


TAIERI BRIDGE CLUB JUNE 2023 NEWSLETTER



NOTES FROM THE COMMITTEE:

- Welcome to new members: Gail Diack, Sally McNeilly, Sue Johnstone, Kitty Caldwell, Brian Donnelly, Dominic Stolten, Mavis Grant, Louise Stevenson-Wright, Raewyn O'Sullivan, Val Wright, and Denise Tetlow. Please make these new members feel welcome. 
- The new members will be joining us for Winter Pairs. It would be great if we could match them up with experienced players (approximately 7 required). If you are able to help by swapping with someone you have organised to play with so you both could partner a newbie it would be greatly appreciated. Please email the club if you can help out.
- The landline phone at the club no longer works. I know we encourage people to have their phones off during play but it would be acceptable to leave on if you were expecting an urgent call. 
- We are looking at getting the front door lock changed so please look out for an email letting you know when replacement keys will be available.
- Thanks to Marie for organising the King's Birthday fun night. 34 people enjoyed the meal (plus the hot crumble). Looking forward to the next one.
- Never too early to think of coming on the committee to help out. We are always on the look-out for extra help

Tournaments:

17/18 June—South Island Pairs 20A Swiss—Online. 9.30 am start, \$180.00 per team (4-6 players).

17 June—Winton Intermediate / Junior Pairs, 10 am start, \$25.00 entry, closing 13/06.

25 June—Oamaru 8B All Grades Pairs, \$25.00 entry, closing 21/06.

July 15—Winton Open 5A Pairs, \$30.00 entry, closing 11/07.


July 22—Taieri 8B Tournament—more details to come later.

HOW TO DEFEND A HAND by William S Root


The Opening Lead is the most challenging defensive play because it is the only one that is made before the dummy is exposed. The clues to guide the opening leader come from the nature of his/her hand and the bidding. One of the sure things is that you have to lead something.

Here's some guidelines:

A Doubleton – from a two-card suit (A K, A Q, K 10, Q 9, etc.) lead the higher card.

Three-Card Sequences – When the suit you intend to lead has a three-card sequence headed by the King, Queen, Jack or Ten, lead the top of the sequence regardless of the length of the suit. If you have 3 cards but are missing the 3rd card (e.g. Q J 9), treat these holdings as if they are three-card sequences. This applies to both notrump and suit contracts. 

Two-Card Sequences – If you have a three-card suit, lead the top of a two-card sequence headed by the King, Queen, Jack or ten against notrump and suit contracts. With four or more cards in the suit lead fourth-highest against notrump contracts unless partner has indicated the suit then lead the highest card.

Ace-King Combinations versus Notrump Contracts – If your opponent's reach a partscore or game in notrump, the right lead might be the King, the fourth-highest or in rare cases the Ace, depending on the length of the suit and where or not the suit contains other honors. The King is routine from A K Q x, A K J x, A K 10, or A K x, but lead fourth highest from A K x x x, especially if you have no re-entry cards. (Please note that I always let my partner know that if I lead the Ace then I have the King to follow as it leads to less doubt in my mind). 

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Inside Sequences – If you are defending against a notrump contract and decide to lead a suit that contains an “inside sequence” the standard procedure is to lead the top card of the sequence if it is an honour card regardless of the length of the suit. E.g. lead the Queen from A Q J x x, the Jack from A J 10 9 8 or K J 10. If your sequence is not headed by an honour, lead the fourth-highest.

In conclusion, the card you lead is a “signal” to tell your partner something about your length and/or your strength in the suit. The card you lead also reveals this information to the declarer, so you may be wondering why you shouldn’t violate the guidelines and make a lead that may fool the declarer? The answer is obvious” An undisciplined lead is more apt to fool your partner than declarer. Experts always adhere to their partnership agreements, so you should do the same.

Always so much more to learn about this subject

ALERTS

Did you know that in this sequence: your partner opens 1♣, opponents overcall 1♠ and you say 1NT you are promising an honour in the spade suit. As this is a standard bid your 1NT does not need to be alerted. If you have an agreement with your partner that your 1NT bid is just showing a point count then the bid of 1NT must be circled so that opponents know the same information as you do.

Disclosing Systems

Did you also know that if you have a system of bidding or playing with your partner it should be fully disclosed. Your principle should be to disclose, not as little as you must, but as much as you can, and as comprehensively as you can.

BRIDGE PLAYERS KNOW



**THAT GOOD HABITS
ARE OUR BEST FRIENDS**

© WORDS & UNWORDS

Thought this applied to bridge quite well

**THERE ARE TWO KINDS OF
LOSERS
THOSE THAT ALWAYS PULL
TRUMP AND THOSE THAT
NEVER PULL TRUMP**



Barbara Wilkes

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

You only live once.

**You don't want your
tombstone to read:**

'PLAYED IT SAFE.'

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