

Invercargill Contract Bridge Club

Newsletter Dec 2020



Hi everyone – I am pleased to be able to take this opportunity to welcome on board our new committee, which is a great mix of divisions and whom are all keen to contribute to the successful running of the club. We can be contacted at any time if you have any concerns you wish to discuss.

Immediate Past President: Judith Lawton

Vice President: Greg Buzzard

Junior Vice President: Karen Palmer-Hall

Treasurer: Anne Somerville

Secretary: Cheryl Foley

Committee: Barbara Martin, Bev Flint, Jan Brown, Jane Carroll, Janice Hodson, Lee Davies, Lindsay Glover, Megan Dowd.

The sub committees are **House:** Bev Flint, Janice Hodson, Barbara Martin.

Match: Greg Buzzard, Karen Palmer- Hall, Lee Davies. **Bar:** Karen Palmer-Hall.

Membership/Club Promotion: Judith Lawton, Jane Carroll, Megan Dowd.

Computer: Jan Brown. **Property:** Lindsay Glover, Judith Lawton.

Outside the committee we also have the following members assisting on the various sub committees. **Computer:** Geoff Eyles **Match:** Jill McMeeking & Geoff Eyles **Bar:** Grant Milne, Fred Warnaar. **Club Recorder:** Ken Smith. **Room Hire:** Colin Thomas. **Tournament Secretary & Club Administrator:** Yvonne Hughes.

Congratulations

To Janice Hodson and Marianne Frisby, the Silver reserve players who met the promotion criteria. Janice is moving to Silver however Marianne has declined promotion again. We also invited three other Silver reserve members to Silver however each had their reasons to decline. We are looking forward to seeing Janice do well on Monday nights.

To the Juniors; Angus McKay, Jane Carroll, Lisa Wilson & Megan Dowd who entered the 5A Swiss Pairs tournament and gained a percentage of an A point.

To all club members who played in any tournament throughout 2020 no matter the result.

To all club members who supported each other via telephone contact, grocery & book delivery through the covid restrictions. We are so lucky to be in NZ. Bring on the vaccine!

Welcome

I would also like to welcome this year's learners to Tuesday night Bridge. The learners are: Anita Cloete, Chris McDonald, Colin McIntosh, Lynn Mouat & Terry Whittington. Good

luck – you are a great bunch and we all look forward to playing with as many of you as possible during Holiday Bridge and 2021.

Also welcome to 2 new second club members: Kirawon Obeedo who is joining Silver Reserve and Donna Skoporada who is joining Silver in 2021.

Holiday Bridge

As we have now ended our Bridge year for 2020 please consider “Holiday Bridge” as an opportunity to play with those members who you don’t normally have a chance to play with. We have added another day the Monday 28th December. The criteria is 10 games available and you can play with the same partner for 2 games but then required to play with different partners for at least 5 of the remaining games to qualify for a chance to win the friendly competition. The other Holiday Bridge dates are in the book & again played most Monday’s & Thursday’s till the last night on Thursday 14th Start time 7.30 \$5 and if you require a partner contact myself 027 2078720 or 215 4070 or write your name on the list in the foyer.

Tournament Ratings 2021

NZ Bridge have decided on a change of Open tournament ratings for 2021.

Open players will only be Provincial Masters ie 50 A Points and above. This change means all Local Masters, those with less than 50 A Points, will now be back to Intermediate status. This change affects about 14 club members. The first tournament for 2021 at the club is 10A Otago/Southland Regional Swiss Pairs Saturday January 16th. Entries are already open at NZ Bridge or you can enter on the entry form in the foyer at the club. Great to see so many entries already from around the country.

Teams

Lists will be in the foyer early 2021 for Mixed Teams, Junior Teams, Championship Teams. We are looking at splitting the Championship teams after the first round robin so the top teams play against each other as do the bottom teams. This will depend on numbers so the more the merrier in each team competition.

Programme changes:

Whitcombe & Tombs & Doris Hannan/Swiss Pairs

The intent of this series is to give everyone the opportunity to play with a different partner that they have not played with in a series prior to the event or subsequent to the event. In an attempt to make this series more favorable with our members we have decided the best place for this in our 2021 programme is at the end of the year. So to qualify to win this event you are required to play each of the 4 nights with a partner you have not previously played with during the year. This is run as a separate competition so does not affect any other trophies or promotion percentages so gives everyone the opportunity to play with 4 new partners. Also run as a stand-alone competition is the Regent & Pam Bower Swiss Pairs. We have moved this series to June to be followed by Avenal Park Swiss Pairs Tournament.

Silver Reserve Handicaps

After much discussion amongst the committee we have decided from 2021 to dispense with Handicaps to those players in Silver Reserve who meet promotion criteria but who choose to stay within the division. We have decided instead those members will no longer be eligible to win a series or any end of year trophies. This change only affects members who meet the promotion criteria and once the criteria is not met for two years this restriction will be lifted.

Thursday nights

Due to the success of the individual night in 2020 we have decided to run this event as a series with 3 individual nights in 2021. There are two cups for this event. Top Silver and top Silver Reserve player. So if you enjoyed this format, which seems like 44 members did, make sure you get your names down for the 2021 series. A great mix of divisions and you only need to play a board with each partner once each night.

We have also decided to run 2 Goulash nights on a Thursday which has proved very popular in the past. As previously requested by members we have several open nights on a Thursday where you can play with whoever you like. No partner required on these evenings as someone will be available to partner you if required. A great opportunity to practice any new bidding systems you may be developing with your partner.

Freemasons

We are fortunate to now share our building with the Freemasons as we also now share our expenses with them, which is a great saving to our budgets. 31 January 2021 we will be joining the Freemasons with an open day at the club. This may attract some potential new members who we hope will sign up for the next lot of lessons. This gives the public the opportunity to see first hand the inside of our club rooms. Further info about this open day will be forthcoming in the new year.

Helpers

We have so many members who assist with the running of the club whether its dealing, convenors, directors, computer, catering. If you would also be able to assist in any of these areas let a committee member know as it's great to spread the load. As the saying goes many hands make light work ☺

Convenors & those dishes

A reminder that the convenors job, as well as finding partners as required, is to ensure the director and duty person are available. A quick phone call is required to the applicable people as the director dates and duty roster are in the book. Also a reminder to everyone you are responsible for washing your own dishes at this is not a task that duty people or committee members need to do.

Sponsors

We are very fortunate securing two new sponsors for 2021 Regal Floors & Audiology South along with retaining our current sponsors: Toyworld, Foveaux Communications, ILT, Avenal Park, Southland Real Estate, Martin & Lobb & Rowena Jackson. We are so appreciative of their support and without them we would be unable to run the successful tournaments throughout the year. So please support our sponsors as they support us.

That's all from me for now except I wish you all a safe and happy holiday and a very Merry Xmas before we embark on 2021 and another great year of playing the game we all enjoy.

Sue Scott

President .

