

Hamilton



Hamilton Contract Bridge Club

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Newsletter Editor: Catherine Cameron

Newsletter - May 2023

From the President

Over the past 2 months the Club has been busy hosting our 1st two tournaments of the year along with car parking commitments from users of the FMG Stadium.

These events have seen the Club coffers increase which is pleasing to see.

Table numbers remain our priority so members can enjoy a robust and full house bridge session - we thank all those who are playing and request a friendly prompt to fellow players who haven't returned yet to come along and play a session or two.

Bridge Lessons

Lessons on Tuesday nights have up to 17 keen players but we have delayed the Tuesday afternoon sessions due to lack of numbers - Cherie and I are thinking of promoting a Sunday school event to capture potentials who are unable to attend during the week and also as a refresher for any Novice or Junior. We believe it is imperative that we catch more people and provide another backup for this important part of our programme.

FIFA Women's World Cup 2023

This is coming to FMG Stadium in July on Saturday 22nd, Tuesday 25th, Thursday 27th, Monday 31st and Wednesday, August 2nd and they have approached the Club to secure our car parking area.

We have considered this opportunity and believe that this funding is important for the Club and the committee are currently reviewing how we can continue our Bridge Programme with minimal disruption.

We have the options to stop the programme for one week, to seek access from Phoenix House and Plunket for use of their limited available spaces - this means bridge players may need to consider carpooling or we may need to move the programme online for this week.

We will give plenty of notice of the decision and announcements heading into this week will act as reminders.

Improvers Lessons - Tuesday Nights 6.30pm

Join Richard Hooper for his 25-minute sessions before play starts each evening - they began earlier this month.

These are free and all players are welcome even if Tuesday night is not your normal playing session.

Match Committee

This committee is reviewing the services that are offered when hosting bridge events at the Club.

We have agreed to host the Hamilton Open Teams online on July 8th and we are expecting larger numbers to enrol than we would receive if hosted face-to-face.

The remainder of our events will be face-to-face.

We are also now reviewing the programme for all sessions for 2024.

EFTPOS Services

The committee has approved purchase of an EFTPOS terminal as part of the plan to improve our money handling processes - streamlining and reducing administration duties.

This service is now available. See Julie if you wish to use EFTPOS to pay subs or table money.

Directors and Scorers

This is an area where the Club is lacking growth and numbers - if you feel you could contribute in either space plus feel free to let myself or Cherie Barton know.

Cherie has recently attended a 3-day course in Wellington upskilling to Tournament Director status. This will benefit not only our Club, but Waikato Bay Clubs will have another contact to assist with their Bridge programmes.

Whilst we do not expect anyone to gain higher qualification - just lifting the numbers by either a director or scorer will be a tremendous help to the Club - without a Director/Scorer, a session cannot operate.

Our goal would be to have a "royal spare" at every session for the "what if" factor.

And lastly our Jubilee tournament and programme for July 30th will be released soon.

Enjoy your Bridge and see you at the table!

Mereana

Mereana Cullen, President

Phone number changes / additions

Brent Rogers	021 680-422
Brian Dingwall	854-9828, 021 445-106
Gail deFrance	021 0265-1625
John Little	07 824-1161, 027 392-9194
Joni Burgess	021 0250-3032



SOUP and BUN Socials coming up

As the days get colder, what better way to spend a Sunday afternoon than



with a lunch of hot soup and a bun, followed by a social afternoon of bridge with your friends? There will be spot prizes as well as prizes for the winners. Lunch is at 12:30 on 7 May, followed by one session of bridge starting at 1pm and finishing with afternoon tea, all for \$6. A second social event is planned for Sunday 25 June, but check the Club website for any changes to this date.

Thursday Change of Start Time to 7pm

With winter approaching and evenings getting darker, the regular players on Thursday night have taken a vote on starting times. The result is that all Thursday Bridge Sessions will start at 7pm until the start of Daylight Savings on Sunday 24th September. This allows an earlier finish to the evening's play.

2023 Subs now Overdue

Subscriptions for this year are now overdue. There are still a reasonable number outstanding. The club needs your payment to help keep solvent, so if you have not paid yet, please do so soon.

