

TAIERI BRIDGE CLUB AUGUST 2021 NEWSLETTER



NOTES FROM THE COMMITTEE

- ◆ Welcome to new members Lisa Harkness, Pip Weber and David Mackle. Please make them feel welcome.
- ◆ The Club is looking at undertaking the painting of the outside walls of the building as well as replacing the vinyl in the kitchen, bar and bathrooms. It's great to keep our club rooms looking spick and span.
- ◆ If you are one of those members that have played in the Taieri Junior Tournament then you will need to know that will be held on Sunday 26th September—please note the date in our programme is incorrect.
- ◆ It was interesting to read a newsletter from the Chair of NZ Bridge who says this about new members: they expect a welcoming, comfortable and non-critical place to play bridge. They do not like to be the recipients of rude, boorish and critical behaviour nor see it happen to others. The biggest reason they leave is seeing bad behaviour, and the biggest reason they stay is that the club has a warm, welcoming culture, completely averse to anti-social behaviours.
- ◆ The AGM is not far away and as far as we know we have the Jen as President and myself as Secretary staying. We will be desperately looking for 5 general committee members. Don't be that person quick to criticise but slow to offer help. We need you to help run our club.
- ◆ We are also looking for a tutor for next year. Learners are our life blood and we need to keep encouraging our membership to grow. If you know of someone or would like to offer please see Jen (sooner rather than later).
- ◆ We are looking for raffle prizes for the Cancer Society Tournament being held on 29th August. Also if you could help make sandwiches etc in the morning then please contact Jen. Many hands make like work.

TOURNAMENTS COMING UP

Aug 15—Oamaru Junior 3B and Intermediate 5B. Entries close tomorrow so be in quick.

Aug 21—Invercargill Junior 3B and Intermediate 5B.

Aug 28 and 29—National 15A Teams Tournament

Aug 29—Taieri Cancer Charity Tournament—looking for great support from our club members. Always a fun afternoon for a great cause.

IMPROVERS NOTES BY Kristen Collins

Thanks to Kristen who has made available some of her notes for those that missed out on her improvers classes in July.

Takeout Doubles

If you have 12+ HCP (and the correct shape) OR 16+ HCP and a rebid you may begin to compete for the contract by putting in a takeout double. These are the things a takeout double should have:

- ⇒ A shortage in the openers suit
- ⇒ A double of major suit opening promises 4 cards in the other major
- ⇒ A double of a minor suit promises 4/3+ cards in the majors.



Therefore, a takeout double promises at least 3 cards for any unbid suit. It also tells your partner you have your own opening hand and the ability to play in any suit other than the one the opener bid.

Of course there are exceptions to every rule. There are two types of hand where you can double at a low level without support for all unbid suits.



You can start with a double if you have a hand that is too strong to overcall (16+ HCP) and/or the incorrect shape for a 1NT overcall. You just want your partner to bid and then you can overrule your partner's bid to show your hand. E.g. you have A Q J 10 8 4 Hearts.

If opponents open 1NT and you double, all the suits are unbid, a double is now for penalties showing that your hand is stronger than openers. Partner can either pass the penalty double or bid to show a very weak hand (0-5 HCP) and a 5 card suit.

A takeout differs from an overcall; an overcall "tells" partner which suit you like most (a 5+ suit with good honours), a takeout double "asks" which suit they prefer.



Responding to partner takeout double: A takeout double by your partner is forcing on you if your right hand opponent does not bid. Now you must bid even if you have zero points.

A bid of a suit at the lowest level shows a minimum hand (0-9 points). Bid your longest suit. Bid a major before a minor (if the suits are of equal length especially if you are only going to bid once. If you have doubled with 13-17 HCP you should then pass whatever partners response is if they have not jumped in their reply to you.

A jump bid of a suit shows 10+ HCP and a 4 card suit and invites partner to bid on if the double was not minimal.

A bid of 2NT shows 11-12 HCP and is invitation to game with a balanced hand and stopper holds in the opening suit.

You may choose to bid if there is an intervening bid but you do not have to. You need 6-8 total points to respond over an intervening bid at the one level, 8-10 total points to compete at the two level.

As opening if you do a takeout double then bid a new suit it now shows 16+ HCP and a strong one suited hand however this is not forcing. Remember, if you only have 12-15 points and you do a take-out double you must be prepared to pay in **any suit** that your partner might bid. If you double then bid a **different suit** you are showing 16+ points.

Negative Double

The negative double is a conventional double used by responder after opener starts the bidding with one of a suit and the next player makes a suit overcall.

The double always promises 8+ points, and depending on the auction, at least four cards in at least one of the unbid suits.

If one major is unbid, the negative double always shows that suit. If both majors are unbid, then the double shows both majors at the one-level. After an opposing 2-level overcall, the double only promises one major.

A negative double usually shows 4 cards in the unbid suit(s), although it may also be made with a 5-card or longer suit in a hand too weak to bid it directly. Note also that a negative double usually denies support if partner has opened a major.

Examples:

Opener: 1♣, Overcaller: 1♦, Responder X (negative double). Usually shows 4-4 in the majors. With 5-4 or longer distribution, responder should bid their longest major first. With 5-5 distribution, responder should bid 1S, planning on rebidding their hearts.

Opener: 1♦, Overcaller: 2♣, Responder: X (negative double). Shows at least one e-card (lor longer) major suit. Note that if responder has a 5-card (or longer) major, he must have fewer than 10 points. Otherwise, he should bid his 5 card major immediately.

Rebids by Opener

With 4+ cards in responder's shown suit, opener can bid it at the cheapest level with a minimum hand. Lacking 4 cards, opener can do one of the following:

- ⇒ Rebid a 5-card (preferably at least 6-card) sit.
- ⇒ Bid no trumps with a stopper in the enemy suit.
- ⇒ Bid a new suit naturally (a reverse still shows a strong hand).
- ⇒ Cue-bid the enemy suit with a strong balanced hand that lacks a stopper in that suit.
- ⇒ Bid partner's shown suit with only 3 cards (last resort)

Thanks Kristen for your valuable notes—(there was more to these notes but I ran out of space).



Barbara Wilkes

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

