

TAIERI BRIDGE CLUB MARCH 2018 NEWSLETTER



NEWS FROM THE COMMITTEE

- ⇒ Thanks to Frank, Laurie, Judith, Christine, Dale, Jenny, Eve, Raymond and Bob for their work last Saturday at the working Bee. Special thanks to Bob for use of his trailer to take away the green waste..
- ⇒ A welcome to new member Anna Eathorne who has just joined our club. Should you be looking for a partner on a Saturday or Monday her number is 489 7706.
- ⇒ There will be a meeting on Saturday 24th March at 10 am for those directing to go over the new rules. All members are welcome.

Easter Monday Monday 2 April 2018 **Fun Night**

5.45 pm Pre-Dinner Drinks
6.15 pm **Chinese** Dinner Supplied
7.15 pm Bridge

\$10 Bridge and Meal
Just come at 7.05 pm if you don't want the meal
Numbers required by Saturday 31st March by writing on board or replying to this email.

WHAT HAPPENS IF THERE IS A DISAGREEMENT ABOUT HOW MANY TRICKS HAVE BEEN WON?

There is no need to say anything during the play.

If you have counted and don't agree then call the director before you do anything to the cards. If you remember which trick is the problem it is helpful but not necessarily.

Interestingly, Law 42 A 2 states that dummy "may keep count of tricks won and lost" which suggests that it is up to declarer and the two defenders to agree!

Dummy "may try to prevent an irregularity"(Law 42 B 2) so there is a short time interval that he can draw attention to a declarer about to place the card the wrong way.

Law 65b3 states that: A player may draw attention to a card pointed incorrectly, but this right expires when his side leads or plays to the following trick. It must be done at the end of the round.

Law 65D says: A player should not disturb the order of his played cards until agreement has been reached. A player who fails to comply with the provisions of this law jeopardises his right to claim ownership of doubtful tricks - or to claim or deny a revoke.

And no player is permitted to handle any cards but his own!!

(Thanks to New Plymouth Club as this has been copied from their newsletter)



TOURNAMENTS COMING UP:

17th March—Taieri Open Pairs— Entries to be in by Wednesday. Morning tea starts at 9.30. Cost \$20.00 per person.

17th March—Timaru Congress

24th March—Queenstown Open 8B Pairs, entries close 20th March.

April 7th/8th—Open 8B Pairs

TIPS FOR WHEN TO FINESSE:

- * “Eight ever, nine never”..
- * This means if you have an 8 card suit between you and dummy then odds are it is better to finesse, whereas with 9 cards it is generally best to hope for the drop..

EXTRACT FROM ‘TIPS AND QUIPS CONTRACT BRIDGE BY VAL GRAVIS

This bit is about opening leads. Usually when you have AK of a suit your would lead the Ace but at times you may want your partner to unblock the suit. Here are 5 common situations and advice on how partner responds to a King being lead.

1. AKJ9XX—partner holds QX. *Partner plays the Q and now you can run the whole suit.*
2. AKJ9XX—partner holds 9X. *Partner plays the 8 which is a count signal and partner’s highest and therefore has nothing to unblock.*
3. KQ109X—partner holds JX. *Partner plays the J to unblock and you can continue from the top.*
4. KQ109X—partner holds AX. *Partner overtakes with the A to unblock and leads back through declarer’s JXX if dummy has low cards.*
5. KQ109X—partner holds 832. *Partner plays the 2 to show an odd number of cards.*



WELCOME TO ‘WHAT I TEACH AND WHY’ PART 3 BY KRISTEN COLLINS—kristencollins007@gmail.com.

Along with teaching basic bidding I also teach leads, discards and general declarer play tips. The below is the advice I give on leading and discards:

Leads versus No Trump Contracts

Which suit? Good choices include:

- Partner’s bid suit (if they have bid one)
- Your longest and strongest suit
- A suit with a strong honour sequence

Which card in a suit?

- 4th best from an Honour: leading a Little card from a suit in which you hold an honour lets your partner know that you like this suit and that they should return this suit when they get on lead i.e.

K97(2), Q96(4)32, K43(2), J97(6)42

- Highest card in an honour sequence: a sequence is **3** or more touching cards, when you lead the top one you promise the two below it – a very descriptive and safe lead i.e.

(K)QJ7, (Q)JT62, (J)T96, (A)KQ2

- Top of nothing: leading a High card lets your partner know that you have no honours in the suit led = Hate i.e.

