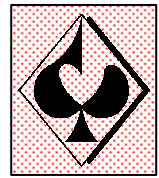


FINESSE



Newsletter of the Hutt Bridge Club

February 2010

e-Finesse

If you have given the club an email address, you will be receiving this copy of the newsletter by email. We will still be printing copies of the newsletter for those who don't like reading off the email, or who want to read their copy in the bath. However, it will mean that those who do not get to the club so often can keep up with news.

If you would like the benefits of receiving an e-copy (the photos are in colour for example) and you have not given us an address, please let Caroline know your address (email to hbcinc@xtra.co.nz). Or if you do *not* want your copy emailed, also let Caroline know, so you won't get e-copies in the future.

President's Column.

I hope you've all had a great time and that you're ready to get right back into the action. If you did play over the break - I trust you made your contracts with overtricks and that you created magnificent and successful defence.

There are some really interesting initiatives for the club this year: a couple of note are whether the club should try and open a bar on some of our playing nights; and whether we should move some playing sessions to an electronic scoring system. There are also some key things that you need to start preparing for already: getting your Friday night Interclub team together; and figuring out how you're going to break into the club's National Championship Team. (Good club night results over the first part of this year help!)

There is a little section on the potential for running a bar later in this edition but I'd like to mention here that the club is really interested in your thoughts and ideas for this. Now is the time to get your wine recommendation in! Some of you may already have Bar Manager qualifications and be prepared to be named as one of the club Bar Managers. To make a bar work, the club also needs a pool of people who would be prepared to get the drinks out, put them back and count the cash. So if you're prepared to contribute, contact the club secretary and let her know or talk with anyone on the committee.

The club is also interested in your views about moving to an electronic scoring system e.g. the BridgePads used at some other clubs in the region and at some of the major tournaments. Electronic scoring means that results at a table are entered into a calculator like "BridgePad" that radios the score back to a central computer. It means nearly instant results come out at close of play due to not having to await a scorer to enter all the results. In teams play it is especially valuable as quick results facilitate a quick re-draw for the next match. Again let the secretary or anyone on the committee know your thoughts.

There is a section on conduct and etiquette in our Programme book. I believe that one of the best ways to improve behaviour is by providing direct feedback to people. In particular - provide good feedback directly where you can. If someone has behaved well or done or said something especially nice or handled a difficult situation well - then let them know how impressed you are.

Welcome back!

Ken Barnett, President

Social Bridge



CHRISTMAS SOCIAL BRIDGE

The Christmas Social on 28 November saw 56 players on 14 tables playing an individual movement. This rather taxed the computer's scoring package and the scoring had to be done by hand, which just meant that the "leftovers" from the supper could be finished and a bit more laughter about who had made the most outrageous bid. Thanks to Kieran for controlling the

play, if not the players, and for Bryan for organising the movement and to Bryan and Carol (and helpers) for hand scoring. Winners were: 1st John Barnett; 2nd Lorraine Inglis; 3rd Prafulla Hegde.

SOCIAL BRIDGE JACKPOT

Last year there was a ladder “Jackpot” run for the eight sessions of Saturday Bridge. This was won by jointly by Paul & Carol Badcock; with Patricia Walkington 2nd. It pays to turn up regularly!

SOCIAL BRIDGE 2010

Social Bridge evenings will be held the **Second Saturday** of each Month (with November’s to be confirmed). The first social of 2010 will be **Saturday 13 February** at 7pm. This will be a pairs evening, with a break in the middle for supper. Please bring a plate to share for supper. Table money is \$5, \$1 of which goes into the Jackpot for the top total scores over 6/9 evenings.



All are welcome, including guests.

Coming Events

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Hutt Bridge Club will be held on the evening of **Friday 19 March**.

All nominations for committee should be received by the Secretary by **5 March**. There will be nomination forms on the notice board. Please ensure the person who is being nominated, also signs the form. Any Remits or Notices of Motion should be sent to the Secretary by **26 February**. A formal notice of the meeting with the Agenda will be circulated by early March.

Some of the current Committee members will be stepping down and, with a growing club, we do need some people to agree to coming onto the Committee.

REPRESENTATIVES NEEDED

There are also vacancies on the Wellington Region committee and the National Committee of NZ Bridge. If you have governance skills please don’t be shy, let Ken know and we can put your name forward.