If you are unsure about playing this year, talk to our secretary or the committee and arrange to have your current membership put "on hold" for a period. It will help us smooth our cash flow a little as we will not need to pay the \$23 NZ Bridge Levy that we pay for each member yearly. We will still be able to include you in our future budgets and planning.

If you want to play but don't have a partner, Monday and Tuesday nights don't require you to have a partner - just turn up 15-20 minutes before the session starts and let the director know. For other sessions, contact the [partner steward](#) for the session you wish to play.

Rugby helpers

Now that crowds are allowed back into sports stadiums again, we are well into the swing of offering car-parking as a fundraiser. And the Chiefs are doing well so far this season! One more home game at the Waikato Stadium still to come on 20 May vs Hurricanes, and hopefully more home games in the Super Rugby playoffs.

The FIFA Women World Cup games are at the end of July and we have been asked to supply all possible car parks for that week. This may mean changes to where you park that week - or even playing online. If you want to help with the car-parking, contact Richard Wagstaff.

Hamilton Bridge 70th Celebration

Hamilton Bridge Club was established in 1952 - if you would like to know more about our early years then follow [this link](#) to read about our early history.

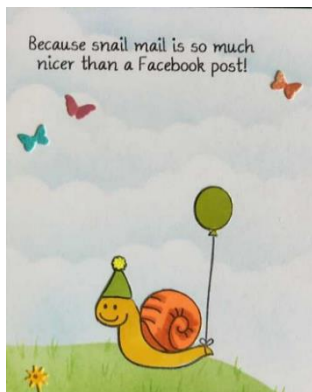
In 1972 - 50 years ago - the club constructed its own purpose-built rooms at 20 Richmond Street in Hamilton which are still in use.

As a belated celebration of these two anniversaries, the club is scheduling a social event in late July this year - more information to come.

Check your member balance with Compa\$\$

Want to know how much money you have in your Compa\$\$ account? No need to wait for an email which is mostly only sent when you owe money to the club. Instead, log into your individual Compa\$\$ account at any time to check the balance. First off, you need to set up a username and password. Information on what Compa\$\$ is and how to set up as a user is found [here](#). Please read the section on Compa\$\$ registration before setting up your user account. Remember to keep a record of your login settings! Once you have registered and logged in, a screen for Compass Scoring System will appear. Click on 'Check your wallet' and your account data for the last processed period will appear on your screen. You can change to any valid Compa\$\$ date range if you want to see earlier transactions. Credits for winning an event are only processed after the end of each month. Direct access to the Compa\$\$ login page from the club website is via the [Compa\\$\\$ Balance link](#) in the Results sub-menu on the Home page. This is the easiest way to get to the Compa\$\$ login screen.

Cynthia's Cards - For Sale



Cynthia is a master with cards, either at the bridge table, where she is a Silver Grand Master, or at the design table where she produces a great range of greeting cards that cover a range of needs.

What many of our members may not realise that the money raised from the sale of the cards comes to our Club. So rather than purchasing commercial cards why not get one of these stunning handmade cards and help our Club at the same time?

The cards are priced at a reasonable \$5 each. The current selection of cards on the table is found just inside the Richmond room door or if nothing really suits then have a chat with Cynthia to see if she can make a special card for you.

Cynthia can be contacted at the phone number in the Hamilton Club Programme Book or at this email address : cynclayton@gmail.com

WINTER PRECAUTIONS

Now that the flu season approaches, and with Covid still around, it's time to prevent the spread of infection.

DO:

STAY at home if you are unwell

Turn your head away from the table when coughing or sneezing

Cough or sneeze into a tissue or your upper arm / elbow

If possible, get vaccinated for Covid and flu

DON'T:

Cough or sneeze on your hand

Cough or sneeze on the cards you are holding

REMEMBER:

Wash your hands before and after bridge and use the hand sanitiser by the playing room doors or in the playing room



Waikato Area Pairs (WAPs)

The Waikato area pairs is a friendly event played against members of other Waikato clubs, once a month on Sundays for 6 rounds. This is a great chance for intermediates to play in an "A" tournament.



