

Hamilton



Hamilton Contract Bridge Club

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<http://www.hamilton.bridge-club.org/>

Newsletter Editor: Catherine Cameron

Newsletter - November 2022

From the President

The recent months have seen a decline in numbers for our Wednesday sessions. As a result of this we have moved this night to the online Real Bridge platform - allowing participation from all players across the motu.

We foresee that our members will support these sessions which will create the flow-on benefits of online experience, financial gain from reduced fixed expenses - power, heating, etc - with increased table numbers being the aim and also to provide our Club members with both face-to-face and online access.

The carrot of giving cash prizes to the winners is a win-win concept and a cost already factored in when hosting face-to-face sessions (as Director payments).

We have stated previously that we would provide an online avenue and whilst we are entering this field later than originally wished, the benefits of doing so will only produce more Bridge playing opportunities.

I would prefer our members play at our own Club whether it be face-to-face or online so I am hopeful that we will see a surge in table numbers for Wednesday nights.

We will of course revert to face-to-face for the special events, yet for now we are testing the waters by offering another option when the business as unusual standard is not working.

Isn't it great that you have a committee that is willing to try other means to achieve the same goal...

This goal remains to get bums back on seats and I thank the members who have returned to the tables.

2023 is looming and these things need to be considered:

- The number of sessions - Do we have too many available?
- Lessons - Option to run a weekend "wham bam thank you Mam" and get it done in 2 days
- Lessons - running of two courses day and night works well - could we also host an online session?
- Table Money - we haven't reviewed this over the past years
- Subscriptions - we haven't reviewed this in the past years either
- Committee - both match and club committee functions need to be addressed
- Directors - there is a need to encourage more Club Directors as our numbers are limited
- Scorers - an ongoing battle and yet again a need to encourage interest in this space is essential

The focus to provide a positive Club environment remains and I ask that members please seek me out if you have any views on the above.

See you at the table

Mereana

Mereana Cullen

From the Captain's Table

We had a very successful Labour Weekend event.

President Mereana welcomed over 100 players with Ella having planned the three days of competition.

Once again food was organised by our superb in-house caterer Jane with club members working under her guidance!

It is always fun to work together behind the scenes.

Plans for the traditional Melbourne Cup Day are under way with members planning stunning hats.

Social days like this are so important for the club, allowing us to have fun together and get to know newer members better. Hopefully members who have not played for a while will attend as involvement is vital for success of our club.

Name tags are required!

Remember our AGM on November 20th. I encourage you to attend to support your management team, vote and have a social get together.

Bridge at St Andrew's Golf Club every fortnight is proving very popular. Thank you Lois for arranging this.

Best wishes for a merry Xmas and Safe and happy holidays and another year of playing the best game in the world!

Regards

Laura

Laura Sommerville, Club Captain

Update your details for 2023

The 2023 programme book is now being prepared. If you have changed your phone number during the year or no longer have your landline, can you please let the [bridge club secretary](#) know the change needed. If you or any of your regular partners have a new email address that we may not be aware of, can you also let the secretary know.

Phone number changes / additions

Aengus Moore	07 888-1449 / 022 590-8430
Barbara Cheffey	021 137-9843
Beth Kingsley	021 170-4432
Cate Anderson	022 033-1161
Debra White	027 472-9980
Diane Blignaut	021 135-4855
Glenn Bradburn	027 824-1366
John O'Connor	022 133-4577
Jon Verhoek	021 220-0233
Kate McFadyen	027 871-4690
Kevin Birch	09 237-0780 / 027 452-1110
Maria Muller	022 175-6487
Mary Boss	022 672-7193
Mary Girvin	027 454-6279
Mary Ronke	843-5852 / 021 143-4384
Mel Johnson	022 677-0499
Trish Rees	027 829-8415
Wendy Bell	021 862-493



Learners Lessons on Tuesdays 2023

All 2023 lessons will again be held on Tuesdays, with a daytime session from 1 - 3 pm and an evening session from 7 - 9 pm. Now is a good time for all members to be talking to family and friends about coming and joining us to learn a challenging new skill.

Wednesday Club Sessions on RealBridge

Wednesday night bridge is now being played online using RealBridge until the end of the programme year in late November. Members of other clubs are welcome to join in. Session links are on the club website under the RealBridge header on the left-hand side of the home page.

Leaving the Bridge Club

Although the Club is disappointed when members leave, we know that for various reasons this happens. If you have decided you will be leaving the Club, we ask you to please tell us of your pending departure.

