

SOUTH WAIRARAPA BRIDGE CLUB



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NEWSLETTER 2017

Thanks to Lizzie Catherall, Kath Banks, Andrew Beck, Alan Butler, Linda Gibbs, Eslyn Beck and Martin Connelly for help in compiling this newsletter.

Help!!! Ruth Burgess has lost her bridge Book! Now of course we can give her a new book. But she really, really wants to know is who she is playing with for the rest of the year. If you are down to play with Ruth please get in touch with her - 06 308 8849 or 021 294 1187

At our committee meeting on Thursday 8th June

- **Financial Report:** -Alan presented a comprehensive financial report and bank reconciliation. We had three perfect weeks of table money and over the month were \$2.30 down on what we should have collected. Current A/C balance at 6/6/17 (less outstanding cheques) \$7063.20, Term deposit account \$20.000
- **Bridge Lessons:** -We have not had many enrolling for Beginner lessons and we need to focus on getting more. There has been a good response to Improver Lessons (**More about lessons later in this newsletter**)
- The committee agreed to pay Greg and Suzee Whitten \$700 for teaching the classes - they have committed themselves for the 10 weeks to teach back to back classes (Improvers and Beginners) and also another six weeks to help the Beginners when they start playing at the club.
- **Lease:** Gail reported that she and Andrew had a very worthwhile meeting with Helen McNaught and we have most of what we asked for. Smoking is banned inside and out front of the building. They did not agree to exclusive possession of the hall. The lease is for 5 years. Helen agreed to check out the Kitchen cupboards to see if we can have another one, and to look into improving the lighting. Gail also asked for something to be done about the rain noise.

- Bev Hancox did not ask for reimbursement for reviewing our annual accounts, and the committee agreed on Greg's suggestion of \$200 cheque and some wine for her.
- **Electronic timer** – some members have suggested we use a timer to keep everyone on track. Sylvia Beavis she has given a clock to the Club and Katherine will check to see where it is. Lizzie is check what new timers are available.
- **Compscore:** - Andrew reported that BridgeNZ is becoming more and more difficult to work with and it costs us \$175 to upgrade the system each year - we are also charged every time we ask for help from them if we have a problem with the system or software. Martin Connelly has investigated Compscore as an alternative – the cost is \$300 one off cost. Upgrades are free. The committee voted unanimously to start Compscore in the beginning of 2018 and continue with BridgeNZ until the end of 2017 until all our competitions are finished.
- **Directing:-** Andrew has contacted Tony Sutich re upskilling our directors, as there are some rules changes coming to bridge.
- **Liquor Licence:** - Glenys is to explore the possibility of holding our Christmas Party and prize giving elsewhere which would negate having to apply for a liquor licence
- **Youth Bridge:** - Eslyn Beck has accepted the chance to attend a Youth Bridge weekend run by NZBridge. The committee has agreed that we pay the \$100 fee. **(More about Eslyn later in this Newsletter)**

Beginners Lessons.

- Beginners and Improvers lessons start on the 25th July.
- Improvers lessons start at 5.45 and run until 6.45 There is full list of the improvers lessons on our website <http://www.southwairarapabridge.org.nz/lessons-for-beginners-and-improvers> **\$2.00 per lesson**
- Beginners Lessons start at 7.00 and run until 8.45. Fee \$40.00, but if you already belong to SWBC bridge Club and would like to go to the learners lessons again, the cost is the same as attending the Improvers Lessons **\$2.00 per lesson**
- The Improvers Lessons have been very well supported, but as this stage we have only 2 Beginners. We have information and flyers on our website and Facebook page, flyers in the Libraries (and on their Facebook Page) and Information Centre and advertisements on Local Radio and Neighbourly and the four local community Newspapers. If you know somebody who would love to play Bridge, tell them to get in touch with Kath 06 377 4738 or email her swbridge@xtra.co.nz

Masterton Return Visit

We had a very successful visit from Masterton Bridge Club in May and now it is time for the return visit on Tuesday 11th July. There will be Drinks and Nibbles at 5.30 and bridge will start at 6.00. All Club Members are welcome, If you need help in finding a partner ask Barbara (Monday Convenor) or Katherine (Thursday Convenor) Please add you name to the list on the Notice Board now so we can let our hosts know how many will be coming.

InterClub Teams

Round 4 was played at Upper Hutt on the 26th May
Angie's Junior Team won and are now 5th

Alice's Intermediate Team won and are now 9th
Lizzie's Intermediate Team won and are now 11th
Jill's Intermediate Team lost and are now 19th
Felicity's Intermediate team lost and are now 21st

Round 5 will be played on Friday 23rd June. This month Jill and Felicity's team will play each other in Greytown.

This Month Andrew has written that Calling the Director should not be a scary experience.

Calling the director



We often emphasise how important it is to call the director when something doesn't go according to plan. That is important, because there is no other way to ensure that the rights of those concerned can be protected.

But getting the director involved sometimes seems very scary, especially when the call is sounded in stentorian tones. It is easy to feel intimidated, but this is not how the system is designed to work. The role of the director is not to impose a punishment, but to restore equity. There are rules that have to be applied, but at the end of the day these are based on the underlying concern to ensure that players are not unfairly prejudiced by what has taken place.

