



Hamilton Contract Bridge Club

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From the President

May 2019

Congratulations to the numerous club members who featured in the winning places in our Restricted and Ladies Day Tournaments, our first tournaments of the year. Both of these are traditional tournaments, the only two where we provide a prepared lunch. Players enjoyed great days of playing bridge and thanks go to Jane and her team who prepared the lunches and to both Jane and Jenny and her team, catering throughout the day at the Restricted. Many thanks must go to our sponsors, *Urge Tea Boutique* and *Craigs Investment Partners*.

In order for a successful tournament to run smoothly, many helpers are required and if you played in either of these, please be prepared to contribute a few hours to ensure future tournaments are as successful. A timely reminder for all club members who are playing in one of our future tournaments, please bring a contribution for morning tea - this helps reduce the workload and the costs.

Congratulations also go to two of our club members who have attained higher honours recently - Sam Simpson has gained *Silver Grand Master* status and Blair Fisher has become a *Gold Grand Master*.

Lessons for prospective bridge players began during March with Mark Thomson and Jenny Millington tutoring on Tuesday nights and Friday mornings. We have a total of 35 prospective members enjoying the challenge of mastering this game we enjoy so much.

Continuing education on Bridge techniques have started with Barry Jones holding a *Bridging with Barry* evening recently. These will be held on Thursday evenings each month - a poster for this month's topic will be up soon. New education initiatives have started, or are in the planning stage - Barry and myself are holding *Question Time* at 4 o'clock on Tuesday afternoons, open to any bridge players, not just Tuesday players; Dallas is revising the basics on Tuesday evenings, 10-15 mins before play begins; and Jo and Mike are currently setting up an *Ask Aunty* portal on our Facebook page where you will be able to ask *Aunty* (a very knowledgeable bridge player whose identity shall remain a secret) to solve any bridge problems you have. Instructions on how to use this page will be advertised when the set-up is completed.

Currently, the committee is involved in discussions with the City Council regarding the West Town Belt masterplan which endeavours to give more public access to the green areas around the Whatanoa Character Area. This may affect our parking areas. Meetings are being planned with Council staff and with Council members to give us the opportunity to discuss these proposed changes and to put forward our viewpoints. We will need to prepare submissions in order to mitigate any changes that may disadvantage our club. Please be prepared to be involved. A display showing the changes and timelines is in the club. Please make yourselves aware of these proposed changes and add your name to attend the meeting with the Council - input from all members will be appreciated. If you wish to gain more information, initially read the plan ((a link is on the web site - <http://www.hamilton.bridge-club.org/greenbelt>) and attend the meetings.

The committee will soon be prioritising capital projects that need attention and will also be investigating using a variety of technology to improve the club organisation i.e. online partner booking, less cash-based

systems and programmes that will assist members with their bridge through analysis of their play and suggestions for improvement. These programmes, of course, come with a cost and some will only be viable if there are sufficient numbers of members using them. More information will be made available for feedback from members where necessary before they are implemented.

Happy bridging and remember, playing in tournaments is a great way to improve your bridge.

Ella

Ella Gray

Club Captain's Chatter

Hands up... if you have a 2-year strategy for your own Bridge performance?

The old saying - If you keep doing what you've always done, you'll keep getting what you've always gotten. Yes, bear with me peeps.

To get maximum enjoyment from any interest, personal success must be the ultimate reward.

How that looks to you personally, well you will need to have a conversation with yourself for that, my only hope is that you all pick at least one thing to do better this year and see how that point of interest sits come November / December 2019, I have said this before haven't I?

I'm interested to hear if you want to improve: bidding, leads, rating points, partnerships, reading, systems - whatever takes your fancy, my challenge to you is find something, make it a goal, and write it down.

Next, come mention it to me and we can talk about how we can make it so, surely 2 heads are better than 1 - We have a tremendous wealth of experience in the Club and I don't mind tapping into it for you.

