

Invercargill Contract Bridge Club

April 2020

I hope that you are all safe, well and following the rules that Jacinda has set?

We are trying to keep in touch with members, especially those who live alone, but sometimes people are out walking or at the supermarket when we call. Lockdown can be a lonely time so if you want someone to talk to please call a bridge friend or a committee member, we are all available to listen and to talk.

Who would have imagined life without bridge?

But I qualify that; there are endless opportunities to play and learn online!

For newer players (and those needing a refresher on the basics) have a look at the NZBridge website.

If you are not already familiar with the site registration is easy. Google NZBridge (www.nzbridge.co.nz) and where it asks you to register type in your email address and create a password. Once you have that sorted have a look around. You can look up your C points total, when your C points were awarded and how many you got, news about bridge, interesting hands, and so much more.

There are two rows of options highlighted across the top of the page. Click on “Lesson resources”. Then click on Teaching Material – Improvers. If there’s anything about the basics you’re not sure about it’s all there in various forms:

Stayman
Blackwood
Play Techniques
Notrump Play
Declarer Play in Suit Contracts
Opening Leads
Signals and Discards
Defensive 2nd and 3rd Hand Play
Minimum Invite Game Force Bids
Types of Doubles

For those who want a more advanced learning opportunity click on Teaching Material – Intermediate. By the time we get back to playing at the club we should all be extremely sure of the nuances of the game! Our post COVID-19 game will all hinge on partner and the opposition doing the right thing...but that’s probably not new!!

Our bridge calendar is taking a hammering with the impact of COVID -19. The match committee has been having on-line and phone discussions and we really can’t make any decisions about our club, except to say, not surprisingly, that the ILT Murihiku Teams and Pairs, scheduled for May 2 & 3 have

been cancelled and also the Lindsay Trophy against Gore on May 10. We have a Club Tournament scheduled for May 31 and will advise you about that once we can make a plan.

For those interested in Inter-provincial trials the Otago Southland regional committee has asked for entries from the players who do wish to trial, in anticipation of the event actually being held. Please email the club at invbridge@gmail.com if you are interested; we will forward your application to the regional committee for their selection process.

A note to club key-holders: please follow Jacinda's rules. The Bridge Club is not an essential place to visit. Accessing the building may put our insurance policies in jeopardy if anything is wrong or the doors are not locked securely after your visit. Thanks.

To put things in perspective for those of us feeling a bit stir crazy already – Anne Frank and seven other people hid in a 450 sq ft attic for 761 days, quietly trying to remain undiscovered to stay alive. We can all do our part to keep everyone safe and spend a few weeks at home.

And to give you something to smile about:

What's the difference between COVID – 19 and Romeo and Juliet?
One's the coronavirus and the other is a Verona Crisis.

Take care of your bubble

Stay home and stay safe

Judith

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