TAIERI BRIDGE CLUB MARCH 2024 NEWSLETTER



NOTES FROM THE COMMITTEE:

- Welcome to our new member Jan Bradley. Please remember to make her feel welcome.
- Our latest 8B Tournament had 15 tables. About 1/4 of those that attended were members from our own club. Congratulations to Gillian Alexander for getting top place, and Judith Smeijers for being the top intermediate. About \$700.00 was raised excluding NZ Bridge Masterpoint costs. Just a note for the future that it would be great if a few members stay behind to help clean up. Many hands make light work.
- Our lessons have started with only 6 people attending the lessons. Despite posters being distributed around Mosgiel, plus the usual newspaper advertising the committee will need to brainstorm to try and attract more learners. If you have any ideas please pass these on to the committee.
- Easter fun night coming up shortly—April 1st. The price has been increased to \$15.00 to cover the 2 course meal and table money. Cash to be paid on the night. Expect an Easter Surprise.
- Did you know that as part of being a member you accept that you will toss to see if you are a sitting pair or a moving pair. As there are only a couple of people that have written for an exemption to this then it is an expectation that all other members will take note of this rule. Please look out for something new on the table to remind you about this!

TOURNAMENTS:

Mar 16th—Invercargill 8B Open Pairs, \$30.00, 10 am start. They desperately need more entries otherwise this event may be cancelled. Please consider supporting this tournament.

Mar 17th—Otago Bridge Club—Charity Tournament in support of Women's Refuge Dunedin, starting at 1 o'clock, \$15.00. Includes Raffles, silent auction and spot prizes.

Mar 23rd—Queenstown 5A Open Pairs, \$45.00, 10 am start, closes 20/03.

THE GOLDEN RULES OF DEFENCE AND WHEN TO BREAK THEM by Julian Pottage & Marc Smith

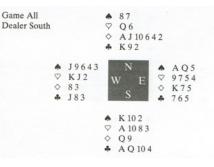
<u>Third Hand plays High</u>—is one of the first rules bridge players learn. This is especially important when defending a no-trump contract. Partner leads the 5 (4th highest) of this suit:

	1063	
A J 9 5 2		K 8 4
	Q7	

Sitting East, if you play any card but the King then declarer will score a trick to which he has no right. Playing third hand high prevents declarer scoring a cheap trick. Sometimes you cannot win the first round of the suit. Even so your high cards can force out declarer's stopper and build tricks for your side.

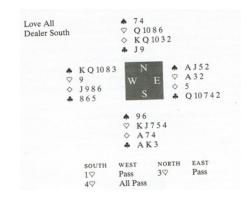
If your partner is on lead you should never finesse your partner's lead—in other words always play your highest card otherwise you may concede a cheap trick.

However breaking this rule really depends upon the cards in your hand and if you have an outside trick.



In this hand against 3NT, your partner leads the 4^{\bullet} . You have an outside (K $^{\bullet}$) and so in this case it is wise to play the Q $^{\bullet}$, then when winning the K $^{\bullet}$ you can lead back to your partner the 5 $^{\bullet}$ to take the contract light.

Continue the Suit Lead: You may often hear "Why didn't you return my suit?" Opening up a new suit often costs a trick. The opening leader has no choice, but thereafter the defenders may avoid giving away tricks if they continue the same suit. Continuing the suit led can also help you find out what to do next, but it also tells your partner what you hold in that suit.



Partner leads K \bigstar . Can you see four defensive tricks? In this scenario you would be wise to overtake with your A \bigstar and then lead your singleton diamond and hope for a ruff. Once you win with your A \heartsuit then you can lead back to West's spade winner and hope they will then lead a diamond for you to ruff.

Golden rule here is not to continue the suit led when you have a ruff available elsewhere to be set up.

RESPONSIBILITIES AT THE BRIDGE TABLE

Did you know that each position in bridge has its own responsibilities?

<u>South</u> is in charge of entering the contract details into the tablet. At the end of the hand passing the tablet to <u>East</u> to confirm and sharing the results (quietly) with the rest of the table.



North is in charge of ensuring that the correct board is being played and that the board is in the correct orientation, also the bidding pad - always helpful to write the lead card to help South with entering the opening lead.

rd ct to ne

<u>West</u> should pass the board back to the next table, also ensuring that the boards are placed in the correct orientation and then moving on quickly to the next table so that the other two opponents can start counting and sorting their cards.





Barbara Wilkes NEWSLETTER EDITOR



A DAY WITHOUT BRIDGE WOULDN'T KILL ME BUT WHY TAKE THE CHANCE?

