

Paraparaumu Bridge Club May Newsletter

Painting: The exterior of the Bridge Club is looking absolutely wonderful. Thanks to all those who have helped with the painting and those who ensured that the painters were well fed.

The painting team was ably led by Gary Bly and his lieutenants Bill Sewell and me. The other members of the painting team were: Brian Edwards, John Barton, Alec Dowie, Keith Lees, Brian Pender, Michael Stace, Noella Squire, Brian Tester, Bill Van Waas, and Bev (Bill Sewell's sister).

Wonderful morning teas, lunches and afternoon teas were supplied to the painters by Jane Mc Arthur and her team of helpers and contributors: Elva Brown, Helen Edwards, Irene Galloway, Marie Groves, Rene Henke, Margaret Lees, Lou Macdonald, Val Manley, Liz Steinbauer, Francie Vagg and Judy Waldvogel.

The costs incurred by the club doing this painting are under \$2000.00. By doing this ourselves we have saved the club approximately \$6000.00.

Thanks to "Resene" for their generous discount and again all those who contributed to this worthwhile project.

Cell Phones: All cell phones must be turned off before the commencement of play. However if you are expecting a really important call please inform the director and they will make an exception if they consider it is warranted.

Car parking: Reminder - The Council have warned us that they will enforce their by-laws regarding parking in general and parking on berms and other grass areas. There are tickets available in the office (Designated Driver) that can be displayed during the day when parking in the spaces designated for Bridge Club members in front of the building, if you think you will exceed the allowable time. Please see your Director for these tickets.

Correction of Bridgmate Entries: The complete process for this is displayed on the notice board.

In summary

After results have been published, a player discovers a significant error in an entry, the **player** has until 5.00 pm on the day *following* the session to:

Contact his/her partner and one of the two members of the opposing pair to get their agreement that there is an error in the score entry.

Contact the director of the session to inform her/him of the error, confirm that other players have been contacted, and request that the error be corrected.

Directors' Forum: Our club's Directors have set up a forum where they discuss

directing issues and provide support to each other. This group is led by Trevor Smith, if you have something you wish them to consider please contact Trevor. Good Bridging from your President. Ian Nicholls.

Important messages to all members

Seating Rights Review. All players must apply to the Committee for Seating (&/or Moving) Rights in writing unless you have done so within the past 6 months. Both temporary and permanent are included.

The committee wishes to draw your attention to the New Zealand Bridge Web Site. Very informative and a good tracking record of your own results, rules, lessons and announcements. www.nzbca.co.nz

An invitation has been extended to all members to the open day for the new building, housing The Wellington Free Ambulance, Warrimoo St, to be held on Saturday the 28th of May. Our Club raised funds by tournament

SLOW PLAY

What is the problem? What can YOU do about it? What can the Director do?

To get the required number of boards played within a 3-hour session, approximately 6-7 minutes are allocated to complete each board including the time taken to move between tables. When a pair takes more than their share of the allotted time for each round, ***they are placing competitors at a disadvantage***. The waiting pairs (both behind and ahead) don't get the same time allotted to other pairs to play the boards, and are therefore put under undue pressure. All club members should be aware of the Director's authority under the Laws. Law 90 states:

A. Director's Authority

The Director, in addition to implementing the rectifications in these Laws, may also assess procedural penalties for any offence that unduly delays or obstructs the game, inconveniences other contestants, violates correct procedure, or requires the award of an adjusted score at another table.

B. Offences Subject to Procedural Penalty

The following are examples of offences subject to procedural penalty (but the offences are not limited to these):

- 1. arrival of a contestant after the specified starting time***
- 2. unduly slow play by a contestant***
- 3. discussion of bidding, play or result of a board which may be overheard at another table***

Slow play is a violation of bridge law and is subject to penalty.

WHAT CAN YOU DO ABOUT IT ????

- When a table has fallen behind, **it is incumbent on both pairs to make up the time lost as quickly as possible whether at fault or not.**
- If you are consistently slower than the rest of the room, and it's not because you're following a slow pair, you should really look at ways to speed up your game.
- North/South should make sure the table is ready for the arriving pair and make the next board available promptly. When East/West has arrived, after greetings, all players should sort their hand quickly, take note of who is dealer and be ready to bid in turn.
- Keep conversation to a minimum once a hand is finished. Show the BridgeMate result to all players (if they want to see it) *but*, especially if you are behind, don't analyse each hand or check the previous results for the hand. If there is still time at the end of the round, when all the scoring has been done, then by all means have a discussion, *but in low voices so that neighbouring tables can't hear (Law 90B3 above).*
- When the Director calls the move, please stop all discussion and move promptly.
- If your table is behind, and the move has been called, West must move *immediately* the hand is finished.
- When you're on lead as South, make your lead *before* putting the contract into the BridgeMate so the others can get on with the hand.
- When the end of the lunch/supper break is called, move back to your table and begin play as soon as possible so that all tables start play at about the same time.
- If, as declarer, you can see that you will definitely win all (or a definite number of) the remaining tricks, please claim. Equally, as defender, if it's totally obvious that your side will win (or lose) the last few tricks, please make a claim or concession.
- If a particular table or pair keeps holding you up, draw the director's attention to it at an early stage so that s/he can keep an eye on the potential problem.

