



Newsletter of the Hutt Bridge Club
January 2019

**President's Column: Raewyn Dowman

Welcome to the 2019 bridge playing year. I hope you have had a chance to "recharge the battery" and are ready for an enjoyable year of bridge.

The first quarter of the year is a busy time for the Club. Our first tournament, the Hutt Multigrade, is scheduled for 3 March and we hope this will be well supported. The AGM will also be held later in March and as I alluded to in the December Finesse we do need members to join the committee and provide the new ideas and energy required to ensure the club remains progressive. Please give this request serious consideration.

Our beginner lessons are also scheduled for March with the dates to be confirmed shortly. Again we will ask for your help with distributing the flyers. However, another way of "spreading the word" is to talk to your family members, friends and neighbours about taking up bridge. A number of our 2018 beginners indicated that they either had a relative or knew someone who played bridge and this was what interested them in taking the lessons.

Unfortunately we were unsuccessful with our grant application for repairs to the club roof. Work has begun and it is anticipated this will not impact on bridge sessions. Annual housekeeping activities were undertaken during the holiday period and included cleaning of carpets and chairs. Thanks to Club member Geoff Sparrow for his assistance and use of their carpet cleaning machine.

Happy bridging
Raewyn

Club Happenings!

** Vil's Q&A sessions:

Vil Gravis is running question and answer sessions for beginner players on Monday 28 January and Monday 4 February 7pm to 8:30pm. All players are welcome.

** Midweek Reviews:

In February 2019 Vil Gravis will begin producing a weekly article called midweek reviews. These will be aimed at new players but will be of interest to all readers who want to learn, improve and brush up on the basics. It will be available via email and will be 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 will begin in March. The start date is yet to be confirmed. The day and time will be Mondays at 7:15pm and the lessons will run for 14 weeks. AJ will be taking the lessons again.

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

Correction from last issue:

Correction: The Nov/Dec Finesse series winners for the Pohutukawa Pairs should have read Larry Sharpe and Alan Boaden. Apologies to Larry Sharpe for omitting his name.

Vil's new book

** Vil's new book, "13Tricks and Evil Acol" is now available from the office or contact Vil, \$20 or \$24.50 if by mail. The book will be of interest to all players who want to develop their bridge skills.

Congratulations to our December winners:

Tuesday:

Christmas Pairs

Nelson Procter & Maciej Szczesny

Wednesday:

Random Pairs

Tom Plackic & Graham Goudge

Thursday:

Marsden Pairs

Jill Marsden & Jeffry Craanen

Friday:

Bellevue Pairs

*John Ansell & Arumugam
Kumarasamy*

from either hand as often as you want. In other words, you will always have the required entries to either hand.

You need two tricks from the spade suit. How will you play it?

♠ 62

♠ AQ3

Again, you need two spade tricks. How will you play the suit?

♠ 62

♠ AQ10

How will you play this one?

♠ QJ8

♠ A32

Spades is now your trump suit. How will you play it to make as many tricks as possible?

♠ A10952

♠ KQ43

♠ A7542

♠ KQ103

And finally, this is your trump situation:

♠ AJ53

♠ K972

- How will you play the trumps if you need as many tricks as possible?
- How will you play trumps if you cannot afford to lose more than one trump trick?

As usual, the best answer to these posers will be rewarded with a session ticket.

Upcoming tournaments

Waikanae Open10 February

Vil's Corner

The Club is very fortunate in having a very keen group of new players: keen to play and keen to improve. I have been asked to run another one or two sessions with an emphasis on play not just bidding. This is a Finesse article so it is fitting that the subject of finessing should come up. As a preliminary exercise, here are some finesse problems for the reader. I will set out just one suit, with your hand as West and dummy as East. In all cases, you can lead

"FINESSE"



Finesse is a newsletter of the
Hutt Bridge Club

Address: 1 Park Ave
Ph: 567 1058
Email: hbcincnz@gmail.com
Web: www.hutt.bridge-club.org
Editor: Megan Turner
Happy Bridging!