teams</p> <p>Congratulations to Anthony Ker & Alan Grant, members of the winning team; and to Stephen Blackstock & Stephen Henry, members of the team placed 2nd.</p>	<p>Victoria Multigrade 8B - Sunday 7 April</p> <p>2nd John Luoni & Derek Snelling 3rd Allan Joseph & Judy Manhart 4th Jenny Coulter & Ross Craig</p> <p>George Westermeyer and Malcolm Greig were top Intermediate pair.</p>
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Board Elections March 2013

New Zealand Bridge congratulates Shirley Newton and Murray Wiggins, the successful candidates in the recent Board elections

Club Results from March 2013:

Tuesday - Thelma Wylde Pairs

1st Greta Keur & Anna Locker Lampson
 2nd Paul Devadatta & Rob Egginson

Wednesday - Schneideman Salver Teams

1st HAYES TEAM: Alan Grant, Anthony Ker, John Luoni, Karl Hayes.
 2nd CAHN TEAM: Charlie Cahn, Nigel Kearney, Martin Reid, Peter Newell

Thursday - J Robson Cup Pairs

1st Alex Swainson & Nan Wehipeihana
 2nd Suzanne Johnstone & Jane Windle

Friday – Hobson Pairs

1st Janice van Rooyen & Ann Weston
 2nd Shirley Green & Max Wigbout



Novice Tournament – August 2013

Our current beginners' lessons finish at the end of May and we are keen to encourage our players to continue and enjoy the game. The committee is planning to organise a Novice tournament and invite all novice players from throughout the Wellington region to join us, including those who have just completed lessons (at any club). A Novice (for the purpose of this tournament) is any player with less than 8 "B" points and has played for no more than three years. Tentatively, we are looking at Sunday 11 August 2013 and the tournament will be one session only.



Reminder: *If you arrive late, please do not park in the driveway. Please park on the road – Thorndon Quay via the zig-zag makes for stress free parking on Wednesday or Thursday nights!*