

TAIERI BRIDGE CLUB SEPTEMBER 2020 NEWSLETTER



NOTES FROM THE COMMITTEE

- ◆ The AGM is not far away (19th Oct) so we will be **looking for at least 1 general committee member** Please seriously consider if you can help the club in this way. Blank nomination forms are up on the wall at the club rooms and will need to be completed prior to 5th October and returned to myself as secretary.
- ◆ Please remember if you are unwell (even just a little bit) that it is preferable for you to stay at home rather than spreading the bugs. COVID may well be around for a long time.
- ◆ The committee is looking at ways to increase table numbers by: posters, radio advertising, encouraging more Monday night players to play on Wednesday night, having a co-ordinator on the committee (John Aitcheson). Please do your bit by asking members whom you may not have seen for a while to play with you. Every bit helps.
- ◆ The committee would like to acknowledge the passing of Frank Gradon. He was a very integral part of our club right from the start. He held many positions including: secretary, president, general committee member, director, in charge of archives, and at one time was in charge of our bridge software that was quite advanced at that time. As a result of Frank's major contribution he was made a life member of our club. He will be sorely missed but he should be happy knowing that he has left our club in good health.
- ◆ We are looking at having a combined Cancer Society and Hospice Charity Tournament on 11th October. Please start bring your raffle prizes to the club for this.



TOURNAMENTS COMING UP

Sept 19—Winton Open 8B Pairs

Sept 27—Taieri Junior 3B Pairs—come on members we really need your support with this. Please enter online.

Oct 10—Gore 8B Multigrade Pairs—entries close Oct 7.

Oct 11—Taieri Charity combined Cancer and Hospice Tournament.

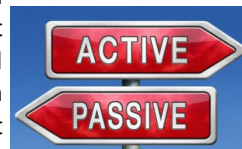
Labour Weekend—Otago Southland Congress—Pairs Saturday and Teams Sunday—entries by Oct. 21.

LEADING QUESTIONS IN BRIDGE by Sally Brock

I always think that the leading card can make or break a contract so I thought I would investigate this a bit further.

To start off you should always listen to the bidding as this may give you a few clues on whether you will be active or passive. An active lead is where you lead from honours hoping to promote your side's defensive tricks before declarer has established sufficient tricks of his own. Unfortunately this can sometimes set up winners for declarer that he would not have otherwise have.

A passive defence simply tries to avoid giving declarer any tricks that are not his by rights. You should make this kind of lead when you are defending from strength. This too has its problems as it can sometimes allow declarer to set up his own tricks before the defense's tricks are established.



Should I lead "4th Highest of my longest and Strongest"? This is great a great lead for No trumps especially if opponents have bid your longest suit. If you lead this way you can use the "Rule of 11", subtract the pips from the card lead from 11 then this will tell you the number of cards in the other three hands that are higher than the one led.

Example where South has bid 1 NT and West leads the 7 spades. 11 minus 7 = 4. As East you have 3 cards higher than 7 in your hand and 1 in the dummy then you can tell that declarer does not have a card higher than 7.

If you have a very weak hand that you have no prospect of developing then you should try to find partner's suit and not lead your 4th card of your longest suit.

Should I Lead Partner's suit? Often this is a good idea as your partner should be showing you that they hold length and values and they want you to lead that suit if you have the opportunity. Sometimes this is not always the correct thing to do. For example if your partner was just replying to your bid and you ended up defending, chances are your partner is only showing 4 cards so there is no point leading it.

You as West hold ♠ 9 8 5 4 ♥ Q J 10 7 4 ♦ 10 4 ♣ J 5

Bidding went East 1C, South 1NT, West pass, North 3 NT, all pass. Should you lead the Jack of Clubs rather than leading your own 5 card suit. As you don't have an outside entry into your hand you should lead partner's bid suit.

Steer away from partner's suit:

When he hasn't shown a good suit (no overcall)

When you think it will give the opponents their game-going trick.

When the opponents have bid a slam confidently after partner has bid a suit.

Should I lead the Unbid Suit? Often this is good because opponents have already bid their long suits and this will generally be where the majority of their high cards will be. If the unbid suit is a major and declarer could have bid it easily, it is unlikely that either opponent has more than 3 cards in it, so unless you have a better alternative bid the unbid suit.

As a good alternative you could bid dummy's second bid as it is likely to be shorter than the first suit.

Lead the unbid suit

Against no trump when declarer can't hold four cards in it

Against a suit contract when you have the Ace and the King of a suit

When they arrived at No trump very slowly

When they are in a suit contract they have arrived at and it is clear that they have no great fit.

Steer away from the unbid suit

When declarer has jumped to game in no trump

When both opponents are likely to have length in the unbid suit

When you are weak in the unbid suit, but have a reasonable 5 card suit to lead instead

When a lead of that suit risks setting up too many tricks for declarer.

A Note from our President

Hi everyone

I just want to say a few words on attendance at the bridge club. I will start by explaining what the Monday nights at the club were supposed to be for. These were designed to cater for beginners coming out of the lessons and new people, hence most of the games being handicapped and then a natural progression to Wednesday nights to increase knowledge and experience and therefore hopefully become a better player. Somehow, over recent years the real meaning of Monday nights has become lost, hence the numbers on Wednesday nights have declined. We have noticed that some players are playing at Otago on Wednesday nights and if the reason is that they want to improve their bridge then why not come along to Taieri?

There are ideal opportunities coming up over the next few weeks on Wednesdays with the or the Spring and Christmas pairs which are all handicapped.

I hope you consider this. Anybody who has not played on a Wednesday night regularly can come along and play for free the first night.

Just give us a chance, but if you have any concerns please come forward and tell me.

Jen Macartney

President, 027 8925258



Barbara Wilkes

NEWSLETTER EDITOR



THERE ARE TWO KINDS OF
LOSERS
THOSE THAT ALWAYS PULL
TRUMP AND THOSE THAT
NEVER PULL TRUMP