The next heat of the WAPs is on Sunday 21 May at Cambridge. No pre-entry needed, just arrive between 9:30 and 9:45 with a partner, \$10 for the entry fee, and your lunch. See more WAP dates further on in this newsletter or check your 2023 programme book

but take note - the originally scheduled 4th heat on 11 June has been cancelled so there will only be 5 rounds this year.

Waikato Bays

Waikato/Bays Leagues

These are the Championship Leagues which the Waikato-Bays have been running for over ten years. Whole generations of players have taken part in the WB Leagues! They are aimed at Intermediate and Junior players and players accumulate points over the season. The newcomer Restricted Open League has been dis-established for 2023.

For Juniors a six-event series runs from the Hamilton Junior tournament in March through to the Te Awamutu Junior in October. Generous prize money is up for grabs for those who do well throughout the series.

The eight Intermediate events are from Taupo in February through to Cambridge in October and again generous prize money is on offer.

The competition awards points both for participation and for success (final placing and a bonus point each for turning up, getting over 50% average for the day or winning a session outright).

The more of the tournaments you play in, the more points you will collect and the higher your chances of a prize.

In 2023, again, both leagues are individual competitions so you can either play with the same partner each competition, a different one each time, or a combination.

It is good fun and gives you the impetus to develop sound friend/partnerships and a better grasp of the game. Please book your partner(s) in for as many of these excellent tournaments as you can manage!

Debbie and Don Weston, Mark Beavan and Tim Densem are in the top 15 players in the Junior league after two events, while 6 players from Hamilton are in the top rankings of the Intermediate league after the first two events.

Upcoming Events

COMING UP AT OUR CLUB

Hamilton Ladies Open/Intermediate	Tuesday 2 May
Hamilton Swiss Pairs	Wednesday 7, 14, 21 June
Hamilton Open Teams (Online)	Saturday 8 July

EVENTS COMING UP IN OUR REGION

Waik/Bays Interprovincial Trials Online	Saturday 6 May
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Junior/Novice Tournaments:

Mt Maunganui Junior/Novice Pairs	Mt Maunganui Saturday 15 July
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Intermediate Tournaments:

Katikati Intermediate Pairs	Katikati Sunday 14 May
Mt Maunganui Intermediate Pairs	Mt Maunganui Saturday 15 July

Open/Restricted Tournaments:

Putaruru Open Pairs	Putaruru	Thursday 11 May
Te Awamutu Restricted Pairs	Te Awamutu	Saturday 13 May
Te Puke Restricted Pairs	Te Puke	Saturday 20 May
Gisborne Open Pairs Fundraiser	Online	Saturday 20 May
Waikato Area Pairs (3)	Cambridge	Sunday 21 May
Morrinsville Open Pairs	Morrinsville	Saturday 27 May
Te Aroha 70 yrs 8B Pairs	Te Aroha	Sunday 28 May
Rotorua Open Pairs	Rotorua	Saturday 10 June
Waikato Area Pairs (4) cancelled	Matamata	Sunday 11 June
Morrinsville Open 8B Pairs	Morrinsville	Saturday 24 June
North Island Teams (Tauranga)	Online	Saturday 1 July
Tauranga Restricted Charity	Tauranga	Wednesday 5 July
Matamata Open Pairs	Matamata	Saturday 22 July
Whakatane Restricted Pairs	Whakatane	Saturday 29 July
Waikato Area Pairs (5)	Te Aroha	Sunday 30 July

Cambridge Sixes - Saturday 5 August

What are the Cambridge Sixes?

The Cambridge Sixes is a fun concept aimed at getting more players from each bridge grade playing in tournaments. In effect, three tournaments take place simultaneously, a 3A for the Open players, a 5B for the Intermediates and a 3B for the Juniors. It is the only Swiss Pairs event specifically for Intermediates or Juniors. Since 2016 it has been held at the Don Rowlands Centre at Lake Karapiro, a wonderful venue with all mod cons along with great views out over the lake.

What makes the Cambridge Sixes different is that entries must be made up of one pair from each grade. Open players who wish to try getting three A points must find an Intermediate pair and a Junior pair to come along with them. While there is prize money in each grade, most of the \$3000+ in prizes goes to the best performed Teams of Six when the scores get added across the grades. In 2016 a Hamilton team won the overall prize - can we do it again this year?

