

## **Wanaka Bridge Club Incorporated Presidents Report 2024**

It is with great pleasure that I present the 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Report of the Wanaka Bridge Club. As we come to the end of another year I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on the happening of the past year.

### **A few facts**

Current membership numbers 167 full members, 15 country members, 7 life members, total 189

We run 183 sessions per year 48 each on Monday and Wednesday night, 43 Tuesdays and 44 Fridays. Due to time restraints teams was not possible this year but watch this space for 2025. We have 7 directors and 8 computer operators- 5 of which who also direct

Lessons- Jane Hamilton and Trish Morris ran very successful beginner lessons at the start of the year and it is great to see their class coming along to club sessions.

A slight change to improve lessons this year with Martin Unwin running his block of lessons once a month rather than in consecutive weeks. Unfortunately this was not as well supported as we had hoped. Next year Martin will run a block of 3 lessons in March/April so if you are looking to improve your bridge keep an eye on the newsletter for further information.

Jane, Trish and Martin on behalf of the club I would like to thank you so much for your time and effort.

I would also like to acknowledge and thank Lynne Fegan for her home learning sessions.

### **Handicap, Ratings, Grading.**

The new year started with the introduction of a Rating System. That you so much to Martin Unwin for all the work he put into getting this system up and running and his continued work on it. Now that we have the new rating system in place it was time to revisit our Grading Policy. This is always a very controversial topic and I would like to thank Tracey Gieck, Sally Jackways, Marc Simmonds and Marin for their work in developing the new policy.

### **Tournaments**

Congratulations to all club members who have played in local, national and international tournaments this year. We have seen some very good results and look forward to this continuing.

The club ran three very successful tournaments this year our April Tournament, The Otago Southland Provincials at Kings birthday weekend and our September tournament. The tournament committee of Jane Hamilton, Sally Jackways, Jan Baird and Marc Simmonds have done a fantastic job and their organisation has been a real credit to the club.

We had a team compete in the Hamilton Plate, the local competition between Wanaka, Cromwell, Alexandra and Queenstown. Unfortunately we were pipped at the post by Queenstown but look forward to competing again next year.

And just last week a successful Loveblock pairs was run. Thank you to the community hub for the room.

### Newsletter

This year we gave the newsletter a new look, we hope you are all enjoying the format and content. Like anything new there have been a few teething problems but thank you to Marc Simmonds for writing the newsletter and his hard work and patience with me in getting this up and running.

### Table Cloths

Wow don't the new cloths look great. Many thanks to Sally Jackways for organising this project and to the sewers Jen Milburn, Jeanette Gillies and Carolyn Field.

### Computer

Once again our undying gratitude to Mark Harry for looking after that machine.

This year we upgraded the computer when we moved the office and have replaced 10 old and tired bridge pads.

Thank you to our volunteer group of Directors and computer operators.

I am not sure if the club members are aware but without your time and effort we would not be able to run a bridge session.

### Premises

Thank you to the Presbyterian Church for the hire of the rooms. Bruno is always very accommodating in my often last minute requests.

Thank you to property team of Mark Harry, Ann-Louise Stokes and myself for their continued search for the perfect location for our club.

### Finances

Thank you to our Treasurer Andrew Shaw and our Auditor Allan Kelly

To make life easier for our treasurer we reverted back to table money being paid by session card or cash. Thank you to Jenny Turnbull for banking the cash and a request to please try to bring the correct money and no schrapnel.

### Committee

The 2024 committee have been a fabulous team to work with, nothing is ever a problem and it is with sadness we say farewell to Andrew Shaw and Bridget McCaughan. I wish you all the best but know you are not deserting us and we will see you at the table.

Thank you to those who have volunteered to join the committee and I am looking forward to working with you all next year.

### Bits and bobs

As we near the end of my report there are a few thanks that need to be made to the unsung hero's of the club

The card dealers Marc, Jane, Martin, Ken, Tracey, Marion, Jacquie and Carol

The bar staff Peter and Jenny

Ken and Jacqui Roberts for the storage space.

The table cloth washers

Those who donate raffle prizes

The members who set up and tidy up the tables, sign out and plug in the bridge pads, tidy up the baskets, do their dishes and help out when needed.

Also to Laura Wellman (who is not a club member) for all her design work- the glasses, the newsletter, the tournament posters and the new table numbers

A huge thank you from the committee and me for your support

And finally a big thanks from me for another positive year. I really appreciate the support I have received from the committee and club members this year.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you all and we look forward to seeing you in 2025.