From my side of the table - I planned to play with more positivity this year and yes I am doing it sometimes, yet when we scored 37%, I had to find the positive out of that and guess what I did...I gave myself a high 5 as I was positive that we would score higher the next session and we did!

So what pearls of wisdom can I leave you with this quarter?

Let's talk defense, the more confident your opponents and their auction sound, the more aggressive you should be with your lead. If they seem happy then only something pretty exciting is likely to stop them.

On the other hand, if the auction seems stretched, then a safe, passive lead which may not give much away, could be called for.

The 3 key styles of declarer play involve ruffing in dummy, establishing a long suit in dummy or relying on finessing or not so flash defence.

SO... two lead styles you can think about are - passive or aggressive.

Aggressive Leads involve an element of risk.

Keep in mind never underlead an Ace, think do I need to show my honour with 4th, all-time favourites are doubletons and singletons.

Points to ponder on - the weaker you are, the more attractive a singleton lead can become, the stronger you are the less chance there is of partner holding entries so the less attractive a singleton lead becomes and could be leading into opponents longest side suit.

100% consider the doubleton lead if it's a suit partner has bid.

Leading 4th lowest headed by the King helps set up tricks for your side though the opponents may get to win this trick cheaply.

Passive Leads provide a safe start.

Contracts can be beaten by not providing free tricks - leading trumps, top of a sequence or rubbish are all to be considered. With a singleton trump, you risk exposing your share of the trump suit from partner's hand, think hard before you do this. With 2 or 3 trumps it's about whether you are sacrificing a trick of your own. With 4 trumps, perhaps leading your own long suit could shorten declarers holding making yours more profitable.

Touching honour leads are generally very safe and promote your own holding. And top of rubbish indicating a lack of interest in this suit, often a rotten lead for your partner, who could be finessed and no longer looks with glee at their 3 to the King holding.

There is no such thing as an easy lead and if all you have are revolting choices, then your duty is to pick the least revolting.

On the positive side of all this... you have made a choice from the information presented to you and decided to lead aggressively or passively and that my friends, is the crux of the story.

See you at the table.

Mereana Cullen

Club Captain

Recent Events at our Club

Hamilton Restricted Pairs - Sunday 14 April

The first tournament of the year took place on a sunny Autumn day. 42 pairs took part with over half of these coming from the Hamilton club. Hamilton players also featured strongly in the results, with Lucie Armstrong and Trini Lin being winners of the Open/Intermediate section and overall winners of the tournament - well done! Duncan White and his partner, Kevin Johns, came first in the Intermediate/Intermediate section, Melva Johnstone and Maggie Fisher were second in the Intermediate/Junior group and Barry Jones and Jo Millington took second place in the Open/Junior group.

Many thanks to Urge Tea & Coffee Boutique for sponsoring this tournament.



Ella (centre) with Lucie and Trini, winners of the Hamilton Restricted Pairs

Hamilton Ladies Day - Tuesday 30 April

22 Intermediates pairs and 18 Open pairs played in our Ladies Day tournaments, sponsored for a second year by Craigs Investment partners. It is interesting that Ladies Day is a much more social event than any other type of bridge tournament, with old friends enjoying catching up as well as enjoying the bridge. Anne McCarthy /Margaret Boyd and Gillian Corbett/ Linda Lin all featured on the podium - 2nd place in Intermediate and Open sections respectively, with Sheila Smith/Judith Brooks placed 3rd in the Intermediate section.

Meet Our Members - Lindsay Reid

(Another story on a club member from our roving reporter, Phil Thompson)

Riddle (for the Bingo players): How can one slim man be two fat ladies?

Answer: When it is Lindsay Reid - 88 years old on 31st March 2019 and Bridge Life Master (415 A points)



Lindsay is one of our older members, and a real gentleman. He has been the partner steward for Wednesday nights for the last three or four years and does an outstanding job of making sure that all the events are fully supported.

