



# Table Talk May 2023

## News from the Wanaka Bridge Club

### Marc's Missive

Ken Saxby and myself will be meeting Council representatives this week to discuss progress regarding the Mitre 10 building. Given the lack of information that we have been given so far, we are not approaching this meeting with any great expectations, but will of course keep you posted.

We had a problem with a member who attended bridge while having what sounded like a nasty cough. Although this was a chronic rather than acute issue, and not transmissible, it did upset quite a few players. Members have been very good at staying away if ill, but could they also bear in mind that a noisy issue like this is going to disturb the peace of what is supposed to be a quiet room.

We are going to try adding a Teams competition to the programme. The Club has a history of Teams but it hasn't been played since before Covid. If possible it will be played on a series of Thursday nights in July or August, and each team will be composed of two Silver and two Bronze players.

### Programme: May-Jun 2023

Monday:

Silver Championship Pairs: May 29, Jun 26  
AJ McKenzie Pairs: June 5, 12, 19

Tuesday:

May 23, 30, Jun 6. 13. 20, 27

Wednesday:

Lindis Pairs (Bronze only): May 24  
Bronze Championship Pairs: May 31,  
Jun 28  
Rippon Rosebowl (handicapped): Jun 7,  
14, 21

Friday: May 26, Jun 2. 9. 16. 23, 30

### Wanaka Open Tournament

We had a successful Open Tournament, both from a playing and organisational standpoint. Given the quality of the entries, John Schwarz and George Foreman placing 4<sup>th</sup> (and only just behind the top three) was outstanding. Other Wanaka pairings who came in the top three of one session from one side of the draw were Jan Baird & Tommie Munns, Murray and Jenny Pryde, Dorothy McDonald & Andrew Shaw, Sheryl Strudwick & Nan Ottrey and Mark Harry and Heather Wellman.

The tournament was run very well, thanks in no small part to our Committee of Jane Hamilton, Sally Jackways and Jan Baird. Thanks also to Mark Harry for a last minute intervention to ensure that Scorer could cope with the seeding and movement process, and to Sandy Bryan for the food.

Most of whatever gripes we had were minor, except for the continued absence of a clock. I hope to have that rectified this week.

### Other Tournaments

Also coming up:

May 28 Taieri Open Pairs  
Jun 3 Otago/Southland Provincial Teams, Queenstown  
Jun 4 O/S Provincial Pairs, Queenstown  
Jun 17 Winton Intermediate & Junior Pairs  
Jun 25 Oamaru All Grades

Congratulations to Sherril Harries and her

partner, Maggie Stratford who finished 5<sup>th</sup> out of 22 pairs in the Te Anau Open B Tournament.

### Rippon Rosebowl

There are Bronze players looking for Silver to play with in this competition. If you are interested please contact Bridget McCaughan on the WhatsApp Partner Finder.

### Lessons

Martin Unwin has kindly agreed to give a series of six “improvers” lessons. These will be aimed at those of you who have started playing in the last few years, but anyone is welcome. Dates and times to be arranged. We are also trying to arrange some lessons for more experienced players, so watch this space.

### Membership Information

New Member:

Trish Morris 0273 288828

### Otago/Southland Rubber Bridge Competition

John Hogg and myself won the right to represent Wanaka in the first round of this competition. In a David v Goliath match against Queenstown, Wanaka managed to win (Wanaka being David, of course). Another couple of Grand Masters from Invercargill await in the next round....

### 3+1 Online Teams

Auckland Bridge Club are running an online tournament on Friday, 23<sup>rd</sup> June at 7pm. It will involve teams of four playing eighteen boards. One of the team members is an expert, and there will be the opportunity to discuss the hands afterwards. For more information:

<https://members.akbc.co.nz/events/view/645d8dd1b7a00d8007c8caf2>

In order to become a “member”, you have to sign up on the AKBC website.

### From the Director’s Corner

There isn’t a rules summary this month, but there are a few requests. When Director is speaking at the beginning of play, could you please listen carefully to what he/she is saying so that you know where to move and where to leave cards. Also, when you finish a hand, please leave the cards on the table until the result is agreed. And finally, do not fold up your hand before the auction is over. This can be seen as giving information to your partner. Thank you.

### Opening Lead out of Turn?

A faced opening lead out of turn by declarer’s right-hand opponent is one of the more serious infractions of the Laws of Duplicate Bridge. It gives the opponent who is supposed to be on lead significant unauthorised information, including the offender’s length and likely honour holding(s) in the suit led.

The Laws recognise this severity by giving declarer five options as to how to proceed once the offending lead is faced, so that declarer can – and usually will – choose the option which gives their side the maximum advantage. A recent hand from the Roy Stakes provides an example of a hand where declarer, perhaps confused by the many options available, did not use the Laws to her best advantage.

♠ KQ		Dir: E	
♥ A965		Vul: E-W	
♦ AK6			
♣ J842			
♠ J9632	♠ T74		
♥ 8	♥ KT742		
♦ J98	♦ Q542		
♣ QT65	♣ A		
♠ A85			
♥ QJ3			
♦ T73			
♣ K973			
17			
4 9			♠ ♡ ♢ ♣ N
10			S 3 2 2 1 3
Par: 400			E - - - - -
			W - - - - -

The auction was natural and direct, with South becoming declarer in 3NT:

East	South	West	North
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♣
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT

When East lead out of turn by facing the diamond two the five options available to declarer were as follows:

- (1) Accept the lead with North becoming dummy;
- (2) Accept the lead and face her hand as dummy, with North becoming declarer;
- (3), (4) Request a lead from the correct hand, either asking for or denying the lead of the suit faced by the offender;
- (5) Request a lead from the correct hand without imposing any suit restrictions;

After brief thought declarer chose the first option by accepting the lead as tabled and remaining declarer, with North being tabled as dummy. This was not the best choice. East can be assumed to have made the lead which he considers gives his side the best chance of defeating the contract so declarer needs a good reason to accept it. With only a 3-card holding in the suit and no honours to promote South would do well to reject a diamond lead from either opponent.

Requesting a non-diamond lead from West is by far declarer's best option. A club or a heart lead can only improve her chances of making at least two club tricks and possibly three heart tricks, and with A85 in spades opposite a balanced 15-17 HCP she has little to fear from a spade lead. The hand still requires careful play, but with six tricks already established declarer has only to make one extra heart trick and two club tricks to make her contract.