TOURNAMENTS COMING UP

14 Feb	Wellington Open/Junior
21 Feb	Kairangi Intermediate
7 March	Victoria Multigrade
14 March	Kapi Mana Multigrade
21 March	Paraparaumu Open
28 March	Hutt Intermediate / Novice

Note dates for **Interprovincial Trials**: 26/27 June

(Note: there is a list of scheduled tournaments in Wellington Region on pp 38-39 of your 2010 Programme. These and others are posted on the Notice Board)

Note that the Wellington Bridge Club is hosting the National Trials over the weekend beginning **Friday 19 March**. Kibbitzers are welcome!

Wellington Club is looking for some assistance in the kitchen and as caddies so if you would like to go along and watch and offer an hour or two, please contact Dot Proctor or Jenny Delaney at Wellington Bridge Club..

Grading 2010

The official and final list of your **2010 Tournament Grade** is now available and is posted on the notice board. The Grade is also listed on the NZ Bridge website for you to check details of your and Rating Points and Grade.

The personal **Player Status** slips are now available. These will be put in the playing room next to the Library for you to collect by the end of March.

There are a few people who have gone up a Grade [Congratulations!] and must use the new Grade for all 2010 tournaments. Your entries are verified if they are sent from this club, but if you enter on another form at another club, *you* are responsible for putting the correct Grade up.

Interclub 2010

Interclub teams need to be nominated by **20 February**. There is a sheet on the wall to register your team. The competition plays once a month (March – November) and is a challenging way to progress your bridge play. For more information see the notice board or talk to the club’s Interclub Liaison Person, Jill Marsden. (Ph 971 2431)

Lessons & Improvers

BEGINNER LESSONS



Beginner Bridge Lessons will be on either **Wednesday mornings**, starting **10 March** (9.30 – 12 noon), or on **Tuesday evenings**, starting **9 March** (7.30 – 10pm). They are suitable for beginners to the game or as a refresher. Bryan Cunliffe will be the tutor on Tuesday evenings, and the Robin Hill/Linda Canton team for Wednesday mornings. If you are interested in sitting in for a refresher (for all or just some topics) check with the tutor.

MAIL DROP 2010

The mail drop will be used again this year as a relatively inexpensive way of getting our message out there. Fliers will be ready for the walkers among you to distribute through letterboxes, from early February.

Thank-you in advance to those people who help in this way.

IMPROVE YOUR BRIDGE

For those wanting to extend their knowledge of bridge, the club plans to run a “development session” once a month for most of this year. These sessions will vary to include sessions for new players, or for intermediate level players; serious topics and some light-hearted play to help players improve. Dougal Watson has agreed to co-ordinate this for 2010, and he has drawn up a programme. There will generally be no charge for these sessions, unless there is a guest presenter when there may be a small cover charge.

The first will be a refresher session to take the form of a **Quiz Session**. This will be on **Friday 19 February**. This is aimed at the beginner players but the organisers say that this is going to be a fun night and everyone is welcome. You do not need to register first.

The second will be by Anthony Ker on **Teams Play** and will be particularly useful for those signing up for Interclub. This will be on **Friday 5 March**.

Details of start times and other topics suggested for 2010 are posted on the notice board. Other ideas and suggestions (and offers to help) are welcome.

Welcome

A warm welcome to new members.

- **John van Aalst** (afternoons)
- **Margie Michael** (Mon evening)
- **Mark Rowe** (Mon evening)

And a sad Farewell to **Sheila Burdett** just before Christmas. Sheila was ill with cancer in early 2008 but recovered and took the refresher lessons last year, joining in with the new group of learners. A lovely lady, she is missed by the Wednesday night players.

Directors 2010

BECOME A DIRECTOR



If you are interested in learning more about Directing (or want to brush up skills) Allan Joseph is running a series of four lessons in February/March for those interested in the Club Director level; and an advanced course a bit later for those wanting to upgrade to Tournament Director. Details of the programme are on the club notice board or phone Allan on 389 8514. These lessons are free, and the club may consider subsidising your costs for the exam.

NEW DIRECTORS' GROUP ESTABLISHED

For existing Directors, Allan intends establishing a Directors' Group, which will meet monthly or bi-monthly. Details to be advised and will be posted on the notice board.