What can the Director do about slow play?????

The Director has an obligation to ensure a fair session for all players and must deal with the disruption of slow play. The director will try to identify offending pair(s), and monitor their attempts to catch up.

The Director can (in increasing order of frustration):

1. Assist – entering BridgeMate results, reminding West to move, moving the boards.

2. Ask – slow pair(s) to help by trying to catch up.
3. Tell – slow pair(s) they must try to catch up.
4. **Warn – slow pair(s) that unless they make every effort to catch up, a procedural penalty will be imposed.**
5. **Penalize – persistent slow play can be penalized, Law 90B2.**

DALE'S TIPS

Leads Other than Opening Leads.

At a recent session West commented at the end of the hand that she didn't know what to lead when she gained the lead part way through the hand. Needless to say that what she did lead gave a benefit to our side. What surprised me was that she had not heard of one of Bridge's simple mantras – lead through strength and up to weakness. Another saying is – when in doubt lead a trump. As is usual with these simplifications, they have their place but there are exceptions to the rule.

I have covered opening leads in a previous article and of course many of the principles outlined then apply for leads part way through play of the hand. However the difference is that you have more information part way through the hand. Dummy can be seen and there is information available from play to the previous tricks.

If there is no clear cut lead, such as top of a strong sequence or returning a suit led by partner then you need to consider what is the safest lead that you can make. The simple mantras may assist in this decision. As an example, with spades as trumps.

N		
		S 9 8
W	E	H Q 10 5
		D A 9 4
		C 7 5 4
S		

In either case of North or South on lead and having a holding of something like KQ(J or 10) in either Clubs or Diamonds then it may pay to lead the King in order to set up tricks.

The next aspects to consider are, have North or South bid anything during the auction, or are there any indications from the play to that point, eg partner's opening lead or signals that indicate a safe lead? For example if North had led the Q Diamonds, promising the J and 10, then it would be reasonably safe for South to lead a Diamond back.

When there is no clear cut course of action then consider the "leading through strength and up to weakness principle". In this case North would consider leading a Diamond

and South a Club. However be aware of any information gained through the auction and play. For example if West had also bid Diamonds during the auction then leading a Diamond may not be helpful.

So, still in doubt, then lead a trump. Reasonably safe from S, but N will need to be satisfied they are not killing a holding S may have.

A trump is often a good lead when cutting down ruffing potential in dummy. It is a lead that I have observed is not used as often as it should be.

Good bridging and may all your finesses be successful.

Bridge Club Refurbishment

Over the last 18 months a considerable programme of refurbishment has been taking place. Mostly this has been replacing “old” for “new”.

A list of all these is given with a short comment in chronological order. All figures are quoted to nearest hundred dollars and net of GST.

Dealing machine \$6,600 October 2014 (less NZCT subsidy \$5,000)

The special features include the use of plain playing cards, instead of barcoded packs. Reports are that it works well.

Ceiling lights \$4,700 December 2015 (includes office LED lights)

Neat and tidy replacement of all lights with “maintenance-free” gear. All lights are now LED’s – giving better lumens and power costs reduced to 50 watts/light for the card room and 10 watts for the office/passageway.

Computer \$1,600 April 2016

For several years the Club has been using a borrowed machine. We now have a new Club computer.

Paint Building \$1,500 April 2016

But for the hard working and enthusiastic member’s support of Gary Bly and his team of painters this would have cost an extra \$6,000! Well done guys!

Public Address \$2,800 May 2016

System

This is to help all directors and the hard-of-hearing at Bridge sessions, especially large tournaments and AGM’s. This easy to use equipment should last 20+ years.

Air-Conditioning \$5,500 (estimate) May/June 2016 – Stage 1 in process

The biggest change in years for this machinery. The first changes include “recharging” the outside compressor which feeds the ducted air system. This is to change the **OZONE depleting R22 refrigerant** for an ozone friendly refrigerant **R410C**.

This is to be coupled with 7 diffusers replacement for more efficient air spreading devices which are self-adjusting, whether hot or cold air is in the system. About half the ducting will also be replaced. Finally, a new temperature controller will be installed to replace a poorly performing one.

There have been numerous other small changes – new cupboard doors in the ladies' toilet, extension of the library bookcase, new portable white-board, new side tables (Menzshed).

Mike Kent

Tournament!! Tournament!! Tournament !! Tournament!!

Remember 22nd May. This month!!

Intermediate.

\$22. Please supply your own lunch.

Morning tea at 9.30am. Play commences 10am.

Bill would like some set up help on Saturday afternoon and players are reminded to bring a plate please. See you all there.

A very long but important Newsletter. Enjoy. Ed.