



New Post

Hello to you all,

What a weird lot of weather we are having, It's lucky that it doesn't really affect us playing bridge.

The Loveblock pairs were held on October 17th. Thank you to the committee for organizing and a good number of players for participating. Special thanks to Ann-Louise for directing. I understand everyone had a great time and have heard the nibbles were amazing. Congratulation to Andrew and Tracey on their success and the other Wanaka players who did very well-see Marc's commentary later in the newsletter

Unfortunately Jane Hamilton and myself were unable to be there as we attended a teachers conference in Wellington. I went with the impression that it was for people teaching learners, but have come home with a lot of ideas for more improver and intermediate lessons. Watch this space next year. Thank you to the committee and club for funding our airfares and accommodation to attend this weekend. It was well worth the trip.

The AGM is coming up on November 27th. Due to the Church not being available the AGM will be held at the Fire Station. Please watch your inboxes

over the next month for the notice of meeting, nomination forms, treasurers report's etc.

Happy Bridging

Heather

Programme Oct-Nov 2025

Silver Championship Pairs Oct 27

Minaret Pairs from Nov 3

Tuesday:

From Oct 28

Wednesday:

Bronze Championship Pairs Oct 29

Pisa Pairs from Nov 5

Friday:

From Oct 30

Tournaments

Also coming up:

Invercargill R Jackson Swiss Pairs (5A) Nov 1

Oamaru Novice Pairs (40C) Nov 29

Loveblock Pairs

This year's Loveblock Pairs returned to The Hub, and it proved to be a comfortable venue again with a good turnout from both Silver and Bronze sections.. Thanks to the many people who helped with moving all of our gear and preparing the food and drink. It was great to see everyone having a good chat afterwards.

As for the results, Tracey Gieck and Andrew Shaw continued their outstanding recent form by winning the E-W section, being the top Intermediate pair in the country and 3rd in the country out of over 800 pairs. Well done to Liz Hawker and Martin Unwin, who were 11th in the Intermediate section out of 258 pairs. Congratulations also to Richard Pears and Rosey Williamson for finishing 6th in the national Novice Section.

Clock

In case you find yourself holding the remote for the new clock and wondering how to set it, do the following:

Press the Countdown button at the bottom right of the remote

Enter the number of minutes (this will appear on the right of the display - the clock will only count down whole minutes)

Press OK

If by some miracle the room plays the boards faster than expected. press the stop button and repeat the above for the next set of boards.

AGM

As you can see from the attached file, the AGM will be held at the Fire Station in Ballantyne Road this year on the 27th November at 7pm. Please start bringing back your shiny trophies soon.

Book

This year's Bridge Book will revert to a smaller format. It will be available for pick up at the usual time, after the AGM. We are inviting anyone who has an interest in a business to have a business card-sized advert in the book at a cost of \$50 + gst.

Parking

When parking could you ensure that you do not block either of the two entrances to the Hall? These are needed in case of an emergency. And could you avoid using the space immediately outside the Hall if you are physically fit? Some of our members need to have a short walk in.

(Yes, this was in last month's newsletter, but some are still ignoring it).

Membership

New Member: John Mayze

We are up to 204 members, which its the highest that it has been for some time. We were told that Wanaka had the 4th highest number of tables in the country for the Loveblock Pairs.

Director's Corner

At a recent Monday session, the Director was called to a table where declarer had asked for a card to be played from dummy and then changed their mind.

The Director had to consult Law 45: "Card Played". The relevant part is 45 C 4 (b), which reads as follows:

"Declarer may correct an unintended designation of a card from dummy until he next plays a card from either his own hand or from dummy, A change in designation may be allowed after a slip of the tongue, but not after a loss of concentration or a reconsideration of action. If an opponent has, in turn played a card that was legal before the change in designation, that opponent may withdraw the card so played, return it to his hand, and substitute another".

The first two sentences above are confusing, and almost appear self-contradictory so Director was none the wiser having consulted the Rule Book. A consultation with Mary, Christensen, our local Tournament Director has cleared this up to an extent. When declarer nominates a card from dummy, it is equivalent to any other player laying down a card. If declarer has done this after a "slip of the tongue", then he is allowed to play the second card nominated. If it for any other reason, then he must play the first card.

The Director is supposed to work this out by asking the declarer what they meant to say. Any declarer that knows this Law will say that it was a slip of the tongue. Mary tends to side with the declarer, anyway, presumably because the Law is so badly written!

Loveblock Games

The Loveblock Pairs, played on 17th October, has a reputation for weird and highly distributional hands. Here's one of them:

		♠ K93 ♥ A864 ♦ K943 ♣ Q9		Dir: S Vul: N-S																															
♠ QT ♥ 52 ♦ Q ♣ AKJT7643				♠ A64 ♥ KQJ93 ♦ AJ65 ♣ 2																															
12 12 15 1		♠ J8752 ♥ T7 ♦ T872 ♣ 85		<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>6</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>1</td><td>6</td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td>6</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>1</td><td>6</td></tr></table>			♣	♦	♥	♠	N	N	-	-	-	-	-	S	-	-	-	-	-	E	6	3	4	1	6	W	6	3	4	1	6
	♣	♦	♥	♠	N																														
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S	-	-	-	-	-																														
E	6	3	4	1	6																														
W	6	3	4	1	6																														
Par: -990																																			
Bd 15, 17 October																																			

The auction at our table was

South West North East

Pass 1C X XX

Pass 3C Pass 3NT

Pass 5C Pass 6C

All pass

East's first round redouble denies club support but shows at least 10 HCP, giving EW the additional option of a low-level penalty double if NS end up playing the contract. With both West and North showing opening values East knows South can't have more than 1-2 HCP. However West has no interest in defending and bids 3C, which East converts to 3NT. With just two queens outside the club suit, one of which is a singleton, West presses on to 5C.

The Loveblock deal commentary notes that “bidding dubious slams is rarely a successful part of Pairs bridge” and recommends that West should pass 3NT. However, 5C puts East on the spot. West clearly has at least a 7- or 8-card suit headed by the AK if not the AKQ, and may have little if anything outside the trump suit to serve as an entry. East should also consider that if West does not hold the club queen there is still about a 40% chance it will fall in two rounds, and that – if the worst comes to the worst and one defender holds Qxx in clubs – 5C rather than 3NT will score well below average when 3NT makes. Recalling Paul Marston’s advice that “if your gut feeling is that slam will make, bid it” East pressed on to 6C.

As the cards lie both 6C and 6NT are unbeatable. North led the heart ace and – after drawing trumps in two rounds – West was able to claim at trick four. Of the 13 tables one other EW pair bid 6NT to earn a 100% top, leaving us to claim 92% for a 2nd top.

Terry Wilson Pairs

1st Paul Cushnie and Brian McCandless*

2nd Ann-Louise Stokes and Martin Unwin

Tarras Stakes

1st Maureen Hawke and Jacqui Roberts

2nd Lyn Hill and Pauline Thomson

*over 60% average

Thanks for reading

Marc


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you are a club Member**

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