Playing Issues

ENJOY A DRINK WITH YOUR BRIDGE

The club is considering applying for a full liquor licence for 2010. This is considerably more expensive and troublesome than the partial licence we currently hold. To gauge whether you (as members) want this benefit, we will trial a bar on Monday **15 February** and on Tuesday **23 February**. Members playing over the next couple of weeks, and attending the AGM will also be asked for their opinion as to whether they want a full licence. If you are not a regular player over February/March, but would like to express an opinion, please email or phone the office.

PARTNER REQUIRED?

The club does try to match people up if they need a partner for a session. For this to work there are two parts: We need to have a list of people who are happy to be contacted and asked if they are available to play; and for those who want to play, to phone to ask.

There will be a list circulated at playing sessions for you to indicate if and when you could be available. If you do want a partner, please phone the office, before noon on the day you want to play (preferably earlier) and we will do our best to find a partner. Please take part, you never know what nice people you could meet!

NZ Bridge Magazine

NZ Bridge produces an interesting little monthly magazine featuring NZ bridge players and events, plus information on play for both the top level and beginners. Issues are on display in the library for you to browse. But you might like to buy your own copy.



This is good value at \$40 a year for a subscription. Contact Richard Solomon on rksolomon@xtra.co.nz or Ph 09 232 8494

Results

The following were recorded from sessions and Tournaments towards the end of 2009:

Monday Afternoon:

Athlone Pairs: Wyn Hughes / Pam Johnson

Sadie Williams Pairs: (club series) Lee Bailey / Patricia Walkington

Founders' Ladder: Trish McWatters

Monday Evening:

Korokoro Pairs: Anthony Ker / Murray McMillan

Club Pairs: Anthony Ker / Alan Grant

Founders' Ladder: Anthony Ker

Founders' Teams: W Johnson, H Jared, R McColl, S Prichard, G Duncan

Handicap Teams: P Barker, K Tate, D Stallinger, D Wolak

Holiday Ladder: Wendy Cooper

Tuesday Evening:

Boulcott Pairs: Paul Badcock / Judy MacManus

Shandon Pairs: (club series) Peter & Wendy Jenkin

Founders' Ladder: Peter Jenkin

Vilron Teams: P Badcock, C Badcock, J MacManus, K MacManus

Wednesday Evening:

Cornwall Pairs: Denise Hutt / Elizabeth Plowman

Wednesday Pairs: (club series) Len & Sue Lea

Founders' Ladder: Sue Lea

Wednesday Teams: A McCarthy, K McCarthy, V McCarthy, J Henderson

Thursday Evening:

Squeeze Pairs: Jan Menere / Josephine Mills

Thursday Pairs: (club series) Rosemary Cooper / Nina Wojcik

Founders' Ladder: Paul Badcock

Friday Afternoon:

Bellevue Pairs: Robin Hill / Ros Greenwood

Hutt City New World Pairs: (club series) Mavis Watson / Anita Wilson

Founders' Ladder: Ros Greenwood

OTHER SUCCESSES:

NZ Wide Pairs: (5 Nov)

This was a great success with 14 tables playing at Hutt Club and over 900 nation-wide. Our own players were top in the NS direction and third overall, nationally. We even managed to get a few lines in the Hutt News.

Top N/S for Hutt = Judith Forster / Doreen Watson (who were also top for Wellington Region and Nationally); **Top E/W Hutt** = Marion Loader / Peter Ward; Heather Jared / Warren Johnson

Kairangi Intermediate: (1 Nov) Deidre Stallinger/ Debbie Wolak (1st); M Pratchett/P Revell (2nd); Paul Badcock/Carol Badcock (3rd)

Kapi Mana Multigrade: (8 Nov) Annette Austing / Helen Todd (3rd); Kay Jackson/Carole Shapcott (4th)

Wellington Christmas Cheer (21 Nov): 1st Judy Johnson and J Waldvogel; 2nd Alan Grant & Anthony Ker

Suzanne Duncan (27/29 Dec): Anthony & Kathy Ker

NZ Bridge (Wellington Region) winners:

A Point Tournament Trophy: Anthony Ker

Intermediate Tournament Trophy: Deidre Stallinger & Debbie Wolak (equal)

Mixed Sex Pairs 3A: Sandra Pritchard / G Norman

"FINESSE" is the newsletter of the Hutt Bridge Club.
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