



# Table Talk Sep 2023

## News from the Wanaka Bridge Club

### Marc's Missive

Myself, Heather and Ann-Louise visited the newly named Paetara Aspiring Central (the old Mitre 10 building). The room that we were offered is a good size for us, but has a sprung floor and a mirror running the full length of one side. This is suitable for some of the groups using the space, but not for us. Also, the office space, kitchen and toilets are a long way away. In addition, noise from the other areas would also be an issue for most of our session times.

The Committee decided that the building is not suitable for the Club and has informed QLDC. We are investigating some interesting alternatives and will keep you posted. For any of you who still want to check out the building, the Open Day is on Sunday Oct 1 and starts at 11.30am.

The Intermediate/Junior Tournament was a resounding success, thanks to the efforts of all involved. The Tournament Committee of Jane Hamilton, Sally Jackways and Jan Baird did most of the heavy lifting, but there were too many people to mention who contributed. The Club relies on its members to step up on occasions such as this and they did. It was a pleasure to hear so many expressions of thanks from our many visitors, some of whom are apparently already making plans for next year!

### Programme: Sep - Oct 2023

Monday:

Silver Championship Pairs: Sep 25, Oct 2, 30

Makarora Pairs (Silver Only): Oct 9, 16, 23

Tuesday:

Sep 26, Oct 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

Wednesday:

Bronze Championship Pairs: Sep 27, Oct 4  
Tarras Stakes (Bronze Only): Oct 11, 18, 25

Friday:

Sep 22, 29, Oct 6, 13, 20, 27

### Wanaka Intermediate Tournament Results

The Tournament attracted a lot of highly rated players. The top Intermediate prize was taken by Elaine Moir of Cromwell and Judith Lawton of Invercargill. Our own Trish Morris was second with Robyn Hellier of Gore. Brian McCandless and his partner from Te Anau were 4<sup>th</sup>, and special mention for Andrew McLennan, who was 5<sup>th</sup> with his Junior partner from Alexandra.

### Hamilton Plate

This competition is also creeping up on us. We have booked the Hall for Saturday the 7th October, and have put together teams to play in the Open, Intermediate and Junior grades. Wish us luck.

### Other Tournaments

Also coming up:

Sep 23-29 National Congress (Mt Maunganui)

Sep 24 Taieri Junior Pairs

Oct 7 Gore Open Pairs

Oct 14 Balclutha Open Pairs

Oct 15 West Otago 1 Session Social

Oct 21-22 Otago/Southland Congress (Otago BC)

## 2024 Committee

It's that time of year again, the AGM is on the 30<sup>th</sup> November and we need a few bodies to fill vacancies on the committee.

If you have a few hours to spare a month and would like to be part of the team, give Heather a call on 0274437347. She will give you a rundown of what is expected of a committee member and answer any questions you may have. (Heather is unavailable from September 24th until October 6th)

## Tuesday Bridge

Jane Hamilton (0226592700) will be running Tuesday Bridge in Heather's absence. Please contact Jane if you have any queries regarding bridge on Sep 26 or Oct 3.

## Start Time Survey

From the Wednesday night group, 19 were in favour, 3 against the earlier start time, with 3 finding it manageable. The Monday night group was a little less enthusiastic, with 21 in favour and 13 against, while 3 were ok with it. Feedback ranged from "I have to leave home too early for dinner" to "it's a game changer". We will continue to monitor feedback but at this stage would envisage repeating this next year.

## Director's Corner

Lead Out Of Turn (once a card is faced for all to see)

The rules concerning Declarer leading out of turn are relatively simple, in that the lead is either accepted or not. If it is accepted, play carries on in the usual order; if it is not, the card is returned to Declarer's hand and a card is led from the correct hand. The decision rests with the Defender who would play the next card in the event of acceptance.

If a Defender leads out of turn, the options depend first upon whether it was an opening lead. If it is, and Declarer accepts the lead, then he/she can choose which hand plays the contract. If not, then the card played becomes a Major Penalty Card (see last month's newsletter for details).

If the lead out of turn was not an opening lead and Declarer chooses not to accept it, then it also becomes a Major Penalty Card. However, if Declarer accepts the lead, play continues with the lead out of turn being accepted as the correct lead.

The only exception to all of this is a lead out of turn to the 13<sup>th</sup> trick. This can never be accepted, and the lead reverts to the correct hand (as long as it is noticed!).

## Fool's Errand

This deal from the final round of the Aspiring Stakes provides a salutary lesson in declarer play:

♠ 32		Dir: E	
♥ 53		Vul: N-S	
♦ KT9864			
♣ K74			
♠ 987	♠ AKQT54		
♥ KQ864	♥ A2		
♦ A75	♦ QJ3		
♣ A6	♣ JT		
♠ J6			
6	♥ JT97		
13 17	♦ 2		
4	♣ Q98532		
Par: -980			
		♠♥♦♣N	
		N - - - -	
		S - - - -	
		E 12565	
		W 12565	

After East opened 1♠ all but one E/W pair opted to play in spades rather than no trumps, with five settling for game and three pushing on to the small slam. With careful play this is unbeatable, but only three declarers – and only one of those in 6♠ – made the requisite 12 tricks.

At most tables South made the obvious lead of the 2♦, hoping for a second-round ruff. Declarers who took the opportunity for a free finesse, assuming South had led small from Kxx or Kxxx, were immediately destined to fail when North won with the K♦ and returned the suit for South to ruff.

Declarers who realised that 12 tricks were in the bag provided the hearts broke 3-3 or 4-2 – an 86% chance – saw there was nothing to gain and much to lose by ducking the opening lead. Correct play is to win the diamond ace, draw trumps, and set up the hearts starting with the ace from hand. When both opponents follow to two rounds declarer pitches a losing

club on the third round of hearts, ruffs the fourth round in hand, returns to dummy's club ace, and pitches a losing diamond on the established heart four to claim 12 tricks.

Hoping to finesse the diamond king is a fool's errand, particularly if the contract is 6♠ so that choosing the safest play for 12 tricks is far more important than making an overtrick. The chance of South having led a singleton diamond is only 3.5%, but as the cards lie correct play eliminates even this possibility while costing nothing.

If you do not wish to receive this Newsletter, please let us know at [wanakabridgeclub@fastmail.com](mailto:wanakabridgeclub@fastmail.com).