This advance notice lets us plan your removal from the Clubs Systems - both Compass & Compa\$\$ - and to return any surplus funds we hold on your behalf to you. Also, it will let us advise NZ Bridge of your departure thus saving us some or all of the \$23 levy we pay annually for all members. If we are not informed, we will keep sending you invoices for your annual subscription along with including your details in the programme book.

So could we try for a tidy cut when you decide to part ways with Hamilton Bridge Club. Contact the secretary at the phone or email in the programme book or on the website or this link: [bridge club secretary](#).

This newsletter is sent to past members as well as current members, so receiving it does not mean you are a member of the club if you have resigned previously.

New Directors Needed

Have you ever thought of becoming a director? Our club needs new directors - could you be one? Training in directing will be given along with help to pass the NZ Bridge exam. If you think this is you, then contact Mereana or Ella for more information or to register your interest.



COMING UP AT OUR CLUB

Melbourne Cup Afternoon - Tuesday 1 November

A message from Laura:

Hello everyone!

Just to remind you of our special

MELBOURNE CUP DAY

Tuesday, November 1st
starting at 12.15

Cost is \$6.00 from your
Compa\$\$ account

How about asking a friend
who has not been to
bridge lately, to play with
you that day? Just to
encourage them to play at
the club again.



Wear your best hat for the competition!

Bring cash along for the Sweepstake as NZ Law requires this

Timetable of the Day:

- 12.15 pm pay for your drawn horse
- 1 pm play bridge
- 4 pm afternoon tea and Best Hat judging
- 4.30 pm watch Melbourne Cup on TV

Please enter you and your partner's names on the notice board in the
Richmond Room

Look forward to seeing you there - Wearing your name tag please!!

Annual General Meeting - Sunday 20 November

The AGM starts at 2pm, followed shortly after by a session of bridge and possibly a Christmas Dinner (still to be confirmed at time of newsletter publication). Come along and join us - there is a charge for bridge and the dinner, but the AGM is free to attend and all members are welcome.

Nominations for new committee members are very welcome. These need to be in writing with the Club Secretary by Saturday, 12 November 2022.

The nomination form is available on line: [NominationForClubOffice](#)

(or see Julie for a printed copy).

Notices of business you would like raised or discussed at the meeting need to be received by Saturday 5 November.



Thanks to all the volunteers, without whom we would not be able to enjoy our bridge.

These are the members who donate their time to dealing, scoring, cleaning up after tea, providing plates of food for tournaments, serving on the committee, shopping, cleaning equipment, putting out rubbish, gardening and more.

THANK YOU all.

WAIKATO-BAYS COMPETITION RESULTS

Waikato-Bays League results

Covid cancellations, what's that? After two years of disruptions, this year the entire programme of the Waikato-Bays Junior and Intermediate leagues was able to run completely.

The Juniors played the last of their 6 tournaments at Te Awamutu on 9 October. For a second year, our Junior pairing of Rachelle Meijer and Stephen Weir took part in the league, improving their placings in this competition to 1st equal overall winners. Congratulations!



The Intermediates finished at Cambridge on 16 October. After winning this final tournament, Megan Jolly and Leanne Curry placed 3rd equal in the individual standings. Well done!

Thanks to all who took part in these tournaments.

What are the League competitions?

The competitions aim to encourage Junior and Intermediate players to play in tournaments in the region and to encourage players to form partnerships, although you can play with different partners as well. The competitions award points on an individual basis both for participation and for success (final placing and a bonus point each for turning up, getting over 50% average for a day or winning a session outright). The top 10 placegetters overall win cash prizes.

What is in it for the players?

It is good fun and gives you the impetus to develop sound friend / partnerships and a better grasp of the game. So why not book your partner(s) in for as many of these excellent tournaments as you can manage next year!

Recent Events at our Club

Waikato/Bays Swiss Pairs - Saturday 3 September

Unfortunately, this tournament clashed with an All Blacks vs Argentina game at Waikato Stadium, meaning that selling car-parking on the day became a complicated exercise! Fortunately, running the tournament was not as complicated. A strong field of 38 pairs, including several grandmasters, turned up for this 10A event. Hamilton members Hugh McGann and Blair Fisher featured in the top 3 places overall, congratulations! Thanks to those club members who helped with running the tournament.