The day provides not only serious bridge but also a bit of fun between rounds with Trivia quizzes and prizes for the Teams judged to be wearing the most "distinctive team costume" - this year's theme is Sport - but don't worry, dressing up is optional! All this for \$50 a person.

What is Swiss pairs?

Swiss pairs has a scoring format which resembles teams scoring. In Swiss pairs it is the actual size of the difference in score that counts. Bidding to game is important, especially when vulnerable. But going down in a game contract is very expensive with this scoring, while making an over-trick gains very little. As declarer, it is most important to make your contract, so don't take a finesse for an extra trick if there is a risk of going down. As defender, always look for a play that allows the contract to be beaten and take your chance.

Recent Events at our Club

Hamilton Junior & Intermediate Pairs - 11 March

What to do on a sunny autumn day in Hamilton? Play tournament bridge of course! Sixteen pairs of Intermediates, from twelve clubs ranging from Auckland in the North to Putaruru in the South, took part along with twelve pairs in the Junior tournament.

Hamilton players managed to win both events, with the fairly new pairing of Helen Rinaldi and David Taylor winning the Intermediates and Debbie and Don Weston top of the Junior tournament. Congratulations!

Many thanks to Richard Wagstaff, Cherie Barton, Jane Sandelin and all the other helpers, both on the day and beforehand, for organising and running a successful day.



Richard with Helen and David



Richard with Debbie and Don - 1st Junior

Hamilton Restricted Pairs - Sunday 2 April

There was an excellent turnout of 30 pairs for this face-to-face tournament. Congratulations to Catherine Cameron and Lucie Armstrong, **1st Overall and 1st Open-Intermediate pair**. Other place-getters from our club in the various grade categories were: Rachelle Meijer and Yuzhong Chen **3rd Open-Intermediate**, Pam Burns and Joan Egger **3rd Intermediate-Intermediate**, Janice Wilton and Cynthia Clayton **2nd Open-Junior** and Mark Beavan & Tim Densem **1st Junior-Junior** pair.

Congratulations to you all! Thanks to Cherie for directing, David Edson for scoring and many thanks to Mereana for organising the Cooperative bank sponsorship of this tournament.



Recent Regional Tournament Successes

National 15A Pairs 2 nd	12 February Blair & Liz Fisher	RealBridge
Waihi All Grade Pairs 1 st	4 March Richard Fletcher & Yuzhong Chen	Waihi
Hamilton Intermediate Pairs 1 st 3 rd	11 March David Taylor & Helen Rinaldi Karen Thomson & Cathy Nolen	Hamilton
Hamilton Junior Pairs 1 st	11 March Debbie Weston & Don Weston	Hamilton
Kelly Peirse Memorial Teams 1 st	18 March Hugh McGann & teammates	RealBridge
Matamata 8B Pairs 2 nd	25 March Mereana Cullen & Kevin Birch	Matamata
Waikato Area Pairs (1) 1 st 3 rd	26 March Gary Foidl & Yuzhong Chen Lois Jones & Mary Girvin	Morrinsville
Mt Maunganui Multi. Pairs 3 rd	1 April Gary Foidl & Yuzhong Chen	Mt Maunganui
Hamilton Restricted Pairs 1 st	1 April Catherine Cameron & Lucie Armstrong	Hamilton
Tauranga Open Teams 1 st	15 April Jenna Gibbons & teammates	RealBridge
Waikato Area Pairs (2) 2 nd 3 rd	23 April Gary Foidl & Yuzhong Chen Ella Gray & Michael Neels	Matamata

International Representatives 2023

The Asia Pacific Bridge Championships (APBF) will be held in Hong Kong on 9th to 17th June 2023. Jenna Gibbons and Christine Gibbons are in the Women's Team, while for the Mixed team the reserves are Jenny Millington and Barry Jones.

The World Championships will be held in Marrakech, Morocco, from 20th August to 2nd September 2023. Again, Jenna Gibbons and Christine Gibbons are in the Women's Team, while Blair and Liz Fisher are in the New Zealand Mixed Team.

