

# TAIERI BRIDGE CLUB JULY 2020 NEWSLETTER



## NOTES FROM THE COMMITTEE

- ⇒ New master certificates have arrived for Robert Cowan, Judy Robertson, Stewart Whyte, Alan Lewthwaite and Stewart Kerr—well done for reaching a new proficiency level.
- ⇒ New Zealand Bridge sends out links to their latest podcast—you may find these interesting. They last for about 30 minutes. Email the club if you would like the link.
- ⇒ If you are using our photocopier please handle with care as it is very easy to break sensitive paper feeding parts—at our own cost of call-out and replacement.
- ⇒ As you will see below we are holding our own Tournament on 25th July. It would be great to see more entries from our club. Don't be shy—give it a try.
- ⇒ We would like to welcome new member Jo De Bono who has transferred from Tauranga. Her contact number is 02108330990.
- ⇒ Due to COVID interrupting bridge sessions the committee has agreed unanimously that for Monday and the Wednesday night competition that it will be the best 5 nights out of the 6 played.
- ⇒ Tricks and tips on using the new tablets:

### HANDLE WITH CARE

- ◆ Remember that they have a touch screen so can cause a few problems if you continually touch all over the screen.
- ◆ When picking up the tablet just handle it from the sides.
- ◆ If you are the last person to use it at the end of the session please ensure you move it back to the start up screen (that applies if you are sitting at a bye table).



## TOURNAMENTS COMING UP

- 18 July—Winton Open Pairs. Entries close 15th July.
- 19 July—Otago Junior Pairs, entries close 17th July
- 25 July – Taieri Open Open Pairs.— looking for great club support. Notice on board to complete or you can complete online.
- 2nd August - Otago Swiss Pairs, entries close 29 July.

## CONTROLLING THE BIDDING – THE RIGHT WAY TO SECURE THE BATTLEGROUND IN BRIDGE by Paul Medelson

This article is about destroying or at the very least corrupting your opponents' communication and enhancing your own.

Total Tricks Principle: - when you hold the clear majority of points, the number of points you hold as a partnership is unlikely to be important. The true value of trumps becomes apparent when the points are fairly evenly divided between the two partnerships, or your side holds the clear minority. When the points between the two sides are balanced or your side holds the majority of the points, you are safe to compete to the same number of tricks as your side holds cards in your longest suit. (E.g. – if you hold 9 spades between you, you will be safe to bid 3S (even though you may not make it).

The Power of Spades – always a worry when there is an overcall as it is the highest ranking suit. Your overcall suit should always have an honour. With 8 spades between you then you can be assured that you are in a safe spot as you will have forced your opponents to bid to the 3 level.



The prime purpose of an overcall is to obstruct your opponents' auction. You want to take up their bidding space as much as possible. When deciding whether to bid on a weak hand, do so when all your points are concentrated in the suits you are showing, and not randomly scattered around your hand.

The most important factor in deciding whether to compete, or continue competing, once both opponents have bid, is whether or not they have found a fit. There is a simple rule which applies 99% of the time:

*If your opponents have an 8 card fit, your side has an 8 card fit. Conversely*

*If your opponents have a misfit, your side has a misfit. (If the hand is misfitting, you want to be defending).*



## Bridge is a whole new language— if you didn't know better

A cleaning woman was applying for a new position. When asked why she left her last employment, she replied: 'Yes sir, they paid good wages, but it was the most ridiculous place I ever worked. They played a game called Bridge, and last night a lot of folks were there.'

As I was about to bring in the refreshments I heard a man say: "Lay down and let's see what you've got!"

Another man said: "I got strength, but no length!"

A third man said to the lady: "Take your hand off my trick!" I pretty near dropped dead just then when the lady answered: "You forced me! You jumped me twice when you didn't have the strength for one raise!"

Another lady was talking about protecting her honor, and two others were talking when one said: "Now is the time for me to play with your husband and you can play with mine."

Well, I just got my coat and hat but as I was leaving, I hope to die if one of them didn't say: "Well I guess we'll go home now! This is the last rubber!"



## Bridge Limerick

There once was a player from Beirut  
Who thought he would try to be cute.

He overcalled a spade  
And died as he played.

The postmortem: a four-card suit.

**(I TRIED) TO  
LOOK CUTE.**

*Barbara Wilkes*

NEWSLETTER EDITOR