



# Taradale Bridge Club Incorporated

P O Box 7051 Taradale, Napier 4141

Jo Hayes 835 2452  
& Jan Davis 843 7066 (Co-Presidents)  
Trish Patterson (Secretary) 844 5179

## March 2019 Newsletter

Hi Taradale Bridge Players

It has been a great start for the bridge for many of our club members with tournament success on both sides of the Tasman! We start running our learner lessons this month and it is not too late for people to join these if you know of someone interested. There was a great article in NZ Herald recently about the great game of bridge – copy this link into your web browser to read [Why playing bridge is good for you ... and fun - NZ Herald](#). There are plenty of tournament opportunities for our club members at both our club and others within the Bay. The Central Districts Zone is running the tournament points competition for Junior and Intermediate grades so get registering! Many members will fondly remember Maureen Underhill our tournament raffle and general club stalwart who sadly passed away earlier this month.

We welcome the following **new members** – please add their phone numbers to your membership booklet:

Peter Ramsey	0274434900	<a href="mailto:PLR1409@hotmail.com">PLR1409@hotmail.com</a>
Jenny Peters	835 3383	<a href="mailto:Peters.jenny26@gmail.com">Peters.jenny26@gmail.com</a>
Greg Whitten	0275067989	<a href="mailto:g.whitten@xtra.co.nz">g.whitten@xtra.co.nz</a>
Sue Whitten	0274525793	<a href="mailto:g.whitten@xtra.co.nz">g.whitten@xtra.co.nz</a>
Deb Papuni	876 9711	<a href="mailto:deb.papuni@icloud.com">deb.papuni@icloud.com</a>
Annelies van der Linden	836 6066	<a href="mailto:anneliesvdlvdam@gmail.com">anneliesvdlvdam@gmail.com</a>
Rahira Ellison	0276472972	<a href="mailto:rahiraellison@gmail.com">rahiraellison@gmail.com</a>



*Maureen Underhill*

**Maureen Underhill – Life member** who passed away 4 March 2019.

Maureen was a valued member of our club and has been sorely missed since her illness prevented her from playing. She loved Bridge and played regular. Her partners say she was a pleasure to play with. She was a very good player, achieving open grade and doing very well in our regular club sessions. The last time Maureen played Bridge was in July when she came 2<sup>nd</sup>. Being Maureen, she didn't just play Bridge but was heavily involved in the running of the club, serving many years on the committee including the demanding role as tournament secretary. She was also the Monday morning convenor for a long time. Her knowledge of bridge meant that she was able to direct these sessions as well as play. Maureen went beyond the requirements of her committee roles, doing lots of

work behind the scene. For many, many years, until her health intervened, she sold the raffle tickets at every tournament and purchased the morning tea supplies for the weekly bridge sessions. Anyone here who is involved in running a club will know how hard it can be to get people to help and so will appreciate just how valuable someone like Maureen was. This

commitment to the club led to Maureen being nominated as a life member of the club, a nomination that was wholeheartedly and unanimously endorsed by the members. I remember Maureen as a respected opponent at the Bridge table, and also as a very elegant lady, always very smartly presented – in colourful attire. Maureen is going to be sadly missed by us all.  
Jo Hayes Co-President

**Upcoming tournaments, being run by Taradale Bridge or local Clubs -**

- 16 March – Taradale Lawson Jugs Open 8B

**Also**

- 23 March – Hastings Open Teams – 5A
- 6 April – Dannevirke Open Pairs – 5A
- 7 April – Napier Intermediate Pairs – 5B
- 13 April – Waipukurau Open Pairs – 5A

*Welcome to Napier Bridge Club Social Friendly Friday Bridge Afternoon for ALL GRADES  
Runs 8th March until November 1st. Each session a stand alone. Starts 1.30pm. You don't  
need to be a member. Come alone or bring a partner. Drinks and nibbles at end of play.  
Spot scratchie awarded each week  
Looking forward to seeing you there.  
Annette Hagan (Napier President)*

**Club Bridge Results** – as you are no doubt aware several bridge sessions have the winners accumulated over the whole year i.e. Monday morning, Monday evening, Tuesday afternoon, and Thursday afternoon. The Wednesday evening bridge sessions are accumulated over a month and the recent results for those have the following winners of the month

<b>Competition</b>	<b>Winners</b>
New Partner Pairs (Wednesday Night)	Jo Hayes & Megan Eddy

**Tournament Successes**

We had another sizable contingent off to the Gold Coast Congress with some excellent outcomes. The Restricted Team of Chris Hagen, Jane O'Brien, Ian Bannister (formerly of Napier Club), and Fran Martin (formerly Taupo but now Sydney) won their competition - a herculean effort to come through winners after playing 216 games of bridge! Their efforts were recorded in prose!



