

Invercargill Contract Bridge Club

Newsletter #1 – 2017

Welcome back!

We hope you have all had a relaxing and enjoyable Christmas/New Year break, and caught up with family and friends. We are looking forward to some fun times and maybe some success at bridge in 2017.

This newsletter is to update you all on a few things that have happened in the holiday break and to alert you to upcoming events that we want you to come along to and enjoy.

Congratulations

Firstly to Christine Dallas upon her promotion to the Silver Division from Silver Reserve.

And also to Erin Batchelor and Paul Tomlinson who now have Open ranking status for Tournaments.

Welcome

To new members Richard Hishon and Jen White from Winton playing in the Silver division.

And to Avenal Park Funeral Home as a new sponsor this year. Great to have you on board.

Bridge Events

- **No Fears Bridge:** Has commenced last Thursday but you are still welcome to play the remaining two nights. If you are looking for a partner contact John Clark or Dwyllis McStay.
- **Teams Entries (including Mixed Teams):** The various teams competitions will commence on 16th February and I would encourage you to come along and play on a Thursday night especially if you are wanting to improve your bridge. We are really keen to have a junior teams competition in 2017. You do not need to be a new or novice player to play in this division.
- **Mixed Pairs:** Also on Thursday evenings, and a great opportunity to play against some stronger players. Starts on 9th February. John or Dwyllis can be contacted for partners.
- **Charity Tournament (Neurological Foundation):** This evening tournament is to be held on the 18th February. All proceeds will go to the Neurological Foundation. We are seeking donations for the raffle/prizes. Please leave these in boxes available in the front of the playing room. The entry fee is \$10 per person and a small plate is to be provided per partnership for supper. Let us get behind this event and make it a success.
- **Learners' Classes for 2017:** These are starting on 28th February, so please help in spreading the word about this opportunity. We all need to be helping to grow this great game of ours. Our experience is that word of mouth is the best approach to encouraging new members – so please assist in “spreading the word”.
- **Southland Real Estate Intermediate and Junior Pairs:** This is being held on 4th March 2017. Entry form will be up soon. Please, please support our tournament- we have an excellent sponsor so there will be good prizes. We again having a cooked lunch so entry fee will be \$30. But very good value for a whole day out.

- **Otago Southland Swiss Pairs:** This was held on 21st January and I am pleased to say very well supported by the Invercargill Bridge club. It was great to see some of our more junior players flying high at least early on in the day. Congratulations to Margie Christiansen and Linda Taylor, top placed junior pair and to Mary Storey and Margaret McDonald top Intermediate pair. Special thanks to the house committee for organising the lovely morning tea, nibbles, and the best sandwiches ever. And to Geoff with helping the director with the computer.

Invercargill Bridge Club Website.

Special thanks to Deidre Glover for undertaking to keep this up to date. We are going to have the programme book online and also lots of other useful information.

Please note that your online results are now available under the results tab.

Another useful website is the NZCBA website which now a lot more user friendly and easier to get around than when it was originally updated, so please have another look around it if you were frustrated with it a couple of years ago.

New Cleaner

Our cleaner Pete has moved on from Invercargill and we have interviewed and appointed Michele Harvey as our new cleaner. Welcome to Michele and thanks to Pete for all his good work. Best wishes from us for your future further north.

New Equipment.

Towards the end of 2016 we updated the card dealing machine. I know it has been giving our dealers more than a head ache recently, although I think we have the problem fixed.

Geoff Eyles has recently purchased (on our behalf) and installed a new computer for the office. Thank you to Geoff, for all your hard work getting this up and running. It is definitely an improvement on the vintage model we had been trying to use. And so much faster.

Committee

I would like to welcome Jeff Elton on to the committee. It is good to be getting some input from the silver reserve division. We would like to welcome another so if you think you have an interest in what is happening at our club please let us know.

Thanks to Sue Scott and Robyn Reidie for the work they have done on the committee for more than 10 years. Always willing to help and make sure things were done, they will be missed. There has been some major fundraising done recently and these ladies made sure we achieved our targets.

Match Committee

And promotions. This is my least favourite job on match committee. It is definitely not easy deciding what is best. I have been asking around the other bigger clubs in New Zealand to find out how they manage promotions. We want to encourage people to enjoy the game, for many this will be trying to improve your game and move up to Silver division. While others prefer to come and enjoy company of friends, make the odd doubled contract and to continue to play in the same division.

Sponsors 2017

A big Thank You to and please support

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