Soup & Bun Social - Sunday 18 September

This friendly event on a Sunday afternoon gives members who play at different sessions during the week a chance to meet and get to know each other, or to catch up with old friends in a very social atmosphere. We also welcomed two visitors from Morrinsville and one from Huntly, making 8 full tables. Richard and Julie Hooper won North-South with Cherie Barton and Ross Stewart first East-West. Many thanks to Jane and her helpers in the kitchen for preparing and serving delicious soup and buns and to Cherie for directing.

Hamilton Congress 22-24 October

Compared with past years, smaller numbers of keen bridge players gathered on a sunny Labour weekend for 3 days of competition in the tournament highlight of our club year. Unfortunately, insufficient entries meant the Restricted Open event planned had to be cancelled. The Hamilton Congress Pairs on Saturday was won by David O'Shaughnessy of New Plymouth and Bill Humphrey of Kerikeri, with our club member Michael Curry performing well in 3rd place. The consolation Swiss Pairs was also won by David O'Shaughnessy and Bill Humphrey with our members Richard Fletcher and Gwyn Lobb taking out 3rd place.

In the 2-day Waikato Bays Provincial Teams competition, Barry Jones, Jenny Millington, Patrick Carter and Julie Atkinson won with a substantial margin - Congratulations! Thanks to Ella for organising the Congress.

CAMBRIDGE SIXES 2022

Twenty-six 6 member teams (2 Open, 2 Intermediate and 2 Juniors) converged on the Sir Don Rowlands Centre at Karapiro Domain to play in the Cambridge Sixes on Saturday 6 August. As well as the bridge, which is a Swiss Pairs format for each grade, the day involves a costume competition and a Trivia competition which is played between bridge rounds while waiting for the scoring to be completed. This year, as an added bonus, every player received a generous sample pack from the event sponsors, AFT Pharmaceuticals, arranged by Irene Stewart.

The best costume prize was for an "Oscars" movie theme and was won by a team from Matamata dressed up as 'Hobbiton' characters. Second place went to a team from Hamilton (Malcolm Smith, Michael Neels, Ian Ross, Jenny Seavill, Stewart Lawrence and Bob Jones) as "residents" from the asylum of 'One Flew over the Cuckoo's Nest' and their nurse.

Hamilton members also made up the team that won the movie Trivia contest - Mereana Cullen, Cherie Barton, Roger Gunning, Catherine Cameron, Stephen Weir and Glenn Bradburn.

To complete the Hamilton success on the day, members of our club came 2nd in each grade of the tournament (results further on in this newsletter). Below are some photos from the event:



Costume Runners-up: One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest



2nd Junior - Steve and Bill



2nd Intermediate - Roger and Catherine

NZ BRIDGE NEWS

NZ Bridge National Congress 2022 Results

After a 2-year Covid break the 2022 National Bridge Congress went ahead face to face as planned in the first week of October. Over 600 keen bridge players took part. The Congress was held for the first time at BayPark Arena at Mt Maunganui - a spacious venue but rather tricky to get there with all the roadworks in progress. Successful players from our Club included:

NZ Open Pairs Final - 2nd Blair Fisher & George Masters

NZ Open Pairs Plate - 1st Jenny Millington & Barry Jones

NZ Open Pairs Consolation 2 - 1st John O'Connor & Richard Stuart

NZ Restricted Open Pairs - 2nd Kevin Whyte & Clare Coles

NZ Teams 1st Semi-final - Jenna Gibbons & teammates

NZ Teams 2nd Semi-final - Blair & Liz Fisher & teammates

NZ Restricted Teams - 2nd Kevin Whyte & teammates

Junior Swiss Pairs - 1st Rachelle Meijer & Jon Verhoek

Junior Pairs - 3rd Rachelle Meijer & Jon Verhoek

Restricted Open Teams - 2nd Mark Thomson, Jeffery Chang & teammates

All the results and more information at [NZ Bridge Congress](#)

Recent Tournament Successes by our Club Members



Cambridge Sixes

Cambridge

Saturday 6 August

2nd Open

Gary Foidl & Ant Hopkins

2nd Intermediate

Roger Gunning & Catherine Cameron

2nd Junior

Bill Bailey & Steve Hunt

Te Awamutu Intermediate Pairs

Te Awamutu

Saturday 13 August

3rd

Megan Jolly & Leanne Curry

Waikato Area Pairs (6)

