

# TAIERI BRIDGE CLUB FEBRUARY 2020 NEWSLETTER



## NOTES FROM THE COMMITTEE

Welcome back to a new year of bridge—hoping to make this year a successful year with a lot of enthusiastic players.

Congratulations to Jude Smeijers who passed her directors exam.

If you have a facebook profile—have you considered being part of the Taieri Bridge Club Facebook group. If you are a member you may notice a link to our latest learners poster—it is now available to share to your own friends. You never know you might find someone else who is as passionate at bridge as you are.

Thanks to all those keen members who have helped distribute the flyers in letterboxes.

There have been 4 resignations: Kay Healey, Alice Robson, Gillian Alexander and Olga Corlett. Sorry to see you go! Welcome back to Lynne Newall.

Tablets are getting closer to being rolled out—we are doing a bit of testing just to get it right. Those that tried them out have confirmed that they were very easy to use.



A reminder to all members to please arrived at our club rooms at least 10 minutes before play begins at 7.10pm. This gives you times to discuss systems with your partner, have your cash out ready to pay, and it also helps the director to set up the room to allow prompt start.

System cards for those that have come from lessons in 2019 can be used up until Championship pairs starts in March. Of course you can still carry them with you but after that date you can not check what to bid during play.

Minutes of committee meetings will now be posted once they are approved at the following monthly meeting.

## TOURNAMENTS COMING UP

15/16 February—National 15A Swiss Pairs in Christchurch.

23 February—Otago is running their Save the Children Charity Pairs with a start time of 1.30 pm.

7th March—Invercargill Open 8B Pairs

8th March—Oamaru Open 5A Pairs

14th March—our own Taieri Open 8B Pairs—please keep this date free if you can.

21st March—Queenstown Open 8B Pairs.

## BRIDGE CLUB PLAYERS QUIZ BOOK BY Raymond and Sally Brock

East West Game. Dealer East

You East hold

♠ J 7 5  
♥ K  
♦ A J 9 7 4  
♣ Q J 8 2

What do you bid after the following sequence?

West	North	East	South
-	Pass	1 ♦	Pass
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♠	Pass
3 ♦	Pass	?	



Although it is tempting to pass because you have a (sub) minimum opening and only three card support for spades, partner's three diamonds must be forcing. If he did not have a strong hand he would not try to play in a minor suit when he had already found a major-suit fit. With an invitational hand and only four spades he would have bid two no trumps. So what is the most descriptive bid you can make?



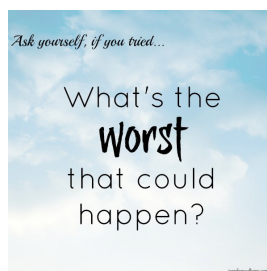
The one bid you should not make is three spades. One of the most likely reasons for partner's three diamonds is to discover whether or not you have four card spade support. If you bid three spades he will think you have four spades and not look beyond that suit as a final denomination.

Think about what types of hand you could have. If you had a balanced hand in the 12-14 range you would have opened one no-trump; if you were balanced with 15+ you would not have raised spades (rather than rebid no-trumps) unless you had four card spade support, when you would bid four spades now. What is left is unbalanced hands. With 15 or more points and four spades you would have jump raised; with three spades you would have introduced your other four card suit. With 12-14 points and four card spade support you would bid three (or four) spades now, hence all other bids must show 12-14 HCP in an unbalanced hand without four spades.



Having said all that, the most descriptive bid on your hand is surely three no trumps as half your points are in the unbind suits. Partner will of course convert to four spades if he has five. As you will see from the full deal, four spades is high enough, but six diamonds can be made with careful play.

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



At the table, North was not pleased when South passed three diamonds! When in doubt about a bidding situation it is foolish to pass and risk missing a game or slam; if you bid on, the worse that can happen is to go one down instead of making a part score.



### Phone Number Correction in book

Please note that Dorothee Hall's cellphone number is 027 555 0234.

## BASIC BIDDING SYSTEMS FOR MONDAY NIGHT PLAYERS

There has been a bit of discussion on a Monday night about what systems can be played. It says in our programme book "Out of deference to newer players, members should use only basic natural bidding system on a Monday night. In this respect the Club has adopted the guidelines laid down by NZ Bridge for Junior Tournaments". So I thought I would give a brief run down of what sort of bids you can make. I looked at the Acol Basic System Card

1 card openings are 4 cards in length 11+ points.

1NT is 12-14 points with responses of transfers, range finder and 2NT allowed to transfer to a minor.

2♣ is 23+ or 20 points with distribution. 2♦, 2♥ and 2♠ are all weak.

You can still have any defensive bid to an opponent opening 1NT. You also can have an unusual 2 NT bid being 5/5 in the minors.

I also checked the NZ Bridge manual on bidding allowed at a Junior Tournament which allowed a bit more variability.

1♣ can be as short as 2 cards, and can be a simple precision bid. 1 NT can be opened with as little as 11 HCP.

2♣ is at least 19 points (no multi-style bidding allowed).

Allowed any defence to opponent's 1NT opening, any sort of Ace asking bids.

The top and bottom of this is that Monday night has a high predominance of learners and by using these systems it allows for a more level playing field.

For further information please check NZbridge.co.nz for Junior and Intermediate Systems Guide for more information.

Hope to see more of you playing this year on Monday's and Wednesdays.

Happy Bridging!!

Barbara Wilkes

Editor

**One advantage of bad bidding is  
that you get practice at playing  
atrocious contracts.  
-Alfred Sheinwold**