



Table Talk October 2022

News from the Wanaka Bridge Club.

Marc's Missive

At this month's Committee meeting we devoted a lot of time to discussing the potential reorganisation of bridge nights. It was pointed out that in the past newer members have been introduced to competitive bridge by attending Wednesday nights but in a separate group and for a limited number of hands. After a period of six to eight weeks they would then move up to playing a full night of bridge. This avoids the disruption of Bronze players having to change their regular playing night.

This approach has much to commend it, but still has to get around the problem that the last two years of beginners are from a different demographic than the Club is used to. Only a few of them are ready to play three plus hours of bridge on a weeknight and would anyway appreciate an earlier start time. The idea of a new Wednesday session with fewer boards is attractive for a lot of these members, but we are not going to change our schedule unless they are interested in attending regularly. Consequently we are asking them how often they would envisage playing.

Nothing is going to change without the agreement of the membership. We are trying to air all potential issues before the AGM so that it doesn't last all night.

Please send your comments to wanakabridgeclub@fastmail.com.

Match Programme: Oct-Nov 2022

Mon 17th, 24th October: Makarora Pairs (silver partnerships only).

Mon 31st October: Silver Championship Pairs Round 12.

Mon 7th, 14th, 21st November: Minaret Pairs (silver/bronze pairs allowed).

Tuesday bridge: 18th, 25th October, 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd November.

Wed 19th, 26th October: Rippon Rosebowl (silver/bronze partnerships handicapped pairs).

Wed 2nd November: Bronze Championship Pairs Round 12.

Wed 9th, 16th, 23rd November: Tarras Stakes (bronze/silver pairs allowed).

Thu 24th November: 2022 AGM and prize-giving.

Fri 21st, 28th October, 4th, 11th, 18th November: Afternoon social bridge, starts 1:00 p.m. No partnership restrictions but silver/bronze partnerships are encouraged to play on the last Friday of each month. All results are handicapped.

Friday 11th November, 7:00 p.m. New Zealand-wide pairs. See *General Business* for further details.

National Congress Results

Congratulations to the Wanaka Bridge Club members who attended the 2022 National Bridge Congress at Mt Maunganui from 1st - 8th October. Lyne Fegan and Georgie Roberts came 14th out of 44 pairs playing in the Restricted Open Swiss Pairs. This event is open to all players up to the rank of National Master so a great result for Lyn and Georgie.

Bridget McCaughan and Sonya Adams came 28th of 70 pairs in the Intermediate Pairs Ladder, in which they were joined by Sheryl Strudwick who was playing with a non-WBC partner.

2023 Committee Nominations Required

An important task of the 2023 WBC Committee, to be elected at the 2022 AGM on 24th November, is to elect the incoming committee. With six current committee members (Carol Orbell, Jan Baird, Jude Gunn, Martin Unwin, Ken Saxby, Janet Young) stepping down there is plenty of room for newcomers, so nominations for members willing to take on this important role are essential.

A 2023 nomination form is attached to this newsletter and can also be downloaded from the [Resources page of the WBC website](#). Completed nomination forms must be returned to the WBC at wanakabridgeclub@fastmail.com by Thursday 10th November 2022.

For the prize-giving we remind all current trophy holders to return their trophy, cleaned and polished, to the club ASAP.

New Bridge tablets

The new bridge tablets have been set up so as not to show hands after they have been played. This has been welcomed by the great majority of members as a way of speeding up play on club nights, and will now become the status quo.

We are also trying to solve the problem of the rogue rotating tablets. We have managed to implement a temporary fix but a permanent one would be better.

Table Etiquette

Now that the tablets are not showing the boards in detail there has been much less discussion about the hands. While this is a welcome development there remain a few cases where there appears a need to apportion blame immediately. This is disrespectful to your fellow players. Please resolve any problems you may have had after play has finished.

New computer / laptop progress

Mark Harry has agreed to donate a laptop for the office and to run the timer clock.

This will make it much easier to keep play moving in an orderly fashion.

Mitre 10 Building

The most recent update we have received from QLDC is that it is likely to be next year before there is any further news on progress. Ken Saxby will draft a statement to be read at the AGM re the Mitre 10 project and where it is currently at.

Treasurer's Report

2022 has been a good year for the club in terms of our cash surplus due to costs being lowered after the move to the Presbyterian Community Centre, and the \$10,000 grant obtained by Allan Kelly. However, table money remains down compared to recent years, and is currently the lowest it has been apart from Covid lockdown periods.

For session payments John Hogg asks that all members pay their table money *by the 20th of the month* in which the account is sent out. He also reminds all members that table fees for visitors are \$10 per session, *to be collected in cash by the director* and recorded in the receipt book in the office desk.

Annual subscriptions for 2023 will remain at \$125 for full members and \$62.50 for country members. John is keen to streamline payments as much as possible by direct debit. To this end, he asks that when paying their monthly invoice online members pay only the amount for which they have been invoiced rather than some larger amount to tide them over for the next month or two as this actually creates more work.

John also notes that he has several partially used session cards for which refunds have yet to be claimed. Any refunds not claimed by the AGM on 24th November will be treated as donations to the club.

Membership Update

Our current membership is now 204, including 15 country members. Welcome to Nicola Carey, a newcomer to the game who is our latest new arrival.

Online Lessons

NZB are running a set of online bridge lessons from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. on Wednesday evenings which started on 28th September and runs weekly until the end of the year.

The full set of lessons is \$80, with the first introductory lesson free to give you a taster of online learning. You can [register for the first lesson here](#).

Each lesson is a mix of theory and practice where you use the online RealBridge platform to play with live people and helpers at each table. It is a bit like a zoom call where you can chat and talk to others at the table while playing your virtual cards. NZB suggests that if a club sends anyone to lessons they also provide an assistant, so as to form a personal relationship with the learner and allow a welcoming transition from online to face to face bridge.

Once you have registered you will receive emails with more information closer to the date (a link to access the lessons and teaching resources).

If you have any questions or concerns please contact Anna Kalma (email: Anna.Kalma@nzbridge.co.nz; M: 0275-183-133).

Computer Instructions

Several members have expressed interest in learning how to use the Scorer programme on the WBC office computer to set up and score the results for each playing session. To facilitate this and provide appropriate documentation we have updated and corrected the aging set of typed instructions pinned on the wall behind the computer, and placed a first

draft of these instructions in a folder on the desk beside the computer.

To keep the format as concise as possible the instructions consist of a one-page summary, accompanied by a more detailed set of notes for newcomers unfamiliar with the various screens displayed by Scorer as you work through the summary page. We anticipate that once familiar with the one-page check list most users will have little if any need to refer to the more detailed notes.

This manual is still under development and will be updated incrementally to document other Scorer-related tasks with which users may need to complete. These include actions such as looking up NZBridge numbers for players who have forgotten theirs, changing scores uploaded from the bridge pads to correct errors or reflect an adjusted score made by the director, and retrospectively update scores found to be in error after the session results have been posted on the WBC website.

New Zealand-Wide Pairs 11th November

We remind all members that the New Zealand-wide pairs will be held on Friday 11th November at 7:00 p.m. This is a fun social event starting with a shared pizza snack at 6:30 p.m. Please email wanakabridgeclub@fastmail.com to register your interest in this event.