



SPADEWORK

September 2023 Newsletter

Editor: Julie Downs

from President Michele -

I hope you enjoy these monthly newsletters that inform you of the activities that have been happening in the club over the last month. While there are multiple contributors the main work is putting all the information together in a cogent and effective format. Julie Downs has now been doing this brilliantly for the last 10 years!!!! Thank you Julie, this is an outstanding effort.

We hosted a multi-grade tournament on the 16th of September. We had 9 tables which is somewhat disappointing. However, those who played had a good day and congratulations to Julie Sheridan and Riet Jansen who won the tournament with 61% for the 1st session and 65% for the second – impressive scoring. Thanks again to all of those who help in making our tournaments a success.

You may have noticed that the photos of the Presidents and Life Members have now been added to the electronic Honours Board. Sadly, several of the photos had been seriously damaged by sun. However, with the aid of computer technology I was able to repair most except for Zita's photo that was very damaged. Someone may have a photo of Zita Reid they could share with me to replace the current version. It is good to acknowledge the work of those who have been instrumental in the development and growth of our club.

Apologies to Allan Parkes, Allan was a member of our Open Team placing second in the Waikato teams, not Allan Currie as I stated in the last newsletter.

Good luck to all those playing at Congress this week – I'm sure there will be lots of discussions - many of them starting with -what did you bid on the hand with.....?

Club Captain Teri's catch up ...

Again, once again thank you to so many members who helped make the Mt Restricted tournament on Sat 16th Sept such an enjoyable day for us all.

A few observations - Fill out a convention card with each of your partners, even regular partners. Study this with them and possibly make a goal to add and learn more and expand your game. When I fill in a card, I see all that I actually know nothing about. Read about other bidding systems –as even if you don't play them you can learn how to defend or bid against them.

Give as full and generous an explanation of alerts as is possible especially to newer players. On that note any comment, however well intended, can feel less like a helpful observation and more like a rebuke. For example - 'Why did you under lead the Ace, partner?' - immediately the under leader feels a fool and often, instead of determining to learn and do better, is put off from returning to bridge. And once again, please don't give advice to the departing pair on what they should have bid or where they failed in their play.

And last words – “Thank you Partner” are always appreciated

Happy Bridge -Teri

- CONGRESS is happening over 8 days this week at Baypark arena with 600 registrations and 9716 boards dealt!!
- Early success on opening day with Rebecca Bartlett & Alan Withrington achieving a creditable 2nd = in the Novice Pairs. Well done!
- Funny story in the Sunday Intermediate Pairs - Francis and Julie seated EW, no NS appeared. Surely the missing odd pair had not forwarded their clocks for daylight saving? The session started, standby players had all been sent home so, surprise, Floor Manager Teri and Caddy Eileen took up the NS reins. Shortly thereafter, our own Flo Nield appeared to release Teri back to management duties. It later transpired that a stray Junior pair had inadvertently sat with the Intermediates instead of a Junior table, resulting in the mismatched number of Intermediate Pairs. However, Flo and Eileen battled on, the Junior pair competed admirably and Julie and Francis finished 10th out of 30 pairs.

CLUB RESULTS

Mondays Sept '23	Zita Reid-Abel Tasman Handicap Pairs	1st Jan Russell & Kath Harvey 2nd Julie Sheridan & Marion Kelly 3rd Bob Callcut & Riet Jansen
Mondays Sept'23	Zita Reid-Abel Tasman Pairs	1st Derek Webb & Margaret Wakelin 2nd Julie Sheridan & Marion Kelly 3rd John Laugesen & John Strawbridge
Wednesdays Aug'23	Forsyth Barr Champs Handicap Pairs	1st Peter Boynton & Mary Keane 2nd Liz Dey & Judith George 3rd Caren Van Der Meys & Kerry Crosby
Wednesdays Aug'23	Forsyth Barr Champs Pairs	1st Megan Richards & Pamela Pedersen 2nd Julie Sheridan & Marion Kelly 3rd Caren Van Der Meys & Kerry Crosby
Thursdays Sept '23	Cunningham Handicap Pairs	1st Jan Linwood & Barbara Hennessey 2nd Jan Payne & Sue Martin 3rd Mary Keane & Susan Treadgold
Fridays Sept '23	Tauranga Glass Pairs	1st Ross Petersen & Barbara Stimson 2nd Julie Sheridan & Gilda Rowland 3rd Diane Moreland & Barry Crosby

TEAMS are currently being contested at **Congress** in all grades and will shortly feature in our own programme. Here's some pointers from Jeff Rubens, writer for The World Bridge Magazine.

