

## TAIERI BRIDGE CLUB AUGUST 2024 NEWSLETTER



### NOTES FROM THE COMMITTEE:

- The Charity Tournament is coming up on 25th August and the Committee has decided to do something a bit different. This year please bring a can or 2 or 3 to help bolster up the Mosgiel Foodbank supplies. There will still be the usual cost of coming to the tournament and just a few raffle prizes too. The entry is \$15 and raffle tickets can be purchased. There will be some spot prizes during the day and a delicious afternoon tea so come along and have some fun and support our community.
- The AGM is only 2 months away. If you are considering proposing a motion to be considered at the meeting then you will need to have this emailed to the club by 25th September with information about your motion.
- Just a reminder that after 1 September (the start of our new financial year) the table money will be increase to \$6 per session. You will still receive 11 tickets for the price of 10 but now it will be a \$60 charge.
- Work will soon be underway on our 2025 programme book. This is a lot of work that involves a number of people. Jen Macartney has had overall responsibility for this over many years. She is now handing over the reins to Deirdre and Marie. Thanks Jen for all your great work.
- Unfortunately John Wolken has lost his programme book so if anyone is booked to play with him can you please give him a call. Many thanks from John.



### TOURNAMENTS:

**August 25-Taieri Charity Pairs, 1.30pm start, \$15.00, entries close 22 August.**

September 7-Alexandra C/O Teams, Open 5A, 10am start, \$35, entries close 3/09.

September 8—Alexandra C/O Pairs, Open 5A, 10am start, \$35, entries close 3/09.

### RON KLINGER'S GUIDE TO BETTER BRIDGE by Ron Klinger

Hand Valuation for Opener and Responder – Everyone is taught the various points and how to bid. This can be seen as a very pure method of bidding. Sometimes you need to look a little further at the hand. Generally when you look at your hand you just look at high card points (HCP) but now here's some other things to consider.

Points can be added by Opener or Responder if:

You hold all 4 Aces then add 1 point

You hold 13 or more points consisting only of Aces and Kings then add 1 point.

Points can be subtracted by Opener or Responder when:

Deduct 1 point for a singleton King, singleton Queen or singleton jack.

Deduct 1 point for a hand containing a queen-doubleton (Q-x), jack-doubleton (J-x) or Q-J doubleton.

Deduct 1 point for a hand of 12 HCP or more which contains no Aces.

Deduct 1 point for a 4-3-3-3 pattern unless bidding no-trumps.

Points used when opening the bidding: To assess your hand for opening the bidding, count your HCP and add your length points (1 point for each card after the 4<sup>th</sup> card in any long suit, so that you count 1 extra point for a 5-card suit, 2 points for a 6-card suit etc).

It follows that a hand with 11 HCP and a 6-card suit is worth opening, as is a hand with 11 HCP and two 5-card suits. A hand with a 7-card suit would normally be opened with a pre-empt rather than a 1-opening. The best guide is that if most of the points are in the long suit, prefer the pre-empt, but if most of the points are outside the long suit, choose a 1-opening.

It is best not to count any distribution points when opening the bidding: to do so is counting your chickens before they hatch. The hand may end up in no-trumps where shortages are of no value or partner may hold length where you hold shortage in partner's long suit is a defect, not an advantage. The opener should retain the HCP + length points count until a fit is located. Once a trump fit has come to light, opener then switches to HCP + distribution points (void = 5m singleton = 3, doubleton = 1).

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The point count assesses your trick-taking potential. In no-trumps or when there is no trump fit, tricks are usually taken by high cards or long suits. When there is a trump fit, tricks are normally won with high cards and by trumping.

Points used when responding:

In reply to a no-trump bid count HCP + length points. A longer suit is much more valuable opposite a known balanced hand by opener as it is more likely to be useful in producing additional tricks. When the responder to a no-trump opening has enough for a borderline game and holds length in minor suits, respond in no-trumps rather than the long minor. It is much easier to score 3NT (9 tricks) than 5-in-a-minor (11 tricks). Hands with honour cards in a long suit are more valuable than with honour cards in the short suits. Combined honours in one suit (A-K-Q) are superior to honours split among suits (A-x-x, K-x-x-, Q-x-x).

## ANOTHER INTERESTING BOARD – by Lee Ashton

Board 10

Dir: E  
Vul: Both

♠ AQT94	♠ J2
♥ AQ	♥ T87652
♦ A743	♦ K62
♣ K7	♣ 42

  

♠ 7653	♠ J9	♠ K8	♠ 75477
♥ J9	♥ JT85	♥ K43	♥ 75477
♦ JT85	♦ J63	♦ Q9	♦ 75377
♣ J63	♣ AQT985	♣ AQT985	♣ 75377

19 3 4 14  
Par: 2220  
Bd 10, 1 July

Con	Dc	Res	Score	Ld	Pairs	Rd	Tbl
7 NT	N	=	2220	♥8	5 - 5	1	5
6 NT	N	+1	1470	♥2	1 - 12	5	1
6 ♠	N	+1	1460	♥T	8 - 13	11	8
6 NT	N	=	1440	♥6	9 - 15	10	9
3 NT	N	+4	720	♥6	7 - 11	12	7
3 NT	N	+4	720	♥6	10 - 2	9	10
3 NT	N	+4	720	♥6	12 - 6	7	12
3 NT	N	+4	720	♥6	14 - 10	5	14
3 NT	N	+4	720	♥6	2 - 14	4	2
3 NT	N	+3	690	♥6	4 - 3	2	4
4 ♠	N	+1	650	♥2	11 - 4	8	11
4 ♠	N	=	620	♥T	6 - 9	13	6
4 ♠	N	=	620	♥4	3 - 1	3	3
3 ♠	N	+4	260	♥2	13 - 8	6	13
			-		15 - 7	9	15

Datum: 870 (770)

Here's another hand from 1st July that can be bid to 7NT – have a look. South has 14 HCP and 6 great clubs plus some other cards to fill in gaps. Not a 1NT hand with having 2 doubletons. North has 19 points but not a great holding in clubs. check it out and see what you would have done. One pair (new to bridge) bid 7NT, well done. Two partnerships bid 6NT and 1 partnership bid 6S. The other 10 bid to game and one didn't even bid to game. Slams don't come often so be ready. Dig out your lesson notes on this subject and have a read. It's very satisfying to bid and make any slam .



Barbara Wilkes

NEWSLETTER EDITOR