

Invercargill Bridge Club Newsletter

Spring 2019

Spring flowers are in abundance and the days are getting longer; surely good signs for most of us?

Quiz night: Have you got your team of four organised for the **quiz night** on Wednesday? It's a 7.30pm start time so be there in time to register your team and buy a drink before things get underway. This is one of the club's major fundraisers and we'd appreciate your support. We are aiming to complete the kitchen renovations and do some roof repairs; every dollar will help!

Tournaments: There is so much bridge to play, every weekend for the remainder of the bridge year the bridge book is full of opportunities. For newbies and those who haven't been to a tournament, consider finding a partner (with two others to fill the car) and heading to the Taieri Junior Pairs on Sept 29, a Sunday. This tournament starts at 10am, morning tea is served from 9.30am, the table fees are \$20 per player and you take your own lunch. These tournaments are a great way to boost your bridge confidence and realise that bridge tournaments can be fun. Entries are online and close at 6pm on Sept 26. If you need help to enter please ask for help. Email your name and bridge number and that of your partner to judith.lawton@xtra.co.nz and I'll be happy to help. You will be competing against other juniors so no need to worry about the "big guns". None of them qualify for a junior tournament and most of them will be at National congress.

With that in mind, if you can't make it to Mosgiel, we have a club tournament on Oct 5th and we'd love to see you at that. Those "big guns" will still be in Hamilton at congress and there will be prizes for all-comers. Bring a supper plate per partnership, \$5 table fee and be ready for a 7.30pm start.

Slow play: slow play is an issue at all levels and this detracts from others enjoyment of the game. Setting the Holloway clock (the one on the wall) for seven minutes a board (eight minutes on a Friday) should encourage slower players to speed up as the buzzer on that clock is quite loud...and a timely reminder.

The committee encourages directors to remove boards from those who make no effort to catch up. This may mean you miss playing or defending a grand slam or one club making one. It may or may not be disappointing for those who have a board removed but it will lower the director's blood pressure as they will no longer have to spend the night rushing people along.

Those of you who play on Tuesdays will be aware that there have been some issues about slow play.

To this end the committee has opted to remove the hand records from the back of the boards for Tuesday nights and ultimately for all sessions. This is more difficult for Monday nights as we need non-playing directors for this to work. Slow play is not the only reason for the removal of the hand records; this is saving printing and paper costs, the hands are recorded on the bridgemates and the decision is in line with other clubs where the hand records are provided on line and/or only at the end of the session. The time for analysing play and congratulating the opposition is at the end of the session, not in the middle of the session. This trial will be reviewed after one month.

Director lessons: For those who are interested, Gillian Alexander, the Otago/Southland *Bridgemate* has arranged director lessons. The Southland region lesson day is to be held at the Gore Bridge Club on 13 October 2019. It is expected the lessons will begin about 10.00am and will be finished by 4pm, and there will be about an hour break for lunch. Pre- and post- material will be available for the attendees and the proposed cost per person is \$50. The next exam for directors is to be held on November 2 or 3. If there are any members who are interested in attending the lessons and or sitting the directors' exam please contact Harry (03 216 9900) or me.

Congratulations: many of our members have had successes at various levels and various tournaments so far this year. These have been acknowledged in club notices and by Yvonne in her monthly reviews. The standards of bridge in our club are really outstanding, we are a club of approximately 200 and we have 11 international grand masters in our bridge club. There are lots of people to learn from!!

Individual Night: I'd like to say a word of thanks to the forty-four who participated in the individual night in July. The feed-back from this night was positive, most comments indicated that the format was enjoyed by those who played and that it is something we should do again. There are several opportunities later in the year, the point-a-board teams format encourages Fun bridge so please find a partner and schedule those dates in your diary.

Bar Prices: It has been some time since bar prices have been increased and after much discussion it has been decided that a glass of bottled wine, stubbies and big bottles of beer prices will be increased, each by \$1. For all you port drinkers there has been a slight increase. In the interim there will be no increase for anything else.

Renovation Help: Sherry is looking for helpers with the kitchen renovation, in particular with preparation for wall papering. If you have an hour to spare please call her on 03 2131156 and arrange some helping time.

Condolences: It is with sadness we acknowledge the passing of several of our club members in the past months. Our thoughts are with those who are bereaved, unwell, sad, or lonely; may they find a friend in our midst with whom they can find comfort.

Prize-giving and Christmas Party: Our bridge year ends with prize giving and our Christmas Party. This combined evening function will be held on December 13. We will have prize giving, entertainment and supper. Bring a party plate and wear something festive. Please make sure you keep the night free, time to be confirmed.

Please contact me if you have questions, queries or concerns,

Yours in bridging

Judith

Phone 027 4382213 or 03 217 6977