Lindsay did his building apprenticeship in Te Aroha, learned bridge there in 1951, and was a foundation member of the Te Aroha Bridge Club in 1953. In 1958 he was living in Thames, but still travelled to Te Aroha for bridge, as there was no bridge club in Thames at the time. In 1961 he moved to Auckland and played bridge at the Papakura and Auckland Bridge clubs. Then his job took him to New Plymouth in 1966, where he ultimately became President of the New Plymouth Bridge Club in 1973-74. He moved to Hamilton in 1974 and has been a member of Hamilton Bridge Club ever since.

Lindsay was a rugby referee for 10 years in Thames, Counties and New Plymouth, until somebody threw a set of golf clubs at him in 1968, and he never looked back. He was heavily involved in golf administration for many years, with three golf life memberships to his credit. He was president of the New Zealand Junior Golf Society for eight years and is currently in his 33rd year as Patron of the Waikato Junior Golf Society. Despite his busy life Lindsay still had time for bridge, captaining the Waikato-Bays team to the Interprovincial knockout title, beating Canterbury in the final, in 1975.



Playing in the Central Districts provincial pairs 1973

He was also a member of the winning 1976 National Teams competition.

Lindsay is the real club man. When he is not playing in a tournament, he is always there in support of other club members - a keen kibitzer. He is always at Congress supporting our club players.

Lindsay still plays an excellent game at the table, and is one of my favourite partners, as we both enjoy playing a "big club" system. Recently I checked our x-club results, and I played with Lindsay 11 times in the last 12 months for an average score of 56.77%, with Lindsay's average score as declarer 62.04%! No wonder I love playing with him! And he trusts his partner: my favourite game was when Lindsay opened 3C, I bid 4NT (key-card) and he replied 5S. Holding spade AKQJ10xxxx I bid 6S, and Lindsay made 7S with a S void! No other slam was available.

(Editor: Lindsay also supplies the Bridge Challenges published in each issue of this newsletter)

Phone number changes / additions



Barbara Daly	855-2189 / 021 0700-832
Herman Yuan	021 162-7635
Jane Sandelin	853-7646 / 027 4154-269 (mobile updated)
Joan Craig	828-9922 / 027 332-8502 (mobile updated)
Prue Butler	852-5492 / 027 788-0070

Improvers Education Sessions

Barry is running a series of improvers education sessions throughout the year on Thursday nights starting at 6pm and finishing before play starts at 7.30pm. The first of these took place in April and covered Opening Leads, a very important aspect of the game. Those attending learnt a great deal about what to consider and will now try and improve this aspect of their play. Keep an eye out for the dates of further sessions which will cover such topics as Types of Doubles, Play Techniques, Escaping 1NTX, Competing over 1NT, Hand Evaluation.

Tournament Success by our Club Members



Waikato Area Pairs 1	10 February	Cambridge
1 st	Ian Clayton & Cynthia Clayton	
2 nd	Jenna Gibbons & Christine Gibbons	
3 rd	Kevin Whyte & Clare Coles	
Kelly Peirse Memorial Teams	Rotorua	Saturday 16 March
1 st	Barry Jones, Jenny Millington & teammates	
2 nd	Blair Fisher & teammates	
Waihi All Grades Pairs	Waihi	Saturday 23 March
1 st	Rodney Harris & Lucie Armstrong	
3 rd	Yuzhong Chen & Noel Grigg	
Waikato Area Pairs 2	Te Aroha	Sunday 31 March
1 st	Kathy Yule & Kenneth Yule	
3 rd	Jenna Gibbons & Christine Gibbons	
Tauranga All Grades 5A Pairs	Tauranga	Saturday 6 April
1 st	Blair Fisher & Russell Wilson	
2 nd	Jenna Gibbons & Christine Gibbons	
Mt Maunganui Multigrade Pairs	Mt Maunganui	Saturday 13 April
2 nd	Karen Harris & Yuzhong Chen	
Hamilton Restricted Pairs	Hamilton	Sunday 14 April
1 st	Lucie Armstrong & Trini Lin	
3 rd	Mark Thomson & Catherine Cameron	

