



Newsletter of the Hutt Bridge Club
February 2019

**President's Column: Raewyn Dowman



Time is fast approaching for our 53rd Annual General Meeting which will be held on **Sunday 24 March**. As I have mentioned in the previous Finesse it is essential that we have new people join the committee and bring new ideas and energy into the Club. Nomination forms are on the West side playing room noticeboard. Also on the board is an outline of the format for the afternoon. The AGM agenda and associated documents will be sent out shortly. These will also be put on the noticeboard for your information.

Beginner lessons are due to start again on Monday 18 March and run for 14 weeks. By now a number of you will have taken some lesson flyers to deliver around your neighbourhood. This year we have made a request to have our lessons advertised within the community through the ZB Community notices, the Hutt News "What's On" section, and as well we have contacted all secondary schools in the area who have kindly agreed to circulate our lesson flyers. These advertising streams are all "free"! While advertising is one way of getting our message out we know that another very successful method is through family, friends and colleagues. If you know someone who you think may be interested then have a chat and encourage them to come along. If last year's group is anything to go by we can look forward to having another enthusiastic group of people join our club.

The Hutt Multigrade (sponsored by Gee & Hickton) is to be played on Sunday 3 March and it is great to see a number of Hutt Club members entering. We look forward to another successful tournament.

The interclub season gets underway shortly. Once again we have a number of teams involved. Good luck to all those players.

Happy bridging
Raewyn

Club Happenings!

** AGM:

The AGM will be held on Sunday 24 March at 5pm. There will be free bridge from 2:30 pm. See noticeboard for more information.

** Midweek Reviews:

Vil Gravis has begun producing a weekly article called midweek reviews. These are aimed at new players but will be of interest to all readers who want to learn, improve and brush up on the basics. It is available via email and is free to readers. If you would like to sign up email Vil directly on villyn@xtra.co.nz

** Lessons for 2019:

Do you know anyone who would like to learn how to play bridge? Bridge lessons for 2019 begin on Monday 18 March. Thank you to members who are delivering lesson flyers.

** The Bridge Zone:

Click on the link below to listen to AJ talk about our Club on this week's edition of the Bridge Zone:
<http://www.nzbridge.co.nz/latest-updates,listing,4973,the-bridge-zone-show--034.html>

getting good cards is what really counts! It is fun and social too.

Wellington Regional Bridge is calling for entries for the rubber bridge regional play-offs to find the top pair (or hopefully two pairs) to represent the region in the National play-offs to be held at the National Bridge Congress in Hamilton on the evenings of 27, 29 & 30 December.

Individual pairs need to be entered by **12 March**. Entries or enquiries to the Convenor: Graham Cheater by email: grahamlcheater@gmail.com or phone 904 9917 or 027 448 3938.

** Hutt Multigrade Tournament: Our first tournament for the year will be held on Sunday 3 March. As before, we are asking for your fabulous baking on the day and a sheet is on the table for you to note down your delicious offerings.

Welcome to New Members

Elizabeth Schuck
Lindsay Byron
Mariusz Tumilowicz

Subscriptions

Thank you to everyone who has paid their annual subscription for 2019. The due date was 31 January. If you have not paid your subscription yet we would appreciate your attention to this as soon as possible please. If you need another copy of your invoice see Megan in the office.

Hutt Bridge Club is on Facebook!

Hutt Bridge Club has a new Facebook page. You can access it by going to <http://facebook.com/huttbridgeclub> or clicking the Facebook icon at the top of the Hutt Bridge Club website <http://www.hutt.bridge-club.org>. The Club's Facebook page is regularly updated with posts, photos and events so make sure you like it and invite your Facebook friends to like it as well!

Interested in Rubber Bridge?

Calling all Rubber Bridge enthusiasts and those who want to take up this different style of bridge where the luck of the cards can give you the opportunity to shine! Never played Rubber Bridge before? It doesn't matter! Rubber Bridge is a fun alternative to duplicate bridge (this how you play at the club). Success is not dependent on whether you are a junior or a senior, inexperienced or experienced. Being lucky and

Upcoming tournaments

Hutt Multigrade 3 March
Kapi Mana Multigrade Pairs... 10 March
Wellington Sixes (Sat)..... 16 March
Paraparaumu Open17 March
Masterton Open24 March
Kairangi Intermediate/Junior...24 March

Congratulations to our January winners:

Monday:

Stellin Pairs

Lorna Goldingham & Gerry Williams

Tuesday:

Stokes Valley Pairs

Madeleine Askew & Phil Revell

Wednesday:

Puriri Pairs

Loek Strik & Jennifer Simone

Thursday:

Goren Pairs

Simon Webber & Jeffry Craanen

Friday:

January Pairs

Stella Edwards & Margaret Smith

"Director, Please"

1. When the Director must be called:

Our Directors are there to ensure that everyone enjoys a fair and pleasant game of bridge and we all need to call the Director to sort out the slip-ups that are bound to occur from time to time. Only the Director is entitled to put right any irregularities by making a ruling to apply the Laws of Duplicate Bridge in the way that is fairest to all the players in the session.

