

TAIERI BRIDGE CLUB JULY 2018 NEWSLETTER

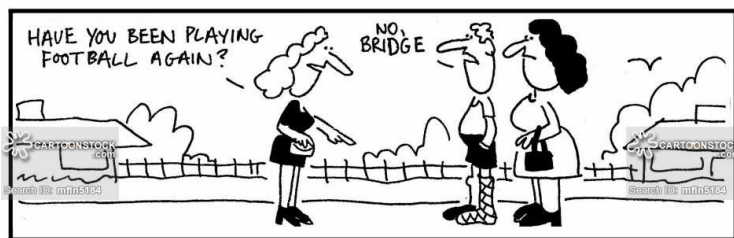


NEWS FROM THE COMMITTEE

- ⇒ Thanks to those that attended the Special General Meeting with regard to the rules changes. The minutes for these have been posted on our Website under resources.
- ⇒ We would love to see a great turn out from our club for the Graded 8B tournament on 28th July. As a small incentive you will get a chit for 1 night's free table money. Please show your support for our club by making the effort!
- ⇒ Christine Fletcher has a new phone number 4811510.
- ⇒ It would be great if all members could endeavour to turn up at least 5 minutes before the start of play. This in turn helps to get underway quickly and finish earlier at the other end of the night.

TOURNAMENTS COMING UP:

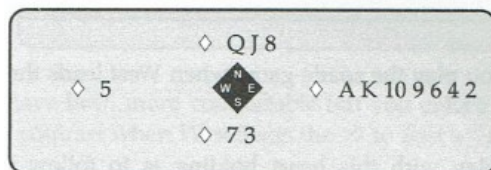
- 14th July—Gore Open 8B Pairs
- 21st July—Winton Open 5A Pairs Tournament
- 22nd July—Otago Junior 3B Pairs
- 28th July—Taieri Graded 8B Tournament—we would love to see great support from our members for this.
- 5th August—Otago Swiss Pairs 5A Tournament



DISGUIISING A SINGLETON OPENING LEAD - from "52 Great Bridge Tips on Declarer Play" by David Bird

As declarer you can sometimes be certain that the opening lead is a singleton. If your right-hand opponent holds the Ace of the suit and can draw the same conclusion, he may defeat your contract by giving his partner a ruff.

In such a situation you must attempt to disguise the opening lead. You can often do this by hiding a lower spot-card in your hand. Suppose East opens 3♦ and West leads a diamond against your eventual game in a major suit. The diamond suit lies like this:



You play the queen from dummy and East wins with the King. Let's say first that you give the matter little thought and follow with the 3♦. Since West would not have led the 5♦ from 7♦ - 5♦, East will know for sure that his partner started with a singleton. Armed with this knowledge, it may suit him to cash the A♦ and play a third round of the suit.

To make life more difficult for East, you should follow with the 7♦ on the first trick. Since the 5♦ would be the normal lead from 5♦-3♦, East will now have no idea where the 3♦ is. It will be dangerous for him to cash the A♦ in case you have no more diamonds. You would then be able to ruff and score a trick with dummy's J♦.

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Your deceptive play will not always succeed, of course. East may be able to calculate: "We probably can't beat this contract unless declarer has a doubleton diamond." That's life. Sometimes defender do the right thing. The point to remember is that you have absolutely nothing to lose by playing the 7♦. Much of the time East will be fooled and he'll let you make a contract that could have been defeated.

Let's see this style of play in the context of a full deal:

♠ K 8 4 ♥ J 7 5 ♦ Q J 7 2 ♣ A 8 3			
♠ J 9 2 ♥ 6 ♦ A 10 6 3 ♣ Q 10 9 6 2	N W S E	♠ — ♥ A K 10 9 8 4 3 ♦ 9 8 5 ♣ J 7 4	
♠ A Q 10 7 6 5 3 ♥ Q 2 ♦ K 4 ♣ K 5			
West	North	East	South
Pass	4♣	3♥ All Pass	3♠

How would you play the spade game when West leads the 6♥ and East wins with the K♥?

The normal play with this heart holding is to follow with the 2♥ assuring yourself of a heart trick. 'Normal' plays are not always right! Suppose you follow with the 2♥ here. Since West would not have led from 6♥ from Q♥ - 6♥, East can be absolutely certain that the opening lead was a singleton. He will continue with the A♥ and then play a third round of hearts. This will promote a heart trick for West and you will go down whether you ruff high, ruff with a 10♠ or discard.

A better idea is to follow smoothly with the Q♥ at trick one. If East reads this card as a singleton, he will be

reluctant to play the A♥ next. You might then be able to ruff and subsequently take a discard on the established J♥ in dummy (perhaps throwing a diamond if you held ♦A-x). He may decide to switch to a diamond instead, letting the contract through. There is not much point trying to analyse whether East should lead a diamond or his other top heart at trick two. The point is that he is certain to get it right unless you drop the Q♥. Do this and you give East a problem. Sometimes he/she will go wrong.

Again—something to ponder on!!

Happy reading
Barbara Wilkes
 Editor

BRIDGE

**A TEST OF YOUR SKILL
 VERSUS
 OPPONENTS' LUCK**

