

## TAIERI BRIDGE CLUB JUNE 2024 NEWSLETTER



### NOTES FROM THE COMMITTEE:

- Welcome to new members: Abigail Fergus, Raylene Wilson, and Judith Stanbridge. Hopefully these 3 will be coming into Monday sessions in a fortnight. Please let us know if you have some gaps to play with these new members as they have just come from lessons.
- The Special General Meeting will be held on Monday 17 June, starting at **6.30 pm**. Although it is winter once the meeting starts then there will be no latecomers allowed. Please come (in this one instance) closer to 6.55 pm.
- The fun night was recently held with 9 tables playing bridge. The winter warming food was well received—thanks to Marie for her excellent effort.
- It should go without saying now but if you are unwell please stay at home. A blue mask is better than no mask but staying home and keeping your bugs to yourself would be greatly appreciated by all members of the club.
- Did you know that the banking part of the Table Fee Administrator is quite a large job. Westpac seem to be not as modern as some banks and so you have to complete on the forms how many of each coin is banked plus the total for each denomination of coins. You can imagine if you have to count out each lots of coins individually then this makes the job huge especially for 4 bankings per week. To help out it would be greatly appreciated if you can online bank then please do!! If you have to pay cash then notes as a 1st preference, and gold coins as second preference. Hopefully no silver coins at all.

### TOURNAMENTS:

22/23 June—South Island Pairs—Online, 9.30 am start, \$50.00, closes 19/06.

22 June—Winton 5B Intermediate/and 3B Junior Pairs, 10 am start, \$25.00, closes 19/06.

25 June—Oamaru 8B All Grades, 10 am start, \$25.00, closes 21/06.

28 June—Matariki Fundraiser Online—to help send our international teams to Argentina. There are 3 sections, Swiss Pairs, 5A Open, 8B Restricted, and 5B Intermediate/Junior. 2 Sessions, starting at 10 am. \$35.00

### SUIT CONTRACTS by Brian Senior

Playing the Odds: While declarer should play the whole hand and not just suit in isolation, it does pay to know what the correct 'odds' plays are with various common suit combinations. I cannot stress too strongly, however, that I am now discussing only the theoretically correct plays in isolation, and that these should sometimes be deviated from to cater to any special problems that may be created by the rest of the hand.

We all know that it is correct to play for the drop, cashing the Ace and King, if holding nine cards, missing the queen. Equally, if holding only eight cards missing the queen, it is normally correct to cash one top honour then finesse on the next round. However, even that last one assumes that we can then repeat the finesse if need be.

Here's some examples to consider:

1) A K J 10 8 7 facing 3 2. It is correct to finesse the jack on the first round, without first cashing the ace or king. Yes, this risks losing to the bare queen offside, but it gains whenever there is any other singleton offside, i.e. there is queen to four onside, which is four times as likely. Cashing the ace first would make it impossible to pick up queen to four as it is possible to take only one finesse.

2) J 10 9 8 facing A 7 6 5 4. Correct play, though it is quite close, is to take two finesses. Of the times that success is possible, declarer only loses one to king queen doubleton offside.

3) A Q 9 2 facing 5 4 3. If declarer can afford a loser in this suit, correct play is to lead low to the nine first before trying the simple finesse of the queen, which he can try on the second round. This gains when South holds both jack and ten.

4) A K 10 3 2 facing Q 9 5 4. Cashing one of the ace and king first allows declarer to pick up jack to four with other opponent. But beware that similar holdings are not necessarily identical so:

PTO



- 5) A K 8 3 2 facing Q 9 5 4. Jack, the to four can be picked up without loss if it is South who holds the four cards, as it is only West who has two cards bigger than the two missing honours. But this is achieved only if declarer starts by cashing the queen.
- 6) K J 3 2 facing A 9 5 4. If needing all four tricks from this suit, it is correct to lead low to the jack on the first round. Cashing the ace prevents an unfortunate loss to the bare queen in the North hand, but when that is the layout there is no way to come to four tricks. Leading low towards the jack gains when it is South who holds the bare queen, as the king wins, the jack is cashed and the nine finessed on the third round.

## WAIVING OF PENALTIES

Someone drops a couple of cards on the table when sorting their hand. We usually carefully refrain from looking and say 'pick it up', and I am happy with this although it is against the rules. But on the whole no one has the right to waive a penalty. If someone drops the AKQ of a suit this obviously changes the situation at that table and the director must be called. Sometimes after, say, a revoke, a player will say 'never mind it won't make any difference to our score' – but that is the point. It will make a difference to everyone else's score and you have no right to do that.

## REVIEW AND EXPLANATION OF CALLS

You may ask the meaning of a call at your turn to speak, or when the auction has ended and the opening lead has been made but not turned over, or throughout the play when it is your turn to play. This is why the lead is made face down! You may ask about a bid without making it difficult for the partner to lead that suit since the lead has already been made. Players should give a full explanation but if they do not seem to be doing so or use terms you do not understand call the director for help. If you are not intending to enter the auction you should not ask about the bidding during the auction. If your opponents are playing a very artificial system with lots of alerts it is often wise to wait until the end of the auction and then ask each in turn what his/her partner has shown.

## KUMARA SALAD

4 Kumara, 1 red onion, bacon, tin of corn, red or green pepper, 3/4 cup of mayonnaise, sour cream, 1 tsp curry.

Mix together the mayonnaise, sour cream and curry. Cook diced kumara and then cool. Add all other ingredients then stir through mayonnaise. Sprinkle cashew nuts on top. Then enjoy!!



*Barbara Wilkes*

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

## AVOIDING REVOKES

The best way to avoid a revoke is when you see your partner not follow suit to say "Having none partner?".

I noticed at bridge the other night many people announcing themselves that they have none. Great check but it is not quite the correct thing. You are alerting your partner that you have none that could help them if they don't tend to see that sort of thing.



## Taieri Bridge Club—Open A Tournament Winners.

Great to see some of our own members featuring in the photos below. 1st was Brad Johnson and Matthew McManus. 2nd was Ramon Quennell and Mark Wilson. 3rd was Murat Genc and Graeme Stout. 4th was David Larsen and Murray Barron. Top intermediates was Christine Samson and Lyn Clark. Well done to all winners and thanks to those that helped organize it, and attend.

