

TAIERI BRIDGE CLUB SEPTEMBER 2022 NEWSLETTER



NOTES FROM THE COMMITTEE:

- Don't forget the AGM next Monday night at 6.30 pm. We endeavour to have the meeting over in 30 minutes. As usual we need a quorum to make it successful. You can even stay and play bridge afterwards.
- Well I must say the newly painted completed club main-room looks grand, and with the blinds nearly finished it looks rather swish. Great effort to the committee for organising this. We are very lucky to have our own great space. It will be great to have the windows cleaned too.
- There will be a working bee at 10 o'clock on Saturday 29th October for the inside. In case you didn't realise this is not just a committee event. This is one way you can support the club. Hope to see you there. Please bring a bucket and some cleaning cloths to help out.
- It's not far to Labour Weekend. There's a list if you would like to join in on the usual fun night. This is a great way to mix with other members of our club. Cost is \$10.00 (cash) on the night for the usual meal and bridge.
- 50th Anniversary—do you know of any ex members we should/could invite. If so please let one of our committee members know—an address would be even handier. Save the date: 20th May 2023!!! Ideas so far is bridge, photos, and a meal.



TOURNAMENTS COMING UP:

16th Oct—West Otago Social Tournament—Tapanui. \$30.00 with evening meal provided.

22nd—23rd Otago Southland Congress at Otago. Saturday is Open Pairs and Intermediate Pairs and Sunday is the teams event. Please support as numbers very low.

TAKE YOUR OWN TRICKS by Edwin B Kantar

There are some really useful hints here. As usual I have just copied down a few of them to consider.

Remember the opening lead as many contracts are lost at the very first lead. If you are missing the ace in the suit that has been led, assume your RHO has the ace and play accordingly. If the opponents do not lead a suit in which you are missing both the ace and the king, assume the honours are split or RHO holds them both.



In no trumps if the opening lead is in a suit that you have bid, or perhaps rebid, chances are the opening lead has five reasonable cards in that suit. Holding fewer it is unlikely to be led.

Count losers in the hand that has the longer trump holding. When someone leads the 4th of their longest suit remember the rule of 11. Subtract the leading card from 11 which will tell you how many cards higher than that card are in the remaining 3 hands. Look at your own hand to work out how many you have and you can see what is in dummy so you should be able to work out what is in declarer's hand. E.g. a 6 is lead, so 6 from 11 is 5 cards are out higher.



Working out splits of suits. Easiest thing to remember is that even numbers of trumps outstanding they are most likely to divided unevenly. If you have 7 trumps between you the 6 cards are more likely to split 4-2 than 3-3. If you have 8 trumps between you and your partner they are most likely to split 3-2 70% of the time and 4-1 30%. When you have a 9 card fit you can expect a 3-1 break 50%, a 2-2 break 40% and a 4-1 10%. When you have a 10 card fit you can expect a 2-1 break 80% and a 3-0 20%.



Finesses: Finesses in a short suit are last resort measures. Postpone them until the last moment. Try to establish long suits before taking finesses in short suits. The most frequent reason to finesse into one hand or the other with 9 cards missing the Q is to keep the dangerous hand off lead. No matter how much fun it is to take finesses, do not take two finesses when you only need one.

BARBARA'S BRIDGE TIPS by Barbara Seagram

I found this book and just couldn't resist.

This first bit is on common errors. Who would believe that **playing too fast** is one of them? Yes, duplicate bridge is a 'timed event', but take the time to make a plan at the start of the hand and stop playing instinctively and by rote. Stop and think. As declarer, count your winners in notrump contracts or your losers in suit contracts.

As a defender, calculate how many high-card points declarer and dummy have in their combined hands (the bidding will give you a good idea of that), then count your points and subtract the total from 40. There are 40 HCP in the deck, so your partner has the leftover points. If you know your partner can only have 5 points and she has already led a King, you know she has the King and Queen in that suit (by inference) and can have nothing more. All is done at trick 1, before you play a card.

Cashing Tricks too Early on in the Game. Aces were put on this earth to capture Kings and Queens. Kings have a job to do too—they capture Queens and Jacks. If dummy is on your left and has KJ72 and you have A63, think ahead. Be prepared, so that when declarer leads a small card from her hand toward that suit in the dummy you will play low smoothly and not hesitate. You are going to hope that declarer will play the jack—it's possible partner will be able to win the trick with the Queen. That's where the expression "second hand plays low" comes from.

On opening lead, do not lead an Ace unless you have the King (or partner has bid the suit). So from A54, which card do you lead? The correct answer usually is "Another suit".

More on this next month!!!



'George takes his bridge evenings very seriously'

ALERT
Emphatic bids, slow passes and fast doubles are not part of duplicate bridge. Try to bid and play in tempo.



Barbara Wilkes

NEWSLETTER EDITOR