

WINTON CONTRACT BRIDGE CLUB (INC.)

12 February 2023

Our first series for the year was completed last Thursday night with the winners being Rae Dorricott and myself (despite being in a very enthusiastic contract of 6NT with only 25 HCP) and handicap winners being John Macleod and Graham Beggs. Congratulations.

Our pairs competitions start on 16 February. After taking into account feedback received from players, the Committee decided to retain the status quo and continue with two divisions, silver and bronze. Good luck in the silver division to players who have been promoted from bronze.

Our second series for the year is the Harvest Handicap Series starting on 23 February. This is a handicap only series and we hope to have a good mix of players combining. It would be particularly encouraging to see our learners from last year taking part with a senior player, remember, we were all learners once.

The Invercargill Bridge Club held a charity tournament for Koha Kai on Saturday night, with Noeline Eason and Chrissy Beauchamp coming third. Next Saturday Invercargill will be holding a tournament sponsored by Lobb Optical (previously Martin and Lobb). Just turn up with your partner, \$5 per person table fees, a plate per partnership, and be seated by 7.30 pm.

Our championship teams are set to commence on 21 February. At this stage we only have one team entered so please get your team's name on the board if you intend to play. If there are insufficient teams to make holding a competition worthwhile, then the mixed teams will commence as soon as possible once we have numbers. If you would like to play in a mixed team please put your name on the list on the noticeboard. Teams will be drawn randomly based on handicaps so that teams are of an even standard as far as is possible.

Don't forget advanced learners classes to be held on 15 and 22 February, all welcome. Learners classes for the year will commence on 15 March. If you know of anyone who is interested in playing cards please encourage them to come along to lessons. It may be helpful if you attend the first few lessons with them, a buddy is always worth having.

We still have copies of the Jubilee booklet for sale at \$25.00 each. Please contact a committee member if you would like to purchase one or more of these books.

Don't forget that prize winners from last year can exchange their blue certificate for a glass. Please ask either Margaret Wright or Rae Dorricott to swap your certificate for a glass. If you don't wish to redeem your certificate please let Rae know so that we can have an accurate count of how many glasses we need to keep in stock.

We still have some people with outstanding subs for the year. If you have forgotten or just not got around to paying, please either do it online or pay at the club. A happy Treasurer is always a good thing to have in a club.

Corrections to our programme book – cellphone number for Annette Coppus is 027 813 0430. Plus please note that Kate Ramsay no longer has a landline, her cellphone number is 027 3852 657.

Special thanks to Richard Beauchamp who made the two wheelbarrows which were raffled last year, this raised \$150 for club funds. He has also made some wooden chopping boards for the kitchen. Thanks Richard, much appreciated.

A small housekeeping matter – if you are the last one to leave the clubrooms please check that the heat pumps and lights are turned off and that the rooms are locked.

Upcoming tournaments:

18 February	Invercargill	Lobb Optical Tournament
25 February	Cromwell	Cromwell Intermediate Pairs 5B
4 March	Taieri	Taieri Open Pairs 8B
11 March	Invercargill	Invercargill Open Pairs 8B
18 March	Queenstown	Queenstown Pairs 5A
25-26 March	Otago	Autumn Teams, Open Pairs and Intermediate Pairs
1 April	Winton	Winton Open Swiss Pairs 5A

A number of club members have had health or personal problems recently. Susan McRae does a wonderful job of keeping in touch with these members and we wish them all well.

Ron Evans
President