Hamilton

Sunday 28 August

1st

Richard Solomon & Anna Kalma

3rd

Ella Gray & Michael Neels

Waikato/Bays Regional Swiss Pairs

Hamilton

Saturday 3 September

1st

Hugh McGann & Michael Ware

3rd

Blair Fisher & George Masters

Rotorua Restricted Pairs

Rotorua

Saturday 10 September

1st

Barbara Daly & Rachelle Meijer

2nd

John O'Connor & Joy Williams

Matamata Intermediate Pairs

Matamata

Sunday 11 September

2nd

Duncan White & Kevin Johns

Te Awamutu Junior Pairs

Te Awamutu

Sunday 9 October

1st

Rachelle Meijer & Stephen Weir

Cambridge Intermediate Pairs Cambridge Sunday 16 October
1st Leanne Curry & Megan Jolly

Hamilton Congress Open Pairs Hamilton Saturday 22 October
3rd Michael Curry & Wayne Burrows

Waikato/Bays Swiss Pairs Hamilton Monday 24 October
3rd Richard Fletcher & Gwyn Lobb

Waikato/Bays Provincial Teams Hamilton Monday 25 October
1st Barry Jones, Jenny Millington & teammates
3rd Yuzhong Chen & teammates

Upcoming Events



EVENTS COMING UP IN OUR REGION

Thames Xmas Party	Thames	Sunday 13 November
Te Awamutu Xmas Party	Te Awamutu	Saturday 19 November
Waikato Xmas Party	Waikato	Saturday 26 November
Rotorua Xmas Party	Rotorua	Saturday 3 December
Taupo Xmas Tournament	Taupo	Sunday 11 December

The Xmas party events are always very popular. If you wish to play in any of them, make sure you enter early!



Teacher called on six-year-old Johnny, the bridge player's son, to count for the class. "One, two, three," began Johnny, "four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten-uh, jack, queen, king, ace"

Summer Bridge

SUMMER BRIDGE STARTS TUESDAY 22 NOVEMBER

Once the regular programme of bridge is completed following the party sessions and AGM, Hamilton club plans to run Summer Bridge over the summer break, except for the week before Christmas and the Christmas and New Year holiday weeks.

Summer Bridge is open to ALL grades and ALL players (including members of ALL bridge clubs). For all sessions you will need to have organised your own partner before you arrive. Visitors will need to bring \$4 table money. Summer Bridge is stand-alone scratch, with NS and EW winners each night earning a free session of bridge at Hamilton.

Note: The number of sessions is under review so keep an eye on the website for latest information!

2022 Summer Bridge:

Tuesdays at 1:00pm - November 22, 29, December 6 (partner required)

Tuesdays at 7:00pm - November 22, 29, December 6 (partner required)

Thursdays at 7:30pm - November 24, December 1, 8 (partner required)

Fridays at 10:00am - November 25, December 2, 9 (partner required)

2023 Summer Bridge:

Tuesdays at 7:00pm - January 10, 17, 24 (partner required)

Thursdays at 7:30pm - January 12, 19, 26 (partner required)

Fridays at 10:00am - January 13, 20, 27 (partner required)



