




UPPER HUTT BRIDGE CLUB NEWSLETTER

Issue 4
March 2011

 We regret the recent passing of two of our experienced and respected club members Nan Heginbotham and Stan Coulson. Our condolences go to their families and our memories will live on. May they rest in peace.

FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

It is great to see such great attendance this year. Monday evenings consistently averaging 20+ tables and Friday afternoons averaging 15 tables. Don't forget Thursday evenings everyone welcome and off course Wednesday afternoons starting up again in April. We have a number of events coming up as well with The Hutt Club Challenge and The Chch Earthquake Fundraiser both in April and then the Intermediate Tournament in May followed by the Winter Solstice Domestic Tournament in June. Start marking your calendars so to keep these dates free.

Committee: A number of your hard working committee are stepping down at this year's AGM.

Officers holding the following positions will be standing down:

President, Secretary, Vice President, House Convenor, Tournament Secretary. There are also at least two committee members standing down. The club needs members to accept nomination for these positions.

Nomination Forms are on the Notice Board. Nominations close on May 17th 2011. (21 days prior to the AGM).

The Roles of the Officers on the Committee

The President has the overall responsibility for the running of the club's operations. This includes chairing the committee meetings held once a month, supporting the club officers and committee members in their various roles and representing the club at club functions and events. The club rules determine that no one person can hold the position for more than two consecutive years. No one on the current committee has expressed an interest in being nominated for the position.

The Secretary is responsible for the secretarial duties of the club including the minutes of each committee meeting, correspondence including normal mail and email, preparation of duty schedules for Duty Person, Directors, Scoring, Dealing, etc.

The Vice President is the understudy to the President and stands in for the President if unavailable. Over recent years the committee has operated without a formal Vice President, but with a nominated committee member filling the role as required. In the past it has been accepted that the Vice President would step up to be the next President.

The House Convenor is responsible for the catering for all the club's functions including in house tournaments, prize giving evenings, Interclub evenings and other club challenges.

The Tournament Secretary is responsible for promoting and submitting our club's entries for outside tournaments and promoting and organising in house tournaments including registering names of entrants, organising a Director, Scorers and Dealers.

Ken Wood

THANK YOU



- ♣ We thank Martin Lewis for donating his collection of over 50 Bridge books to our Club Library. A gesture much appreciated.
- ♣ Many thanks go to Mary for organising a very successful Multi-Grade Tournament and to all the behind the scene and on the day helpers.
- ♣ To all those Committee members who are leaving. Your hard work and commitment (in some cases over many years) is much appreciated.

RECRUITMENT TIME

As those members who have been to the club in the past few weeks will know, we have just finished the first stage of our recruitment of new members; the lifeblood of any voluntary organisation. This year, we have repeated the tried and true methods of attracting potential members, member referrals, advertising plus an article in the Leader and the distribution of flyers and posters. Thank you to those who contributed to the campaign, especially those who got some exercise. The introductory evening appeared to be well-received by the 17 newcomers present. The existing members demonstrated their varying skills at a couple of tables and the newbies played mini-bridge). John Rosevear and the redoubtable Biddy Rush began the lessons on the following Tuesday where a further four attended. John is aware of four others who could not come on the night so the turnout is on a par with previous years where a concerted effort has been put in. Members are asked to keep spaces in their Monday night programmes for partnering these new members from July onwards. They do need all the encouragement they can get in the initial stages so please welcome them in this way.



Terry Kavanagh

RHYME TIME

- (1) When the dummy is to your right, lead the weakest suit in sight.
- (2) When the dummy is to your left, lead through left.
- (3) Don't be cute, lead partner's suit.
- (4) The lead of top of three small is worst of all.
- (5) The one who knows, goes.
- (6) You will lose face if you underlead an ace.

BRIDGE BEHAVIOUR

We have a collective responsibility to be welcoming and encouraging to our new members. This seems like a suitable time to remember what this type of behaviour looks and sounds like.

Expected behaviour for enjoyable bridge:

1. Greet others in a friendly manner prior to start of play on each round.
2. Be a good "host" or "guest" at the table.
3. Give credit when opponents play well.



Unacceptable behaviour that makes bridge less enjoyable:

4. Public criticism or negative comments about play or bidding.
5. Objecting to a call for the director.
6. Badgering or insinuating behaviour



If you have a problem please call the director at the time.

P.S. A request from our duty people who have problems being heard at the start of an evening's session, please attend to the "Church" bell with silence.



WHAT DO WE SPEND YOUR MONEY ON ?