Waikato Area Pairs 3

Thames

Sunday 28 April

1st

Herman Yuan & Yuzhong Chen

2nd

Kathy & Kenneth Yule

Hamilton Ladies Intermediate

Hamilton

Tuesday 30 April

2nd

Anne McCarthy & Margaret Boyd

3rd

Sheila Smith & Judith Brooks

Hamilton Ladies Open Pairs

Tuesday 30 April

2nd

Gillian Corbett & Linda Lin

Tournament Help required

Helpers are needed for our upcoming tournaments:

- in the kitchen (shifts of about 3 hours), helping can include making sandwiches, meal preparation, washing up, collecting cups and keeping the tea / coffee area ready (wherever your skills lie)
- providing food for morning / afternoon tea

Please contact Jane or Ella if you are able to help.



From the Directors Table:

Playing Swiss and Teams Events (including Twits)

When you sign up to play in a Swiss Pairs or Teams event at the club it is **VERY IMPORTANT** that you commit to play all sessions of the event. The draw is based on the number of pairs or teams and cannot be changed once the event is underway. If you are unable to play on a night for any reason you must find a substitute to take your place. There is a limit on the number of substitutes allowed in these events (except for Twits).



Upcoming Events

COMING UP AT OUR CLUB

Waikato/Bays Interclub Teams	Sunday 23 June
Hamilton Open Teams	Saturday 13 July
Hamilton Intermediate Pairs	Saturday 13 July
Hamilton Open Swiss Pairs (1/3)	Wednesday 31 July
Waikato Area Pairs (6)	Sunday 4 August

EVENTS COMING UP IN OUR REGION

Junior/Novice Tournaments:

Tauranga Junior Pairs	Tauranga	Saturday 15 June
Mt Maunganui Junior Pairs	Mt Maunganui	Saturday 20 July

Intermediate Tournaments:

Katikati Intermediate Pairs	Katikati	Sunday 19 May
Tauranga Intermediate Pairs	Tauranga	Saturday 15 June
Mt Maunganui Intermediate Pairs	Mt Maunganui	Saturday 20 July

Open Tournaments:

Taupo Open Pairs (2 days)	Taupo	Sat/Sun 4/5 May
Putaruru All Grade Pairs	Putaruru	Thursday 16 May
Te Awamutu Restricted Pairs	Te Awamutu	Saturday 18 May
Te Puke Restricted Pairs	Te Puke	Saturday 25 May
Waikato Area Pairs (4)	Matamata	Sunday 26 May
Morrinsville All Grades Pairs	Morrinsville	Saturday 8 June
Rotorua Open Pairs	Rotorua	Saturday 22 June
Spa Town Open&Multigrade Teams	Te Aroha	Saturday 29 June
Waikato Area Pairs (5)	Morrinsville	Sunday 7 July
Tauranga Restricted Charity	Tauranga	Wednesday 10 July
Matamata All Grades Pairs	Matamata	Saturday 27 July



