




UPPER HUTT BRIDGE CLUB NEWSLETTER

Issue 5

November 2011

 We regret the recent passing of more of our respected club members, Graham Valentine, Lorraine Russell and Kate Karvelas. Our condolences go to their families and to other club members who have recently lost loved ones. May they rest in peace.

FROM YOUR PRESIDENT



With three months of my Presidency now over, Wendy and I are now back home for a good while. We have had a wonderful trip with many wonderful experiences tucked away in the memory banks. It was pleasing to arrive home to find the club still in good heart and my thanks go to Ken Wood and the new committee doing a wonderful job of keeping things running smoothly in my absence. Thanks to all.

I am now getting my head around where we are at as a club and where we are heading and hopefully we can continue to provide you with the standard of bridge facilities you require. The club appears to be in a good position now mainly due to the efforts of the last committee and my hope for the new committee is that we can follow on in the same vein and establish a firm base from which we can move forward with confidence.

At the last committee meeting it was decided to move to electronic scoring system subject to raising finance from one of the many sources available. This will cost a little more than \$6,100 and will make the results available almost as soon as the last hand is completed at the end of play or the last session of a tournament. It will also remove the need for scorers to enter all that data which is quite a burden on the few sterling workers who have done a wonderful job over the years.

The only item of disappointment was to discover that no one from our club attended the recent Masterton Multigrade Tournament. Masterton Club is one of the biggest supporters of our own tournaments and it is a shame we cannot return the compliment. Many of you are capable of doing well in these events and I ask that you give it some serious consideration and have a go next time.

John Rosevear Club President



Of course with the Masterton Challenge coming up November 20, I am sure we will see Upper Hutt members "having a go".

COMMITTEE:

We now have a new Committee consisting of:

President-John Rosevear ,
Secretary -Rodney Barltrop,
Vice President-Terry Kavanagh ,
Treasurer-Graham Manning,
House Convenor-Pam Harding,
Tournament Secretary- Meg Harris,
Ken Wood, Susie Pattison, Ann Skinner, Alan Cooke, Ivan Luketina, Robert Flaws, Charles Purvis, Alan Simpson.



The committee have been busy over the last few months compiling next year's programme, chasing funds for electronic scoring, looking at ways to improve your Bridge experience and attending to many other tasks. We are challenged to keep costs down and still grow as a Club, hence members' help is well appreciated.

Your committee is there to assist you and would also love to hear feedback and suggestions either directly to a committee member or emailed to upperhuttbc@actrix.co.nz. Also the editor would like ideas, stories and other material to include in the newsletter.

NEWSFLASH

Exciting news! We are purchasing Bridge pads and these will be in use early next year.

MONDAY

- ♣ A wee reminder to toss before play or display sitting rights please. Spread your talents around...ask a new member to play.



WEDNESDAY

- ♣ This afternoon was a great success once again thanks to the Drakes and Dick and Bill for directing. The final prizegiving and lunch was enjoyed by all .

THURSDAY

- ♣ Remember that this night is not just the "big kids' sandpit" as a friend calls it.

FRIDAY

- ♣ There is a request from Friday afternoon convenor Kath Hudson asking that players perform current checks (the week before) with expected partners to ensure they are still available. This is especially important if not a regular partner and you are relying on their memory.

SOME RULES OF THUMB



♥ Rule of 20

When deciding to open, you may if the sum of your high card points and the number of cards in your 2 longest suits total at least 20.

♥ Rule of 9

A guide to know when to double. Take the level of the opponent's contract and add the number of trumps you have. If these total at least 9, then double.

♥ Rule of 17

If partner opens a weak 2, add the number of high card points plus the number of trumps you have. And if the sum is at least 17, you should raise straight to 3NT.

♥ Rule of 160

If the ages of your opponents add to over 160, do not make the mistake of underestimating their abilities!

THANK YOU



- ♣ To Robert Flaws for donating a large number of books to our Bridge library.
- ♣ To all who helped with food and time, when we have hosted Interclub and Tournaments throughout the year.
- ♣ To all the dealers, scorers and directors.
- ♣ To all those who make playing Bridge at our club an enlightening and enjoyable experience.

CARD SENSE

Card sense is when it's technically right to do something, the little man that sits on my shoulder or anyone else's shoulder says, "Don't do that." And you say to yourself, "Well, wait a minute, that's the right way to play." And he says, "Yes, but you don't want to play that way."

That instinct is card sense. It's almost an ability to feel where the cards are.

It's something that you can't buy, you can't find; you're born with. The ability to do the right thing at the wrong time or maybe to do the wrong thing at the right time.

