



TAIERI BRIDGE CLUB JULY 2024 NEWSLETTER



NOTES FROM THE COMMITTEE:

- The Committee would like to thank Avril Power who has resigned from the committee. Avril has worked tirelessly as the Treasurer for 2 years plus the year to date as the Table Fee Administrator. Jan Methers has stepped into the position of fill-in Table Fee Administrator until the next AGM— thanks Jan. 
- Please welcome Jim Pine who came through the lessons.
- Just a reminder to help the delivery of Table cards that payments are to be made online. Please ensure you add your surname and the reference “Table Cards” to easily identify these payments. The table cards will endeavour to be ready within the week—not necessarily on the day of payment.
- The Committee has been considering the surplus/loss made over the last 5 years. Losses have been considerable and only one small surplus. This year is also forecast to be a \$3,500 loss with the majority of that being the increase in insurance premium. The committee considered 3 alternatives being: increasing subs, cutting costs like supper or increasing table money. After discussion it was agreed that increasing the table money by \$1.00 was the preferred option. As our new financial year starts on 01/09 it was also agreed that it made sense for this increase to apply to the whole Bridge Club financial year. You will still receive 11 tickets for the price of 10 but now it will be a \$60.00 charge. 

TOURNAMENTS:

July 20—Winton 5A Open Pairs, \$30.00, entries close 17/07.

July 28—Taieri 8B Graded Pairs, 10 am start, \$30.00, entries close 25/7. Please support our club by attending this tournament. There will be prizes for the various grades.


August 4—Otago 5A Swiss Pairs, 10 am start, \$35.00, entries close 30/7. Otago are also looking for entries to ensure this tournament goes ahead.

SUIT CONTRACTS by Brian Senior

Maintaining Flexibility: Sometimes, declarer must take a very flexible approach and make a play that looks to be very unnatural if he is to preserve communications.

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

What is the most likely source of declarer's twelfth trick in Six Spades after the lead of the queen of hearts?

It is clear that the twelfth trick will have to be provided by the diamond suit. If the declarer wins the opening lead, draws a couple of rounds of trumps, then play three rounds of diamonds, ruffing, he will succeed if the suit breaks three-three. But a three-three break does not offer very good odds. There is a much stronger line which more than doubles the chances of success, but it requires a counter-intuitive play from declarer. 

In a no-trump contract, it would be easy to see that ducking the first round of diamonds would help with the communications, but when this is a side suit in a trump contract, it looks strange when holding a doubleton opposite a suit headed by the ace and king. Nevertheless, the best play is to win the opening lead and duck a diamond at trick two. Any return can be won in declarer's hand. He draws a couple of rounds of trumps, being careful to leave the ten in dummy, then plays a diamond to the ace and ruffs a diamond. Finally, declarer crosses to the ten of spades and cashes two diamond winners, pitching his heart losers. The contract is made whenever diamonds break either three-three or four-two.

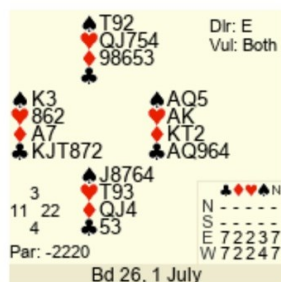
The key to good and effective suit establishment is always to take care of our communications. Always plan the play before setting out. If you think you have found a good play, pause for a moment to see if you can find an even better play.

What's the plan?

AN INTERESTING BOARD from Lee Ashton

Board 26 Monday 1st July – the picture shows all of the cards and all of the contracts made on Monday night.

Board 26



Con	Dc	Res	Score	Ld	Pairs	Rd	Tbl
			-		15 - 15	1	15
5 ♣	E	+2	-640	♥T	14 - 2	13	14
5 ♣	E	+2	-640	♦4	1 - 4	13	1
5 ♣	W	+2	-640	♥7	4 - 10	10	4
5 ♣	E	+2	-640	♥9	5 - 12	9	5
3 NT	E	+4	-720	♠6	6 - 14	8	6
3 NT	E	+4	-720	♠6	7 - 1	7	7
3 NT	E	+4	-720	♠6	8 - 3	6	8
3 NT	E	+4	-720	♠8	9 - 5	5	9
5 NT	E	+2	-720	♠6	10 - 7	4	10
4 NT	E	+3	-720	♠6	12 - 11	2	12
3 NT	E	+4	-720	♠7	13 - 13	1	13
6 ♣	E	+1	-1390	♦Q	3 - 8	11	3
6 NT	E	+1	-1470	♠6	2 - 6	12	2
6 NT	E	+1	-1470	♠4	11 - 9	3	11
Datum: -800							

According to the software there is 7nt – remembering that this is the very optimal contract as all finesses will work. Three East/West partnerships out of 14 pairs were in some style of slam, what happened to the other 11 partnerships? One pair ended up in 5nt and the stopped and another pair bid 4 NT so 9 of you stopped at 3nt or 5 clubs.

Check the hand which is printed here, opener East has 22 points and a pretty flat hand. I would expect you all to open 2NT showing 20-22 balanced or 2C showing 20+ HCP depending on your system. West has 11 high card points.

For those of you who opened 2NT showing 20-22 partner should with their 11 HCP be saying gosh $20 + 11 = 31$ HCP so there could be a possible slam here. West should bid 4C (ace asking), East would reply 4NT (3 aces). West now bids 5C asking for Kings. East would reply 5S (2 kings). Now you can easily work out that you hold all aces and kings and with those long clubs bid 6 or 7 - depending on your bravery. There is nothing wrong with the smaller hand taking control.

HOW TO READ RESULTS ON THE WEB

If you go into Taieri Bridge Club website results tab you can always see the results. You can also view the "Detailed Data and Hand Records" for the night too which gives a great opportunity for learning. Most of you will know this but some may not in how to read the results.

You can see all of the contracts, who played it, how many tricks were made and what the lead was. If you are trying to work out which was your contract then when you look at the pairs you will see a left and a right number. The left number refers to the North South Pair number and the right number refers to the East West Pair number. You just have to remember which table number you started off (unless it's a Howell movement then you should know your number).

The top line shows the top North score and likewise the last line shows the bottom North score. Conversely the top line shows the bottom East score and the bottom line shows the top East score. Being in the middle is not a bad place to be.



Barbara Wilkes

NEWSLETTER EDITOR