*The players were stressing over Oma  
Which was heading down their way  
But, cyclone "kiwi girls" was ahead  
And victory was on its way.  
They quietly crept in, with Aussie backup  
Then began to gain some force  
Out on their own, they trampled their  
way  
Match after match, they ran their course.*

*Congratulations Jane and Chris.  
Cath Halpin*

*The winners! From left Fran, Chris, Jane, and Ian*

Chris and Jane had “warmed up” for the teams by winning the D section of the Restricted pairs. Other members had mixed success with some great then lesser session outcomes. Janice Willoughby and Annette Hagan did very well to come first in the Swiss Restricted Pairs.



*Janice Willoughby & Annette Hagan -  
Winners of the Ivy Dahler Butler Swiss  
Restricted Pairs at the Gold Coast Congress  
Back in the Bay, we recently ran a*



*Winners of 2019 Taradale Intermediate Pairs - Peter Lambourn and  
Mike Smith with Sponsor Mike Smith from Harcourts*

very successful Intermediate Pairs tournament which became a Lambourn benefit match! Peter



*2nd in 2019 Taradale Intermediate Pairs - Sue Lambourn and  
Margaret Williams with Sponsor Mike Smith from Harcourts*

Lambourn and Mike Smith were called in on the morning of the tournament to make up a complete table and avoid a phantom. A magnanimous effort Peter and Mike but did you have to actually win the jolly tournament? Sue Lambourn and Margaret Williams came a deserved second. Nice to see Taradale Club members taking out their own tournament.

### **From The Co-President Desk**

Hello everyone.

What a great start to the Bridge year we've had. Members of our club have shone both in Australia and at home. Our first tournament

of the year was lauded by all who took part, saying how well run it was, how friendly it was and what a great lunch they had. We can't say "thank-you" enough to Sue Lambourn and her team for that. Also we have had a record number of tables at all our day sessions (up to 16) and at our March Junior/Senior night, we only just had **enough** tables to cope with the number of players wanting to participate- and wasn't it a fun night too. Our Bridge Club is certainly looking most healthy. Keep up the good work everyone, by enjoying your Bridge and by being involved.

**Jan Davis Co-President**



### **Central Districts Intermediate and Junior Championships 2019**

This year the Regional Committee is nominating the tournaments that will be eligible for gaining points

- Only Intermediate and combined Junior/intermediate standard pairs tournaments held within the Central Districts region will apply as listed below
- The regional committee will collate the scores
- The scores will be collated from the top six overall placings in a tournament
  - 1<sup>st</sup> 6 points 2<sup>nd</sup> 5 points 3<sup>rd</sup> 4 points 4<sup>th</sup> 3 points 5<sup>th</sup> 2 points 6<sup>th</sup> 1 point
- Intermediate Congress Pairs events at the Taranaki and Hawkes Bay regional Congresses will count for Double points as below in bold
  - 1<sup>st</sup> 12 points 2<sup>nd</sup> 10 points 3<sup>rd</sup> 8 points 4<sup>th</sup> 6 points 5<sup>th</sup> 4 points 6<sup>th</sup> 2 points

- To qualify for points you must be a member of a Central Districts Club, however, you may play with players from other regions. They will not be eligible for the championships
- The top player will receive prize money of \$100 and a trophy
- A ladder will be posted on the CD Website

**Bridge “Rules”** – I was playing recently at Taradale and mumbled about the rule of 11 to myself, whilst playing a hand, and was asked what I meant. It got me thinking about other potentially useful “rules” to assist with your bridge play. I found many on the web whilst professing to only using some of these, thought it interesting to list, although perhaps ignore at your peril Rule of 160 on Tuesday afternoons.

Rule of 1: When you are declarer and there is only one trump out, if it is the master trump it is usually best to ignore it, especially if you have winners to run or need your own trumps for ruffing. Remember, getting that big trump “off the street” will often take two of your trumps. The exception occurs when you have a long, running suit that could be cut off by the player with the master trump. In that case, the holder of the master trump will wait to ruff in until you are exhausted of the running suit.

Rule of 2, 3, and 4: Guides to pre-emptive opening bids. The number indicates how many tricks you can go down by for a favorable sacrifice against a game. Modern expert practice is:

- Rule of 2 (adverse vulnerability – you are, they are not).
- Rule of 3 (equal vulnerability – both vulnerable or non-vulnerable).
- Rule of 4 (favorable vulnerability – they are, you are not).

Most experts will bid more freely when an opponent has opened with a strong 2 or forcing 1, strong and artificial.