Wednesday "Bring a Friend" Pair

Scratch

- 1 Barry Jones & Kay Dixon
- 2 Ross Stewart & Megan Jolly

Handicap

- 1 Ross Stewart & Megan Jolly
- 2 Wayne Lin & Yuzhong Chen

Monday Opening Pairs

Scratch

- 1 Linda Lin & Ian Clayton
- 2 Val West & Phil Thompson

Handicap

- 1 Merle Jonson & Patty Joy Heath
- 2 Val West & Phil Thompson

Tuesday Opening Pairs

Scratch

- 1 Ian Clayton & Cynthia Clayton
- 2 Joan Egger & Colleen De Luen

Handicap

- 1 Ian Clayton & Cynthia Clayton
- 2 Joan Egger & Colleen De Luen

Tuesday Evening Opening Pairs

Scratch

- 1 Carissa Oliver & Karen Harper
- 2 Megan Jolly & Leanne Curry

Handicap

- 1 Carissa Oliver & Karen Harper
- 2 Megan Jolly & Leanne Curry

Thursday Opening Pairs

Scratch

- 1 Julie Hooper & Richard Hooper
- 2 Terry Wells & Ranjith Cooray

Handicap

- 1 Julie Hooper & Richard Hooper
- 2 Don McPherson & Richard Wagstaff

Friday Summer Pairs

Scratch

- 1 Kevin Whyte & Malcolm Smith
- 2 Ian Clayton & Cynthia Clayton

Handicap

- 1 Bill Bailey & Roger Johnstone
- 2 Colleen De Luen & Judith Brooks

Wednesday Summer Pairs

Scratch

- 1 Phillipa Kilpatrick & Rodney Harris
- 2 Lindsay Reid & Richard Fletcher

Monday Summer Pairs

Scratch

- 1 Ian Clayton & Malcolm Smith
- 2 Richard Hooper & Mark Thomson

Tuesday Summer Pairs

Scratch

- 1 Allison Smith & Malcolm Smith
- 2 Phil Thompson & Lois Jones

Tuesday Evening Summer Pairs

Scratch

- 1 Pam Ridder & Roger Gunning
- 2 Megan Jolly & Leanne Curry

Thursday Summer Pairs

Scratch

- 1 Trini Lin & Catherine Cameron
- 2 Ian Ross & Phil Thompson

Charles Holland-Goodwin

Scratch

- 1 Ian Ross & Malcolm Smith
- 2 Thelma Bird & Duncan White

Wednesday Summer Swiss Pairs

- 1 Jeffrey Chang & Yuzhong Chen
- 2 Rodney Harris & Lucie Armstrong

Handicap

- 1 Phillipa Kilpatrick & Rodney Harris
- 2 Karen Harris & Hugh McGann

Handicap

- 1 Raewyn Grylls-Thomas & Judith Brooks
- 2 Colleen De Luen & Jenny Seavill

Handicap

- 1 Phil Thompson & Lois Jones
- 2 Allison Smith & Malcolm Smith

Handicap

- 1 Pam Ridder & Roger Gunning
- 2 Janice Jeffs & Stephen Weir

Handicap

- 1 Roger Gunning & Ranjith Cooray
- 2 Trini Lin & Catherine Cameron

Memorial Pairs

Handicap

- 1 Terry Wells & Angela Lovell
- 2 Donna Prentice & Joan Craig

Monday Pairs A

Scratch

- 1 Karen Harris & Malcolm Smith
- 2 Joan Egger & Pam Burns

Monica Heard Handicap Trophy

Scratch

- 1 Shirley Fransham & Judith Brooks
- 2 Colleen De Luen & Joan Egger

Lil Goodger Trophy

Scratch

- 1 Mereana Cullen & Ranjith Cooray
- 2 Ian Ross & Jenny Seavill

Anne Archbold Pairs

Scratch

- 1 Ian Clayton & Cynthia Clayton
- 2 Nigel Gresson & Kim Thompson

Ray White Real Estate Pairs

Scratch

- 1 Don McPherson & Donna Prentice
- 2 Mike Everard & Jo Millington

Wednesday Restricted Pairs

Scratch

- 1 Stewart Lawrence & Gary Foidl
- 2 Jenny Millington & Kay Dixon

Monday Autumn Pairs

Scratch

- 1 Pam Burns & Joan Egger
- 2 Tracey Hoff & Raewyn Grylls-Thomas

Handicap

- 1 Sue Collinge & Vaughan Samuelson
- 2 Margaret Boyd & Verna Beech

Handicap

- 1 Shirley Fransham & Judith Brooks
- 2 Colleen De Luen & Joan Egger

Handicap

- 1 Mereana Cullen & Ranjith Cooray
- 2 Ian Ross & Jenny Seavill

Handicap

- 1 Nigel Gresson & Kim Thompson
 - 2 Terry Wells & Jane Sandelin
- Mar 29

Handicap

- 1 Mike Everard & Jo Millington
- 2 Don McPherson & Donna Prentice

Handicap

- 1 Stewart Lawrence & Gary Foidl
- 2 Catherine Glyde & Mark Thomson

Handicap

- 1 Tracey Hoff & Raewyn Grylls-Thomas
