

Table Talk

Newsletter of the Wanaka Bridge Club
September 2017



Hi everyone and welcome to our September spring issue. What a month it has been so far. We celebrated our 40th anniversary with a toast to our club and an acknowledgment to our long-standing members and pioneers who started it all back in 1977. We welcomed three new life members **Ena Leckie**, **Ann-Louise Stokes** and **Marion Furneaux**, all of whom have dedicated so much time and energy to the club. We ran our annual Junior/Intermediate tournament which was well attended with 16 tables! This weekend we were also at the Festival of Sport promoting the game. It is events like these that make me proud of our club and the dedication of our members.



Clare's message

I hope that you all agree that the Wanaka Bridge Club 40th celebrations were a great success; it was lovely to see so many turn up on Friday evening to help celebrate. Seeing the faces of three members as we announced their nomination for Life Membership was a highlight for me. Ena, Ann-Louise, and Marion are all well-deserving recipients.

The committee worked hard to produce the history of the club, get pens, notepads and decorations for you all to enjoy. Let's not forget the cake, and the accompanying cupcakes, which were better than we could have hoped. Thank you to all who contributed to the celebrations in whatever capacity.

Our Junior and Intermediate tournament on Saturday went very well and it was wonderful to see Wanaka pairs take out four of the top five prizes.

Congratulations to **Barbara Waterworth** and **Sheryl Strudwick** who won the Intermediate section and to joint second-place getters **Georgie** and **Ken Roberts** and **Mark Harry** and **Sherril Harries**. **Jane Hamilton** and **Sue Orbell** came second in the Junior section. Well done.

Daylight saving arrives this weekend and with it the longer evenings - enjoy.

Clare

On a sad note

I was with great sadness we learned of the passing of **Laurie Stenhouse**. Our thoughts go out to Margaret and his family.

Tuesday bridge

We are excited to announce that Tuesday bridge is now a permanent fixture in our bridge calendar (with the exception of December and January) Please come along. It is fun and social. It starts at 11am and finishes at 2pm. Bring your lunch and enjoy the relaxed atmosphere.

PLEASE NOTE: As Heather is away, there will be no bridge on Tues 3 October.

Grading

It is coming up to that time again. If you would like your grading reviewed (either up or down between bronze and silver) please apply in writing to the committee before 31 Oct 2017.

New members

Welcome to our new members **Devon Hotop**, **Carolyn** and **Murray Fairbairn** and **Ava Sanders**.

Directors' exams

The exams are to be held on 28 October. Thank you to those members who are taking the plunge to becoming a director. However, we do need more members to be trained, especially for Wednesday night play. Please contact Clare or Heather if you are keen.

Liquor licence

It is a requirement for our club to be compliant and hold a current liquor licence. This enables us to pour you a wee tippie after bridge. We are in the process getting more members licenced but please let the committee know if you hold a current licence and we don't know about it.

Upcoming tournaments

- Oct 14 Winton Open 8B
- Oct 15 West Otago (Tapanui)
- Oct 20-23 Otago Southland Congress (Otago) 10A
- Nov 3 Babich NZ wide pairs (Wanaka)

For tournament details, check out the noticeboard or contact Maggie on 027 333 6681.

Think before you play

The following deal, from the second night of the Pembroke Pairs, illustrates the importance of thinking before you play to the first trick:

| | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| <p>♠ 53 ♥ Q8764 ♦ QJ76 ♣ 75</p> | | <p>Dir: E Vul: N-S</p> | |
| <p>♠ QJ764 ♥ J53 ♦ 92 ♣ Q98</p> | <p>♠ 82 ♥ 92 ♦ AT853 ♣ J632</p> | | |
| <p>5 6 5 24</p> | <p>♠ AKT9 ♥ AKT ♦ K4 ♣ AKT4</p> | <p>♠ ♥ ♦ ♣ N N 43635 S 43635 E - - - - W - - - -</p> | |
| <p>Par: 1400+</p> | | | |

With South holding 24 points N-S were never going to stop short of game, either in hearts or no trumps depending on their system. Eleven tricks is the limit in no trumps but – with care – twelve tricks can be made in hearts.

At our table, with E-W silent throughout, the auction was:

| South | North |
|-------|-------|
| 2C | 2D |
| 2NT | 3D |
| 3H | 3NT |
| 4H | |

South's 2NT rebid showed a balanced 23-24 pts, 3D was a transfer showing 5+ hearts, and 3NT invited South to choose between game in hearts or no trumps. With AKT of hearts and only K4 in diamonds South naturally opted for 4H. One pair bid the slam, but 4H making six would still have earned a good score.

Avoiding the temptation to lead a black suit, which hands declarer 12 tricks on a platter, West found the best lead of the diamond 9. When declarer played low from dummy, East thought for a few seconds before also playing low. If South held the diamond King, as was likely given the auction, playing the Ace would give declarer three diamond tricks.

Given an even trump break South could now count eleven tricks on top: two spades, five hearts, two diamonds, and two clubs. However, exactly the same eleven tricks are available in no trumps, so that – to outscore pairs playing in no trumps – South needed the overtrick.

His best chance is to finesse West for the heart Jack, and ruff a diamond in hand before drawing the last trump. After winning the diamond King, cash the heart Ace and then run the ten. When it holds, lead the diamond four towards dummy. East wins with the Ace, but that is the last trick for the defence. A diamond return lets declarer ruff with the King, cash two rounds of either black suit, and ruff a third round in dummy before drawing the last trump and cashing his remaining winners. If East returns either black suit, declarer crosses to dummy with a third round ruff, ruffs his losing diamond in hand, and also claims twelve tricks.

At the table declarer missed this line of play and had to settle for eleven tricks, earning no more than an average score. By defending correctly at trick one and giving declarer a chance to go wrong, E-W had gained parity despite N-S bidding to a superior contract.

Thank you

From turning on the lights and heaters,
organising rosters, dealing cards,
operating the computer, washing dishes,
putting rubbish in the bin, clearing
tables, sharpening pencils, changing a
tea towel, organising tournaments,
organising anniversary celebrations,
smiling at the table – I could go on and
on, but a huge thanks (you know who
you are) for all your help in keeping our
club running smoothly.

Happy bridging everyone.

Jason Benton

On behalf of the committee

New/changes to phone numbers

| | |
|-------------------|---------------|
| Sue Blake | 027 444 3495 |
| Belinda Blaxland | 027 948 9934 |
| Robin Bruce-Smith | 443 3198 |
| Annabel Elworthy | 027 490 6954 |
| Carolyn Fairbairn | 027 630 8042 |
| Murray Fairbairn | 027 630 8041 |
| Kate Gibbons | 04 567 6859 |
| Robyn Gilchrist | 027 447 5254 |
| Sally Goodall | 021 260 3233 |
| Sue & Ian Halsted | 265 3049 |
| Jane Hamilton | 443 9022 |
| Sherill Harries | 443 8846 |
| Helen Henshall | 027 201 3805 |
| Devon Hotop | 443 9704 |
| Mary Maclean | 021 621 461 |
| Bridget Rennie | 443 4986 |
| Ava Sanders | 021 258 9340 |
| Ann Scandrett | 443 8160 |
| Dean Snelling | 027 217 0553 |
| Leigh Snelling | 021 0821 5818 |
| Val Young | 443 7303 |