



## New Post

Table Talk - Apr 2025

From the President

Happy Easter to you all. Hope you are having a lovely time with family and friends and don't eat too much chocolate. 🍫

Don't forget our tournament on April 26th. Marc has more details on the tournament later in the newsletter. Good luck to all competing and thank you to the helpers.

A huge thank you to Jane and Trish who have been teaching a very large group of learners on Wednesday evenings. They will be having their graduation ceremony at the end of the month and you will see them at the table from May onwards. We look forward to having this group coming to play bridge with us.

Martin Unwin has kindly agreed to take an improvers lesson once again this year. We are trialing a new one day format with a social time to follow the lesson. Details are later in the newsletter and it would be great to have a good attendance.

Now that we are getting to the colder months don't forget that from Monday May 5th we will be starting play at 6.30pm.

Looking forward to seeing you all at the bridge table

Cheers

Heather

## **Programme Apr 2025 - May 2025**

### **Monday:**

Mt Iron Stakes concludes Apr 21

Silver Championship Pairs Apr 28

Roy Stakes (Silver only) from May 5 6.30 start

Silver Championship Pairs May 26

**Tuesday:**

From Apr 22

**Wednesday:**

Hawea Pairs concludes Apr 23

Bronze Championship Pairs Apr 30

Lindis Pairs (Bronze only) from May 7 6.30 start

Bronze Championship Pairs May 28

**Friday:**

From May 2

No bridge on Apr 25 (holiday)

## **Tournaments**

**Also coming up:**

Wanaka Open Pairs 5A Apr 26

Otago/Southland Championship Trials (Open, Senior, Intermediate, Women)  
Online May 3

Murihuku Teams (Invercargill BC) 5A May 10

Murihuku Pairs 5A May 11

Te Anau Open Pairs 8B May 17

Otago Junior Pairs (Otago BC) 3B May 18

Gore Intermediate Pairs 5B May 24

Gore Junior/Novice Pairs 3B May 25

Otago/Southland Provincial Teams (Queenstown BC) 10A May 31

## **Recent Results**

Paul Cushnie paired up with Maggie Stratford at the recent Winton Open Swiss Pairs. Against a very strong field they finished 3rd out of 22 pairs, while beating the pairs that finished first and second.

It's always nice to see the rain bucketing down when you sit at the computer for a day's online bridge, which is what a few of us did on Good Friday. This was the NZBridge Swiss Pairs Fundraising Tournament to help send national teams overseas to compete. The day didn't start well for the Wanaka teams in the Intermediate section, but thereafter we raced through the field. Myself and Neil Marshall finished 6th out of 20 pairs, while Tracey Gieck and Andrew Shaw were a very respectable 2nd while winning five out of their six matches.

## **Wanaka April Tournament**

We still have a few spaces left for the tournament. Enter at

<https://www.nzbridge.co.nz/events/11599/Wanaka-Open-Pairs>

or ask us to enter on your behalf.

Once again, we ask that Wanaka members who are playing bring a plate with them for the breakfast buffet, and that all members consider contributing to the raffle prizes. We will be following the format that was so well-received at our last tournament, presenting four or five hampers.

If you have used cards from the Club for the Round the Houses team competition, please return them before Saturday the 26th so that we have enough cards for the tournament and the following week's sessions. Thanks.

## Combined Bridge/Golf Event

# ♠️ **Golf & Bridge Tournament** ♠️

Join us for a fun-filled day of 9 holes of golf and a lively game of Bridge!



**Date: Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> May**



**Venue: Hawea Golf Club**



**Tee Off: 10:00 AM Sharp**



**Entry Fee: \$45 per person**

## **Event Schedule:**

**10:00 AM – 9-Hole Golf - 2 Person Ambrose**



**Lunch provided in the Hawea Golf Club rooms**



**Followed by a friendly Bridge tournament 1:30 PM - 4.30 PM**



**How it works:**

**Your golf partner is also your bridge partner!**

**If you don't have a golf handicap, we will give you one. So anyone can play.**



**Spot Prizes | 😊 Loads of Laughs | 🍷 Good Vibes Guaranteed**

**Limited spots available – get in quick!**

**To register or for more info, contact:**

**sonyawanaka@gmail.com | ☎️ 021970292**

**Please pay \$45 to Sonya Adams**

**12 - 3072 - 0312998 - 53**

**PROCEEDS FROM THIS EVENT WILL GO TO FOOD FOR LOVE**

## **Otago/Southland Junior and Intermediate Online Teams**

This is a new event which is taking place on the second Sunday of the month at 6.30pm from May to August. There must be a team of four (including at least one Junior, as defined by NZBridge rankings) available for each session. You can change the team from one session to the next if you wish. The cost is \$80 per team for the series. Cut off date is May 7.

