

WELCOME BACK

First, a very warm welcome back to club bridge. It might have taken a session or so to regain the bridge perfection, the accurate bidding and highly skilled play, you'd managed to achieve towards the end of last year . . . but the various competitions are now full on and the first tournament of the year, the Koastal Locksmiths In-House Pairs, has already been held. (More of that later.)

Over the summer break, the clubhouse had a minor makeover: the carpets were all professionally cleaned, the air conditioning system had a maintenance check and a tweak or two, the windows were cleaned and all the material table covers were dry cleaned.

As you know the Paraparaumu Bridge Club has a host of volunteers who play an immense part in the smooth running of all the sessions and competitions and weekend tournaments. Thanks to them of course, but you can also your part in the functioning of the club simply by helping where and when you can, by playing in some of our tournaments (either in-house or open to other clubs), and by supporting trials and developments initiated by the club's committee.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

You only have a couple of days to pay your sub for 2019, if you want to pay at the discounted rate of \$75. You have to pay by February 28, otherwise the fee is \$80. Payment details are in your 2019 programme books.

DALE'S TIPS

A reminder: "Dale's Tips" have been collected and printed in booklet form. It was so popular that it had to be re-printed and copies are available from the table at the rear of the clubrooms. If you don't already have one, pick up your copy. It is readable and useful. And thanks again to Dale Wills.

QUALIFIED DIRECTORS

Towards the end of last year, **both Bill Sewell and Brian Pender became qualified Directors (at the Club Level)** after taking the course of lessons at Wellington and passing the examination. They are welcome additions to the Directors List and it should be noted here that our Club Directors are not paid for their services unlike at some other clubs. **Thanks to all our Directors.** We know that playing AND directing at the same session cannot be easy and cannot help your own performance.

VACANCY

The club needs a **“Web Manager”** – someone who can keep our bright and welcoming web site up to date. This is by no means an onerous position. It mainly entails entering information and pieces supplied by the committee and keeping the membership base. If you could help, please contact Club President, Tony Davies.

A DISAPPOINTMENT

It has to be said that the trial of running “Drawn Pairs” did not get off to a sensationally successful start. There were only six tables on Tuesday 19 February for the first of three Drawn Pairs nights (the others are not until October).

The committee trialled this in order to help newer members and beginners (those who have taken the lessons in the last couple of years) play with and get to know some of the more experienced and long standing members. The aim is both to help to improve the bridge bidding and play of the newer members and to introduce them to some of the more established members. Three sessions of “Drawn Pairs” out of the well over 300 sessions available to members in 2019 did not seem a burden.

Certainly the 24 players who took part on Tuesday evening seemed to enjoy the experience and certainly the method of drawing and mixing the pairs was better organized than in 2018. (And thanks Francie, for coming along as non-playing Director to help.) Many thought it was a fun night at bridge.

Tony Davies is particularly keen on hearing from those who have views about this initiative before then next two sessions take place in October. If you do have comments about the worth of “Drawn Pairs” or about how to organize such a venture, please talk to Tony or any of the committee.

UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS AND EVENTS

The 2019 Tournament Schedule is in your programme booklet, but of immediate note are **the Paraparaumu Open Pairs**, sponsored by the Kapiti Retirement Trust, to be held on Sunday March 17 (anyone think they have the luck of the Irish?)

Other nearby tournaments in the immediate future are the Kapi Mana Multigrade Pairs (March 10), and the Levin Multigrade pairs (April 20).

The Kairangi Junior section (March 24) incorporates part of a new initiative, a Regional Junior League. Kairangi will run the first of 12 tournaments that will comprise the Junior League, in clubs from the Wairarapa, the Kapiti Coast, Hutt Valley and Wellington. And there are some cash prizes . . . \$180 for first and then from \$100 (second) down to \$50 (fifth).

Another event is also a new event. You know about Sevens rugby, and rugby league Super Nines, Fast Five netball and Bowls3Five?? Well, now there’s Wellington Bridge Sixes!! It’s a team competition. You need an Open Pair, and Intermediate Pair and a Junior Pair. You play in your own section (ie Juniors v Juniors etc). It’s limited to 16 teams and it’s going to be held on Saturday, March 16. Why not form a team? There’s also a prize for best-dressed team. (Do I recall Chris Farrow and Elva Brown in matching and very fetching Christmas clobber for the Christmas Pairs?) More details on the notice board at the club.

STAN’S GENEROUS GESTURE

Stan Goodright has generously offered to pay the fees for our learners’ course in bridge to any students from the three Kapiti colleges who wish to learn to play. The course begins in April (and will be taught once again by Jane Bradbury). This year there has been a slight increase in the charge for 10 lessons and materials, to

\$50.00. **Well done, Stan – an impressive offer, with the aim of helping some young people to learn duplicate bridge.**

KOASTAL LOCKSMITHS PAIRS THE RESULTS!!

First weekend tournament for the year and sixteen tables made for a pleasantly full rather than a packed full room. Tournament Manager Trevor Smith and Director Marie Groves made sure the pleasant atmosphere continued through the afternoon. The field was divided into plenty of sections (six) with plenty of prizes (some booby). The afternoon finished with a wonderful array of finger food (thanks to all) organized by Jill Browne in the kitchen.

Top place across the whole field were Lucy O'Regan and Pauline Reid (on 64.3%) from Ruth Futter and Tony Perkins and then Judy and Kevin MacManus.

Lucy and Pauline won Section A with Judy and Kevin second. Ruth and Tony won Section B with Helen Edwards and Jocelyn Graves second.

Elizabeth Steinbauer and Bill Van Waas won Section C with Lottie Anderson and Helen Horsfall second.

Lorraine Borland and Kay Galyer won Section D with Marg and Keith Lees second.

Lance Johnson and Lou MacDonald won Section E, with Lyn Berry and Ken Thomas second. However, this doesn't really do enough to recognize the success of Lance and Lou. This pair not only came first in this section, they **were placed fourth overall (on 58.1%) and top East-West pair. A stunning result from the fifth section.**

Moira Wilson and Ken Tate won Section F with Fay Manley and Jenny Prendeville in second place.



Kevin and Judy MacManus happily welcome their chocolates for second in the top section. It looks like an ongoing partnership to me.



Bill and Elizabeth look delighted with their bottles of wine for winning Section C.

EDITOR: Keith Lees