LIBRARY:

Our library has grown somewhat over the year through members' generosity and it is good to see some of the books constantly being borrowed but not please long term. There is a new set of booklets from House of Cards that seem to have disappeared. If you are guilty please return so others may share.

If you are looking for a book gift for a "Bridgie" here are some suggestions. Unfortunately we do not have them in our library.

The Bridge Adventures of Mr. Badhir (The Numb) by Anant M Baghwat

A collection of stories about a hapless club duffer called "The Numb."

He always makes the wrong bid, the wrong opening lead or the wrong play or defence and yet sometimes comes up trumps.

Heavenly Contracts by David Bird

Stories about the Abbott, a "haughty, supercilious and arrogant", his long suffering partner Brother Xavier and the monks from St Titus.

QUOTE: "Bridge is the most entertaining and intelligent card game the wit of man has so far devised." and "When all else fails -- sport, love, ambition -- bridge remains a solace and an entertainment." Somerset Maugham



BRIDGE FACTS

The following is an extract from the Hutt Bridge Club who incidentally in the centre of their website homepage feature a most attractive picture of 2 of our club members.

- ♣ There are more than 100 Bridge Clubs in N.Z.
- ♣ More than 15000 people belong to the N.Z. Bridge Association.
- ♣ There are an estimated 30000 Bridge players in N.Z.
- ♣ Bridge ranks in popularity with Kapa haka, indoor cricket and Motor sport.
- ♣ Established in 1934 wellington Bridge Club was the first in N.Z.
- ♣ Bridge is the English pronunciation of a card game called "Biritch" also known as Russian Whist.
- ♣ Bridge took over from whist as the game of choice of the Europe and American Upper classes in the 1890's.
- ♣ The modern Contract Bridge game was developed in the 1920's.



HESITATIONS

Has my partner fallen asleep? Is there e-v-e-r going to be a bid by this player? Let's look at Hesitations - Legal (authorised) and suspect (unauthorised).

Legal Hesitations. If the opposition does a jump bid, or opens at a level higher than one, you have a legal right to hesitate for about ten seconds. In many clubs and in tournaments a "STOP" card is used to legitimise the pause.

Suspect hesitations. Some hands are very difficult to bid and some hesitation may be justified, BUT what if the player h-e-s-i-t-a-t-e-s for soooooo long that most people at the table have lost their concentration or are growing old waiting!???

Worst case:- player hesitates, then passes, and partner bids.

What does the hesitation suggest? Does it mean that the hesitator has some points and is thinking of bidding? Has unauthorised information been given?

Partner of Hesitator: Can he/she bid? - Answer: possibly..... He/she decides to bid.

Opposition: At this point the opposition should get some agreement that there has been a hesitation. The opposition may either reserve their right to call the director at the end of the auction or play, or may call the Director immediately and say that there has been a hesitation and the hesitator's partner has bid. The Director will have a look at the bidder's cards and determine.

The hesitation is extraneous information. Other unauthorised information includes a remark, a question (don't ask about the bidding if you're never going to bid until the auction is closed), unwonted speed, special emphasis, tone, gesture, movement or mannerism. If you feel that a player has acted on unauthorised information, you should call the Director. Law 16B Equity may need to be restored.

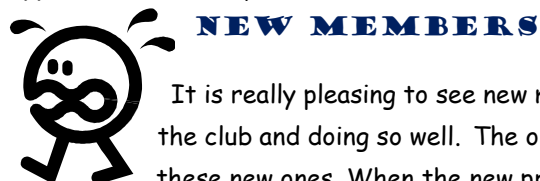


We had a partnership misunderstanding. My partner assumed I knew what I was doing.

THE FIVE LEVEL

The following is extracted from the NZBA magazine.

One of the hardest areas of bidding and one which even world champions get wrong, is high level competitive auctions. There is however one very good (though far from infallible) piece of advice when it comes to competing over their 5 level bid: **don't**. Double instead. **The 5 level belongs to the opponents.....unless your own hand is extremely freaky. You may also choose to pass quietly and defend.**



NEW MEMBERS

It is really pleasing to see new members from this and last year classes being assimilated and supported into the club and doing so well. The onus is on us all to make time to foster the confidence and playing skills of these new ones. When the new programme comes out let's all put aside one or two sessions to play with new members.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- ♣ 20 November Masterton Challenge
- ♣ 12 December Fun Evening and Prizegiving
- ♣ 15 December Fun Evening and Prizegiving
- ♣ 16 December Fun Afternoon and Prizegiving
- ♣ **Christmas**

