

# TAIERI BRIDGE CLUB APRIL 2023 NEWSLETTER



## NOTES FROM THE COMMITTEE:

- Welcome to new member Matheus Smith, who also belongs to Otago Bridge Club.

- It was pleasing to be able to donate \$1,080.00 to Otago Community Hospice. Thanks to all that helped make this fundraiser a success from catering (Thanks Marie), Directing (thanks Judith), Bar (thanks Dale), from raffle prizes (thanks to all that contributed prizes), and the many others behind the scene.



- Not long until the next fun Night on June 5th. We will be back to the Chinese meal. A flyer will be on the board for you to add your names to it.



- 4 more weeks of lessons to go. We will be looking for around 16 people to come on a Tuesday night for practice nights starting 13th June. No table money is required.



- Not long to go now until our 50th Anniversary on Saturday 20 May. An email will go out to those attending with a few more details. At this stage we are asking those playing bridge to arrive by 1 o'clock in preparation for bridge starting at 1.30 pm. Bridge should be finished by 4 o'clock and then the formal side of it will get underway by 4.30 pm. Others to arrive between 4.14 pm and 4.30 pm. Please remember to wear your name badges on this day.



## Tournaments:

May 13—Otago Junior 3B Pairs—would be great to support them as still few entries.

May 13—Te Anau 8B Pairs—\$25.00, 10 am start, closes 10/05.

May 13—Canterbury Congress Open and Intermediate Teams

May 14—Canterbury Congress Open, Intermediate and Junior Pairs.

May 20—Gore Intermediate 5B Pairs, \$25.00, 10 am start, closes 17/05.

May 21—Gore Junior/Novice 3B Pairs, \$25.00, 10 am start, closes 17/05

May 28—Taieri 5A Pairs, \$25.00, 10 am start, closes 25/05

## OPENING TWO BIDS by Paul Marston and Nick Hughes

When you hold a long suit it pays to open with a long suit it pays to open with a pre-empt. By doing so, you steal their bidding space and you leave your partner well-placed to judge the subsequent bidding.

A weak two bid shows 6-10 HCP and a six card suit. The suit should be of decent quality – three of the top 5 or two of the top 4 will suffice. To open a weak two with only one honour in the suit is dangerous for two reasons: then enemy might cut you down; and partner, expecting a better hand, might carry you too high. If your hand is marginal then it pays to look at vulnerability. For example if you aren't vulnerable then you could open with an Ace and ten but this would be best to pass if vulnerable.



As a rule, don't open a weak two when holding a void or a side four or five card suit, particularly when that side suit is a major.

If you are third in seat and your partner has already passed you can afford to have a little bid more than 10 HCP's as it is unlikely that there will be game your way.



If your partner bids 3 of your suit, this is not an invitation to game. Therefore, if you wish to enquire about game you should bid 2NT with at least 15 HCP's. Partner will rebid the anchor suit if weak, but if maximum with a solid suit bid 3NT.

If your partner changes suit with their next bid, then this is showing a five card suit and sound opening values. Responder is expecting you to bid again.

If opener bids first and you have a weak hand it is still worth bidding (depending upon quality of suit) as it takes away their bidding power.

You also need to know how to defend against weak twos. It is best to treat a weak two much like an opening bid at the one level. Overcall with a six card suit and about 10-15 HCP. Double with an opening hand and shortage in their suit. Don't double if your hand is very flat and if you have less than 15 HCP's you may well have to pass. All part of the joy of playing bridge.



## Did You Know?

When you make an insufficient bid (and we all do it sometimes) you must NOT say “I didn’t see that 1 Club .....” (or whatever). To do so gives unauthorised information to your partner and puts her in an impossible situation. The ONLY thing to say is “Director please”. The Director will (should) take you from the table while you explain what happened and may even let you make a correction.

## Ace Asking RKB

The usual Ace-asking bids are 4C Gerber, or 4NT Blackwood. However many experienced players are now using Roman Key-card Blackwood (RKB)

RKB is used for asking in a suit contract. As soon as the suit is agreed, 4NT asks for the number of Key-cards.

Key-cards include the Aces and the K of trumps — 5 in all

The replies are taken step-wise

5C = 0 or 3 key-cards

5D = 1 or 4 key-cards

5H = 2 key-cards without the Q of trumps

5S = 2 key cards with the Q of trumps

The next suit up (not counting the agreed suit, which is a sign-off) asks for kings. (not counting the trump king which was included in the key cards), and step-wise replies show 0, 1, 2, 3.

*A bridge player named Wade  
Was unhappy with how he had played.  
He was down in the dumps,  
For though hearts had been trumps,  
The card he'd pulled out was a spade.*

oh  
dear

## A Matter of Priority

A man has a severe heart attack and is rushed to the hospital emergency room. The admitting nurse says, “I’m sorry, you’ll have to wait in line.”

“But I might be *dying!*” says the man.

“Sorry, a doctor will see you when one is available.”

Then an ambulance races up with its siren blaring, and a woman is carried in on a stretcher. A paramedic explains, “She was in a terrible accident and has just stopped breathing.”

“I’m sorry,” says the nurse, “she’ll have to wait in line.”

Next a guy walks in without assistance, whispers something to the nurse and is taken immediately to the examination room, surrounded by doctors.

“What’s *this?*” says the first man. “How come he goes right in?”

“Oh,” explains the nurse, “he’s a bridge player and his partner just passed him in a cue-bid.”

*Barbara Wilkes*

NEWSLETTER EDITOR



"OH FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE, CHARLIE, JUST LET THEM *HAVE* THE BID!"

