



Website: hokowhitubridge.org.nz

NEWSLETTER MAY 2016

Chair Chat

Welcome to the May edition of the Club newsletter – the fifth for 2016! If you have any feedback about the increased frequency of the newsletter, or suggestions of how it could better meet your needs as bridge players, members of the Board would be pleased to receive your comments. Contributions for the newsletter are always welcome – please forward these to Margaret Williams, the newsletter editor. Margaret’s cheerful and efficient preparation and distribution of the newsletter each month is much appreciated.

Our 2016 learners have been working away each Wednesday evening since the beginning of March to learn the basics of bridge. We look forward to welcoming them into the main room from 18 May, and hope they will enjoy the game as much as we do! We thank Alister for his patient and encouraging tutoring, and thanks also to those members who volunteered for the helpers’ roster during March and April.

Good bridging,

Julie Bunnell

INFRINGEMENTS

If there are any infringements e.g. lead out of turn, incorrect bid etc it is important to call the director rather than make a decision at the table. The director will decide what action needs to be taken and how play should proceed.

NAMETAGS

Members are encouraged to wear their nametags at all playing sessions, as this helps visitors and new members to learn who’s who. If you have lost or mislaid your nametag, or it needs correction, please notify Julie Bunnell by the end of May, so that it can be included in the next production run.

WEDNESDAY RESULTS

Winners of the Hokowhitu Pairs played in April were Jan Whyte and Alan Doddridge and on handicap, John Hogan and Rohan Wewala.

DUMMY'S BRIDGE BLOG!

Well, another month has gone by and it's time for Dummy to honour he/she/it's promise for something to fill some space in the monthly Newsletter. Happily, there are really only positives to report, so Dummy can set aside any negativity and concentrate on everything good that's going on at the Hokowhitu Bridge Club.

May's first Wednesday evening boasted 11 tables and some welcome visitors plus 3 active lesson tables. Thursday afternoon attracted 7 tables and the second Wednesday hosted 10 with 4 tables in the lessons. [Love the new table cloths!] There are a few familiar faces still missing, but, all in all, this bodes well for the rest of the year and next week the Learners will begin actual play. Let's wish them "Happy Bridging" and make them welcome into our competitive, but very friendly, Club.

The Board is to be congratulated on the new electronic scoring pads. They are helping Lorraine keep up the pace of play and there are only a couple of pairs that need to keep their eyes on the clock and listen to that dreaded American voice saying "there is only 5 minutes . . ." Perhaps there should be a mindset to play a board so that 30 seconds are left to peruse the fact sheet under the board. This might contribute to quicker progress?

Which brings one to an important point. As play progresses, more and more information is reflected on the electronic score pads, leading up to a pretty good reflection of the final results directly after the last board of the session is played. Perhaps we could have an extra minute in the final round for everyone to view the review on the tablet and see how they've done?



One can't do a blog without mentioning the Club's internet website, which features results within hours of play ending and even a video of our recent Junior/Intermediate Tournament – these are the Prize-winners! [What happened to Frank & Rowan, who came second?] The site is well worth a visit and can easily become the main communication for all members. If you haven't visited it – have a go! [And thanks to Chris, the photo above was 'poached' off his video – don't ask how, but it worked.] Happy Bridging!

HAND OF THE MONTH- MAY

How often do you get a hand with two 6 card suits? Not very often I'm sure. Well, very recently this monster turned up at the club.; S 9 H. A Q J T 5 4,. D Void C. K Q 5 4 3 2 .Almost a game force hand you might think. I am a bit reluctant to bid game force on 2 suited hands as it is easy to get too high in the bidding before the shape is explained properly. So I opened with 1 heart and was amazed and delighted to get a response of 2 Clubs from partner. At this point science went out of the window!