Club Results

Friday Richmond Winter Pairs

Scratch

- 1 Mary Ronke & Richard Fletcher
- 2 Ella Gray & Michael Neels

Handicap

- 1 Ella Gray & Michael Neels
- 2 Bob Jones & Donna Prentice

Friday O'Neill Winter Pairs

Scratch

- 1 Wendy Bell & Glenn Bradburn
- 2 Roger Johnstone & Michael Davies

Handicap

- 1 Wendy Bell & Glenn Bradburn
- 2 Sheila Horner & Judith Noble

Tuesday Afternoon Clayton-Greene Championship Pairs

Scratch

- 1 Richard Fletcher & Lucie Armstrong
- 2 Helen Healy & Tim Healy

Handicap

- 1 Helen Healy & Tim Healy
- 2 Richard Fletcher & Lucie Armstrong

Tuesday Evening Winter Pairs

Scratch

- 1 Don Weston & Debbie Weston
- 2 Glenn Bradburn & Wendy Bell

Handicap

- 1 Glenn Bradburn & Wendy Bell
- 2 Donnalea Whitcher & Armand Petrin

Monday Pairs D

Scratch

- 1 Michael Curry & Blair Fisher
- 2 Pam Burns & Val West

Handicap

- 1 Pam Burns & Val West
- 2 Roger Gunning & Catherine Cameron

Thursday Championship Pairs

Scratch

- 1 Catherine Cameron & Trini Lin
- 2 Nigel Gresson & Ian Ross

Handicap

- 1 Catherine Cameron & Trini Lin
- 2 Nigel Gresson & Ian Ross

Tuesday Afternoon Peggy Perry Pairs

- 1 Tim Healy & Cynthia Clayton

- 1 Tim Healy & Cynthia Clayton

2 Sue Collinge & Ian Clayton

2 Sue Collinge & Ian Clayton

Tuesday Evening Allen Family Trophy Individuals

Scratch

1 Mark Beavan

2 Jiwan Dhaliwal

Handicap

1 Mark Beavan

2 Vicky Holloway

Wednesday Championship Pairs

Scratch

1 Ella Gray & Michael Neels

2 Michael Curry & Jenna Gibbons

Handicap

1 Ella Gray & Michael Neels

2 Malcolm Smith & Kevin Whyte

Thursday Restricted Teams

1 Richard Hooper, Julie Hooper, Catherine Cameron, Trini Lin

2 Megan Jolly, Leanne Curry, Michael Curry, Rachelle Meijer

Friday Richmond Championship Pairs

Scratch

1 Ian Clayton & Cynthia Clayton

2 Michael Neels & Ella Gray

Handicap

1 Ian Clayton & Cynthia Clayton

2 Eileen Lumsden & Joan Craig

Friday O'Neill Championship Pairs

Scratch

1 Hugh Barton & Laura Sommerville

2 Michelle Paterson & Chris Goulding

Handicap

1 Hugh Barton & Laura Sommerville

2 Judith Noble & Sheila Horner

Tuesday Afternoon Spring Pairs

Scratch

1 Sue Collinge & Cynthia Clayton

2 Ian Ross & Tim Healy

Handicap

1 Sue Collinge & Cynthia Clayton

2 Ian Ross & Tim Healy

Monday Championship Pairs

Scratch

1 Olive Davis & Pam Burns

2 Catherine Cameron & Roger Gunning

Handicap

1 Olive Davis & Pam Burns

2 Elaine Rayner & Dave Edson

Tuesday Evening Spring Pairs

1 Jiwan Dhaliwal & Bill Barwood

1 Judy Cooper & Tim Densem

2 Judy Cooper & Tim Densem

2 Jiwan Dhaliwal & Bill Barwood

Thursday Spring Pairs

Scratch

1 Cherie Barton & Karen Harris

2 Roger Gunning & Ranjith Cooray

(2 nights only scored)

Handicap

1 Cherie Barton & Karen Harris

2 Rachelle Meijer & Stephen Weir

Friday Richmond Spring Pairs

Scratch

1 Sue Collinge & Trini Lin

2 Janice Wilton & Elaine Hickel

Scratch

1 Sue Collinge & Trini Lin

2 Janice Wilton & Elaine Hickel

Friday O'Neill Spring Pairs

Scratch

1 Marie Fenwick & Kevin Brown

2 Chris Goulding & Michelle Paterson

Scratch

1 Rodney Tarrant & Lois Follas

2 Rita Davies & Jannie van Schagen

Monday Spring Pairs

Scratch

1 Roger Gunning & Catherine Cameron

2 Richard Hooper & Mark Thomson

Handicap

1 Roger Gunning & Catherine Cameron

2 Paul Stevens & Chris Jones

Tuesday Afternoon Galbraith Trophy

Scratch

1 Tim Healy & Judith Brooks

2 Phil Thompson & Barbara Daly

Handicap

1 Stewart Lawrence & Dave Gilling

2 Tim Healy & Judith Brooks

Tuesday Evening Pairs B

Scratch

1 Debbie Weston & Don Weston

2 Jacqui McDougall & Oli Oliver

Handicap

1 Debbie Weston & Don Weston

2 Jacqui McDougall & Oli Oliver

From Lindsay's File

Challenge 20



North

♠

♥ 10 3 2

♦ A K 5 4 3 2

♣ 5 4 3 2

West

♠ Q

♥ 9 8 7 6 5 4

♦ 8 7

♣ 10 9 8 7

East

♠ K J 10 9 8 7 6 5

♥ J

♦ Q 6

♣ K 6

South

♠ A 4 3 2

♥ A K Q

♦ J 10 9

♣ A Q J

How can South make Six No Trumps when West leads the Queen of Spades?

The answer will be published on Club's "[website puzzle corner](#)" soon after the newsletter is published.