



Table Talk Feb 2024

News from the Wanaka Bridge Club

From the President

Welcome back to the 2024 Bridge year, it's been great to see our regular weekly sessions being so well supported. We have a busy year ahead with our Open Tournament in April and the Intermediate/Junior tournament in September. Also this year we are hosting the Otago/Southland Inter provincial tournament over Kings birthday weekend. It would be great to have our silver players competing in this- more info will follow next newsletter With all of these tournaments to organise I would like to thank the Tournament Committee for their hard work and when they ask the club members for help, which they will need, I hope that you will all raise your hands.

I would also like to thank the Committee (especially Jane Hamilton) and club members for all the support my family and I received with the recent illness and passing of my dad.

It is wonderful to belong to such a supportive and caring club and it made my life so much easier over this time.

See you at the card table

Heather

Programme: Feb-Mar 2024

Monday:

Mt Barker Pairs concludes on Feb 26

Silver Champ Pairs Mar 4

Cardrona Stakes (Silver Only) from Mar 11

Tuesday:

As normal

Wednesday:

Wilkin Pairs continues on Feb 28

Bronze Champ Pairs Mar 13

Matukituki Pairs from Mar 20

Friday:

As normal except no bridge on Mar 29

Other Tournaments

Also coming up:

Taeri Open Pairs (8B) Mar 3

Oamaru Open Pairs (5A) Mar 10

Invercargill Open Pairs (8B) Mar 16

Queenstown Pairs (5A) Mar 23

Wanaka Tournaments

A reminder to think about your entry to the Wanaka Open Pairs at the end of April. We have had entries for 13 out of a possible 40 pairs so far.

www.nzbridge.co.nz/events/10434/Wanaka-Open-Pairs

Invoices

Some of you will have noticed that you did not receive an invoice for January. This was because of Andrew Shaw's absence on holiday. You will be receiving a combined invoice for January/February shortly.

Friday Drinks

We have had to modify the Friday drinks arrangement because of the liquor licensing laws. From now on, it will be byo to be arranged amongst yourselves.

Whatsapp Club Notices

A new Whatsapp group has just been created for club news and announcements. The partner finder group has been a great success and is an easy way to reach members, but we really want to keep that solely for finding partners. Because of that, we've now created a new group, called Club Notices.

If you're already in the partner finder group, you will automatically be added to Club Notices, unless you opt out by letting Bridget know on 020 413 05985.

The Notices group will be slightly different to partner finder, as you will only receive messages on it, you won't be able to post them yourself. It's another way for the committee to try and make sure everyone is kept in the loop.

Ratings and Handicaps

The rating points and associated handicaps are up and running on the website. Go to the Ratings tab. All of your bridge sessions at Wanaka are being used. Tuesday results are now being displayed

with Handicap and unadjusted scores as well as Friday.

Membership

Dorothy Fennell's number is listed incorrectly in the book. It should be 0221 997390

Membership Information

Apologies but despite our best efforts there were still a few errors in the latest Bridge Book. Also, if you haven't received one then get in touch as we will have an incorrect address for you.

Director's Corner

I thought that I'd print Law 66 in full, as it is the source of a number of misunderstandings at the table.

LAW 66 - INSPECTION OF TRICKS

A. Current Trick

So long as his side has not led or played to the next trick, declarer or either defender may, until he has turned his own card face down on the table, require that all cards just played to the trick be faced.

B. Own Last Card

Until his side has led or played to the next trick, declarer or either defender may inspect, but not expose, his own last card played.

C. Quitted Tricks

Thereafter, until play ceases, the cards of quitted tricks may not be inspected (except at the Director's specific instruction; for example, if necessary to verify a claim of a revoke).

D. After the Conclusion of Play

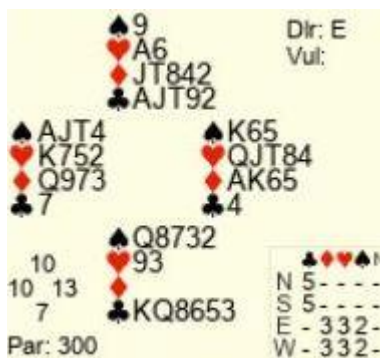
After play ceases, the played and unplayed cards may be inspected to settle a claim of a revoke, or of the number of tricks won or lost; but no player should

handle cards other than his own. If the Director can no longer ascertain the facts after such a claim has been made, and only one side has mixed its cards, the Director shall rule in favour of the other side.

So yes, you can inspect your last played card if your side haven't played to the next trick, but please don't do it all of the time, otherwise we'll be there all night.

Michaels Cue-Bids

This deal from the first round of the Mt Barker Pairs is an excellent example of the power of aggressive bidding when the opponents open and our side has a distributional hand with two 5+ card suits:



The auction at our table was:

East	South	West	North
1♥	2♥	3♥	4♦
4♥	Pass	Pass	5♣

South's 2♥ overcall is a Michaels cue-bid, with an immediate overcall in opener's suit showing at least 5 cards in any unbid major and an unspecified minor. When West raises to 3♥ North, with a known 5-5 minor suit fit and the ace of opener's suit, can show the power of his hand by bidding 4♦ and following up with 5♣ over East's 4♥, leaving South to pass or convert. If 4♥ makes 5♣ will show a profit even if it goes two light doubled and may even make. As the cards lie 5♣ is unbeatable, with declarer losing only a

spade and heart and cross-ruffing the rest of the hand.

Even if N/S do not find their club game 4♥ can be defeated with accurate defence. A black suit lead followed by an immediate switch to the other black suit leaves N/S with one trick in the bag and voids in spades and diamonds, respectively. When declarer attempts to draw trumps North wins the heart ace, followed by cross-ruffs in diamonds and spades to hold declarer to nine tricks. Only one of eight N/S pairs defending 4♥ found this line of attack.

West can muddy North's first round response to South's 2♥ overcall by jumping immediately to 4♥ but an enterprising North can still describe his hand by bidding 4NT. This can hardly be natural given that E/W clearly have the balance of the points, and is simply a supercharged version of the more familiar 2NT overcall showing length in both minors. It is 100% forcing so all South need do is interpret it as asking for her minor and respond 5♣.

That's all for this month. Enjoy your bridge.

Marc