Hoping that partner would surely have the A Clubs for her bid, I bid 6 Clubs.. The opposition led a Spade and 6 clubs was duly wrapped up. In the post-mortem we were intrigued to see that 6 Hearts, which looks a more attractive contract at match points, should be 2 light. This is of course because a Club lead from East is ruffed by West and if West is clever enough to underlead her A Spades ,gets another trump trick! Wouldn't you love to have a way of telling partner to make an unusual lead [like a club]? Well, as it happens there is a way. It is known as a Lightner double and it is tailor made for this situation .It was devised by a New Yorker, Theodore A. Lightner, many years ago . Many experienced pairs use double of a suit slam to indicate a void somewhere and to invite partner to look for a likely void in partner's hand. Great when it works but a bottom board when the wrong lead is made and they wrap up 6 doubled!

Good Bridging ,everyone., Alan Doddridge.

	♠ 9	
	♥ AQJT54	
	♦	
	♣ KQ5432	
♠ AQJT82		♠ K643
♥ 98		♥ 72
♦ QJT82		♦ A875
♣		♣ J86
	♠ 75	
	♥ K83	
	♦ K943	
	♣ AT97	

TOURNAMENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to Alan Doddridge and Alister Stuck, who placed second in the Masterton Open tournament on 17 April.

Congratulations also to Lorraine and Alister who (with their partners) placed 6th and 8th in the Wellington Congress Open Pairs, held over Anzac weekend. There were 56 pairs in the competition, so well done for featuring in the top ten!

Our club was well represented at the Feilding Intermediate tournament on Saturday 7 May, with eight members taking part. Congratulations to Graeme Donaldson and Frank Dunlop, who placed second, and to Michael Hardman who (with Hans van Bunnik, PNBC) placed third. The difference between second and third places was 0.24% -- probably the result of one board across two sessions of play!

A reminder re upcoming tournaments scheduled for mid April to mid May in the Central Districts and Wellington Regions.

May	June
21 Taradale Tierney Teams	3-6 Hawkes Bay Congress(Hastings)
21 Palmerston North Junior Pairs	4 H Bay Congress Open A Pairs
22 Hutt Open Pairs	5 HBC John Eldridge Open Teams
22 Hutt Junior Pairs	12 CD Club Championships Qualifying
22 Paraparaumu Intermediate Pairs	12 Karori Junior Pairs
28 Waipukerau Interm/Junior Pairs	12 Victoria Open Swiss Pairs
29 Taihape Interm/Junior Pairs	18 Levin Junior Pairs
29 Otaki Multigrade Pairs	18 Levin Intermediate Pairs

Daffodil Day Charity Tournament 2016

Our 2016 Daffodil Day Charity Tournament will be held on Sunday 14 August. The proceeds from this tournament go to the Central Districts Cancer Society, and over the 20 years that Hokowhitu Bridge Club has been running this tournament, we've raised approximately \$30,000 for the Cancer Society.

Although the Daffodil Day tournament is three months away, planning is beginning now. We need volunteers to fill three key roles of Sponsorship manager, Catering/Kitchen manager, and Tournament manager. If you could see yourself helping the club in this way, please get in touch with Paul Orsborn or Julie Bunnell.

As in past years, members are warmly encouraged to play in the tournament, as support by our own team is vital. We will also be looking for donations of goods for prizes, and for volunteers to assist in the running of the tournament.

More information will follow in the June and July newsletters, and will be given at playing sessions. In the meantime, please mark the date in your diaries!!

BOB DYLAN'S BIRTHDAY

Come and celebrate Bob Dylan's 75th birthday! On Saturday May 21th, Bullfrog Rata and Shayn Willis will lead the proceedings at the Hokowhitu Bowling Club, from 7:30 pm

Bullfrog Rata and Shayn Wills, two of NZ's finest acoustic blues/folk players, will team up for a night of obscure and popular Bob Dylan songs. Being fans for over 20 years, Shayn and Bullfrog have an extensive repertoire of Dylan songs.

Tickets for the evening are \$20, available by booking with Bent Horseshoe (email Steve@benthorseshoe.co.nz), or you can take your chance on door sales. The organiser encourages party-goers to wear a music T-shirt if you can.