- 2 Jane Weir & Vaughan Samuelson

Tuesday Autumn Pairs

Scratch

- 1 Malcolm Smith & Ian Clayton
- 2 Bob Treloar & Judy Coulshed

Handicap

- 1 Bob Treloar & Judy Coulshed
- 2 Malcolm Smith & Ian Clayton

Thursday Autumn Pairs

Scratch

- 1 Ross Stewart & Elaine Rayner
- 2 Margaret Boyd & Kevin McCarthy

Handicap

- 1 Margaret Boyd & Kevin McCarthy
- 2 Jan Hancox & Marilyn Webby

Alder Trophy Individuals

Scratch

- 1 Jo Millington
- 2 Karen Harper

Handicap

- 1 Jo Millington
- 2 Carissa Oliver

Eileen Hartstone Trophy

Scratch

- 1 Cynthia Clayton
- 2 Phil Thompson

Individuals

Handicap

- 1 Cynthia Clayton
- 2 Phil Thompson

2019/20 Entertainment Books Available Now!

Judith Brooks is again selling Waikato / Bay of Plenty entertainment books as a fund raiser for our club. Please support the Club by buying a copy. The books cost just \$65 of which the club receives \$13. The books have discounts of up to 50% on restaurants, cafés, arts, attractions, hotels, travel, shopping in the Waikato and Bay of Plenty, all valid to use until 1 June 2020.

You can choose to have either the paper voucher book or a digital version that you load on your phone.

To order your Entertainment Membership either visit:

www.entbook.co.nz/154092a

Or talk to our Club contact: Judith Brooks on (07) 852 5644 or email judithbrooks07@xtra.co.nz

From Lindsay's File

An Uppercut K.O.

Sometimes it is up to the defenders to serve declarer with an uppercut knockout play that makes achieving the contract impossible.

North

♠ 9 8 5 4

♥ 7 6 5

♦ K Q 3

♣ A Q 7

West

♠ A K Q J 2

♥ K 9 2

♦ J 7 6

♣ 10 2

East

♠ 10 3

♥ 10

♦ 10 9 8 4 2

♣ 9 8 6 5 3

South

♠ 7 6

♥ A Q J 8 4 3

♦ A 5

♣ K J 4

South dealt and opened one heart and West interposed one spade. With no further interventions, North/South then proceeded smoothly to 4 Hearts.

How can the East/West partnership prevent South making 4 Hearts after leading the Ace, King and Queen of spades from West?

Starting with this challenge, the answer will no longer be in the next newsletter. Instead it will be on the Results noticeboard at the bridge club very soon (with spare copies of the challenge for you to take home and ponder). For those who don't visit the clubrooms, the challenge answers will be published on the website blog about a fortnight after the newsletter is published.

ANSWER TO FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER'S POSER

Vienna Coup

North

♠ Q 5 2

♥ K Q 9 4

♦ Q 8 5

♣ A 10 9

West

♠ J 10 9 6

♥ 8 3

♦ K 7 4

♣ 8 7 3 2

East

♠ 7 4

♥ 7 6 5 2

♦ J 10 9 3 2

♣ 6 5

South

♠ A K 8 3

♥ A J 10

♦ A 6

♣ K Q J 4

How can South make 7 No Trumps with J spades lead from West?

Against South in seven no-trumps, West led the Knave of spades which was won by Declarer's King.

A survey of both hands showed South that there were twelve sure tricks in top cards. Of course, if the spade suit broke there would be no problem at all, but Declarer was not prepared to put all the eggs in one basket in that anticipation.

At the second trick Declarer cashed the Ace of diamonds - the Vienna Coup. This was followed by the four top hearts - discarding the little diamond from hand.

Look now at West's position. Ten tricks have gone so there are only three cards left. West must keep the King of diamonds to beat the Queen on the table and therefore can keep only two spades. This means the Queen, Ace and eight of spades win the last three tricks and bring home the grand slam.