Congratulations and Good Luck to you all!

2023 National Congress

The 37th New Zealand National Bridge Congress takes place in Mount Maunganui from Saturday September 23rd to Saturday September 30th 2023.

There will be some changes this year. We will be returning to the original 3 stage competition for New Zealand Open Pairs while the Restricted Open Pairs will be a 3 session qualifying and a 3 session Final/Plate event. Day 3 for those who do not make the Final or Plate of the New Zealand Open Pairs will be a 1-day MatchPoint Swiss Pairs event. There be a 1-day Intermediate and a 1-day Junior Pairs event on Sunday 24th September.

In NZ Open Teams, top16 will still qualify for the knock-out stages on Thursday morning. However, the Quarter and semi-finals are being replaced by a Round of 4, involving 3 matches on Thursday afternoon and Friday morning. The winners of each group will contest a 60 board final on Friday afternoon and Saturday.



Club Results

Monday Opening Pairs

Scratch

- 1 Karen Thomson & Cathy Nolen
- 2 Catherine Cameron & Roger Gunning

Handicap

- 1 Karen Thomson & Cathy Nolen
- 2 Jane Sandelin & Julie Hooper

Tuesday Day Opening Pairs

Scratch

- 1 Lois Jones & Phil Thompson
- 2 Tim Healy & Sue Collinge

Handicap

- 1 Lois Jones & Phil Thompson
- 2 Stewart Lawrence & Margaret Boyd

Tuesday Evening Opening Pairs

Scratch

- 1 Tim Densem & Ron Snoek
- 2 Irene McCaskill & Mark Beavan

Handicap

- 1 Tim Densem & Ron Snoek
- 2 Ruth Ivey & Christine Murphy

Wednesday Summer Pairs

Scratch

- 1 Jenny Millington & Barry Jones
- 2 Gwyn Lobb & Alan Parkes

Handicap

- 1 Gwyn Lobb & Alan Parkes
- 2 Jenny Millington & Barry Jones

Thursday Opening Pairs

Scratch

- 1 Josie Van Weerd & Cathy Nolen
- 2 Ian Ross & Nigel Gresson

Handicap

- 1 Josie Van Weerd & Cathy Nolen
- 2 Ian Ross & Nigel Gresson

Friday Richmond Summer Pairs

Scratch

- 1 Lucie Armstrong & Barbara Daly
- 2 Ella Gray & Kim Thompson

Handicap

- 1 Lois Jones & Ross Stewart
- 2 Tim Densem & Mark Beavan

Friday O'Neill Opening Pairs

Scratch

- 1 Maureen Haua & Deryl Northcott
- 2 Judy Simonson & Michael Davies

Handicap

- 1 Judy Simonson & Michael Davies
- 2 Maureen Haua & Deryl Northcott

Monday Summer Pairs

Scratch

- 1 Ella Gray & Alan Parkes
- 2 Elaine Rayner & Dave Edson

Handicap

- 1 Elaine Rayner & Dave Edson
- 2 Nigel Gresson & Margaret Boyd

Tuesday Day Summer Pairs

Scratch

- 1 Nigel Gresson & Kim Thompson
- 2 Tim Healy & Elaine Hickel

Handicap

- 1 Nigel Gresson & Kim Thompson
- 2 Tim Healy & Elaine Hickel

Tuesday Evening Summer Pairs

Scratch

- 1 Irene McCaskill & Mark Beavan
- 2 Ruth Ivey & Christine Murphy

Handicap

- 1 Ruth Ivey & Christine Murphy
- 2 Irene McCaskill & Mark Beavan

Wednesday Summer Swiss Pairs

Scratch

- 1 Brett Glass & Michael Curry
- 2 Gwyn Lobb & Alan Parkes

Thursday Summer Pairs

Scratch

- 1 Cherie Barton & Ross Stewart
- 2 Josie Van Weerd & Cathy Nolen

Handicap

