



Taradale Bridge Club Incorporated

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May 2021 Newsletter

Hi Taradale Bridge Players

Our recently graduated learners have been experiencing real bridge with our supported bridge sessions with six to seven tables playing each Wednesday this month. It has been great to see our more experienced members assisting with this bedding in of the new players. Hopefully our club will be well represented in the upcoming Novice section of the Hawke's Bay Bridge Congress over Queen's Birthday weekend.

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

- Sunday 13 June - Charity Tournament

Other Club Tournaments

- 22 May - Waipukurau Intermediate/Junior Pairs
- 4 - 8 June - Hawke's Bay Congress
- 19 June - Hastings Intermediate Teams

Recent Club Results

At the recent Hastings Junior tournament our members had great success. Congratulations especially to:

- Colin Dolley and Rahira Ellison came 2nd overall
- Kathleen Rowe & Vicki Wilson-Bramwell won the Novice prize.



Supported bridge session with our recently group of learners!

Phone number change for a couple of our members should you wish to contact them for bridge play - Gus van der Linden 021 2602590 and Annelies van der Linden 021 2684207

Hawke's Bay Congress - Fill in pairs are needed, and we have been asked for volunteers from amongst our members. They will not have to pay when they play. **Could all names, grades and phone numbers to be given to the committee and these details will be forwarded to Judith Boxall the tournament secretary.**

Discussions at the Bridge Table - members are reminded that there should be no discussion with your partner of Boards played at the previous table upon arrival at the new table. It is a courtesy to greet your opposition and refrain from other post mortem discussion from previous played hands. As well as disclosing information to others nearby, such discussions delay the play at the new table.

Building Update -

- **Special General Meeting:** this was held on 26 April and attended by 52 members. A motion that the building committee be authorized to negotiate with Core Steel and Waipukurau Construction to select one as our builder was passed unanimously.
- **Actions since then:** members of the building committee have met with both Waipukurau Construction Co and Core Steel to discuss and clarify their estimates. Core Steel are preparing an updated estimate which should be presented by the middle of this week. The building committee will then meet to choose which company to go with.
- **Grants/funding:** Trish, Jo, Robyn and Mike Smith attended a Funding Expo at which a number of agencies gave presentations explaining the grants that they offered. This confirmed that ECCT and Lotteries are our only hope for large sums. We have received notification that our application to Higgins Bequest has been declined.

From the Co-President's Desk



It was a complete surprise for Mary Burney when the Club helped organised a morning tea on behalf of her family (thanks Wayne) to celebrate her 90th birthday. If ever there was an example of how Bridge keeps our minds alert, Mary proves it. She has been a supportive member of our club for at least 30 years. (Joy Rose told me that when she joined our club they recognized each other at once from playing tennis together in Palmerston North). Keep up with your good Bridge, Mary.

It has been encouraging to see so many players coming back to our much loved game (after the C-19. word really affected player numbers). We have been full at most sessions - almost to the point of overflow, so that keeping the extra tables we keep on standby, have proven worthwhile.

It was mentioned, light-heartedly, at our recent Committee that failing to turn off our mobiles before play should incur a gold-coin fine, I was the first to feel guilty. However, it IS a good idea. because that annoying ring tone somewhere in someone's pocket or bag, can be distracting. It is standard today at the beginning of a meeting, gathering, live show and at the Globe Cinema, to remind us to silence our phones, so perhaps it would another item Convenors to mention when they give the notices.

Fundraising

YTD, including April, (from 1 October 2020) we have raised \$4318 from the additional \$1 table money and raffles etc.

Craig Smith at Harcourts has kindly agreed to donate \$500 to our club for the successful property sale if listed with him.

Craig Smith writes: *Ruth Spittle kindly referred a listing to me which has now sold and as per my deal with the bridge club I have donated \$500 on her behalf. Thanks for the opportunity Ruth and since this opportunity is there for all members to refer friends and family hopefully this is the first of many donations I get to make to the bridge club.*



**Left: Ruth Spittle is pictured with Craig following such a successful sale.
Right: Wayne Burney presents his mum, Mary Burney, with her birthday cake!**

Naturally, the committee urges our members to consider listing any property sale with Mike Smith.

Further to this: - our club has a number of sponsors and supporting companies as shown in the Membership Booklet. If you are using one of these companies, mention to them that you are from the Taradale Bridge Club and that you are supporting them in kind.

From the Committee

- Cell Phones - turn off/disconnect from wifi/mute if you really need to have it on. A gold coin donation from people who forget, and their phone calls disturb a session, would be appreciated!
- A Reminder that the club will no longer accept cheques after 31 May. Westpac cut off is actually later in June but we need to be sure any cheques we do receive can be banked before the deadline.
- Green Pens - to assist in identifying the newly taught players, it has been decided they will be given a green pen. They will be able to carry with them their assistance system sheet.

Teams Tactics - for many lesser experienced player playing Teams Bridge is a whole new, and probably intimidating, ball game. There are different things to think of when playing Teams as compared to playing Pairs. In Teams, you are part of a team of four and will play a set of say eight boards against another team of four. Your North/South pair will play their East/West pair and vice versa. Your team's performance on these eight boards are compared to the opposing team's performance - if you and partner bid a Game contract whilst their pair did not, then that is a significant gain for your team. Your team's performance is not compared to any other players in the room. Therefore, some important tactics for teams are:

- When there is a possibility of bidding game - especially if you are vulnerable - do so
- If you think the opposition are unable to make their contract - Double. However, never double part contracts between 2H to 3S level unless, you are sure otherwise them making the doubled contract gives them game points!
- If you are doubled, don't bother to redouble as making your contract doubled is still going to give you a good result.

- Make sure of your contract and don't risk getting the required tricks trying to make over tricks. If the contract is unmakeable, minimise the tricks down.
- In defence and you can be aggressive to attempt them to go light. Overtricks to them don't matter as much. Make sure your signals - discarding or requesting a suit switch - are well understood in your partnership.
- If you have had a couple of really good scores, don't take any unnecessary risks for the remainder of that set.
- If you have a couple of disaster scores (!), don't try to be clever and pick up the losses in subsequent boards.
- Encourage your partner - don't dwell on any mistakes as they will lose confidence quickly!
- Enjoy playing. If a set has turned to custard, you have other rounds to play well and make your partner smile.

Monthly Humour – Bridge, like many activities has its own unique language that could cause confusion:

This is about a card game, they call it Bridge. A Cleaning woman was applying for a new position. When she was asked why she left her last employment she replied, "Yes, sir, the wages were good, but it was the most ridiculous place I ever worked." They played a game they call BRIDGE, and last night a lot of folks were there. As I was about to bring refreshments, I heard a man say, "Lay down and let's see what you got.? Another man said, "I got strength, but not much length." And then another man said to a lady, "Take your hands off my trick." I pretty near dropped dead just when a lady answered, "You forced me. You jumped me twice when you didn't have the strength for one good raise?". Another lady was talking about protecting her honor. and, two ladies were talking and one said, "Now it's my turn to play with your husband while you play with mine." Well, I just got my hat and coat and as I was leaving, I hope to die if one of them didn't say, "Well, I guess we can go home, this is our last rubber!"

A special thanks to Chris Hagen for her great efforts in almost overflowing the bridge room with players for the current junior and open club championships.

Reminders

- 4 - 8 June - Hawke's Bay Congress
- Wanted - a 32 inch TV, contact Mike at 842 0142
- 19 June - Hastings Intermediate Teams,

Ash

Ash Fitchett
Newsletter Editor