

TAIERI BRIDGE CLUB APRIL 2025 NEWSLETTER



NOTES FROM THE COMMITTEE MEETING

Our AGM is in October and Marie Kean will have completed her two years as President. No one on the committee has indicated that they are in a position to offer their services as President at this time. So we ask that you give it some thought and if you are interested please talk to Marie or anyone on the committee. You would be most welcome to come to our committee meetings and get a better sense of what is involved.

The committee has been monitoring the performance of our 5 year old tablets that we use for scoring. Jen Macartney has looked at how much power is left on each tablet after a bridge session and the results show this varies quite considerably i.e. some could handle another session of bridge and others could not. Of particular concern is that all the tablets need to be reliable for a tournament where two sessions of bridge are played. To address this issue in the short term, it has been agreed to purchase 4 power packs to recharge those tablets with the weaker batteries. However, looking to the future it has been agreed that we need to progressively replace the tablets to ensure the optimum performance. It was agreed at the committee meeting to purchase 6 new tablets a year.

We have had a great response to our 'Learn to play Bridge' campaign with 20 people coming to the lessons. The campaign consisted of social media, newspaper advertising, posters and leaflets. Thank you all once again for your delivery of leaflets and encouraging friends and family it has all worked really well. Robert Cowan is the tutor and Deirdre Bruce is assisting. Deirdre's role will continue after the lessons are complete and she will assist the new players with the transition from lessons to competition play and beyond as required.

In a few months time we will be in the fortunate position of having more players on a Monday night with our new players coming through. We have many keen junior players on a Monday night who may want to think about playing on Wednesday particularly when there is a handicap series. The Wednesday competition can provide a great way to learn and keep developing your game in a friendly supportive environment. Marie Kean is the Wednesday convenor so have a chat to her if you have any queries.

The notice boards will soon be tidied up and recovered. A hole was left in one of the noticeboards due to the removal of a heatpump and so it will be repaired and covered up.

RECENT RESULTS

Well done to our winners of competitions this month.

Monday Competition

Chatsford Handicap Pairs, played over 4 nights

- ◆ 1st place—Fiona & Brian Ellis
- ◆ 2nd place—Deirdre Bruce & Lyn McLaren

Wednesday Competition

Friedel Watson Pairs, played over 3 nights

- ◆ 1st place—Jude Smeijers & Robert Cowan
- ◆ 2nd place—Jen Macartney & Lyn McLaren

The Friedel Watson Trophy was donated in 1976 by Bryce Watson in memory of his wife. Friedel was known as a very enthusiastic Bridge player.

EASTER FUN BRIDGE NIGHT—21 APRIL

We look forward to seeing you on Easter Monday night at our fun night. Please put your names up on the list on the noticeboard by **Wednesday 16 April** if you are coming. We need these numbers so that we can organise catering. The cost for the two course meal is \$15 and the Bridge is free. Please pay on the night as you arrive. You do not need a partner. We now have a new trophy to play for on our fun nights. It is the 'Wolken Cup' and has been donated by John Wolken. John is well known to our Wednesday and Saturday Bridge players for his astute play that has come from a lifetime of playing Bridge. The trophy will be played for each time we have a fun night. Thank you John.

CHARITY TOURNAMENT—27 APRIL

This is our first charity tournament of the year. The proceeds from the tournament go to the Otago Community Hospice. To enter please put your name up on the form on the noticeboard. The cost of entry is \$15 and an additional \$5 for raffles. We need you to pay on the day. One of our ways of making additional money for the Hospice is through our raffles. This year it would be appreciated if you could donate a 'special' grocery item e.g. chocolates, nuts, crackers, chutney, gourmet sauce etc. With these items we will put together attractive hampers that will be our raffle prizes. Please do not provide any wine because

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we are unable to raffle alcohol. Could you please bring in just one item for the raffles by **Saturday 19 April** at the latest. Thank you in advance for your support.

IMPROVER/REFRESHER CLASSES

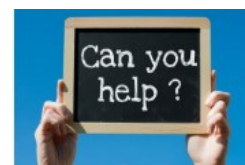
The class on 6 April was a great success. Twenty members turned up exceeding expectations. The session was informative and interactive with lots of questions. At the end of the discussion we had the opportunity to play some hands that demonstrated the overall/pre-emptive openings that had just been discussed. Thanks to Jen Macartney and Judy Gorman for taking the session and thank you also to Jude and Laurie Smeijers for their involvement and input. The feedback from those who attended has been very positive. Robert Cowan will be involved for the next sessions but due to other commitments was unable to be at this first class.

IMPROVER/REFRESHER PROGRAMME—10am to 12midday

Date	Topic
6th April	Overcalls, Pre-emptive Openings
4th May	Strong Opening Bids, Minimum, Invitational and Game Force
1st June	Opening Leads, Signals and Discards
6th July	Stayman, Transfers
3rd August	Play in No Trump, Play in Suit Contract
7th September	Doubles & More Doubles, 2nd & 3rd Defensive Play

CATERING HELP

Our small catering team is looking for two more helpers. We cater for fun nights and the Club tournaments. The catering is well organised by Marie, we work as a team and have some laughs. If you are interested please talk to Marie it would be great to have a few more involved.



HOW TO READ RESULTS ON THE WEB

If you go into Taieri Bridge Club website results tab you can always see the results. You can also view the "Detailed Data and Hand Records" for the night too which gives a great opportunity for learning. Most of you will know this but some may not in how to read the results.

You can see all of the contracts, who played it, how many tricks were made and what the lead was. If you are trying to work out which was your contract then when you look at the pairs you will see a left and a right number. The left number refers to the North South Pair number and the right number refers to the East West Pair number. You just have to remember which table number you started off (unless it's a Howell movement then you should know your number).

The top line shows the top North score and likewise the last line shows the bottom North score. Conversely the top line shows the bottom East score and the bottom line shows the top East score. Being in the middle is not a bad place to be.