You pay \$3 a session at the table and you may not be aware of what this money goes towards. The following is a simple breakdown.:

- ♣ NZBA Affiliation Fees of \$16.00 per person plus Masterpoint Fees.
- ♣ Masterpoints fees go to NZ Bridge for promotional work, development, and international obligations.
- ♣ Stationery (e.g. playing cards, pads, record cards, pencils, score cards, take-home sheets etc.).
- ♣ Photocopying

- ♣ Computers, scoring programme updates and licensing, cartridges, broadband, website and phone.
- ♣ Cleaner, Kitchen Supplies, Water Filter and Liquor Licence.
- ♣ Power approx. \$200 a month.
- ♣ Wear & tear (direct) - playing equipment, dealing machine, furniture.
- ♣ Building expenses - rates, other compliance costs, insurance, land lease, depreciation & furnishings.
- ♣ Security and vandalism.
- ♣ Trophies, Session prizes, and engraving.
- ♣ Director Fees.
- ♣ Tax (was 12.5%, now 15% GST has to be paid).
- ♣ Tournaments and Interclub, Solstice and End of year events.
- ♣ Publications

LIBRARY:

Our Library has had an injection of new material recently. There is a box of House of Cards booklets, "Competitive Bridge for Improving Players" by Alan Grant, "The Cardturner " by Louis Sachar and of course the fifty odd books donated by Martin Lewis.

"The Cardturner" Review

Although "The Cardturner" is written for a teenage audience I found the book incredibly amusing, with a great narrative. As I read it, I did worry that there was a lot of Bridge. My research of reviews on the internet showed a huge majority loved the book and a number had their interest in learning bridge stimulated. So, does this book bridge the gap to non-bridge players and explain what we see in the game, illustrate the friendships, the partnerships, the competition, the ups and the downs and why we spend so much time on it at all? Read and find out.

Please add your name to the borrowing register on the library shelf and return promptly so we can all enjoy.



ONE WISH

A bridge player was polishing a lamp and... poof! Out popped a genie who said, "I will grant you one wish."

The player unfolded a map of the world and said, "I wish all of these countries would live in peace and harmony."

"You've got to be kidding! I'm only a genie."

The bridge player thought for a while and then suggested, "OK, then make me a winning bridge player."

"Hmm... " the genie pondered. "Let me see that map again."

SLOW PLAY IS SELFISH PLAY ...JUST A WEE REMINDER



The real keys to playing fast are in forming habits that serve to keep the game moving and staying alert at the table. Suppose the auction goes 1NT on your right, you pass and LHO makes a transfer. You are likely to be on opening lead eventually, and you should start figuring out what your best lead might be against NT or against the suit about to be bid by RHO. Once the auction is over, you can immediately place a card on the table. After your lead is turned face up, you can write the contract on your personal score sheet as declarer studies dummy.

Arriving at the table: This is where most of the time goes. It is important to greet your opponents, however, a smile and a hello are all that are needed and don't forget to pull your cards from the board at the same time.

Bidding: Check the dealer and vulnerability on the board before sorting your cards. The number one timing problem in bidding consists of players not realising it is their turn.

Before the opening lead: Once the bidding is over, declarer and the person not on lead should record the contract on their personal score cards. Dummy and the opening leader may do this after the lead and dummy have been faced.

The play: Declarer should always think for at least 10 seconds before playing to the first trick from dummy. Time taken at the first trick is not time wasted; this is a good time to plan; it helps the tempo later in the game. E.G. Declarer leads towards an ace-queen in dummy, LHO follows low smoothly, and there is no need for declarer to go into the tank again. Surely the idea was to play the Q so play it. Also if you are running a long suit from hand you should have decided at the beginning which losers in dummy you were going to discard or as a defender which cards you can let go. If you are in trouble, long thinks won't make the impossible possible, so if you're going down, go down gracefully - and quickly. At least you will have the full time for the next hand.

Claiming: Many players are nervous about claiming. If you're on defence and you can see that dummy is good (and you know that partner cannot win another trick), concede. It saves time.

Irregularities: Save time call the director immediately. Become familiar with the basic rules so you can make quick decisions once the director has arrived.

After trick thirteen: Always put the score on the traveller first, before you enter the score on your own scorecard. If North/South begins talking East or West should take the traveller out and hand it to South. If you are playing more than one board North should place the second board on the table while South is scoring. Save the post mortems for the end of the round.

At all times: Stand up so the director can see you are ready and waiting. Move when the buzzer or Director tells you to.

The Golden Rule: There is only one person responsible for slow play: you. Fast players don't play "fast". They just slow the game down less often. Slow players don't play "slow". They use bidding and playing time for other things. Yes, Bridge is a social occasion, but use your time to socialise - not the opponents or the next table's time.



SIX THINGS A BRIDGE PLAYER WOULD NEVER SAY...



1 This club's playing area is always at the right temperature - never too hot or too cold.

2 Free drink? No thanks.

3 No matter which direction we sit, the cards always go our way.

4 No. I don't think tournament fees are too high.

5 I don't feel like bridge today. I'd rather jog and work out.

6 I can always count on my partner to remember every convention on our card.

UPCOMING EVENTS April 1 - Upper Hutt challenge, 29 May-Upper Hutt Intermediate Pairs ,
14 June-AGM, 26 June- Winter Solstice/Domestic Tournament.

Upper Hutt Bridge Club

Christchurch Earthquake Fundraiser

Sunday, 10 April 2011, 1p.m

Please arrange a partner

\$10 table money donated to the Red Cross. There will be a notice on the board for
your names.