- Teams are competing/playing to score maximum IMPs (International Match Points)
- The emphasis at IMP scoring is on making and breaking the contract and on insuring against large adverse swings.
- Ignore tiny swings. Concentrate on making your contract instead of overtricks. Play in your safest contract and not necessarily the highest ranking. If you bid 6C when 6S will also makes you will lose a very small swing. But if your opponents go down in 6S while you make 6C, the swing will be very large.
- When competing for a part score, be very reluctant to be pushed higher
- be more conservative in bidding non-vul games than vulnerable ones = i.e. the huge score difference will boost your IMPs
- Remember - you can be unlucky - cards may not break normally or opponents may make a silly decision and get richly rewarded. In the long run good judgement should win out.
- Good Luck

ALERT!! teachers, coaches and mentors.

Teacher + Coach Conference

Organised by RealBridge & BAMSA: 7 & 8 October 2023
Speakers from around the world. Some material will be pre-recorded and subtitled.

A free event. Please sign up to get updates and the joining instructions.

More information here:

realbridge.online/teacher-coach-conference-2023

more RANK CHANGES - great work

Barbara Hennessey - Certificate of Proficiency

Bernie Roibinson - Club Master

Supporting our Sponsors

COBB & CO

COBB & CO Rotorua

209 Fenton Street Rotorua

is our closest Cobb so visit when in the Thermal City.

"We love coming hereto dine; we never leave hungry! Great service from your staff and lovely food. Always greeted with a warm smile. The staff do a great job, even under pressure."

- Customer review.

Best to book online - a variety of rooms and menus available.

Monday Players are privileged to be competing against no fewer than six nonagenarians who still play regular Monday bridge - Nan, Noelene, Fred, Hanny, Margaret, Joy.

August 31 saw the latest report from Allan Morris, Chair of NZ Bridge, including these points.

- Membership is steadily growing with largely new tuition to 12773 players, with Waikato Bays contributing 2020 members.
- This current trial year (2023) of online/face-to-face comparison has thrown up many challenging issues to the working party and we want to share with you the process to date, and the plans for the months ahead.
- As part of the process the working party determined it required more information about how the two forms of the game could run concurrently without negatively impacting one or the other, and consequently a decision was taken to run a series of trial weekends throughout 2023.
- Are we able to decide on the future form of the game? We are close, but we need to see the trial year to the end, we need to model some variations expanding the trial through the grades, and we need to consider a range of technical matters that online throws up in its current form if we want to preserve the integrity of the game. These include our ability to seed fields, managing the vast differences in player capability that may distort results, managing the risk of cheating, technology use, and more.
- As this project runs on, it is also timely that the Board moves from the short-term focus required during those Covid years, to develop a future direction and strategy that recognizes all that has changed and is changing. Player habits and behaviours, cost of living, travel and accommodation, online I want to assure all stakeholders (players, clubs, and regions) that no decision has been taken.
- This is not the first time we have had to consider change - think about when we moved from verbal bidding to written bidding to bidding boxes to a future of bidding on tablets. Throughout there was resistance to change but we adapted. Now we don't think about it.



Alan Parkes & Megan Richards 3rd Open/Intermediate n Teri



Intermediate/Int Winners Kay Wright & Hillary McKenna



Open/Intermediate winners Julie Sheridan & Riet Jansen w Teri



Oh gee Riet, I forgot my golf tee off at 0900 this morning!

CONGRESS HIGHLIGHTS



Wednesday 27th September saw a fun 'Dress-Up' Day at Congress. Our own Junior Team

Kay Burnie
Michele Larnder
Liz Dive
Judith Somerville

whilst not excelling in the Bridge Teams, secured 2nd award as "**Team Ballerinas**", 2nd only to the "Bride Tribe"



the aspirants



the serious section