

HOKOWHITU BRIDGE CLUB

MAY 2017 NEWSLETTER

With Julie away, Chair Chat becomes Deputy Chair Chat.

This'll have to be quick, because I fly out on Thursday evening for a fortnight, part business, part leisure. While Julie and I are away, Graeme Donaldson will be the Acting Chair with support from Derek and Caroline. And this reminds me that your (repeat "your") committee is two members short of its full seven. Any volunteers? If so, have a word with Graeme, Derek or Caroline over the next couple of weeks; just take care not to overwhelm them in the rush.....

The Intermediate Tournament held on Sunday 30th April was a resounding success. It was a truly great effort by Club members getting together and making everything work like clockwork, and all in good humour. A very sincere "thank you" to Shirley Barnett, the Tournament Convenor, and to all her willing helpers. I received several "thank you" and "really enjoyed the day" comments from visitors.

To wrap up, just a few points.

Mark off the evening of Monday 29th May in your diaries for the next Improver's Session on "Play Techniques".

Wednesday 31st May is our Blind Date evening – partners will be arranged on the night, and members with first names beginning A to L should please bring a plate to share.

And, finally, the car park. Please bear with us – it is very difficult given the state of the markings (what markings?) to align vehicles in the wet and the dark, but please take the time to position your vehicles as best you can. The Board has received quotes for painting the markings and are waiting to seek the Bowling Club's agreement to proceed.

I hope you all enjoy your May bridge – see you in 3 weeks.

Tim Coolbear



CHAIR'S
CHAT

HOKOWHITU INTERMEDIATE TOURNAMENT

The Intermediate Tournament, held on Sunday 30th April, was very successful and played in great spirits. There were 13 full tables (15 Intermediate pairs, 7 mixed Intermediate-Junior pairs and 4 Junior pairs.) and a straight-round format of 26 boards both morning and afternoon. Half the entrants were from our club, with a strong contingent from PNBC and pairs from Feilding, Levin, Marton, Hawera and Hastings. The honour of the furthest travelled went to Cala Rentoul (Tony's sister) from Whangarei. The effort by visitors to travel to our tournament shouldn't go unmentioned, and it would be great if more Hokowhitu pairings would travel to support the visitors' tournaments.

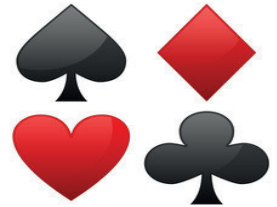
Congratulations to Michael Hardman and Hans van Bunnik with a winning score of 62.98%, two percentage points ahead of Roger Calderwood and Cath Cooper from Levin, who were ahead of Carol Edwards and Marjorie Thomas from Hastings. The top Intermediate-Junior pair was Lita Poll-Verhaar and Maria Lukkassen, while the top Junior pair was Caroline McCartin and Karen Thomas – well done to all the winners. The raffles were won by Barb Robinson (Feilding), Shirley Barnett and Pauline Brown, after a protracted draw.

The Tournament didn't organise itself; the morning tea didn't magically appear; and, it wasn't house elves who potted about to provide the evening meal and clear up. A sincere "thank you" to Shirley Barnett (Tournament Convenor), Lorraine (Director) and ALL Club members for a truly great effort. I received several "thank you" and "really enjoyed the day" comments from visitors which wouldn't have been so without all your efforts and great attitude.

Tim Coolbear



HAND OF THE MONTH



Board 5

Dealer N

Vul All

	S AKJ85 H A54 D A7 C 876	
S 632 H 873 D J32 C KQT9		S 74 H KQJ2 D Q85 C J543
	S QT9 H T96 D KT964 C A2	

NEVER FORGET THE VALUE OF A LONG SUIT IN DUMMY FOR DISCARDING LOSERS

This hand was played in a fairly routine 4S, but the outcome was anything but routine. The lead was the KH. The novice wins with the AH, draws trumps and goes down with 2 losing clubs and 2 losing hearts. The more experienced player makes 5! After winning with AH, he plays AD and a small D to the King. He then plays another Diamond and trumps with a high Spade in hand. When the Diamonds break, he draws trumps and pitches the losing Hearts on his established Diamonds. Even if the Diamonds break 4-2 he still makes 10 tricks. Easy you might say but it is amazing how many players launch into drawing trumps before counting their losers.

Happy Bridging Alan.



TOURNAMENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to Frank Dunlop and Janine Fenelon who placed second in Feilding's Intermediate Tournament on 6th May.

Congratulations to Stuart Malcolm and John Hogan who were the winners of the Palmerston North Intermediate Tournament on 20th May. Well done to Janine Fenelon and Rohan Wewala who placed first in the morning session and to Frank Dunlop and Graeme Donaldson who placed first in the afternoon session.

A few important dates to place in your diary.....

Monday 29th May Improver's Session at Hokowhitu Bridge Club on
"Play Techniques" at 7:15pm

Wednesday 31st May Blind Date evening at Hokowhitu Bridge Club

Tuesday 24th June In-house bridge tournament with Palmerston
North Bridge Club, hosted by Palmerston North

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

HOKOWHITU BRIDGE CLUB

www.hokowhitubridge.org.nz