

# TAIERI BRIDGE CLUB NEWSLETTER



## November 2016

### News from Annual General Meeting:

- Thanks to the 38 members who turned up the AGM on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November. This was a huge improvement on previous years (2015: 20, 2014 18) so maybe having the AGM before play works.
- Welcome to Eve Beardsmore as the new president, Jenny Magee as Vice President, Joan Robertson as Treasurer and Jen Macartney as a general committee member.
- Many thanks to the out-going committee members. Judy Robertson has been our treasurer for 15+ years. Donna Ruwhiu is also going off committee as Past President. A big thank you to both of these people for all the extra work they have put in.
- As mentioned last month the proposed changes to rules have been accepted. Look out for the new document on our website under resources. The main change is that visitors may only play 3 times in any one year before they will be asked if they would like to join as members.
- The Club is in good financial health and made a \$2K profit (up from \$858 previous year). Of interest to note is that 50% of our income comes from table money (up 3% from previous year, although table money was increased), 18% from subscriptions, 10% from Bar sales and 10% from Tournament income. Overall our total expenses have remained static from last year.

### News from the Committee

- 100% turn-out for the new committee which was a very positive start.
- There is planned maintenance required for the roof and spouting.
- Well done to Jen Macartney who was mentioned in the Masterpoints Reports as receiving a Novice award.
- The following motions were put forward and agreed to:
  - That only members ranked Junior Grading, as per NZ Bridge will be eligible to win Junior Championships, The Beryl Bishop Trophy, The Mabel Porteous Trophy and The Three Night Individual Trophy.
  - C Points will be continued to be given for off the stick results.
  - Handicaps will be adjusted to a more realistic level/
- The Xmas Party/Prize Giving will be held on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December. The theme for the night will be "Red, White and Blue" in celebration for the Queen turning 90. A party plate of food would be welcome. If you haven't already returned any trophies please do so immediately.

### Champ Pairs Final

#### *Why sit the top 6 pairs NS?*

**Fact 1:** In contract bridge playing a Mitchell Movement, players are only scored against those playing the same way – usually half the pairs present. To be fair, if we want the top players to be scored against one another, they must all sit in the same direction and so playing the same hands.

**Fact 2:** When there are feed-ins, there is always a switch. If there is a phantom some players get it once and some twice. For example if there are 10½ tables and we play 26 boards some pairs play 26 boards, some 24, and some only 22. So that top contenders play the same hands, then they must all be sitting the same way and that is the same way as the phantom. (They all get the same 26 hands)

The situation can be complicated by players having sitting rights. Normally it wouldn't matter whether the top contenders are all sitting NS or EW except that if one of the top contenders has sitting rights then the others must sit NS as well.

Is that clear? Probably not, unless you are clear that it is more important who you are scored against rather than whom you are playing against!

### A Poem called "A Bad Night at Bridge"

I'm giving up bridge – tonight's my last night  
It's Amen to Stayman, I give up the fight  
The insults and muddles are giving me troubles  
And I can't sleep at night for thinking of doubles.  
My cards are all rotten and I have forgotten  
Who's played and what's trumps  
And what's gone on my right!  
So for now it's all over – I'm off to the backwood  
I'm bidding goodbye to Gerber and Blackwood  
I can't stand the hassle, I can't stand the pain  
I'm getting those bad cards again and again  
I'm giving up bridge – tonight's a bad night  
Declarer is horrid and nothing's gone right  
My partner's a dope and I'm losing all hope

And when she says "double" I know we're in trouble.  
My points are not high, and I'm wondering why  
She's kept on bidding right up to the sky.  
We're in seven spades and all my hope fades  
When surprise, surprise, her high bidding pays  
We're winning all tricks, the defenders feel sick  
And I have to admit my partner's a brick.  
But I'm giving up bridge – tonight's my last night  
Farewell to conventions – I give up the fight!  
So I leave with few words but some that are true,  
Bridge is a game not for me but for you.  
So be kind to your partners and don't mind their  
cheek  
For it's only a game – Oh! And see you next week!

### Improve your Bridge

If you are a **beginner** or wish to **improve** your bridge, are you aware of, or have you looked at the resources available on the NZBridge web site? As well as the ten lessons available for Beginners, there are another ten lessons for Improvers. They have notes, quizzes, Power Point presentations, and even some videos. They cover a wealth of useful topics including Play Techniques, Opening Leads, and Signals and Discards. Just Google NZBridge then go to the **LEARN BRIDGE** menu and choose **Teaching Materials**. If you need help, ask.

### Did you know?

Law 7 says that when a board is to be played it is placed in the centre of the table until play is completed. This does not mean you need get out a tape measure, but you should not be moving the board away over to the side. Sometimes people with vision problems need the dummy close to them and may need to move the board back to make room for this, but on the whole there is plenty of room for dummy to be spread and the board to remain near enough to the centre. Players should be able to see the vulnerability and dealer at all times. Placing the bidding pad on top of the board is a bad habit.

Happy bridging!!!!

Barbara Wilkes  
Editor