

TAIERI BRIDGE CLUB APRIL 2024 NEWSLETTER



NOTES FROM THE COMMITTEE:

- Have you heard the wee door bell ringing? The committee have erected a small sensor with a door bell so that we can be alerted to anyone entering our club rooms while we are playing bridge. Thanks to Deirdre for organising this.
- There are only 2 people that have emailed the club to request seating rights which is great. I hope the rest of you enjoy using the old 20 cent coins to see who will stay seated.
- Easter fun night was great successful with 31 attending the lovely 2 course meal organised by Marie. I always think it's nice to have our own social night where we can all mix together. It's what makes our Club special and friendly.
- The Charity Tournament is not far away now. Please keep Sunday 28th free. The drawn raffle prizes are always very successful and as such your help is greatly appreciated. If you are stuck for ideas of what you can bring then here's a few: home baking, pot plants, chocolates, candles, and bottles of wine to name just a few. Please bring your gifts along sooner rather than later.
- The sub-committee has been working very hard on our new rules for when we reregister as an Incorporated Society. Please look out for an email coming soon with the proposed rules. There will be a short plain English explanation of any major changes. Your feedback will be welcome.



TOURNAMENTS:

April 13—Otago 5A Autumn Teams \$40.00, closes 09/04.

April 14—Otago 5B Intermediate Autumn Pairs \$30.00, and Autumn Open Pairs \$35.00, both closing 09/04.

April 20—Timaru 5B Intermediate Teams \$35.00, and Open 10A Teams \$40.00, both closing 12/04.

April 21—Timaru 10A Open Pairs \$40.00, closes 08/04.

April 21—Invercargill 8B Swiss Pairs \$35.00, closes 23/04.

April 27—Wanaka 5A Open Pairs \$35.00, closes 23/04.

April 28—Taieri Hospice Charity Pairs. 1.30 pm, \$15.00, closes 26/04.

DECLARER PLAY by Danny Roth

Common errors in declarer play can be summarised as follows:

Poor Use of Options: Many declarers fail to realise that a hand may offer several chances of making a contract. All too often, they go for one specific line and then complain bitterly when the appropriate suit splits badly and/or a finesse fails. The good declarer will look-out for ways to combine available chances to maximise their overall percentage of success.

Mishandling of Communications: Many declarers underestimate the importance of communications between their own hand and dummy's. Many players are unaware that it can be worth sacrificing a trick to ensure good communication.

Errors involved ruffing: The trump element is a complex factor in the game and poorly understood. There is great scope for error when considering purpose, uses and mis-uses of ruffing.

Consider this hand that ends up in 6♥. West leads the J♠

North
♠ K
♥ A 7
♦ A J 5 4 2
♣ A 9 6 4 2

South
♠ A 8
♥ K J 10 9 5 3 2
♦ Q 10 7
♣ K

—how do you play? First count your tricks. Assuming one trump trick will be lost, there are 6 heart tricks, 2 top clubs, 2 top spades and 1 top diamond to total 11 tricks, so that it appears that the diamond finesse will be needed.

But you should not ignore the extra chance of setting up a long club if the suit breaks 4-3. With the first spade taken in dummy, cash the K♣, cross to the A♥ and ruff a club in hand. Now the key part—ruff the A♠ to gain an extra entry to dummy, before ruffing a further club. Now the K♥ reveals the poor trump split but, after conceding a trump trick, the two losing diamonds in hand can be discarded on the two good clubs in dummy if everyone has followed to 3 rounds of the suit.

	<i>North</i>	
	♠ K	
	♥ A 7	
	♦ A J 5 4 2	
	♣ A 9 6 4 2	
<i>West</i>		<i>East</i>
♠ J 10 6 5 3 2		♠ Q 9 7 4
♥ 6		♥ Q 8 4
♦ 8 6		♦ K 9 3
♣ Q 10 8 5		♣ J 7 3
	<i>South</i>	
	♠ A 8	
	♥ K J 10 9 5 3 2	
	♦ Q 10 7	
	♣ K	

Points to remember:

1. Note the technique of trying to establish the clubs by ruffing before attempting the diamond finesse.
2. An initial diamond lead would have made life more difficult and now the best line is more debatable. Given that he now has an extra entry in spades, South could try a similar approach: A♦, refusing the finesse, K♣, K♠, A♣ discarding a diamond, club ruffed in hand, A♥, 4th club ruffed with an intermediate trump and, if that goes through uninterrupted (i.e. West has 4 clubs or 3 clubs but not the Q♥), A♠ ruffed in dummy and the 5th club, discarding the last losing diamond to concede one trump trick as before. Alternative, South may finesse the diamond at trick one and hope to guess the trump position correctly if the K♦ has to be lost.
3. Note the key play of ruffing a winning spade to gain the extra entry to dummy. The spade Ace has no value.



HOW'S THIS FOR A LUGGAGE LABEL—I MIGHT NEED ONE!!



Barbara Wilkes

NEWSLETTER EDITOR