- 1 Cherie Barton & Ross Stewart
- 2 Josie Van Weerd & Cathy Nolen

Richmond Charles Holland-Goodwin Pairs

Scratch

- 1 Olive Davis & Mary Ronke
- 2 Ian Clayton & Cynthia Clayton

Handicap

- 1 Olive Davis & Mary Ronke
- 2 Don Macpherson & Donna Prentice

Friday O'Neill Summer Pairs

Scratch

- 1 Ruth Niemiec & Bob Niemiec
- 2 Hugh Barton & Laura Sommerville

Monday Pairs A

Scratch

- 1 Mark Thomson & Richard Hooper
- 2 Joan Egger & Pam Burns

Monica Heard Handicap Trophy

Scratch

- 1 Helen Healy & Cynthia Clayton
- 2 Barbara Daly & Nigel Gresson

Wednesday Restricted Pairs

Scratch

- 1 Brett Glass & Jon Verhoek
- 2 Rachelle Meijer & Yuzhong Chen

Lil Goodger Trophy

Scratch

- 1 Melinda Wang & Catherine Cameron
- 2 Barbara Daly & Trini Lin

Richmond Anne Archbold Pairs

Scratch

- 1 Mary Ronke & Cynthia Clayton
- 2 Nigel Gresson & Phil Thompson

Friday O'Neill Pairs A

Scratch

- 1 Michelle Paterson & Chris Goulding
- 2 Heather Douglas & Angie Singh

Handicap

- 1 Moira Fraser & Glenys Lynn
- 2 Ruth Niemiec & Bob Niemiec

Handicap

- 1 Mark Thomson & Richard Hooper
- 2 Joan Egger & Pam Burns

Handicap

- 1 Helen Healy & Cynthia Clayton
- 2 Barbara Daly & Nigel Gresson

Handicap

- 1 Brett Glass & Jon Verhoek
- 2 Rachelle Meijer & Yuzhong Chen

Handicap

- 1 Melinda Wang & Catherine Cameron
- 2 Helen Rinaldi & Nigel Gresson

Handicap

- 1 Catherine Cameron & Brian Dingwall
- 2 Nigel Gresson & Phil Thompson

Handicap

- 1 Michelle Paterson & Chris Goulding
- 2 Jutta Morgan & Milwyn Rees

Tuesday Evening Ray White Pairs

Scratch

- 1 Jiwan Dhaliwal & Bill Barwood
- 2 Vicky Holloway & Cath O'Connor

Handicap

- 1 Vicky Holloway & Cath O'Connor
- 2 Kevin Lawrence & Sean Dwyer

Tuesday Day Autumn Pairs

Scratch

- 1 Sam Armstrong & Barbara Daly
- 2 Ian Clayton & Sue Collinge

Handicap

- 1 Mary Mackwell & Michael Davies
- 2 Stewart Lawrence & Margaret Boyd

Thursday Autumn Pairs

Scratch

- 1 Trini Lin & Mary Girvin
- 2 Ross Stewart & Cherie Barton

Handicap

- 1 Trini Lin & Mary Girvin
- 2 Ranjith Cooray & Adele Schofield

Monday Autumn Pairs

Scratch

- 1 Helen Rinaldi & Catherine Cameron
- 2 Roger Gunning & Ranjith Cooray

Handicap

- 1 Roger Gunning & Ranjith Cooray
- 2 Helen Rinaldi & Catherine Cameron

Alder Trophy Individuals

Scratch

- 1 Ron Snoek
- 2 Jiwan Dhaliwal

Handicap

- 1 Ron Snoek
- 2 Kevin Lawrence

Congratulations!



You know you're in trouble when you're the Declarer and the first thing the opponents decide to do is draw trumps.

From Lindsay's File

Challenge 22

<i>North</i>		
♠ A Q 5 4 3 2		
♥ K J 10		
♦ A 3 2		
♣ 2		
<i>West</i>		<i>East</i>
♠ 7 6		♠ J 10 9 8
♥ 4 3 2		♥ A Q 9 8 7 6 5
♦ K 6 5 4		♦ 8 7
♣ Q 10 4 3		♣
<i>South</i>		
♠ K		
♥		
♦ Q J 10 9		
♣ A K J 9 8 7 6 5		

How can South make Four No Trumps when West leads the Spade 7?

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



- Remember that the opponents cannot see your hand. Let them guess what you hold