One way of reducing the stress involved in a director call is to make the call in a calm way. I have noticed that some players have taken to saying "Director, please." I think that's a good move, and one that should be encouraged.

Another important thing is to listen to the director respectfully, and take on board what the director says. It is not acceptable to argue with the director, or to say things like "That can't be right". If you have genuine concerns, you can ask the director to note them and, if necessary, put the appeal process in place.

At the end of the day, we are here to have an enjoyable experience playing bridge. Director calls are an inevitable part of the game, but a positive attitude to director calls can make the whole process much less threatening. So, think positive! Directors are there to help

Scores over 65% since our last Newsletter

22 nd May	Monday Individual	Andrew Beck and Helen Mathewson	67.23%
25 th May	Championship Pairs	Suzee and Greg Whitten	65%
1 st June	Thursday Individual	Margaret Bell and Hamish McDonald	70.54%
5 th June	Winter Pairs	Jim Brasell and Katherine Gough	75.95%

No Monthly Tip from Greg this month as he is overseas

However we have many talented and interesting members in our club and here is mini bio of two of them – one has been playing bridge since 1969 and one just started last year.

Thanks to Linda Gibbs and Eslyn Beck

Linda

What do you like about playing Bridge- I joined Masterton Bridge Club in 1969 and have played constantly since then. I joined Greytown in about 2000 after Sue, Sylvia and Gloria started the club here – originally it was called the Bridge Bunnies – and I went along to support a friend who wanted to learn.

I have played in both clubs ever since and was 10 years on the SWBC committee.

I have had my moments of glory in both tournaments and club competitions - one of the most memorable was when Rosie and I played in the Upper Hutt Intermediate tournament one year. Rosie's original partner was unable to play and she asked me to play with her instead. We had a great day, top in the morning with over 60% and second in the afternoon again with over 60% - we won the tournament. Bridge has given me so much pleasure – I am always looking to improve my playing but sometimes I have a rush of blood to the brain and end up a disastrous contract – I actually think I made less mistakes when I was younger -or maybe I didn't know they were mistakes!!

Do you think there should be more older people playing bridge – Yes I definitely do. I think it keeps your mind active and I enjoy playing with different partners. I am at the age now where some of my friends are dying, while others get quite depressed and don't want to leave the house or talk to people. I was born optimistic, my philosophy when I am playing bridge is to have fun and keep improving herself and am looking forward to getting my next slam – hopefully doubled - making!!

Eslyn

What do you like about playing Bridge. – I joined SWBC last year when I went to the lessons with Greg. The thing I like about bridge is that I really need to think about the cards and how to play a certain hand

I often find myself brooding about hands after I have messed them up and how I could have played them better – (you certainly aren't alone there Eslyn!!)

Do you think there should be more younger people playing Bridge – Yes I definitely do – I think they would add a new perspective on how to play Bridge. I am really looking forward to going to Auckland to the Youth Bridge Weekend in August It will be great to have more younger people to play with and talk to.



Cell Phones

Recently we were playing in a tournament and before we started the director told us that we could incur a penalty if our Bridge Phones rang, and if they did ring we were not allowed to answer them unless he had given us previous permission e.g illness

- ▶ Judy, Trudy and Meg would like to play in the Mixed Pairs, so they go to the partnership desk well before game time. The hostess cordially greets them but warns, “We have *one rule* here: No cell phones!”

Sure enough, before another word could be spoken, Judy’s cell phone rings, and the hostess says, “Sorry, Judy. For that I must pair you with Joe, the worst male bridge player of all time.”

A few minutes later Trudy’s cell phone chimes, and the hostess says, “Too bad, Trudy. Your partner will be Sam, who is about as hopeless as they come.”

Meanwhile, Meg waits patiently for almost an hour with her cell phone carefully turned off. Finally, the hostess walks over with Bob Hamman and says, “Congratulations, Meg! Your partner will be the world’s #1 player.”

Meg is awestruck as she turns to Mr. Hamman, “I can’t believe it! What could I have done to deserve a partner as great as you?”

“I don’t know what happened to you,” grumbled Bob, “but my damn cell phone went off!”

A chance to represent the SWBC in a competition against other regional clubs!

The Wellington Regional Committee is organising a Regional Club Champs Day to be held at the Victoria Bridge club July 16th.

This will be modelled on the Cambridge Sixes competition.

Each club in the Region has been asked to put forward ONE team of 6 players, made up of 1 pair in each grade: - Open, Intermediate & Junior.

Each pair will only play other pairs in the same grade in one complete round-robin (pre-drawn). The plan is to play a total of about 54 – 56 boards over the day, with the number of boards in each match determined by the number of teams entered. (Optimistically hoping for 12 teams). “Cross – Imps” scoring for each match is being considered.

There will be a Cup presented to the overall winning Club Team. In addition there will be a token prize for the best performing grade team.

Does all this entice you? A list will be put on the noticeboard for expressions of interest/availability by Open, Intermediate and Junior Pairs.

Deadline for names: June 30th

Depending on the number of responses, the committee will look to using an appropriate selection process early July.

“Have a great Month” Katherine