



## Newsletter #2 for 2016



Here is an update on some things you will want to know about, and some things that everyone needs a wee reminder about.

### Tournament Date Changes

Due to circumstances beyond the Committee's control, we have had to make a couple of changes to tournament dates – please update your programme book:

- the Toyworld Sponsored Tournament has moved from Sunday afternoon, 19 June 2016 to Sunday afternoon, 10 July 2016;
- Otago Winter/Graded Teams and Pairs, which is held in Dunedin (a 5A tournament) has moved from 9 and 10 July to 18 and 19 June 2016.
- the Winton sponsored tournament is on 14 August 2016

### Subs!

At our last Committee meeting, there were still 23 members who had not paid their subs. I am sure most of you will have remembered to do this now (as subs were due as at 31 March 2016.) If in doubt – please check with Christine Dallas (Treasurer), to ensure you remain a financial member.

### Start Times

The Silver Reserve grade recently had a vote on the start time for their group. The majority indicated a wish to retain the 7.05 pm “be seated” and 7.15 pm “play commences”, times. One or two comments were added that irrespective of what the time was for these sessions, they were to please start on time. This is not only so that the evening can finish at a reasonable hour, and then individuals can make their own decisions as to whether they stay and socialise, or head away home directly; but also to assist in reducing problems with the computer set-up.

**Please note** for all playing sessions – the advertised “seating” and “start times” will be adhered to. The Director will decide the movement, and the Computer Operator will set-up the computer based on that direction. If the late arrival of participants would necessitate a change in the movement (and therefore a re-setting of the computer), those late arriving participants will be asked to leave.

To assist in ensuring this doesn't happen to you – please check with your playing partner that they are going to be attending, so that you are not left sitting and waiting and trying to make contact with them at the last minute. If a member of the partnership is present, and knows and can confirm for the Director that their partner is on their way – this will not be an issue.

### Computer/Scorer

If you are having problems with your BridgeMate during a playing session, please call for the “Scorer”. The person who is on computer duty that night will then come to the table to assist.

## What are the Convenors' Duties?

This is just a reminder to everyone what the Convenors' duties are:

- 1 Be available on the morning of play or the previous evening to take names of persons requiring a partner. Pass on names to enquirers. The Convenor **IS NOT** required to make calls themselves, but may do so if they wish.
- 2 Remind the Director of his/her obligation to direct. If the rostered Director is not available, please ask him/her to arrange a substitute.
- 3 Set-up the room with bidding pads, pencils, stop cards and table numbers. **NB:** For Silver Convenors, please note this is now a requirement for you too.
- 4 After play, ensure BridgeMates are returned to the storage holders.

## Rosters – Computer/Directors/Scorers/Dealing/Duty

If you are rostered on to assist with any of these duties and you are unable to do your particular turn, please ensure that you have arranged your own replacement person for that day (i.e. do a swop). It is not the responsibility of the Committee to arrange for someone to fill in for you. Please don't just not turn up and hope someone will fill in for you on the night. This will allow the night to run smoothly.

Also Duty personnel are required to collect **and receipt** all table fees, and to file them into the "slot" in the Bar (for security purposes). Also, to ensure that the playing room is left tidy at the end of the night (all chairs put away, all equipment cleared and tables are straight); as well as ensuring the kitchen is left in a tidy state.

## Club Alterations

Yes, there are to be some more! The Committee has recently approved the replacement of the front doors to the Bridge Club with automatic sliding doors – to assist with ease of access for everyone. It is hoped that this work will commence within the next month, and that there won't be too much disruption whilst it occurs.

This change will mean that a new lock will be installed on the front door, and old keys will no longer work in that door. We will replace keys for those who wish to have them – and will take the opportunity at that time to ensure we have an up-to-date register of key-holders. An announcement about how you get a replacement key will be made closer to the time.

Other areas of proposed expenditure include:

- replacement of the Dealing Machine (which is almost at its "use by" date, is no longer able to be serviced by the provider and has proven troublesome in recent times)
- upgrading the heating system to heat-pumps.

However, making progress with these will need assistance from the club and potentially funding agencies as, particularly the latter, is costly initially.

## Fundraising

The above work is being funded out of existing club funds – thanks to the excellent fundraising effort that occurred last year. However, we do still need to keep raising funds to do these extra updates – our subs do not cover that sort of cost.

It would be great, therefore, if all members could support the raffles that are out for sale at all times during the year. Every little bit helps.

The Committee is also intending to hold a Quiz Night as a fundraiser for the Club – this is set for Wednesday, 14 September 2016. Closer to the time we will be asking **all members** to assist in getting prizes/sponsorship for this event, and also to encourage teams to participate. These have been wonderful fundraising events in the past, and attract people outside of the club – which is another way to not only spread the load with fundraising, but also to get the word out about Bridge.

## Upcoming Tournaments

**Quiffs Salon – Sponsored Tournament** – please support another new sponsor to the club for this year – Quiffs Salon. The sponsored tournament is on Sunday afternoon, 24 April 2016. These are fun tournaments, excellent prizes – the event is handicapped, there will be good raffles, enjoyable games of bridge, and an excellent afternoon tea. If you are intending to play, please put your name down in the foyer – it will save some phone calls ☺!

**The Lindsay Trophy** – the interclub event between Gore and Invercargill, is to be hosted by the Gore club this year, on Sunday, 8 May 2016. It would be great to have a good turnout of our members in Gore. Please put your names up in the foyer

**We have the Murihiku A Point tournament** coming up – this is over the weekend of 30 April and 1 May 2016. We are keen to have as many entries as possible. There are both the Teams competition and the Pairs competitions – so get involved.

And don't be frightened by the fact it is an A point tournament – we all need to get experience somewhere – and why not enter and support our local tournaments and have a go! Details are in the foyer.

## Our Website

Just a reminder – our website is not just for checking your weekly results on. It also has:

- reminders about start times of sessions
- details about upcoming tournaments
- copies of newsletters that have been issued
- minutes of Committee meetings
- Convenor Duties
- Computer Rosters
- Interesting articles that have been circulated
- and we are hoping to expand and improve on all of the above as well – so watch this space.

A reminder – the link is <http://otagosouthlandbridge.org.nz/invercargill>

## **Have you played with someone different this year?**

We would love to see more mixing of players within the club. It is particularly hard for new players and less experienced players to get playing partners. They can make contact with the Convenors for series to get a player partner – but it is really nice if we (the longer serving players – or some of the more senior players) would ask learners/new players into the Division, for a series.

## **Scoring**

Are you keeping a “personal score sheet” of your scores each week? It may just pay to. My personal experience in recent weeks, has been that, even though I think I am being careful when entering scores into the BridgeMate, and they are being agreed to by the opposition, I have regularly found errors, which have been significantly to my benefit, when checking my scores against the personal score sheets at the end of the night. If I had not been keeping those personal score sheets, I would have had no idea that my score wasn't really as bad as I had thought it was 😊

I encourage every member to complete a personal score sheet, and check their individual results at the end of each night, to ensure the results are accurate.

That's it for another newsletter - Good Bridging everyone!  
**“The Committee”**