Rule of 7: When playing a Notrump contract with losers in opponents' suit and insufficient quick tricks to guarantee the contract, considering the Rule of 7 is useful to disrupt communications between opponents. To determine the number of holdbacks before winning the trick, subtract your side's combined cards from 7

Rule of 8: Proposed by Mel Colchamiro in a Bridge Bulletin article as a formula for deciding whether to compete against a strong 1NT opening. Colchamiro advised that when considering whether to show a two-suited hand, a player should determine the number of losers in his hand, counting a loser for every missing ace, king and queen in a suit of three cards or more. A void is counted as no losers, a singleton as one and a doubleton two. A suit of three or more low cards is counted as three losers. Once the number of losers has been determined, subtract that sum from the number of cards in the two longest suits. If the total is two or higher, the player should enter the auction. If the total is one or zero, the player should pass. Using two as the minimum benchmark for competing after the aforementioned calculation, the rule achieves the status of eight with the stipulation that the hand in question have at least 6 high-card points.

Rule of 11: is used for declarer play (or defense) at trick one. It assumes that the opening lead was “4th-best.” It is usually used at notrump, when the lead is assumed to be the 4th-highest card in the suit. By subtracting from 11, the declarer can tell how many cards higher than the card led are in the other three hands. By looking at dummy and your hand you can then deduce how many cards are in declarer’s hand are higher than the lead card.

Rule of 15: this allows the bridge player, following three consecutive passes, in the fourth seat to better determine whether or not to open the auction by bidding. The Rule of 15 states that the player in the fourth seat should open the auction, if the number of high card points added to the number of Spades equals 15 or more.

Rule of 17: When partner opens 2♣ or 2♥ (or the equivalent multi 2D), add your HCP to your number of trumps (partner's suit). If the total is less than 17, there is no game. If the total is 17 or more, you can explore game. (If it is really high, you might just bid game or slam).

Rule of 20: The **Rule of 20** is a guideline for deciding whether to open the bidding. It attempts to refine traditional high card point count by also taking suit length into consideration. The rule is pretty simple: add your high card points **plus** the number of cards in your **two** longest suits.

Rule of 23: If you know your side has at least 23 HCPs and opponents "have the bid," you have only two options. Double or bid on. Don't Pass!

Rule of 30: When partner reveals a void and you have a strong trump fit (or solid suit), there are only 30 relevant points, not 40. Six may then be bid on 23-24 points, and Seven is possible at 26.

Rule of 160: If the ages of your opponents add up to 160 ... don't underestimate their ability!!

**Performance Enhancing Drugs** - And then there are sports (games? pastimes?) that would seem immune to doping because why bother? At the top of that list is bridge, which last we checked is a card game played while seated. But you would be wrong thinking that because the world's top-ranked bridge player just got himself suspended for doping. The World Bridge Federation, has announced that Geir Helgemo was suspended for one year after he tested positive for synthetic testosterone and Clomiphene, (a fertility drug that accelerates testosterone production in men) after September's World Bridge Series in Orlando. The WBF said Helgemo — a Norwegian-born player who now competes for Monaco — admitted to doping and accepted his suspension. Because the WBF is recognized by the International Olympic Committee, it must follow the IOC's anti-doping policies, hence the drug testing after major competitions. The sedentary world of top-level bridge has somehow been on the World Anti-Doping Agency's radar for years. WADA's 2016 summary of that year's drug-test results found that 22 percent of the doping tests done on bridge players came back positive, up from 3.6 percent in 2014. Most of the 2016 positives were for "diuretics and other masking agents," though one was for "anabolic agents." "Bridge is played in tournaments two or three weeks long," Jaap Stomphorst, a physician and doping expert who works with the WBF stated in 2015. "People tend to get tired, so a stimulant can keep you awake during play."

**Monthly Humour** – with bridge play you are meant to bid and play cards fluently without any undue hesitation. By doing so you can succeed beyond expectations on occasions.

*Two guys were out walking their dogs on a hot day when they pass by a pub. The first guy says, "Let's go in there for a pint."*

*The second guy says, "They won't let us in with our dogs."*

*First guy: "Sure they will; just follow my lead."*

*The first guy goes up to the pub, and sure enough, the doorman says, "I can't let you in here with that dog." He replies, "Oh, I'm blind and this is my guide dog." The doorman says, "Okay then, come on in."*

*The second guy follows his lead does the same thing. He goes up to the pub, and the doorman says, "You can't come in here with a dog." He replies, "I'm also blind and this is my guide dog." The doorman responds, "You have a chihuahua for a guide dog?" The second guy stops for a second, and exclaims, "They gave me a chihuahua?"*

**Well done** –to our club players for their recent successes both at tournaments or at our club sessions!

#### Reminders

- Bridge Learner Lessons start 14 March
- 23 March – Hastings Open Teams – 5A
- 6 April – Dannevirke Open Pairs – 5A
- 7 April – Napier Intermediate Pairs – 5B

*Ash*

Ash Fitchett  
Newsletter Editor