

TAIERI BRIDGE CLUB MARCH 2020 NEWSLETTER



NOTES FROM THE COMMITTEE

We would like to welcome new members Brian Ellis, Fiona Ellis (home phone number 4882250) and Clive Cummings (0274418389). Please make these people welcome at our club.

Resignations have been received from Ian Renwick, Tom Enright and Pat Hart. We would like to wish these people well for the future.

We hope you are enjoying the new tablets. There have been a few teething problems slowing things down but this will be minimal soon as everyone gets familiar with them. Just a reminder that although the results can be seen that if this is slowing things down we may remove this option. One of the other things slowing down things is people arriving late. It would be great if people playing bridge on Monday and Wednesday nights can arrive by 7 pm.



We have our tournament on this Saturday. There will be no usual Saturday play.



Lessons have started—still not too late if you know anyone that wants to join in.



TOURNAMENTS COMING UP

14th March—our own Taieri Open 8B Pairs

21st March—Queenstown Open 8B Pairs, entries close 17th March.

29th March—Winton Intermediate 5B Teams

THE STRATEGY OF DEFENCE by Raymond Brock

On every hand when you are defending you should plan the following:

Gather the evidence



- ⇒ Look at opponents' bidding – are they maximum or minimum? Look at their distribution – this can help you to decide if you have to be passive or active. Their bidding may also tell you if you feel they are stretched in their bidding.
- ⇒ Or lack of bidding
- ⇒ The strength and distribution of our own hand – this often tells whether to be active or passive. Take the tricks and run or let declarer make mistakes. Active can also referring to attacking declarer's entries or cutting communications
- ⇒ The sight of dummy
- ⇒ Partner's signals
- ⇒ Counting – points, distribution, tricks
- ⇒ Observing declarer's line of play

Make a plan



- ⇒ Assume the contract can be defeated – expert defence aims for as many tricks as possible most of the time.
- ⇒ Play partner for the minimum holding that we need to beat the contract
- ⇒ Technique – experts may duck declarer's honours, play certain false cards, unblock his honours, adopt an active or passive defensive role, be thinking how to break up a squeeze play
- ⇒ Flexibility – often need to be passive and flexible
- ⇒ Deception

Implement the plan



Here's a hand that shows technique

Game All, Dealer South	North	East	Bidding:			
	♠ 7 6 4	♠ Q 10 5 3	W	N	E	S
	♥ 10 6 4	♥ Q 5	-	-	-	1S
	♦ A K 9 9 8	♦ Q 4	Pass	2S	pass	2NT
	♣ 9 3	♣ K Q 8 7 4	Pass	3NT	All pass	

West leads the ♥7 against 3NT and your Q is won by declarer's King. Declarer now plays the ♦5 to partner's 7 and dummy's 8. Plan the defence.

Gather the evidence: Partner is playing high low in diamonds. He must have 4 cards in the suit for with a 9 card fit, declarer would play at least one top honour first. The ♥ position is unclear: perhaps the 7 is 4th highest in which case the suit might now be good, or it could be 2nd highest from several small cards.

Make a plan: You could win the ♦Q and return a ♥ but what is the hurry? Declarer is not psychic. Provided you duck smoothly, will he not return to hand with a black suit card and take another ♦ finesse. You will then win your Q and return a ♥. With no communication between the two hands declarer will surely lose as many tricks as it is possible for you to take.

Implement the plan:

♠ 98	♠ 764	♠ Q1053
♥ AJ972	♥ 1064	♥ Q5
♦ 10763	♦ AKJ98	♦ Q4
♣ 102	♣ 93	♣ KQ874

Play the ♦4. The full deal:

In the even partner's ♥7 was 4th-best so you could have won the ♦Q and beaten the contract immediately. That would have led to one down. By ducking the ♦ the contract went 3 down.

One of the most fundamental concepts in the play of the cards at bridge is 'communications'. Both sides try to preserve their own communications whilst trying to sever those of their opponents.



Happy Bridging!!

Barbara Wilkes