There are two types of ruling that the Director may be required to make: Book Rulings, where there is a clear course of action and Judgement Decisions where there is an element of discretion.

Book Rulings apply to the mechanics of the game: calls, leads or plays out of turn; insufficient bids; revokes; a defender's exposed card; or a disputed claim. It is mandatory to call the Director. Book rulings are made and applied immediately at the table.

Judgement Decisions apply to situations that are less clear cut and it may not be obvious what infringement has occurred or whether an unfair advantage has been gained. These include:

- a). corrected or conflicting information regarding a call or play by either member of a partnership, including alerts and announcements.*
- b). when a player cannot or will not answer questions about a call or play.
- c). a discussion overheard about a board at another table.
- d). a bid which may be a Psyche bid.
- e). possible unauthorised information from a hesitation or misuse of the bidding pad.
- f). bad behaviour of any sort at your own or another table.

The result of a judgement decision may have to wait until the end of the session for the Director to review the full impact of the event and adjust any scores.

**The declaring side must make any corrections regarding calls, alerts and announcements before the lead is made: the defending side must wait*

until the play is over.

2. Calling the Director:

There is no shame or embarrassment in calling for the Director. Nor is it an aggressive action. It is just that something may have gone awry and needs fixing. Any player may call the Director in the auction but during the play only the three active participants may, and Dummy must wait until the play is over. When needed, simply call the Director without delay, clearly and audibly and please not forgetting to say 'please'. The bids or cards should be left exactly as they were when the Director was called. The Director will ask who called him or her and the person - an only that person - who made the call should explain the situation calmly and clearly. The other players should remain silent even if they think the explanation is incorrect. The Director may ask for clarification and then for any additional or conflicting information from the other players. The Director may ask you to call him or her back at the end of the hand.

If you disagree with a Director's ruling or want more information, please say so politely and ask to discuss it at the end of the session with the Director and the other players involved if necessary. Please do not make a scene at the table or upset the other players - including the Director. As a last resort, you may lodge an appeal with the Director which will require him or her to consult with other Directors to determine whether the initial ruling was correct or not.

Monthly Member Profile: Biddy Welch



I grew up in Napier, the youngest in a large and loving, and sometimes chaotic, household. I came to live in Wellington at 17 and went to university and teachers' college. Teaching and then overseas travel followed, then more teaching and marriage to a Wellingtonian, who, alas, is not a cards man.

Apart from three and a half years in Rarotonga, we have lived all our married life in the Wellington area, having three children along the way. During this time, I have been a primary school teacher, a tertiary teacher, and, after further study, an editor (my favourite).

I had lessons at Hutt Bridge Club not long before my retirement and have 'hung on' ever since! I wish I had learned Bridge when I was in my 20s. I think it is a wonderful game. It is fascinating, endlessly varied, good for the brain, and a sociable game. However, I have a love-hate attitude to it. I love it when I meet my own hopes and expectations and don't like it at all when I don't!

Still, I am very glad to be playing Bridge and look forward to more study and practice of the game, and to more times when I meet my hopes and expectations at our great Bridge club.

Vil's Corner

I have to report that either all our readers know how to finesse or don't really care. Not one answer to last month's posers, so no session tickets. For the benefit of those still interested, let me repeat the final poser:

♠ AJ53

♠ K972

- a) How will you play trumps if you cannot afford to lose more than one trump trick?

As long as there are not all five trumps in one opposing hand, you can make 100% sure of not losing two trump tricks. Care to give it a go? Still one session ticket for anyone with the correct answer!

Now for an excerpt from a recent "midweek review" which actually featured a deal from Friday 15th.

Board 28 Dealer W NS Vul

♠ K8754

♥ 1062

♦ 82

♣ 732

♠ QJ92

♥ 43

♦ KQ43

♣ AQ5

♠

♥ Q97

♦ A75

♠ KJ109854

♠ A763

♥ AKJ85

♦ J1096

♣

When West opens 1NT, not all Easts will raise to 3NT without misgivings but it is a reasonable shot. Across all the Friday sessions in X-Clubs there were ten Wests in 3NT and some made five and some made four and not one was defeated, which is what should have happened with elementary defence. All Norths led their fourth highest spade and all Souths won the Ace. Some automatically returned partner's lead and North then continued spades. One South won the Ace of spades and switched to the King of hearts (not the Ace) to make things obvious to North, who wasn't taking any notice. When South next led a spade back to North, ignoring what South had just told her, North led another spade. Elementary defence should have resulted in down THREE. Not one pair of defenders was even close to that!

Finesse is a newsletter of the
Hutt Bridge Club

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Happy Bridging!