Don't worry if you haven't played online before, there will be a short training session on May 10 at 6pm.

Contact Sonya Adams 021970292 to register and for further details.

## **Mentoring**

The committee is keen to continue to foster a mentoring program within the club. The 2025 Rippon Rosebowl, which starts on June 4, is a great place to start. There are several ways to mentor

Mentors must be prepared to play the system of the mentee, which is most often going to be Acol with four card majors and mentees must be prepared to invest in a little learning time. This can be followed up with a series, playing or teaching online and/or a regular catch up. In 2024, several Bronze players took advantage of this and improved their games.

If any silver players are happy to be paired up with some of our bronze players for this tournament, please get in contact with Lyn Hill on 027 4502587. Also contact Lyn to discuss any of the above.

Members have also been signing up for the Cuebids app, which helps with bidding no matter which system you use. Again, talk to Lyn for further details,

## **Slam Bidding Clinic**

Many of you got in touch after last month's notice of Martin Unwin's clinic to ask when it was going to take place. Here are the details:

Saturday May 17 10.30-12.00 and 1.00-3.30

\$10 per person, please bring cash on the day. Bring a partner and also your own lunch. There will be a social session afterward with a drink and nibbles.

Please write your name on the sheet on the noticeboard at the Club if you plan to attend. Otherwise, contact Heather on 027 443 7347.

## **Cards**

No, not those cards. We now have some attractive bridge-themed cards to send to members thanks to the designing skills of Jane Medway.

## **Membership**

New members: Carol Brewer Graeme Liddell Jackie Liddell Helen Verity

Resigned: Tiffany Kemp

If you need a new badge. please contact Tracey Gieck 021 94204

## **Director's Corner**

This month a link to a helpful video series concerning the laws of the game:

[https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLLDgenUw6\\_IhUywtP2Q9Xpb3JluOu80G](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLLDgenUw6_IhUywtP2Q9Xpb3JluOu80G)

## **A Missed Game**

This deal from the second round of the Wednesday evening Hawea Pairs caused more than a few bidding problems. Looking at all four hands it's clear that EW can make 3NT in comfort, but only two of seven pairs managed to bid it:



		♠ KJ653 ♥ Q96 ♦ A764 ♣ 6		Dir: W Vul:																															
♠ T ♥ T843 ♦ 85 ♣ AQJ853				♠ AQ974 ♥ A2 ♦ KJT3 ♣ K9																															
10 7   17 6		♠ 82 ♥ KJ75 ♦ Q92 ♣ T742																																	
Par: -430				<table> <tr> <td></td><td>♣</td><td>♦</td><td>♥</td><td>♠</td><td>N</td></tr> <tr> <td>N</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr> <td>S</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr> <td>E</td><td>4</td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>1</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr> <td>W</td><td>4</td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>1</td><td>4</td></tr> </table>		♣	♦	♥	♠	N	N	-	-	-	-	-	S	-	-	-	-	-	E	4	1	2	1	3	W	4	1	2	1	4	
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Bd 8, 16 April																																			

After two passes East has an obvious 1S opening, and when South passes the spotlight turns to West. With a decent 6-card club suit West had more than enough to justify a 1NT response but chose to pass, possibly out of reluctance to bid NT with a singleton or void. North promptly passed, being quite happy to defend 1S, leaving declarer free to chalk up +80 for making her contract.

At another table, ours as it happened, East opened 1S and West made the correct response of 1NT. With 17 HCP opposite a known 6-9 East was keen to invite game and bid 3D. This is usually played as forcing for one round but West passed, also out of reluctance to bid 3NT with a singleton in opener's suit. Declarer had no chance in a miserable 4-2 fit and went two down for +100 to NS.

How could West have done better? With no support for either of East's suits there are only two options: 3H or 3NT. 3H is unappealing because of the anaemic heart suit but has the virtue that it confirms 4+ hearts, which is likely to be of interest to East if they are hoping to play in 3NT. But the best bet is 3NT, hoping that the club suit will bring in six tricks if either East or South has the club king.

After East's 3D it should be clear to West that 3NT is a possible game contract, and with length in both the suits not shown by East 3NT has excellent chances of making. And if it goes light you will surely be in good company!

If you're reluctant to bid NT with a singleton or void in opener's suit, think again. If partner opens 1S and you have a void in spades, AJxx in hearts, xxxxx in diamonds and Qxxx in clubs, a 1NT response is mandatory. The important point is for the partnership to discuss this possibility, and to recognise that if opener is planning to rebid a second suit 1NT has so much chance of improving the final contract that it becomes the only option.

No results this month as we've been so efficient at getting the Newsletter out.

Marc

[Contact Us](#)

[Our Website](#)