(9)764, (8)6432, (9)64

Leads versus Suit Contracts



Which suit? Good choices include:

- Partner's bid suit (if they have bid one)
- Suit with a singleton
- Suit with an honour sequence
- Trump suit

Which card in a suit?

- 4th best from an honour (or 3rd best from a 3 card suit)
- Highest card in a 3+ honour sequence
- Highest card from a doubleton: leading a singleton or doubleton against a trump suit means you are trying to get a ruff with the trumps in your hand i.e.
(7)2, (9)3, (J)6, (T)4
- Don't be afraid to lead a trump. If it appears that the other possible leads will risk giving declarer an extra trick, a trump can sometimes serve as a safe way to exit your hand.
- Don't be afraid to lead a suit that you know declarer will trump -- you can sometimes weaken their trump holding by doing so.

Leading After the First Trick:

- If partner made the opening lead -- and if you're in doubt about what to do when you gain the lead later in the hand -- return partner's suit. This is an especially valuable guideline to follow when defending no-trump contracts.
- **In a suit contract don't lead a suit if both declarer and dummy are void. This is called a "ruff -and- sluff", and it often gives up a trick by letting declarer trump in one hand and throw a loser from the other hand.**

Discarding:

Discarding is when you are unable to follow suit to the trick played and therefore have a choice of cards to throw away.

- **Little = Like:** if you elect to discard a small card (2-7) this indicates that you have some interest in this suit i.e. you have an honour card and would like your partner to lead the suit at their earliest opportunity
- **High = Hate:** if you elect to discard a high card (7-10) this indicates that you have no interest in this suit i.e. you have nothing significantly higher than the card you just played and therefore have no further interest in the suit.



REPORT FROM SUSANNAH PINCKNEY OF REGIONAL SUPPORT PERSON OF BRIDGEMATES

Last month Susannah attended the start of our committee meeting to see if there was any suggestions that she could make to increase our membership numbers. This is what she wrote:

INITIAL MEETING WITH TAIERI BRIDGE CLUB:

During the very pleasant hour spent with your Committee I made the following observations:

1. Aging club membership is a real concern – you want to attract and keep younger players. We discussed 12 new members are required each year to keep the status quo. *Do you feel this is an achievable aim?*
2. Kristen Collins is a very good Tutor – she is not an appointed or elected member of your committee. *Would you consider inviting Kristen to join the Committee – Kristen could provide skills and younger outlook.*
3. I noted you seem to have had quite a few resignations – *Appear to be older retiring members or deaths – rather than affiliated Otago members resigning.*
4. The transition from Learners classes to playing on Mondays appears to be an area you would like to work on. *Options such as Novice Play Nights were discussed – I would like to spend some time with Kristen looking at ways to approach new players joining session play etc – I have lots of ideas.*
5. It was apparent that like so many clubs you do have a small problem with some older players!
6. I did notice your table numbers are quite low – of course retaining new members will certainly help on Mondays.
7. A comment was made about Otago's large advertising campaign for lessons making it seem hard to compete? – I also note that Kristen has suggested a Facebook page. *These days Facebook, your own and other local Facebook communities will provide contact with younger prospective learners – and other local small publications such as Strath Taieri Pet should be worth putting adverts in.*
8. Your newsletter is fantastic – it should go to every club in our region, even all New Zealand – *I do hope you realise what a good first impression to outsiders you provide -add your lovely club rooms and a friendly atmosphere and you have an asset and environment the envy of most clubs in NZ!*
9. Providing a Viewing/ Television Screen for Class and Club use is an excellent idea.

I spoke with Robert Gillanders briefly last week: Robert asked me to write down the changes we had made at Winton.

Of course, each club is unique and at Winton we have only 100 members – 20 of whom are affiliated Invercargill members. We play one day session on Monday and one evening session on Thursday as well as Championship Teams & Mixed Teams on Tuesdays.

We have retained learners over the past two years – lifting Thursday table numbers from 12 average, to 16 even 17 tables on Pairs nights.

Our Monday daytime attendances have lifted too as new members enjoy the more relaxed atmosphere – however this session group also has the highest resignations or sadly deaths.

Winton relies on top players from Invercargill driving out on Thursdays, so we were lucky not to lose too many Invercargill players before the table numbers increased.

We are mindful to try and support both senior play and beginner play in the same session – fingers crossed it seems to be working.

I am very happy to visit again and undertake further work if you wish. Please don't hesitate to contact me – I am looking forward to hearing from you. *Susannah Pinckney*